

Fact Sheet
June 2004

FORMER FULLERTON MANUFACTURED GAS PLANT (MGP) SITE FULLERTON, CALIFORNIA



Please Comment on Plan To Clean Up Chemicals In Soil

DTSC is one of six Boards and Departments with in the California Environmental Protection Agency. The Department's mission is to restore, protect and enhance the environmental quality and economic vitality, by regulating hazardous waste, conducting and overseeing cleanups, and developing and promoting pollution prevention.

State of California



*California
Environmental
Protection Agency*



INTRODUCTION

The Department of Toxic Substances Control (DTSC) invites the public to review and comment on a proposed plan to clean up chemicals in soil at the former Fullerton Manufactured Gas Plant (MGP) site and nearby Union Pacific Park. The 0.16 acre MGP site located at 144 West Walnut Avenue, in Fullerton, is on a rectangular-shaped lot on the south side of Walnut Avenue, midway between Harbor Boulevard and Highland Avenue. Union Pacific Park is just south of the MGP site, bordered south by Truslow Avenue. The MGP site is in a mixed use area with businesses and residences located within a quarter of a mile. The proposed cleanup, called a draft Removal Action Workplan (RAW) consists of removal of contaminated soil and replacing clean soil in excavated areas.

We are also asking for public review and comment on a draft Negative Declaration, which is our finding that the proposed action, if approved as written, will not result in a significant negative impact to the environment.

If no major changes are needed to the cleanup plan, cleanup could begin in late August 2004.

THIS FACT SHEET TELLS YOU:

What we found
That it is not a risk to public health
How it got there
How we plan to clean it up
How you can tell us what you think
Who you can contact for more information

PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD

June 10, 2004 through July 12, 2004

Comments on the draft Removal Action Workplan (RAW) and draft Negative Declaration must be postmarked or e-mailed by July 12, 2004 and sent to Ms. Rania Zabaneh at the address listed on page 3.

The draft RAW and draft Negative Declaration are available for review at the locations listed on page 3 of this fact sheet.

OPEN HOUSE AND PUBLIC MEETING

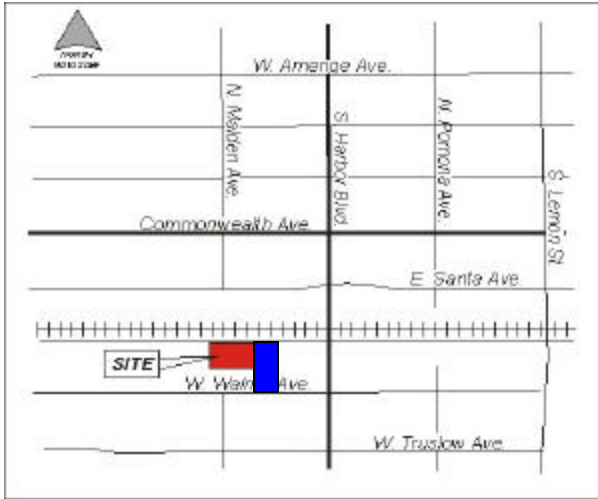
Thursday, July 1st, 2004

at
Fullerton Senior Service Center
340 West Commonwealth Avenue
Fullerton

Open House begins at 6:00 PM
Public Meeting begins at 7:15 PM

We encourage your participation and invite you to our open house and public meeting to provide more information, answer questions, discuss the proposed cleanup and receive oral and written comments.

Persons requiring meeting accessibility or reasonable accommodation should contact Ms. Stacey Lear no later than 72 hours in advance of the public meeting at the number indicated inside on page 3.



Site Location (Map not to scale)

CHEMICALS FOUND

Based on soil sampling results, polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons (PAHs) and volatile organic compounds (VOCs) were found at the site. PAHs are natural constituents of crude oil, and may also be formed when organic materials such as coal, oil, fuel, wood, or even foods are not completely burned. PAHs tend to absorb to the soil, do not easily dissolve in water, and generally do not move in the environment. VOCs include solvents that readily evaporate at temperatures normally found at ground surface and at shallow depths.

NOT A RISK TO THE PUBLIC

According to a health risk study, the MGP site does not present an immediate health risk to the public because the site is covered with asphalt, which acts as a barrier preventing direct exposure to the chemicals. Also, Union Pacific Park does not present an immediate health risk to the public. This is because limited areas of the park are fenced off, also preventing direct exposure and direct public contact.

HOW THE CHEMICALS GOT THERE

The MGP site was the location of a former manufactured gas plant (MGP) from 1908 to 1911 (operated by Home Gas Company). From 1911 to 1923, Southern Counties Gas Company, a predecessor of the Southern

California Gas Company, owned the MPG and converted the plant into a gas distribution station for gas manufactured at a Santa Ana plant.

The PAHs found at the MGP site and Union Pacific Park are from “lampblack”, a black material similar to soot. Lampblack was the byproduct of the gas producing procedure that took place in the early 1900s.

HOW WE PLAN TO CLEAN IT UP

The proposed cleanup plan calls for the excavation of approximately 1,860 cubic yards of contaminated soil to a depth of 6 feet from both the MGP site and Union Pacific Park. A state approved treatment facility would receive the contaminated soil. Removal of soil will continue until soil samples show that cleanup goals are met. The final step includes the backfilling and compaction of clean soil. The proposed cleanup plan will take approximately nine (9) weeks to complete.

