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**SOIL EXCAVATION AND MONITORING REPORT  
400 N. LOWER MICHIGAN AVENUE  
CHICAGO, ILLINOIS**

**August, 2010**

**Prepared For:**

**City of Chicago: Dept of Environment**  
30 N. LaSalle  
Chicago, Illinois 60602

**Prepared By:**

**SET Environmental, Inc.**  
450 Sumac Rd  
Wheeling, Illinois 60090

# SOIL EXCAVATION AND MONITORING REPORT

400 N. Lower Michigan Avenue Chicago, IL

THORIUM MONITORING DOCUMENTATION CATEGORY	THORIUM MONITORING DOCUMENTATION DETAILS
<b>SITE INFORMATION</b>	
Monitoring Date(s)	Monitoring of radiation levels was completed on August 12, 2010 by Stan A. Huber Consultants, Inc (SAHCI) under the direction of SET Environmental Inc. (SET).
Monitoring Location	The excavation was located at 400 N. Lower Michigan Ave, Chicago, IL. An aerial photograph and site location map have been provided as Appendix A. A sketch of the work area is included in SAHCI's <i>Thorium Monitoring Report</i> in Appendix C.
Excavation Details	The purpose of the excavation work performed by the City of Chicago was to repair an underground water line. The work site is in the Streeterville area, which has previously been identified by the United States Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA) and the Chicago Department of Environment (DOE) as potentially contaminated with thorium. The potential impacts resulted from historical operations at the former Lindsey Light and Chemical Company.
Monitoring Guidance	The USEPA has provided guidance for conducting radiation monitoring and implementing appropriate health and safety procedures for working in areas where higher levels of radiation may be present. All activities performed by SACHI were conducted under the guidance of document <i>SET General Procedure for Thorium Monitoring</i> provided as Appendix B.
<b>FIELD ACTIVITIES</b>	
Site Health and Safety	A site walk-through and discussion of the projected activities took place between the parties onsite. SAHCI also performed a radiation safety training session.
Monitoring Activities	Emergency excavation activities occurred on August 11th to a depth of 4.5 ft before monitoring occurred. This soil was collected in a dump truck, and monitoring was completed by climbing directly into the truck and screening all accessible surfaces. Before monitoring the excavation, background was determined from 5 random locations in the vicinity of the excavation. For excavation monitoring over 4.5 ft, each bucket was monitored and compared to the action level. The depth of excavation reached a maximum of 9.0 ft. Results are listed below and are included in Appendix C.
Soil Removal	The first 4.5 ft of soil was excavated on an emergency basis on August 11th. This soil was transported in a dump truck to a staging location at 39th & Ashland until being monitored on August 12th. After being screened and cleared, this soil was sent for offsite disposal. Also on August 12th, the onsite excavation continued to a depth of 9.0 ft. After being screened and cleared, the removed soil was placed directly into the truck for offsite disposal. No soil was stockpiled during either portion of this project.
<b>RADIATION SCREENING RESULTS</b>	
Required Action Level	Based on the instrumentation used, the USEPA action level of 7.1 pCi/gram total thorium correlates to 17,774 counts per minute (cpm). Any detection at or near this level would require additional monitoring and notification of the USEPA.
Background Results	The average background level for this site was found to be 4000 counts per minute (cpm).

