

# COMMUNITY UPDATE

The mission of DTSC is to protect California's people and environment from harmful effects of toxic substances by restoring contaminated resources, enforcing hazardous waste laws, reducing hazardous waste generation, and encouraging the manufacture of chemically safer products.

## Corrective Measures Proposed for Former Aerojet Facility, Management Areas 1 & 2, in Chino Hills Now Available for Public Review & Comment

The Department of Toxic Substances Control (DTSC), invites public review and comment on a proposed plan that evaluates the Corrective Measures cleanup alternatives at a portion of the former Aerojet-General Corporation (now Aerojet Rocketdyne) (AR) Facility located at the end of Woodview Road in Chino Hills. The proposed cleanup plan, called a draft Corrective Measures Study (CMS), was developed specifically for a portion of the Facility known as Management Area (MAs) 1 and 2 for Munitions and Explosives of Concern (MEC) in these areas. Some subunits within MA1 and MA2 have been determined to require No Further Action (NFA) for MEC. Other subunits may require additional cleanup. Details on cleanup status of the subunits can be found in the CMS Report. The CMS consists of four (4) Tasks which are Identification and Development of the Corrective Measures Alternative(s); Evaluation of the Corrective Measures Alternative(s); Justification and Recommendation of the Corrective Measure(s) and the Corrective Measures Report. AR has prepared the CMS Report and is presenting the results of the Tasks and recommending a corrective measures alternative.

DTSC is the lead regulatory agency for review and approval of the CMS. In compliance with the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), DTSC prepared a draft Initial Study and proposes a Negative Declaration as the proposed cleanup will not have an adverse environmental impact on human health and the environment.

There is **no** adverse health risk to the public because impacted soil and hazardous substances (MEC) were previously cleaned up to acceptable levels during prior DTSC-approved cleanup actions, and the property is not accessible to the public. Also, groundwater under the property is **not** a source of drinking water. This Fact Sheet provides additional information on:

- What Is MEC & Why Cleanup Is Necessary
- Munitions & Explosives of Concern (MEC), Management Areas 1 & 2
- Facility Description & Facility History
- Previous Investigation Conducted
- Draft Corrective Measures Study Goal
- Health & Safety
- Community Engagement Plan
- California Environmental Quality Act
- How You Can Participate & How to Find Project Documents
- Who To Contact For More Information

### Public Comment Period



March 29th – April 28th, 2016

**A 30-day public comment period** is being held to receive public comments on the draft CMS and draft CEQA Negative Declaration. **All public comments must be postmarked or e-mailed by April 28th, 2016, and sent to:**

Robert Romero, Project Manager  
Dept. of Toxic Substances Control  
5796 Corporate Avenue  
Cypress, CA 90630-4732  
E-mail: [Robert.Romero@dtsc.ca.gov](mailto:Robert.Romero@dtsc.ca.gov)

