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Preventing environmental damage from hazardous waste, and restoring contaminated sites for all Californians.

Public Involvement

Cleanup

Science & Tech



State of California **Department of Toxic Substances Control**



Public Involvement

FACT SHEET, May 2005

The Proposed Cleanup Plan For The Jefferson Elementary School Site Is Available For Your Review

The San Leandro Unified School District (SLUSD) is currently renovating the Jefferson Elementary school (Site) located at 14311 Lark Street in San Leandro, California 94578. Due to the age of the original buildings, a soil investigation was conducted around the base of the structures prior to demolition. The soil sampling results found elevated levels of lead-based paint residue and pesticides. When levels are found above the established standards, the Department of Toxic Substances Control (DTSC) requires school districts to clean up the soil to a safe level before completing the school.

The school district has proposed a cleanup plan to remove the contaminated soil from the Site. We encourage you to review and comment on the plan. The proposed cleanup plan, called a Draft Removal Action Workplan (Draft RAW), is available for your review at the information repositories listed on page four. If you have questions about this Site, please contact Ms. Kamili Siglowide, DTSC Project Manager, at (916) 255-6527 or e-mail Ksiglowi@dtsc.ca.gov.

Public Comment Period

We encourage you to review and comment on the Draft RAW. DTSC will hold a 30-day public comment period beginning May 13, 2005 and ending June 13, 2005. All e-mailed comments must be sent to the Department no later than 5 p.m. on June 13, 2005. Mail written comments to:

Ms. Kamili Siglowide, DTSC Project Manager
8800 Cal Center Drive
Sacramento, CA 95826
or e-mail Ksiglowi@dtsc.ca.gov

A public meeting will be considered if one is requested. Please submit a written request for a public meeting, including the issues to be raised, to Ms. Kim Rhodes at the address above by the end of the public comment period.



History and background of the site

Prior to 1946, orchards were present across most of the 7.5 acre Site. The remainder of the Site was vacant land. The SLUSD purchased the Site in April 1946. By 1953, three school buildings occupied the northern eastern portion of the Site. In January 2005, two new classroom buildings (Building A and B) were constructed in the central portion of the Site, and are currently occupied. Following the construction of the new classroom buildings, the old buildings was demolished to the concrete foundation.

Findings of the investigations

In November 2004, DTSC received sampling results from around the old buildings. Listed below are the contaminants of concern, the maximum levels detected and cleanup goals.

Contaminant of Concern	Maximum Level Detected	DTSC Cleanup Goals
Lead	310 ppm	255 ppm
Pesticides		
Dieldrin	11 ppm	0.025 ppm
Total Chlordane	27 ppm	0.31 ppm
Heptachlor Epoxide	0.15 ppm	0.072 ppm
Total DDT	1.89 ppm	1.17 ppm
ppm - parts per million		

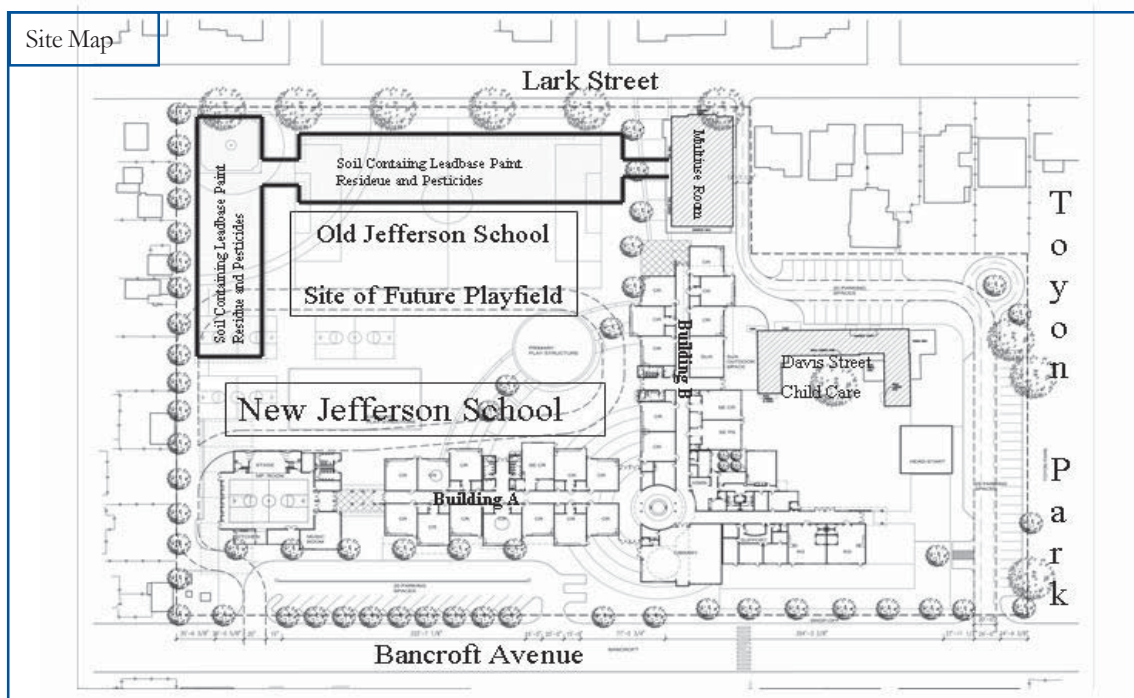
It is likely that lead-based paint residue found in the soil came from the walls of the former buildings on the site. Pesticides found in the soil most likely originated from pesticides used at the school to control termites.

