



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



Cal/EPA

Fact Sheet, March 2008

Future Gregori High School Draft Removal Action Workplan Available for Public Review

(Public Comment Period: March 18 to April 18, 2008)

Para información en Español llame a Jesús Cruz 1 (866) 495-5651

Introduction

Modesto City Schools (MCS) is planning to build a new school, the future Joseph A. Gregori High School, located at 5518 Stoddard Road, Modesto, California (see map on page 5). During an environmental investigation for the project, elevated levels of pesticides and arsenic were found in the soil. Gasoline and related compounds were also found in the soil and shallow groundwater within a localized area of the site. The school district has submitted a draft cleanup plan, also known as a Removal Action Workplan (RAW), which proposes cleanup activities for the site. The draft RAW is available for your review at public information repositories listed on page 4 of this fact sheet.

Site History and Background

The 80-acre site was used as an orchard and for growing row crops since at least the early 1940s. A 1.5-acre portion of the site, located in the southwest corner of the property, contained residential and farm-support structures. The residential area included a single-family home with two detached garages, a swimming pool, and a drinking water well. The farm-support area included a large wooden barn, an equipment garage, a shed, a pesticide mixing area, and

(Public Comment Period: March 18 to April 18, 2008)

DTSC encourages comments on the draft RAW for the new Joseph Gregori High School site. DTSC will hold a 30-day public comment period beginning March 18, and ending on April 18, 2008. DTSC will make a final decision after all public comment has been reviewed and considered. All written comments must be postmarked by April 18, 2008; or by email before the deadline date no later than 5 p.m. to:

Mr. Neal Hutchison, DTSC Project Manager

8800 Cal Center Drive

Sacramento, CA 95826

or by e-mail to Hhutchis@dtsc.ca.gov

For questions regarding public participation call Mr. Jesus Cruz, DTSC Public Participation Specialist, toll-free (866) 495-5651 or mail at Jcruz@dtsc.ca.gov.



two former 1000-gallon underground storage tanks (USTs).

Environmental Investigations

Based on environmental investigations that took place between April 2005 and March 2007, DTSC issued a partial site approval for 78 acres of the 80-acre site that included the orchard and row-crop areas. Investigation results on the remaining 2 acres of the farm support area indicated arsenic and pesticides impacted the shallow soil where pesticide mixing activities occurred. Gasoline was also detected in soil and groundwater beneath the two former USTs located in the same area. Maximum concentrations for the chemicals of concern that were detected in soil and groundwater are presented in the cleanup goals table on page 5 of this fact sheet.

The Draft Remedial Action Workplan

The draft RAW evaluates cleanup alternatives and identifies recommended alternatives for the proposed removal action that would prevent or reduce potential risks to public health and the environment. The draft RAW summarizes previous investigations and outlines available cleanup alternatives. Cleanup alternatives are screened and evaluated on the basis of their effectiveness, ability to be implemented and cost.

Proposed Cleanup Options

The following four cleanup options for soil were considered for the site:

- Alternative 1 – No Further Action
- Alternative 2 – Institutional Controls and Onsite Containment (Capping)
- Alternative 3 – Soil Vapor Extraction and Air Sparging (for gasoline contamination)
- Alternative 4 – Excavation and Offsite Disposal

All four alternatives include long-term groundwater monitoring.

DTSC's Cleanup Recommendation

DTSC recommends Alternative 4, Excavation and Offsite Disposal of Contaminated Soil with long-term groundwater monitoring. If this

alternative is approved, about 6,500 cubic yards of contaminated soil would be excavated from multiple locations at the site. The excavated soil would be stockpiled onsite until it can be loaded into trucks and transported to an appropriate offsite disposal facility. Soil in the excavated areas would be tested to ensure that all of the contaminated soil has been removed to levels below the removal action cleanup goals (RACG). After removal of the gasoline-contaminated soil, an oxygen-release compound would be added to the excavation to accelerate degradation of any residual gasoline in the soil and groundwater. Clean soil would be used to backfill all excavation areas.

After backfilling, groundwater monitoring wells would be installed and groundwater monitoring would continue until the RACGs for gasoline and its components have been met. Proposed RACGs for this project are identified in the table on page 5.

DTSC will review and consider comments received during the public comment period before making a final decision to approve, amend, or deny the recommended cleanup alternative.

