



**REGION 6 REGIONAL RESPONSE TEAM (RRT)
SEMI - ANNUAL REPORT**

Period: July, 1996 – December, 1996

Activities:

Meetings:

1. Summer RRT Semiannual Meeting on July 17, 1996 in the Region VI Offices, 1445 Ross Ave, Dallas, Texas.

Teleconferences:

1. Nov 25, 1996 - discussion of (a) proposed agenda for winter RRT semiannual meeting in New Orleans on January 8 and (b) addition to coastal ACPs and VRPs of a provision requiring oil tanker and barge operations to have capability to employ dispersants pursuant to the RRT-6 Preapproved Dispersant Use Manual.

Significant Events:

1. On June 26, 1996 a Citgo 20 inch crude oil pipeline, located 5 miles WNW of Vidor, Orange County, Texas, ruptured over a City of Beaumont fresh water canal. The spill impacted a drinking water source for the City of Beaumont, a cypress marsh east of the Neches River, the Neches River fishing recreational area, and the Big Thicket National Preserve.

Aggressive recovery of approximately 700 barrels of oil/water was effected through use of hard and absorbent booms, skimmers, and vacuum trucks. Fish and turtle kills were observed within the cypress marsh.

2. On August 30, 1996, a corroded four inch pipeline discharged an estimated 900 barrels of crude oil impacting a flowing, intermittent stream. Nearly 100% of the oil was recovered.
3. On September 1, 1996, a tank trailer truck, owned by Schneider National Bulk Carriers, transporting an estimated 6,000 gallons of vinyl toluene from Louisiana to California, encountered loss of pressure in the tank's heating coils.

During the attempt to restore proper pressure and temperature to the tank system, the product polymer inhibitor dissipated resulting in a reaction thru which vapors and polymer were released in a business neighborhood. Nine people were evacuated from the immediate area, of which seven were treated for inhalation to the vapor.

4. There was no activation of the RRT, in whole or in part, during the period covered by this report.

Organizational Changes:

Membership:

1. LCDR Gary Petrae and LCDR Wade Blake replaced Ron Gouguet as Primary and Alternate RRT representatives, respectively, for NOAA
2. Michael Simmons and Carrie Moorehead replaced Kent Baxter as Primary and Alternate RRT representatives, respectively, for FEMA
3. Lawrence Sack retired effective January 1, 1997, and his replacement as Primary RRT Representative for GSA has not been announced.

Committees:

1. Revitalization of RRT Region 6 resulted in the organization of new committees as follows:

A. Preparedness Committee

Chair:	Russell Lutz	TXGLO
Members:	Keith Lough	NMEMB
	Gus Marinos	DOD/USACE
	Jerry Unwin	DOD/5th ARMY
	Mike Brown	LAOEP
	Welcome Duncan	USCG 8th

B. Response Committee

Chair:	Col Wm. J Croft	IAOEP
Members:	Glenn Sekavec	DOI
	Stennnnie Meadors	TNRCC
	Tricia Clark	TXGLO
	Bob Hominick	GSA
	Daneen Farrowe	DOE
	James Mullins	EPA 6

C. Science And Technology Committee

Chair:	Bob Forrest	EPA 6
Members:	David Barker	TNRCC
	LCDR I Byron	NOAA SSC
	Robert Martin	TXGLO
	Steve Spencer	DOI
	Ron Gouguet	NOAA

Future Plans:

Meetings: Summer RRT Semiannual Meeting in June or July 1997 at EPA Facility, 1445 Ross Ave, Dallas