

signatures.

"Weekly Vigil for Peace in the Middle East," said a large banner held by two people on the south side of the old Post Office at 815 Olive St. in downtown St. Louis.

"Don't go to war," said one man as he handed out leaflets asking for peace.

"I support our troops," said one passer-by, declining to take one of the leaflets. Others in the crowds of downtown workers out for lunch took the leaflets. Some stopped to argue.

The watch is held every Monday from 11:30 a.m. until 1 p.m. and is sponsored by the St. Louis Forum for Peace in the Persian Gulf and 23 different organizations.

The groups aren't against the United States taking a stand in the Middle East. They do oppose the idea of either Americans or Arabs dying in a war.

But isn't it best to negotiate from a position of strength? That's what some people stopped to argue Monday.

"We're saying we want to see a negotiated settlement," Anna Ginsburg said. "A lot of folks think the United States has reached a conclusion about war in the Middle East and is just waiting to attack."

Some people accepted the fliers without comment and stuffed them carelessly in pockets, but others studied them.

"People are pretty positive," Ginsburg said. "Most people take the circulars, and a good percentage sign our cards. We've had a number of people with family members serving in the Gulf sign."

The protests started in late August, and Monday was the sixth event.

"We have sent off more than 2,500 cards and letters signed by people asking for a negotiated settlement," Ginsburg said.

Ginsburg said some of the protesters use their lunch hours to help; others work different shifts to be there; and some of the protesters are retired and can help at any time.

Their signs urged the United States to "Turn Back from the Brink of War" and asked "President Bush, please negotiate."

Ginsburg said the group picked the old Post Office because it is in the middle of the business district and there is good traffic flow during the lunch hour. The building has plenty of room, so sidewalk traffic isn't restricted.

The building isn't used for much else. It has a few offices, a post office branch and some federal offices. It was intended as a retail center in downtown but hasn't had much development activity yet.

It was cool, and the wind whipped between high buildings, giving the protesters an impression of what the winter could bring.

But Ginsburg said the group

Cleanup proposal near OK

By KEITH BRUMLEY
News-Democrat

SAUGET — Monsanto Chemical Co. and Illinois are near an agreement for cleanup of a former Monsanto landfill that has leaked toxic pollutants into the Mississippi River.

Illinois Environmental Protection Agency attorney Bruce Carlson said Tuesday that the tentative agreement between Monsanto and the Illinois attorney general's office concerns the former Krummrich landfill, near Monsanto's W.G. Krummrich Plant in Sauget.

Carlson spoke at an environmental conference at the St. Louis Marriott Hotel, sponsored by the Regional Commerce and Growth Association.

He said Monsanto has completed a study of the extent of pollution at the site and that the Illinois Environmental Protection Agency has tentatively approved Monsanto's cleanup proposal.

Under an out-of-court settlement, Monsanto would contract to remove manufacturing wastes that were deposited from the Krummrich plant onto the 36-acre site from 1957 to 1977. The wastes would be put in another landfill.

In exchange for the cleanup, which would cost millions of dollars, Monsanto would be freed from further liability as a result of dumping at the Krummrich landfill. As a temporary measure, Monsanto put a clay cap over that landfill several years ago to retard the movement of pollution from the landfill to the water table and to the Mississippi River.

The agreement with Monsanto would be the second out-of-court settlement with a Sauget industry this year for cleanup of sites highlighted in a 1988 study of pollution in Sauget.

Cerro Copper officials are spending an estimated \$12 million to clean up a section of Dead Creek, which was used over decades to dump wastewater from Cerro's Sauget plant.

Carlson said the Cerro cleanup is expected to be completed this week.

The Dead Creek sites contain residues of past industrial and municipal dumping and have been described as some of the most polluted spots in Illinois.

Carlson said negotiations are continuing with other companies and individuals deemed responsible for past pollution in Sauget, when

See SAUGET/4B

First-grade student singing a song

Harr

By

BELLEVILLE District 175 board Monday despite residents who at

Jim Welzbach district's tax pool. The levy is \$266 estimates it will

"We should Welzbachner, w Bank and sells t

Welzbachner increased education funds instead expects a balance current school Burcham said.

Burcham said used if state fur

Residents of pro

STLCOPCB4034752

DSW 134794

...1936 and who died
...1956; a daughter, Patricia
...Moore Keeley, and a son,
...Henry Eugene Keeley, son of
...Henry and Agnes, nee Hallo-
...a brother, Henry P.

...rived by three daughters
...Sharon and Richard
...Michelle and Paul Ames
...teen and David Kolb, all of
...by two sons and a daughter

...Terrence and Betty, nee
...of Ballwin, Mo., and Thomas
...Moore of Maryville, Ill.,

...will be lovingly remembered
...grandchildren and their
...nda and Daniel Shine of
...Mo., Michael and Karen
...St. Louis, Mo., Richard
...Kaye Roustuo, Geno and
...Susan Keeley, Christo-
...ey, Jennifer and Kathy
...ra and Kelly Kolb all of

...Michelle Moore and
...one of Ballwin, Mo., Chris-
...and Thomas John Moore
...eight great grandchild-
...nieces and nieces: a
...Eda Mae, nee Klapp,
...Belleville and beloved life
...s, Vivian and Robert
...Mobile, Ala.

...procession to leave at 10
...from the John Barnes
...ome, 3501 West Main,
...Our Lady Queen of
...Belleville for a 10:30
...with Rev. John Myler and
...Evilly officiating. Bur-
...Mount Carmel Ceme-

...av call between 3 and 9
...y at the funeral home.
...be a recitation of the ro-
...n. Thursday at the John
...ral Home.
...may be made to Hos-
...ern Illinois.

Funerals

...rt Coonce, of East Ca-
...neral services will be
...m. Wednesday at the
...eral Home in Dupon with
...DeRossett officiating.
...e in Jefferson Barracks
...etery, St. Louis County,
...are now calling at the fu-

Funerals

...Fire Department
...WEDNESDAY
...am at Belleville East

...band, Andrew, two children, Beth, 15,
...and a son, 12, her parents, Rev. and
...Mrs. Herman Neunaber; her grand-
...mother, Emma Neunaber of St. Lou-
...is; a brother, David (Baer) of Balti-
...more, Maryland, and three sisters:

...Kathy (Rex) Rothgangel of
...Belleville; Kris (Larry) Whitley of
...Hillsboro, Ill. and Kim (Kelley) Ott of
...Belleville; nees, nephews and God-
...children.

...Visitation between 4 and 8 p.m.
...Thursday at the George Renner and
...son's funeral home in Belleville.

...Funeral services will be held at
...10:30 a.m. Friday at St. Mark Luth-
...eran Church in Belleville with Rev.
...Ronald Neustadt officiating. Burial
...will be in Green Mount Cemetery.

...Memorials to New Life Lutheran
...Church in Bolingbrook, Ill. (Trust
...Fund for the children).

Accident reports

Belleville Police Department TUESDAY

7:47 a.m.: North Belt East, Dana
Jackson, 31, Lovejoy; Richard Harris,
59, Fairview Heights; front-rear; no
injuries reported.

8:24 a.m.: South 95th Street and
Carbon Street; Van Roehrig, 28,
Mascoutah; Patricia Schaefer, 33,
Belleville; front-rear; no injuries
reported.

11:57 a.m.: South Illinois Street;
Terry Southers, 19, Belleville;
Richard Allison, 65, Fairview
Heights; front-rear; no injuries
reported.

1:15 p.m.: North Illinois Street and
F Street; Frederick Diener, Jr., 20,
Fairview Heights; Earl Berry, 77,
Salem; front-rear; no injuries
reported.

3:39 p.m.: North Illinois Street and
A Street; George Lingelbach, 76,
Belleville; ticketed for disobeying red
light; Marilyn Smith, 51, Collinsville;
front-side; no injuries reported.

5:28 p.m.: Freeburg Avenue and
East McKinley; Marne Hoffmann, 31,
Freeburg; Melissa Dent, 23, St.
Charles, Mo.; front-side; no injuries
reported.

...sed.
...Davis in November 1987 filed a
...multicount lawsuit against the city of
...Alton for malicious prosecution, false
...imprisonment, defamation of char-
...acter and violation of her civil
...rights. All the allegations were either
...dismissed or denied by a federal
...judge.

...The same allegations were dismis-
...sed or denied after Davis in October

Robbery

Continued from 3B

Wilkins was being held in the St.
Clair County Jail for violating his pro-
bation. Details were not available
Tuesday night on whether Harris was
in police custody.

Venice Police arrested Hicks and
Wilkins early Friday morning during
a routine traffic stop and discovered
the Mustang they were driving was
stolen.

Trash

Continued from 3B

trash collection cost the city \$499,639
for about 9,000 homes. The antici-
pated cost of trash collection this year is
\$615,000.

The city levied the maximum of 20
cents per \$100 assessed valuation to
collect \$276,900 in taxes for garbage
collection during the 1990 fiscal year.
The other \$222,739 for the service
came from the city's general fund.

City officials said the trash-hauling

Sauget

Continued from 1B

environmental laws were non-
existent.

He said Illinois is nearing an
agreement with the village of Sauget
for cleanup of a former municipal
landfill.

Meanwhile, Carlson said a cleanup
also will begin soon at the Wastex

...The two policemen alleged in their
...lawsuit Tuesday that Davis sued them
...with "ill intent" in an effort to embar-
...rass and harass them.

...Kaid and Ventresca, each are
...seeking damages from each from the
...three defendants for allegedly caus-
...ing them severe emotional distress
...and anguish and damaged
...reputations.

A St. Louis woman identified one of
them as one of two men who rear-
ended her Mustang and then stole it,
St. Louis Police said Friday. The su-
spects were driving a mustard-
colored Buick when they hit the
woman's Mustang in St. Louis about 6
a.m. Thursday.

Anyone with information about
similar robberies can call the Divi-
sion of Criminal Investigation at
346-3700.

increase will continue to come from
taxes and the general fund.

Public Works Director Ken Keene
proposed to the City Council earlier
this year that it institute a user fee for
trash collection. But Mayor Gene
Brombolich said he opposes user fees
because Collinsville is one of a few ci-
ties that provides trash collection wi-
thout charging residents a monthly
fee. The user fee would abolish the
trash tax and reduce the city's tax
rate.

DSW 134795

Research site in East St. Louis.
Illinois is holding hundreds of
shippers and manufacturers
responsible for a multimillion dollar
disposal of thousands of drums of
waste chemicals that were shipped to
the former glass plant for fuel
blending and subsequently abandoned
when the company went bankrupt.

Births

ST. ELIZABETH'S HOSPITAL
BELLEVILLE
...Hoper and Oliver Jones Jr. of
...Belleville, a daughter, Oct. 29.
...Lisa and Jim Cummings of Carle

Sam Houston, Texas, a daughter, Oct.
...Rosanna, and Stephen Carson of
...Scott Air Force Base, a son, Oct. 27.

The family suggests
that memorial
contributions be made
to the American
Heart Association

Cahokia News Journal July 8, 1990

Cleanup won't help Cahokia

By Steve Horrell
Staff writer

CAHOKIA — The 40 or so Cahokians who own homes near Dead Creek will get little relief from last week's promise by Cerro Copper Products Co. to clean up a section of the creek.

The three-month, \$12 million cleanup plan affects only a 1,600-foot section of the creek in Sauget purchased by the company during the 1950s and 60s. Since that time, the south end of that section, near Queeny Avenue, has been dammed up, according to Cerro Vice President Paul Tandler.

The creek has been used as a dumping ground for various companies for nearly a century. In addition to Cerro, Monsanto and other manufacturers, a study by Illinois Environmental Protection Agency's Division of Land/Noise Pollution shows that Midwest Rubber Co. discharged wastes into the creek from the 1940s to the early 1960s. And in August of 1971, Harold Waggoner and Co., which specialized in hauling industrial wastes, was ordered to stop washing its trucks and discharging the waste into Dead Creek, which it had apparently been doing since the mid-1960s.

The Attorney General's office and the IEPA have been negotiating with Monsanto and other companies to clean up the creek, and Hartigan said other consent decrees may be forthcoming soon.

"This isn't doing a darn thing to help to help Cahokia," Village Planner Paul McNamara said of the latest agreement. "It doesn't clean up the part

that runs through Cahokia." McNamara said that five years ago, Gov. James Thompson gave Mayor Mike King a verbal commitment to have the creek cleaned up when the two met at Fairmont City. King is on vacation this week.

"We applaud this endeavor, and anything done is a plus, but it really does nothing for Cahokia and it does nothing toward what the governor promised," McNamara said.

CAHOKIA-DUPO Journal

Sunday, July 8, 1990

Dead Creek cleanup revived

By Steve Horrell
Staff writer

SAUGET — Illinois Attorney General Neil Hartigan has announced that Cerro Copper Products Co. will spend \$12 million to clean up a 1,600-foot section of Dead Creek in Sauget.

