

DOCUMENTATION OF ENVIRONMENTAL INDICATOR DETERMINATION

Interim Final 2/5/99

RCRA Corrective Action
Environmental Indicator (EI) RCRAInfo code (CA725)

Current Human Exposures Under Control

Facility Name: FMC Corporation
Facility Address: 12000 Bay Area Blvd, Pasadena, TX 77507
Facility EPA ID #: TXD083570051

1. Has **all** available relevant/significant information on known and reasonably suspected releases to soil, groundwater, surface water/sediments, and air, subject to RCRA Corrective Action (e.g., from Solid Waste Management Units (SWMU), Regulated Units (RU), and Areas of Concern (AOC)), been **considered** in this EI determination?

___ If yes - check here and continue with #2 below.

___ If no - re-evaluate existing data, or

X if data are not available skip to #6 and enter "IN" (more information needed) status code.

Rationale

Limited records were available in the facility file (SWR 30614). Additional information was pulled from the TCEQ website and through telephone communications. References are listed below:

- Letter to Kenneth Wohlgeschaffen; FMC from Jason Sutherland, TCEQ re: Audit of waste stream classification; dated October 11, 2004.
- RCRAInfo Comprehensive Corrective Action Report (CCAR) Run on December 28, 2005.
- TCEQ Central Registry Query; www.tceq.com/nav/permits;
- Communication Log; Telephone Conversation between Jason Sutherland TCEQ and Cherelle Blazer, TechLaw, Inc.; regarding FMC files; dated April 19, 2006.
- Communication Log; Telephone Conversation between Ray Risner, TCEQ and Cherelle Blazer, TechLaw, Inc.; regarding FMC files; dated April 20, 2006.

Facility Description

Based on available information, FMC is an inorganic, specialty chemical manufacturing facility located at 12000 Bay Avenue Boulevard in Pasadena, Harris County, Texas. According to the TCEQ Central Registry, the site is associated with several TCEQ programs and operates with air permits (new source and operating), industrial hazardous waste (IHW) storage permit (50216), and IHW Corrective Action (Inactive SWR 30614). In a telephone conversation, Ray Risner, TCEQ CA Project Manager, indicated his notes on the FMC file state "complete" and the file is closed. He no longer has any records pertaining to this site. The RFI documents should be in Central Files.

According to the CCAR, the facility submitted a facility-wide, revised RFI Report on February 10, 1992, which addressed nine SWMUs and indicated a surface water release. The report was approved by TCEQ and the CA Process terminated effective March 3, 1992.

A request for IHW Permit 50216 files yielded no file records.

Current Human Exposures Under Control
Environmental Indicator (EI) RCRAInfo code (CA725)
Page 2

BACKGROUND

Definition of Environmental Indicators (for the RCRA Corrective Action)

Environmental Indicators (EI) are measures being used by the RCRA Corrective Action program to go beyond programmatic activity measures (e.g., reports received and approved, etc.) to track changes in the quality of the environment. The two EI developed to-date indicate the quality of the environment in relation to current human exposures to contamination and the migration of contaminated groundwater. An EI for non-human (ecological) receptors is intended to be developed in the future.

Definition of “Current Human Exposures Under Control” EI

A positive “Current Human Exposures Under Control” EI determination (“YE” status code) indicates that there are no “unacceptable” human exposures to “contamination” (i.e., contaminants in concentrations in excess of appropriate risk-based levels) that can be reasonably expected under current land- and groundwater-use conditions (for all “contamination” subject to RCRA corrective action at or from the identified facility (i.e., site-wide)).

Relationship of EI to Final Remedies

While Final remedies remain the long-term objective of the RCRA Corrective Action program the EI are near-term objectives which are currently being used as Program measures for the Government Performance and Results Act of 1993, GPRA). The “Current Human Exposures Under Control” EI are for reasonably expected human exposures under current land- and groundwater-use conditions ONLY, and do not consider potential future land- or groundwater-use conditions or ecological receptors. The RCRA Corrective Action program’s overall mission to protect human health and the environment requires that Final remedies address these issues (i.e., potential future human exposure scenarios, future land and groundwater uses, and ecological receptors).

