Sauser, Amber <amber.sauser@dnr.iowa.gov>

Re: Dubuque

Graesch, Matthew <matthew.graesch@dnr.iowa.gov> Tue, Sep 22, 2026 at 8:22 AM
To: "Sauser, Amber" <amber.sauser@dnr.iowa.gov>

Amber,

I apologize for taking so long to respond. I was out last week, without access to the VPN. It looks like the site was assessed in 2011 with a Phase 2, and an amended Phase 2 with more information. The conclusion of the DNR at that time was that contaminants found (lead and arsenic in groundwater only) were not significant enough to warrant further investigation, since no pathways existed for contact between humans and shallow groundwater given the site use(s) at the time. There were no detections above any applicable standard in soil. A full set of documents (there aren't very many, and they're simple because the results didn't warrant more) is available HERE if they want more information than the screenshots below.


NORTH
HORIZONTAL SCALE IN FEET
0
60
120
DRAWING MAY HAVE BEEN REDUCED
LEGEND
SITE #8 MAXIMUM AREA OF IMPACT
RAILROAD TRACKS
EXISTING EASEMENT
12TH STREET
11TH STREET
9TH STREET
8TH STREET
LOCUST RD
US 61/151
SB5/MW5
SB6/MW6
SB7/MW7
SB3/MW3
SB8/MW8
SB2/MW2
SB1/MW1

Phase II Environmental Site Assessment – Dubuque Intermodal Site 8, City of Dubuque, IA

Table 1 Groundwater Sample Results

	MW1	MW2	MW3	MW5	MW6	MW7	MW8	Statewide Standard for a Protected Groundwater Source, mg/l	Statewide Standard for a Non-Protected Groundwater Source, mg/l
Arsenic, mg/l	**0.0317**	0.0096	**0.0112**	0.0015	0.0014	0.0097	0.0012	0.01	0.05
Cadmium, mg/l	0.0009	0.0012	0.0026	0.0006	0.0006	0.0032	BDL	0.005	0.025
Chromium, mg/l	BDL	BDL	BDL	BDL	BDL	BDL	BDL	0.1	0.5
Lead, mg/l	**0.0408**	**0.1140**	0.0143	0.0078	BDL	**0.1630**	**0.0162**	0.015	0.075
Benzo(b)fluoranthene, mg/l	BDL	0.000121	BDL	BDL	BDL	0.000138	BDL	0.00024	0.0048
Benzo(a)pyrene, mg/l	BDL	BDL	BDL	BDL	BDL	0.000115	BDL	0.0002	0.001
Benzo(g,h,i)perylene, mg/l	BDL	BDL	BDL	BDL	BDL	0.000115	BDL	0.021	0.10
Fluoranthene, mg/l	BDL	0.000127	BDL	BDL	BDL	0.000144	BDL	0.28	1.4
Pyrene, mg/l	BDL	0.000131	BDL	BDL	BDL	0.000142	BDL	0.21	1.0
Chloroform, mg/l	BDL	BDL	BDL	0.00801	BDL	BDL	BDL	0.08	0.57