Safety & Dust Control during Soil Cleanup

Large equipment, such as excavators and backhoes, will be used to excavate and stockpile the contaminated soil. Large soil transfer trucks will be used to haul contaminated soil to the off-site disposal facilities. The following actions will be implemented during the soil clean up process to ensure public safety and minimize dust:

- Installing temporary fencing for security
- Driving all vehicles at slow speeds while on the property
- Spraying of work areas with clean water to control dust
- Securing trucks with covers before they leave the site and cleaning the tires.
- Monitoring the air at the site to ensure the amount of dust stays at safe levels

Soil Removal and Truck Route

The draft RAW proposes that approximately 450 truckloads of contaminated soil will be transported to a State-licensed disposal facility. The trucks will be operated by a licensed hazardous waste trucking contractor and will travel Monday through Friday between the hours of 7 a.m. and 6 p.m. If necessary, work may continue on weekends to maintain the work schedule. Please see the following truck route details:

- Trucks exiting the property will exit onto Stoddard Road traveling south for approximately 0.5 mile to Kiernan Road.
- The trucks will turn west onto Kiernan Road and travel approximately 0.5 mile where they will merge north or south onto State Highway 99, depending on the disposal facility chosen to accept the waste.

The trucks will continue on major highways until they reach the selected disposal facility.

California Environmental Quality Act Notice of Exemption

In compliance with the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), DTSC has prepared a 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, along with other supporting documents.

Next Steps

After receiving evaluations and comments from the community on the activities proposed in the draft RAW, DTSC will prepare a “Response to Comments” at the completion of the public comment period. Anyone who submits comments regarding the proposed cleanup activities will receive a copy of the “Response to Comments.” Additionally, a copy of the “Response to Comments” will be placed in the information repositories.

The removal action is expected to start in May 2008, and should take about 30 to 45 days to complete. After the cleanup process is completed, Modesto City Schools will conduct soil testing to confirm cleanup goals have been reached and submit a Removal Action Completion Report to the DTSC for review and approval. Long-term groundwater monitoring will continue until groundwater cleanup goals have been met.

Persons to Contact for More Information

Please contact any of the following individuals with any questions or concerns you may have regarding the Joseph Gregori High School Draft RAW.

Questions regarding the Draft RAW contact :
Mr. Neal Hutchison, DTSC Project Manager, at (916) 255-4369 or e-mail him at:
hhutchis@dtsc.ca.gov.

Questions regarding the Public Participation process: Mr. Jesus Cruz, DTSC Public Participation Specialist, toll-free 1 (866) 495-5651 or (916) 255-3315 or e-mail him at
jcruz@dtsc.ca.gov.

For questions from the Media, please contact :
Ms. Jeanne M. Garcia, DTSC Public Information Officer, at (818) 717-6573 or e-mail her at
jgarcia1@dtsc.ca.gov.

Where to Find Site Documents

The draft RAW and other related documents may be viewed at the following locations:

Modesto City Schools
Attn: Miguel Galvez
Facilities Development and Support
426 Locust Street
Modesto, California 95351
(209) 576-4032

Stanislaus County Library, Salida Branch
4835 Sisk Rd
Salida, CA 95368
(209) 543-7353

Department of Toxic Substances Control
8800 Cal Center Drive
Sacramento, California 95826
File Room:
By appointment only (916) 255-3758

Notice to the Hearing Impaired Individuals

TDD users can use the California Relay Service at 1-888-877-5378, please ask to speak with Mr. Jesus Cruz at (916) 255-3315

Anuncio

Si prefiere hablar con alguien en español acerca de esta informacion, favor de llamar a Jesus Cruz, Especialista en Participacion Publica del Departamento de Control de Substancias Toxicas. El numero de telefono es (916) 255-3315, o llame sin cobro al 1 (866) 495-5651.

For information about DTSC, please visit our Website at: www.Envriostor.dtsc.ca.gov/public

Gregori High School Site Clean Up Goals

Analyte	Maximum Soil Concentration (mg/kg)	Soil Cleanup Goal (mg/kg)	Maximum Groundwater Concentration (mg/L)	Groundwater Cleanup Goal (mg/L)
Arsenic	42	8.0	n/a	n/a
Toxaphene	9.1	0.333	n/a	n/a
Dieldrin	0.17	0.025	n/a	n/a
4,4'-DDT	1.7	1.0 (total DDx)	n/a	n/a
4,4'-DDE	1.5		n/a	n/a
Benzene	5.2	0.044	6.1	0.001
Toluene	66	2.9	5.0	0.15
Ethyl benzene	38	3.3	1.6	0.7
Xylenes	1,200	2.3	9.4	1.75
Gasoline	3,400	100	56.7	0.005