Illinois Department of Transportation

Memorandum

To:	George Tapas	Attn:	Doug DeLong
From:	Jack A. Elston	By:	Scott E. Stitt
Subject:	COV PESA Review		*Scott E. Stitt*
Date:	January 13, 2021		

Project:	FAU 5082 (15th Avenue), IL 2 to Nelson Boulevard		
District 2:	Winnebago County	Job #:	Not Provided
Requesting Agency:	City of Rockford	Contract #:	Not Provided
Survey Target Date:	02/19/2021	Anticipated DA:	09/01/2021
Anticipated Letting:	Not Provided	Section:	19-00631-00-BR
BDE Sequence #:	23305	ISGS #:	4013-COV

Attached is a copy of a *COV Preliminary Environmental Site Assessment (PESA)* conducted by the Illinois State Geological Survey (ISGS) for the subject project as described in your Regulated Substances Environmental Survey Request (ESR). A full PESA report was not prepared at this time due to the operational issues caused by the COVID-19 outbreak beginning in March 2020.

Databases normally associated with a PESA have been reviewed and some accessible regulatory files were reviewed, but a site reconnaissance was not completed, and other resources normally reviewed as part of a PESA were unavailable. Please refer to the *Introduction* section of the COV PESA for a list of disclaimers and data gaps applicable to the report.

Although this report does not fully follow the standard PESA format, tables indicating recognized environmental conditions (RECs) and non-RECs are included, as are figures showing *COV PESA* site locations. Please carefully read and review the summaries of the various sites in the report. This *COV PESA* is designed to meet the requirements of Departmental Policy D&E 11 and therefore the project is cleared for design approval.

Table 1 identifies sites along the project route determined to contain RECs. It is the opinion of this office, in consultation with the Chief Counsel's Office, that a preliminary site investigation (PSI) is required if any site identified in Table 1 of the PESA report involves any of the following situations:

- New right of way or easement (temporary or permanent); or
- Building demolition / modification.

Additionally, a PSI is required if the project will have excavation or subsurface utility relocation on existing right-of-way adjoining a site identified in Table 1 of the PESA report.

If the district determines that all the sites containing RECs can be avoided, then a PSI is not required and the project will be in compliance with Departmental Policy D&E-11. If the district determines the project will involve a site containing a REC(s), then a PSI is required, and the statewide regulated substances consultant should be requested to perform the PSI. Please notify this office of any actions you may decide to take concerning these sites (avoidance or further investigation). The PESA Response and Work Order form can be found on PMA.

The district should determine if any new right-of-way or easement will involve: any site identified in Table 1 of the COV PESA report, or any site adjoining a site listed in Table 4. For those identified situations, the District Bureau of Land Acquisition (DBLA) shall coordinate the acquisition with this office, Central Bureau of Land Acquisition, and the Chief Counsel's Office to determine if an "All Appropriate Inquiries" (AAI) assessment is required prior to the acquisition process for additional liability protection under CERCLA.

Other findings and recommendations of the report should be carefully considered. If you have any questions regarding this report, please contact Josh Venaas at 217/785-4181 or James R. Curtis at 217/558-4653.

Attachments

cc: Office of Chief Counsel – Hanley Room 313

IDOT Sequence #: 23305 **ISGS: 4013-COV**
IDOT Job #: NA **IDOT District #: 2**

PRELIMINARY ENVIRONMENTAL SITE ASSESSMENT

FINAL REPORT

DATE: January 13, 2021

IDOT DESIGN DATE: September 1, 2021

SURVEY TARGET DATE: February 19, 2021

DATE REQUEST RECEIVED: August 20, 2020

LOCATION: FAU 5082 (15th Avenue), IL 2 to Nelson Boulevard, Rockford, Winnebago County; Rockford North and Rockford South quadrangles (USGS 7.5-minute topographic maps), T44N, R1E, Sections 27 and 34.

