

Collapse of Salt Mine Creates Massive Sinkhole in LA

Assumption Parish, LA
August 3, 2012

1 Problem

What	Problem(s)	Massive and still growing sinkhole, evacuated residents, potential for explosions from natural gas
When	Date	08/03/12
	Differences	Underground salt mine in area
Where	Physical Location	Assumption Parish, Louisiana

Impact to the Goals

Safety	Potential for injuries
Environmental	Large sinkhole formed
Customer Service	150 houses evacuated for months
Financial	Cost of emergency response and remediation

On August 3, 2012, a massive sinkhole appeared in Assumption Parish, Louisiana that continues to grow and evade easy answers. About 150 homes were evacuated and residents are still displaced more than seven months later.

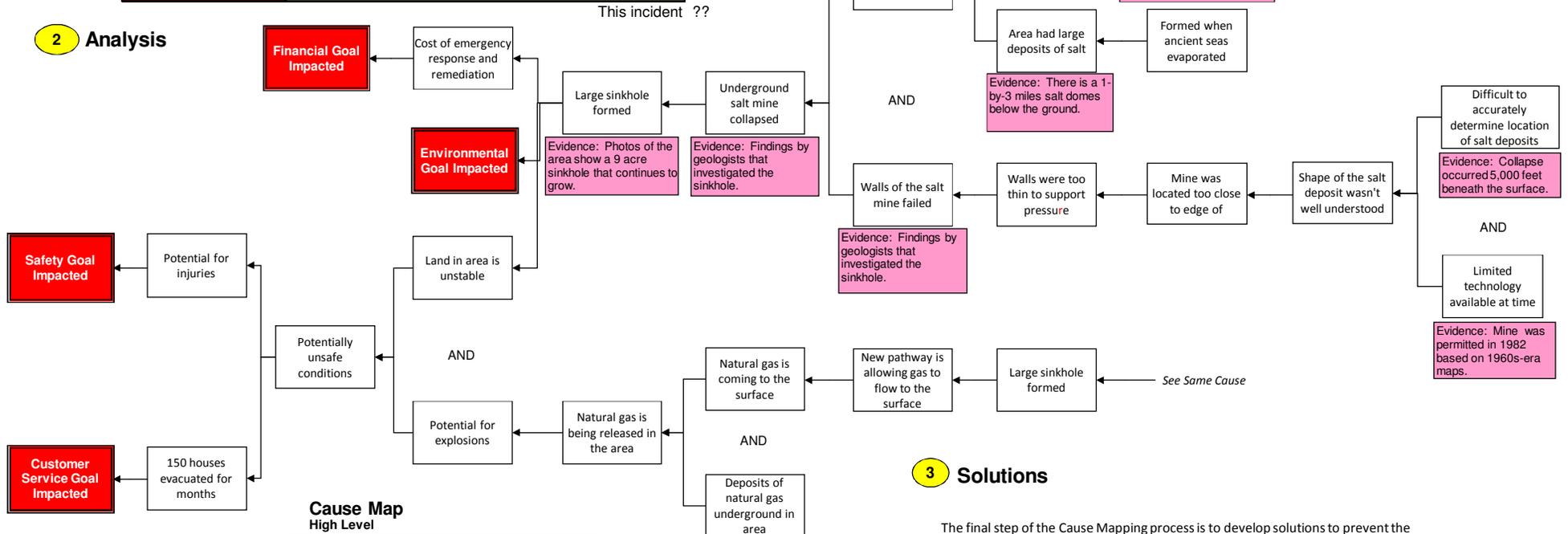
Cause Mapping is a Root Cause Analysis method that captures basic cause-and-effect relationships supported with evidence.

CAUSE MAPPING

Problem Solving • Incident Investigation • Root Cause

- Step 1 Problem** What's the
- Step 2 Analysis** Why did it
- Step 3 Solutions** What will

2 Analysis



3 Solutions

The final step of the Cause Mapping process is to develop solutions to prevent the problem from reoccurring. This is still an ongoing issue, but some steps have already been taken to help prevent future sinkholes from forming. Advances in technology have already improved understanding of underground deposits and will help in locating future mines. Another possible solution is regulation changes to require mines to be located farther from the edge deposit.

Cause Map
High Level

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