US ERA ARCHIVE DOCUMENT



21 May 2014

Alfred Dumaual US Environmental Protection Agency Region 6 Air Permits Section (6PD-R) 1445 Ross Avenue, Suite 1200 Dallas, TX 75202-2733

RE: Request for Concurrence – Finding of No Effect to Archaeological and Historic Resources

Magellan Corpus Christi Terminal Condensate Splitter Project

Nueces County, Texas

#### Mr. Dumaual:

Magellan Processing, L.P. (Magellan) is requesting a review of the enclosed project information for the Magellan Condensate Splitter Project in Nueces County, Texas. Magellan intends to construct and operate a condensate splitter located in Corpus Christi, Nueces County, Texas. The facility will be located in the Magellan Terminals Holdings, L.P. (MTH) Corpus Christi Terminal.

Magellan is seeking concurrence from the Texas Historical Commission (THC)/State Historic Preservation Officer (SHPO) and the United States (US) Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) that the construction and operation of the condensate splitter will not affect historic properties listed in the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP) or that meet the criteria for the NRHP in accordance with Section 106 guidance. The proposed project is subject to Prevention of Significant Deterioration (PSD) review for greenhouse gases by the EPA; and, therefore, is subject to regulation under Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act. The proposed project is also subject to PSD review for volatile organic compounds. The Texas Commission on Environmental Quality is responsible for the PSD review of National Ambient Air Quality Standards criteria pollutants.



The condensate splitter will be constructed in 2 phases. Each phase will consist of an identical splitter train that will each process 50,000 barrels per day (bpd) of hydrocarbon material to obtain products suitable for commercial use. Construction of the second 50,000 bbd train is expected to commence approximately within 18 months of completion of the first 50,000 bbd train. The process will utilize conventional distillation technology. Products may be transferred in and out of the terminal via pipeline, tank trucks, and/or marine vessels.

The proposed project is located at the junction of Interstate Highway (IH) 37 and Poth Lane and adjacent to the Corpus Christi Ship Channel (Inner Harbor) in Corpus Christi, Nueces County, Texas (Figure 1 - Appendix A).

Project location information:

USGS Quads	Latitude/Longitude		
Corpus Christi	27.808753, -97.436686		

Construction of the proposed condensate splitter project will take place within approximately 104 acres of the existing Magellan Terminals Holdings, L.P. (MTH) Corpus Christi Terminal property boundary. An additional 29 acres of an adjacent property will be used as a laydown area during construction. One existing outfall structure will be utilized and up to 3 new outfall structures will be constructed in association with the proposed project. These outfalls will be built adjacent to an existing drainage ditch. Linear facilities associated with the proposed project include new utility lines (firewater, water, telecommunications, electric, and natural gas) located within the boundaries of the existing MTH Corpus Christi Terminal. The proposed linear facilities also include 3 pipelines that will be added to an existing aboveground pipe rack that connects the MTH Corpus Christi Terminal to the Port of Corpus Christi dock facility immediately adjacent to the Inner Harbor. The 3 pipelines will tie into existing connections immediately inland from the existing docks. Minor excavation will be required for pipe supports for the pipe rack to the existing docks and the pipe manifolds at the dock facilities. Earth disturbance for the proposed pipelines and pipe manifolds



would be located inland from the shoreline with a maximum area of approximately 6.57 acres (5730 feet by 50 feet). No work will be required within the Inner Harbor. The limits of the earth disturbance footprint will be referred to as the "Project Area." The Area of Potential Effect (APE) for the undertaking consists of the entire 139.5-acre Project Area. The APE is shown in Figure 1 of the Cultural Resources Review in Appendix B.

Earth disturbance will be limited to the Project Area. The existing substrate within the Project Area consists of historically disturbed soils (i.e., roadbase, oyster shell, gravel, and clay composite), concrete, and asphalt. The proposed laydown area was previously a residential neighborhood. The substrate adjacent to the dock facilities consists of historically disturbed soils (i.e., dredge spoil material, roadbase, gravel, and clay composite) and concrete.

Detailed project equipment information for the proposed condensate splitter project is provided as Figure 3-2 – Proposed Condensate Splitter Plot Plan (Appendix B). All construction information is preliminary and subject to change.

The following general construction activities are included:

- Site dirt work
- Upgrade existing storm water lines and existing oil/water separator (OWS)
- Construct new storm water lines and a second OWS
- Construct up to 3 new outfall structures
- Construct 2 desalter units
- Construct buildings and foundations for aboveground storage tanks (AST)
- Construct a two lane liquefied petroleum gas (propane/butane) truck loading rack
- Construct earthen dikes
- Erect buildings and ASTs
- Construct shallow and deep foundations for equipment
- Install process equipment and control equipment (splitter, selective catalytic reduction, vapor combustion unit, and flare)
- Installation of utilities, pipelines, pumps, and manifolds



• Extend utilities to process area and buildings (electric, water, natural gas, and telecommunications)

The approximate depths of disturbance are described below. Construction specifications are in the preliminary design phase. Construction information provided is estimated and subject to change.

- AST foundations will include excavation, replacement with fill material, and installation of a concrete ring to a depth of 8-10 feet.
- Material excavated for the AST foundations will be utilized to construct earthen dikes for secondary containment of the ASTs.
- Underground utility lines (located within the terminal) will be trenched to a depth of 3-6 feet.
- Shallow foundations for process equipment, building pads, pipe supports, and pipe manifolds will be constructed to a depth of 4-6 feet.
- Pile foundations for process equipment will be driven to a depth of 25-75 feet.
   Several hundred piles are estimated to be required.

The substrates within the MTH Corpus Christi Terminal, pipe rack, and dock facility areas have historically been disturbed by industrial development. The substrate within the proposed laydown area has historically been by residential development and subsequent demolition.

A Cultural Resources Review was conducted by Horizon Environmental Services, Inc. (Horizon). This review included a 1-mile radius of the Project Area. The results indicated no previously recorded archaeological sites within the 1-mile radius of the Project Area. No documented cultural resources are located within or immediately adjacent to the boundaries of the Project Area. No prior cultural surveys have been conducted within 1 mile of the APE. The detailed results of the cultural resources review are included in the enclosed document titled "Proposed Magellan Processing, L.P., Corpus Christi Terminal Condensate Splitter Project, Corpus Christi, Nueces County, Texas Cultural Resources Review" (Appendix B). Horizon has determined that there is a low probability that unrecorded, intact cultural resources eligible for listing on the NRHP are present in the



APE. The proposed facilities would be similar in structure and height to existing structures in the same location. Therefore, no net increase to existing viewshed impacts is anticipated in regard to historic properties in the surrounding area.

Based on the results of the archival review, Magellan is requesting concurrence from the THC/SHPO and the EPA that construction and operation of the proposed condensate splitter project will not adversely affect historic properties listed in the NRHP or that meet the criteria for the NRHP in accordance with Section 106 guidance. In the unlikely event that any cultural materials are inadvertently discovered at any point during construction or operation of the Project Area, all work at the location of the discovery should cease immediately, and the THC and the EPA should be notified of the discovery. Please call me at 512-353-3344 or Shahana Banoo at 918.574.7767 if you have any questions or need additional information.

Sincerely,

Jayme A. Shiner

**Enclosures:** 

Appendix A - Figure 1 - Project Location

Appendix B – Figure 3-2 – Proposed Condensate Splitter Plot Plan

Appendix C - Proposed Magellan Corpus Christi Condensate Splitter Project, Corpus

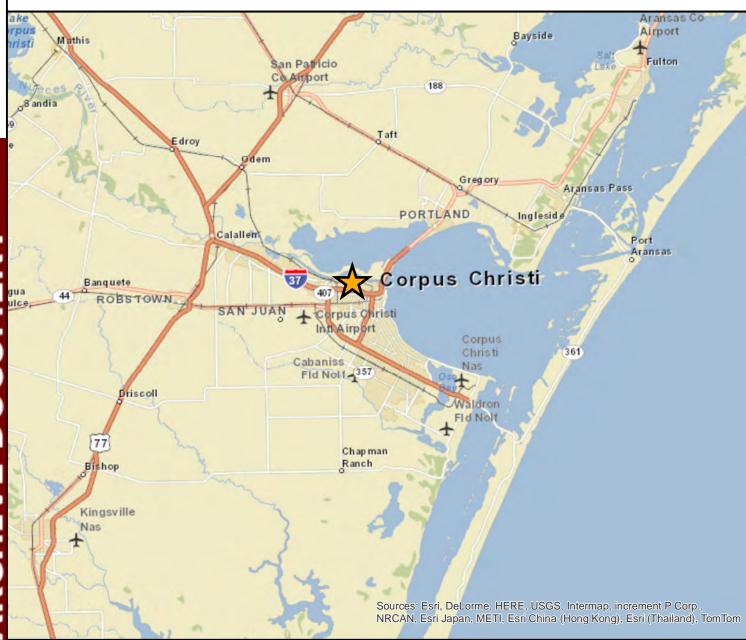
Christi, Nueces County, Texas Cultural Resources Review

cc: Shahana Banoo, Magellan, Tulsa, OK Steve Langevin, DiSorbo, Houston, TX Jesse Owens, Horizon, Austin, TX



## APPENDIX A FIGURE 1 – PROJECT LOCATION

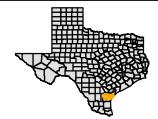
# Figure 1 Project Location Magellan Condensate Splitter Project Nueces County, Texas