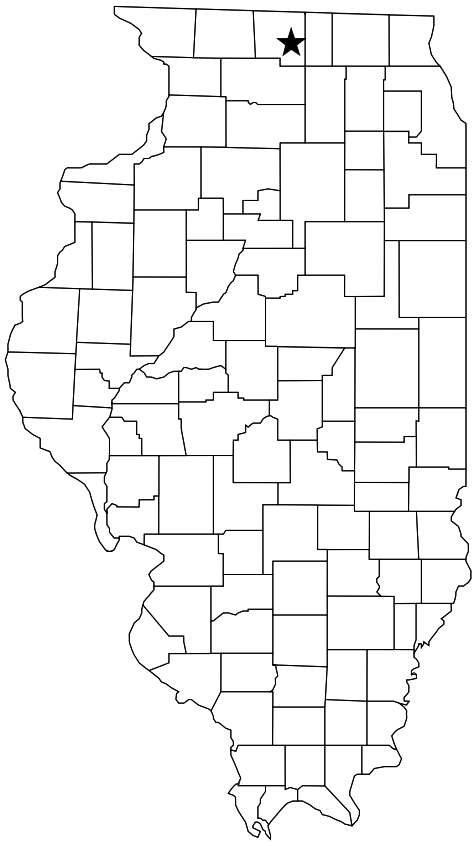


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GLOSSARY OF ACRONYMS

AAI	-	All Appropriate Inquiries
ACM	-	asbestos-containing material
AST	-	aboveground storage tank
ASTM	-	American Society for Testing and Materials
AUL	-	activity and use limitation (includes institutional controls, engineered barriers, and HAAs)
bgs	-	below ground surface
BOL	-	Bureau of Land (IEPA)
BTEX	-	benzene, toluene, ethylbenzene, and total xylene
CDPH	-	Chicago Department of Public Health
CCDD	-	Clean construction and demolition debris
CERCLIS	-	Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Information System
CTA	-	Chicago Transit Authority
ERNS	-	Emergency Response Notification System
FEMA	-	Federal Emergency Management Agency
FHWA	-	Federal Highway Administration
FOIA	-	Freedom of Information Act
GIS	-	Geographic Information System
GRO	-	Groundwater Remediation Objective
HAA	-	Highway Authority Agreement
IDNR	-	Illinois Department of Natural Resources
IDOT	-	Illinois Department of Transportation
IEMA	-	Illinois Emergency Management Agency
IEPA	-	Illinois Environmental Protection Agency
IMD	-	Illinois Manufacturers Directory
ISGS	-	Illinois State Geological Survey
ISWS	-	Illinois State Water Survey
LUST	-	leaking underground storage tank
µg/kg	-	micrograms per kilogram (ppb)
µg/l	-	micrograms per liter (ppb)
mg/kg	-	milligrams per kilogram (ppm)
mg/l	-	milligrams per liter (ppm)
M.M.	-	mile marker
MOU	-	memorandum of understanding
M.P.	-	mile post
MSSA	-	Mahomet Sole Source Aquifer
MTBE	-	methyl tertiary butyl ether
NFR	-	No Further Remediation
NPL	-	National Priorities List
NRCS	-	Natural Resources Conservation Service
OER	-	Office of Emergency Response (IEPA)
OSFM	-	Office of the State Fire Marshal
PAA	-	Permit Access Agreement
PAH/PNA	-	polynuclear aromatic hydrocarbon
PCB	-	polychlorinated biphenyl
PESA	-	Preliminary Environmental Site Assessment
P.G.	-	Professional Geologist
ppb	-	parts per billion (equivalent to µg/kg for solids, and µg/l in liquids)
ppm	-	parts per million (equivalent to mg/kg in solids, and mg/l in liquids)
PRP	-	Potentially Responsible Party
PSI	-	Preliminary Site Investigation
RCRA	-	Resource Conservation and Recovery Act
REC	-	recognized environmental condition
ROW	-	right-of-way
SEMS	-	Superfund Enterprise Management System
SGRO	-	Soil Gas Remediation Objective
SIC	-	Standard Industrial Classification
SPLP	-	synthetic precipitation leaching procedure
SRO	-	Soil Remediation Objective
SRP	-	Site Remediation Program
SSTS	-	Section Seven Tracking System (USEPA)
SVOC	-	semi-volatile organic compound
TACO	-	Tiered Approach to Corrective Action Objectives (IEPA)
TCLP	-	toxicity characteristic leaching procedure
TPH	-	total petroleum hydrocarbons
TRI	-	Toxics Release Inventory
UIC	-	Underground Injection Control (IEPA)
USDA	-	United States Department of Agriculture
USEPA	-	United States Environmental Protection Agency
USGS	-	United States Geological Survey
UST	-	underground storage tank
VOC	-	volatile organic compound

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This report presents the results of an environmental site assessment for the improvements to IL 2 from south of Indiana Avenue to Cole Avenue, Rockford, Winnebago County. This report was prepared on behalf of the Illinois Department of Transportation (IDOT) by the Illinois State Geological Survey (ISGS).

