

Department of Toxic Substances Control
Project Status Update
for
Wyle Laboratories Norco Facility Site
June 20, 2005

SITE INVESTIGATION/CLEANUP

- DTSC is working on resolving a dispute with Wyle over our requirement that they sample the indoor air at a home where elevated levels of trichloroethylene (TCE) were found in the crawl space and outdoor air. This is the home on the corner of Hillside and Third Street that has a private well with high levels of TCE. Wyle is disputing the need for indoor air sampling. We have sent Wyle a follow-up letter reaffirming our requirement to conduct the sampling, and we will pursue the issue until the sampling is done.
- We are reviewing Wyle's revised northwest area cleanup plan (called the "Removal Action Workplan," or RAW). The plan is for cleanup of chemical vapors in the soil in the Golden West Lane area northwest of the Wyle site. The draft RAW will go out for public review and comment before a final decision is made. It describes and compares various cleanup options, and identifies the one we believe will best remove or greatly reduce the chemical vapors in soil. These vapors come from the contaminated groundwater in that area. Groundwater cleanup will be done in a separate step. The vapors are the main concern right now because they have the potential to affect indoor air in the neighborhood. The cleanup in this northwest area will be only one part of the overall cleanup of contamination on and around the Wyle property. The public comment period, which we anticipate will begin sometime in August, will be announced in a fact sheet that will describe the proposed cleanup.
- Wyle is preparing a workplan for our review and approval to conduct soil gas and indoor air sampling at the three schools near the Wyle site. The sampling is planned to address community concerns and to collect information about off-site movement of chemical contaminants (such as TCE) through bedrock fractures. We will coordinate this sampling with the school district. The workplan is due to DTSC by June 24, 2005.
- DTSC is evaluating whether a boundary reassessment is needed due to a significant rise in the groundwater table this year. The original Boundary Assessment (soil gas and groundwater sampling along parts of the Wyle property boundary) was conducted in 2004 after several years of drought. We anticipate making a determination by the end of this week. If we find that more sampling is needed, the sampling could begin by the end of June.
- We have approved the Technical Memorandum (detailed work plan) for sampling a residential property on Third Street next to the Wyle site. A water sample from a drain pipe in the driveway contained TCE, which is a chemical of concern at the Wyle site. In response to our comments on the draft Technical Memorandum, Wyle will collect soil gas and groundwater samples near the home and the drain

pipe will be traced to its source, which is currently unknown. The sampling will be done within the next two weeks.

- We are reviewing a Technical Memorandum (detailed work plan) for sampling another property on Third Street next to the Wyle site. Residents reported water seepage in their backyard. To find out if the seepage contains TCE, as discovered in a driveway drain nearby (see bullet item above), the draft workplan proposes to collect soil gas and/or groundwater in the backyard of the home. This sampling is planned for the end of June.
- Demolition activities onsite are ongoing. Prior to demolition, buildings are surveyed for asbestos-containing material (ACM) and lead-based paint (LBP). Demolition starts only after the buildings are certified free from ACM/LBP. During demolition, dust control measures such as lightly spraying the dirt are used to ensure no significant amount of dust is generated. Demolition involves only above-ground structures without removal of foundations or significant disturbance of soil. DTSC does not have jurisdiction over the demolition activities, but we have asked St. Clair (the property owners) to document the safety measures they use to ensure that on-site workers and the surrounding residents are not impacted by demolition activities. St. Clair has provided a copy of the demolition contractor's "Safety Management Program" to DTSC. Copies will be available at the DTSC Cypress office, and both information repositories for review.
 - Buildings demolished to date: Areas B, C and D, F2, F3, F4, F5, F5-4, F6, F1C, F9, F12, F10, H3, H4, H5, H8, E, E1, E2, E5, S, I, M1, F5 Area Buildings, J2, and J3.
 - Wood and building debris continue to be stockpiled next to F-10 to be moved offsite as needed.
 - Removal of metal salvage, wood, and building debris will be conducted from the back of the property to the front.

Upcoming Activities:

- Continued removal of remaining metal salvage throughout the site
 - Demolition of remaining buildings in Areas A1 and H2
 - Continued general area cleanup and hauling away of trash
 - Weed abatement (with no significant digging or soil disturbance)
 - Annual disking operations are being done around the property boundary and near roads within the property for fire prevention. Disking is being routinely done as in the past. Disking activities will be completed this week
- Ongoing Remedial Investigation activities:
 - Onsite: Last week, soil and grab groundwater sampling in Area F. Trenching in Area K to identify any buried items of concern in the on-site disposal area.
 - Offsite: Last week, re-sampling of crawl space and outdoor air at home on Third and Hillside (where elevated levels of TCE were previously detected). Water level gauging in Wells MW-14, MW-15, and all off-site monitoring wells.

Sampling planned for this week:

- Onsite: Soil and grab groundwater sampling in Areas F and F-5. Collect soil samples from the bottoms and sidewalls of the trenches in Area K.
- Offsite: No offsite sampling currently scheduled for this week.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

- On June 15, project manager Juan Osornio attended the Norco City Council meeting. Mr. Osornio briefed the Council on the status of the investigation.
- On June 16, project manager Juan Osornio, senior engineer Rafat Abbasi, project geologist Theodore Johnson, and public participation specialist Kim Foreman attended the Community Advisory Group (CAG) meeting, gave an update on the project status, and answered questions and concerns from the CAG members. Mr. Johnson gave a presentation on the fracture analysis.