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Community Relations Plan

for

Industrial Road / Industrial Metals

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February 2004

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TCEQ

**Industrial Road /
Industrial Metals
Proposed
State Superfund Site
Corpus Christi, Nueces County, Texas
Community Relations Plan**

January 2004

**Remediation Division
Texas Commission on Environmental Quality**

**Industrial Road /
Industrial Metals
Proposed
State Superfund Site
Corpus Christi, Nueces County, Texas
Community Relations Plan**

January 2004

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<http://www.tnrcc.state.tx.us/permitting/remed/superfund/indroad.html>

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Public Notice of Proposal to List the Industrial Road site to the State Registry of Superfund Sites published in the <u>Texas Register</u> (January 23, 2004).	

News Articles

May 8, 2002 - Corpus Christi Caller-Times TNRCC will clean up lead around old metal site

May 9, 2002 - Corpus Christi Caller-Times, Tracking down lead

July 30, 2002 - Corpus Christi Caller-Times, TNRCC to start cleaning yards tainted by lead

July 30, 2002 - KRIS-TV, Pollution Cleanup

August 12, 2002 - Corpus Christi Caller-Times, Poison ground

August 27, 2002 - Corpus Christi Caller-Times, Contamination cleanup begins

August 28, 2002 - KRIS-TV, Lead Contamination

Overview of Community Relations Plan

This community relations plan (CRP) identifies issues of community concern regarding the Industrial Road / Industrial Metals proposed state Superfund site, in Corpus Christi, Nueces County, Texas. It also outlines the anticipated community relations activities to be conducted during each phase of the cleanup at the Industrial Road site.

The Industrial Road / Industrial Metals CRP 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 Industrial Road 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 Industrial Road site.

The information in this plan is based primarily on the information from the TCEQ Hazard Ranking System Assessment on the Industrial Road site.

Site Profile

A. Site Location and Description: 27° 47' 13" North, 97° 25' 28" West

The Industrial Road / Industrial Metals site is located at 3000 Agnes Street and includes adjacent residential properties located on Bettye Street, Duncan Street, Eastgate Drive, Granada Street, Southland Drive, Westgate Drive, Margaret, and Marguerite Street. The Industrial Metals Company occupied an eight acre tract in a residential, light industrial, and commercial area of Corpus Christi, Nueces County, Texas. The Industrial Metals Company operated as a metal salvage company, dealing mainly in cracked lead acid batteries and copper coils removed from electrical transformers. The facility is currently inactive, having ceased battery cracking operations in late 1980. The Texas Office of Attorney General filed suit against former owners/operators and contributors of lead and Polychlorinated Biphenyls (PCBs) to the site on September 3, 1981 (State of Texas v. Leslie Simon Jr., et al). Company records were compiled by the Attorney General's office and used to determine a total estimated amount of lead and PCBs brought to the site. This information was also used to determine which potentially responsible parties (PRPs) were considered *de micromis*, *de minimus*, or a major contributor. Settlements by responsible parties with the Attorney General's office took the form of monetary payments, investigation and remediation, or both.

B. Background and Site Chronology

(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.)

1937 - Julius Rosenberg opened a salvage and scrap metal business at 3000 Agnes Street called General Export Iron and Metal. Operations at that time consisted mainly of scrapping electrical transformers and cracking lead acid batteries. Copper coils would be burned to remove the insulation; PCB oil would be poured onto the ground, spread on the road to control dust, saved to wash parts or burned for fuel in the winter. Cracked battery cases would be stored on and used for fill on the northern portion of the site, known as the Industrial Road site.

1955 - metals operations ceased on the Industrial Road site (northern half of the site).

1965 - Metals, Inc. bought the site from General Export Iron and Metal.

1971 - Ed Mange bought Metals, Inc. Metals, Inc. continued lead acid battery cracking and salvaging copper from transformers as well as burning the oil for fuel in an aluminum sweat furnace.

1971 and 1973 - the southern portion of the property was paved in stages by Metals, Inc.

December 6, 1977 - TWQB District 12 office conducted an inspection of the Metals, Inc. facility and documented a release of oil containing 56,000 parts per million (ppm) of polychlorinated biphenyls (PCBs).

1978 - Gulf Metals, Inc. bought all of the stock of Metals, Inc. and then sold a majority of it to Anglo Iron & Metal Company.

September 1978 - Anglo Iron & Metal Company sold the site to Industrial Salvage Company, Inc. (d/b/a Industrial Metals Company). No transformer processing occurred during Industrial Salvage's operation; however new equipment was brought onsite for shredding batteries and neutralizing the acid. Industrial Metals Company ceased lead battery salvage operations in mid-1980.

