



# **Removal Action Chemetco Superfund Site**

August 6, 2013

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Smelter site on the  
National Priorities List



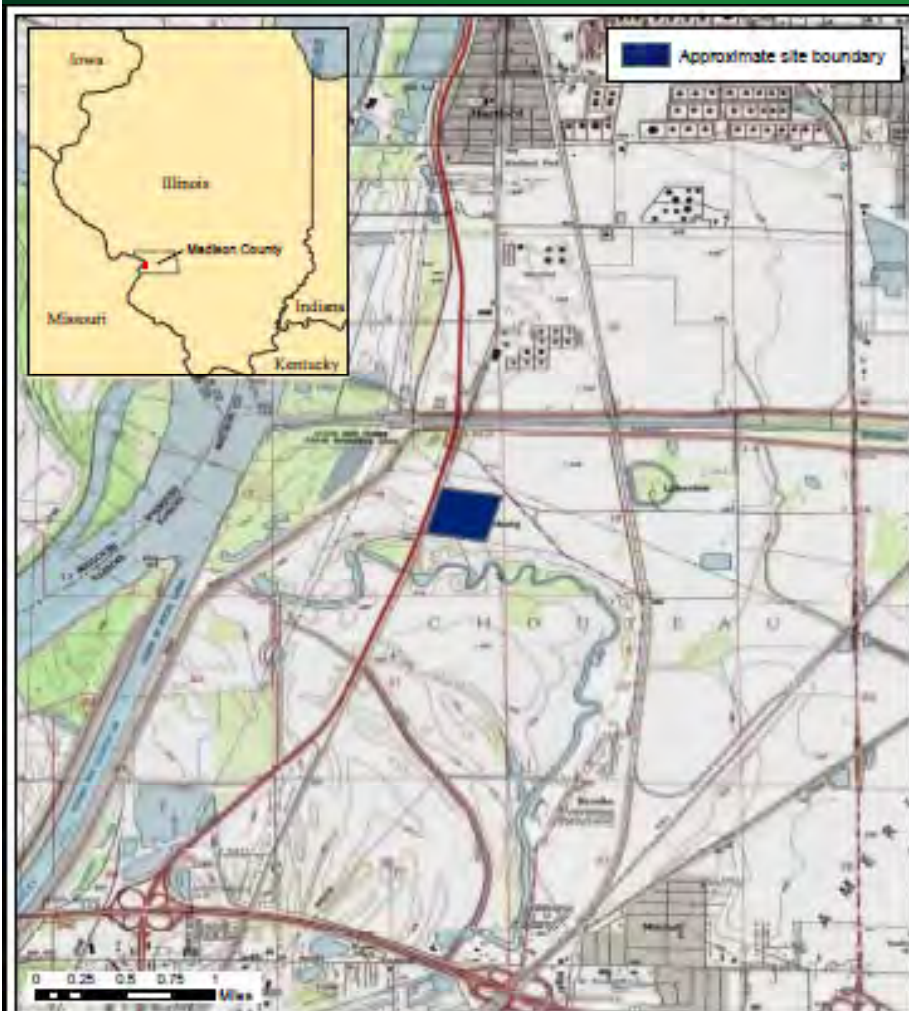
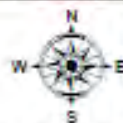


