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## New Dominion puts roots into community

NEW DOMINION PUTS ROOTS INTO COMMUNITY

By Jack Money

Published: July 4, 2008

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The heart of New Dominion's [Oklahoma City](#) oilfield is in urban southeast Oklahoma City.

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[David Chernicky](#), president and chief executive of New Dominion, said his company buys and uses major street intersection corners within the field as directional drilling platforms, both for producing and injection wells.

New Dominion also has negotiated leases with nearby property owners, such as the [Salvation Army](#), which has a disaster recovery center next to New Dominion's drilling pad at SE 44 and Bryant Avenue.

There, Chernicky said he plans to build an outdoor athletics area for the nonprofit once drilling is done.

Chernicky said New Dominion-hired security officers work hard with Oklahoma City police to reduce area crime, that the company has joined at least one neighborhood association and

made drainage improvements on its leases to solve area flooding problems.

The company is creating a positive legacy for itself in the area, said [Allen Thompson](#), president of the Oakcliff neighborhood, near SE 44 and Bryant.

### Company takes interest in area

Thompson said a New Dominion representative attends nearly all of the association meetings, and that the company is responsive to residents' concerns. It even paid for extra security for the area for a time to help improve the area's safety, he said. "They've done just about everything they can do to help us out," he said.

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 The Oklahoma City field hasn't been a pushover. Two well problems within the past year have forced area residents to evacuate. In both cases, the company offered to put evacuees up in area hotels, its officials said.  
 Also, several recent area earthquakes prompted concerns New Dominion's activities were a contributing factor. The company agreed to buy the Oklahoma Geological Survey equipment for four seismic monitoring stations within the field.  
 Jim Lawson, chief geophysicist for the survey, said two of the stations are operating now, and said one provided a particularly good look at an area earthquake that happened about a month ago.  
 "This is the closest we ever had a station to an earthquake," he said this week, adding that there's no demonstrable connection between New Dominion's activities and the tremors.

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**Bob Griffith**, a field inspector for the [Oklahoma Corporation Commission's Oil & Gas Conservation Division](#), said New Dominion sets a high standard for going into old exploration areas and improving them.

"If you could have seen the area five years ago, the land there was so scarred" by past oilfield development, he said. "But New Dominion went in and redid all the soil, and what once was a salt-scarred section of land looks like a park today. It is just amazing, what they have done."

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