

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 Statement of Basis For Bio-Rad Laboratories Ready for Public Comment

A Draft Statement of Basis on the proposed cleanup of Bio-Rad Laboratories (Site), 3110 Regatta Boulevard, Richmond, California 94804, is ready for a 45-day public comment period. A Draft Statement of Basis describes the investigations and proposed cleanup activities for the Site.

Since 1957, Bio-Rad Laboratories (Bio-Rad) has operated a manufacturing facility at the Site. Laboratory reagents and separation products for the biotechnology market place are currently manufactured. A chloroform storage tank was formerly located on the Site and environmental investigations found chloroform and other volatile organic compounds (VOCs) in soil, groundwater and soil vapor within and west of the former storage tank area. VOCs were also found in surface water samples from Meeker Slough, located to the south. An interim remedial action (groundwater extraction and treatment system) was designed to extract the VOCs from groundwater and to prevent the VOCs from moving into Meeker Slough. DTSC determined that cleanup of the groundwater and prevention of soil vapor from moving into the buildings on the property is necessary to complete corrective action at the Site. Bio-Rad will continue to operate their manufacturing facilities on the Site.

This Community Update announces the beginning of the 45-day Public Comment period for the Draft Statement of Basis. This update will also discuss:

- Site History;
- What is the Contamination;
- Clean up Alternatives;
- Preferred Clean up Plan;
- CEQA
- What's Next;
- Where to Find More Information;

Public Comment Period



June 8 to July 25, 2016

Please submit your comments by **5:00 PM, July 25, 2016** to:

Lynn Nakashima,
700 Heinz Avenue, Berkeley,
California, 94710
(510) 540-3839,
Lynn.Nakashima@dtsc.ca.gov

BIO-RAD PUBLIC MEETING:

**June 22, 2016,
6:30 to 8:30 PM
Richmond Field Station,
Room 454
Richmond, California**

This meeting is an opportunity for the community to ask questions, provide input, and learn more.

For information about public participation, please contact:
Wayne Hagen, DTSC Public Participation Specialist,
(510) 540-3911, toll free at
(866) 495-5651,
Wayne.Hagen@dtsc.ca.gov

Site History

Bio-Rad is located in a mixed use area, with light and heavy industrial facilities to the north and west, and residential development to the south. The University of California, Berkeley, Berkeley Global Campus at Richmond Bay (formerly the Richmond Field Station or Richmond Bay Campus) and the Zeneca/Former Stauffer Chemical Site are located to the east. Meeker Slough, which is located on the southern property boundary of the site, flows toward Richmond Inner Harbor and San Francisco Bay. Bio-Rad currently manufactures reagents and separation products for the biotechnology market. The facility consists of several large buildings and enclosed pads used for manufacturing, storage and laboratory and office space. Bio-Rad has operated a manufacturing facility at this location since 1957. Before 1939, the site was bounded on the south by San Francisco Bay. Between 1939 and 1946, the area south of the site was filled to create the Kaiser Shipyards, with the Meeker Slough tidal channel in between. Bio-Rad intends to continue using the site for its manufacturing operations.

What is the Contamination?

Environmental investigations conducted since 2004 found VOCs, primarily chloroform in soil, shallow groundwater and soil vapor at the Site. Other chemicals found include methylene chloride, trichloroethene, tetrachloroethene, and vinyl chloride. Cleanup goals for the VOCs in soil, groundwater and soil vapor were developed based on the current manufacturing use of the property. If buildings where soil contamination is present are demolished in the future, reevaluation of cleanup measures will occur.

What can be Done to Clean it up?

The primary objective of the draft Statement of Basis is to evaluate cleanup alternatives and to identify a recommended cleanup plan that prevents or reduces risks to public health and the environment. Cleanup alternatives are evaluated on the basis of their effectiveness, ability to be implemented, cost, and resource use. A draft

Statement of Basis identifies the cleanup plan that DTSC recommends. Before DTSC makes a final decision to approve or modify a cleanup plan, the draft Statement of Basis and Corrective Measures Study Report is made available to the public for review during a public comment period. All comments are reviewed and considered before the Statement of Basis is approved.

Cleanup Alternatives Considered

The following four cleanup alternatives were evaluated in the draft Statement of Basis for the Site:

Alternative 1 – No Action

This alternative is considered as a baseline and would involve no cleanup action.

Alternative 2 – Institutional Controls and Monitoring

This alternative consists of placing institutional controls on the property, monitored natural attenuation (MNA) of groundwater, and monitoring of Meeker Slough. Institutional controls include prohibiting land use to commercial/industrial, development of plans to manage future soil excavation, no new buildings without engineering controls and prohibiting the use of groundwater for any purpose. MNA would be performed to evaluate groundwater contamination and flow, and would document the progress of natural attenuation processes.

