



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, August 2008

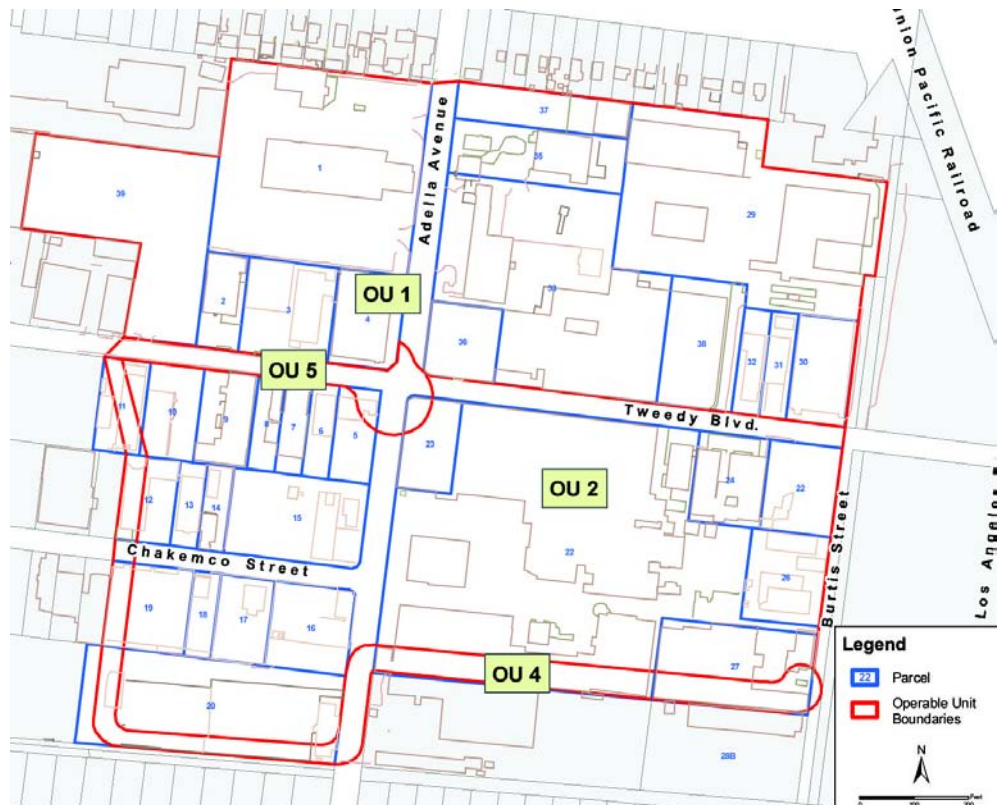
South Region Middle School #4 and South Region High School #9:

Operable Unit 1 Remedial Action Plan Available for Review

Public Meeting: September 18, 2008 Time: 6 P.M.
More details on page 3.

The Department of Toxic Substances Control (DTSC) and the Los Angeles Unified School District, in compliance with the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), signed a School Cleanup Agreement (SCA) in 2005 that authorizes DTSC to oversee the environmental cleanup at the South Region Middle School #4 and the South Region High School #9 (referred to in this Fact Sheet as “the Site”).

The Agreement, which is also pursuant to Health and Safety Code Section 25355.5(a) (1) (c), requires LAUSD to prepare a Remedial Action Plan (RAP) to remove the contaminated soil and ensures that cleanup activities are conducted in accordance with state and federal laws and regulations. The RAP is now open for public review and comments. Details are on page 3 of this Fact Sheet. Although no harmful effects are anticipated due to the controlled nature of the removal, should DTSC determine there are harmful effects to the health of people at or near the Site, they have the authority to direct LAUSD to take steps to prevent further harm, or if indicated, to cease operations.



Parcel location map for the proposed South Region Middle School #4 and High School #9.



History of the Site

The proposed 35-acre Site is divided into 35 separate parcels of land. The area was originally used primarily for farming during the 1920s and 1930s. By the 1950s most of the farmland had been replaced by various industrial and commercial uses including foundries, machine shops, pesticide production facilities, metal plating, and manufacturing plants. These businesses continued until the 1990s, when LAUSD began acquiring the land to build a school. Currently, the Site is mostly vacant lots with only a few buildings still remaining that are used for storage.

