

Air CP_104046545_CP_20160401_INVESTIGATION_1315382
Texas Commission on Environmental Quality
Investigation Report

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Customer: Generic Incident Principal
Customer Number: CN602295370

Regulated Entity Name: GENERIC INCIDENT ZIP CODE 77584

Regulated Entity Number: RN104046545

Investigation # 1315382

Incident Numbers

228692

Investigator: GREGORY CROOK

Site Classification

Conducted: 03/03/2016 -- 04/01/2016

No Industry Code Assigned

Program(s): AIR QUALITY NON PERMITTED

Investigation Type: Compliance Investigation

Location:

Additional ID(s):

Address: ,

, ,

Local Unit: REGION 12 - HOUSTON

Activity Type(s): AIRCOMPL - AIR CMPL - AIR
COMPLAINT INV

Principal(s):

Role

Name

RESPONDENT

GENERIC INCIDENT PRINCIPAL

Contact(s):

Role

Title

Name

Phone

Other Staff Member(s):

Role

Name

Supervisor

JOSEPH DOBY

Investigator

RICHARD BLACKNEY

QA Reviewer

JOSEPH DOBY

Associated Check List

Checklist Name

AIR GENERIC INVESTIGATION (10 ITEMS)

Unit Name

Sitewide

Investigation Comments:

INTRODUCTION

Introduction

On March 4, 2016 TCEQ received four (4) complaints documented in one incident (incident number 228692) by telephone regarding a strong odor in the vicinity of Shadow Creek Ranch neighborhood in Pearland, Texas.

All complainants claimed that a very strong chemical and/ or landfill odor was present either in the morning (1:00

a.m.-9:00 a.m.) or in the afternoon 1:00 p.m. This odor occurred intermittently, usually once or twice per week. Complainants claimed that this had been going on for years. The majority believe the source of odor was the Blueridge Landfill to the west of the subdivision. One of the two complainants stated that the odors have caused people to become dizzy and have headaches. The other complainants expressed concern for their health.

Map of source location is included in Attachment 1.

Investigation Narrative

Date of investigation: March 4, 2016

Names of investigators: Chris Crook, Richard Blackney

Time of arrival: 9:40 a.m.

Description of the surrounding land use: Residential and industrial

Description of the terrain: Flat with sporadic vegetation

Meteorological conditions March 4, 2016

Cloud Cover: Clear

Wind direction: East

Wind Speed: 5 mph

Temperature: 59 degrees Fahrenheit

Precipitation: 0 in

Source of Meteorological Conditions: Weather Underground (KAXH)

March 4, 2016

In order to identify the most probable source and to determine whether a nuisance condition existed, the investigators conducted 15 minute odor surveys at six points surrounding Akzo Nobel, Blue Ridge Landfill, and Lonestar Disposal and Recycling at a distance that was approximately equidistant to the complainant's locations from the sources. Odors were assessed for frequency, intensity, duration, and offensiveness.

Environmental Investigators Mr. Chris Crook and Mr. Richard Blackney arrived at location 1 outside of Lone Star Disposal and Recycling (see attachment 3 for a map of observation locations) at 9:40 a.m. to observe for odor nuisance. The first fifteen minute odor survey was taken downwind of Lone Star Disposal and Recycling at Hiram Clark & Clark Springs Dr. From 9:44 a.m. to 10:04 a.m. A garbage smell was detected, with an intensity of "very light." The odor was characterized as "offensive." The odor was not of sufficient frequency, intensity, duration, and offensiveness to confirm a nuisance condition. The second odor survey was taken upwind of Lone Star Disposal and Recycling at Riley Rd & Almeda Rd from 10:06 a.m. to 10:21 a.m. No odor was detected during the odor survey. Conditions outside during the odor logs were calm winds from the East.

At 10:22 a.m. the investigators arrived at location 2 outside of Akzo Nobel to observe for odor. The third odor survey was taken downwind of Akzo Nobel at West Drive & South Drive from 10:22 a.m. to 10:39 a.m. No odor was detected during the odor survey. The fourth odor survey was taken at the same location downwind of Akzo Nobel from 10:39 a.m. to 10:54 a.m. No odor was detected during the odor survey. At 10:55 a.m. the investigators left the site. Conditions outside during the odor surveys were calm winds from the East.

