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**Community Relations Plan**

for

**Hicks Field Sewer Corp.**

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**July 2002**

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COMMUNITY RELATIONS PLAN

for

Hicks Field Sewer Corporation Proposed State Superfund Site  
Tarrant County, Texas

July 2002

Remediation Division  
Texas Natural Resource Conservation Commission  
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Austin, Texas 78753  
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[www.tnrcc.state.tx.us/permitting/remed/superfund/hicksfield.html](http://www.tnrcc.state.tx.us/permitting/remed/superfund/hicksfield.html)

## COMMUNITY RELATIONS PLAN

for

Hicks Field Sewer Corporation Proposed State Superfund Site  
Tarrant County, Texas

July 2002

Inquiries relating to the Hicks Field Sewer Corporation Proposed State Superfund Site should be directed to:

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Mailing Address:	PO Box 13087 MC-225 Austin, Texas 78711
Telephone:	1-800-633-9363 or 512/239-2141
Internet:	<a href="http://www.tnrcc.state.tx.us/permitting/remed/superfund/hicksfield.html">www.tnrcc.state.tx.us/permitting/remed/superfund/hicksfield.html</a>

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Public Notice announcing the August 22, 2002, public meeting regarding  
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Site Location and Surrounding Land Use Map

Contaminated Area Site Sketch

**COMMUNITY RELATIONS PLAN**  
for  
**Hicks Field Sewer Corporation Proposed State Superfund Site**  
Northwest of Saginaw, Tarrant County, Texas

July 2002

**Overview of Community Relations Plan**

This community relations plan (CRP) identifies issues of community concern regarding the Hicks Field Sewer Corporation Proposed State site (Hicks). It also outlines the anticipated community relations activities to be conducted during the cleanup activities at the Hicks site.

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

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

**Site Profile**

Latitude/Longitude: 32E 54' 19.70" N, 97E 23' 22.45" W

**Site Location and Description:**

The Hicks site is located southwest of Big Fossil Creek approximately 1.8 miles west of the intersection of U. S. Highway 81/287 and Farm to Market (FM) 156 in northwest Tarrant County. The site is located approximately 2.5 miles northwest of Saginaw, Texas.

**Background and Operating History:**

The Hicks Field Sewer Corporation operated from the early 1970's to mid-1994 providing sewage treatment services for the nearby Hicks Field Industrial Park. The facility was approved for wastewater discharge Permit No. WQO011297-01 and corresponding NPDES Permit No. TXO076031 on January 26, 1981 that was renewed on June 3, 1986 for an authorized discharge not to exceed 53,000 gallons per day (gpd). Businesses that operated at the Hick Field Industrial Park included a metal finishing industry, a container

manufacturer/fabricator, a storage tank fabrication facility and a small trucking firm. The majority of wastes treated at the plant were domestic; however, the metal finishing industry discharged pre-treated process rinse waters containing heavy metals from the early 1970's until operations ceased in early 1981. Flow rates were low during the majority of plant operations and the last confirmed wastewater discharge from the facility was in August 1987. A file review indicates no sludge was ever removed from the drying beds because of low accumulation and the stabilization ponds were never dredged. The site is currently inactive.

The following is a summary of regulatory involvement and site assessment:

(Note: The state agencies referred to in this chronology as the Texas Water Quality Board (TWQB), Texas Department of Water Resources (TDWR), Texas Water Commission (TWC) and the Texas Air Control Board (TACB) are now known as the Texas Natural Resource Conservation Commission (TNRCC). The new agency, TNRCC, became effective September 1, 1993, as mandated under State Senate Bill 2 of the 73<sup>rd</sup> regular Legislative Session.)

