

# The Citizen Newsletter

Issue No. 1

Informing the community of important health, welfare and property use issues.

January 2009

## The Proposed Smelter Is Not A 'Done Deal' Area Residents Have The Power To Stop It If They Choose To

The people behind the smelter project will continue their efforts, to see to it that it is built and operating — but until then, it can be stopped. Without continued opposition, the people of Jefferson County may have their minds made up for them. You owe it to yourself, your children and your grandchildren to be informed about these recent developments. The actions that are in process and occurring right now will affect generations to come.

### A Brief History

Two significant agreements were signed in September of 2007. Pittsburgh Plate Glass (PPG), the owner of the old glass factory property in Crystal City, signed an agreement to sell the property to the City of Crystal City for \$2.2 million. At the same time Crystal City signed an agreement to lease the property to the developer, Wings Enterprises, for 100 years for \$2.2 million. (paid in full, up front)

The process of the agreements were fast-tracked through the system and secretly planned and negotiated for over two years. A Confidentiality Agreement that was signed in June of 2006 by government officials and Wings Enterprises guaranteed the secrecy.

When the news of the smelter development was leaked in August of 2007 a group was formed to oppose it. The group called the Concerned Citizens for Crystal City was formed and is still active. The Concerned Citizens Group has made significant strides to inform the public and to stop the smelter project.

### Summary of Important Events

- > In November of 2007 The Concerned Citizens Group filed a lawsuit against the City of Crystal City alleging that it broke Missouri Sunshine Laws that guarantee open and transparent government.
- > In August of 2008 a group of Crystal City citizens filed a lawsuit against the City of Crystal City alleging zoning violations.
- > In September of 2008 Wings Enterprises announced that it lost its financial backing from the Chinese firm, Minmetals.
- > In December of 2008 the city of Festus agreed to sell the Festus Airport to a group of local investors.
- > As of this date, no project plan has been made public and despite countless attempts by Crystal City council members, the developer has refused to update council members on the progress of his proposed project.

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## Research Shows High Levels of Pollution in Jefferson County — Should We Be Adding More?

The highly controversial proposed smelter is at the center of a debate over what is best for the future of this region. The local group called Concerned Citizens for Crystal City has concerns about the negative impact the facility could have on the region, including people's health.

Research shows an alarming amount of pollution in Jefferson County, when compared with the rest of the nation. The map on the back shows the Twin Cities in the middle of a triangle of polluting industries. The previous and current industrial facilities in the area have helped [rank Jefferson County #3 in all Missouri counties for total environmental releases](#), not to mention over 3 times more than St. Louis City and County combined.<sup>6</sup>

Among the current facilities in the area that are polluting, the Doe Run Lead Smelter in Herculaneum leads in pollution output. In fact, they are the only industrial facility that has received a "nonattainment" designation for meeting NAAQS (National Ambient Air Quality Standards) requirements.<sup>7</sup> With all this pollution comes health problems. Lead exposure adversely affects the cognitive development and behavior of young children.<sup>8</sup>

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### Jefferson County compared to all other counties in the U.S.:

- > [Ranked 21<sup>st</sup>](#) in land lead releases<sup>1</sup>
- > [Ranked 1<sup>st</sup>](#) in air lead releases<sup>2</sup>
- > [Ranked 21<sup>st</sup>](#) for total environmental releases<sup>3</sup>
- > Ranked among the [dirtiest/worst 10%](#) in terms of lead quarterly average concentration<sup>4</sup>
- > Ranked among the [dirtiest/worst 20%](#) in terms of an average individual's added cancer risk from hazardous air pollutants.<sup>5</sup>

## A Better Future...Our Children Deserve It!

Concerned Citizens for Crystal City  
P.O. Box 584  
Crystal City, Mo 63019

We need your support in this important fight!  
Contributions of time or money would be  
greatly appreciated.

