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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, September 2005

The Draft Removal Action Workplan For The Walnut Elementary Education Center Site Is Available For Your Review

The Turlock Unified School District (TUSD) is proposing to build a new school on a 20 acre parcel, called the Walnut Elementary Education Center located at 4219 N. Walnut Avenue, Turlock, California. During a site investigation, elevated levels of lead based-paint residue and organochlorine pesticides were found in the soil on 2 acres of the 20 acre parcel (see map on page 2). Before a 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 lead based-paint residue and organochlorine pesticides from the school site.

The draft Removal Action Workplan (draft RAW) outlines the details of the proposed activities for the lead based-paint residue and organochlorine pesticides. 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. Jose Luevano, DTSC Project Manager, at (916) 255-3577 or e-mail Jluevano@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 (NOE)
- 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 **September 27, 2005** and ending **October 26, 2005**. All e-mailed comments must be sent to the Department no later than 5 p.m. on October 26, 2005. Mail written comments to:

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



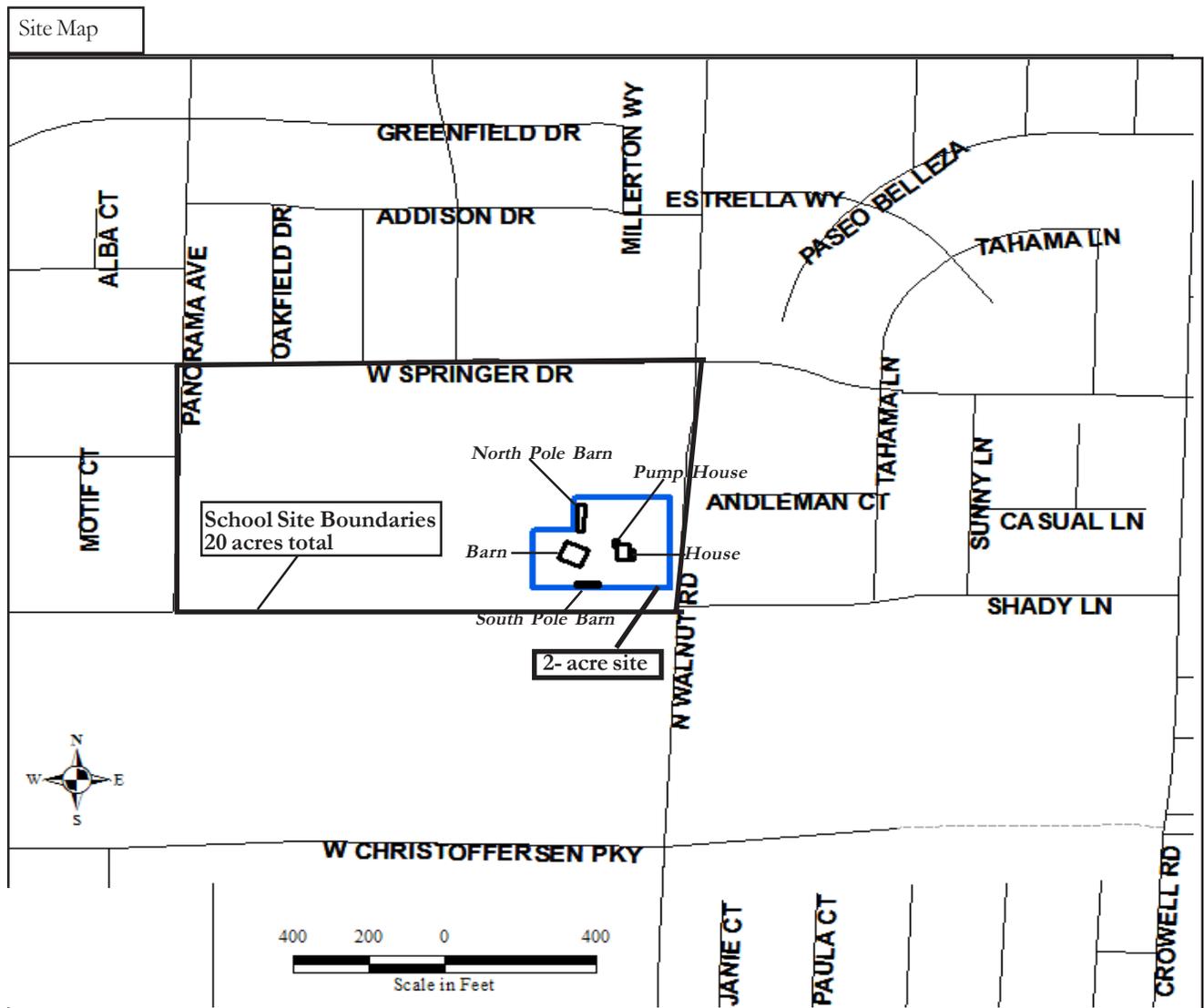
History and background of the Site

The 20-acre parcel has been used for agricultural purposes from 1953 through 2000. The 2-acre site has been used as a farmhouse (including a pump shed), a pesticide mixing barn, a north pole-barn used for equipment storage, and a south pole-barn used for storage of hay bails. The 80-foot long equipment storage shed is enclosed on two sides and was formerly used to store farm equipment. Next to the barn on the west side were two 350 gallon aboveground storage tanks for diesel and gasoline. Both tanks were located on concrete pads. The house and associated pump house are the only structures that appear to have been painted. Currently, the site is unoccupied and the buildings are vacant.

Findings of the investigation

The site investigations (Preliminary Environmental Assessment) were conducted from May 2004 through October 2004 to evaluate any impacts and extent of contamination. Lead-based paint residue and organochlorine pesticides were detected at elevated concentrations. The elevated concentrations were isolated to the south east corner of the property where the farm house, barn, and other structures are located.

It is likely that the soils containing lead came from the application of lead-based paint on the old barn and pump house. The organochlorine pesticides more likely were used to control insects within structures and the agricultural areas.



