EPA Response to Hurricane Harvey

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REGION VI

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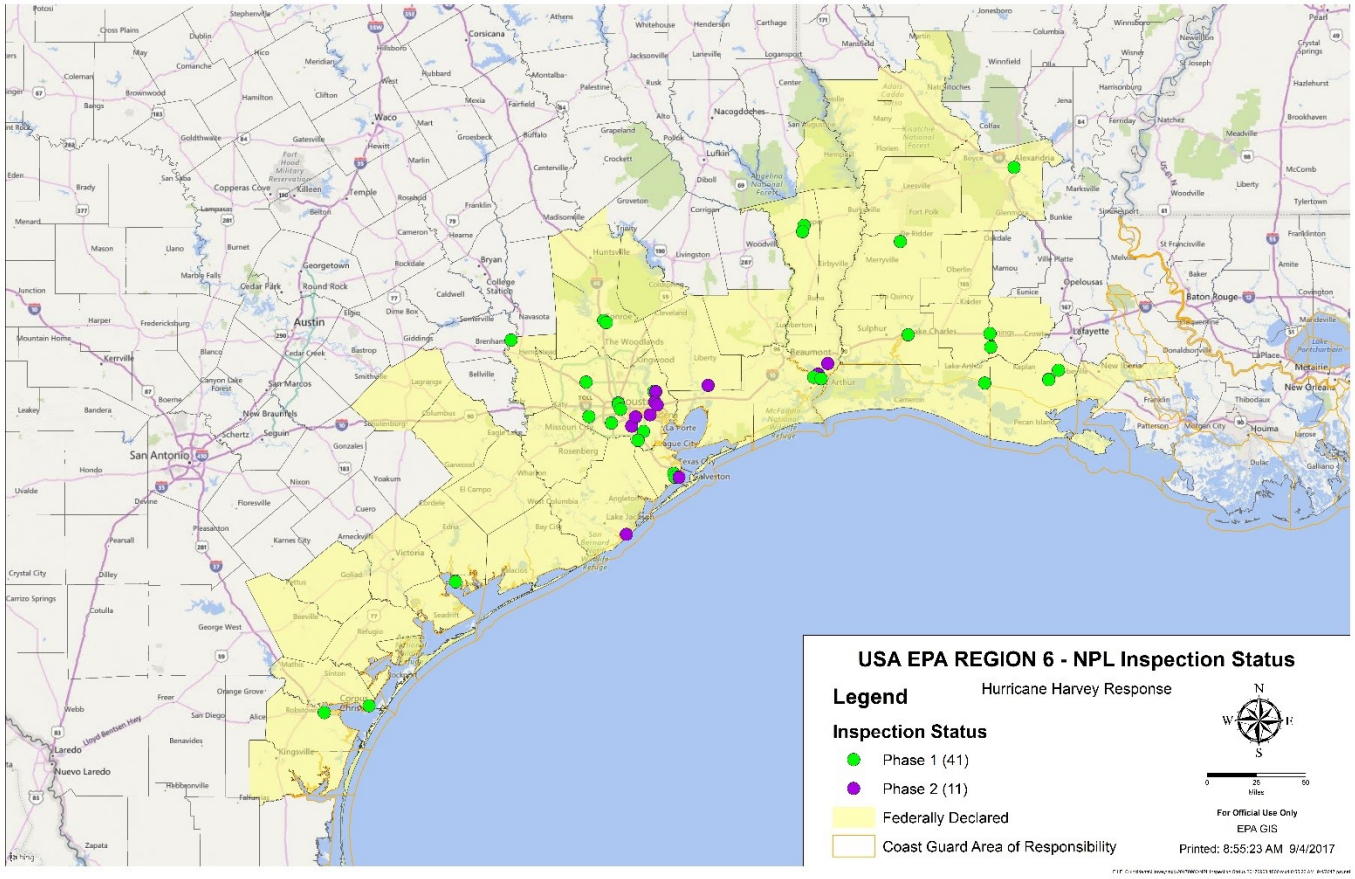
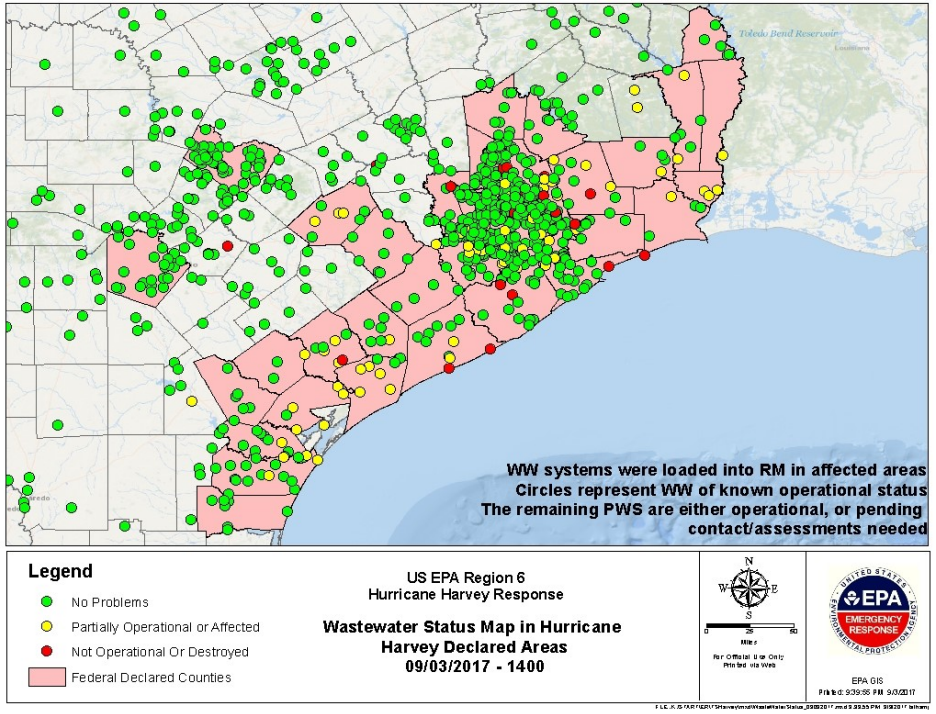
NPL Site Inspections

