



Department of
Toxic Substances
Control

*Preventing
environmental
damage from
hazardous waste,
and restoring
contaminated
sites for all
Californians.*



State of California



California
Environmental
Protection Agency

Fact Sheet, September 2007

Proposed Remedies for Soil and Groundwater at the Former Pure-Etch

The Department of Toxic Substances Control (DTSC) is announcing a 45-day public comment period for the final cleanup remedies at the former Pure-Etch Company Facility (Site). The Site is located at 1031 Industrial Way, Salinas, California in Monterey County. The proposed remedies will clean up the remaining gasoline contamination in the soil and groundwater resulting from a closed underground storage tank.

DTSC has prepared this fact sheet to summarize the proposed soil and groundwater cleanup remedies at the Site. The cleanup process is called "Corrective Action Process" which includes assessment, investigation and remediation (see flow process in Page 5). There are several documents that are available for public review and comment that describe the technical information for the proposed soil and groundwater cleanup. They are:

- Corrective Measure Study Report (CMS)
- Land Use Covenant Implementation and Enforcement Plan
- California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) – Initial Study and Draft Negative Declaration

These documents along with other site-related documents are available at the information repositories listed on Page 4 of this fact sheet.

Public Comment Period, September 28, 2007 to November 14, 2007

DTSC will hold a 45-day public comment period for the proposed soil and groundwater cleanup remedies at the former Pure-Etch Company Facility located in Salinas, California. We will consider and respond to all written public comments before making a final decision on the remedies. Please send comments postmarked by November 14, 2007 to Cherry Padilla, DTSC Project Manager, 700 Heinz Avenue, Berkeley, CA 94710 or e-mail her at cpadilla@dtsc.ca.gov.

Public Hearing

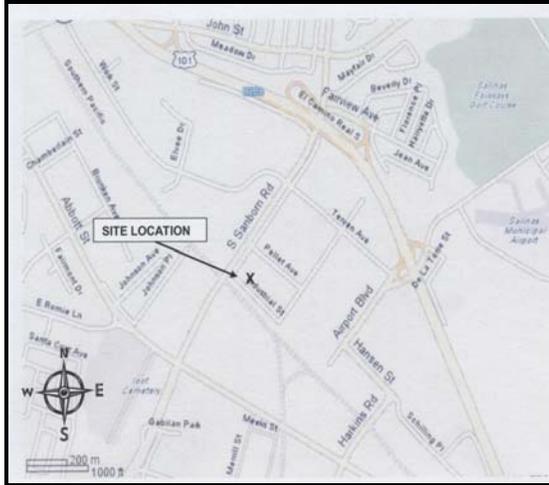
DTSC may hold a public hearing if one is requested. The request shall be in writing and shall state the nature of the issues proposed to be raised at the hearing. The written request shall be postmarked by October 28, 2007 and sent to the Project Manager listed above.

For information about public participation, please contact Jesus Cruz at (916) 255-3315 or e-mail him at JCruz@dtsc.ca.gov. Additional information can be found at our website, www.dtsc.ca.gov.

