



Soil Removal Activities Resume in April 2017

In this Pines Update....

This *Pines Update* (#27) provides information about the continued soil removal activities that are being conducted in the Pines Area of Investigation.

This and other past issues of the Pines Update newsletters can be found at:

www.pinesupdate.com.

Who can I contact with questions?

Erik Hardin, EPA
312-886-2402
hardin.erik@epa.gov

Bill Haswell, Haley & Aldrich
603-391-3304
WHaswell@haleyaldrich.com

If you have any questions about work activities, traffic, or safety during the course of the work, please contact Bill Haswell of Haley & Aldrich, or Erik Hardin of EPA.

Project Information Repository

The EPA maintains a project website at:

<http://cumulis.epa.gov/supercpad/cursites/csitinfo.cfm?id=0508071>

The public information repository is maintained at:
Michigan City Public Library
100 E. 4th St.
Michigan City, IN

Background

A detailed environmental evaluation of the presence of coal ash, or coal combustion by-products (CCBs), has been conducted in the Pines Area of Investigation in the Town of Pines, Indiana, under the direction of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Region 5. The results indicated that several properties initially sampled were found to have elevated levels of arsenic. Because of this, soil sampling has been offered to all properties within the Area of Investigation and/or the Town of Pines. The sampling was done to determine whether these soils contain arsenic, lead, and/or thallium above levels that might require removal. Of the over 150 properties sampled to date, fewer than two dozen are subject to removal, and approximately 10 have been addressed in 2016.

Properties Identified for Removal Activities

Removal activities began in April 2016, and activities were halted for the winter season in December 2016. Removal activities will resume in April 2017.

NIPSCO continues to work with individual property owners affected by the cleanup process. Costs for the removal and restoration work conducted on each property are paid for by NIPSCO. Property owners are not responsible for paying for any of the sampling or removal work.

Removal Activities

The soil removal work is being conducted under a Removal Action Order administered by EPA Region 5. Removal activities are being conducted to follow the requirements in the EPA approved Removal Work Plan prepared by Haley & Aldrich, a contractor to NIPSCO.

NIPSCO is implementing the removal activities using a local contractor approved by EPA. EPA representatives are in the field to oversee all of the removal work.

NIPSCO has worked with EPA on the Removal Work Plan to minimize impact on the community to the extent possible. This means that work will be conducted between the hours of 7 AM and 5 PM, Monday through Friday with some work on Saturdays as needed, a traffic management plan is being used to minimize the impact of construction traffic on the community, air monitoring and street cleaning are being conducted, the removed material is shipped off-site for disposal at a licensed landfill, and properties are graded with clean fill and landscaped.

Residents Can Request Private Property Sampling

We are still accepting requests for private property soil sampling. If requested and an access agreement is provided, properties are evaluated by conducting a visual inspection to determine if CCBs are present on the property. If they are, soil sampling will be conducted.

This sampling work is conducted with hand tools or by using small drilling rigs to minimize impacts to the properties being sampled. As needed, we will repair damage to lawns and landscaping when finished.

The constituents to be addressed by the soil sampling have been identified in the Removal Action Order administered by EPA Region 5. These constituents are: arsenic, thallium and lead.

Who do I contact to have my property evaluated for sampling?

Please contact:

Dr. Lisa Bradley of Haley & Aldrich, Inc.
978-846-3463, or lbradley@haleyaldrich.com.

If you have questions about soil sampling, please contact:

Erik Hardin, EPA 312-886-2402 hardin.erik@epa.gov	Lisa Bradley, Haley & Aldrich 978-846-3463 lbradley@haleyaldrich.com
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Safety Corner



Safety is Our #1 Concern!

The removal activities described in this *Pines Update* require the use of heavy trucks and equipment, and our workers will need to have enough room to conduct the work in a safe manner. Please follow the traffic directions, follow the directions and cautions on all signs, and follow directions provided by the field staff. Our goal is to conduct this work in a manner that is safe for the community and the workers, and we can only do that with your help.

Pines Update #27, March 2017

Communications Coordinator
720 W. US Hwy 20
Michigan City, IN 46360

Our Commitment...

NIPSCO and Brown are committed to keeping you informed on the progress of the investigation of the Pines Area of Investigation. Look for future *Pines Updates* to update you to our progress. We also have a website to provide continual updates on the project:

www.pinesupdate.com

Please contact the Communications Coordinator at the address listed below to be placed on the mailing list.

**Communications Coordinator
Brown Inc.
720 W. US Hwy 20
Michigan City, IN 46360**

If you have questions regarding the sampling discussed in this *Pines Update*, please contact:

**Lisa Bradley, Haley & Aldrich
978-846-3463 or
lbradley@haleyaldrich.com**