On January 6, 1976, a Texas Water Quality Board (TWQB) District 4 annual compliance evaluation inspection revealed elevated levels of cadmium, chromium and zinc from effluent samples collected from the two Imhoff tanks and from sediment samples collected from the settling. The facility was issued a discharge violation subsequently referred to Aeroprocess, Inc., a metal finishing industry located at the Hicks Field Industrial Park allegedly responsible for the discharges. The metal processor had installed an ion-exchange system for wastewater pre-treatment that upon investigation failed to operate during regeneration periods. A second parallel ion-exchange system was installed to operate during regeneration periods which significantly reduced discharges to the sewage treatment system. In 1981, Aeroprocess, Inc. reportedly went out of business and ceased operations.

On November 6, 1990, a Texas Water Commission (TWC) Region 4 compliance evaluation sampling inspection revealed elevated levels of cadmium, chromium, copper and lead in 4-part composite sediment samples collected from the east and west stabilization ponds and 2-part composite samples collected from the north sludge drying bed. The facility was noted still operating but at a significantly reduced rate due to extended vacancies in the industrial park.

Based on the November 6, 1990 sample results, the site was referred to the TWC Central Office Enforcement Section for formal enforcement action on May 11, 1992.

The site was referred to the State Superfund Program on June 16, 1992 by the TWC Industrial & Hazardous Waste Screening Committee for further action. A January 15, 1993 Superfund Site Eligibility Determination Evaluation and Preliminary Hazard Assessment revealed the site was eligible and recommended additional sampling to properly evaluate the site.

On July 29, 1994, a TNRCC Region 4 follow-up sampling inspection revealed the site was operating at a minimum level and both stabilization ponds were full of water. The plant operator reported there had been no discharges to the receiving stream since 1987. Analysis of 4-part composite sediment samples collected from the two sludge drying beds and a grab surface water sample collected from the west stabilization pond revealed hazardous levels of cadmium and elevated chromium remaining at the site.

On March 29-30, 2001, a TNRCC State Superfund Hazard Ranking System (HRS) sampling inspection was conducted to characterize remaining source wastes and to determine if nearby human food chain and environmental targets may have been impacted by the release of site attributable hazardous substances.

A total of five (5) source characterization and three (3) background soil samples were collected from on-site waste management areas and from unaffected up-gradient locations, respectively, to determine naturally-occurring contaminant levels.

In addition, a total of nine (9) sediment and three (3) upstream background sediment samples were collected along Big Fossil Creek and an unnamed intermittent tributary flowing adjacent to the site to determine if there had been a release of hazardous substances along the surface water migratory pathway. A review of the sample results indicates releases (i.e., >3X the highest applicable background value) of cadmium, chromium and copper.

### **Community Profile**

The U.S. Census Bureau estimated the 2001 population of Tarrant County at 1,486,392 an increase of 2.8% from the 1990 estimate. The U.S. Census listed the 2000 county ethnicity as: white, 71.2%; black, 12.8%; Hispanic, 19.7%; Asian, 3.6% and American Indian, 0.6%.

The State Data Center at Texas A&M University estimated the 2000 population of Saginaw at 12,850.

### **Community Involvement and Concerns**

At this writing, there have been no inquiries to the TNRCC by local residents or elected official regarding the Hicks site.

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

- A. Maintain open communications between the Texas Natural Resource Conservation Commission, Tarrant County, 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 to address changes in community needs and to maintain accuracy during different project phases.

### Community Relations Techniques

- A. 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 inquiries accordingly and incorporate local concerns into the decision making process as appropriate.
- B. 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.
- C. Public Consultations - To conduct informal meetings (if needed) with residents. To provide an opportunity for affected residents to express any concerns and to make inquiries to ensure effective two-way communication.
- D. 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 C.
- E. TNRCC State Superfund Internet Homepage - provide current, timely information on state Superfund activities on the World Wide Web at the following web address:  
[www.tnrcc.state.tx.us/permittinng/remed/Superfund/index.html](http://www.tnrcc.state.tx.us/permittinng/remed/Superfund/index.html)
- F. 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**

### **State**

The Honorable Jane Nelson  
Texas Senate  
P.O. Box 12068  
Austin, Texas 78711-2068  
Telephone: 512/463-0109