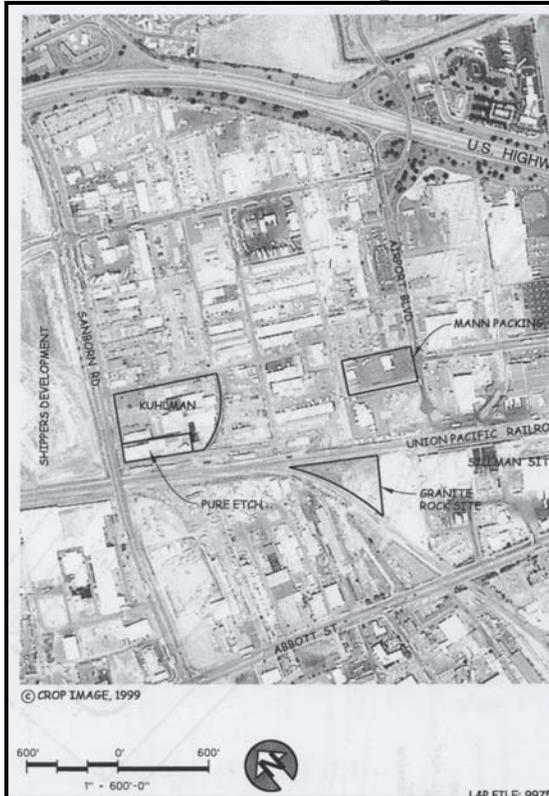


Site Location

The Site is located at 1031 Industrial Way in Salinas, Monterey County, California (see Location Map). It occupies approximately 1.25 acres of land located in an industrial area of Salinas at the southeast corner of Industrial Way and Vertin Avenue. The surrounding property land use is primarily industrial (see Aerial Photo Map).



Site Location Map



Aerial Photo Map

Regulatory History

In 1993, the former Pure-Etch Company Facility (Pure-Etch/Facility/Site) purchased the property from Georgia Pacific Corporation and operated at the Site a spent etchant (etching solution no longer usable) recycling facility from 1994 to 1997. Pure-Etch's recycling operation was permitted under a Hazardous Waste Facility Permit issued by DTSC. In 1997, Pure-Etch ceased recycling operations and DTSC in 1999 approved the Facility's closure certification.

The Site has been sold and it is being leased to an automobile towing company and a company that manufactures insect monitoring equipment parts.

Site Investigation

During a 1993 site assessment, DTSC identified a 1,000-gallon gasoline underground storage tank (UST), 5 to 10 feet below the ground surface. The assessment step is called "RCRA Facility Assessment (RFA)". The previous landowners in 1985 had closed the UST in place by filling it with concrete under a permit issued by the Monterey County Environmental Health Department. Pure-Etch did not operate the UST.

In 1997, an investigation report concluded that gasoline from the closed-in-place UST had leaked into the soil prior to its closure in 1985 and further study was necessary to investigate any impacts to groundwater. In 2000, DTSC and Pure-Etch entered into a Consent Agreement which required the Pure-Etch to complete corrective action process.

In 1998, DTSC approved a work plan to determine the nature and extent of contamination from the UST leak. Several phases of field investigations were conducted. The Phase III RFI Report concluded that contamination remains in the vadose zone of the soil which provides a continuing source of groundwater degradation via leaching of contaminants to the groundwater. The report further concluded that the contaminated plume is migrating beneath Industrial Street along the southwestern Site boundary. The depth to groundwater is about 55- 60 feet, and the groundwater is considered a potential drinking water source.

Interim Measures

Interim remedial measures were conducted at the Site from 2002 through 2006. Pure-Etch completed the installation of groundwater monitoring wells in the vicinity of the closed-in-place UST. In 2002, free product removal and monitoring were initiated at the Site.

Risk Assessment

In 2006, DTSC approved the Health Risk Assessment (HRA). The following chemical constituents of concern (COCs) in the groundwater and the wet soil below the UST were evaluated to determine if there was a risk to public health and the environment. The COCs are benzene, toluene, ethylbenzene, xylenes, 1,2-dichloroethane, 1,2-dibromoethane and naphthalene.

Exposure to chemicals was analyzed from eating the soil and groundwater, inhaling dust particles and vapors, contact on the skin, and inhaling vapors from indoor air. Under the current property use, workers are not exposed to contaminated soil because no bare soil is exposed. The depth to groundwater of approximately 60 feet precludes the site workers direct contact with groundwater. Therefore, dermal contact and/or ingestion of contaminated groundwater were eliminated from consideration in the HRA. The health risk from indoor air was evaluated and showed that an acceptable cumulative health risk exists with regard to indoor air at the Site.

Corrective Measure Study (CMS)

A CMS Report dated April 2006 was submitted to DTSC to evaluate the corrective measure alternatives to remediate the releases of petroleum hydrocarbons in soil and groundwater. The remediation goals at the Site focus on reducing the residual hydrocarbons in the soil beneath the Site and controlling hydrocarbon plume migration off-site. The groundwater will be cleaned up to the required maximum contaminant levels (MCLs) for drinking water standards.

Corrective Measure Alternatives

The Corrective Measures Study Report described five potential cleanup alternatives for the soil and groundwater where the 1,000-gallon closed-in-place UST is located.

