

Draft

DRAFT
Community Involvement Plan

Omaha Lead Superfund Site
Omaha, Nebraska

Prepared for
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Region 7
Work Assignment No. 070-RICO-07ZY

Prepared by
Black & Veatch Special Projects Corp.

Project No. 46130.103

March 2004

Draft

Contents

Name	Page
1.0 Overview of Plan	3
2.0 Site Description and Background	4
2.1 Site Description	4
2.2 Background Information	5
2.3 Current Site Activities	5
3.0 Community Profile	6
3.1 Community History	6
3.2 City Demographics	6
3.3 Local Government Structure	7
3.4 Community Groups	7
3.5 Media Outlets	8
4.0 Community Issues, Concerns, and Interactions	8
4.1 Previous Community Involvement	8
4.2 Ongoing Community Involvement	9
4.3 Specific Issues and Concerns	11
4.3.1 Health Concerns	11
4.3.2 Desire for Faster Analytical Results	11
4.3.3 Frustration with the Bureaucracy	11
4.3.4 Anxiety about Property Values	11
4.3.5 Dissemination of Information	12
5.0 Community Involvement Program	12
5.1 Goals	12
5.2 Objectives	12
5.3 Key Messages	13
5.4 Target Audiences	13
5.5 Community Involvement Activities	14
5.6 EPA Point of Contacts	15
5.7 Information Repository and Administrative Record File	15
5.8 Site Mailing List	16
5.9 Fact Sheets or Site Updates	16
5.10 Public Notices/Press Releases	16
5.11 Informal Briefings	16
5.12 Public Meetings or Availability Sessions	16
5.13 Other Sources of Information	17
5.14 Evaluation of Community Involvement Program	17
5.15 Implementation Schedule	17
6.0 References	18

Contents (Continued)

Appendices

Appendix A

Key Contacts.....19 - 26

Appendix B

Locations of

Information Repository and Administrative Record File.....27

Appendix C

Public Meeting Location.....28

Appendix D

Description of Superfund Process.....29

Appendix E

Seven Cardinal Rules of Risk Communication.....31

Appendix F

Glossary.....32

Table

Table 1 Implementation Schedule.....17

1.0 Overview Of Plan

This Community Involvement Plan for the Omaha Lead Superfund Site (the Site) in Omaha, Nebraska, is a custom designed plan to enable the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) to work effectively with community members affected by or interested in the Site. Black & Veatch Special Projects Corp. prepared this plan on behalf of EPA, Region 7, Office of External Programs, under the Superfund Response Action Contract.

This plan identifies issues of community concerns related to lead-contaminated soil, based on input from more than 150 residents and other interested parties in Omaha. Community members were asked about their concerns regarding lead contamination in soil in Omaha yards and whether they felt adequately informed about efforts to remove the contaminated soil. Responses to these questions are attached to this plan.

The EPA is the lead agency for response activities at the Site under the authority of the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act (CERCLA), commonly known as Superfund. Ongoing Site response activities are expected to take numerous months; therefore, the EPA has developed this formal plan for community involvement. The EPA conducts community involvement activities to ensure that the public is informed of Site actions and has an opportunity to participate in the Site decision-making process. In this plan, the EPA outlines activities the Agency will implement that address community concerns and enhance interaction with the community.

The Omaha Lead Superfund Site Community Involvement Plan provides the following information:

- Overview of Community Involvement Plan
- Site Description and Background Information
- Community Profile
- Community Issues, Concerns, and Interactions
- Community Involvement Program

Appendices to the plan provide the following information:

- Key Contacts (List of Public Officials, Media Representatives and other Interested Parties)
- Location for Site Information Repository and Administrative Record File
- Possible Public Meeting Locations
- Description of the Superfund Process
- Cardinal Rules of Risk Communication
- Glossary

Site description and background information was obtained from reports prepared in conjunction with sampling at the Site. Background information on the City of Omaha was taken from the *Omaha World Herald* and a report provided by the Greater Omaha Chamber of Commerce.

Community concerns were determined primarily from face-to-face interviews conducted by the EPA in June 2003 with potentially-affected residents, owners whose property had been tested and soil removed, other interested citizens, and community leaders. The EPA added public comments to the interview information that had been solicited during meetings of the Lead Safe Omaha Coalition (LSOC), a community group formed in 1999, and at availability sessions conducted by EPA about Site activities.

The EPA Region 7 Office of External Programs will coordinate EPA community activities at the Site and implement the community involvement program presented in this plan.

2.0 Site Description and Background Information

2.1 Site Description

The Site consists of numerous child care facilities, residences, and commercial properties that have been contaminated as a result of air emissions from lead smelting/refining and industrial operations, consumer products, and leaded gas exhaust from vehicles within the metropolitan area of the City of Omaha. The Asarco facility, which operated as a lead refining plant was located at 500 Douglas Street at the intersection of I-480 and Abbott Drive in the central eastern portion of Omaha, Nebraska. The Asarco property has been remediated under the State of Nebraska Remedial Action Plan Monitoring Act program. Other PRPs under investigation, include the Aaron Ferer facility, the former Gould battery facility, and Union Pacific Railroad. In addition, lead-based paint (which is prevalent in older home stock in the urban area of Omaha) may have contributed contamination to the soil. Land use within a 4-mile radius of the refining plant is residential, commercial, and industrial.

