



NOTICE OF PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD

Arsenic Cleanup Plan For The Burlingame High School Available For Review And Comment Burlingame, California



PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD: October 5, 2007 through November 5, 2007

WHAT'S BEING PROPOSED?

In November 2005 and March 2007, the Department of Toxic Substances Control (DTSC) mailed fact sheets informing the surrounding community that a cleanup of soil containing PCB (polychlorinated Biphenyls) and lead based-paint residue was being conducted at the Burlingame High School (BHS). The removal of the PCBs and lead was completed in June 2007. The last phase of the ongoing cleanup is the arsenic removal that is proposed in various areas on BHS property. BHS is located at 400 Carolan Avenue, Burlingame.

Elevated levels of arsenic were found in the athletic field located on the southeast portion of the site during the modernization of BHS. Site investigations were conducted between December 2004 and March 2007. The source of contamination at the Site is unknown, but may be from the historical use of arsenic-based pesticides at the Site. The elevated levels of arsenic in surface soil could pose a threat to human health and requires cleanup.

The District plans to cleanup the following areas on BHS property:

The soil in front lawn (between the driveway and sidewalk);
Parkway (near the front lawn, and the baseball and football fields, between the sidewalk and Carolan Avenue);
Courtyard;
Northwest boundary by residential fences;
Shot Put Area;
Several landscaped area; and
Areas of bare soil adjacent to the track

San Mateo Union High School District (District) submitted a draft cleanup plan, also known as a Removal Action Workplan (RAW) to remove the arsenic in soil at the BHS to DTSC for review and approval. The draft RAW is available for public review and comment. Before DTSC approves, modifies, or denies the draft RAW, DTSC will review and consider all comments received during the public comment period.

CALIFORNIA ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY ACT - NOTICE OF EXEMPTION

DTSC evaluated any possible impacts of the removal action for this project, as required by the California Environmental Quality Act. DTSC has prepared a draft Notice of Exemption (NOE) which states that this removal action will not have significant impacts on the environment. The draft NOE is available for public review, along with other supporting documents.

WHY THIS NOTICE?

The purpose of this notice is to provide you with the opportunity to learn more about the project and to provide comments to DTSC, concerning the proposed soil removal action, within thirty (30) days of this notice.

HOW DO I PARTICIPATE?

Your participation is encouraged. Comments concerning the draft RAW may be submitted in writing to Ms. Kamili Siglowide, DTSC Project Manager, 8800 Cal Center Drive, Sacramento, California 95826, or email: Ksiglowi@dtsc.ca.gov. All mail must be postmarked by 5 PM on November 5, 2007. Emailed comments must be received by DTSC no later than 5 PM on the same date.

WHERE DO I GET MORE INFORMATION?

A copy of the draft RAW and NOE are available for review in the Information Repositories located at San Mateo Union High School District, 650 North Delaware Street, San Mateo, 94401 or Burlingame Public Library, 480 Primrose, Burlingame, 94010, or Department of Toxic Substances Control, 8800 Cal Center Drive, Sacramento, 95826. You can also review the draft RAW and NOE on the DTSC website at:

http://www.envirostor.dtsc.ca.gov/public/profile_report.asp?global_id=41820008

CONTACT:

If you have any questions or wish to discuss the project, please contact Ms. Kamili Siglowide, DTSC Project Manager, at (916) 255-6527 or by e-mail to Ksiglowi@dtsc.ca.gov. For public participation activities, please contact Ms. Kim Rhodes,

DTSC Public Participation Specialist, at (916) 255-3651 or by e-mail to Krhodes1@dtsc.ca.gov. Members of the media should contact Ms. Angela Blanchette, DTSC Public Information Officer, at (510) 540-3732 or by email to Ablanche@dtsc.ca.gov.