The company and state formalized the agreement with a consent decree filed Thursday in the U.S. District Court in East St. Louis.

Workers are to begin the cleanup within 30 days and should complete it by the end of October.

Dead Creek has accumulated high levels of PCBs, acids and cyanide from nearly a century of industrial waste dumping, making it the most toxic waste site in the state, Hartigan said.

The three-mile-long creek starts on Cerro property in Sauget and ends between Queeny Avenue and Judith Lane in Cahokia.

However, Hartigan said, ownership of some of the property has been difficult to determine — as has responsibility for contamination.

The current cleanup plan involves only the section of the creek that runs through Cerro property.

Hartigan said he is negotiating with Monsanto and other industries in the area and may reach another agreement soon. Hartigan said three other parts of the creek may be cleaned up in the near future.

"We hope that Cerro's action today will generate the same kind of action on the part of other companies in the area," Hartigan said.

The agreement calls for the company to remove about 20,000 cubic yards of polluted dirt and replace it with clean soil.

Cerro Vice President Paul Tandler said the company constructed a stormwater tunnel at the north end of the plant after officials noticed that storms

caused waste water to back up into Dead Creek.

Tandler said the south end of the 1,600-foot segment of the creek has been dammed off and the north end of the creek feeds into the village of Sauget's sewer system.

"We recognized that there was a problem with Dead Creek and that over the years we may have been one of the companies that contributed to the problem ...

"Although we were under no obligation or pressure, we have stepped forward and taken the lead in resolving the problem," Tandler said.

The Illinois Environmental Protection Agency has been working with Hartigan's office for years to have 16 sites along the creek added to the federal Superfund list for hazardous waste remedies.

The IEPA has done extensive testing in the area since 1980 after a dog died of chemical burns while rolling in Dead Creek.

DSW 134797

STLCOPCB4034755

Local/State

State EPA to push for cleanup funding

SPRINGFIELD (AP) — Toxic substances remain a danger to the state even though business interest groups killed funding for the Clean Illinois program, say environmental officials gearing up to lobby for more aid this fall.

The state Environmental Protection Agency has been hampered in the cleanup of PCBs and other toxic substances because it desperately needs an \$18 million package that was killed in the General Assembly this spring after intense lobbying from three groups, said Bernard Killian, IEPA director.

"We just weren't able to overcome the opposition from the business groups," Killian said. The Illinois Manufacturer's Association, the state Chamber of Commerce and the Chemical Industries' Council, all lobbied intensely to kill it, he said.

Scheduled for cleanup were more than a dozen metro-east sites — in a backlog of about 100 hazardous-waste sites statewide — that have been illegally or irresponsibly abandoned by industries, IEPA officials said.

The state EPA received more than \$33 million for its cleanup program over the past five years through bonds

issued under the Build Illinois program, but money ran out June 30.

The agency, along with Gov. James R. Thompson, pushed for legislation that would have set up a chemical storage fee for businesses to generate \$24 million, including the \$18 million to fund the Clean Illinois program.

But the bill was never called for a vote in the House.

The groups opposed the bill because they believed that businesses alone should not bear the burden of paying for cleanup, said Mark Biel, associate director of governmental affairs for the Illinois Manufacturer's Association.

"It is a societal problem and not something to be placed solely on the backs of businesses," Biel said.

Sid Marder, a spokesman for the state Chamber, said his group was proud of quashing the bill.

"We'll take the credit," Marder said. "It was not an equitable bill, and there was no real demonstrated need for it. If there was a need, it was overstated" by the state EPA.

But Killian disagreed: "I see this as a serious problem, which the public will also see as a serious problem," he said.

Sauget companies on list to pay for waste cleanup

By KEITH BRUMLEY
News-Democrat

SAUGET — More than 30 companies and individuals have been targeted by the state to help pay for the cleanup of the Dead Creek industrial waste site.

Among those listed are several Sauget companies, including Monsanto Chemical Co., Cerro Copper Products Co., Big River Zinc Corp., Sterling Steel Casting Co. and Ethyl Petroleum Additives Inc.

Also listed is the Village of Sauget and individual landowners and trustees for deceased landowners, some from as far away as New York.

Monsanto and Sauget Mayor Paul Sauget were named because both formerly operated dumps near the Mississippi River.

In a highly publicized agreement this month, Cerro became the first party to reach an out-of-court settlement to clean up part of Dead Creek on Cerro property. The \$12 million cost of Cerro's share of the cleanup includes part of the cost of a state investigation into the extent of the pollution. The settlement frees

Cerro from further liability.

The Illinois Attorney General's Office is negotiating with Monsanto and with two other groups of companies and individuals for further cleanup of the site.

Letters sent to those cited ask for cooperation in cleanup efforts and ask for copies of shipping and other records that would help investigators to identify others responsible for the pollution.

Assistant Attorney General Christine Zeman said work of identifying other responsible parties is made harder because some of the companies that formerly contributed to the pollution are no longer in business. She said in many cases records also are haphazard or nonexistent, partly because companies commonly buried industrial waste.

Dead Creek runs through Sauget and Cahokia. Industries and residents regularly dumped chemicals and trash into the creek from about 1910 through the 1960s.

See **CLEANUP/3A**

Cleanup

Continued from 1A

The Illinois Environmental Protection Agency has identified a variety of ground and groundwater contaminants, including dioxin, and has targeted the two areas where the pollution is greatest for cleanup.

IEPA Dead Creek project manager Paul Takacs said he doesn't know how long a cleanup will take or what the final cost will be. He said IEPA does not have a cleanup timetable. Takacs said a satisfactory cleanup can be done with existing technology.

Much of the Dead Creek bed is outside of the designated cleanup areas, which Takacs said include only the areas of heaviest pollution.

The easternmost area includes parts of the Dead Creek bed and two chemical landfills. The other area borders the Mississippi and includes the Monsanto and Paul Sauget landfills and the former treatment lagoon for the old Sauget sewage treatment plant.

General superintendent of environmental affairs Max McCombs acknowledged Monsanto's responsibility and willingness to clean up the landfill.

"It was a Monsanto landfill. The materials there are Monsanto's. We're going to take responsibility for making that area safe," McCombs said.

Village Attorney Harold Baker said Sauget is asking industries that contributed to the pollution to pay to clean up the lagoon.

Under federal law, current and former landowners and those who manufacture, treat or dispose of hazardous materials should pay for cleanup.

Attorney General Neil Hartigan earlier this month called Dead Creek the most polluted site in Illinois and said a cleanup of the creek is a top priority. State officials have said that even a partial cleanup could take years.

Illinois has tried unsuccessfully to get Dead Creek placed on the federal Superfund site list.

The following is a list of companies and individuals the attorney general's office has identified as those the state is trying to get included in the costs of the Dead Creek cleanup:

- Fred and Louise Leyhe, St. Louis
- Cerro Copper Products Co., Sauget
- Stanley Krietman, New York
- Richard M. Cohen, Los Angeles
- Morris Weissman, New York
- Midwestern Rubber Reclaiming Inc., Sauget
- Monsanto Chemical Co., Sauget
- Wiese Planning and Engineering Inc., Sauget
- Moto Inc., St. Louis
- Browning-Ferris Industries Inc. of St. Louis
- Sterling Steel Casting Co., Sauget
- William Shive, Effingham
- Big River Zinc Corp., Sauget
- Mobil Oil Corp., Chicago
- Rogers Cartage Co., Chicago
- Ethyl Petroleum Additives Inc., Sauget

- Donald Elsaesser, St. Louis
- Russell Richardson, Belleville
- Village of Sauget
- Byron Cave, McPheeters & Roberts, St. Louis
- Ruan Transport Corp., Des Moines, Iowa
- James D. Tolbird, Cahokia
- Illinois State Trust Co., Belleville
- Tony L. Lechner, St. Louis
- Sauget Mayor Paul Sauget
- Albert Lauman III, Cahokia
- Andrew Hankins, Sauget
- Mineweld Inc., Cahokia
- Robert A. Clarkson, Cahokia
- Rose Stillman, Cahokia
- Thomas Owen, Cahokia

DSW 134799

ST. LOUIS

SECTION D

- SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 2, 1990

Dead Creek: 10 Years, Little Progress

By Christine Bertelson
Of the Post-Dispatch Staff

Legend has it that Dead Creek got its name from prehistoric Indians who dug a channel along the Mississippi River to carry their dead downstream by canoe for burial.

Today the ominous name is still apt. No longer free flowing, Dead Creek is a contaminated ditch that runs three miles past heavy industries, back yards and empty fields between Cahokia and Sauget just south of Illinois Route 3. For most of this century the creek has been used by industries and businesses as an open sewer.

Dead Creek and a half dozen areas nearby — known collectively as the Dead Creek sites — are ranked by state environmental officials the most toxic turf in Illinois.

The ground water is heavily contaminated with PCBs, heavy metals, arsenic, chlorinated solvents and a long list of other compounds toxic to human beings and aquatic life.

Every day, large amounts of toxins are moving underground into the Mississippi River and the drinking water of millions of people downstream, according to state environmental officials.

In the most heavily polluted areas of the creek near large industrial complexes that line Route 3, nothing lives in Dead Creek. No plants, no fish, no frogs.

One stretch of the creek is coated with a rubbery goo, under which thousands of gallons of toxic chemical wastes slush and seep.

From time to time, phosphorus residues in the creek bed have burst into flame, glowing eerily at night.

"If you consider Sauget sites as a whole, this is by far the worst in the state, no question about it," said Paul Lukacs, the state Environmental Pro-



Robert LaRouche/Post-Dispatch

Dead Creek in its channel near Illinois Route 3. Officials say the cleanup of the toxic ditch will cost tens of millions of dollars.

tection Agency's project manager for the Sauget sites.

It has been 11 years since Pete Lauman's wire-haired terrier went ex-

ploring in Dead Creek and died of chemical burns.

"He was tough, but he wasn't tough enough to beat all the chemicals in

that creek," said Lauman, 35. His trim white house on Judith Lane in Sauget is perched on the east bank of Dead

See CRF 1 K, Page 3

■ COMPANY AGREES voluntarily to cleanup.....Page 3D

Creek

From page one

Since that incident, the creek has been fenced off at several locations where it flows near residential areas. There have been due to monitor groundwater and surface pollution, and some sites have been surveyed for buried waste drums. But in 10 years the cleanup of Dead Creek has been precisely nowhere, say those who live nearby.

Lauman no longer can remember the name of his nephews' carrier. But he can't narrow forget the problems that persist in Dead Creek.

"I don't really want to live here because of the pollution," said Lauman, who lost a kidney to cancer four years ago. "I can't claim the cancer is due to Dead Creek, but it's kind of unusual at my age."

But I can't sell my property, Lauman said. "If I could move it somewhere else it would be great."

Rick McDonnell, 38, grew up on Judith Lane, swimming and fishing in Dead Creek and oblivious to its hazards. But today, with children of his own, he is more wary.

"Nobody knew anything then," said McDonnell, who works at Monsanto Chemical Co. "I haven't been sick... yet, but I think they should clean it up."

That, say state officials, is easier said than done.

Ten years ago the state agency spent more than \$1 million documenting the pollution in Dead Creek and in contaminated sites in the Sauget and Alton area within a radius of about 15 miles of the creek.

State officials said the cleanup will be a monumental job, costing tens of millions of dollars and lasting at least a decade. That is money the state does not have, officials said, noting that the Illinois Legislature this year refused to fund the Clean Illinois program for cleanup of toxic waste sites.

The report — an environmental assessment — was used to bolster the state's argument that the Dead Creek sites belong on the national priority list of polluted sites eligible for federal money.

The line for U.S. dollars is long, and the Dead Creek sites missed the list this year after hitting a bureaucratic snag when the federal government failed to put into effect new rules for ranking polluted sites.

They are in limbo, said Christine Zeman, an assistant attorney general.

The drag at the top has also made it harder for the state to wield its stick over polluters, Zeman said. Without the imminent threat of federal intervention, polluters are more likely to balk at cleaning up their messes.

In the meantime, Illinois has stepped up its efforts to push companies into voluntary cleanups. Last winter the state EPA and attorney general's office began notifying current and former property owners, businesses and individuals who may have created the hazardous wastes in and around Dead Creek or helped transport, treat or dump them there that they were "potentially responsible" for cleanup.

The state could force property and business owners to reimburse it for cleanup costs, or pay damages up to three times the amount spent on cleanup.

Among those on the list are Big River Zinc Corp., Brownie-Ferris Industries of St. Louis Inc., Cerro Copper Products Co., Clavton Chemical Co. and Monsanto.

The net has also been cast by the state over more than a dozen small property owners along Dead Creek, such as Robert Forsyth. Forsyth owns a Moto Gas service station and convenience store on the corner of a 20-acre lot on the east side of Route 3. The property line runs to the center of Dead Creek. In the 10 years his family has owned the land, most of it has been used for growing soybeans, he said.

