



**TCEQ**

# **Voda Petroleum Proposed State Superfund Site**

**Clarksville City, Gregg County, Texas**

## **Community Relations Plan**

September 2008

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Inquiries relating to the  
Voda Petroleum Proposed State Superfund Site  
should be directed to:

Bruce McAnally, Community Relations Coordinator  
Remediation Division  
Texas Commission on Environmental Quality  
Physical Address: 12100 Park 35 Circle, MC-142  
Austin, TX 78753

Mailing Address: P.O. Box 13087, MC-142  
Austin, TX 78711-3087

Telephone: 1.800.633.9363

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### Appendices

1. Public notice of the public meeting regarding the proposal of Voda Petroleum to the state Superfund Registry and the future land use designation, published in the November 17, 2000 *Texas Register* and December 1, 2000, *Longview News Journal*
2. *Texas Register* publication of the state Superfund Registry, October 5, 2007
3. Site Location Map
4. Soil and Groundwater PCLE Zone (Area Map)

## Overview of Community Relations Plan

This community relations plan (CRP) identifies issues of community concern regarding the Voda Petroleum proposed state Superfund site, located in Clarksville City, Gregg County, Texas. It also outlines the anticipated community relations activities to be conducted during each phase of activity at the site.

The Community Relations Plan has been prepared to aid the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ) in developing a community relations program tailored to the needs of the community affected by the site. The TCEQ will conduct community relations activities to ensure that the local public has input to decisions and access to information about activities at the site.

*(Note: The state predecessor agencies: Texas Water Quality Board (TWQB), Texas Department of Water Resources (TDWR), Texas Water Commission (TWC), Texas Air Control Board (TACB), and the Texas Natural Resource Conservation Commission (TNRCC) referred to throughout this document are now known as the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ). The new agency name, TCEQ, became effective September 1, 2002, as mandated under State House Bill 2912 of the 77th Regular Legislative Session.)*

## Site Profile

### A. Site Location and Description

32° 33' 38" North Latitude, 94° 52' 42" West Longitude

The Voda site, located at 211 Duncan Street in Clarksville City, covers approximately 6.12 acres approximately one and one-quarter mile west of the intersection of FM 2275 (George Richey Road) and FM 3272 (North White Oak Road), 2.6 miles north/northeast of the center of Clarksville City, Gregg County, Texas.

### B. Background and Site Chronology

Beginning in October 1981 to November 1991, Voda Petroleum, Inc. operated as a six hundred barrel per day maximum design capacity, vacuum distillation waste oil recycling facility. The facility known as Voda Petroleum, Inc., received, stored, and processed lubricating oils, transmission oils, hydraulic oils, diesel oils, kerosene, gasoline, aromatic and paraffinic solvents and marketed the heavy residual oil and lubricating oil. Wastes from this process were accumulated in 55- gallon drums for on-site storage and/or in storage tanks prior to refining and blending. This property was originally a part of a 61.39 acre tract of undeveloped land not used for industrial purposes and having a homestead owned by Charles McBride. Fifty (50) acres of the property was separated and deed recorded to Chaco, Inc. on September 21, 1979.

On October 30, 1979, Chaco, Inc. conveyed and deed recorded 6.120 acres of the 50 acre tract to Ultra Oil, Inc. with Charles McBride serving as agent and attorney in fact. On May 1, 1981, Ultra Oil, Inc., with Charles McBride serving as President of Ultra Oil, Inc., recorded the sale of this same property to Voda Petroleum, Inc. A renegotiated sale of the property with \$5,000 being due from Ron Voda on May 12, 1982, instead of November 12, 1982, was deeded in the Gregg County court records on May 7, 1982

Approximately 0.92 acre of the property was granted to Andrew McBride on September 5, 1984, with Charles McBride serving as President of Ultra Oil, Inc. and agent and attorney-in-fact. This approximately one acre tract corresponds to that part of the current Voda Petroleum, Inc. site that was not originally fenced. This one acre portion of the property was conveyed and deeded to Voda Petroleum, Inc. on April 9, 1985, by Andrew McBride.

