



TEXAS NATURAL RESOURCE CONSERVATION COMMISSION
Protecting Texas by Reducing and Preventing Pollution

Community Relations Plan

for

**HARRIS SAND PITS
STATE SUPERFUND SITE**

Von Ormy, Bexar County, Texas

OFFICE OF WASTE MANAGEMENT
POLLUTION CLEANUP DIVISION
12100 Park 35 Circle, Building D
Austin, Texas
1-800-633-9363 (within Texas)
or (512) 239-3844

COMMUNITY RELATIONS PLAN
FOR
HARRIS SAND PIT
Von Ormy, Bexar County, Texas

September 1997

Inquires relating to the Harris Sand Pit State Superfund Site should be directed to:

Janie Garza
Community Relations Coordinator
Texas Natural Resource Conservation Commission
Pollution Cleanup Division

Physical Address: 12100 Park 35 Circle
Building D, Room 227
Austin, TX 78753

Mailing Address: **MC-141**
P O Box 13087
Austin TX 78711-3087

Telephone: 1-800-633-9363 (within Texas)
Or (512) 239-3844

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Overview of Community Relations Plan

Site Profile

- A. Site Location
- B. Site Background and History

Chronological History of Site

Community Profile

- A. Proximity and size-affected population
- B. History of Community Involvement

Specific Objectives of the Community Relations Plan

Community Relations Techniques

Elected Officials

Key Project Personnel

Site Location Maps

Program Document Repositories

Media

COMMUNITY RELATIONS PLAN
for
REMEDIAL DESIGN/ REMEDIAL ACTION
Harris Sand Pits State Superfund Site
Von Ormy, Bexar County, Texas
September 1997

Overview of Community Relations Plan

The community relations plan (CRP) identifies issues of community concern regarding the Harris Sand Pits State Superfund site in Von Ormy, Bexar County, Texas. It also outlines the anticipated community relations activities to be conducted during the Remedial Design/Remedial Action (RD/RA) stages at the Harris Sand Pits site.

This community relations plan has been prepared to aid the Texas Natural Resource Conservation Commission (TNRCC) in developing a community relations program tailored to the needs of the communities affected by the Harris Sand Pit site. TNRCC conducts community relations activities to ensure that the local public has input into decisions about Superfund actions and is well informed about the progress of those actions.

The information in this plan is based primarily on the Resource Conservation Recovery Act (RCRA) 3012 Preliminary Assessment, the Hazard Ranking System (HRS) package, and the Remedial Investigation/Feasibility Study for the Harris Sand Pits site. The TNRCC has the responsibility for managing the cleanup of this site, and the TNRCC Pollution Cleanup Division will oversee all community relations activities at the site.

Site Profile

Site Location 29°10'29"N, 98°34'58"W

Freddie Harris Sand Pits are approximately 10.7 miles south of Interstate Highway Loop 410 at 23340 South Highway 16, Von Ormy, Bexar County, Texas.

Site Background and History

The Freddie Harris Sand Pits is a commercial sand and clay business located in southern Bexar County. During a period between 1965 and 1975, two sand pits on the property were used as unpermitted disposal sites for sulfuric acid tars (oil refining wastes). Two of the companies known to have disposed of waste at the site are S&R Refinery, Houston (Division of CAM-OR of Texas) and Industrial Lubricants Company, San Antonio (Subsidiary of Diamond Shamrock).

In 1976, an agreed Final Judgement was issued by the district court in Bexar County enjoining Freddie Harris from using the site for waste disposal. Mr. Harris was required to cap the pits with three feet of compacted clay. In April of 1977, the site was affirmed to be compliant with the capping requirements by the Texas Water Quality Board (predecessor agency to TNRCC). During a site inspection in September 1984, inspectors noted that the pits were no longer capped and that possible sulfuric acid tars were surfacing and beginning to flow away from the pits. Samples of the waste leachate have been characterized as hazardous.

In 1985, the Texas Water Commission (TWC, predecessor agency to TNRCC) pursued further enforcement action against Freddie Harris, Industrial Lubricants (Diamond Shamrock), and S&R Refinery (CAM-OR) because the disposal area was not properly closed and posed a potential ground water threat. This enforcement resulted in a negotiated agreement between the parties to assess the extent of contamination. An Agreed Order was issued for the site effective September 27, 1990.

Community Profile

History of Community Involvement

A public meeting was held on November 16, 1987, in San Antonio to propose the site for inclusion on the Texas Registry. Approximately twelve to fourteen people attended the hearing.

