



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

Public Involvement, November 2006

## The Removal Action Workplan For The Independence High School Is Available For Your Review

The Kern High School District (KHSD) plans to construct a new high school, known as Independence High School (Site) located at the intersection of Old River Road and McCutchen Road, Bakersfield, California. (See site map on page 4 of this fact sheet.) Relieving the existing high schools from the burden of over-crowding, the new high school will house over 1,000 students by the year 2008 and over 2,000 students by the year 2010.

The Department of Toxic Substances Control (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 staff or faculty. If contamination is found, DTSC oversees the cleanup of the property.



Old Structure on the proposed Site with release of lead-based paint

### Public Comment Period

We encourage you to review and comment on the draft RAW for the new Independence High School. DTSC will hold a 30-day public comment period beginning November 15, 2006 and ending on December 14, 2006. All e-mailed comments must be sent to the Department no later than 5 p.m. on December 14, 2006. Please submit your written comments to:

Mr. Neal Hutchison, DTSC Project Manager  
8800 Cal Center Drive  
Sacramento, CA 95826  
Or by e-mail to [Hhutchis@dtsc.ca.gov](mailto:Hhutchis@dtsc.ca.gov)



**This fact sheet provides you information about:**

- Site History and Background
- Investigation Findings
- Summary of the Draft Removal Action Workplan
- California Environmental Quality Act
- Next Steps for Cleanup

During an investigation of the proposed school property, elevated levels of lead, organochlorine herbicides, and petroleum hydrocarbons were found in the soil. KHSD submitted a draft Removal Action Workplan (RAW) to DTSC for review and approval. The draft RAW describes the investigation, contamination found, and proposed activities for cleanup of the Site. The draft RAW is available for your review at the information repositories listed on page 4 of this fact sheet.

**Site History and Background**

The 57-acre Site was used for agricultural activities since the 1940's. Fifty five acres of the Site was used for farming. A 0.6-acre area located in the southeast corner of the Site had a house and sheds. In 2006, the house was moved and the sheds were demolished. In 1952 Destefani Farms placed an operations yard in the southwest corner of the Site. The 1.4-acre operations yard included buildings and areas for equipment and chemical storage, maintenance, and mixing of agricultural related chemicals.

**Investigation Findings**

Site investigations were conducted between June 2005 and January 2006. The chart below lists the levels of chemicals detected and the DTSC required cleanup level.

Chemicals of Concern	Likely Source of Chemical	Maximum Level Detected	DTSC Cleanup Level
Lead	Lead-based paint flaking from structures	379 ppm	255 ppm
Organochlorine Herbicides (OCH)	Herbicide Storage and Mixing Activities	1,172 ppm	90 ppm
Petroleum Hydrocarbons	Motor oil and vehicle maintenance activities	19,210 ppm	1000 ppm
<b>ppm – parts per million</b>			

All the chemicals found were associated with the Destefani Farms operation yard area. The OCH was found in the central area where a former chemical storage trailer was located. The total volume of impacted soil is estimated to be approximately 20 cubic yards.

DTSC determined that no cleanup activities were required for the 55-acre farm land portion or the former residential property.

**Draft Removal Action Workplan**

The draft RAW evaluates cleanup alternatives and identifies preferred alternatives for the proposed removal action that would prevent or reduce potential risks to public health and the environment. The draft RAW summarizes previous investigations and outlines available cleanup alternatives. Cleanup alternatives are screened and evaluated on the basis of their effectiveness, ability to be implemented and cost.

DTSC will review and consider comments received during the 30-day public comment period before making a final decision to approve, disapprove, or modify the selected cleanup alternative.

**Summary of Proposed Draft Removal Action Workplan**

The draft RAW proposes excavation, removal and proper disposal of impacted soils from the site. These activities will include excavation and removal of soil to a maximum depth of 2 feet at three of the four areas within the Destefani Farms operation yard. At the location of the petroleum hydrocarbon release, the depth of the excavation may go as deep as 5 feet below the surface. The excavation areas range in size from 5 feet to 8 feet in diameter. Excavated soil will be sent to proper disposal facilities and the excavated areas filled with clean soil.

