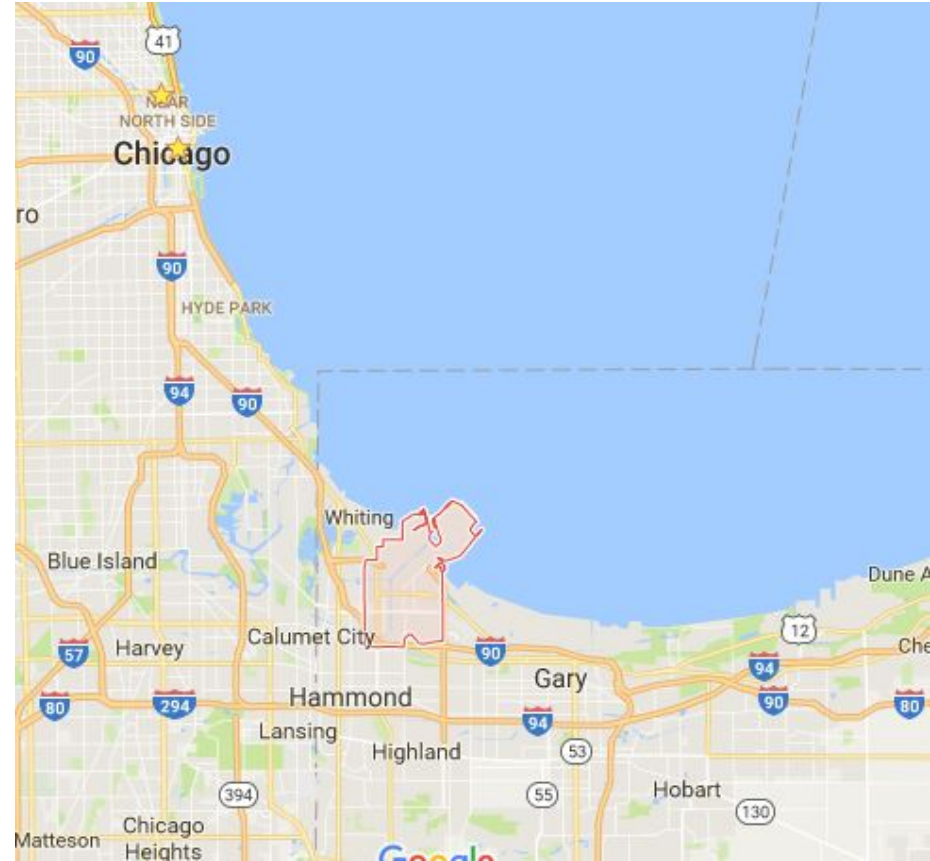


East Chicago, Indiana



Lead & Arsenic Health Effects

Lead exposure

- Irreversible brain damage
- Various organ disorders—heart, liver, kidney
- Respiratory issues
- Behavioral problems
- Learning disabilities

Arsenic exposure

- Decreased production of red and white blood cells and damaged blood vessels
- Abnormal heart rhythm
- Skin changes
- Increased risk developing skin, lung, bladder, and liver cancer

Lead Contamination “Discovered”

1985: EPA testing reveal lead levels range from 100 ppm to 11,000 ppm

1985: U.S. Rep. Pete Visclosky asks EPA to declare Calumet a Superfund site

1992: EPA proposes adding Calumet to Superfund's National Priorities List. Instead of affirming that proposal, EPA allowed USS Lead to remediate under the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (remediation fails)

1998: ISDH recommends that the state environmental agency clean at least six properties in the West Calumet Housing Complex. (didn't happen)

2003: EPA samples 83 residential properties for lead contamination; 43 of the properties exceed “hazard” level for lead

2006: EPA conducts follow-up sampling of 14 properties; 12 properties exceed the “emergency” level for lead; EPA conducts limited cleanup

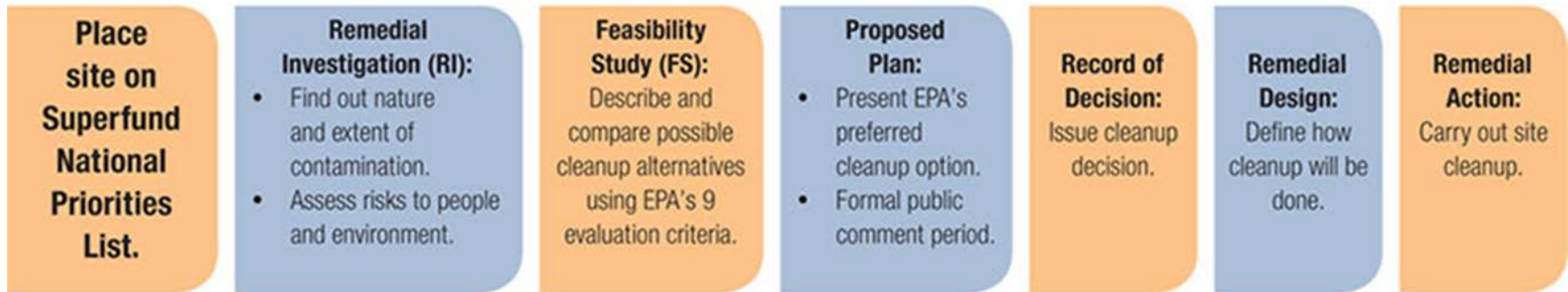
2008: EPA finally evaluated the USS Lead Site under the Hazard Ranking System and referred the area to the NPL

2009: Calumet Neighborhood is finally declared a Superfund Site - “USS Lead Superfund Site”

Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act (CERCLA)

Provides federal authority for EPA to *respond directly to releases or threatened releases of hazardous substances* that threaten public health or the environment.

