

# COMMUNITY UPDATE

**Department of Toxic Substances Control** - Our mission is to protect the people, communities, and environment of California from harmful chemicals by cleaning up contaminated sites, enforcing hazardous waste laws, and compelling the development of safer products.

## DRAFT REMOVAL ACTION WORKPLAN FOR SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA EDISON SAN JACINTO AVAILABLE FOR PUBLIC REVIEW & COMMENT

**Why This Community Update?** Our agency, the Department of Toxic Substances Control (DTSC), invites you to review and comment on a draft Removal Action Workplan (RAW) developed to address shallow soil impacted by polychlorinated biphenyls (PCBs), arsenic and lead at the former Southern California Edison (SCE) substation located at 160 feet southwest of the intersection of West Main Street and South San Jacinto Avenue in the San Jacinto, Riverside County, California 92583. The draft RAW describes the environmental studies conducted, results and proposed cleanup activities for PCBs, arsenic and lead.

### PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD

**July 24, 2020 – August 22, 2020**

**DTSC encourages you to comment on the draft Removal Action Workplan. DTSC will consider and respond to all public comments received. Public comments must be postmarked if sent by mail or received via e-mail by August 22, 2020 and sent to:**

**Anantaramam Peddada**, Project Manager  
5796 Corporate Avenue  
Cypress, California 90630-4732  
**E-mail:** [Anantaramam.Peddada@dtsc.ca.gov](mailto:Anantaramam.Peddada@dtsc.ca.gov)  
**Phone:** (714) 484-5418

Environmental sampling results from the Site show contaminants beneath the Site do **not** pose an immediate risk to site workers, public health or the environment. However, DTSC determined the levels of PCBs, arsenic and lead in shallow soil are above protective standards for workers and the public and a plan needs to be developed and implemented to ensure continued health and safety of workers and future Site occupants.

**Why Cleanup Actions are Necessary:** The cleanup actions are needed to mitigate PCBs, arsenic and lead in soil with potential exposure routes to the public and to ensure continued protection of current and future Site's workers.

**Site Location & History:** The SCE Site is approximately 0.14 acre and is bordered by a commercial/light industrial property to the south, a vacant lot to the west, an alley and commercial property to the north, and a parking lot and salon to the east. The Site was used by SCE as an electrical substation between 1927 and 2014. The substation was closed in 2014, when all above ground equipment (circuit breakers, transformers capacitors, etc.), concrete foundations, and asphalt were removed. Currently there is a chain-link fence surrounding the Site and the interior is covered with gravel.



Hearing impaired individuals may use the California Relay Service at 711 or 800-735-2929 TTY/VCO/HCO to voice.



**Previous Site Investigations:** The chemical known to be used in equipment at the Site is mineral oil. Some of the mineral oil in older equipment contained PCBs. SCE may also have used herbicides, and rodenticides at substations to control weeds and pests. Environmental investigations performed at the Site from 2014 to 2019 identified arsenic, lead, and PCBs in shallow soil at levels exceeding regulatory limits.

**What Does the Draft RAW Propose?** The draft RAW proposes excavation and offsite disposal of shallow soil impacted by polychlorinated biphenyls (PCBs), arsenic and lead at the Site. Additional sampling to verify cleanup goals have been met will be performed, followed by backfilling the Site with clean soil.

**Excavation** – About 500 to 650 cubic yards of contaminated soil will be excavated and loaded onto trucks for disposal. Standard equipment including excavator, backhoe, or loader will be used during excavation activities. Hand tools will be used when nearer than 2 feet to underground utility lines. Confirmation environmental sampling will be conducted to ensure cleanup goals have been met. The Site will then be restored to the existing grade using clean soils for backfill. If the remedial action objective cannot be achieved, then the implementation of land use controls may be considered and be coordinated under the oversight of DTSC.

**Transportation & Off-Site Disposal** – Contaminated soil will be transported by trucks to an approved off-site disposal facility. All excavated soil will be properly characterized prior to transport off-site. An approved truck route will be followed for trucks disposing contaminated soil. The truck route will be submitted and approved by the City of San Jacinto as part of the construction permits required for the work. Truck routes will be restricted to primary streets only. No truck traffic will be allowed on residential streets. No overnight street parking of trucks will be allowed.

**California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA):** DTSC is required by CEQA to review environmental activities for the possible adverse environmental impacts before approving the project. As a Lead Agency under CEQA, DTSC has prepared a draft Notice of Exemption (NOE) for this project. The NOE states that the proposed draft RAW will not have a significant negative impact on human health and the environment due to excavation on-site or soil being removed, from the Site.

**Safety Measures:**

**Site Security:** The former substation is currently fenced. Prior to the start of remedial activities, temporary construction fencing will be set up to encompass all work zones and stockpile areas. Access to the work areas will be restricted to authorized personnel. During remedial activities all site visitors will be required to enter through a gate and check in to the job site for orientation prior to accessing the construction areas. These security measures will remain in-place during the duration of the remedial activities.

**Dust Control Measures:** Dust control measures will be performed during removal activities to reduce the potential for fugitive dust and migration of contamination in compliance with SCAQMD Rule 403 requirements. Dust suppression will be performed by lightly spraying or misting work areas with water. Water mist may also be used on soil placed in temporary stockpiles or in the transport trucks. Stockpiles will remain covered when not actively loading. Air monitoring will be conducted during site removal activities. Real-time, data-logging particulate monitors will be used to measure dust levels at locations upwind and downwind of the removal activities.

**Trucks:** Trucks will be decontaminated prior to leaving the excavation area by dry brushing any visible loose soil and by driving over rumble strips to loosen soil in the truck tire treads. While on the property, all vehicles will maintain slow speeds (i.e., less than 5 miles



per hour) for safety purposes and for dust control measures. Track-out of soil will be controlled through by rumble strips installed at the truck exit. Truck beds and/or trailers will be covered with an impermeable cover, with the covers tied down to prevent any fugitive emissions before the trucks are allowed to exit the Site.

**Where to Find Project Documents - Information Repository Locations:** Project documents including the draft RAW and CEQA documents are available for public review electronically at:

[https://www.envirostor.dtsc.ca.gov/public/profile\\_report?global\\_id=60002646#communityinvolvement](https://www.envirostor.dtsc.ca.gov/public/profile_report?global_id=60002646#communityinvolvement)

**Hard copies are available at the following Information Repositories:**

**Perris Branch Library**

163 East San Jacinto Avenue  
Perris, CA 92570  
(951) 657-2358

**Department of Toxic Substances Control**

5796 Corporate Avenue  
Cypress, CA 90630-4732  
(714) 484-5336

**\* Contact Ms. Jone Barrio to schedule an appointment**

**Who to Contact at DTSC for More Information:**

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**For media related inquiries, please contact:**

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**Next Steps:** At the close of the public comment period, and before making a final decision on the draft RAW, DTSC will review and respond in writing to all public comments received. A copy of the Response to Comments will also be placed in the facility file and the DTSC EnviroStor.



