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Managing Hazardous Waste

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State of
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Toxic Substances
Control

Public Involvement

FACT SHEET, December 2004

DTSC Provides Past Investigation Results for Heather Glen, Antelope

Introduction

The California Environmental Protection Agency, Department of Toxic Substances Control (DTSC) previously reported this information in a June 2000 Fact Sheet. On November 30, 2004 a developer held a public meeting on a proposed residential development (The Lakes at Antelope) planned for the former Lawrence Links Golf Course. The former golf course is located immediately north of the Heather Glen subdivision, Antelope, Sacramento County. DTSC is reissuing information from the June 2000 fact sheet in order to address questions raised about hazardous substances during the November meeting.

From 1999 to 2000, DTSC conducted a three phase investigation in response to concerns from residents that hazardous substances might be present in and around their homes. DTSC investigated only locations in the Heather Glen subdivision and not the area proposed for The Lakes at Antelope development. These results are only applicable to the Heather Glen subdivision.

DTSC conducted Phase 1, Phase 2, and Phase 3 investigations. The Phase 3 investigation included sampling the soil and the soil gas for various chemicals in the front yard and back yard at 3518 Hiawatha Way in Antelope, Sacramento County. DTSC also took soil and soil gas samples from the front yard at 3547 Hiawatha Way and the front yard at 3656 Sun Maiden Way. DTSC completed its report entitled "Final Report of the Investigations, Heather Glen, Antelope" (Final Report) in September of 2000. You can review this Final Report at the Information Repositories listed on page 2 of this fact sheet.

No Health Threat Found

Based on the sampling conducted, DTSC concluded that there is no known health risk, immediate or long term, from exposure to hazardous substances in soil at the Heather Glen subdivision.

Questions and Answers

1. What Chemicals were found and what does their presence mean?

Chemicals found at low levels included those commonly associated with gasoline (benzene and xylenes) and others associated with solvents and degreasers. According to DTSC's risk analysis, none of these chemicals are at levels that pose a risk to humans. DTSC estimates the increased risk of cancer to be lower than one additional cancer in a million. DTSC also determined the immediate risk to be virtually non-existent from these very low levels of chemicals.



2. Why were chemicals detected at all in the soil?

Possible explanations for the chemicals detected may include vehicle leakage and maintenance (gasoline and solvents) and household chemicals that may have leaked into the ground or from the storm drains or sewer lines.

These low levels of chemicals could have come from neighborhood residences, the nearby golf course, or unknown historical activities in the Heather Glen area. Given the distribution and low concentrations of chemicals detected during the investigation, DTSC does not believe there is a significant source of contamination in the Heather Glen area.

3. Does DTSC plan any further investigation?

No, DTSC plans no further investigation or sampling. Since there are no human health risks, DTSC has no reason to continue the investigation. DTSC has also examined a number of aerial photographs from a variety of sources to try to determine potential past waste disposal practices. This photo review showed no evidence of waste handling in the Heather Glen area.

Glossary

Immediate health risk – the subject of immediate versus long-term health risk recognizes a basic principle of toxicology that anything can be toxic depending on the dose (exposure). Therefore, toxic effects from relatively high doses can be seen in a few days. An immediate health risk refers to the risk to an individual of possible health effects associated with a single or brief exposure to a chemical (typically 14 days or less).

Long term health risk – typically refers to risks associated with exposures lasting more than one year. The health criteria used by the U. S. Environmental Protection Agency and DTSC in evaluating potential exposures to environmental contaminants are specifically developed to protect even sensitive individuals (children, seniors) for daily exposures occurring for periods between seven years and a lifetime (70 years).

Toxicology – the study of hazardous substances (poisons) and their effect on living organisms, including humans

INFORMATION REPOSITORIES

You can review DTSC's "Final Report of Investigations, Heather Glen, Antelope" at the following locations:

North Highlands Antelope Library
4235 Antelope Rd., Antelope, CA 95843
(916) 264-2700
Monday and Wednesday 12 noon -8: p.m.,
Tuesday and Thursday 10:00 a.m. – 6:00
p.m., Friday 1:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.,
Saturday 11: 00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.

DTSC File Room
8800 Cal Center Drive
Sacramento , CA 95826
Monday – Friday 8:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.
Call (916) 255-3758 for an appointment.

FOR MORE INFORMATION

If you have questions , please contact:

DTSC Public Participation Specialist
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Media inquiries, please contact
DTSC Assistant Public Information Officer
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NOTICE TO HEARING IMPAIRED INDIVIDUALS

TDD users can obtain information about the site by using the California State Relay Service (888) 877-5378 to reach Kris Escarda at (916) 2555-6683 regarding Heather Glen.