

AIR CP_102610102_CP_20160919_INVESTIGATION_1364252_
Texas Commission on Environmental Quality
Investigation Report

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Customer: Blue Ridge Landfill TX, LP
Customer Number: CN602820599

Regulated Entity Name: BLUE RIDGE LANDFILL

Regulated Entity Number: RN102610102

Investigation # 1364252

Incident Numbers

243975

Investigator: GREGORY CROOK

Site Classification

Conducted: 09/19/2016 -- 09/19/2016

NAIC Code: 562212

SIC Code: 4953

SIC Code: 1521

Program(s): AIR QUALITY NON PERMITTED

Investigation Type: Compliance Investigation

Location: LOCATED ON 2200 FM 521

Additional ID(s): FG0536E

Address: 2200 FM 521 RD,
FRESNO, TX , 77545

Local Unit:

Activity Type(s):

Principal(s):

Role

Name

RESPONDENT

BLUE RIDGE LANDFILL TX LP

Contact(s):

Role

Title

Name

Phone

Other Staff Member(s):

Role

Name

Investigator

JUSTIN MAYWORN

Investigator

ANDREW EVANS

QA Reviewer

WARDA OMAR

Office System Administratic
Supervisor

WARDA OMAR

Associated Check List

Checklist Name

Unit Name

AIR GENERIC INVESTIGATION (10 ITEMS)

Shadow Creek Ranch

AIR INVESTIGATION - EQUIPMENT

Shadow Creek Ranch

MONITORING AND SAMPLING revised 06/2013

Investigation Comments:

INTRODUCTION

Introduction

BLUE RIDGE LANDFILL - FRESNO

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From September 16-19, TCEQ received thirty-seven (37) complaints documented in one incident (incident number 243975) by telephone regarding a strong landfill gas odor in the vicinity of Shadow Creek Ranch neighborhood in Pearland, Texas.

Complainants had varying descriptions for the odor including, "rotten egg, hot diarrhea, baby vomit, garbage, sulfur dioxide, pungent, sour, acrid, fumes, sewer, ammonia gas, chemical odor, burning trash smell, rotting trash, gaseous smell, and landfill gas". The complainants stated that the odors were present either in the morning (12:00 a.m. - 10:00 a.m.) or in the afternoon to evening (1:00 p.m. - 11:00 p.m.). This odor has allegedly occurred intermittently, usually once or twice per week. Complainants claimed that this had been going on for months. The majority believe the source of odor was the Blue Ridge Landfill (BRL), located to the west of subdivision. Eleven of the thirty-seven complainants stated that the odors have caused nausea and headaches. The other complainants expressed concern for their health.

In order to identify the most probable source and to determine whether a nuisance condition existed, the investigators conducted odor logs at various points near BRL at a distance that was approximately equidistant to the complainants' locations from the alleged source. Odors were assessed for frequency, intensity, duration, and offensiveness.

It is important to note that during these odor surveys a MultiRAE was used the entire time.

Map of source location is included in Attachment 1.

Investigation Narrative

The onsite investigation took place on September 19, 2016. The investigation was conducted by Mr. Chris Crook and Mr. Jay Evans. The surrounding land use is a mix of residential, commercial, and industrial areas. The terrain is flat with sporadic forest. Meteorological conditions for the alleged incident dates and investigation dates are as follows:

Meteorological conditions September 19, 2016 (alleged incident date & investigation date)

Cloud Cover: Scattered Clouds

Wind Direction: West Southwest

Wind Speed: 0-6 mph

Temperature: Minimum 73° Fahrenheit- Maximum 95° Fahrenheit

Precipitation: 0 inches

Source of Meteorological Conditions: Weather Underground (KAXH)

TCEQ Investigators Mr. Chris Crook and Mr. Jay Evans arrived in the Shadow Creek Ranch area at the intersection of West Broadway Street and Half Moon Bay at 10:20 a.m. The investigators conducted odor surveys throughout the neighborhood starting at the Oak Harbor Estates subsection of the Shadow Creek Ranch area. The investigators continued to survey for odor throughout area #1 from Biscayne Bay Drive to the intersection of Shadow Creek Parkway (SEE ATTACHMENT 2). The investigators surveyed through area #1 from 10:20 a.m. to 10:30 a.m. No odors were detected. The wind was blowing from the West Southwest at 0-7 mph.

