



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, August 2006

Soil Gas and Indoor Air Sampling to be Conducted Related to Bonnie Beach Facility

We want to let you know that during the month of September 2006, the Department of Toxic Substances Control (DTSC) will be supervising sampling of soil gas otherwise known as vapors within the soil and conducting indoor air sampling in the vicinity of South Bonnie Beach Place. This sampling is part of DTSC's investigation of the contamination found at and around the former Univar Bonnie Beach facility (BBF) located at 1363 S. Bonnie Beach Place (the facility) in Los Angeles, California. This is a follow-up of the soil gas investigation that took place in 2004.

The sampling that was conducted before was within the public right-of-ways. The investigation found high levels of volatile organic compounds (VOCs) in the soil gas that extend beyond the facility property. VOCs are chemicals that contain carbon and evaporate easily at room temperature. Products that contain VOCs include paint, cleaning chemicals, and vehicle exhaust. The highest VOC concentrations were detected onsite, near the south portion of the facility and to the east of the facility along South Bonnie Beach Place.

DTSC and Univar are working cooperatively to collect additional sampling in the area where high concentrations of chemicals were found. The purpose of the additional sampling is to determine how far these chemicals have migrated from the facility. Additional soil gas sampling will be done in the yards of the residential homes and commercial buildings. Also, DTSC plans to conduct indoor air sampling

DO YOU HAVE A WELL?

DTSC needs to be aware of all wells in the vicinity to insure protection of the groundwater.

If you do please contact Yolanda Garza at (818) 551-2955.

Community Outreach

We encourage community involvement and will publish additional fact sheets as significant milestones are reached. After the additional sampling is completed, DTSC will mail out another fact sheet or information letter letting you know of the sampling results and further actions.



in selected homes and commercial buildings near the facility. Prior to any indoor air sampling, the residents of these homes will be contacted individually by DTSC staff to obtain access from the residents and to explain procedures. The Univar Consultant, Rubicon Engineering Corporation will conduct the indoor air sampling with DTSC oversight. The additional sampling will be conducted at the facility and in the immediate vicinity to the east.

Our agency is the Department of Toxic Substances Control. Our mission is to protect human health and the environment by overseeing the investigation and cleanup of the facility.

Facility History and Investigations

The Bonnie Beach Facility (BBF) is located on the border of Commerce and Los Angeles in California. The facility covers approximately 8 acres in a mixed industrial, commercial, and residential area. Univar had been the owner of the BBF from 1958 until 2003 and operated the BBF until December 2000. The BBF had been used for the blending and distribution of various chemicals. Between 1971 and 1985, a portion of the BBF was used for recycling industrial solvents.

Underground investigations conducted between 1986 and 1990 discovered that a number of solvents at the BBF leaked into the soil beneath the recycle facility area and the former underground storage tanks (USTs). The USTs were removed in 2001.

In June 1995, Van Waters and Rogers Inc. (now Univar USA Inc.) entered into a consent agreement with DTSC. The agreement committed Univar USA, Inc. to a hazardous waste investigation and cleanup at the BBF with DTSC oversight. The agreement outlines a series of investigations to evaluate the type and extent of chemical contamination of soil and groundwater onsite and offsite.

A Phase I investigation conducted in late 1995 and early 1996 confirmed the presence of solvents in soil in the former recycle area and around the former USTs, and identified solvents

in ground water. Additional data was needed and from November 1996 to April 1997, Phase II of the facility investigation was performed, which included collecting soil, soil gas and ground water samples both onsite and offsite. The results of the investigation indicate that solvents are present in soil gas and groundwater beneath the facility and offsite.

Phase III investigations began in December 1997 and focused on assessing the presence of vapors in soil gas beneath the BBF warehouse and evaluating the presence of solvents in deeper zones. Phase IV investigation conducted in late 1999 through 2002 included further evaluation of solvents and hydrogeologic conditions in the shallow and intermediate groundwater zones in offsite, down gradient (lower) areas. Results of the investigations to date indicate contamination has extended offsite and DTSC has determined that additional investigations were necessary to determine the extent of offsite soil gas contamination.