The five cleanup alternatives are as follows:

1. Monitored Natural Attenuation – conduct periodic groundwater sampling and monitoring only to evaluate current state of the Site.
2. Soil Vapor Extraction - extract soil vapor from wells drilled in the contaminated soil. Extracted vapors are treated with carbon.
3. Groundwater Extraction/Treatment – extract groundwater from wells drilled in contaminated groundwater zone. Groundwater is treated as needed with carbon before discharge to local sanitation district.
4. Chemical Oxidation/Enhanced Biodegradation – inject oxidizing chemical to stimulate the breakdown of contaminants in groundwater.
5. Dual-Phase Extraction – extract groundwater and soil vapor with high vacuum system from wells drilled in contaminated soil. Soil vapor and groundwater are treated separately. Vapor is treated with carbon. Groundwater is treated as needed with carbon before discharge to local sanitation district.

These cleanup alternatives were evaluated based on protection of human health, the environment, waste management requirements, implementability and cost.

Proposed Remedies for Groundwater

DTSC recommends Alternative #5 along with a Land Use Covenant and annual site inspections as the final remedies to clean up the soil and groundwater at the Site: (see details on P.4)

- Dual phase vapor extraction for 12 to 18 months at a designated area where the 1,000-gallon closed-in-place UST is located. Dual phase extraction relies on the use of relatively short-term vapor and groundwater pump and treatment to remove contaminant mass from the subsurface and groundwater. Under this method, the extracted groundwater will be treated and discharged to an approved sanitary sewer plant. The extracted vapors will be treated with carbon absorption at the Site.
- Groundwater sampling and monitoring for an additional five years to gather sufficient information to justify termination of corrective action.
- The current landowner will enter into a Land Use Covenant with DTSC to have an annual inspection of the Site to ensure that future land use remains industrial and that no drinking water wells are installed on the Site.

California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA)

The approval of the final remedies is subject to CEQA. DTSC has prepared an Initial Study and examined the 16 categories of environmental impacts that could potentially be affected by the cleanup of petroleum hydrocarbons at the Site. DTSC has determined that the proposed soil and groundwater remedies at the former Pure-Etch Site will have no significant environmental impacts on any resource areas examined. Instead, it will help clean up the Site and will result in long-term reduction in concentrations of residual contaminants in groundwater. DTSC, therefore, issued a Proposed Negative Declaration for this project. The Initial Study and the Proposed Negative Declaration are available for public review in the repositories listed in this page. Before DTSC makes a final decision to approve the final remedies, we will review, consider and respond to the comments received during the public comment period.

Information Repositories

The Corrective Measure Study Report dated April 10, 2006, the Statement of Basis document, the Land Use Covenant and Implementation Plan and the Proposed Negative Declaration are available for review at the following established information repositories:

Buena Vista Branch Library
18250 Tara Drive
Salinas, CA 93908
(831) 455-9699

Department of Toxic Substances Control
Berkeley Office, File Room
700 Heinz Avenue
Berkeley, CA 94710
(510) 540-3800
(please call for appointment)

For More Information

For more information about the Site, the cleanup process and related documents please contact:

Cherry Padilla
DTSC Project Manager
(510) 540-3967
e-mail cpadilla@dtsc.ca.gov

For questions regarding the public participation process, please contact: Jesuz Cruz, DTSC Public Participation Specialist, (916) 255-3315, e-mail JCruz@dtsc.ca.gov

For media questions, please contact: Angela Blanchette, DTSC Public Information Officer (510) 540-3732, e-mail ablanche@dtsc.ca.gov

Notice to the Hearing Impaired

TDD users can obtain information about the site by using the California State Relay Service (800) 735-2929 to reach the Public Participation Specialist. Ask them to contact Jesus Cruz at (510) 540-33315 regarding the Former Pure-Etch Company Facility in Salinas, California.

Anuncio

Si prefiere hablar con alguien en español acerca de ésta información, favor de llamar a Jesús Cruz , Departamento de Control de Substancias Tóxicas. El número de teléfono es (510) 540-3842

