

# COMMUNITY UPDATE

The mission of DTSC is to protect California's people and environment from harmful effects of toxic substances by restoring contaminated resources, enforcing hazardous waste laws, reducing hazardous waste generation, and encouraging the manufacture of chemically safer products.

## Draft Removal Action Workplan Available for Review

### St. John's Riverway Site 522 Riverway Drive, Visalia, California 93291

The Department of Toxic Substances Control (DTSC) invites comments during the public comment period for the draft Removal Action Workplan (RAW) for the St. John's Riverway Site, located at 522 Riverway Drive, Visalia, CA 93291. The public comment period will take place from July 15 to August 15, 2016.

The Site was principally residential in nature before operation of a small automotive wrecking yard. Environmental Site Assessments and a Targeted Site Investigation have defined the area impacted to be approximately 0.6-acres and limited to fill materials placed on the Site. Analytical results of soil samples collected and analyzed indicated that soil is contaminated with Total Petroleum Hydrocarbons (TPHs) and lead at concentrations that may be a risk to human health. DTSC has prepared a Removal Action Workplan designed to clean up the Site. DTSC's recommended clean up alternative in the draft RAW proposes that most of the uncontaminated soil be left in place at the Site and to minimize the amount of contaminated soil that will need to be trucked away to a landfill disposal. The City of Visalia plans to use this Site as a city parkway once the contamination is cleaned up.

#### Site History and Background

The Site was principally residential in nature before operation of a small automotive wrecking yard began in the late 1950's. As part of that operation, in the 1960's the owners of the property placed fill material on the Site that included buried automotive parts and car chassis in order to raise the height of a portion of the property.

The wrecking yard reportedly ceased operation in the 1990's. The Site is currently vacant. Several phases of Site investigation have been conducted that determined the presence of heavy metal and petroleum hydrocarbon Contaminants of Concern (COCs) at the Site.

#### Public Comment Period



**July 15 to August 15, 2016**

A public meeting has not been scheduled but one will be considered if requested.

Please send your comments or requests in writing no later than August 15, 2016 to:

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### Details On The Clean Up Of The Site

The excavation of impacted buried debris and associated contaminated soil will be performed with an excavator and a loader. The planned excavation depths are between 2 and 8 feet. We estimate that up to 50% of the excavated soil (roughly 2,500 yd<sup>3</sup> or 3,375 tons) will require offsite landfill disposal as non-hazardous waste.

1. The primary green remediation technique to be utilized during the removal action at the Project Site will be to maximize the reuse of suitable excavated and screened soil for excavation backfill and to the extent practicable separate out recyclable debris materials.
2. These actions will minimize the volume of soil and debris requiring transport for landfill disposal and further minimize the required import of clean backfill material.
3. The entire excavation and replacement with clean soil is expected to take approximately four weeks.

### Precautions To Be Taken To Clean Up the Site

1. Dust Control-Generation of dust during the removal activities will be minimized as necessary with the use of water as a dust suppressant. The water will be obtained using a water wagon from a California Water Service Company fire hydrant located on the east side of Road 124 near Friden Avenue.
2. Dust suppression procedures will include spraying water prior to daily work activities, during excavation/loading activities (as necessary to maintain concentrations below action levels), and at truck staging locations. Watering equipment will be continuously available to provide proper dust control.
3. Sufficient water will be applied to control dust but not create a run-off hazard.
4. Noise Control-Noise generated by excavation activities will be monitored to ensure compliance with

the Tulare County noise ordinance. The City shall seek to limit the potential noise impacts of construction activities by limiting activities to the hours of 7:00 a.m. and 7:00 p.m. Monday through Saturday near sensitive receptors.

5. No construction shall occur on Sundays or national holidays without a permit from the County to minimize noise impacts. In the event the measured ambient noise level exceeds the applicable noise level standard, the ambient noise level will be adjusted so as to not exceed the applicable noise level standard.
6. Site activities will be conducted in accordance with the Site-specific health and safety plan that complies with Title 8, California Code of Regulations Section 5192.
7. Remediation activities are expected to take approximately four weeks, followed by the remaining St. John's River Riparian Corridor Restoration Project.
8. Truck tires will be brushed and sprayed before the trucks leave the Site to minimize dust.

### California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA)

DTSC has prepared a draft Notice of Exemption (NOE) for this project as required by the California Environmental Quality Act. The NOE document states that the proposed removal action will not have a significant negative impact on the environment.



**DTSC Contacts for more information:**

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**You May Obtain More Information at The Following Information Repositories:**

City of Visalia Natural Resource Conservation Division  
425 E Oak Ave, Ste 201  
Visalia, CA 93291  
559-713-4538 (ask for Lee Johnson)

DTSC Clovis Regional Office  
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