Forsyth maintains that he and other small property owners are victims, not polluters. Forsyth said he would go bankrupt if he is forced to share the cost of cleaning up a mess he didn't create.

The law says if you own it you are responsible to keep that property safe, Forsyth said. "I agree with that, but in this case it was not only impossible to control the pollution, there was no way to prevent it."

"If we had tried to dam the creek the big industries would have been down our throat in no time."

"We are totally innocent. Last month Cerro Copper became the first industry in Sauget to come forward with a cleanup plan of its

State officials say the cleanup of Dead Creek will be a monumental job, costing tens of millions of dollars, is money the state does not have, officials said.

Paying For Cleanup Called Cheaper Than Resisting

By Christine Bertelson
Of the Post Dispatch Staff

For Henry Schweik, president of Cerro Copper Co., the decision to spend \$12 million voluntarily to clean up 1,600 feet of Dead Creek was a form of insurance.

"We didn't contaminate Dead Creek. We may have contributed to it at one time," Schweik said. "But it costs a fortune to defend yourself against this kind of charge."

Rather than buck the charges and line lawyers' pockets in the process, Schweik chose to dive in and clean up the mess — a step no other industry in the area has taken.

The agreement between Illinois Attorney General Neil F. Hartigan's office and Cerro was made formal in a consent decree in U.S. District Court in East St. Louis last month.

"We didn't relish the prospect of our property being a Superfund site," a stigma that could affect property values, use, and the company's reputation, Schweik said.

Cerro hired its own environmental consultant, which found PCBs, heavy metals, chlorinated solvents and other chemicals in the creek sludge.

Until 1965, some of the sludge came from Cerro, as well as other industries next door.

Monsanto Co., Ethyl Petroleum Additive, and Big River Zinc Corp.

Cerro plans to fill and remove contaminated sediment from the 1,600 feet of the creek that runs through the company's property.

"We thought it would be not only easier, but cheaper," Schweik said. "Superfund won't work because of the litigation and interminable squabbles" over the lines of responsibility, he said.

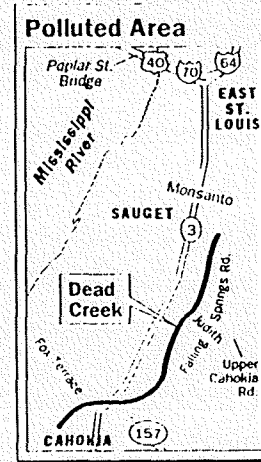
But Schweik is well aware that Cerro's \$12 million ounce of prevention will not necessarily spare it from contributing to a far more costly cure.

That won't necessarily release the company from later involvement," said Paul Takacs of the Illinois Environmental Protection Agency.

"Since there is so much interplay among the sites, an area could become recontaminated. We could sign off on one segment [of Dead Creek] today, and not know for 10 years what the future impact of the pollution is."

But whatever the future holds for Dead Creek, cleaning it up was "morally and economically the right thing to do," Schweik said.

"Whatever their motives were, they deserve a lot of credit," said Christine Zeman, an assistant attorney general. "We are hoping other companies will follow their lead."



own, announcing it would spend \$12 million to dredge, filter, and reroute a stretch of Dead Creek on its property on Route 3 in Sauget.

Negotiations also are at a critical point with Monsanto, whose potential liability promises to be enormous, Zeman said. Monsanto wants to avoid the delays and detours of working with the federal bureaucracy.

"If we can work toward an acceptable solution with the Illinois EPA and the attorney general's office outside the federal Superfund program... It would be desirable from a financial

"Since it [Dead Creek] is so close to the river, most of the contamination has probably gone directly to the Mississippi."

PAUL TAKACS, Illinois environmental official

standpoint," said Max McCombs, in charge of government and environmental affairs at Monsanto's Krummrich plant.

"The more parties you have in any discussion, the longer things can take."

According to the report prepared for the Illinois EPA in 1988, Monsanto poured tons of liquid chemicals into several unlined pits and buried an unknown number of barrels of chemical wastes near its Krummrich plant. Although such house-keeping habits would be unthinkable — and illegal — today, they were common industrial practice 30, 40 and 50 years ago.

The focus of those negotiations now is a toxic chemical "landfill," capped in 1986 with clay. But the cap has not prevented the movement of liquids underneath, which are slowly making their way to the river, said Takacs of the state EPA. The western edge of the landfill is 100 feet from the Mississippi.

"Since it is so close to the river,



Pete Lauman standing alongside a fence that encloses Dead Creek. Lauman's wire-haired

terrier died of chemical burns 11 years ago after playing in the creek.

most of the contamination has probably gone directly to the Mississippi," Takacs said. "An area with this volume and toxicity creates all sorts of problems all the way down the river. There are towns just south of Sauget that use the Mississippi as their drinking water supply."

Most of those communities test and

treat the water for a fraction of the chemical contaminants washed into the river from Sauget, Takacs said.

"We have not really gotten to that point in discussions of accepting legal responsibility per se," McCombs said. "But we are not walking away from that issue. We just know it is going to be expensive and a long process."

Too long to suit Judith Lane residents, Pete Lauman and Rick McDonnell.

"It's all political," said McDonnell. "I don't blame the big industries like Monsanto. I think they are sincere in wanting to do something about it."

"But I don't know if we'll ever see it cleaned up. Not in our lifetime."

20
• FRIDAY, JANUARY 8, 1988

Plant In Sauget Polluted Ground Water, Suit Says

By Robert Goodrich
Of the Post-Dispatch Staff

Illinois Attorney General Neil F. Hartigan filed suit Thursday in circuit court in Belleville against the owners of a former wood-treatment plant in Sauget, alleging pollution of the area's ground water by the plant.

Named as defendants were Lefton Iron & Metal of East St. Louis and two corporations registered in Delaware — Moss American and Kerr McGee Chemical.

The suit says Moss American and Kerr McGee operated a wood-treatment plant from 1927 until at least 1968 on 40 acres at South 20th Street on Upper Cahokia Road in Sauget. It says the site was sold to Lefton in 1973.

According to the suit, creosote and creosote waste have been "allowed to spill, leak, pour and flow freely upon the land and into the surface and ground water at the site."

It says the site has four corroded and partly dismantled tanks with residue of creosote; more than 100 drums containing various wastes (some leaking and without covers);

two large impoundments containing creosote-contaminated water; contaminated ponds; and waste piles and debris.

The site is poorly fenced and "directly adjacent to several residences and agricultural lands," the suit says, adding that "the area's ground water is used for drinking, gardening and for irrigation."

It asks for a court order requiring the owners to clean the area and to secure the site against public access to prevent further dumping or spillage.

The suit also calls for a court declaration that the site violates environmental laws in Illinois. It seeks penalties of up to \$10,000 plus \$1,000 a day for any continued violations.

Annita Bridges, manager of media relations for Kerr McGee, said the company was unaware the suit had been filed. "We are aware of some of the environmental matters involved," she said. "We're working on a remedial investigation."

Officials for Lefton and Moss American could not be reached for comment.

XC: Warren Small
Will Varnado
Steve Krchma

f: Sargent PRPs

6A ILLINOIS

Two Companies Agree To Clean Up Sauget Site

By Phil Luciano

SPRINGFIELD, Ill. — Two former owners of an abandoned plant in Sauget, Ill., where railroad ties were treated have agreed to clean up the site. The agreement ends three years of negotiations with the Illinois attorney general's office.

As a result of a consent decree filed Tuesday in St. Clair County Circuit Court by the attorney general's office, Kerr-McGee Chemical Corp. and Moss American Corp., Delaware-based firms that merged in 1973, are scheduled to pay to clean up the site, which they once owned. Cleanup costs could exceed \$1 million, said James R. Morgan, assistant attorney general.

Morgan said the companies might have to remove soil contaminated by creosote, a chemical used to treat railroad ties. Also, the firm is responsible for testing ground water near the site. Morgan said that although there were no wells near the site, any contaminated ground water could leak to the nearby Mississippi River.

As part of the agreement, Kerr-McGee will pay \$25,000 to the state in-

stead of facing a civil penalty, Morgan said.

Moss American owned the site from 1927 until 1968, when the operations ceased. Kerr-McGee and Moss American co-owned the site until 1973, when it was purchased by Lefton Iron and Metal Inc., of Missouri. The land later was bought by Lefton Land and Development Inc., also of Missouri.

Morgan said the state had sued Lefton Iron and Metal and Lefton Land and Development, claiming that the companies allowed ground water to be polluted. Morgan said those two companies had filed a complaint in December with the Illinois Pollution Control Board asking that Kerr-McGee pay for cleanup.

Kerr-McGee subsequently filed suit to have the Lefton companies reimburse them for the cleanup ordered by the attorney general's office.

The board and the courts have yet to rule on those complaints.

Phil Luciano is a graduate student at Sangamon State University and an intern in the Post-Dispatch Springfield bureau.

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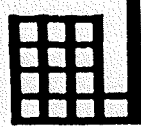
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Scientists will eye the skies of Illinois next month to see how summer storms move acid rain from Midwest smokestacks to lakes and forests in the East.

PAGE 3



Columnist Harry Levin bids farewell to a local elementary school principal on his farewell.

PAGE 4



The boys track team from Madison High School came home from the Class A state meet with the third-place trophy.

PAGE 5

ST. LOUIS POST-DISPATCH

ILLINOIS

SPORTS ... PAGES 5-6

SECTION

MONDAY, MAY 30, 1988

Hazardous Waste: Monsanto, Officials To Meet In Sauget

By Bill Vogler
Of the Post-Dispatch Staff

Representatives of the Illinois Environmental Protection Agency and Monsanto Co. are scheduled to meet June 8 in the Sauget Village Hall to discuss findings of heavy hazardous waste contamination in the Sauget area.

An IEPA spokesman said the meeting would be closed because "we could be talking about some enforcement sensitive matters."

However, Robert Casteel, an IEPA public information officer, emphasized that "in no way are we assessing blame" in meeting with Monsanto to review the findings of a study commissioned by the IEPA in November 1985 of 18 sites in the Sauget area.

A Monsanto spokesman said the firm hoped that the study would "provide useful data on the Sauget area."

The meeting, to which Monsanto may invite other area firms, is the latest step in the formulation of remedial action plans, which probably will be very costly.

"It's our understanding that the Sauget sites go way beyond the state's ability to finance a cleanup," said Casteel. "It's too big, (involves) too many sites and too much contamination." He said the state would consider the possibility of obtaining federal Superfund to deal with the site.

The study that will be discussed at the June 8 meeting was done by Ecology and Environment Inc., of

Buffalo, N.Y., one of the nation's leading environmental study firms.

Casteel said it showed soil and water contamination by heavy metals, industrial wastes and materials associated with industrial solvents. Asked if the study results showed a serious problem, Casteel replied: "Environmentally speaking, yes (and) from a public health and safety standpoint it has that potential."

Following the June 8 meeting, the study will be made available to the public in meetings, Casteel said. He said it also would be placed somewhere, such as in a public library, for public examination.

Casteel said the IEPA would seek information from Monsanto and other firms concerning the prod-

"It's our understanding that the Sauget sites go way beyond the state's ability to finance a cleanup. It's too big, (involves) too many sites and too much contamination."

ROBERT CASTEEL, IEPA spokesman

ucts they produce and the chemicals they employ. He said some of the materials found in the study were "substances that are not characteristic of current manufacturing operations. We do not know where they came from."

The agency then would begin to

map out remedial plans based on cleanup options and objectives, Casteel said. Unless an emergency developed prior to this stage, the cleanup then would get under way. The effort could be financed by a combination of state, federal and industry funds, Casteel said.

Casteel stressed that action could be taken at any time by the IEPA and the public health department "if there is a spill or accident."

The study findings also are being reviewed by the Illinois Department of Public Health, according to Tom Long, a department toxicologist. The department is "looking at it from a public health point of view," Long said.

Long said a public health evaluation of the study findings would take six to eight months. If the public health study "identifies what are considered significant potential or actual exposure to hazardous chemicals or other substances or actual health problems" then a comprehensive survey, including door-to-door surveys and medical

See MEETING, Page 2



Only One Of 60 Towns Has OK On Sewer Plan

By Phil Luciano

SPRINGFIELD, Ill. — Only one of the more than 60 Southern Illinois communities facing a July 1 deadline to repair or build sewage treatment systems has received final approval for its plans, according to the Illinois Environmental Protection Agency.

Sparta, a town of 5,000 people about 50 miles southwest of St. Louis, began construction of its \$1.5 million sewage plant last month.

Communities not in compliance

and only about a dozen have had their plans approved in court.

According to state officials, most of those communities will not make the deadline. But many non-compliance communities in other states are faring no better.