## **Project Location**

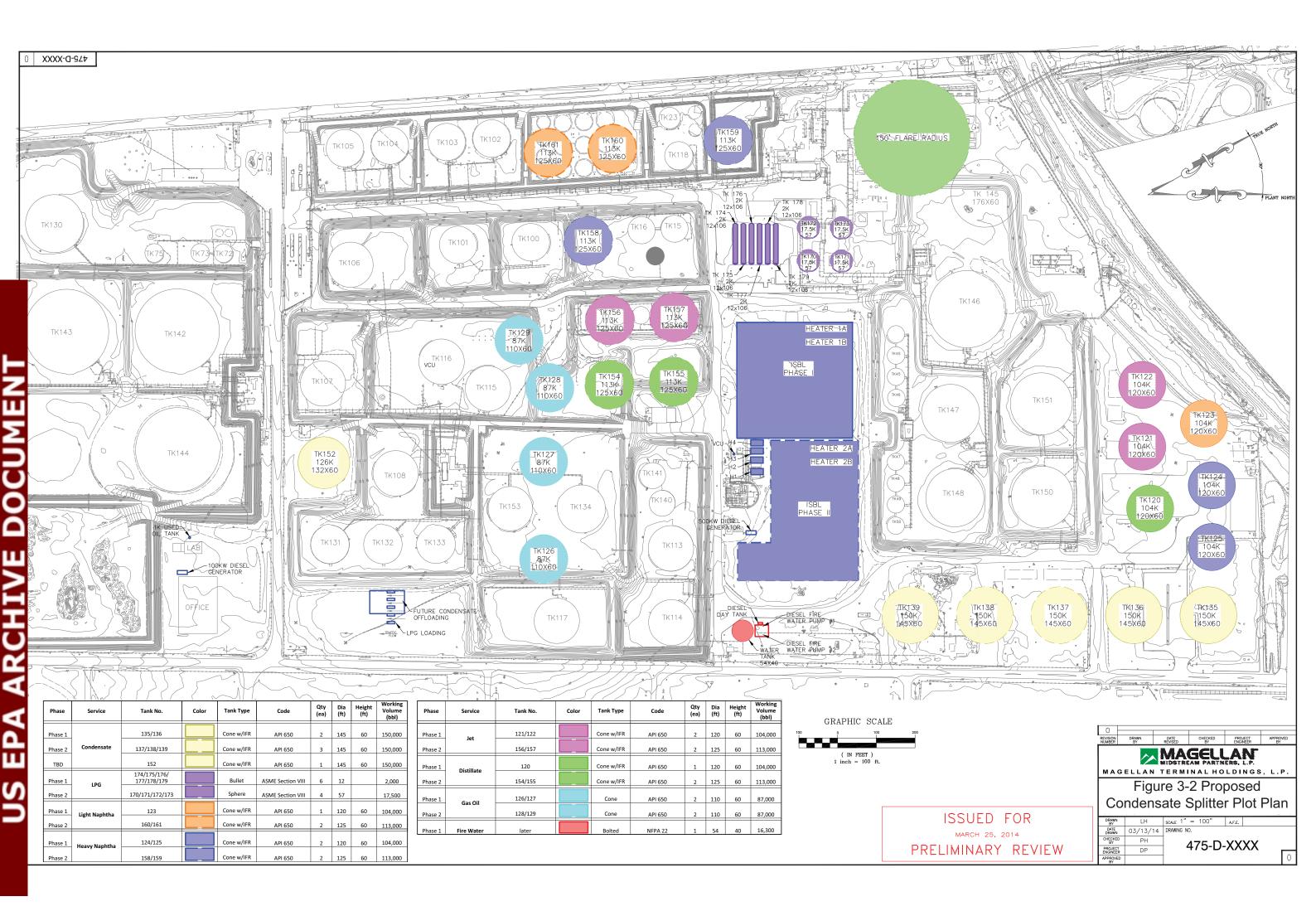


)	Background Resources:	Surveyor(s):	Project Number and Information:	10.0	ALL T	ENITON	
	World Street Map	Jayme Shiner PWS Debra Scott AWB	1417 Magellan Condensate Splitter Project	Group environmental consultants			
	GPS and Coordinate Type:	Map Created:	, ,	3413 Hunter Road San Marcos Texas 78666			
	Trimble Geo XH 6000 Series UTM NAD 1983 Zone 14 North	3/3/2014 by D. Scott	Biological Assessment	0	5	10 Miles	<b>\$</b>



## **APPENDIX B**

FIGURE 3-2 – PROPOSED CONDENSATE SPLITTER PLOT PLAN





## APPENDIX C PROPOSED MAGELLAN CORPUS CHRISTI CONDENSATE SPLITTER PROJECT, CORUPS CHRISTI, NUECES COUNTY, TEXAS

**CULTURAL RESOURCES REVIEW** 

## Proposed Magellan Processing, L.P., Corpus Christi Terminal Condensate Splitter Project, Corpus Christi, Nueces County, Texas

## **Cultural Resources Review**

### Prepared for:



Whitenton Group, Inc. 3413 Hunter Road San Marcos, Texas 78666

## Prepared by:



Horizon Environmental Services, Inc. 1507 South IH 35 Austin, Texas 78741

HJN 110012.42 AR

## MANAGEMENT SUMMARY

Horizon Environmental Services, Inc. (Horizon), has been contracted by Magellan Processing, L.P. (Magellan), to provide a cultural resources assessment for proposed improvements to the Corpus Christi Terminal complex. Magellan intends to construct and operate a condensate splitter located in Corpus Christi, Nueces County, Texas. The facility will be located in the Magellan Terminals Holdings, L.P. (MTH), Corpus Christi Terminal. The proposed project site is located between Interstate Highway (IH) 37 and the Corpus Christi Ship Channel (Inner Harbor).

The condensate splitter will be constructed in 2 phases. Each phase will consist of an identical splitter train that will each process 50,000 barrels per day (bpd) of hydrocarbon material to obtain products suitable for commercial use. Construction of the second 50,000-bpd train is expected to commence within approximately 18 months of completion of the first 50,000-bpd train. The process will utilize conventional distillation technology. Products may be transferred in an out of the terminal via pipeline, tank trucks, and/or marine vessels.

Construction of the proposed condensate splitter would occur within the existing 42.2hectare (104.2-acre) Corpus Christi Terminal facility. The proposed project would include construction of process equipment, control equipment, desalter units, buildings, aboveground storage tanks (ASTs), a 2-lane truck-loading rack, utilities, pipelines, pumps, and manifolds. One existing outfall structure will be utilized and up to 3 new outfall structures will be constructed in association with the proposed project. These outfalls will be built adjacent to an existing drainage ditch. In addition, Magellan proposes to utilize an approximately 11.7-hectare (29.0-acre) area adjacent to the eastern plant boundary as a temporary equipment laydown area during construction. Linear facilities associated with the proposed project consist of new utility lines (firewater, water, telecommunications, electric, and natural gas) located entirely within the boundaries of the existing 42.2-hectare (104.2-acre) Corpus Christi Terminal facility. In addition, 3 pipelines would be added to an existing aboveground pipe rack that connects the terminal to the docks, extending northward from the existing Corpus Christi Terminal facility approximately 1.6 kilometers (1.0 miles) to the existing docks. Minor excavation will be required for pipe supports for the pipe rack to the existing docks and the pipe manifolds at the dock facilities. Modifications to the pipe manifolds and existing pipe rack would involve minor ground disturbances within an approximately 2.6-hectare (6.5-acre) area.

The proposed improvements to the Corpus Christi Terminal would require a Prevention of Significant Deterioration (PSD) permit for Greenhouse Gas (GHG) emissions issued by the US Environmental Protection Agency (EPA). As such, the undertaking falls under the regulations of Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA) of 1966, as amended, which is invoked when federal funds are utilized or when federal permitting is required for a proposed project. The NHPA states that the Advisory Council for Historic Preservation (ACHP) and the Texas Historical Commission (THC), which serves as the State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) for the state of Texas, must be afforded the opportunity to comment when any cultural resources potentially eligible for inclusion in the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP) are present in a project area affected by federal agency actions or covered under federal permits or funding.

In April 2014, Horizon conducted a cultural resources background study of the Corpus Christi Terminal. For purposes of the cultural resources assessment, the Area of Potential Effect (APE) of the proposed project was established based on the direct impacts from construction and operation of proposed improvements. Construction of the proposed condensate splitter would occur entirely within the existing 42.2-hectare (104.2-acre) Corpus Christi Terminal facility. Foundations for process equipment, building pads, pipe supports, and pipe manifolds would involve subsurface disturbances to depths of 1.2 to 1.8 meters (4.0 to 6.0 feet) below surface; aboveground storage tank foundations would involve excavation, replacement with fill materials, and installation of concrete rings to depths of 2.4 to 3.0 meters (8.0 to 10.0 feet) below surface; and pile foundations for process equipment would be driven to depths of 7.6 to 22.9 meters (25.0 to 75.0 feet) below surface. Construction of the proposed 11.7-hectare (29.0-acre) equipment laydown area would consist of clearing, grading, and depositing 5.1 to 7.6 centimeters (2.0 to 3.0 inches) of gravel on a previously disturbed lot and would thus involve minimal ground disturbance. Linear facilities associated with the proposed project are located predominantly within the boundaries of the existing industrial facility. In addition, 3 pipelines would be added to an existing aboveground pipe rack that connects the existing industrial facility to the existing docks on the Inner Harbor. Modifications to the pipe manifolds and existing pipe rack would involve minor ground disturbances within an approximately 2.6-hectare (6.5-acre) area.

Regarding indirect effects, the existing facility would remain an industrial process area with no changes to the overall size and height of the facility; as such, there would not be a net increase to existing viewshed impacts in regard to historic properties in the surrounding area. The noise levels generated via the project construction and operation would not exceed those associated with typical daily facility activities; and indirect effects of air pollutant emissions would not contribute to the existing geographical boundaries of the APE. As such, the APE was not expanded due to indirect impacts resulting from viewshed, noise, or atmospheric effects.

The cultural resources assessment consisted of a desktop review of potential project impacts on historic properties or other culturally significant features or landscapes within the APE. No field investigations were undertaken as a part of the cultural resources assessment. Based on the results of desktop archival research, no known cultural resources are located within the boundaries of the existing Corpus Christi Terminal property. No previously recorded

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archeological sites, cemeteries, shipwrecks, or historic properties listed on the NRHP are present within a 1.6-kilometer (1.0-mile) radius of the project site. No previous cultural resources surveys have been conducted within the existing Corpus Christi Terminal property or within 1.6 kilometers (1.0 mile) of the project site.

Construction of the proposed condensate splitter would be contained entirely within the existing boundaries of the existing 42.2-hectare (104.2-acre) Corpus Christi Terminal facility. Construction-related disturbances within the proposed 11.7-hectare (29.0-acre) equipment laydown area located adjacent to the eastern boundary of the existing facility would consist of clearing, grading, and depositing 5.1 to 7.6 centimeters (2.0 to 3.0 inches) of gravel on the modern ground surface. The area of the proposed equipment laydown area was formerly a residential neighborhood that was demolished between 1995 and 2002. All aboveground structures, signage, and other components of the former residential area have been removed, leaving only the grid of paved streets. Installation of 3 new pipelines on an existing 1.6-kilometer- (1.0-mile-) long aboveground pipe rack that connects the existing terminal to the existing docks would involve minor ground disturbances within an approximately 2.6-hectare (6.5-acre) area.

