



Department of
Toxic Substances
Control

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



State of California



California
Environmental
Protection Agency

Fact Sheet, February 2007

Berkeley Auto Repair Cleans Up Soil Contamination

The Department of Toxic Substances Control (DTSC) is overseeing the cleanup of soil contamination at Berkeley Auto Repair, 2366/2378 San Pablo Avenue, Berkeley, California. Investigations indicate soil is contaminated with lead associated with past operations at the site. DTSC proposes a cleanup plan which would remove elevated concentrations of lead in the soil.

The cleanup plan called a draft Removal Action Workplan (RAW), describes in detail the investigation and the proposed cleanup activities at Berkeley Auto Repair. This fact sheet summarizes the environmental investigations and the proposed cleanup plan. The proposed RAW, Notice of Exemption and other site related documents are available for your review at the information repository listed on page four.

This fact sheet will provide you with:

- Site location and previous investigations
- Explanation of a RAW
- DTSC proposed cleanup alternatives and recommendation
- Proposed cleanup activities you might see
- California Environmental Quality Act – Notice of Exemption

PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD February 20, 2007 to March 22, 2007

We encourage you to review and comment on the Draft Removal Action Workplan (RAW) and Notice of Exemption for Berkeley Auto Repair. DTSC is holding a public comment period **beginning February 20, 2007 and ending March 22, 2007**. Please mail written comments to: Katharine Hilf, DTSC Project Manager, 700 Heinz Avenue, Berkeley, California, 94710, postmarked by March 22, 2007. Ms. Hilf can be reached by Phone: (510) 540-3817 or E-mail: khilf@dtsc.ca.gov. All comments by email and phone must be received no later than 5:00 p.m. on March 22, 2007.

A public meeting will be considered if one is requested. Please submit a written request for a public meeting, including the issues to be raised to Nancy Cook, DTSC Public Participation Specialist, 700 Heinz Avenue, Berkeley, CA, 94710 or email her at ncook@dtsc.ca.gov. All mail must postmarked by March 22, 2007 and email received by 5:00 that same date. Additional information on this project and DTSC can be found on our website at www.dtsc.ca.gov.





Site Location Map for Berkeley Auto Repair

Site Location

The property is located in a mixed use commercial/industrial and residential area. The Site is located on San Pablo Avenue between Channing Way to the north and Bancroft Way to the south. Residential homes and 10th Street are located to the west.

Berkeley Auto Repair is a 15,000 square feet lot which is zoned commercial. The property was purchased in 1939 where an auto wrecking yard operated until approximately 1980. In 1968, the western portion of the property was sold and the residential homes were built facing 10th Street. An A&W Root Beer restaurant was built on the eastern portion of the land which operated until 1980. At that time, the eastern lot was divided into two lots. A restaurant was opened on the north side. Under different ownerships, auto repair shops operated on the south side until 1988.

Currently the property is surrounded by residential homes and commercial businesses. The site is now fenced and there are no active business operating on the property.

Previous Site Investigations

A series of environmental investigations were conducted at the site in 2005 and 2006 to determine whether current or past operations at the site resulted in contamination at the Site. The investigations included the collection and analysis of soil, soil gas, and groundwater samples from locations throughout the site. The soil samples were analyzed for metals, organochlorine pesticides, total petroleum hydrocarbons (TPH), and polychlorinated biphenyls (PCBs).

The investigation did not find any contamination in the groundwater or the soil gas above screening levels for unrestricted use. Lead was found in the soil at levels of 1,650 parts per million (ppm). DTSC cleanup level for lead at this site is 197 ppm. The presence of elevated lead levels is consistent with historical use of lead paint and lead in the automobile batteries.

Lead contaminated soil was located in the vicinity of the former restaurant, near the northeastern border of the property and in other smaller locations scattered around the site.

Explanation of a RAW

The primary objective of a Draft RAW is to identify a cleanup action to prevent or reduce potential risks to public health and the environment. A Draft RAW summarizes previous studies, outlines available cleanup activities and proposes removal options. In addition to cleanup methods, a Draft RAW identifies the possible removal alternatives. Removal alternatives are screened and evaluated on the basis of their effectiveness, ability to implement and cost. Cleanup goals are also developed to comply with applicable laws and to be consistent with proposed land use.

Before DTSC makes a final decision to approve or deny the Draft RAW, we will review, consider, and respond to the comments received during the 30-day public comment period.

DTSC Cleanup Alternatives

Three cleanup alternatives were evaluated for the Berkeley Auto Repair property:

- **No action** - this includes no cleanup activities and no institutional controls. This also establishes a baseline which other alternatives are compared to.
- **Capping and Institutional Controls** - this alternative would consist of placing an asphalt cap over part of the site and establishing institutional controls such as land use restriction for the Site.
- **Excavation with off-site disposal** - this alternative would consist of excavation and disposal of contaminated soil to an approved landfill.

DTSC Proposed Alternative

DTSC proposes the third alternative as the best choice, excavation and disposal of contaminated soil to an approved landfill. This alternative removes the contamination from the Site and is implemented with minimal impact to the community.

Proposed Cleanup Activities You Might See

If the third alternative (removal and disposal of contaminated soil) is selected, the following are the proposed activities which would occur on the Berkeley Auto Repair site:

- Construction workers wearing safety gear.
- Construction equipment consisting of a backhoe and dump truck on the property.
- Soil stockpiling to test for levels of contamination.
- Contaminated soil loaded into trucks to be transported to an approved landfill.

California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA)

DTSC has evaluated the cleanup project, in accordance with the CEQA requirements, to determine if the proposed cleanup will have any negative impacts on the environment. DTSC has determined that the cleanup will improve environmental quality, and does not have negative impacts on the environment. Therefore, a Notice of Exemption has been prepared in accordance with the California Environmental Quality Act. This document will be filed with the Governor's Office of Planning and Research, State Clearinghouse. DTSC believes that the proposed removal action will not impact any community sensitive populations where people will be in or near areas such as schools, daycare centers, hospitals, clinics, senior centers, youth centers and places of worship.
540-3923.

For More Information

If you would like more information about this Site or have questions about the Draft RAW, please contact:

Katharine Hilf
DTSC Project Manager
(510) 540-3817
E-mail: at khilf@dtsc.ca.gov

For information about public participation and community involvement, please contact:

Nancy Cook
DTSC Public Participation
(510) 540-3923
E-mail: at ncook@dtsc.ca.gov

For media questions, please contact:

Angela Blanchette
DTSC Public Information Officer
(510) 540-3732
E-mail at ablanche@dtsc.ca.gov

Anuncio

Si prefiere hablar con alguien en español acerca de ésta información, favor de llamar a Jacinto Soto, Departamento de Control de Substancias Tóxicas. El número de teléfono es (510) 540-3842.

Information Repositories

We encourage you to review and comment on the Draft Removal Action Workplan and Notice of Exemption for Berkeley Auto Repair.

The Draft RAW and related documents can be reviewed at the following location:

Department of Toxic Substances Control
700 Heinz Avenue
Berkeley, California 94710
File Room:
Monday-Friday: 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.
By appointment only (510) 540-3800

Information on the Berkeley Auto Repair Site can also be found at the following link:

http://www.envirostor.dtsc.ca.gov/public/profile_report.asp?global_id=07280013

Notice to hearing impaired individuals

TDD users can obtain information about the site by using the California State Relay Service at (888) 877-5378. Please ask to speak with Nancy Cook, DTSC