"Most of them will not make it, nationwide," said David Ryan, spokesman for the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency. The total number of non-compliance municipalities was not available.

by the federal government and \$10,000 by the state of Illinois for each day a system is not in compliance.

But those amounts are negotiable. After a community drafts its plans, it presents them to the state EPA and the courts for approval. In court, the fines, usually levied up front, can be lowered depending on a variety of factors, including the size of the city, its ability to pay and the amount of water pollution it produces.

Sparta, whose plant is scheduled to

DSW 134806

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Although she hasn't switched to Chinese recipes, she's just as busy in the kitchen as ever. Suzanne Yawitz says her mother-in-law is "such a good cook that it's hard to

"I make time for cooking because I enjoy it," Jean Yawitz said. She had just made a pizza-style apple pie for her two grandsons who were visiting from New

Put raisins and water in saucepan; boil 5 to 10 minutes, or until about 1 cup of liquid remains. Drain raisins, reserving 1 cup liquid. Let cool.
In a large bowl, with electric mixer on medium speed,

2084ET MSD

Meeting

From page one

examination of area residents could be made, Long said.

The Saugat site was placed on the IEPA's "Superfund" list in 1985, Casteel said. Currently, the Illinois Superfund consists of \$90 million, which is to provide for cleanup efforts through 1990, Casteel said.

Although it is too early to put a price tag on any remedial plan for the Saugat sites, Casteel said the IEPA was considering seeking federal Superfunds, which are much greater than those of Illinois.

However, the U.S. EPA is revising its system for scoring hazardous waste sites to determine which ones would qualify for federal Superfund aid, Casteel said. The IEPA will uphold any application for federal aid until the federal scoring revisions are completed, he said.

In another environmental matter,

St. Clair County and state authorities and Browning Ferris Industries are involved in the recovery and assessment of drums found in BFI's Modern Landfill south of Belleville. The 110-gallon drums are believed to contain parachloroaniline.

Kevin Hutchison, director of the St. Clair County Health Department, said a laboratory report on samples from the barrels was expected in about a week. Hutchison said parachloroaniline "may be fatal if inhaled, swallowed or absorbed through the skin."

Hutchison said state and local authorities were interested in the effects the matter in the drums could have on landfill workers as well as the general public if the material gets into ground water. Some of the barrels leaked, he said.

However, he noted that no material from the drums had been detected in monitoring wells near the landfill, which was required by the IEPA. Four drums initially were found by workers at the site in May 1986 and

eight more were found in January 1987.

At that point, Hutchison said, St. Clair County State's Attorney John Baricevic called for the IEPA to work with BFI for a "comprehensive search" of the landfill. This resulted in 26 more barrels being found last week.

Hutchison said the barrels were of a type that had been manufactured in the 1940s and 1950s. They were buried deep in the ground in areas where there are no records of any landfill activity when BFI acquired the site, Hutchison said.

Casteel said BFI had notified the IEPA in May 1986 when the firm first found the drums. "They have been very good," Casteel said. "We have been working with the company and they have been extremely cooperative with us about finding the drums."

The search for the drums involves use of a magnetic device that detects metals in soils, Hutchison said. The search at the landfill is continuing.

Contest

From page one

Charlotte the spider.

"The girls wrote the script and added quite a few humorous lines to the quotes from the book," said Carol Heaton, coordinator of the Triad School District's gifted program and the adviser to Marine School's Odyssey of the Mind team.

Odyssey of the Mind is an annual problem-solving competition sponsored by IBM and the non-profit OM Association of New Jersey. Each state and several foreign countries send teams from elementary and secondary schools to the World Finals after regional and state competitions.

The girls from Marine comprise the only team from south of Springfield in Illinois to qualify for this

two minutes to respond in turn with creative answers to a given question.

In the state contest, the girls were asked to use the homonyms "two," "too" and "to" in as many quotable phrases as they could. They quickly came up with "To be or not to be" and about 25 other phrases, Heaton said.

She said the team actually needed little coaching, because the girls are all self-starters. Under contest rules, they had to make all their own props, scenery and costumes, including intricate animal outfits for the characters in "Charlotte's Web."

Adrienne and Diane did most of the sewing. They said they had learned to sew through a local 4-H club. "But it took forever" to make the costumes, Diane said with a laugh.

Actually, the girls estimated they worked at least 50 hours perfecting their act and raising enough money so they can travel to the World Fi-

good they tasted."

Heaton said the girls' performance really seemed to jell when they toured the Triad district and presented the play at different grade schools and for a teachers' workshop at McKendree College at Lebanon early this year.

"I think the best time we had was at McKendree, because they all knew 'Charlotte's Web' and got all of our jokes," Patricia said.

Jennifer Hiltz and Debra direct the performance, and the other team members star in it. Under contest rules, setting up the stage and giving the performance must be done in eight minutes or less, so the girls have become proficient at putting up their set quickly.

Most of the team members have participated in Odyssey of the Mind competitions for the last three years, but this is the first year they've made it to the finals.

Sewers

From page one

about the rate hike, he said.

Other city officials statewide might not be so lucky, especially if state Senate legislative proposals providing \$300 million in sewer-repair grants are not approved by the House and signed into law.

Without the promise of those grants, some municipalities might be forced to increase sewer rates dramatically.

Warren Ribley, Senate Democratic staff researcher, said, "Once July 1 rolls around and they're paying those (increased) fees, you're going to see an uproar."

"We're talking in cities paying sewer bills month."

Ryan said communities complain to the federal about the prospect of the act has been on 1972. In fact, the de ready been changed from 1977 to 1981 to

"The proposal has back to let them off t give them more tim Ryan said. "We wish had been made."

He said that after lites no longer will r funding for their s Since 1972, the feder has granted \$44 billion jects, representing the



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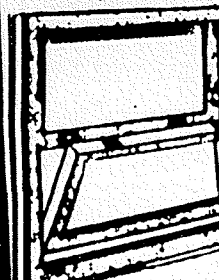
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Bellview News-Democrat

Thursday, June 2, 1980

Front page Section 1

IEPA, Monsanto to discuss study

By ANTHONY SMITH
News-Democrat

SAUGET — Officials from the Illinois Environmental Protection Agency and Monsanto Co. will meet June 8 to discuss the results of a 1½-year-long study of hazardous waste contamination in Sauget.

The 1,000-page report details the condition of 18 sites around Sauget that are contaminated by heavy metals, industrial waste and materials associated with industrial waste, said Keri Luly, community relations coordinator for the IEPA in Springfield.

"There is a large variety of contaminants in the soil, groundwater, and surface water around Sauget," Luly said. "There is no health risk, however." Fences keep residents and any others from the most contaminated areas and no one drinks the ground water, Luly said.

Andi Smith, communications supervisor for Monsanto Co., said the company was contacted by IEPA to go over the preliminary findings of the study.

Ken Mensing, IEPA regional manager for land pollution control, said the sites pose a potential danger.

"Anytime you have a contaminated area, you have a

potential health hazard," he said.

Luly said the report will help the IEPA convince the U.S. EPA that federal funds are needed to immediately clean the sites.

The report will determine the extent of contamination to the area, Mensing said.

"This is one of the biggest projects in the state. We hope we can get this rated high enough to be eligible for the federal superfund," Luly said.

The contaminated areas are within the industrial area and cleaning the areas would drain the state's finances, Luly said.

Mensing said no cost estimates have been made because IEPA still is in the process of "remedial investigation" — developing enough data and assessing the damage of the contamination so the sites will be added to the superfund list.

Luly said the IEPA will present these findings to Monsanto Co. and other chemical companies located around the small community in the hope they will eventually take over the maintenance of the sites after they are cleaned up.



Robert H. H. Post-Reporter

workers, from left, are Rich Oglesby, Mike Creamer and Glanton.

o Save Union

but 25 others had found... Mayer estimated. ...the 25 ex-union mem- ...aluminum also hired 75 ...kers during the strike. ...for our ex-union mem- ...rough the picket lines ...n't supposed to. I be- ...have got something." ...her Ruby Clover.

...the union members ... was passed to go ... "I don't want to go in ... with scabs." Clover

...and Allen Cavitt, who ...oken in support of the ... of those who crossed ... last week.

...that eventually union

members would be able to put aside their differences with those who crossed the picket lines.

"They have to have time for wounds to heal," Mayer said. "Eventually people will get over it. They never forget, but they can get over it."

In the vote Monday, union members agreed to return to work as positions open at the plant, based on seniority and job qualifications. Plant Manager John Whelan told union officials that jobs for ex-union members would open next week, Mayer said.

The vote to return to work unconditionally on the terms set out by Penn Aluminum management was "kind of hard to take," Mayer said.

"We did stoop," he said. "We have

See UNION, Page 2

Sauget, Cahokia Pollution Report May Aid Cleanup

By Phil Luciano

SPRINGFIELD, Ill. — State environmentalists are hoping that a recently released report detailing widespread hazardous waste pollution in Sauget and Cahokia will convince federal officials to pay for cleaning up the area.

The report, of more than 1,000 pages, is the product of a two-year, \$2 million study of toxic contamination in the area.

Its findings will greatly aid the Illinois Environmental Protection Agency when it applies for money from the Superfund, a federal program that provides money to clean up hazardous waste sites across the nation, said Keri Luliv, agency spokeswoman.

Despite the findings, Luliv stressed that it was unlikely that residents of the Sauget-Cahokia area could come in contact with the pollutants. No one lives on the contaminated soil, and airborne particles do not travel very far, she said.

The study focuses on two pieces of land in Sauget and Cahokia totaling 230 acres.

One tract is in the shape of an inverted "L" along the Mississippi River; the other plot, shaped like a rectangle and split by Dead Creek, is less than a quarter mile east of the first site.

The report states that the agency found "substantial and widespread contamination" of soil, surface water, ground water and sediment at the test sites. Also, traces of air pollution were found in some places.

Test results show that the area, which local industries used for decades as a toxic dumping ground, is contaminated with numerous hazardous substances, including phenols, polychlorinated bi-phenyls (PCBs), lead and chromium.

Luliv said long-term exposure to these toxins could result in various health problems, including cancer and death.

The area, hardest hit by the pollution, is the north end of Dead Creek, has been fenced off so no one has access to it.

She said the creek had been dammed, possibly by industry, many years ago and has been virtually stagnant since the 1960s. Thus, pollutants

cannot be carried downstream, she said.

Contamination by ground water is unlikely, Luliv said, because the 21 houses close to the toxic sites are tapped into municipal water systems that draw water from the Mississippi.

See REPORT, Page 2

Superfund List Adds 12 Sites

By The Associated Press

Twelve sites in Illinois would be added to the federal Superfund priority list for toxic waste cleanups, and one would be dropped under recommendations issued by the federal Environmental Protection Agency.

From a landfill in Waukegan to a former oil storage tank site in East Cape Girardeau, the new Illinois sites could receive federal evaluation and cleanup funding if they are approved for the list after a period of public comment, officials said.

Stan Black, a community liaison with the Illinois Environmental Protection Agency, said Tuesday that the potential addition of the sites to the federal list was welcome news because it could mean that money will be provided for extensive testing and cleanup where problems have been identified.

"We certainly don't have enough resources as a state agency to do the kinds of investigations and the kinds of remedial actions that are needed at all of those sites," he said.

Black said he heard that as much as \$12 million might eventually be available for the average site on the federal Superfund list.

He said that 17 Illinois sites already were on the list and 10 more were proposed in January 1987 but had yet to be approved for the final list. According to Black, a 60-day period has been provided for comment concerning new sites recommended Monday.

Midpoint

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AP

ask at a recent legis-
field, Ill.

and 80,000 spectators were
this year, up from 3,000 ve-
67,950 spectators last year.
booked full throughout the

reet Machine Nationals
verheated cars and over-
dows to the St. Louis area in
promoter Chuck Ross of In-
expects the event to have
consecutive trouble-free
weekend at Du Quoin.

s said he expects the idyllic

Report

From page one

River.

And ground water, which travels slowly, moves west toward the Mississippi River and away from any of the wells in the outlying area, Luly said.

But she was quick to add that just because the pollution seemed to be confined did not eliminate the chance of some adverse effects.

"Most of the stuff is buried, so it's not an immediate threat," she said. But "what's in the (Mississippi) River,

setting at the fairgrounds and beefed-up security measures to prevent problems.

Events in the three-day Street Machine Nationals include "Show and Shine" judgments in different categories; a manufacturers midway; tournaments such as volleyball and tug-of-war; Pro-Street judging of the "wide-wheeled wonders," the drag-race-look cars, at 10 a.m. Saturday; and a tire game at 1 p.m. on Saturday and 2 p.m. on Sunday.

we don't know."

Pollution "is contaminating the ground water and possibly the Mississippi River," she said. "People have said in the past that you can dump it because it will become diluted. But that isn't wise."

The U.S. Food and Drug Administration is planning a study to determine whether polluted, leaching ground water is contaminating the river and its fish, she said.

