From: Richard Franklin
To: field.chris@epa.gov
Subject: Brownsville, TX and LST1166
Date: 03/10/2010 02:31 PM

I spoke to my contact at ESCO Marine in Brownsville and we briefly discussed the vessel. He said that on the average LSTs are not worth much for scrap because they are not very sizeable or weigh much compared to other vessels - in other words, not a whole lot of steel to make it worth their while. That being said, they ARE taking several Navy ships from Suisun Bay, CA for scrapping. They are being paid to clean the ships by the Navy, which includes ships with pcb-contaminated paint. They have the equipment and procedures for decontaminating vessels and do so regularly. They said they would entertain looking at the ship, but they would want to see info on the vessel, sampling data, etc. to see how much there is to cleaned up. Other issues they brought up: 1) the vessel might have to be dry-docked to have its hull cleaned of barnacles and potential invasive species before it goes to the Gulf of Mexico, 2) transportation costs to Brownsville would be expensive, and it would be best if the vessel could be brought to them, that is unless we're going to pay them to haul it. Sounds more and more like a Brownsville option is becoming less of an option.

When USCG looked into it, they said it would take approximately:

- $2.0 MM to scuttle here, as is,
- $3.5 MM to transport to Brownsville,
- $8.6 MM to clean and scuttle it here, or finally,
- $9.0 MM to transport to Brownsville and clean it. The least desirable option as far as costs go.

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