



NEWS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Media Contact:

Meghan Harshbarger

Meghan.harshbarger@epa.ohio.gov

O: 614-644-2160

C: 614-639-0211

Ohio EPA Orders Lead Testing, Emission Controls, and Community Outreach at Bunting Bearings Demolition Site

Ohio EPA air monitor detected high concentrations of lead after demolition activity in the Village of Delta, and new testing results confirm no impacts to public drinking water

Columbus, Ohio (January 8, 2026) – Ohio EPA issued Director’s Final Findings and Orders (DFFO) today to Bunting Bearings and the Fulton County Land Reutilization Corporation (Land Bank), requiring environmental sampling, lead dust suppression measures, and community engagement.

Ohio EPA sent a [Community Notice](#) earlier this week to alert the public that air monitor testing results from November and December showed elevated levels of lead in the air caused by demolition at the Bunting Bearings site in the Village of Delta.

Under [the Order](#), if Ohio EPA air monitors continue to detect elevated levels of lead leaving the site, the company and the Land Bank are required to immediately investigate the cause and propose steps to reduce emissions.

Also, responsible parties must hire an environmental contractor to develop a site assessment plan addressing lead releases associated with demolition. The plan must be submitted to Ohio EPA for approval and include community soil and surface wipe sampling, a timeline for completing the work, and steps to reduce lead if air sampling results continue to exceed state or [federal standards](#).

Before any future demolition can take place, Bunting Bearings and the Land Bank must submit a lead mitigation plan detailing how dust will be controlled, how waste will be handled, and how air quality will be monitored.

The order also requires the responsible parties to name a community liaison and create a plan for communicating with residents and coordinating access for sampling activities. In addition, Bunting Bearings and the Land Bank must submit documentation to Ohio EPA on where all materials from the demolition went, along with waste receipts.

On Wednesday, January 7, 2026, Ohio EPA staff collected additional air and wipe samples from structures in nearby areas to the demolition site, including the elementary, middle, and high schools, and are increasing the frequency of air sample collection in Delta. Out of an abundance of caution, drinking water samples were collected and analyzed from the Delta and Swanton public water treatment plants. Results show no lead was detected.

Ohio EPA will continue to report the results of air sampling to the public on its [website](#) as they become available.