



Department of  
Toxic Substances  
Control

*The mission of the  
Department of Toxic  
Substances Control is  
to provide the  
highest level of safety,  
and to protect public  
health and the  
environment from  
toxic harm.*



State of California



Cal/EPA

## Fact Sheet, October 2008

# Proposed La Tijera Elementary School K-8 Expansion Project

## Cleanup Plan Available For Public Review

A draft plan to clean soil contaminated with arsenic, lead and total petroleum hydrocarbons (TPH-oil) at the Proposed La Tijera Elementary School K-8 Expansion Project (Site) is available for public review and comment. The draft plan, called a Removal Action Workplan (Plan) was submitted by Inglewood Unified School District (District). The site is located at 1415 South La Tijera Boulevard in Inglewood, California. *See map on page 4.*

### This Fact Sheet provides a brief summary of:

- Why Cleanup Is Necessary
- Site History
- Site Investigations and Results
- Proposed Cleanup Options
- Safety & Dust Control During Cleanup
- Proposed Transportation Route for Trucks
- California Environmental Quality Act
- What Happens Next
- Where to Find the Documents
- Who to Contact for More Information

### Why Cleanup Is Necessary

There is **no** immediate health risk because the public is not exposed to the contaminated soil. However, since exposure to elevated levels of arsenic, lead, and TPH-oil contamination could cause adverse health effects, the Department of Toxic Substances Control (DTSC) recommends that the District prepare a cleanup plan to remove and dispose the contaminated soil to protect the current and future occupants at the Site. DTSC will oversee the removal action and ensure that it is performed in a manner that does not harm people or the environment.

### PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD October 27, 2008 to December 1, 2008

The draft Plan and other related project documents for this site are available for review and public comment at the locations listed on page 3. We will make a final decision after all public comment has been reviewed and considered. Please submit your written comments in the enclosed postage paid envelope postmarked by **DECEMBER 1, 2008**; or by email before the deadline date no later than 5 p.m. to:

Christina Fu, Public Participation Specialist  
9211 Oakdale Avenue, Chatsworth, CA 91311  
cfu@dtsc.ca.gov.

*Si desea información en español, comuníquese con Jeanne Garcia al (818) 717-6573*



## Site History

The Site, approximately 8.25 acres in size, is located on 1415 South La Tijera Boulevard in Inglewood. Based on information obtained from previous investigations, the Site was utilized as a water channel until the 1950s when the existing school was built. When the district acquired the Site, it is believed that fill material was used to level the ground. Approximately 20 to 30 feet of fill material from an unknown source was placed in the western portion of the Site. Currently, surrounding land use consists of residential and commercial properties.

## Site Investigation and Results

In compliance with State laws for proposed new school sites and existing school expansion projects, the District conducted several environmental investigations to determine if previous site activities posed a potential threat to current and future occupants of the Site.

The Site was investigated for numerous contaminants. Analytical results identified arsenic, lead and TPH-oil as the only contaminants above DTSC risk management levels. Arsenic was detected at six locations, lead was detected at one location and TPH-oil was detected at one location. All contaminants were found in the area where fill material was known to have been used on the western portion of the Site. Based on the findings, the soil will be excavated to a maximum depth of 25 feet below ground surface (bgs). The total volume of soil estimated to be removed from the Site is approximately 4,900 cubic yards (about 320 truckloads).

The source of the identified contaminants is likely due to the unknown fill material. In addition, arsenic and lead occur naturally in Southern California soils. Lead is used in various manufacturing processes and was used in paint until 1978, when federal laws changed to restrict its use. The elevated levels found at the Site may have resulted from the use of lead-based paint on the buildings. As a result of the findings of the environmental investigations, DTSC recommended that a plan be developed to cleanup the contaminated soil prior to site development.

## Proposed Cleanup Options

The following four cleanup options will be considered for this site:

- Alternative 1 – No Further Action (complete fencing around perimeter)
- Alternative 2 – On-site Treatment of Soil

- Alternative 3 – Containment Technology (soil cap with institutional control)
- Alternative 4 – Soil Excavation & Off-Site Disposal

Based on careful analysis, Alternative 4, Soil Excavation & Off-Site Disposal is recommended because it protects human health and the environment; is in compliance with applicable or relevant and appropriate requirements; is feasible, permanent and has a reasonable cost. Details of the removal action alternatives are listed in Section 5 of the draft Plan.

