

The following is an Adobe Acrobat reproduction of the official

Community Relations Plan

for

First Quality Cylinders

No graphic illustrations are included with this electronic version, but are available with the printed versions as part of the First Quality Cylinders repository records

at

San Antonio Public Library

600 Soledad

San Antonio, Texas

and/or

TNRCC Records Management Center

Austin, Texas

February 2000

Scroll Down to View

**COMMUNITY RELATIONS PLAN
for the
FIRST QUALITY CYLINDERS
STATE SUPERFUND SITE
SAN ANTONIO, TEXAS**

February 2000

**Texas Natural Resource Conservation Commission
Remediation Division
Office of Permitting Remediation and Registration
12100 Park 35 Circle
Building D
Austin, Texas 78753
Telephone - 1-800-633-9363***

COMMUNITY RELATIONS PLAN

for

First Quality Cylinders
State Superfund Site
San Antonio, Texas

February 2000

Inquiries relating to the First Quality Cylinders
State Superfund Site should be directed to:

Barbara Daywood, Community Relations Coordinator
Remediation Division
Office of Permitting Remediation and Registration
Texas Natural Resources Conservation Commission
Physical Address: 12100 Park 35 Circle
Building D
Austin, Texas 78753

Mailing Address:
MC - 225
P.O. Box 13087
Austin, Texas 78711-3087

Telephone: 1-800-633-9363 or 512/239-2463

Table of Contents

Overview of Community Relations Plan.....1

Site Profile - Site Location and Description.....2

Site Summary.....2

Community Profile.....4

Community Involvement and Concerns.....5

Specific Objectives of the Community Relations Program.....5

Community Relations Techniques.....6

Area Elected Officials.....7

Area News Media.....8

Key Project Personnel.....9

Program Document Repositories.....9

Appendices

Site Location Map.....A

Bexar County Superfund Sites Map.....B

Public Notice - Texas Register November 12, 1999.....C

Public Notice - San Antonio Express News November 12, 1999.....D

COMMUNITY RELATIONS PLAN
for
FIRST QUALITY CYLINDERS STATE SUPERFUND SITE
931 WEST LAUREL STREET, SAN ANTONIO, TEXAS

February 2000

OVERVIEW OF COMMUNITY RELATIONS PLAN

This community relations plan (CRP) attempts to identify issues of community concern regarding the First Quality Cylinders State Superfund Site, located at 931 West Laurel Street in San Antonio, Texas. It also outlines the anticipated community relations activities to be conducted during each phase of the cleanup at the First Quality Cylinders site.

The First Quality Cylinders 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 community affected by the site. The TNRCC will conduct community relations activities to ensure that the local public has input regarding decisions and access to information about Superfund activities at the First Quality Cylinders site.

The information in this plan is based primarily on the Hazard Ranking System (HRS) package. This plan will be updated periodically during the course of the cleanup.

SITE PROFILE

Latitude/Longitude: 29E26'33" N, 98E30'18" W

Site Location and Description: The First Quality Cylinders State Superfund site is located at 931 West Laurel Street in northwest-central downtown San Antonio.

SITE SUMMARY

The First Quality Cylinder site (the site) is located in San Antonio, Bexar County, Texas. The site consists of an inactive plating facility situated on approximately 1.3 acres of property addressed at 931 West Laurel Street in northwest-central downtown San Antonio. The approximate geographic coordinates of the site are Latitude 29E26' 33"N and Longitude 98E30' 18"W. The site has also been known as Quality Cylinders, Inc., International Aircraft Cylinders, Inc., and Aero Chrome Services, Inc.

Former operations of the site included the rebuilding of aircraft cylinders utilizing a chromium-plating process. These operations were conducted 1986 until it was abandoned in January 1994. Site improvements include a warehouse building located on the western portion of the site where the chromium-plating process was conducted. The remaining area of the site has been paved with asphalt and fenced, and contains a shallow groundwater recovery system with a French drain, three recovery wells, and a pump system with a 6,000 gallon above-ground storage tank.

