

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.

Clairemont High School Draft Removal Action Workplan for Parking Lot Area 4150 Ute Drive, San Diego, CA 92117

The Department of Toxic Substances Control (DTSC) invites the public to review and comment on a Draft Removal Action Workplan (RAW) for the parking lot area at the Clairemont High School (Site), located at 4150 Ute Drive, San Diego, California 92117. The RAW describes the environmental cleanup measures proposed for the School.

The DTSC is part of the California Environmental Protection Agency. DTSC oversees soil and groundwater investigations at proposed new or expanding school sites, and evaluates property for potential hazardous materials or contamination that may pose a risk to school children, the staff or faculty. If contamination is found, DTSC oversees the cleanup of the property in accordance with state and federal laws and regulations.

WHY IS CLEANUP NECESSARY?

DTSC has determined there are chemicals, related to burned wastes, present in soil at the Site that are above DTSC's protective standards. Therefore, DTSC requires a RAW be developed and implemented to ensure long-term protection of future occupants and the general public. DTSC will oversee the proposed cleanup activities and ensure that they are performed in a manner that does not harm people or the environment.

SITE HISTORY & INVESTIGATIONS

The Site is an approximate 2.3-acre portion of the Clairemont High School property. The Site is comprised of an asphalt-paved parking lot, an adjacent landscaped planter located northwest of Ute Drive, and an undeveloped area that includes a canyon slope, located southeast of Ute Drive. The Site was developed in approximately 1958 as part of the school construction.

In July 2011, during the excavation of utility trenches, burned waste was encountered; subsequently, a Preliminary Environmental Assessment (PEA) was conducted. The PEA Report indicated the Site is the possible location of a former waste disposal and burn site and that waste may have been disposed of and buried at the Site from approximately 1949 to 1957, prior to school construction.

Public Comment Period



**October 7, 2016 to
November 30, 2016**

DTSC encourages you to review and comment on the draft RAW. The RAW, CEQA NOE and other project related documents are available for review at the locations listed in this document on the second page. Please submit written comments postmarked, or emailed by no later than 5:00 P.M. on October 3, 2016 to:

Joe Hwong
DTSC Project Manager
5796 Corporate Avenue
Cypress, CA 90630
joe.hwong@dtsc.ca.gov

Open House
**An Open House is scheduled for
6:00 P.M – 8:00 P.M. on
November 17, 2016 at:
Clairemont High School
4150 Ute Drive
San Diego, CA 92117**



The waste is described as typically consisting of glass bottles and jars, broken glass, fused glass, fused and melted glass and metal, bricks, ceramic debris, ashy soils, and small amounts of partially burned paper and plastic debris.

The PEA Report indicates that burned wastes were discovered at depths ranging from surface level to greater than 10 feet at the Site. The burned wastes contained elevated levels of metals, polynuclear aromatic hydrocarbons (PAHs), dioxin, organochlorine pesticides, and total petroleum hydrocarbons in soil within 10 feet below ground surface (bgs). Based on the findings of the PEA, DTSC has determined a removal action is necessary to cleanup the Site.

PROPOSED REMOVAL ACTION OPTIONS

The following removal action options have been considered for the Site:

- Alternative 1 – No Action
- Alternative 2 – Excavation and Offsite Disposal
- Alternative 3 – Onsite Containment (Capping), Land Use Covenant, and Operation and Maintenance

RECOMMENDED OPTION

Based on careful analysis, the draft RAW proposes using Alternative 3 to cleanup the Site:

- Place hardscape or minimum of 2 feet of clean soil in the unpaved landscaped planter area to prevent exposure to contamination
- Implement land use restrictions and perform Operation and Maintenance pursuant to a DTSC-approved plan to ensure future activities at the Site do not result in exposure to Site contaminants.

CALIFORNIA ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY ACT (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 for the implementation of the RAW.

Given the relative minor action proposed, DTSC does not expect the proposed RAW activities to result in significant impacts on the environment. Therefore, a Notice of Exemption (NOE) has been prepared to address to the CEQA requirement.

NEXT STEPS

DTSC encourages you to review the draft RAW and provide comments. **DTSC will not make a final decision until all public comments received by November 30, 2016 have been reviewed and considered.** DTSC will then issue a Response to Comments, which will be available to the public at the locations listed below and mailed to all commenters as long as they have provided a USPS or email address. Thereafter, DTSC will modify and/or approve the RAW.

After DTSC approves the final RAW, the hardscape or 2 feet of clean soil will be placed at the unpaved planter area. A Removal Action Completion Report (RACR) will be prepared and submitted to DTSC following the implementation of RAW. After DTSC approves the RACR, DTSC will certify that the Site is safe for continued school occupancy.

WHERE TO FIND PROJECT DOCUMENTS

Copies of the draft RAW and related documents for this project are available at the following locations:

Clairemont Branch Library
2920 Burgener Boulevard
San Diego, CA 92110 (858) 581-9935

San Diego Unified School District
Physical Plant Operations Center
4860 Ruffner Street Room 5
San Diego, CA 92111 - Ask for Paul Garcia
(530) 219-8935 or pgarcia4@sandi.net

Clairemont High School
4150 Ute Drive
San Diego, CA 92117 (858) 273-0201

Department of Toxic Substances Control
5796 Corporate Avenue
Cypress, CA 90630 (714) 484-5300
Call for Appointment

Documents are **available online** at the DTSC EnviroStor database:

www.envirostor.dtsc.ca.gov/public/profile_report.asp?global_id=60001539

Questions? Please contact

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