February 1981 - the Corpus Christi-Nueces County Department of Public Health and Welfare (CCNCDPH) conducted an inspection of the Industrial Road / Industrial Metals company site as part of their vector control program. The inspection revealed that there were piles of cracked batteries, whole batteries and lead stored in piles in an area one to two acres in size. The CCNCDPH recommended that the old acid neutralization pit be covered or drained, battery cases removed and the site sampled for heavy metals and PCBs.

February 11, 1981 - the CCNCDPH sampled the site for heavy metals and PCBs; results revealed high levels of both lead and PCBs. Additional samples were collected on February 25 and revealed a concentration of 450 ppm of PCBs in soil near the southern boundary of the site.

June 22, 1981 - the site was referred for formal enforcement to the Solid Waste, Enforcement, and Field Operations Division of the TDWR.

August 6, 1981 - the TDWR asked the Governor of Texas to refer the enforcement case against the "Industrial Road Site" to the Texas Attorney General. The case was assigned to Assistant Attorney General, Mr. Thomas Edwards.

April 1986 - Houston Lighting & Power (HL & P) and Central Power & Light's (CPL) contractor began an investigation of the site to determine the depth and extent of PCB contamination, the direction of ground water flow, and whether PCBs were present in groundwater at the site. The investigation concluded that PCB contaminated soil of greater than 50 ppm appeared to be limited to the western portion of the site; ground water flow is to the north-northeast; and ground water downgradient from the contaminated area was not contaminated with PCBs.

1987 - TWC approved closure plan for the Industrial Metals Company

February and May 1988 - HL&P and CPL's second contractor's investigation began to delineate the horizontal and vertical extent of PCB contamination, and to determine if the soils at the site were hazardous for lead based on EPA's EP toxicity test. The investigation concluded that

approximately 1500 cubic yards of soils containing more than 50 ppm PCBs existed at the site. It was also concluded that the soil would be considered hazardous based on the characteristic of EP toxicity for lead.

March 1989 - after evaluating sample results and considering various remedial alternatives, two plans were submitted to the State of Texas. The Partial Closure Plan for the Industrial Metals and Industrial Road Sites for PCBs only addressed the contamination in the PCB-affected areas of the sites. The Closure Plan for the Industrial Metals and Road Sites set out a plan for remediation of PCB and lead contamination on the sites. The plans were similar in design as to the excavation, removal, disposal, and capping procedures; however the Closure Plan was intended to facilitate total site closure with respect to PCB and lead contamination.

April 10, 1990 - Closure Plan approved by the TWC.

April 11, 1990 - excavation activities began; transportation and disposal of PCB and lead contaminated soil was completed before the May 8, 1990 land ban deadline.

September 1990 - the surface closure of the site was completed and ground water monitor well installation began.

March - April 1991 - EPA Screening Site Inspection contracted out by TWC for sampling. Samples taken from residential areas showed elevated lead levels.

August 1992 - EPA Screening Site Inspection report received by TWC.

May 1995 - EPA Site Strategy recommended referring site from EPA Superfund to EPA Emergency Response Branch for evaluation.

April 1999 - EPA Task Monitor and Community Relations specialist along with their contractor obtained site access from home owners. A meeting was held at the Corpus Christi City Hall between the mayor and his staff, EPA, TNRCC, and site contractor. The purpose of the meeting was to inform the mayor about the sampling of residential yards that EPA was initiating at the Industrial Road offsite.

September 1999 - EPA Expanded Site Investigation conducted; residential areas sampled, elevated lead levels in the soil confirmed.

September 2000 - EPA's Site Strategy recommended "No Further Remedial Action Planned."

November 6, 2000 - EPA letter to TNRCC indicated no further EPA action at the site would be undertaken; any further actions should be undertaken by TNRCC.

April 25, 2002 - TNRCC briefing for City of Corpus Christi mayor, city council and legislative staff.

May 2002 - TNRCC provided EPA's sampling results to residents whose yards had been sampled.

TNRCC sent out access request letters to area residents whose yards TNRCC would like to sample.

May 2002 - TNRCC newsletter sent to area residents containing a short history and general information on 11 residences that had lead in soils above the health protective level of 500 ppm.

July 2002 - TNRCC newsletter sent to area residents containing information about additional soil sampling and advising residents whose soil was being tested that results would be mailed out later in the month. In addition, residents were advised about the blood lead screening for children.

July 11, 2002 - TNRCC in conjunction with the Corpus Christi-Nueces County Department of Public Health and Welfare conducted blood lead testing for children living in the following areas: 200 block Eastgate, 200 & 300 block Westgate, 3400 blocks of Bluebonnet, Kenwood, Southland and Wellington.

August 21, 2002 - TNRCC's contractor initiated mobilization for removal project.

August 26, 2002 - Press release issued by TNRCC announcing soil removal to begin August 27, 2002, in twenty four residential yards.

August 27, 2002 - Remediation started on the first residence.

