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| March 30, 2015 | Progress Report for Dewitt County  Spatial Analysis for DeWitt County Chemical Facilities |
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4. ***Introduction***

The South Texas Emergency Consulting would like to update you on the progress the agency has made on the emergency handbook we are building for DeWitt County. The purpose of the handbook is to create a guide for emergency response agencies to aid them in an event of a chemical disaster. We wanted to let you know we’re on track with our original time projection for the project and inform you of any changes or amendments since our previous meeting.

PURPOSE

Using geographical information science (GIS) to interpolate and correlate spatial objects using ArcGIS and CameoFM, we will build a database to be used in reference maps showing quickest routes to facilities and closest fire departments to chemical facilities. The maps included will show the most hazardous (EHS and H2S) chemical facilities within the county and will give information on: EHS inventory, emergency contact numbers, gate access information using street addresses and degrees of latitude and longitude, Alert 1 and Alert 2 information, address of facility, schools, hospitals or any other residential or commercial buildings in within close proximity to facilities and information as to where to set up road blocks in case of an Alert 1 or an Alert 2 emergency.

SCOPE

The scope of the project is within DeWitt County. The concentration is on EHS and H2S chemical facilities in the county. Other maps will include point references to non EHS and H2S facilities and include appropriate information for them within the handbook but, the concentration will be on these EHS and H2S facilities. There is a huge concern for these highly flammable and corrosive chemicals and a need for proper emergency contact and gate access information in an event of a spill. Not much has changed in the scope since the original proposal. More details about the project will be disclosed in the following pages.

1. ***Tasks***

Completed Tasks:

1. Data Collection and Software Download: One of our first tasks that we worked on was the collection, download, and organization of the data that was given to us or downloaded from outside sources. We obtained data from the Texas Department of State Health Services, the Texas State Data Center website, and the United States Census Bureau. This data included the TIGER line files, Tier II data, roads, county and city boundaries, rivers, lakes, schools, and more. The software that was downloaded was the entire CAMEO Suite, Marplot, and Aloha.
2. Project Proposal Writing: This task involved our team looking at the Request for Proposal that was given to us by the county and creating a proposal to match the needs of DeWitt County. We all took part in contributing to the proposal. The work involved included gathering information on literature relevant to our project, researching the best ways to deliver what is desired by the county, designing a company logo, creating a budget, and more.

Current Tasks:

1. Data Analysis: At this point in our project our main task is the analysis of the data that has already been collected. We are working on creating the buffers around each of the chemical facilities and linking the facilities with the chemicals that are located within them. We are working on doing a network analysis on the roads to find the fastest routes from the fire departments and emergency responders to each facility.

Future Tasks:

1. Design of Final Maps: After all of our data analysis is completed, the next step will be to put all of this information into easily readable maps, that include the chemical properties of each facility along with the analysis that we have done on the data.
2. Create Final PowerPoint: We will create a final PowerPoint to help show the final product that we have created for DeWitt County and to show some of the details about the emergency response handbooks that will be distributed to all of the first responders.
3. ***Timeline***

\*= Current date, as of PowerPoint presentation.

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=Change in timeline.

As of now our project is up to date and on track with our timeline. We will need an extra week to work on our analysis of the data. We hope to be able to make a difference in this community with our product and we are on schedule to make this happen.

1. ***Deliverables***

At the time of completion, South Texas Emergency Consulting will provide .pdf documents of the Chemical Release Quick Reference Guide to DeWitt County for emergency response organizations in the county. We will also provide hard copies of the reference guide to be distributed to the response agencies and a CD containing:

* Excel spreadsheets with facility and contact data
* All Shapefiles
* Metadata
* .pdf documents
* Power Point presentation

1. ***Conclusion***

Our progress up to this point has been satisfactory and we are on the right track to complete our chemical release handbook by the scheduled date. We have decided that we will need one additional week for data analysis, but other than that the schedule will be maintained from here on out. Our team has completed all of our data collection, downloaded the software necessary and have turned in our proposal for the project to the county. Currently we are working on the data analysis portion of the project. We still need to finish creating aesthetically pleasing maps for the handbook and a final PowerPoint presentation to exhibit our final deliverables.