



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

Cleanup Resumes at Burlingame High School



Burlingame High School

The Department of Toxic Substances Control (DTSC) is providing you an update to the cleanup and investigation activities at Burlingame High School (BHS) located at 400 Carolan Street, Burlingame, California. In November 2005, DTSC notified you that a cleanup of soil contaminated with PCB (polychlorinated biphenyls) and lead based-paint residue would begin at the BHS campus on December 22, 2005. However, the San Mateo Union High School District (District) lacked the funds to complete the cleanup activities and had to stop the cleanup in January 2006.

The District received sufficient funds in February 2007 to complete the removal of the lead and PCB contaminated soils. The PCB soil removal activities will occur during BHS spring break, April 2 – April 6, 2007. The lead soil removal will occur from June 4 – June 29, 2007 over BHS summer vacation. The lead and PCB contaminated areas will remain fenced to restrict access and prevent exposure by students, school employees, and the public.

A variety of truck types will be used to deliver and remove supplies and materials from the site on an as needed basis. Trucks will travel between the hours of 7 a.m. and 3:30 p.m. Trucks exiting the site will:

- Travel northwest on Carolan Avenue then turn left. onto Oak Grove Avenue;
- The trucks will travel north and turn right onto California Avenue, then make a right onto Broadway and merge onto US-101 S towards San Jose;
- The trucks will merge onto CA-92 East towards Hayward; then onto I-880 North towards Oakland and merging into I-238 South towards I-580 - Castro Valley; and
- The trucks will then merge onto I-580, then I-5 South then proceed on I-5 directly to Kettleman Landfill.



Background Information

DTSC is a part of the California Environmental Protection Agency. DTSC oversees soil and groundwater investigations at proposed new or expanding school sites, and evaluates sites for potential hazardous materials or contamination that may pose a risk to school children, the faculty or staff. If contamination is found, as it has been at BHS, DTSC oversees the cleanup of the property.

During the modernization of BHS elevated levels of lead from lead based-paint, PCBs associated with a transformer, and arsenic were found in the soil. Since exposure to elevated levels of lead, PCBs, and arsenic contamination could cause adverse health effects, DTSC recommended that the District prepare a cleanup plan to address contaminated soil to cleanup the school property and to protect the students, school employees and the public.

Status Update – Arsenic Activities

Elevated arsenic levels were found in the grassy area located in front of the school and in the northwest corner at the back of the school. The source of the elevated arsenic on BHS property is not known. A fence to prevent possible access and reduce exposure to contaminated soil surrounds both areas. In addition to the fencing, the District placed temporary concrete on the exposed soil between Carolan Avenue and the sidewalk in front

