

***JONES ROAD GROUND
WATER PLUME SITE
Community Meeting
October 19, 2004***

James Sher, P.E.
TCEQ



OVERVIEW OF SUPERFUND PROGRAM

- ❖ 2 teams with 19 technical staff.
- ❖ Currently handle 88 Federal and State Superfund sites in the State of Texas.
- ❖ For state lead projects, outside contractors are used to perform all field activities.

DIRECTIVES FROM OUR UPPER MANAGEMENT

- ❖ Jones Road is a **high priority** site for the State of Texas. State will take lead at this site.
- ❖ Superfund program needs to expedite the process to minimize contaminant impact to local drinking water wells.

OUR OBJECTIVES

- ❖ This is a complex and challenging site. We are committed to conducting a complete and thorough investigation in order to find the best solution for the community.

OUR APPROACHES

- ❖ Assign **more resources** to handle the project.
- ❖ Plan ahead.
- ❖ Find the most cost effective ways to address issues.
- ❖ Don't have unlimited funding. But, we have an adequate budget to do whatever is necessary.

OUR APPROACHES (2)

- ❖ Be responsive to local concerns.
- ❖ Provide open communication with all concerned citizens.
- ❖ Solicit input from the public.

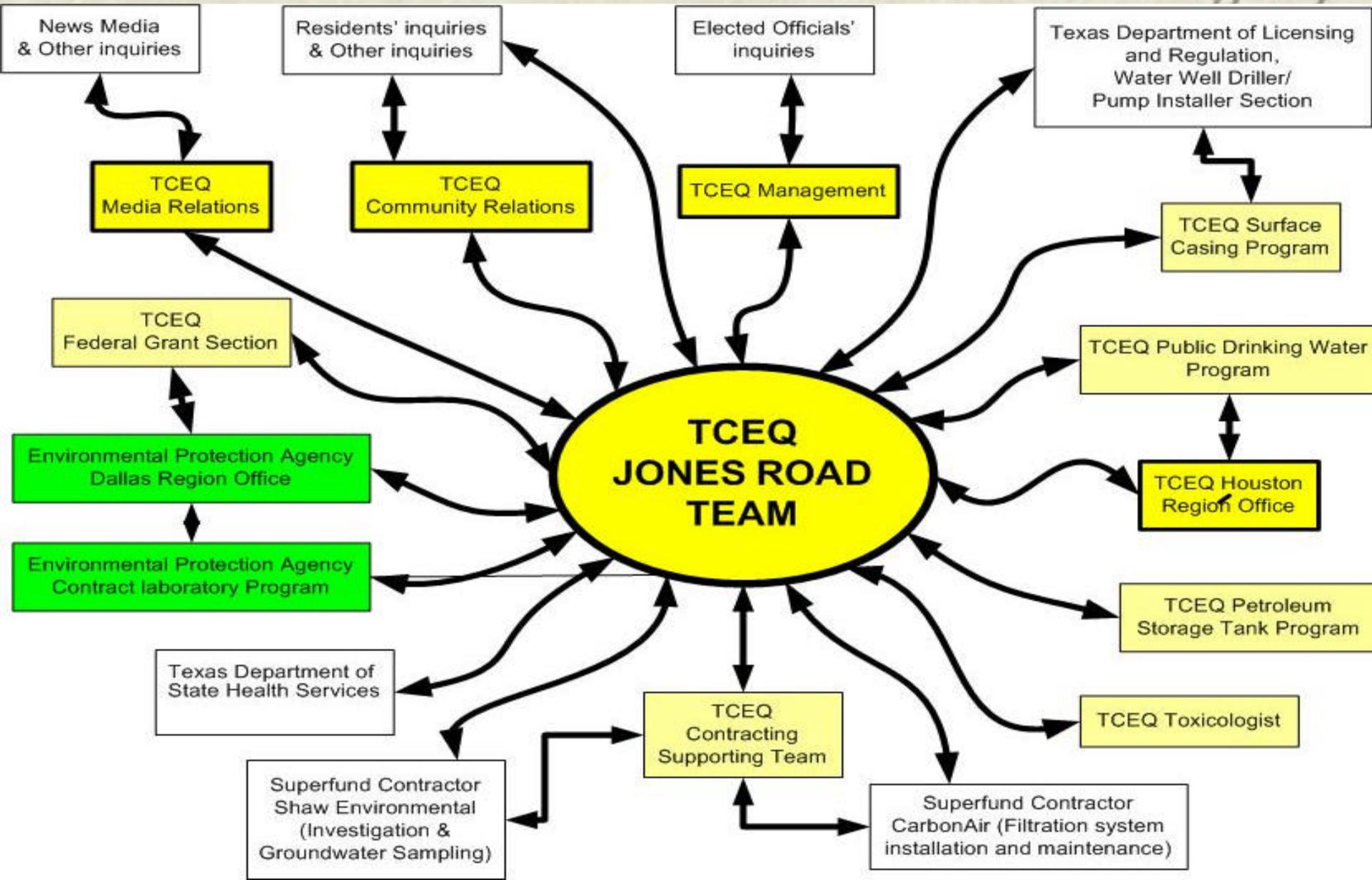
SUPERFUND JONES ROAD TEAM



AVERAGE TIME CURRENTLY SPENT ON THE JONES ROAD PROJECT

Team Leader:	James Sher, P.E.	(20%)
Project Manager:	Subhash Pal, P.E.	(30%)
Senior Geologist:	Marilyn Long, P.G.	(80%)
Geologist:	Robert Conti, P.G.	(50%)
Contract & Data Management:	Ben Shields	(90%)

JONES ROAD TEAM INTERACTION



MAJOR ACTIVITIES SINCE APRIL 2004 MEETING

- ❖ Conducted Quarterly Sampling for May and August.
- ❖ Responded to public inquiries (Average 2 to 3 inquiries per week).
- ❖ Used Cone Penetration Test (CPT) to conduct additional investigation.

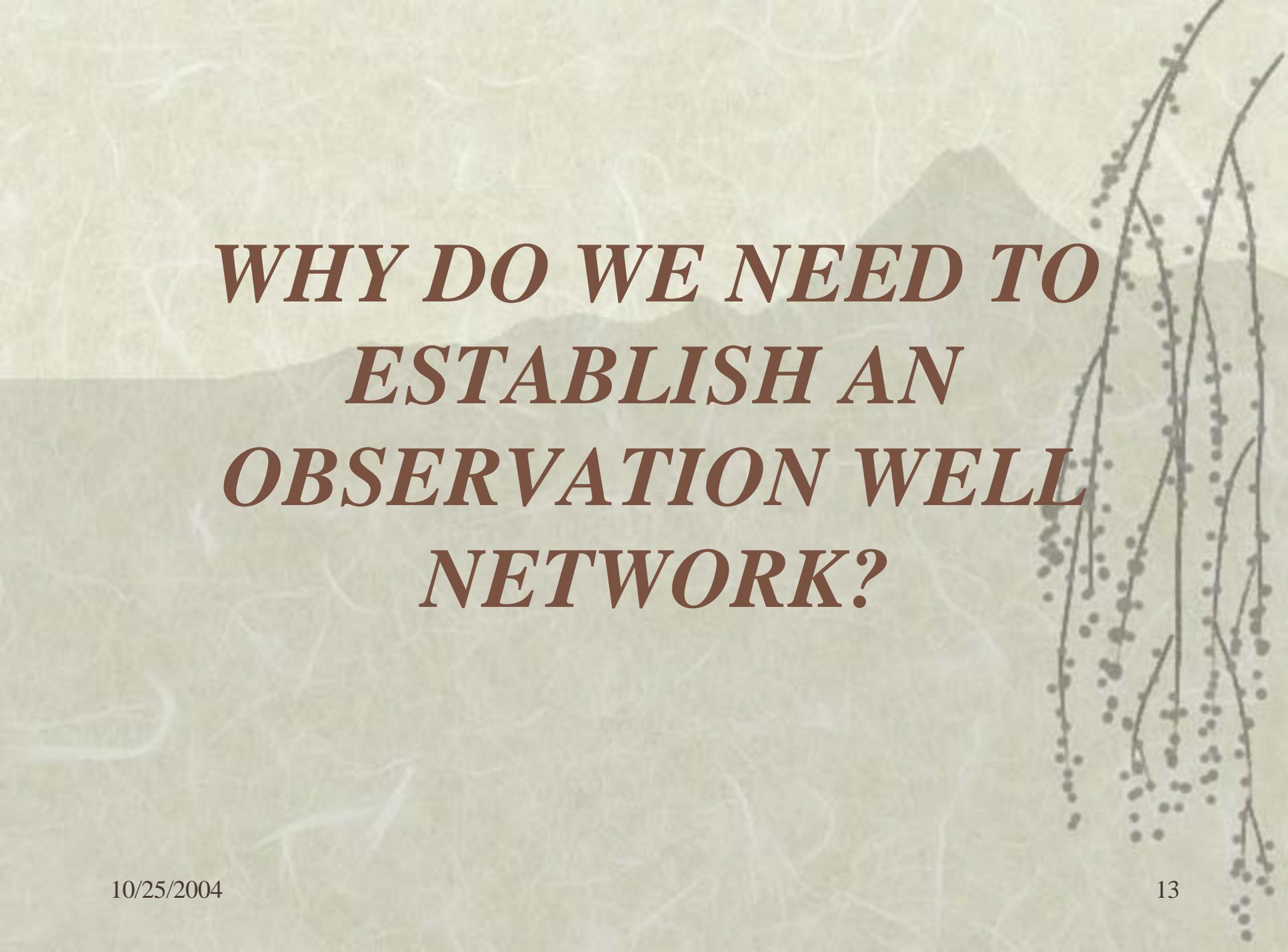
MAJOR ACTIVITIES (2)