At 11:00 a.m. the investigators arrived at location 3 outside of Blue Ridge Landfill to observe for odor. The fifth odor survey was taken downwind of Blue Ridge Landfill North of the intersection of Evergreen Street and California Street from 11:05 a.m. to 11:20 a.m. No odor was detected during the odor survey. The sixth odor survey was taken downwind of Blue Ridge Landfill at the 19500 block of South Post Oak Boulevard from 11:22 a.m. to 11:37 a.m. No odor was detected during the odor survey. The investigators departed at 11:45 a.m. Conditions outside during the odor survey were calm winds from the East.

Odor logs are included in attachment 2.

Odor survey route maps are included in attachment 3.

Facility authorization narrative

Not applicable.

Exit Interview

An exit interview was not conducted since there were no alleged violations, additional issues, or records requested.

In addition, the complainants were contacted by phone with the results of the investigation on March 31, 2016 at 1:15 p.m., 1:20 p.m., and 1:40 p.m.

GENERAL FACILITY AND PROCESS INFORMATION

Process Description

Not applicable.

BACKGROUND

Agreed Orders, Court Orders, and Other Compliance Agreements

Not applicable.

Prior Enforcement Issues

Not applicable.

Complaints

The zip code 77584 has received a large volume of complaints regarding odor in the area.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Conclusions, Recommendations, and Current Enforcement Actions

Based on the TCEQ's Odor Complaint Investigation Procedures and application of the FIDO Chart, a single occurrence of an "offensive" odor with an intensity of "very strong" would need to be present continuously for 4 hours in order to constitute a nuisance condition. Since the odor did not have an intensity of very strong and did not last 4 hours, the single occurrence documented during this investigation does not constitute a nuisance condition based on the TCEQ FIDO protocol.

Additional Issues

No additional issues were noted during this investigation.

REPORT ATTACHMENTS

1. Area Map
2. Investigator's Odor Logs
3. Survey Route Map

No Violations Associated to this Investigation

Signed Chris Grook
Environmental Investigator

Date 4/29/16

Signed Jim Dohy
Supervisor

Date 4/29/16

Attachments: (in order of final report submittal)

___ Enforcement Action Request (EAR)

___ Letter to Facility (specify type) : _____

Investigation Report

___ Sample Analysis Results

___ Manifests

___ Notice of Registration

___ Maps, Plans, Sketches

___ Photographs

___ Correspondence from the facility

☒ Other (specify) :

See investigation
attachments

Attachment 1

Investigator's Odor Logs

Shadow Creek Ranch Odor Survey

March 4, 2016

.

Hiram Clarke & Clarke Springs

Supplemental Investigator's Odor Intensity Time Log

Date of Investigation: 3-4-2016 Start Time: 9:44
 Taken by Richard Blackney

Location
1

Minutes	Odor Intensity VL, L, M, S, VS
1 min	
2	
3	
4	
5	
6	
7	
8	
9	
10	
11	
12	
13	
14	
15	
16	
17	
18	
19	
20	
21	
22	
23	
24	
25	
26	
27	
28	
29	
30	

Minutes	Odor Intensity VL, L, M, S, VS
31 min	
32	
33	
34	
35	
36	
37	
38	
39	
40	
41	
42	
43	
44	VL
45	VL
46	no odor
47	VL
48	VL
49	no odor
50	no odor
51	VL
52	VL
53	no odor
54	VL
55	no odor
56	no odor
57	VL
58	no odor
59	
60	

Offensiveness: Highly _____ Offensive ☒ Unpleasant _____ Not Unpleasant _____

Weighted Average Intensity:

	VS	S	M	L	VL	No Odor
1 Min					<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
10 Min					<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
1 Hour						

Kiley & Almeda

Supplemental Investigator's Odor Intensity Time Log

Date of Investigation: 3-4-2016 Start Time: 10:06
Taken by Richard Blackney

Minutes	Odor Intensity VL, L, M, S, VS
1 min	
2	
3	
4	
5	
6	no odor
7	11 11
8	11 11
9	11 11
10	11 11
11	11 11
12	11 11
13	11 11
14	11 11
15	11 11
16	11 11
17	11 11
18	11 11
19	11 11
20	11 11
21	
22	
23	
24	
25	
26	
27	
28	
29	
30	

Minutes	Odor Intensity VL, L, M, S, VS
31 min	
32	
33	
34	
35	
36	
37	
38	
39	
40	
41	
42	
43	
44	
45	
46	
47	
48	
49	
50	
51	
52	
53	
54	
55	
56	
57	
58	
59	
60	

