

COMMUNITY Notice

The mission of DTSC is to protect California's people and environment from harmful effects of toxic substances through the restoration of contaminated resources, enforcement, regulation and pollution prevention.

Update on Chatham Brothers Barrel Yard, Escondido, California

Para información en español por favor comuníquese con Marina Perez al número (818) 717-6569 3315.

This fact sheet is an update about the Chatham Brothers Barrel Yard (Yard), which is a former solvent and waste oil recycling facility located at 2257 Bernardo Avenue, Escondido, San Diego County, California.

In recent months, a number of local community members have requested information from DTSC regarding the status of the groundwater contamination associated with the Yard. Due to past industrial activities, contaminated groundwater extends from the Yard to Felicita County Park. In response to community concerns, DTSC is sending out this fact sheet, and has set up a community meeting for the evening of Tuesday, September 30, 2014 (Please see meeting information across page).

The Yard is approximately 5 acres in size and is within a 35 acre parcel previously owned by the Chatham Family (and now controlled by the generator group that is remediating the site). Historic operations conducted at the Yard included: a waste oil recycling and bulk petroleum distributing plant, reclamation of industrial solvents, storage and distribution of solvents and waste oils, operation of a recycling still, and production of a blend of solvents commercially sold as "HiKleen." The Yard has been unoccupied since the removal of the Chatham Brothers' equipment in 1981.

Cleanup operations at the Yard have been extensive. The State began investigation of the Yard in the 1980's. This led to excavation and disposal of the contaminated soil off site. Following installation of a soil cover, a soil vapor extraction (SVE) system cleaned up the near surface volatile organic compound (VOC) soil contamination. DTSC sued all of the parties responsible for the contamination at the Yard. One of those suits led to a Consent Decree in 1999 that requires the Generator Group to implement the Remedial Action Plan for the Chatham Site. The Generator Group's implementation of pump and treat groundwater remediation and groundwater monitoring are ongoing. If monitoring shows that treatment is necessary, private water well owners are being offered well head treatment.

Low levels of chemical contamination have been found in Felicita Creek at Felicita Park. This water contamination has been found to be significantly below levels that might be expected to have any impact on people, including children who might come into contact with creek water.

PUBLIC MEETING



Please come and join DTSC and representatives from other public agencies at a community meeting to be held on Tuesday, September 30, 2014 from 6:30 p.m. to 9 p.m., located at:

California Center for the Arts
Escondido
340 N. Escondido Blvd.,
Escondido, CA 92025

For further information about the upcoming public meeting, and if you require disability meeting access information, please contact the DTSC Project Manager Hossein Nassiri at (714) 484-5384, hossein.nassiri@dtsc.ca.gov.



The main contaminants at the Yard include Volatile Organic Compounds (VOCs) such as Trichloroethylene (TCE), 1,1,1-Trichloroethane (1,1,1-TCA), Tetrachloroethylene (PCE), and Vinyl Chloride; Semi-Volatile Organic Compounds (SVOCs) such as Bis(2-ethylhexyl)phthalate; Polychlorinated biphenyls (PCBs) and some metals listed in the California Code of Regulations (CCR), Title 22.

Some of the VOC contaminants have made it into a groundwater plume that extends from the Yard. A large mass of contamination has been removed, and the contamination in groundwater continues to be removed. How and if the contaminated groundwater plume will move depends on several factors such as: the fractured bedrock geology in the area, the amount of rain, and private well extraction rates. The contamination continues to be closely monitored to ensure that public health and the environment remain protected.

Next Steps: Cleanup of the site continues today to ensure the safety of the community. Currently, groundwater data is collected in selected wells twice a year and once a year in other wells. This data is evaluated to determine whether additional immediate active remediation is necessary. The remedy is reviewed every five years (5-Year Review) and may be modified if current remedies are not performing as expected.

More than 6000 pounds of VOCs have been removed from groundwater and soil. Additional water supply wells have been added to the monitoring network to evaluate the migration of the plume in both the shallow and deep zones. DTSC and the San Diego Regional Water Quality Control Board (SDRWQCB) have requested that the Generator Group distribute groundwater quality data to those water supply well owners whose wells are sampled.

DTSC and the SDRWQCB have requested a proposal from the Generator Group to investigate potential groundwater contaminant migration pathways from the Yard to Felicita Creek in an effort to stop or decrease the release of site contaminants to the creek.

Where to Find Project Documents

The review of Yard related project documents can be found at the following locations:

Escondido Library

239 S. Kalmia Street
Escondido, CA 92025
(760) 839-4684

DTSC File Room

5796 Corporate Avenue, Cypress, CA 90630
Monday - Friday, 8 a.m. - 5 p.m.
Contact Jone Barrio, phone: (714) 484-5336.

You can also visit the DTSC EnviroStor website at:

http://www.envirostor.dtsc.ca.gov/public/profile_report.asp?global_id=37490029

Who to Contact for More Information

For more information about the Report, please contact the following DTSC representatives:

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