

**North East 2nd Street Site
(Former Attebury Grain)
SUPERFUND SITE
Happy, Swisher County, Texas**

**EPA Region 6
EPA ID #: TXN000606760
Site ID: 0606760
State House of Representatives Districts 88 & 86
State Senate Districts 28 & 31**



**Contact: Ruben Moya, 214-665-2755
Updated: January 2012**

Background

The North East 2nd Street Site, formerly known as Attebury Grain, is located approximately thirty five miles south of downtown Amarillo, Texas in the town of Happy, Texas. The site was an active grain storage facility. Properties within a quarter mile of the site include other grain storage facilities, light industrial operations, residential areas, a high school, and an elementary school. The current population of Happy, Texas is approximately 647 residents. There could possibly exist a groundwater plume originating from a historic release at a grain storage facility in Happy, Texas. The facility burned to the ground in 1962 and an unspecified amount of carbon tetrachloride was used to extinguish the fire.

Current Status

Soil gas sampling was performed on Sept. 21-23, 2009; this sampling was conducted to assist in identifying potential contamination source areas. Passive soil gas diffusion samplers will be placed at depths of 12" to 18" in a 50-foot grid pattern at the site. The samples will be analyzed for volatile organic compounds. Though the results did indicate potential source areas, the findings were insufficient at this time to indicate that a potentially responsible party exists, thus at this point in time, the EPA will proceed under a fund lead status.

The Attebury Grain Storage Facility Superfund Site was proposed for inclusion on the National Priorities List in March 2008. EPA is currently addressing comments that were received on the proposed listing. The next step in the Superfund process is to conduct an investigation to determine the nature and extent of contamination at the Site to support a decision regarding which remedy is the most appropriate.

A Remedial Investigation/Feasibility Study with the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality and the US Environmental Protection Agency working jointly; to identify the extent and potential risks of contamination was begun in September 2011.

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 investigation currently being planned for the Site.

National Priorities Listing (NPL) History

Proposal Date: March 19, 2008

Final Listing Date: May 11, 2009

The National Priorities List (NPL) is a list of national priorities among the known or threatened releases of hazardous substances 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.

Site Description

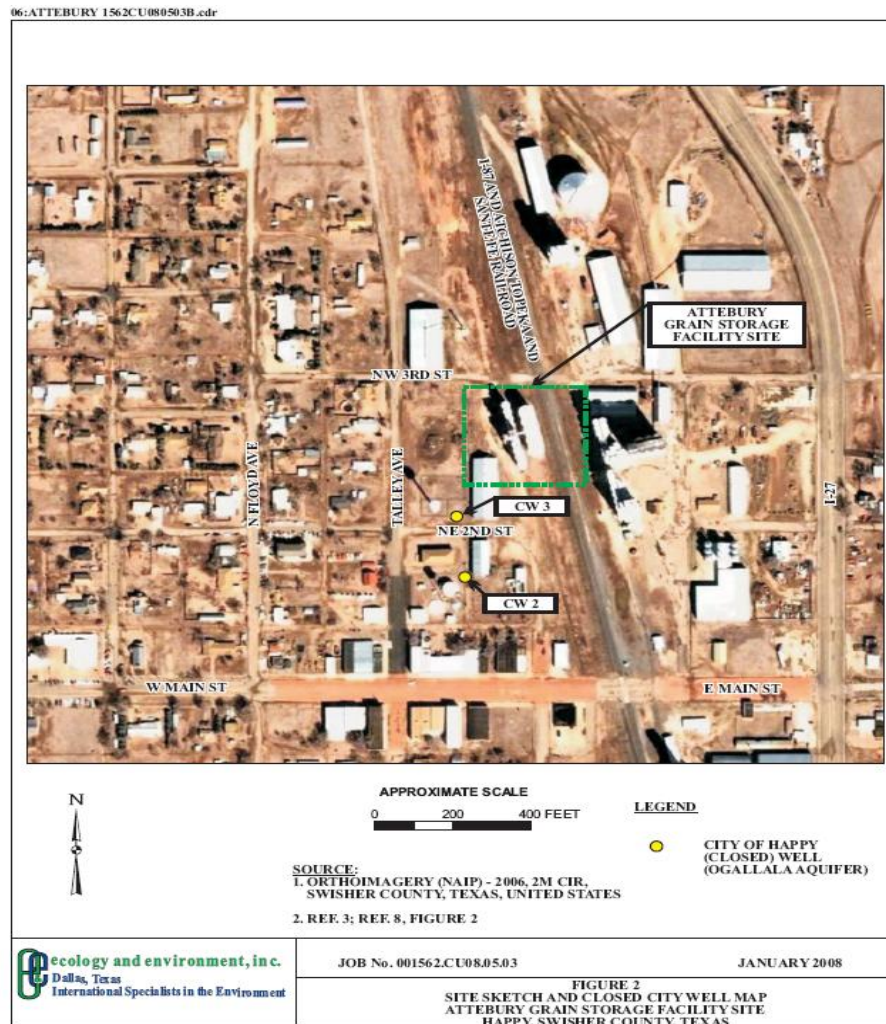
Location: The North East 2nd Street Site is located at 201 North Gordon in Happy, Texas adjacent to the Atchison, Topeka, and Santa Fe railroad tracks. The Site is between Northwest 3rd Street and Northwest 2nd Streets, and is east of Talley Avenue.

Population: The City of Happy has a population of 647.

Setting: The Site is an active grain storage facility. Properties within a quarter mile of the Site include other grain storage facilities, light industrial operations, residential areas, a high school, and an elementary school.

Hydrology: The Ogallala Aquifer is the principle source of ground water in Swisher County. It is a water table, or unconfined, aquifer with flow generally to the east-southeast.

Site Map



Wastes and Volumes

In 1962 an explosion and fire occurred in Elevator No. 2 at the Site. Carbon tetrachloride or carbon tetrachloride containing fumigants were used to suppress the fire. Soil vapor and Ogallala Aquifer groundwater sampling conducted by the State found carbon tetrachloride, chloroform, 1,2-dichloroethane, methylene chloride, and other chemicals at the Site. However, the extent and volumes of wastes currently present, or possibly released from the Site, have not been determined. This information will be obtained during the Site investigation being planned.

Health Considerations

The City of Happy's water supply is currently provided from wells in the deeper Santa Rosa Aquifer, which is not affected by the Site. However, the Ogallala Aquifer is a source of drinking water for private wells located in the city. Many of the chemicals found in the ground water and soil vapor have been determined to be carcinogens (i.e., can cause cancer).

Human exposures are currently being controlled by closing one contaminated city well and by installing a carbon filtration unit on a contaminated residential well used for drinking water.

Human health and ecological risk assessments will be performed during the Remedial Investigation/Feasibility Study. A human health risk assessment estimates the current and possible future risks if no action were taken to clean up a site. 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 evaluates the likelihood that adverse ecological effects are occurring or may occur at the site.

The site's Environmental Indicator status is currently "insufficient data" to determine the human exposure under control and ground water migration under control indicators.

Record of Decision

The cleanup remedy for a site is published in a Record of Decision following completion of the Site investigation. The Record of Decision describes how EPA considered several remedial alternatives and why EPA selected the final remedy.

Before a Record of Decision can be finalized, the EPA provides a Proposed Plan for public review and comment. This plan summarizes the remedial alternatives considered and the rationale for the preferred alternative.

Community Involvement

Information about the Site is available for public review at the site repository, which is located at:

Swisher County Library
127 SW 2nd Street
Tulia, TX 79088-2700
1-806-995-3447

Director: Betty Hobgood

Site Contacts

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