Hurricane Harvey 2017
9/3/2017 – 0800 CDT Update

STATUS OF SUPERFUND SITES IN AREAS AFFECTED BY HARVEY

WASHINGTON (September 2, 2017) — Despite misleading and inaccurate reporting, the facts are that EPA and TCEQ are working together, along with other local, state, and federal authorities and emergency responders around the clock to address the human health and environmental impacts of Hurricane Harvey and its effects, especially historic and devastating flooding throughout Southeast Texas. With regard to the status of Superfund sites.

EPA has conducted initial assessments at 41 Superfund sites in the impacted areas using aerial images, as well as direct contact with the parties responsible for on-going cleanup activities. EPA has determined that 28 Superfund sites in the area do not currently show damage or excessive flooding associated with Harvey. EPA determined that 13 sites have been flooded and/or are experiencing possible damage due to the storm. Of these sites, two (Falcon Refinery and the Brine Service) have been inspected and it has been determined that they do not require emergency cleanup; although, additional sampling in the area will continue to be conducted.

Eleven sites, including: Bailey Waste Disposal, French LTD, Geneva Industries/Fuhrmann Energy, Gulfco Marine, Highland Acid Pit, Malone Services, U.S. Oil Recovery, Patrick Bayou, Petro-Chemical Systems, Triangle Chemical, and San Jacinto Waste Pits have not been accessible by response personnel. Teams are in place to investigate possible damage to these sites as soon flood waters recede, and personnel are able to safely access the sites.

The San Jacinto Waste Pits site has a temporary armored cap designed to prevent migration of hazardous material; the cap will be inspected as soon as it is safe for teams access the site. Based on forecasted river conditions, this inspection is planned for Monday, by boat. EPA has dive teams to survey the cap underwater when conditions allow.

EPA, TCEQ and other authorities will continue to provide additional updates as we gather them. We encourage the community to continue to follow the expert safety advice of local officials.

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ARKEMA FIRE

Yesterday, September 2, 2017, ASPECT observed white smoke emitting from the one of the remaining 6 trailers of peroxide but the anticipated ignition of the material has not occurred as of 6:00 am today, September 3, 2017. Also, the air crew from the sheriff's department noticed a yellow liquid, believed to be organic peroxides, near several of the trailers. EPA's aerial reconnaissance aircraft continues to fly over the Arkema facility about every 10 to 15 minutes. Instruments detected trace emissions of peroxide. Ground level air monitoring outside the 1.5-mile exclusion zone indicated non-detect for the contaminants of concern. At approximately 7:30pm, the Responsible Party, in consultation with Unified Command, decided to manually ignite the remaining peroxide trailers. However, just prior to initiation of the manual ignition operation, the plan was cancelled. The remaining trailers began emitting smoke again, making the operation unsafe. The 1.5-mile evacuation radius remains in effect. Flood waters within the facility have receded almost completely.

BEAUMONT/PORT ARTHUR

EPA is looking for staging areas throughout Beaumont/Port Arthur to establish operations once flood waters recede.

FIELD RESPONSE ACTIVITIES

CORPUS CHRISTI

Throughout the weekend, EPA staff assessed public water supplies, wastewater treatment facilities, Risk Management Plan (RMP) and Facility Response Plan (FRP) facilities for damage and immediate ongoing releases.

EPA personnel deployments to Austin, Beaumont-Port Arthur, Houston and Corpus Christi will continue throughout the weekend. Personnel will be supporting the Unified Command teams that are identifying and evaluating impacts of the hurricane and floods, as well as coordinating with TCEQ to assist with priority drinking and waste water assessments. EPA is working with TCEQ to issue a statement on the hazards of floodwaters. Assisting drinking water and waste water facilities in maintaining and/or resuming their operational status remains a high priority.

On September 2, 2017, an EPA Liaison Officer met with the Nueces County Emergency Management Coordinator and Deputy Coordinator at the Nueces County Emergency Operations Center. The Coordinator informed the EPA that there were no environmental concerns they would need assistance with, but appreciated EPA reaching out to them. Nueces County's contractor will be starting vegetation debris pickup next week and project to be completed in about 4-6 days. The Coordinator did ask if EPA could echo any of their social media and media information about the debris pickup to assist in a widespread dissemination of their information.

