

# Ballard Pits State Superfund Site



## *Commissioners*

Buddy Garcia, Chairman

Larry R. Soward

Bryan Shaw, Ph.D.

## *Executive Director*

Mark Vickery

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Si tiene alguna pregunta  
o necesita informacion  
adicional favor de llamar  
al 1-800-633-9363 y  
hable con John Flores

## Site Update

### *West Pit*

The Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ) completed removal activities in the West Pit in 2008. In total, the TCEQ disposed of approximately 16,000 tons of waste materials generated from the cleanup of the West Pit in an approved waste disposal facility. After removal and disposal of the waste material, the West Pit was filled to grade with clean soil and the original monitoring wells displaced by the removal activities were reestablished.

### *East Pit*

The TCEQ performed additional investigation of the East Pit to reexamine the remaining waste and the options for cleanup and is gearing up to begin removal activities at the East Pit soon. Similar to the removal activities in the West Pit, the TCEQ and its contractor will be excavating the waste material from the East Pit, mixing it with cement kiln dust to make it more solid, and transporting it to an approved waste disposal facility.

TCEQ's contractor is currently preparing the Site for removal activities. This includes construction of the berm around the pit, the mobilization of equipment, and road work within the Ballard property. Road work is necessary to ensure the dump trucks and other heavy equipment that will eventually excavate and transport the contaminated material from the East Pit have suitable road surface.

### *Other Site Updates*

TCEQ worked with our contractor to secure the Site in preparation for the 2008 hurricane season. The pits were inspected following Hurricanes Dolly and Ike and no adverse impacts to the Site were reported. In preparation for this hurricane season, a Hurricane Contingency Plan has been added to the onsite Health & Safety Plan.

The TCEQ continues to sample area wells to monitor for movement of contamination away from the Site. The residential wells adjacent to the pits and Site monitoring wells were sampled in November and December 2008 and again in March 2009.

Analytical results from the November 2008 sampling event indicated the possible contamination of two residential wells adjacent to the pits. The chemical bis(2-ethylhexyl)phthalate, a manufactured chemical that is commonly added to plastics, was detected above the health based level set by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency. Although detection of this chemical is believed to be associated with the type of sampling equipment used and not related to the Site, filtration systems were installed on both wells as a precaution.

To date, no groundwater impacts from contaminants of concern attributable to the site have been observed in residential water wells.

***Site Contacts***

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***Information Repositories***

TCEQ Records Management Center  
Building E, First Floor  
12100 Park 35 Circle  
Austin, Texas 78753  
(512) 239-2920

Corpus Christi Public Library  
Northwest Branch  
3202 McKinzie Road  
Corpus Christi, Texas 78410  
(361) 241-9329

Internet address:

[www.tceq.state.tx.us/remediation/superfund/index.html](http://www.tceq.state.tx.us/remediation/superfund/index.html)

***Announcement***

The Texas Commission on Environmental Quality has been invited to attend the Nueces County Commissioner's bi-monthly meeting on May 20<sup>th</sup> to provide an update on the Ballard Pits site. The meeting is scheduled for 9:00 am at the Nueces County Courthouse at 901 Leopard Street, Corpus Christi, Texas 78401.

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