Why Cleanup is Necessary

Tests have indicated that previous users left the soil contaminated by various chemicals. Because exposure to elevated levels of contamination can cause adverse health effects, the soil will be removed to protect the environment and the health of future occupants of the Site.

Recent Environmental Investigations

The Site has been separated into four investigative units called Operable Units (OUs). The soil portion of the Site north of Tweedy Boulevard has been designated OU1, the soil portion south of Tweedy has been designated OU2, and the groundwater throughout the Site has been designated OU3. Areas of the Site that will become public streets are designated as OU4. The portion of Tweedy Boulevard west of Adella Avenue will be converted



Site location map for the proposed South Region Middle School #4 and High School #9.

to a private driveway designated as OU5. This allows the investigation cleanup, and environmental clearance of each operable unit to proceed on a schedule that is based on the environmental issues found at each unit.

Phase 1 of the soil investigation was initiated in October 2005 and over 1,500 samples were collected. The samples have been tested for various chemicals that may have been used by previous businesses located on the Site. Based on the initial results, additional samples have been collected and tested as part of Phase 2 under DTSC oversight. Based on those results, localized areas in both OU1 and OU2 require soil removal to achieve environmental clearance.

Soil vapor investigations were also conducted and relatively isolated areas of soil gas were identified within OU1. In addition, because an off-site source of soil vapor is impacting the western edge of OU1, additional subsurface soil and groundwater barriers to prevent further impacts will be installed. More extensive volatile organic compound (VOC) soil gas plumes have been identified within OU2.

Proposed Cleanup Options

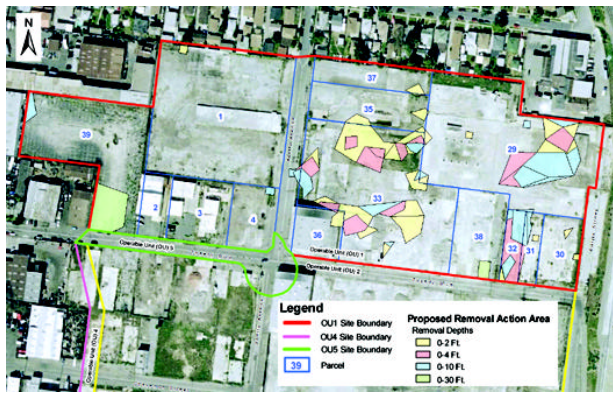
The following three Cleanup Options were considered for OU1:

- Alternative 1 – No Action
- Alternative 2 – Soil Excavation and Off-Site Disposal

Alternative 3 – Soil Excavation, Limited On-Site Stabilization, and Off-Site Disposal

Details of the removal action alternatives are listed in the Draft RAP, which is available for review at the information repositories listed on Page 4.

Based on careful analysis of the options, it has been recommended that the soil be excavated and removed in order to permanently protect human health and the environment at the Site. If Alternative 2 is selected, the contaminated soil will be removed using a backhoe, bulldozer, shovels or other types of earth moving equipment. The soil will either be loaded directly onto trucks and taken off-site for disposal at a licensed facility, or be stockpiled at the Site for a short time before removal. After the contaminated soil is removed, samples will be taken from the bottom and sidewall of the excavation areas to confirm that all contamination has been removed. After the cleanup



Location and extent of soil removal.

process is complete, a Remedial Action Completion Report will be submitted to DTSC for review and approval.