900 Parker Square #200  
Flower Mound, Texas 75028  
Telephone: 972/724-0066

The Honorable Charlie Geren  
Texas House of Representatives  
P.O. Box 2910  
Austin, Texas 78711-2910  
Telephone: 512/463-0610

1011 Roberts Cut-Off  
Fort Worth, Texas 76101  
Telephone: 817/738-8333  
Fax: 817/740-1497

### **County**

The Honorable Tom Vandergriff  
Tarrant County Judge  
100 North Houston  
Fort Worth, Texas 76196  
Telephone: 817/884-1441

The Honorable J. D. Johnson  
Tarrant County Commissioner, Pct. 4  
100 North Houston  
Fort Worth, Texas 76196  
Telephone: 817/238-4400

## Area News Media

### Fort Worth Star-Telegram

ATTN: City Editor  
PO Box 1870  
Fort Worth, TX 76101-1870  
Phone - 817/390-7400  
FAX --- 817/7789

### KXAS-TV

ATTN: News, Assignments Editor  
PO Box 1780  
Fort Worth, TX 76101  
Phone - 817/654-6300  
FAX --- 817/654-6325

### Dallas Morning News

ATTN: City Editor  
PO Box 655237  
Dallas, TX 75265-5237  
Phone - 214/977-8222  
FAX --- 214/977-8319

### KTVT-TV

ATTN: News, Assignments Editor  
5233 Bridge Street  
Fort Worth, TX 76103  
Phone - 817/496-7711  
FAX --- 817/496-7739

### Northwest Tarrant County Times-Record

ATTN: City Editor  
3900 Merritt Drive, #202  
Fort Worth, Texas 76135  
Phone - 817/237-9172  
FAX --- 817/237-9174

### WFAA-TV

ATTN: News, Assignments Editor  
606 Young Street  
Dallas, TX 75202  
Phone - 214/977-6213  
FAX --- 214/977-6585

### WBAP-AM

ATTN: News Director  
One Broadcast Hill  
Fort Worth, TX 76103  
Phone - 817/429-2330  
FAX --- 817/654-4814

### KDAF-TV

ATTN: News, Director  
8001 Carpenter Fwy.  
Dallas, TX 75247  
Phone - 214/634-8833  
FAX --- 214/640-3460

### KRLD-AM

ATTN: News Director  
1080 Ballpark Way  
Arlington, TX 76011  
Phone - 214/445-1080  
FAX --- 214/445-6370

### KDFW-TV

ATTN: News, Assignments Editor  
400 N. Griffin  
Dallas, TX 7502  
Phone - 214/720-4414  
FAX --- 214/720-3263

### KKDA-AM/FM

ATTN: News Director  
PO Box 530860  
Grand Prairie, TX 75053-0860  
Phone - 214/263-9911  
FAX --- 214/558-0010

### KUVN-TV

ATTN: News, Assignments Editor  
3720 Marquis Drive  
Dallas, TX 75042  
Phone - 214/485-2323  
FAX --- 214/485-2351

### KRVA-AM/FM

ATTN: News Director  
3500 Maple Ave.  
Dallas, TX 75219  
Phone - 214/528-1600  
FAX --- 214/528-4667

## **KEY PROJECT PERSONNEL**

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Texas Natural Resource Conservation Commission  
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Bruce McAnally  
Community Relations Coordinator  
Texas Natural Resource Conservation Commission  
MC- 225  
PO 13087  
Austin, TX 78711  
1-800-633-9363, ext. 2141  
bmcanall@tceq.state.tx.us

## **PROGRAM DOCUMENT REPOSITORIES**

### Physical Address:

Texas Natural Resource Conservation Commission  
Records Management Center  
Building E, North Entrance, First Floor  
12100 Park 35 Circle  
Austin, TX 78753  
Phone: 512/239-2920

### Mailing Address:

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

Saginaw Library  
355 W. McLeroy Blvd.  
Saginaw, Texas 76179

Phone: 817/232-2100