For about six to seven days during the nine week period, approximately 17 truckloads of contaminated soil will be removed from the MGP site including Union Pacific Park. Overall, approximately 100 truckloads of contaminated soil will be removed and transported to the state approved treatment facility. This estimate is based on work occurring only during daylight hours between Monday and Friday with occasional work occurring on Saturdays.

DEALING WITH NOISE, DUST, AND TRAFFIC

To protect on-site workers and the surrounding community during cleanup activities, field work is to be conducted according to a site specific Health and Safety Plan. This plan includes controls to minimize dust, odor, airborne particles and noise. The following are some activities in the plan:

- The use of protective clothing and gloves by workers;
- Spraying the soil with water when loading it onto the trucks to minimize dust;

- Covering the soil in the trucks leaving the site with plastic sheets to prevent dust;
- Monitoring the air to ensure the dust stays at a safe level;
- Using plastic sheets to cover any piles of contaminated soil that may be left in place overnight;
- Brushing truck tires before leaving the site to remove contaminated soil;
- Removal of protective clothing while on site and ensuring proper disposal;
- Using flagmen to direct truck traffic onto adjacent streets.

OUR FINDINGS ABOUT THE EFFECTS OF THE CLEANUP ACTION

As required by state law, we studied the possible effect of the cleanup itself on the environment. For example, we looked at whether the excavation would disturb wildlife or habitat, cause dust pollution, interfere with traffic patterns, etc. We determined that the proposed cleanup would not have any significant effects on the environment. We describe our study and this conclusion in a draft Negative Declaration, prepared in accordance with the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA). This draft Negative Declaration is available for review and comment during the same period as the draft RAW.

HOW TO GIVE US YOUR COMMENTS

The 30-day public comment period begins June 10, 2004 and ends July 12, 2004 during which time you can review and send your comments and/or questions on the proposed cleanup. You may also e-mail your comments to DTSC. All comments must be postmarked or e-mailed by July 12, 2004. Send your comments to Ms. Rania Zabaneh, DTSC Project Manager, 5796 Corporate Avenue, Cypress, California, 90630. E-mail: rzabaneh@dtsc.ca.gov.

WE WILL RESPOND TO YOUR COMMENTS

All comments received are evaluated, and as necessary, changes are incorporated into the final RAW. A Response to Comments

document is prepared that responds to all comments received. The Response to Comments document is sent to all individuals who submitted public comments during the public comment period.

WHERE TO FIND SITE DOCUMENTS

The proposed cleanup plan is described in a two-part document titled "Removal Action Workplan for the Former Fullerton Manufactured Gas Plant Site". This draft document also describes our evaluation of possible health risks. The document is available for your review at:

Fullerton Public Library – Reference Desk

353 West Commonwealth Avenue
Fullerton, CA 92832
Phone: (714) 738-6333
Website: www.ci.fullerton.ca.us/library

Department of Toxic Substances Control

5796 Corporate Avenue
Cypress, CA 90630
Hours: 8 AM to 4:30 PM
Contact: Julie Johnson for an appointment
Phone : (714) 484-5337

WHO TO CALL AT OUR AGENCY

If you have any questions about the project, please contact Ms. Rania Zabaneh, DTSC Project Manager at (714) 484-5479 or Ms. Stacey Lear, DTSC Public Participation Specialist at (714) 484-5354.

Media inquiries should be directed to Ms. Jeanne Garcia, DTSC Public Information Officer at (818) 551-2176.

For more information about the Department of Toxic Substances Control, please visit our website at www.dtsc.ca.gov.

NOTICE TO HEARING IMPAIRED INDIVIDUALS

TDD users can use the California Relay Service (1-888-877-5378) to reach DTSC Public Participation Specialist, Ms. Stacey Lear at (714) 484-5354.

PUBLIC COMMENT FORM AND MAILING COUPON

**FORMER FULLERTON MANUFACTURED GAS PLANT SITE
DRAFT REMOVAL ACTION WORKPLAN FOR
CLEANUP OF CHEMICALS FOUND IN SOIL**

You can use this form to send in your written public comments on the draft cleanup plan (RAW) and draft Negative Declaration. You may also ask to be added or deleted from the Former Fullerton Manufactured Gas Plant (MGP) site mailing list. If you know of anyone or any organizations that would like to be on the project mailing list, please use this form to notify us. Please address all mailings to Ms. Rania Zabaneh, DTSC Project Manager, Department of Toxic Substances Control, 5796 Corporate Avenue, Cypress, California, 90630. You may also e-mail this same information to: rzabaneh@dtsc.ca.gov.

Reminder: All public comments on the draft RAW and draft Negative Declaration must be postmarked or e-mailed by July 12, 2004.

NAME: _____

AGENCY OR ORGANIZATION (if applicable): _____

ADDRESS: _____

Please add to the site mailing list.

Please delete from the site mailing list.

Comments: _____

DTSC mailings are solely for the purpose of keeping persons informed of DTSC activities. Mailing lists are not routinely released to outside parties. However, they are considered public records and, if requested, may be subject to release.



State of California
Department of Toxic Substances Control
Stacey Lear
Public Participation Specialist
5796 Corporate Avenue
Cypress, CA 90630

**INSIDE: INFORMATION ON FORMER FULLERTON MANUFACTURED GAS PLANT,
FULLERTON, CALIFORNIA**