

COMMUNITY Notice

The mission of DTSC is to protect California's people and environment from harmful effects of toxic substances through the restoration of contaminated resources, enforcement, regulation and pollution prevention.

BNSF RUMRILL

DRAFT REMOVAL ACTION WORKPLAN AVAILABLE FOR REVIEW

Public Comment Period: November 30, 2012 through January 4, 2013



BNSF Rumrill Property Site viewed from Chesley Avenue

The Department of Toxic Substances Control (DTSC) invites you to review and comment on the draft Removal Action Workplan (RAW) for the BNSF Rumrill Blvd. Property (Site). The Site is located at Rumrill Boulevard and Chesley Avenue in San Pablo, Contra Costa County, California, in an area zoned for mixed industrial, commercial and residential uses. According to the City's General Plan 2030, the Site is located in the Rumrill Boulevard District, a mixed use special district. DTSC is responsible for protecting Californians against threats to the public health and the environment through hazardous waste regulation, contamination cleanup, and pollution prevention. Site soils are contaminated with various chemicals including lead, arsenic, cadmium, organochlorine pesticides (OCPs), total petroleum hydrocarbons as diesel (TPHd) and as motor oil (TPHmo), polynuclear aromatic hydrocarbons (PAHs), and polychlorinated biphenyls (PCBs). DTSC is overseeing the investigation and cleanup of the contamination at the Site, and encourages your participation in the cleanup decision making process.

Public Comment Period



**November 30 to
January 4, 2013**

DTSC invites you to review and submit comments on the proposed remedy during the public comment period. All comments must be received by no later than 5 p.m., on January 4, 2013. Please send to:

Allan Fone
Project Manager
700 Heinz Ave.
Berkeley, CA 94710
(510) 540-3836
Allan.Fone@dtsc.ca.gov

Public Meeting:

DTSC will host a public meeting to provide information on the proposed remedy and obtain public comments.

December 19, 2012
Davis Park Senior Center
6:30 to 8:00 PM
1661 Folsom Ave., San Pablo CA

SITE HISTORY AND BACKGROUND

The Site is a former railroad maintenance support facility for Santa Fe Railway Company, and later, Atchison Topeka & San Fe (ATSF) Railway Company. The facility, which included above-and below-ground tank farms, ceased operation by the 1980's. After the railroad maintenance facility ceased operation, the Site was used by various small businesses, including mattress manufacturing, fork lift repair, pallet construction, silver recovery, and a vegetable oil recovery business. By 1988, the Site had become a vacant property, and was considered a health hazard by the City of Richmond. The Site contained debris, drums of hazardous waste, sumps with waste water, and areas of stained soil. In 1996, Burlington Northern Railway merged with ATSF to form BNSF. In 2003, ownership of the Site was transferred from BNSF to the City of San Pablo ("City"). The City plans to redevelop the Site as a park and sports fields.

SITE INVESTIGATION

Based on information gathered from the site investigation, further action is required due to elevated soil concentrations of lead, arsenic, cadmium, organochlorine pesticides (OCPs), total petroleum hydrocarbons as diesel (TPHd) and as motor oil (TPHmo), polynuclear aromatic hydrocarbons (PAHs), and polychlorinated biphenyls (PCBs) that exceed screening levels considered safe for unrestricted use. Soil cleanup goals developed for the Site will help ensure protection of human health and the environment by removing contaminated soil. This will create conditions acceptable at the Site for unrestricted use. No contamination was detected above screening levels in groundwater beneath the Site.

REMOVAL ACTION WORKPLAN

The proposed removal actions will address the lead, arsenic, cadmium, organochlorine pesticides (OCPs), total petroleum hydrocarbons as diesel (TPHd) and as motor oil (TPHmo), polynuclear aromatic hydrocarbons (PAHs), and polychlorinated biphenyls (PCBs) in soil.

Based on site investigation, the following three removal action alternatives were identified for evaluation:

- Alternative 1 – No Further Action
- Alternative 2 – Soil Containment by Capping-in-Place and Institutional Controls
- Alternative 3 – Soil Excavation and Off-site Disposal

The three alternatives were evaluated and compared with respect to effectiveness, implementation, and cost. Alternative 1 was rejected because it would do nothing to reduce the potential health risk posed by contamination on-site. DTSC recommends Alternative 3 over Alternative 2. The removal of contaminated soil would be more effective at reducing the potential health risk posed by the Site for both the present and future. It is the only alternative capable of meeting unrestricted use cleanup goals. The removal of contaminated soil under Alternative 3 is compatible with the site redevelopment plan, which calls for the installation of approximately 1 foot of engineered fill with specific drainage properties beneath the proposed sports fields. However, if it proves impractical or too costly to remove all contaminated soil exceeding cleanup goals, Alternative 2 will be implemented.