Cleaning up the area could help decrease ground-water contamination, Luly said. Also, the pollutants need to be removed if the local governments hope to develop housing or businesses on the land, she said.

The report states that the problem could be worse than results indicate because "the complete extent of contamination resulting from past waste-disposal activities . . . has not yet been determined."

Luly noted, "The site has had so many types of chemicals . . . it's hard to say, 'This is what the problem is.'"

It's also hard to say how big a price tag the cleanup project would carry. Luly would only estimate that it would cost "millions and millions. There's just no way to know at this point."

Agency officials have long known of the need to clean up the area, Luly said. However, officials have said that the state cannot afford the project.

The state applied for Superfund money several years ago, but was

turned down because the contamination problem was insufficiently documented, she said.

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, which administers Superfund, is developing new criteria to determine which cleanup projects will get funding. The combination of a new scoring system and the thorough report on the Sauget-Cano sites improves Illinois' chances of receiving federal funding, Luly said.

The report mentions several industries, both in operation and defunct, that could have contributed to the contamination. They include Monsanto Co., Cerro Copper Co., Midwest Rubber Co. and Waggon Trucking Co.

But, Luly added, companies outside the region also are likely to have brought toxic waste to the area for disposal. And she said much of the dumping occurred before many environmental laws were enacted.

So far, no companies have come forward to offer to pay for the cleanup, Luly said. If the U.S. EPA decides to provide funding, it can collect it from parties responsible for the pollution up to three times the cleanup costs.

The agency will learn by next spring whether it will receive federal money, Luly said.

Phil Luciano is a graduate student at Sangamon State University and intern at the Post-Dispatch's Springfield bureau.

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Heat

From page one

citizens.

■ East St. Louis Municipal Building, 301 East Broadway.

Foster conducted a heat-relief workshop Wednesday in the Township Senior Citizens' Building.

East St. Louis Housing Authority Director Stephanie Stafford said the lobbies and community centers in senior citizens' high-rise apartment buildings throughout the city were open to the residents. The Housing Authority does not issue air conditioners to the residents, but it does have air conditioned public areas, Stafford said.

Youngsters who normally would visit swimming pools or open fire hydrants have had little relief this year. The city's public pools have re-

mained closed.

But the Lincoln Park Pool on the city's south side will open Friday. It's the first opening for the pool in five years. The city recently spent \$750,000 in federal funds to renovate the pool.

Officials have sealed the city's fire hydrants in order to prevent them from being vandalized.

Sprinklers, which were once placed on the hydrants, were vandalized so often that they also were removed, officials said.

Elsewhere, swimming pools in the Metro East area were packed this week.

Ben Warren, manager of the Bellville Municipal Swimming Pool, said Wednesday that the public pool had 900 bathers, most of whom were adults.

"About 500 people, teenagers and adults," Warren said. "It's a great day for everyone."

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Jeff Larson, left, Keri Luly and Max McCombs, right, examine a map of an aerial view of the sites

Companies get report card on 18 waste sites

By ANTHONY SMITH
News-Democrat

SAUGET — Officials from 15 industries and the Illinois Environmental Protection Agency met Wednesday to discuss the results of a 1½-year study of hazardous waste sites in the Sauget area.

Keri Luly, community relations coordinator for IEPA, said the purpose of the meeting was to present the 1,000-page report of the 18 waste sites to the companies. The meeting was closed to the public.

"It was pretty uneventful. We gave a presentation of the report and answered a few questions," Luly said.

Thirty-six representatives from companies including Monsanto Co., Ethyl Petroleum Additives Inc., Union Electric and Cerro Copper Products attended the 1½-hour meeting held at the village hall.

A copy of the report was given out so the industries could review the findings and decide what type of action they eventually wish to take in cleaning the sites, Luly said.

"There will be further conversations. We will give the companies a month or two to discuss the report among themselves and decide what they want to do," Luly said.

Andi Smith, communications supervisor for Monsanto Co., said the company will take a month to discuss the report with its consultants before any further discussions with IEPA.

"The report didn't indicate any immediate health risk, so we will take about 30 days to review the study. No action will be taken at this time," Smith said.

The sites, the industrial area around Dead Creek, had been dumping grounds for chemical wastes several decades before laws against dumping were enacted, according to a fact sheet compiled by IEPA.

The problems at Dead Creek became prominent in 1980 when a section of the creek bed was reported to be smoldering. An investigation by the IEPA revealed that extensive dumping of phosphorous, heavy metals, and other chemicals in the creek bed and 3.7 adjacent acres — west of the

creek and south of Queeny Avenue — had severely contaminated the soil.

The project was expanded to include another potential hazardous waste sites that shared the industry, population, economy and groundwater with the creek and its adjacent acres.

Ecology and Environment Inc. was hired by IEPA to determine what kinds of chemicals were dumped at the sites, whether the wastes contaminated groundwater, and what dangers wastes might present. Using that information, the company devised a number of possible remedies to correct the environmental damage.

The study had an estimated cost of more than \$1 million.

An immediate cleanup of Dead Creek would prove futile because of the contamination of the groundwater, the fact sheet said. If the water sediments were cleaned up, the creek would be recontaminated by the groundwater, according to the fact sheet.

LC Max McCombs
Seli Gove

DSW 134811

Sauget News-Democrat
9-10-88

STLCOPCB4034769

IEPA seeks superfund help

Luly optimistic about funding

By Bill Milligan
Editor

CAHOKIA — An Illinois Environmental Protection Agency official last week expressed optimism about receiving federal superfund dollars to aid in the clean-up of 16 hazardous waste sites in Cahokia and Sauget.

The agency will apply for assistance through a federal superfund for hazardous waste clean-up which was established in the fall of 1986.

A similar application was rejected in 1980 because the Dead Creek site did not exceed federal guidelines for health threatening exposure to hazardous wastes. Since the first application, the agency has found 15 more sites in the area, all of them connected by ground water.

Unlike the first \$1.5 billion federal hazardous waste superfund, the new program will spend \$9 billion, said Keri Luly, IEPA public relations coordinator for the project.

The same qualification criteria will apply.

"I know it seems like this project taking forever, but after we discovered how widespread the problems here were, we had to re-think our strategy," Luly said Thursday.

A remedial investigation began in 1980 after a dog died of chemical burns when rolling in Dead Creek.

Preliminary studies found quantites of white phosphorous on the surface of the creek which caused the dry bed to smoulder in the summer months, but IEPA could not afford to do more than fence the area.

The study also revealed high concentrations of deadly PCB's and more than 20 other hazardous chemicals as deep as 30 feet underground.

In December of 1980, the agency applied for federal funding through a "superfund" specifically for hazardous waste clean-up.

The superfund established a method for qualifying for federal assistance. All sites which scored 28 or more based on superfund criteria were prioritized for federal clean-up.

Dead Creek scored an 18.4 on the hazard ranking system.

Contractors began submitting bids for the clean-up in the fall of 1984. As work was about to begin, the agency was warned the problem could be much more extensive than previously expected.

"People that my bosses believed came forward and said work there (thought Dead Creek) would be dangerous because the area was a dump several years ago," Luly said.

(See CLEAN-UP, page 7A)

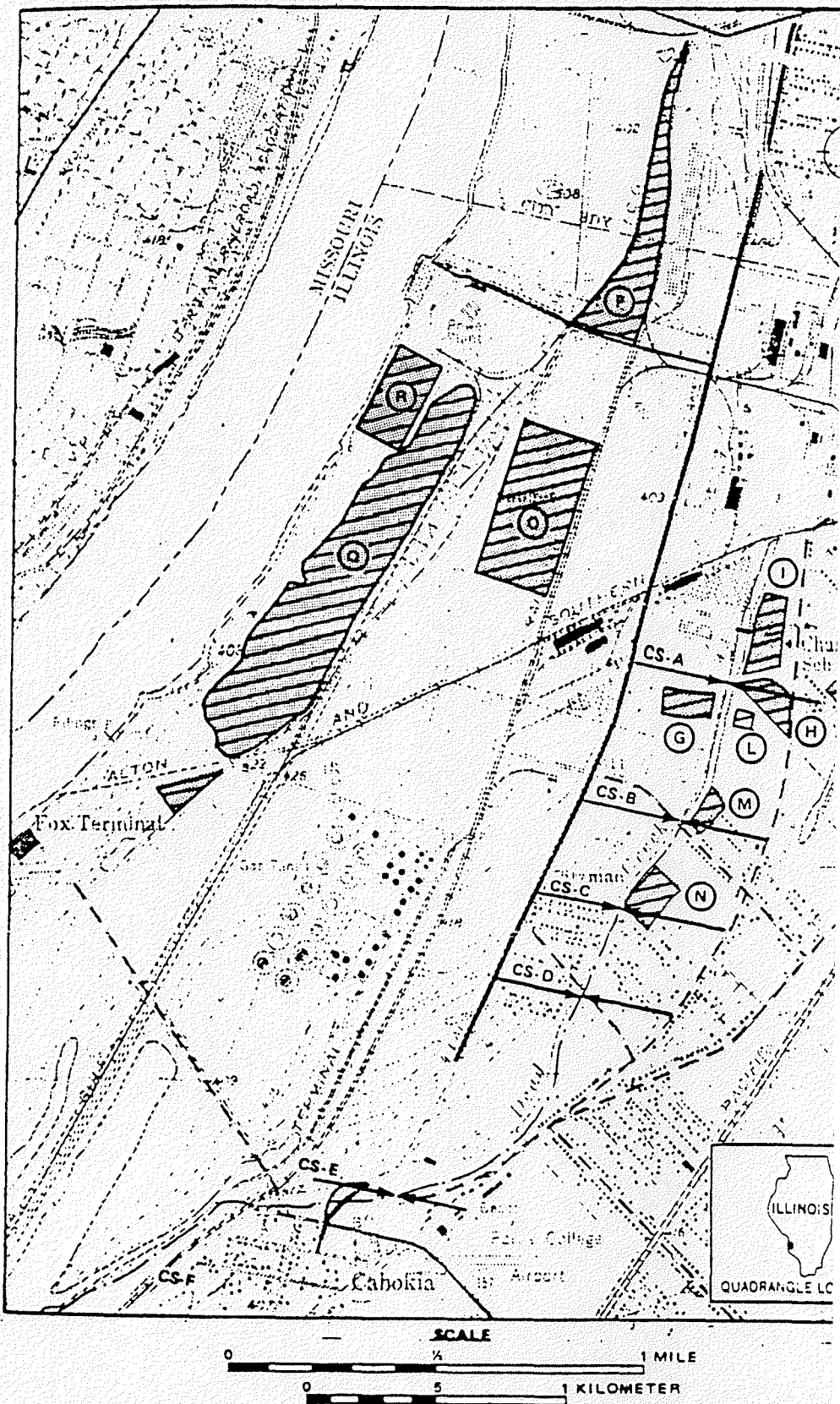


Figure 1-1 DEAD CREEK PROJECT AREA SITE LOCATION MAP

Clean-up

EPA seeks federal assistance for clean-up

(Continued from page 1A)

Using aerial photographs from as far back as 1939, the agency became suspicious of 16 different locations in the area.

Wells and bore samplings confirmed IEPA suspicions. Because the sites were connected by ground water, cleaning one would not alleviate the problem, Luly said.

"If we cleaned up Dead Creek, it would just get contaminated again from the other sites," he said.

IEPA began referring to its effort here as the

Sauget Sites project in early 1985. It hired Ecology and Environment Inc. to establish the kinds of chemicals that were dumped, where they were dumped and if the wastes had migrated from the site along with ground water.

The 16 sites have been combined into two groups. Samples taken from each are being analyzed now to establish new superfund hazard rankings.

"It will be late spring before we get information back on the contents of some of these samples," Luly said.

She said the agency could here from USEPA as early as fall about federal assistance for the Sauget Sites clean-up.

Luly said the agency intends to pursue alternative funding sources as well.

An IEPA preliminary hydrology retained by the *Journal* last week through Freedom of Information Act reveal tests had found concentrations of P beans, corn and okra taken from vegetable garden.

The Food and Drug Administration action level for PCBs in plant matter technicians said the health hazard was

According to the report, ground water contamination is probable and surface water contamination is likely. Reports indicate that material has traveled from under dumps, along Dead Creek and into the Du Pont floodway.

"It will be expensive, but it can be up," Luly said.

Sauget companies on list to pay for waste cleanup

By KEITH BRUMLEY
News-Democrat
SAUGET — More than 30 companies and individuals have been targeted by the state to help pay for the cleanup of the Dead Creek industrial waste site.

Among those listed are several Sauget companies, including Monsanto Chemical Co., Cerro Copper Products Co., Big River Zinc Corp., Sterling Steel Casting Co. and Ethyl Petroleum Additives Inc. Also listed is the Village of Sauget and individual landowners and trustees for deceased landowners, some from as far away as New York.

