SITE ASSESSMENT
EPA ENVIRONMENTAL RESPONSE TEAM
EXTENT OF CONTAMINATION PROJECT MONITORING

For

American Creosote Site
Winnfield, Winn Parish, Louisiana

Prepared By

EPA - REGION VI
EMERGENCY RESPONSE BRANCH

J. Chris Petersen
Deputy Project Officer

By

Ecology and Environment, Inc.
Technical Assistance Team

March 7, 1988
Date: March 7, 1988
To: Jim Staves, OSC
EPA Region VI, Emergency Response Branch
Thru: J. Chris Petersen, DPO
EPA Region VI, Emergency Response Branch
Thru: Kishor Fruitwala, TATL
Region VI, Technical Assistance Team
From: Christopher L. Quina
Region VI, Technical Assistance Team
Subject: EPA ERT Extent of Contamination Project Oversite
Winnfield, Winn Parish, Louisiana
TDD#: T06-8710-38 B
PAN#: TLA0134SAF

On November 2, 1987, to November 5, 1987, the TAT assisted the EPA Emergency Response Branch (ERB) OSC monitor an EPA Environmental Response Team (ERT) extent of contamination survey at the American Creosote site. The project involved drilling of numerous shallow borings and completion of several borings into groundwater piezometers. Volume estimations of the process lagoon and of the tar pit area were conducted using a visual/sampling approach. All borings and volume estimation points were sampled and surveyed. The EPA OSC photodocumented all activities with the use of a rented VHS video recorder. The video camera was rented by the TAT under special projects TDD# 06-8710-39.

This report was delayed pending receipt and review of the ERT report on the project. Although the ERT report has not yet been received, additional support by the TAT can be provided at a later date if requested by the OSC.

The ERT response team consisted of two EPA ERT employees and five REAC contractor employees. The work load was divided among three groups and the OSC and TAT monitored and assisted the ERT as necessary. Meetings were held at the beginning and end of each day to discuss field findings and to redistribute work loads. A steam jenny, power auger, john boat, command post vehicle and U-Haul truck were rented in the Shreveport, Louisiana area by the REAC team and used for the duration of the project. All other
supplies and equipment were shipped to the site from the REAC and ERT offices. The project required approximately five days to complete.

The TAT and OSC conducted a surface area estimate of the tar pit area (see site sketch) using 20 foot spaced parallel measurements perpendicular to the main body (run-off direction) of the wastes. The total surface area was calculated to be 22,074 square feet or 7358 square yards using an averaged measurement approach. The extent of surface waste in the run-off path from the tar pit was also estimated and is indicated on the site sketch.

General findings by the ERT/REAC team included the observation that the site is underlain in most areas by buried wood chip mounds. It is thought that the wood chips were used to filter waste materials and were buried when flow through the chips was no longer possible. This observation is consistent with findings at other American Creosote facilities investigated by ERT/REAC. The ERT report will provide estimations of the extent and volume of subsurface wood chip/creosote materials at the site.

The TAT surface resistivity instrument was brought to the site for purposes of determining the current strength of the batteries. If the batteries were determined to be functional, the instrument was to be used to expand upon bore hole information through data correlation. It was determined that the batteries lacked sufficient current to be functional in the field. A field test was necessary for evaluating the instrument due to the unusually high current strength of the batteries (6 60 volt batteries in series) requiring high capacity electrical testing devices which are unavailable to the TAT.

As part of the overall TAT activities at the American Creosote site, a copy of the ERT report should be forwarded to the TAT for future use.

ATTACHMENTS:

1. USGS Location Map
2. Site Sketch
3. Photographs - 10
4. Unused Photographs (4) and Negatives (14)
5. TAT Field Notes
6. Copy of TDD
Photographer / Witness
Quina / Staves
Date / Time / Direction
11/3/87 / 1120 / North
Comments: REAC team conducting boring on north side of site.

Photographer / Witness
Quina / Staves
Date / Time / Direction
11/3/87 / 1155 / South
Comments: Area designated as the TAR Pit on the east side of the site.
Photographer / Witness
Quina / Staves

Date / Time / Direction
11/3/87 / 1010 / East

Comments: ERT/REAC boat prepared for use in sampling and defining the extent of contamination in the main process lagoon.

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Photographer / Witness
Quina / Staves

Date / Time / Direction
11/3/87 / 1115 / South

Comments: ERT/REAC conducting sampling of the main process lagoon.
Photographer / Witness
Quiina / Staves
Date / Time / Direction
11/3/87 / 1225 / South
Comments: Tank near process area actively overflowing.

Photographer / Witness
Quiina / Staves
Date / Time / Direction
11/3/87 / 1722 / East
Comments: Decontamination of field equipment.
Photographer / Witness
Quina / Staves

Date / Time / Direction
11/4/87 / 1620 / South

Comments: Roy F. Weston REAC team
conducting boring operations

Photographer / Witness
Quina / Staves

Date / Time / Direction
11/4/87 / 1622 / South

Comments: FPA FRT and REAC conducting
sampling of boring station

POOR QUALITY
COPYED FROM

0007044
Comments: ERT conducting surveying of boring locations

Comments: Completed drive-point monitor well near process area.
Called Dallas regarding bill received for analytical services.