The EPA's Superfund Process



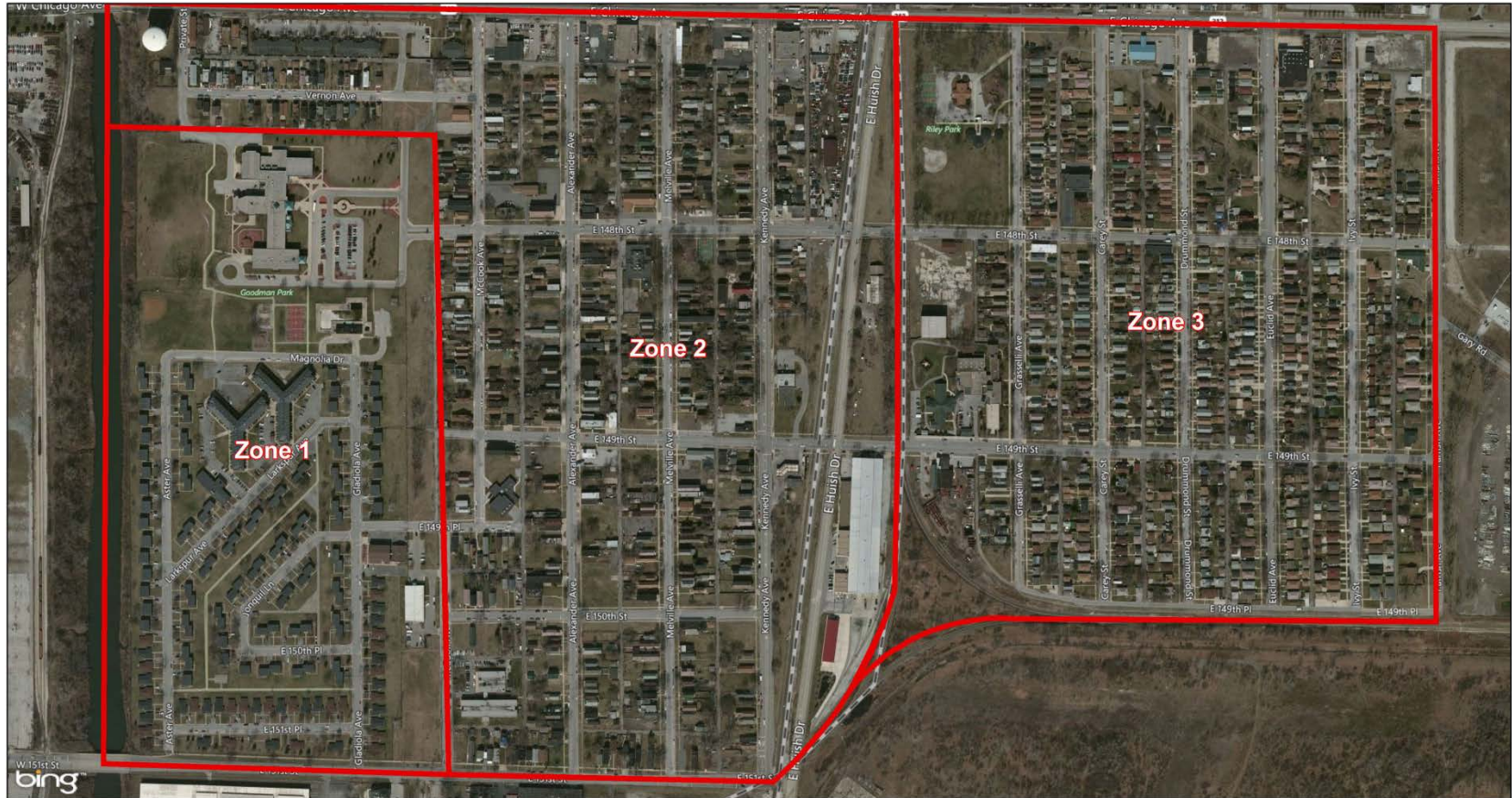
Community Engagement: We want to hear from you!

There will be opportunities for you to be involved throughout the cleanup process.

This will help us design a cleanup that considers community ideas and needs.

