

PETRO-PROCESSORS OF LOUISIANA, INC. EAST BATON ROUGE PARISH LOUISIANA



EPA REGION 6
CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT 06

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Updated: February 2012

EPA ID# LAD057482713
Site ID: 0600442

Background

Petro-Processors of Louisiana, Inc. (PPI) is located in East Baton Rouge Parish, Louisiana. The Site consists of two Operating Units (OUs), the Brooklawn OU and the Scenic OU.

The Scenic OU is located on the west side of Scenic Highway (Highway 61) approximately one-quarter mile north of the intersection of US Highway 61 and State Highway 964. The Scenic OU was a borrow pit for the construction of the overpass at the intersection of US Highway 61 and LA State Highway 964. The disposal area of Scenic OU covers approximately 17 acres and includes a portion of Bayou Baton Rouge (BBR), which was located immediately adjacent to the western end of the waste pit.



The Brooklawn OU is located on Brooklawn Drive one and one half miles west of Scenic Highway. The Brooklawn OU covers approximately 80 acres and includes the Disposal area and the adjacent BBR area. Former disposal areas include lagoons in the batture area and pits in the bluff area.

PPI operated the Brooklawn and Scenic sites as depositories for various petrochemical waste products during the 1960s and the 1970s. The Scenic OU received petrochemical waste containing hazardous substances from 1961 to 1974. The Brooklawn OU operated from approximately 1969 to 1978. An estimated 300 K tons of waste were deposited during operations conducted by PPI. This approximate amount includes 125 K tons of solids, 64K tons of sludge and 125 K tons of liquid waste, of which, 52 K tons were non-chlorinated organic liquids, 63 K tons were chlorinated organic liquids and 10 K tons were aqueous liquids. In July 1980, the U.S. Justice Department filed suit against PPI and Industry Defendants, alleging that they disposed of wastes including hazardous substances at the Brooklawn OU and Scenic OU.

The area surrounding the PPI site is primarily zoned as M-2, heavy industrial. The nearest concentration of residences is the Alsen Community on Scenic Highway about two miles east southeast of the

Brooklawn OU and approximately one mile south of the Scenic OU. There are about one-half dozen residential homes on Springfield Road one and one-half miles east of the Brooklawn OU and one-half mile south of the Scenic OU. The East Baton Rouge city/parish landfill is about one mile north northeast of the Brooklawn OU and one mile northwest of the Scenic OU. Jetson Correctional Facility for adolescents is two miles east of the Brooklawn OU and one-half mile southeast of the Scenic OU.

Most residents in the area are connected to the Baton Rouge Water Supply system. There is one domestic water well in the 400-foot aquifer within one half mile of the Scenic OU. There are no domestic wells within one-half mile of the Brooklawn OU.

The current selected remedial actions at the Brooklawn OU are: Source Reduction in the disposal area; Protective Fill and Biota Monitoring in the Middle Channel of the Bayou Baton Rouge area distributaries; monitored Natural Attenuation of contaminated groundwater; and Administrative Controls.

The current selected remedial actions at the Scenic OU are: Source Control in the disposal area; Natural Recovery of Bayou Baton Rouge sediment; Monitored Natural Attenuation of contaminated groundwater; and Administrative Controls.

Current Status

- Recovery of Non Aqueous Phase Liquids (NAPLs) was discontinued at the Brooklawn and Scenic sites based in the current low recovery rates and recent modeling that has shown that further recovery attempts are not required to protect the 400-foot aquifer. Pipe rack demolition, plugging of abandoned wells, and dismantling equipment no longer used was recently completed. See recently posted Brooklawn photos.
- Site long-term monitoring activities and inspection will continue under approved work plans.
- The EPA in coordination with the LDEQ and NPC Services conducted a second Five-Year Review of the remedy to ensure the remedy is protective. A site inspection was conducted on April 6, 2010. The five year review was completed in December 2010.
- Additional investigations, characterization and testing is currently ongoing on the property west of the Scenic site to enhance bioremediation and the ongoing ground water Natural Attenuation processes.
- Pilot testing of enhanced natural attenuation started at the Scenic site in December 2008 with the installation of injection and extraction wells. Favorable results supported the implementation of a near-source remedy using enhanced attenuation treatment zones to augment previous actions to remediate the Scenic site. Drilling for additional injection and extraction wells for construction of a near-source remedy were completed in 2010. Injection activities of substrate at the primary and secondary treatment zones started in April 2011 and were completed in July 2011.
- Pending access on Louisiana State Police property, a supplemental investigation will be conducted at the distal end of the plume by late 2011 or early 2012. This may later result in construction of a distal treatment zone for enhanced attenuation.
- Additional photographs of injection activities at the treatment zones added to this website (June 2011).
- Further evaluation of the groundwater flow models, evaluation of the extent of the western plume, and microbial characterization investigations by the Louisiana State University will continue.



