



Department of
Toxic Substances
Control

*Our mission 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, November 2009

Corrective Measures Proposal for the former Bowers Manufacturing Facility

Si desea información en español, comuníquese con Jeanne Garcia al (818) 717-6573

The Corrective Measures Proposal (CMP) for the former Bowers Manufacturing Facility (Bowers) is available for public review and comment. The CMP presents the proposed final remedy for corrective action at the Bowers facility. The 10-acre facility is located at 8685 Bowers Avenue, South Gate, 90280.

Why Corrective Action is Necessary

There is no immediate health risks associated with the commercial and industrial use of the Bowers property, but there are areas of soil contamination at the facility. The public is not exposed to the contamination as the contaminated soils are paved with concrete and asphalt.

What are the Contaminants

Arsenic – A poisonous metalloid element used to manufacture of pesticides, herbicides, insecticides and in various alloys.

Diesel Fuel – A heavy petroleum oil used as fuel in diesel engines.

Total Petroleum Hydrocarbons (TPH) – Mixture of various chemical compounds found in crude oil and other petroleum products.

Volatile Organic Compounds (VOCs) – Typically industrial solvents, but also found in paint thinners, petroleum fuels, and used in the dry cleaning process.

History and Operations at Bowers

Bowers manufactured bricks from the 1940s to the late 1960s. From 1972 until 2001, Bowers manufactured electrical outlet boxes. Bowers is currently occupied by a nail manufacturing business.

30-DAY PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD November 19, 2009 through December 21, 2009

Your participation is encouraged. The proposed cleanup plan, California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) Draft Notice of Exemption, and other related project documents for this Site are available for public review and comment at the locations listed on page 2. We will make a final decision after all public comment has been reviewed and considered. Please submit written comments postmarked or emailed by 5 p.m. on **December 21, 2009**, to:

Jermaine Nora, Project Manager, 5796 Corporate Avenue, Cypress, CA 90630. E-mail: jnora@dtsc.ca.gov, FAX: 714-484-5438.

A public meeting has not been scheduled during the public comment period.



Environmental Investigations

Environmental investigations revealed TPH and arsenic in soil, VOCs in soil gas, and VOCs in groundwater.

Soil gas is located in the air space between soil particles beneath the ground surface.

Groundwater in this area is not used for drinking water.

Proposed Corrective Measures

The following corrective measures were evaluated in the CMP:

- Alternative 1 – No Further Action
- Alternative 2 – Institutional Controls
- Alternative 3 – Partial Excavation of Impacted Soil and Institutional Controls
- Alternative 4 – Complete Excavation of Impacted Soil
- Alternative 5 – Delayed Excavation of Impacted Soil with Institutional Controls

Based on careful analysis, the CMP recommends Institutional Controls (Alternative 2) as the proposed final remedy because it is protective of human health and the environment.

If this alternative is approved, institutional controls consisting of a Land Use Covenant will be implemented restricting current and future land uses of the property to commercial and industrial activities only. The institutional controls will also require regular maintenance of the existing asphalt and concrete pavement covering the impacted areas of the facility.

California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA)

In compliance with California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), DTSC has prepared a draft Notice of Exemption (NOE) for this project. The draft NOE states that the proposed final remedy will not have a negative effect on human health and the environment. This determination is based on:

- A deed restriction and pavement maintenance plan
- No soil will be removed
- No endangered species or cultural resources are known to exist at the Facility

Next Steps

At the end of the Public Comment Period, DTSC will review and consider all public comments received, and make any necessary revisions to the CMP based on the comments. A Response to Comments document will be mailed to everyone who submits a comment and provides their name and address.

Where to Find the Documents

The CMP and other related documents for the proposed final remedy for the former Bowers facility are available for review at the following locations:

Leland R. Weaver Library

Reference Desk
4035 Tweedy Blvd
South Gate, CA 90280-6199
Phone: (323) 567-8853

Department of Toxic Substances Control

5796 Corporate Avenue
Cypress, CA 90630
Hours: 8 am to 4:30 pm Monday through Friday
Contact: Julie Johnson for an appointment
(714) 484-5337

Who to Contact for More Information

If you have any questions about this Fact Sheet or the CMP, please contact:

Jermaine Nora
DTSC Project Manager
(714) 484-5324, jnora@dtsc.ca.gov

Tim Chauvel
DTSC Public Participation Specialist
(714) 484-5487
(866) 495-5651 (toll free) choose option "4" and press 2, tchauvel@dtsc.ca.gov

Notice to Hearing-Impaired Individuals

You can obtain additional information about the former Bowers Manufacturing Facility by using the California State Relay Service at 1 (888) 877-5379 (TDD). Ask them to contact Jermaine Nora at (714) 484-5324 regarding the Carpenter Special Products project.

For more information about DTSC:

Visit our website at www.dtsc.ca.gov