The existing Corpus Christi Terminal has experienced extensive prior ground disturbances from construction, use, and ongoing maintenance of the existing facility, and the adjacent proposed equipment laydown area has experienced extensive prior disturbances from the original construction and subsequent demolition of a former residential neighborhood. All of the sediments mapped within the APE are, by definition, heavily modified artificial deposits that possess minimal to no potential to contain intact archeological deposits. No known cultural resources were identified within the project site based on desktop archival research, and there is a low probability that any unrecorded, intact cultural resources are present that would be eligible for listing on the NRHP. It is Horizon's opinion that the proposed project site does not warrant an intensive cultural resources survey, and no known archeological or historic properties that are listed on, eligible for, or potentially eligible for inclusion in the NRHP would be adversely affected. Horizon recommends a finding of "No Historic Properties Affected" with regard to the proposed improvements to the existing Corpus Christi Terminal. However, it should be noted that human burials are protected under the Texas Health and Safety Code. In the unlikely event that any human remains or burial objects are inadvertently discovered at any point during construction, use, or ongoing maintenance in the project area, all work should cease in the vicinity of the inadvertent discovery and the THC should be notified immediately.

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## 1.0 INTRODUCTION

Horizon Environmental Services, Inc. (Horizon), has been contracted by Magellan Processing, L.P. (Magellan), to provide a cultural resources assessment for proposed improvements to the Corpus Christi Terminal complex. Magellan intends to construct and operate a condensate splitter located in Corpus Christi, Nueces County, Texas. The facility will be located in the Magellan Terminals Holdings, L.P. (MTH), Corpus Christi Terminal. The proposed project site is located between Interstate Highway (IH) 37 and the Corpus Christi Ship Channel (Inner Harbor) (Figures 1 and 2).

The condensate splitter will be constructed in 2 phases. Each phase will consist of an identical splitter train that will each process 50,000 barrels per day (bpd) of hydrocarbon material to obtain products suitable for commercial use. Construction of the second 50,000-bbd train is expected to commence within approximately 18 months of completion of the first 50,000-bbd train. The process will utilize conventional distillation technology. Products may be transferred in an out of the terminal via pipeline, tank trucks, and/or marine vessels.

Construction of the proposed condensate splitter would occur within the existing 42.2hectare (104.2-acre) Corpus Christi Terminal facility. The proposed project would include construction of process equipment, control equipment, desalter units, buildings, aboveground storage tanks (ASTs), a 2-lane liquefied petroleum gas (LPG) (propane/butane) truck-loading rack, utilities, pipelines, pumps, and manifolds. One existing outfall structure will be utilized and up to 3 new outfall structures will be constructed in association with the proposed project. These outfalls will be built adjacent to an existing drainage ditch. In addition, Magellan proposes to utilize an approximately 11.7-hectare (29.0-acre) area adjacent to the eastern plant boundary as a temporary laydown area during construction. Linear facilities associated with the proposed project consist of new utility lines (firewater, water, telecommunications, electric, and natural gas) located entirely within the boundaries of the existing 42.2-hectare (104.2-acre) Corpus Christi Terminal facility. In addition, 3 pipelines would be added to an existing aboveground pipe rack that connects the terminal to the docks, extending northward from the existing Corpus Christi Terminal facility approximately 1.6 kilometers (1.0 miles) to the existing docks. Minor excavation will be required for pipe supports for the pipe rack to the existing docks and the pipe manifolds at the dock facilities. Modifications to the pipe manifolds and existing pipe rack would involve minor ground disturbances within an approximately 2.6-hectare (6.5acre) area.

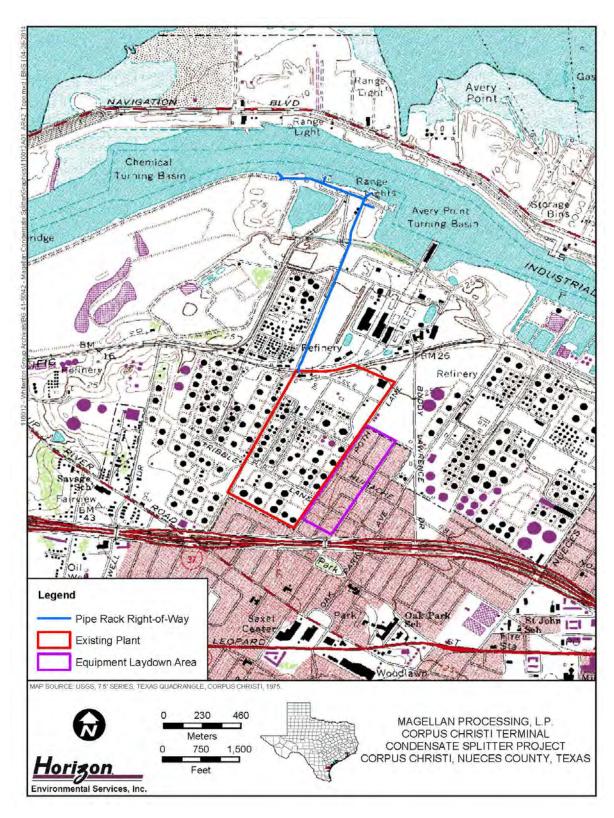


Figure 1. Location of APE on USGS Topographic Quadrangle

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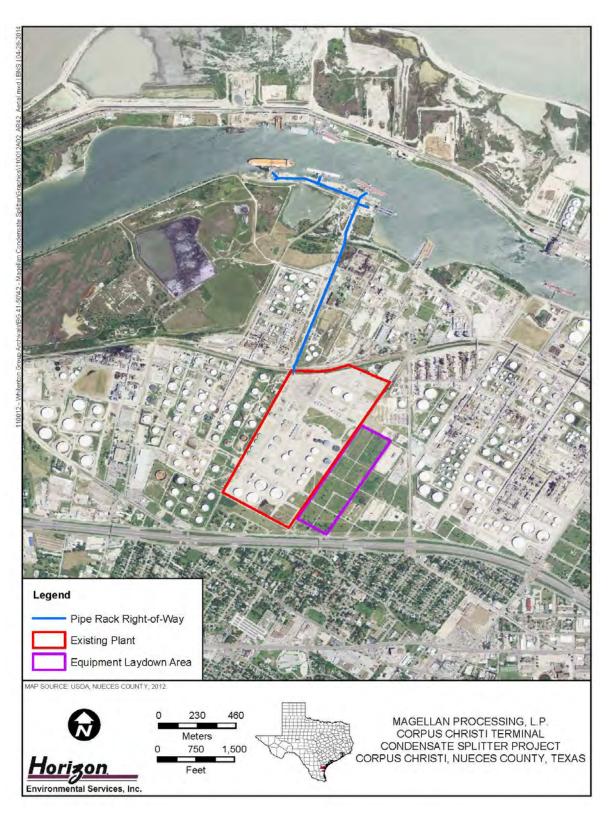


Figure 2. Location of APE on Aerial Photograph

<u>Horizon</u> HJN 110112.42 AR 3

The proposed improvements to the Corpus Christi Terminal would require a Prevention of Significant Deterioration (PSD) permit for Greenhouse Gas (GHG) emissions issued by the US Environmental Protection Agency (EPA). As such, the undertaking falls under the regulations of Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA) of 1966, as amended, which is invoked when federal funds are utilized or when federal permitting is required for a proposed project. The NHPA states that the Advisory Council for Historic Preservation (ACHP) and the Texas Historical Commission (THC), which serves as the State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) for the state of Texas, must be afforded the opportunity to comment when any cultural resources potentially eligible for inclusion in the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP) are present in a project area affected by federal agency actions or covered under federal permits or funding.

In April 2014, Horizon conducted a cultural resources background study of the Corpus Christi Terminal. For purposes of the cultural resources assessment, the Area of Potential Effect (APE) of the proposed project was established based on the direct impacts from construction and operation of proposed improvements. Construction of the proposed condensate splitter would occur entirely within the existing 42.2-hectare (104.2-acre) Corpus Christi Terminal facility. Foundations for process equipment, building pads, pipe supports, and pipe manifolds would involve subsurface disturbances to depths of 1.2 to 1.8 meters (4.0 to 6.0 feet) below surface; aboveground storage tank foundations would involve excavation, replacement with fill materials, and installation of concrete rings to depths of 2.4 to 3.0 meters (8.0 to 10.0 feet) below surface; and pile foundations for process equipment would be driven to depths of 7.6 to 22.9 meters (25.0 to 75.0 feet) below surface. Construction of the proposed 11.7-hectare (29.0-acre) equipment laydown area would consist of clearing, grading, and depositing 5.1 to 7.6 centimeters (2.0 to 3.0 inches) of gravel on a previously disturbed lot and would thus involve minimal ground disturbance. Linear facilities associated with the proposed project are located predominantly within the boundaries of the existing industrial facility. In addition, 3 pipelines would be added to an existing aboveground pipe rack that connects the existing industrial facility to the existing docks on the Inner Harbor. Modifications to the existing pipe rack would involve minor ground disturbances within an approximately 2.6-hectare (6.5acre) area.

Regarding indirect effects, the existing facility would remain an industrial process area with no changes to the overall size and height of the facility; as such, there would not be a net increase to existing viewshed impacts in regard to historic properties in the surrounding area. The noise levels generated via the project construction and operation would not exceed those associated with typical daily facility activities; and indirect effects of air pollutant emissions would not contribute to the existing geographical boundaries of the APE. As such, the APE was not expanded due to indirect impacts resulting from viewshed, noise, or atmospheric effects.

The cultural resources assessment consisted of a desktop review of potential project impacts on historic properties or other culturally significant features or landscapes within the APE. No field investigations were undertaken as a part of the cultural resources assessment. Based on the results of desktop archival research, no known cultural resources are located within the boundaries of the existing Corpus Christi Terminal property. No previously recorded

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archeological sites, cemeteries, shipwrecks, or historic properties listed on the NRHP are present within a 1.6-kilometer (1.0-mile) radius of the project site. No previous cultural resources surveys have been conducted within the existing Corpus Christi Terminal property or within 1.6 kilometers (1.0 mile) of the project site.

