Ascon Landfill Site, Recirculated Draft Environmental Impact Report Announcement of Public Review & Comment & Public Meeting

What Is Being Proposed: This Community Notice serves to update the surrounding community, public and applicable agencies of the current status of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) environmental review process and proposed Remedial Action Plan (RAP) (also referred to as the “Project”) (State Clearinghouse #2013041010) being considered by the Department of Toxic Substances Control (DTSC) for the Ascon Landfill site located at 21641 Magnolia Street in Huntington Beach. CEQA is a State law that requires the lead agency to consider and disclose potential adverse environmental impacts of its proposed actions before approving them. DTSC is the lead agency for the cleanup at the Ascon Landfill site. A Draft Environmental Impact Report (EIR) that addressed the environmental impacts of implementing the RAP was circulated for public review and comment by DTSC from August 29th, 2013 to October 14th, 2013. DTSC determined that a Recirculated Draft EIR is appropriate to consider the inclusion of an additional truck haul route needed to address short-term traffic impacts previously analyzed in the Draft EIR. Pursuant to CEQA, the Project’s proposed revised operational traffic characteristics and the resulting changes to the traffic and noise impacts analyzed in the 2013 Draft EIR are presented in the Recirculated Draft EIR focusing on these two environmental issues (traffic and noise). This fact sheet provides more information on the following:

- Site Overview & Project Background
- Proposed Remedial Action Plan (RAP) and draft EIR
- DTSC Response to Public Comments Received
- CEQA Next Steps & Information Repository Locations
- Who to Contact at DTSC for Information

Public Comment Period

October 6th – November 21st, 2014

A 45-day public comment period is being held to receive public comments on the Recirculated Draft EIR. All public comments must be post-marked or e-mailed by November 21st, 2014, and sent to:

Safouh Sayed, Project Manager
Dept. of Toxic Substances Control
5796 Corporate Avenue
Cypress, CA 90630-4732
E-mail: Safouh.Sayed@dtsc.ca.gov

Public Meeting Announcement

DTSC will host a public meeting to receive public comments on the Recirculated Draft EIR. The public meeting will be held:

Thursday, November 6th, 2014
6:00 pm at the
Huntington Beach City Council Chambers - City Hall
2000 Main Street
Huntington Beach, CA 92648-2702

At this public meeting, DTSC will receive oral and written public comments on the Recirculated Draft EIR. Please join us to learn more about this Project in your community.
**Site Overview**

Ascon Landfill Site (the “Site”) was owned by the Garrish Brothers from 1938 to 1950 and by the Steverson Brothers from 1950 to 1984, and was operating as a permitted landfill from 1938 to 1984. In its earliest years, Huntington Beach had not yet developed in the southeast district of the city, and this area was comprised primarily of agricultural and oil production uses. Industrial and oil field wastes were disposed at the landfill from 1938 to 1971. After 1971, construction debris was disposed at the Site until it was closed in 1984.

The Site contains various types of liquid and solid waste in buried pits, surface piles of concrete, rebar and other construction debris, and fenced, open lagoons (ponds).

The Site has undergone several changes of ownership and environmental investigations since 1984. In 2003, DTSC and some of the Ascon Landfill Site Responsible Parties (RPs) entered into a Consent Order with the State of California for the Site’s cleanup.

**Project Background**

Since the Consent Order in 2003, significant work has been conducted at the Site, both to improve current site conditions and prepare for the final cleanup. Activities at the Site have included extensive field investigations, strengthening of perimeter earthen berms, removal of significant volumes of waste materials, Site-wide storm water controls, groundwater monitoring and improvements to site security.

**Proposed Remedial Action Plan (RAP) and draft EIR**

Current work now focuses on the public process and environmental evaluation for the final remedy to remediate the Site. DTSC determined that chemicals located in areas of the Site as a result of past operations, are above DTSC’s protective standards. Thus, DTSC requires development and implementation of an overall cleanup plan (the RAP) for the entire Site to ensure long-term public safety.

The draft RAP, as recommended by DTSC in the draft EIR, proposes excavation and off-site disposal of up to about 32,000 cubic yards (up to approximately 2,400 one-way truckloads) of landfill materials, consolidation of the remaining materials, and installation of a protective cap to cover landfill materials considered safe to remain encapsulated on-site. Activities also include excavation of Site materials to appropriate depths from the City of Huntington Beach rights-of-way along Hamilton Avenue and Magnolia Street, creation of two storm water detention basins, and installation of an internal perimeter road, and new Site fencing. The protective cap would be graded to create appropriate slopes for storm water run-off and collection, and will be planted with vegetation.

The Project will be conducted under DTSC oversight and a restrictive covenant will be recorded to prevent incompatible future land use. Ultimate future land use is determined through a separate public process with the City of Huntington Beach.

**DTSC Response to Public Comments Received**

DTSC carefully considered the public comments received on the Draft EIR and Draft RAP during last year’s public review period. In consideration of these public comments, and in consultation with various public agencies, DTSC commissioned additional studies related to potential traffic impacts identified in the Draft EIR. The revised traffic analyses resulted in DTSC mandating changes to the proposed truck haul routes and schedule presented in the Draft RAP and analyzed in the Draft EIR.

**CEQA Next Steps**

In Accordance with CEQA, the Project’s proposed revised operational traffic characteristics and the resulting changes to the traffic and noise impacts analyzed in the 2013 Draft EIR will be presented in a “Recirculated Draft EIR” focusing on these two environmental issues (traffic and noise). This Fact Sheet, serving as a “Notice of Availability,” is being distributed to the public and applicable public agencies to officially notice the 45-day public comment period. A Final EIR will be prepared which will include DTSC’s formal responses to public comments received on the Draft EIR and Recirculated Draft EIR.

