

APPENDIX G

Section 1

Hazardous, Toxic, and Radioactive Waste (HTRW)

The objective of performing an environmental site assessment (ESA) for the Wharton Interim Feasibility Study was to investigate the project site and its general vicinity for the presence or suspected presence of Hazardous, Toxic, and Radioactive Waste (HTRW) materials during existing conditions. The environmental assessment investigation helps to facilitate early identification and appropriate consideration of HTRW problems in reconnaissance, feasibility, pre-construction engineering and design, land acquisition, construction, and operations, maintenance, repair, replacement, and rehabilitation phases of the project.

On April 2003 an environmental records search was conducted by Environmental Data Resources, Inc on the City of Wharton and its general vicinity according to the requirements of the American Society for Testing and Materials (ASTM) Standard Test Methods "*Standard Practice for Environmental Site Assessments*", E-1527-00. The State records review consisted of reviewing the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ) databases for underground storage tank facilities, leaking underground storage tank facilities, and landfill closures which may be present within a one-half mile radius from the project site. The Federal Records Review consisted of reviewing the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), Comprehensive Environmental Response Compensation and Liability Act (CERCLA) Information System, Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA) and Emergency Notification System listings, also reviewed and summarized up to a one-half mile radius from the referenced site locations. Records of relevant geological and hydrological information available from the U. S. Department of Agriculture (USDA), Soil Conservation Service, and U. S. Geological Service (USGS) were also reviewed.

On March 2005 an environmental site reconnaissance was conducted. This reconnaissance consisted of site walkovers of the footprint area and photographs documenting the project site. Interviews with property/facility owners, contacting the local fire and utility departments, and a historical records review, consisting of land use and aerial photographs, were not undertaken at this time.

Based on the findings from the ESA, three individual properties were identified as having a "high" or "moderate" probability of having a potential HTRW issue. These three properties are located in or near the Wharton recommended study design and could be impacted by construction of the project; therefore a phase II environmental site assessment report may be required. Any soil disposed of as a result of future investigations, design, construction, and/or operation portions of the project will need to be appropriately tested. See figure G-1. The properties with suspected HTRW issues for the City of Wharton are listed below.

1. R72 – Wharton County Sheriff Department – 100 E. Burleson Street. This area has been identified in the records search as containing one registered Leaking Underground Storage Tank (UST) with minor soil contamination and is located within 321 feet of the project boundary.
2. R73 – Wharton City Hall – 101 W. Burleson Street. This area has been identified in the records search as containing one registered Leaking UST with soil contamination and is located within 321 feet of the project boundary.
3. 91 – City of Wharton – 803 S. Sheppard Street. This area has been identified in the records search as a solid waste facility/landfill and is located within 200 feet of the project boundary.