

COMMUNITY Notice

The mission of DTSC is to protect California's people and environment from harmful effects of toxic substances through the restoration of contaminated resources, enforcement, regulation and pollution prevention.

Draft Cleanup Plan for the Superior Plating Company Available for Public Review, Pomona, California

The Department of Toxic Substances Control (DTSC) announces the availability of the Draft Remedial Action WorkPlan (RAW) for the Superior Plating Site (SPC). The SPC Site is located at 389 N. East End Avenue, Pomona, California. Currently, the Superior Plating Company Site is vacant and abandoned. The draft cleanup plan, called a draft Removal Action Workplan (RAW), describes in detail the environmental investigation findings and the proposed remedy to address soil contamination at the Site.

Why Cleanup is Necessary?

There is no immediate health risk because the public is not exposed to the contaminated soil. The Department of Toxic Substances Control (DTSC) is part of the California Environmental Protection Agency. DTSC oversees soil and groundwater investigations and evaluates property for potential hazardous materials or contamination that may pose a risk to the public. DTSC will oversee the cleanup that will take place and will ensure that it is performed in a manner that protects health and the environment.

History and Operations at the Site

Superior Plating Company was originally used as a plywood distribution business in the late 1960s, but was later used as a chrome plating, paint stripping and metal buffing business starting in the 1970s. The metal plating process was used at the Facility until 2003 when the metal plating process was replaced with a metal stripping process.

Environmental Investigations

In late 2011, DTSC conducted an investigation on the property to assess whether the property poses a threat to human health and the environment. Results showed contamination of surface soils within the building and near the storage area of the facility. Contaminants found that exceeded screening levels include metals -

Public Comment Period



June 25, 2012 - July 25, 2012

A 30-day public comment period begins June 25, 2012, and ends July 25, 2012, to receive public comments on the draft RAW and draft Notice of Exemption. Public comments must be postmarked or e-mailed no later than July 25, 2012, and sent to:

Ms. Eileen Mananian,
DTSC Project Manager
Department of Toxic
Substances Control
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Cypress, CA 90630-4732
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arsenic chromium, nickel, and lead. A soil vapor was also conducted, but results showed no detection for volatile organic compounds in the soil.

Based upon the initial sampling at the Site, existing soil conditions do not raise health concerns for residents or the surrounding populations.

Proposed Cleanup Actions

There are three cleanup alternatives being proposed for evaluation in the RAW. The proposed cleanup actions are:

- 1) No Action;
- 2) Soil Capping, and
- 3) Soil Excavation and Off-Site Disposal.

The first option – No action – would not change the Site conditions and will not result in a cleanup. The second alternative – Soil Capping would result in covering the contaminated soils with concrete or pavement to act as a “cap” and prevent exposure. With this alternative, the Site would be subject to a land use covenant to limit property use to commercial/industrial uses as well as long term monitoring and maintenance to ensure that future occupants of the Site are not exposed. The third alternative includes excavating or removing contaminated soils, disposing soils at a landfill, and bringing in clean soil to backfill excavated areas. This alternative would also require a land use covenant to restrict the use of the property to commercial/industrial uses.

Recommended Cleanup Options

DTSC evaluated the three alternatives and determined that the third alternative – Soil excavation and Off-Site disposal – was the most effective, implementable, and cost effective cleanup option for the Site. Removing the contaminated soil and replacing it with clean soil will prevent any future occupants from being inadvertently exposed to contaminated soils. Also, since there would be no long term maintenance and monitoring required, the overall cost for the project is reduced.

Safety During Cleanup

DTSC will utilize several safety measures to ensure that the cleanup is completed with minimal impact to workers and the neighboring community. An approved Health and Safety Plan will be used to ensure worker health and safety during cleanup activities. All dust will be suppressed by spraying water on soil to ensure that the amount of dust particles being generated at the Site is minimized. Air monitoring will be conducted to monitor the amount of dust particles being generated and ensure that spraying of dirt and soil with water is effective. All truck leaving the Site will have their tires brushed and cleaned to ensure that no contaminated dirt tracked into the street. Trucks will be covered and will travel down N. East End Avenue onto Mission Avenue and directly to the 71 freeway. This truck route is approved by the City of Pomona and traverses along mostly commercial/industrial areas.

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 have no significant effect on human health and the environment because of the short duration and the controlled manner in which the impacted soil will be mitigated.

Next Steps

DTSC will not make a final decision to implement the Draft RAW until all public comments have been reviewed and considered. Following the review of the public comments, DTSC will issue a Response to Comments. The Response to Comments is DTSC's formal written response to all comments received. It is available to the public and will be placed in the information repositories listed.

The cleanup of the soil is expected to start in early August 2012. The cleanup for the Site will take approximately 14 to 18 days.

Where to Find Site Documents

DTSC encourages you to review the draft RAW, and other site-related documents which are available at the information repositories listed below.

Information Repositories:

Pomona Public Library

625 South Garey Avenue

P.O. Box 2271

Pomona, CA 91769

Contact: Reference Librarian

Phone: (909) 620-2043

Library Hours

Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday

12 noon to 7:00 p.m.

Saturday 12 noon to 5:00 p.m.

Closed Thursday, Friday, and Sunday

Department of Toxic Substances Control

Regional Records Office

5796 Corporate Avenue

Cypress, CA 90630-4732

Hours: Monday–Friday 8 a.m. – 5 p.m.

Contact: Ms. Julie Johnson to make an appointment

Phone: (714) 484-5337

Copies of key technical reports, fact sheets and other site-related information are also available online at DTSC's website: www.envirostor.dtsc.ca.gov.

All documents made available to the public by the DTSC can be made available in an alternate format (i.e. Braille, large print, etc.) or in another language as appropriate, in accordance with state and federal law. Please contact Jacqueline Martinez for assistance.

Who to Contact for More Information

For more information about the draft cleanup plan or to be added to the site mailing list please contact the following DTSC representatives:

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Jacqueline Martinez,

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Notice to the Hearing Impaired

Telecommunications Device for the Deaf (TDD) users can obtain information about the Site by using the California State Relay Service (888) 877-5378 to reach the Public Participation Specialist. Ask them to contact Jacqueline Martinez at (714) 484-5338 regarding the Superior Plating Company Site.