

Work Notice
August 2001

DTSC to Resume Sampling Around Mobile Smelting, United Street and Reed Avenue

MOJAVE, CALIFORNIA

*It is DTSC's
mission to protect
public health
and the
environment
from
harmful exposure
to hazardous
substances.*

Introduction

California Environmental Protection Agency, Department of Toxic Substances Control (DTSC) has prepared this fact sheet to inform you of upcoming soil sampling to be conducted in areas around the former Mobile Smelting facility (Mobile). Mobile, located at the corner of Reed Avenue and United Street, is in south Mojave, California. See the map on page two for the locations of sampling and Mobile.

Mobile began operation in 1961 doing automobile restoration. These operations ended in 1970. Beginning sometime in the 1960s, operations expanded to include aluminum and copper recovery ending in 1983, resuming in 1986, and concluding in 1992.

DTSC signed a consent order with Alpert and Alpert, one of the parties partially responsible for conditions at Mobile. DTSC intends this sampling to be the last investigation step before the preparing of the Remedial Investigation/ Feasibility Study (RI/FS) later this year. The RI/FS is a report on a series of investigations and studies to identify the types and extent of chemicals of concern in the environment (Remedial Investigation). It also provides an evaluation of the alternatives for remediating any identified soil or groundwater problems (Feasibility Study). As DTSC reviews the RI/FS, DTSC will send out a fact sheet.

State of California



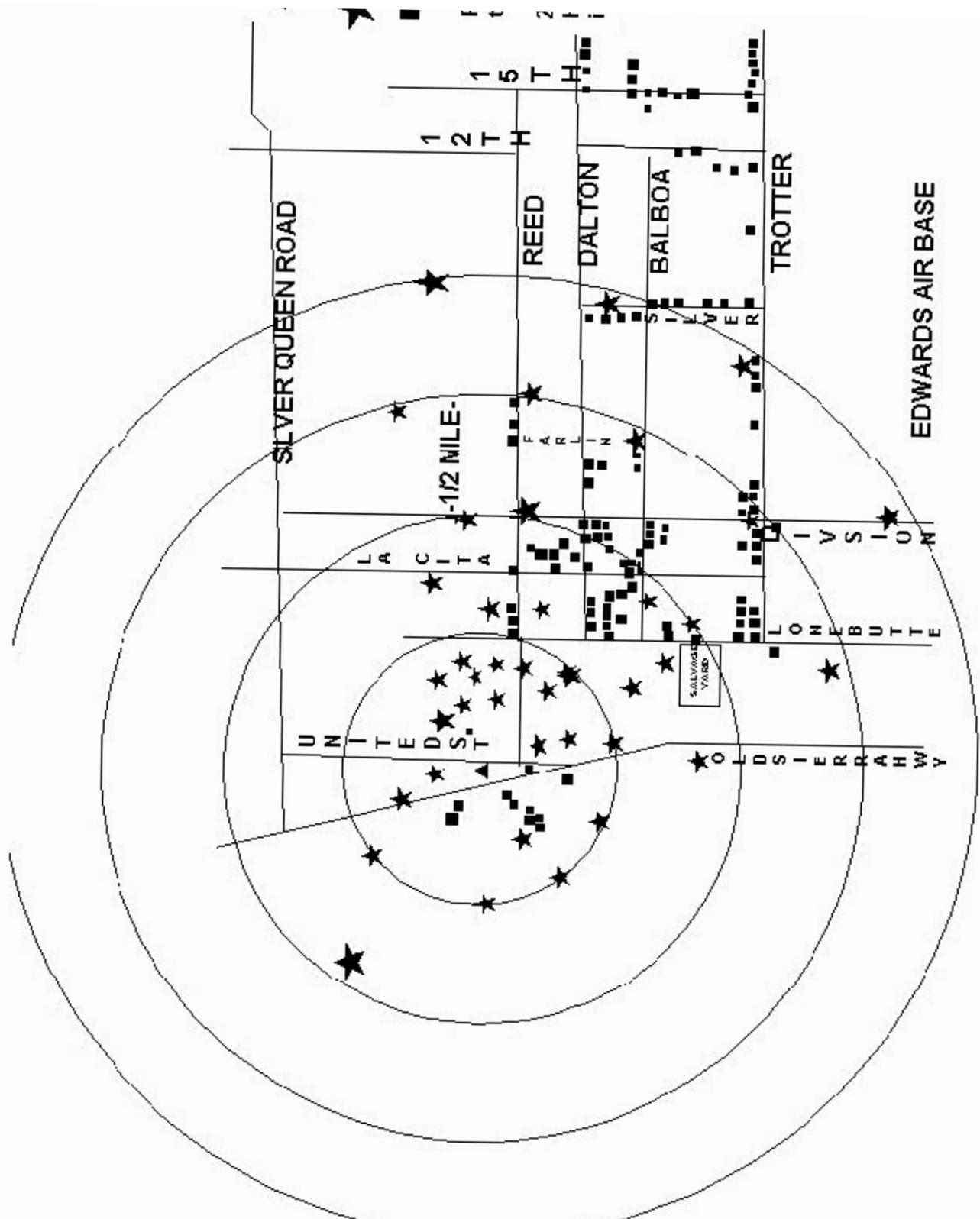
California
Environmental
Protection Agency



Off-Site Sampling Will Ensure Complete Clean-up

The purpose of this sampling will be to assess the amount and extent of dioxin that may be deposited in locations off-site from Mobile in preparation for final clean-up actions. Earlier sampling done in 1991 shows dioxin present at below the health based action levels of one part per billion. Scientific reassessment of dioxin suggests that the chemical dioxin may be more toxic than previously thought. DTSC is considering the current scientific analysis on dioxin and plans to determine the extent of dioxin present below the 1 part per billion level.

The energy challenge facing California is real. Every Californian needs to take immediate action to reduce energy consumption. For a list of simple ways you can reduce demand and cut your energy costs, see our website at www.dtsc.ca.gov.



EDWARDS AIR BASE

DTSC has requested access from a number of land owners in the area targeted for sampling. After access agreements are signed, sampling will begin. About thirty-six soil samples will be collected to assess the amount of dioxin present at vacant lots and homes downwind of Mobile. Sampling will also assess the amount of dioxin deposited along the three major water courses downstream of Mobile. Also, samples will assess background dioxin concentration in the area (taken at the intersection of Highway 14 and Highway 58). With the exception of the background samples, all samples will be collected within two miles of Mobile. Workers in contact with potentially contaminated soils will wear lightweight, white disposable coveralls and latex gloves.

For Further Information

Please contact DTSC staff listed below:

Ruben Medina Nathan Schumacher
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Media contact: Ron Baker at (916) 324-3142

Hours of Work

The sampling activity will start at 5 a.m. and continue until 3 p.m. for about seven days.

Notice to Hearing Impaired Individuals:

TDD users can obtain additional information about Mobile and the sampling by using the California State Relay Service (1-888-877-5378) and asking to reach Nathan Schumacher at (916) 255-3650.

Mailing List Coupon

If your name and address are on the mailing label, then you are on the mailing list for Mobile. **If not, or if your label says "Highway Route 39" and you wish to be added to the mailing list, please fill out this coupon and send it to Nathan Schumacher, DTSC, 8800 Cal Center Drive, Sacramento, CA 95826.**

Name: _____

Mailing Address: _____

City, State, Zip: _____

DTSC mailing lists are solely for the purpose of keeping persons informed of DTSC activities. Mailing lists are routinely released to outside parties. However, they are considered public records and, if requested, may be subject to release.

Check this box if you have address changes