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Preventing environmental damage from hazardous waste, and restoring contaminated sites for all Californians.

Public Involvement

Cleanup

Science & Tech



State of California Department of Toxic Substances Control



Public Involvement

FACT SHEET, August 2005

The Draft Removal Action Workplan For The King City Middle School Site Is Available For Your Review

The King City Union School District (KCUSD) is proposing to build a new school, called King City Middle School at a site located near the northwest corner of Spreckels Road and San Antonio Drive in King City, California (see map on page 2). During a site investigation, elevated levels of naturally occurring asbestos (NOA) were found in the soil. Before the school can be built, the Department of Toxic Substances Control (DTSC) requires school districts to submit a workplan that identifies the options to reduce or eliminate future exposure to NOA from the school site.

The proposed Draft Final Remedial Action Workplan (draft RAW) for King City Middle School outlines the details of the proposed activities for the NOA. The draft RAW, is available for your review at the information repositories listed on page four of this fact sheet. If you have questions about this site, please contact Mr. Mike Kenning, DTSC Project Manager, at (916) 255-3625 or e-mail Mkenning@dtsc.ca.gov.

This fact sheet will provide you:

- History and background of the site
- Findings of the investigations
- Summary of the draft RAW
- Information on the California Environmental Quality Act - Notice of Exemption
- Next Steps

Public Comment Period

We encourage you to review and comment on the draft RAW. DTSC will hold a 30-day public comment period beginning **August 5, 2005** and ending **September 6, 2005**. All e-mailed comments must be sent to the Department no later than 5 p.m. on September 6, 2005. Mail written comments to:

Mr. Mike Kenning, Project Manager
Department of Toxic Substances Control
8800 Cal Center Drive
Sacramento, CA 95826
or e-mail Mkenning@dtsc.ca.gov



History and background of the Site

Previous studies found that the 22-acre site has been used for agricultural purposes since the 1950's. The site is surrounded by former agricultural land which is currently under residential development.

Findings of the investigation

The site investigation (Preliminary Environmental Assessment) looked for agricultural chemicals such as pesticides and metals. An additional investigation was conducted for NOA. There were no detections of elevated levels of pesticides or metals, however, elevated levels of NOA were detected. NOA levels that exceed 0.001 percent require further action to be conducted at the site. NOA has been detected in the soil across the entire site with levels ranging from 0.024 to 0.49 percent. The original source of the NOA is from the wearing down of rocks in the hills east of the Salinas Valley, and the movement of the eroded asbestos containing particles down into the Valley.

What is Naturally Occurring Asbestos

NOA is classified by the Environmental Protection Agency as a known human carcinogen. NOA is a naturally occurring mineral that has been found in rocks with serpentine minerals and in association with faults.

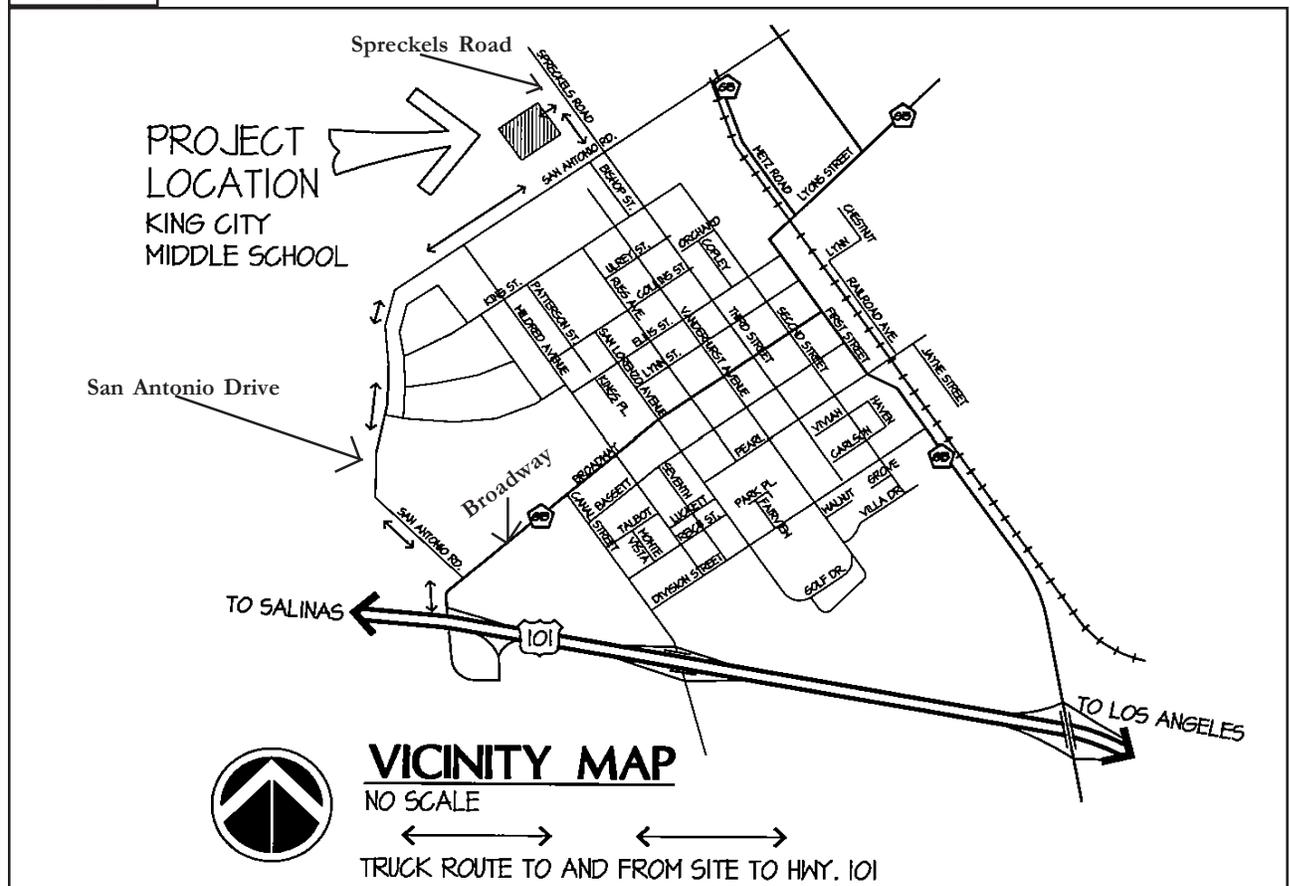
Children can get exposed to NOA by breathing in airborne asbestos dust.