- ❖ Established observation well network.
- ❖ Installed Data Loggers.
- ❖ Coordinated with Petroleum Storage Tank Program handling Benzene detection in a 30 foot water well at 11729 Jones Road. There is no impact to any nearby drinking wells.

MAJOR ACTIVITIES (3)

On going

- ❖ Plan and prepare for deep well installation.
- ❖ Research pumping rates in nearby wells and groundwater flow in the Evangeline.
- ❖ Research remedy alternatives for source area and contaminated groundwater.



***WHY DO WE NEED TO
ESTABLISH AN
OBSERVATION WELL
NETWORK?***

April 2004 Presentation

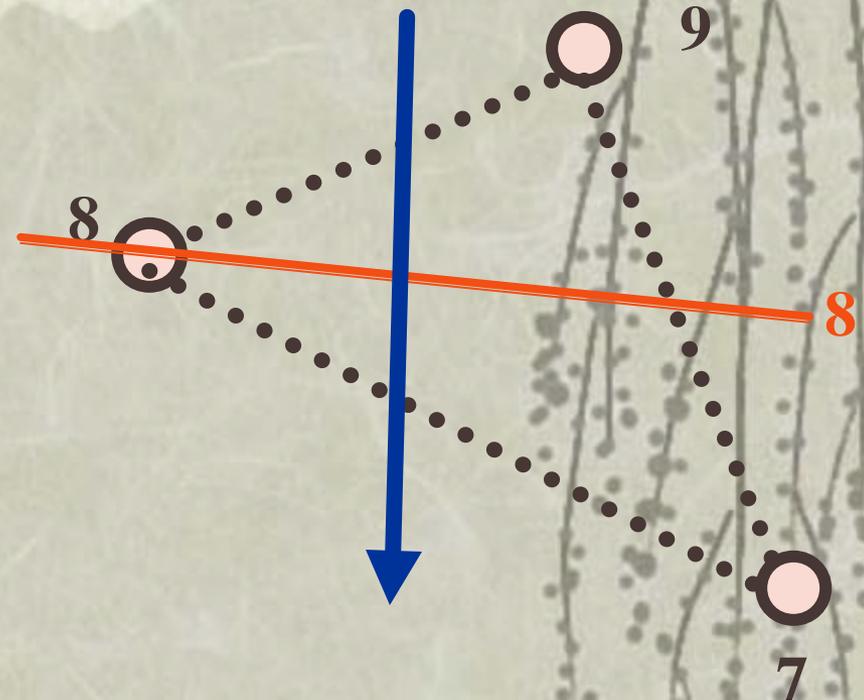
“What’s Next?”

