



COMMUNITY RELATIONS PLAN
FOR HAZARDOUS WASTE SITE REMEDIAL ACTION

IMPERIAL OIL COMPANY
MARLBORO TOWNSHIP
MONMOUTH COUNTY
DECEMBER, 1984

NEW JERSEY DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION
DIVISION OF WASTE MANAGEMENT
HAZARDOUS SITE MITIGATION ADMINISTRATION

PREFACE

This Community Relations Plan is primarily an internal working document which serves as a guide to communication with the affected community. The activities and schedules in the Plan may be altered according to future prevailing circumstances.

IMP 001 0757

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FOR REMEDIAL ACTION AT THE IMPERIAL OIL COMPANY SITE
MARLBORO TOWNSHIP, MONMOUTH COUNTY
DECEMBER 1984

Introduction

This Community Relations Plan outlines activities to be conducted during Superfund hazardous waste remedial action at the Imperial Oil Company site in Monmouth County. The plan is designed to inform public officials and citizens, as well as to receive input from them on the remedial action. The plan may be updated periodically to reflect project activities and public involvement. The plan schedule is based on the project status as of December 1984. The Imperial Oil Company site was included on the National Priorities List issued by the United States Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA) in December, 1982. Of 95 New Jersey sites on the National Priorities List, the Imperial Oil Company site is ranked 82nd in priority.

A. Background

The Imperial Oil Company (IOC) site occupies an area of 4.2 acres in Marlboro Township, Monmouth County. The site is an active oil blending facility, bounded by Texas Road to the northwest, Greenwood Road to the southwest, and N.J. Route 19 to the east. Structures, asphalt, and pavement extend over most of the site, with the remaining area characterized by sandy soil. The process area is fully secured by a six foot chain link fence. On the northeast corner of the property line is located a fire pond, from which an intermittent stream flows to the northwest and eventually into Lake Lefferts, 1.3 miles away. The area west and northwest of the site is a bog or wetland. In addition, two off-site areas are associated with the Imperial Oil Company site. The first is located approximately 1000 feet off Greenwood Road, and occupies approximately one-half acre. The second off-site area is located approximately 100 feet north of the first, and also occupies approximately one-half acre. Both off-site areas are unsecured.

The buildings on the Imperial Oil property were erected around 1912. In the past, the IOC property has housed a tomato ketchup and tomato paste operation, a chemical company which produced arsenic acid and calcium arsenic, and a company which manufactured flavors and essences. Around 1950, Champion Chemical Oil Company acquired the property and operated an oil reclamation operation, along with Eagle Asphalt. The Champion Chemical Company leased the property to the IOC from the mid-1960s to the present. Waste disposal practices by the owners/operators of the site prior to the 1950s are not known. Between 1950-1953, large piles of oil-saturated soils are alleged to have been on the site for an unspecified amount of time before eventual removal to the Morganville dump. Other oil-contaminated soils are suspected of having been dumped on the east side of the property during the same period. In April 1981, the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection (NJDEP) inspectors found that excessive oil spills from the tank farm area onto nearby soils had occurred. In November 1981 NJDEP, Imperial Oil Company, and the Champion Chemical Company entered

into an Administrative Consent Order mandating various facilities' improvements, in addition to a comprehensive site cleanup. A Remedial Action Master Plan (RAMP) was completed by the USEPA during the summer of 1983.

A waste fill area and a waste pile contribute to the contamination existing on site. Contaminated surface water runoff was also found to run directly north into a bermed area. Oil water separators, which were intended to control the surface water runoff, had not been operational for some time. Therefore, the surface water accumulated resulting in periodic uncontrolled discharges into the pond area.

Extensive soil and sediment sampling has been conducted at both the on-site and off-site locations in the vicinity of the IOC. On-site soil sampling conducted by the NJDEP showed high levels of arsenic, barium, lead and chromium. Sediment samples taken from the streambed at off-site locations also indicated the presence of particular metals, organics, and polychlorinated biphenyls (PCBs). Analysis of the shallow groundwater beneath the site indicated the presence of metals along with volatile and base neutral extractable organics.

Although under a State directive to implement a comprehensive site cleanup plan, Imperial Oil has not made significant progress in undertaking these remedial actions or continuing its facility improvements and monitoring. In May 1984, in violation of State testing directives, Imperial Oil was found to be pumping water out of the bermed area without prior testing. Analysis of the water detected unacceptable concentrations of arsenic.

B. Key Issues

The Imperial Oil Company site has shown evidence of contamination of soils, surface waters and ground water. The contaminants include arsenic, lead, chromium, PCBs, petroleum hydrocarbons, and other organic contaminants. The two off-site dump areas, apparently attributable to Imperial Oil or a predecessor, also show contamination by petroleum hydrocarbons, heavy metals, and PCBs.