11/2/87 TAT Quins, OSC's File & Stores
1530 on-site to meet ERT/React (Weston TAT)
contractors to determine weeks work plan.
left Atchisons at 0700 hours. Work plan
includes exploratory boring and resistivity
survey. Goal of work plan is to determine
extent of subsurface contamination at site.
1745 left site for hotel
1830 Meeting to discuss tomorrow's activities.
Weston team will be divided into 3

groups:
1) Tar pit 2) Lagoon 3) Bore hole group
Two ERT reps. will also work. T. Stowers
& File will monitor activity and assist
TAT with resistivity and photo documentation.
2000 Meeting ends. Will meet tomorrow at 0630.
11/3/87

0705 TAT, EPA, ERT, Weston - on - site.
0720 Meeting on - site - discussed site safety plan which everyone signed. Discussed specific assignments.
0745 OSC Staff & TAT staff left site to make phone calls and pick - up materials.
0820 Dropped OSC Staff at site and made trip to Wal - Mart for VHS tape, Duct tape and can of orange spray paint.
0940 Returned to site w/ supplies.
1010 Photo #1 & 2 - ERT booth prior to conducting transient of lagoon behind (east) porous area (view east).
1050 Photo #3 - Sampling efforts w/ clear acetate tube did not work. (East view).
1115 Attempt to sample w/ Shelby tube type sampler. This is also not working. Photo #4 (east).
1120 Photos 5 & 6 - Weston crew conducting boring operations.
              - north - on north west side of site station x 8 - 2 (east).
1155 Photo #7 - Tel pit area - on outer east side of site.
1210 Discussed slurry boat/acetate tubing arrangement being used to sample / amen to pit.
1225 Photo #8 leaking pipe work and bucket new porous area (west).
11/13/87

13:30 TAT assisting ERT w/ lagoon - east side of proven area. OSC's (? ) - Stau on phone calls.

14:30 Monitoring water instilling drive-point wells.

17:00 Completed 5th bore hole - last bore hole < 10' deep was made into a drive-point well.

17:15 TAT assisted Water with holes # 3 - 5. OSC's conducted video recording of site.

Tar pit team and lagoon (east side) completed proposed survey of the backfilled pit on northeast corner of site and abandoned pit on immediate east side of main process tanks.

17:20 Preparing steam cleaner for clean of augering equipment.

17:29 Photo #9 - steam cleaning equipment (east view).

18:00 Left site. - Meeting scheduled for later tonight.

19:45 Meeting - all personnel. - Discussed proposed bore hole locations for tomorrow.

21:15 End meeting.
0650 On site - ERT, EPA, TCA, Nestor

Attempted sensitivity survey on west side of site.

Battery in meter need replacing - survey terminated.

1155 Sent polecam #6 - operator 382.

1230 Conducted measurements at the pit area (see next page).

1620 Photos #10 Westex/ERT drilling team on east side of site.

1622 Photos #11 Westex/ERT augering team collecting samples from bore holes. 15 bore holes and three drive-point wells were completed today.

1700 Decraining equipment

1810 All personnel off site for day.

[Signature]

COPIED FROM POOR QUALITY ORIGINAL
The pit - survey & assessment.

The pit 20' increments for pop. transects.

Oct 20, 2011

11/4/13
11/5/87

0730 EPA, TAT checked out of hotel. ERT & Weston will complete on-site work today (i.e., complete burials, start wells, take water level measurements) and tomorrow they will ship samples and return home.

0830 EPA & TAT on-site. ERT & Weston preparing to enter site.

0900 Photo #12 (north) ERT conducting surveying at site.

1115 Left site for Dallas. ERT to remain on-site until tomorrow. Samples and equipment will be shipped tomorrow.

1920 Arrived in Dallas.
TAT ZONE II CONTRACT
CONTRACT NO. 68-01-7368
TECHNICAL DIRECTION DOCUMENT (TDD)
ECOLOGY AND ENVIRONMENT, INC.

1A. Cost Center: TS1306
1B. Account No.: TLA0134SAF

2. No.: T 06-8710-38
Amendment B
LAD000239814

4A. Estimate of Total Hours: 100
Total Costs: $4,000

5A. EPA Site Name: American Creosote

5B. SSID No.: G3
5C. City/County/State: Winnfield/Winn/LA

6. Source of Funds: 
   - Other
   - CERCLA
   - 311
   - UST

7. Completion Date: 3/15/88
8. Reference Info:
   - Yes
   - Attached
   - No
   - Pick-up

8A. Subtask Code: 000239814

9. Type of Activity:
   - CWA-311
   - CERCLA
   - AS SPECIFIED ABOVE
     - Site Assessment
     - Removal Funded
     - Removal PRP (AO/CO)
     - On-Site Monitoring

10. General Task Description: Provide onsite monitoring of ERT site investigation at American Creosote

12. Specific Elements:
   TDD amended for extension of the due date.

   Original TDD Specific Elements:
   1) Follow established procedures during all phases of onsite monitoring
   2) Accompany OSC to American Creosote to oversee ERT investigation
   3) Provide photodocumentation of all phases of investigation

14. Authorizing DPO: Chris Peterson
   (Signature)

16. Received by: Accepted
   Charles C. Biemel
   (TATL Signature)

17. Date: 1/15/88

Distribution:
Sheet 1 White - DPO Copy
Sheet 2 Blue - TATL Copy
Sheet 3 Green - ZPM Copy
Sheet 4 Canary - CO Copy
Sheet 5 Pink - PO Copy
Sheet 6 Goldenrod - DPO Original (Unsigned by TATL)