Monsanto and Sauget Mayor Paul Sauget were named because both formerly operated dumps near the Mississippi River. In a highly publicized agreement this month, Cerro became the first party to breach an out-of-court settlement to clean up part of Dead Creek on Cerro property. The \$12 million cost of Cerro's share of the cleanup includes part of the cost of a state investigation into the extent of the pollution. The settlement frees

Cerro from further liability. The Illinois Attorney General's Office is negotiating with Monsanto and with two other groups of companies and individuals for further cleanup of the site.

Letters sent to those cited ask for cooperation in cleanup efforts and ask for copies of shipping and other records that would help investigators to identify others responsible for the pollution.

Assistant Attorney General Christine Zeman said work of identifying other responsible parties is made harder because some of the companies that formerly contributed to the pollution are no longer in business. She said in many cases records also are haphazard or nonexistent, partly because companies commonly buried industrial waste.

Dead Creek runs through Sauget and Cahokia. Industries and residents regularly dumped chemicals and trash into the creek from about 1915 through the 1960s.

See CLEANUP/3A

Cleanup

Continued from 1A

The Illinois Environmental Protection Agency has identified a variety of ground and groundwater contaminants, including dioxin, and has targeted the two areas where the pollution is greatest for cleanup.

IEPA Dead Creek project manager Paul Takacs said he doesn't know how long a cleanup will take or what the final cost will be. He said IEPA does not have a cleanup timetable. Takacs said a satisfactory cleanup can be done with existing technology.

Much of the Dead Creek bed is outside of the designated cleanup areas, which Takacs said include only the areas of heaviest pollution.

The easternmost area includes parts of the Dead Creek bed and two chemical landfills. The other area borders the Mississippi and includes the Monsanto and Paul Sauget landfills and the former treatment lagoon for the old Sauget sewage treatment plant.

General superintendent of environmental affairs Max McCombs acknowledged Monsanto's responsibility and willingness to clean up the landfill.

"It was a Monsanto landfill. The materials there are Monsanto's. We're going to take responsibility for making that area safe," McCombs said.

Village Attorney Harold Baker said Sauget is asking industries that contributed to the pollution to pay to clean up the lagoon.

Under federal law, current and former landowners and those who manufacture, treat or dispose of hazardous materials should pay for cleanup.

Attorney General Neil Hartigan earlier this month called Dead Creek the most polluted site in Illinois and said a cleanup of the creek is a top priority. State officials have said that even a partial cleanup could take years.

Illinois has tried unsuccessfully to get Dead Creek placed on the federal Superfund site list.

The following is a list of companies and individuals the attorney general's office has identified as those the state is trying to get included in the costs of the Dead Creek cleanup.

- Fred and Louise Leyhe, St. Louis
- Cerro Copper Products Co., Sauget
- Stanley Krietman, New York
- Richard M. Cohen, Los Angeles
- Morris Weissman, New York
- Midwestern Rubber Reclaiming Inc., Sauget
- Monsanto Chemical Co., Sauget
- Wiese Planning and Engineering Inc., Sauget
- Moto Inc., St. Louis
- Browning-Ferris Industries Inc. of St. Louis
- Sterling Steel Casting Co., Sauget
- William Shive, Effingham
- Big River Zinc Corp., Sauget
- Mobil Oil Corp., Chicago
- Rogers Cartage Co., Chicago
- Ethyl Petroleum Additives Inc., Sauget

- Donald Elsaesser, St. Louis
- Russell Richardson, Belleville
- Village of Sauget
- Byron, Cave, McPheeters & Roberts, St. Louis
- Ruan Transport Corp., Des Moines, Iowa
- James D. Tolbird, Cahokia
- Illinois State Trust Co., Belleville
- Tony L. Lechner, St. Louis
- Sauget Mayor Paul Sauget
- Albert Lauman III, Cahokia
- Andrew Hankins, Sauget
- Mineweld Inc., Cahokia
- Robert A. Clarkson, Cahokia
- Rose Stillman, Cahokia
- Thomas Owen, Cahokia

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Page 4, Section A



Our viewpoint

Dead Creek: Talk is cheap

Residents of Cahokia and Sauget have learned firsthand the meaning of "empty promises."

In 1983, Illinois Attorney General Neil Hartigan pledged to ensure personally the cleanup of heavily polluted Dead Creek.

Now, it's almost 1989, and nothing has been done, except installing a fence around part of the creek to keep children from playing in it (which, of course, they do). Residents who live nearby still fear for their health and safety, and they will continue to do so for the foreseeable future.

We don't mean to imply that Hartigan is responsible for Dead Creek's continued pollution; there is only so much the attorney general can do. But his long-ago promise typifies what Cahokia and Sauget residents have gotten from the powers that be: all talk and no action. Even at this late date, a Hartigan spokesman still insists — without offering any specifics — that "Our feeling here is that it needs to be cleaned up and we're going to see it cleaned up."

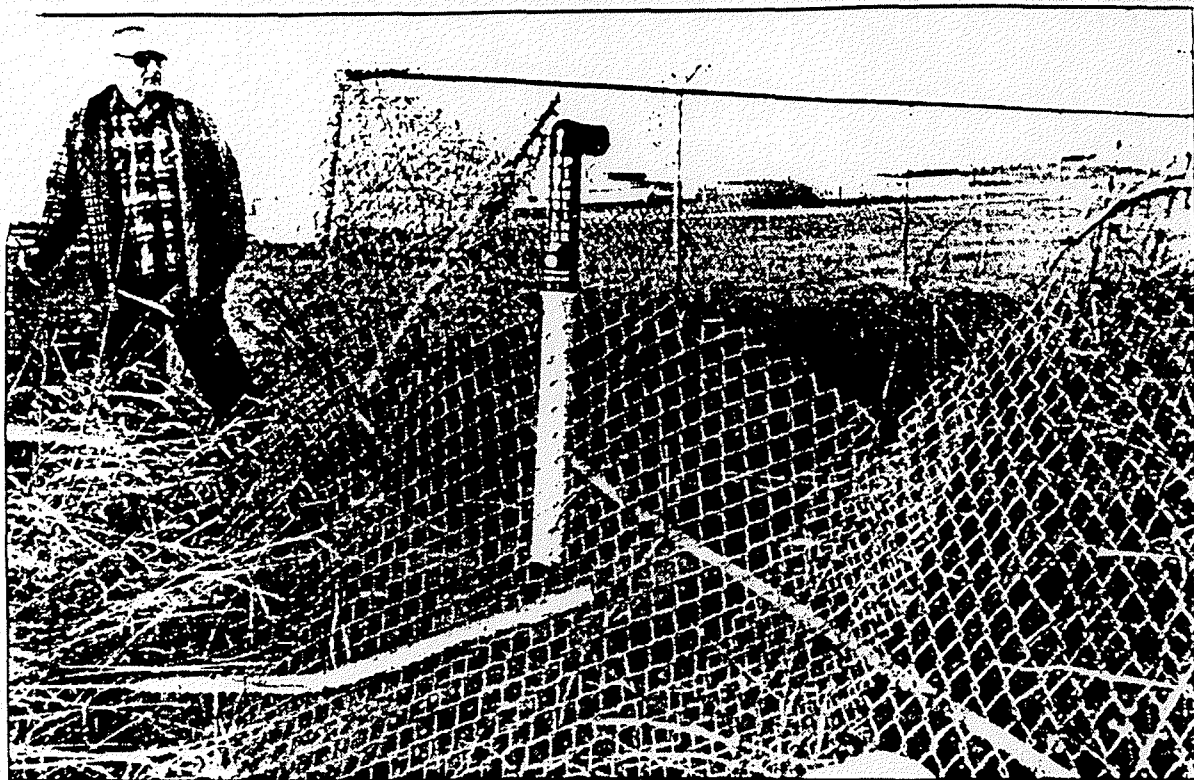
Perhaps — if Hartigan and his staff live to a ripe old age. According to Jeff Larson of the Illinois Environmental Protection Agency, cleanup of Dead Creek and a dozen or more other hazardous waste dumps in Sauget and Cahokia could take

decades and cost hundreds of millions of dollars.

First, though, it must be decided who will foot the bill. Larson says the state won't pay for the cleanup; that is the responsibility of manufacturers and transporters of hazardous waste, he says. A number of Sauget companies, past companies and the village have been linked in various ways to the pollution. But none of them are involved in major cleanup efforts, according to Larson. They, too, are playing the waiting game. Several years ago, the IEPA asked the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency to put Dead Creek on its Superfund cleanup list, which would have put federal funds to use. But the feds turned down the request.

Now, the IEPA hopes its 18-month, \$1 million study will qualify the site for the Superfund list. We urge Illinois' congressional delegation to use some judicious muscle to influence the U.S. EPA's decision on the matter.

In the meantime, Dead Creek remains a cesspool of hazardous wastes, fouling the soil, groundwater and air of Cahokia and Sauget. Its toxic silence contrasts sharply with the sound and fury of politicians' promises that the waste will be cleaned up.



News-Democrat/Brad Kellerman

William Settle walks through debris at Dead Creek

Waste

Continued from 1A

the federal Superfund. He said a cleanup of six segments of Dead Creek and at least 12 other hazardous waste dumps in Sauget and Cahokia could take decades and cost hundreds of millions of dollars.

Illinois tried unsuccessfully several years ago to get the sites on the Superfund list, which would qualify them for cleanup using federal dollars. IEPA spent \$1 million and 18 months on a report released this year that hopefully has the information needed to qualify the sites.

The IEPA study says there is significant, widespread contamination — including surface contamination — and that it is spreading. IEPA maintains that the contamination is not an immediate public health risk.

East Side Health District director Joseph Kurre said linking any specific health problems to the contamination would be difficult.

Sauget's drinking water comes from the Mississippi River and is clean, said Wayne Schlosser, spokesman for Illinois-American Water Co. He said Illinois-American has not had problems in Sauget with contaminated

groundwater reaching the village water supply.

Nevertheless, those living near Dead Creek said they are frightened.

Cahokia firefighter Gary Miller, 107 Jerome, said he remembers fighting fires in the dried-up creek bed and fears for his health. His son, Michael, 7, is not allowed to play near the creek.

Bob Wright Jr., 20, 100 Jerome said he played in the creek bed as a child.

Pollutants like dioxin, polychlorinated biphenyls and mercury have been detected during past tests.

The report says chemicals like vinyl chloride and chloroform have been found in test-well samples. It said the rising and falling of the Mississippi River and a generally higher groundwater level in recent years have allowed contaminants to spread, including a general migration toward the river.

"The groundwater is very contaminated. The soil is contaminated. The air is contaminated," said Larson.

Several Sauget companies, past companies and the village are linked to pollution in the report.

Suspected sites of extensive contamination include ground below PT's Show Club in Sauget and the village mall.

Monsanto spent \$1.5 million in 1986 to cap a landfill across Illinois 3 from Monsanto that contains 5,000 deteriorating drums of non-hazardous nitrochlorobenzene and nitrobiphenyls.

There has been no evidence of groundwater contamination there, said Max McCombs, Monsanto general supervisor of environmental affairs.

Larson said Monsanto told IEPA of the site and was to remove the barrels for incineration, but capped it instead to save money.

Larson said the village and Sauget's industries are involved in no extensive cleanups and are waiting to see what type of cleanup will be done and who will pay for it.

Larson said the state will not be paying for the cleanup. Manufacturers and others involved with the transportation and storage of hazardous wastes will foot the bill, he said.

Larson said more than 150 different landowners had to give permission for consulting engineers to gather information for the report.

Dead Creek cleanup: When will it happen?

By KEITH BRUMLEY
News-Democrat

CAHOKIA — William Settle said he remembers the Sunday in 1983 when Illinois Attorney General Neil Hartigan told residents and reporters he would personally ensure a cleanup of Dead Creek.

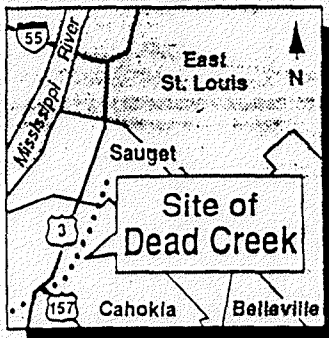
Settle, 59, and his neighbors are still waiting.

He said nothing much has been done, except the state put a \$100,000 fence around a stagnant pool northwest of his house at 102 Judith Lane. He said the fence is overgrown and falling down and Settle said he doesn't expect a cleanup in his lifetime. "I'd be surprised."

Hartigan spokesman Ernie Slottag said Illinois is progressing slowly toward a cleanup.

"Our feeling here is that it needs to be cleaned up and we're going to see it cleaned up," Slottag said.

Neighborhood children often ignore the fence to play in or near



the water or they play in unfenced portions of the creek bed, which also are contaminated.

"I've run them out. But you can't be on your guard all the time," he said.

