

My name is Grant Antoline and I am a community organizer with Champaign County Health Care Consumers.

The City of Champaign released the test results of a sample of toxic material that was taken from Phase 2 of the 8-inch clay tile pipe excavation that occurred on June 30, 2011.

The City of Champaign plugged the pipe in two phases. The Phase One sealed off the outlet of the pipe where it emptied into the Boneyard Creek. The Phase two involved digging a seven-foot trench in this area 30 feet from the bank of the Boneyard. When the pipe was found, it was broken in order to allow the workers to plug it with concrete. As the workers were clearing out material from the pipe they pulled out large chunks of coal tar. Samples were taken by the City of Champaign and sent to a laboratory for analysis.

The results from this sampling event show that nine different Semi-volatile organic compounds and one volatile organic compound far exceed IL EPA safety levels. Some chemicals were found more than 15,000 times more the safety level.

The type and concentrations of the chemicals are of the same type that is found with Manufactured Gas Plant waste.

The City of Champaign hired environmental consulting firm called Foth, Infrastructure and Environmental, LLC to evaluate the test results.

They concluded the following:

- 1.) Compared to the other samples taken by the IL EPA at the outlet of the pipe, these samples are more contaminated.
- 2.) The source of the contamination is petroleum hydrocarbon waste which is the same type of waste that is produced by Manufactured Gas Plants.
- 3.) Because the pipe contamination is petroleum hydrocarbon waste, it is a pollution control waste and therefore a special waste by definition.
- 4.) Due to the presence of Benzene over other Volatile Organic Compounds, it is likely that the movement of water was involved with the spread of the contamination.
- 5.) The City of Champaign does not have a regulatory obligation to remediate the sampling site because of the type and concentration of contamination found, and therefore, they recommend involving the IL EPA.

The City's contractors are correct, the city of Champaign is not responsible for cleaning up this toxic waste. The real responsibility ultimately falls on the IL EPA.

The evidence that has been collected over the months of work conducted by the 5th & Hill Neighborhood Rights Campaign show very clearly that the most likely cause of the contamination from this pipe is the Ameren owned manufactured gas plant.

We have compiled this evidence in order to present it to the public.

Evidence:

- 1.) TABLE ES-1 from Ameren's Comprehensive Investigation Report shows all of the chemicals that are associated with the Manufactured Gas plant and helps us identify whether or not contamination that is found is likely to be associated with the gas plant.
- 2.) "Report on Contamination of the Boneyard in Champaign by Gas House Waste." This 1915 report by Mr. Ralph Hilscher identified the 8-inch pipe and very clearly states that this pipe and its contamination are associated with the manufactured gas plant.
- 3.) Existing Conditions report was prepared by environmental consultants working for the 5th & Hill NRC. This report identifies off-site contamination that Ameren and the IL EPA overlooked or outright missed during their investigation, including this toxic waste pipe
- 4.) CCHCC's November 23 pipe sampling event. CCHCC took samples of the material that was contained inside the pipe and the results of those samples showed very high levels of semi volatile and volatile organic compounds above IL EPA safety limits. The chemicals fit the footprint of Manufactured Gas waste.
- 5.) EEC came out and sampled the pipe and the results of that sampling also showed high levels of semi volatile organic compounds that were indicative of gas plant waste.
- 6.) IL EPA sampling events one and two both showed very high levels of semi volatile organic compounds that yet again pointed to manufactured gas plant waste.
- 7.) Lastly the City of Champaign's sampling event which we just discussed point to the manufactured gas plant as responsible party for the presence of this pipe, which was then corroborated by the Foth Assessment.

A large amount of evidence has been collected about this pipe including five different sampling events, three reports and tables.

The question now is to the IL EPA. What does it take for you to do your job? What does it take for you to protect the people of this community?