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Dump threatens environment

CONCERN on the SOUTHSIDE

■ Southport site poses greater hazard than factory next to high school, DEC says.

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than the former factory site next to Southside High School, environmental regulators say. But state officials said that recreational use around the former dump at the end of Cedar Street next to Seeley Creek does not pose a health risk.

"It's mostly an environmental threat because (the contamination) could get into the water supply or Seeley Creek, although it hasn't yet," said Manmohan Mehta, the Department of Environmental Conservation environmental engineer in charge of the cleanup. So the DEC has requested that 20,000 more cubic yards of soil be removed from the dump by Unisys Corp., the successor to Remington Rand.

Remington Rand, which made typewriters, early computers and Norden bomb sights, created the dump when it purchased a 70-acre farm at the end of Cedar Street in 1952. Southside High School was built in 1977-78 on 36 acres that had housed factories, including Remington Rand and American LaFrance, since 1887.

A 47-acre site adjacent to the school was also home to manufacturing facilities. The former LaFrance site cleaned up after the owner, Scott Technologies Inc. of Mayfield, Ohio, discovered hazardous waste on the property. Parents' concerns about a possible high cancer rate at the high school have led to further investigation of the school site, the factory and the factory owners' dumping practices. Public documents from the

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