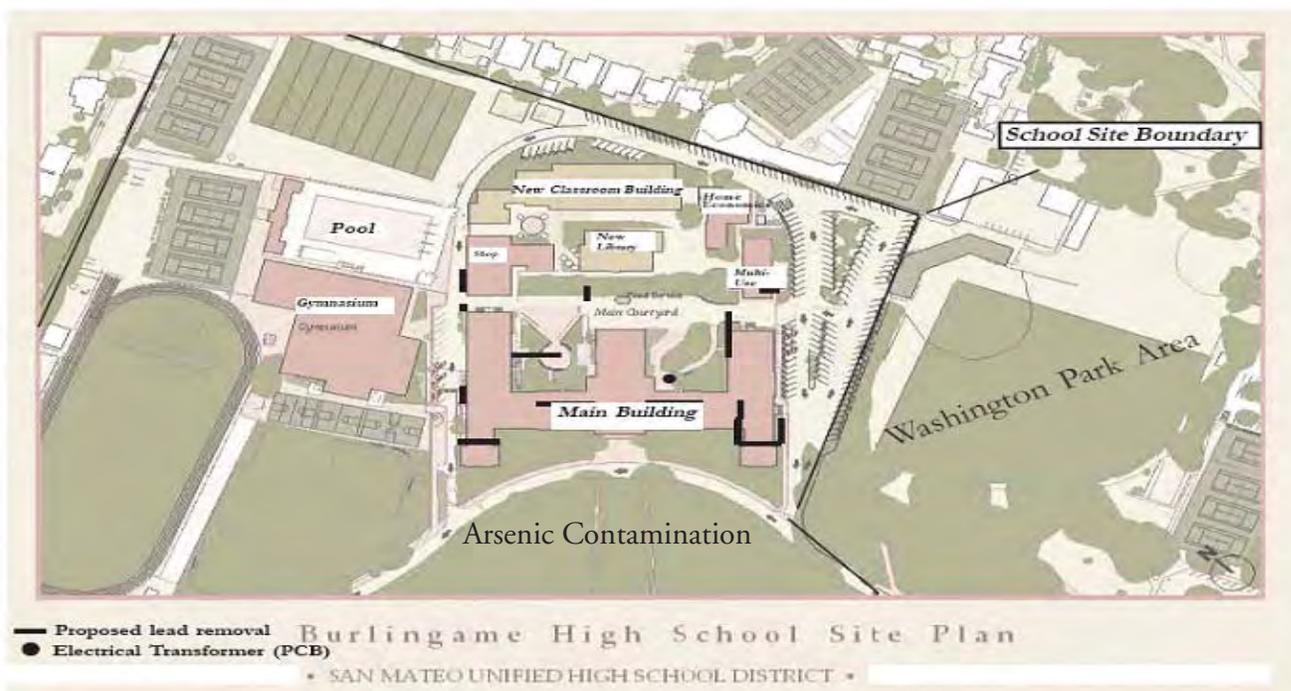
of BHS. DTSC determined that additional soil sampling was necessary to determine the extent of impacted arsenic soil.

Arsenic Activity Schedule

The District has also acquired funding to complete the arsenic investigation and to cleanup the arsenic impacted areas. Additional fieldwork for the arsenic investigation is anticipated to begin in early April 2007.

DTSC and the District would like to complete cleanup activities for the arsenic areas during the 2007 summer vacation. To meet that schedule, DTSC and the District are working to have a draft Removal Action Workplan (RAW) describing the arsenic cleanup activities available for public review and comment in May 2007.

DTSC will keep the community informed as information or draft documents become available. DTSC will issue a fact sheet to inform the community of an opportunity to review and comment on the proposed cleanup activities for the arsenic. Additionally, when future cleanup activities begin, work notices will be provided to community members around BHS and school employees of the activities. The work notice will provide the removal activity schedule, what will be seen during the work and impacts to the community.



DTSC and the District will continue to ensure that students, school employees, and the public are not exposed to contamination at the school. The District will maintain the fence surrounding the contaminated areas and complete the investigation and cleanup of the contamination.

For More Information

Please contact any of the following individuals with any questions or concerns you may have regarding the BHS property.

Questions regarding the draft RAW:
Ms. Kamili Siglowide, DTSC Project Manager at (916) 255-6527 or e-mail Ksiglowi@dtsc.ca.gov.

Questions regarding the public participation process:
Ms. Kim Rhodes, DTSC Public Participation Specialist toll free at 1 (866) 495-5651 or (916) 255-3651 or e-mail Krhodes1@dtsc.ca.gov.

Questions from the media:
Ms. Angela Blanchette, DTSC Public Information Officer at (510) 540-3732 or e-mail Ablanche@dtsc.ca.gov.

Notice to the Hearing Impaired Individuals

TDD users can use the California Relay Service at 1-888-877-5378, please ask to speak with Ms. Kim Rhodes at (916) 255-3651.

Anuncio

Si prefieren hablar con alguien en español acerca de esta información, favor de llamar a Jesus Cruz, Especialista en Participación Pública del Departamento de Control de Sustancias Tóxicas. El número de teléfono es (916) 255-3315.

Information Repositories

The draft RAW and other related documents may be viewed at the following location:

San Mateo Union High School District

650 North Delaware Street
San Mateo, California 94401
(605) 762-0249

Burlingame Public Library

480 Primrose
Burlingame, California 94010
(650) 558-7410

Department of Toxic Substances Control

8800 Cal Center Drive
Sacramento, California 95826
File Room:
Monday-Friday: 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.
By appointment only (916) 255-3758