Duration / Applicability of EI Determinations

EI Determinations status codes should remain in RCRAInfo national database ONLY as long as they remain true (i.e., RCRAInfo status codes must be changed when the regulatory authorities become aware of contrary information).

Current Human Exposures Under Control
Environmental Indicator (EI) RCRAInfo code (CA725)
Page 3

2. Are groundwater, soil, surface water, sediments, or air **media** known or reasonably suspected to be “**contaminated**”¹ above appropriately protective risk-based “levels” (applicable promulgated standards, as well as other appropriate standards, guidelines, guidance, or criteria) from releases subject to RCRA Corrective Action (from SWMUs, RUs or AOCs)?

	<u>Yes</u>	<u>No</u>	<u>?</u>	<u>Rationale / Key Contaminants</u>
Groundwater				
Air (indoors) ²				
Surface Soil (e.g., <2 ft)				
Surface Water				
Sediment				
Subsurf. Soil (e.g., >2 ft)				
Air (outdoors)				

- If no (for all media) - skip to #6, and enter “YE” status code after providing or citing appropriate “levels”, and referencing sufficient supporting documentation demonstrating that these “levels” are not exceeded.

- If yes (for any media) - continue after identifying key contaminants in each “contaminated” medium, citing appropriate “levels” (or provide an explanation for the determination that the medium could pose an unacceptable risk), and referencing supporting documentation.

- If unknown (for any media) - skip to #6 and enter “IN” status code.

Rationale and Reference(s):

¹ “Contamination” and “contaminated” describes media containing contaminants (in any form, NAPL and/or dissolved, vapors, or solids, that are subject to RCRA) in concentrations in excess of appropriately protective risk-based “levels” (for the media, that identify risks within the acceptable risk range).

² Recent evidence (from the Colorado Dept. of Public Health and Environment, and others) suggest that unacceptable indoor air concentrations are more common in structures above groundwater with volatile contaminants than previously believed. This is a rapidly developing field and reviewers are encouraged to look to the latest guidance for the appropriate methods and scale of demonstration necessary to be reasonably certain that indoor air (in structures located above (and adjacent to) groundwater with volatile contaminants) does not present unacceptable risks.

Current Human Exposures Under Control
Environmental Indicator (EI) RCRAInfo code (CA725)
Page 4

3. Are there **complete pathways** between “contamination” and human receptors such that exposures can be reasonably expected under the current (land- and groundwater-use) conditions?

Summary Exposure Pathway Evaluation Table

Potential **Human Receptors** (Under Current Conditions)

“Contaminated” Media	Residents	Workers	Day-Care	Construction	Trespassers	Recreation Food ³
Groundwater						
Air (indoors)						
Soil (surface, e.g., <2 ft)						
Surface Water						
Sediment						
Soil (subsurface e.g., >2 ft)						
Air (outdoors)						

Instructions for Summary Exposure Pathway Evaluation Table:

1. Strike-out specific Media including Human Receptors spaces for Media which are not “contaminated” as identified in #2 above.
2. enter “yes” or “no” for potential “completeness” under each “Contaminated” Media -- Human Receptor combination (Pathway).

Note: In order to focus the evaluation to the most probable combinations some potential “Contaminated” Media - Human Receptor combinations (Pathways) do not have check spaces (“___”). While these combinations may not be probable in most situations they may be possible in some settings and should be added as necessary.

___ If no (pathways are not complete for any contaminated media-receptor combination) - skip to #6, and enter “YE” status code, after explaining and/or referencing condition(s) in-place, whether natural or man-made, preventing a complete exposure pathway from each contaminated medium (e.g., use optional Pathway Evaluation Work Sheet to analyze major pathways).

___ If yes (pathways are complete for any “Contaminated” Media - Human Receptor combination) - continue after providing supporting explanation.

___ If unknown (for any “Contaminated” Media - Human Receptor combination) - skip to #6 and enter “IN” status code.

Rationale and Reference(s):

³ Indirect Pathway/Receptor (e.g., vegetables, fruits, crops, meat and dairy products, fish, shellfish, etc.)

