

## 2.12 Special Waste

“Special waste,” as defined in the Illinois Environmental Protection Act (415 ILCS 5/3.475), includes hazardous waste, potentially infectious medical waste, and industrial process waste or pollution control waste.<sup>35</sup> In Illinois, highway projects are evaluated to determine a project’s potential involvement with special waste and other regulated substances, such as hazardous substances and petroleum products.

Sites reported to USEPA because of a release or potential release of a hazardous substance into the environment are listed in the Comprehensive Environmental Response Compensation and Liability Information System (CERCLIS). CERCLIS sites that rank high enough to be eligible for USEPA to expend funds for cleanup because the sites pose a risk to human health or the environment are placed on the National Priorities List. Based on USEPA data, no sites on the National Priorities List are within the study area (USEPA, 2008c).

Table 2-26 summarizes the special waste sites located within the greater study area and those located specifically near the proposed improvements. More detailed special waste assessment will be completed, as necessary, in the area of the improvements as part of any Tier Two studies. Most special waste sites are within industrial areas or along major arterial roadways within the study area (see Exhibit 2-13).

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<sup>35</sup> Refer to the Illinois Environmental Protection Act for exceptions.

TABLE 2-26  
Special Waste Sites within the Study Area

Type of Special Waste Site	No. within Study Area	No. near the Proposed Improvements <sup>a</sup>
CERCLIS <sup>b</sup>		
Active	14	13
Archived	42	36
Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA) <sup>c</sup>	1,803	324
UST <sup>d</sup>	2,846	529
Leaking Underground Storage Tank (LUST) <sup>e</sup>	1,304	443
Toxics Release Inventory (TRI) <sup>f</sup>	254	57
Site Remediation Program (SRP) <sup>e</sup>	201	40
Landfills <sup>g</sup>	9	3

<sup>a</sup> Includes CERCLIS sites within  $\pm 1$  mile and LUST sites within  $\pm 1,000$  feet of proposed improvements.

<sup>b</sup> Data provided by USEPA, dated October 7, 2008.

<sup>c</sup> RCRA data includes (1) Conditionally Exempt Generators, (2) Large Quantity Generators, and (3) Small Quantity Generators; *Source*: USEPA, dated January 21, 2009.

<sup>d</sup> UST data includes "all" facility status (e.g., active, closed, exempt, etc.) (Office of the State Fire Marshal, as of December 17, 2008).

<sup>e</sup> *Source*: IEPA, as of, December 17, 2008.

<sup>f</sup> TRI sites reported through 2007. Data from USEPA, as of November 4, 2008.

<sup>g</sup> *Source*: Illinois Waste Management and Research Center, 1997.