Safety & Dust Control during Cleanup

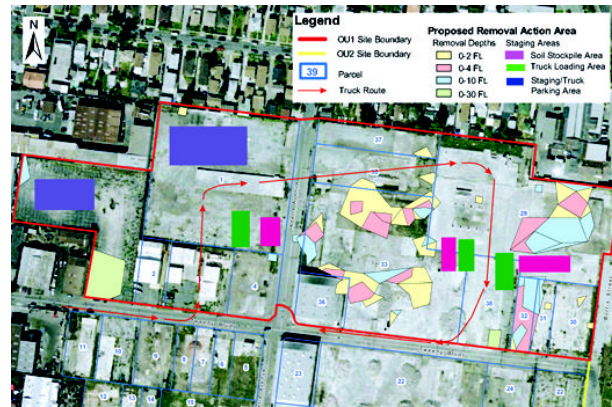
The following actions will be implemented during this process to minimize dust and ensure public safety:

- Installing temporary fencing with windscreens for security and dust control
- Driving all vehicles at slow speeds while on the property
- Spraying work areas with clean water to control dust
- Securing trucks with covers before they leave the site
- Brushing truck tires when entering and exiting the site to remove soil and debris
- Setting up a meteorological station to determine wind speed and direction, and to monitor the air surrounding the site to ensure safe dust levels.

Proposed Transportation Route

Trucks will transport approximately 29,900 cubic yards of contaminated soil to a licensed disposal

facility. The trucks will enter the Site via Tweedy Boulevard and will turn left onto Parcel 3 into OU1. Trucks will exit OU1 from Parcel 38 and continue west on Tweedy Boulevard to Atlantic Avenue.



On-site remedial staging and truck route.

An evaluation of the proposed remedy with the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) will be conducted and documented in either a Notice of Exemption or in the Environmental Impact Report (EIR) for the remedial actions that will be taken for OU1. The objective is to assist the community in understanding all the alternatives and the specific considerations that must be taken into account in selecting an alternative.

Next Steps

At the close of the public comment period at 5 p.m. on October 10, 2008, DTSC will review all public comments and make any necessary revisions to the draft RAP prior to final approval. A response to all comments will be mailed to everyone who submitted comments and provided their names and addresses. The CEQA document for the remedial remedy is in preparation and will be completed by September 11, 2008.

PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD: September 11, 2008 to October 10, 2008

PUBLIC MEETING: September 18, 2008 Time: 6 P.M..

Bryson Elementary School (auditorium), 4470 Missouri Avenue, South Gate, CA 90280

We encourage your participation. The draft RAP and other related project documents for this Site are available for review and public comment at the locations listed on page 4. We will make a final decision after all public comment has been reviewed and considered. Written comments may be submitted by email or by regular mail. Comments must be postmarked or received by email no later than 5 p.m., October 10, 2008. Send comments to:

Jesus Cruz, Public Participation Specialist, JCruz@dtsc.ca.gov
DTSC Sacramento Regional Office, 8800 Cal Center Drive, Sacramento, CA 95826

For More Information

If you have questions about the Environmental Investigation, please contact:

Jesus Cruz, Public Participation Specialist
Department of Toxic Substances Control (DTSC)
Sacramento Regional Office
8800 Cal Center Drive
Sacramento, CA 95826
1.866.495.5661 Email: JCruz@dtsc.ca.gov

Joe Hwong, Project Manager
5796 Corporate Avenue
Cypress, CA 90630
714.484.5406 Email: JHwong@dtsc.ca.gov

For Press questions, please call Jeanne Garcia, DTSC Public Information Officer, at 818. 717.6573, or by email at: JGarcia1@dtsc.ca.gov.

Notice to the Hearing Impaired

TDD users can obtain information about the Site by using the California State Relay Service 888.877.5378 to reach the Public Participation Specialist.

The Department of Toxic Substances Control
Jesus Cruz, Public Participation Specialist

Sacramento Regional Office
8800 Cal Center Drive
Sacramento, CA 95826

Where to Find the Documents

Project documents are available for review at:

Leland R. Weaver Library
Eileen McAllen Tokar,
Community Library Manager
4035 Tweedy Boulevard
South Gate, CA 90280
323.567.8853

City of South Gate
City Clerk's Office
Carmen Avalos, City Clerk
8650 California Avenue
South Gate, CA 90280
323.563.9500

DTSC File Room
9211 Oakdale Avenue
Chatsworth, CA 91311
818.717.6611 Call for an appointment.

Hours: Monday – Friday
8:00 A.M. – 4:00 P.M.

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