Of primary concern is the potential impact of contaminated ground water, already detected in on-site monitor wells, on the water supply of area residents. The IOC site overlies the Englishtown Aquifer, an important water source for Monmouth County. Some of the residents in the immediate vicinity of the site have domestic wells which draw upon the Englishtown aquifer. Other residents depend on public water supplied from wells which pump from deeper aquifers. Limited sampling of private wells indicated that the wells were uncontaminated in 1981. However, the acceptability of the sampling and analytical procedures is questionable, and monitoring must be continued and expanded to include deeper monitor wells.

Surface water discharge to both the fire pond and the intermittent stream which runs from it and through the off-site dumps, eventually flows into the recreationally used Lake Lefferts, and is also of concern. It is uncertain whether the migration of contaminated waters and sediments poses a significant threat to the water quality of Lake Lefferts.

Because of the presence of the secure chain link fence, the Imperial Oil property is inaccessible to the public. The two off-site dump areas are however, unsecured, and pose a risk for direct contact with contaminants. The two off-site areas have also not been indisputably linked to the Imperial Oil Company. The State has not yet determined liability for the off-site areas, and the company is unwilling to accept responsibility for them, claiming that it is not responsible for contamination by firms which previously occupied the site.

The IOC is continuing to operate at the site although it has not fully complied with NJDEP directives to initiate spill prevention and control measures. There is local concern over whether the facility should be permitted to continue operations in light of its ongoing non-compliance with State directives.

C. History of Community Involvement

Although there has been little residential concern over the Imperial Oil Site, local officials have expressed concern over the potential impact of the contamination, primarily its affect on the area's water supply. There is concern over the possible contamination of Lake Lefferts and the effects of the contamination on local wells.

In May 1981, local health officials discovered an oil spill draining into the stream that empties into Lake Lefferts. They requested that the State review the situation and take action if necessary. At the request of Marlboro Township Mayor Saul Hornik, the Monmouth County Health Officer, Lester Jargowsky, conducted a local investigation into the Imperial Oil facility and its two associated areas. The investigation established contamination at the facility and the associated areas, and it also purported to have established a direct causal link between contamination at the facility and contamination in the pond and the nearby stream. Local action has drawn attention to the site by such means as inclusion of the area on a Monmouth County legislative officials' tour of several hazardous waste sites. The tour was intended to focus attention on the County's water quality problems so that State and Federal funds for cleaning up the problems in Marlboro Township could be obtained. (Another prominent Superfund site, Burnt Fly Bog, is also located in Marlboro Township.)

The 1981 directives issued by the State to Imperial Oil have not been entirely satisfactory to local officials. The State action so far has been primarily concerned with the facility itself. Although the two off-site areas were included in the RAMP, local officials are concerned that the off-site dump areas will not be included in any cleanup plans.

Local media attention to this site has been limited, but a June 1984 article in the Asbury Park Press focused attention on the contaminated water in the site's containment area. At that time, Mayor Hornik further questioned why the facility was still operational.

D. Objectives of the Community Relations Program:

1. Ensure that elected officials and interested citizens are kept abreast of plans and site developments.
2. Ensure the participation of local officials in all appropriate community relations activities and establish means of obtaining input from affected citizens and community leaders on remedial alternatives under consideration.
3. Provide local press with accurate information about important proposed actions.
4. Provide feedback to participants.

E. Community Relations Techniques To Be Used

Technique

Objective

1. Telephone Calls

-- to maintain lines of communication with local and other officials as well as involved citizens.

2. Briefings

-- to inform officials, residents and other interested parties about the nature of the planned remedial action, and to provide them with background material on the technical studies when requested.

3. Press Releases

-- to provide accurate information to local press and interested citizens (through the NJDEP Press Office).

4. Public Meetings

-- to inform citizens of planned or ongoing activities and to discuss and receive citizen feedback on possible courses of action.

5. Fact Sheets

-- to be distributed at meetings or in response to local press or citizen inquiries to ensure public understanding of basic issues involved in the remedial program.

6. Responsiveness Summary

-- to provide a final summary of citizen concerns and problem areas, and the governmental response to them.

F. Proposed Work Plan and Estimated Schedule (Calendar Year)

<u>Time (Initiation of Action)</u>	<u>Activities</u>	<u>Staff Responsibilities</u>
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Remedial Investigation/
Feasibility Study

1st Quarter of 1985
(The report is expected to
take 12 months for com-
pletion.)

2 Public meetings-- one at initiation of study, one at completion of study to present alter- natives	*
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2 Fact Sheets--one at initiation of study, one to de- scribe alternative remedial actions	**
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3 Press Releases--one to advertise public meetings, one to an- nounce engineering design	***
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1 Responsiveness Summary conducted in cooper- ation with contractor after public discussion of alternatives and 30 day comment period	**
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Engineering Design

3rd quarter of 1986
(The design phase is
expected to take nine
months for completion.)