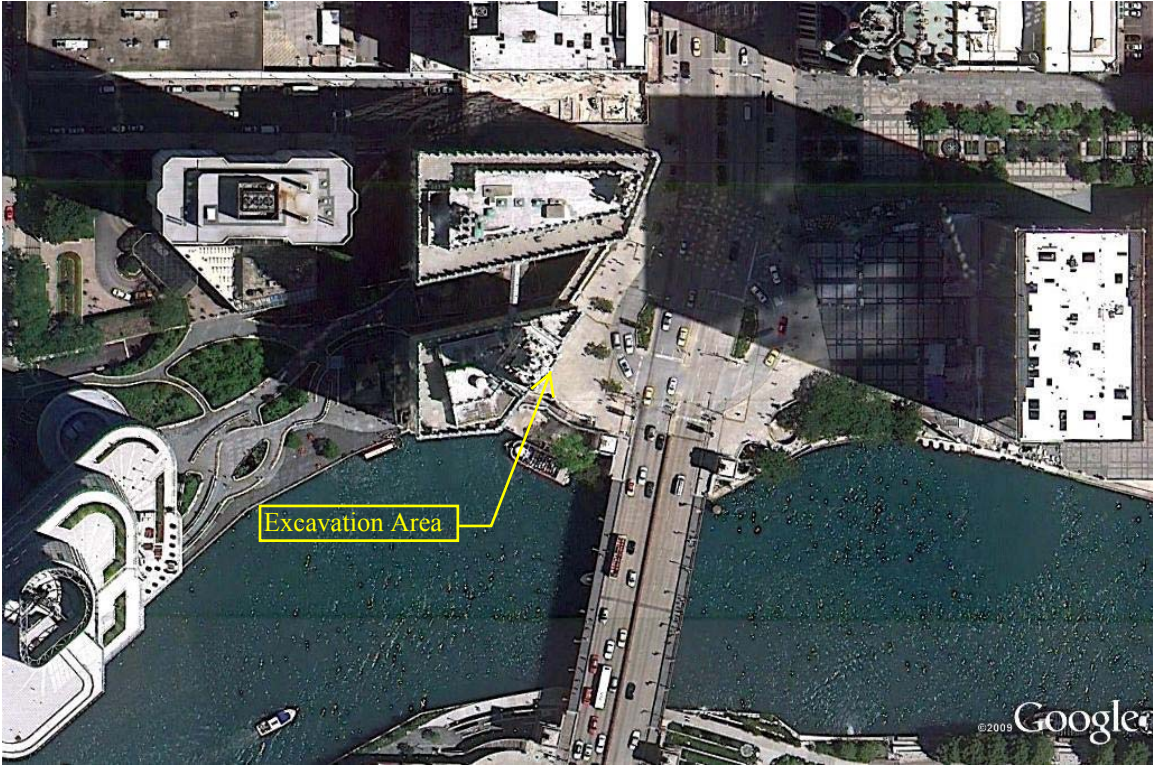
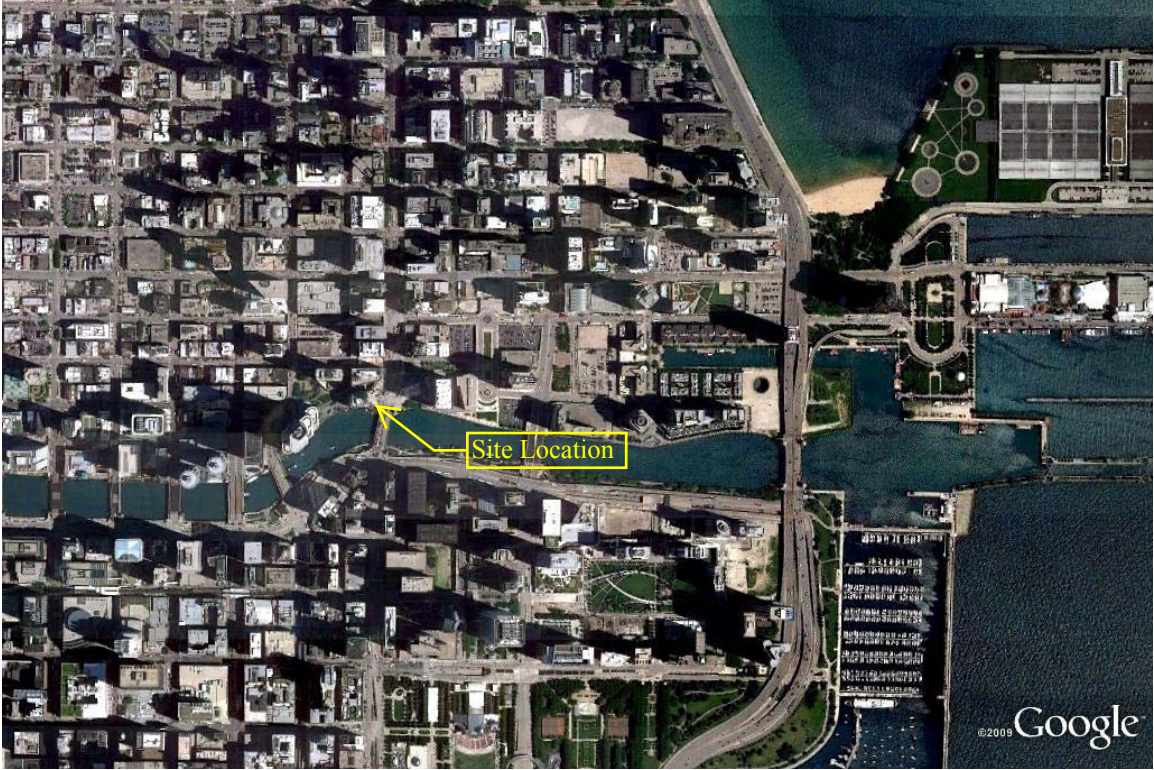
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Excavation Screening	There were no count rates of surface soil throughout the excavation that approached the action level of 17,774 counts per minute (cpm). The maximum gamma count rate for each 1.5 foot lift is included on the <i>Radiation Survey Form</i> provided in Appendix C.
Conclusions	Since no count rates were identified about the 7.1 pCi/gram threshold limit, no additional sampling, air monitoring, or personnel monitoring was performed.