At 10:32 a.m., the investigators took a left on Shadow Creek Parkway and continued until taking a left on FM 521. The investigators took FM 521 until taking a left at W Broadway Street and shortly thereafter entering into the second Shadow Creek survey area via Windward Bay Drive (SEE ATTACHMENT 2.1). The survey was conducted from 10:35 a.m. to 11:35 a.m. During this survey, no odors were detected. The investigators departed from survey area #2 at 11:45 a.m. The wind was blowing from the West Southwest at 0-6 mph.

At 11:45 a.m., the investigators exited out of the Shadow Creek Ranch area and continued onto McHard Road. The investigators took McHard Road to the beginning of the Green Valley Estates neighborhood at Hiram Clarke Road. The investigators drove to the end of Hiram Clarke Road and began surveying for odor, directly downwind of Lonestar Recycling (SEE ATTACHMENT 2.2). The investigators surveyed for odor throughout this third area from 11:45 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. During this survey, no odors were detected. The investigators departed from survey area #3 at 12:00 p.m. The wind was blowing from the West Southwest from 0-6 mph.

At 12:01 p.m., the investigators exited out of the Green Valley Estates neighborhood and continued on McHard

BLUE RIDGE LANDFILL - FRESNO

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Road until taking a left onto Alameda Road. From Alameda Road the investigators took a left onto Sam Houston Parkway/ Beltway 8 and surveyed for odor North of Lonestar Recycling (SEE ATTACHMENT 2.3). The investigators surveyed for odor throughout this area from 12:05 p.m. to 12:25 p.m. During this survey, no odors were detected. The investigators departed from survey area #4 at 12:25 p.m. The wind direction was variable with speeds below one mph.

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 on November 14, 2016 with the results of the investigation conducted on September 19, 2016. Several of the complainants were anonymous and were not contacted.

GENERAL FACILITY AND PROCESS INFORMATION

Process Description

Blue Ridge Landfill accepts waste and has a gas collection and control system. Detailed process descriptions can be found in the Houston Region files.

BACKGROUND

Agreed Orders, Court Orders, and Other Compliance Agreements

Based on review of CCEDS and the regional office files, there were no agreed orders, court orders, or other compliance agreements for the site.

Prior Enforcement Issues

Based on a review of CCEDS and the regional office files, violations were issued by the TCEQ to the alleged source during the past five years. There are no repeat violations.

Complaints

Based on a review of CCEDS and regional office records, there have been hundreds of odor complaints received from within the survey area and numerous investigations related to odors. At the time of the review, multiple related odor investigations were being conducted by the Region 12 office. Many of these incidents include complaints received from multiple complainants.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Conclusions, Recommendations, and Current Enforcement Actions

No odors were detected during this investigation.

Additional Issues

No additional issues were noted during this investigation.

REPORT ATTACHMENTS

1. Area Map
2. Survey Area #1
 - 2.1. Survey Area #2
 - 2.2. Survey Area #3
 - 2.3. Survey Area #4

No Violations Associated to this Investigation

Signed Chris Crook
Environmental Investigator

Date 1/23/2017

Signed [Signature]
Supervisor

Date 01/23/2017

Attachments: (in order of final report submittal)

___ Enforcement Action Request (EAR)

___ Maps, Plans, Sketches

___ Letter to Facility (specify type) : _____

___ Photographs

Investigation Report

___ Correspondence from the facility

___ Sample Analysis Results

☒ Other (specify) :

