



Department of
Toxic Substances
Control

*The Mission of the
Department of
Toxic Substances
Control is to
provide the highest
level of safety, and
to protect public
health and the
environment from
toxic harm.*



State of California



California
Environmental
Protection Agency

Fact Sheet, September 2010

Draft Cleanup Document for the Former Gaylord Container Corporation - West Mill Antioch Site Available for Public Review and Comment

Introduction

A draft cleanup document (called a Removal Action Work Plan or RAW) proposing how to clean up contaminated soil at the former Gaylord Container Corporation West Mill facility site (Site), located at 2301 Wilbur Avenue in unincorporated Antioch, Contra Costa County, California, is now available for public review and comment. The draft RAW proposes a recommended cleanup alternative for cleaning up contaminated soil at the Site.

The Department of Toxic Substances Control (DTSC) is the regulatory agency that provides oversight of environmental investigations and cleanups of hazardous substance sites. DTSC ensures the sites are cleaned up in a way that is protective of human health and the environment.

Site History

The facility at the Site operated as a paperboard/linerboard manufacturer using old corrugated cardboard and recycled fiber as raw material to produce linerboard beginning in 1956. In 2002, operations ceased, and environmental investigations and demolition activities began. The current owner acquired the property in December 2007, and most of the former facility improvements have been demolished. The Site is currently vacant, fenced, and there is a security guard on the property.

Past activities at the Site resulted in contamination of soil with Polychlorinated Biphenyls (PCBs) at the Paper Process Unit Area, north of the former Paper Machine Building. Prolonged exposure to PCBs has the potential to negatively impact human health and the environment.

Groundwater has not been impacted by Site contamination and is therefore not in need of remediation. However, to ensure that contamination does not become a concern, groundwater monitoring wells have been installed and periodic testing is ongoing.

PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD

September 8, 2010 to October 8, 2010

DTSC encourages you to review and comment on the Draft RAW. DTSC is holding a 30-day public comment period from September 8, 2010 to October 8, 2010. All comments must be postmarked by October 8, 2010. All e-mailed comments must be received that same day. Please submit your comments to:

Katherine Hilf
DTSC Project Manager
700 Heinz Avenue
Berkeley, California 94710-2721
email: khilf@dtsc.ca.gov



It Is Important to Note

There is no immediate health risk because the public is not exposed to the contaminated soil, however, based on the possible future uses of the property, PCBs in soil exist at concentrations that could pose a potential risk to human health and the environment. As a result, DTSC has recommended that a draft cleanup plan be prepared and made available to public for their review and comment.

Proposed Cleanup Option

The preferred proposed cleanup option is ***Excavation and off-Site Disposal of Contaminated Soil to an Appropriate Off-Site Disposal Facility.***

Excavation would consist of using loaders, backhoes, and other equipment to excavate approximately 425 cubic yards of contaminated soil. The soil would be segregated, stockpiled on Site, and sampled. After the excavation was completed, soil samples would be taken in the excavated areas to ensure that all contaminated soils exceeding acceptable levels had been removed. The contaminated soil would then be transported to an off-Site permitted disposal facility.

Soil that is found to be within acceptable levels might be used along with clean fill to backfill the excavated areas. The Site would then be regraded to its original condition.

Trucks would leave the Site by traveling east on Wilbur Avenue, merging onto Hwy 160, and then merging onto Hwy 4. Trucks would arrive and depart the Site only between the hours of 7 a.m. and 6 p.m. It is estimated that approximately 40 truck loads of soil in all would be transported from the Site. The proposed hauling route avoids transporting the soil through residential areas. The soil cleanup project would require approximately three to four weeks to complete.

Groundwater monitoring wells within the limits of the excavation will be abandoned prior to excavation and replaced as necessary upon completion of excavation activities.

Effects of the Cleanup on the Environment

Before a cleanup method can be approved, it must meet the requirements of a California State

law known as the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA).

CEQA is important because it determines what impacts, if any, the proposed cleanup would have on the environment. DTSC has determined that a Notice of Exemption under CEQA is appropriate for the proposed cleanup.

A Notice of Exemption is a document that states that a proposed cleanup will not have a negative effect on the environment. The Notice of Exemption for this project is also available for review during the comment period for the draft RAW.

Next Steps

At the end of the public comment period, DTSC will review and consider all public comments and make any necessary revisions to the draft RAW prior to final approval. A document called a Response to Comments will be developed by DTSC. The Response to Comments will provide all comments submitted during the comment period and DTSC's responses to those comments. It will be mailed to anyone who submitted a comment and provides a mailing address and/or an email address, to anyone who requests a copy, at the City of Antioch Public Library, DTSC's Berkeley office, and via the web on EnviroStor (see section immediately following for contact information and locations).

Where to Find the Documents

The draft RAW and other site-related documents are available for review at the following locations:

City of Antioch Public Library

501 W. 18th Street
Antioch, California 94531
Please call (925) 757-9224
for days and hours of operation.

Administrative Record

Department of Toxic Substances Control
700 Heinz Avenue
Berkeley, California 94710-2721
Please call (510) 540-3800
to make an appointment.

Via the Web at:

<http://www.envirostor.dtsc.ca.gov/public/>. Once at the website, type the word 'Antioch' in the box titled 'City' and take the cursor to the 'Get Report' key near the bottom of the screen and click once. Choose the project titled 'West Mill'. Take the cursor to the 'Report' field and click once. The screen will provide you with several documents available for review by the public. A computer is available in the DTSC file room for your use.

How to Submit Comments

The public comment period will run from September 8, 2010 through October 8, 2010. All public comments must be postmarked or e-mailed by October 8, 2010 and sent to the attention of Katharine Hilf, DTSC Project Manager, 700 Heinz Avenue, Berkeley, California 94710-2721. You can also submit comments by email to khilf@dtsc.ca.gov.

For More Information

If you have questions regarding the Site or the project, please contact:

Katharine Hilf

DTSC Project Manager
700 Heinz Avenue
Berkeley, California 94710-2721
(510) 540-3817
khilf@dtsc.ca.gov

Heidi Nelson

DTSC Public Participation Specialist
8800 Cal Center Drive
Sacramento, California 95826
(916) 255-3575 or toll-free at (866) 495-5656
hnelson@dtsc.ca.gov

Media Inquiries

Kam Coveyou

DTSC Public Information Office
P.O. Box 806
Sacramento, California 95812-0806
(916) 324-8304
kcoveyou@dtsc.ca.gov

Notice to Hearing-Impaired Individuals

To obtain information or ask questions about the Site, please contact the California State Relay Service at 1.888.877.5378 (TDD) and ask that Katharine Hilf be contacted regarding the West Mill project.

Annuncio

*Si prefiere hablar con alguien en español acerca de ésta información, favor de llamar a **Jacinto Soto**, Departamento de Control de Substancias Tóxicas. El número de teléfono es 510-540-3842, jsoto@dtsc.ca.gov*

Notice to Hearing-Impaired Individuals

You can obtain additional information about the Site by using the California State Relay Service at (888) 877-5378 (TDD). Ask them to contact Katharine Hilf regarding the West Mill site.