AERIAL SITE PHOTOGRAPHS

400 N. Lower Michigan Ave. Chicago, IL





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## General Procedure for Thorium Monitoring

### PRIOR TO WORK COMMENCING

- A permit and health & safety plan (HASP) will be obtained from City of Chicago Department of the Environment.
- The "General Procedure" will be forwarded to the USEPA for approval prior to commencing work.
- USEPA will be contacted 48 hours prior to work starting so that they may be present for walkover survey and start of excavation.
- Site work and initial site conditions will be documented.
  - ◆ For purposes of generating a site figure, an aerial photograph is not necessary. A map with measurements from a fixed feature (e.g., a curb) would suffice.
  - ◆ A walk-over survey will be conducted in the work location (site) and background gamma readings recorded. Background is considered to be 2.1 picoCuries per gram (pCi/g) as established for the Lindsay Light II sites.
- All contractors onsite will review USEPA HASP and General Procedure.

### WORK SCOPE

- Health and safety meeting (e.g., tail-gate meeting) will be conducted before starting site work each day.
  - ◆ Potential exposure to thorium-impacted soil and what types of testing will be performed will be reviewed.
  - ◆ Contents of the USEPA HASP will be discussed and general health and safety concerns covered (i.e. PPE, traffic, heavy equipment).
  - ◆ Clean/support, decontamination, and exclusion zones will be established if needed in the event the field screening readings are above the action level of 7.1 pCi/g.
  - ◆ A first-aid station will be set up.
  - ◆ The location of phone numbers and procedures for contacting ambulance services, fire dept, police and medical facilities will be identified.
  - ◆ The location of maps and routes to the closest medical facilities will be identified.
  - ◆ The location of sanitary facilities will be identified.
  - ◆ Personal and ambient air monitoring equipment will be administered for use, as needed.
- Document readings and samples:
  - ◆ Personal Monitoring: Records of all radiation exposures incurred by field personnel will be maintained.
  - ◆ Surface Soil Scan Procedure: The excavation shall be screened for radiation count rates using a Ludlum Model 2221 Scaler / Ratemeter with attached 2"x 2" NaI probe. The instrument shall be calibrated for thorium with an established

count rate threshold that correlates to the USEPA action level of 7.1 pCi/g. The trench shall be excavated in lifts not to exceed 18 inches in depth.

- After each lift, the trench shall be surveyed for total radiation count rate and the maximum level recorded. Down to an excavation depth of 4 1/2 feet below ground surface (i.e., before OSHA regulations require use of trench shoring or benching), the trench can be entered to survey both the walls and floor. Beyond an excavation depth of 4 1/2 feet below ground surface, the trench floor shall be surveyed using the "Excavator Bucket Survey" procedure described below for each 18-inch lift upon removal from the trench. At this point, it will no longer be feasible to survey the trench walls, since they will be mostly covered by the shoring. A six-inch detector shield may be utilized if deemed necessary to obtain accurate survey results.
- ♦ Excavator Bucket Survey Procedure: After excavated soil is removed from the trench, the surface of the soil shall be surveyed for total radiation count rate within the excavator bucket before it is emptied. If the radiation count rates are at background levels at the soil surface in the excavator bucket, the soil spoils can be loaded directly into the clean soil roll-off box. If any count rates are noted above background levels but below the action level of 7.1 pCi/g, the bucket spoils shall be emptied on a known surface or plastic sheeting and resurveyed. If the follow-up survey shows no count rates greater than the action level of 7.1 pCi/g, the soil spoils can be then be loaded into the clean soil roll-off box.
- ♦ Thorium-Contaminated Soils Procedure: If any excavated soils are found during either surface scanning or bucket surveys with a count rate greater than the 7.1 pCi/g action level, then those soils shall be isolated, placed in supersacks, and stored in a locked roll-off box pending further sampling for laboratory analysis and disposal evaluation. The area of thorium-contaminated soils above the action level shall then be roped off and isolated as an exclusion zone. A sample of the material with the highest radiation count rate (whether excavated or in the trench) will be collected as a discrete sample and sent for laboratory analysis for confirmation purposes (if requested, this sample will also be provided to the USEPA). The trench location from which any material exceeding the action level is identified will be documented. Proper PPE, including Tyvek suits, rubber boots, and latex gloves will be worn by any personnel entering an exclusion zone. Additionally, air sampling will be implemented prior to moving or loading thorium-contaminated soil. All personnel and equipment leaving an exclusion zone shall be monitored for removable contamination. Personnel working in an exclusion zone shall be monitored for radiation exposure using self-reading pocket dosimeters or film badges (or equivalent external dosimetry).
- Minimize potential public contact:
  - ♦ Public access to excavated soil will be restricted using barricades, temporary fencing, and jersey barriers.
  - ♦ Excavated soil piles will be covered if needed to minimize fugitive dust.
  - ♦ Off-site tracking by vehicles and potentially contaminated boots or clothing by workers will be controlled.
- A final report that contains the results of the radiation monitoring and/or surveying will be completed.