The initial focus of EPA's investigation was the area in North and South Omaha (the two inner city communities within Douglas County). Geographically, the parameters defining the Site are Ames Street on the north, "L" Street on the south, 45th Street on the west and the Missouri River on the east. The neighborhoods within the area consist of nine zip codes: 68102, 68104, 68110, 68111, 68112, 68131, 68105, 68107 and 68108.

Approximately 40,000 residential properties are located within the identified area of the defined Site. Twenty Omaha Public Schools are located within this area, including 15 elementary schools, a middle school, 2 high schools, and 2 special study centers. The total enrollment at the 20 schools is 11,725 students. Approximately 240 child care facilities are within a 3-mile radius of the center of the Site. The total number of children attending these facilities is unknown. Several parks and golf courses are present within the identified areas of the Site. These parks are accessible to the public and provide recreational opportunities to the public. In addition, approximately 135 acres of wetlands are located within the 4-mile radius of the Site.

2.2 Background Information

The EPA received initial complaints in 1998 from Councilmember Frank Brown of the Omaha City Council. Investigations determined that lead and heavy metals were emitted into the atmosphere through smoke stacks from the Asarco facility in downtown Omaha. Asarco was a lead-refining plant that operated from the early 1870s until 1997 and was located on approximately 23 acres on the west bank of the Missouri River. The pollutants were transported downwind in various directions and deposited on the ground surface due to the combined process of turbulent diffusion and gravitational settling. In addition, Gould, Inc., operated a lead battery recycling plant and was considered a secondary lead smelter in the area. The Gould, Inc., plant closed in 1982. Several other businesses in the Omaha area used lead in their manufacturing processes.

Lead is an element found in the air, water, dust and soil. Lead is an environmental toxicant that may seriously affect the nervous, hematopoietic, endocrine, renal and reproductive systems (Health Dept; Motility & Mobility). As an exposure in young children (through ingestion) lead is a particular hazard because children absorb it more readily than adults and because developing nervous systems of children are more susceptible to the effects of lead. Lead is a toxic heavy metal that does not break down or decompose. Once released into the environment, it persists, and can accumulate. Inhaled or ingested, lead accumulates in the body, so even low-level environmental exposure, over time, can produce serious adverse health effects.

In 1998, the Omaha City Council solicited assistance from the EPA in addressing problems with lead contamination in the area under the authority of CERCLA. The EPA prepared a Preliminary Assessment/Site Inspection Report in 2001. This report summarized numerous investigations that have been conducted at the Omaha Lead Site. Results of these investigations indicate that lead contamination is present at elevated concentrations up to 2.5 miles from the Asarco facility.

The Site was proposed to the National Priorities List (NPL) because of lead contamination in soil at residential properties, child care facilities, schools, and other residential-type properties. The NPL is a list of the nation's hazardous waste Sites with the highest priority for cleanup. These Sites, once listed, are eligible for long-term response action funds as authorized by Congress under the Superfund program. The Omaha Lead Site was added to the NPL on April 30, 2003.

2.3 Current Site Activities

Removal actions (which are ongoing at this Site) include excavation of lead-contaminated soils from a number of properties. The properties where cleanup has occurred includes child care facilities, residences where blood lead concentrations in children (age 6 and under) are equal to or greater than 10 micrograms per deciliter (ug/dl), and where highly-contaminated properties, lead concentrations greater than 1,200 milligrams per kilogram (mg/kg), have been detected. Removals have been conducted at over 400 properties.

The EPA has sampled over 15,500 yards through December 2003 and anticipates sampling 13,000 in 2004. For purposes of collecting data for EPA's risk assessment, 159 dust samples from citizens' homes were taken between October and December 2003. These samples were conducted randomly with permission of the homeowner and are geographically represented. The risk assessment is one of the tools EPA uses in characterizing the risk posed by lead sources at a Site.

3.0 Community Profile

3.1 Community History

According to Indian legend, "Omaha" means, "above all others upon a stream." That stream, the Missouri River, played an important role in the development of the city of Omaha. The City was originally laid out in 1854 by a ferry company operating between Iowa and the new Nebraska territory.

Omaha grew to be a thriving commercial and cultural center. It grew rapidly after President Lincoln located the eastern terminus of the first transcontinental railroad (Union Pacific Railroad) in Omaha, breaking ground in December 1863. Today, Omaha is headquarters to Union Pacific Railroad and is served by three Class 1 railroads. Transportation by river, rail and air has played an important role in Omaha's growth. Eppley Airfield, one of the nation's fastest growing airports, provides state-of-the-art facilities to commercial and general aviation.