The following sites were examined for this project. The tables below list sites along the project for which recognized environmental conditions (RECs)* were identified for each address or address range (Table 1); sites along the project for which only de minimis conditions were identified (Table 2); sites along the project for which no RECs or de minimis conditions were identified (Table 3); and sites adjoining but not on the project that were identified on environmental databases (Table 4). Further investigation of sites with RECs may be desired.

Table 1. The following sites along the project were determined to contain RECs:

Property name IDOT parcel #	ISGS site #	REC(s), including de minimis conditions	Regulatory database(s)	Land use
Vacant land NA	4013-COV-2	Former USTs; potential UST(s); potential former chemical use; VOCs, SVOCs, and metals	UST	Vacant
Rock River NA	4013-COV-3	Non-attainment of water quality	None	River
Commercial building NA	4013-COV-4	USTs; potential UST(s); potential former chemical use; VOCs, SVOCs, and metals; potential ACM and lead paint	Municipal	Commercial
Poor Clares Corpus Christi Monastery NA	4013-COV-6	Potential AST; potential former chemical use; potential ACM and lead paint	None	Religious

Table 2. The following sites along the project were determined to contain de minimis conditions only:

Property name IDOT parcel #	ISGS site #	De minimis condition(s)	Land use
Residences NA	4013-COV-1	Potential transformers; potential ACM and lead paint	Residential
Bridge NA	4013-COV-5	Potential ACM	Transportation

Residence NA	4013-COV-8	Potential ACM and lead paint	Residential

Table 3. The following site along the project was determined not to contain RECs or de minimis conditions:

Property name IDOT parcel #	ISGS site #	Land use
Vacant land NA	4013-COV-7	Vacant

Table 4. The following additional sites, adjoining but not on the project, were identified on environmental databases:

Property name	ISGS site #	Regulatory database(s)	Land use
Commercial building	4013-COV-A	BOL	Commercial
ROW	4013-COV-B	IEMA	Transportation

* For all sites:

Where REC(s) are indicated as present, a condition was noted that may be indicative of releases or potential releases of hazardous substances on, at, in, or to the site, as discussed in the text. Potential hazards were not verified by ISGS testing. Radon, biological hazards (such as mold, medical waste, or septic waste), and non-agricultural pesticides and/or herbicides may also be of concern. No further investigation concerning the presence or use of these factors was conducted for this PESA.

Where RECs are not indicated as present, radon, biological hazards (such as mold, medical waste, or septic waste), and non-agricultural pesticides and/or herbicides may still be of concern. No further investigation concerning the presence or use of these factors was conducted for this PESA.

For the purposes of this report, the following are considered to be de minimis conditions:

- Normal use of lead-based paint on exteriors and interiors of buildings and structures.
- Use of asbestos-containing materials in building construction.
- Transformers in normal use, unless the transformers were visibly leaking, appear on an environmental regulatory list, or were otherwise determined to pose a hazard not related to normal use.
- Agricultural use of pesticides and herbicides. In addition, most land in Illinois was under agricultural use prior to its conversion to residential, industrial, or commercial development. Pesticides, both regulated and otherwise, may have been used throughout the project area at any time. Unless specifically discussed elsewhere in this report, no information regarding

past pesticide use that would be subject to enforcement action was located for this project, and such use is considered a de minimis condition.

The following data gaps exist for all PESAs:

- For residences, only areas visible from public roads are inspected.
- Interiors of buildings are not inspected.
- Interiors of agricultural areas are not inspected during growing seasons.

Radon and biological hazards are not considered in this PESA unless specifically noted.

NA = No parcel number was supplied by IDOT for this site.