In April 1988, during renovation of a plating line, workers at the site discovered subsurface leakage of chromium plating solution. Then in June of 1988, during excavation work to repair an external sewer line, a "spring" was discovered along the northeast side of the plating facility. A French drain system was installed to collect the groundwater. The French drain was placed approximately seven (7) feet below ground surface and fifteen (15) feet below the foundation level of the existing facility. It was estimated that approximately 200 gallons of groundwater were recovered each week from the French drain. After the French drain had been operated for several months, the water from the "spring" began to display a yellowish hue. On September 8, 1989, after notification of the "spring" by the facility operators, Texas Water Commission (TWC) District 8 representatives collected a sample of the groundwater. Analytical results for this sample indicated EP toxic levels of chromium at 887 mg/l.

On January 28, 1992, TWC District 8 Representatives responded to a complaint of "yellow-green colored

water" discharging from the site to Mullen Street, West Laurel Street, and Fredericksburg Road. A subsequent complaint investigation resulted in a Notice of Violation Letter being issued to International Aircraft Cylinders, Inc. for permit violations, for the disposal of hazardous waste on-site, and the unauthorized discharges of chromium waste waters to the public streets and potentially nearby San Pedro Creek.

On March 19, 1993, a spill of approximately 200 gallons of chromium-contaminated wastewater occurred at the site. Concentrated chromium plating wastewater was discharged on-site when a hose connection failed during the transfer of hazardous wastewater to a temporary storage tank. On May 5, 1993, TWC District 8 Representatives collected stormwater runoff samples from the site during torrential rains because of concerns that the contaminated soil, from the March 19, 1993 chromium-contaminated wastewater spill, had never been removed from the site. Analytical results for the stormwater runoff samples indicated toxicity characteristic leaching procedure (TCLP) chromium levels ranging from 0.08 mg/l to 4.3 mg/l being discharged off-site. An additional sample of stormwater collected from an open excavation area on-site revealed a TCLP chromium level of 14.0 mg/l.

On May 25, 1993, TWC District 8 Representatives collected three groundwater split samples from monitoring wells that had been placed around the site as part of the Fredericksburg Road/San Pedro Creek Project. Sample results from two of the wells revealed total chromium levels ranging from 13 mg/l to 79 mg/l. On September 14, 1993, Texas Natural Resource Conservation Commission (TNRCC), formerly the TWC, Region 13 representatives split two groundwater samples from these same wells. Hexavalent chromium levels were found this time ranging from 75 mg/l to 80 mg/l.

In September 1997, the TNRCC Superfund Site Discovery and Assessment Program initiated immediate removal actions to dispose of on-site wastes inside the warehouse and to repair and provide operations and maintenance of the on-site shallow groundwater recovery system for two years. The operations and maintenance of the system is on-going.

On December 16, 1999, a public meeting was held at the VIA Metro Center Askridge Community Room to propose the First Quality Cylinders site to the state Superfund program. Notice of the public meeting was published in the November 12, 1999 edition of the *Texas Register* and the *San Antonio Express News*. Flyers were handed out in the general vicinity of the site one week prior to the meeting as a reminder of the meeting.

Releases of hazardous substances to the ground water pathway are the major concern for this site. Hazardous substances have been documented in the subsurface soils and shallow ground water beneath the site. The Edwards Aquifer is the aquifer of concern for ground water pathway, which was scored as a cavernous limestone aquifer, based on the threat of potential contamination.

COMMUNITY PROFILE

The First Quality Cylinders State Superfund site is located at 931 West Laurel Street in northwest-central downtown San Antonio. The immediate area surrounding the site is light commercial industrial, and residential. The site is bounded by West Laurel on the south, Fredericksburg Road on the east, North Comal on the west, and Mullen on the north.

