

SITE HISTORY

Hewlett-Packard Company developed this Site in 1964. Until 1987, the Site was used to make electronic transformers and/or printed circuit boards. In 1991, Hewlett-Packard renovated the building into a television studio and office complex.

INVESTIGATIONS

Hewlett-Packard's past manufacturing activities involved the use of VOCs. Soil and groundwater investigations conducted from 1987 through 1991 confirmed the presence of VOCs in the soil and groundwater beneath the Site.

SITE CLEANUP

DTSC approved a cleanup plan, called a Remedial Action Plan or RAP, for the Site in 1992. The cleanup began in 1993. The cleanup plan called for:

- **Soil vapor extraction and treatment** to remove VOCs from soil.
- **Air injection** into shallow groundwater to assist in removing VOCs from soil and groundwater.
- Groundwater pumping and treatment.

The air injection and soil vapor extraction and treatment systems operated from 1993 to 1996. In 1996, DTSC approved the shutdown of these two systems after soil cleanup goals had been achieved. The groundwater pumping and treatment system has

operated at the Site since 1993, but has not yet met the groundwater cleanup goals which were set at drinking water standards. The Site is not a source of drinking water for area residents, whose drinking water is provided by the local water district.

CHANGES TO THE CLEAN UP

Recent studies at the Building 15 Site show that VOCs in groundwater can be destroyed in the ground using a substance called **potassium permanganate (KMNO₄)**. This is a chemical that is often used for wastewater treatment.

The ESD proposes to inject KMNO₄ solution into shallow groundwater in areas of the Site where the highest VOC concentrations remain (area northwest of Building 15). Groundwater pumping will be stopped in the area where the injection treatment is proposed. Pumping wells located outside the treatment area will continue to operate and groundwater removed from these areas will continue to be treated aboveground.

CALIFORNIA ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY ACT (CEQA)

As required by CEQA, DTSC has evaluated the project for potential environmental impacts. The proposed change to the groundwater cleanup action will not have significant adverse impacts on the environment. DTSC has prepared a Notice of Exemption that is available for public review and comment at information repositories listed on the back page of this fact sheet.

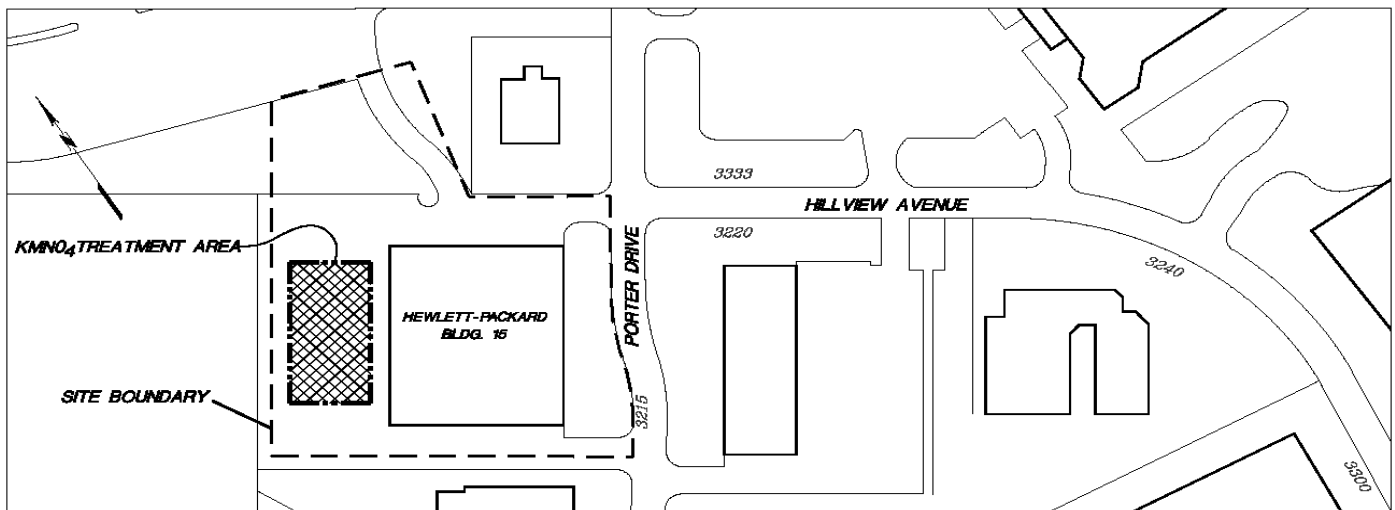


Figure 2 - Site Layout

GLOSSARY OF TERMS

AIR INJECTION - A cleanup method that injects pressurized air below the groundwater surface to remove volatile organic compounds (VOCs) present in soil and groundwater. VOCs removed by air injection are captured and treated with a soil vapor extraction and treatment system.