*BDL - Below Detectable Limits
BOLD - exceeding the Iowa State Standards

Table 2 Soil Sample Results

	SB1	SB2	SB3	SB5	SB6	SB7	SB8	Statewide Standard for Soil, mg/kg
Sample Depth, ft	15.5	13.5	15	14.5	15.25	15	15.5	n/a
Arsenic, mg/kg dry	3.76	5.27	7.58	4.73	2.30	4.75	3.74	17
Cadmium, mg/kg dry	BDL	BDL	BDL	BDL	BDL	BDL	BDL	70
Chromium, mg/kg dry	24.1	16.7	25.6	20.0	16.3	18.3	24.4	97000
Lead, mg/kg dry	20.5	52.0	15.3	16.5	6.53	27.2	17.0	400
Benzo (a) anthracene, mg/kg dry	BDL	0.0192	BDL	BDL	BDL	BDL	BDL	3.1
Benzo (b) fluoranthene, mg.kg dry	BDL	0.0273	BDL	BDL	BDL	0.1380	BDL	3.1
Benzo (a) pyrene, mg/kg dry	BDL	0.0204	BDL	BDL	BDL	0.1150	BDL	0.31
Benzo (g,h,I) perylene, mg/kg dry	BDL	0.0158	BDL	BDL	BDL	0.1150	BDL	170
Chrysene, mg/kg dry	BDL	0.0190	BDL	BDL	BDL	BDL	BDL	310
Fluoranthene, mg/kg dry	BDL	0.0293	BDL	BDL	BDL	0.1440	BDL	2300
Indeno (1,2,3-cd) pyrene, mg/kg dry	BDL	0.0138	BDL	BDL	BDL	BDL	BDL	3.1
Phenanthrene, mg/kg dry	BDL	0.0132	BDL	BDL	BDL	BDL	BDL	1700
Pyrene, mg/kg dry	BDL	0.0319	BDL	BDL	BDL	0.1420	BDL	1700

*BDL: Below Detectable Limits

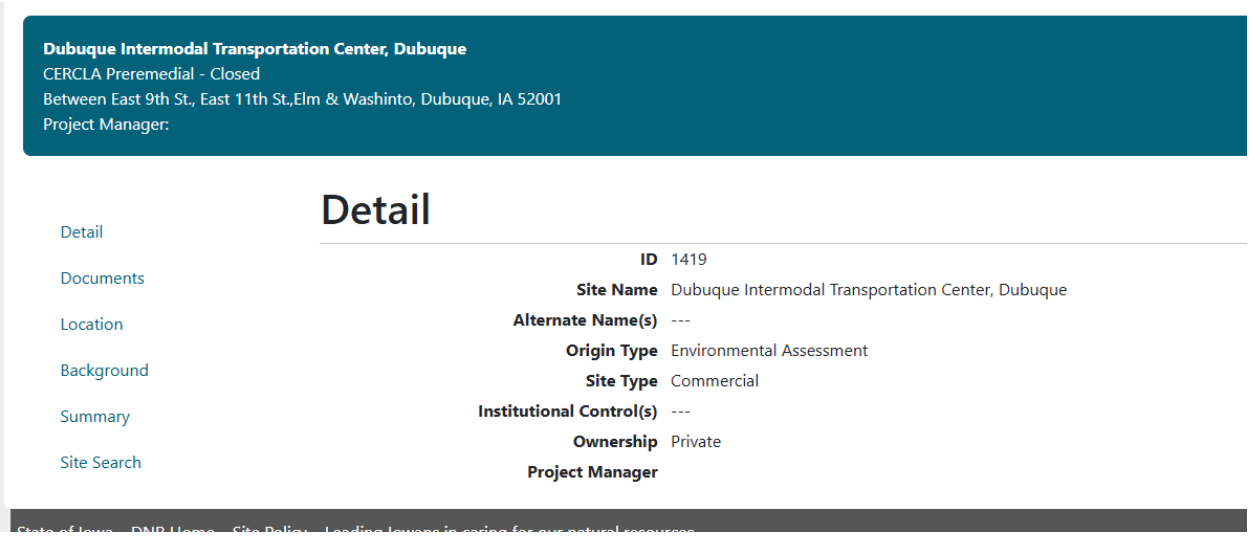
On Mon, Sep 14, 2026 at 9:18 AM Sauser, Amber <amber.sauser@dnr.iowa.gov> wrote:

> Wondering if you can help me with something. The following complaint was received by our office.
>
> *Caller stated that the City of Dubuque is planning a park at the intersection of 10th and Elm Streets that will be used as an open space and concert venue. He said he worked on this property years ago and that the eastern part of this site has soil and water contamination. He said Terracon did a Phase II study around 8 years ago and said remediation is needed, and*

the city was only to use it as a parking lot. He's not sure if this proposed park is safe for human contact/usage to this extent.



I spoke with the city , and they indicated they weren't aware of any limitation on this area but would look into it further. I haven't heard back from them. However, it appears the project below is the same area. It's older than the complainant identified and was done by IIW. Any idea if I missed something in our records?



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