

GEORGE F. BARRETT
Attorney General
State of Illinois

208 South LaSalle Street

September 16, 1944

International Smelting & Refining Co.,
East Chicago, Indiana

Attention: Gunnard Johnson, General Manager.

Gentlemen:

The State of Illinois has filed proceedings in the Supreme Court of the United States against the cities of East Chicago, Hammond, Whiting, Gary, and the State of Indiana, to enjoin them from directly or indirectly discharging sewage and industrial wastes into the waters of Lake Michigan.

On May 16, 1944, at the request of the Governor of Indiana, a conference was held between all of the attorneys and officials involved in this case, at which time the cities of Indiana signified their desire to take whatever steps were necessary to prevent the pollution of the waters of Lake Michigan. It was agreed that proposals would be made to us by the cities of Indiana, wherein they would present plans indicating the various methods by which they planned to discontinue the discharge of sewage and industrial waste into Lake Michigan.

Many conferences have already been held by my office with the respective attorneys and engineers for the City of East Chicago, and it was agreed that the first step in arriving at a solution to this problem was to determine the actual conditions which now exist within each of the industries.

Because of the great number of industries within the City of East Chicago, it was decided that I should communicate directly with each industry in East Chicago for the purpose of arriving at a solution to this problem. Our engineers, chemists and experts are desirous of cooperating with you or

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International Smelting & Refining Co.

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your representatives in determining the most feasible methods whereby the sanitary sewage and industrial wastes from your plant will be adequately disposed of, so as not to be a menace to Chicago's drinking water.

With the consent of the attorneys for the City of East Chicago, I am enclosing herewith a questionnaire to be answered and returned to me at your earliest convenience. When the results of your present activity are determined from the enclosed questionnaire, it will then be possible for our engineers and representatives to work out methods with you for solving this problem. If you have already prepared plans or taken steps to adequately dispose of your sanitary sewage and industrial waste, then we should like copies of the plans and specifications, together with the working details thereof.

I earnestly request your cooperation in this matter in order to avoid the necessity of taking legal steps to obtain an injunction against your company, or having to subpoena your officials and records in the litigation now.

Yours very truly

George F. Barrett
ATTORNEY GENERAL

GFB:EH
Enclosure

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INTERNATIONAL SMELTING AND REFINING CO.

420 E. 151st Street

East Chicago, Indiana

General Operations:

Year 1943

Pumpage of cooling water from Lake
Michigan for all purposes None g.p.d.

Pumpage from Other Waterways
(please designate) None g.p.d.

Wells None g.p.d.

Water bought from East Chicago 220,000 g.p.d.

Water used in washrooms, toilets, etc. 3,000 g.p.d.

Number of Employees (state range)

Normal 350 - 400

Wartime 350 - 400

Maximum 400

Present (1943-1944) 350 - 400

Raw Material

(General statement, with tonnage per year)

37,500 Tons Lead Bullion
2,500 " Lead Secondaries
6,000 " Zinc
2,000 " Zinc Spelter

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Products Manufactured

(General Statement, with tonnage per year)

30,000 Tons Refined Lead
10,000 " White Lead
1,500 " Zinc
6,500 " Zinc Oxide

Any by-products?

Sources of Plant Waste

(General Statement)

We have no plant wastes which enter any sewage system.

Diagram (or Flow Sheet) showing processes and waste discharge.

Flow sheets are available for the greater part of our operation but no industrial wastes are discharged to sewers or canal.

Is there any discharge of waste oil? No

Have you local separators? No

Or sewer system separators? No

Is there any discharge of spent acids?

Pickling Liquor? No

Or Chemicals? No

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Analyses

Have any analyses been made of the flow discharged from the Works at -

On each outlet?

On main outlet?

Yes on storm sewer to canal.

Were analyses made on composite samples built up of portions taken every ten minutes?

If so, on what period?

Or, are they catch samples? Yes

Are the analytical results available for 1943? No

1944? Yes

Sewerage and Drainage

Is there one system? Several

Is a general plan available?
Showing location of all outlets? Yes

Has any step been taken to separate the sewage of human origin?
Yes, this was done several years ago in a new sewer system.

Is a general plan available of such separate sanitary sewer?
Yes

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Any estimate of cost?

If any part of the sewer system connected
to the municipal system?

All except storm
sewer connected to municipal system.

What is the size of the connection?

2-6" 1-8" 1-18"

If not connected to municipal sewer, where
does sewage discharge?

All except storm
sewer connected to municipal system. Storm
sewer partially discharges storm water to
canal.

Size of outlet sewer?

(If more than one outlet, state number and size)

See above

Is any part of the sewage or waste treated? No

Please give names:

General Superintendent Mr. R. G. Bowman

Attorney Mr. Rae M. Royce

Chief Engineer Mr. P. S. Toney

Chief Chemist Mr. H. C. Brown

Contact man for conference or further inquiry.

Aug. 22, 1944

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