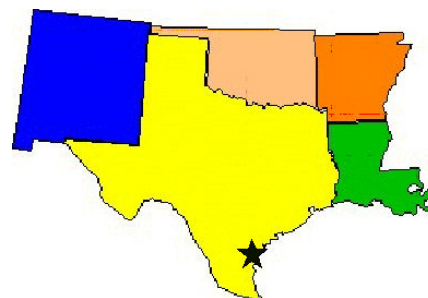


**Falcon Refinery  
Ingleside, San Patricio County, Texas**

**Contact:  
Rafael Casanova, P.G. – (214) 665-7437**



**EPA Region 6**

**EPA ID#: TXD086278058  
Site ID: 0602349**

**State Congressional District: 27  
Updated: May 2009**

**Current Status** \_\_\_\_\_

The Potentially Responsible Party for the Site, National Oil Recovery Corporation (NORCO), entered into an “Administrative Order on Consent” with the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), on June 9, 2004, to perform and finance the Removal Action and Remedial Investigation and Feasibility Study (RI/FS) for the Falcon Refinery Superfund Site (hereinafter the “Site”). The purpose of the Removal Action is to address the wastes from the tanks, equipment, and piping. The Removal Action is ongoing. The purpose of the RI/FS is to determine the nature and extent of contamination and to gather sufficient information about the Site to support an informed risk management decision regarding which remedy is the most appropriate for the Site. The EPA approved the RI/FS Work Plan, Field Sampling Plan, and Quality Assurance Project Plan on October 22, 2007; and Addendum 1 on May 8, 2009. The RI/FS is expected to be completed in the latter part of 2009.

**Benefits** \_\_\_\_\_

The investigation and cleanup of the Site will ensure the protection of human health and the environment. Specific cleanup benefits will be identified during the RI/FS currently being planned for the Site.

**National Priorities List History** \_\_\_\_\_

Proposal Date: September 5, 2002

The National Priorities List (NPL) is a list of national priorities among the known or threatened releases of hazardous substances, pollutants, or contaminants throughout the United States. The NPL is intended primarily to guide the EPA in determining which sites warrant further investigation to assess the nature and extent of public health and environmental risks associated with a release of hazardous substances.

The Site has not been placed on the Final NPL. NORCO agreed to enter into an “Administrative Order on Consent,” with the EPA, to perform and finance the Removal Action and RI/FS for the Site if the EPA withheld listing the Site on the Final NPL.

**Site Description** \_\_\_\_\_

Location: The Site occupies approximately 104 acres and is located 1.7 miles southeast of State Highway 361 near the intersection of FM 2725 and Bishop Road near Ingleside, Texas (see the “Site Map” section of this summary). Ingleside is located approximately 18 miles northeast of Corpus Christi. The Site lies approximately five feet above sea level.

Population: The population of the City of Ingleside is approximately 9,388.

Setting: Falcon Refinery is an inactive refinery. The Falcon Refinery Site consists of an abandoned refinery that has operated intermittently since 1980. When in operation, the refinery operated at 40,000 barrels per day capacity with primary products consisting of naphtha, jet fuel, kerosene, diesel, and fuel oil. The refinery processed material that consisted not only of crude oil but also hazardous substances. The Site is bordered by wetlands to the northeast and southeast, residential areas to the north and southwest, an abandoned refinery to the northwest, and a construction company to the southwest.

Photo: [2004](#)

Hydrology: The Site is located in the San Antonio-Nueces Coastal Basin adjacent to Redfish Bay, which connects Corpus Christi Bay to the Gulf of Mexico. Surface water drainage from the Site enters the wetlands along the southeastern section of the abandoned refinery. A culvert connects the on-site palustrine/estuarine wetlands to estuarine wetlands. The wetlands then connect to the Intracoastal Waterway and Redfish Bay.

### Site Map



Falcon Refinery aka National Oil Recovery Corporation  
 Ingleside, San Patricio County, Texas  
 TXD 086 278 058



Legend		Source
1. Falcon Refinery Site and Dock Facility	5. IBC Petroleum, Inc.	The base data used is the Port Ingleside NE Digital Orthoquarter Quad (DOQQ), which is a digital version of an aerial photograph. This DOQQ was produced by the TNROC using USGS guidelines. UTM NAD83 Zone 14
Approximate Boundary	6. PI Energy Corporation	
2. Aker Gulf Marine - Aransas Pass Yard	7. Garrett Construction Company	
3. Offshore Specialty Fabricators (Former Location of Gulf Conservation Corp.)	8. Plains Marketing	
4. Alamo Concrete Products	9. Brown & Root, Inc.	
	10. Ingleside Properties, Inc.	

## **Wastes and Volumes**

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The types and volumes of wastes currently present at the Site, or possibly released from the Site, have not been determined. This information will be obtained during the ongoing Removal Action and the planned RI/FS for the Site.

## **Health Considerations**

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Human Health and Ecological Risk Assessments will be performed during the RI/FS currently being implemented for the Site. These risk assessments are an integral part of the RI/FS.

A Human Health Risk Assessment estimates the current and possible future risks if no action were taken to clean up a site. The EPA's Superfund risk assessors determine how threatening a hazardous waste site is to human health and the environment. They seek to determine a safe level for each potentially dangerous contaminant present (e.g., a level at which ill health effects are unlikely and the probability of cancer is very small). Living near a Superfund site does not automatically place a person at risk, that depends on the chemicals present and the ways people are exposed to them.

