



Site before redevelopment

Site Facts

Site Name:

Kennedy Middle College High School

Location:

Norco, Riverside County

Certification Date:

June 2005

Site Size:

2 Acres

Historical Uses:

- Golf course until 1941
- U.S. Navy Corona Naval Weapons Center 1941-1984
- California General Services Administration 1984
- Riverside Community College-Norco Camps

Length of Cleanup:

22 months

Contaminants of Concern:

Lead, arsenic, PCBs, dioxin and furans

Redeveloped Use:

High School

School Revitalization

SUCCESS STORY, May 2006

Kennedy Middle College High School

School districts sometimes need to use former industrial properties for new school sites to accommodate growing populations. In 2002, the Corona-Norco Unified School District leased a 6.45-acre site from the Riverside Community College-Norco Campus (RCC-CN) to build the Kennedy Middle College High School. This school will house 998 high school students who will be taking preparatory college classes at the Community College while attending high school. The site was part of a golf course/resort until it was transferred to the federal government and redeveloped as the U.S. Navy Corona Naval Weapons Center (CNWC). Between 1947 and 1989 there was a landfill, an incinerator, and burn pits in the vicinity of the site for management and disposal of wastes generated at the CNWC. In 1984, more than 300 acres of CNWC were transferred to the U.S. General Services Administration, including the RCC-CN property.

Between August 2003 and February 2004, DTSC oversaw the school district's investigation of the prospective school site for volatile organic compounds, methane and hydrogen sulfide, metals, PCBs, organochlorine pesticides, dioxins and furans. The results of human health risk/hazard screening indicated potential risks and hazards to human health and the environment due to the presence of elevated concentrations of dioxins and furans, lead, arsenic and PCBs. The contaminated soils were located beneath a 4 to 9-foot-thick blanket of fill soil.

On January 12, 2005, DTSC approved the proposed Removal Action Workplan (RAW) to excavate and transport the contaminated soils for offsite disposal. Prior to implementation, the public was given the opportunity to comment on the proposed soil removal plan. The remedial excavation was subsequently conducted in March of 2005. During the remedial excavation, a total of 4,107 tons of impacted soils were removed from the site. In addition, 3,567 tons of non-hazardous overlying fill material was removed for appropriate offsite disposal. Upon completion of confirmation sampling and approval of the Removal Action Completion Report, DTSC certified the site on June 14, 2005. The school will include 38 classrooms and is scheduled to open for Fall 2006.



Construction underway



State of California

Department of Toxic Substances Control