Construction of the proposed condensate splitter would be contained entirely within the existing boundaries of the existing 42.2-hectare (104.2-acre) Corpus Christi Terminal facility. Construction-related disturbances within the proposed 11.7-hectare (29.0-acre) equipment laydown area located adjacent to the eastern boundary of the existing facility would consist of clearing, grading, and depositing 5.1 to 7.6 centimeters (2.0 to 3.0 inches) of gravel on the modern ground surface. The area of the proposed equipment laydown area was formerly a residential neighborhood that was demolished between 1995 and 2002. All aboveground structures, signage, and other components of the former residential area have been removed, leaving only the grid of paved streets. Installation of 3 new pipelines on an existing 1.6-kilometer- (1.0-mile-) long aboveground pipe rack that connects the existing terminal to the existing docks would involve minor ground disturbances within an approximately 2.6-hectare (6.5-acre) area.

The existing Corpus Christi Terminal has experienced extensive prior ground disturbances from construction, use, and ongoing maintenance of the existing facility, and the adjacent proposed equipment laydown area has experienced extensive prior disturbances from the original construction and subsequent demolition of a former residential neighborhood. All of the sediments mapped within the APE are, by definition, heavily modified artificial deposits that possess minimal to no potential to contain intact archeological deposits. No known cultural resources were identified within the project site based on desktop archival research, and there is a low probability that any unrecorded, intact cultural resources are present that would be eligible for listing on the NRHP. It is Horizon's opinion that the proposed project site does not warrant an intensive cultural resources survey, and no known archeological or historic properties that are listed on, eligible for, or potentially eligible for inclusion in the NRHP would be adversely affected. Horizon recommends a finding of "No Historic Properties Affected" with regard to the proposed improvements to the existing Corpus Christi Terminal. However, it should be noted that human burials are protected under the Texas Health and Safety Code. In the unlikely event that any human remains or burial objects are inadvertently discovered at any point during construction, use, or ongoing maintenance in the project area, all work should cease in the vicinity of the inadvertent discovery and the THC should be notified immediately.

This document presents the results of Horizon's cultural resources background review of the proposed project site. Following this introductory chapter, Chapters 2.0 and 3.0 present the environmental and cultural backgrounds of the project area, respectively. Chapter 4.0 presents the results of the background review, and Chapter 5.0 summarizes the results of the background review and presents management recommendations for the proposed undertaking. Chapter 6.0 lists the references cited in the document. Appendix A contains the resume of Jeffrey D. Owens, Horizon Senior Archeologist, who served as Principal Investigator for this project.

## 2.0 ENVIRONMENTAL SETTING

### 2.1 Physiography and Hydrology

The APE is located in Nueces County on the Gulf Coastal Plain in southeastern Texas. The Gulf of Mexico represents a structural basin formed by lithosphere deformation. The Texas Coastal Plain, which extends as far north as the Ouachita uplift in southern Oklahoma and westward to the Balcones Escarpment in central Texas, consists of seaward-dipping bodies of sedimentary rock, most of which are of terrigenous clastic origin, that reflect the gradual infilling of the basin from its margins (Abbott 2001). The Corpus Christi area is underlain by rocks and unconsolidated sediments that are quite young in a geological sense, ranging from modern to Miocene in age. These consist predominantly of a series of fluviodeltaic bodies arranged in an offlapped sequence, with interdigitated and capping eolian, littoral, and estuarine facies making up a relatively minor component of the lithology. Major bounding disconformities between these formations are usually interpreted to represent depositional hiatuses that occurred during periods of sea level low stand. The oldest rocks in this fill are of Late Cretaceous age. As a result of the geometry of basin filling, successively younger rock units crop out in subparallel bands from the basin margin toward the modern coastline.

The APE is situated on a modified coastal upland located along the southern margins of the Corpus Christi Ship Channel. Specifically, the existing Corpus Christi Terminal plant site and proposed equipment laydown area are located on a modified coastal upland, while the existing pipe rack that connects the terminal to the docks traverses a landform constructed from artificial dredge spoil deposits that resulted from the excavation and ongoing dredging of the ship channel. There are no natural drainage features within the APE. The Nueces River discharges into Nueces Bay at the head of the bay approximately 6.3 kilometers (3.9 miles) west of the APE. The Corpus Christi Ship Channel is an artificial shipping channel oriented roughly west to east that opens into Corpus Christi Bay approximately 4.0 kilometers (2.5 miles) to the east of the APE. Elevations across the APE are relatively flat, ranging from approximately 7.6 meters (25.0 feet) above mean sea level (amsl) on the uplands on which the main plant site and proposed equipment laydown area are located to approximately 1.5 meters (5.0 feet) amsl on the docks adjacent to the shipping channel.

#### 2.2 GEOLOGY AND GEOMORPHOLOGY

The predominant geological formation in the vicinity of the APE is the Late Pleistocene Beaumont Formation, which consists of clay, silt, and fine sand arranged in spatial patterns that reflect the distribution of fluvial (e.g., channel, point bar, levee, and backswamp) and mudflat/coastal marsh facies (Abbot 2001; Van Siclen 1985). However, the APE is actually situated on a small pocket of the Late Pleistocene or Early Holocene Deweyville Formation (Qd) at the higher elevations near the southern end of the APE and on artificial dredge spoil deposits (F) adjacent to the shipping channel toward the northern end of the APE (Groat 1975). The Deweyville Formation consists of sand, silt, clay, and gravel that form a variety of point bar, natural levee, and stream channel deposits in relict meanders of larger stream systems. While debate about the temporal affiliations of and correlations among the deposits that underlie the major coastline terraces remains active, they are of little direct geoarcheological relevance because virtually all investigators agree that these deposits considerably predate the earliest demonstrated dates of human occupation in North America (Blum and Price 1994; DuBar et al. 1991; Fisk 1938, 1940). The artificial dredge and spoil deposits consist of material dredged from the Corpus Christi Ship Channel for raising the elevation of the land surface above alluvium and barrier island deposits and for creating land. The properties of these dredge deposits are highly variable but often consist of mixed mud, silt, sand, and shell.

The APE is situated on 2 mapped soil units (Figure 3; Table 1) (NRCS 2014). The majority of the APE is underlain by Urban Land (Ua), which consists of various historic-age and modern artificial fills composed of varying materials. The northern end of the APE near the docks adjacent to the shipping channel is composed of Ijam clay loam (Ma), which consists of sandy and/or loamy dredge spoil deposits found on coastal flats. All of the sediments mapped within the APE are, by definition, heavily modified artificial deposits that possess minimal to no potential to contain intact archeological deposits.

#### 2.3 CLIMATE

Evidence for climatic change from the Pleistocene to the present is most often obtained through studies of pollen and faunal sequences (Bryant and Holloway 1985; Collins 1995). Bryant and Holloway (1985) present a sequence of climatic change for nearby east-central Texas from the Wisconsin Full Glacial period (22,500 to 14,000 B.P.) through the Late Glacial period (14,000 to 10,000 B.P.) to the Post-Glacial period (10,000 B.P. to present). Evidence from the Wisconsin Full Glacial period suggests that the climate in east-central Texas was considerably cooler and more humid than at present. Pollen data indicate that the region was more heavily forested in deciduous woodlands than during later periods (Bryant and Holloway 1985). The Late Glacial period was characterized by slow climatic deterioration and a slow warming and/or drying trend (Collins 1995). In east-central Texas, the deciduous woodlands were gradually replaced by grasslands and post oak savannas (Bryant and Holloway 1985). During the Post-Glacial period, the east-central Texas environment appears to have been more stable. The deciduous forests had long since been replaced by prairies and post oak savannas. The drying and/or warming trend that began in the Late Glacial period continued into the mid-Holocene, at which point there appears to have been a brief amelioration to more mesic

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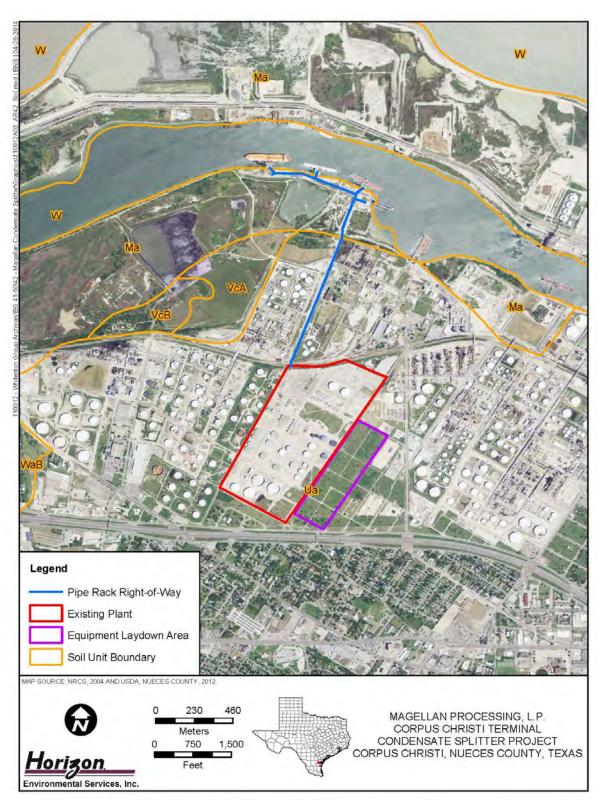


Figure 3. Distribution of Mapped Soil in APE

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 Soil Name
 Soil Description
 Typical Profile

 Ijam clay loam (Ma)
 Sandy and/or loamy dredge spoils on coastal flats
 0-8 in: Clay loam 8-62 in: Clay

 Urban land (Ua)
 Historic-age and modern artificial fills
 Variable

Table 1. Mapped Soils Located within APE

Source: NRCS 2014

in: Inches

conditions lasting from roughly 6000 to 5000 B.P. Recent studies by Bryant and Holloway (1985) indicate that modern environmental conditions in east-central Texas were probably achieved by 1,500 years ago.

The modern climate is typically dry to subhumid with long, hot summers and short, mild winters. The climate is influenced primarily by tropical maritime air masses from the Gulf of Mexico, but it is modified by polar air masses. Tropical maritime air masses predominate throughout spring, summer, and fall. Modified polar air masses are dominant in winter and provide a continental climate characterized by considerable variations in temperature.

