



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 2010

Draft Removal Action Workplan for VenVirotek Soil Stockpiles for Public Review

The Department of Toxic Substances Control (DTSC) is proposing a cleanup plan for the VenVirotek soil stockpiles site located at the Arvin Sanitary Landfill facility: an inactive landfill, under the management of the Kern County Waste Management Department (KCWMD), located at 5500 North Wheeler Ridge Road in Arvin, California 93203. On behalf of the KCWMD, AMEC Geomatrix, Inc. has prepared a draft Removal Action Workplan (RAW) for the VenVirotek soil stockpiles removal activities to be performed under the oversight of the DTSC. The draft RAW describes in detail the previous investigations and the proposed cleanup activities for the site.

Environmental investigations found concentrations of soluble lead in a portion of one of the soil stockpiles at the former VenVirotek Inc. site, located at the Arvin Sanitary Landfill facility, that exceed hazardous waste criteria. DTSC is approving the KCWMD proposal to treat the soil so the soluble lead concentrations no longer exceed hazardous waste criteria and the soil meets acceptance criteria for use as a foundation material for the landfill during closure. Following the soil treatment, the soil will be covered by an engineered landfill cover approved by the California Regional Water Quality Control Board.

This fact sheet provides you with the following information:

- RAW public comment period
- Site investigations and background information
- Cleanup plan(s) proposed in the RAW
- California Environmental Quality Act Notice of Exemption

PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD

September 15, 2010 to October 15, 2010

DTSC encourages you to review and comment on the draft RAW. DTSC is holding a 30-day public comment period, which runs from **September 15, 2010 through October 15, 2010**. All comments must be postmarked or received by **October 15, 2010**.

Submit your comments to:

Joseph Ernest
DTSC Project Manager
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Clovis, California 93611
JErnest@dtsc.ca.gov



Site Description and History

The VenVirotek site is located in the southwest corner of the Arvin Sanitary Landfill in Kern County, California. The site is currently unoccupied, is about 5 acres in size, and includes three soil stockpiles totaling about 100,000 cubic yards of soil. The landfill is surrounded by a six foot cyclone fence and access is provided through the locked gate at the entrance to the landfill. There are no buildings on the site.

In 1992 VenVirotek, Inc. leased a portion of the southwest corner of the Arvin Sanitary Landfill facility from KCWMD to operate a treatment process for oil field residual soil. The process consisted of using cement and other additives for chemical treatment. The treated soil was intended for use as alternative daily soil cover for the Arvin Sanitary Landfill. VenVirotek, Inc. ceased operations in 1997 leaving three stockpiles of treated and untreated soil at the site. The site is currently vacant and is unused. KCWMD plans to close the landfill by installing an engineered cover over the sections of the landfill that contain waste.

Site investigations

The results of samples collected from the stockpiles in 2000 through 2005 indicated that about 10,000 cubic yards of soil, contained in the center of the largest soil stockpile, contained elevated concentrations of soluble lead, soluble selenium and volatile organic chemicals (VOCs) that exceeded the soil acceptance criteria for disposal in the Arvin Sanitary Landfill. In some cases, the concentrations of soluble lead also exceeded hazardous waste criteria. In 2005, KCWMD entered into a voluntary cleanup agreement with the DTSC for treatment of the soil to reduce the concentrations of soluble lead, to concentrations less than the hazardous waste threshold (Soil Treatment Objective).

Groundwater beneath the site occurs at depths between about 73 and 97 feet below ground surface. Numeric modeling of potential migration of soluble lead in soil placed in the landfill was conducted in 2005. The results of the modeling indicated that soluble lead migration from soil disposed of in the landfill that had been treated to meet the soil acceptance criteria would be unlikely to affect groundwater.

Human Health and Ecological Risks

A Human Health Risk Assessment (HRA) was completed in December 2008. The HRA determined that soil that had been treated to meet the soil acceptance criteria for the landfill and placed under the landfill cover would not pose a significant risk to future users of the closed landfill, with the exception of any residential users placed on the capped waste cells. No residential uses are planned for the landfill. A deed restriction to prevent future residential use of the landfill will be implemented. The HRA also included a screening-level ecological risk assessment that found management measures are in place to protect potentially sensitive biological receptors.