Because the elevated levels of lead and pesticides pose a potential threat to human health and the environment, DTSC recommends the contaminated soil be removed before construction of any new buildings on the specific area.

Cleanup Plan (Draft RAW)

The primary objective of the removal action is to prevent or reduce potential risks to public health and the environment. The Draft RAW summarizes previous studies, outlines available cleanup activities and proposes removal options. Removal alternatives were screened and evaluated on the basis of their effectiveness, ability to implement and cost.

DTSC will review and consider comments received during the 30-day public comment period before making a final decision to approve or deny the proposed cleanup activities.



Proposed cleanup method

- Remove approximately 365 cubic yards (30 truckloads) of soil containing lead-based paint residue and pesticides.
- Transport soil containing lead and pesticides, using a licensed hazardous waste trucking contractor, to a State-licensed disposal facility.
- Backfill with clean imported soil, if necessary

Cleanup activity

If the plan is approved, you can expect to see the following cleanup activities for approximately 14 days:

- Personnel using standard front end loader tractor machinery and safety gear
- Stockpiled contaminated soil on site
- Stockpiles lined and covered with tarps to reduce further spread of contamination from wind and rain while confirmation samples are collected
- Covered trucks removing soil from the Site to a State-licensed landfill
- Airborne dust monitoring

Dust suppression

Control measures, including water spraying, will reduce dust during the cleanup activities. Airborne dust monitoring will ensure that efforts to reduce dust are working. Before leaving the Site, truck tires will be cleaned and soil containing lead and pesticides will be covered with tarps so that soil will not spill out of the trucks while they are on the road.

Fencing

The areas where the digging will occur will be secured with fencing so that unauthorized personnel cannot enter the work area.

Truck route

Equipment such as transfer trucks or dump trucks will be used to haul contaminated soil from the Site on an as needed basis. Trucks will travel between the hours of 8 a.m. and 5 p.m. Trucks exiting the Site will:

- Exit onto Lark Street and proceed southeast onto 146th Avenue.
- Travel south turning left onto Hesperian Boulevard then merge onto Highway 238.



Example of a front end loader

- Travel east on Highway 238 then merge onto Highway 580 traveling east.
- Trucks will continue on Highway 580 east then merge onto Interstate 5 traveling south.
- From Interstate 5 south, the trucks will travel directly to Chemical Waste Management facility in Kettleman City, California.

California Environmental Quality Act - Draft Notice of Exemption

DTSC has prepared a Draft Notice of Exemption (NOE) for this project as required by the California Environmental Quality Act. The Draft NOE states that the project will not have significant effects on the environment or human health because of the relatively small volume of soil, the short duration of the cleanup, and the controls in place during the removal of the soil containing lead and pesticides.

Next steps

Confirmation sampling of the soil will be conducted during the removal to verify that the contaminated soil has been properly removed and that the site is safe for the school.

Anyone who submits comments regarding the cleanup activities will receive DTSC's "Response to Comments" document. This document includes all of the comments we received about the Draft RAW and the proposed cleanup activities during the 30-day public comment period. It will also provide DTSC's response to those comments. Additionally, a copy of "The Response to Comments" will be placed in the information repositories.

For More Information

Please contact any of the following individuals with any questions or concerns you may have.

For questions regarding the Draft RAW, please contact Ms. Kamili Siglowide, DTSC Project Manager at (916) 255-6527 or email Ksiglowi@dtsc.ca.gov.

For questions regarding the public participation process, contact Ms. Kim Rhodes, DTSC, Public Participation Specialist at (916) 255-3651 or email Krhodes1@dtsc.ca.gov.

For media questions, please contact Ms. Angela Blanchette, DTSC Public Information Officer at (510) 540-3732 or email Ablanche@dtsc.ca.gov.

Notice to the Hearing Impaired Individuals

TDD users can use the California Relay Service at 1-888-877-5378 and ask to speak with Ms. Kim Rhodes at (916) 255-3651.

Information Repositories

The Draft RAW and other related documents may be viewed at the following location:

San Leandro Unified School District

14735 Juniper Street
San Leandro, California 94579
(510) 667-3504

Jefferson Elementary School

14300 Bancroft Avenue
San Leandro, California 94578
(510) 667-3581

Department of Toxic Substances Control

8800 Cal Center Drive
Sacramento, California 95826
File Room:
Monday-Friday: 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.
By appointment only (916) 255-3758