



Department of  
Toxic Substances  
Control

Preventing  
environmental  
damage from  
hazardous waste,  
and restoring  
contaminated  
sites for all  
Californians.



State of California



California  
Environmental  
Protection Agency

Fact Sheet, June 2007

# Draft Removal Action Workplan for the Proposed Converter Station Site

**Pittsburg, California**

A proposal to clean up contamination at the Proposed Converter Station site between Beacon Street and Enterprise Circle in Pittsburg is open for public comment. During the next 30 days, the Department of Toxic Substances Control (DTSC) invites public review and comment on the draft Removal Action Workplan (RAW). The map on page 2 shows the site location and adjacent areas.

Trans Bay Cable, LLC is proposing to construct an electrical current converter station on the property. The station is part of a new energy transmission project to help provide electrical power to San Francisco, connecting the electric transmission system of the East Bay to that of San Francisco. The electric power would help meet the City of San Francisco's electric demand projected for 2012 and beyond. Before construction of the electrical current converter station can begin, Trans Bay Cable, LLC is funding the necessary environmental cleanup activities to ensure that the contamination found on the property is addressed. DTSC is overseeing the environmental cleanup at the property.

DTSC encourages public review and comment on the cleanup plan which is available at the information repositories listed on page 4.

This Fact Sheet Will Inform You About:

- Property History and Location
- Property Investigations
- Summary of the draft RAW
- California Environmental Quality Act
- Next Steps

## PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD

June 22, 2007 to July 23, 2007

We encourage you to review and comment on the draft Removal Action Workplan for the Proposed Converter Station site. DTSC is holding a 30-day public comment period beginning June 22, 2007 and ending July 23, 2007. All comments must be postmarked by July 23, 2007. All e-mailed comments must be received no later than 5:00 p.m. on that same day. Please mail written comments to:

Janet Naito  
DTSC Project Manager  
700 Heinz Avenue  
Berkeley, California, 94710  
[Jnaito@dtsc.ca.gov](mailto:Jnaito@dtsc.ca.gov)

For information about public participation and community involvement, please contact Chao Thao, DTSC Public Participation Specialist, 8800 Cal Center Drive, Sacramento, California 95826 at (916) 255-3649 or toll-free at (866) 495-5651 or by e-mail at [Cthao@dtsc.ca.gov](mailto:Cthao@dtsc.ca.gov). A public meeting will be considered if a written request identifying the issues to be raised is made to Chao Thao by July 9, 2007.



### Property History and Location

The property is about 5.6 acres and is located at 570, 580, 582, 584, 586, 588, 590, and 610 West Tenth Street. It is bordered on the north by the Mirant Pittsburg Power Plant property and the former Burlington North Santa Fe (BNSF) railroad right-of-way, to the east and west by light industrial businesses, and to the south by West Tenth Street and a residential development.

The property was predominantly undeveloped until 1965. It was subsequently used for commercial and industrial purposes, including furniture refinishing; automobile towing, automotive wrecking and salvaging; storage and painting of metal parts; and automobile-related service businesses. Several automobile service and other commercial facilities are located on the property.

### Property Investigations

Trans Bay Cable conducted investigations at the Converter Station between December 2005 and March 2007. DTSC reviewed the results of these investigations and determined that the primary soil contaminants are lead, polynuclear aromatic hydrocarbons (PAHs), and diesel and motor-oil range petroleum hydrocarbons. The primary contaminants in soil gas are volatile organic compounds (VOCs), such as benzene, methyl tert-butyl ether (MTBE) and 1,3-butadiene. These chemicals are consistent with historic and current operations at the site. The general public is not expected to come into contact with these chemicals because the properties are fenced.

Benzene, MTBE and 1,3-butadiene were detected in soil gas in two areas. Soil gas is the air found in the spaces between soil particles. VOCs, such as benzene, spilled on the ground



surface can soak into the ground and collect in the soil gas.

### What is a draft RAW?

The purpose of a draft RAW is to identify a preferred cleanup alternative for a site that prevents or reduces potential risk to public health and the environment. A draft RAW summarizes previous investigations and identifies the possible cleanup alternatives. These alternatives are screened and evaluated; then a cleanup alternative is selected.

The draft RAW identifies the alternative DTSC recommends and believes is the most appropriate for the site. Before DTSC makes a final decision to approve, modify or deny a draft RAW, the draft RAW is made available for public review and comment. All comments received

from the public during the comment period are reviewed and considered before the draft RAW is approved by DTSC.

### **Summary of the draft RAW**

The draft RAW proposes excavation, removal, and proper disposal of contaminated soils from the site. About 1,400 to 2,100 cubic yards (about 133 truckloads) of contaminated soil will be removed from eight areas of the site at depths ranging from one foot to 11 feet below the surface. Excavated soil will be sent to a proper disposal facility. Land use restrictions are also required to ensure that the property is not used for more sensitive land uses such as residences, schools, day-care centers or hospitals. Confirmation sampling will be conducted to demonstrate that site cleanup goals are achieved. If the soil cleanup goals are not achieved, excavation will continue until the site cleanup goals are met. If the soil gas cleanup goals are not achieved, vapor barriers or passive venting systems will be required for all site structures.

During excavation, dust control measures will be implemented in compliance with the local Air District requirements. These measures will include wetting the soil if necessary to control dust, covering truck beds, covering stockpiles and reducing truck speeds on unpaved roads. Real-time air monitoring for dust will be conducted. Excavation activities are expected to occur between 7 a.m. and 7 p.m. Monday to Friday in compliance with local noise ordinances.

### **Implementation Schedule**

Once the draft RAW has been approved, Trans Bay Cable will complete the permitting process necessary to implement the larger energy transmission project. It is anticipated that Trans Bay Cable will begin the cleanup actions described in the draft RAW in late 2007 or early 2008. A work notice will be sent out to the adjacent community a week in advance of the removal activities. The soil removal activities are expected to take approximately four to six weeks.

### **California Environmental Quality Act**

DTSC has reviewed the existing Final Environmental Impact Report (dated October 2006) and the Addendum (dated December 2006) for the Trans Bay Cable project. Based upon this review, DTSC has prepared a Responsible Agency Checklist and has determined that its portion of the project was adequately addressed in the existing documents. A copy of the Responsible Agency Checklist is available at the information repositories listed on page 4. DTSC intends to file a Notice of Determination with the California Office of Planning and Research once the project has been approved.

### **Next Steps**

During the 30-day public comment period, the public has an opportunity to review and comment on the draft RAW. The 30-day public comment period begins on June 22, 2007 and ends on July 23, 2007. Mailed comments must be postmarked no later than July 23, 2007 and emailed comments must be received by 5:00 p.m. on that same date to:

Janet Naito  
DTSC Project Manager  
Department of Toxic Substances Control  
700 Heinz Avenue  
Berkeley, California 94710  
[Jnaito@dtsc.ca.gov](mailto:Jnaito@dtsc.ca.gov)

DTSC will consider all comments received during the comment period before making a final decision on approving, amending, or denying the draft RAW. Once a decision has been made, DTSC will send a "Response to Comments" document to those who submitted comments or questions. A copy of the "Response to Comments" document will be placed at the information repositories.

### **Information Repositories**

The draft RAW and Responsible Agency Checklist is available for review at:

Pittsburg Public Library  
80 Power Avenue  
Pittsburg, CA 94565  
(925)427-8390

Open: Monday 12-8 p.m., Tuesday through Thursday 10 a.m. to 8 p.m., Friday 12-6 p.m. and Saturday 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.

City of Pittsburg Civic Center  
Planning Department  
65 Civic Avenue  
Pittsburg, California  
<http://www.ci.pittsburg.ca.us>

The full Administrative Record is located at:  
DTSC File Room  
700 Heinz Avenue  
Berkeley, California 94710  
(510) 540-3800  
(Please call for an appointment.)

### **For More Information**

Questions regarding the draft RAW:

Janet Naito  
DTSC Project Manager  
700 Heinz Avenue  
Berkeley, California 94710  
(510) 540-3833  
[Jnaito@dtsc.ca.gov](mailto:Jnaito@dtsc.ca.gov)

Questions regarding public participation:

Chao Thao  
DTSC Public Participation Specialist  
8800 Cal Center Drive  
Sacramento, California 95826  
(916) 255-3649 or toll-free at (866) 495-5651  
[Cthao@dtsc.ca.gov](mailto:Cthao@dtsc.ca.gov)

Media inquiries:

Angela Blanchette  
DTSC Public Information Officer  
700 Heinz Avenue  
Berkeley, California 94710  
(510) 540-3732  
[Ablanche@dtsc.ca.gov](mailto:Ablanche@dtsc.ca.gov)

### **Website Information**

The draft RAW and Responsible Agency Checklist are available online at [www.envirostor.dtsc.ca.gov/public/](http://www.envirostor.dtsc.ca.gov/public/) under the project name Trans Bay Cable Converter Station.

If you would like to learn more about the Department of Toxic Substances Control, you can visit us online at [www.dtsc.ca.gov](http://www.dtsc.ca.gov).

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

TDD users can obtain information about the Proposed Converter Station site by using the California State Relay Service at (888) 877-5378. Please ask to speak with Chao Thao, DTSC Public Participation Specialist, at (916) 255-3649.

### **Anuncio**

Si prefiere hablar con alguien en español acerca de ésta información, favor de llamar a Jacinto Soto, Departamento de Control de Substancias Tóxicas. El número de teléfono es (510) 540-3842.

**COMMENT FORM**

If you have any comments concerning the **draft Removal Action Workplan for the Proposed Converter Station** site please fill out the information below and mail by July 23, 2007. Please include your name and address if you wish to receive a copy of the written Response to Comments when the Final Removal Action Workplan is issued. Also, please provide your name and address if you would like to be added to or removed from the mailing list. **Comments must be postmarked by July 23, 2007.** Send your comments to:

Janet Naito  
DTSC Project Manager  
700 Heinz Avenue  
Berkeley, CA 94710.

**ARE YOU ON DTSC's MAILING LIST ?**

- Please add me to the Proposed Converter Station site mailing list.
- Please take me off the Proposed Converter Station Site mailing list.

Note: While the mailing list is solely for DTSC to keep you informed of our activities, the list is considered a public record and, if requested, may be subject to release.

Please print name and address clearly.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City/State/Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone (optional): \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail (optional): \_\_\_\_\_

Comments (*attach additional pages if needed*): \_\_\_\_\_

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Note: Your comments will be considered a public record for this site and, if requested, may be subject to release.