___ Manifests

See Report Attachments

___ Notice of Registration

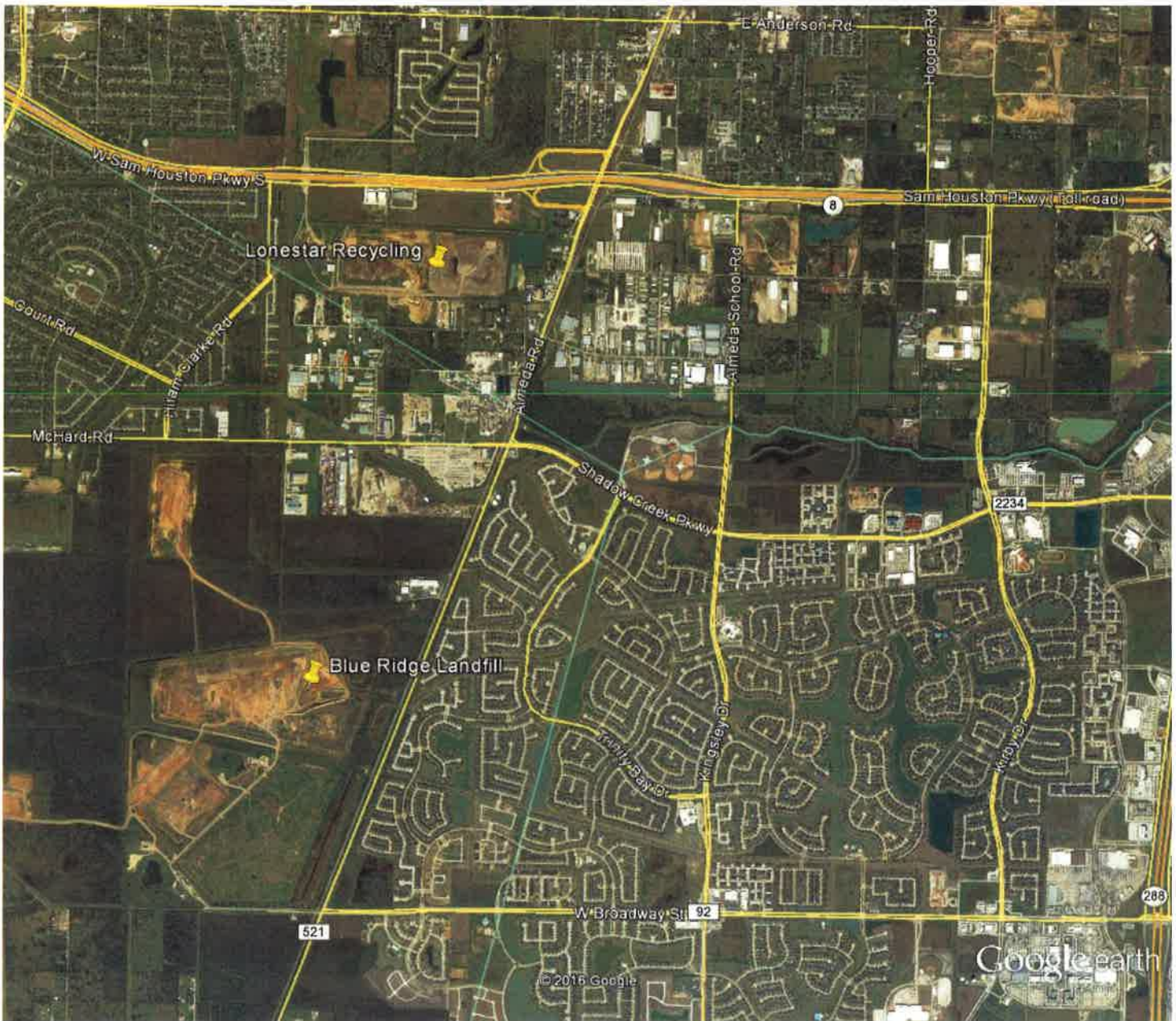
Attachment 1

Area Map

RN #104046545

Investigation #1364252

September 19, 2016



Google earth

miles 2
km 3



Investigation Type: CMPL

Air Account NO: NA

Attachment: AREA MAP

