



CALIFORNIA ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

NEWS RELEASE

Department of Toxic Substances Control

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Richmond Site Scheduled for Lead Cleanup

Sacramento---The California Environmental Protection Agency's Department of Toxic Substances Control (DTSC) today announced the preparation of a Removal Action Workplan (RAW) for the Richmond Carlson property (site) on Pullman Avenue in the City of Richmond. Soil samples analyzed from the site revealed elevated levels of lead (4,000 ppm).

Under DTSC's proposed workplan (RAW), all surface soils with lead contamination greater than 350 ppm will be excavated, stockpiled, and removed from the site for disposal at a hazardous waste landfill.

"We are proceeding as quickly as we can. We are concerned about the potential impacts that lead contaminated soils can have on residents of the neighborhood, especially children," said Jesse Huff, DTSC Director. "DTSC is using its technical expertise and state resources to respond to the County's request for assistance in cleaning this site," Huff added.

The site has been fenced and signs have been posted warning that the site is dangerous and contaminated. DTSC used \$12,500 in state funds to erect the fence during the week of November 9th.

The site is located next to the Richmond Townhouse complex and near the Carlson Child Development Center and the Powers Child Development Center. It was originally scheduled to be remediated and developed in the 1980's. However, the developer filed for bankruptcy and the work was never completed.

DTSC has sent out fact sheets to neighboring residents on the proposed workplan. The Department will hold a public meeting to provide additional information and accept public comments on the proposed workplan on:

Wednesday, December 2, 1998
7:00 p.m.
Carlson Child Development Center
2999 Pullman Avenue, Richmond

The Richmond Carlson property was formerly owned by the Pullman Railroad Company who used the site to maintain and refurbish railroad cars. Pullman operated from the site from 1900 to 1950's. As part of the facility's operations, lead contaminated paints were sandblasted from the railroad cars which subsequently created elevated levels of lead in the surface soils on the property. In the early 1950's, the Pullman company ceased using the site and it has remained vacant.

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