

COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT PLAN
CALUMET & HECLA POWER PLANT SITE
LAKE LINDEN, MICHIGAN
MAY 2013

TABLE OF CONTENTS

<u>SECTION</u>	<u>PAGE</u>
Section 1 Overview of the Community Involvement Plan	1-1
A Brief Explanation of Superfund, EPA’s Emergency Response and Removal Program	1-1
Section 2 Site Background	2-1
Site Location	2-1
Site History	2-1
Section 3 Community Profile	3-1
Chronology of Community Involvement	3-1
Key Community Comments and Concerns	3-2
Section 4 Highlights of the Community Involvement Program	4-1
Enlist the Support and Participation of Local Officials and Community Leaders	4-1
Identify and Assess Resident Perception of the Site	4-1
Provide Follow-up Explanations about Technical Activities and Contaminants	4-2
Inform the Community about the Procedures, Policies and Requirements of the EPA Emergency Response and Removal Program	4-2
Section 5 Community Involvement Techniques	5-1
Maintain Contact with Local Officials, Community Leaders and Residents	5-1
Provide Site and EPA Emergency Response and Removal Program and Remedial Program Information on the Internet	5-1
Maintain an Information Repository	5-1
Coordinate with the Office of Public Affairs on News Releases	5-2
Prepare and Distribute Fact Sheets or Update Reports	5-2
Hold Public Meetings	5-2
Publish Notices or Newspaper Advertisements	5-3

LIST OF APPENDICES

<u>APPENDICES</u>	<u>PAGE</u>
Appendix A Glossary	A-1
Appendix B Information Repositories and Public Meeting Locations	B-1
Appendix C List of Contacts	C-1

LIST OF FIGURES

<u>FIGURE</u>	<u>PAGE</u>
Figure 1 Site Location Map	2-2
Figure 2 Stationary Air Monitor	3-2
Figure 3 Air Sampling Location Map	3-2

1. OVERVIEW OF THE COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT PLAN

United States Environmental Protection Agency developed this *Community Involvement Plan* in preparation for community involvement activities to be conducted during the investigation and cleanup at the Calumet & Hecla Power Plant site in Lake Linden, Michigan. This document provides information about current community concerns and presents a plan to enhance communication between local residents and EPA as the investigation and cleanup at the site progresses.

(Words appearing in **bold** are defined in Appendix A.)

The objective of community involvement is to involve the public in activities and decisions related to the investigation and cleanup of hazardous waste sites. The community involvement program promotes two-way communication between members of the public and EPA. EPA has learned that its decision-making ability is enhanced by actively soliciting comments and information from the public. Public input can be useful in two ways:

- Communities provide valuable information on local history, resident involvement and site conditions.
- By expressing its concerns, the community assists EPA in developing a response that more effectively addresses the community's needs.

The information in this plan is based on discussions with local officials and residents performed by EPA.

1.1 A BRIEF EXPLANATION OF SUPERFUND, EPA'S EMERGENCY RESPONSE AND REMOVAL PROGRAM

In 1980, the United States Congress enacted the **Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act**, also called **Superfund**. CERCLA authorizes EPA to investigate and respond to hazardous substance releases that may endanger public health and the environment. Congress amended and reauthorized the Superfund law in October 1986 as the **Superfund Amendments and Reauthorization Act**. If the site poses an immediate threat to public health or the environment, EPA can intervene with an **emergency response action**.

Staff from EPA's Superfund Emergency Response and Removal Program are overseeing the activities concerning the Calumet & Hecla Power Plant site. The goal of EPA's Emergency Response and Removal Program is to protect the public and the environment from immediate threats posed by the release or discharge of hazardous substances.

At the Calumet & Hecla Power Plant site, the current property owner will conduct the investigation and cleanup under EPA supervision.

2. SITE BACKGROUND

2.1 SITE LOCATION

The site is located on Highway M-26 south of the village of Lake Linden, in Houghton County, Michigan. The site is bounded to the east by Torch Lake; to the north by the Houghton County Historical Museum, a public park, and a marina; to the south by residential properties; and to the west by Highway M-26.

