

Atlantic Richfield Company

Former ECI Site Barrier Wall Construction

Energy Cooperative, Inc. (ECI)

East Chicago, IN

March 2023

Atlantic Richfield Company (ARC) is preparing to begin construction of a new barrier wall at the former Energy Cooperative Inc. (ECI) tank storage area located on the southwest corner of the Indianapolis Boulevard and the Lake George Branch Canal intersection in East Chicago, Indiana. ARC will be performing this work as part of a joint effort with the East Chicago Waterway Management District (District) and the US Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) to replace the deteriorating wood canal dock face and help protect the Indiana Harbor Ship Canal.

This phase of the project includes construction of a sealed steel barrier wall that will be located between the former tank storage area and the canal, and removal of contaminated soil from the former tank area. The 2,100-foot-long barrier wall is designed to stabilize the canal banks and prevent subsurface oil from the former facility from entering the Canal.

Field work is scheduled to begin in March 2023 and is expected to be completed in early 2024. During this time no significant heavy equipment or truck traffic is expected in school zones or in the residential community. A community traffic safety plan will be developed and followed for the duration of the project.

Site History: The 284-acre oil refinery and petroleum storage area were owned and operated by the Energy Cooperative Inc. (ECI), from 1976 to 1981, when ECI declared bankruptcy and the refinery shut down. The above ground equipment was subsequently demolished, and initial site remediation began, during the bankruptcy. ARC (and its corporate predecessor, Sinclair) owned and operated most of the former ECI refinery and storage area from 1916 to 1976. ARC and the USACE have undertaken other significant investigation and remediation actions at the refinery and storage area, including USACE work to transform the former main refinery site into a confined disposal facility for sediments dredged from the Indiana Harbor Ship Canal, and ARC's removal of buried pipelines and contaminated soil from the former petroleum storage areas.

Questions about the project? Please contact **Eric Larson, Project Manager, at 832-990-7211**