

COMMUNITY UPDATE

The mission of DTSC is to protect California's people and the environment from harmful effects of toxic substances through the restoration of contaminated resources, enforcement, regulation and pollution prevention.

Malibu High School Draft Removal Action Work Plan Available for Public Comment

The Department of Toxic Substances Control (DTSC) requests public review and comment on the proposed plan to clean up contaminated soil at the Malibu High School Building G Area. This cleanup plan, called a Draft Removal Action Work Plan (Draft RAW), describes the environmental investigation, sampling results, and recommended option to clean up surface soil contaminated with polychlorinated biphenyls (PCBs).

Why Cleanup is Being Conducted

Investigations at the Malibu Middle and High school (MHS) and Juan Cabrillo Elementary School (JCES) revealed a relatively small area contaminated with the PCB Aroclor 1254 at a concentration above its United States Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA) Regional Screening Level (RSL) for residential use. The contamination is confined to surface soil in a planter area, beside a concrete walkway east of Building G at MHS. The contamination appears to be unique to the Building G Area. The contaminated soil consists of a roughly 1.5-foot thick surface layer about 45 feet long by 7 feet wide. About 20 cubic yards (2 truckloads) would be removed if the Draft RAW is approved. Although, the contaminated soil poses **no** significant health risk; limited remediation will be conducted because the Santa Monica-Malibu Unified School District (SMMUSD) wants to be able to use the area for unrestricted use in the future.



Planter Area with Contaminated Soil

Public Comment Period



**November 7 – December 10,
2014**

DTSC encourages you to review and comment on the Draft RAW. The Draft RAW and other project related documents are available at the locations listed on page 3.

DTSC will make a final decision on the cleanup plan after public comments have been reviewed. Please submit written comments postmarked by December 10, 2014; or by email no later than 5:00 pm on the deadline to:

Ms. Maria Gillette
DTSC Project Manager
5796 Corporate Avenue
Cypress, CA 90630
Maria.Gillette@dtsc.ca.gov

Si desea información en español, por favor llame a Jorge Moreno al (916) 327-4383

An open house may be held based on significant community interest.



Site Description and History

The MHS and JCES are located at 30237 and 30215 Morning View Drive, respectively, in Malibu, Los Angeles County, California. The school campus is approximately 80 acres. Before the schools were built in the 1950's and 1960's, the property was largely vacant with some agricultural use. When construction was completed in the 1960's, it included classroom structures, gymnasiums, and recreational areas for students.

Environmental Investigations

In March 2014, DTSC and the SMMUSD entered into a Voluntary Investigation Agreement to conduct a comprehensive Preliminary Environmental Assessment (PEA) at the MHS and JCES campus. The PEA Work Plan was approved by DTSC in June 2014. All investigation activities were conducted under DTSC's oversight and in accordance with the DTSC approved PEA Work Plan.

The investigation was conducted in July 2014, and included the collection of soil samples from around buildings constructed prior to 1981, the athletic fields, the JCES campus, the MHS campus (including the quad area previously excavated by ARCADIS in 2011), the pad mounted electronic transformers, Bus Barn, Cornucopia Garden, and areas proposed for future redevelopment. Depending upon the location and historic use of the investigation area, the soil samples were analyzed for PCBs, pesticides, herbicides, total petroleum hydrocarbons (TPH), and metals.

Groundwater and soil-vapor samples were also collected and analyzed for volatile organic compounds (VOCs), semi-volatile organic compounds (SVOCs), TPH, and metals. The resulting sampling data identified the presence of PCBs (specifically Aroclor 1254) in the surface soil located adjacent to the walkway at the Building G Area at MHS

Proposed Cleanup Plan (Draft RAW)

To clean up the PCB contaminated soil, the Draft RAW evaluated the following three options:

Option 1 – No Action. Clean up and/or monitoring would not be done, and the contaminated soil would be left in place. This option is given as a base line to evaluate all the options.

Option 2 – On-Site Containment (Capping) and Institutional Control. Contaminated soil would be capped with concrete or asphalt and left in place. A land use covenant to restrict use and activities for this area would be formally recorded, and the containment area would be monitored and maintained.

Option 3 – Excavation and Off-Site Disposal. Contaminated soil would be excavated, temporarily stored in closed containment bins at MHS, and then transported off-site to an appropriate permitted facility for disposal.

DTSC recommends Option 3 because it protects human health and the environment, is a proven and effective solution for the cleanup of PCB contaminated surface soil, and is easily implemented.

If Option 3 is chosen, the clean-up work is expected to be conducted in December 2014 during MHS's Winter Break. The clean-up action will include the following activities:

- Excavation and containment of PCB contaminated soil (5 working days);
- Post-excavation soil sampling to confirm previous soil analytical results in the area (4 to 5 working days);
- Off-site transportation and disposal of approximately 20 cubic yards of PCB contaminated soil (2 truckloads); and
- Backfilling excavated areas with clean soil, in accordance with DTSC's Clean Fill Advisory.

The activities for Option 3 are anticipated to be completed over a two week period, during the work week, from 7:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.



Department of Toxic Substances Control

Safety Measures during Cleanup

During cleanup activities, the following measures to ensure the safety of students, staff, and the community will be taken:

- For general safety, work will be conducted during Winter Break when school is not in session.
- The clean-up area will be fenced and access will be strictly controlled.
- Water will be sprayed on soil to minimize dust.
- Excavated soil will be stored in covered storage bins.
- Air monitoring will check dust generation to make sure water spraying is effective.
- All trucks transporting soil from MHS will be covered and the tires brushed and cleaned to keep excess soil from being tracked into other areas of the MHS property.

CEQA

The California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) requires the lead agency to evaluate and disclose significant environmental effects of a proposed project. With respect to CEQA, DTSC is the Lead Agency. Based on the Initial Study, DTSC does not expect the proposed Draft RAW activities to result in significant impacts on the environment and has issued a Notice of Exemption (NOE) for the proposed project.

Next Steps

- The public may comment on the Draft RAW during the Public Comment Period for 30 days beginning November 7 and ending on December 10, 2014.
- DTSC will review all comments received and make any necessary revisions to finalize the Draft RAW.
- DTSC will provide a "Response to Comments" document to anyone who submitted comments during the Public Comment Period and provided contact information. The Response to Comments will be posted on DTSC's website.
- DTSC will approve a final RAW.
- Under DTSC's oversight, SMMUSD's consultant, ENVIRON, will implement the final RAW.
- ENVIRON will submit Removal Action Completion Report (RACR).
- DTSC will certify the Site after approval of the RACR.

Site Information Availability

Site documents are available at the following locations:

- Online at http://www.envirostor.dtsc.ca.gov/public/profile_report.asp?global_id=19820092
- The following repositories:

Department of Toxic Substances Control Regional Records Office 5796 Corporate Avenue Cypress, CA 90630 Contact: Ms. Jone Barrio at (714) 484-5336 to schedule an appointment Hours: Mon. to Fri.: 8:00 am - 5:00 pm

Malibu City Hall
23825 Stuart Ranch Road
Malibu, CA 90265
(310) 456-2489
Mon. – Thurs.: 7:30 am – 5:00 pm
Friday: 7:30 am – 4:30 pm
Sunday closed.

Malibu High School Library
Malibu High School Library 30215 Morning View Drive Malibu, CA 90265
(310) 457-6801
Mon. – Fri: 7:30 am – 4:00 pm

DTSC Contacts

Project Information

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