

Fact Sheet, September 2008



DEPARTMENT OF  
TOXIC SUBSTANCES  
CONTROL

*The mission of the  
Department of Toxic  
Substances Control is  
to provide the  
highest level of safety,  
and to protect public  
health and the  
environment from  
toxic harm.*



State of California



Cal/EPA

# BROWN AND BRYANT FACILITY PROPOSED CLEAN UP

## Public Comment Period

### (September 10, to October 10, 2008)

#### **Introduction**

The California Department of Toxic Substances Control (DTSC) invites your comments on the Draft Remedial Action Plan (RAP) for the former Brown and Bryant Site (Site). The Site is located at 135 Commercial Drive, in Shafter, California (See map on page 4).

The purpose of the draft RAP is to evaluate remedial alternatives and identify the optimal remedial action for the Site. DTSC issued a Remedial Action Order (Docket No. I&SE 93/94-003) on November 8, 1999. The Remedial Action Order outlined the work required by DTSC for characterization and cleanup of the Site.

#### **You are Invited to Attend to a Public Meeting**

DTSC will hold a Public Meeting to accept your comments on the draft RAP on September 22, 2008. The Public Meeting will be held at 6:00 P. M. at the Veterans Memorial Building, located at 309 California Avenue in Shafter. You may submit your comments in person; you may also send your comments by electronic mail or by regular mail no later than the last day of the Public Comment Period to:

Mr. Calden Koehn  
Department of Toxic Substances Control  
Tollhouse Road  
Fresno, CA

[Ckoehn@dtsc.ca.gov](mailto:Ckoehn@dtsc.ca.gov)

Phone (559) 297-3937

**(for Public Participation questions, call Jesus Cruz, 1 (800) 495-5651)**

**[E Mail JCruz@dtsc.ca.gov](mailto:JCruz@dtsc.ca.gov)**

**Para informacion en Espanol, llame a Jesus Cruz sin costo al (1-800-495-5651)**

Site information can also be viewed at DTSC's website:  
<http://www.envirostor.dtsc.ca.gov/public/>.



## Site Background

The Brown and Bryant facility, located on a 15-acre parcel at 135 Commercial Drive, Shafter, California, operated from 1955 to 1989. The facility distributed dry and liquid fertilizers and blended and repackaged insecticides, herbicides, pesticides, fumigants, and fertilizers. At one time, the facility consisted of five surface impoundments (Ponds 1 to 5), four sumps, an underground fuel storage tank, and several aboveground structures such as fertilizer and pesticide/herbicide storage tanks, a can enclosure area, a liquid fertilizer storage area, a drum storage area, a loading area, pesticide and fertilizer processing buildings/ warehouses, a maintenance shop and two office buildings.

## Site Characterization and Remedial Actions

A series of site soil investigations conducted in 1983 by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and the State of California Department of Toxic Substances Control (DTSC) identified contamination at the facility. Here is a list of some of the contaminants found at the site:

Pesticides (organochlorine and organophosphorus) – toxaphene, 4,4-DDE, and 4,4-DDT. Pesticide detections were mostly in the former process area, around the former can enclosure area, and in the former locations of Ponds 2 through 5. These compounds are generally restricted to the top 10 feet of the Site soil (see map on Page 4).

Volatile organic compounds (VOCs) – DBCP, 1,2-DCP, 1,2,3-TCP, and EDB. VOCs are present from approximately 5 feet to 130 feet below grade, within the subsurface soil southeast of Pond 1 area and at the former process area.

Metals – arsenic was identified as a site-related contaminant. Arsenic contamination is usually found along with surface and subsurface pesticides. Arsenic was also found in the eastern portion of the Site, the can enclosure

area, Pond 1, and Ponds 2 through 5.

The following four cleanup options were considered for the site:

- Alternative 1 – No Further Action
- Alternative 2 – Institutional Controls and Onsite Containment (Capping)
- Alternative 3 – Soil Vapor Extraction and Soil Removal
- Alternative 4 – Excavation and Offsite Disposal

All four alternatives include long-term groundwater monitoring.

## DTSC's Cleanup Recommendation

The Site cleanup plan is proposed and described in the draft Remedial Action Plan (RAP). The cleanup plan will be discussed in more detail in the Remedial Design prior to implementation.

The proposed cleanup consists of the following :

- **Soil Removal** – excavate and remove off site approximately 5,100 tons of pesticide, herbicide, and arsenic impacted soil exceeding the approved cleanup goals from various areas of the Site. Excavation is estimated to take place up to a depth of 10 feet. It will take about 3 to 4 months to complete the work.

