

Removing contaminated soil from La Sierra Latimer Ranch Site (Tract 30337)



DEPARTMENT OF TOXIC
SUBSTANCES CONTROL

What this fact sheet contains:

- What was found at the site
- Overall site history and background
- What is a Draft Remedial Action Workplan (Draft RAW)
- Proposed cleanup remedy
- California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA)
- Future activities
- Project contacts

Public Comment Period

December 21, 2004 to January 28, 2005

The Department of Toxic Substances Control (DTSC) encourages the public to review and comment on the Draft Removal Action Workplan (RAW) for the La Sierra Creek/Latimer Ranch Site (Tract 30337). The Site is located on McAllister Street and Canal Street, Riverside County, CA 92503

Please mail or email comments to the following address no later than January 28 , 2005:

Ms. Rita Kamat
1011 N. Grandview Avenue
Glendale, California 91201
(818) 551-2831
Email: Rkamat@dtsc.ca.gov

What was found at the site?

Soil sampling showed elevated concentrations of agricultural pesticides in shallow soil at the site. Citrus grove farming using certain agricultural pesticides until the late 1970s at the site resulted in soil contamination that may pose a threat to public health or the environment. Therefore, the Department of Toxic Substances Control has proposed to remove the contaminated soil and place it beneath future asphalt roads.

DTSC is one of six Boards and Departments within the California Environmental Protection Agency. The Department's mission is to restore, protect and enhance the environment, to ensure public health, 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



Site History

From the early 1900s through 2001, citrus groves were farmed on the site. Soil investigations at the site revealed elevated levels of volatile organic compounds (VOCs) as well as agricultural pesticides, such as DDT, DDE, and Dieldrin. These are chemicals which may harm human health and the environment over the long term. A future housing development is planned for this site, if the cleanup plan is approved.

Proposed cleanup remedy

The following method is recommended for cleanup of the shallow contaminated soil present at the site:

- Excavation of approximately 210,000 cubic yards of contaminated soil, mostly from the upper 1 foot.
- Stockpiling of the excavated soil, as necessary, and placement beneath asphalt roads to be constructed as part of site development.

Placing the contaminated soil beneath the asphalt roads reduces the risk to human health and the environment by insuring that the contaminants are not carried into the groundwater by rainfall, and insures that future residents do not come into direct contact with the contaminated soil.

In addition to the proposed cleanup method (called Alternative 2 below); the Draft RAW presents two other possible removal alternatives:

Alternative 1 – No Action

Alternative 2 – Excavation and on-site burial under future roads

Alternative 3 – Excavation and off-site disposal

The three removal alternatives are screened and evaluated. Based on this screening, Alternative 2 has been recommended because it was determined to be the most protective of human health and the environment, easily implemented, and cost effective.

What can I expect to see in my neighborhood?

If the Draft RAW is approved, you can expect to see the following during cleanup activities:

- Before the soil removal activities take place, the community will be notified by means of a work notice.
- On-site construction equipment will be in operation during County of Riverside approved working hours.
- Personnel on the Site will be using standard soil removal machinery as well as safety gear.
- Dust will be controlled by spraying water over the soil and reducing the speed of vehicles and equipment. Protective fences will be placed around the site.
- Site access, site security, traffic, noise, erosion, and storm water control procedures will be undertaken during construction activities.

**Department of Toxic Substances
Control**
1011 N. Grandview Avenue
Glendale, CA 91201 (818) 551-2886

California Environmental Quality Act- Negative Declaration

DTSC has prepared a Draft of Initial Study and Negative Declaration for this project pursuant to the California Environmental Quality Act. The Negative Declaration document states that the project will not have a significant effect on the environment because of the relatively small volume, short project duration, and controlled manner in which contaminated soils will be excavated and buried underneath the asphalt of future streets within the development.

Future Activities

After the public comment period has ended, DTSC will review and consider all comments received and make a final determination to approve, make changes, or disapprove the Draft RAW. Anyone who submits his or her home address and comments by regular mail or e-mail will receive DTSC's Response to Comments document. A copy of "The Response to Comments" will be placed in the Information Repositories, which have been established for the site.

Where can I find site related documents?

La Sierra Neighborhood Library
4600 La Sierra Avenue
Riverside, CA 92505 (951) 688-7740

For More Information

If you would like more information or have questions on the Draft RAW, please contact:

Ms. Rita Kamat, Project Supervisor at (818) 551-2831, email Rkamat@dtsc.ca.gov

Mr. Jesus Cruz, DTSC Public Participation Specialist, at – (818) 551-2875 or email Jcruz@dtsc.ca.gov.

For media questions, please contact Ms. Jeanne Garcia, DTSC Public Information Officer at (818) 551-2176 or email JGarcia@dtsc.ca.gov.

Para Informacion en Espanol, favor de llamar a Jesus Cruz al número de teléfono-(818) 551-2875

Notice to Hearing Impaired Individuals

TDD users can use the California Relay Service at 1-888-877-5378) and ask to speak to Mr. Jesus Cruz at- (818) 551-2875.