



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, May 2007

Draft Removal Action Workplan for Heroic War Dead U.S. Army Reserve Center Oakland, California

A proposal to clean up contamination at the Heroic War Dead United States Army Reserve Center (HWD) is open for public comment. The Department of Toxic Substances Control (DTSC) invites the public to review and comment on the draft Removal Action Workplan (RAW) dated May 2007. The United States Army Reserve (USAR) is the current HWD property owner. The map on page 3 shows the site location and adjacent areas.

USAR plans to transfer the HWD property to the East Bay Municipal Utility District (EBMUD). The expected transfer date is June 30, 2007. EBMUD is funding the cleanup activities for the HWD site to ensure that cleanup activities will be done by the transfer date. DTSC, after careful consideration, has decided to shorten the normal 30-day public comment period to a 20-day public comment period to meet this timeline.

DTSC encourages you to review and comment on the draft RAW, which is available at the information repositories listed on page 4.

This Fact Sheet Will Inform You About:

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

Public Comment Period and Public Meeting

DTSC invites the public to review and comment on the draft RAW for the HWD site.

The 20-day public comment period begins on May 17, 2007 and ends on June 5, 2007. Written comments must be postmarked or emailed no later than June 5, 2007. Please send your comments to:

Henry Wong
DTSC Remedial Project Manager
700 Heinz Avenue, Berkeley, California 94710

Hwong@dtsc.ca.gov

Public Meeting

DTSC will hold a public meeting to discuss the draft RAW, to answer the community's questions, and to receive public comments.

The public meeting will be held on:

Wednesday, May 30, 2007, 6:00 p.m.
West Oakland Multipurpose Senior Center
1724 Adeline Street, 2nd Floor
West Oakland, California 94607



Site History and Location

The 16-acre HWD site is located at 2400 Engineer Road in an industrial area on the west side of Oakland. The site is bordered on the north by the eastbound lanes of Interstate 80, to the south by Engineer Road, to the west by the former Oakland Army Base, and to the east by the EBMUD wastewater treatment plant.

The HWD site and adjacent areas were originally tidal flats or shallow open water. During the 1930s, the site areas were filled to create the land subsequently acquired by the U.S. Army in 1941. Since 1970, the USAR has used the site for vehicle maintenance, medical equipment storage, logistics, and training.

Site Investigations

Since 1998, the USAR and EBMUD have investigated the nature and extent of contamination at the site. DTSC is overseeing the investigation efforts to ensure adequate evaluation.

The primary soil contaminants are polynuclear aromatic hydrocarbons (PAHs) and lead. PAHs are typical components of asphalts, fuels, oils, and greases. Investigations have found contamination widely across the site and below the surface. The source of the PAHs is unknown but does not appear to be associated with any operations or activities on the property.

Elevated lead-contaminated soil is found at the site at depths from two feet to nine feet below the surface. The source of the lead is unknown but appears to be associated with fill soil placed at the site in the early 1900s.

The USAR found elevated concentrations of metals in groundwater. The principal chemicals in groundwater are lead, barium, and petroleum hydrocarbons. High background concentrations of dissolved solids, chloride, sulfate, and manganese make groundwater underlying the site and vicinity unusable without treatment. However, controls, such as deed restriction, are necessary to make sure that humans do not have contact with the contaminated groundwater.

