

**United States Environmental Protection Agency**  
**Region VI**  
**POLLUTION REPORT**

**Date:** Tuesday, July 22, 2003

**From:** Greg Fife

**Subject:** Start of Removal Action  
Many Diversified Interests  
3617 Baer Street, Houston, TX  
Latitude: 29.7679250  
Longitude: -95.3297000

<b>POLREP No.:</b>	1	<b>Site #:</b>	06FE
<b>Reporting Period:</b>	07/14/2003 - 07/22/2003	<b>D.O. #:</b>	
<b>Start Date:</b>	7/15/2003	<b>Response Authority:</b>	CERCLA
<b>Mob Date:</b>	7/14/2003	<b>Response Type:</b>	Time-Critical
<b>Demob Date:</b>		<b>NPL Status:</b>	NPL
<b>Completion Date:</b>		<b>Incident Category:</b>	Removal Action
<b>CERCLIS ID #:</b>	TX0002288082	<b>Contract #</b>	
<b>RCRIS ID #:</b>			

#### **Site Description**

The MDI Site located in Harris County, Texas is an abandoned foundry facility located approximately 2 miles east of downtown Houston and east of the intersection of Highway 59 and Interstate Highway 10. This portion of Houston is also known as the Fifth Ward. The MDI fenced property is bounded by Hare Street to the north, National Vinegar Company and Press Street to the east, the former Texas & New Orleans Railroad right-of-way beyond the easement to the south, and Bringhurst Street to the west. There are in excess of 10,000 people within a mile of the Site, including several hundred children attending the local elementary school. There are approximately 33 High Access Areas (HAAs) at the Site with lead contamination greater than the established 500 ppm action level. These HAAs include the Blance Kelso Bruce Elementary School, the Fifth Ward Multipurpose Community Center, a church, and approximately 30 residential properties. The school is located one block west of the MDI Site.

#### **Current Activities**

The EPA is currently performing an RI/FS at the Site. 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.

Contaminated soil from Bruce Elementary School and an empty lot has been excavated and replaced with clean soil and topsoil. Contaminated soil is placed at the MDI Site.

#### **Planned Removal Actions**

Asphalt will be laid at Bruce Elementary School. Sod will be laid on the topsoil at the Elementary School and empty lot.

The planned action for the Site involves removal of soils contaminated with lead from the other HAAs at the Site. Soil with lead contamination greater than 500 ppm will be excavated. The areas will be backfilled to proper grade and sodded. Sidewalks, driveways, and other such structures will be replaced with comparable structures according to local codes. The contaminated soil will be placed at the MDI Site.

The action at the elementary school is scheduled to be completed in July, before school opens. The duration of activities is expected to be three months, depending upon weather conditions and scheduling, and the availability of disposal contractors and others.