Location
1

Offensiveness: Highly _____ Offensive _____ Unpleasant _____ Not Unpleasant _____

Weighted Average Intensity:

	VS	S	M	L	VL	No Odor
1 Min						✓
10 Min						✓
1 Hour						

Investigator's Odor Intensity Time Log

Location
2

Date of Investigation:

3/4/16

Start Time

10:22

Name and Address of Alleged Source:

Akzo Nobel [W Drive + South]

Investigator's Name: Print:

Chris Crook

Sign:

Chris Crook

Minutes	Odor Intensity VL, L, M, S, VS
1 min	no odor
2	no odor
3	no odor
4	no odor
5	no odor
6	no odor
7	no odor
8	no odor
9	no odor
10	no odor
11	no odor
12	no odor
13	no odor
14	no odor
15	no odor
16	
17	
18	
19	
20	
21	
22	
23	
24	
25	
26	
27	
28	
29	
30	

Minutes	Odor Intensity VL, L, M, S, VS
31 min	
32	
33	
34	
35	
36	
37	
38	
39	
40	
41	
42	
43	
44	
45	
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47	
48	
49	
50	
51	
52	
53	
54	
55	
56	
57	
58	
59	
60	

Offensiveness: Highly _____ Offensive _____ Unpleasant _____ Not Unpleasant _____

Dominant Odor Intensity For:

	VS	S	M	L	VL	No Odor
1 Min						
10 Min						
1 Hour						

Investigator's Odor Intensity Time Log

Location
2

Date of Investigation:

3/4/16

Start Time

10:39

Name and Address of Alleged Source:

Akzo Nobel Tw drive + South

Investigator's Name: Print:

Chris

Crook

Sign:

Chris Crook

Minutes	Odor Intensity VL, L, M, S, VS
1 min	no odor
2	no odor
3	no odor
4	no odor
5	no odor
6	no odor
7	no odor
8	no odor
9	no odor
10	no odor
11	no odor
12	no odor
13	no odor
14	no odor
15	no odor
16	
17	
18	
19	
20	
21	
22	
23	
24	
25	
26	
27	
28	
29	
30	

Minutes	Odor Intensity VL, L, M, S, VS
31 min	
32	
33	
34	
35	
36	
37	
38	
39	
40	
41	
42	
43	
44	
45	
46	
47	
48	
49	
50	
51	
52	
53	
54	
55	
56	
57	
58	
59	
60	

Offensiveness: Highly _____ Offensive _____ Unpleasant _____ Not Unpleasant _____

Dominant Odor Intensity For:

	VS	S	M	L	VL	No Odor
1 Min						
10 Min						
1 Hour						

Location
3

Investigator's Odor Intensity Time Log

Date of Investigation:

3/4/16

Start Time

11:05

Name and Address of Alleged Source:

Blue Ridge Landfill [North of the intersection of evergreen & California]

Investigator's Name: Print:

Chris Crook

Sign:

Chris Crook

Minutes	Odor Intensity VL, L, M, S, VS
1 min	no odor
2	no odor
3	no odor
4	no odor
5	no odor
6	no odor
7	no odor
8	no odor
9	no odor
10	no odor
11	no odor
12	no odor
13	no odor
14	no odor
15	no odor
16	
17	
18	
19	
20	
21	
22	
23	
24	
25	
26	
27	
28	
29	
30	

Minutes	Odor Intensity VL, L, M, S, VS
31 min	
32	
33	
34	
35	
36	
37	
38	
39	
40	
41	
42	
43	
44	
45	
46	
47	
48	
49	
50	
51	
52	
53	
54	
55	
56	
57	
58	
59	
60	

Offensiveness: Highly _____ Offensive _____ Unpleasant _____ Not Unpleasant _____

Dominant Odor Intensity For:

	VS	S	M	L	VL	No Odor
1 Min						
10 Min						
1 Hour						

Investigator's Odor Intensity Time Log

Date of Investigation: 3/4/16 Start Time 11:22
 Name and Address of Alleged Source: Blue Ridge Landfill 69500 block of
 Investigator's Name: Print: Chris Crook Sign: Chris Crook S. Post Oak Blvd

Minutes	Odor Intensity VL, L, M, S, VS
1 min	no odor
2	no odor
3	no odor
4	no odor
5	no odor
6	no odor
7	no odor
8	no odor
9	no odor
10	no odor
11	no odor
12	no odor
13	no odor
14	no odor
15	no odor
16	
17	
18	
19	
20	
21	
22	
23	
24	
25	
26	
27	
28	
29	
30	