2.2 SITE HISTORY

The site is a portion of a mining era industrial complex on the shore of Torch Lake that processed ore. The power plant was established in 1905 to meet the electrical demands of the evolving industrial complex and mining operations. The power plant was one of two electrical generating stations that operated in parallel and supplied electricity throughout the region. By 1931, the power plant was connected to the electrical grid through transformers and eight outgoing feeders that exited the west side of the building overhead. The plant operated for over a century producing millions of tons of copper until it ceased operations in 1968.

The site encompasses approximately 14 acres and contains one dilapidated building; the former C&H Power Plant building. The site historically contained several primary buildings including the power plant, a centrally located boiler house, and the “Hecla” Stamp Mill along the water front. Smaller buildings located north of the power plant and boiler house included a “Filter House” and a “Still House.” The site currently contains foundations and floors from these buildings which no longer exist, although remnants of some of the buildings remain. The site also contains former rock bins and bermed rubble and debris piles.

The topography of the site is relatively flat, with building foundations and debris scattered at various locations. The eastern site boundary has a steep sloping grade towards Torch Lake, which is approximately twenty feet lower than the ground surface of the center of the site, and below the elevation of the basement floor of the Plant. Ground-water flow in the site area is unknown; however, based on the proximity of the site to Torch Lake, EPA presumes that the groundwater flows east toward Torch Lake.

Some evidence exists that residual process chemicals may be present at the site. In addition, degrading building materials and waste materials may be impacting soil and ground water at the site.

Figure 1
Calumet & Hecla Power Plant Site
Site Location Map



3. COMMUNITY PROFILE

The site is in Lake Linden, Houghton County, Michigan. According to the 2010 Census, the population is 2,621. The median age is 47.7 and the population is 97.8 percent white. The largest minority is Hispanic with .8 percent of the population followed by American Indian and Alaskan native with .4 percent and then by Asian at .3 percent of the population. Approximately 63 percent of the households are family households with 21 percent having children under the age of 18. There are 2,193 total housing units and 54.1 percent are occupied (45.9 percent are vacant). It is important to note that many of the vacant units are because they are for seasonal use. About 81 percent of the housing units are owner occupied. Approximately 14 percent of the population aged 25 and older has obtained a bachelor's degree and about 41 percent have graduated from high school or the equivalent. With regard to the language(s) spoken, 97.3 percent speak only English and of those that speak another language, only .6 percent said they speak English "less than very well." Of the population over the age of 16 (1,917), 53.1 percent are employed. The median household income is \$38,565. The percentage of those living under the poverty level in 2009 was 21.9. The median house value is \$94,100.

3.1 CHRONOLOGY OF COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT

- June 2012 – EPA established a website to post site information epa.gov/region5/cleanup/chpowerplant
- July 2012 – EPA produced and mailed out a fact sheet to area residents and officials explaining the cleanup activities at the site
- July 2012 – EPA established site information repositories (See Appendix B of this document for their locations.)
- July 23, 2012 – EPA held a public meeting at Lake Linden Village Hall explaining the site cleanup activities
- November 2012 – EPA posted information and a map at Lake Linden Village Hall to update the community about the site cleanup activities

3.3 KEY COMMUNITY COMMENTS AND CONCERNS

Based on conversations with residents and questions raised at the community meetings, people said that they were primarily concerned about the potential for asbestos to be released into the air and the associated health risks. In addition, people said they were concerned about increased truck traffic.

**Figure 2
Stationary Air Monitor**



In 2012, air samples were collected from six stationary locations around the perimeter of the site. (See photo above.) No asbestos has ever been detected in our perimeter monitoring samples.

One sampler is located up wind of the work and the remaining five in the cross-wind and downwind directions. (See map below for locations.)

**Figure 3
Air Sampling Location Map**



4. HIGHLIGHTS OF THE COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT PROGRAM

Community involvement objectives and activities have been developed to encourage public participation during upcoming activities at the site. They are intended to ensure that residents and interested officials are informed about activities taking place at the Calumet & Hecla Power Plant site and, at appropriate times, have opportunities to provide input during the investigation and cleanup process. To be effective, the community involvement program must be formulated according to the community's need for information, and its interest and willingness to participate in the process.

The following objectives have been developed as a guideline for the implementation of community involvement activities.

