

COMMUNITY UPDATE

The mission of DTSC is to protect California's people and environment from harmful effects of toxic substances by restoring contaminated resources, enforcing hazardous waste laws, reducing hazardous waste generation, and encouraging the manufacture of chemically safer products.

Former Naval Petroleum Reserve No. 1 Draft Removal Action Work Plan; AOC 073-003 and AOC 073-004 U.S. Department of Energy

Para información en español por favor comuníquese con Elsa Lopez al número (818) 717 6571.

The California Department of Toxic Substances Control (DTSC) invites public comment on the Draft Removal Action Work Plan (RAW); Area of Concern (AOC) 073-003 and AOC 073-004, prepared as part of the former Naval Petroleum Reserve (NPR-1) Closure Project.

The former NPR-1 is located in the Elk Hills Oil Field and consists of approximately 74 square miles of land in Kern County, California. AOC 073-003 is an inactive sump that was used for the disposal of truck wash water and sludge, and AOC 073-004 is an active catch basin for storm water drainage.

This Fact Sheet contains information about site location, history, and background of the AOCs, previous site investigations and actions, removal action objectives, proposed cleanup alternatives, recommended cleanup options, next steps, and contact information.

California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA): As required by California Law, DTSC has performed a review of the proposed Draft RAW in accordance with CEQA. Based on that review, DTSC has determined that the project will not have any significant effect on public health or the environment. DTSC proposes to issue a CEQA Mitigated Negative Declaration for this project.

What is Being Proposed?

The Draft RAW presents a proposal to remove approximately 7,300 cubic yards (cy) of contaminated soil from AOC 073-003 for disposal at an appropriate California landfill, and perform a Confirmatory Investigation at AOC 073-004. The Draft RAW provides a description of AOC 073-003 and AOC 073-004 and the proposed cleanup activities. These corrective measures are necessary to obtain DTSC approval for closure of the two sites and a "No Further Action" designation.

Site Location

The former NPR-1 is divided into a series of townships and ranges. AOC 073-003 and AOC 073-004 are located in the central portion of the former NPR-1

Public Comment Period



**30-day public comment period
from January 5 through
February 6, 2017**

DTSC encourages you to review and comment on the Draft RAW. The Draft RAW and other project-related documents are available for review at the locations listed on the last page of this document.

DTSC will make a final decision after all public comments have been reviewed. Please submit written comments postmarked or emailed by February 6, 2017, to:

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A public meeting has not been scheduled for this project.



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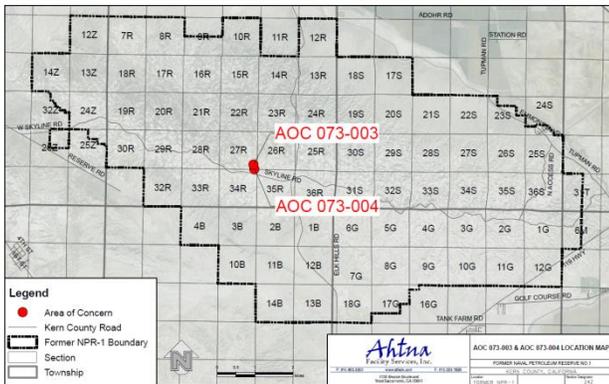
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in grid 27R, Section 27, Township 30S/Range 24E. AOC 073-003 is a sump, approximately 220 feet (ft) long, 65 ft wide, and is currently enclosed by a fence and covered with netting. AOC 073-004, located adjacent to AOC 073-003, is a triangular-shaped basin that is approximately 55,000 square ft. AOC 073-003 and AOC 073-004 are separated by a common berm.

AOC 073-003 and AOC 073-004 are within an active oil field, which is closed to the public.



AOC 073-003 and AOC 073-004 Location Map

Site History and Background

NPR-1 was created by an Executive Order in 1912 to preserve potential petroleum resources for national defense purposes. In accordance with Public Law 104-106, passed in February 1996, the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) was required to sell the United States’ lands and hydrocarbon interests in NPR-1. DOE sold the Federal Government’s interests in NPR-1 to Occidental Petroleum Corporation (Occidental), effective October 1, 1997, which operated the Elk Hills Oil Field under the name Occidental of Elk Hills, Inc. (OEHI). In 2014, Occidental transferred the property to California Resources Corporation, who now operates the Elk Hills Oil Field under the name of California Resources Elk Hills, LLC.

DOE and DTSC entered into an Agreement for Site Assessment in 1998 that was subsequently amended and, in 2008, a Corrective Action Consent Agreement was signed in which DOE agreed to complete the corrective action process at 131 Solid Waste Management Units

and/or AOCs, including AOC 073-003 and AOC 073-004. DTSC will oversee a removal action planned for AOC 073-003 and Confirmatory Investigation at AOC 073-004.

AOC 073-003, also known as the Upper Truck Washout Sump, was used for the disposal of the water and sludge generated from the adjacent Truck Washout Rack. The Truck Washout Rack was used to wash trucks that transported oilfield fluids and oil sludge to the Upper Truck Wash Sump. The AOC 073-003 sump still contains oil sludge and rain water and is enclosed by a fence and netting.

AOC 073-004, also known as the Triangular Sump, is an unlined basin that is used for storm water drainage. Storm water drains around 27R Waste Management Complex discharges to AOC 073-004.

Previous Site Investigations

In 1998, DTSC first identified the Truck Wash Sump (AOC 073-003) and Triangular Sump (AOC 073-004) as sites that warranted further investigation. At the request of the Regional Water Quality Control Board, samples of the sludge material that had accumulated at the bottom of AOC 073-003 were collected in 2005.