The production of various food products is an essential aspect of the Omaha economy. Major employers like Kellogg Co., the giant breakfast cereal maker and Vlasic Co., which produces frozen Swanson and LeMenu products, are important industries. One of the nation's largest health and accident companies, Mutual of Omaha, as well as United of Omaha, Guarantee Mutual, Woodmen of the World, and Physicians Mutual, are among the more than twenty insurance companies with home offices in the city. Most recently, the Gallop Corporation has built their headquarters in Omaha, providing job opportunities and increased tax revenue.

Omaha's role in military history dates back to 1868 when Omaha Barracks was established for protection of settlers and railroad workers. Congress designated the barracks as Fort Omaha in 1878. Fort Crook, located south of town in 1888, came into importance during World War II when the Martin Aircraft Corp. established a plant to produce B-26 and B-29 bombers. The B-29 bombers produced at Fort Crook included "Enola Gay", that dropped an atomic bomb on Nagasaki, Japan on August 9, 1945. Today, the Fort Crook facilities are part of Offutt Air Force Base, home of the U.S. Strategic Command (SAC).

3.2 City Demographics

In 2002, according to the American Community Survey from the U.S. Census Bureau, the city of Omaha had a household population of 383,130.

The Omaha Metropolitan Statistical Area (MSA) consists of five counties: Douglas, Sarpy, Cass and Washington counties in Nebraska and Pottawattamie County in Iowa. The county surrounding the Omaha MSA has a population of 687,454 and is the 61st largest metropolitan statistical area in the United States.

Over a million people reside within a 50-mile radius of Omaha. The MSA also cites that 7 percent of the people living in Omaha in 2002 were foreign born. Among people at least 5 years old living in Omaha, 11 percent spoke a language other than English at home. Of those speaking a language other than English at home, 62 percent spoke Spanish and 38 percent spoke some other language; 53 percent reported that they did not speak English "very well".

In 2002, 12 percent of the people of Omaha were at the poverty level. Sixteen percent of related children under 18 years of age were below the poverty level, compared with 9 percent of people 65 years old and over. Nine percent of **all** families and 27 percent of families with a **female head-of-household where no husband is present** had incomes below the poverty level. Seventeen percent of the households in Omaha received public assistance or non-cash benefits.

3.3 Local Government Structure

The citizens of Omaha elect a mayor and council members to represent the seven districts. The Douglas County Board of Commissioners has seven officials elected to serve the seven districts in the county. The city of Omaha has 33 Neighborhood Associations.

3.4 Community Groups

A Community Advisory Group (CAG) is a committee, task force, or board made up of residents affected by a Superfund Site. A CAG provides a public forum where representatives of diverse community interests can present and discuss their needs and concerns related to the Site and the Site cleanup process. CAGs are a community initiative that function independently of EPA. The make-up of community members provides a constructive avenue for addressing and understanding historical information, cultural concerns, and communication approaches tailored to the Site.

In January 2004, the Union Pacific Railroad (UP), who serves as a community employer and industrial resource to the public, created a CAG. The CAG is facilitated by a community member, Ms. Brenda Council, who also serves as an attorney in the community, and meetings are held every two weeks. MFG, Inc., a local consulting firm, serves as the technical advisor to the CAG.

Another community opportunity that is sponsored by the EPA is the Technical Assistance Grant that is advertised once a Superfund Site is listed on the National Priorities List. Community groups are encouraged to apply for funding (\$50,000 over a 3-year period) to assist them in evaluating technical documents prepared by the EPA.

In 1999, Dr. Everett Reynolds, of the Omaha Chapter of the NAACP; Councilman Frank Brown, Omaha City Council; and Eric Burgin, President of District 2 Neighborhood Association sent a letter to the EPA requesting assistance with the noted increase in children with elevated blood lead levels. They also requested that a coalition be formed in Omaha to address childhood lead poisoning in North and South Omaha, thus the Lead Safe Omaha Coalition (LSOC) was formed in 1999. LSOC is an individual community non-profit organization and resource, but is also represented on the CAG mentioned above.

Other stakeholders that have been involved with the Site include the following groups or agencies:

- Charles Drew Health Center
- Douglas County Health Department
- Indian Chicano Health Center
- Nebraska Department of Environmental Quality
- Nebraska Department of Health and Human Services
- Omaha Housing Authority
- Sierra Club
- Spring Lake Neighborhood Association
- Various Individual Members
- U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development
- University of Nebraska Medical Center, Department of Pediatrics
- University of Nebraska at Omaha Sociology Department

3.5 Media Outlets

The community has a variety of media outlets. The *Omaha World-Herald* has the largest subscription in the area and is widely read. The Spanish community has access to the *Nuestro Mundo* newspaper. The *Bellevue Leader* and the *Catholic Voice Publishing Co.* also serve the community. Television stations KMTV, WOWT, KETV, KPTM and UNO furnish most of the local news. Listeners tune into radio stations KAZP 1620, KCTY 106.9, KKAR and KIOS 91.9 for local news. The Lead Safe Omaha Coalition has a live taping each Monday at 7:00 p.m. and a replay on Thursdays at 10:00 p.m. on Channel 22, Community Telecast, Inc. Councilmember Frank Brown also sponsors a program on Public Access Television.