The 1998-99 Texas Almanac lists the population of San Antonio as 1,079,207 and Bexar County as 1,309,550.

According to the E.P.A. Geographic Query System, a general representation of the population within the one mile of the site is as follows:

Total Population = 1580

Household Units = 710

		National		
		Summary Comparison		
By Origin:		Total	Stats	50 States/D.C.
-----		-----	-----	-----
White	=	1022	64.7%	75.6%
Black	=	35	2.2%	11.8%
AmInd/Esk/Ale	=	6	0.4%	0.7%
Asian/PacIsnd	=	3	0.2%	2.8%
Other	=	0	0%	0.1%
Hispanic	=	514	32.5%	9.0%

Average Pop Density per sq mi = 502 (Centroids/Distance Radius Area)

San Antonio is a governmental center with a large federal payroll. Tourism is the second largest industry. Other major businesses include a research center, fourteen colleges and a developing high-tech industrial park. Livestock production and varied agriculture activities are also commercial interests in Bexar County.

COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT AND CONCERNS

The TNRCC held a public meeting on December 16, 1999, at the VIA Metro Center Eskridge Community Room, regarding the proposed listing of the First Quality Cylinders site on the State Superfund Registry. Comments were also taken at the meeting addressing the future land use designation of the site. Approximately 12 people attended the meeting. Senator Leticia Van de Putte was represented by Mr. Gilbert Loreda. San Antonio City Councilman Bobby Perez was represented by Mr. Erick Akins.

General comment of concern ranged from questions of personal exposure from the site to potential exposure to the San Pedro Creek and Edwards Aquifer. VIA Metro Transit expressed a concern over a bus stop that is adjacent to the site. TNRCC staff will remain in close contact with VIA staff to discuss possible exposure threats at the bus stop once construction activities have been initiated. VIA has indicated their willingness to relocate the bus stop placement to another location on a temporary basis should it become necessary. The only comments regarding future land use designation involved concerns about changes in zoning for surrounding properties. The land use designation applies to the site, not surrounding properties.

SPECIFIC OBJECTIVES OF THE COMMUNITY RELATIONS PROGRAM

- A. Maintain open communications between the Texas Natural Resource Conservation Commission, Bexar County, City of San Antonio, State elected officials and concerned citizens.
- B. Continue to expand the mailing list to include additional agencies, organizations, and residents that are interested in the project.
- C. Provide a central information contact from whom interested parties can receive information on site activities, project status, and study results.
- D. Provide citizens, involved agencies, elected officials, and the media with accurate, timely information concerning the scope, progress, and findings of site-related activities by issuing press releases and conducting community meetings.
- E. Brief field teams on community relations issues before performing on-site investigations.
- F. Provide all information, especially technical findings, in a 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 and news releases, when major findings become available during project phases.

- G. Monitor community concerns and information requirements as the project progresses by monitoring the community response to news releases and community meetings.
- H. Modify the community relations plan as changes in community attitudes and needs occur and maintain accuracy during different project phases.

COMMUNITY RELATIONS TECHNIQUES

- A. Project Mailing List - To provide the means through which press releases, project status reports and other significant communications can be distributed to concerned groups and individuals.
- B. Public Consultations - Conduct informal meetings (if needed) with residents. To provide an opportunity for affected residents to express any concerns and to make inquiries to insure effective two-way communication.
- C. Program Document Repositories - To maintain easily accessible repositories through which the public may review project outputs. The public will be periodically informed of the availability of project documents and the location of repositories via techniques A through D.
- D. State Superfund Status Reports - Progress of activities at the First Quality Cylinders site is regularly posted to the TNRCC Superfund web site at:
<http://www.tnrcc.state.tx.us/permitting/remed/superfund>
- E. Revise CRP - To reflect changes in site activities or local concerns. After the Proposed Remedial Action Document (PRAD) has been issued, the CRP will be revised to address implementation of the selected remedial action alternative.

