

# Halaco Engineering Co. Superfund Site: EPA Update



**September 24, 2007**

# Halaco: EPA Update



- Site contamination and potential health risks
- Adding Halaco to the Superfund “National Priorities List”
- EPA emergency response actions
- Current and future work



# Halaco Site

- Halaco operated a metal smelter from 1965 to 2004
- Halaco processed scrap metal to recover aluminum, magnesium, and zinc



- Oxnard Industrial Drain divides the site



# Halaco: Ownership and Liability

- Halaco is bankrupt (in chapter 7 liquidation)
- The Haack family owns the smelter parcel
- Alpha and Omega Development LLC owns the waste management area and leases the smelter parcel
- “PRP” and “BFPP” (Who will pay?)





# Halaco: Local Environment

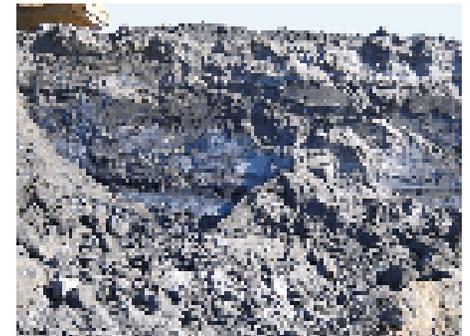
- Adjacent Ormond Beach wetlands provide critical habitat





# Halaco: Site Contamination

- Halaco generated more than 700,000 cubic yards of waste
- Waste has elevated levels of metals, radioactive thorium
- *Elevated levels do not necessarily mean unsafe levels*





# Risk Assessment

- EPA mandate is to reduce health risks
- EPA has begun human health and ecological risk assessments
- California Dept. of Public Health is also conducting a health risk assessment





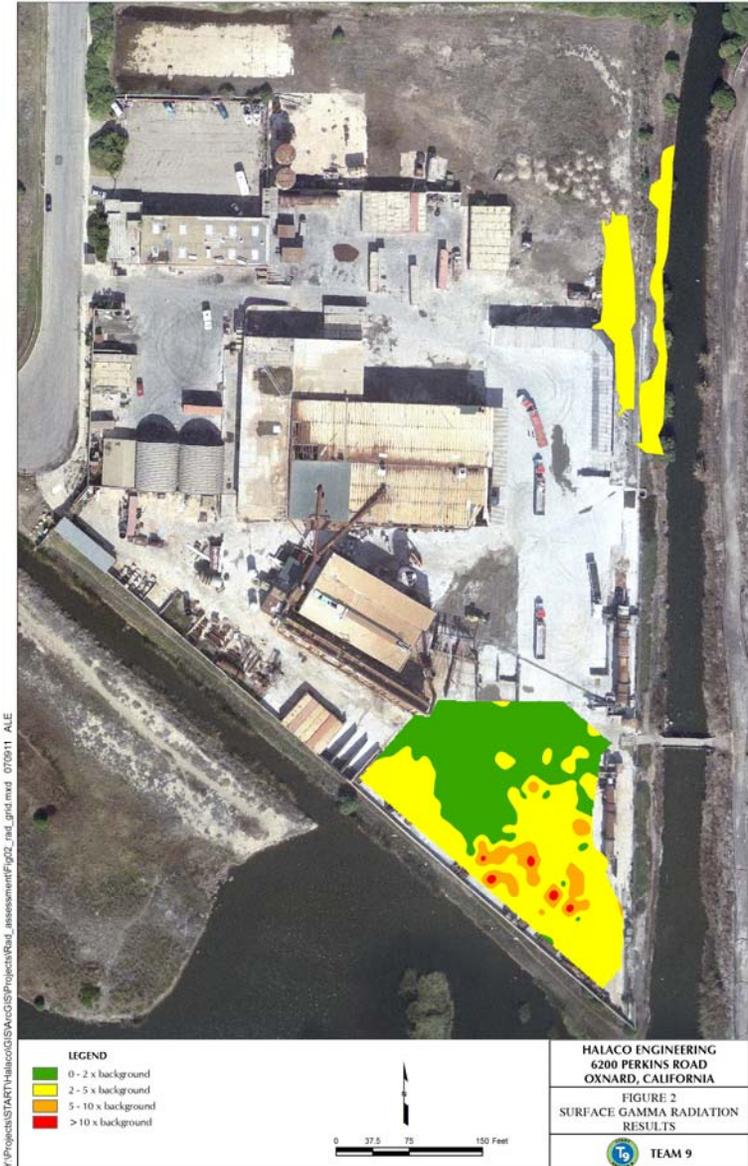
# Halaco: Extent of Contamination

- Most waste remains onsite
- Some wastes have moved into adjacent soils, sediments, and groundwater
- *To minimize risks, stay off the site!*



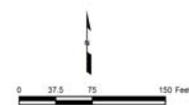
Figure 3-2: Solid Matrix Sample Locations Near Site  
Halaco Engineering Company  
Integrated Assessment Draft Report  
January 2007

- Surface Sediment Sample (SSF)
- Residential (SR) and Agricultural (SA) Samples
- Soil Sample (SSH)
- ◇ Soil Boring Location (SBL)
- Wetlands Sediment Sample (SWL)
- △ Beach Sediment Sample (SDB)
- Marine Sediment Sample (SOM)
- ✦ Waste Samples from Smelter Area



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- LEGEND
- 0 - 2 x background
  - 2 - 5 x background
  - 5 - 10 x background
  - > 10 x background



HALACO ENGINEERING  
6200 PERKINS ROAD  
OXNARD, CALIFORNIA

FIGURE 2  
SURFACE GAMMA RADIATION  
RESULTS

TEAM 9



# Halaco: Status of Superfund Listing

- Halaco site was added to the Superfund National Priorities List on September 19, 2007
- Superfund status...
  - commits EPA Superfund resources to site
  - makes funds available for long-term cleanup



# Halaco: Emergency Response Activities

- In 2006, site owners removed drums and chemicals
- In 2007, EPA took further action to:
  - stabilize the waste pile
  - remove wastes from wetlands
  - improve site security



# Halaco: Current and Future Work

- Risk Assessment is underway
- Risk Assessment is part of Remedial Investigation/ Feasibility Study (RI/FS)
- EPA is working with the city, owners, and lessee on building demolition and site security



# Questions?

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