In winter, the average temperature is 52 degrees Fahrenheit (°F); however, during winter the temperature tends to fluctuate greatly as air masses move in and out of the area. These air masses can produce light rain and drizzle, and conditions can become cloudy. Spring is relatively dry, with some thunderstorms and cool spells. Summer temperatures are high, with the daily maximum temperature often reaching or exceeding 90°F. Fall is warm, dry, and pleasant, with increasing cold spells.

The average precipitation within the region is 33 inches. The majority of this precipitation occurs as rain that falls between April and September. The growing season is approximately 265 days long.

#### 2.4 FLORA AND FAUNA

The project site is located in the Tamaulipan Biotic Province (Blair 1950) and the South Texas Plains vegetational region (Gould 1975). The upland areas support a rich tapestry of south Texas chaparral. The vegetation of the undeveloped and uncleared areas can be characterized as brush country, with variably dense scrub ranging in height from 1 to 3 m (4 to 10 ft). Mesquite and associated thorny shrubs, such as catclaw acacia, huisache, blackbrush, granjeno, whitebrush, prickly pear, and Spanish dagger are common locally. Understory vegetation is characteristically sparse. Along major drainages, live oak, Texas ebony, Texas sugarberry, cedar elm, and retama occur. Little bluestem, bristlegrass, paspalums, windmill grass, and buffelgrass are dominant grasses.

The Tamaulipan/Mezquital ecoregion of southern Texas and northeastern Mexico has unique plant and animal communities containing tree- and brush-covered dunes, wind tidal flats, and dense native brushland. Although there are large acreages of cultivated land on the South Texas Plains, most of the area is still rangeland. Land holdings predominantly are large cattle

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ranches. Deer and other wildlife species are common. This area originally supported a grassland- or savannah-type climax vegetation. Long continued grazing and other factors have altered the plant communities to such a degree that ranchmen of the region now face a severe brush problem (Gould 1975).

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## 3.0 CULTURAL BACKGROUND

The prehistory of South Texas can essentially be divided into 3 major periods—(1) PaleoIndian (9200 to 6000 BC); (2) Archaic, which has been subdivided into the Early Archaic (ca. 6000 to 2500 BC), Middle Archaic (ca. 2500 to 400 BC), and Late Archaic (ca. 400 BC to AD 800); and (3) Late Prehistoric (AD 800 to 1600). These prehistoric periods are principally defined by the presence of particular diagnostic projectile points, but they are intended to designate general cultural patterns based on ecology, technology, and subsistence strategies (Black 1989:48-57; Suhm et al. 1954).

## 3.1 PALEOINDIAN PERIOD (CA. 9200-6000 BC)

Evidence of PaleoIndian occupations in South Texas (9200 to 6000 BC) usually consists of surface finds found most frequently in the Nueces-Guadalupe and Rio Grande plains. Only 2 stratified PaleoIndian sites have been excavated in the region: Buckner Ranch (Sellards 1940) and Berger Bluff (Brown 1987). Both sites were deeply buried in alluvial terraces. Diagnostic projectile point styles of the PaleoIndian period include Clovis (Meltzer 1986), Folsom (Largent et al. 1991), Golondrina, Scottsbluff, and Angostura (Black 1989:48-49). Finely flaked end scrapers fashioned on blades and bifacially worked Clear Fork tools are also diagnostic of the PaleoIndian period. PaleoIndian peoples have traditionally been characterized as terminal Pleistocene big-game hunters, but these highly mobile hunter-gatherers probably exploited a rich diversity of wild plant and animal foods. Investigations at Baker Cave, for instance, indicate that a diverse array of fish, snakes, and rodents was exploited by the PaleoIndian occupants (Hester 1983). PaleoIndian populations were probably organized into small groups that ranged over great distances across periglacial plains and marginally forested areas to acquire different food sources throughout the year (Black 1989:48).

## 3.2 ARCHAIC PERIOD (CA. 6000 BC-AD 800)

The major distinction of the Early Archaic period (6000 to 2500 BC) is the replacement of earlier lanceolate-shaped projectile points by stemmed and corner-notched types. These styles include Bell, Andice, Early Triangular, and Early Expanding Stemmed points such as Bandy, Martindale, Uvalde, and related forms (Turner and Hester 1999). Other diagnostic artifacts include Clear Fork tools and large, thin, triangular bifaces with concave bases. The beginning of the Early Archaic period marks the onset of the modern Holocene era, during which the periglacial climate of the late Pleistocene began to grow warmer. Available evidence from the

Gulf Coastal Plain suggests that population densities remained low through the beginning of the Archaic period in South Texas, reflecting a continuation of the highly mobile adaptations of the PaleoIndian period.

The Middle Archaic period (2500 to 400 BC) in South Texas is defined by the presence of Pedernales, Langtry, Kinney, Bulverde, and Tortugas projectile point styles (Bell 1958; Turner and Hester 1999). Distally beveled tools are also common during this period, and ground stone tools, such as tubular grinding stones and manos, appear for the first time (Black 1989:49). Site densities in South Texas increase markedly during the Middle Archaic, possibly reflecting a decrease in group mobility and/or an increase in territoriality among groups (Black 1989:51). A heavier reliance on vegetal foods may be indicated by the introduction of ground stone technology and the appearance of large burned rock middens throughout Central Texas.

Late Archaic (400 BC to AD 800) occupations in South Texas are defined by small corner- and side-notched dart points, including Ensor, Frio, Marcos, Fairland, and Ellis types (Bell 1958, 1960; Turner and Hester 1999). Site densities continue to increase throughout the Late Archaic period, possibly indicating that population densities continued to rise. Cultural deposits on Late Archaic sites also tend to be deeper than during preceding periods, suggesting that occupations were either more extended in duration or that reoccupation of the same locations was more frequent (Black 1989:51). Cemeteries appear during this period, possibly indicating higher levels of social organization and increasing territoriality (Black 1989:51). During the Late Archaic, the exploitation of different ecological niches continued to intensify, becoming increasingly oriented toward the exploitation of seasonal food sources. This kind of adaptation is best illustrated by the frequent occurrence of shell middens along the coast and burned rock middens farther inland. Data collected from inland sites indicate that the economy was based primarily on vegetal resources supplemented with the hunting of small game such as rodents and rabbits (Black 1989:51).

#### 3.3 LATE PREHISTORIC PERIOD (CA. AD 800–1600)

The onset of the Late Prehistoric period (AD 800 to 1600) is defined by the appearance of pottery and the bow and arrow. The small dart points of the Late Archaic period were largely replaced by arrow points (Black 1989:52). The Late Prehistoric period in South Texas has been divided into 2 distinct time horizons, the Austin (AD 800 to 1350) and Toyah (AD 1350 to 1600) phases (Black 1986). The Austin phase is characterized by the presence of Scallorn arrow points, while the Toyah phase is defined by the presence of Perdiz arrow points. Faunal resources became increasingly important during this period, especially large mammals such as bison and deer. Lithic tool kits seem to have been manufactured for the processing of large mammals (Black 1989:51-57). Late Prehistoric sites are relatively common throughout South Texas, which might be interpreted as the result of population increases. The movement of bison from Central to South Texas may coincide with a movement of peoples and/or technology from both the Austin and Toyah phases of Central Texas (Black 1989:51-57).

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### 3.4 HISTORIC PERIOD (CA. AD 1600-PRESENT)

The first European incursion into what is now known as Texas was in 1519, when Álvarez de Pineda explored the northern shores of the Gulf of Mexico. In 1528, Cabeza de Vaca crossed South Texas after being shipwrecked along the Texas Coast near Galveston Bay. However, European settlement did not seriously disrupt native ways of life until after 1700. The first half of the 18th century was the period in which the fur trade and mission system, as well as the first effects of epidemic diseases, began to seriously disrupt the native culture and social systems. This process is clearly discernable at the Mitchell Ridge site, where burial data suggest population declines and group mergers (Ricklis 1994) as well as increased participation on the part of the Native American population in the fur trade. By the time that heavy settlement of Texas began in the early 1800s by Anglo-Americans, the indigenous Indian population was greatly diminished.

The earliest Europeans to reach the area of the future Nueces County may have been the party of Alonzo Álvarez de Pineda, who reputedly reached Corpus Christi Bay on the feast of Corpus Christi, 1519. 1 Conclusive evidence is lacking, however, because the records of his expedition are lost. Nine years later, Álvar Núñez Cabeza de Vaca and his crew were shipwrecked on the Texas coast. Although Cabeza de Vaca's exact route is unknown. historians believe that some members of his party skirted Corpus Christi Bay. The Spanish, however, largely ignored Texas until the French, under René Robert Cavelier, Sieur de La Salle, established a colony in the region in 1685. Spanish authorities dispatched an expedition to the region in 1689 under Alonso De León, the governor of Coahuila. Corpus Christi Bay, however, remained unknown and unexplored until 1747, when Joaquín Prudencio de Orobio y Basterra, captain of the presidio at La Bahía, led an expedition down the Nueces River to its mouth, where he arrived on February 26. After his return, José de Escandón, governor and captain general of Nuevo Santander, proposed to found a settlement called Villa de Vedoya at the mouth of the Nueces. Indians living in the area were to be served by a mission named Nuestra Señora del Soto. In the summer of 1749, 50 families accompanied by a squadron of soldiers and 2 priests set out, but because of drought and poor provisions they never reached their goal. Several other attempts were made to found a colony at the mouth of the Nueces, but not until the 1760s, when ranchers from Camargo, Nuevo Santander (now Tamaulipas), pushed northward in search of new grazing lands, did the first Spanish settlers reach the area. The first settlement was founded by Blas María de la Garza Falcón, captain of Camargo, who in 1766 established a ranch called Santa Petronila on Petronila Creek. In 1787, Manuel de Escandón, the son of José de Escandón, proposed another settlement at the mouth of the Nueces, but the project never advanced beyond the planning stages. In the late 1780s and early 1790s, Spanish authorities also considered moving Nuestra Señora del Refugio Mission to the mouth of the Nueces, but abandoned the idea because of continuing friction with the Lipan Apaches. At the end of the 18th century, ranchers from the Rio Grande valley began applying for and receiving land grants in the lower Nueces valley. By 1794, a large ranch belonging to Juan Barrera and known as Rancho de Santa Gertrudis was in operation on the north side of Corpus

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> The following historical summary is adapted from TSHA (2014).