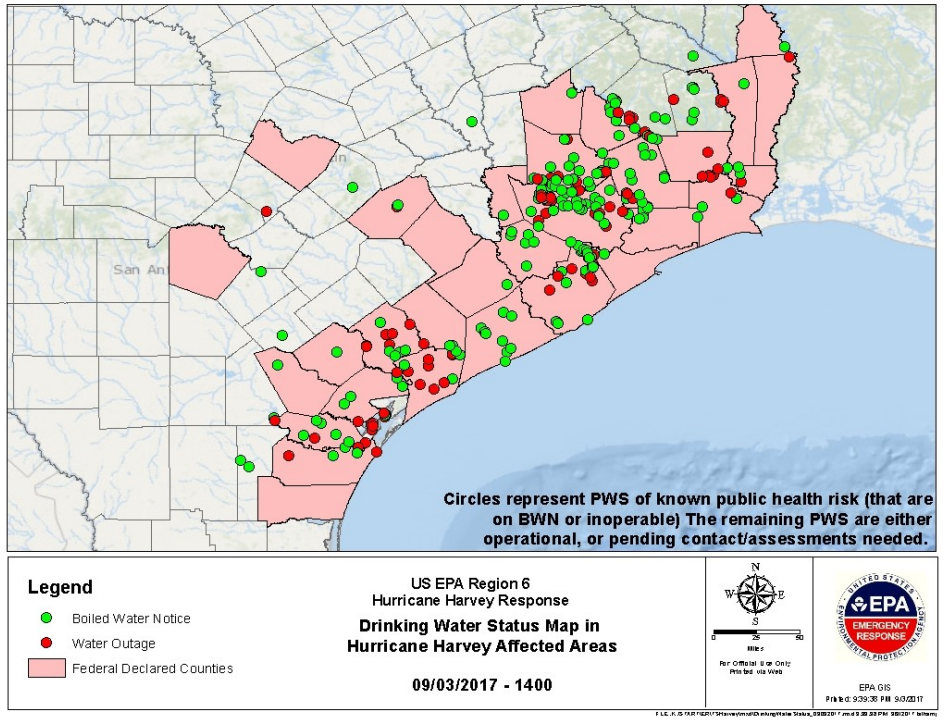


Status/Schedule for NPL Inspection

- Phase 1 – 41 Sites completed 09/01/2017
- Phase 2 – Eleven sites required inspection.
  - 5 sites scheduled for 9/04/2017
  - Remaining 6 sites scheduled for 09/05/2017

DW/WW Systems in Partnership with TCEQ





- 10 EPA personnel assisting TCEQ in Austin working phone bank
- 12 EPA personnel on teams with TCEQ assessing systems and providing assistance to restore operations.

Accomplishments To Date

- Numerous hazard evaluations completed in Houston and Corpus Christi
  - Houston – two significant releases requiring follow up
  - Corpus Christi – no significant releases
- Orphan container recovery underway
  - 73 containers recovered
- Seven fuel waivers signed, 7th waiver covers 38 states
- Four No Action Assurance letters signed
- Daily Aerial over-flights for air monitoring
- Ground support air monitoring
- 43 Phase 1 NPL site inspections completed
- Accomplishments are achieved by full integration with TCEQ and TGLO in Unified Command