Current Human Exposures Under Control
Environmental Indicator (EI) RCRAInfo code (CA725)
Page 5

4. Can the **exposures** from any of the complete pathways identified in #3 be reasonably expected to be “**significant**”⁴ (i.e., potentially “unacceptable” because exposures can be reasonably expected to be: 1) greater in magnitude (intensity, frequency and/or duration) than assumed in the derivation of the acceptable “levels” (used to identify the “contamination”); or 2) the combination of exposure magnitude (perhaps even though low) and contaminant concentrations (which may be substantially above the acceptable “levels”) could result in greater than acceptable risks)?

—— If no (exposures can not be reasonably expected to be significant (i.e., potentially “unacceptable”) for any complete exposure pathway) - skip to #6 and enter “YE” status code after explaining and/or referencing documentation justifying why the exposures (from each of the complete pathways) to “contamination” (identified in #3) are not expected to be “significant.”

—— If yes (exposures could be reasonably expected to be “significant” (i.e., potentially “unacceptable”) for any complete exposure pathway) - continue after providing a description (of each potentially “unacceptable” exposure pathway) and explaining and/or referencing documentation justifying why the exposures (from each of the remaining complete pathways) to “contamination” (identified in #3) are not expected to be “significant.”

—— If unknown (for any complete pathway) - skip to #6 and enter “IN” status code

Rationale and Reference(s):

⁴ If there is any question on whether the identified exposures are “significant” (i.e., potentially “unacceptable”) consult a human health Risk Assessment specialist with appropriate education, training and experience.

Current Human Exposures Under Control
Environmental Indicator (EI) RCRAInfo code (CA725)
Page 6

5. Can the “significant” **exposures** (identified in #4) be shown to be within **acceptable** limits?

—— If yes (all “significant” exposures have been shown to be within acceptable limits) - continue and enter “YE” after summarizing and referencing documentation justifying why all “significant” exposures to “contamination” are within acceptable limits (e.g., a site-specific Human Health Risk Assessment).

—— If no (there are current exposures that can be reasonably expected to be “unacceptable”)- continue and enter “NO” status code after providing a description of each potentially “unacceptable” exposure.

—— If unknown (for any potentially “unacceptable” exposure) - continue and enter “IN” status code

Rationale and Reference(s):

**Current Human Exposures Under Control
Environmental Indicator (EI) RCRAInfo code (CA725)**

Page 7

6. Check the appropriate RCRAInfo status codes for the Current Human Exposures Under Control EI event code (CA725), and obtain Supervisor (or appropriate Manager) signature and date on the EI determination below (and attach appropriate supporting documentation as well as a map of the facility):

YE - Yes, "Current Human Exposures Under Control" has been verified. Based on a review of the information contained in this EI Determination, "Current Human Exposures" are expected to be "Under Control" at the _____ facility, EPA ID # _____, located at _____ under current and reasonably expected conditions. This determination will be re-evaluated when the Agency/State becomes aware of significant changes at the facility.

NO - "Current Human Exposures" are NOT "Under Control."

IN - More information is needed to make a determination.

Completed by (signature) _____ Date _____
(print) _____
(title) _____

Researched by (signature) Cherelle Blazer Date April 20, 2006
(print) Cherelle Blazer
(title) TechLaw, Inc. (U.S. EPA Contractor)

Supervisor (signature) _____ Date _____
(print) _____
(title) _____
(EPA Region or State) _____

Locations where References may be found:
Texas Commission of Environmental Quality
File Room, Building E
12118 N IH 35
Austin, TX 78753

Filed under:
30614

Contact telephone and e-mail numbers

(name) _____
(phone #) _____
(e-mail) _____

FINAL NOTE: THE HUMAN EXPOSURES EI IS A QUALITATIVE SCREENING OF EXPOSURES AND THE DETERMINATIONS WITHIN THIS DOCUMENT SHOULD NOT BE USED AS THE SOLE BASIS FOR RESTRICTING THE SCOPE OF MORE DETAILED (E.G., SITE-SPECIFIC) ASSESSMENTS OF RISK.

Recommended Further Actions

- 1. This facility appears to have completed the RFI process; however, sufficient information is not available for verification. Further investigation to seek current operating status of facility and corrective action history is warranted. If RFI report cannot be located, a site visit may be warranted to confirm RFI was site-wide and no outstanding releases are yet to be addressed.**