



**Department of
Toxic Substances
Control**

*The Mission of the
Department of
Toxic Substances
Control is to
provide the highest
level of safety, and
to protect public
health and the
environment from
toxic harm.*



State of California



**California
Environmental
Protection Agency**

Fact Sheet, September 2008

The Draft Cleanup Plan for LeyVa Middle School is Available for Public Review and Comment

The Evergreen Elementary School District (EESD) is cleaning up contaminated soil as part of their expansion project for the LeyVa Middle School site. The school is located at 1865 Monrovia Drive, San Jose, California. The area being proposed for cleanup is slightly less than one-acre and is located in the southwest corner of the campus.

During an environmental investigation for the expansion project, elevated levels of a pesticide (chlordane) and naturally occurring asbestos were found in the soil. The EESD submitted a draft cleanup plan, also known as a draft Removal Action Workplan (RAW), proposing cleanup activities for the project to the Department of Toxic Substances Control (DTSC).

DTSC is a part of the California Environmental Protection Agency. DTSC oversees soil and groundwater investigations at proposed new or expanding school sites, and evaluates the property for potential hazardous materials or contamination that may pose a risk to school children the staff or faculty. If contamination is found, DTSC oversees cleanup of the property. This fact sheet provides a brief summary of:

- Why Cleanup Is Necessary
- History and Operations at the Site
- Environmental Investigations
- Proposed Cleanup Options
- Safety & Dust Control During Cleanup
- Proposed Transportation Route for Trucks
- California Environmental Quality Act
- Next Steps
- Where to Find the Documents
- Who to Contact for Information

PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD

September 15, 2008 to October 15, 2008

Your participation is encouraged. The draft RAW and other related project documents for this site are available for review and public comment at the locations listed on page 3. A final decision will be made after all public comments have been reviewed and considered. Please submit written comments by October 15, 2008; or by email before the deadline date no later than 5 p.m. to:

Mary Gaspari
DTSC Project Manager
8800 Cal Center Drive
Sacramento, California, 95826
email: mgaspari@dtsc.ca.gov



Why Cleanup Is Necessary

There is no immediate health risk, but long term exposure to the contaminated soils does pose a human health risk. Before EESD can use the site to expand LeyVa Middle School, the contamination must be addressed.

Site History and Operations

Based on a historical review of the project area, the expansion area was used for agriculture prior to the development of the school. Residential development began in 1965, and by 1973 the school was in operation. The expansion area currently supports landscaping, an asphalt bus drop-off and driveway.

Environmental Investigations

The expansion area was investigated to evaluate possible impacts from: naturally occurring asbestos, past agricultural practices, pesticides applied as termiticides around existing structures, and lead from lead-based paint from existing structures. Soil samples were collected and analyzed for asbestos, arsenic, organochlorine pesticides, and lead. The results showed chlordane (a pesticide used for termites) exists in shallow soils on the southern side of a building at levels exceeding what is considered safe for human beings. Asbestos was also found in shallow fill that underlies the proposed project area.

Proposed Cleanup Options

The following three cleanup options were considered for this site:

Alternative 1 – No Action

Alternative 2 –Excavation, On-Site Consolidation, and Capping

Alternative 3 – Excavation and Off-Site Disposal of Impacted Soil

Based on careful analysis of the options, Alternative 3, *Excavation and Off-Site Disposal of Impacted Soil* is recommended because it protects human health and the environment, is permanent, and has a reasonable cost.

This alternative suggests that approximately 2,500 cubic yards (about 210 truckloads) of asbestos-containing soil and 7 cubic yards of pesticide-contaminated soil will be excavated and disposed of at an appropriate off-site disposal facility. The cleanup would take place during the winter school break scheduled for December 20, 2008 through January 4, 2009.

Confirmation soil samples would be taken from the excavated area to ensure that the contaminated soil had been adequately removed. The field activities would be implemented using readily available standard construction equipment.