On August 5, 1997, the TNRCC held a public meeting at St. Peter's Catholic Church social hall, in Von Ormy to discuss the proposed remedial action for Harris Sand Pits State Superfund site. Legal Notice of this public meeting was published in the Texas Registry on June 17, 1997, and in the Pleasanton Express on June 18, 1997. Those present had an opportunity to comment on the proposed remedy selection. This meeting marked the close of the forty-five (45) day comment period. There were 22 residents present and four staff member from TNRCC present.

Community Relations Techniques

The following techniques are not intended to be a chronological listing:

1. Project Status Briefing for state, county and local officials-To periodically inform state, county and local officials of project developments over the course of the program during the investigations and findings and as project developments occur.
2. Project Status Briefings for community groups and concerned citizens (may include public meetings, if needed)- To periodically inform the general community of significant project developments and findings; to respond to inquires accordingly and incorporate local concerns into the decision making process as appropriate.
3. Public Consultation-Conduct informal meetings or workshops (if needed) with residents. To provide an opportunity for affected residents to express any concerns and make inquires to insure effective two-way communication.
4. Program Document Repository - To maintain a local repository through which the public may review project outputs. The public will be periodically informed of the availability of project documents and the location of repository via techniques 1 thru
5. State Superfund Quarterly Status Reports- Direct mail to state, local and county officials and interested persons.
6. Project Mailing List- To provide the means through which press releases, project status reports, meeting notices, and other significant communications can be distributed to concerned groups and individuals.
7. Revise C.P.- To reflect changes in site activities or local concerns.

ELECTED OFFICIALS

The Honorable Frank Madla
Texas State Senate
Post Office Box 12068
Austin, TX 78711
(512) 463-0124

The Honorable Raul Prado
City of San Antonio
Council Member
Post Office Box 839966
San Antonio, TX 78283-3966

The Honorable Frank Madla
Texas State Senate
1313 S.E. Military Drive
Ste 101
San Antonio, TX 78214
(210) 927-9464

Alex Biseno, City Manager
City of San Antonio
Post Office Box 839966
San Antonio, TX 78283-3966

The Honorable Carlos Uresti
Texas House of Representatives
Post Office Box 2910
Austin, TX 78768-2910

The Honorable Carlos Uresti
Texas House of Representatives
1114 Southwest Military Dr.
Ste 103
San Antonio, TX 78221

The Honorable Cyndi Taylor Krier
Bexar County Judge
100 Dolorosa
San Antonio, TX 78205

The Honorable Robert Tejeda
Bexar County Commissioner
100 Dolorosa
San Antonio, TX 78205

The Honorable Howard Peak, Mayor
City of San Antonio
100 Military Plaza
San Antonio, TX 78283-3966

