



You are invited to attend the Falcon Refinery Superfund Site Proposed Plan Virtual Public Meeting August 27, 2020



The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), in cooperation with the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ), will hold a virtual meeting on the Proposed Plan for the Falcon Refinery Superfund Site (Site). As we navigate our way through this unique time, the health and safety of our staff, contractors, and the communities we serve is our top priority. As a result, EPA and its Superfund Site teams are conducting virtual meetings in lieu of in-person public meeting events to reflect current COVID-19 guidance from federal, state, tribal, and local officials discouraging gatherings of more than ten people at a time.

At the virtual public meeting, EPA staff will provide information and answer questions on the Proposed Plan and EPA's preferred alternative that will be used to address the Site. The virtual meeting will be held online and/or over the phone via Microsoft Teams Video and Call Conferencing on:

**Thursday, August 27, 2020
6:30 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.**

There are Two ways to attend the virtual meeting:

1. Visit the EPA's website: <https://www.epa.gov/superfund/falcon-refinery>
Click on this link: [Join Microsoft Teams Meeting](#). When the Teams page launches, select "Use Teams on Microsoft Edge" and follow the instructions. Alternatively, you can download the Microsoft Teams app to your desktop computer or mobile device prior to the meeting.
2. Call in using this phone number and Conference ID (Audio only):
 - Phone number: (844) 608-7693 United States (Toll-free)
 - Conference ID: 130 823 561#

If you have any problems joining by phone or online on the day of the meeting, please contact Jeff Criner at (713) 444-4410 for immediate assistance.

The Proposed Plan provides the results of the Remedial Investigation, describes the remedial alternatives that were evaluated in the Feasibility Study Report, solicits public review and comment on the remedial alternatives, and provides information on how the public can be involved in the remedial selection process. The Proposed Plan is available electronically at: <https://www.epa.gov/superfund/falcon-refinery>.

The Proposed Plan and the Administrative Record are available for public review at the following information repositories:

Ingleside Public Library
2775 Waco Street
Ingleside, TX 78362

Ed & Hazel Richmond Public Library
110 N. Lamont Street
Aransas Pass, TX 78336

Public comments can be offered at the virtual public meeting or can be submitted during the 30-day comment period from August 13, 2020 through September 12, 2020. All written comments should be addressed to: Brian Mueller, Remedial Project Manager, U.S. EPA Region 6 (SEDR), 1201 Elm Street, Suite 500, Dallas, TX 75270, or emailed to mueller.brian@epa.gov.

Should you have any specific needs or questions about the online virtual public meeting, please contact: Jason McKinney, Senior Public Affairs Specialist, at (214) 665-8132 or mckinney.jason@epa.gov.



Falcon Refinery Superfund Site Proposed Plan to Address Operable Unit 2

Falcon Refinery Superfund Site
Aransas Pass, San Patricio County, Texas

August 2020

This Fact Sheet will tell you about...

- Current Actions
- Future Actions
- Past Actions
- Site Location
- Site Background
- For More Information
- On the Web
- Repository Information

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), in cooperation with the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ), will hold a virtual meeting on the Proposed Plan for the Falcon Refinery Superfund Site. As we navigate our way through this unique time, the health and safety of our staff, contractors, and the communities we serve is our top priority. As a result, EPA and its Superfund Site teams are conducting virtual meetings in lieu of in-person public meeting events to reflect current COVID-19 guidance from federal, state, tribal, and local officials discouraging gatherings of more than ten people at a time. If you would like to participate in this virtual meeting online, a link can be found at the Falcon Refinery site profile page at:

<https://www.epa.gov/superfund/falcon-refinery>

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Current Actions

EPA is issuing a Proposed Plan to identify EPA’s preferred remedial approach of “No Further Action” for the wetlands and marine habitat at Operable Unit 2 of the Falcon Refinery Superfund Site.

The purposes of the Proposed Plan are:

- To present the rationale for the EPA’s preferred approach of “No Further Action” for the wetlands

and marine habitat at the Site;

- To solicit public review and comment on the preferred approach and the information contained in the Administrative Record;
- To provide the history and background information about the Site; and
- To provide details and information on how the public can be involved in the remedy selection process and where the public can find more information about the Site.

EPA is the lead agency for Site activities, and the TCEQ is the support agency. The EPA, in consultation with the TCEQ, may reassess the preferred approach of “No Further Action” presented in this Proposed Plan or select a Remedial Action based on new information or the public’s comments.

The EPA is issuing this Proposed Plan as part of its public participation responsibilities under the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act, as amended (CERCLA or Superfund), 42 U.S.C. Section 9601 *et seq.*, and Section 300.430(f)(2) of the National Oil and Hazardous Substances Pollution Contingency Plan (NCP). This Proposed Plan summarizes information that can be found in greater detail in the documents contained in the Administrative Record file for the Site. The EPA and the State encourage the public to review these documents to gain a more comprehensive understanding of the Site and Superfund activities that have been conducted at the Site.

The EPA’s preferred remedial approach is that no further action is warranted for the wetlands and marine habitat in Operable Unit 2. The results of the Remedial Investigation (RI) indicate that the wetlands and marine habitat do not pose an unacceptable current risk or potential future risk to human health or the environment.

Future Actions

After reviewing public input and comments, EPA will prepare a final Record of Decision (ROD) that documents the remedial alternatives selected by EPA for Operable Unit 2.

