



CALIFORNIA ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY  
**NEWS RELEASE**

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Department of Toxic Substances Control

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### **Two Richmond Sites Certified by DTSC**

Berkeley -- The Department of Toxic Substances Control (DTSC) announced today that it has certified the completion of hazardous substance cleanups at the Seacliff Marina and the Richmond Townhouse Apartment sites, both located in the City of Richmond.

"We are committed to working with communities and other governmental agencies as we continue the State's efforts to restore contaminated sites to productive use. Our collective endeavors not only stimulate economic vitality, but also help to ensure the environmental safety of the state and the health of the citizens of California," said DTSC Director Ed Lowry.

#### **Seacliff Marina Site**

The 12-acre Seacliff Marina site is located west of the Port of Richmond's Shipyard No. 3 and east of the Brickyard Cove Development. After confirmation samples were analyzed from the Seacliff Marina, DTSC certified that residential cleanup levels had been met to allow for unrestricted land use for approximately 11.6 acres of the site. This certification allows future land use ranging from single-family homes to commercial and industrial development. Deed restrictions have been placed on three portions of the site, where contaminants have been capped. These portions include a one-quarter acre strip of land near the shoreline, a one-quarter acre area where underground utilities exist, and a portion of Seacliff Drive.

The Seacliff Marina site was formerly part of Kaiser Shipyard No. 3 and was used for ship repair and maintenance along with scrap metal and salvage yards. A 1986 soil investigation found elevated concentrations of metals and asbestos at the site. In 1995, a DTSC-approved Remedial Action Plan required the consolidation and capping of contaminated soil at the site, and this remedial action was completed in 1998.

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At the request of community residents and the City of Richmond, DTSC approved an Explanation of Significant Differences (ESD) in June 2001, which required modifications to the 1998 remedial action at the site. Cleanup activities required under the ESD included excavating contaminated soil from an elevated, encapsulated mound and also excavating soil, debris, and asbestos-containing material from two other smaller areas on the Seacliff site. Approximately 119,000 cubic yards of contaminated soil was excavated, moved onto the adjacent Port of Richmond Shipyard No. 3 site, and capped with compacted fill material to prevent any exposure to the contaminants. The debris and asbestos-containing material were disposed of offsite.

### **Richmond Townhouse Apartments Site**

The 10-acre Richmond Townhouse Apartments site, located at 2887 Pullman Avenue, consists of five apartment buildings and a child day-care center. The site was once owned by the Pullman Company, which refurbished railcars at this location from the early 1900's to the 1950's. The Pullman Company's work included sandblasting and painting railroad cars with lead-based paint.

In the fall of 1998, the Contra Costa County Health Department contacted DTSC with reports that high levels of lead had been detected in the soil at the site. Subsequently, DTSC conducted a site investigation that confirmed lead contamination in the soil. From April 2000 to August 2000, DTSC and the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency collaboratively conducted cleanup activities at the site. These activities included: excavating about 11,000 cubic yards of lead-contaminated soil at depths up to two feet, backfilling excavated areas with clean soil, capping exposed soil with concrete in the areas surrounding the five apartment buildings at the site, and re-landscaping the area. The lead-contaminated soil was disposed of offsite.

In conjunction with cleanup efforts, the Contra Costa County Health Department conducted free blood-lead screening for children.

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**The Department of Toxic Substances Control's mission is to restore, protect, and enhance the environment and ensure public health, environmental quality and economic vitality by regulating hazardous waste, conducting and overseeing cleanups, and developing and promoting pollution prevention.**

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*"The energy challenge facing California is real. Every Californian needs to take immediate action to reduce energy consumption. For a list of simple ways you can reduce demand and cut your energy costs, see our Web-site at [www.dtsc.ca.gov](http://www.dtsc.ca.gov)."*