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**John M. Cannon**

Mayor

*Efficiency & Excellence*

August 20, 2019

For release to the press

Re: USS Oil spill and ArcelorMittal Oil Spill

The City of Portage was informed today of a USS petroleum spill that occurred the morning of 8-20-2019. Mayor John Cannon and IDEM were informed promptly by USS in regards to the spill. Efforts are underway to clean up this spill. Also, during conversations with IDEM at 1:57p.m. today (8-20-2019), the City of Portage was informed of another petroleum spill into the local waterway by ArcelorMittal. Mayor John Cannon said during this call, "Reports like this need to come directly to my office. ArcelorMittal and USS need to be held to higher standards for our local residents and environment. Both are not within their permit limitations, and should be held accountable." IDEM responded promptly to this area as well, and has started cleanup efforts as well. Indiana American Water, has as a precaution, temporarily "shut down its Ogden Dunes treatment facility." Water services have been moved to their Gary location, and this should not impact any customer service. Water quality is not impacted by this move. Resident's with concerns should contact Indiana American Water at 1-800-462-8373. The Mayor's office, local and State officials are working hard to ensure all waterways remain clean. Updates will be provided as they become available. If possible, follow this event on the City of Portage Facebook page "Portage Indiana Municipal Page."

Thank you,

Mayor John Cannon