SJRWP TECHNICAL ASSISTANT GRANT

Scott Jones – Galveston Bay Foundation Jennifer Ronk – Houston Advanced Research Center

Technical Assistance Grant



An EPA Technical Assistance Grant (TAG) provides money for activities that help communities participate in decision making at eligible Superfund sites. The grant provides funding for qualified community groups (such as the Galveston Bay Foundation) to contract with independent technical advisors (such as the Houston Advanced Research Center) to interpret and help the community understand technical information about their site.

Galveston Bay Foundation

- The Galveston Bay Foundation was founded in 1987 as a nonprofit organization to preserve, protect and enhance Galveston Bay -- one of the world's most productive estuaries.
- Its balanced programs in advocacy, conservation, education, and research strive to ensure that Galveston Bay remains a beautiful and productive place for generations to come.



Houston Advanced Research Center

HARC, a 501(c)(3) organization, is a research hub dedicated to performing independent analysis for people and institutions seeking scientific answers in support of a sustainable future. HARC's research focuses on clean air, clean water, and clean energy.

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TAG Activities

- Review documents, including memoranda and plans.
- Evaluate and prepare reports suitable for interpretation by the community.
- Prepare community information pieces to be placed in the community newsletter, GBF webpage, and for print and other electronic media.
- Participate in public meetings to be held in the vicinity of the site.



Progress to Date

- Attended community meetings, discussed the Superfund process, and answered community questions in small meetings.
- GBF SJRWP Website <u>http://galvbay.org/advocacy_sjrwp.html</u>
- Gather community Frequently Asked Questions
 <u>http://galvbay.org/docs/SJRWP%20webpage FAQs Final.pdf</u>
- Review documents from PRPs and EPA and provide summaries and analysis
 - February 2012 Preliminary Site Characterization Report
 - May 2012 Exposure Assessment Memorandum
 - May 2012 Toxicological and Epidemiological Studies Memorandum
 - October 2012 Public Health Assessment



Activities Going Forward

Planned community meeting in January

Additional Document Reviews

- Remedial Alternatives Memorandum The potentially responsible parties have submitted a Draft Final of this document to the EPA. HARC will complete review once finalized.
- Baseline Ecological Risk Assessment Report The potentially responsible parties have submitted a draft of this document to the EPA. Once HARC receives a copy of the final document, we will post a review.
- Baseline Human Health Risk Assessment This document is due from the potentially responsible parties to the EPA in March 2013 HARC review of this document to be completed in April 2013.
- Remedial Investigation Report This document is due from the potentially responsible parties to the EPA in March 2013 HARC review of this document to be completed in April 2013.
- Feasibility Study Report This document is due from the potentially responsible parties to the EPA in January 2014 HARC review of this document to be completed in January 2014.List
- Continue to answer community questions and provide independent review

Questions?

For more information on the SJRWP and its cleanup, please contact:

- HARC Technical Advisor: Jennifer Ronk at (281) 363-7927 and jronk@harc.edu.
- EPA SJRWP Project Manager: Gary Miller at (214) 665-8318 and Miller.Garyg@epamail.epa.gov.
- EPA Community Involvement Coordinator: Donn Walters at (214) 665-6483 and Walters.Donn@epamail.epa.gov.
- Texas Department of State Health Services (for information on the Public Health Assessment and seafood advisories): Tina Walker at (512) 776-2932 and tina.walker@dshs.state.tx.us.

