

Wednesday September 12, 2001

NEW LOCATION: RUDI LECHNER'S

2503 S. GESSNER (1/2 block north of Westheimer)

Dinner 6:00–7:15 p.m.

Presentation & Q/A 7:15–8:15 p.m.

Cost: \$25 Pre-registered members; \$30 Nonmembers & Walk-ups

Make your reservations now by calling: 713-917-0218 (5-0-2) or by e-mail to Joan@hgs.org (include your name, meeting you are attending, phone number, and membership ID#).

HGS Environmental & Engineering Dinner Meeting

by Robert J. "Bob" Traylor and
John D. Estep

Texas Natural Resource Conservation Commission
Austin, Texas

Salt Water Contamination of the Chicot Aquifer from Historic Oil Field Operations, Tomball Field, Harris County, Texas

Abstract:

A large plume of produced salt water in the Chicot Aquifer is identified in the southwest Tomball Field area of north Harris County. The plume probably affects an area of 1/2 square miles or more and as much as 150 feet of the lower Chicot Aquifer. Historic oil field operations are the most probable surface point-source. Delta-plain sediments of the Pleistocene Lissie/Willis Formations influenced the contamination pathway and geometry. The Miocene-aged Evangeline Aquifer (Fleming Formation) is not impacted by the plume, as the Evangeline is geologically isolated from the Chicot by a regional paleo-Trinity Bay flooding sequence.

Biographical Sketches

BOB TRAYLOR is a Texas Natural Resource Conservation Commission staff geologist providing geological recommendations to the Texas Railroad Commission on Gulf Coast ground water protection in oil and gas drilling operations and statewide salt water disposal. He also prepares special geological recommendations to the Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation for the drilling and completion of water wells in areas of ground water contamination. He has a BS in geology from Lamar University and is a Certified Petroleum Geologist (AAPG), a Certified Professional Geologist (AIPG), and a member of HGS, GSA, IAH, AEG, and the Ground Water Protection Council. Before coming to work for TNRCC in 1994, he spent more than 20 years as a petroleum geologist in the Texas oil and gas industry.

JOHN ESTEPP is a staff geologist in the Surface Casing Team of the Texas Natural Resource Conservation Commission. He provides geological recommendations for the protection of usable-quality ground water to the Texas Railroad Commission in North-Central Texas. He also performs ground-water quality evaluations from geophysical logs and is the staff computer programmer for the Surface Casing Team. In the last three years, John was responsible for developing a geographic information system (GIS) for the team to eventually replace the current 45-year old linen maps. He has a BS in geology (1978) from Sul Ross State University. Prior to joining the TNRCC's predecessor agency, the Texas Water Commission, in 1987, John worked as an oil exploration geologist/geophysicist in west and north Texas for 9 years. He is a charter member of the AAPG Division of Environmental Geosciences and a 19-year member of the SPWLA.

We are meeting at a new location! Don't miss out on great food, great discussion, networking, and employment possibilities.