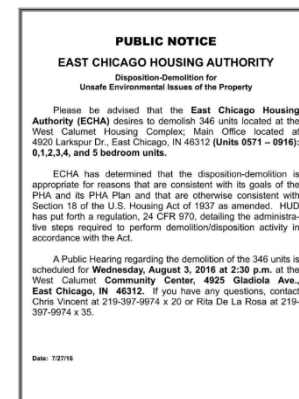
Zone 2 Omitted from Consent Decree

USS Lead Zones Map



2014 - 2015 Soil Sampling

- November 2014: EPA begins extensive soil sampling around the WCHC
- May 24, 2016: EPA provides results of soil sampling to City, revealing extremely high levels of contamination—in some places, more than 200 times the “hazard” level
- June 7, 2016: Mayor Copeland sends letters to WCHC residents announces that the WCHC will be immediately demolished and all residents must relocate within 60 to 90 days



Legal Team

GOLDBERG KOHN



West Calumet Housing Complex

- Built between 1970 and 1973
- Built directly on top of the demolished Anaconda and International Lead Refining Company facilities
- 1966: Director of East Chicago Public Housing admitted in the public record that in order to avoid demolition of current buildings, the public housing was purposefully placed “in vacant areas surrounded by industries, and undesirable residential areas” since the majority of tenants would be African-American and Hispanic or Latino.



West Calumet Complex

Lawsuit filed in East Chicago lead contamination



The Environmental Protection Agency has installed signs in the West Calumet Housing Development in East Chicago warning people to not play in the dirt or mulch due to elevated levels of lead in the ground. (Joe Puczek / Post-Tribune)

By **Jim Masters**
Post-Tribune



Expanding the Advocacy - EPA & HUD enter into a MOU

- East Chicago case leads to HUD-EPA Memorandum of Understanding
- Proactively test and clean up lead and other contamination at public housing complexes and subsidized multifamily housing on or near Superfund sites.
- Quarterly meetings to exchange site information
- EPA will provide training to HUD on Superfund process, policies, and procedures
- HUD will facilitate access agreements for sampling or cleanup on HUD-owned or -subsidized property
- EPA and HUD will coordinate communications with public housing residents

70% of Superfund Sites are within 1 mile of site-based HUD-assisted housing

TOP 10 LIST OF LEAD SITES NEAR SITE-BASED HUD ASSISTED HOUSING (public housing and HUD Multifamily)

- Omaha Lead (Omaha, NE)
- Brown's Dump and Jacksonville Ash (Jacksonville, FL)
- Oronogo-Duenweg Mining Belt (Joplin, MO)
- Jacobsville Neighborhood Soil Contamination (Evansville, IN)
- Anniston PCB Site (Anniston, AL)
- Southwest Jefferson County Mining District (Jefferson County, MO)
- Welsbach & General Gas Mantle [Camden radiation] (Camden, NJ)
- Tar Creek (Ottawa County, OK)
- Raymark Industries (Stratford, CT)
- Colorado Smelter (Pueblo, CO)
- PLUS 3 needing more work: Pilsen Neighborhood Contamination (Chicago, IL), American Lead (Indianapolis, IN), Former Chattanooga Foundries (Chattanooga, TN)

West Calumet Complex & Activism Beyond

Lawsuit filed in East Chicago lead contamination



The Environmental Protection Agency has installed signs in the West Calumet Housing Development in East Chicago warning people to not play in the dirt or mulch due to elevated levels of lead in the ground. (Lisa Pappas / Post Tribune)

By Jim Masters



Legal work across issues

Housing (Shriver):

- Title VI, VIII, and Section 504 FHEO Administrative Complaint—
- VCA implementation
- Grievances

Environmental (Northwestern/UChicago Clinics/NRDC):

- Motion to Intervene
- Creation of CAG
- Advocacy with EPA, Indiana, East Chicago
- Comments on HUD Demolition Environmental Assessment
- Imminent and Substantial Endangerment Petition—Safe Drinking Water Act

Health (Loyola Health Justice Project Clinic):

- Advocacy with Family and Social Service Administration
- Fact Sheets

East Chicago, IN Environmental Advocacy

ALONGSIDE COMMUNITY, PROGRESS TO DATE (AND MUCH MORE TO GO)

- Remediation plan includes (some) Zone 2 properties, which had been omitted from the 2014 Consent Decree
- EPA has considered other pathways of exposure to lead (testing and abating indoor lead-based dust and paint, groundwater seepage, testing drinking water, and preventing dust from entering homes during cleanup)
e.g. lead service line replacement, drinking water filters, lead dust abatement, lead paint abatement funding, etc.
- Advocated for and succeeded in convincing EPA to commit to groundwater testing at the Site.
- CAG: Increased engagement of residents in remediation process
- Worked with residents of all zones to advocate for better protections for residents during the demolition of the West Calumet Housing Complex.

CROSS-CUTTING ISSUES: HOUSING & ENVIRONMENTAL LAW & PUBLIC HEALTH

CONSIDERATIONS INFORMING EAST CHICAGO ADVOCACY

- HEALTH: Is it safe to stay when there is lead and arsenic in the soil? How can we mitigate the risks?
- PUBLIC BENEFITS/MEDICAID: Are there additional resources available to help the tenants remain healthy?
- ENVIRONMENTAL: What environmental risks are there with the demolition of a site on toxic land?
- HOUSING: What resources are available to help tenants have choice where they move?

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