Christi Bay. Between 1800 and the end of Spanish dominion, much of what is now Nueces County was granted to ranching families, most of whom were related by marriage. In 1812, after an Indian uprising, the colonists abandoned the area and sought refuge in the Rio Grande valley. The colonists returned, but repeated skirmishes with the Indians continued until about 1824, when peace was made with the Comanches and Lipans. After Mexican independence, the region became part of Tamaulipas. During the period from 1829 to 1836, most of the land in the lower Nueces valley that had not been granted under Spanish rule was deeded to individuals by the Tamaulipan government.

In 1830, new attempts were made to establish colonies in the area. Gen. Manuel de Mier y Terán proposed founding 2 towns near the mouth of the Nueces. One settlement was to be located at the site of present-day Corpus Christi, but it was never realized. The other settlement, however, a military post known as Fort Lipantitlán, was established in 1831 in the northwestern part of the future county at the point where the road from Matamoros to Goliad crossed the river. During the remaining years of Mexican rule, no other towns were established on the west bank of the Nueces; however, in the 1820s, 2 Irish colonies were founded on the east side of the river under contracts issued to James Power and James Hewetson by the state of Coahuila and Texas. In 1828, John McMullen and James McGloin obtained a grant to settle a tract of land along the east side of the Nueces 10 leagues west of the coast. Later, some of these colonists and their descendents moved west of the river.

During the 1830s, 2 further unsuccessful attempts were made to establish colonies at the mouth of the Nueces. German nobleman Baron Johan von Raiknitz attempted to found a German settlement on the west bank of the Nueces, but the ship carrying the colonists was prevented from landing by the French during the so-called "Pastry War" between France and Mexico. A second ship transporting colonists from Germany was shipwrecked. Around the same time, abolitionist Benjamin Lundy proposed to established a colony for freed slaves, but the plans were abandoned after the outbreak of the Texas Revolution. During the revolution, Texans under Ira Westover captured the Indian village of Lipantitlán, which was later occupied by Francis W. Johnson and the New Orleans Greys. After the revolution, the area south and west of the Nueces River was a no-man's-land. Texas claimed the territory, but Mexico said it was part of Tamaulipas. Neither exercised effective control. Both Texan and Mexican raiding parties made periodic forays into the region between 1838 and 1841. Mexican Federalist forces twice sought sanctuary at Fort Lipantitlán in the late 1830s, and, in 1838, Gen. Antonio Canales organized his army for the Republic of the Rio Grande nearby.

During this period, both Mexican and Texan merchants engaged in illegal trading in the Nueces valley. Among the most prominent of these was Henry Lawrence Kinney, who established a trading post and fort on Corpus Christi Bay in 1839. The land belonged to Capt. Enrique Villareal, a rancher from Matamoros, who had obtained it in 1832. Villareal led a force of 300 men to confront Kinney in 1841. Kinney, however, managed to negotiate an agreement and purchase the land from him. The small settlement soon became the focus of trade in the area. Repeated attacks by Mexican bands forced Kinney to abandon the post in 1842, but he returned a short time later and reestablished his trading business. A post office opened in 1842 with William P. Aubrey as its postmaster. The population of the small settlement, now known as

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Corpus Christi, boomed briefly when Gen. Zachary Taylor's army arrived there in September 1845, but it quickly shrank again after the Mexican War.

Nueces County, including the entire area south of Bexar County west to the Rio Grande and east to the Gulf of Mexico, was formed from San Patricio County in 1846 and organized the same year. Corpus Christi, which was incorporated in 1846, became the county seat. The population of the county, however, remained small. Although large numbers of fortune seekers passed through Corpus Christi to join wagon trains heading west during the California gold rush of 1849, few settlers put down roots. Continuous Indian attacks and the relative isolation of the region kept away most would-be settlers. The first census of the county in 1850 showed a population of 689. Between 1850 and 1861, the Nueces County area was further divided to form several new counties.

Kinney, who continued to promote Corpus Christi, organized a major fair in the town in 1852, reportedly the first state fair in Texas. Despite extensive preparations, however, it proved to be a failure. Two years later, yellow fever decimated the population. Nonetheless, the early 1850s saw the construction of a county courthouse and jail and the beginnings of regular county government.

The mainstay of the local economy in late antebellum Texas remained ranching. Between the Texas Revolution and the late 1840s, the area's ranches had been virtually abandoned. After the Mexican War, the land grants of Mexican ranchers in the region were gradually acquired by Anglos who reestablished the cattle and horse industries. Tax rolls in 1848 reported only 647 cattle and 19 horses. By 1860, however, records showed 56,454 cattle and 8,554 horses and mules worth an estimated \$489,520. Farming was not extensive and was only for subsistence.

During the early years of the Civil War, Corpus Christi was an important center for Confederate commerce. In 1859, no fewer than 45 small vessels carried trade between Corpus Christi and Indianola. Small boats sailing inside the barrier islands transported goods from the Brazos River to the Rio Grande, while inland cotton was moved along the Cotton Road through Banquete to Matamoros and the mills of England. In an effort to halt the trade, Union forces seized control of Mustang Island in the fall of 1863. Corpus Christi was twice bombarded by federal gunboats, but the overland trade continued without interruption until the end of the war.

Although Nueces County escaped the destruction that devastated other parts of the South, the war years were difficult for the county's citizens, who were thwarted by the lack of markets and the wild fluctuations in Confederate currency, as well as by concern for combatants. After the war, Nueces County residents experienced a protracted period of lawlessness and violence. Although the black population before the war had been very small and no Ku Klux Klan chapter was organized in the county during Reconstruction, political violence was commonplace, as Republicans and former Confederates struggled for control. Turmoil continued along the Mexican border, and cattle rustling and raids by bandits were frequent problems. In the end, however, because of its relatively small population, Nueces County was spared much of the fighting that other Texas counties experienced, and order was generally restored by the early 1870s.

The war and its aftermath also had a less serious effect on the county's economy than was the case in much of Texas. Land prices fell significantly, from 50 cents per acre in 1860 to 28 cents per acre in 1869. The boom in the cattle industry in the early 1870s helped Nueces County to overcome the postwar economic depression. In 1871, local tax rolls showed 218,969 cattle worth more than \$942,000, more than 4 times the number from 1860. The cattle were shipped to market by 2 main routes—by water to New Orleans and Havana, or overland to Kansas, where they were shipped by rail to the East. During the early 1870s, some 10 meat-packing plants operated in Nueces County, but most were closed by the middle of the decade because the cattle drives proved to be more profitable.

Mustangs and other horses also contributed to the county's new prosperity; in 1871, there were 34,077 horses and mules in the county. The greatest competition to the cattle industry came from sheep ranching. Before the ranges were fenced, Nueces County was an important center for wool production. During the late antebellum period, the number of sheep had been relatively small, with some 35,000 reported in 1860. By 1871, 363,835 sheep were counted, and by 1876 the number of sheep topped 650,000. In 1875 and 1876, the assessed value of sheep in the county actually exceeded that of cattle. Falling wool prices in the 1880s, however, and the advent of fencing eventually caused the sheep industry to decline. For a number of years between the mid-1870s and early 1880s, Nueces County led all Texas counties in the number of sheep and cattle.

During the latter half of the 19th and the early 20th centuries, the population of Nueces County grew markedly, particularly in the decade after the turn of the century. In 1860, the county had only 2,906 residents, but the number increased rapidly in the post-Civil War years, to 3,975 in 1870, 7,673 in 1880, 8,093 in 1890, 10,439 in 1900, and 21,955 in 1910. Much of the population was centered in and around Corpus Christi, which gradually emerged as the commercial hub of the region. As the city grew in importance as a shipping center, efforts were made to improve access to the ocean. In 1874, the main sea channel was dredged to a depth of 8 feet to allow large steamers to navigate. During the mid-1870s, construction also began on the county's first railroad, a narrow-gauge line from Corpus Christi to Laredo. After its completion in 1881, a second line was begun, the San Antonio and Aransas Pass, which was completed in 1886 and extended from Corpus Christi to San Antonio.

The mid-1880s also witnessed the beginnings of cash-crop agriculture in Nueces County. During the late 1870s and early 1880s, livestock raising in some areas of the county began to be supplanted by more traditional farming, particularly of cotton and vegetables. The growth of such farms began the breakup of the huge expanses of pastureland in the county and spelled the beginning of the end of the old cattle-ranching life. In 1889, 1,010 bales of cotton were produced; by 1910, the figure had grown to 8,566, and by 1930 Nueces County was among the leading cotton-producing counties in the state, with 148,442 bales.

Although cotton was the dominant crop during the early decades of the 20th century, Nueces County farmers also produced large quantities of vegetables, including cabbage, onions, spinach, carrots, cucumbers, and turnips. The transition to cash-crop farming brought dramatic changes in land tenure. While large ranchers had predominated during the antebellum and early postwar period, by the turn of the century the land was increasingly worked by tenant

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farmers. In 1910, when agriculture was still developing in the county, only 35.3% of farmers were tenants, below the statewide average of 52.6%. By 1925, however, 76.4% of all Nueces County farmers were tenants. The majority of the leaseholders were Anglos, but much of the labor was performed by Mexican Americans who were poorly paid and frequently lived in poverty.

During the 1920s, agricultural mechanization began in the county. Tractors and other machines appeared in increasing numbers, and by the eve of World War II Nueces County farms were among the most mechanized in the state. The onset of the Great Depression, falling cotton prices, and the arrival of the boll weevil brought new hardships for county farmers. Many were forced to move to the cities. The total number of farms in the county fell from a high of 1,969 in 1930 to 1,306 in 1950. Cotton production, which had peaked during the mid-1920s at more than 100,000 bales per year, fell markedly during the 1930s and early 1940s. In 1945, only 46,000 bales were ginned. Cotton farming rebounded in the late 1940s, and in 1949 production once again topped the 100,000-bale mark. Since that time cotton production has declined, though it remains a significant part of the county's agricultural receipts. Truck farming flourished in the 1950s, but was afterward increasingly replaced by sorghum, which in the 1980s and 1990s was the county's largest crop. The decline in cotton and truck farming in the post-World War II era also forced many tenant farmers to leave the land or to hire out as agricultural workers. In the 1980s, the economic base of the county outside of the Corpus Christi area was still overwhelmingly agricultural. In 1982, 85% of the county was in farms and ranches, with 77% of the land under cultivation and 1% irrigated. Nueces County ranked 29th in the state in agricultural receipts, with some 87% coming from crops.

