



**NOTICE OF PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD
FOR THE PROPOSED DRAFT REMEDIAL ACTION
PLAN AMENDMENT
AND NEGATIVE DECLARATION AT THE
FORMER MARLEY COOLING TOWER COMPANY FACILITY**



March 1 through March 30, 2007

The Department of Toxic Substances Control (DTSC) is holding a 30-day public comment period and public meeting to accept comments on a draft Remedial Action Plan (draft RAP) Amendment and a California Environmental Quality Act Negative Declaration for the former Marley Cooling Tower Company facility site (referred to as the Site) located at 200 N. Wagner Avenue, Stockton, California.

The comment period begins on March 1, 2007 and closes on March 30, 2007. The public meeting is March 15, 2007 at 6:00 p.m. and will be held at Franklin High School, 300 N. Gertrude Avenue, Stockton, California.

The 30-acre Site operated as a wood milling and cooling tower fabrication operation with pretreated chemicals from 1943 to 1966. On-site wood treatment operations began in 1966 and continued until 1991. Currently there are no active manufacturing activities occurring at the Site; however, there is an active groundwater extraction and treatment system running at the Site. The current groundwater extraction and treatment system has been operating since 1987 and has successfully limited the migration of groundwater contamination.

Environmental investigations determined that past activities conducted at the Site contaminated soil with arsenic, copper, and chromium, and groundwater with chromium. There is no immediate health concern because the Site is capped and fenced and groundwater is continually treated, monitored and not used for any beneficial purpose. The Site is bordered on one side by a school; the remaining land use in the surrounding area is primarily light industrial and residential. The capped retort area (the former location of the pressure vessel used for wood treatment) of the Site was the center of all wood treating operations and is considered the primary source area for metals contamination. Impacted groundwater has migrated off-site, but is captured by a groundwater pump and treat system.

The draft RAP Amendment proposes an enhanced cleanup approach for groundwater in a more timely manner than the current groundwater extraction and treatment system alone. The proposed cleanup approach consists of injecting a solution containing potable water, calcium polysulfide (which has been approved at this site by the State of California), and ethanol into groundwater to remove the chromium. In addition to removing chromium from groundwater, horizontal wells will be installed into soil to allow water to "flush" chromium from between soil particles located approximately 20 to 60 feet below ground surface. Chromium "flushed" from soil will travel in the underlying groundwater where it will be captured by the injected solution or by the current extraction and treatment system. The approach proposed in the draft RAP Amendment has been successfully pilot-tested at the Site and is expected to cleanup the groundwater in approximately 3 years, as opposed to the current 17 year estimated clean-up time for the existing pump and treatment system. The pump and treatment

system will continue to operate until clean-up has been achieved. Groundwater wells will be sampled on a routine basis to evaluate how well the treatment is working.

Before DTSC can make a decision on whether to approve the draft RAP Amendment it must meet the requirements of a state law known as the California Environmental Quality Act (often referred to as CEQA). The purpose of CEQA is to evaluate whether the project could cause an adverse impact on the environment. Based on environmental investigation data collected for the proposed draft RAP Amendment, DTSC has determined that a Negative Declaration is appropriate for this project. The proposed Negative Declaration states that the project will not have a significant effect on the environment.

The draft RAP Amendment and proposed Negative Declaration can be reviewed:

- 1) Online at www.envirostor.dtsc.ca.gov/public/search.asp. Once there, type in the name "marley" in the site name block and hit enter. Single click on the first "report" link and you'll be taken to the appropriate screen. Clicking on the "Community Involvement" link will allow you to view the proposed Amendment and the Negative Declaration.
- 2) Department of Toxic Substances Control's office located at 8800 Cal Center Drive, Sacramento, California, 95826. Please contact Bobbi Jensen at (916) 255-3779, if you wish to review documents at the Sacramento office.
- 3) Stockton-San Joaquin County Public Library, 605 North El Dorado Street, Stockton, California, 96202. Please call (209) 937-8362 for days and hours of operation.

Written comments must be submitted no later than March 30, 2007 and should be sent to the attention of:

Steven Ross
Hazardous Substances Engineer
Northern California-Central Cleanup Operations Branch
Department of Toxic Substances Control
8800 Cal Center Drive
Sacramento, California 95826-3200
(916) 255-3694
sross@dtsc.ca.gov