September 2002 - TCEQ newsletter sent to area residents providing information on the July 11, 2002 blood lead sampling results and information about the second blood lead sampling to be held on September 19, 2002.

September 3, 2002 - Remediation completed on the first residence.

September 19, 2002 - TCEQ in conjunction with the Corpus Christi-Nueces County Department of Public Health and Welfare conducted blood lead testing for children and adults living in the following areas; 200 block Eastgate, 200 & 300 blocks of Longview West, 200 & 300 block Westgate, 3400 blocks of Bluebonnet, Kenwood, Southland and Wellington.

December 6, 2002 - Remediation completed on the last of 29 residences.

Total amount of soil and sod removed during the remediation	2566 cubic yards
Total amount of backfill placed in remediated areas	2281 cubic yards
Total amount of sod placed in remediated areas	10175 square yards

Community Profile

Corpus Christi is the county seat of Nueces County and is located along the central Texas Gulf Coast. Corpus Christi is home to the Corpus Christi Naval Air Station and is the gateway to the Padre Island National Seashore. In addition Corpus Christi has a large commercial sea port with eight cargo docks and 11 oil docks for sending and receiving commercial products. Once the commercial products are unloaded, Corpus Christi has several transportation arteries for sending and receiving the products nationwide. They include the following;

- a) U.S. Highway 77 North to Victoria leading to U.S. Highway 59 North and Houston
- b) U.S. Highway 77 South to Kingsville, Harlingen, Brownsville and the Mexican border
- c) State Highway 44 West to Freer leading to U.S Highway 59 South to Laredo and the Mexican border
- d) U.S. Highway 181 to San Antonio servicing rural south central and central coastal Texas
- e) Interstate Highway 37 a direct route to San Antonio
- f) Union Pacific & Southern Pacific Railroad
- g) Texas Mexican Railway

The Industrial Road / Industrial Metals site is an eight acre tract of land located at 3000 Agnes Street IN Corpus Christi, Texas. The area is part of Corpus Christi City Council District 1 and Nueces County Precinct 1. At the state level, the site is within the boundaries of House District 34 and Senate District 20. At the national level, the site is in Congressional District 27.

The Industrial Road / Industrial Metals site is zoned for heavy industrial use. The area around the site is composed of residential, industrial and commercial pieces of property. The residential (north and northwest) areas around the site are composed of approximately 475 homes with 80% of them being occupied. Of the occupied homes 70% are owner occupied. The average family size for the area is 3.5 people. Of the estimated 1,137 residents living in the area approximately 75% are of Hispanic origin.

Areas around the site include:

- a) north of the site are residential properties
- b) northeast and east of the site are commercial properties
- c) south of the site (across Agnes Street) are commercial properties, behind these properties are residential properties
- d) west of the site are commercial properties
- e) northwest of the site are residential properties

With residential properties located north and south of the site and prevailing winds from the southeast to northwest, TNRCC staff determined that additional investigation would be conducted in the following areas:

Portions of Margaret Street (north of site)
 Portions of Duncan and Marguerite (south of site)
 200 block's of Eastgate and Westgate
 Portions of the 3400 block's of Bluebonnet, Kenwood, Southland, and Wellington
 (northwest of site).

The U.S. Census estimates the 2000 population for the area at the following:

	Nueces County	Corpus Christi Census County Division (CCD) Nueces County	Census Tract 6 Nueces County	Block Group 8, Census Tract 6, Nueces County
RACE				
Total Population	313,645	269,359	7,142	1,137
One race	303,837	260,773	6,934	1,104
White	225,912	190,937	4,283	717
Black or African American	13,307	12,905	461	112
American Indian and Alaska Native	1994	1,738	57	5
American Indian	1099	959	21	
Alaska Native	13	13		
Both American Indian and Alaska Native				
American Indian or Alaska Native, not specified	882	766	36	
Asian	3632	3,448	53	14
Asian Indian	671	599	35	
Chinese	354	338	1	
Filipino	1489	1,446	3	
Japanese	166	155	6	
Korean	332	317	2	
Vietnamese	279	274	6	
Other Asian categories	287	267		
Two or more Asian categories	54	52		
Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander	230	208	4	
Native Hawaiian	58	52		
Samoan	28	28		
Guamanian or Chamorro	57	49	1	
Other Pacific Islander category	84	76	3	
Two or more Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander categories	3	3		

