

Proposed Capping at Basin By-Products Site Wilmington, California

**Fact Sheet #5
January 2005**

DTSC is one of six Departments with in the California Environmental Protection Agency. The Department's mission is to restore, protect and enhance the environmental quality and economic vitality, by regulating hazardous waste, conducting and overseeing cleanups, and developing and promoting pollution prevention.

State of California



**California
Environmental
Protection Agency**



Proposed areas for capping are in various locations at the Basin-By-Products site.

The Department of Toxic Substances Control (Department) seeks public input on a proposed plan to cap chemicals found in soil at the Basin By-Products (BBP) site in Wilmington. The BBP site is located at 3031 East "I" Street, in an industrial area. The proposed plan, called a Draft Removal Action Workplan (RAW), is a temporary measure to eliminate exposure to soils while long term cleanup options are evaluated. If approved, asphalt and concrete paving will be placed on exposed soil to protect workers from potential chemical hazards found in soil.

Chemicals found at the BBP site came from liquid industrial wastes such as acids, alkaline liquids, and other chemicals. The chemicals include metals and volatile organic compounds (VOCs). The RAW proposes to cap portions of the BBP site to limit direct contact with these chemicals.

Under the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), the Department also proposes a Notice of Exemption (NOE). This is our finding that the proposed actions (digging, hauling, paving and use of heavy equipment) will not have a significant environmental effect.

Public Comment Period

January 19, 2005 – February 17, 2005

We invite your public comments on the proposed plan (Draft RAW). Public comments on the Draft RAW must be postmarked or e-mailed no later than **February 17, 2005**, and sent to:

Ms. Christine Chiu, Project Manager
Department of Toxic Substances Control
5796 Corporate Avenue
Cypress, CA 90630
E-mail: cchiu@dtsc.ca.gov

For more information or to request reasonable accommodation, contact Stacey Lear, Public Participation Specialist at (714) 484-5354.

COMMUNITY SURVEY QUESTIONNAIRE

We also invite you to complete and return the enclosed survey questionnaire. Your responses will assist us in assessing community interest and determine appropriate outreach activities in the future. Please return the completed survey questionnaire by **February 17, 2005**.

Site description

The BBP site is approximately 12 acres in size bordered by the Terminal Island Freeway on the west, "I" Street on the south and two industrial facilities on the north and east sides of the property. Industrial and commercial businesses operate within one-half mile of the site.

History of the BBP site

BBP consists of three former industrial waste facilities, known as the Basin By-Products Company, the Pacific Ocean Disposal Company, and the Anaheim Street Liquid Disposal Company. Browning Ferris Industries currently owns the property and operates a waste transfer station; and BKK Corporation is responsible for overall cleanup of the site.

Liquid hazardous wastes were previously disposed of at the three former facilities under permits issued from the City of Los Angeles. Because different owners operated the facilities, the types of wastes disposed and disposal methods varied. The wastes disposed of at the facilities included spent sulfuric, caustic and nitric acids, some solvent and petroleum related wastes, and spent chromic acid. As a result of past disposal activities, soil and groundwater beneath the property are contaminated.

Soil and groundwater contamination

With the Department's oversight, environmental investigations have been conducted from 1989 to present. The environmental investigations, called a Remedial Investigation (RI), include soil and groundwater sampling and analysis. The RI identifies areas of soil and groundwater contamination with VOCs, semi-volatile organic compounds (SVOCs) and metals.

Human health and ecological risks

We performed a health risk study to learn if the contaminated soil and groundwater poses a risk to human health or the environment. The study concluded there is a human health risk to on-site workers from long-term exposure to contaminated soil and groundwater. The contamination is not likely to impact plants or animals. The proposed cap will limit certain risk of exposure. However, the BBP site needs additional investigation and cleanup.

Interim options considered

An evaluation was conducted to develop several interim cleanup options for the site. The goal is to minimize exposure to contaminated soil. The proposed best short-term approach to prevent existing exposure is to cap areas where contamination has been found.

Approximately 127,700 square feet of unpaved area is proposed to be paved with asphalt and concrete. (Cleanup of contaminated soil, such as removal, will be addressed as part of the final cleanup remedy).

Safety measures during proposed paving

The proposed areas to be capped will be fenced and locked. To control dust, these areas will be sprayed with water if necessary. If paving activities exceed permitted levels, work will be stopped.

Potential environmental impacts

Under CEQA, we assessed potential environmental impacts the proposed capping actions would cause. We found the proposed capping actions would not significantly impact the environment. Therefore, we are proposing a Notice of Exemption (NOE).

How to submit your comments

The public comment period begins January 19, 2005, and ends February 17, 2005, during which time you may provide us with your comments or questions on the Draft RAW. All public comments must be postmarked or e-mailed by **February 17, 2005** and sent to:

Ms. Christine Chiu, Project Manager
Department of Toxic Substances Control
5796 Corporate Avenue
Cypress, CA 90630
E-mail: cchiu@dtsc.ca.gov

Before making a final decision on the Draft RAW, we will consider all comments received. If necessary, the Draft RAW may be modified based on comments we receive. We will respond in writing to all comments we receive.

