



**Department of
Toxic Substances
Control**

*The Department of
Toxic Substances
Control (DTSC) is a
part of the California
Environmental
Protection Agency.
DTSC oversees soil
and groundwater
investigations at
proposed new or
expanding school
sites, and evaluates
property for
potential hazardous
materials or
contamination that
may pose a risk to
school children, the
staff or faculty.
DTSC oversees the
cleanup of school
sites where
contamination is
found.*



State of California



**California
Environmental
Protection Agency**

Fact Sheet, October 2007

Cleanup Plan for the Proposed Central Region High School #13

A draft plan to remove soil contaminated with arsenic, lead, volatile organic compounds (VOCs), polycyclic hydrocarbons (PAHs), polychlorinated biphenyls (PCBs), and pesticides at the **proposed Central Region High School #13** is available for public review and comment. The draft plan, called a Remedial Action Plan, or RAP, was submitted by the Los Angeles Unified School District (LAUSD).



2050 San Fernando Rd., Los Angeles, CA 90065

Why the Cleanup is Necessary

There is **no** immediate health risk because the public is not exposed to the contaminated soil. However, because exposure to elevated levels of arsenic, lead, VOCs, PAHs, PCBs, and pesticides could cause adverse health effects, the DTSC recommended the school district prepare a cleanup plan to remove and dispose of the contaminated soil to protect the future occupants at the new school.

DTSC will oversee the removal action that will take place prior to construction of the new school and will ensure that it is performed in a manner that does not harm people or the environment.

This Fact Sheet provides a brief summary of:

- Why the Cleanup Is Necessary
- History and Operations at the Site
- Environmental Investigations
- Proposed Cleanup Options
- Safety & Dust Control During Cleanup
- Proposed Transportation Route for Trucks
- California Environmental Quality Act
- Next Steps
- Where to Find the Documents
- Who to Contact for Information

COMMUNITY MEETING ANNOUNCEMENT NOVEMBER 8, 2007 AT 6:30 P.M.

Glassell Park Elementary School Auditorium
2211 West Avenue 30, Los Angeles, CA 90065

The DTSC will host a community meeting to provide information on the draft RAP for the Central Region High School #13 Site. The DTSC invites you attend this meeting to actively participate in the issues that affect the cleanup activities at the school site. ***Spanish translation will be available at the public meeting.***

PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD OCTOBER 29, 2007 TO NOVEMBER 28, 2007

The draft RAP and other related project documents for this school site are available for review and public comment at the locations listed on page 3. We will make a final decision on the draft RAP after all public comments have been reviewed and considered. Please submit written comments in the enclosed postage paid envelope postmarked **by November 28, 2007**; or by email before the deadline date no later than 5 p.m. to:

Maya Akula, Public Participation Specialist
1011 North Grandview Avenue, Glendale, CA 91201
makula@dtsc.ca.gov

*Si desea información en español, comuníquese con Javier Hinjosa al
(818) 551-2172*



Site History and Location

The proposed Central Region High School #13 site is approximately 23.21 acres and is bordered by the Los Angeles River to the west, California State Route 2 (Glendale Freeway) to the north, San Fernando Road to the east, and Interstate 5 (Golden State Freeway) to the south in the Glassell Park community of the City of Los Angeles. The site is part of the former Union Pacific Rail Yard, called the Taylor Yard Complex.

The site was the location of a railroad right-of-way dating back to at least 1894 and was recently used as a part of a rail switching yard. All railroad tracks were removed from the site in 1993. Aside from grading activities and temporary storage of vehicles in the paved lot by the KIA dealership in early 2006, no operations have taken place at the site since 1998.

Lead occurs naturally in Southern California soils. In addition, lead is used in various manufacturing processes and was used in paint until 1978, when federal laws changed to restrict its use. The elevated levels found at this site may have resulted from the use of lead-based paint on the buildings. The sources of other metals, VOCs, and total petroleum hydrocarbons (TPH) are believed to be from historic and current industrial and pipeline operations at the site or migration onsite of contaminants from adjacent properties.

The arsenic, PAHs, PCBs, and pesticides were likely the result of approximately 7,000 cubic yards of undocumented fill that was imported to the Site by the former property owner in early 2006. Grading activities were conducted throughout the site with the undocumented fill.

Environmental Investigations

Several site investigations have been conducted since 1989. In early 2006, the property owner at the time conducted grading activities at the site. An asphalt-paved parking area and a new fill were placed on site. Due to the apparent change in site conditions related to the grading activities, a Remedial Investigation (RI) was conducted in August 2006. The RI investigation results indicated elevated levels of metals, arsenic, lead, VOCs, PAHs, PCBs, and pesticides in soil. The most recent investigation result recommends that 7,000 cubic yards of undocumented fill soil as well as contaminated soil from 37 locations and one deep removal area requires removal.