[www.clearpillar.com](http://www.clearpillar.com)  
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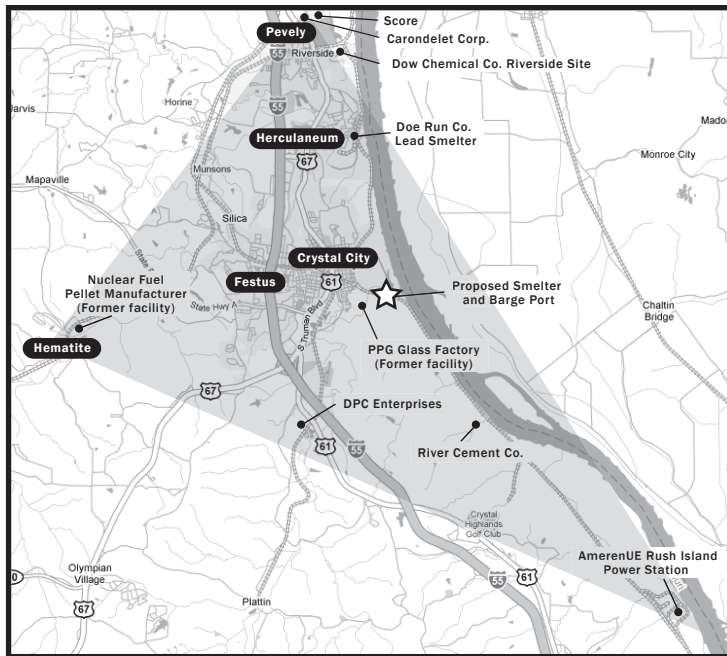
# Pollution: *continued from front*

Everyone is affected by the Particulate Matter (PM) or fine dust that comes out of facilities handling coal and other materials. PM pollution has been linked to deaths from respiratory and cardiovascular causes, inflammation of lung tissue in healthy adults, and increased severity of asthma attacks and [hospitalization among children](#).<sup>2</sup>

| Jefferson County<br>Who Is Polluting Your Community?<br><a href="#">Reported Environmental Releases From TRI Sources In 2002</a> <sup>10</sup> |                                    |             |            |
|--|------------------------------------|-------------|------------|
| Rank   | Facility                           | City        | Pounds     |
| 1  | Doe Run Co. Herculaneum Smelter    | Herculaneum | 15,571,063 |
| 2  | Dow Chemical Co. Riverside Site    | Pevely      | 1,590,889  |
| 3  | AmerenUe Rush Island Power Station | Festus      | 424,510    |
| 4  | River Cement Co.                   | Festus      | 212,655    |
| 5  | Metal Container Corp. Arnold       | Arnold      | 179,162    |
| 6  | DPC Enterprises                    | Festus      | 48,641     |
| 7  | Carondelet Corp.                   | Pevely      | 32,355     |
| 8  | Score                              | Pevely      | 7,324      |
| 9  | Browning                           | Arnold      | 5,293      |
| 10   | H-j Enterprises Inc.               | High Ridge  | 1,513      |

An increased risk for cancer is also possible with these high levels of pollution. The Doe Run Lead Smelter is ranked as Jefferson County's #1 facility contributing to cancer hazards. In fact, they [emit over 159 times more pounds of cancer causing hazardous pollutants](#) than the #2 ranked facility.<sup>11</sup>

Sometimes, the pollution left behind from old industrial sites affects people in unexpected ways. In 2002, industrial cleaning solvents from a now closed nuclear fuel pellet manufacturer, and previous chemical company facility, currently owned by Westinghouse, had surfaced unexpectedly in [private well water near the Hematite site](#).<sup>12</sup> Similar chemicals have been [linked to cancer](#) and other health problems.<sup>13</sup>



In a Feb. 11, 2008 letter to PPG, the Missouri Department of Natural Resources (MDNR) stated that upon an inspection of Platin Creek, near the old PPG site, that they found old fire bricks, and glass cullet that could be leaching chromium, which is a [potentially highly toxic material, into the creek](#).<sup>14</sup>

*Future editions of this newsletter will go into more detail about the technology and potential pollution that the proposed smelter could emit.*

# Not A 'Done Deal': *continued from front*

## How The Proposed Smelter Could Be Stopped

- > The Sunshine Law lawsuit is ongoing and has the potential to nullify the agreements between the City of Crystal City, PPG and Wings Enterprises.
- > The zoning lawsuit has the potential of restoring the Mississippi riverfront back to recreational/conservation use instead of heavy industrial use.
- > Wild fluctuations in raw materials and steel prices make the feasibility of the smelter project questionable.
- > Crystal City's last chance to regulate the facility is with the conditional use permit, which has to be recommended by their planning and zoning committee, and then approved by their city council.
- > The state permitting process that the developer has to go through is open to public input.

Continued efforts and opposition by the community is the only way to stop the proposed smelter. Visit [www.clearpillar.com](http://www.clearpillar.com) to find out how you can help.

# About Concerned Citizens

The Concerned Citizens for Crystal City is a local 501(c)4 group. They have been an organized group of area citizens since the news first broke publicly of the city's dealings with the developer. Since then, they have been doing research into the proposed facility, informing the public of their findings, and acting as a "watchdog" for the area.

They are individuals from diverse backgrounds, joined under a common concern for the local health and welfare of future generations. They believe that Crystal City and the surrounding community deserves better than a polluting industry. They know that better things are possible, and they want citizens to have a voice in what local government does.