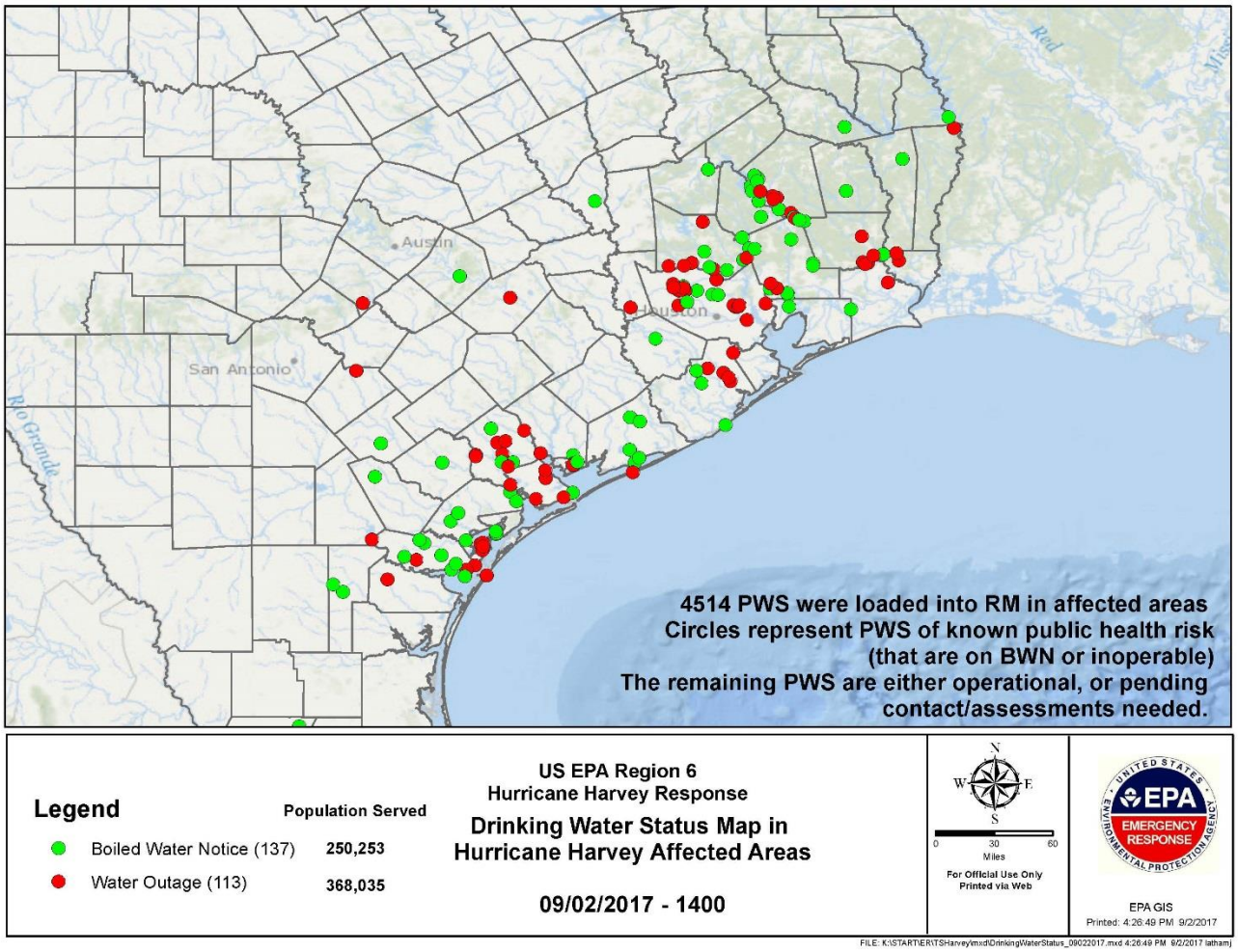
On September 2, 2017, the Corpus Christi Oil Discharge Assessment Team 1 observed an ongoing release of natural gas at the South Mustang Separation Facility. The team notified the responsible party and confirmed they were responding appropriately.