Don't expect a large-scale cleanup anytime soon, said Jeff Larson, the Illinois Environmental Protection Agency's manager of

See WASTE/3A

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ST. LOUIS POST-DISPATCH

ILLINOIS

6A

FRIDAY, JULY 2, 1981

Cleanup To Start At Site In Sauget

By Robert Goodrich
Of the Post-Dispatch Staff

Cerro Copper Products Co. will spend up to \$12 million to clean up one section of Dead Creek in Sauget under an agreement reached Thursday with Illinois Attorney General Neil F. Hartigan.

Nearly a century of industrial waste has turned Dead Creek into a "chemical soup" that includes acids, cyanide and PCBs, making it one of the most toxic waste sites in Illinois.

Although the creek is less than three miles long, it comprises all or parts of 200 parcels of land scattered through Sauget and Cahokia. Hartigan said ownership of some tracts has been difficult to determine, let alone responsibility for contamination.

Paul Tandler, vice president of Cerro, said his company would fill and then remove the contaminated sediment from 1,600 feet of the creek that runs through the company's property. Up to 20,000 cubic yards of polluted dirt will be removed and replaced with clean soil, he said.

Hartigan said he is negotiating with industries, including Monsanto Co., to get three other stretches of the creek cleaned up.

The agreement with Cerro Copper was formalized in a consent decree filed Thursday in U.S. District Court in East St. Louis.

Hartigan said it calls for work to start in 30 days and be complete by the end of October. The decree includes a penalty of \$500 a day for any delay.

Tandler said Cerro Copper had discovered that storms caused industrial waste water to back up into Dead Creek. He said his company had built a tunnel along the creek that empties into a storage basin on the north end. The tunnel and basin can hold 1.5 million gallons.

"We recognized that there was a problem with Dead Creek, and that over the years we may have been one of many companies that contributed to that problem," Tandler said.

He said his company was under no obligation or pressure but, "As a responsible corporate citizen, we decided to step forward and take the lead on this project."

Hartigan said he hoped Cerro Copper's lead would be followed by other industries. He said Cerro Copper could sue other owners who were partly responsible for polluting the creek to help pay its costs.

He said no one yet knows how much it will cost to clean up all of Dead Creek. His office and the Illinois Environmental Protection Agency are



Neil F. Hartigan
Illinois attorney general

working to obtain federal Superfund money for the work, he said.

Cerro Copper was established in 1927 and is the world's biggest producer of copper tubing. It employs 850 people in Sauget.

Tandler said his company had been a pioneer in recycling. He said it had recycled 6 billion pounds of copper.

Woman, 46, Gets Probation In Killing

Judy M. Fletcher, 46, of East St. Louis was placed on three years of probation Thursday for fatally shooting a man in a dispute at her home last

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DEATHS

DSW 134817

Recent deaths in the Metro East area:

Alton
Wade Hampton Bauer, 94, died Wednesday, funeral Saturday, Elias Smith.
Minnie Sims, 83, died Thursday, funeral pending, Williams.

Edwardsville
Ruth Gibbs, 62, died Wednesday, funeral Friday, Fletcher.
White City
Mayme L. Bover, 84, died Wednesday, funeral Saturday, Irwin.
Greenville

STLCOPCB4034775

① Dead Creek
Secretary A

et, Whitney, prefers the dock

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ricity to the building.
en though the high temperature Thursday was
h degrees above the normal high of 89, it fell
of the 1936 record-high of 102.
new record high was set Wednesday as the
ury reached the 102-degree mark. The old
d was 101, set in 1936.
e temperature will be slightly lower today,
aid. The forecast calls for a high of around 90
partly cloudy skies and a 30-percent chance
understorms.
low tonight is expected to be in the 70s; Dye
The normal low is 68.
e hot weather will begin to return Saturday
Sunday, Dye said, as the chance for
r showers lessens.

According to a statement released
by Collinsville Police, Mills may have
been killed in Collinsville. Collinsville
Police declined to say why they think
she was murdered in the city.

The body was identified when Mills
name was found inscribed on her
dentures and through fingerprints,
said Capt. Wally Jansmann of the
Jefferson County sheriff's
department. The coroner could not
determine how long her body was in
the water, Jansmann said.

Mills was the daughter of Clare and
John Sulic of 101 Pine Lake Road in
Collinsville and was the estranged
wife of Kenneth Mills of
Caruthersville, Mo.

On June 18, Carole Mills hitchhiked
to Collinsville without her daughter
Kim, after her husband ordered
Carole Mills to leave their home in
Caruthersville, Clare Sulic said.

"She hitchhiked in with just a small
satchel she could swing across her
shoulder," Sulic said. "She called the

See BODY/3A

Bellville News Demo 7/5/90

Cerro Copper to use \$12 million on cleanup

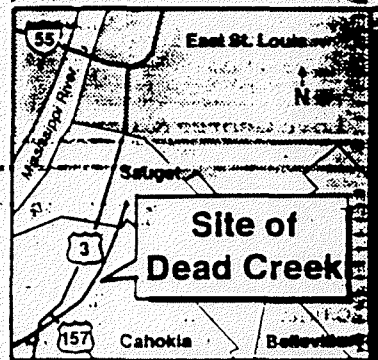
By KEITH BRUMLEY

SAUGET — Illinois Attorney
General Neil Hartigan said
Thursday that Cerro Copper
Products Co. will spend \$12 million
to clean up part of the Dead Creek
toxic waste site.

U.S. District Judge William
Stiehl on Thursday approved a
consent decree between Cerro and
Illinois that holds Cerro responsible
for completing a cleanup of about
1,600 feet of Dead Creek that is on
company property. Stormwater
that accumulated in the creek bed
after heavy rains already has been
diverted. Cerro will remove 20,000
cubic yards of contaminated soil
and will fill in the creek bed. The
\$12 million price tag includes
Cerro's share of the cost of a state
investigation into the extent of
contamination in Dead Creek.

Dead Creek is a mostly dry creek
bed that runs through Sauget and
Cahokia. Industries over several
decades diverted waste from
manufacturing into Dead Creek
that contained a variety of
industrial by-products, including
cancer-causing polychlorinated
biphenyls and heavy metals.

Hartigan on Thursday called



Dead Creek "the most toxic waste
site in Illinois" and said Illinois still
is trying to get Dead Creek added to
the Superfund cleanup list, which
would make federal money
available for a cleanup.

Hartigan said the state is
negotiating with other companies,
which he did not name, and said
three more cleanup agreements are
in the offing. Cerro has until year's
end to finish its part of the cleanup.
Hartigan did not give a timetable or
a cost estimate for a cleanup of the
various Dead Creek sites.

Hartigan said on the eve of his
first term in 1983 that a Dead Creek

See CLEANUP/3A

DSW 134818

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ON ASSOCIATION remains
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Keri said. "I was just wor-

to St. Joseph's Hospital in
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is in Carlyle visiting her-

nd, Clare Sulic said.

difficult to deal with. She
into being a wife," Sulic

after remarrying Kenneth
ouple regained custody of
er and the three moved to
Kenneth Mills could take a
instruction. In June, the
ed back to Caruthersville.

Enforcement Administration
report.

The allegation, made in an
interview with the administration,
was denied Thursday by a CIA
spokesman in Washington, D.C.

"The whole story is nonsense,"
spokesman Mark Mansfield said.
"We have not trained Guatemalan
guerrillas on that ranch or
anywhere else."

Caro is serving a prison term in
Mexico for the murder of U.S.
administration agent Enrique
Camarena at Caro's home in 1985.

The administration report
surfaced this week in the U.S.
District Court trial of four other
men allegedly involved in
Camarena's torture and murder.

Judge Edward Rafeedie ordered
prosecutors to give the report to
defense attorneys. The Associated

as Laurence Victor Harrison. The
newspaper said Harrison ran a
communications network for
traffickers and cohorts in Mexican
law enforcement in the 1980s.

The ranch purportedly used to
train guerrillas is in Veracruz,
Mexico. The bodies of Camarena
and his pilot were found on a ranch
near Guadalupe.

The informant told the
administration on Feb. 9 that the
CIA used Mexico's Federal Security
Directorate as a cover for the
guerrilla camp.

"Representatives of the DFS,
which was the front for the training
camp, were in fact acting in consort
with major drug overlords to
ensure a flow of narcotics through
Mexico into the United States,"
Harrison said.



News-Democrat/Dale Siebenberger

Hartigan and Cerro Vice President Paul Tandler look at creek

Cleanup

Continued from 1A

cleanup would be a top priority of his
administration. A state study of Dead
Creek contamination took two years
and cost \$1.3 million.

He praised Cerro for entering into
the agreement without coercion and
for acting quickly to study the type
and extent of contamination on Cerro
property and for starting a cleanup.

"Cerro Corp. is providing \$12 mil-
lion to initiate a cleanup of Dead

Creek, widely regarded as the most
toxic waste site in Illinois. It's our
hope that other property owners in
this area and those who have contri-
buted to the contamination will fol-
low suit," Hartigan said.

"We realize there was a problem
with Dead Creek and that over the
years, we may have been one of the
corporations that contributed to the
problem," said Cerro Vice President
Paul Tandler.

Is
ing Out—

Have to Move!!

—No Holds—No Layaways—
ALL SALES FINAL!



DSW 134819

times that she
Caruthersville
clothes. And she

314 694-1585

News**Neil F. Hartigan****ILLINOIS ATTORNEY GENERAL**

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Further Information:
Jim Leach or Ernie Slottag
(217) 782-1973**HARTIGAN NEGOTIATES \$12 MILLION CLEANUP
AS PART OF DEAD CREEK PROJECT**

SAUGET, IL -- July 5, 1990 -- Illinois Attorney General Neil Hartigan has reached agreement with one of the companies along the heavily-contaminated Dead Creek in St. Clair County, under which the company will initiate a \$12 million cleanup of the portion of the creek on company property. The consent decree with Cerro Copper Products Company marks the first settlement between the state and one of the liable parties in Hartigan's ongoing efforts to clean up the site.

"This is a milestone for all of us who have worked to repair the decades of environmental abuse that have been inflicted upon this creek," Hartigan said. "To the others who own or contributed hazardous substances to the contaminated properties, Cerro Copper stands as an example. The quicker you move to rectify the hazards on your property, the better off you and every person in this area will be."

Dead Creek is widely considered to be the most toxic waste site in Illinois. Contamination in the area dates back to the turn of the century, as the area surrounding Dead Creek became heavily industrialized. For decades, toxic substances were routinely discharged into the creek, and huge landfills were built in the area to accommodate the growing waste disposal needs.

The waste and by-products turned Dead Creek and the surrounding area into a "chemical soup" of hazardous substances ranging from PCBs to acids to cyanide. The name Dead Creek is now routinely used to describe the entire area contaminated by the decades-old practices.

DSW 134820

STLCOPCB4034778

"By the time environmental knowledge became sophisticated enough to realize the dangers of those practices, the damage had been done, and it was left to us to pick up the pieces," Hartigan said. "That has been a monumentally challenging task. Today it is beginning to bear fruit."

Cerro Copper has liability for cleanup of its section of Dead Creek under federal and state regulations, although it has only owned the land since the 1950's. The company voluntarily proposed a plan to clean up existing contamination, take steps to prevent future contamination in its share of the creek, and repay the state for a share of costs incurred in pursuing the Dead Creek Project.

Hartigan, on behalf of the Illinois Environmental Protection Agency (IEPA), worked with Cerro to reach the consent decree entered today.

Cerro has already undertaken a comprehensive review of that segment of Dead Creek on Cerro property, and has constructed security fencing and drainage controls to prevent runoff of hazardous wastes into the creek bed. Under terms of the consent decree, Cerro will remove more than 20,000 cubic yards of contaminated sediment from the creek bed and refill the bed with clean soil.

The company will also pay a prorated share of the state's investigative and administrative costs in the Dead Creek Project, for a total price tag of approximately 12 million dollars.

"Every day that cleanup is delayed, the price tag continues to climb," Hartigan warned. "Cerro has taken the responsible action, for its own interests as well as for the community at large. The other property owners in this area and those who contributed to the contamination have only one clear, responsible course of action, and that is to address this situation now."

The Dead Creek Project has been a major Hartigan initiative since he took office in 1983. Progress has been gradual, due to a number of factors, not the least of which was the sheer enormity of the contamination. A state-commissioned study of the area took two years and \$1.3 million. Even the company's clean-up plan took years to develop.

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Based on that study, the IEPA has revised its scoring of the various sites, in an attempt to have them included in subsequent revisions of the federal Superfund list of environmental cleanup sites. The Dead Creek area previously scored low on Superfund priority because of the limited amount of information available regarding the contamination, the low residential population in the immediate area and the lack of a direct threat to drinking water (the contaminated groundwater does not serve as a potable water supply).