Benefits

- The rerouting of Bayou Baton Rouge and the engineered clay caps covering the Brooklawn and Scenic Sites reduced the migration of site contaminants and prevented air emissions from the source areas and exposure to nearby industries and residences.
- Continued research by LSU, site assessment and modeling efforts by Battelle Laboratories at the sites ensures that remedy implementation is successful.
- Risk Assessment work at the site (air risk assessment completed, indirect risk assessment for incinerator completed, and the ecological and human health assessments for the surrounding wetlands environment recently completed) ensures that technologies being implemented are protective of human health and the environment.
- Approximately 136 million gallons of water (1,134 million pounds) were recovered, treated and properly disposed, and approximately 956,000 gallons (10.76 million pounds) of organic fluids were recovered, treated and properly disposed.

National Priorities Listing (NPL) History

Proposed Date: September 8, 1983
Final Date: September 21, 1984

Location: - The Petro Processors Inc. site consists of two locations near Scotlandville, East Baton Rouge Parish, Louisiana, about ten miles north of the City of Baton Rouge.
- The Scenic Highway location is just west of US Highway 61 and north of the intersection of Scenic Highway 964 and US Highway 61.
- The Brooklawn location is west, southwest of the Scenic Highway location.
- Adjacent to the Brooklawn location are portions of Devil's Swamp and Bayou Baton Rouge.

Population: - The community is predominantly rural with a few houses located about 800 to 1000 feet from the border of Scenic Highway location. Approximately 435 people live within 2 miles of the Brooklawn location.

Setting: - Nearest residence is about 3,000 feet from the site.
- Nearest drinking water well is 3,000 ft. up gradient of the site.
- The Petro Processors site comprises two former petrochemical disposal areas situated about 1.5 miles apart: the Scenic Highway and Brooklawn areas, totaling 77 acres.

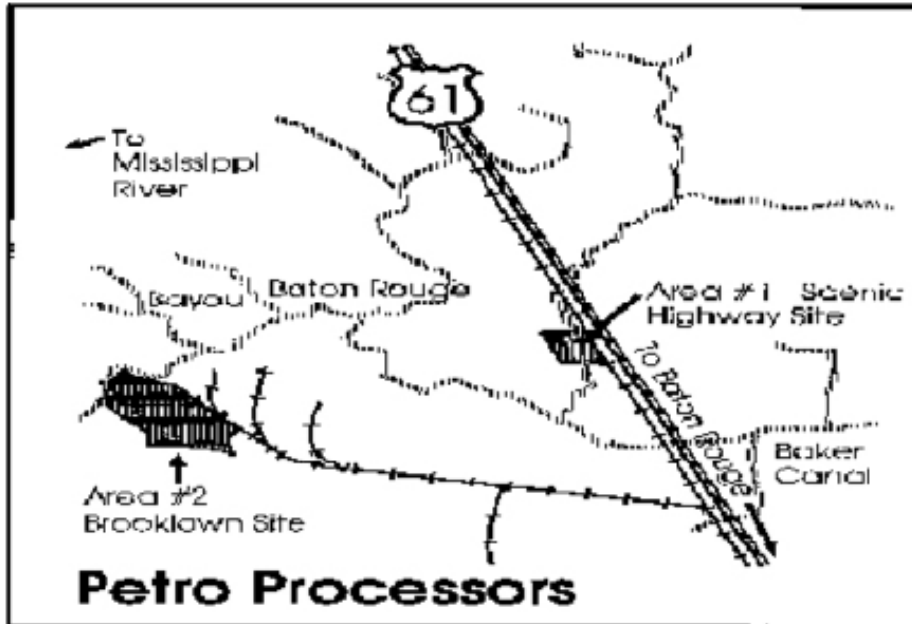
Photos: [Brooklawn Site 1 of 2](#)
[Brooklawn Site 2 of 2](#)
[Scenic Site](#)
[Swamp Remediation \(October 2002\)](#)
[Brooklawn Site 2010 1 of 2](#)
[Brooklawn Site 2010 2 of 2](#)
[Scenic Site 2010](#)
[Scenic Enhance Attenuation](#)
[Swamp Remediation 2010](#)
[Enhanced Attenuation Treatment Zones](#) (New June 2011)

Principal pollutants are petrochemical wastes including the following:

- Chlorinated Hydrocarbons
(Hexachlorobutadiene and Hexachlorobenzene are predominant contaminants)
- Polycyclic Aromatic Hydrocarbons (PAHs)
- Heavy Metals

- Oils

Site Map



Health Considerations:

- In the past, spontaneous ignition of the waste resulted in fires in the upper lagoon on several occasions.
- In 1969, a spill from the lagoons contaminated portions of a nearby ranch and 30 cattle were killed.
- Site is located over the "400-foot sands", a major drinking water aquifer.

Record of Decision (ROD)

Signed: Consent Decree 1984
Amended: Consent Decree 1989

- The existing 1984 Consent Decree and 1989 Amendment is a framework for a Source Control and Ground water Containment Remedial Action (RA) for the Petro Processors Site.
- The SRAP, incorporated by reference into the CD, calls for a system of about 200 recovery and containment wells at the Brooklawn Site, following capping of the contaminated lagoons. A similar system has been designed for Scenic and was be used in addition to the Natural Attenuation processes occurring in the ground water and Natural Recovery in stream sediments.

Site Contacts

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