UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
REGION 6
SUPERFUND DIVISION
1445 Ross Avenue, Suite 1200
Dallas, Texas 75202-2733

July 24, 2014

MEMORANDUM

Subject: Draft Risk Assessment for Falcon Refinery Barge Dock Area (AOC 4)

From: Brian Mueller, Remedial Project Manager
LA/NM/OK Section (6SF-RL)

To: File

EPA has concluded that based on the data collected and discussed below that the Barge Dock Area of the Falcon Refinery Site does not require further remedial action under CERCLA.

EA Engineering on behalf of EPA has prepared a draft Ecological and Human Health Risk Assessment for the Barge Dock Area (AOC 4) of the Falcon Refinery Site. Based on the levels of arsenic found in the soil and the past agricultural practices at the site, it appears that the levels of arsenic in the groundwater and soils are naturally and/or related to past agricultural practices and further remedial actions at the barge dock area will not be required. The risk assessment's conclusions were based on the sample data from the monitoring wells installed the soils/sediments sampled on and adjacent to the barge dock area. The risk assessments document that the only risk associated with the barge dock is due to arsenic (60.8 ppb) in the groundwater above the MCL of 10 ppb. Arsenic was found at levels about the MCL in the wells adjacent to and on other portions of the site. Arsenic was at or below the Texas background criteria of 5.9 mg/kg in the soil samples taken in and adjacent to the dock area. The samples did not indicate the presence of other refinery related pollutants in the groundwater at or adjacent to the dock area. A review of aerial photographs taken prior to the construction of the refinery in 1979 indicates that a large portion of the site was previously cultivated. Arsenic has been used extensively in the past in the cultivation of cotton. Arsenic was found above the MCL in the monitor wells sampled in areas that were previously cultivated and was found at levels below the MCL in areas that were not cultivated.

cc: Gloria Moran, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
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