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 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 or deny the proposed cleanup method.

Proposed cleanup method

- Remove approximately 240 cubic yards (22 truckloads) of soil containing lead-based paint residue and organochlorine pesticides.
- Transport soil containing lead-based paint residue and organochlorine pesticides, using a licensed hazardous waste trucking contractor, to an appropriate State-licensed disposal facility.
- Backfill with clean imported soil, if necessary

Proposed RAW activities

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

- Personnel using heavy equipment such as Front End Loaders and wearing safety gear
- Stockpiled contaminated soil on site
- Stockpiles covered with tarps to protect them from wind and rain
- Covered trucks removing soil from the site to a state-licensed landfill
- Monitoring airborne dust
- Water trucks lightly spraying the soil to prevent dust from becoming airborne

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.



Example of a Front End Loader

Fencing

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

Truck route

A variety of truck types may 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 6 p.m.

Trucks exiting the site will leave the site on Walnut Road traveling north to W. Taylor road, then west to N. Washington Road, then south on N. Washington Road, then west on W. Main Street, then southeast to Crows Landing Road, then to Frink Road, then proceed on Interstate 5, directly to Kettleman Landfill.

California Environmental Quality Act - Notice of Exemption

DTSC prepared a draft NOE for this project as required by the California Environmental Quality Act. The NOE document states that the project will not impact adversely on the environment or human health.

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.

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. Jose Luevano, DTSC Project Manager at (916) 255-3577 or by e-mail to Jluevano@dtsc.ca.gov.

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

For questions from the media, please contact Mr. Ron Baker, DTSC Public Information Supervisor at (916) 324-3142 or by e-mail to Rbaker@dtsc.ca.gov.

Information Repositories

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

Turlock Unified School District

1574 East Canal Drive
Turlock, California 95380
(209) 667-0632

Stanislaus County Library - Turlock Branch

550 Minaret Avenue
Turlock, California 95380
(209) 664-8100

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 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 (916) 255-3315.