Although potential natural hazards and undermining, if present, are described in this report, they are not considered as RECs or de minimis conditions for the purposes of this report, and are therefore not listed in the tables above. Wetlands and flooding hazards are not evaluated as part of this report.

INTRODUCTION

This is the **Final Report** of a preliminary environmental assessment by the ISGS of natural and man-made hazards that may be encountered for the improvements to IL 2 from south of Indiana Avenue to Cole Avenue, Rockford, Winnebago County (Attachment 1). Project features include acquisition of additional ROW or easements, in-stream work, and excavation or subsurface utility relocation. No railroad ROW involvement is anticipated for this project. IL 2 is known as S. Main Street in the project area, and will be referred to as such in this report. No stationing information was provided by IDOT for this project. All measurements are approximate and taken from the centerlines of the roads. This report identifies and evaluates recognized environmental conditions (RECs) that may be indicative of releases or potential releases of hazardous substances on, at, in, or to the proposed project.

This assessment has been prepared using historical and geological information including aerial photographs, U.S. Geological Survey topographic maps, plat maps, file information of the ISGS, regulatory file information from federal, state, and other agencies, and various other sources of information. The specific methods used to conduct the assessment are contained in "A Manual for Conducting Preliminary Environmental Site Assessments for Illinois Department of Transportation Infrastructure Projects" (Erdmann et al., 2014).

This Preliminary Environmental Site Assessment (PESA) has been modified because of the COVID-19 pandemic prevalent in the State of Illinois during the time period of this project. The following disclaimers apply to this report:

- No site inspections were conducted, no library research was conducted, no in-person interviews were completed, and no visits to IEPA to obtain their regulatory files were conducted.

- Site boundaries were drawn based on aerial photography, county-level GIS data (where available), and street view imagery (where available). Actual site boundaries may differ from those depicted on Attachment 2.

- Site occupants and site addresses were determined based on Internet searches and street view imagery, where available. Actual site occupants and site addresses may differ from those listed in this report. If no site addresses were available, block numbers were used. If no street view imagery was available, an estimation of current occupancy was based on aerial photography.

- Site features listed under individual sites below were determined using the most recent street view imagery, where available. These features may no longer be present or may be present in a different location than that listed below.

- Street view imagery was used to identify RECs and de minimis conditions listed under individual sites below, where possible. These RECs and de minimis conditions are identified as “potential” in the tables, text, and conclusions.

- For regulatory files, only those files available online, or that had already been obtained, were reviewed. It is likely that for some or all sites that appear on regulatory databases,

additional information is present that is not available online. This information may be significant and may have affected the RECs and conclusions of this report if it had been available.

- City directory information is included only for projects for which electronic directories were available, or that had already been obtained. Electronic directories were available only for 1928 (City of Chicago only) and 2001 through 2019 (certain metropolitan areas in and near Chicago and in Metro East).

- **Therefore, this PESA is not in compliance with the IDOT-ISGS PESA Manual (Erdmann et al., 2014). It is recommended that IDOT use this report with these disclaimers in mind.**

GEOLOGY

Bedrock geology. The topmost bedrock unit in the project area has been mapped as the Ordovician-age rocks of the Platteville Group, which are composed of limestone.

Surficial geology. The total thickness of surficial deposits in the project area has been mapped as less than 8 m (25 ft). These deposits are composed of 0-6 m (0-20 ft) of Cahokia Formation sands and gravels over 6-15 m (20-50 ft) of Henry Formation sands and gravels.

Soils. None of the soils along the project ROW have been classified as containing more than 33% hydric components or as non-prime farmland soils by the NRCS.

HYDROGEOLOGY

Due to project type or IDOT internal procedure, the sections on surficial public water supplies, groundwater recharge, groundwater protection areas, potential for contamination of shallow aquifers, and well log information are not included in this report.