4.1 ENLIST THE SUPPORT AND PARTICIPATION OF LOCAL OFFICIALS AND COMMUNITY LEADERS

Local officials and community leaders provide an invaluable resource in EPA's effort to understand and monitor community concerns. Local officials' and community leaders' frequent contact with residents provides direct lines of communication in which questions and concerns may be addressed or referred to EPA. It is essential that local officials be informed of site activities, plans, findings, and developments. Appropriate officials and community leaders to keep informed and involved include individuals listed in Appendix C of this CIP.

4.2 IDENTIFY AND ASSESS RESIDENT PERCEPTION OF THE SITE

Information regarding resident concern and perception of the site is indispensable. As of the publication of this document, the primary concerns are the potential for asbestos to be released into the air and increased in truck traffic. Understanding these concerns will help EPA focus the level of effort for community involvement at the site. Background information and the direction of local concern will determine those activities that best meet the community's needs.

4.3 PROVIDE FOLLOW-UP EXPLANATIONS ABOUT TECHNICAL ACTIVITIES AND CONTAMINANTS

Concise, easily understood and timely information should be available to area residents concerning the schedule of technical activities, their purpose, and their outcome. A written, basic description and discussion of asbestos and the cleanup process should be provided so that residents understand possible threats to the public. The community involvement staff should also attempt to identify special situations or concerns where more specialized information is desired by individuals or groups. Lastly, to ensure that inquiries from the community are handled efficiently and consistently, EPA should continue to maintain a single point of contact.

4.4 INFORM THE COMMUNITY ABOUT THE PROCEDURES, POLICIES AND REQUIREMENTS OF THE EPA EMERGENCY RESPONSE AND REMOVAL PROGRAM

Many individuals interviewed regarding the Calumet & Hecla Power Plant site did not fully understand EPA's Emergency Response and Removal program. To dispel possible confusion about EPA's purpose and responsibilities at the site, an effort should be made to circulate basic information to the community describing the process. EPA terms, abbreviations and acronyms, policies and procedures should also be explained as site activities progress.

As the cleanup process progresses, it will also be worthwhile to evaluate the effectiveness of the community involvement activities in providing information to residents and encouraging resident participation.

5. COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT TECHNIQUES

U.S. laws and EPA policy require that certain community involvement activities be conducted at designated milestones during the investigation and cleanup process. In addition, EPA Region 5 undertakes other activities to strengthen its communication with those affected by the contamination. A member of the EPA Region 5 community involvement staff has been designated to respond directly to media and public inquiries regarding site activities. Activities that will be conducted during the cleanup of the contamination are described below.

5.1 MAINTAIN CONTACT WITH LOCAL OFFICIALS, COMMUNITY LEADERS AND RESIDENTS

The process of community interviews has already established an initial communications link between the community and EPA. Furthermore, the community involvement coordinator for the site has been designated by EPA as a contact person (See Appendix C – EPA Representatives). Access to a contact person reduces the frustration that may accompany attempts to obtain information and communicate with the several agencies and organizations involved in the cleanup. The community involvement coordinator will continue to maintain contact with the appropriate local officials, community leaders and residents to provide them the opportunity to address any issues that may arise during the investigation and cleanup at the site.

5.2 PROVIDE SITE AND EPA EMERGENCY RESPONSE AND REMOVAL PROGRAM INFORMATION ON THE INTERNET

While it is not clear exactly how many people in the neighborhood have convenient access to the Internet, EPA will put site documents on the EPA website.

Information on EPA's Emergency Response and Removal Program and the site will be provided on the following EPA website:

www.epa.gov/region5/cleanup/CHPowerPlant

5.3 MAINTAIN AN INFORMATION REPOSITORY

EPA policy requires the establishment of an information repository for any site where EPA cleanup activities are being conducted. An information repository is a designated location (usually a library or other public building), which houses a file of site-specific documents and general information about EPA programs. A site file found in an information repository typically includes legal documents, work plans, technical

reports, and copies of laws that are applicable and relevant to activities at the site. Establishment of an information repository makes the site-related information more accessible to the public. EPA has established a repository for the Calumet & Hecla Power Plant site. Its location is listed in Appendix B of this CIP. Many documents, plans and other finalized written materials generated during the investigation and cleanup have been and will continue to be placed in the repository. EPA will notify community groups, local officials, and interested residents on the mailing list of its location.

