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Surface Wipe Samples Analyzed for Lead in the area of the H. Kramer & Co. Smelter and Refiner

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May 30, 2005

Surface Wipe Samples were collected in the area surrounding the H. Kramer & Co. Smelter and Refiner by members of the Pilsen Environmental Rights & Reform Org. on May 7, 2005. The 20 wipe samples were collected from an area of 1 foot square (1 ft²) and analyzed for lead by STAT Analysis Corporation of Chicago, IL.

The results of the analysis of the 20 wipe samples collected May 7, 2005 are presented below in descending order of lead concentration.

Sample No.	Location Sampled	Lead (ug/ft ²)
W09	SW Corner of Plant - Sidewalk	6,600
W18	North East Corner of Plant - Sidewalk	6,300
W07	Back Alley of Plant - W Second Door Foot Ledge	2,400
W06	Back Alley of Plant - E First Door Foot Ledge	2,300
W12	Delmares Produce in Nook on 21st Street across from Kramer Plant	2,000

W08	Tree Trunk by SW side of Plant	1,900
W16	Cortez Candy Building Side Basement Ledge, North Wall and Sidewalk	1,500
W19	Stoop in Front of Building of 2023 S. Throop	1,400
W17	North East Kramer Corner Sidewalk	960
W04	1339 W. 21st along Fence - East Side of Bld. Concrete under Fence - South	790
W15	Delmares Produce Across Street From Kramer Glass Block Window	760
W05	1339 W. 21st along Fence - East Side of Bld. Concrete under Fence - North	730
W14	Delmares Produce Across Street from Kramer East Window Ledge	660
W11	Juarez High School Parking Lot, Light Pole Base	580
W13	Delmares Produce Across Street N of Kramer West Window Ledge	410
W03	2023 S. Throop St. Side of Bld. Front Steps	300
W01	2023 S. Throop St. Side of Bld. Middle Steps	270
W02	2023 S. Throop St. Side of Bld. Steps at End	260
W20	Kramer Sidewalk by Vent on East Side	160
W10	Juarez High School Parking Lot Curb, Loomis & 21st.	130

The highest lead content in the surface wipe samples was detected on the sidewalks on the southwest corner (6,600 ug/ft² - W09) and the north east corner of the Kramer plant (6,300 ug/ft² - W18). These values were 50 times higher than the lead content of the lowest wipe sample and three times higher than the next highest set of lead wipe samples. These samples were collected in the area where the highest lead levels were detected in the surface soils: Samples 7 and 8 (3.7 and 0.45 % lead) on the west side and Sample 1 (0.17% lead) on the east side of the H. Kramer plant.

The second highest lead concentrations in the wipe samples ranged from 2,000 to 2,400 ug/ft² and were detected in the back alley of the H. Kramer plant on the second door foot ledge - west (2,400 ug/ft² - W07) and the first door foot ledge - East (2,300 ug/ft² - W06). The nook at the Delmares Produce location on 21st Street across from the H. Kramer plant contained 2,000 ug/ft² - W12). The three wipe samples were 17 times higher than the lowest wipe sample.

The third highest lead values ranged from 1,400 to 1,900 ug/ft². The samples were collected from a tree trunk on the southwest side of the plant (1,900 ug/ft² - W08), the Cortez Candy Bld. side basement ledge on the north wall (1,500 ug/ft² - W16), and the stoop in front of the building at 2023 S. Throop (1,400 ug/ft² - W19). These lead values were 12 times higher than the lowest wipe samples.

The fourth highest lead values ranged from 580 to 960 ug/ft². The samples were collected along the north east side of the Kramer plant (960 ug/ft² - W17), along the fence on the 21st Street side of the plant on the south and north ends (790 ug/ft² - W04 and 730 ug/ft² - W05), from the glass block window at the Delmares Produce Building across from Kramer (760 ug/ft² - W15), the east window ledge at the Delmares Produce facility (660 ug/ft² - W14), and from the base of a light pole in Juarez High School Parking Lot (580 ug/ft² - W11). The lead values were 4 to 7 times higher than the lowest wipe samples.

The lowest lead values detected in the wipe samples ranged from 130 to 410 ug/ft². The samples were collected from Delmares Produce across the street from the Kramer plant (410 ug/ft² - W13), on the S. Throop Street side of the Kramer plant (300 ug/ft² - W03, 270 ug/ft² - W01, and 260 ug/ft² - W02), from the east side of the Kramer plant near the vent (160 ug/ft² - W20) and from the Juarez High School Parking Lot curb at the corner of Loomis and 21st Street (130 ug/ft² - W10).

CONCLUSION

The results of the wipe samples analyzed for lead confirm that the dust particles in the area around the H. Kramer plant are contaminated with elevated levels of lead. The sources of the lead contaminated dust particles are ongoing and are from the current, ongoing and historical lead contaminated particulate emissions from the H. Kramer plant and the disruption of lead contaminated soil from historical deposition of lead pollution released from the H. Kramer plant.