SPILL/RELEASE RESPONSE

Hotline Calls as of September 3, 2017	
Number of Harvey Related Calls Received During Reporting Period 1300-0100	9
Total Number of Harvey Related Calls to Date	129
*** EPA is assessing each call to determine appropriate response and forwarding reports to field personnel to conduct further assessments and response as needed.**	

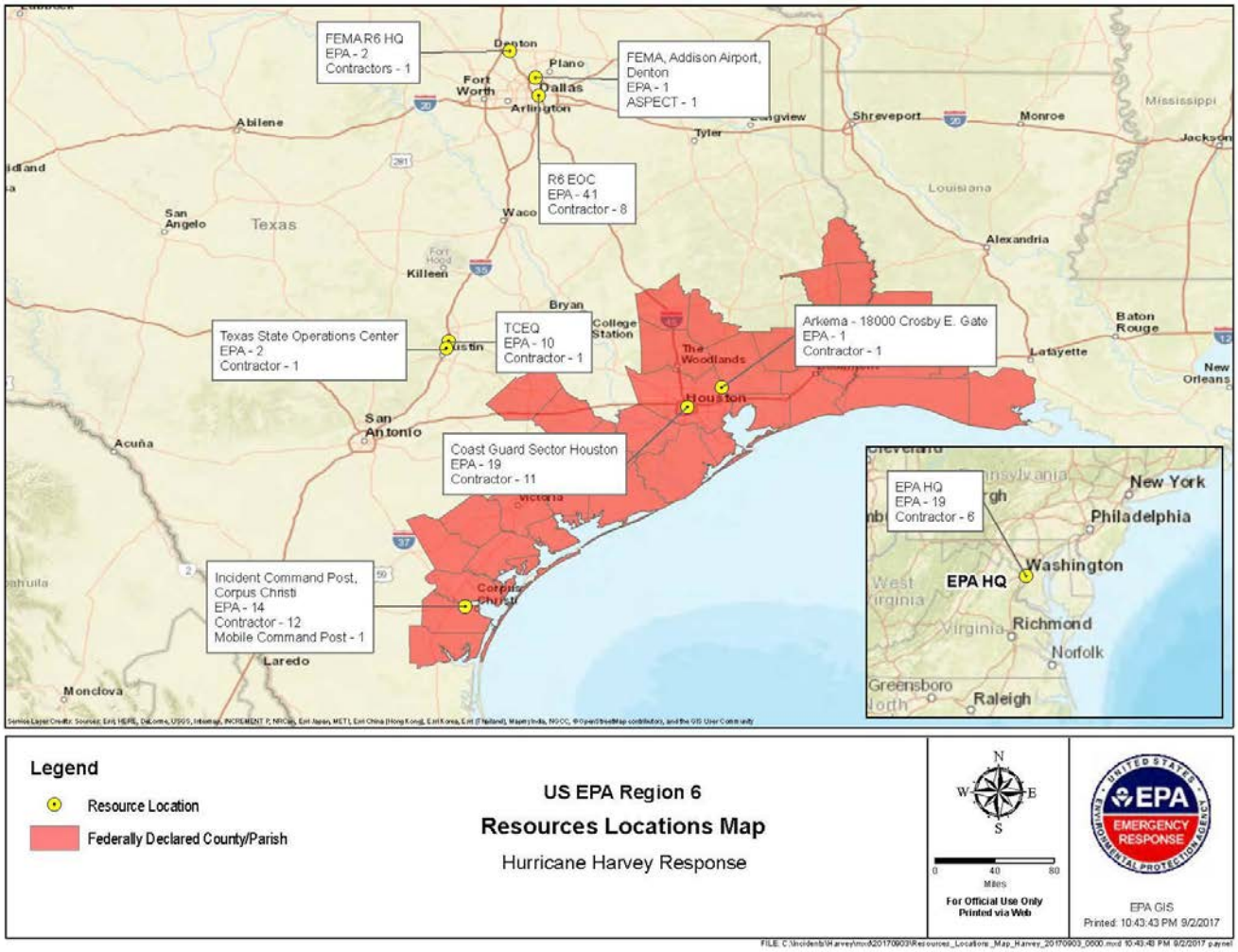
DRINKING WATER / WASTEWATER ASSESSMENTS

EPA continues to support TCEQ in contacting drinking water and waste water systems with 10 personnel manning TCEQ's Drinking Water and Waste Water Phone Bank located in Austin. Approximately half (2,300) of the 4,500 drinking water systems potentially affected by Harvey have been contacted. Of the 2,300 systems, 137 have boil-water notices and 113 are shut down.



EPA RESOURCES

Personnel	EPA Dallas, TX	FEMA Denton, TX	Texas SOC Austin, TX	TCEQ Austin, TX	Houston, TX	Corpus Christi, TX	HQ EOC Wash DC	Totals
EPA	41	1	2	10	19	14	19	106
START	7		1	1	11	6		26
ERRS						6		6
Other Contractors	1						6	7
TOTAL	49	1	3	11	30	26	25	145



FUNDING
SEPTEMBER 2, 2017

Funding Sources	Funding Ceiling	Funding Ceiling Less Indirect	Spent to Date	Remaining Balance	Daily Burn Rate
Non Mission Assignment	N/A		$64,200.00	$0.00	
MA 4332DR-TX-EPA-01	$20,000.00	$17,654.00	$0.00	$17,654.00	
MA 4332DR-TX-EPA-03	$8,592,000.00	$7,584,077.00	$2,473,544.00	$5,110,533.00	$151,953.84
Totals:	$8,612,000.00	$7,601,731.00	$2,537,744.00	$5,128,187.00	