5.4 COORDINATE WITH THE OFFICE OF PUBLIC AFFAIRS ON NEWS RELEASES

Prepared statements will be released to local newspapers, and radio and television stations to announce any significant findings at the site during the investigation and cleanup, and to notify the community of any public meetings. Additional news releases are advisable at the completion of the cleanup. The Community Involvement Section will coordinate with the Office of Public Affairs on the writing and distribution of news releases to the news media in Appendix C and other appropriate news media. News releases will be included in the site file at the information repository and posted on the EPA Region 5 Web page at:

<http://yosemite.epa.gov/opa/admpress.nsf/Press%20Releases%20From%20Region%205!OpenView>.

5.5 PREPARE AND DISTRIBUTE FACT SHEETS OR UPDATE REPORTS

Fact sheets and update reports, written in non-technical language will be produced to coincide with particular milestones during the investigation and cleanup process, are intended to provide the community with detailed information about the site. In addition, other fact sheets or update reports may be developed to respond to specific community information needs. These fact sheets and update reports will be placed in the information repository; sent to all parties on the mailing list via regular mail or e-mail; and/or delivered door to door.

Information may also be placed on EPA Region 5's Web page at: www.epa.gov/region5/cleanup/CHPowerPlant.

5.6 HOLD PUBLIC MEETINGS

A public meeting provides an opportunity for EPA to present specific information and a proposed course of action. EPA staff is available to provide information and answer questions. Public meetings provide

community members with an opportunity to express their concerns to and ask questions of the EPA, state, or local government officials. In addition, EPA holds informal open-house style meetings where residents can meet EPA experts one-on-one to discuss the activities at the site. Public meetings or informal open houses may be held at various times throughout the investigation and cleanup process. Scheduling meetings should remain flexible to account for technical milestones and public interest. Public meeting notices will be placed in the newspaper, mailed to those on the mailing list, e-mailed and/or delivered door-to-door.

5.7 PUBLISH NOTICES OR NEWSPAPER ADVERTISEMENTS

A public notice may be placed if significant findings are made during the investigation and cleanup at the site or upon completion of the cleanup. Notices or newspaper advertisements also will be published to announce all public meetings and hearings conducted by EPA.

APPENDIX A

GLOSSARY

Asbestos

Asbestos is the name given to a group of six different fibrous minerals (amosite, chrysotile, crocidolite, and the fibrous varieties of tremolite, actinolite, and anthophyllite) that occur naturally in the environment. Asbestos minerals have separable long fibers that are strong and flexible enough to be spun and woven and are heat resistant. Because of these characteristics, asbestos has been used for a wide range of manufactured goods, mostly in building materials (roofing shingles, ceiling and floor tiles, paper products, and asbestos cement products), friction products (automobile clutch, brake, and transmission parts), heat-resistant fabrics, packaging, gaskets, and coatings. Some vermiculite or talc products products may contain asbestos.

Asbestos mainly affects the lungs and the membrane that surrounds the lungs. Breathing high levels of asbestos fibers for a long time may result in scar-like tissue in the lungs and in the lining that surrounds the lung. This disease is called asbestosis and is usually found in workers exposed to asbestos, but not in the general public. People with asbestosis have difficulty breathing, often a cough, and in severe cases heart enlargement. Asbestosis is a serious disease and can eventually lead to disability and death.

For more information on lead, see the following website:
www.atsdr.cdc.gov/tfacts61.html

Community Involvement Plan

A plan that outlines specific community involvement activities that occur during the investigation and cleanup at the site. The CIP outlines how EPA will keep the public informed of work at the site and the ways in which residents can review and comment on decisions that may affect the Draft actions at the site. The document is available in the site's information repository maintained by EPA. The CIP may be modified as necessary to respond to changes in community concerns, information needs and activities.

Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act

A federal law passed in 1980 and modified in 1986 by the Superfund Amendments and Reauthorization Act. Under the program, EPA can either:

- Pay for site cleanup when parties responsible for the contamination cannot be located or are unwilling or unable to do the work; or
- Take legal action to force parties responsible for site contamination to clean up the site or pay back the federal government for the cost of the cleanup.

