

# Spelter smelter class-action cleanup begins

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**SPELTER** — Property cleanup began Tuesday in the Spelter smelter class action settlement with DuPont.

The ceremonial first earth moved was at the home of Lenora Perrine, lead plaintiff in the nearly eight-year-old case.

NCM Demolition & Remediation of Brea, Calif., has the \$16.3 million cleanup contract.

Soil will be replaced to 6 inches deep, with workers turning to shovels when they're too close to foundations, trees or sidewalks. The goal is to replace soil at about 30 properties a month and finish around the end of the year, according to the settlement's claims administrator, Ed Gentle.

The settlement also involves medical monitoring, which already is under way.

The plaintiffs had alleged pollution of carcinogens zinc, cad-

## COURT ROUNDUP

mium, arsenic and lead from the old smelter site.

The case went to trial and saw a hefty award to the plaintiffs. However, it was whittled down by a Supreme Court ruling, and, as DuPont continued to litigate, a settlement was reached that nixed any punitive award.