Alternative 3- Institutional Controls, Monitoring, and Containment

This alternative consists of institutional controls, groundwater and surface water monitoring; installation, inspection and maintenance of an asphalt cap over soils containing chemicals above cleanup goals; modifying the HVAC system in Building 6 to reduce vapor intrusion into the building; sealing exterior walls and floor penetrations in buildings over areas where vapor intrusion risks exist. Annual monitoring, maintenance and reporting. Continuing operation of the groundwater extraction and treatment system; and installation, monitoring and maintenance of a vapor barrier and sub-

slab depressurization system or equivalent technology for any new buildings constructed on the Site. Institutional controls are similar as described in Alternative 2, but includes that upon demolition of structures in areas above contaminant source areas, reevaluation of potential corrective measures for source area treatment will be conducted.

Alternative 4 – Institutional Controls, Monitoring, Containment, and Mass Removal

This alternative includes institutional controls; groundwater and surface water monitoring; containing soil, groundwater, and soil vapor; and chemical mass removal from soil and groundwater after buildings above the source areas have been demolished. This alternative assumes that current site use would continue for 20 years, and at year 21 the Site would be redeveloped. Institutional controls are similar to Alternative 2; however, it is anticipated that modifications would be made to remove the restriction on use of buildings. Excavation and disposal of soil would occur in the future where chemicals in soil or soil vapor exceed future cleanup goals. New buildings constructed would include the installation, monitoring, and maintenance of a vapor barrier and sub-slab depressurization system. The groundwater extraction and treatment system would continue operating, but groundwater extraction would be decreased following soil excavation.

Recommended Alternative

DTSC recommends Alternative 3 as the preferred cleanup for the Site. DTSC believes that this alternative would protect human health and the environment, would be cost effective, and could be readily implemented.

Summary of Proposed Cleanup Activities

If the draft Statement of Basis is approved, the following activities will happen:

- A land use covenant will be signed and recorded with Contra Costa County.
- On-site groundwater monitoring will continue.

- Surface water sampling and monitoring will continue.
- An evaluation of risk will be conducted along with screening new technologies to treat the contaminant source area.
- Regular inspections and maintenance of the existing cap will be conducted.
- The HVAC system in Building 6 will be modified to create a positive pressure with annual monitoring, maintenance and reporting.
- Continued operation, maintenance and monitoring of the groundwater extraction and treatment system, with overhauls every 10 years.
- Installation, monitoring, and maintenance of a vapor barrier and sub-slab depressurization system for new buildings constructed on the site.

California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA)

DTSC has prepared a Notice of Exemption (NOE) for this project to comply with the California Environmental Quality Act. The NOE document states that the proposed cleanup will not have significant adverse impacts on the environment. The draft NOE is available for public review at the information repositories listed below. DTSC intends to file this document with the Governor’s Office of Planning and Research, State Clearinghouse when the Statement of Basis is finalized and approved.

What Happens Next?

The Draft Statement of Basis is not final until all comments from the public are considered. At the end of the public comment period, the comments are evaluated and any necessary changes are made to the Statement of Basis and/or Corrective Measures Study Report. DTSC will then prepare a Response to Comments document that will be sent to all those who comment.

BIO-RAD PUBLIC MEETING:
June 22, 2016, 6:30 to 8:30 PM
Richmond Field Station, Room 454
Richmond, California

How Can I Find Out More?

Information Repositories

DTSC has established the following information repositories for this Site:

Department of Toxic Substances Control
700 Heinz Avenue, Berkeley, CA 94710
Call for appointment (510) 540-3800 (510) 620-6554

Richmond Public Library
325 Civic Center Plaza, Richmond, CA 94804

DTSC's Envirostor Website: <http://www.envirostor.dtsc.ca.gov/public>. Click on "Site/Facility Search" and enter "Richmond" as the City then click "Get Report." Find the "Bio-Rad" Site then click on the "Report" link..

If you also would like DTSC to notify you via email when new Envirostor documents are available online, please sign up to receive email alerts on the EnviroStor report page.

Contact Information:

For questions: Lynn Nakashima, DTSC Project Manager (510) 540-3839 or Lynn.Nakashima@dtsc.ca.gov.

For public participation: Wayne Hagen, DTSC Public Participation Specialist (510) 540-3911, toll free at (866) 495-5651, or Wayne.Hagen@dtsc.ca.gov.

For media inquiries: Sandy Nax (916) 327-6114 or Sandy.Nax@dtsc.ca.gov.

Si prefiere recibir la información en español o hablar con alguien en español acerca de esta información, favor de llamar a Especialista en Participación Pública de el Departamento de Control de Substancias Tóxicas. El numero de telefono es (510) 540-3877.

Figure: Bio-Rad Location