4.0 Community Issues, Concerns, and Interactions

4.1 Previous Community Involvement

During the past 4 years, the Lead Safe Omaha Coalition (LSOC), made up of concerned citizens, parents, local business members, community leaders and health and environmental professionals, has been meeting to develop strategies to address the problem of lead

exposure in children. These meetings alternate between day and evening (providing opportunities for all community members to participate) and usually host guest speakers on a variety of community interest topics.

One of the primary goals of the group is to reduce lead exposure in children 6 years of age and younger by 20% within three years. In order to accomplish this goal, the group has focused their energy around the following six task forces:

- Education and Outreach;
- Identification of resources and maintaining/building the Coalition;
- Data Collection and Usage;
- Identification and acquisition of Lead Abatement sources;
- Laws and Public Policy;
- Medical and Clinical Awareness

To continue and promote the goals of the Education and Outreach Task Force, the LSOC Hour began airing Monday, February 5, 2001 on Channel 22, Community Telecast, INC. at 7:00 p.m. The program is shown twice each week.

The LSOC television program has the following objectives:

1. Advocate the importance of screening among young children, thereby, increasing the number of young children being screened (tested for elevated lead blood levels).
2. Promote lead education and prevention awareness regarding childhood lead poisoning.
3. Increase community participation and leadership in the coalition.
4. Educate community members within the targeted area on how to become informed community lead advocates and educators.

4.2 Ongoing Community Involvement

Community concerns were determined primarily from face-to-face interviews conducted by the EPA in June 2003 with potentially affected local residents, owners whose property had been tested and had soil removals, other interested citizens, and community leaders. The EPA added public comments to the interview information that were solicited during meetings of the LSOC, and at availability sessions about Site activities.

The EPA held a series of meetings in 1999 and 2000 in the Omaha community attempting to engage citizens in the Superfund process, while addressing the concerns of lead exposure to young children.

In October of 2001, the EPA participated in a public hearing held at the Teachers Administration Center Building, which was sponsored by local groups and State Senator Don Priester.

The EPA has also met with Omaha City Council members, formally and informally, about the importance of understanding the impacts of lead contamination, particularly in young children.

The EPA held a public meeting in April 2003 at the Teachers Administration Center Building to encourage public participation in the community involvement process, as well as answering key questions about lead contamination, EPA's role in the community, and the impact of the National Priorities List.

The EPA held availability sessions on June 9th and 10th, 2003, at Our Lady of Guadalupe Catholic Church Hall (South Omaha) and the Teachers Administration Center Building (North Omaha) to answer questions from the public about lead contamination.

The EPA has held ongoing meetings with the Mayor of Omaha at his request, giving Site updates and responding to City inquiries.

The EPA has attended most of the LSOC meetings in response to community interest at the invitation of the Director.

The EPA held an availability session on March 2, 2004 at the Teachers Administration Center Building for community members with presentations given on the Omaha Lead Site update and EPA's risk assessment process.

The EPA has additional availability sessions and a public meeting scheduled in support of the Proposed Plan that introduces EPA's Record of Decision. A public comment period will be announced in support of the Proposed Plan, where community members are encouraged to respond.

The EPA has attended and participated in each of the Community Advisory Group meetings since the group's inception in January 2004.

Debbie Kring, who serves as EPA's Community Involvement Coordinator for the Omaha community, has visited with the Environmental Director for the Omaha Public School District, city officials, citizens, lending institution representatives, the League of Women Voters, and other community groups over the past 1-1/2 years. She has responded to more than 1,446 calls since the summer of 2003 from citizens, realtors, health officials, other federal and state agency representatives, the media (television stations, newspapers, and radio stations), and elected officials, to name a few. It is also EPA's intent to insure sensitivity to a variety of communication venues by publicizing announcements in English and Spanish and through multiple communication outlets. Community members are encouraged to contact Ms. Kring about any Site activities of concern, and unless she is on travel, she has committed to returning phone calls within 24 hours. The EPA has specifically set up a toll-free number to ensure efficient communication with the public.

Numerous issues, concerns, and divergent opinions exist in the community related to the Omaha Lead Site. The remainder of this section outlines the concerns that were expressed to the EPA during the interviews. This information does not identify by name those who

participated in the interview process; nor does it cover all opinions that may exist in the community about this Site.

4.3 Specific Issues and Concerns

4.3.1 Health Concerns

The most common health issue raised by residents is their lingering concern that their children or grandchildren may be suffering health effects from the contaminated soil. The first concern of residents is that their children continue to be exposed to lead through dust particles from the contaminated soil.

Representatives from the LSOC, the Douglas County Health Department, the Extension Service and the EPA have worked together to disseminate information to the public to assist in the elimination of childhood lead poisoning through education, support assistance, advocacy, and encouragement to families in the Omaha/Douglas County area.

Several residents interviewed previously worked at Asarco and reported that they believed they were suffering from health-related problems associated with the Site.