Minutes	Odor Intensity VL, L, M, S, VS
31 min	
32	
33	
34	
35	
36	
37	
38	
39	
40	
41	
42	
43	
44	
45	
46	
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49	
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51	
52	
53	
54	
55	
56	
57	
58	
59	
60	

Location
3

Offensiveness: Highly _____ Offensive _____ Unpleasant _____ Not Unpleasant _____
 Dominant Odor Intensity For:

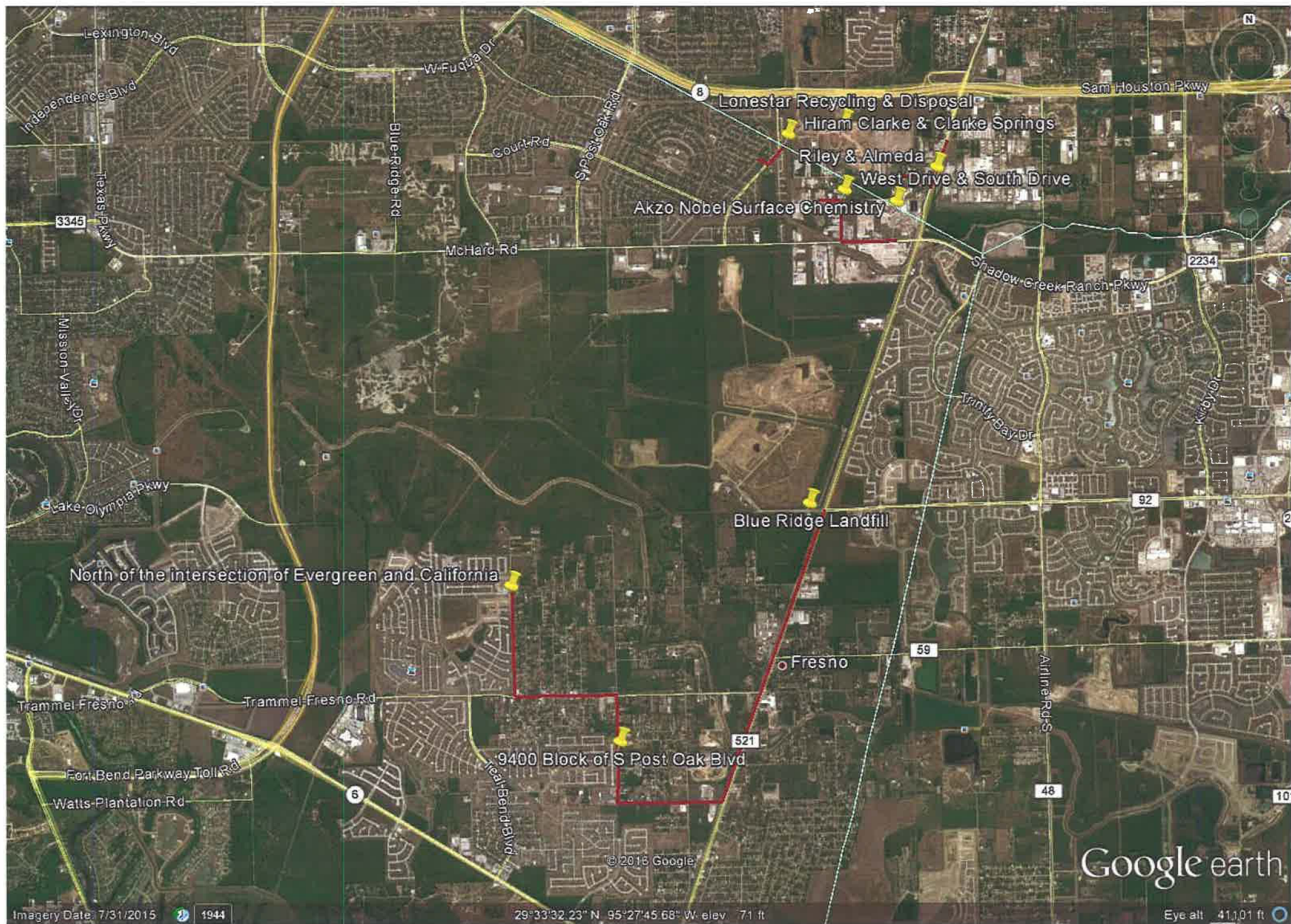
	VS	S	M	L	VL	No Odor
1 Min						✓
10 Min						✓
1 Hour						