If the plan is approved, you can expect to see the following activities conducted at the site:

- Large equipment, such as excavators and backhoes, will be used to excavate and stockpile approximately 20 cubic yards (2-3 truckloads) of contaminated soil;
- Stockpiled soil will be temporarily placed on heavy plastic sheeting at the Site until loaded on trucks;
- During Site activities, excavation areas will be lightly sprayed with water from water trucks to reduce or prevent dust; and
- Air monitoring will take place to protect workers.



*Example of an Excavator*

### **Truck Route**

Approximately 2 to 3 trucks will transport the contaminated soil to a State-licensed disposal facility. The trucks will be operated by a licensed hazardous waste trucking contractor and will travel between the hours of 7 a.m. and 6 p.m.

Trucks exiting the site will:

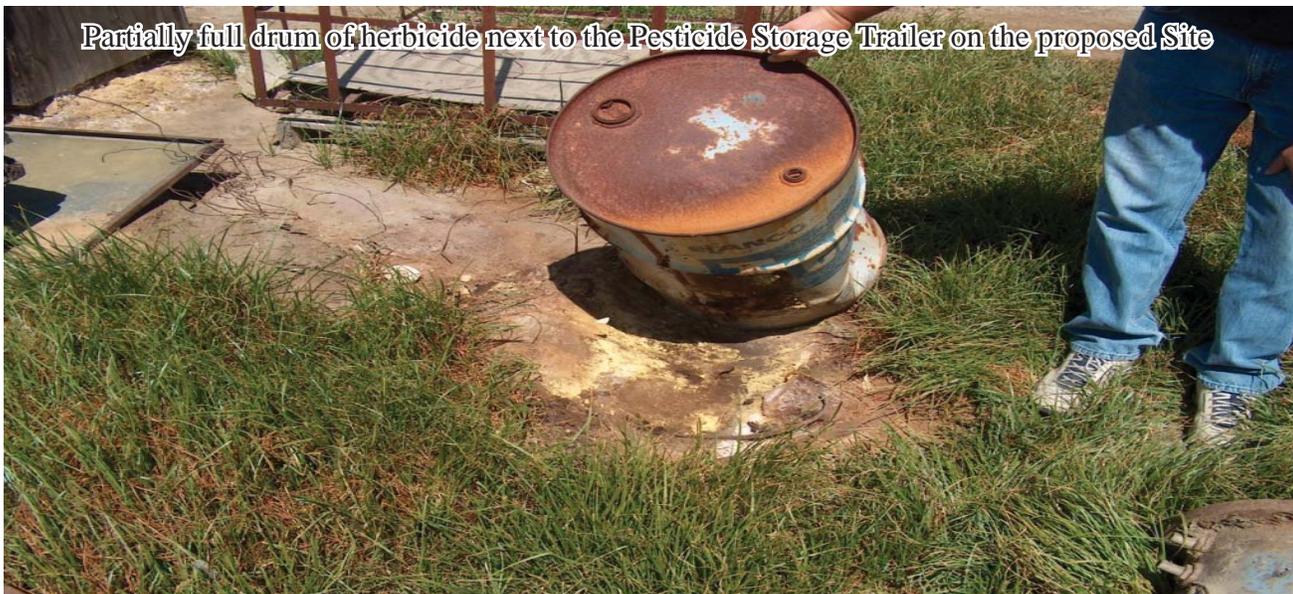
- Exit onto McCutchen Road and travel east to Buena Vista Road, then to Stockdale Highway.
- At Stockdale Highway, the trucks will go east to Interstate 5 and then north on I-5 to Hwy 58.
- From Hwy 58 west, the trucks will travel to the appropriate licensed landfill facility to dispose of the contaminated soils.

### **Dust suppression**

Dust control measures, including water spraying, will reduce dust during the cleanup activities. Air and dust monitoring will be conducted and work stopped and corrective actions taken, if acceptable levels are exceeded. Before leaving the Site, truck tires will be cleaned.

### **Public Access**

Public access is restricted by security fencing and no pedestrian traffic will be allowed where the removal action will take place.