4.3.2 Desire for Faster Analytical Results

Several residents expressed frustration at the length of time between sampling and receiving results. The reason for lengthy delays between timing of the soil sampling and the receipt of sample results for a property owner was particularly frustrating and not understood by those who may be affected by the Site. Residents believe that results should be available within a week or two of sampling and do not willingly accept the need for the time-consuming quality assurance process that is standard for analytical laboratories. Residents would also like to receive a personalized letter reporting specific results that is easy to read and understand.

4.3.3 Frustration with the Bureaucracy

Most of the frustration expressed by community members about government agencies involved in the Site stems from what the community perceives as excessively long delays in action. Despite frustration over what is considered to be a slow pace toward cleanup, those involved with the Site in various capacities were positive about their dealings with the EPA's representatives in terms of openness and sincerity. These community members expressed frustration about the length of time it takes to get sample results and the wait to have their property cleaned up once it has been declared contaminated.

4.3.4 Anxiety about Property Values

Owners expressed anxiety about the possible decline of their property value if contaminated soil is found. Most residents favor an immediate removal of known contamination because they fear the longer it takes to remove the soil, the lower their property value will fall.

4.3.5 Dissemination of Information

Most residents and others potentially-affected by the Site want information related to sampling, removal, and cleanup as quickly as possible. However some in the community are concerned about publicity, fearing that news of soil contamination will adversely affect business opportunities or make Omaha a less desirable place to live.

Many residents expressed a desire for additional fact sheets stating ongoing investigation and progress with the Site. Hearing reports about the Site on the radio appealed to a few. Others expressed a desire for written materials in the form of newspapers. Some would take the time to come to a meeting.

The Student and Community Service department from the Omaha Public School District agreed to disseminate information through their "back to school" nights or parent/teacher conferences.

Spanish-speaking residents have requested having written information given to them in their own language. Requests were also made to have a Spanish-speaking person at public meetings and forums.

The City health department is also willing to work with the EPA in disseminating information to the public.

5.0 Community Involvement Program

This section establishes goals and objectives for the EPA's community involvement program for the Omaha Lead Superfund Site. It describes the activities that the EPA will use to inform and involve the community as Site activities progress. The EPA intends this plan to be fluid and will modify actions and objectives in accordance with community needs and suggestions.

5.1 Goals

This community involvement program is designed to keep the public informed of Site progress, establish two-way communication, and provide opportunities for public input during Site activities. A primary goal is to involve the community in Site activities as required under Superfund.

5.2 Objectives

The EPA will strive to achieve the following objectives through implementation of this community involvement program:

1. Address community concerns and share Site information with the community on a timely basis and in non-technical language. The EPA will continue to attend community meetings and provide information as requested.

2. Encourage and publicize opportunities for community input. The EPA will continue to support the community through the exchange of information and provide administrative support to the group when requested.
3. Discuss with community groups ways to increase the dissemination of information to the community, including increasing advance publicity of meetings and topics, as well as broadening the mailing list.
4. Mail fact sheets and other information to community news media to share Site developments of significance or widespread interest.
5. Conduct public availability sessions regarding Site developments or in response to community interest in Site activities.
6. Maintain Site information in the community and make it accessible to interested persons. Provide written communication in Spanish to the Hispanic population. Provide a Spanish interpreter at public meetings.

5.3 Key Messages

The EPA seeks to communicate the following messages during community involvement activities related to the Omaha Lead Site:

1. The goal of the EPA in performing work at this Site is to reduce the exposure of lead contamination to young children in the Omaha area;
2. As Site activities progress, the EPA will share Site information with the community; and
3. The EPA is taking the lead in all facets of the cleanup because the companies responsible for the lead contamination are unwilling or unable to pay for cleanup.

5.4 Target Audiences

The Omaha Lead Superfund Site community involvement program will focus on the following target audiences:

- Residents and business/property owners on or near the Site;
- Area Schools near the Site;
- Elected/ administrative officials of local, state, and federal agencies serving the Site community;
- Other stakeholders; including residents, business owners, or community organizations who are interested in or affected by Site activities;
- Area news media outlets as a vehicle for informing the general public;

5.5 Community Involvement Activities

Activities outlined in this plan are designed to fulfill public involvement requirements under Superfund, address community concerns regarding the Omaha Lead Site, and provide opportunities for interested individuals to participate in the process. During the interviews, the EPA asked community members to identify their preferred methods of receiving information. The EPA received the following requests from community members when asked "Would you be interested in participating in future informational activities concerning the Site"?

Seventy-five people answered in the positive with 73 giving an unqualified "yes", and two said "yes, with comments". Thirty-five gave an unqualified "no" and 13 said, "no, with comments". Specific comments included: "No meetings, but would like to be on a mailing list;" "Not particularly", "I lack transportation", "I'll talk with my neighborhood group", "A newsletter would be nice".

When asked what types of activities they would attend, people responded as follows, in order of preferences given:

- Public meetings;
- Focus groups;
- Public meetings with questions and answers;
- Chamber meetings; and
- Public forums.

Most of the residents did not have a preference one way or another on this question. The majority responded that they did not have time for public meetings and would probably not attend.

When asked how best EPA could receive the community's comments, community members offered the following suggestions:

- Mail/fact sheet;
- E-mail;
- Telephone;
- Door-to-door; and
- Meetings.