Figure 1  
Site Location Map



**Chemetco Superfund Site, Hartford, Illinois**  
Seagull Environmental Technologies, Inc.

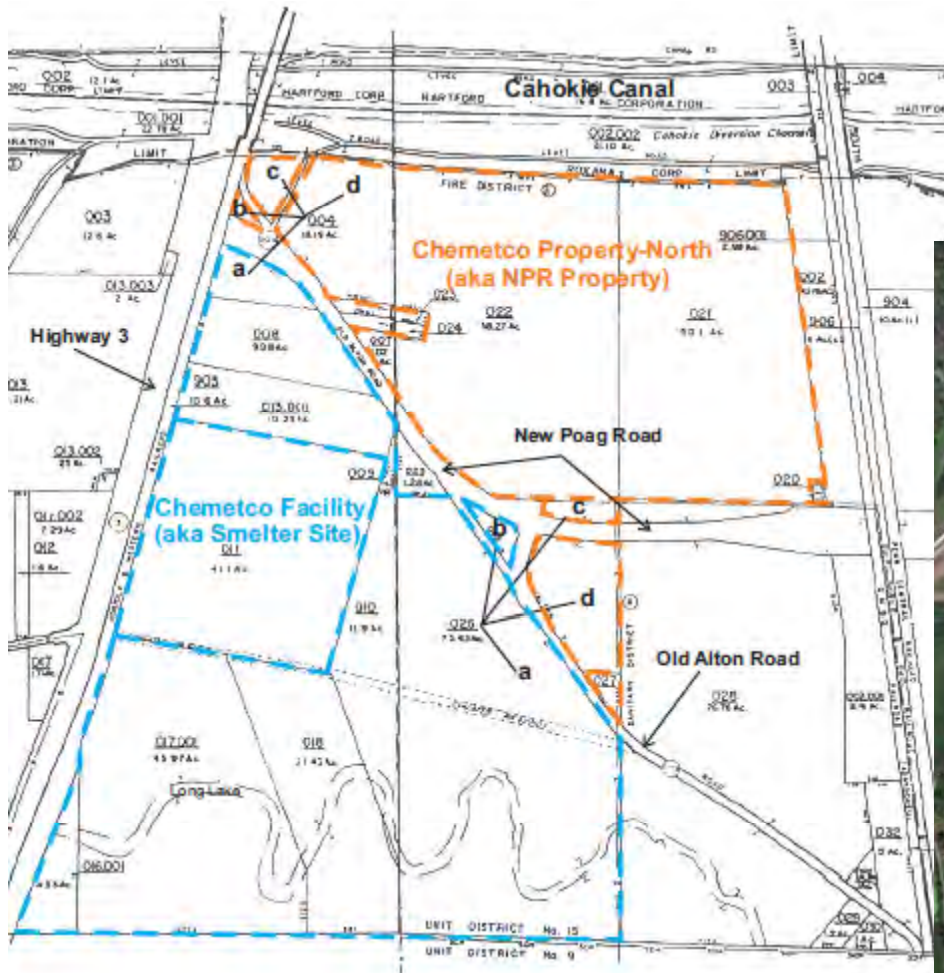
Source: U.S. Geological Survey

Date: December 2010

Project No. EPD TO-5-00003







Estate = 40 + 230 acres



# Fundamentals

- Chemetco = bankrupt secondary Cu smelter
- Possible Purchaser = Paradigm



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## History Towards a Consent Decree

- Operated 1969 - 2001
- Bankruptcy – 2001
- Illinois EPA Lead 2008 –
- NPL Listing - 2010
- CD Lodging – July 24, 2013
- Public comment period – August 22, 2013
- U.S. EPA Respond to comments
- Motion to Enter (Effective)



# Current Conditions

## What Has Already Been Done

### Characterization

- 2001-2009 Estate Environmental Information
- 2002, 2008 Preliminary Assessment/Site Inspection by IEPA
- 2011 Remedial Investigation Scoping

### Addressing Site Risks

- 1997 ZnO Discharge Consolidation
- 2001-2011+ Estate Asset Liquidation
- 2010 Estate Security
- 2011 Estate Demolition



## Removal Action

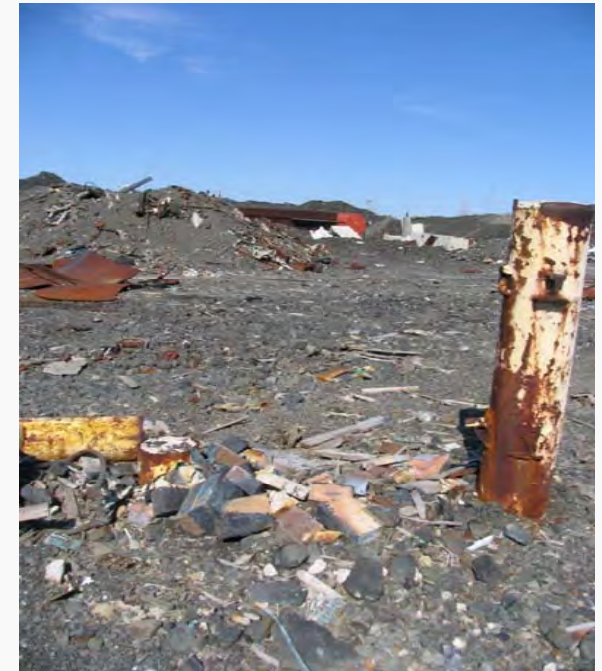
- Framework treats mitigation of contaminant release as a CERCLA Response Action
- Authority to apply ARARs to Paradigm's process on the NPL site (due care, stipulated penalties)
- Payment of oversight costs
  - Consistency and coordination with future Remedial response