Attachment 2

Area Map

Shadow Creek Ranch Odor Survey

March 4, 2016



Investigation Type: CMPL

Air Account NO: NA

Attachment: Area map

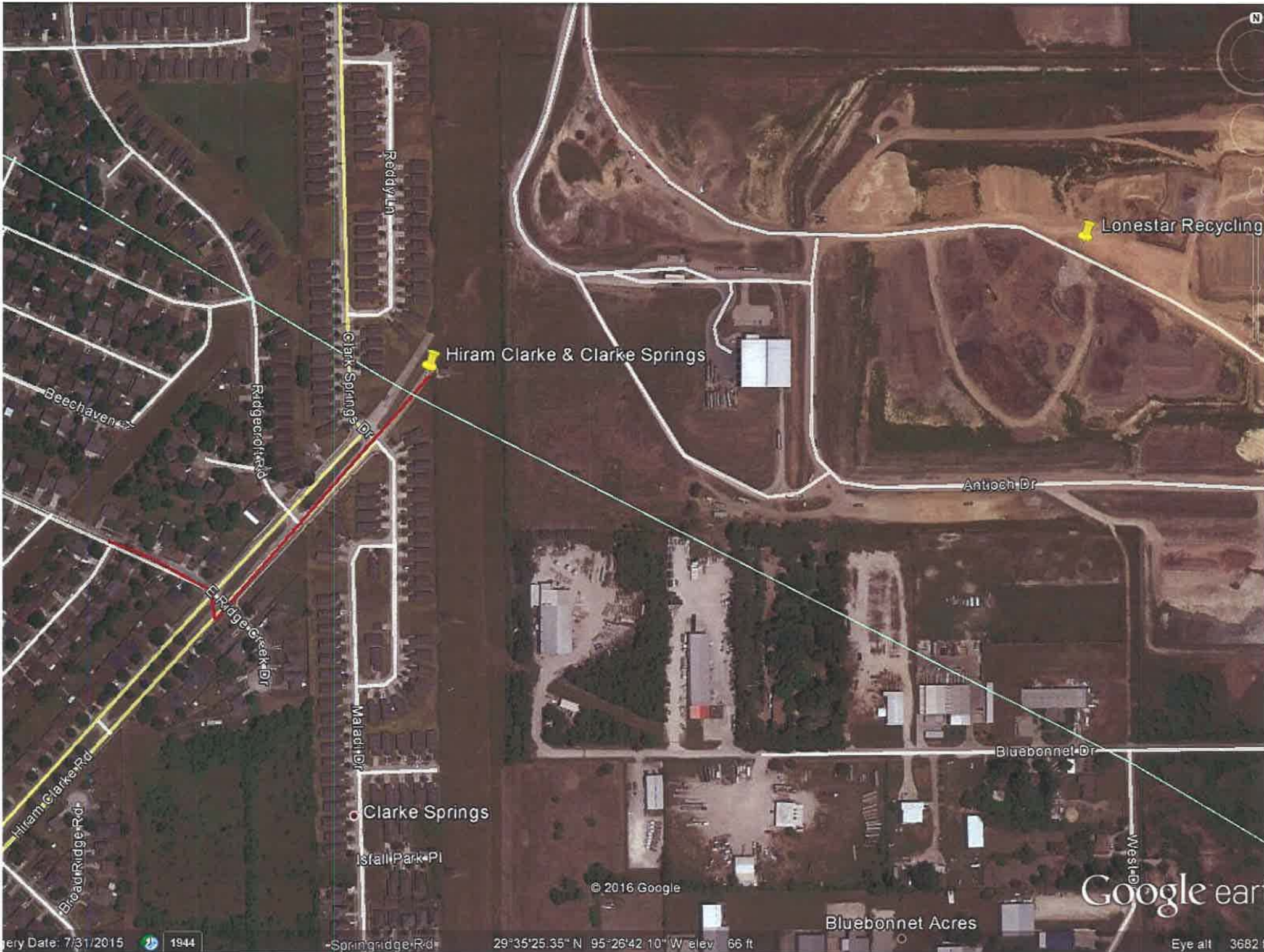
Page: 1 of 1

Attachment 3

Survey Route Map Photos

Shadow Creek Ranch Odor Survey

March 4, 2016



Investigation Type: CMPL

Air Account NO: NA

Attachment: Survey Route Photo

Page: 1 of 4



Investigation Type: CMPL

Air Account NO: NA