Many residents cited the Neighborhood Associations and churches as excellent ways to notify the public.

The community also requested that EPA send a personalized letter to residents, in layman's language and in Spanish if necessary, with sample results.

Appendix A provides contact information for City officials, as well as property owners on and near the Site. The Site mailing list contains not only the key contacts listed in Appendix A, but also the names and addresses of community members who live near the Site or who have expressed an interest in the Site.

The EPA plans to implement the following activities:

- Establish and publicize points of contact for Site information;
- Establish and maintain a Site information repository and administrative record file;
- Maintain and update a Site mailing list;
- Prepare and distribute fact sheets/updates about Site activities;
- Prepare and distribute press releases/public notices at key milestones;
- Provide informal briefings for interested public officials or community groups;
- Hold public meetings or availability sessions about Site activities, as required by Superfund or community interest; and
- Update the Community Involvement Plan as needed

5.6 EPA Points of Contact

The primary points of contact for all inquiries regarding Site activities are listed below for your convenience. The Omaha Team coordinates all activities associated with the Site:

Donald Bahnke Project Manager Superfund Division US EPA, Region 7 901 N. 5 th Street Kansas City, KS 66101 Bahnke.Donald@epa.gov	Bryant Burnett Project Manager Superfund Division US EPA, Region 7 901 N. 5 th Street Kansas City, KS 66101 Burnett.Bryant@epa.gov	Debbie Kring Community Involvement Coord. Office of External Programs US EPA, Region 7 901 N. 5 th Street Kansas City, KS 66101 Kring.Debbie@epa.gov
--	---	--

5.7 Information Repository and Administrative Record File

The EPA will maintain an information repository for the Omaha Lead Site at the W. Dale Clark Main Library, 215 S. 15th Street in Omaha, and is in the process of setting up two additional repositories, one at the South Omaha Library, 2202 M. Street and the other at the Washington Branch Library at 2816 Ames Avenue. The information repository includes this Community Involvement Plan and other Site documents, as well as general Superfund information. The administrative record file includes documents and data produced during Site investigations that will be used to develop Site cleanup alternatives. The administrative record will be available at the Site information repository and also at the EPA Region 7 office in Kansas City, Kansas.

The EPA will place a paid display advertisement in the *Omaha World Herald* and send a notice to the Site mailing list to announce the availability of the administrative record file, this community involvement plan, and other major future documents related to the Site.

Appendix B provides the repository location, contact information, and hours of operation. Interested citizens also may contact the EPA to obtain Site information. The repository and administrative file will be updated as documents are produced in conjunction with Site activities.

5.8 Site Mailing List

The EPA will maintain a mailing list for the Omaha Lead Site. The list will include local, state, and federal officials representing the Site community; contacts listed in Appendix A; other groups and organizations involved or interested in Site issues; community residents and neighboring property owners; and local news media contacts. The list will be used to distribute Site updates, meeting notices, or other opportunities for public input.

5.9 Fact Sheets or Site Updates

The EPA will prepare periodic fact sheets and updates to describe Site activities. In each fact sheet or update, the EPA will make every effort to use clear, non-technical language and include graphics where possible and appropriate to aid understanding. All written materials will include Site contact names and phone numbers, repository location(s), and opportunities for community involvement.

5.10 Public Notices/Press Releases

The EPA will issue notices or press releases to the local news media to announce significant Site activities or events of widespread community interests. The EPA will place display advertisements in the most widely read local newspaper serving the Site area to announce availability sessions to share information about Site activities.

5.11 Informal Briefings

An effective means of raising awareness and keeping citizens informed is to provide informal briefings on Site activities to community groups and local officials. For the Omaha Lead Site these groups include LSOC, Omaha city officials, the Douglas County Health Department, and the Nebraska Department of Environmental Quality. Other organizations will be added upon request and the EPA will make every effort to identify these opportunities and address group and individual concerns.

5.12 Public Meetings or Availability Sessions

Public meetings or availability sessions will be held to explain major Site developments and meet Superfund requirements. The availability sessions will be held in a convenient location and notices will be sent to the Site mailing list and the local media.

5.13 Other Sources of Information

Information about the Superfund program and Sites in EPA Region 7 is available online at <http://www.epa.gov/region7/waste/sf/remedial.htm>. In addition, the EPA Headquarter's Office of Solid Waste and Emergency Response maintains a website with general information about CERCLA/Superfund and related programs at <http://www.epa.gov/oswer/>. Internet access to the EPA's hot line, which provides answers to questions on Superfund and other waste programs, is available at <http://www.epa.gov/epaower/hotline/>. Site-specific questions should be directed to Donald Bahnke or Bryant Burnett, Project Managers for the Site or Debbie Kring, the Community Involvement Coordinator. Section 5.6 and Appendix A provide contact information for Mr. Bahnke, Mr. Burnett, and Ms. Kring.

5.14 Evaluation of Community Involvement Program

The EPA will monitor community needs and input regarding the usefulness of the activities undertaken in this community involvement program. The EPA will make every effort to address citizen concerns about the Omaha Lead Site and provide Site information using channels and formats suggested by community members. The EPA will evaluate and adjust the community involvement program to address evolving issues and incorporate new approaches to improve the effectiveness of communication activities.

