

Site Review And Update

GOLD COAST OIL CORPORATION
MIAMI, DADE COUNTY, FLORIDA
CERCLIS NO. FLD071307680

AUGUST 3, 1992

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES
Public Health Service
Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry
Division of Health Assessment and Consultation
Atlanta, Georgia 30333

SITE REVIEW AND UPDATE

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MIAMI, DADE COUNTY, FLORIDA
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Prepared by

Office of Toxicology and Hazard Assessment
Florida Department of Health and Rehabilitative Services
Under a Cooperative Agreement with the
Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry

SUMMARY OF BACKGROUND AND HISTORY

Beginning in the early 1970s, Gold Coast Oil Corporation operated a solvent recovery business on a flat, sandy two-acre site at 2835 SW 71st Avenue Miami, Dade County, Florida (Figures 1 and 2). In 1980, the Dade County Department of Environmental Resources Management (DERM) discovered illegal storage and disposal of paint waste and solvents at that site. In 1982 the site owner, CSX Transportation (formerly Seaboard Coast Lines Railroad), evicted Gold Coast Oil Corporation and removed contaminated soil and about 2,500 drums containing paint waste and solvents. CSX also removed all of the contaminated soil and shipped it to an approved disposal site. In 1983, the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) added this site to the National Priorities List. In 1984, CSX Transportation measured 1,1-dichloroethane (2 mg/L), trans-1,2-dichloroethene (3 mg/L), methylene chloride (0.1 mg/L), toluene (0.5 mg/L), trichloroethene (2 mg/L), and tetrachloroethene (10 mg/L) in the groundwater. The few area residents who attended a 1985 public meeting were concerned that air emissions from the EPA proposed groundwater treatment system would be harmful to them. That concern faded when EPA determined that emissions from the groundwater treatment system would not violate air standards. In 1986, EPA identified, but did not sample, four private potable wells within one-half mile of the site. EPA did not sample the wells because further groundwater testing showed that the contamination would not reach residents.

The Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry (ATSDR) concluded in its 1987 health assessment of Gold Coast Oil Corporation that there were no human exposure pathways at the site so the threat to public health was remote. ATSDR did not identify any community health concerns in the health assessment. ATSDR recommended that the appropriate local, state, or federal agency sample the potable wells near the site and define the extent of groundwater contamination.

In a 1987 Record of Decision (ROD), EPA selected aeration to remove residual soil contamination and to treat contaminated groundwater. In 1990-1991, CSX Transportation removed the residual soil contamination and installed a groundwater treatment system.

CURRENT CONDITIONS OF SITE

On May 1, 1991, Randy Merchant of the Florida Department of Health and Rehabilitative Services (Florida HRS) and a representative of the Florida Department of Environmental Regulation (Florida DER) visited the site. The site is in a light industrial section of Miami. The neighborhoods surrounding the area are middle income white and Latin American. The site is surrounded by an eight-foot

fence topped with barbed wire; the entrance is locked and posted. The site is covered with grass and the only structures on site are an aeration tower and associated tanks, extraction/injection wells, and pipes.

Conclusions in the 1987 ATSDR health assessment appear to be supported; there are no apparent human exposure pathways and the threat to public health appears remote.

Although the concentrations of solvents in the groundwater are still above target cleanup levels, they have decreased significantly since treatment began. A schematic of the groundwater treatment system is shown in Figure 3.

CURRENT ISSUES

Continued groundwater treatment will likely control the spread of contamination and eventually decrease concentrations to acceptable levels.

We contacted environmental activists at the South Florida Environmental Information Service, the Environmental Health Director of the Dade County Public Health Unit, the Hazardous Waste Section Chief at the Dade County DERM, and the project managers at Florida DER and EPA, but were unable to identify any community health concerns.

CONCLUSIONS

Conclusions in the 1987 health assessment are supported. The site does not appear to be a public health threat; there are no known human exposure pathways. Although potable wells near the site have not been sampled as recommended in the 1987 health assessment, it is unlikely that well water is contaminated because EPA found groundwater contamination restricted to within 100 feet of the site. The nearest potable well is 1,200 feet west-southwest of the site on the other side of the Coral Gables Canal. Continued treatment will eventually reduce on-site groundwater solvent concentrations to acceptable levels. Since this site does not appear to be a public health threat, no further public health action is necessary.