Safety & Dust Control During Cleanup

The following actions would be implemented during this process to ensure public safety and minimize dust:

- Install temporary fencing with windscreens for security and dust control;
- Drive all vehicles at slow speeds while on the property;
- Spray work areas with clean water prior to and during excavation to control and minimize dust;
- Loaded truck beds would be wetted with water and covered before leaving the site;
- Prior to leaving the site, trucks would be cleaned to remove soil and debris;
- Outside air monitoring would occur to ensure the levels of airborne dust and asbestos do not exceed acceptable levels;
- Site work would stop or additional measures would be implemented if air monitors detect elevated levels of airborne dust or asbestos;
- During the course of the excavation activities, windows and doors of the buildings fronting the expansion area would be closed off and sealed with plastic and tape; and
- The ventilation systems would be turned off during the excavation activities.

Proposed Transportation Route for Trucks

Contaminated soil (about 40 truckloads per day) will be transported from the site to a licensed disposal facility. Loaded trucks would exit the site on Monrovia Drive and proceed west, or would exit the site on Corda Drive and proceed south. From Corda Drive the trucks would make a right on to Monrovia Drive. From Monrovia Drive the trucks would make a right onto King Road. The trucks would turn left at Tully Road. Highway 101 will be accessed from Tully road. Trucks would attempt to avoid the major commute times and avoid residential areas as much as possible. Due to the short time frame, trucks may travel all days of the week, including Sunday, between the hours of 7 am and 10 pm.

California Environmental Quality Act

In compliance with the California Environmental Quality Act, DTSC has prepared a draft Notice of Exemption (NOE) for this project. The draft NOE states that the proposed cleanup will not have significant impacts on the environment.

Next Steps

At the close of the public comment period, DTSC will review and consider all comments and make any necessary revisions to the draft RAW. Also, a Response to Comments document will be mailed to everyone who makes a comment and provides their name and address, anyone who requests a copy, and at the information repositories established for this project.

Where to Find the Documents

The draft RAW and other related documents for the LeyVa project are available for review at the following locations:

Evergreen Branch Library

2635 Aborn Road
San José, California, 95121
(408) 808-3060

Please call for days and hours of operation.

Department of Toxic Substances Control

8800 Cal Center Drive
Sacramento, California, 95826.
Please call (916) 255-3758 to setup an appointment to review the files.

Evergreen District Office

3188 Quimby Road
San Jose, CA 95148
(408) 270-6800

LeyVa Middle School

1865 Monrovia Drive
San Jose, Ca 95122
(408) 270-4993

Information regarding the project can also be viewed electronically at: <http://www.envirostor.dtsc.ca.gov/public>. Once at the site, type the word 'San Jose' in the box titled 'city' and hit the 'Get Report' key. You will be given several projects to choose from. Choose the project called 'LeyVa Middle School'. Take the cursor to the 'Report' field and click the mouse once. Highlight the 'Community Involvement' button and hit 'enter'. The screen will provide you with several documents available for review.

Who to Contact for Information

If you have any questions about the project or cleanup activities, please contact:

Ms. Mary Gaspari
DTSC Project Manager
8800 Cal Center Drive
Sacramento, California, 95826
(916) 255-6423
mgaspari@dtsc.ca.gov

Ms. Heidi Nelson
DTSC Public Participation Specialist
8800 Cal Center Drive
Sacramento, California, 95826
(916) 255-3575
hnelson@dtsc.ca.gov

Media Inquiries:

Ms. Claudia Loomis
DTSC Public Information Officer
8800 Cal Center Drive
Sacramento, California, 95826
(916) 255-6578
cloomis@dtsc.ca.gov

Notice to Hearing-Impaired Individuals

You can obtain additional information about the site by using the California State Relay Service at 1 (888) 877 5378 (TDD). Ask them to contact Ms. Mary Gaspari regarding the LeyVa project.

COMMENT FORM AND MAILING COUPON

LeyVa Middle School

San Jose, California

You may use this sheet to:

- send us your comments
- be added to or taken off the mailing list

If you use this form to send us your comments, please include your name and address.

All written comments must be postmarked no later than October 15, 2008. Please send this form to:

**Ms. Mary Gaspari
Project Manager
Department of Toxic Substances Control
8800 Cal Center Drive
Sacramento, California, 95826**

You may also email this same information to: mgaspari@dtsc.ca.gov

Please take me off the mailing list

Please add me to the mailing list

Name: _____

Address: _____

Affiliation (if any): _____

Phone number (optional) _____

Comments: (If you need more space, please feel free to use another sheet of paper)

DTSC's mailing lists are only used for keeping you informed of our activities. However, they are considered public records and, if requested, may be subject to release.