Next steps

When the Final RAW is approved, fieldwork (grading and paving activities) may begin in Summer 2005. Fieldwork will take approximately six weeks and should not impact adjoining or nearby properties.

The final cleanup plan, called a draft Remedial Action Plan (RAP), will be developed and made available for public review and comment in the future.

More information available at the library and at our agency's office

The Draft RAW, CEQA Draft NOE, and other documents related to the BBP site are available for review at the following locations:

Wilmington Branch Library
1300 N. Avalon Boulevard
Wilmington, CA 90744
(310) 834-1082 Call for hours

Department of Toxic Substances Control
5796 Corporate Avenue
Cypress, CA 90630

Contact: Ms. Julie Johnson at
(714) 484-5337 for an appointment

For information on accessibility and to request reasonable accommodation, please contact:

Ms. Stacey Lear, Public Participation Specialist
Department of Toxic Substances Control
5796 Corporate Avenue
Cypress, CA 90630
(714) 484-5354
E-mail: slear@dtsc.ca.gov

Who to contact for more information

If you have questions regarding the proposed project, please contact Ms. Christine Chiu, Project Manager or Ms. Stacey Lear, Public Participation Specialist at the contact numbers indicated above.

Media inquiries

For media inquiries, please contact:

Ms. Jeanne Garcia
Public Information Officer
Department of Toxic Substances Control
(818) 551-2176
E-mail: jgarcia1@dtsc.ca.gov

Our department's website

For more information about our department, please visit [our website at www.dtsc.ca.gov](http://www.dtsc.ca.gov)

Notice to the hearing impaired

You can get more information by using the California State Relay Service at 1-888-877-5378 (TDD). Ask them to contact Stacey Lear at (714) 484-5354 regarding the Basin By-Products site.

Para información en español por favor comuníquese con Leticia Hernández al número (714) 484-5488.

PUBLIC COMMENT FORM AND MAILING COUPON

**BASIN BY-PRODUCTS SITE
WILMINGTON, CALIFORNIA**

You can use this form to send in your written public comments on the Basin By-Products Draft Removal Action Workplan. You may also ask to be added or deleted from the Basin By-Products site mailing list. If you know of anyone or organizations that would like to be on the project mailing list, please use this form to add that information. Please address all mailings to Ms. Christine Chiu, Project Manager, Department of Toxic Substances Control, 5796 Corporate Avenue, Cypress, California, 90630. You may also e-mail this same information to: cchiu@dtsc.ca.gov.

Reminder: All written public comments on the Draft Removal Action Workplan must be postmarked or e-mailed by February 17, 2005.

Name: _____

Organization (optional): _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Phone (optional): _____ Fax (optional): _____

_____ Please add me to the Basin By-Products site mailing list.

_____ Please delete me from the Basin By-Products site mailing list.

Public Comments (attach additional pages if needed) : _____

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.

State of California
Department of Toxic Substances Control

Basin By-Products Site
3031 East "I" Street, Wilmington

COMMUNITY SURVEY QUESTIONNAIRE

You may also send us your survey responses by e-mail, to slear@dtsc.ca.gov

1) How long have you lived or worked in the area?

0-5 years 6-12 years 13-20 years 21 or more years

2) Prior to reading this fact sheet, were you aware of the Basin By-Products site?

YES NO

If YES, where did you acquire your prior knowledge about the site?

Newspapers Neighbors Relatives Previous fact sheets
 Other (Please specify source, especially if you have information about the early history of the site. Attach additional pages as needed):

3) What is your current level of interest in this site?

None Low to moderate Moderate to high

4) Do you have any specific concerns about this site? If so, please describe:

5) Have you had any contact with local, state or other officials regarding the Basin By-Products site?

YES →→ If YES, please describe: _____

NO

6) What languages are spoken in your community?

→ → → Please continue on the backside → → →

7) Do you attend meetings in your community on issues that are of concern to you?

Regularly Sometimes Almost Never

8) Are you interested in receiving information about the investigation and future work at the Basin By-Products site?

YES →→ If YES, what is the best way? Fact Sheets or Letters
 NO Community Meetings
 Other (specify): _____

9) Can you suggest any other person or groups who might be interested in receiving information about this site or future work, if proposed for it?

10) Please let us know of any other comments or questions.

11) If you are interested in being added or taken off the mailing list for information related to the Basin By-Products site, please check the appropriate line and return to the address below.

Please place me on the mailing list for future materials on this site.

Please remove my name from the mailing list.

Name: _____

Address: _____

Telephone No.: _____

Place stamp here

Please mail this document to:

Ms. Stacey Lear, Public Participation Specialist
Department of Toxic Substances Control
5796 Corporate Avenue, Cypress, CA 90630



State of California
Department of Toxic Substances Control
Ms. Stacey Lear
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INSIDE: INFORMATION ON BASIN-BY-PRODUCTS, WILMINGTON