1- Obtain Groundwater Elevation Data

- Identify Inactive Wells.
- **Create Observation Well Network.**
- Collect Water Elevation Data.
- Identify Effects of Local Pumping.
- Determine Groundwater Flow Direction and Flow Rate.

OBSERVATION WELL NETWORK PREFERENCE

- ❖ 6 to 8 wells for the network.
- ❖ Non-pumping wells.
- ❖ Use triangle to determine flow direction.



STEPS FOR ESTABLISHING WELL NETWORK

- ❖ Conducted reconnaissance for well locations.
- ❖ Prepared preliminary well candidate list.
- ❖ Inspected wells for accessibility and wellhead condition.
- ❖ Selected wells for network.
- ❖ Contacted property owners for permission.

WELL NETWORK (2)

- ❖ Finalized locations of observation wells.
- ❖ Negotiated scope of work with contractor.
- ❖ Evaluated and negotiated costs.
- ❖ Obtained approval and issued work order.

WELL NETWORK (3)

- ❖ Contractor arranged driller services.
- ❖ Completed 4 out of 5 wells on 10/01/04.
- ❖ Experienced problems on the 5th well.
- ❖ Requested cost proposal to cleanup the 5th well.

FUTURE WORK FOR 5TH WELL

❖ We will

1) Evaluate and negotiate the cost and issue work order for cleaning the 5th well.

2) Arrange field work again.

3) Arrange data logger installation.

4) Arrange survey for wellhead elevations.

QUARTERLY SAMPLING

- ❖ Reviewed previous sampling results.
- ❖ Determined boundaries of sampling area.
- ❖ Identified the sampling locations and estimated number of analyses.
- ❖ Obtained access agreement, if necessary.
- ❖ Scheduled sampling date with contractor.

QUARTERLY SAMPLING (2)

- ❖ Requested Contract Lab Service thru EPA Project Manager on the 9th day of the month prior to sampling month.
- ❖ For example, our November sampling will commence on 11/08/04. We submitted our request to Mr. Vincent Malott on the 8th of October (9th was Saturday).

QUARTERLY SAMPLING (3)

- ❖ Prepared the Scope and costs for the quarterly sampling event.
- ❖ Obtained approval and issued work order.
- ❖ Notified residents of the date for sampling event.
- ❖ Conducted quarterly sampling.

QUARTERLY SAMPLING (4)

- ❖ Coordinated with EPA Lab for the analytical results. Normally, the lab results come in several batches over a period of time.
- ❖ When the preliminary analytical results are received, the team conducts a cursory review to identify all addresses with a PCE concentration above 5 ppb (MCL).

QUARTERLY SAMPLING (5)

- ❖ If any address had a PCE concentration above 5 ppb without a filtration system, we contacted the owner immediately and obtained permission to install the filtration system.
- ❖ If we received permission from the owner, we notified the contractor (CarbonAir) to install the filtration system within 48 hours.