Another important sector of the Nueces County economy in the 20th century has been oil and natural gas. In 1922, natural gas was discovered in Nueces County, and a few years later several major oilfields were developed. Gas-recycling plants and carbon black plants, as well as oil refineries, are located in the county. Total oil production in the county from 1930 to January 1, 1989, was 533,831,701 barrels. Soda and salts of several varieties are produced from raw materials chiefly from Duval County. Other industries include a Celanese chemical plant and copper and lead refineries.

In 1926, the port of Corpus Christi was opened. The legislature made the port a state project by allocating the taxes from 7 adjacent counties for the construction of breakwaters, jetties, and other ancillary improvements. The channel from the Gulf of Mexico to the turning basin is a part of the Gulf Intracoastal Waterway, which connects the port with cities of the Mississippi valley as well as with foreign markets and makes it potentially one of the chief ports in America. In 1935, the depth of the channel was increased to 35 feet so that large ships could be accommodated. The 1930s and 1940s also brought improvements in the transportation network of the county. By 1940, most of the major roads in the county were paved, and US Highway (US) 77 and State Highways (SH) 44 and 286 had given farmers better access to markets.

The military importance of the area has been recognized since the time of the Mexican War, when Fort Marcy, the first federal post activated on Texas soil, was established. At one time, Nueces County had 5 federal forts; Corpus Christi was a supply depot until 1857. On

March 12, 1941, with the establishment of the Naval Air Station in Corpus Christi, the town became the home of the so-called "University of the Air."

Since World War I, Nueces County has shown a remarkable growth in population, increasing from 22,807 residents in 1920 to 165,471 in 1950 and to 237,544 in 1970. In 1991, the reported population of the county was 296,527. Hispanics were about 50.5% of the population, non-Hispanic whites 44.1%, and African Americans 4.4%. The largest towns were Corpus Christi, Robstown, Port Aransas, and North San Pedro. During the early 1980s, the county had 13 school districts with 60 elementary, 20 middle, and 15 high schools, as well as 6 special-education schools.

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# 4.0 RESEARCH OBJECTIVES AND METHODOLOGY

In April 2014, Horizon conducted a cultural resources background study of the Corpus Christi Terminal. The background review examined an area extending 1.6 kilometers (1.0 mile) from the boundaries of the proposed project site. No field investigations were undertaken as a part of the cultural resources assessment. Based on background archival research conducted via the Internet on the THC's online *Texas Archeological Sites Atlas* (Atlas) restricted-access database and the National Park Service's (NPS) NRHP Google Earth map layer, no known cultural resources are located within the boundaries of the existing Corpus Christi Terminal property. No previously recorded archeological sites, cemeteries, shipwrecks, or historic properties listed on the NRHP are present within a 1.6-kilometer (1.0-mile) radius of the project site. No previous cultural resources surveys have been conducted within the existing Corpus Christi Terminal property or within 1.6 kilometers (1.0 mile) of the project site.

Construction of the proposed condensate splitter would be contained entirely within the existing boundaries of the existing 42.2-hectare (104.2-acre) Corpus Christi Terminal facility (Figures 4 and 5). Construction-related disturbances within the proposed 11.7-hectare (29.0-acre) equipment laydown area located adjacent to the eastern boundary of the existing facility would consist of clearing, grading, and depositing 5.1 to 7.6 centimeters (2.0 to 3.0 inches) of gravel on the modern ground surface (Figure 6). The area of the proposed equipment laydown area was formerly a residential neighborhood that was demolished between 1995 and 2002. All aboveground structures, signage, and other components of the former residential area have been removed, leaving only the grid of paved streets. Installation of 3 new pipelines on an existing 1.6-kilometer- (1.0-mile-) long aboveground pipe rack that connects the existing terminal to the existing docks would involve minor ground disturbances within an approximately 2.6-hectare (6.5-acre) area (Figure 7).

The existing Corpus Christi Terminal has experienced extensive prior ground disturbances from construction, use, and ongoing maintenance of the existing facility, and the adjacent proposed equipment laydown area has experienced extensive prior disturbances from the original construction and subsequent demolition of a former residential neighborhood. All of the sediments mapped within the APE are, by definition, heavily modified artificial deposits that possess minimal to no potential to contain intact archeological deposits. No known cultural resources were identified within the project site based on desktop archival research, and there is a low probability that any unrecorded, intact cultural resources are present that would be



Figure 4. Aerial Flyover View of the Existing Corpus Christi Terminal



Figure 5. Typical View within Existing Corpus Christi Terminal

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Figure 6. Typical View of Proposed Equipment Laydown Area (Former Residential Neighborhood)



Figure 7. View of Existing Aboveground Pipe Racks near Dock

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eligible for listing on the NRHP. It is Horizon's opinion that the proposed project site does not warrant an intensive cultural resources survey, and no known archeological or historic properties that are listed on, eligible for, or potentially eligible for inclusion in the NRHP would be adversely affected. Horizon recommends a finding of "No Historic Properties Affected" with regard to the proposed improvements to the existing Corpus Christi Terminal. However, it should be noted that human burials are protected under the Texas Health and Safety Code. In the unlikely event that any human remains or burial objects are inadvertently discovered at any point during construction, use, or ongoing maintenance in the project area, all work should cease in the vicinity of the inadvertent discovery and the THC should be notified immediately.

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## 5.0 RESULTS OF INVESTIGATIONS

# 5.1 ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA FOR INCLUSION IN THE NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES

Determinations of eligibility for inclusion in the NRHP are based on the criteria presented in 36 CFR §60.4(a-d). The 4 criteria of eligibility are applied following the identification of relevant historical themes and related research questions:

The quality of significance in American history, architecture, archeology, and culture is present in districts, sites, buildings, structures, and objects that possess integrity of location, design, setting, materials, workmanship, feeling, and association, and:

- a. [T]hat are associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history; or,
- b. [T]hat are associated with the lives of persons significant in our past; or,
- c. [T]hat embody the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction, or that represent a significant and distinguishable entity whose components may lack individual distinction; or,
- d. [T]hat have yielded, or may be likely to yield, information important in prehistory or history.

The first step in the evaluation process is to define the significance of the property by identifying the particular aspect of history or prehistory to be addressed and the reasons why information on that topic is important. The second step is to define the kinds of evidence or the data requirements that the property must exhibit to provide significant information. These data requirements in turn indicate the kind of integrity that the site must possess to be significant. This concept of integrity relates both to the contextual integrity of such entities as structures, districts, or archeological deposits and to the applicability of the potential database to pertinent research questions. Without such integrity, the significance of a resource is very limited.

For an archeological resource to be eligible for inclusion in the NRHP, it must meet legal standards of eligibility that are determined by 3 requirements: (1) properties must possess significance, (2) the significance must satisfy at least 1 of the 4 criteria for eligibility listed above, and (3) significance should be derived from an understanding of historic context. As discussed here, historic context refers to the organization of information concerning prehistory and history

according to various periods of development in various times and at various places. Thus, the significance of a property can best be understood through knowledge of historic development and the relationship of the resource to other, similar properties within a particular period of development. Most prehistoric sites are usually only eligible for inclusion in the NRHP under Criterion D, which considers their potential to contribute data important to an understanding of prehistory. All 4 criteria employed for determining NRHP eligibility potentially can be brought to bear for historic sites.

#### Criterion A—Events

To be considered for listing under Criterion A, a property must be associated with 1 or more events important in the defined historic context. Criterion A recognizes resources associated with single events, such as the founding of a town, or with a pattern of events, repeated activities, or historic trends, such as the gradual rise of a port city's prominence in trade and commerce. The event or trends, however, must clearly be important within the associated context of settlement, in the case of the town, or development of a maritime economy, in the case of the port city. Moreover, the property must have an important association with the event or historic trends, and it must retain historic integrity.

## Criterion B—Persons

Criterion B applies to resources associated with individuals whose specific contributions to history can be identified and documented. Persons "significant in our past" refers to individuals whose activities are demonstrably important within a local, state, or national historic context. The criterion is generally restricted to those resources that illustrate (rather than commemorate) a person's important achievements.

## Criterion C—Design or Construction

This criterion applies to resources significant for their physical design or construction, including such elements as architecture, landscape architecture, engineering, and artwork. To be eligible under this criterion, a property must meet *at least one* of the following requirements—embody distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction; represent the work of a master; possess high artistic value; or represent a significant and distinguishable entity whose components may lack individual distinction.

## Criterion D—Information Potential

Certain important research questions about human history can only be answered by the actual physical material of cultural resources. Criterion D encompasses the resources that have the potential to answer, in whole or in part, those types of research questions. The most common type of property nominated under this Criterion is the archeological site (or a district composed of archeological sites). Buildings, objects, and structures (or districts composed of these property types), however, can also be eligible for their information potential. Criterion D has 2 requirements, which must *both* be met for a property to qualify—the property must have, or have had, information to contribute to our understanding of human history or prehistory, and the information must be considered important.

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## 5.2 SUMMARY AND RECOMMENDATIONS

In April 2014, Horizon conducted a cultural resources background study of the Corpus Christi Terminal. The background review examined an area extending 1.6 kilometers (1.0 mile) from the boundaries of the proposed project site. No field investigations were undertaken as a part of the cultural resources assessment. Based on background archival research conducted via the Internet on the THC's online *Texas Archeological Sites Atlas* (Atlas) restricted-access database and the National Park Service's (NPS) NRHP Google Earth map layer, no known cultural resources are located within the boundaries of the existing Corpus Christi Terminal property. No previously recorded archeological sites, cemeteries, shipwrecks, or historic properties listed on the NRHP are present within a 1.6-kilometer (1.0-mile) radius of the project site. No previous cultural resources surveys have been conducted within the existing Corpus Christi Terminal property or within 1.6 kilometers (1.0 mile) of the project site.