If Alternative 4 is approved, the contaminated soil will be dug out using a backhoe, bulldozer, shovels or other types of earth moving equipment, as necessary. The soil will be either temporarily stockpiled or loaded directly onto trucks and taken off-site. Approximately 4,900 cubic yards (about 320 truckloads) of contaminated soil would be excavated and transported to a state licensed and approved Disposal and/or Treatment Facility. Work will occur over a period of approximately three to four weeks. This includes soil removal, transportation and follow-up soil sampling and analysis. After DTSC's review and approval of the confirmation sample analysis results, the District will backfill the excavation with clean fill material from an offsite source.

## Safety & Dust Control during Cleanup

The following actions will be implemented during this process to ensure public safety and minimize dust:

- Installation of temporary fencing with windscreens for security and dust control
- Driving at slow speeds while on the property
- Spraying of work areas with clean water to prevent dust
- Securing trucks with covers and brushing tires before trucks leave the site
- Monitoring of the air at the site to ensure dust stays at safe levels

## Proposed Transportation Route for Trucks

To keep dust exposure at a minimum, the District plans on performing the clean up activities between 7 a.m. to 4 p.m. Monday through Friday. About 4,900 cubic yards (or about 7,350 tons) of arsenic, lead, and TPH-oil contaminated soil will be removed and taken off-site for disposal. It will take about 320 truckloads to remove the contaminated soil from the site. Trucks transporting arsenic and lead contaminated soil will

exit the Site onto South La Tijera Boulevard and proceed south to Fairview Avenue. The trucks will proceed north on La Cienega Boulevard, turning slightly to the right onto Fairfax Avenue and then slightly turning right onto Washington Boulevard. The trucks will then merge onto the San Bernardino Freeway (Interstate 10) heading east to the Azusa Landfill. Trucks transporting TPH-oil contaminated soil will exit the Site onto South La Tijera Boulevard and proceed south to Fairview Avenue. The trucks will proceed west on Fairview Avenue, turning left on South La Cienega Boulevard. The trucks will proceed south on La Cienega Boulevard, turning right towards the Santa Monica Freeway (Interstate 405). The trucks will then proceed north on Interstate 405 to the Bradley Landfill.

### **California Environmental Quality Act**

In compliance with the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), DTSC has prepared a draft Notice of Exemption (NOE) for this project. The NOE states that the proposed cleanup will not have a negative effect on human health and the environment because of short duration, relatively moderate amount of contaminated soil to be removed, and the controlled way in which the contaminated soils will be removed, loaded onto trucks and transported off-site to approved/ permitted facilities for lawful disposal.

### **What Happens Next**

At the close of the Public Comment Period, DTSC will review and consider any public comments and make any necessary revisions to the draft Plan prior to final approval. Also, a Response to Comments Document will be mailed to everyone who makes a comment and provides their name and address.

The soil removal is expected to take place early next year in 2009, and should take about 21 to 28 days. After the cleanup process is completed, the District will conduct soil testing to confirm cleanup goals have been achieved and submit a Removal Action Completion Report to the DTSC for review and approval.

### **Where to Find the Documents**

The draft Plan and other related documents for the Proposed La Tijera Elementary School K-8 Expansion Project are available for review at the following locations:

### **Inglewood Public Library**

101 West Manchester Boulevard  
Inglewood, CA 90301  
Phone: (310) 412-5380

### **Inglewood Unified School District**

401 South Inglewood Avenue  
Inglewood, CA 90301  
Phone: (310) 419-2700

### **Department of Toxic Substances Control**

Regional Records Office  
5796 Corporate Avenue  
Cypress, CA 90630  
Contact: Julie Johnson, (714) 484-5337  
Hours: 8 a.m. – 5 p.m. Monday – Friday

Site documents are also available at [www.envirostor.dtsc.ca.gov](http://www.envirostor.dtsc.ca.gov)

### **Who to Contact for More Information**

If you have any questions about the project or cleanup activities, please contact:

Ivy Guaño  
DTSC Project Manager  
(714) 484-5433  
[iguano@dtsc.ca.gov](mailto:iguano@dtsc.ca.gov)

Christina Fu  
DTSC Public Participation  
(818) 717-6574  
[cfu@dtsc.ca.gov](mailto:cfu@dtsc.ca.gov)

### **Media Inquiries:**

Jeanne Garcia  
DTSC Public Information Officer  
(818) 717-6573  
[jgarcia1@dtsc.ca.gov](mailto:jgarcia1@dtsc.ca.gov)

### **Notice to Hearing-Impaired Individuals**

You can obtain additional information about the site by using the California State Relay Service at 1 (888) 877-5378 (TDD). Ask them to contact Christina Fu regarding this project.

*For more information about DTSC, see our Web site at [www.envirostor.dtsc.ca.gov](http://www.envirostor.dtsc.ca.gov)*

LOCATION MAP  
1415 South La Tijera Boulevard  
Inglewood, California