SAFETY AND DUST CONTROL DURING CLEANUP

Contractors will be responsible for maintaining adequate dust control measures including, but not limited to, water application, minimizing vehicle speeds, and stockpile covers. Contractors will provide barriers to enclose the work area, as needed. Access to the Site will be controlled by gates which will be locked during inactive hours. Appropriate barriers with signage if necessary will be used to mark the hazard and exclusion zone. Prior to leaving the Site, contractors will be responsible for the decontamination of construction equipment used in the work associated with the impacted soil excavation and transportation.

Air monitoring will occur during the clean-up to identify and measure air contaminants generated during the soil excavation and decontamination activities. The monitoring will be conducted during work activities to measure potential exposure to workers and the surrounding community. If monitoring indicates elevated dust and contaminant concentrations, then additional dust control measures will be implemented. Under windy conditions, dust control measures might not be effective, and work will temporarily stop until wind speed decreases sufficiently.

SOIL REMOVAL AND TRUCK ROUTE

Actual soil volumes identified for off-site disposal will be determined during additional sampling of the Site. It is likely that each truck will carry about 20 tons of soil. During soil transportation activities, trucks will enter the Site through a gate located on Rumrill Boulevard at Sutter Avenue. Up to 100 trucks may be loaded and depart the Site in a single day. In no case, will more than 20 trucks be allowed to be staged on-site. The frequency of truck loading could vary from 5 to 10 minutes depending on site conditions. Vehicles will be required to maintain slow speeds for safety and for dust control purposes. Trucks will exit the Site through a gate located on Rumrill Boulevard at Pine Avenue. Prior to exiting the Site, the vehicles will be swept to remove any extra soil from areas not covered or protected. The Site manager will be responsible for inspecting each truck to ensure that the soil load is adequately covered. Upon exiting the Site, trucks will turn left (north) onto Rumrill Boulevard, turn left (west) onto Brookside Drive, turn right (north) onto Giant Road, turn right (east) to merge onto eastbound Richmond Parkway, and merge onto Interstate 80 (I-80) westbound or eastbound, depending on the location of the appropriate disposal facility (as discussed in the RAW).

CALIFORNIA ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY ACT

In accordance with the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), the City of San Pablo is preparing a CEQA Initial Study (IS) and Negative Declaration ND that includes an evaluation of the potential impacts the cleanup project may have on the environment. DTSC has conducted a Responsible Agency review of the ND and determined that the project does not have the potential to cause significant environmental impacts under CEQA. The CEQA, IS, and ND are available for public review at the information repositories listed below.

NEXT STEPS

DTSC will review all public comments received during the public comment period prior to making a final decision on which cleanup alternative to implement. DTSC will also provide a Responsiveness Summary, our official response to the public comments received. The Responsiveness Summary will become part of the project Administrative Record and a copy will be placed in the information repositories and sent to those who submitted comments.

INFORMATION REPOSITORIES

The Draft Removal Action Workplan, CEQA IS/ND, and related project documents can be reviewed at:

[Department of Toxic Substances Control](#)

Berkeley Regional Office
700 Heinz Avenue
Berkeley, California 94710
File room: (510) 540-3800

[Contra Costa County Library, San Pablo](#)

2300 El Portal Drive, Suite D
San Pablo, California 94806
(510) 374-3998

Via internet at www.envirostor.dtsc/public/

DTSC CONTACT INFORMATION

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

For questions regarding the project, contact:

Allan Fone, DTSC Project Manager

Berkeley Regional Office

700 Heinz Ave.

Berkeley, CA 94710

(510) 540-3836

Allan.Fone@dtsc.ca.gov

For questions regarding public participation, contact:

Dawn Wright, DTSC Public Participation Specialist

Berkeley Regional Office

700 Heinz Ave.

Berkeley, CA 94710

(510) 540-3877

Dawn.Wright@dtsc.ca.gov

For questions from the media, contact:

Charlotte Fadipe, DTSC Public Information Officer

DTSC Headquarters

1001 I Street

Sacramento, CA

(916) 323-3395

Charlotte.Fadipe@dtsc.ca.gov

SITE MAP