On February 1, 1993, in the Northern District of Texas, Ronald L. Voda, Sr., owner of Voda Petroleum, Inc., was sentenced for National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) violations by a U.S. District Judge. Mr. Voda entered into an agreement with the U.S. Government whereby he pled to a Clean Water Act misdemeanor in return for his cooperation. The following case information was highlighted by United States Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA) Criminal Investigation Division during the sentencing summary:

In 1987, Ronald L. Voda entered into an agreement with waste hauler, Herman Goldfaden, owner of Control Disposal Company in Dallas, Texas. Mr. Voda agreed to sign trip tickets and hazardous waste manifests certifying that Voda Petroleum Inc., was paid \$0.10 for each gallon of waste listed on paperwork regardless of whether or not it came to the Voda Petroleum, Inc. facility. Much of the waste listed on these trip tickets and manifests was illegally disposed of into the sewer systems in the Dallas area by Control Disposal Company.

On February 10, 1989, during execution of a search warrant at the Voda Petroleum, Inc. facility, federal agents observed a ditch cut through a levee surrounding the process area. Wastewater being discharged from this ditch exceeded limits set for the Voda Petroleum, Inc. NPDES permit. The investigation was conducted by the EPA Criminal Investigation Division with assistance from the U.S. Federal Bureau of Investigation.

On December 10, 1993, the TCEQ Enforcement Screening Committee (ESC) determined that Voda Petroleum should be referred to the TCEQ Pollution Cleanup Division, Emergency Response & Assessment Section.

On December 13, 1994, the TCEQ requested referral of the Voda Petroleum site to EPA for Emergency Response Branch (ERB) actions involving site security and immediate removal of abandoned drums and tank materials. In response to the

request, the EPA ERB installed a fence to ensure site security during the TCEQ site investigation in March 1995.

During the March 1995 site investigation TCEQ staff collected and analyzed on-site soil, sediment, drum and tank samples to prepare for removal activities. Analytical results of the soil and sediment indicated high levels of benzene, toluene, xylene and naphthalene. Tank contents were found to contain elevated levels of lead and petroleum wastes. The tanks were also found to be deteriorated and leaking oil and hazardous substances.

October 1995, TNRCC investigation and tests determined that conditions at the site posed an imminent and substantial endangerment to human health and safety. The site was referred to EPA for an immediate removal action, which was completed in November 1996. Removal activities consisted of the off-site disposal of 462 55-gallon drums containing grease or oily waste, 14 55-gallon drums containing corrosive waste, 16 aboveground storage tanks and associated contaminated soil.

November 17, 2000, a legal notice was published in the *Texas Register* (25 TexReg 11594-11595), describing the site, proposing the site for listing on the state Superfund registry, and also proposing commercial/industrial land use specifications for remediation of the site contamination. The nonresidential use of the land may be considered in any remedial action proposed for the site.

November 29, 2000, a hazard ranking system documentation record, which was completed August 15, 1995, was prepared for the Voda Petroleum site.

December 1, 2000, a legal notice was published in the Longview News Journal, describing the site, proposing the site to the state Superfund registry, and also to propose the use of commercial/industrial land use specifications for remediation of the site contamination. The nonresidential use of the land will be considered in any remedial action proposed for the site.

January 11, 2001, a community meeting was held at the Clarksville City Hall to explain the Superfund process and to receive any citizen comments on proposing commercial/industrial land use specifications to be used for remediation of site contamination.

January 15, 2001, a community relations plan was prepared for the Voda Petroleum site.

December 20, 2001, TNRCC issued a work order to initiate the remedial investigation at the site.

May 21, 2002, TNRCC's contractor initiated the field investigation work at the site.

July 15, 2002, TNRCC received a report from the contractor of the initial results of the first phase of the remedial investigation.

August 15, 2002, TNRCC directed the contractor to complete the Phase 1 remedial investigation.

September 1, 2002, effective date of the name change from Texas Natural Resource Conservation Commission (TNRCC) to Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ).

November 19, 2002, TCEQ directed the contractor to perform a site survey and a lien search of the site property.

June 16, 2003, TCEQ received the final site survey and lien search.

July - November 2003, TCEQ conducted quarterly groundwater monitoring at the site.

September 15, 2003, TCEQ approved the Phase I Remedial Investigation technical memorandum for the first phase of the remedial investigation.

December 2003, TCEQ approved screening report on chemicals of concern and issued a work order for a scope of work for the second phase of the remedial investigation and for additional quarterly groundwater monitoring.