Draft Removal Action Workplan

The objective of a RAW is to evaluate cleanup alternatives and to identify a preferred alternative which prevents or reduces potential risks to public health and the environment. A RAW summarizes previous studies and identifies the possible cleanup alternatives. Cleanup alternatives are studied and evaluated on the basis of their effectiveness, ability to be carried out, and associated cost. A RAW then identifies the alternative remedy that DTSC recommends and considers as the most appropriate for the site.

Before DTSC makes a final decision to approve, modify, or deny a RAW, it is made available for public comment during a 30-day public comment period. All comments are reviewed and considered before the RAW is approved.

Proposed Cleanup Options

Three cleanup alternatives were evaluated for the VenVirotek soil stockpiles;

- Alternative 1: Passive Remediation
- Alternative 2: Off-site Landfilling
- Alternative 3: Soil Treatment to meet the Soil Treatment Objective

DTSC Cleanup Recommendation

Based on the evaluation of the cleanup alternatives, DTSC recommends Alternative 3, Soil Treatment to Meet the Soil Treatment Objective.

This alternative offers excellent long term protection of the community, can be readily implemented as part of the landfill closure, and allows restricted future use of the property appropriate for a closed landfill.

Safety and Dust Control During Cleanup

The following activities would be performed under the DTSC recommended alternative:

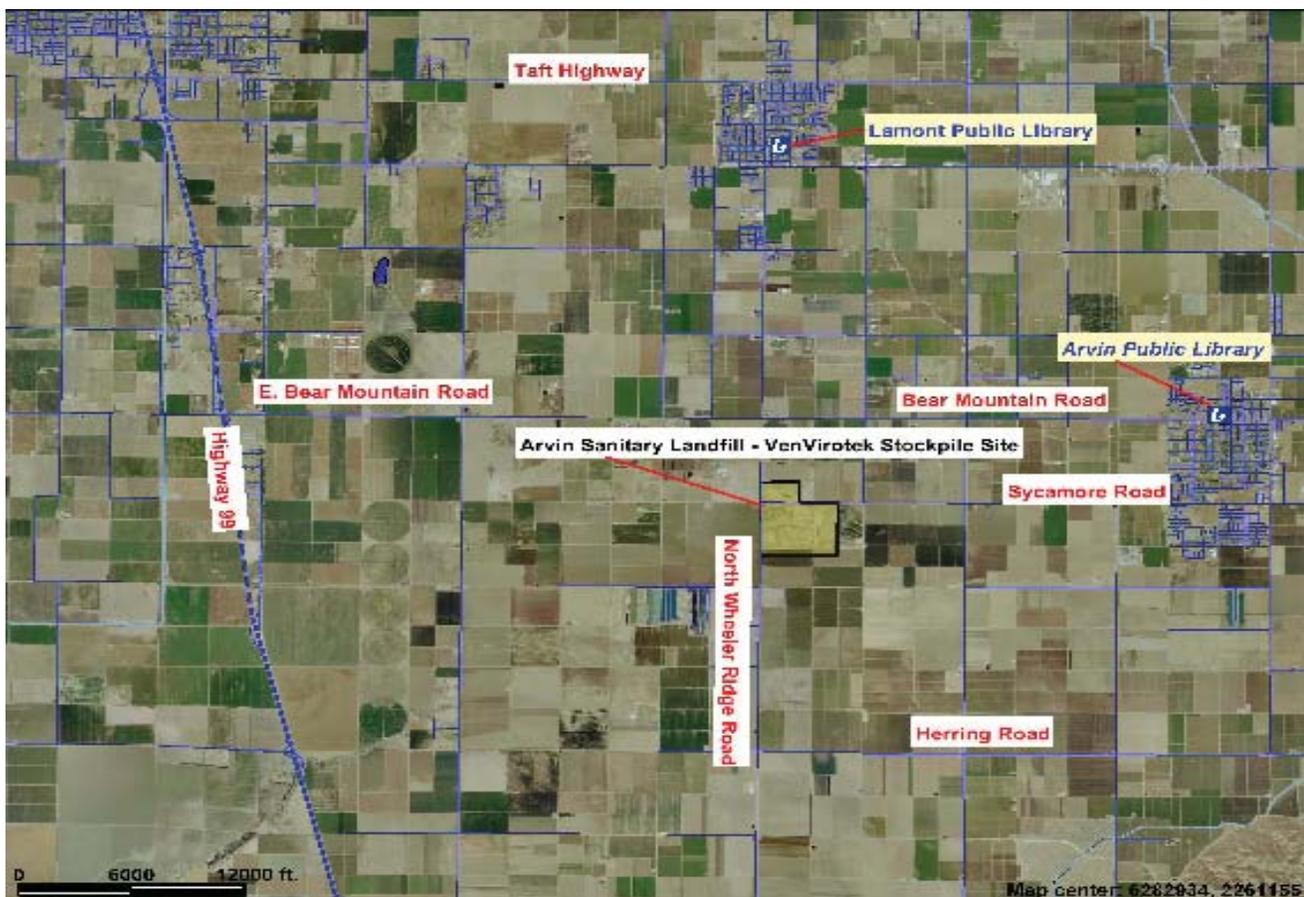
- Soil would be excavated from the portion of the one soil stockpile with concentrations of chemicals exceeding soil acceptance criteria for the landfill.
- Dust emissions during excavation and soil handling would be suppressed using a water spray.
- Airborne dust and VOC measurements would be collected throughout the daytime work schedule to insure the dust suppression is being conducted successfully and to insure health and safety criteria for on-site workers described in the RAW are met.
- The soil would be placed on an area of the landfill prepared for soil treatment.
- The soil would be mixed with borrow soil from an unaffected portion of the landfill to aerate the soil to remove residual VOCs and to

