

7.4.3 Notification of Removal Action

DSW 136677



CERRO COPPER PRODUCTS CO.

P.O. Box 62200
St. Louis, MO 63166-6200
618/337-6000

July 27, 1990

TO ALL INTERESTED PARTIES:

RE: Dead Creek Segment A
Removal Action

On July 5, 1990, Cerro Copper Products Co. ("Cerro") and the Illinois Attorney General, Neil F. Hartigan, jointly announced an agreement on the part of Cerro to remove contaminated sediment from the section of Dead Creek identified as "Creek Segment A" on Cerro's property in Sauget, Illinois. This removal action is scheduled to begin in mid-August, 1990. The agreement between the Illinois IEPA, the Illinois Office of the Attorney General and Cerro is embodied in a Consent Decree entered by the United States District Court for the Southern District of Illinois (Honorable William Stiehl) pursuant to the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation and Liability Act and the Illinois Environmental Protection Act. The Creek Segment A removal project is a step in the overall efforts of the IEPA and the Illinois Attorney General's office to investigate and remediate the Sauget Sites area. In particular, Dead Creek Segment A, is among the specific sites identified by IEPA as part of Area I of the Sauget Sites. IEPA has made it a priority to place Sauget Sites on the National Priorities List (NPL) of sites under the federal Superfund program. Cerro is taking the action required by the Consent Decree with respect to contaminated creek sediments because Dead Creek Segment A is on Cerro's property. As a responsible corporate citizen, Cerro decided to step forward and take the lead on this project, although it is well known and documented that numerous other parties contributed to and are legally responsible for the conditions in Creek Segment A.

In connection with the Creek Segment A removal project, Cerro has stopped all discharges into the 1,600 foot creek segment traversing its property, has constructed an alternative storm water collection and retention system, and is in the process of engaging contractors to perform the actual removal of contaminated sediment from the creek bed and its disposal.

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The first part of the removal effort involved a storm water tunnel adjacent to Creek Segment A to empty into a large storage basin on the northern end. The tunnel is ten feet wide by five feet high. The tunnel and basin have the capacity to hold up to 1.5 million gallons of storm water.

The storage basin will pump storm water to the Village of Sauget sewer system at a rate compatible with the waste treatment plant capacity.

The step currently under way is the removal of approximately 20,000 cubic yards of creek sediment from the creek bed. After dewatering, the contaminated sediment will be hauled to a permitted waste landfill outside the State of Illinois. The creek bed will then be backfilled with clean soil.

The portion of Dead Creek which is the subject of the removal action became part of Cerro's property in the 1950s and early 1960s, as the company purchased land on the east side of the creek and added it to its original plant site on the west side of the creek. The south end of Dead Creek is dammed off at Queeny Avenue and the north end for a long time fed the Village of Sauget's sewer system leading to the waste water treatment facilities.

The Illinois EPA has maintained a public information file on the Sauget Sites at the Cahokia Public Library and at the Sauget Village Clerk's Office. Citizens and local officials who wish to know more about the Cerro project are welcome to review the Consent Decree, Site Investigation/Feasibility Study, and the Removal Action Work Plan for Creek Segment A, and other relevant and pertinent documents which are on file at these locations; or they may address inquiries directly to IEPA information officer, Keri Luly, at 217/782-5562, or IEPA Sauget Site Project Manager, Paul Takacs at 217/782-6760, or directly to Paul Tandler, Vice President for Cerro, at 618/337-6000. The IEPA maintains a project mailing list, if you wish to include your name on that list, please contact Keri Luly.

In addition to the foregoing, Cerro welcomes any inquiries and will provide information concerning the removal action upon written request. Please address your written inquiries and requests for information directly to Paul Tandler, Vice President, Cerro Copper Products Co., P.O. Box 66800, St. Louis, Missouri, 63166. If there is

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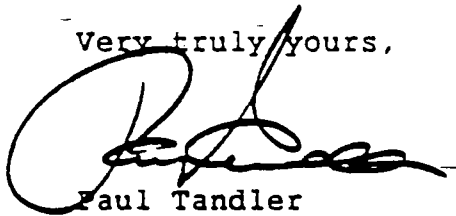
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sufficient interest expressed, Cerro will conduct a further public briefing session and site project tour later this summer. Please indicate if you wish to attend such a briefing and tour.

The Illinois EPA, as lead agency, has conducted and intends to conduct further public briefing sessions for the Sauget sites, and specifically for the Creek Segment A removal project. If you are on the mailing list, you will hear later this summer directly from Keri Luly. To supplement the community relations activities of the IEPA, Cerro is publishing a notice of the availability of the public information file, and hereby notifies you that for the next 30 days you are free to make written comments concerning the removal action. Cerro will prepare a written response to significant comments. Both your comments and any Cerro response will be included as part of the public information record.

In the joint announcement made July 5, 1990, by Illinois Attorney General, Neil F. Hartigan and Cerro Copper, I stated: "We hope that Cerro will be an example that environmental responsibility involves more than public relations and token activities. In this case, we knew a number of companies had a role in the unfortunate pollution of Dead Creek but [Cerro] decided that it was time for one company to step up and do something about it." We look forward to your comments, interest and concern.

Very truly yours,



Paul Tandler
Vice President
Cerro Copper Products Co.

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