## Removal Action

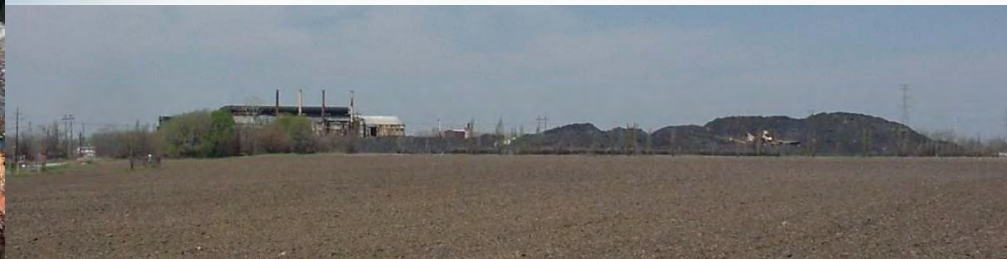
- Response action is already known (removal action moves faster)
- Every rain event may allow waste to migrate off-site (runoff)
- Adjacent land in agricultural use
- Trespassers
- Nearby private drinking water wells
- Sensitive ecosystem
- Contaminated surface soils





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# Current Conditions: Sources



- 837,000 tons slag
- 35,000 tons ZnO sludge bunker
- $\geq 70$  tons refractory brick



Contaminants of Concern = Pb, Cd, Cu





## Terms of the Consent Decree

- Resolution of the RCRA and CWA Claims
- On-site work implementation through Work Plans
- Sale of Unprocessed Slag to Recyclers
- Cooperation/Pace of Work



## Terms of the Consent Decree

- Financial Assurance
- Environmental Escrow Account
- Oversight Costs
- Use 1986 Trust Agreement funds for long term clean-up needs
- Stipulated Penalties
- Covenant Not to Sue





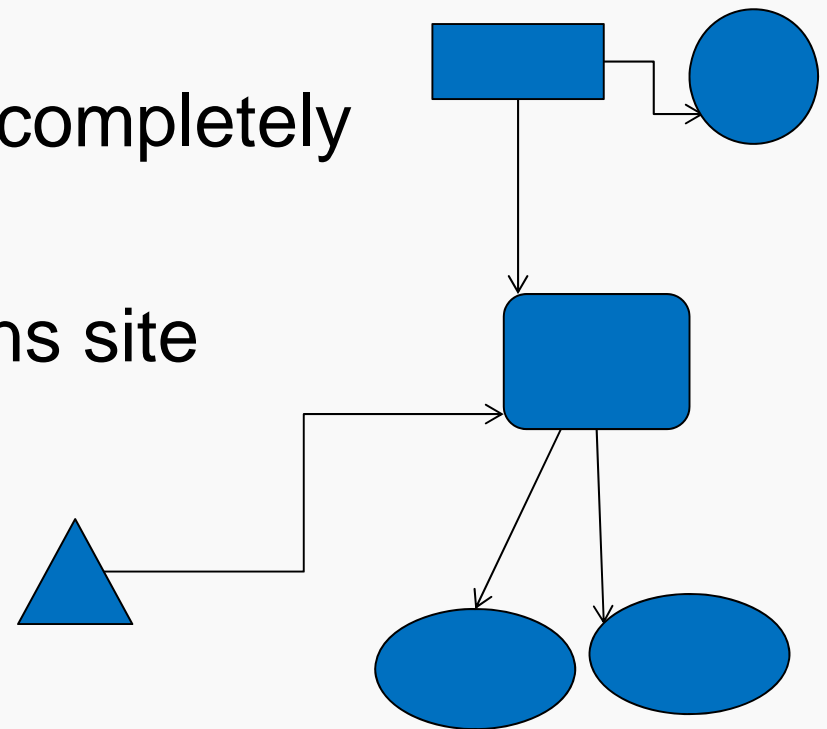
## What might you notice

- Focus on implementation of storm water management and fugitive dust controls  
→ mitigation and stabilization ←
- Paradigm reprocesses or sells slag (slag pile will get smaller)



## What if.....?

- Reprocessing of slag doesn't work
- No more slag sales/closes completely
- Trustee--no funds, abandons site





## But....what if.....?

- Reprocessing is successful



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Cost savings long term, site in productive reuse, protective of HH/E, positive public perception, business-friendly, CD positions EPA well for RI/FS AOC.

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