

**Public Information Strategy
For
Shears Construction (APAC-Kansas, Inc.) Site – Hutchinson, Kansas**

1.0 Introduction

The purpose of the public relations strategy for the Shears Construction (APAC-Kansas, Inc.) Site (Site) in Hutchinson, Kansas is to establish guidelines for planning, scheduling and implementing a Public Information Program (PIP). The Kansas Department of Health and Environment - Bureau of Environmental Remediation (KDHE-BER) in cooperation with APAC-Kansas, Inc. will be responsible for implementation of the PIP.

2.0 Background

The Shears Construction Site began operation in 1930 and was acquired by APAC-Kansas, Inc. (APAC) in 2000. The facility has been used for equipment maintenance, steam cleaning, and laboratory testing. The onsite laboratory was used to test sand gradations and also briefly to test asphalt. Trichloroethene (TCE) reportedly was used in small amounts in the laboratory from 1987 through 1990. Based upon the information from previous investigations, APAC entered into a Consent Order (Case No. 03-E-0197) with KDHE/BER to conduct a Comprehensive Investigation at the APAC facility in order to characterize the nature and extent of contamination at the Site (excluding petroleum contamination associated with a separate Leaking Underground Storage Tank Investigation being conducted on the Site). The chemicals of concern (COCs) at the Site are: PCE, TCE, 1,1,1-TCA, and their degradation products 1,1-dichloroethene (1,1-DCE), cis and trans-1,2-DCE, vinyl chloride, 1,1-DCA and chloroethane.

3.0 Public Information Program Activities

KDHE will be responsible for providing a notice of availability of the Draft Agency Decision Statement (ADS) document and other supporting documentation that serves as the basis for the recommended corrective action. The notice, which announces the public comment period, will be published in *The Hutchinson News*. The period allowed for oral and/or written public comment will be fifteen days. During the public comment period, KDHE may conduct an availability session to discuss the Draft ADS.

KDHE will prepare written responses to comments received during the public comment period as part of the Final ADS. The Final ADS, as well as other supporting documentation, is available for public inspection pursuant to the Kansas Open Records Act. A notice of the availability of the Final ADS may be published in *The Hutchinson News* and/or the *Kansas Register*.

A news release to announce the successful remediation of the Site may be published in *The Hutchinson News* upon KDHE approval of the Reclassification Plan.

4.0 Public Information Program Schedule

The following is a tentative PIP schedule for the Site. Specifically, upon completion of the Draft ADS, KDHE will publish a public notice of availability for this draft decision document and solicit oral and/or written comments during the 15-day public comment period. If an availability session is to be held during the public comment period, KDHE will make announcement of such in this same public notice. Through this process, the general public and other interested parties are given the requisite opportunity to provide input on the proposed corrective action strategy for the site before the ADS is finalized. As described in Section 3.0, the need for any additional news release(s) or availability session(s) related to this Site will be determined by KDHE.