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Attachment 2

Survey Area #1

RN #104046545

Investigation #1364252

September 19, 2016



Google earth

miles 1
km 1



Investigation Type: CMPL
 Air Account NO: NA
 Attachment: SURVEY AREA #1
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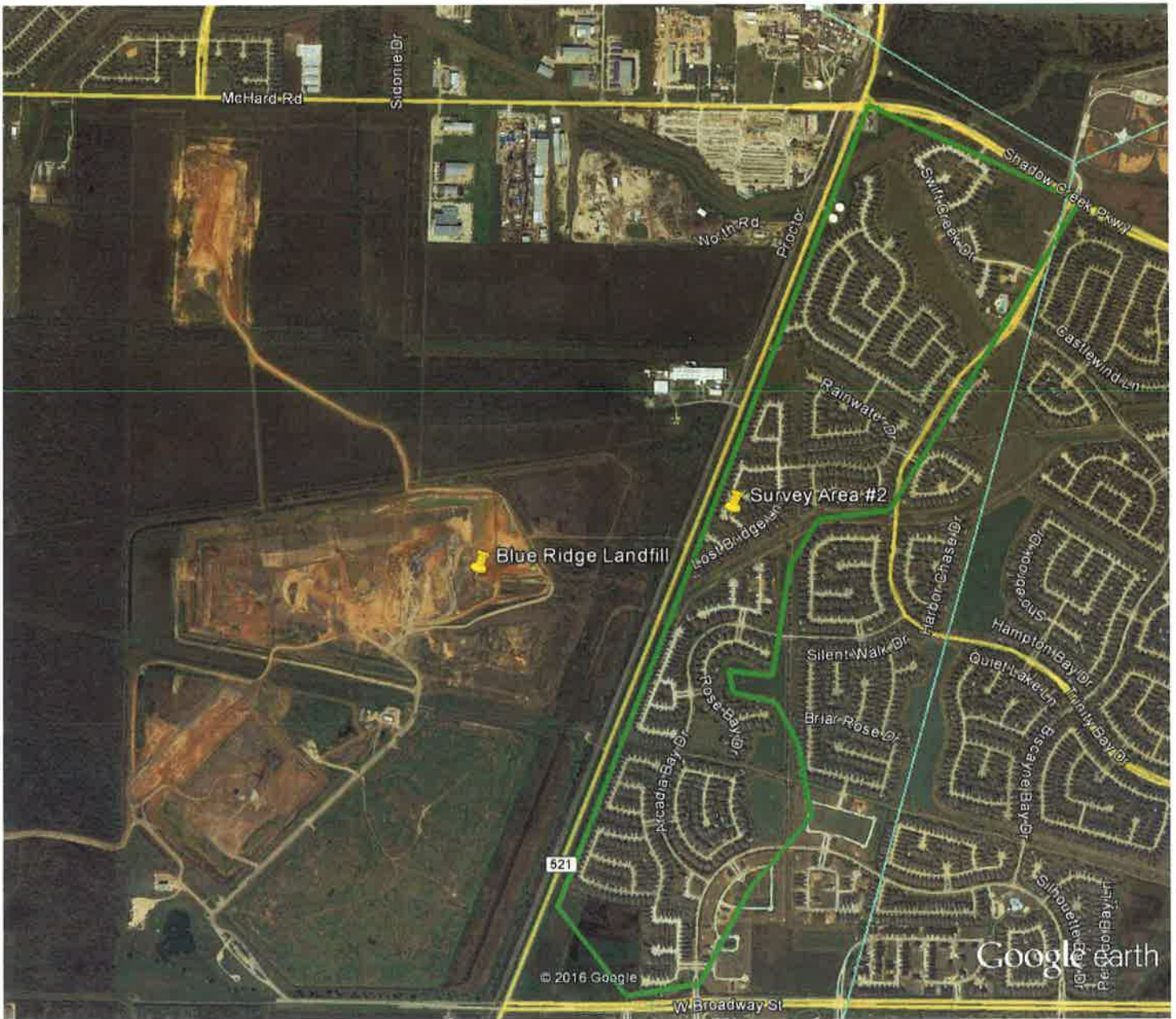
Attachment 2.1

