

Fact Sheet
October 2001



Hobart Elementary School Addition

SOIL REMOVAL ACTION

*It is DTSC's
mission to protect
public health
and the
environment
from harmful
exposure to
hazardous
substances*

State of California



California Environmental
Protection Agency



Introduction

The Los Angeles Unified School District (LAUSD) conducted an environmental investigation known as a Preliminary Endangerment Assessment (PEA) at the Hobart Elementary School Addition Site under the oversight of the California Environmental Protection Agency, Department of Toxic Substances Control (DTSC). The site is located next to the school on the southwest corner of the intersection of San Marino Street and South Harvard Boulevard in Los Angeles. The PEA was conducted to determine if any harmful hazardous substances are present on the school site that pose a threat to public health or the environment.

The Hobart Elementary School Addition Site investigation detected lead in soil samples in concentrations that exceed DTSC health standards. Currently, soil excavated during the site investigation activities is being stored in bins on the site. A draft Removal Action Workplan was prepared in response to the PEA findings to provide information regarding soil removal activities necessary on the site to make it safe.

The purpose of this fact sheet is to inform the community of the investigation results and to provide the opportunity to comment on the Removal Action Workplan during the 30-day public comment period starting October 13, 2001.

Site Description

The Hobart Elementary School Addition Site consists of a vacant residential dwelling and a vacant lot that was formerly used for residential purposes. The 0.44-acre site is bounded on the north by San Marino Street and multi-family apartment buildings, the

COMMUNITY MEETING ANNOUNCEMENT

Hobart Elementary School
Multipurpose Room
980 S. Hobart Blvd.
Los Angeles, California

Saturday, October 27, 2001
Time – 10 a.m. to 11 a.m.

DTSC will hold a community meeting to provide information about the proposed Removal Action Workplan and findings of the environmental investigation for the Hobart Elementary School Addition Site.

DTSC encourages you to take an active interest in the issues affecting the hazardous substance cleanup activities at this school by attending this meeting. Translation services will be available in Spanish and Korean.

Public Comment Period

The draft Removal Action Workplan for the site will be available for review and comment during a 30-day public comment period from: **October 13, 2001 to November 12, 2001**. You may submit written comments to:

Mr. Ken Chiang, Project Manager
Dept. of Toxic Substances Control
1011 N. Grandview Avenue
Glendale, CA 91201

The PEA and RAW and other related project documents are available at the local Information Repositories listed on the last page.

existing Hobart Elementary School to the south, multi-family apartment buildings and the existing Hobart Elementary School to the west, and South Harvard Boulevard and multi-family apartment buildings to the east. Historically, the site has been used for residential properties.

Site Investigation

The PEA investigation, conducted in September 2000, consisted of soil sampling to determine the extent of lead in the surface and subsurface soil. A Draft Final PEA Report summarizing this investigation was prepared in May 2001 and is available for review at the Information Repositories listed at the end of this fact sheet. An additional site investigation was conducted in June 2001 under DTSC oversight to further evaluate the extent of lead in soil at three locations on the site. A Focused Site Investigation Report summarizing the investigations was prepared in September 2001 and is also available at the local Information repositories listed at the end of this fact sheet.

Environmental Investigation Results

Based on the three environmental investigations, it was determined that releases of lead to the soil have occurred at three locations on the site. The elevated levels of lead are most likely associated with lead based paint used on former residential buildings on the site. LAUSD excavated the soil, which is being stored on site in Department of Transportation (DOT)-approved bins. This soil will be transported to a permitted offsite disposal facility. DTSC has indicated that more soil may need to be removed when the vacated residence is demolished.

Removal Action WorkPlan Scope

Based on its experience in terms of effectiveness, ease of implementation, and relative cost, DTSC has determined that Excavation and Offsite Disposal is the preferred removal action for the impacted soil at the site.

Removal Action Activities

In an independent action LAUSD excavated the contaminated soil from areas that were marked using stakes or marking paint to facilitate the excavation process. The site has been secured using temporary fencing to reduce the potential for unauthorized personnel to enter the excavation area. Conventional construction equipment, such as a front-end loader equipped with a backhoe, was used to excavate the soil. The excavation resulted in approximately 40 cubic yards, or 60 tons of soil. This soil will be transported to an approved disposal facility. Truck transportation activities will be limited to between 8:00 a.m. and 3:30 p.m. Removal, transportation and sampling activities on the site are expected to take less than two weeks to complete.

The soil was excavated, to the extent possible, in a manner that reduced the potential to generate dust. While on the property, all vehicles maintained slow speeds for safety purposes and for dust control. Dust control was obtained by lightly spraying or misting the work areas with water. When the excavation work was complete, confirmation sampling was conducted to verify that all the contaminated soil had been removed. If future excavation activities are required, air quality monitoring will be conducted during excavation and soil handling activities to measure for potential emissions. In addition, airborne dust monitoring will be conducted to verify and document dust control effectiveness.

Following demolition of the building, additional soil samples will be collected to determine if further excavation and removal is required.

Notice of Exemption

DTSC has prepared a Notice of Exemption (NOE) for this project pursuant to the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA). The NOE states that DTSC has found no evidence that the cleanup will have a significant negative effect on the environment.

What Happens Next?

As a part of this public review for the Hobart Elementary School Addition Draft Removal Action Workplan, DTSC will receive comments during the **30-day public comment period**, which ends November 12, 2001. Comments may be submitted in writing to: Mr. Ken Chiang, Project Manager, Department of Toxic Substances Control, 1011 North Grandview Avenue, Glendale, California 91201. Comments mailed must be postmarked by November 12, 2001.

After the public comment period, DTSC will evaluate all of the submitted comments. The removal action, including soil excavation, transportation of excavated soil, and confirmation soil sampling and analysis will last approximately two weeks.

Once DTSC has determined that the soil on the site poses no health risk and no further cleanup action is required, school construction activities will proceed.

For More Information

If you have questions regarding the DTSC investigation or the proposed removal action please contact:

Treva Miller, DTSC Public Participation Specialist, at (818) 551-2846

Ken Chiang, DTSC Project Manager, (818) 551-2183

Jeanne Garcia, Media Contact, (818) 551-2176

Si desea información en español, comuníquese con:

Eloy Florez, Especialista en Participación Pública de el DTSC, al (818) 551-2875

LAUSD Contact:

Tom Watson, Project Manager, LAUSD Office of Environmental Health and Safety,
(213) 633-8242

Si desea información en español, comuníquese con:

Sra. Genetha Eddins, Oficina de Alcance a la Comunidad del LAUSD (LAUSD Community Outreach Office), al
(213) 633-3468 o por correo electrónico:geddins@laschools.org

Project documents are available for public review at the following locations:

Felipe De Neve Branch Library

2820 W. 6th Street

Los Angeles, CA 90057

Hours: Monday, Thursdays 12:30 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.

Tuesdays, Saturdays 10:00 a.m.– 5:30 p.m.

Wednesdays Friday 12:30 p.m. – 5:30 p.m.

Closed Sundays

Department of Toxic Substances Control

Regional Records Office

1011 N. Grandview Avenue

Glendale, CA 91201

Contact: Jone Barrio

Phone: (818) 551-2886

Hours: Monday-Friday 8:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.

Los Angeles Unified School District

Office of Communications

450 N. Grand Avenue

Los Angeles, CA

Hours: Monday-Friday 8:00 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.