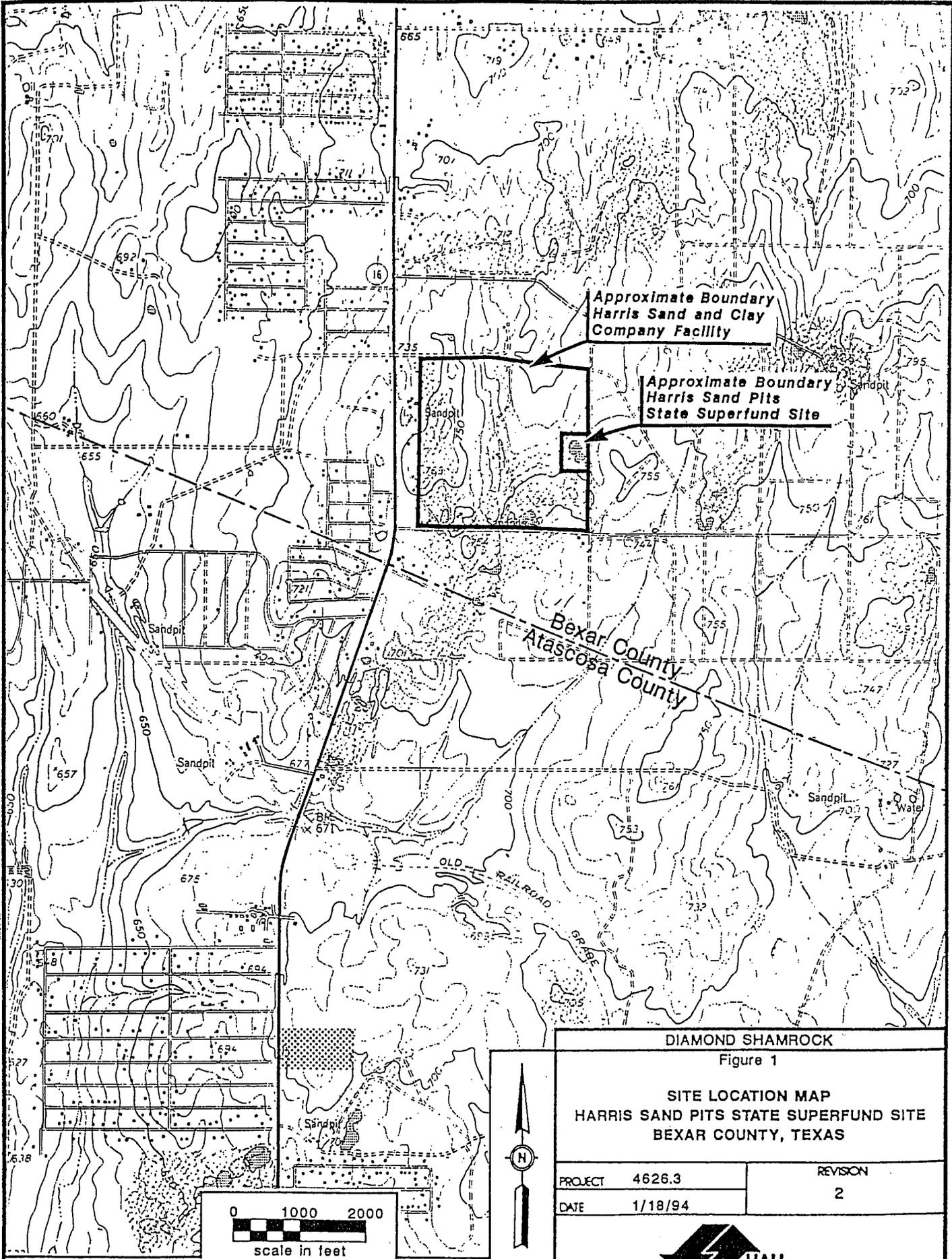
KEY PROJECT PERSONNEL

Texas Natural Resource Conservation Commission
Michael Garrigan, Project Manager **MC-143**
Pollution Cleanup Division
Post Office Box 13087
Austin, TX 78711-3087
(512) 239-2493
(800) 633-9363 (within TX)

Texas Natural Resource Conservation Commission
Trey Collins, Engineer **MC-144**
Pollution Cleanup Division
Post Office Box 13087
Austin, TX 78711-3087
(512) 239-2030
(800) 633-9363 (within TX)

Texas Natural Resource Conservation Commission
Janie Garza, Community Relations Coordinator **MC-141**
Pollution Cleanup Division
Post Office Box 13087
Austin, TX 78711-3087
(512) 239-3844
(800) 633-9363

SITE LOCATION MAPS



DIAMOND SHAMROCK
 Figure 1

**SITE LOCATION MAP
 HARRIS SAND PITS STATE SUPERFUND SITE
 BEXAR COUNTY, TEXAS**

PROJECT	4626.3	REVISION	2
DATE	1/18/94		


**HALL
 SOUTHWEST**
 AUSTIN DALLAS MIDLAND

SOURCE: Taken from U.S.G.S. 7.5 minute quadrangle, "Thelma, Texas (1973)".

PROGRAM DOCUMENT REPOSITORIES

Texas Natural Resource Conservation Commission
Central Records

Physical Location: Building D, Room 190
12100 Park 35 Circle
Austin, TX 78753

Mailing Address: Mail Code MC-199
P. O. Box 13087
Austin, TX 78711-3087
(512) 239-2920

San Antonio Library

Central Library
606 Soledad
San Antonio, Texas 78205
(210) 207-2500

St. Peter's Catholic Church
Social Hall
24290 Highway 16 South
Von Ormy, Texas 78703-5802
(210) 276-8778

Cortez Branch Library

2803 Hunter
San Antonio, Texas 78224-2152
(210) 922-7372

MEDIA

San Antonio Express News
Post Office Box 2171
San Antonio, Texas 78297
(210) 255-7411

Pleasanton Express
P O Drawer 880
Pleasanton, Texas 78064
(210) 281-2341