



4.14 Hazardous Material Sites

Hazardous materials are defined in the 1998 Indiana Code as a material or waste that has been determined to be hazardous or potentially hazardous to human health, to property or the environment by:

- 1.) The United States:
 - (A) Environmental Protection Agency;
 - (B) Nuclear Regulatory Commission;
 - (C) Department of Transportation; or
 - (D) Occupational Safety and Health Administration; or
- 2.) The Solid Waste Management Board.

During the early development of transportation projects, the proposed rights-of-way undergo an investigation for the presence of hazardous waste. If found, attempts are made to have the sites cleaned up prior to the purchase of the property. Although it is desirable, hazardous materials cannot always be taken care of prior to the construction of a transportation project. It may be necessary to deal with known and/or unknown hazardous waste sites on purchased rights-of-way during the construction phase.

Hazardous waste sites are defined in this analysis as properties that may require additional clean up of contaminated soils and/or the removal of hazardous materials. Early identification of these sites is important because additional work may be required to remediate these sites prior to any construction. This additional work can increase the cost of construction substantially, depending on the amount of contamination at these sites.

RCRIS stands for Resource Conservation and Recovery Information System and is provided by the Indiana Department of Environmental Management (IDEM). RCRIS is a national computerized management information system in support of the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA). RCRA requires that generators, transporters, treaters, storers and disposers of hazardous waste materials provide information concerning their activities to state environmental agencies. This database is used primarily to track handler permits or closure status, compliance with federal and state regulations and cleanup activities.

CERCLIS stands for Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Information System, also known as Superfund, and is provided by the USEPA. CERCLIS is a national computerized management information system that automates entry, updating and retrieval of data for the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act (CERCLA). It also tracks site and non-site specific Superfund data. It contains information on hazardous waste site assessment and remediation.

Superfund data were collected by the Federal Cleanup, Superfund, and Natural Resource Damage Assessment (NRDA) section within the IDEM Office of Land Quality (OLQ). This database contains information that represents what had been recorded, processed, and archived by IDEM personnel at a time previous to this project. It contains information on hazardous waste site assessment and remediation.

The **Underground Storage Tank (UST)** program is responsible for registering all regulated USTs. This information was provided by IDEM. It assures that all regulated USTs meet Indiana's requirements for release detection, spill and overflow prevention, and corrosion protection, and to ensure that tanks not meeting those requirements



are properly closed. The UST program assures that these protection systems are operated and maintained properly. Regulated USTs are those USTs that have 10% or more of the tank and piping buried beneath the ground and contain a regulated substance, which includes either petroleum products or hazardous substances.

Leaking Underground Storage Tanks (LUSTs) are defined as regulated USTs that contain regulated substances including petroleum and hazardous substances, such as those typically found at gasoline stations, fleet fueling facilities and industrial sites and are suspected or confirmed of having a leak. This information was provided by IDEM.

The alternates in this project traverse predominantly through a rural landscape, which does not have large amounts of hazardous material sites except for a few isolated abandoned landfills. The only area that had large concentrations of businesses and a probability for hazardous material sites was along US 31 south of US 20. This area had many commercial sites that included gas stations, car washes, fast food restaurants, convenience stores and body shops, etc.