5.15 Implementation Schedule

Community involvement activities for the Omaha Lead Site will follow Superfund requirements, with supplemental activities at appropriate milestones to address community requests for information and involvement.

Table 1 presents the suggested sequence for community involvement activities.

Community Relations Activities	Comments
1. Conduct community interviews	During community involvement plan preparation and as input is otherwise desired
2. Draft Community Involvement Plan (CIP)	
3. Discuss Plan with community advisory group.	When final draft is available
4. Review information dissemination with CAG	Discuss how CAG and EPA can better inform community.
5. Create Public Information Repository	Notify when CIP, Administrative Record and any removal-decision document is available.
6. Continue development of Mailing List.	Add interested parties when they become known.
7. Provide Fact Sheets and other	When significant developments occur.

Table 1 presents the suggested sequence for community involvement activities.

Community Relations Activities	Comments
information by mail or door-to-door distribution.	
8. Send release to news media.	To advise of upcoming meetings; whenever developments indicate need to provide information.
Conduct Public Availability sessions	When public input is sought or significant decisions are reached.

6.0 References

Community Interviews, United States Environmental Protection Agency, June & July 2003.

Superfund Community Involvement Handbook, United States Environmental Protection Agency, Office of Solid Waste and Emergency Response, Washington, D.C., 1998. EPA 540-R-98-007.

Superfund Lead-Contaminated Residential Sites handbook, Environmental Protection Agency Lead Sites Workgroup (LSW), August 2003. OSWER 9285-7-50

<http://www.omahachamber.net/Living/history.html>

http://scedc.org/advantage/advantage_population.html

APPENDIX A

Mailing List
Omaha Lead Site
Omaha, Nebraska

FEDERAL ELECTED OFFICIALS

Telephone

The Honorable Ben Nelson

U.S. Senate
Washington, DC Office
720 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510
District Office
7602 Pacific Street, Suite 205
Omaha, NE 68144

(202) 224-6551

(402) 391-3411
(402) 391-4725 fax

The Honorable Chuck Hagel

U.S. Senate
Washington, DC Office
346 Russell Building
Washington, DC 20510
Chuck hagel@senate.gov

(202) 224-422

Congressman Lee Terry

House of Representatives, 2nd District
Washington, DC Office
1524 Longworth House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515
District Office
11640 Arbor Street
Omaha, NE 68144

(202) 225-4155

(402) 397-9944

STATE ELECTED OFFICIALS

The Honorable Mike Johanns

Office of the Governor
P.O. Box 94848
Lincoln, NE 68509

(402) 471-2244
(402) 471-6031 fax

The Honorable Don Preister

District 5
3937 W. St.
Omaha, NE 68107

(402) 733-6660 home
(402) 471-2710 office

The Honorable Ernie Chambers

District 11

3116 N. 24th Street

business

Omaha, NE 68110

(402) 451-9723

(402) 471-2612 office

The Honorable Jim Jensen

District 20

10525 Mullen Road

Omaha, NE 68124

(402) 397-5285 home

(402) 471-2625 office

The Honorable Lowen Kruse

District 13

5404 S. 94th Avenue

Omaha, NE 68104

(402) 453-4824 home

(402) 471-2727 office

The Honorable John Synowiecki

District 7

2451 S. 27th Avenue

Omaha, NE 68105

(402) 502-3477 home

(402) 471-2721 office

State Capitol Mailing Address

Senator

District # State Capitol

PO Box 94604

Lincoln, NE 68509

FEDERAL AGENCIES

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency

Donald Bahnke

Project Manager

Superfund Division

U.S. EPA, Region 7

901 N. 5th Street

Kansas City, KS 66101

Bahnke.Donald@epa.gov

(913) 551-7747

Bryant Burnett
Project Manager
Superfund Division
U.S. EPA, Region 7
901 N. 5th Street
Kansas City, KS 66101
Burnett.Bryant@epa.gov

(913) 551-7742

Debbie Kring
Community Involvement Coordinator
Office of External Programs
U.S. EPA, Region 7
901 N. 5th Street
Kansas City, KS 66101
Kring.debbie@epa.gov

(913) 551-7003
1-800-223-0425

Steven Sanders
Assistant Regional Counsel
U.S. EPA, Region 7
901 N. 5th Street
Kansas City, KS 66101
Sanders.Steven@epa.gov

(913) 551-7578

STATE OFFICIALS AND AGENCIES

Nebraska Department of Environmental Quality
Todd Davis
Project Manager
Eastern Field Office
8901 S. 154th Street, Suite 5
Omaha, NE 68138