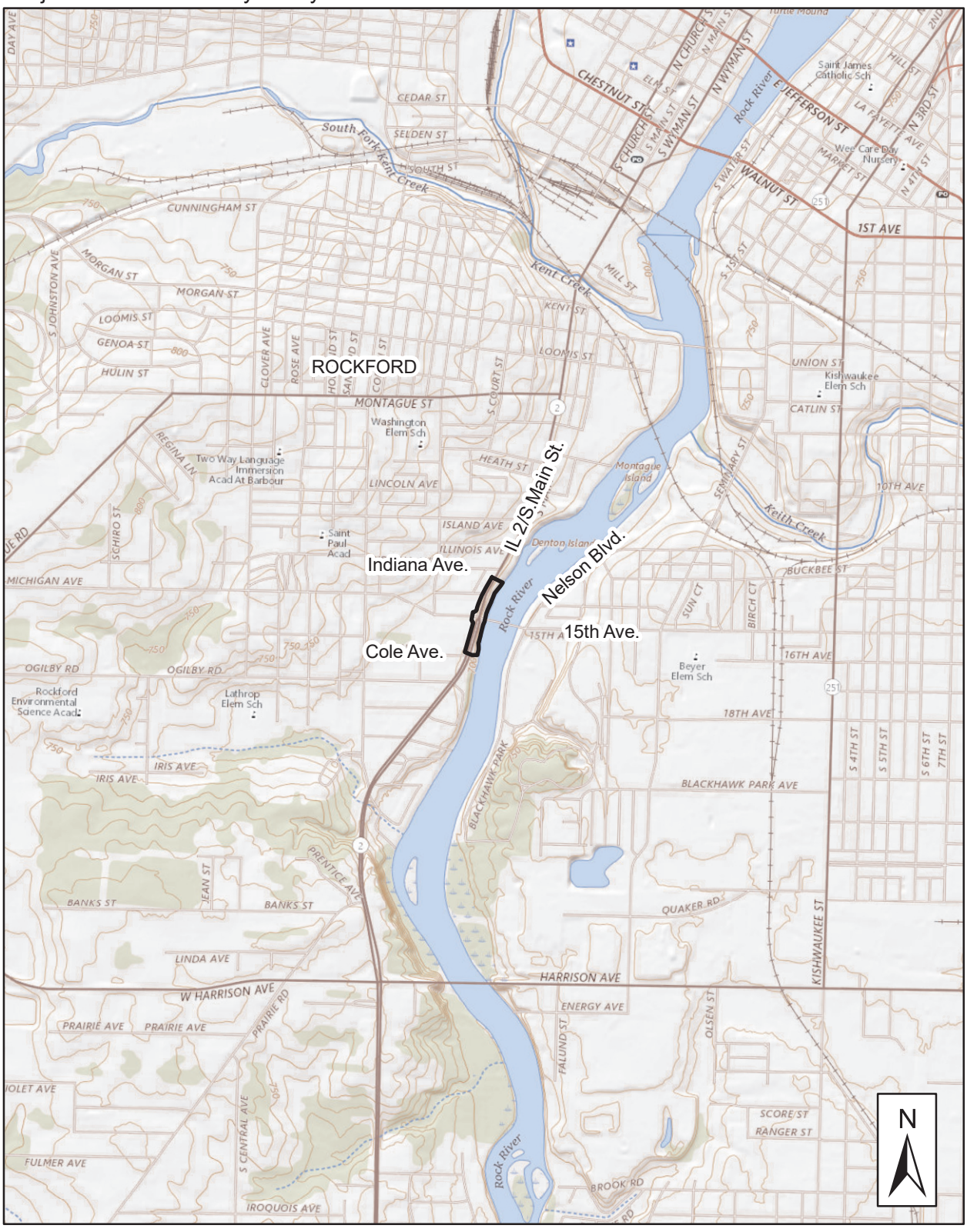
Drainage direction. Surficial drainage in the project area is generally toward the east, in the direction of Rock River (Site 4013-COV-3). However, since the project area is urbanized and storm drains and sewers are present, most surficial runoff will be controlled by the storm sewer system; such systems typically are designed to follow natural drainage patterns.

Neither the near-surface nor the shallow unconfined groundwater flow direction was specifically determined for this project, but they generally mimic local topography.

NATURAL FEATURES AND HAZARDS

No visible or known natural hazards were identified for this project.

Attachment 1. Project location map, ISGS #4013-COV.
Project area indicated by heavy black lines.



Attachment 2. Site location map, Sites 4013-COV-1 through 4013-COV-8.
All site boundaries are approximate and should not be used as actual parcel boundaries.

