

Preface

The *Gulf Coast Hazardous Substance Research Center* (GCHSRC) was created by Section 118(I) SARA for the purpose of “conducting research to aid in more effective hazardous substance response and waste management throughout the Gulf Coast”. For each of FY89 and FY90, \$1.5 million was appropriated, and in FY91 and FY92, \$2.5 million was appropriated for GCHSRC as part of the EPA funding bill. Texas Senate Bill 39 (70th Session) created a parallel state organization for the four Texas universities in the consortium. For the 1988–89 and the 1990–91 biennium, a total of \$2.4 million (\$600,000 per year) was appropriated for the Texas Center by the Texas legislature. Funding for 1992–93 biennium is slightly less – \$1.16 million.

The consortium universities are Louisiana State University, Mississippi State University, Texas A&M University/TEES, The University of Alabama, University of Central Florida, University of Houston, University of Texas–Austin, and Lamar University.

The Center’s effort is concentrated in the areas of waste minimization and alternate technology development. This activity includes, in the broadest definition, process modifications, process engineering, and recycle reuse approaches. The technology program includes a number of projects on various aspects of biological treatment bioremediation, other physical and chemical methods as well as a multiuniversity, interdisciplinary effort on understanding the mechanisms of solidification/stabilization. A small portion of the program is devoted to an effort to support and enhance the application of technology. This activity is presently in the areas of biology, sociology, and microbiology.

The research is done by the faculties of the member universities on their campus. Proposals for research projects within the framework of the Center’s program are submitted by faculty members for review by the Science and Industry Advisory Committees. These committees advise the Center Director on the technical and scientific quality of the proposals and assist him in selecting the projects which will make up the program.

At this time, the Center has some 70 projects in progress in a joint federal, state, industry effort at the Texas Universities and a federal, industry supported research activity outside the state.

Each year during April as a part of its technology transfer program, GCHSRC hosts a symposium on a subject which is of major importance in the hazardous waste management field and which is within the research mandate of the Center. The 1989 subject was incineration with particular emphasis on trial burns, instrumentation and operations, while the 1990 meeting discussed Solidification/Stabilization — Mechanisms and Applications. In 1991, bioremediation was the subject which focused, as is the pattern for these meetings, on fundamentals and applications. Included as a major part of the Symposium is a poster session presenting all the research in progress within GCHSRC.

These Proceedings are the papers and summaries of the posters that have been presented at the Gulf Coast Hazardous Substance Research Center’s 1992 Symposium on Ground Water — The Problem and Some Solutions.

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