Emergency Response Action

If a site poses an immediate threat to public health or the environment, an emergency response action will be taken immediately to stop the threat.

National Contingency Plan

The National Oil and Hazardous Substances Pollution Contingency Plan, more commonly called the National Contingency Plan or NCP, is the federal government's blueprint for responding to oil spills and hazardous substance releases. The NCP was developed and published in 1968 in response to a massive oil spill. This plan provided the first comprehensive system of accident reporting, spill containment and cleanup, and established a response headquarters, a national reaction team and regional reaction teams.

Congress has broadened the scope of the NCP over the years. As required by the Clean Water Act of 1972, the NCP was revised the following year to include a framework for responding to hazardous substance spills as well as oil discharges. Following the passage of the Superfund law in 1980, the NCP was broadened to cover releases at hazardous waste sites requiring emergency removal actions. Over the years, additional revisions have been made to the NCP to keep pace with additional legislation. The latest revisions to the NCP were Draftized in 1994 to reflect the oil spill provisions of the Oil Pollution Act of 1990.

It is in accordance with the NCP that EPA is required to conduct community interviews and develop a community involvement plan.

Superfund

The commonly used term for the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation and Liability Act (see Page A-1).

Superfund Amendments and Reauthorization Act

Modifications to the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation and Liability Act, enacted on October 17, 1986.

APPENDIX B

INFORMATION REPOSITORY AND PUBLIC MEETING LOCATIONS

B.1 INFORMATION REPOSITORY

The information repository for the Calumet & Hecla Power Plant site is available for public review at the following location:

Lake Linden-Hubbell School Library

601 Calumet St.
Lake Linden, MI 49945

906-296-6211

Summer Hours:

Tuesday & Thursday:	6 p.m. – 8:30 p.m.
Wednesday:	9 a.m. – 2 p.m.

Winter Hours:

Monday - Friday:	8 a.m. – 3:30 p.m. On days when school is in session
------------------	---

Tuesday & Thursday:	3:30 p.m. – 8:30 p.m.
---------------------	-----------------------

An additional site file can also be reviewed at EPA offices in Chicago:

EPA Region 5

Documents Management Section
77 W. Jackson Blvd.
Chicago, IL 60604

312-886-6541 (Call for an appointment)

B.2 PUBLIC MEETING FACILITIES

Lake Linden Village Hall

401 Calumet St.
Lake Linden, MI 49945 906-296-9911

(Capacity: 15-20 people; handicap accessible)

INFORMATION REPOSITORIES AND PUBLIC MEETING LOCATIONS

Schoolcraft Township Hall 906-296-8721
226 Front St.
Lake Linden, MI 49945

(Capacity: approximately 24; handicap accessible)

American Legion Hall 906-296-9283
390 Front St.
Lake Linden, MI 49945

(Capacity: approximately 200; handicap accessible)

APPENDIX C

LIST OF CONTACTS (as of January 2013)

C.1 FEDERAL ELECTED OFFICIALS

Senator Carl Levin 202-224-6221
269 Russell Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510-2202

District Office

524 Ludington St., Suite LL-103 906-789-0052
Escanaba, MI 49829-3949

Senator Debbie Stabenow 202-224-4822
133 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510-2204

District Office

1901 W. Ridge 906-228-8756
Marquette, MI 49855

Representative Dan Benishek 202-225-4735
1319 Longworth House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

District Office

307 S. Front St., Suite 120 906-273-1661
Marquette, MI 49855

C.2 STATE ELECTED OFFICIALS

Governor Rick Snyder 517-373-3400
P.O. Box 30013
Lansing, MI 48909

Senator Tom Casperson 517-373-7840
705 Farnum Building
P.O. Box 30036
Lansing, MI 48909

Representative Scott Dianda 517-373-0850
 S1489 House Office Building
 P.O. Box 30014
 Lansing, MI 48909

C.3 HOUGHTON COUNTY OFFICIALS

Commissioners

Edward Jenich 906-337-2431
 Anton Pintar 906-482-5286
 Dennis Barrette 906-370-6206
 Scott Ala 906-483-0103
 Tim Palosaari 906-370-2960

