

Department of Toxic Substances Control
Project Status Update
for
Wyle Laboratories Norco Facility Site
March 28, 2005

SITE INVESTIGATION/CLEANUP

- DTSC staff sampled another private well on First Street and five reported “seeps” (areas where water appears to be flowing up from below ground and causing runoff, which may indicate groundwater coming to the surface) along Hillside Avenue and Third Street on March 24 and 26, 2005. The private well owner reported that he has been using the well for irrigation only. The seep locations were based on information provided by a City Council member and the City of Norco’s consultant. We anticipate getting the sampling results within two weeks.
- On March 24, 2005, a Community Advisory Group (CAG) member reported there was a riparian area (wetland near a stream) behind a home at 1291 Rock Springs Avenue where dead animals had been found floating in a resident’s pool. As a follow-up to this report, DTSC geologist Ron Okuda visited the area to see if it might be affected by Wyle-related contaminants. The area may possibly be a City or County "catch basin" for storm water runoff. Along the northern edge of the basin is Norco Hills Park. Rock Springs Avenue borders the western edge, and some homes border the basin along the eastern edge. There is a highly vegetated area outside the basin behind the 1291 residence. The inside landscaped slopes of the basin have irrigation pipelines and sprinklers, and the bottom of the basin is covered with plants and trees. The area appears to be higher in elevation than the area where surface water is running off the southwestern Wyle property boundary along El Paso. Based on this site visit, DTSC believes it is unlikely that surface water runoff or shallow groundwater from the Wyle Property flows to this area. A large number of birds, lizards, and other animals were seen and heard moving around in the basin. No dead animals were seen during the site visit. If any CAG or community members have any information about this possible catch basin, please call DTSC project manager Juan Osornio at (714) 484-5498.
- DTSC is finishing the review comments on the proposed cleanup plan for the groundwater and soil vapors in the offsite area northwest of the Wyle property (primarily Golden West Lane, Hillside Avenue, and Third Street). The plan, called a draft Removal Action Workplan (RAW), presents and evaluates various cleanup options that will reduce the potential exposure to residents from TCE, perchlorate, and other contaminants that have migrated into that area. The cleanup in this northwest area will be only one part of the overall cleanup of contamination on and around the Wyle property. We will solicit public input, during a 30-day public comment period, before making a final decision on the cleanup plan.
- Our review of the cleanup of chemical vapors from inside the home on Golden West Lane where TCE and other volatile organic compounds (VOCs) were found

in the indoor air shows that the cleanup is successfully clearing the vapors from inside the home. The document describing this cleanup is the "Technical Memorandum (TM) Summarizing Results of Indoor Air Quality (IAQ) Sampling and Mitigation Activities, and Scope of Work for Additional IAQ Sampling in Northwest Area." The cleanup included installing a new ventilation system to clear the vapors out of the indoor air. The TM also describes the proposed continued monitoring of the home.

- DTSC is reviewing the Draft Final Remedial Investigation (RI) Workplan. The RI Workplan, dated March 18, 2005, provides a detailed plan for the further assessment and characterization of chemicals in soil gas, soil, surface water, and groundwater at the Wyle Labs site. The purpose of the RI is to define the nature and extent of Wyle-related contamination, both onsite and in the surrounding community. We anticipate providing comments and/or approving the RI Workplan for implementation by the end of March. At that point, the full-scale sampling of groundwater, soil, and soil gas on the Wyle property will begin. To date, most of the sampling has been done around the property boundary and off site in the northwest area of Golden West Lane, Hillside Avenue, and Third Street, since we have focused on evaluating impact to the surrounding community as being the highest priority.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

- DTSC will hold a public meeting on April 26, 2005 at the Learning Center South meeting room at the Corona-Norco Unified School District office in Norco to update the community on the Wyle project. The agenda will include the latest sampling results from groundwater, soil gas, and private wells; the progress of investigation and cleanup plans for the Golden West Lane/Hillside Avenue/Third Street area northwest of the site; the fracture analysis to look for groundwater pathways; and other recent activities and plans. Representatives from the Community Advisory Group (CAG), and the City, County, and State will also be participating. We will send out a notice with further details by mid-April.