*Burn rate does not include daily ERRS amounts, not yet received. The burn does include START & ASPECT.

REFINERIES/FUEL WAIVERS

The National Protection and Programs Directorate Office of Cyber and Infrastructure Analysis (OCIA) reports refineries in Corpus Christi, Texas (TX) are starting the process to re-open. These refineries do not provide gasoline to the Colonial Pipeline system which supplies much of the oil to the northeast United States. Gasoline prices across the nation continue to increase.

The Department of Energy authorized the Strategic Petroleum Reserve (SPR) to negotiate and execute an emergency exchange agreement with the Phillips 66 Lake Charles Refinery. This decision will authorize 200,000 barrels of sweet crude oil and 300,000 barrels of sour crude oil to be drawn down from SPR's West Hackberry, Louisiana (LA) site and delivered via pipeline to the Phillips 66 refinery.

Four No Action Assurance (NAA) letters were signed by EPA on September 1, 2017, to help address fuel shortages. NAAs will help expedite the distribution of existing gasoline supplies in both Texas and Louisiana while the refineries work to re-start and resume normal operations. For each NAA, EPA will exercise discretion not to pursue enforcement for violations of the regulations identified in the NAAs. Each NAA is effective for two weeks, or until September 15. It is anticipated that these NAAs will allow for the immediate distribution in Texas of 10 million or more gallons of gasoline to consumers.