**How You Can Participate – Public Comment Period & Public Meeting**

We want to know what you think of the Recirculated Draft EIR. The 45-day public comment period of the Recirculated Draft EIR begins October 6th, and ends November 21st, 2014. All public comments must be postmarked or e-mailed no later than November 21st, 2014, and sent to:

Safouh Sayed, DTSC Project Manager
Department of Toxic Substances Control
5796 Corporate Avenue
Cypress, CA 90630-4732
E-mail: Safouh.Sayed@dtsc.ca.gov

DTSC will consider and respond to public comments received during this public comment period. Responses to public comments will be included in the Final EIR to be prepared for the Project.

**Public Meeting Announcement**

DTSC is also hosting a public meeting to present the Recirculated Draft EIR and receive public comments. The public meeting is planned for Thursday, November 6th, 2014, at 6:00 pm, at the Huntington Beach City Council Chambers, City Hall, 2000 Main Street, Huntington Beach, CA 92648-2702.
Please join us to learn more about this Project's important milestone in your community.

Information Repository Locations
Project documents including the draft RAP and Recirculated Draft EIR are available for public review at the following Information Repositories:

Huntington Beach Central Library
7111 Talbert Avenue
Huntington Beach, CA 92648-1232
(714) 842-4481
Monday – 1pm to 9pm
Tue, Wed, Thurs – 9am to 9pm
Fri, Sat – 9am to 5pm
Sunday – Closed

Banning Branch Library
9281 Banning Avenue
Huntington Beach, CA 92646-8302
(714) 375-5005
Wed, Thurs – 10am to 7pm
Fri, Sat – 9am to 5pm
Sun, Mon, Tues – Closed

Department of Toxic Substances Control
5796 Corporate Avenue
Cypress, CA 90630-4732
(714) 484-5337
Mon – Fri 8am – 5pm
Please contact Ms. Julie Johnson at the above number to make an appointment.

Additional Information Sources
Site documents are also available for electronic review on DTSC’s EnviroStor website at www.EnviroStor.dtsc.ca.gov. Enter “Huntington Beach” as the City and select “Ascon Landfill Site” in the list of projects within the scroll-down menu. Then, click on “Ascon Landfill Site” again on the map (pop-up window). Then, click on the “Community Involvement” tab for a list of the documents available for review. If you would like DTSC to notify you via e-mail when new EnviroStor documents, such as workplans and reports, are available online for this site, please click on the “Sign Up for E-mail Alerts” link to the right of the site name, and complete the sign up form.

Documents made available to the public by DTSC can be made available in an alternate format (i.e., Braille, large print, etc.) or in another language as appropriate, in accordance with State and Federal law. Please contact Stacey Lear, DTSC Public Participation Specialist, for assistance with alternative formats.

Whom to Contact at DTSC for Information
If you have any questions about the Ascon Landfill Site Project, draft RAP, Recirculated Draft EIR or other related Project activities, please contact the following DTSC staff:

Safouh Sayed, DTSC Project Manager
Department of Toxic Substances Control
5796 Corporate Avenue
Cypress, CA 90630-4732
E-mail: Safouh.Sayed@dtsc.ca.gov
(714) 484-5478

Stacey Lear, DTSC Public Participation Specialist
5796 Corporate Avenue
Cypress, CA 90630-4732
E-mail: Stacey.Lear@dtsc.ca.gov
(714) 484-5354

Next Steps
Upon DTSC approval of the RAP and EIR, field work could begin as early as 2016.

Media Inquiries
Sandy Nax, Public Information Officer
Department of Toxic Substances Control
P.O. Box 806
Sacramento, CA 95812-0806
(916) 327-6114
E-mail: Sandy.Nax@dtsc.ca.gov

For more information about the Ascon Landfill site visit www.EnviroStor.dtsc.ca.gov, or www.ascon-hb.com. For more information about our department, please visit our website at www.dtsc.ca.gov.

Notice to Hearing Impaired Individuals
TDD users can use the California Relay Service at 1-888-877-5378 to reach Stacey Lear, DTSC Public Participation Specialist (714) 484-5354 or toll-free 1-866-495-5651.
You can use this form to send in your written public comments on the Recirculated Draft Environmental Impact Report (EIR). You may also ask to be added or deleted from the Ascon Landfill site mailing list. If you know of anyone or any organizations that would like to be on the Project mailing list, please use this form to notify us. Please address all mailings to: Safouh Sayed, DTSC Project Manager, Department of Toxic Substances Control, 5796 Corporate Avenue, Cypress, CA 90630-4732. You may also e-mail this same information to: Safouh.Sayed@dtsc.ca.gov.

Reminder: All public comments on the Recirculated Draft EIR must be postmarked or e-mailed by November 21st, 2014.

NAME: __________________________________________

AGENCY OR ORGANIZATION (if applicable): ____________________________

ADDRESS: __________________________________________________________________

Telephone #:____________________________

_____ Please add me to the Ascon Landfill site mailing list.

_____ Please delete me from the Ascon Landfill site mailing list.

Comments: __________________________________

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DTSC mailings are solely for the purpose of keeping persons informed of DTSC activities. Mailing lists are not routinely released to outside parties. However, they are considered public records and, if requested, may be subject to release.