#### **\*Public Meeting Notice\***

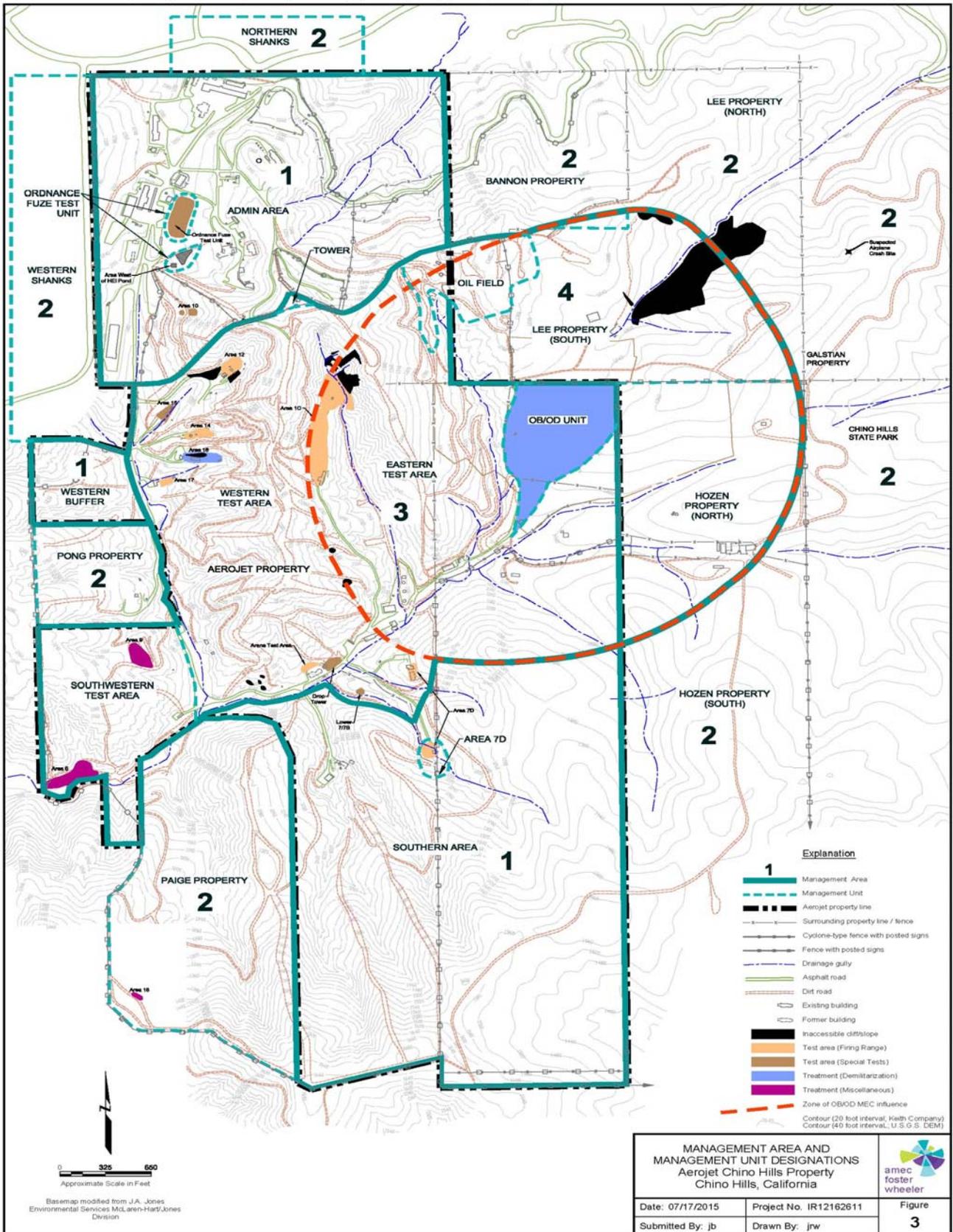
Please join us **Monday, April 11th, 2016, 6:30 pm at:**

**Chino Hills Community Center  
14250 Peyton Drive  
Chino Hills, CA 91709**

DTSC will present the draft CMS, draft CEQA Negative Declaration and accept public comments.

The draft CMS and draft CEQA Negative Declaration and other project documents are available for review at the Information Repository locations listed on page 4 inside this Fact Sheet.

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### What Is MEC?

MEC is classified as military munitions that may pose an explosive safety risk and consists of both fired and unfired munitions. The AR Facility loaded, assembled, packed, tested, and stored ammunitions products and components (known as ordnance) as part of munitions development for national military defense and security.

### Why Cleanup may be Necessary

Cleanup is necessary to ensure current and/or future occupants are not at risk to residual MEC. Therefore, DTSC requires this draft CMS (as part of the final cleanup steps) be implemented to protect the public and current/future occupants.

### Munitions & Explosives of Concern (MEC) and Management Areas (MAs)

In a phased approach, the project area is subdivided into several MAs. MA1 includes AR property excluding primary test areas and the open burn/open detonation (OB/OD) Unit MEC influence zone. MA2 includes surrounding properties (owned by others) and beyond the OB/OD Unit MEC influence zone. MA 3 includes AR property primary test areas and the OB/OD Unit MEC influence zone. MA4 includes surrounding properties owned by others and within the OB/OD Unit MEC influence zone.