Address for Commissioners

Houghton County Courthouse, 5th Floor
 401 E. Houghton Ave.
 Houghton, MI 49931

Mary Shoos 906-482-1150
 County Clerk
 Houghton County Courthouse, 2nd Floor
 401 E. Houghton Ave.
 Houghton, MI 49931

C.4 SCHOOLCRAFT TOWNSHIP OFFICIALS

Omer Brooks, Supervisor 906-296-0225
 Charles Heide, Clerk 906-296-0161
 Dennis Racine, Treasurer 906-296-8291
 Susan Marcotte, Trustee 906-296-0382
 Carol Dennis, Trustee 906-296-0914

Township Address

Schoolcraft Township Hall 906-296-8721
 226 Front St.
 Lake Linden, MI 49945

C.5 LAKE LINDEN VILLAGE OFFICIALS

Robert Poirier, Clerk
Jill DuMonthier, Treasurer
Ronald Schmitt, Public Works Director

Village Council Members

Edward Fisher, President
James Frendewey, President Pro-Tem
Brett Hamlin
William Heide
Allan Hoffman
Glenn Schuldt

Village Officials Address

Village Hall
401 Calumet St.
Lake Linden, MI 49945

906-296-9911

C.6 EPA REPRESENTATIVES

Heriberto León
Community Involvement Coordinator
Community Involvement Section
Superfund Division (SI-7J)
EPA Region 5
77 W. Jackson Blvd.
Chicago, IL 60604-3590

312-886-6163 or
800-621-8431 Ext. 66163
E-mail:leon.heriberto@epa.gov

Andrew Maguire
On-Scene Coordinator
Superfund Division (SE-5J)
EPA Region 5
77 W. Jackson Blvd.
Chicago, IL 60604-3590

312-353-8782
E-mail:maguire.andrew@epa.gov

EPA Website:

www.epa.gov/region5/cleanup/CHPowerPlant

C.7 AGENCY FOR TOXIC SUBSTANCES AND DISEASE REGISTRY REPRESENTATIVES

Dr. Mark Johnson
Senior Environmental Health Scientist
Agency for Toxic Substances
and Disease Registry
77 W. Jackson Blvd. (ATSD-4J)
Chicago, IL 60604

312-353-3436
E-mail:mdjohnson@cdc.gov

C.8 MICHIGAN DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT REPRESENTATIVES

Amy Keranen
Project Manager
Michigan Department of
Environmental Quality
55195 U.S. 41 North
Calumet, MI 49913

906-337-0389
E-mail:keranena@michigan.gov

C.9 NEWS MEDIA

C.9.1 NEWSPAPER

The Daily Mining Gazette
Attn: Julie Sorockman
P.O. Box 368
Houghton, MI 49931
[publishes 6 days a week;
Needs artwork by 5 p.m. 3 days before publish date]

906-482-1500
E-mail:jsorock@mininggazette.com

C.9.2 TELEVISION

WBUP (ABC/CW) Channel 10
WBKB (ABC/CW) Channel 5
1705 Ash St., Suite 5
Ishpeming, MI 49849

906-204-2436
E-mail:news@abc10up.com

WLUC (NBC) Channel 6
FOX UP (FOX) Channel 11
177 U.S. 41 East
Negaunee, MI 49866

906-475-4161
E-mail:4tv6news@wluctv6.com

WNMU (PBS) Channel 13
Northern Michigan University
1401 Presque Isle Ave.
Marquette, MI 49855

906-227-2600
E-mail: dtv13@nmu.edu

C.9.3 RADIO

WNMU (NPR) FM
Northern Michigan University
1401 Presque Isle Ave.
Marquette, MI 49855

906-227-2600
E-mail: fmnews@nmu.edu

WMPL 920 AM
326 Quincy St.
Hancock, MI 49930

906-482-3700
E-mail: rick@wmpl920.com

WCCY 1400 AM
WHKB 102.3 FM
WOLV 97.7 FM
313 East Montezuma Ave.
Houghton, MI 49931

906-482-7700
E-mail: kreport@up.net

WCUP 105.7 FM
WGLI 98.7 FM
Eagle Radio
P.O. Box 550
Baraga, MI 49908

906-353-9287
E-mail: eaglenews@up.net