January 2004, after review and approval of the scope of work, TCEQ issued a work order to implement the field work for the Phase II of the remedial investigation.

February – August 2004, TCEQ conducted quarterly groundwater monitoring at the site.

March 2004, TCEQ approved a revised sampling plan for the Phase II of the remedial investigation.

April 19-26, 2004, the contractor performed the second phase field sampling of the site.

September 2004, TCEQ approved the Phase II remedial investigation technical memorandum.

January 3, 2005, the repository was updated with additional documents: Contaminants of Concern report, Groundwater Monitoring report for 2003 and for 2004.

April 11, 2005, five additional monitor wells were installed. Four of the monitor wells were installed down-gradient of the existing monitor wells. The fifth monitor well was

located in the immediate vicinity of the most contaminated area of the site, and was screened in the next deeper groundwater zone.

October 17, 2005, the contractor was authorized to install two additional monitor wells at the site to complete the delineation of the contaminated groundwater plume, and to continue quarterly groundwater monitoring for the site.

November 16-18, 2005, the monitor wells were installed.

November 2005 – July 2006, TCEQ conducted quarterly groundwater monitoring at the site.

June 8, 2006, TCEQ issued a work order authorizing the engineer to prepare pre-feasibility study memorandum for the site.

June 12, 2006, TCEQ issued a work order authorizing the contractor to prepare a protective concentration levels (PCL) document for the site.

August 12, 2006, TCEQ approved the pre-feasibility study memorandum.

September 11, 2006, TCEQ approved the protective concentration level document.

October 2006 – January 2007, quarterly groundwater sampling was conducted at the site.

April 19, 2007, the alternative screening document memorandum was reviewed and approved as the first submission for the feasibility study.

May 2007, TCEQ installed two additional monitor wells to complete the delineation of the contaminated groundwater plume. Quarterly sampling was conducted for the 19 site monitor wells.

July 2007, quarterly groundwater monitoring was conducted at the site.

October 2007 – August 2008, quarterly groundwater monitoring was conducted at the site.

November 30, 2007, the detailed analysis technical memorandum was reviewed and approved as the second submission for the feasibility study.

January 10, 2008, the final feasibility study report was reviewed and approved.

## **Community Profile**

Gregg County, located in northeast Texas, has an economy supported by oil, manufacturing, lumbering, lignite coal production, agriculture and tourism.

The Voda site is located in the northeast quadrant of the city of Clarksville City, population 844, according to 1995 state estimates.

In 2004 the U.S. Census Bureau estimated the population of Gregg County at 115,035. The 2004 ethnicity estimates of Gregg County by the U.S. Census were: white, 69.6%; black, 20%; Hispanic, 9.15%; Other 1.2%.

There have been no inquiries by the public, elected officials or the news media regarding the Voda site.

## **Specific Objectives of the Community Relations Program**

1. Maintain open and ongoing two-way communications between the TCEQ and area residents, as well as city, county and state officials.
2. Continue to expand the mailing list to include additional agencies, organizations, and residents that are interested in the project.
3. Provide a community relations contact from whom interested parties can receive information on site activities, project status, and study results.
4. Provide citizens, involved agencies, elected officials, civic leaders, and the media with accurate, timely information about site-related activities through fact sheets/newsletters, press releases, and community meetings.
5. Provide for and attend public meetings.
6. Respond to telephone inquiries and written correspondence in a timely, accurate manner.
7. Provide all information, especially technical findings, in language that is understandable to the general public and in a form useful to interested citizens and elected officials through the preparation of fact sheets, newsletters, and news releases when major findings are made available during project phases.
8. Monitor community concerns and information requirements as the project progresses.
9. Modify the CRP to address changes in community needs and to maintain accuracy during different project phases.