AREA ELECTED OFFICIALS (on date of this document)

United States

The Honorable Charles Gonzalez
U.S. Representative
B-124 Federal Building
San Antonio, Texas 78206
210/472-6199

The Honorable Howard Peak
Mayor - City of San Antonio
P.O. Box 839966
San Antonio, Texas 78283-3966
210/207-7060

The Honorable Bobby Perez
Councilman District 1
P.O. Box 839966
San Antonio, Texas 78283-3966
210/207-7060

State

The Honorable Leticia Van de Putte
Texas Senate
3718 Blanco Road #2
San Antonio, Texas 78212
210/733-6604

County

The Honorable Cyndi Krier
Bexar County Judge
County Courthouse
San Antonio, Texas 78205
210/335-2626

Texas Representative -
Pending Special Election

The Honorable Tommy Adkisson
Bexar County Commissioner
Precinct 4
Bexar County Courthouse
San Antonio, Texas 78205-3036
210/335-2614

City

AREA NEWS MEDIA

San Antonio Express News
ATTN: Editor
PO Box 2171
San Antonio, Texas 78297
Phone - 210/225-7411
FAX --- 210/225-8351

KCOR-AM/KROM-FM
ATTN: News Director
1777 N.E. Loop 410
San Antonio, Texas 78217
Phone — 210/246-1350
FAX —210/804-7820

WOAI-AM
6222 N.W. Loop 410
San Antonio, Texas 78201
Phone — 210/736-9700
Fax — 210/735-8811

KXTN-AM/FM
1777 N.E. Loop 410
San Antonio, Texas 78217
Phone — 210/246-1350
Fax — 210/224-2401

KTSA-AM
P.O. Box 18128
San Antonio, Texas 78218
Phone — 210/99-5500
Fax — 210/599-5588

KSTX-FM
8401 Datapoint Drive
San Antonio, Texas 78229-3295
Phone — 210/614-8977

KHVL-AM
427 East 9th Street
San Antonio, Texas 78215
Phone — 210/226-6444
Fax — 210/225-5736

KENS-TV Channel 5
ATTN: News, Assignments Editor
PO Box TV5
San Antonio, Texas 78299
Phone —210/366-5001
FAX —210/366-2716

KMOL-TV Channel 4
ATTN: News, Assignments Editor
P.O. Box 2641
San Antonio, Texas 78299
Phone—210/233-4742
Fax—210/224-9898

KSAT-TV Channel 12
ATTN: News, Assignment Editor
P.O. Box 2478
San Antonio, Texas 78298
Phone—210/351-1269
Fax—210/351-1310

KRRT-TV Channel 35
6218 N.W. Loop 410
San Antonio, Texas 78238
Phone — 210/684-0035
Fax — 210/523-6416

KEY PROJECT PERSONNEL

Alonzo Arredondo
Project Manager, Superfund Investigation Section
Texas Natural Resource Conservation Commission
PO Box 13087
MC-143
Austin, TX 78711
1-800-633-9363
1-512-239-2145

Barbara Daywood
Community Relations Coordinator
Texas Natural Resource Conservation Commission
PO Box 13087
MC-225
Austin, TX 78711
1-800-633-9363
1-512-239-2463

PROGRAM DOCUMENT REPOSITORIES

Physical Address:

Texas Natural Resource Conservation Commission
Central Records
12100 Park 35 Circle
Building D
Austin, TX 78753
1-800-633-9363
1-512-239-2920 (8:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. Monday - Friday)

Mailing Address:

Texas Natural Resource Conservation Commission
Central Records MC-199
P.O. Box 13087
Austin, TX 78711-3087

San Antonio Public Library
600 Soledad
San Antonio, Texas 78205
1-210-207-2500
Monday - Thursday 9:00 a.m. - 9:00 p.m.
Friday - Saturday 9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.
Sunday 11:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.