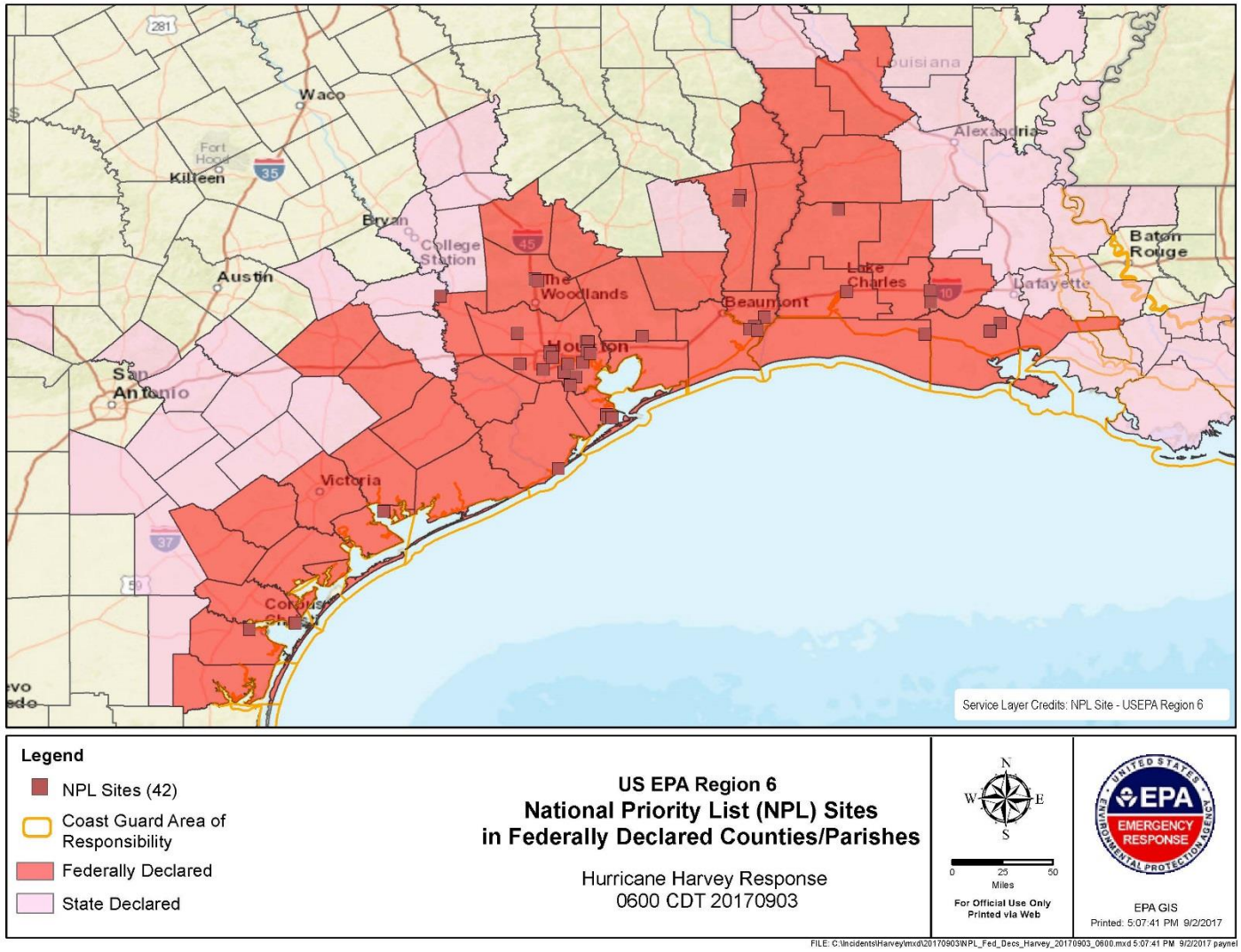
Texas NAA for Vapor Recovery Systems: Several federal regulations and the Texas State Implementation Plan (SIP) require that bulk gasoline, marine, and rail loading terminals operate a vapor control system to collect the fuel vapors displaced from tank trucks during product loading. This NAA allows the loading and unloading of fuel at terminals that have damaged or inoperable vapor recovery devices or that are otherwise not equipped with such devices.

Texas NAA for Truck Loading at Petroleum Distribution Terminals: Several federal regulations and the Texas SIP require that gasoline tank trucks obtain testing and certification that the tank trucks are vapor tight. This NAA allows tank trucks to load and unload fuel at terminals even though the trucks may not be registered with the terminals as having completed all the testing for tank tightness or have the documentation on hand to prove it.

Texas NAA for Roof Landings at Gasoline Storage Vessels: This relates to several federal regulations and the Texas SIP covering storage vessels with external floating roofs. Specifically, when the operator removes product from the vessel such that the roof lands on the vessel's legs, such action must be a continuous motion, i.e. the process of re-filling the vessel must begin immediately after roof landing. This NAA will allow roof landings without requiring immediate re-filling of the vessel.

