

## MANAGING MULTI-PARTY CLEAN-UPS SUCCESSFULLY

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Resource Environmental LLC (RELLC) is a unique business model to manage petroleum release sites in which there are two or more potentially responsible parties. Formed in 2003 by five major integrated oil companies, RELLC incorporates principles of preventative law, total liability management and alternative dispute resolution in the management of petroleum fuel release sites in a way that promotes environmental stewardship, avoids commercial disputes (and by extension litigation), centralizes management, takes a holistic regional approach to site characterization, and leverages assets and expertise of its member companies. It has now been operational 8 years and has a proven track record of performance with over 16 complex projects located in 5 states. Over 50% are in their final stages of completion, with 2 -3 projects soon to be completed. Without exception, these projects are being managed successfully and meeting the desired goals and objectives of the member companies. It has added value to its member companies' remedial programs and has impressed regulators who have not been accustomed to seamless and effective multi-party site management. The stories of how these projects were executed and the lessons learned are well worth sharing.

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