The existing Corpus Christi Terminal has experienced extensive prior ground disturbances from construction, use, and ongoing maintenance of the existing facility, and the adjacent proposed equipment laydown area has experienced extensive prior disturbances from the original construction and subsequent demolition of a former residential neighborhood. All of the sediments mapped within the APE are, by definition, heavily modified artificial deposits that possess minimal to no potential to contain intact archeological deposits. No known cultural resources were identified within the project site based on desktop archival research, and there is a low probability that any unrecorded, intact cultural resources are present that would be eligible for listing on the NRHP. It is Horizon's opinion that the proposed project site does not warrant an intensive cultural resources survey, and no known archeological or historic properties that are listed on, eligible for, or potentially eligible for inclusion in the NRHP would be adversely affected. Horizon recommends a finding of "No Historic Properties Affected" with regard to the proposed improvements to the existing Corpus Christi Terminal. However, it should be noted that human burials are protected under the Texas Health and Safety Code. In the unlikely event that any human remains or burial objects are inadvertently discovered at any point during construction, use, or ongoing maintenance in the project area, all work should cease in the vicinity of the inadvertent discovery and the THC should be notified immediately.

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# **APPENDIX A:**

Principal Investigator's Resume



# Jeffrey D. Owens, M.A., R.P.A.

## Archeological Principal Investigator/Project Manager

#### **EXPERTISE**

- Prehistoric Archeology
- Historic Archeology

#### **RESEARCH AREAS**

- Eastern North America (esp. Midwest, Southeast)
- Great Plains
- American Southwest

## **AREAS OF EXPERTISE**

- Project Management
- Archival and Historical Research
- Archeological Survey, Testing, and Data Recovery
- National Register of Historic Places (NRHP) Evaluations
- Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA)
- Antiquities Code of Texas (ACT)
- Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act (NAGPRA)
- Lithic and Ceramic Analysis
- Technical Writing and Editing
- Quality Assurance/ Quality Control

## **EDUCATION**

- A.B.D., Anthropology, Southern Methodist University, 1997
- M.A., Anthropology, New York University, 1995
- B.A., Anthropology, New York University, 1991

Mr. Owens is an accomplished cultural resources professional with more than 23 years of experience in archeological fieldwork, research and analysis, and cultural resources management (CRM). He is an adept principal investigator and project manager, proficient at managing suites of turnkey, fast-turnaround projects as well as long-term, multidisciplinary research projects. He is fully versed in historic and environmental preservation laws, assessing the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP) eligibility of cultural resources, and developing management plans for historic properties that ensure compliance with applicable federal, state, and local laws while ensuring projects meet construction schedules and adhere to budgetary constraints.

Mr. Owens has planned, implemented, and successfully completed cultural resources survey, testing, and data recovery projects in Arizona, Arkansas, Illinois, Louisiana, Mississippi, Missouri, New Jersey, New Mexico, New York, Oklahoma, Pennsylvania, and Texas. He has completed hundreds of projects for a broad range of clients in the public and private sectors, including oil and gas exploration, development, and transportation; ethanol and petrochemical production; coastal and inland residential, commercial, and industrial land development; solid waste landfills; dredging activities; municipal planning; reservoir development; coastal port and channel improvements; transportation infrastructure; water and wastewater transportation and treatment; electricity generation and transportation; military reservations; and university research.

Mr. Owens also regularly contributes cultural resources oversight to the preparation of environmental regulatory documents, including Environmental Assessments (EA), Environmental Impact Statements (EIS), Biological Assessments (BA), and Categorical Exclusions (CE) for National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) compliance projects.

Mr. Owens' project management style incorporates innovative leadership skills, resourcefulness, versatility, swift adaptability, and attention to the bottom line. His success is due in part to his thorough familiarity with federal, state, and local historic preservation laws and long-standing personal relationships with regulatory agency reviewers.

#### **CERTIFICATIONS/QUALIFICATIONS**

- Meets all Secretary of the Interior's standards for performing cultural resources investigations
- Permittable to perform cultural resource investigations on federal and state projects
- Listed on qualified cultural resource consultant lists in numerous states
- Pre-certified by TxDOT for Service 2.10.1 (Archeological Surveys, Documentation, Excavations, Testing, Reports, and Data Recovery Plans) and Service 2.11.1 (Historical and Archival Research)

## **PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS**

- Register of Professional Archaeologists (RPA)
- Council of Texas Archeologists (CTA)
- Texas Archeological Society (TAS)

## **CORPORATE HEADQUARTERS**

#### PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

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Project Archaeologist/Managing Editor TRC Environmental Corporation 505 East Huntland Drive, Suite 250 Austin, Texas 78752 (512) 454-8716	Mar 2002 – Jan 2005
Senior Editor Consulting Partners (now part of Beeline Learning Solutions) 14911 Quorum Drive, Suite 120 Dallas, Texas 75254 (972) 813-0465	Oct 1999 – Aug 2001
Project Archaeologist Geo-Marine, Inc. 2201 K Avenue, Suite A2 Plano, Texas 75074 (972) 423-5480	Aug 1997 – Oct 1999
Departmental/Teaching Assistant Southern Methodist University Department of Anthropology 3225 Daniel Avenue, Room 208 Dallas, Texas 75205 (214) 768-2684	Sep 1995 – Jun 1997
Project Archaeologist Soil Systems, Inc. (now part of PaleoWest) 1121 North 2nd Street Phoenix, Arizona 85004 (602) 261-7253	Oct 1994 – Sep 1995
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#### **TECHNICAL PUBLICATIONS**

- n.d. Proposed Magellan Terminals Holdings, L.P., Corpus Christi Terminal Expansion Project, Corpus Christi, Nueces County, Texas. HJN 110012.42. Horizon Environmental Services, Inc., Austin, Texas.
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- n.d. Intensive Cultural Resources Survey of the Proposed Tradinghouse Power Plant Tract, McLennan County, Texas. HJN 080122.79. Horizon Environmental Services, Inc., Austin, Texas.
- n.d. Intensive Cultural Resources Survey of the Proposed DeCordova II Power Plant Tract, Hood County, Texas. HJN 080122.78. Horizon Environmental Services, Inc., Austin, Texas.
- n.d. Cultural Resources Survey Report: Proposed Prue Road at French Creek (LC-6) Improvements, San Antonio, Bexar County, Texas. HJN 130025. Horizon Environmental Services, Inc., Austin, Texas.
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- n.d. Intensive Cultural Resources Assessment of Proposed INVISTA Victoria Plant Improvements, Victoria County, Texas. HJN 130035. Horizon Environmental Services, Inc., Austin, Texas.
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- n.d. Intensive Cultural Resources Survey of a Proposed 20-Acre Expansion Tract Adjacent to an Existing PL Propylene, LLC, Facility, Houston, Harris County, Texas. HJN 080122.30. Horizon Environmental Services, Inc., Austin, Texas.
- 2014 Intensive Cultural Resources Survey of a Proposed 121.0-Acre Beaumont Polyethylene Plant Area, Beaumont, Jefferson County, Texas. HJN 140020. Horizon Environmental Services, Inc., Austin, Texas.
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- 2013 Intensive Cultural Resources Survey of 4 USACE Jurisdictional Areas on Chesapeake Energy Corporation's Proposed JEA West Lateral Pipeline Right-of-Way, Dimmit County, Texas (with R.K. Brownlow). HJN 130087.04. Horizon Environmental Services, Inc., Austin, Texas.
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- 2013 Intensive Cultural Resources Survey of a USACE Jurisdictional Area on a Proposed 4.6-Acre HEB Grocery Store Expansion Tract, Georgetown, Williamson County, Texas. HJN 120085. Horizon Environmental Services, Inc., Austin, Texas.
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- 2013 Intensive Cultural Resources Survey of the San Antonio River Outfall Project, San Antonio, Bexar County, Texas. HJN 120150. Horizon Environmental Services, Inc., Austin, Texas.
- 2012 Intensive Archeological Survey for the Proposed Brushy Creek Regional Trail Gap Project, Round Rock, Williamson County, Texas. HJN 080151. Horizon Environmental Services, Inc., Austin, Texas.
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- 2012 Intensive Cultural Resources Survey of the 1,102-Acre Creekside Park West Tract, Harris County, Texas (with Raymundo Chapa). HJN 100142. Horizon Environmental Services, Inc., Austin, Texas.
- 2012 Intensive Cultural Resources Survey of Two 0.9-Acre HDD Locations on the Trinity River, Madison and Houston Counties, Texas. HJN 120009.14. Horizon Environmental Services, Inc., Austin, Texas.

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- 2012 Intensive Cultural Resources Survey, One USACE Jurisdictional Area, Existing East Red Segment 1 Pipeline Maintenance Activities, Clay County, Missouri. HJN 120075. Horizon Environmental Services, Inc., Austin, Texas.
- 2012 Intensive Cultural Resources Survey, Two USACE Jurisdictional Area Dig Sites (#253 and #261) on the Existing Eskridge to Kearney Pipeline Maintenance Activities, Clay County, Missouri. HJN 120075. Horizon Environmental Services, Inc., Austin, Texas.
- 2012 Intensive Cultural Resources Survey for the Penn City Coal Expansion Project, Houston, Harris County, Texas. HJN 110097. Horizon Environmental Services, Inc., Austin, Texas.
- 2012 Intensive Cultural Resources Survey for the Lake Anahuac East Levee Project, Anahuac, Chambers County, Texas (with Sally Victor). HJN 120004. Horizon Environmental Services, Inc., Austin, Texas.
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#### **ACADEMIC PUBLICATIONS**

- n.d. "Dimensions of Variability at Baehr-Gust: Framing Hypotheses of Site Structure, Chronology, and Function." In *Papers in Memory of Howard Dalton Winters*, edited by Anne-Marie Cantwell and Lawrence A. Conrad. Center for American Archeology, Kampsville, Illinois (in press).
- 1995 Activity Organization and Site Function at a Late Middle Woodland Regional Center in the Lower Illinois Valley: Preliminary Investigations of Variability in Surface Scatters at the Baehr-Gust Site. M.A. Thesis, Department of Anthropology, New York University

## PAPERS PRESENTED AND PUBLIC LECTURES GIVEN AT PROFESSIONAL CONFERENCES

- 2003 "The Toyah of Southwestern Texas: The View from the Varga Site (41ED28)." Paper presented at the 74th Annual Meeting of the Texas Archeological Society, Fort Worth, Texas, October 24-26, 2003.
- "Alternate Hypotheses of Intrasite Chronology at the Baehr-Gust Site: A Factor Analysis of Surface Collections." Paper presented at the 62nd Annual Meeting of the Society for American Archaeology, Nashville, Tennessee, April 2-6, 1997.
- 1993 "Excavations at the Trinity Church Cemetery Site, Newark, New Jersey." Lecture presented at the 8th Annual Meeting of the Archaeological Society of New Jersey. September 1993.