Louisiana NAA for Truck Loading at Petroleum Distribution Terminals: Several federal regulations and the Louisiana SIP require that gasoline tank trucks obtain testing and certification that the tank trucks are vapor tight. This NAA allows tank trucks to load and unload fuel at terminals even though the trucks may not be registered with the terminals as having completed all the testing for tank tightness or have the documentation on hand to prove it.

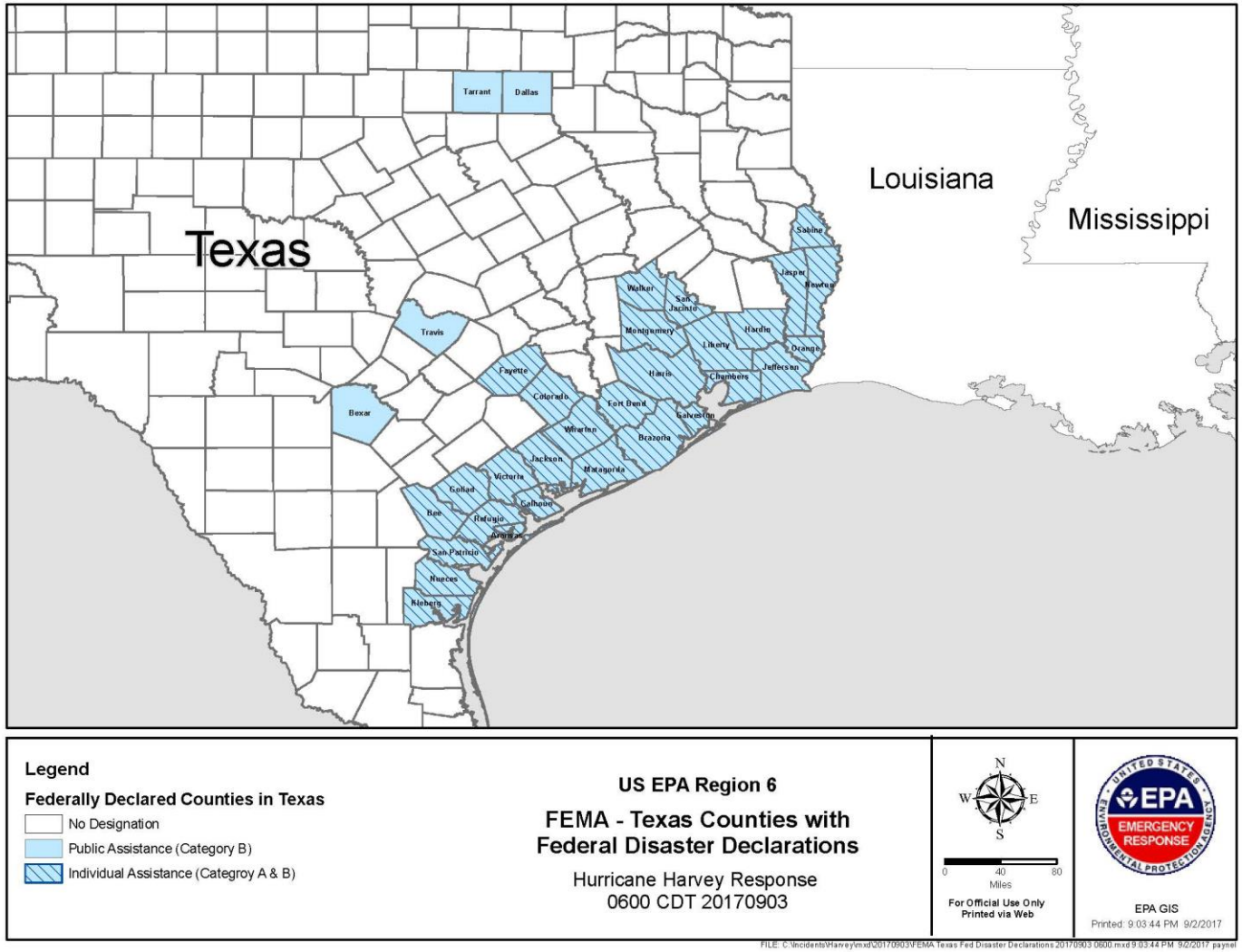
SUPERFUND NPL SITES



SUPERFUND NPL SITES (Continued)