CALIFORNIA ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY ACT (CEQA) - A California law requiring an environmental impact review of governmental actions. The Act applies to state and local agency activities, and to private sector activities financed, regulated, or approved by state and local agencies.

DEPARTMENT OF TOXIC SUBSTANCES CONTROL (DTSC) – A department of the California Environmental Protection Agency that is responsible for overseeing investigation and cleanup of hazardous waste sites. DTSC was formerly the California Department of Health Services, Toxic Substances Control.

EXPLANATION OF SIGNIFICANT DIFFERENCES (ESD) – A document approved by DTSC that outlines changes to the cleanup plan established by the Remedial Action Plan.

NOTICE OF EXEMPTION – A California Environmental Quality Act document issued by the lead regulatory agency when the proposed project will not have a significant effect on the environment.

POTASSIUM PERMANGANATE (KMNO4) - A chemical frequently used for water treatment purposes, which is capable of breaking down contaminants such as volatile organic compounds (VOCs) into nontoxic compounds.

PUMPING AND TREATMENT – Groundwater is removed from beneath the ground surface and treated to remove the contaminants before being discharged. At the Building 15 Site, treated groundwater is placed into Matadero Creek.

REMEDIAL ACTION PLAN - A plan approved by DTSC that evaluates various cleanup alternatives and then recommends one of these to address contamination at the Site.

SOIL VAPOR EXTRACTION AND TREATMENT - A cleanup method where a vacuum is applied to contaminated soil to remove and treat volatile organic compounds (VOCs) present in soil above the groundwater surface.

VOLATILE ORGANIC COMPOUNDS (VOCs) - A group of organic chemicals that can readily change into the vapor form.

COMMENT FORM

Let us know your comments about the **ESD for the Hewlett-Packard Building 15 Site**. Please fill out and mail by October 1, 2004.

Name (optional) _____ Organization (optional) _____

Address _____ City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone _____ (optional) Fax _____ (optional) E-mail _____(optional)

Comments (*attach additional pages if needed*) _____

Please Note - Your comments will be considered public records and may be subject to release if requested.

ANUNCIO

Si prefiere hablar con alguien en español acerca de ésta información, favor de llamar a Jacinto Soto, Departamento de Control de Sustancias Tóxicas. El número de teléfono es (510) 540-3842.

FOR MORE INFORMATION

If you would like more information about the Site, please call Janet Naito, DTSC Project Manager, at (510) 540-3833 or Rachelle Maricq, DTSC Public Participation Specialist, at (510) 540-3910. For media questions, please contact Angela Blanchette, DTSC Public Information Officer, at (510) 540-3732. For information on accessibility and to request reasonable accommodations, please contact Rachelle Maricq at (510) 540-3833.

INFORMATION REPOSITORIES

The Draft ESD and the Notice of Exemption are available for public review at the locations below. These documents are part of the Administrative Record for the Site. The full Administrative Record for the Site is available at the DTSC Office.

USGS Library
345 Middlefield Road
Menlo Park, CA 94025
(650) 329-5027
Hours: M–F 8:30 am – 4:30 pm

DTSC File Room
700 Heinz Avenue, Suite 200
Berkeley, CA 94710
(510) 540-3800
Hours: 8:00 am – 5:00 pm
(Please call for an Appointment)
Visit www.dtsc.ca.gov for information

NOTICE TO HEARING IMPAIRED INDIVIDUALS

TDD users can obtain additional information about the Site by using the California State Relay Service (1-888-877-5378) to reach Rachelle Maricq at (510) 540-3910.

Rachelle Maricq
Department of Toxic Substances Control
700 Heinz Avenue, Suite 200
Berkeley, CA 94710

Hewlett-Packard Building 15 Site
Comment Period **September 1 to October 1, 2004** for
Proposed Changes to the Cleanup Plan