Past Actions

All disposal activities occurred at permitted off-site disposal facilities. The following removal activities have been completed at the Site:

- Disposed of over 7.8 million gallons of liquid hazardous waste.
- Disposed of 40 yards of petroleum contaminated soils.
- Disposed of 15 yards of hazardous solids.
- Disposed of over 200,000 pounds of hazardous sludge.
- Disposed of 50 yards of fiberglass insulation.
- Recycled 1.8 million pounds of metal.
- Recycled 17,000 gallons of oil.
- Cleaned and demolished 25 tanks.

The EPA has conducted numerous studies at the Site. The results of these studies are documented in the Phase I and Phase II Remedial Investigation/Feasibility Study (RI/FS), a Data Evaluation Summary Report, Baseline Ecological Risk Assessment, and Human Health Risk Assessment. The documents are included in the Administrative Record.

These studies concluded that there were no unacceptable risks to human health and the environment, nor to the wetlands and marine habitat at the Site. Based on these results, EPA has determined that “No Further Action” is required for Operable Unit 2.

Site Location

The Site is located 1.7 miles southeast of State Highway 361 on Farm-to-Market (FM) 2725 at the north and south corners of the intersection of FM 2725 and Bishop Road near the City of Ingleside in San Patricio County, Texas. The Site occupies approximately 104 acres.

Site Background

The Site consists of a refinery that operated intermittently and has not produced hydrocarbon products in several years. The refinery was constructed by UNI Refining in 1980 and operated intermittently under various entities for refining and storage. When in operation, the refinery had a capacity of 40,000 barrels per day and the primary products consisted of naphtha, jet fuel, kerosene, diesel, and fuel oil. The refinery also historically transferred and stored vinyl acetate. The refinery is currently inactive, except for a crude oil storage operation.

In 1990, the National Oil Recovery Corporation (NORCO) purchased the facility. NORCO did not operate the facility as a refinery but did lease the facility for use of the aboveground storage tanks. The Site was proposed to the National Priorities List (NPL) on September 05, 2002.

In 2002, the EPA notified NORCO that it was a Potentially Responsible Party (PRP) for the Site.

In June 2004, NORCO entered into two “Administrative Orders on Consent” with the EPA to perform and finance a Removal Action and a RI/FS for the Site. In the Administrative Agreement concerning the RI/FS, the EPA agreed to suspend the listing of the Site on the final NPL as long as NORCO performed the actions equivalent to those at NPL sites. The Site was designated a Superfund Alternative Site.

The objective of the Removal Action is to address the wastes from the abandoned tanks, equipment, and piping. NORCO began removing wastes from the tanks as required by the Removal Administrative Agreement.

The objective of the RI/FS was to determine the nature and extent of contamination and to gather sufficient information about the Site to support an informed risk management decision regarding which remedy was the most appropriate for the Site. NORCO began sampling activities at the Site in 2004 and started work on the Phase I RI/FS in 2007. The Phase I RI/FS was completed in 2009. After reviewing the results, EPA required NORCO to conduct a Phase II RI/FS in 2009.

On February 2010, NORCO notified the EPA that it was financially unable to perform Phase II of the RI/FS. In March 2011, the EPA notified NORCO that the Agency would take over the performance of the remaining investigative work under the RI/FS Administrative Agreement. EPA then cancelled the Site’s designation as a Superfund Alternative Site and listed it on the NPL on September 11, 2011.

In February 2012, NORCO sold the former Falcon Refinery to Lazarus Texas Refining I, LLC (LTRI). LTRI informed EPA that it would continue the work started under the Removal Administrative Agreement.

The EPA is in the process of negotiating a modified schedule to complete the Removal Action as required by the Removal Administrative Agreement. The major Removal Action items to be completed are to clean wastes/sludge from the remaining tanks and repair/demolish the tanks. LTRI will continue to conduct asbestos removal/disposal.

For More Information

Brian W. Mueller, Remedial Project Manager
U.S. EPA
214.665.7167 or 1.800.533.3508 (toll-free)

Gary Moore, On-scene Coordinator
U.S. EPA
214.665.6609 or 1.800.533.3508 (toll-free)

Jason McKinney, Senior Public Affairs Specialist
U.S. EPA
214.665.8132 or 1.800.533.3508 (toll-free)

Katie Delbecq, P.G.
Remediation Division
Texas Commission on Environmental Quality
512.239.2505

On the Web

Inquiries from the news media should be directed to the External Affairs Office at 214.665.2200.

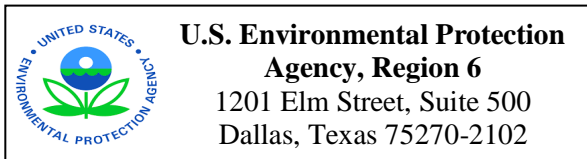
A Site Status Summary for this site can be found at <http://www.epa.gov/earth1r6/6sf/pdffiles/falcon-tx.pdf>.

For information about the Superfund Program visit <https://www.epa.gov/aboutepa/epa-region-6-south-central>.

Repository Information

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2775 Waco St.
Ingleside, TX 78362
Phone: 361.776.5355

Ed & Hazel Richmond Public Library
110 N. Lamont Street
Aransas Pass, TX 78336
Phone: 361.758.2350



**U.S. Environmental Protection
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