In 2007, RAM Environmental Engineering Services, Inc. conducted soil sampling at AOC 073-003 on behalf of OEHI.

In 2011, Langan Engineering & Environmental Services conducted soil sampling at AOC 073-003 and AOC 073-004 on behalf of OEHI, as part of an ongoing assessment at the former NPR-1.

Based on the 2011 sampling event, arsenic, naphthalene, 2-methylnaphthalene, total petroleum hydrocarbons (TPH) as motor oil, TPH as diesel, and several volatile organic compounds have been identified as chemicals of concern (COCs) at AOC 073-003. COCs were found to a depth of 50 ft at AOC 073-003. AOC 073-004 was not found to contain COCs and is included in the Draft RAW to allow safe access to AOC 073-003. A Confirmatory Investigation will be implemented at AOC 073-004 to verify previous investigation results. AOC 073-004 will be restored to function as a storm water basin upon completion of the RAW.



Removal Action Objectives

The primary objective of the Draft RAW is to propose a preferred cleanup approach that prevents or reduces potential risks to human health.

The Draft RAW summarizes previous studies, presents four alternatives, and then recommends the most appropriate cleanup option for the sites, including procedures for achieving proposed cleanup goals.

Proposed Remediation Alternatives

The Draft RAW evaluates a range of alternatives that could be used to mitigate potential health risks at AOC 073-003. These alternatives are evaluated, with respect to Federal and State criteria, for short and long-term effectiveness, feasibility, and cost. The following alternatives were considered for remediation at AOC 073-003.

1. No Action. In accordance with regulatory guidance, the No Action alternative is analyzed as a baseline for comparison with other alternatives.
2. No Removal Action. This alternative proposes to leave the impacted soil in place, limit access, and restrict future use of the property.
3. Excavation and Offsite Disposal. This alternative proposes to remove the impacted soil to a depth of 50 feet within AOC 073-003 and conduct post-excitation soil sampling to confirm that soil cleanup goals are met.
4. Limited Excavation, Backfill and Capping. This alternative proposes to place a cap of clean soil, after an excavation of most of the significantly impacted soil, to prevent migration of or exposure to COCs. In addition, the site would need routine, long-term maintenance. AOC 073-004 would be returned to service for storm water collection.

Recommended Action

Alternative 4 offers short-term and long-term effectiveness, is feasible, cost effective, and offers a high degree of protection for human health. Alternatives 1, 2, and 3 were determined to be either not protective or having a moderate degree of protection for human health.

Based on the evaluation of the remediation alternatives,

DOE recommends Alternative 4: Remove the significantly impacted soil to a depth of 10-15 ft, followed by post-excitation sampling. Approximately 7,300 cy of debris and impacted soil would be excavated from AOC 073-003 and transported to a permitted California landfill. During the excavation, the berm separating AOC 073-003 and AOC 073-004 will be removed to allow safe access.

Confirmation sampling will be conducted to verify the remaining soil meets cleanup goals. However, if remediation to cleanup goals is not practical or feasible, the remaining contaminated soil will be left in place. The excavation would then be backfilled with clean soil, followed by implementation of land use controls.

The following activities would be performed under the proposed alternative:

- Excavate impacted soil to a depth of 10-15 ft.
 - Collect post-excitation soil samples within the excavation footprint to demonstrate that COCs at depth, once capped, will be protective of human health or to confirm COCs are not present at levels that pose a risk to human health.
 - Collect confirmation samples from the unexcavated portion of AOC 073-004.
 - Characterize and dispose of excavated soil at an approved landfill.
 - Excavated areas will be backfilled and capped with clean soil and re-graded.
 - Return AOC 073-004 to service for storm water collection after grading.
- In addition, the following controls designed to protect the surrounding community are proposed during cleanup activities:
- The removal action will be planned and conducted to minimize wind erosion and generation of airborne dust. Dust control measures will be implemented prior to the start of work and maintained daily by applying

In addition, the following controls designed to protect the surrounding community are proposed during cleanup activities:

- The removal action will be planned and conducted to minimize wind erosion and generation of airborne dust.



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- Dust control measures will be implemented prior to the start of work and maintained daily by applying Best Management Practices, including: wetting the soil, reducing vehicle speed, and cleaning vehicle tires to minimize track out. Dust monitoring and testing will be conducted to confirm compliance with National Ambient Air Quality Standards for PM₁₀ (small dust particles in the air with the potential to cause health issues if exposed for long periods of time).
- Site workers will be required to sign in, receive a Safety and Health briefing, and wear the appropriate Personal Protective Equipment.

Next Steps: Before making a final decision to approve or reject the proposed plan, DTSC will review and consider the comments received during the 30-day public comment period. After the close of the public comment period and prior to making a final decision on the Draft RAW, DTSC will prepare a Response to Comments document that will list the comments received and how they were considered. The Response to Comments will be included in the final RAW and placed in the information repositories established for the site.

Schedule for Proposed Removal Actions

The removal action is scheduled for completion in spring/summer of 2017.

Where to Find the Documents

The Draft RAW and other related documents regarding the former NPR-1 Closure Project are available for review at the following repository:

Taft Library
27 Emmons Park Drive
Taft, California 93268
(661) 763-3294

Documents Available Online at the DTSC
EnviroStor database:

http://www.envirostor.dtsc.ca.gov/public/profile_report.asp?global_id=80001254

(Click the “Community Involvement” tab)

Whom to Contact for More Information

If you have any questions about this Fact Sheet or the Draft RAW, please contact the following DTSC staff:

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