

SOUND RECORDS CTR  
2081902

REGION: 09  
STATE : CA

U.S. ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY  
OFFICE OF EMERGENCY AND REMEDIAL RESPONSE  
C E R C L A

PAGE: 139  
RUN DATE: 85/07/23  
RUN TIME: 14:07:10

M.2 - SITE MAINTENANCE FORM

EPA ID: CAD074144171

SITE NAME: USA PETROCHEM

SOURCE: T

STREET: 4777 CROOKED PALM RD

CONG DIST: 19

CITY: VENTURA

ZIP: 93001

CNTY NAME: VENTURA

CNTY CODE: 111

LATITUDE: 34/16/48.0 LONGITUDE: 119/16/54.0

SMSA: 6000 HYDRO UNIT: 18070101

INVENTORY IND: Y REMEDIAL IND: Y REMOVAL IND: N FED FAC IND: N

NPL IND: N NPL LISTING DATE: NPL DELISTING DATE:

APPROACH: SITE CLASS:

SITE/SPILL IDS:

RPM NAME:

RPM PHONE: - -

DIOXIN TIER: REG FLD1: REG FLD2: N

RESP TERM: PENDING ( ) NO FURTHER ACTION ~~( )~~

ENF DISP: NO VIABLE RESP PARTY ( ) VOLUNTARY RESPONSE ( )

ENFORCED RESPONSE ( ) COST RECOVERY ( )

SITE DESCRIPTION:

\* ACTION: \_

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\* PENDING ( ) NO FURTHER ACTION ( )

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ENT → C, PA2, 120187, S ✓  
SI → C, NV ✓

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Complete  
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12.18.87  
NRA

## DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH SERVICES

714/744 P STREET  
SACRAMENTO, CA 95814



## Preliminary Assessment Summary

U.S.A. Petrochem  
4777 Crooked Palm Road  
Ventura, California 93001

March 1985

Preparer: Linda D. Hogg  
Toxic Substances Control Division  
Southern California Section  
(213) 620-2380

PROBLEM AND HISTORY:

This site was originally owned and operated as a lemon orchard by the Morrison Family. It was purchased by Shell Oil Company in 1952 and was operated as a fertilizer plant, producing ammonia and urea. The wastes from the Shell plant were acid and alkaline sludges, and a nonspecified catalyst. Wastes were disposed to ponds and landfills offsite, at JNJ in Oxnard, and the Shell Chemical Pond on the Taylor lease. They also had onsite sumps and tanks. The sumps and tanks are no longer used, but they have not been filled in or covered. No records of any inspections of the Shell plant were found during agency records searches.

Shell closed in 1972 and was sold to California Oil Production Co. (COPCO). COPCO was acquired by U.S.A. Petrochem in 1973.

U.S.A. Petrochem started operations in 1974. Their source activity was oil refining, including oil desulfurization. Wastes included sulfide sludge, tetraethyl lead sludge, caustic, catalyst, API sludge, and monoethanolamine. All wastes were disposed off-site except the process water, which was treated onsite. All wastes were contained in tanks or sumps. When full, wastes were hauled by vacuum truck to Casmalia. Various haulers were used. There was no outside storage or open pits. There were numerous fires and spills, all of which were contained and/or cleaned up, according to a Ventura County Fire Department representative.

U.S.A. Petrochem is no longer operating at this site. The refinery and the property are for sale as is; if it doesn't sell, the plant will be dismantled and the property sold for development.

RECOMMENDATION:

Active status, low priority. Although the plant appears to have run a clean operation, the underground tanks and the sumps are old and have the potential of leaking. The material in the tanks is not highly toxic, but the site is in an industrial rural area next to the Ventura River. The Ventura County Environmental Health Department has requested a comprehensive clean-up plan to be submitted prior to sale or decommissioning.