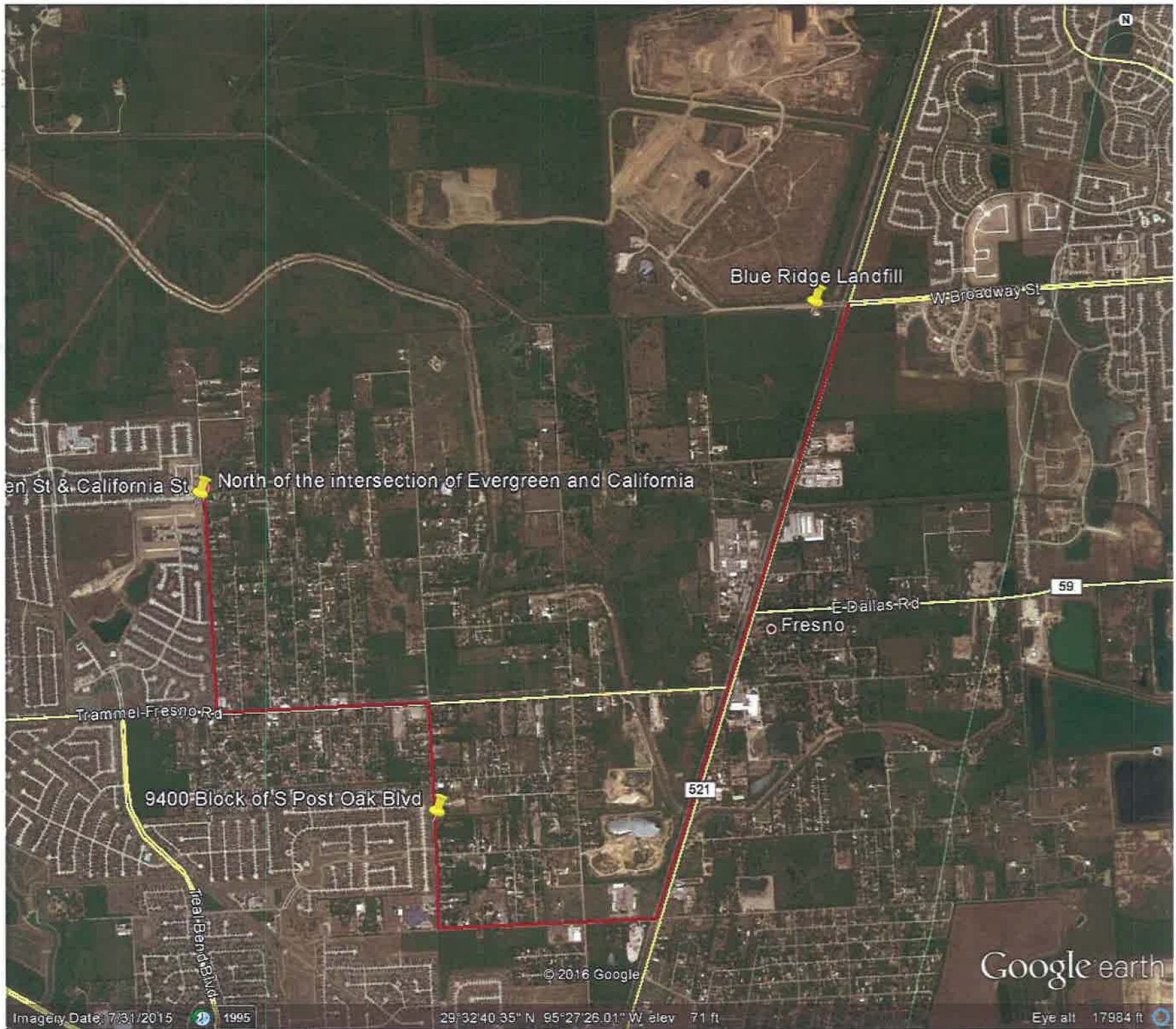
Attachment: Survey Route Photo

Page: 2 of 4



Investigation Type: CMPL
Air Account NO: NA
Attachment: Survey Route Photo
Page: 3 of 4

Investigation Type: All Occurrence



Imagery Date: 7/31/2015 1995

29°32'40.35" N 95°27'26.01" W elev 71 ft

Google earth

Eye alt 17984 ft

Investigation Type: CAPL

Air Account NO: NA

Attachment: Surrey Route map

Page: 4 of 4