

## DID YOU KNOW:

Fires are a constant threat at plastics recovery facilities. Plastic is made from petroleum. **Plastics fires produce toxic air emissions, public safety concerns and danger to first responders.**

SO:

Is it a good idea to locate IRG's plastic recovery facility in an **Environmental Justice**, residential area in the City of Erie?

What will IRG do to protect our community against the **dangers of 24/7 industrial truck traffic, toxic plastics fires, as well as microplastics air and water pollution?**

**Where will the proposed IRG plastic waste collection, cleaning, sorting and grinding facility be located?**

**East 6<sup>th</sup> Street on the NORTH  
East 10<sup>th</sup> Street on the SOUTH  
Gilson Street on the WEST  
Downing Street on the EAST**



**What vulnerable populations will live, work and play around the IRG plastic waste processing facility?**

**The Boys and Girls Club**

**R. Benjamin Wiley Community Charter School**

**Edison Elementary School**

**East Middle School**

**Barber National Institute Senior Center**

**John E. Horan Garden Apartments**

**The A.N.N.A. animal shelter**

## Who is IRG?

The **International Recycling Group** is a collection of mostly out-of-town investors who want to build an unproven, fully automated plastics recovery facility in the City of Erie.

## What will the IRG plant do?

**IRG plans to gather over 300 million pounds of unwanted plastic waste per year from large cities and communities in dozens of states within a 750-mile radius of Erie and truck it into an east Erie residential neighborhood for processing.**



## What do the citizens of Erie get from the plastics plant?

- **Maybe** 50-200 jobs in a **fully automated** plant?
- **No revenue from Erie City property taxes** because it will be built on a 26-acre Opportunity Zone in the middle of an eastside Erie Environmental Justice neighborhood.
- **A huge increase in 24/7 industrial truck traffic** on Erie streets and roads

## What will wealthy corporate and private investors get from the plastics plant?

- A 10-year, tax-sheltered investment for their profits.
- A questionable business opportunity in the uncertain future of recycled plastics.
- A reputation for pushing profits ahead of public safety.



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What happens to all the plastic waste that cannot be recycled?

The IRG plant will wash, sort, and grind up unrecyclable plastic waste. It will then be shipped to a steel mill in Gary, Indiana, to be burned as Polycoke or "Clean Red". The toxic petrochemical plastic fuel will replace the toxic coke coal currently in use.

## Other good questions

- **How much water will be used to clean the plastic waste and what happens to the contaminated wastewater?**
- **Will Gary, Indiana, allow plastic waste to be burned to make steel?**
- **Is burning plastic waste rather than coal any better for our environment?**



- ✓ **HOW WILL HOSTING A 26-ACRE PLASTIC TRASH SORTING AND PROCESSING FACILITY IN THE HEART OF THE CITY AFFECT THE IMPORTANT TOURIST INDUSTRY IN ERIE?**
- ✓ **WILL LOCAL BUILDERS AND SUPPLIERS BE EMPLOYED TO CONSTRUCT THIS ENORMOUS PLANT?**
- ✓ **WHERE WILL THE PLASTIC WASTE BE STORED BEFORE PROCESSING?**