**Partially full drum of herbicide next to the Pesticide Storage Trailer on the proposed Site**

## California Environmental Quality Act - Notice of Exemption

DTSC evaluated any possible impacts of the proposed 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.

### Next steps

If comments are received by the community, DTSC will prepare a "Response to Comments" at the completion of the 30-day public comment period. Anyone who submits comments regarding the proposed cleanup activities will receive a copy of the "Response to Comments." Additionally, a copy of the "Response to Comments" will be placed in the information repositories. If no comments are received, DTSC will approve the RAW and it will be implemented as specified in the draft RAW.

### For more information

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

For questions regarding the draft RAW please contact Mr. Neal Hutchison, DTSC Project Manager, at (916) 255-4369 or by e-mail to [hhutchis@dtsc.ca.gov](mailto:hhutchis@dtsc.ca.gov).

For questions regarding the public participation process, please contact Ms. Kim Rhodes, DTSC Public Participation Specialist, toll-free (866) 495-5651 or (916) 255-3651 or by e-mail to [krhodes1@dtsc.ca.gov](mailto:krhodes1@dtsc.ca.gov).

For questions from the media, please contact Ms. Jeanne Garcia (818) 551-2176 or by e-mail to [Jgarcia1@dtsc.ca.gov](mailto:Jgarcia1@dtsc.ca.gov).

### Information Repositories

The draft RAW, NOE, and other related documents may be viewed at the following locations:

Beale Memorial Library – Main Branch  
Administrative Office  
701 Truxtun Avenue  
Bakersfield, CA 93301  
(661) 868-0701

Kern High School District  
Attention: Business Services  
5801 Sundale Avenue  
Bakersfield, CA 93309  
(661) 827-3100

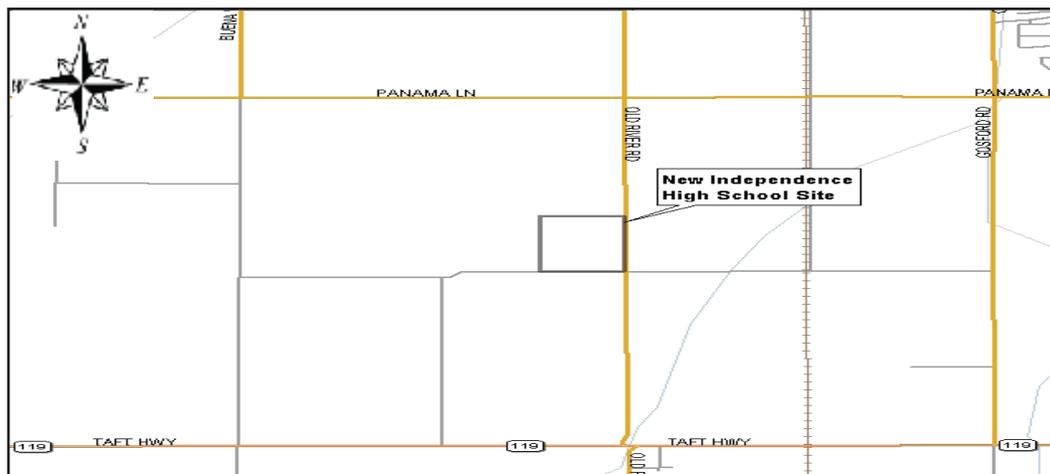
Department of Toxic Substances Control  
8800 Cal Center Drive  
Sacramento, California 95826  
File Room:  
By appointment only (916) 255-3758

### Notice to the Hearing Impaired Individuals

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

### Anuncio

Si prefiere hablar con alguien en español acerca de esta información, favor de llamar a Jesus Cruz, Especialista en Participación Pública del Departamento de Control de Substancias Tóxicas. El número de teléfono es (866) 495-5651 or (916) 255-3315.



For additional information on the Independence High School Site, please visit the DTSC website at: [http://www.envirostor.dtsc.ca.gov/public/profile\\_report.asp?global\\_id=60000106](http://www.envirostor.dtsc.ca.gov/public/profile_report.asp?global_id=60000106)