

# Ballard Pits State Superfund Site Update

## October 2008

### Community Meeting

The Texas Commission on Environmental Quality hosted a Community Meeting on May 6, 2008 to provide information and discuss the current status of the removal action at the Ballard Pits Proposed State Superfund Site (the Site).

#### Commissioners

Buddy Garcia, Chairman  
Larry R. Soward  
Bryan Shaw, Ph.D.

#### Executive Director

Mark R. Vickery, P.G.



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TCEQ officials explained that during the removal process an additional volume of waste and higher than anticipated percentage of hazardous waste in the West Pit was discovered. This resulted in project costs substantially higher than originally budgeted, preventing completion of the removal action as proposed. TCEQ explained that it would finish work in the West Pit but be unable to continue to address the East Pit with the available funding provided through August 31, 2008. Meeting attendees were assured that additional investigation would be conducted to evaluate the remaining waste and the associated costs to ensure some certainty as the project moves forward.

Approximately twenty-one members of the community attended the meeting and provided input regarding the suspension of the removal action.

### Site Update

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 April and again in July. No contaminants of concern associated with the Site were detected above levels presenting a risk to health in any of the residential samples. Ongoing sampling continues to indicate the contaminants are confined to the Site.

### *TCEQ has completed the removal of waste material from the West Pit.*

The West Pit was then backfilled to grade with clean soil. In total, the TCEQ disposed of 6,986 tons of hazardous and 8,327 tons of non-hazardous waste materials from the West Pit in an approved waste disposal facility.

Other site activities include the reestablishment of both the south berm on the East Pit and the original monitoring wells displaced by activities at the West Pit.

TCEQ worked with our contractor to secure the site in preparation for the hurricane season. The pits were inspected following Hurricanes Dolly and Ike and no adverse impacts to the Site were reported.

### Future Activities

The TCEQ's commitment to the cleanup of the Ballard Site is unchanged. In light of what was learned during the cleanup of the

West Pit, however, TCEQ must conduct additional investigation of the East Pit during the fall of 2008 to reexamine the remaining waste, the options for cleanup, and the costs to ensure the successful completion of the remediation efforts. The results of this planning and any new schedules for action will be shared with the community as soon as they are available.

### 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)

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