



NOTICE OF PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD

DRAFT REMOVAL ACTION WORKPLAN PROPOSED NEW CENTURY HIGH SCHOOL ALHAMBRA, CALIFORNIA

PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD: FEBRUARY 22 TO MARCH 22, 2010

WHAT IS BEING PROPOSED?

A draft plan to remove contaminated soil from a portion of Alhambra Unified School District's (AUSD) proposed new Century High School (Site) located at 20 and 24 South Marengo Avenue in Alhambra is available for public review and comment. The plan, called a draft Removal Action Workplan (RAW), details how AUSD plans to remove soil contaminated with volatile organic compounds (VOCs) including benzene, ethylbenzene, xylene, and tetrachloroethylene (PCE) from 0.16 acres of the 1.14-acre Site.

The California Department of Toxic Substances Control (DTSC) is responsible for overseeing environmental reviews and cleanup actions of proposed sites for new schools and existing school expansion projects throughout the state. DTSC will ensure that mitigation and cleanup activities for this project are conducted in accordance with state and federal laws and regulations.

The proposed Site was vacant land until the 1950s when the AUSD Transportation Facility was constructed, and when an Adult and Continuing Educational Center was constructed in the 1960s in the current location of the Site. Based on review of available information, the proposed Site has historically been used for transportation maintenance and educational purposes. The proposed Site is bordered by Goudy Honda to the north, Marengo Avenue to the west, portions of the existing Century High School campus and AUSD Transportation Facility to the south, and All Souls Church to the east. The environmental investigations recently completed at the Site detected elevated concentrations of fuel hydrocarbons (benzene, ethylbenzene, and xylene) in soil matrix and soil gas samples collected up to 25 feet below the ground surface (bgs) in the former Gasoline Underground Storage Tank Area and PCE in soil gas samples and soil matrix samples collected approximate 15 feet bgs in the southern portion of the Materials Storage Area. As a result of the environmental investigations, AUSD recommended that a plan be developed to cleanup the contaminated soil prior to Site development under DTSC's oversight. The draft RAW proposes that approximately 411 cubic yards (about 30 truckloads) of soil contaminated with VOCs be excavated using a backhoe, bulldozer, tracked excavator, shovels or other types of earth moving equipment, as necessary, to depths up to approximately 25 feet bgs, and removed off-site for disposal at a state licensed and approved Disposal and/or Treatment Facility.

Notice of Exemption (NOE): DTSC has prepared a draft NOE pursuant to the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) for this project which states that the project will not have a negative effect on the human health and the environment.

HOW DO I PARTICIPATE?

The interested community is provided an opportunity to learn more about the project and provide comments to DTSC about the draft RAW during a thirty (30) day public comment period that starts on February 22 and ends on March 22, 2010. Your comments may be submitted in writing to Ms. Christina Fu, DTSC Public Participation Specialist, 5796 Corporate Avenue, Cypress, CA 90630. Comments must be postmarked by **March 22, 2010**.

WHERE DO I GET MORE INFORMATION?

The draft RAW and other project documents are available for review at Alhambra Unified School District, 1515 West Mission Road, Alhambra; and Alhambra Public Library, 410 West Main Street, Alhambra. Also, all site documents and the full Administrative Record pertaining to this project are available for review during office hours at the DTSC Regional Records Office, 5796 Corporate Avenue, Cypress, CA 90630. Contact Ms. Julie Johnson at (714) 484-5337 for an appointment.

CONTACT:

If you have any questions or wish to discuss the project, please contact Ms. Christina Fu, DTSC Public Participation Specialist, at (714) 484-5488 or Toll Free (866) 495-5651 [Press 4 twice for Christina Fu] or email: cfu@dtsc.ca.gov; or Ms. Rana Georges, DTSC Project Manager, at (714) 484-5320 or email: rgeorges@dtsc.ca.gov. For DTSC media inquiries, please contact Ms. Jeanne Garcia at (818) 717-6573 or email: jgarcia1@dtsc.ca.gov. For information on DTSC, visit our web site: www.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 to speak to Christina Fu at (714) 484-5488 regarding the project.