(402) 595-1767

LOCAL OFFICIALS AND AGENCIES

Mayor
The Honorable Mike Fahey
1819 Farnam Street, Suite 300
Omaha, NE 68183

Omaha City Council Members
Marc Kraft
District 1
Mkraft@ci.omaha.ne.us

(402) 444-5527

Frank Brown
District 2
Fbrown@ci.omaha.ne.us

(402) 444-5524

James Vokal, Jr.
District 3
Jvokal@ci.omaha.ne.us

(402) 444-5525

Garry Gernandt
District 4
Ggernandt@ci.omaha.ne.us

(402) 444-5522

Dan Welch
District 5
Dwelch@ci.omaha.ne.us

(402) 444-5528

Franklin Thompson
District 6
Fthompson@ci.omaha.ne.us

(402) 444-5523

Chuck Sigerson, Jr.
District 7
Csigerson@ci.omaha.ne.us

(402) 444-5526

DOUGLAS COUNTY STAFF

Douglas County Health Department
Adi Pour, Ph.D
Director
Childhood Lead Poisoning Prevention Program
1819 Farnam St. Room 401
Omaha, NE 68183

Reid Steinkuaus
Supervisor
rsteinkr@co.douglas.ne.us

Kathy Leinenkugel
Program Director
kleinenk@co.douglas.ne.us

(402) 444-6267

Douglas County Board of Commissioners
1819 Farnam St
Omaha, NE 68183
District 1

(402) 444-7025

Mike Boyle
Mboyle@co.douglas.ne.us

District 2
Kathleen McAllister
Kmmccall@co.douglas.ne.us

District 3
Carole Woods Harris
Charris@co.douglas.ne.us

District 4
Kyle Hutchings
Board Chair
Khutchings@co.douglas.ne.us

District 5
Carol McBride Pirsch
Cpirsch@co.douglas.ne.us

District 6
Mary Ann Borgeson
Vice-Chair
Mborgeso@co.douglas.ne.us

District 7
Clare Duda
Cduda@co.douglas.ne.us

COMMUNITY GROUP MEMBERS

The Lead Safe Omaha Coalition (LSOC)
Cheryl Weston
Executive Director
2505 North 24th Street
Omaha, NE 68110

(402) 451-3730

Affected or Otherwise Interested Parties Not Included Elsewhere in the CIP

Asarco Incorporated
515 Turner Blvd
Omaha, NE 68105

(402) 449-7148

Union Pacific Railroad.
1416 Dodge Street
Omaha, NE 68179

(402) 271-5000

Black & Veatch Special Projects Corp.

Todd Dudley

Program Manager

6601 College Boulevard
Overland Park, KS 66211

Dudleywt@bv.com

(913) 458-6665

Ellen Kimmel

Project Manager

Black & Veatch Special Project Corp.

6601 College Boulevard
Overland Park, KS 66211

(913) 458-6774

Omaha Field Office

Kimmele@bv.com

(402) 592-7845

Marilyn Kubler

EPA Contractor (Black & Veatch Special Projects Corp.)

6601 College Boulevard
Overland Park, KS

Mkubler@everestkc.net

(913) 268-4472

BUSINESS AND GROUP REPRESENTATIVES

Thomas Harvey

Assistant Superintendent

Student and Community Services

3215 Cuming Street

Omaha, NE 68131

Tharvey@ops.org

(402) 557-2128

Shelly R. Bengtson

Environmental Specialist

Department of Business Services

Omaha Public Schools

4041 North 72nd Street

Omaha, NE 68134

Sbengtso@ops.org

(402) 557-2800

Dr. John T. Langan

President, Board of Education

5627 Emile Street

Omaha, NE 68106

Langanj@ops.org

(402) 554-3790

MEDIA REPRESENTATIVES

Newspapers

Omaha World-Herald Main Office

14th & Dodge Street

Omaha, NE 68102

(402) 444-1000

Nancy Gaarder

Editor: Environmental Issues

(402) 444-1102

Nancy.Gaarder@owh.com

Nuestro Mundo

3661 Davenport Street

Omaha, NE

(402) 731-6210

Ben Salazar

Editor

Nuestromundonewspaper@cox.net

Catholic Voice Publishing Co

6060 Northwest Radial Hwy

Omaha, NE

Charlie Wieser

Editor

TCVomaha@archomaha.org

(402) 558-6611

The Daily Record

3323 Leavenworth Street

Omaha, NE

Lorraine Boyd

Editor

Laboyd@mccleodusa.net

(402) 345-1303

Television

KMTV-News Television

10714 Mockingbird Drive

Omaha, NE

Ken Dudzik

News Director

<http://www.km3news.com>

(402) 592-3333

WOWT

Channel 6 (NBC Affiliate)

3501 Farnam Street

Omaha, NE

(402) 346-6666

John Clark

News Director

John.Clark@wowt.com

KPTM Fox 42-TV

4625 Farnam Street

Omaha, NE

Doug Crary

News Director

News42@kptm.com

(402) 558-4200

KETV

2665 Douglas Street

Omaha, NE

Roseann Shannon (204)

Rshannon@hearst.com

(402) 345-7777

Radio

KEFM/Mix 96.1

(402) 558-9696

KFAB 1110 AM

5010 Underwood Avenue

Omaha, NE

http://www.KFAB.com

(402) 561-2000

KGBI

831 Pine Street

Omaha, NE

(402) 449-2900