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

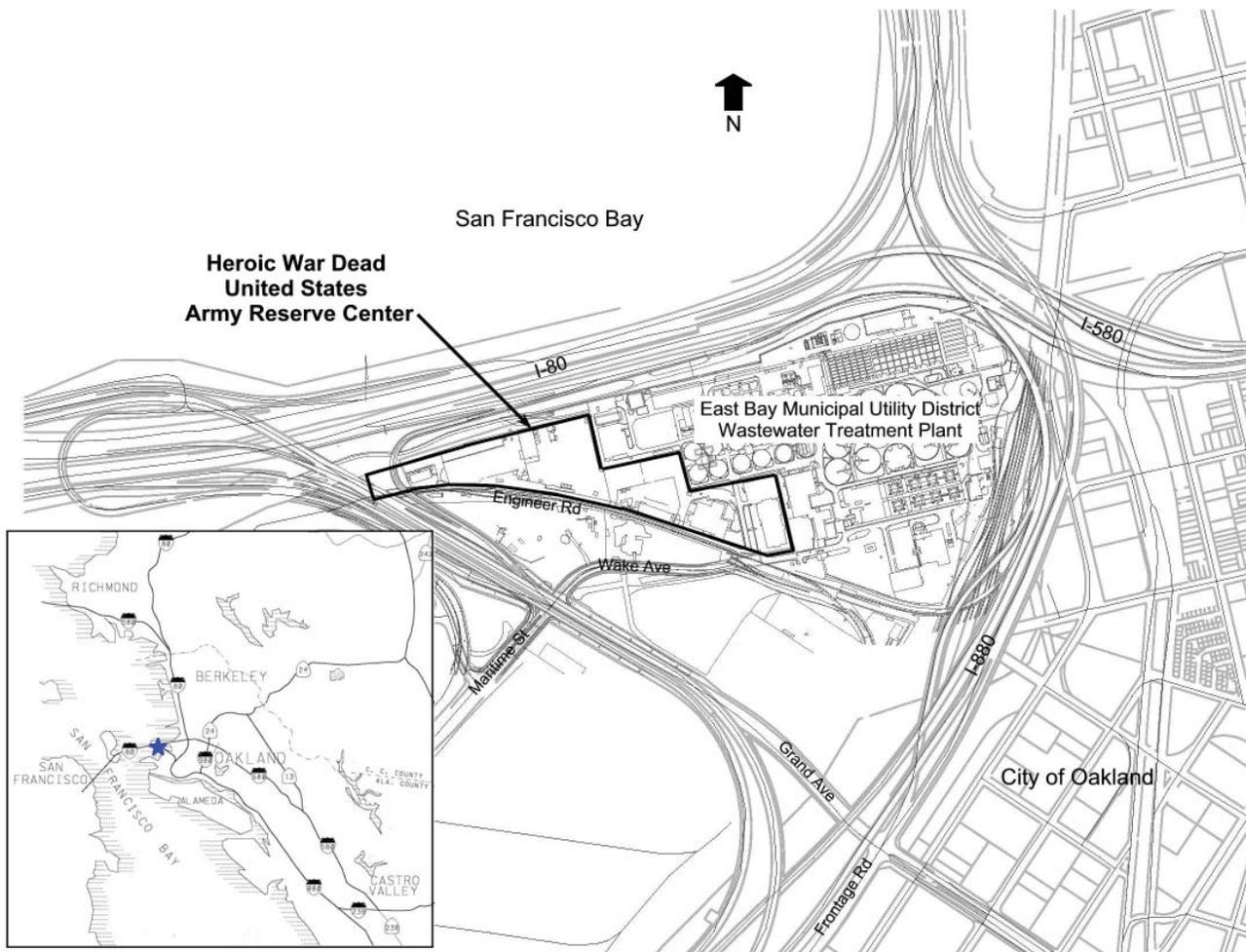
The draft RAW for the site proposes the following:

- Restrictions that prohibit drilling and use of drinking water wells, using the property for residences, schools, day-care centers, or hospitals.
- Removal of soil contaminated with PAHs and disposal of the soil at a permitted off-site disposal facility.
- Covering lead contaminated soil with an asphalt cap to isolate the contaminants present and eliminate potential exposures.
- Implementing a biannual groundwater monitoring program.

Truck Route

Once the draft RAW has been approved, cleanup activities can begin at any time and are expected to take three to four weeks to complete.

Work will be done Monday through Friday. Each day, approximately 15 to 40 trucks will transport contaminated soils to permitted off-site disposal facilities. The trucks will travel between the hours of 10 a.m. and 3 p.m.



Trucks exiting the site will:

- Exit onto Engineer Road and travel east to Wake Avenue, then to Maritime Street.
- From Maritime Street, the trucks will take the 7th Street South I-880 on-ramp towards I-238 and then to I-580.
- From I-580, the trucks will travel to the appropriate disposal facilities.

California Environmental Quality Act

Based on an environmental assessment, DTSC has determined that no significant environmental impacts would result from the cleanup project. Therefore, to comply with the California Environmental Quality Act, DTSC has prepared a Notice of Exemption (NOE). A copy of the NOE is available at the information repositories list on page 4.

Next Steps

During the 20-day public comment period, the public has an opportunity to review and comment on the draft RAW. The 20-day public comment period begins on May 17, 2007 and ends on June 5, 2007. Mailed comments must be postmarked no later than June 5, 2007 and emailed comments must be received by 5:00 p.m. on that same date to:

Henry Wong
 Remedial Project Manager
 Department of Toxic Substances Control
 700 Heinz Avenue
 Berkeley, California 94710
hwong@dtsc.ca.gov

A public meeting is scheduled on Wednesday, May 30, 2007, 6:00 p.m., at the West Oakland Multipurpose Senior Center, 1724 Adeline Street, 2nd Floor, Oakland, California. DTSC will discuss information in the draft RAW, answer questions, and receive any public comments.

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 NOE is available for review at:

West Oakland Public Library
1801 Adeline Street
West Oakland, California 94608
(510) 238-7352

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:

Henry Wong
DTSC Remedial Project Manager
700 Heinz Avenue
Berkeley, California 94710
(510) 540-3770
hwong@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

Media inquiries:

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

Website Information

The draft RAW is available online at www.envirostor.dtsc.ca.gov/public/ under the project name Oakland Army Reserve Exchange. If you would like to learn more about the Department of Toxic Substances Control, you can visit us online at www.dtsc.ca.gov.

Notice to Hearing Impaired Individuals

TDD users can obtain information about the HWD 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 Jesús Cruz, Departamento de Control de Substancias Tóxicas. El número de teléfono es (916) 255-3315.

Department of Toxic Substances Control

Attn: Chao Thao

8800 Cal Center Drive, 3rd floor

Sacramento, California 95826

Inside:

**Information about the Heroic War Dead U.S. Army Reserve Center
environmental cleanup.**