

CASE HISTORY: Corsicana, Texas - Smith Inland Environmental, Inc. (Hydrocarbon contamination of soil and tank cleaning)

June 2002:

Smith Inland Environmental invited Texas EnviroChem to visit a site that they were contracted to remediate and close. The task was to clean a 10,000 gallon diesel storage tank and remediate the site for closure so that the client, a trucking freight company, could sell the property.

Texas EnviroChem was challenged to degas and wash the tank so it could be moved to a new site and to clean the soil of hydrocarbon contamination. LEL (Lower Explosive Limit) readings were taken by Smith and noted to be high in volatile materials and low in oxygen. The next step was to blend 1 part TxChem HE-1000 with 10 parts water and deliver the chemical through a two inch discharge pump with a fire nozzle. The agitation that was created lowered the vapors in the tank within minutes, and the cleaning process began. The tank was thoroughly washed and left open to air out. The rinse water and diesel residue was released into the surrounding bern pit, and additional chemical/water was applied while a backhoe worked the contaminated soil into a slurry.

The tank was removed from the saddles and set to the side to air out. The backhoe and excavator worked the soil until it was mixed thoroughly. Upon completion of the mixing process, soil samples were taken so that TPH (Total Petroleum Hydrocarbon) levels could be compared with the samples that had been taken prior to the initiation of the process.

Conclusion:

After only 7 hours, the TPH levels were reduced by over 93%. The process took less than 4 hours to complete, the tank was completely clean, and the in-situ bio-remediation was a one-time process with significant color and odor improvement.