

**CITY OF HOUSTON**



**PUBLIC WORKS AND  
ENGINEERING  
PLANNING & DEVELOPMENT  
DIVISION**

## **EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

### **Designated Property Location**

The “Designated Property” for which this Municipal Setting Designation (MSD) Application has been developed is GNR Recycling, LP which consists of two tracts located at 308 and 320 Hughes Street in Houston, Harris County, Texas (Designated Property).

The location of the Designated Property is shown on **Figure 1** in **Appendix B** and the layout of the Designated Property is shown on **Figure 4** in **Appendix B**. The Designated Property contains approximately 9.9574 acres and includes two tracts.

The Designated Property is an industrial scrap metal recycling complex. The Site consists of approximately four buildings, numerous storage bins, and large surface storage areas for scrap metals that encompass a majority of the Designated Property. The facility began operating at 308 Hughes Street in 2005 and at 320 Hughes Street in 2006 and has operated at the Designated Property to present. Historical uses of the property and surrounding area dates to the early 1900’s and there have been a multitude of different companies and industries on and around the Designated Property including automotive repair/fabrication, manufacturing parts, foundry work, tank manufacturing, diesel engine fabrication, and scrap metal distributors.

Property Ownership  
GNR Recycling, LP  
308 and 320 Hughes Street  
Houston, Texas 77023

Property Operator  
Spectrum Metal Recycling  
308 and 320 Hughes Street  
Houston, Texas 77023

### **Environmental Conditions**

Groundwater impacts at the Designated Property are documented from groundwater data collected from 10 permanent monitoring wells spanning three years of groundwater monitoring. The groundwater plumes identified at the Designated Property are historic in nature, and are likely not originating from the Designated Property. However, groundwater impact was identified in 2008 and 2009 through due diligence being performed by Spectrum. The Site is not eligible for an innocent owner defense because of the historic activities that have taken place at the Designated Property. The plumes are stable or decreasing based upon the assessments and investigations completed to date, the degradations of the plumes, the presence of daughter compounds, and the absence of a continuing active source that is leaching into the plumes. If the source of either plume was on-Site, it was removed prior to the investigations.



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There are possible off-Site sources that could be impacting the Designated Property groundwater; however, an innocent owner defense is not applicable to the Designated Property. Contamination in groundwater at the Designated Property exceeds the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ) Texas Risk Reduction Program (TRRP) Tier 1 residential assessment levels for chemicals of concern (COCs). COCs in bold have been identified at concentrations above the applicable residential ingestion protective concentration level (PCL). The remaining COCs were identified above the detection limit, but at concentrations below the applicable ingestion PCL:

- **Trichloroethylene**
- **Cis-1,2-Dichloroethylene**
- **Vinyl Chloride**
- **Arsenic**
- Benzene
- Sec-Butylbenzene
- 1,2,4-Trimethylbenzene
- 1,1-dichloroethylene
- 1,1-dichloroethane
- Perchloroethylene
- Trans-1,2-Dichloroethylene
- Antimony
- Beryllium
- Chromium
- Copper
- Lead
- Nickel
- Silver
- Zinc

Refer to **Tables 1 and 2** in **Appendix F** for specific values and assessment levels for soil and groundwater. No COCs exceed the non-ingestion PCLs for groundwater, while chromium, lead, and copper exceed the non-ingestion PCL in soil. Additional remediation is planned for these COCs after the MSD is approved.

Groundwater is first encountered beneath the Designated Property in the shallow water-bearing zone at depths of approximately 5.95 and 9.5 feet below ground surface (bgs). The groundwater flow direction at the Designated Property is to the south-southeast.

There are currently 10 groundwater monitoring wells at the Designated Property. No water wells used for potable purposes exist within the Designated Property. One groundwater bearing unit (GWBU) has been identified at the Designated Property. The local geological formations significantly reduce the potential for vertical migration of the COCs because of the interbedded clay aquitards encountered and ubiquitous in the local Houston geological formations.

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The impacted groundwater at the Site has is delineated horizontally on the Designated Property, however as these plumes are historic in nature, they migrate off-Site or are entering the Designated Property from off-Site.

The Designated Property and the area within 0.5 mile is serviced or is capable of being serviced by the City of Houston. There are a total of 663 water wells identified and owned by 358 different entities located within 5-miles of the Designated Property. There are 17 water wells located within the 0.5 mile water well search of the Designated Property.

There are no other jurisdictional boundaries within 0.5-mile of the Site other than the City of Houston. There are two municipalities, the City of Jacinto City, and the City of Galena Park that operate water wells within 5 miles of the Designated Property. There are a total of 82 reported Water Utility Database (WUD) drinking water wells operating within 5 miles of the Designated Property.

**Regulatory Setting**

Spectrum Metal Recycling has been in the TCEQ Voluntary Cleanup Program (VCP, ID No. 2243) since February 2008. The VCP acceptance letter from the TCEQ is included in **Appendix M**.