1 Public Meeting	*
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1 Press Release to advertise public meeting	***
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1 Fact Sheet	*
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Proposed Work Plan and Estimated Schedule (continued)

Removal/Treatment/Construction

3rd quarter of 1987	2 Public Meetings (one at initiation of remedial action, one at completion)	*
	2 Press Releases to advertise public meetings	***
	2 Fact Sheets	**

Post Closure/Summary
of Activities

1 Responsiveness Summary	**
1 Media Appearance, as necessary	*

Travel

Approximately 6 trips to site location, with additional trips scheduled as necessary to meet community requirements	*
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- * NJDEP/HSMA⁺ Community Relations Representative(s)
- NJDEP/HSMA Bureau of Site Management Representative(s)
- NJDEP/HSMA Bureau of Environmental Evaluation and Risk Assessment
Representative(s) (as necessary)
- NJDEP/HSMA Administrator (as necessary)
- NJDEP Legal or other staff (as necessary)
- USEPA Representative(s) (as necessary)
- Project Contractor, (when requested)
- ** NJDEP/HSMA Community Relations Staff
- *** NJDEP/HSMA Community Relations Staff, through the NJDEP Public Information
Office

⁺ Hazardous Site Mitigation Administration

Note: Staff work hours could not be estimated at this time.

G. Contacts

Federal Officials

Senator Bill Bradley (202) 229-3224
Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

District Office: (201) 688-0960
P.O. Box 1720
Union, NJ 07083

Senator Frank Lautenberg (202) 224-4744
Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

District Office: (201) 695-3030
970 Broad St., Room 939A
Newark, NJ 07102

Congressman Matthew J. Rinaldo (202) 225-5361
(District 7)
House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

District Office: (201) 780-7800
25 E. Main Street
Freehold, NJ 07728

State Officials

Senator Thomas Gagliano (201) 870-6611
1080 Broadway
P.O. Box 67
West Long Branch, NJ 07764

Assemblyman John O. Bennett (201) 462-9721
31 West Main Street
Freehold, NJ 07728

Assemblywoman Marie S. Muhler (201) 462-9009
31 West Main Street
P.O. Box 838
Freehold, NJ 07728

County Officials

County Health Department (201) 431-7465
Hall of Records, Main Street
Freehold, NJ 07728

Lester W. Jargowsky, Public Health Coordinator
Lester Goldstein, Chairman, Solid Waste Advisory Council
Sid Leveson, Vice Chairman, Solid Waste Advisory Council

Board of Chosen Freeholders (201) 431-7000
Hall of Records
Freehold, NJ 07728

Thomas J. Lynch, Jr., Freeholder Director

Office of the County Administrator (201) 431-7000
Hall of Records
Freehold, NJ 07728

Theodore Narozanick, Administrator

County Planning Board (201) 431-7460
P.O. Box 1255
Freehold, NJ 07728-1255

Robert Clark, Director of County Planning

Local Officials

Marlboro Township

Saul G. Hornik, Mayor (201) 536-0202
1979 Township Drive
Marlboro, NJ 07746

Alayne M. Shepler, Administrator (201) 536-0200
Evelyn D. Piccolini, Clerk
Roger Baum, Planning Board Chairman
David Birnbaum, Township Engineer

Interested Old Bridge Township Officials

Old Bridge Township Environmental Commission
48 Margaret Street
Old Bridge, NJ 08857

Blanche Hoffman, Chairman (201) 721-5600

Thomas Sikorski, Health Officer (201) 679-4800
Old Bridge Township
1 Old Bridge Plaza
Old Bridge, NJ 08857

Citizens Groups

Burnt Fly Bog Citizens Advisory Committee
1979 Township Drive
Marlboro, NJ 07746

Sally Mollica, Chairwoman

(201) 431-7900

Residents and Concerned Citizens

(Fourteen Individuals on Mailing List)

New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection

Akil Verma, Site Manager (HSMA)	(609) 984-2990
Grace Singer, Chief, Office of Community Relations (HSMA)	(609) 984-3081
George Schlosser, Site Management Team (ORS)	(609) 984-7574
Marja Van Ouwerkerk, Site Management Team (HSMA)	(609) 633-6801
Dennis Hart, Site Management Team (DWR)	(609) 292-0580

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency

Don Lynch, Project Manager	(212) 264-8216
Lillian Johnson, Community Relations Coordinator	(212) 264-2515

Media

Asbury Park Press Press Plaza Asbury Park, NJ 07712	(201) 744-7000
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Editor: Donald Lass
Reporter: Joseph Sapia

New Transcript P.O. Box 679 Highway 9 Freehold, NJ 07728	(201) 462-0292
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Editor: Jeanette Blair

The Star Ledger Star-Ledger Plaza Newark, NJ 07101	(201) 877-4141
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Editor: Mort Pye

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Daily Register
1 Register Plaza
Shrewsbury, NJ 07701

(201) 542-4000

Editor: Arthur Kamin

The News Tribune
1 Hoover Way
Woodbridge, NJ 07055

(201) 442-0400

Editor: Charles Paolino

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