PRELIMINARY ASSESSMENT  
Region 9

Preparer's Name Linda D. Hogg

Date March 1985

	SOURCE	INFORMATION
1. Site ID Number		CAD 074144171
2. Site Name	Dept. of Health Services (DHS) Abandoned Site Assessment Program (ASAP) questionnaire 1984	U.S.A. Petrochem
3. Site Location	DHS DMI file listing 1982 (DHS discovery) & ASAP Drive-by 7/26/84	4777 Crooked Palm Road Ventura, CA 93001 S16, T3N, R23W
4. County	ASAP Drive-by 7/26/84	Ventura
5. Owner (Address & Telephone No.)	1984 Ventura County Tax Assessor. 1983 recorder.	U.S.A. Properties Max Jamisonm Esq. 1633 26th Street P.O. Box 1839 Santa Monica, CA 90406
6. Operator (Address & Telephone No.)	Phone call 1/22/85 HerbHill	Current: U.S.A. Petrochem 4777 Crooked Palm Road Ventura, CA 93001 (805) 648-3168
	1/22/85 Phone call Herb Hill and Ventura Co. Tex Assessor 1984	Past: California Oil Production Co. (COPCO); Shell Fertilizer Morrison Family
7. Type of Ownership	Same as #5	Private
8. Status	Phone call 1/22/84 Herb Hill	Inactive. Site is currently for sale.

ITEM NUMBER	SOURCE	INFORMATION
9. Source Activity	DHS ASAP Drive-by 7/26/84	U.S.A. Petrochem: oil refinery
	6/26/75 County of Ventura memo to Victor R. Howbands	COPCO: desulfurization of oil Shell Fertilizer Plant: ammonia and urea production.
10. Years of Operation	ASAP 1984 questionnaire (for Shell Fert.)	Shell Fertilizer Plant: 1952 - 1972
	Ventura County Tax Assessor and ASAP 1984 questionnaire (for USA Petrochem)	COPCO: 1973 - 1974
	ASAP 1984 questionnaire (for USA Petrochem)	U.S.A. Petrochem: 1974 - 1984
11. Facility Type	ASAP 1984 questionnaire (USA Petrochem)	USA Petrochem: 4 sumps, 550 to 65,200 gallon 7-10 1175 to 19,000 gallon underground tanks. Above ground tanks - unknown capacity. COPCO: unknown
	ASAP 1984 questionnaire (Shell Fert.)	Shell Fertilizer Plant: offsite landfill, ponds.
	1/22/85 phone call. Herb Hill	6 sumps
12. Waste Type and Description	ASAP 1984 questionnaire (USA Petroleum)	USA Petrochem: Process water, sulfide sludge, tetraethyl lead sludge, caustic, catalyst, monoethanolamine.
		COPCO: unknown
	ASAP 1984 questionnaire (Shell Fert.)	Shell Fertilizer Plant: Acid sludge, alkaline sludge, catalyst.

## 13. Contacts:

John Lewis	Regional Water Quality Control Board	(213) 620-4460
Herb Hill	U.S.A. Petrochem	(805) 648-3168
Cpt. Dan Spykerman	VCFD	(805) 484-3601 x7151
	Ventura Tax Assessor & Recorder	
Bill Flynn	APCD	(805) 654-2801
Deborah Henlon	VCEH	ATSS 723-2441

## 14. Incidents:

23 spills and fires, according to Ventura County Fire Department  
See list of dates and types in phone memo 1/23/85

Fire and Explosion   X   Directo Contact       

## 15. Inspections (date, type, by whom, recommendation)

7/26/84 - DHS-TSCD, ASP drive-by

## 16. Enforcement History (list date, type of action, requirements, outcome)

None found.

17.a. Initial recommendation ofr further action: Active status, low priority. Although the plant appears to have run a clean operation, the underground tanks and the sumps are old and have the potential for leaking. The site is next to the Ventura River.

17.b. EPA recommendation for further action:

**NO FURTHER ACTION.**

18. Response Termination:   X   No Further Action        Pending        Active

Justification:

**SITE IS REGULATED BY VENTURA COUNTY  
ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH DEPT.**