In December 2000, all operations ceased at the BBF. Since then, the northern portion of the facility has been purchased and is being used as a warehouse. Currently, soil and groundwater investigation and remediation are ongoing activities at the facility. In 2004, DTSC conducted soil gas investigations at the facility and in the immediate vicinity to the east, west and southeast to further evaluate subsurface conditions.

What is Being Done Now

To reduce potential soil gas contamination from the facility, a soil vapor extraction treatment (SVET) system has been installed at the facility to remove chemical vapors from the soil. The extracted soil vapors are treated by a catalytic oxidizer that reduces the chemicals to carbon dioxide, water and a small amount of sodium chloride (table salt) and sodium bicarbonate (baking soda).

The SVET system is intended to remediate the deeper zones of soils beneath the former underground storage tank (USTs) area and southern portions of the facility. In addition, soil vapor extraction, with vapor treatment by a

carbon absorption system is installed to clean up the shallow soils surrounding the former USTs.

The SVET system has been installed by Univar under DTSC oversight and has been operating under a permit issued by the South Coast Air Quality Management District (SCAQMD). The SVET system will be maintained and operated until soil gas vapors are reduced to an acceptable level.

Corrective Measures Study and Remedy Selection

The facility investigations are being performed in accordance with the federal Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA). The results of the investigations, called the RCRA Facility Investigation (RFI), will be used to determine the different ways cleanup of the contamination can be achieved. This is reported in a document called a Corrective Measures Study (CMS). This CMS will form the basis for selecting the final cleanup for the facility.

After the RFI is complete and DTSC has defined the full extent of the contamination, Univar will prepare a CMS. In the CMS, different cleanup remedies are identified and evaluated, and DTSC will recommend the best cleanup remedy. DTSC will present the draft CMS document for public review and comment. The final remedy selection process is also subject to the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA). CEQA requires DTSC to report to the public any impacts to public health or the environment that could occur from the cleanup. A draft CEQA determination will also be provided to the public for review and comment.

DTSC will review and respond to all public comments in writing and will send a copy of the response and comments to all persons who submitted comments and to those who request a copy. After responding to public comments and if necessary DTSC may revise the CMS before finalizing the remedy selection. Once the remedy selection is finalized, a final cleanup plan will be prepared and implemented. Future fact sheets will serve to inform the community of the plan's implementation and the progress of the final remedy.

Who to Contact for More Information

Lorraine Larsen-Hallock
DTSC Project Manager
8800 Cal Center Drive
Sacramento, CA 95826
Phone: (916) 255-3578
E-mail: llarsenh@dtsc.ca.gov

Yolanda Garza
DTSC Bilingual-English/Spanish
1011 N. Grandview Avenue
Glendale, California 91201
Phone: (818) 551-2955
E-mail: ygarza@dtsc.ca.gov

Treva Miller
DTSC Public Participation Specialist
1011 N. Grandview Avenue
Glendale, California 91201
Phone: (866) 495-5651 (toll free)
E-mail: tmiller@dtsc.ca.gov

For media inquiries

Jeanne Garcia
DTSC Public Information Officer
Phone: (818) 551-2176
E-mail: jgarcia1@dtsc.ca.gov

Where to Find the Documents

You can get more information about the project at the local library. You can find details about the indoor air sampling and analysis plan (SAP) as well as other documents pertaining to the RFI. The libraries are at the following locations:

Bristow Public Library
1466 S. McDonnell Avenue
Commerce, CA 90040
Phone: (323) 265-1787
Hours: 2 p.m.- 8 p.m. Mon. & Tues.
1 p.m.- 8 p.m. Wed. & Thur.
2 p.m. - 6 p.m. Friday

Our Lady of Victory Church
Rectory Office
1316 S. Herbert Avenue
Los Angeles, CA 90023
Phone: (323) 268-9502

Department of Toxic Substances Control

Regional Records Office
1011 N. Grandview Avenue
Glendale, CA 91201
Contact: Jone Barrio
Phone: (818) 551-2886
Hours: 8 a.m.-5 p.m. Mon-Fri

Notice to Hearing-Impaired Individuals

You can obtain additional information about the site by using the California State Relay Service at (888) 877-5378 (TDD) or by calling Treva Miller, DTSC Public Participation Specialist, at (818) 551-2846.