



CALIFORNIA ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

NEWS RELEASE

Department of Toxic Substances Control

T-05-98
March 12, 1998
For Immediate Release

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Former McNamara and Peepe Lumber Mill Remedial Action Certified

SACRAMENTO -- The California Environmental Protection Agency's Department of Toxic Substances Control (DTSC) today announced certification of the hazardous waste cleanup activities at the former McNamara and Peepe Lumber Mill located at 1619 Glendale Drive near Arcata in Humboldt County.

The former 26 acre McNamara and Peepe Lumber Mill, has operated as a lumber manufacturing facility since the 1950's. Currently, a bankruptcy trustee controls the property on behalf of McNamara and Peepe Corporation. Blue Lake Forest Products is the current site operator.

Certification means that DTSC has reviewed the cleanup and concluded that the remedial action at the site has been completed. Certification was issued on March 9, 1998.

Total costs for work at the site, \$1.3 million, was paid under a U.S. District Court sanctioned settlement agreement between DTSC, McNamara and Peepe Corporation, other previous site owners / operators and Blue Lake Forest Products.

During previous operations at the site, solutions with pentachlorophenol (PCP) and tetra chlorophenol (TCP) were applied to lumber to prevent growth of mold and fungus during shipping. PCP and TCP remain in the soil beneath the green chain; a conveyor system which carries lumber from the sawmill and serves as an area where lumber is sorted according to size.

A steel reinforced concrete cap was designed and constructed over contaminated soils to prevent human contact and to stop the infiltration of rainwater. Ongoing monitoring and maintenance activities will be required including; periodic sampling of groundwater and surface water drainage in the green chain area in addition to periodic inspections and repair of the cap when necessary.

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