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Department of Toxic Substances Control

Public Involvement

FACT SHEET, June 2005

Update on South Los Angeles Area New High School #1 and Jefferson New Continuation High School (former site of Santee Dairy)

1921 S. Maple Avenue, Los Angeles, CA 90011

New information provided to the Department of Toxic Substances Control (DTSC) indicated that demolition rubble including brick, concrete, and asphalt debris ("demolition debris") was inappropriately used in several areas of the South Los Angeles New Area High School #1 and Jefferson New Continuation School (former site of Santee Dairy). As a result the California Department of Toxic Substances Control directed the Los Angeles Unified School District (LAUSD) to conduct soil sampling at the new school site. Preliminary findings indicate that the demolition debris used in the subject areas does not pose a significant risk to future school occupants. DTSC is currently conducting a comprehensive review of the final investigation results and Human Health Risk Assessment, and is expected to make a final determination during the week of June 20, 2005.

Why additional testing was conducted

The new information indicated that during grading and construction activities at the site in 2002, demolition debris that may have contained varying levels of metals and other contamination was inappropriately used to backfill an open pit in the area of the current Administration Building. DTSC was also informed that this material was used to: establish a building pad for the Gymnasium; for the construction of temporary stormwater diversion berms; and to establish a temporary construction road in the middle of the property. The demolition debris consisted primarily of crushed concrete, asphalt, and brick generated during the

In this Fact Sheet you will find:

- Why additional testing was conducted
- What testing was done
- The results of the testing
- What the results mean
- What happens next

Who to Contact for More Information

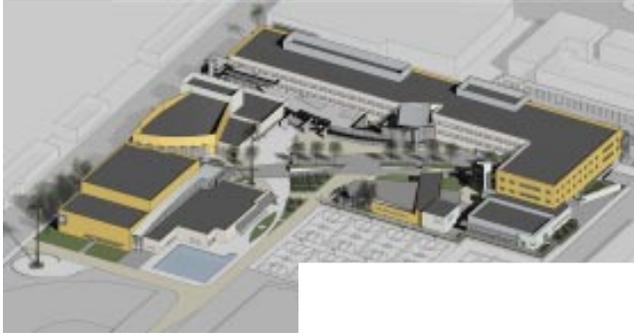
If you have questions regarding site activities, please contact Mr. Ryan Atencio, DTSC Project Manager, at (714) 484-5340 or Ms. Maya Akula, DTSC Public Participation Specialist at (818) 551-2917.

For media inquiries, please contact:

Jeanne Garcia, DTSC Public Information Officer at (818) 551-2176



South Los Angeles Area New High School #1 and Jefferson New Continuation High School



demolition of former buildings. In view of the information provided to DTSC and reported in the Los Angeles Times, DTSC required further sampling in certain areas of the site.

What testing was done

The LAUSD conducted additional sampling with DTSC oversight on June 1, 3, and 6, 2005. Supplemental sampling was conducted by LAUSD on June 15, 2005.

A total of 7 borings were located between the Library and Administration Building and 4 borings were located at the Gymnasium. A total of 53 samples were collected from 11 borings at several intervals down to approximately 39 feet below ground surface.

Samples were tested for lead, chromium, arsenic and other metals, Total Petroleum Hydrocarbons (TPH), Polyaromatic Hydrocarbons (PAHs), and Polychlorinated Biphenyls (PCBs), pesticides, herbicides, volatile organic compounds (VOCs), and semi-volatile organic compounds (SVOCs). Soil gas samples were also collected in the area of the Gymnasium.

The results of the testing

The sampling confirmed the presence of demolition debris. In the areas under the Administration Building and the Library, the demolition debris was found at depths from approximately 15 to 34 feet below ground surface. In general, sampling results indicate low levels of VOCs, PAHs, TPH, metals, and PCBs. In addition, two samples located at 19 and 23 feet below ground surface in the vicinity of the Administration Building detected slightly elevated levels of hexavalent chromium.

What the results mean

DTSC uses a "Risk Assessment" process to determine if a school site presents a significant human health risk from exposure to chemicals. School sites are evaluated by using health protective assumptions. These assumptions include people living on the property 24 hours per day 7 days per week. **Preliminary results indicate that the site is safe for unrestricted use including a school.**

What Happens Next

- DTSC is conducting a comprehensive review of the final investigation results and Human Health Risk Assessment, and is expected to make a final determination during the week of June 20, 2005
- When the final determination is made, DTSC will update community members and interested parties as soon as possible.

Information Repositories

Project Documents are available at the following locations:

Vernon Branch Library
4504 South Central Avenue
Los Angeles, CA 90011
(323) 234-9106

Jefferson Primary Center
3601 South Maple Street
Los Angeles, CA 90011
(323) 232-0984

Los Angeles Unified School District
355 S. Grand Avenue, 15th Floor
Los Angeles, CA 90071
Contact Mary Elaine Valenzuela at (213) 633-8216 for an appointment.

Department of Toxic Substances Control
1011 N. Grandview Ave.
Glendale, CA 91201
Contact Jone Barrio at (818) 551-2886 for an appointment. The file room hours are 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday.