Fact Sheet
June 2003

DTSC To Hold Meeting: Public to Comment on the Proposed Cleanup Levels at the Union Pacific Railroad Company Roseville Area A Site

DEPARTMENT OF TOXIC SUBSTANCES CONTROL

FACT SHEET / PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD

DTSC is one of six Boards and Departments within the California Environmental Protection Agency. The Department's mission is to restore, protect and enhance the environment, to ensure public health, environmental quality and economic vitality, by regulating hazardous waste, conducting and overseeing cleanups, and developing and promoting pollution prevention.

State of California

California Environmental Protection Agency

Why am I Receiving this Fact Sheet?

The California Environmental Protection Agency – Department of Toxic Substances Control (DTSC) is providing this fact sheet to invite the public to provide comments on the Draft Remedial Action Plan (RAP) prepared for the Area A Operable Unit (OU) at the Union Pacific Railroad Company (UPRR) Roseville Yard (formerly Southern Pacific Transportation Company) (Figure 1). The purpose of the RAP is to propose cleanup levels that are protective of public health and the environment and to identify additional activities to be performed to complete the remedial action. The Draft RAP presents a summary of the nature and extent of contaminants that were found in the soil and shallow ground water during the investigation and the actions UPRR has taken to address the contamination at the Area A Operable Unit.

What this Fact Sheet Tells You About Contamination at the Roseville Yard, Area A:

- What we found;
- How it got there;
- What we have done so far;
- Why and how we plan to clean it up;
- Terms in **Bold** print are defined in the glossary on page 4; and
- How you can help by telling us what you think.

DTSC oversees UPRR Company in the investigation and cleanup of hazardous substances at the rail yard. DTSC's role is to make sure UPRR's cleanup is done to local, state, and federal standards and protects public health and the environment.

Public Meeting and Comment Period

A public meeting will be held on Tue. June 24, 2003 at the Maidu Community Center, 1550 Maidu Drive, Roseville, California 95661 from 6:30 to 7:30 p.m.

At the meeting we invite your comments and questions about the proposed cleanup actions and levels described in the RAP. We will also accept written comments starting on Monday June 16, 2003 and ending on Tuesday July 15, 2003.

Please send your comments or questions to Mr. Tom Tse, Project Manager, Department of Toxic Substances Control, 8800 Cal Center Drive, Sacramento, California 95826-3200 or via e-mail at ttse@dtsc.ca.gov . All mailed comments must be postmarked by Tuesday July 15, 2003. E-mailed comments must be sent to the Department no later than 5:00 p.m. on Tuesday July 15, 2003.

The energy challenge facing California is real. Every Californian needs to take immediate action to reduce energy consumption. For a list of simple ways you can reduce demand and cut your energy costs, see our website at www.dtsc.ca.gov.

What we Found During Our Investigation

Area A is the former location of five wastewater ponds and a drainage interceptor basin. These ponds were referred to as Ponds A, B, C, D, and E and the drainage interceptor. Remedial investigation (RI) activities at the Area A OU, Roseville Yard began in 1983. Soil sampling conducted during RI activities indicated that the chemicals of concern include **petroleum hydrocarbon** compounds, **volatile organic compounds**, **semivolatile organic compounds**, and some metal compounds. Ground water at Area A OU was also investigated. Two ground water-bearing zones have been identified: (1) the shallow water-bearing zone is between 9 and 19 feet below ground surface (bgs); and (2) the deep regional aquifer is between 114 and 138 feet bgs. Ground water samples collected from the shallow water-bearing zone have detected the presence of petroleum hydrocarbon compounds, as well as inorganic compounds, which appear to be naturally occurring. The shallow water-bearing zone ***is not*** used as a source for drinking water. Investigation conducted in the deep regional aquifer has indicated that chemicals found at Area A have not affected the ground water in this zone.

How the Ponds were used

Historically, wastewater generated by past operations at the site was discharged through the industrial sewer lines into the five unlined ponds at Area A OU (Figure 1). These ponds were used to separate and remove settled impacted material and floating oil from the wastewater. Pond A received wastewater from the Diesel Shop area and railcar Rehabilitation and Maintenance Center (RAMAC) facility until 1984. Ponds D and E were taken out of service before 1950. The use of Ponds B and C ceased in 1968. Ponds B, C, D, and E were subsequently backfilled in the early 1970s without removal of the chemical contaminants. The drainage interceptor accepted oily wastes until 1985 when it was taken out of service.

Cleanup Activities Completed

Cleanup activities at Area A OU began in 1984 with the excavation and off-site disposal of approximately 10,100 cubic yards (cy) of petroleum hydrocarbon-impacted material (4,700 cy of liquid and 5,400 cy of soil) from Pond A. Pond A was closed pursuant to the requirements of Resource Conservation and Recovery Act in 1990. Removal of impacted material from the drainage interceptor was conducted in 1987. An Interim Remedial Action Plan (IRAP) and an Amended IRAP were approved in December 1993 and in May 1996 to address the impacted material at the Area A OU. In-situ bioremediation and Slurry Wall/ Capping/Limited Institutional Controls were the preferred remedies selected in the 1993 IRAP and in the 1996 Amended IRAP as described below. Southern Pacific Transportation Company implemented the remedial activities as outlined in the two previous interim RAPs. Cleanup activities were conducted to address chemicals found in Ponds B, C, D, and E. Remediation activities at Area A OU included the following:

1. In 1987, approximately 1,200 cy of petroleum hydrocarbon-impacted material from the former drainage interceptor were excavated and disposed of offsite.
2. In 1994, approximately 44,000 cy of petroleum hydrocarbon-impacted material from former Ponds B, C, and a portion of D were excavated and disposed of offsite.
3. From 1995 to 1998, following the excavation activities, a bioremediation system was installed and operated to treat the contaminated soil left in place, as well as the contaminated ground water in the vicinity of Ponds B, C, and D. Bioremediation uses natural microorganisms in the soil to break down contaminants into nonhazardous

components. To optimize microbial growth and contaminants degradation, water and nutrients were added to the soil periodically. These microorganisms then ingest and break down the contaminants, similar to the way our bodies break down the food we eat. The bioremediation system consisted of ground water extraction wells, a nutrient addition system, and a sprinkler system. Ground water was extracted from the shallow aquifer into tanks and then nutrients were added to the ground water in the tanks. The water and nutrients were then discharged through the sprinkler system into the excavation. The system operated 24 hours per day.

4. In 1997, a slurry wall/asphalt cap (cap) containment system was installed near former Ponds D and E. The wall and cap were designed to prevent possible human exposure to contaminated soil that cannot be removed because of the presence of existing structures (utilities, access roads, and Foothill Boulevard) and to control potential migration of contaminated ground water from the contamination remaining in these former ponds.
5. In 1999, approximately 6,300 cy of petroleum hydrocarbon contaminated soil material remaining at the base of the 1994 excavation were excavated and disposed of offsite.
6. In 1999, approximately 218,000 gallons of apparent petroleum hydrocarbon contaminated ground water from the excavation site were removed and disposed of.

The Final Cleanup Plan is Ready for Review

The purpose of the RAP is to propose cleanup levels that are protective of public health and the environment and to identify additional activities to be performed to complete the remedial action. The proposed cleanup plan for the Area A OU can be found in the Draft RAP. The Draft RAP identifies the following activities to be performed to complete the remedial action in the Area A OU.

1. Perform ground water monitoring in the Area A OU. Monitor for natural attenuation of the total petroleum hydrocarbons found in the ground water.
2. Remove four shallow ground water extraction wells located in the Area A OU.
3. Excavate and off-site dispose of approximately 250 cy of additional impacted material from the sidewalls of the 1994 excavation.
4. Implement institutional control and deed restrictions (prohibiting drilling of drinking water wells; growing food items; and using the property for residential, school, day-care centers, or hospitals).

Where Can I Find Project Specific Documents?

The cleanup plan is described in detail in the Draft RAP. This document can be viewed at two locations:

Roseville Main Library
225 Taylor Street
Roseville, California 95678
(916) 774-5221
Library Hours:
Mon-Thurs: 9:00 a.m.-9:00 p.m.
Fri-Sat: 9:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m., Sun. 1:00 p.m.-5:00 p.m.

California Environmental Protection Agency
Department of Toxic Substances Control
8800 Cal Center Drive
Sacramento, California 95826-3200
Mr. Thomas Tse, Project Officer
(916) 255-3643

File Room:
Mon-Fri: 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.
by appointment (916) 255-3758.

Notice to Hearing Impaired Individuals

TDD users can use the California Relay Service (1-888-877-5378) and ask to speak to Ms. Michelle Trotter at 916-255-6441.

Glossary

Petroleum Hydrocarbons - Crude oil-based compounds that contain hydrogen and carbon.
Semivolatile Organic Compounds - A compound that partially evaporates or changes from liquid to gas readily at normal temperatures.
Volatile Organic Compounds (VOC) - VOCs include solvents that readily evaporate at temperatures normally found at ground surface and at shallow depths.

California Environmental Quality Act

DTSC has evaluated the project to determine the possible environmental impacts of the activities proposed in the Draft RAP in accordance with the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA). The actions in this RAP are supplemental to the 1993 IRAP and the 1996 amended RAP. DTSC believes that the proposed activities would have no significant negative impacts due to the small volume of contamination and limited scope. DTSC plans to file a Notice of Exemption in accordance with CEQA after the approval of the RAP.

For More Information

If you would like more information or have questions on the Draft RAP, please contact Mr. Thomas Tse at (916) 255-3643. For questions about the public participation process, contact Ms. Michelle Trotter, Public Participation Coordinator, at (916) 255-6441. For media questions, please contact Ms. Lisa Gray at (916) 324-0936.

For more information about DTSC, you may visit our website at www.dtsc.ca.gov

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Mailing List

If you have comments concerning the Union Pacific Railroad Company Area A or if you would like to be put on the site-specific mailing list, please take a moment to fill out the information below and mail it to Ms. Michelle Trotter, DTSC Public Participation Specialist, 8800 Cal Center Drive, Sacramento, California, 95826.

DTSC mailing lists are solely for the purpose of keeping persons informed of DTSC activities. Mailing lists are not routinely released to outside parties. However, they are considered public records, and if requested, may be subject to release.

Name:_____

Address:_____

City/State/Zip Code:_____

Comments:_____

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Figure 1

Department of Toxic Substances Control
Attn: Ms. Michelle Trotter
8800 Cal Center Drive
Sacramento, California 95826-3200

Inside:

The public is invited to comment on the UPRR Draft Remedial Action Plan.