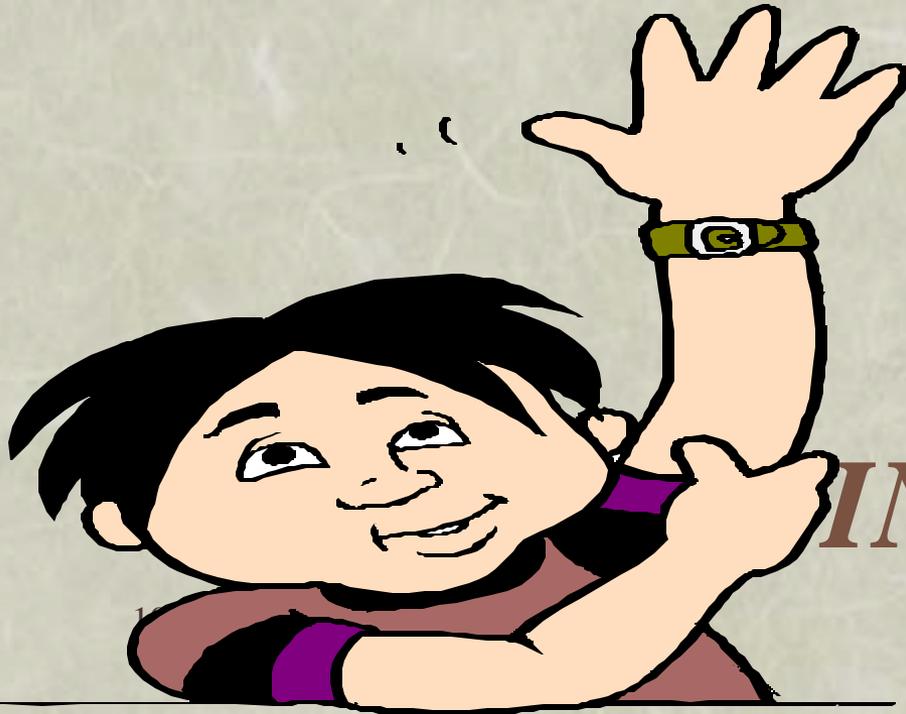
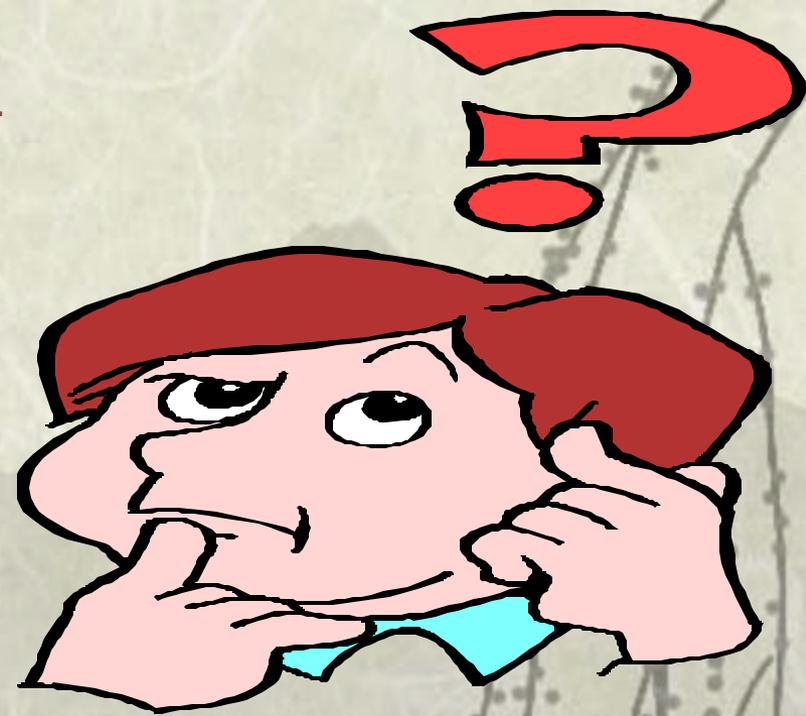
QUARTERLY SAMPLING (6)

- ❖ Summarized all preliminary analytical results to prepare calls to residents.
- ❖ Used three (3) Community Relations staff to ensure that over 250 calls were completed within one week.
- ❖ Reviewed validated data and entered into data base.

QUARTERLY SAMPLING (7)

- ❖ Printed sampling results.
- ❖ Prepared and mailed sampling results.
- ❖ Prepared PCE concentration map.
- ❖ More than 600 manhours are spent to complete this task each quarter.

*SOME COMMON
QUESTIONS
WE RECEIVED*



*FROM
RESIDENTS
IN THE PAST*

Is the PCE plume expanding?

- ❖ Even though the number of filtration systems has increased, the boundaries of the PCE plume remain the same. We do not believe the PCE plume is expanding at this time.
- ❖ We recognize that others might interpret the same data and come to different conclusions.

Why doesn't the TCEQ sample more wells ?

- ❖ All sampling locations are based on previous sampling results.
- ❖ Sampling is determined by contaminant boundaries, not geographic or subdivision boundaries.
- ❖ We sample wells that we determine to be essential.

sample more wells (2)

- ❖ We have the fiscal responsibility to spend money appropriately.
- ❖ The estimated cost for each sample is around \$530 which includes sample collection, analyses, data validation and the report. Each quarterly sampling event costs approximately \$150,000 or \$600,000 per year.