An Ecological Risk Assessment is defined as a process that evaluates the likelihood that adverse ecological effects are occurring or may occur as a result of exposure to one or more stressors. A stressor is any physical, chemical, or biological entity that can induce an adverse ecological response. Adverse responses can range from sublethal chronic effects in individual organisms to a loss of ecosystem function.

## **Record of Decision**

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The final remedy (cleanup alternative) for a site is published in a Record of Decision (ROD). The ROD is the official documentation of how the EPA considered the remedial alternatives and why the EPA selected the final remedy. Before a ROD can be finalized, the EPA must provide a Proposed Plan for public review and comment. This plan summarizes the remedial alternatives presented in the analysis of the RI/FS and identifies the preferred alternative, the rationale for that preferred alternative, and documents that support the EPA's decision.

A ROD has not been signed for the Site. A Proposed Plan will be presented to the public during the latter part of the RI/FS currently being implemented for the Site. The RI/FS is expected to be completed in the latter part of 2009.

## **Community Involvement**

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Community Involvement Plan:

The Community Involvement Plan (CIP) specifies the community involvement activities that the EPA expects to undertake during the remedial activities planned for the Site. A CIP, based on community interviews and other relevant information about the Site, has been prepared and is available at the Site Repository. The purpose of the Site Repository is to provide the public a location near their community to review and copy background and current information about the Site. The Site's repositories are located at:

Ingleside Public Library  
2775 Waco St.  
Ingleside, TX 78362

Ed & Hazel Richmond Public Library  
110 North Lamont Street  
Aransas Pass, TX 78336

Anyone who wishes to be placed on the mailing list to receive current information about the Site is encouraged to call 1-800-533-3508.

#### Open Houses:

Community meetings, were held on September 16, 2004, and December 5, 2007, in Ingleside (City Hall), Texas, to discuss the EPA's current and planned environmental activities for the Site.

Other community meetings will be scheduled in the near future to provide the public an update on the current activities at the Site. Fact sheets have been prepared, and will continue to be prepared, as necessary during the planning and implementation of the RI/FS. These fact sheets have been filed at the Site's repository and distributed to people on the mailing list. Anyone who wishes to be placed on the mailing list to receive current information about the Site is encouraged to call 1-800-533-3508.

#### Proposed Plan:

A Proposed Plan has not been issued for the Site. Before a ROD can be finalized, the EPA must provide a Proposed Plan for public review and comment. This plan summarizes the remedial alternatives presented in the analysis of the Remedial Investigation and Feasibility Study (RI/FS) and identifies the preferred alternative, the rationale for that preferred alternative, and documents that support the EPA's decision. A Proposed Plan is expected to be issued approximately one month after the completion of the RI/FS activities for the Site.

#### Public Meeting:

A formal public meeting will be scheduled after issuance of the Proposed Plan for the Site so that the public can provide input into the EPA's proposed final decision for the Site. A Proposed Plan is expected to be issued approximately one month after the completion of the RI/FS activities.

#### Technical Assistance Grant:

A Technical Assistance Grant (TAG) is for a local citizens' group to secure the services of a technical advisor to increase citizen understanding of information that will be developed about the Site during the Superfund process. To be eligible for a grant, a group must incorporate. Also, the applicant must meet a 20 percent matching requirement, which may be in cash or donated services. If you are interested in applying for a TAG, please call Ms. Beverly Negri (TAG Coordinator) at (214) 665-8157 or toll-free at 1-800-533-3508.

An "Availability Notice" was published in the Aransas Pass Progress on September 18, 2002.

The TAG application process begins when a group of individuals affected by the Site submits a Letter of Intent (LOI) to the EPA. A LOI was received on November 19, 2002. This LOI notified

the EPA of the Coastal Bend Bays Foundation's (CBBF) intent to apply for a TAG for the Site. The Executive Director for the CBBF can be reached at the following address:

Lois C. Huff, Executive Director  
Coastal Bend Bays Foundation  
P.O. Box 23025  
Corpus Christi, TX 78403  
Telephone #: 361-882-3439 Fax #: 361-882-5625

The EPA published a notice in a local newspaper that the CBBF expressed interest in applying for the TAG. No other applications were received. A final application was received on March 5, 2003, from the CBBF. A TAG was awarded to the CBBF on December 14, 2004. The CBBF has hired a Technical Advisor for the project.

## Site Contacts

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### U.S. Environmental Protection Agency

EPA Remedial Project Manager: Rafael A. Casanova, P.G. (214) 665-7437  
E-Mail: casanova.rafael@epa.gov

EPA Site Attorney: Gloria Moran (214) 665-3193  
E-Mail: moran.gloria-small@epa.gov

EPA Regional Public Liaison: Donn Walters (214) 665-6483  
E-Mail: walters.donn@epa.gov

EPA Community Involvement: Jason McKinney (214) 665-8132  
E-Mail: mckinney.jason@epa.gov

EPA Toll-Free Telephone Number: (800) 533-3508

### Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ)

State Project Manager: Phillip Winsor (512) 239-1054  
E-Mail: pwinsor@tceq.state.tx.us

State Toll-Free Telephone Number: (800) 633-9363