August 13, 2010

Mike Kasal  
SET Environmental  
450 Sumac Road  
Wheeling, Illinois 60090

RE: 400 N. Michigan Ave. – City of Chicago Thorium Monitoring

Dear Mr. Kasal:

Stan A. Huber Consultants, Inc (SAHCI) was hired by your firm to provide radiation monitoring during excavation of a City of Chicago water line repair at 400 N. Michigan Ave. in Chicago, Illinois. Additional soil from this location had been excavated the previous day and transported to 39<sup>th</sup> St. and Ashland Ave. This soil was also screened for elevated thorium concentrations. The monitoring was performed on August 12, 2010. All activities were conducted under the guidance of document *SET General Procedure for Thorium Monitoring*.

#### Instrumentation

Surface gamma scans were performed by Glenn Huber using a Ludlum Model 2221 Scaled / Ratemeter with attached 2"x2" NaI probe. The instrument was calibrated on November 6, 2009. The USEPA action level of 7.1 picocuries per gram (pCi/g) total thorium for this instrument is 17,774 counts per minute (cpm).

The average background count rate for was found to be approximately 4000 cpm.

#### Soil Gamma Scans at 39<sup>th</sup> St. and Ashland Ave.

Gamma surface scans were performed using the Ludlum Model 2221 Scaler / Ratemeter described above. The soil at this location had been excavated the day before and placed into the back of a dump truck. I performed surveys of the soil by climbing into the back of the truck and screening all accessible surfaces. The maximum identified count rate at this location was 6700 cpm.

No count rates were found at any time that exceeded the threshold limit of 17,774 cpm.

#### Soil Gamma Scans at 400 N. Michigan Ave.

The first 4.5 feet of soil had already been excavated and transported to the City of Chicago Water Department Yard at 39<sup>th</sup> St. and Ashland Ave. Upon arrival at the site I entered the excavation and completed a surface scan of the floor and walls of the excavation. The maximum identified count rate from this survey was 12,700 cpm. After

the excavation was 4.5 feet deep, surveys were performed of the buckets of soil as they were removed from the excavation, prior to loading in the truck. All excavated soils were then loaded directly into the truck after screening. See attached Radiation Survey Form.

No count rates were found at any time that exceeded the threshold limit of 17,774 cpm. Eugene Jablonowski, from USEPA was onsite at both locations to perform confirmatory surveys.

#### Additional Monitoring

Since no count rates were identified above the 7.1 pCi/gram threshold limit, no additional soil sampling, air monitoring, or personnel monitoring were performed.

Thank you for your assistance with this project. If you have any questions or need additional information please call me at (815) 485-6161.

Sincerely,  
Stan A. Huber Consultants, Inc.

Glenn Huber, CHP  
President



# Radiation Survey Form

Location/ Project ID: 400 N. Michigan Ave. Chicago, IL

Date: August 12, 2010

Technician: Glenn Huber

Inst Model: Ludlum 2221

Serial No. : 134542

Probe Type: 1"x1" NaI / 2"x2" NaI  
Shielded / Not Shielded

Lift Elevation: -4.5 feet to -9.0 feet

Background 4000 cpm

Action Level: 17,774 cpm

Write grid designations in circles. Record highest counts for grid in cpm. Record 30 second counts at grid intersections (if required). Shade areas of elevated counts and record max cpm.

