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Community Relations Plan

for

Woodward Industries, Inc.

Nacogdoches County, TX

This electronic version of the community relations plan is abbreviated. However more complete files are available as part of the site repository records

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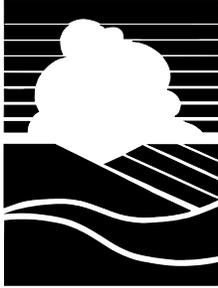
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April 2007

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TCEQ

**Woodward Industries, Inc.
Proposed State Superfund Site**

Nacogdoches County, Texas

Community Relations Plan

On the Web:

www.tceq.state.tx.us/remediation/superfund/state/woodward.html

April 2007

**Remediation Division
Texas Commission on Environmental Quality**

**Woodward Industries, Inc.
Proposed State Superfund Site
Nacogdoches County, Texas
Community Relations Plan**

April 2007

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Public notice of proposal to list the Woodward Industries site to the state registry of Superfund sites published in the <i>Texas Register</i> (March 2, 2007).	

Overview of Community Relations Plan

This community relations plan identifies issues of community concern regarding the Woodward Industries proposed state Superfund site, in Nacogdoches County, Texas. It also outlines the anticipated community relations activities to be conducted during each phase of the cleanup at the Woodward Industries site.

The Woodward Industries 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 Woodward Industries site. The TCEQ will conduct community relations activities to ensure that the local public has input to decisions and access to information about Superfund activities at the Woodward Industries site.

The information in this plan is based primarily on the information from the TCEQ Hazard Ranking System assessment on the Woodward Industries site.

Site Profile

A. Site Location and Description: 31° 43' 26" North, 94° 40' 56" West

The former Woodward Industries site is an approximately seven acre tract located in a rural area in Nacogdoches County, Texas. The site is located approximately six miles north of the city of Nacogdoches on County Road 816, just south of Mahl, Texas. Private residences are located to the east and west of the site and County Road 816 is located to the north. Railroad tracks previously ran along the western property line but have since been removed. Wood treatment operations, consisting mainly of dipping wooden posts into tanks of pentachlorophenol, ran on the site from 1947 to 1982. The site is currently inactive with respect to industrial or commercial use, as an adjacent homeowner recently bought the property to control the use of the land. Access to the site is unrestricted and current usage is limited to the use of the southern portion as a private baseball practice field.

B. Background and Site Chronology

1947 - Wood treating operations began. Treatment primarily consisted of dipping posts into tanks of pentachlorophenol and letting them drip into vats.

March 1971 - East Texas Wood Treating Company, Inc. purchased the site.

1982 - Bill Woodward discontinued wood treatment operations.

February 1986 - A water sample collected from the pit contained 18,000 micrograms per liter of pentachlorophenol.

June 1992 - Woodward Industries, Inc. (formerly known as East Texas Wood Treating Company, Inc.) sold the property to Texwood, Inc. Texwood, Inc. operated a pallet rebuilding company on the site.

September 1996 - Texwood, Inc. sold the property to B.F. Woodward and Sue H. Woodward.

January 1997 - B.F. Woodward and Sue H. Woodward sold the property to Wesley R. and Jesse L. Myrow.

April 2004 - Wesley R. and Jesse L. Myrow sold the property to the current owners, Don and Marsha Shoemaker.

Community Profile

Nacogdoches County is located in the Piney Woods of East Texas. The City of Nacogdoches, noted to be the oldest town in the state, is located in the central part of the county. The primary industries in Nacogdoches County are agriculture, including lumber and timber products; manufacturing; oil and gas production; education, and; tourism.

Agriculture is a major source of income in Nacogdoches County, accounting for more than \$233 million in 2005. In fact, Nacogdoches County is currently ranked number one in East Texas for agriculture income and is among the top ten in the State of Texas. The county's major agricultural resources include poultry, timber, beef cattle, and dairy products. Almost 60 percent of the county--approximately 380,000 acres--is commercial forest land, harvested for the production of lumber, paper, plywood, fiberboard, waferboard, railroad crossties and pallets. Notably, the 23.4 million feet of timber harvested each year is replanted plus an additional 24 percent.