## Safety & Dust Control during Soil Cleanup

Large equipment, such as excavators and loaders, will be used to excavate and stockpile the contaminated soil. Large soil transfer trucks will be used to haul contaminated soil to the off-site disposal facilities. The following safety procedures will be implemented during the soil clean up process to ensure public safety and minimize dust:

- Installing temporary fencing for security
- Driving all vehicles at slow speeds while on the property
- Spraying of work areas with clean water to control dust

- Securing trucks with covers before they leave the site and cleaning the tires.
- Monitoring the air at the site to ensure the amount of dust stays at safe levels

**The Brown and Bryant Soil Removal is anticipated to involve 40 truck loads per day**

The recommended truck route will include exiting the Site onto East Ash Avenue heading east and turning north on Beech Avenue then turning and heading west on East Lerdo Hwy until the Central Valley Hwy 43 is reached. From East Lerdo Hwy the route heads south on Central Valley Hwy 43 until it changes direction and heads west on Hwy 58 for the Buttonwillow Landfill facility or west on Riverside Street until the route heads north on Poplar Avenue reaching West Lerdo Hwy and going west for the Waste Management Kettleman Hills Landfill facility. Appropriate warning signs will be used to safeguard traffic movement on East Ash and Beech Avenues where they access Site. On-site control measures, including the use of existing fencing and temporary fencing, will be used to prevent unauthorized access to the Site.

**Soil Vapor Extraction (SVE)**

For the deeper soil (up to depths of approximately 130 feet below grade) affected by VOC compounds, remediation will consist of SVE and aboveground onsite soil vapor treatment. Vapor extraction will be accomplished using vapor extraction wells installed within Pond 1 area and former process area. Vacuum from an aboveground blower will be applied at each well to extract and convey VOC-containing soil vapors to the activated carbon vessels for treatment. VOC vapors from outlying areas will be drawn into the wells and consequently extracted, thereby reducing soil concentrations. The activated carbon will absorb the VOCs from the vapor stream prior to discharge of clean air to the atmosphere. Operation of vapor treatment system will follow DTSC and San Joaquin Valley Air Pollution Control District permit conditions and requirements.

- The Soil Vapor Extraction Remediation (SVE) is anticipated to operate for approximately four years. Groundwater

sampling will be continued at the Site to monitor the effects of groundwater movements and/or potential migration of soil chemicals.

- Protection of City Well #10 will be evaluated as part of the remedial action. Protection may consist of installation of monitoring wells to be located between the Pond 1 area, the former process area, and City Well #10. Implementation of this action will be dependent upon results of the SVE.

**California Environmental Quality Act**

DTSC has prepared a Negative Declaration for the draft RAP under the California Environmental Quality Act (**CEQA**), California Public Resources Code, section 21000 et seq.). In the draft RAP DTSC has determined that the final remedial alternative consisting of soil removal and soil vapor extraction will not have a significant impact on the environment during its implementation.

**Public Involvement in the Final Decision**

DTSC will make the final decision on the draft RAP after public comments have been received and considered. Everyone who submitted comments will receive DTSC's Response to Comments document. A copy of the Response to Comments will be placed in the information repositories listed below and will also be placed on DTSC's website.

**The draft RAP can be viewed at these Information Repositories:**

Beale Memorial Library, 701 Truxtun Avenue  
Bakersfield, California Phone (661) 868-0701

Shafter Public Library, 236 James Street,  
Shafter, California 93263-Phone (661)-746-2156

Department of Toxic Substances Control  
(DTSC) 1515 Tollhouse Road, Clovis, California

File Room: Mon-Fri: 8:00 AM to 5:00 PM by  
appointment only (559) 297-3905

## Brown and Bryant Site



If you would like more information or have questions on the draft RAP please contact:

Mr. Calden Koehn DTSC Project Manager at (559) 297-3937 or e-mail [ckoehn@dtsc.ca.gov](mailto:ckoehn@dtsc.ca.gov)

For questions on Public Participation please call:

Mr. Jesus Cruz, DTSC Public Participation Specialist at (800) 495-5651 or e mail him at [Jcruz@dtsc.ca.gov](mailto:Jcruz@dtsc.ca.gov)

For media questions, please contact:

Ms. Claudia Loomis, DTSC Public Information Officer at (916) 255-6578 or e mail at [CLoomis@dtsc.ca.gov](mailto:CLoomis@dtsc.ca.gov)

*Notice to Hearing Impaired Individuals*

TDD users can use the California Relay Service (711 or 1-800-735-2929) and ask to speak to Mr. Jesus Cruz, Public Information Specialist (916) 255-3315.

