



DTSC helps make contaminated land safe for new homes

The return of the housing market is creating more work for DTSC.

Developers are resurrecting dormant subdivision plans and submitting them to local agencies for approval. In some cases, they need to remove toxic residue to make the property safe for new residents.

Case in point: A 41-acre parcel in Mountain House, near Tracy in San Joaquin County. Shea Homes shelved the project in 2007, but last month notified DTSC that it wanted to implement a [Removal Action Work](#) plan to remove soil contaminated with pesticide and then cover it with roadway.

Work may start this month and take about three months, said DTSC Project Manager Leona Winner.

Mountain House is receiving more interest from developers as the economy and housing prices recover and foreclosures fall. More than 1,000 home lots are being developed in the “Neighborhood C” section of the community, Mountain House General Manager Janice McClintock says in [this](#) Tracy Press story. The Shea Homes property is in Neighborhood C.

Mountain House and the Tracy region are not the only places showing signs of the housing construction comeback. Developer interest is picking up in [other communities](#) too. Home building is a major industry in California, and its recovery means more jobs and tax revenue. With these cleanup projects, DTSC is helping boost the economy.