Proposed Cleanup Options

The following remedial action alternatives were considered for the site:

Alternative 1 – No Action

Alternative 2 – Excavation and Removal of Affected Soils

Alternative 3 – Shallow Soil Removal and Soil Vapor Extraction

Alternative 4 – Shallow Soil Removal and Subsurface Organic Vapor Mitigation System

Based on careful analysis of the options, Excavation and Removal of Affected Soils using traditional methods are recommended because it protects human health and the environment, is permanent, and has a reasonable cost. Details of each of the remedial action alternatives are listed in Section 5 of the Draft RAP.

Proposed Plan

If Alternative 2 is selected, the contaminated soil will be removed using a backhoe, bulldozer, shovels or other types of earth moving equipment to a maximum depth of about 35 feet. The soil will be either temporarily stockpiled or loaded directly onto trucks. About 20,000 cubic yards (30,000 tons) of soil will be excavated and taken off-site for disposal to a State approved/licensed facility. After the contaminated soil is removed, confirmation soil samples will be taken to verify that the clean up goals have been met. The cleanup process is expected to take about three to four months to complete.

Safety & Dust Control during Cleanup

The following actions will be implemented during this process to ensure public safety and minimize dust:

- Installing temporary fencing with windscreens for security and dust control
- 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
- Brushing tires of trucks entering and exiting the site to remove soils and debris
- Monitoring the air at the site to ensure the amount of dust stays at safe levels

Proposed Transportation Route for Trucks

About 1,200 truckloads will be used to remove the contaminated soil from the site. Excavation will be conducted between 7:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. from Monday through Saturday. Trucks will enter the site from North Fernando Road. To minimize potential impacts on the local neighborhood, trucks will leave the site by taking North San Fernando Road towards Division Street and enter the Glendale Freeway (CA-2). The soil will be transported to a State-approved disposal facility.

California Environmental Quality Act

In compliance with the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), DTSC has prepared a draft Initial Study and a draft Negative Declaration for this project.

The Initial Study states that the proposed cleanup will not have a significant negative effect on human health and the environment because of the amount of contaminated soil to be removed, and the controlled way in which the contaminated soils will be removed, loaded onto trucks and taken away to an approved/ permitted facility for lawful disposal.

Next Steps

At the close of the Public Comment Period; November 28, 2007, DTSC will review and consider all public comments and make any necessary revisions to the draft RAP prior to final approval. In addition, a Response to Comments letter will be mailed to anyone who submits a comment and provides their name and address. The soil removal is expected to begin mid-December 2007. After the cleanup process has been completed, LAUSD will conduct confirmation soil sampling to verify cleanup goals have been met and submit a Removal Action Completion Report to the DTSC for review and approval.

Where to Find Site Documents

The Draft RAP and other related documents for the proposed Central Region High School #13 site are available for review at the following locations:

Cypress Park Branch Library

Reference Desk
1150 Cypress Avenue
Los Angeles, CA 90065
Phone: (323) 224-0039

Glassell Park Elementary School

Main Office
2211 West Avenue 30
Los Angeles, CA 90065
Phone: (323) 223-2277

Department of Toxic Substances Control

Regional Records Office
1011 North Grandview Avenue
Glendale, CA 91201
Contact: Jone Barrio, (818) 551-2886
Hours: 8 a.m. – 5 p.m. Monday – Friday

Los Angeles Unified School District

Office of Environmental Health and Safety
1055 W. 7th Street, 9th Floor, Los Angeles, CA 90017
Contact: Tom Dolan, (213) 972-3989
Tom.Dolan@lausd.net
Hours: 8 a.m. – 5 p.m. Monday – Friday
The documents are also available online at the LAUSD web site: www.laschools.org/find-a-school

Who to Contact for Information

If you have any questions about the project or cleanup activities, please contact the following persons:

Stephanie Lewis
DTSC Project Manager
(818) 551-2847
SLewis1@dtsc.ca.gov

Maya Akula
DTSC Public Participation Specialist
(818) 551-2917 or toll free 1-866-495-5651, press option 3 then press 1
MAkula@dtsc.ca.gov

Media Inquiries:

Jeanne Garcia
DTSC Public Information Officer
(818) 551-2176
jgarcia1@dtsc.ca.gov

The Department of Toxic Substances Control (DTSC) is a part of the California Environmental Protection Agency. DTSC provides oversight for soil and groundwater investigations at proposed new or expanding school sites. DTSC also evaluates property for potential hazardous materials or contamination that may pose a risk to school children, staff or faculty. If contamination is found, DTSC oversees the cleanup of the property.

For more information about DTSC, please visit our Web site at www.envirostor.dtsc.ca.gov/public

Notice to Hearing-Impaired Individuals

You can obtain additional information about the site by using the California State Relay Service at 1 (888) 8775378 (TDD). Ask them to contact Maya Akula at (818) 551-2917 regarding the Central Region High School #13 project.

Meeting Accessibility

For information on accessibility and to request reasonable accommodation, please call Ms. Maya Akula at (818) 551-2917 at least one week in advance of the Community Meeting.