Manufacturing is another prominent industry in Nacogdoches County. Among the various products manufactured, the most common are feed and fertilizer, valves, business forms, transformers, bricks, motor homes, poultry processing and sealing components. Additionally, Texas' first oil well was drilled in Nacogdoches County in 1866, and oil and gas remain a significant force in the economy. According to the Nacogdoches County Chamber of Commerce, 754 new gas wells were drilled in the county in 2006.

Nacogdoches is also home to Stephen F. Austin State University, a public state university founded in 1921 with a current enrollment of approximately 12,000 students. The university offers undergraduate, graduate, and doctoral degrees and houses one of only two schools of forestry in the State of Texas.

The U.S. Census estimates the 2000 population for the City of Nacogdoches and Nacogdoches County at the following:

	City of Nacogdoches	Nacogdoches County
RACE		
Total Population	29,914	59,203
One race	29,450	58,369
White	19,736	44,405
Black or African American	7,495	9,908
Hispanic or Latino (of any race)	3,236	6,660
American Indian and Alaska Native	102	229
Asian	337	412
Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander	32	40
Some other race	1,748	3,375
Two or more races	464	834

Community Involvement and Concerns

TCEQ staff conducted a public meeting at the Nacogdoches County Courthouse on April 5, 2007 to provide information and take comments on the proposed listing of the former Woodward Industries facility on the registry of state Superfund sites. Twelve members of the community attended the meeting and a few of those in attendance asked questions and made comments for the record. The main theme of the questions and comments centered on the possible financial liability of the current property owner and concerns that TCEQ will not diligently seek out the owner/operator of Woodward Industries facility or other potential responsible parties.

One additional community member contacted TCEQ community relations staff via the 1-800 hotline and shared an additional concern regarding the affect of the proposed Woodward Industries state Superfund site on the property values on the land and property surrounding the site.

At this time TCEQ is not aware of any formal community involvement related to the proposed Woodward Industries state Superfund site but will continue to ensure open communication with area residents and the community at large.

Specific Objectives of the Community Relations Program

1. Maintain open and ongoing two-way communications between the TCEQ; city, county and state officials; and area residents.
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 community relations plan 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/index.html>

8. Community relations plan - to reflect changes in site activities or local concerns. After the Proposed Remedial Action Document has been issued, the community relations plan will be revised to address implementation of the selected remedial action.

Elected Officials

Texas State Senator

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Phone 512.463.0103

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Nacogdoches, TX 75961
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Texas State Representative

The Honorable Wayne Christian
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Austin Texas 78768
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The Honorable Wayne Christian
Texas House of Representatives
District 9
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Center, TX 75935
Phone 936.598.9966

Nacogdoches County

The Honorable Joe English
County Judge
Nacogdoches County Courthouse
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Phone 936.560.7754

The Honorable Tom Bush
County Commissioner PCT 1
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The Honorable Reggie L. Cotton, Jr.
County Commissioner PCT 2
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The Honorable Charles W. Simmons
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The Honorable Tom Strickland
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City of Nacogdoches

The Honorable Bob Dunn
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The Honorable Don Partin
Mayor Pro Tempore
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The Honorable Billy Huddleston, Jr.
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The Honorable Travis A. Morris
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The Honorable J. Bradley Reynolds
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AREA NEWS MEDIA

Nacogdoches Daily Sentinel

P.O. Box 630068
Nacogdoches Texas 75963-0068
Phone 936.564.8361

KJCS-FM (103.3)
910 North Street
Nacogdoches Texas 75961-4479
Phone 936.559.8800

La Lengua

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Lufkin Texas 75915-1355
Phone 936.632.8444

KVLL-FM (94.7)
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Nacogdoches Texas 75961-4479
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KNCD-TV Channel 2 (TBN)
2601 E. Lufkin Avenue
Nacogdoches Texas 75901-5301
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PROGRAM DOCUMENT REPOSITORIES

Nacogdoches Public Library
Reference Area
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Texas Commission on Environmental Quality
Records Management Center

Physical Address
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