Survey Area #2

RN #104046545

Investigation #1364252

September 19, 2016



Google earth

miles
km



Investigation Type: CMPL

Air Account NO: NA

Attachment: SURVEY AREA #2

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Attachment 2.2

Survey Area #3

RN #104046545

Investigation #1364252

September 19, 2016



Investigation Type: CMPL
Air Account NO: NA
Attachment: SURVEY AREA #3
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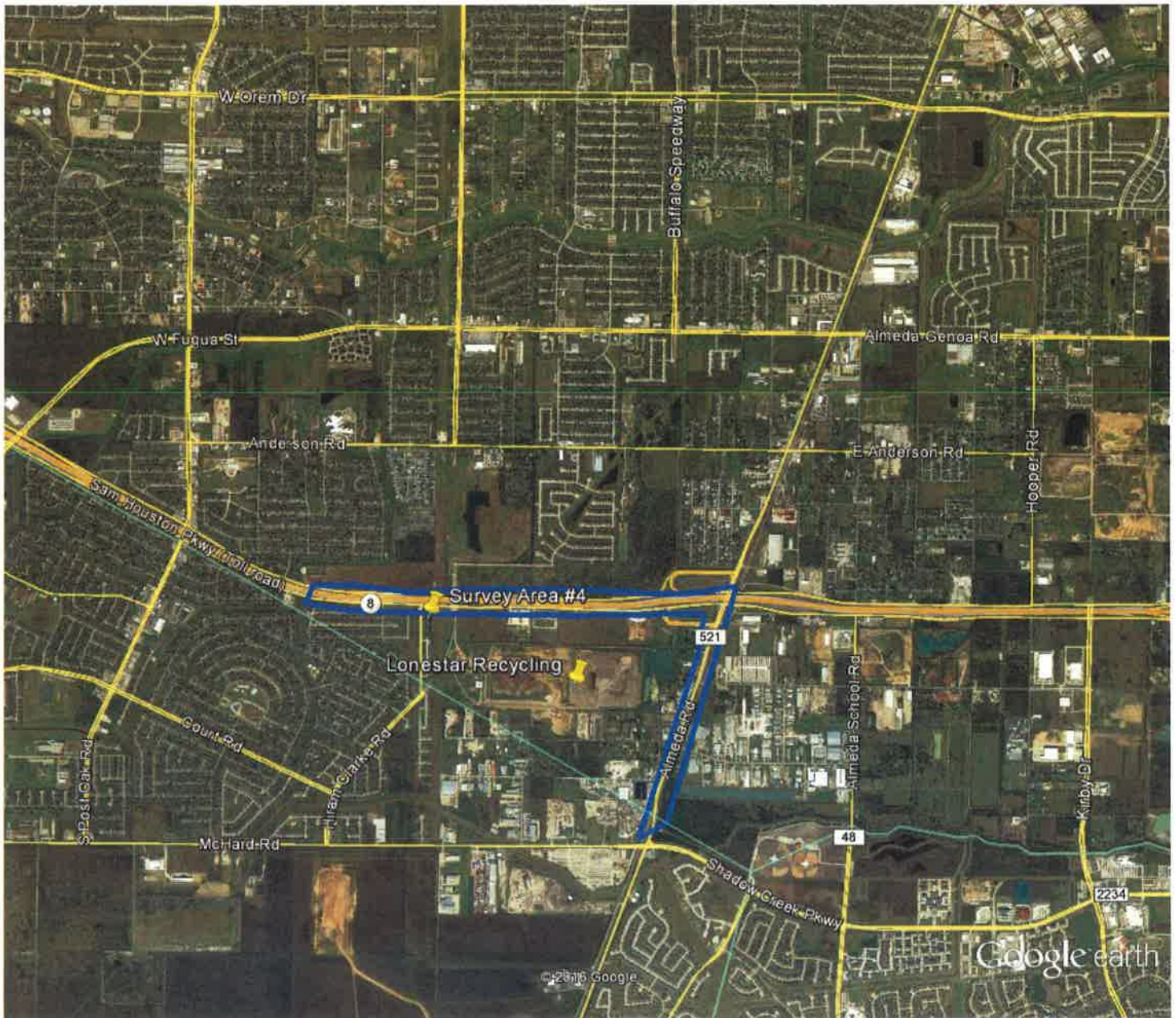
Attachment 2.3

Survey Area #4

RN #104046545

Investigation #1364252

September 19, 2016



Google earth

miles 2
km 4



Investigation Type: CMPL

Air Account NO: NA

Attachment: SURVEY AREA #4

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TCEQ Complaint Report

01/12/2017
10:25:52AM

Incident No: 243975
Media Type: AIR
Start Date: 9/16/2016
Received Date: 09/16/2016
Method : EMAIL
PHONE

Staff Member: RMCLEOD
Status: Closed
Status Date: 10/24/2016
Priority: Within 14 Calendar Days

Regulated Entity: GENERIC INCIDENT ZIP CODE 77584

RN104046545

Address:
BRAZORIA County

Physical Location:

Responsible Party:
Address:

Title:

Number Complaining: 37
Frequency: INTERMITTENT
Alleged Source: GENERIC INCIDENT ZIP CODE 77584

Program Group: AIR QUALITY -
HIGH LEVEL

Nature: ODOR
Effect: ENVIRONMENTAL

Initial Problem

The Complainant is concerned about odors from an unknown source in the area.

Action Taken

This complaint has been assigned and will be further investigated by an Environmental Investigator.

Closure Comments

More information will be available upon approval of the investigation report.

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