## **Community Relations Techniques & Tools**

1. Project mailing list - to provide the means through which press releases, project status reports and other significant communications can be distributed to elected officials, community groups, and citizens.
2. Project status briefing for state and local officials - to periodically inform them of project developments over the course of the project.
3. Project status briefing for community groups and concerned citizens (may include public meetings, if needed) - to periodically inform the community of significant project developments and findings, to respond to inquiries accordingly, and incorporate local concerns into the decision-making process as appropriate.
4. Informal meetings (if needed) with residents - to provide an opportunity for affected residents to express concerns and to make inquiries to ensure effective two-way communication.
5. Brief field team on community relation issues before performing on-site investigation.
6. Program document repository - to maintain an easily accessible repository through which the public may review project outputs.
7. State Superfund Internet Homepage - to provide timely, current information on state Superfund activities on the World Wide Web at the following web address:  
  
<http://www.tceq.state.tx.us/remediation/superfund/state/voda.html>
8. CRP - to reflect changes in site activities or local concerns. After the Proposed Remedial Action Document has been issued, the CRP will be revised to address implementation of the selected remedial action.

## Area Elected Officials

### State

The Honorable Kevin Eltife  
Texas Senate  
Gregg County Courthouse  
101 East Methvin, Suite 301  
Longview, Texas 75601  
Telephone: 903/753-8137  
Fax: 903/753-8568

The Honorable Kevin Eltife  
Texas Senate  
P.O. Box 12068  
Austin, Texas 78711  
Telephone: 512/463-0101

The Honorable Tommy Merritt  
Texas House of Representatives  
P.O. Box 2910  
Austin, Texas 78768-2910  
Telephone 512/463-0750

The Honorable Tommy Merritt  
Texas House of Representatives  
201 Estes Drive  
Longview, TX 75603  
Telephone: 903/238-9100  
Fax: 903/238-9102

### County

The Honorable Bill Stoudt  
Gregg County Judge  
Gregg County Courthouse  
101 East Methvin, Suite 300  
Longview, Texas 75601  
Telephone: 903/236-8420  
Fax: 903/237-2699

The Honorable Bob Barbee  
Gregg County Commissioner, Pct. 3  
Route 4, Box 648  
Longview, Texas 75604  
Telephone: 903/ 759-8962  
Fax: 903/ 297-9140

### City

The Honorable Larry Allen  
Mayor  
City of Clarksville City  
P.O. Box 1209  
Gladewater, Texas 75647  
Telephone: 903/845-2681

Clarksville City Aldermen:  
Ronnie Allen  
Basil Dollins  
Carolyn Linder  
Joe Spears  
Billy Stegall

## Area News Media

*Longview News Journal*  
Attn. City Editor  
320 E. Methvin  
Longview, Texas 75601  
903/757-3311

KEES-AM  
Attn. News Director  
928 NNE Loop 323  
Tyler, Texas 75708  
903/593-2519

KFRO-AM, KOOL-FM, KYKX-FM  
Attn. News Director  
481 East Loop 281  
Longview, Texas 75605  
903/663-3700

KETX-TV  
Attn. News Director  
4300 Richmond Road  
Tyler, Texas 75703  
903/581-5656

KLTV-TV  
Attn. News Director  
105 W. Ferguson  
Tyler, Texas 75702  
903/597-5588

KFXK-TV  
Attn. News Director  
701 North Access Road  
Longview, Texas 75602  
903/236-0051

## Project Personnel

Carol Boucher  
Project Manager  
Texas Commission on Environmental Quality  
MC-143  
P.O. Box 13087  
Austin, Texas 78711-3087  
Telephone: 1-800-633-9363, 512/239-2501  
cboucher@tceq.state.tx.us

Bruce McAnally  
Community Relations Coordinator  
Texas Commission on Environmental Quality  
MC-142  
P.O. Box 13087  
Austin, Texas 78711-3087  
Telephone: 1-800-633-9363, 512/239-2141  
bmcanall@tceq.state.tx.us

Charmaine Backens  
Staff Attorney  
Texas Commission on Environmental Quality  
MC-129  
P.O. Box 13087  
Austin, Texas 78711-3087  
Telephone: 1-800-633-9363, 512/239-0634  
cbackens@tceq.state.tx.us

## **Project Document Repositories**

Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (physical address)  
Records Management  
Building E, First Floor  
12100 Park 35 Circle  
Austin, Texas 78753  
Telephone: 512/239-2920

Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (mailing address)  
Records Management  
MC-199  
P.O. Box 13087  
Austin, Texas 78711-3087

Longview Public Library  
222 West Cotton Street  
Longview, Texas 75601  
Telephone: 903/237-1350