Superfund Sites within Federally Declared Counties					
Hurricane Harvey Rapid Response Assessment	Phase 1	Phase 2		Phase 3	All Phases Completed
	Rapid Response Assessment	Site Inspection Needed	Inspected	Additional Response Action	
TEXAS					
SITE NAME					
ALCOA (Point Comfort) / LAVACA BAY	8/29/17	No			8/29/2017
BAILEY WASTE DISPOSAL	9/1/17	Yes			
BRINE SERVICE CO.	8/30/17	Yes	8/30/17	No	8/30/2017
BRIO REFINING INC.	9/1/17	No			9/1/17
CONROE CREOSOTING COMPANY	9/1/17	No			9/1/17
CRYSTAL CHEMICAL CO.	8/30/17	No			8/30/17
DIXIE OIL PROCESSORS INC.	9/1/17	No			9/1/17
FALCON REFINERY	8/31/17	Yes	8/30/17	No	8/30/2017
FRENCH, LTD.	9/1/17	Yes			
GENEVA INDUSTRIES / FUHRMANN ENERGY	9/1/17	Yes			
GULFCO MARINE MAINTENANCE	9/1/17	Yes			
HARRIS (FARLEY STREET)	9/1/17	No			9/1/17
HART CREOSOTING	9/1/17	No			9/1/17
HIGHLANDS ACID PIT	9/1/17	Yes			
JASPER CREOSOTING	9/1/17	No			9/1/17
JONES ROAD GROUNDWATER PLUME	8/29/17	No			08/29/17
MALONE SERVICES COMPANY	9/1/17	Yes			
MANY DIVERSIFIED INTERESTS, INC	9/1/17	No			9/1/17
MOTCO, INC.	8/31/17	No			8/31/2017
NORTH CAVALCADE STREET	8/29/17	No			08/29/17
PALMER BARGE LINE	9/1/17	No			9/1/17
PATRICK BAYOU	9/1/17	Yes			
PETRO-CHEMICAL SYSTEMS, INC. (Turtle Bayou)	9/1/17	Yes			
SAN JACINTO RIVER WASTE PITS	9/1/17	Yes			
SIKES DISPOSAL PITS	8/29/17	No			08/29/17
SOL LYNN / INDUSTRIAL TRANSFORMERS	8/29/17	No			08/29/17
SOUTH CAVALCADE STREET	8/29/17	No			08/29/17
STAR LAKE CANAL	8/30/17	No			8/30/2017
STATE MARINE OF PORT ARTHUR	9/1/17	No			9/1/17
TEX-TIN CORP.	9/1/17	No			9/1/17
TRIANGLE CHEMICAL COMPANY	9/1/17	Yes			
UNITED CREOSOTING CO.	9/1/17	No			9/1/17
US OIL RECOVERY	9/1/17	Yes			
LOUISIANA					
AMERICAN CREOSOTE DERIDDER	09/01/17	No			9/1/17
D.L. MUD, INC.	08/29/17	No			08/29/17
EVR-WOOD TREATING/EVANGELINE REFINING COMPANY	09/01/17	No			9/1/2017
GULF COAST VACUUM SERVICES	08/29/17	No			08/29/17
GULF STATE UTILITIES (North Ryan Street)	08/31/17	No			8/31/2017
MALLARD BAY LANDING BULK PLANT	08/29/17	No			08/29/17
PAB OIL & CHEMICAL SERVICE	08/29/17	No			08/29/17
SBA SHIPYARD	09/01/17	No			9/1/17
Status Summary					
Rapid Response Assessment Completed	41				
Sites with no further action	28				
Sites in Phase 2	13				

FEMA – TEXAS COUNTIES WITH DISASTER DECLARATIONS



PHOTOS

Command and General Staff Meeting on September 2, 2017.

USCG and EPA Members discussing operations.

PHOTOS

OSC in Alpha Branch performing a field assessment.

PHOTOS

TCEQ/EPA/TGLO Recon flight over Rockport/Fulton on Sep 1st, 2017.

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