Phase 1 of the CMS is for MA 1 and MA 2, and will allow for clean closure designation and unrestricted use of these Facility areas. Phase 2 of the CMS addresses the remaining MAs, and will be available for public review and comment in the near future.

### Facility Description & Facility History

The Facility is located at the end of Woodview Road (formerly Soquel Canyon Road). During operation, the Facility occupied about 800 acres of which AR owned 400 acres (AR currently owns 562 acres) and leased the remainder. The leased land served primarily as a buffer zone from facility operations. Land adjoining the property is currently used for cattle grazing or agriculture. A residential development/golf course and Chino Hills State Park also border the Facility.

AR Facility operations including loading, assembly and packing of munitions and limited research and development of explosives, propellants and proprietary organic chemicals were used at the Facility. The Facility operated from 1954 through 1995 when AR ceased operations.

The Facility began operations as a small ordnance-testing facility. Beginning around 1974, operations primarily involved research, development, assembly, and testing of 25- and 30mm high-explosive incendiary projectiles, armor-piercing incendiary projectiles composed in part of depleted uranium (DU) and fuzes.

In 1994, DTSC and AR entered into a Consent Agreement to initiate an environmental investigation to determine the nature and extent of contaminants present to define cleanup options (known as Corrective Action), performed under the regulatory oversight of DTSC. Contaminants found include MEC (both exploded and unexploded projectiles), explosive compounds, metals, and perchlorate in soil, surface water and subsurface water. AR voluntarily began cleanup activities under the oversight of DTSC, and included an investigation and cleanup of chemical contamination and MEC from treatment activities when discovered.

### Previous Investigation Conducted

A total of 29 individual Solid Waste Management Units (SWMU) and Areas of Concern (AOCs) were defined. Over 2,200 soil and water samples were collected and analyzed to determine the nature and extent of chemical contamination in soil, surface water and groundwater. 19 of the 29 SWMU/AOCs were assigned as No Further Action (NFA) by DTSC, because there were no harmful levels of chemicals in surface waters, nor were any chemicals detected outside of or leaving the Facility boundaries that posed a risk to human health and the environment. The remaining 10 SWMU/AOCs required cleanup actions, primarily to address soil and subsurface water chemical contamination and some removal of MEC items. Cleanup options were developed, presented to the community and a cleanup remedy was selected and approved in November 2000.

In 2007, Corrective Measures (CMs) for the SWMU/AOCs were completed and documented in the Corrective Measures Completion Report and Corrective Measures Completion Report Addendum. In September and November 2008, respectively, DTSC approved these reports indicating that chemicals of concern identified at the Facility have been removed to levels below residential cleanup levels. Additional CMs may be needed for MEC.

### Draft Corrective Measures Study Goal

Previous activities and CMs conducted at the Facility included contaminated soil cleanup. The goal of this draft CMS focuses on MAs 1 and 2 to address residual MEC and allow for appropriate site reuse with the goal of “clean closure” for these Facility portions.

### Health & Safety

It is important that the public obey the unauthorized personnel “keep out” signs surrounding the project area until completion of all ongoing cleanup activities. If a suspected MEC item is found in the vicinity, it is



important that you do not touch it or attempt to remove potential MEC items. Rather, immediately contact the San Bernardino County Sheriff's Department at (909) 364-2000. Take note of your surroundings and mark the location with an object such as a stick, rock or piece of clothing so it can be easily found by public safety authorities.

### Community Engagement Plan (CEP)

As a condition of approval for CMS, a Community Engagement Plan (CEP) was developed to identify the communication resources available to the community, including public safety information.

The CEP identifies various public agency (including environmental, health, and fire) and private entity partnerships relative to the AR Facility. The CEP also identifies community concerns, interests and stakeholders that together will maintain an open channel and process for community input and information on MEC and public safety. CEP components include creation and maintenance of an electronic website known as the "Chino Hills Community Engagement Website" which will provide Facility information/updates and notices of activities that may be of interest to the surrounding community. The website will also allow stakeholders to subscribe to a mailing list to receive electronic notifications.