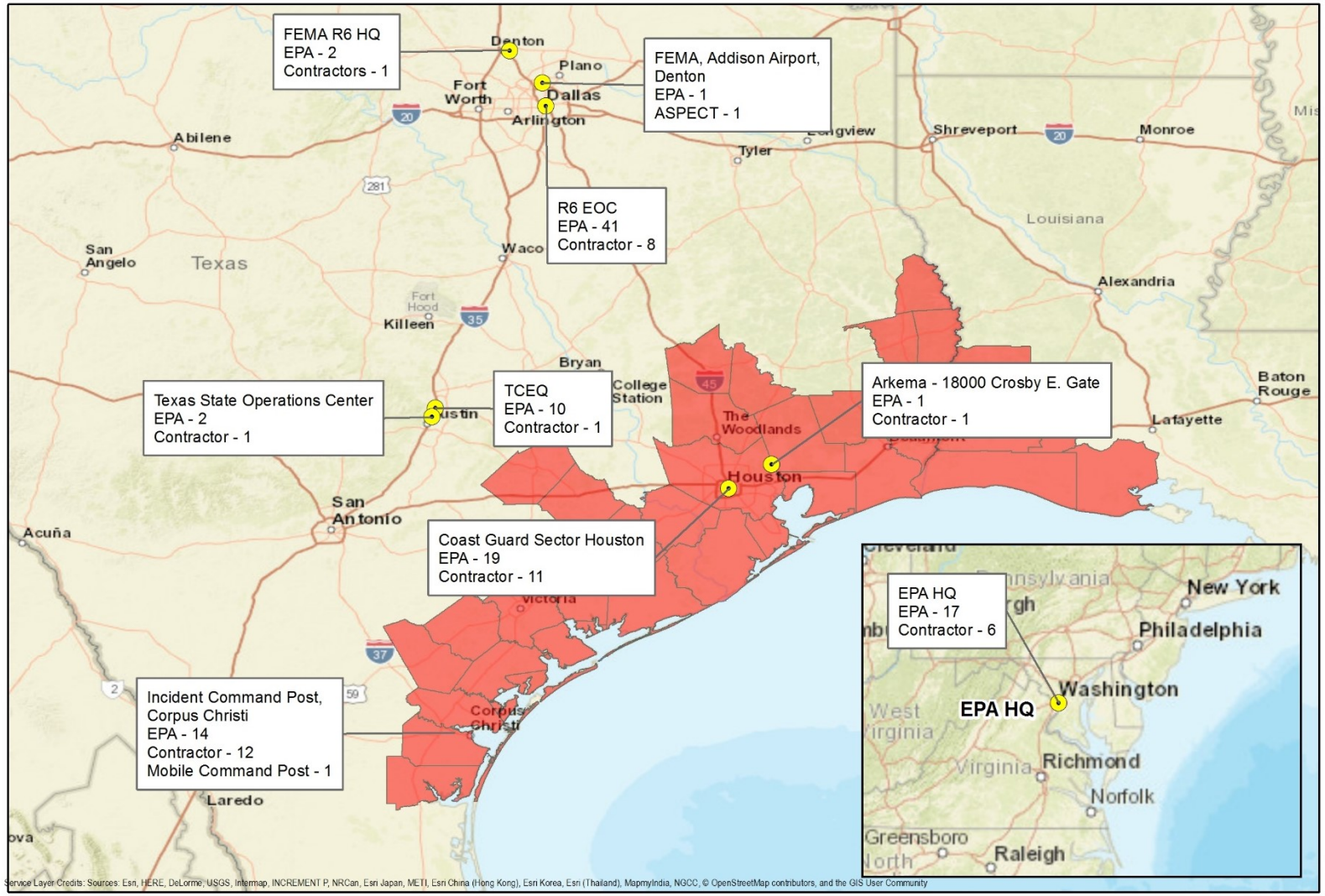
Projected Work

- Mobile lab air monitoring in Port Arthur and Houston area this week
- Additional support to DW/WW teams
- Completion of Phase 2 NPL site inspections by 9/5/17
- Private well testing
- Public outreach support for flood water hazards
- Container recovery
- Chemical and oil response as needed
- Debris – EPA involvement uncertain at this time
  - Can perform collection of HHW, E-Goods, and White Goods if tasked

Arkema Response

- EPA has provided 24-hour support to the incident.
- EPA role is to monitor environmental impacts of any releases
- Nearly constant aerial surveillance to monitor chemicals and heat imagery
  -no significant chemicals detected
- Ground air monitoring throughout incident – no significant chemicals detected.
- EPA working in Unified Command with Harris County Sheriff's Office, Harris County Fire Marshall's Office, Crosby Fire Department, TCEQ, and Arkema.
- Arkema responsible for post-incident site management, under TCEQ oversight.

EPA Resources



People supporting the Response as of now

[redacted]

EPA: 106

Over the next 72 hours: 173

[redacted]

Contractors: 39

Over the next 72 hours 90

[redacted]

1 person = 10 people

EPA Assets

Portable High-Throughput Integrated Laboratory Identification System (PHILIS)

Trace Atmospheric Gas Analyzer (TAGA):
EPA's Mobile Sampling and Analysis System

Effective Site Clean-up

- EPA integrates and leverages authorities to maximize effective clean-up of sites.
- EPA and TCEQ partner to solve problems that are bigger than individual EPA or TCEQ authorities.
- TCEQ conducted the Harvey impact inspection of the Geneva Superfund site (one of the 42 in the affected area) because it was passed to Texas for Operation and Maintenance after EPA cleanup.
- EPA conducted an initial cleanup at the CES Environmental Services site (a chemical blending site in the middle of a residential community) and then passed the site to TCEQ's voluntary cleanup program for long term remediation.