Because the elevated NOA levels pose a potential threat to human health and the environment, DTSC recommends the NOA soil be managed, controlled and covered to minimize possible exposure.

Proposed Draft RAW

The primary objective of the cleanup is to prevent or reduce potential risks to public health and the environment. The draft RAW summarizes previous studies, outlines available cleanup activities and proposes removal options. Cleanup alternatives are screened and evaluated on the basis of their effectiveness, ability to implement and cost.

Site Map



DTSC will review and consider comments received during the 30-day public comment period before making a final decision to approve or deny the proposed cleanup activities.

Proposed containment methods

The draft RAW involves on-site management of soil with NOA to minimize future potential disturbances of soil containing NOA. This alternative would include:

- Grading the site as planned for typical construction
- Placement of a warning marker over soil with NOA, in all areas except those covered by buildings, parking lots, and sidewalks to separate and define NOA containing soil from the imported clean soil
- Placement of at least one foot of imported clean soil over the warning marker in the playfields and landscape areas.
- An Operations and Maintenance Plan to control and manage future potential disturbances of soil containing NOA

This proposal would result in the school being constructed with adequate engineering controls that are protective of human health and the environment without requiring off-site disposal of the NOA containing soil.

Proposed RAW activities

If the draft RAW is approved, you can expect to see the following activities:

- Personnel using heavy equipment such as Front End Loader Tractors and wearing safety gear
- Trucks delivering imported clean fill to be used as covers for all areas that are not covered by buildings, asphalt and concrete materials
- Placement of a warning barrier over all areas except those covered by buildings, asphalt materials or slopes
- Water trucks lightly spraying the soil to prevent dust from becoming airborne



Example of a Front End Loader

Dust suppression

Dust control measures, including water spraying, will reduce dust during the cleanup activities. Airborne dust monitoring will ensure that efforts to reduce dust are working. Before leaving the site, truck tires will be cleaned and soil loads will be covered with tarps so that soil will not spill out of the trucks while they are on the road.

Fencing

The entire site is secured by fencing or barriers so that unauthorized personnel cannot enter the work area.

Truck route

Various trucks will haul in clean soil to the site. Construction activities will occur between the hours of 6 a.m. and 7 p.m.

Trucks entering and exiting the site will follow the same truck route for each:

- Exit - Spreckels Road south to San Antonio Road, then travel east to Broadway, then to Highway 101
- Entrance - Highway 101 to Broadway, then travel to San Antonio Road, then proceed north to Spreckels Road

California Environmental Quality Act - Notice of Exemption

DTSC prepared a draft Notice of Exemption (NOE) for this project as required by the California Environmental Quality Act. The NOE document states that the project will not have effects on the environment or human health.

Next Steps

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.

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. Mike Kenning, DTSC Project Manager at (916) 255-3625 or e-mail Mkenning@dtsc.ca.gov.

For questions regarding the public participation process, contact Ms. Kim Rhodes, DTSC Public Participation Specialist at (916) 255-3651 or e-mail Krhodes1@dtsc.ca.gov.

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

Information Repositories

The Draft Final Remedial Action Workplan and other related documents may be viewed at the following locations:

King City Union School District

800 Broadway

King City California 93930

(831) 385-0606

City of King City Library

402 Broadway

King City, California 93930

(831) 385-3677

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

Notice to 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.