### California Environmental Quality Act

DTSC is required by CEQA to review environmental activities for the possibility of impacts before approving the project. DTSC prepared an Initial Study (evaluates possible environmental impacts) and proposes a Negative Declaration as the proposed cleanup actions are not expected to have an adverse environmental impact on human health or the environment.

### How You Can Participate

We want to know what you think of the draft CMS and draft CEQA Negative Declaration. **The 30-day public comment period on the draft CMS and draft CEQA Negative Declaration begins March 29th, and ends April 28th, 2016. All public comments must be postmarked or e-mailed no later than April 28th, 2016, and sent to:**

Robert Romero, Project Manager  
Department of Toxic Substances Control  
5796 Corporate Avenue  
Cypress, CA 90630-4732  
E-mail: [Robert.Romero@dtsc.ca.gov](mailto:Robert.Romero@dtsc.ca.gov)

DTSC is also hosting a **public meeting** to present the draft CMS and receive public comments on the draft CMS and draft CEQA Negative Declaration. Please join us to learn more about this project in your community:

**Monday, April 11th, 2016 – 6:30 PM**  
**Chino Hills Community Center**  
**14250 Peyton Drive**  
**Chino Hills, CA 91709**

### Information Repository Locations

Project documents including the draft CMS, draft CEQA Negative Declaration and CMS Report are available for public review at the following Information Repositories:

James S. Thalman Chino Hills Branch Library  
14020 City Center Drive  
Chino Hills, CA 91709  
(909) 590-5380  
Mon – Thurs: 10 am – 8 pm  
Fri: 10 am – 6 pm  
Sat: 9 am – 5 pm  
Sun: 1 pm – 5 pm

Department of Toxic Substances Control  
5796 Corporate Avenue  
Cypress, CA 90630-4732  
(714) 484-5336  
Mon – Fri 8:00 am – 5:00 pm  
Please contact Jone Barrio at the above number to make an appointment.

### Additional Information Sources

Site documents are also available for electronic review on DTSC's EnviroStor website at [www.EnviroStor.dtsc.ca.gov](http://www.EnviroStor.dtsc.ca.gov).

### Whom To Contact at DTSC for Information

If you have any questions about the former Aerojet Chino Hills Facility, draft CMS, draft CEQA Negative Declaration or other related project activities please contact the following DTSC staff:

Robert Romero, Project Manager  
Department of Toxic Substances Control  
5796 Corporate Avenue  
Cypress, CA 90630-4732  
E-mail: [Robert.Romero@dtsc.ca.gov](mailto:Robert.Romero@dtsc.ca.gov)  
(714) 484-5316



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## Department of Toxic Substances Control

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Stacey Lear, Public Participation Specialist  
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Cypress, CA 90630-4732  
E-mail: [Stacey.Lear@dtsc.ca.gov](mailto:Stacey.Lear@dtsc.ca.gov)  
(714) 484-5354

### Next Steps

For final cleanup for the entire Facility, a two-phased approach was previously approved by DTSC in January 2013. AR will also begin preparing the Phase 2 CMSs for the two remaining MAs, MA3 (AR property primary test areas and OB/OD Unit MEC influence zone) and MA4 (surrounding properties owned by others and within the OB/OD Unit MEC influence zone).

### Media Inquiries

Sandy Nax, Public Information Officer  
Department of Toxic Substances Control  
P.O. Box 806  
Sacramento, CA 95812-0806  
(916) 327-6114  
E-mail: [Sandy.Nax@dtsc.ca.gov](mailto:Sandy.Nax@dtsc.ca.gov)

For More Information About the former Aerojet Rocketdyne Facility, visit [www.EnviroStor.dtsc.ca.gov](http://www.EnviroStor.dtsc.ca.gov). For information about DTSC please visit our website at [www.dtsc.ca.gov](http://www.dtsc.ca.gov)







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5796 Corporate Avenue  
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***Inside: Information on the Former Aerojet Facility, Los Angeles***

*For more information about the DTSC, please visit our web site at [www.dtsc.ca.gov](http://www.dtsc.ca.gov)*