



Environmental Management & Planning

Client

Chevron Chemical Company

Location

Georgia, USA

Marzone Superfund Site

Project Description

CH2M HILL conducted engineering, procurement, contracting, scientific and analytical support, community relations, and regulatory agency negotiations for Chevron. Through integrated and innovative efforts we remediated 20,000 tons of contaminated soils and impacted groundwater 3 years ahead of schedule.

The latest in a long series of owners and operators of this former pesticide formulating plant in Georgia, Chevron Chemical Company inherited a U.S. EPA National Priorities List property plagued by pesticide-contaminated soil and groundwater, the result of decades of inadequate disposal practices. The EPA designated the rural agricultural town an environmental justice community, which complicated the execution of Chevron's proposed remedial activities. As a result, the threat of toxic torts against Chevron and civil rights litigation against EPA over the remedies proposed in the Record of Decision (ROD) constantly influenced project implementation.

To lead this complicated project to successful completion, CH2M HILL site personnel provided design support, quality assurance, air quality monitoring, stormwater treatment and odor control, analytical support, and cleanup standards verification. We also provided project administration, record keeping, purchasing, and site supervision.



High Performance Team (HPT)

CH2M HILL conceived of the idea of an HPT between Chevron, representatives of EPA, and the State of Georgia. Prior to the formation of the HPT, Chevron was at an impasse with Region IV on negotiating a Consent Order to implement the ROD. As a team, we negotiated a very favorable ROD change that removed the remedy of ex situ thermal desorption of pesticide contaminated soil to offsite transport and disposal in a Subtitle D landfill. In addition, we developed a very cost effective, yet innovative system to capture and treat contaminated groundwater.

The relationship between the client and regulators became extraordinarily amicable and team oriented. The HPT approach, which relies on consensus decision making by all stakeholders, breaks through communication barriers and dramatically reduces the lengthy command and control review process typically experienced under Superfund projects. Decisions were made in a workshop context that normally would have taken months and extensive documentation.

Community Involvement

Located in a minority community designated by EPA as an environmental justice community, the project operations occur precariously in a potentially litigious climate. To minimize possible legal delays to remedial actions, CH2M HILL instituted a community outreach philosophy of "no surprises" and "safe" implementation. CH2M HILL's community relations and construction staff organized numerous residential education and communications programs to keep local residents fully informed of ongoing



site activities. These outreach efforts included distributing monthly fliers, canvassing over 200 adjacent residences to discuss project status and personal concerns, and providing site access for visits by local and regional media.

Cost Savings

CH2M HILL completed the Chevron Marzone Superfund site cleanup in 3 years for \$12 million using its innovative integrated remedial design and construction process, rather than the expected 6 years and \$18 million with the conventional process. Chevron received the lowest competitive cost on field services, equipment, and materials through an “open book,” cost-plus-performance incentive fee commercial relationship. This arrangement shares risk and creates an incentive to achieve cost savings and “zero reportable” safety incidents under CH2M HILL’s sole accountability and control.