Why is the information in the newsletter incomplete?

- ❖ We are committed to open communication and providing useful information to the public.
- ❖ If you identify any incomplete information, please e-mail John Flores or call John @ 1-800- 633-9363. We will make the correction in the next newsletter.

Why doesn't the TCEQ hold community meetings more often?

- ❖ Staff who work on the investigation and groundwater sampling are also responsible for preparing the meeting. This means that other project activities might be delayed due to meeting preparation.

community meeting (2)

- ❖ Takes more than 200 manhours and four weeks lead time to set up the meeting.
- ❖ It is our belief that providing the public with quick access to project information and data, we will be able to decrease the number of community meetings.



***OUR APPROACH
ON
COMMUNITY
AWARENESS***

PROJECT WEB SITE

- ❖ <http://www.tnrcc.state.tx.us/permitting/remed/superfund/jonesroad.html>
- ❖ Web site provides:
 - 1) Site description with links.
 - 2) Maps & reports.
 - 3) Past and future activities.

What more would you like to see?

Proposed Improvements To The Project Web Site

- ❖ Update project information more frequently.
- ❖ Provide quarterly sampling map.
- ❖ Provide preliminary quarterly groundwater sampling results.
- ❖ Provide PCE concentration map.

QUARTERLY NEWSLETTERS

- ❖ Mail out over 700 newsletters each quarter.
- ❖ Includes a summary of groundwater sampling results and other activities which occurred since the last newsletter.

What other information would you like to see in the newsletter?

Proposed Improvement In The Next Quarterly Newsletter

JONES ROAD GROUNDWATER PLUME SITE QUARTERLY SAMPLING RESULTS

Updated: October 15, 2004

Sampling Results Summary	Feb/ Mar 03	May 03	Aug 03	Nov 03	Feb 04	May 04	Aug 04	EXPLANATION OF COLORS
Number of sampling results in green	95	104	45	67	69	158	153	PCE < 0.5 ppb (Quantitation Limit)
Number of sampling results in yellow	28	22	26	20	21	16	19	PCE >=.50 to <= 5.0
Number of sampling results in red	17	17	19	20	24	27	29	PCE > 5.0 ppb (MCL)
Number of sampling results in yellow and red	45	39	45	40	45	43	48	
TOTAL ADDRESSES SAMPLED	140	143	90	107	114	201	201	
Total number of Filtration Systems	24	24	24	24	27	29	32	

QUARTERLY GROUNDWATER SAMPLING RESULTS

- ❖ Contact residents that require a filtration system.
- ❖ Provide preliminary sampling results by calling each property owner, or others such as tenants, property managers, etc.
- ❖ Provide final lab results by sending a letter to each property owner, or others.

Proposed Changes In Providing Preliminary Sampling Results

- ❖ We will post the preliminary sampling results on the web site.
- ❖ If you can access our web site, you might consider subscribing to our Priority E-mail Alerts for Jones Road.
- ❖ Currently, there are 57 individuals who have signed up for this service.



Texas Natural Resource Conservation Commission

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(Registry: 09/24/2004)

Get Priority E-Mail Alerts of Texas Superfund Updates

Join the Superfund Update Priority E-Mail Alert list and receive an e-mail notice each time there is an update to the Texas Superfund web site.

To join the alert list, send a blank e-mail to join-superfundupdate@listserv.tceq.state.tx.us with no subject or message.

If you have questions, or have other names and e-mail addresses you want to add to the alert list, send them to superfnd@tceq.state.tx.us.

You can not send e-mail to the alert list.

Texas Superfund Update Watch

Here are links to recent changes for the Texas Superfund Web pages identified by date. The list is updated periodically. From this list, the links should take you directly to the pages, unless you are an AOL user, in which case you will have to cut and paste each URL link.

If you find a non-working link, please use the [pre-addressed form](#) to report it.

Preliminary Sampling Results (2)

- ❖ If you cannot or do not want to access our web site and you would like to know your preliminary sampling results, you can call us at 1-800-633-9363.

