

Fact Sheet, November 2008



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.*

Soil Cleanup Plan for Former PPG Industries, Inc. Torrance, Available for Public Review and Comment

A draft plan to excavate, remove and dispose of contaminated soil at the former PPG Industries, Inc. (PPG) site is available for public review and comment. The draft plan, called a Removal Action Workplan, or RAW, was developed for the PPG site located in a commercial/light industrial area at 465 Crenshaw Boulevard in Torrance. This fact sheet provides information on the investigation conducted and the proposed cleanup plans for the site. Inside this fact sheet you will find:

- Why Cleanup is Necessary
- History and Operations at the Site
- Previous Site Investigations Conducted
- Proposed Removal Action
- California Environmental Quality Act & Draft Negative Declaration
- Next Steps
- Where to Find Site Documents
- Who to Contact For More Information

There is no immediate health risk because the public is not exposed to the contaminated soil. However, the removal of impacted soil will ensure future users of the site are protected.

30-DAY PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD ANNOUNCEMENT November 15, to December 16, 2008

The draft RAW and draft Negative Declaration is available for public review and comment. Information Repository locations for document review are listed inside this fact sheet on page 3. DTSC will make a final decision only after all public comments have been reviewed and considered. **Public comments must be postmarked or e-mailed no later than December 16, 2008, and sent to:**

Mr. Johnson Abraham
DTSC Project Manager
5796 Corporate Avenue
Cypress, CA 90630-4732
E-mail: jabraham@dtsc.ca.gov



State of California



Cal/EPA



Why Cleanup Is Necessary

Under current conditions the former PPG site does not pose a threat to human health. However, under future land use scenarios, DTSC determined that elevated levels of total petroleum hydrocarbons (TPH) in on-site soil are above DTSC's protective standards and require further cleanup to protect public health and the environment.

History and Operations at the Site

The former PPG site occupies about 14.5 acres and was used to manufacture aqueous-based and solvent-based paints and synthetic resins for industrial/automotive consumers from 1950 to 2000. In 1999, manufacturing operations were scaled down (eventually to distribution only) in preparation for closure and demolition of facility structures. Demolition of the facility began January 2000 and the fixtures and structures were removed. DTSC and its predecessor agency, the Department of Health Services, approved closure certification for all former hazardous waste (Resource Conservation and Recovery Act) units at the site: one (1) container storage area and two (2) above ground hazardous waste storage tanks in 1996 and (1) thermal oxidizer (also referred to as a fume scrubber/incinerator in historical documents) in 1987. Site demolition was completed in December 2000, and the site is now vacant and fenced restricting public access.

Previous Site Investigations Conducted

Several soil investigations were completed between 1997 and 2000 as part of the site investigation activities. Field work, per the Site-Wide Soil and Groundwater Investigation Workplan approved under what is called the Voluntary Cleanup Program, began in 2007 and was completed in July 2008. This investigation supplemented previous soil sampling events and consisted of 128 soil sampling locations, 52 soil vapor locations, and groundwater sampling from seven on-site wells to address 34 areas of potential concern related to historical uses. The sample analysis for these investigations included volatile organic compounds, metals, total petroleum hydrocarbons (TPH), semi-volatile organic compounds (SVOCs), polychlorinated biphenyls (PCBs), dioxins/furans, and polycyclic

aromatic hydrocarbons. Elevated levels of TPH were detected in soil at two areas of the site. There was one trace level detection of PCBs and furans, and three trace level detections of SVOCs in near surface soil samples in three small isolated areas. Soil and groundwater sampling demonstrated TPH-impacted soils are limited to soil only and does not impact groundwater at the site.

Proposed Removal Action

The draft RAW proposes the excavation, removal, transportation and off-site disposal of TPH-impacted soil from *two* larger areas of the site, and TPH-impacted soil and 20 cubic yards of PCB, SVOC and furan-impacted soils from *three* small isolated areas of the site. An estimated total of about 3,060 cubic yards of soil (about 180 truck loads) will be removed. Confirmation sampling will also be conducted to ensure target cleanup goals are met.

Safety Measures & Dust Control During Cleanup Activities

The following actions will be implemented to ensure public safety and minimize dust during soil excavation and removal activities:

- Driving vehicles at slow speeds while on site property;
- Spraying work areas with clean water to control dust;
- Securing truck contents with covers before leaving the site;
- Brushing truck tires entering and exiting the site to remove soil and debris;
- Monitoring air quality to ensure dust levels remain at safe levels, protective of the community;
- Berming staging areas (if necessary or if significant rainfall occurs) to contain run-off.

How You Can Participate

We want to know what you think of the draft RAW activities planned for the site. A 30-day public comment period begins November 15, 2008 and ends December 16, 2008. You may provide your comments on the draft RAW and draft Negative Declaration during this time. All public comments must be postmarked or e-

mailed by December 16, 2008, and sent to:

Mr. Johnson Abraham, Project Manager
Department of Toxic Substances Control
5796 Corporate Avenue
Cypress, CA 90630-4732
E-mail: jabraham@dtsc.ca.gov

Potential Environmental Impacts Under the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA)

DTSC is required by CEQA to review environmental activities for the possibility of impacts, before approving the project. DTSC prepared a draft Negative Declaration that states the proposed cleanup will not have a significant negative effect on human health and the environment because of its short duration, relatively small amount of contaminated soil to be removed, and the controlled way in which the contaminated soils will be excavated, loaded onto trucks, and taken away to an approved/permitted facility for lawful disposal.

Where to View draft RAW and Other Project Documents

The draft RAW, draft Negative Declaration and other supporting documents can be viewed at the following Information Repositories:

Torrance Public Library – Katy Geissert Center

3301 Torrance Boulevard
Torrance, CA 90503-5014
(310) 618-5959

Mon – Thurs: 10:00 am – 9:00 pm

Fri: 10:00 am – 6:00 pm

Sat: 10:00 am – 5:30 pm

Sun: 1:00 pm – 5:00 pm

Department of Toxic Substances Control

5796 Corporate Avenue
Cypress, CA 90630-4732
(714) 484-5337

Mon – Fri: 8:00 am – 5:00 pm

Please contact Ms. Julie Johnson at the number above to make an appointment.

Next Steps

We anticipate RAW activities to begin after the RAW is approved, sometime late December 2008 and last about two (2) weeks. Field work will occur Monday through Friday between 7am and 6pm.

Who to Contact at DTSC for Information

If you have any questions about the project or the proposed RAW activities, please contact the following DTSC staff:

Mr. Johnson Abraham, Project Manager
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(714) 484-5476
E-mail: jabraham@dtsc.ca.gov

Ms. Stacey Lear, Public Participation Specialist
Department of Toxic Substances Control
5796 Corporate Avenue
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(714) 484-5354 or toll free 1-866-495-5651
E-mail: slear@dtsc.ca.gov

For Media Inquiries Contact

Jeanne Garcia, Public Information Officer
Department of Toxic Substances Control
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For more information about the former PPG site visit www.EnviroStor.dtsc.ca.gov. For more information about DTSC, visit our website at www.dtsc.ca.gov.

Notice to Hearing Impaired

TDD users can use the California Relay Service at 1-888-877-5378 to reach Ms. Stacey Lear, DTSC Public Participation Specialist at (714) 484-5354 or toll-free 1-866-495-5651.