take advantage of the of the cation exchange capacity of the borrow soil for fixing soluble lead. DTSC has reviewed supportive data that establish the appropriate blending ratio to accomplish the cation exchange treatment.

- Treated soils would be tested to assure the Soil Treatment Objective had been met.
- Treated soils meeting the Soil Treatment Objective would be placed on a designated area on the landfill to serve as foundation material for the engineered cover to be placed on the landfill during closure.

Proposed Schedule and Truck Route

Once the draft RAW has been approved, soil excavation activities will likely begin during winter of 2011. Excavation and treatment activities are expected to last about two months and will occur during daylight hours, up to seven days per week. Trucks transporting soil from the excavation to the treatment area will use routes entirely within the landfill.



California Environmental Quality Act

Notice of Exemption

In compliance with the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), DTSC has prepared a draft Notice of Exemption (NOE) for this project. The draft NOE states that this removal action will not have significant impacts on the environment. The draft NOE is available for public review in the information repositories.

Next Steps

DTSC will review and consider comments received during the 30-day public comment period before making a final decision to approve, modify or deny the draft RAW. If comments are received from the community on the draft RAW's proposed activities, DTSC will prepare a "Response to Comments" at the completion of the public comment period. Anyone who submits comments will receive a copy of the "**Response to Comments.**" Additionally, a copy of the "**Response to Comments**" will be placed in the Information Repositories.

Information Repositories

Kern County Waste Management Department
2700 M Street, Suite 500
Bakersfield, California 93301
Contact: Katrina A. Slayton
(661) 862-8810

Beale Memorial Library
701 Truxtun Avenue
Bakersfield, California 93301
(661) 868-0701

Arvin Public Library
201 Campus Drive
Arvin, California 93203
(661) 854-5934

Lamont Public Library
8304 Segre Road
Lamont, California 93241
(661) 845-3471

DTSC – File Room
1515 Tollhouse Road
Clovis, California 93611
(559) 297-3901

For More Information

For questions about the cleanup, please contact:

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(559) 297-3942
JErnest@dtsc.ca.gov

For questions regarding the public participation process, please contact:

Veronica Lopez-Villaseñor, DTSC
Public Participation Specialist
8800 Cal Center Drive
Sacramento, California 95826
(916) 255-3651 or 1(866)495-5651
VLopezvi@dtsc.ca.gov

For media questions, please contact:

Jeanna Garcia,
DTSC Public Information Officer
JGarcia1@dtsc.ca.gov
(818) 717-6573

Additional Site information may also be found on at: http://www.envirostor.dtsc.ca.gov/public/profile_report.asp?global_id=15990003 or

DTSC EnviroStor at: <http://www.envirostor.dtsc.ca.gov/public/> and enter "Arvin" for the city, click "Get Report," then click "Report" or "MAP" next to "VENVIROTEK."

For additional information about DTSC, please visit our website at www.dtsc.ca.gov

Notice For Hearing Impaired

TDD users can use the California Relay Service
(1-888-877-5378) to reach
Veronica Lopez-Villaseñor at (916) 255-3651