Current procedure for calling preliminary sampling results

- ❖ Tabulate all preliminary sampling results.
- ❖ Identify each property owner and calling information.
- ❖ Identify 3 to 4 staff for calling property owners and others.
- ❖ Current procedure takes more than two weeks to complete.

Reasons for Changes

- ❖ Posting the table on the web site will give residents quicker access to the data.
- ❖ Community Relations has lost two out of five staff members.
- ❖ Subhash Pal and Marilyn Long are assisting them in calling all the residents.

COMMUNITY MEETING

- ❖ Should we schedule a community meeting every 5 months whether or not we have meaningful information? **or**
- ❖ Should we schedule a community meeting whenever we have meaningful information to present, which means it may be longer than 5 months?

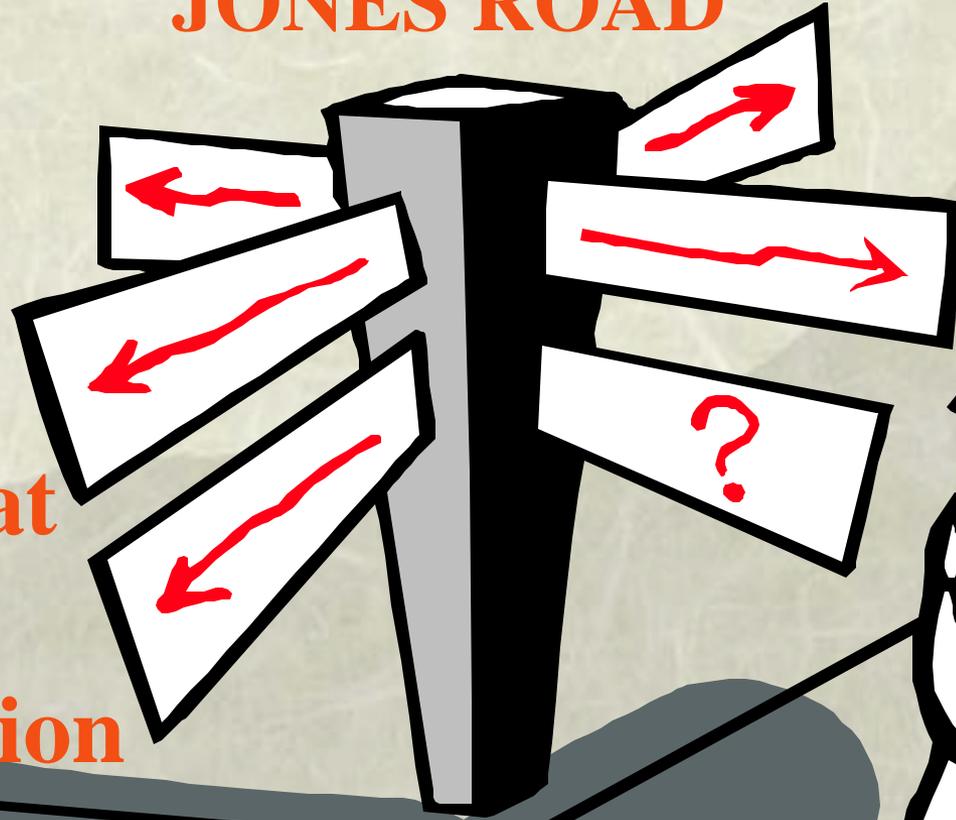
What are your thoughts?

Community Advisory Group (CAG)

- ❖ We presented the CAG concept in the April community meeting.
- ❖ The CAG provides the mechanism for an information exchange between TCEQ, community groups and elected officials regarding ongoing project activities leading towards the remedy selection.

What are your thoughts?

JONES ROAD



I hope that
My
presentation

Provides you a better understanding of
administrative steps associated with our
work at Jones Road project.

We would like to know.....

**How can we improve our
communications with you
regarding project
information?**

PROJECT CONTACT INFORMATION

- ❖ Subhash Pal, P.E. 512-239-4513
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- ❖ James Sher, P.E. 512-239-2444
jsher@tecq.state.tx.us
- ❖ Or 1-800-633-9363