Their mission is to preserve this community and maintain a clean and healthy environment for our children and grandchildren to grow up in.

[Learn more at www.clearpillar.com](http://www.clearpillar.com)

**If you are interested in being the first to know about important events and keeping up-to-date with the latest news about this important issue, please sign-up for email notifications on our website at [www.clearpillar.com](http://www.clearpillar.com).**

**We need your help. We are a non-profit group, with limited resources. If you share the same concerns of this group, please contact us to see what you can do to help.**

<sup>1</sup> [http://www.scorecard.org/chemical-profiles/rank-counties.tcl?edf\\_chem\\_name=LEAD+COMPOUNDS&edf\\_substance\\_id=LCT000&how\\_many=100&drop\\_down\\_name=Land+releases&fips\\_state\\_code=Entire+United+States](http://www.scorecard.org/chemical-profiles/rank-counties.tcl?edf_chem_name=LEAD+COMPOUNDS&edf_substance_id=LCT000&how_many=100&drop_down_name=Land+releases&fips_state_code=Entire+United+States)  
<sup>2</sup> [http://www.scorecard.org/chemical-profiles/rank-counties.tcl?edf\\_chem\\_name=LEAD+COMPOUNDS&edf\\_substance\\_id=LCT000&how\\_many=100&drop\\_down\\_name=Air+releases&fips\\_state\\_code=Entire+United+States](http://www.scorecard.org/chemical-profiles/rank-counties.tcl?edf_chem_name=LEAD+COMPOUNDS&edf_substance_id=LCT000&how_many=100&drop_down_name=Air+releases&fips_state_code=Entire+United+States)  
<sup>3</sup> [http://www.scorecard.org/chemical-profiles/rank-counties.tcl?edf\\_chem\\_name=LEAD+COMPOUNDS&edf\\_substance\\_id=LCT000&how\\_many=100&drop\\_down\\_name=Total+environmental+releases&fips\\_state\\_code=Entire+United+States](http://www.scorecard.org/chemical-profiles/rank-counties.tcl?edf_chem_name=LEAD+COMPOUNDS&edf_substance_id=LCT000&how_many=100&drop_down_name=Total+environmental+releases&fips_state_code=Entire+United+States)  
<sup>4,5</sup> [http://www.scorecard.org/community/index.tcl?zip\\_code=63028&fips\\_county\\_code=29099&set\\_community\\_fipscode\\_cookie\\_p=t](http://www.scorecard.org/community/index.tcl?zip_code=63028&fips_county_code=29099&set_community_fipscode_cookie_p=t)  
<sup>6</sup> [http://www.scorecard.org/ranking/rank-counties.tcl?how\\_many=100&drop\\_down\\_name=Total+environmental+releases&fips\\_state\\_code=29&fips\\_county\\_code=29099&sic\\_2=All+reporting+sectors](http://www.scorecard.org/ranking/rank-counties.tcl?how_many=100&drop_down_name=Total+environmental+releases&fips_state_code=29&fips_county_code=29099&sic_2=All+reporting+sectors)  
<sup>7</sup> Fact sheet: *Proposed revisions to the National Ambient Air Quality Standards for lead*. U.S. Environmental Protection Agency. June 12, 2008.  
<sup>8</sup> Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry. Toxicological profile for lead. Atlanta, Georgia: US Department of Health and Human Services, Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry, 1999.  
<sup>9</sup> <http://www.lungusa.org/site/pp.asp?c=dvLUK900E&b=50324>  
<sup>10</sup> [http://www.scorecard.org/community/who.tcl?fips\\_county\\_code=29099&name=JEFFERSON&zip\\_code=63028](http://www.scorecard.org/community/who.tcl?fips_county_code=29099&name=JEFFERSON&zip_code=63028)  
<sup>11</sup> [http://www.scorecard.org/ranking/rank-facilities-in-county.tcl?how\\_many=100&drop\\_down\\_name=Cancer+risk+score&fips\\_state\\_code=29&fips\\_county\\_code=29099&sic\\_2=All+reporting+sectors](http://www.scorecard.org/ranking/rank-facilities-in-county.tcl?how_many=100&drop_down_name=Cancer+risk+score&fips_state_code=29&fips_county_code=29099&sic_2=All+reporting+sectors)  
<sup>12</sup> <http://www.mindfully.org/Nucs/Hematite-MO-Nuclear-Water15feb02.htm>  
<sup>13</sup> <http://www.wise-uranium.org/edusa.html#HEMAT>  
<sup>14</sup> <http://www.clearpillar.com/documents.shtm1>