Some other race	58,762	51,537	2,076	256
Two or more races	9,808	8,586	208	33
Two races including some other race	7,166	6,182	168	
Two races excluding some other race, and three or more races	2,642	2,404	40	
Two races excluding some other race	2,313	2,109	36	
Three or more races	329	295	4	
HISPANIC OR LATINO				
Total population	313,645	269,359	7,142	1,137
Hispanic or Latino (of any race)	174,951	150,112	5,535	832
Mexican	113,334	97,629	3,448	
Puerto Rican	773	722	12	
Cuban	344	321	6	
Other Hispanic or Latino	60,500	51,440	2,069	
Not Hispanic or Latino	138,694	119,247	1,607	305
RACE AND HISPANIC OR LATINO				
Total population	313,645	269,359	7,142	
One race	303,837	260,773	6,934	
Hispanic or Latino	168,106	144,224	5,376	
Not Hispanic or Latino	135,731	116,549	1,558	
Two or more races	9,808	8,586	208	
Hispanic or Latino	6,845	5,888	159	
Not Hispanic or Latino	2,963	2,698	49	

Community Involvement and Concerns

The Corpus Christi area is home to many commercial businesses, which include petroleum companies and chemical producers. The Corpus Christi community has historically been involved in ensuring that the community's concerns are voiced.

At the Industrial Road / Industrial Metals area, several of the nearby residents have taken an active interest in ensuring that the area is cleaned and safe for their families. During the Industrial Road / Industrial Metals offsite cleanup, the residents were aware of the activities being conducted to remove lead-contaminated soils.

TCEQ provided free blood lead testing for children in cooperation with the CCNCPHD. The July blood lead testing area included the following areas: 200 block Eastgate, 200 & 300 block Westgate, 3400 blocks of Bluebonnet, Kenwood, Southland and Wellington. This blood lead testing was conducted on July 11, 2002, for children at Oak Park Elementary School. Fifteen children were tested and all test results were normal. The September blood lead testing area included the following areas: 200 block Eastgate, 200 & 300 blocks of Longview West, 200 & 300 block Westgate, 3400 blocks of Bluebonnet, Kenwood, Southland and Wellington. This blood lead testing was conducted on September 19, 2002, for children and adults at Oak Park Elementary School. Over 40 children and adults were tested with all test results being normal.

Both blood lead testing events provided the residents opportunities to discuss possible effects of lead on children and ways to limit exposure from all types of lead.

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 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:

www.tnrcc.state.tx.us/permitting/remed/superfund/index.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.

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* Denotes Industrial Road / Industrial Metals site in their district.

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* Denotes Industrial Road / Industrial Metals site in their district.

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The Honorable Betty Jean Longoria
County Commissioner PCT 2
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Corpus Christi Texas 78401
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The Honorable Oscar O Ortiz
County Commissioner PCT 3
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Corpus Christi Texas 78401
Phone 361.888.0267

The Honorable Chuck Cazalas
County Commissioner PCT 4
Nueces County Courthouse
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Corpus Christi Texas 78401
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City of Corpus Christi

The Honorable Loyd Neal
Mayor City of Corpus Christi
1201 Leopard Street
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Corpus Christi
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AREA NEWS MEDIA

Corpus Christi Caller - Times

P O Box 9136
820 Lower North Broadway
Corpus Christi Texas 78469
Phone 361.2011

KAJA - TV Channel 68 (Tele)
P O Box 840
409 South Staples
Corpus Christi Texas 78403-08401
Phone 361.886.6101

KLLL - TV Channel 3 (ABC)
P O Box 6669
5002 South Padre Island Drive
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Phone 361.986.8300

KORO - TV Channel 28 (Univision)
P O Box 2667
102 North Mesquite Street
Corpus Christi Texas 78401
Phone 361.883.2823

KRIS - TV Channel 6 (NBC)
P O Box 840
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Corpus Christi Texas 78403-0840
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KTMV - TV Channel 8 (UPN)
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2209 North Padre Island Drive
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KBSO FM (94.7)
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KEDT FM (90.3)
4455 South Padre Island Drive #38
Corpus Christi Texas 78411-4481
Phone 361.855.2213

KEYS AM (1440)
P O Box 9757
2117 Leopard Street
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Phone 361.882.7411

KFGG FM (88.7)
4120 South Padre Island Drive #201
Corpus Christi Texas 78405
Phone 361.298.0887

KFTX FM (97.5)
1520 South Port Avenue
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Phone 361.883.5987

KINE AM (1330)
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KLHB FM (98.3)
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826 South Padre Island Drive
Corpus Christi Texas 78467-7991
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KLTG FM (96.5)
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1300 Antelope
Corpus Christi Texas 78403-0898
Phone 361.882.5483

KLUX FM (89.5)
1200 Lantana Street
Corpus Christi Texas 78407-1112
Phone 361.289.2487

KMXR FM (93.9)
501 Tupper Lane
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Phone 361.560.5697

KNDA FM (102.9)
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KUNO AM (1400)
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PROGRAM DOCUMENT REPOSITORIES

1. Corpus Christi Central Library
Reference Area
805 Comanche Street
Corpus Christi Texas 78401
Phone 361.880.7070

2. Texas Commission on Environmental Quality
Records Management Center

Physical Address

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