RECOMMENDATIONS

Florida HRS and ATSDR do not recommend any further health activities at this site. The data and information developed in the Site Review and Update have been evaluated to determine if follow-up actions are indicated. No further public health actions are indicated at this time.

DOCUMENTS REVIEWED

Florida HRS reviewed the following documents for this summary:

1. Hazardous Waste Site Investigation, Gold Coast Oil Corporation. Environmental Protection Agency. June 1981.
2. Remedial Action Master Plan, Gold Coast Oil Site. NUS Corporation. June 1983.
3. Gold Coast Oil Superfund Site Private Well Survey. Camp, Dresser, & McKee. September 1986.
4. Gold Coast Oil Site Endangerment Assessment. Camp, Dresser, & McKee. December 1986.
5. Health Assessment, Gold Coast Oil NPL Site. Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry. March 1987.
6. Record of Decision, Gold Coast Oil Corporation Site. Environmental Protection Agency. September 1987.
7. Revised Community Relations Plan, Gold Coast Oil Site. Bozz, Allen, & Hamilton, Inc. June 1988.

Preparer of the report: E. Randall Merchant, M.S.

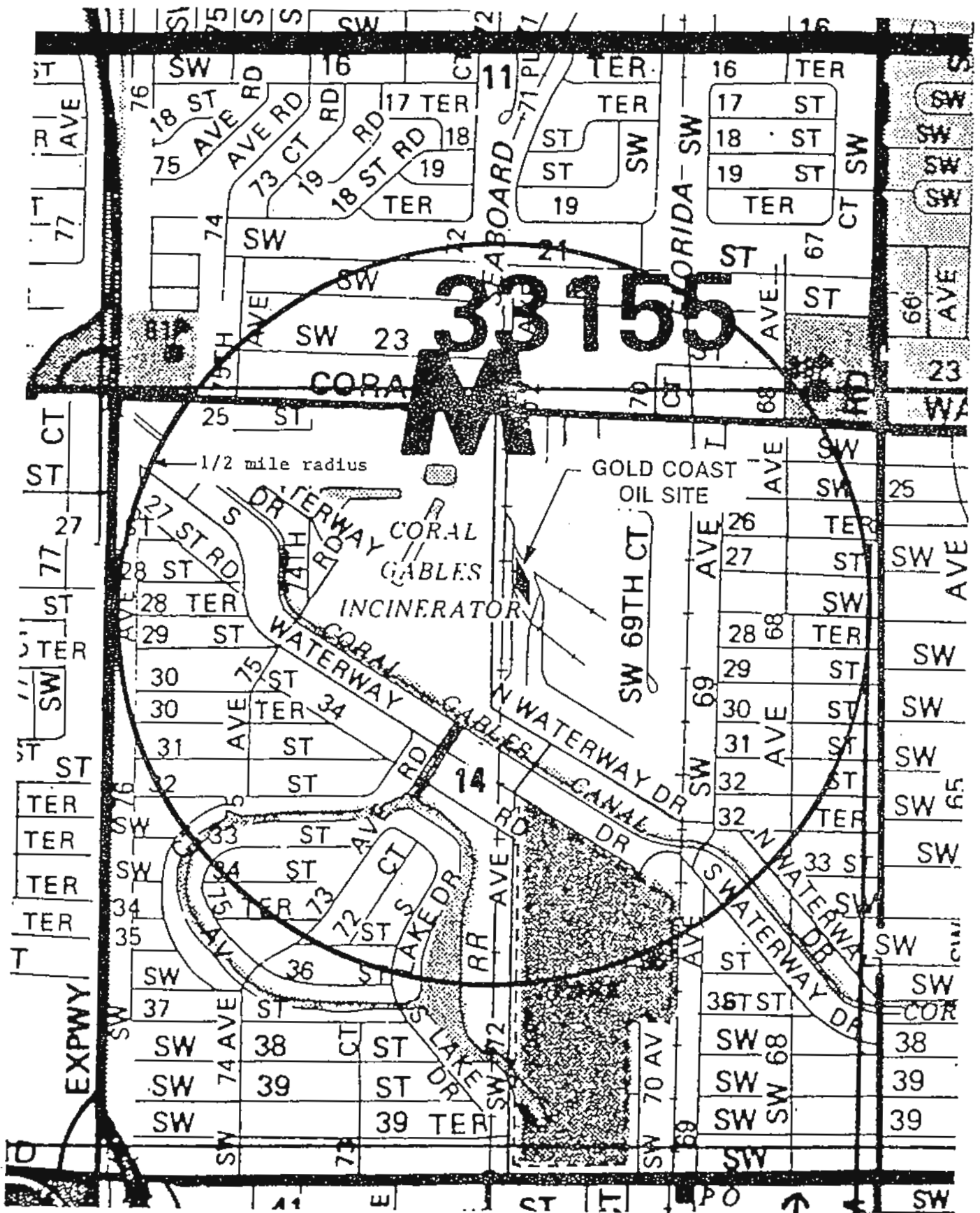


FIGURE 1 GOLD COAST OIL LOCATION MAP



SEABOARD COASTLINE RAILROAD

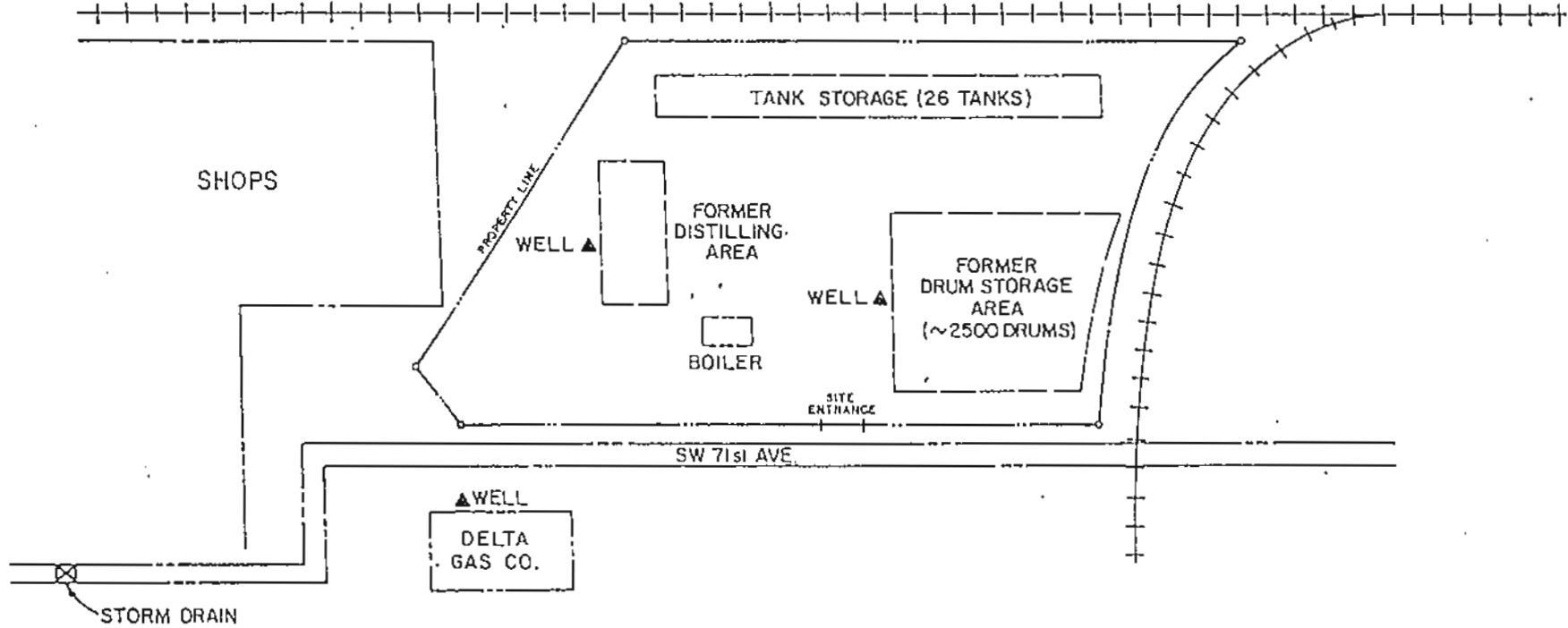
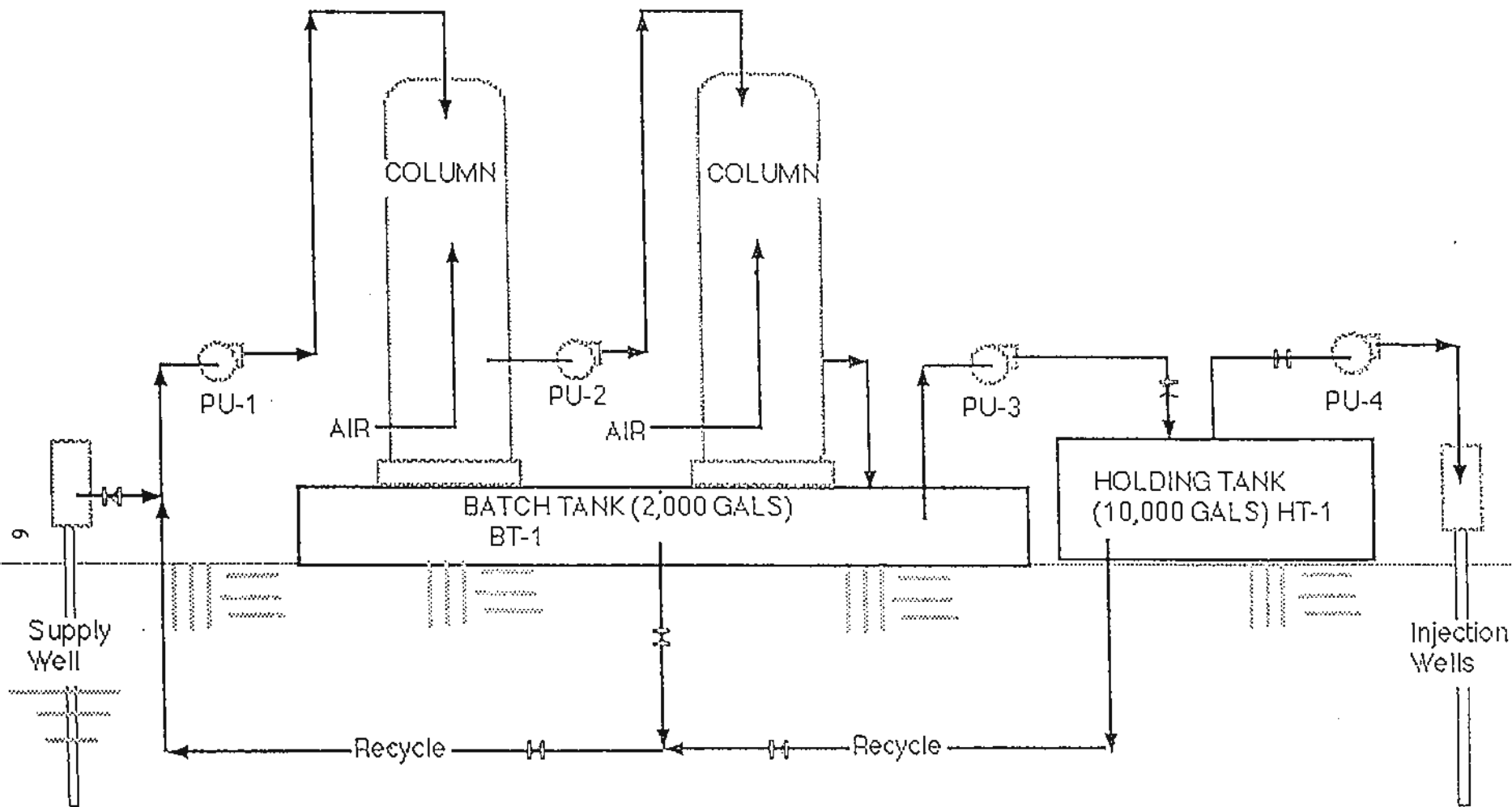


FIGURE 2. GOLD COAST OIL SITE MAP

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SITE PLAN
GOLD COAST OIL SITE, MIAMI, FL
NOT TO SCALE





Schematic
Groundwater Recovery / Treatment And Discharge System
Gold Coast Oil Corporation