Hartigan and the IEPA are still awaiting a decision from USEPA on Superfund status for the sites, but Hartigan says continued delays by the federal government should not be an excuse for delay by property owners and other potentially responsible parties in the area. "This problem is not going to go away by itself, and our enforcement efforts are not going to go away either," Hartigan said.

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BELLEVILLE NEWS DEMOCRAT, September 1, 1984

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Special Literature*

EPA plans cleanup of creek

By JACK COWAN
Of the News-Democrat

FAIRMONT CITY — The Illinois Environmental Protection Agency will begin to clean up Dead Creek in Cahokia next spring, Gov. James R. Thompson said Friday.

Thompson said the site was one of three hazardous waste sites selected for cleanup during this fiscal year under "Clean Illinois," — a \$20 million statewide toxic waste removal program.

The governor announced the cleanup of Dead Creek during a press conference at the LaMear landfill site in Fairmont City, where the state completed its first cleanup under the two-month-old program.

Standing against a backdrop of trucks filled with the last loads of waste from the site, Thompson said the completion of the cleanup was the first step in a new effort to prevent Illinois from becoming a dumping ground for hazardous wastes.

"I believe the people of Illinois want a cleaner environment for their children and their grandchildren," he said. "There is no reason why we can't have a full and productive economy with all that entails and the safe disposal of toxic wastes."

In June, the state Legislature, at Thompson's urging, approved the "Clean Illinois" program, designed to

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cleanup hazardous waste sites over a three-year period.

Many of those sites have been identified as serious sources of environmental contamination, but were not considered serious enough in comparison with other sites to warrant use of federal funds for cleanup, Thompson said.

Both Dead Creek and the LaMear site, located north of the Fairmont City Golf Course, were considered for federal emergency cleanup funds, but were ranked near the bottom third of a priority list compiled by state officials in 1982.

Thompson said the use of state funds to clean up hazardous waste sites does not mean the state will drop efforts to force companies to pay cleanup costs.

"The \$20 million 'superfund' should be used as a last resort and the responsibility for the cleanup should rest with those responsible," he said. "We are willing to go through the courts to do that, but we don't believe we can wait while that is done."

New legislation that took effect Jan. 1 allows the state to recover up to three times the costs for removing hazardous wastes, if companies accused of illegal dumping refuse to cooperate, IEPA Director Richard Carlson said during the press conference.

Thompson said the LaMear site was chosen as the first site for the cleanup because it could be quickly cleared of hazardous waste.

More than 138 illegally discarded barrels and drums were hauled from the site to a hazardous waste landfill in Peoria by Petrochem of Lemont, Ill.

IEPA samples taken from the LaMear site in 1981 showed the presence of xylene, benzenes and phenols in and around the drums. The chemicals often are used in petroleum fuels, paints and solvents.

The LaMear cleanup cost about \$74,000, but Thompson said efforts to remove toxic wastes from Dead Creek would probably cost 10 times as much.

Approximately 20 hazardous chemicals, including concentrations of polychlorinated biphenols (PCBs), phosphorous and dioxin, have been found along the five-mile stretch of creek in Cahokia, according to IEPA surveys.

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ILLINOIS

MONDAY, MAY 30, 1988

Hazardous Waste: Monsanto, Officials To Meet In Sauget

By Bill Vogler

Of the Post-Dispatch Staff

Representatives of the Illinois Environmental Protection Agency and Monsanto Co. are scheduled to meet June 8 in the Sauget Village Hall to discuss findings of heavy hazardous waste contamination in the Sauget area.

An IEPA spokesman said the meeting would be closed because "we could be talking about some enforcement sensitive matters."

However, Robert Casteel, an IEPA public information officer, emphasized that "in no way are we assessing blame" in meeting with Monsanto to review the findings of a study commissioned by the IEPA in November 1985 of 18 sites in the Sauget area.

A Monsanto spokesman said the firm hoped that the study would "provide useful data on the Sauget area."

The meeting, to which Monsanto may invite other area firms, is the latest step in the formulation of remedial action plans, which probably will be very costly.

"It's our understanding that the Sauget sites go way beyond the state's ability to finance a cleanup," said Casteel. "It's too big, (involves) too many sites and too much contamination." He said the state would consider the possibility of obtaining federal Superfunds to deal with the site.

The study that will be discussed at the June 8 meeting was done by Ecology and Environment Inc., of

Buffalo, N.Y., one of the nation's leading environmental study firms.

Casteel said it showed soil and water contamination by heavy metals, industrial wastes and materials associated with industrial solvents. Asked if the study results showed a serious problem, Casteel replied: "Environmentally speaking, yes (and) from a public health and safety standpoint it has that potential."

Following the June 8 meeting, the study will be made available to the public in meetings, Casteel said. He said it also would be placed somewhere, such as in a public library, for public examination.

Casteel said the IEPA would seek information from Monsanto and other firms concerning the prod-

"It's our understanding that the Sauget sites go way beyond the state's ability to finance a cleanup. It's too big, (involves) too many sites and too much contamination."

ROBERT CASTEEL, IEPA spokesman

ucts they produce and the chemicals they employ. He said some of the materials found in the study were "substances that are not characteristic of current manufacturing operations. We do not know where they came from."

The agency then would begin to

map out remedial plans based on cleanup options and objectives, Casteel said. Unless an emergency developed prior to this stage, the cleanup then would get under way. The effort could be financed by a combination of state, federal and industry funds, Casteel said.

Casteel stressed that action could be taken at any time by the IEPA and the public Health Department "if there is a spill or accident."

The study findings also are being reviewed by the Illinois Department of Public Health, according to Tom Long, a department toxicologist. The department is "looking at it from a public health point of view," Long said.

Long said a public health evaluation of the study findings would take six to eight months. If the public health study "identifies what are considered significant potential actual exposure to hazardous chemicals or other substances or actual health problems", then a comprehensive survey, including door-to-door surveys and medic-

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examination of area residents could be made, Long said.

The Sauget site was placed on the IEPA's "Superfund" list in 1985, Casteel said. Currently, the Illinois Superfund consists of \$90 million, which is to provide for cleanup efforts through 1990, Casteel said.

Although it is too early to put a price tag on any remedial plan for the Sauget sites, Casteel said the IEPA was considering seeking federal Superfunds, which are much greater than those of Illinois.

However, the U.S. EPA is revising its system for scoring hazardous waste sites to determine which ones would qualify for federal Superfund aid, Casteel said. The IEPA will uphold any application for federal aid until the federal scoring revisions are completed, he said.

In another environmental matter,

St. Clair County and state authorities and Browning Ferris Industries are involved in the recovery and assessment of drums found in BFI's Modern Landfill south of Belleville. The 110-gallon drums are believed to contain parachloroaniline.

Kevin Hutchison, director of the St. Clair County Health Department, said a laboratory report on samples from the barrels was expected in about a week. Hutchison said parachloroaniline "may be fatal if inhaled, swallowed or absorbed through the skin."

Hutchison said state and local authorities were interested in the effects the matter in the drums could have on landfill workers as well as the general public if the material gets into ground water. Some of the barrels leaked, he said.

However, he noted that no material from the drums had been detected in monitoring wells near the landfill, which was required by the IEPA. Four drums initially were found by workers at the site in May 1986 and

eight more were found in January 1987.

At that point, Hutchison said, St. Clair County State's Attorney John Baricevic called for the IEPA to work with BFI for a "comprehensive search" of the landfill. This resulted in 26 more barrels being found last week.

Hutchison said the barrels were of a type that had been manufactured in the 1940s and 1950s. They were buried deep in the ground in areas where there are no records of any landfill activity when BFI acquired the site, Hutchison said.

Casteel said BFI had notified the IEPA in May 1986 when the firm first found the drums. "They have been very good," Casteel said. "We have been working with the company and they have been extremely cooperative with us about finding the drums."

The search for the drums involves use of a magnetic device that detects metals in soils, Hutchison said. The search at the landfill is continuing.

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Dioxin level greater than expected

By J.G. MATY

Of the News Democrat

SAUGET — Dioxin contamination at a site in Sauget is more serious than initially feared, the results of 20 soil samples taken from a site near the Sauget sewage treatment plant contain concentrations of nearly 100 parts per billion of dioxin. Seven of 20 samples tested have more than the federally set limit of 1 part per billion that is considered hazardous to health, the IEPA announced.

In Sauget

"These findings are cause for some concern, and I want to assure everyone that a full investigation will be conducted," said IEPA Director Richard J. Carlson.

Despite the high concentrations of dioxin, the situation was called a "localized problem" by a regional IEPA spokesman.

"It's in what I would describe as a localized area," said Kenneth Mensing, the IEPA regional land pollution control manager. The dioxin is located in an approximately 300 square-foot area where

an oil storage tank was formerly located, he said. The tank had been used by Russell Bliss, an Ellisville, Mo., waste-oil dealer who has been connected to dioxin contamination at several sites in Missouri.

The Illinois Attorney General's office has filed suit against Bliss and his son's firm, Jerry Russell Bliss Inc., in connection with the dioxin contamination.

As a result of the findings, construction work will continue to be delayed on one part of a new \$100 million regional sewage treatment plant. Construction crews halted work a month ago on a pump station at the

site because trace amounts of dioxin were found.

Construction of the new sewage treatment plant building, located several thousand feet south of the area where dioxin has been found, will continue, officials said. Asked whether the dioxin problem will delay construction of the entire project, Sauget village spokesman Harold Baker said Friday, "at this juncture, I don't think so."

Village of Sauget officials were told during a meeting Friday to come up with a plan to deal with the problem.

"We talked about a lot of things, and the

village will come back with a plan, which will be reviewed, and then we'll come up with follow-up tasks. We will meet again next week," he said.

Mensing said any plan "will include some kind of cleanup, but as to what form it will take, it's too early to talk about that."

Of the 20 soil sample results announced Friday, 13 contained dioxin concentrations of one part per billion or less, while seven samples showed concentrations ranging from 1 to 97 parts per billion. The type of dioxin found is known as TCDD 2-3-7-8, which is described as being the most toxic dioxin produced.

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- Parents hope for miracle to save child. Page 10A.

Dioxin fears halt some Sauget sewage plant work

By J.G. MATY
Of the News-Democrat

SAUGET — Due to possible dioxin contamination, construction has been halted on one phase of a \$100 million regional sewage treatment plant in Sauget.

State officials, meanwhile, are calling the latest testing for dioxin contamination at the site inconclusive, and are planning to gather more test samples to determine the extent of possible contamination.

Illinois Environmental Protection Agency officials said Thursday they will gather 10 more soil samples from an area near the present Sauget sewage treatment plant, on Mobile Avenue west of Illinois 3.

The third round of samples to be taken are needed to clear up "inconclusive results" from earlier tests, officials said.

"They're inconclusive enough that they don't really mean anything. It's nothing you can hang your hat on and say one thing or another," said Kenneth Mensing, the IEPA's regional land pollution control manager.

Because of the concern about the presence of dioxin, Sauget village officials have told one contractor to halt excavation work related to construction of the plant. Village attorney Harold Baker said Helmkamp Construction Co. of Wood River has been told to discontinue excavation in

an area just west of the present sewage treatment plant.

"I've asked Helmkamp to stop work until we get further information," Baker said. The firm was excavating at the site where a pump station is to be built.

The order does not affect excavation at the site of the new treatment plant building itself, to be built south of the present treatment plant. That area is not believed to be contaminated and is some distance from the pump station site.

When completed sometime in 1985, the new American Bottoms Regional Sewage Treatment Plant will replace outdated sewage facilities in East St. Louis, Calo-

nia, Sauget, Centreville, Alorton and unincorporated areas of Centreville Township.

The new samples will be taken in the next three or four days, and results may be available within two weeks, Mensing said. The IEPA in Springfield would not release details of 10 test samples taken in February.

Small traces of dioxin were found at two locations near the sewage plant, the IEPA announced Feb. 14. More samples were taken Feb. 19 in an effort to determine the extent of the contamination.

IEPA spokesman Bob Casteel said samples tested by a laboratory in Madison,

Wis., are the source of doubts about the situation. "We have some questions about the procedures used, and whether the information is even accurate. Rather than release numbers, we've decided to re-sample and try to get some accurate statistics."

Casteel would not disclose specific results of the tests, except to say "all the samples were clear except one, and that is fuzzy."

Results from samples taken by a testing firm hired by the village of Sauget also were not disclosed, but officials said those tests did not match results from the Wisconsin lab. Differences in the results

were not the sole reason for the doubt among IEPA officials, Casteel said.

"As soon as we got them in, we saw the analysis was inconclusive," he said, results from the Wisconsin lab. "The data we got didn't confirm anything."

State officials have linked dioxin found at the Sauget site to a storage tank formerly used by Russell Bliss, the Madison waste-oil dealer suspected of dumping dioxin-laced oil at several sites in Missouri. The state has filed suit against Bliss and son's firm, Jerry Russell Bliss Inc., in connection with dioxin and PCBs found at the site.

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