

DTSC Proposes Cleanup at Hudson Site in San Leandro



Draft Removal Action Workplan Available for Public Review

DTSC is one of six Boards and Departments within the California Environmental Protection Agency. The Department's mission is to restore, protect and enhance the environment, to ensure public health, 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



Past operations at the Hudson ICS property (Hudson Site) located at 400 Hudson Lane, San Leandro, California (see Figure 1 on page 5), have resulted in soil and shallow **groundwater** contamination. The Hudson Site is located within a regional area of groundwater contamination known as the DWA Plume located in central San Leandro. The **Department of Toxic Substances Control (DTSC)** has developed a proposed cleanup plan, referred to as a Draft **Removal Action Workplan (RAW)**. The Draft RAW describes in detail the investigation and the proposed soil and groundwater cleanup of **volatile organic compounds (VOCs)** and **fuel hydrocarbons** at the Hudson Site. This document and other site-related reports are available for public review at the following locations:

DTSC File Room
700 Heinz Avenue
Berkeley, California, 94710
8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.
(510) 540-3800

San Leandro Community Library
Reference Desk
300 Estudillo Avenue
San Leandro, California 94577
(510) 577-3490

Terms in bold are defined in the glossary on Page 3.

PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD

November 19, 2004 to December 22, 2004

The public is invited to review and comment on the Draft Removal Action Workplan (RAW) and the **California Environmental Quality Act, Notice of Exemption** for the Site. All comments must be postmarked by 5:00 P.M. on Wednesday, December 22, 2004. E-mailed comments must be sent to DTSC no later than 5:00 P.M. on the same day. Please send comments to:

Jayantha Randeni, DTSC Project Manager
700 Heinz Avenue, Berkeley, California, 94710
JRandeni@dtsc.ca.gov or call (510) 540-3806.

For more information, please contact Nancy Cook, DTSC Public Participation Specialist, (510) 540-3923 or e-mail ncook@dtsc.ca.gov. 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 at the address above by the end of the public comment period. More information on this project and DTSC can be found at the DTSC website, www.dtsc.ca.gov.

Anuncio

Si prefiere hablar con alguien en español acerca de ésta información, favor de llamar a Jacinto Soto, (510) 540-3842.

Site History

The Hudson Site is located in a mixed industrial-residential area in San Leandro, California. Hudson manufactured pencil slats for use in the production of wooden pencils from 1906 until the sawing operations closed in 1998. Until the early 1990s, small quantities of **1,1,1 trichloroethane** (TCA), a solvent, were used at the facility to clean small machinery parts.

In July 1996, the property owner entered into a Voluntary Cleanup Agreement to investigate and cleanup potential contamination at the Site. At this time, all buildings and foundations have been demolished. Future plans for the property include residential development.

Chemicals of Concern

Investigations conducted since 1991 have found the soil and shallow groundwater at the Hudson Site contain VOCs such as TCA, **1,1-dichloroethane** (DCA), **vinyl chloride** and fuel hydrocarbons. DCA and vinyl chloride were created from the biological breakdown of TCA in the groundwater.

DTSC evaluated potential risks to human health and the environment associated with contacting VOCs in the soil and VOCs evaporating from groundwater, migrating through soil and entering the air.

Based on this evaluation, no cleanup is needed for soils at the Hudson Site because they meet residential land use cleanup levels. The contaminants in groundwater are above the **Maximum Contaminant Levels** (MCLs) for drinking water, but do not pose a risk to on-site workers or potential future residents.

VOCs are known to breakdown naturally into non-toxic compounds if certain microorganisms exist in the subsurface. There is evidence that these natural degradation processes are occurring at the Hudson Site.

The fuel hydrocarbons in the groundwater were found in an isolated part of the Hudson Site. The fuel hydrocarbons are not moving in the groundwater and are not breaking down.

DTSC Evaluates Alternatives

The draft RAW includes an evaluation of the three alternatives for the shallow groundwater as described below:

Alternative 1 – No Action

Alternative 2 – Groundwater Monitoring and Monitored **Natural Attenuation** with **Institutional Controls**

Alternative 3 – Groundwater Monitoring and Enhanced Natural Attenuation with Institutional Controls.

All three alternatives were evaluated based on effectiveness, ease of implementation and cost.

Alternative 2 - Groundwater Monitoring and Monitored Natural Attenuation with Institutional Controls is the most efficient, cost effective and easy to implement alternative. Therefore, DTSC recommends Alternative 2.

Proposed Cleanup

Implementation of Alternative 2 would include installation of two new groundwater monitoring wells. One monitoring well will be installed on the Hudson Site in the area where the fuel hydrocarbons are located and the other well will be installed on Montague Avenue as shown on Figure 1.

Deed restrictions will be placed on the property to restrict use of the site groundwater until concentrations have decreased below state Maximum Contaminant Levels (MCLs). Groundwater monitoring will be conducted periodically using existing wells and two new wells.

The VOC concentrations in groundwater have been decreasing as a result of natural attenuation. In the unlikely event natural attenuation proves to be ineffective at decreasing VOC concentrations in ground water, an alternative remedy using an effective **in-situ** treatment technology would be implemented at the Hudson Site.

California Environmental Quality Act

A Notice of Exemption (NOE) 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. The NOE is DTSC's finding that the proposed cleanup would have no impact on the environment or community.

Sensitive Populations

Schools, childcare centers, hospitals, clinics, senior centers, youth centers and places of worship are considered to be sensitive populations. The nearest school is about 0.25 miles from the Hudson Site on Washington Avenue. The nearest residential housing unit is about 200 ft northeast of the Hudson Site. Limited fieldwork will be required in order to implement the proposed remedy. Therefore, there will be no impact to the nearby sensitive populations from this removal action.

Notice to Hearing Impaired Individuals

TDD users can use the California Relay Service at 1-888-877-5378 and ask to speak to Ms. Nancy Cook at (510) 540-3923.

DTSC Contact Information

Jayantha Randeni
Project Manager
(510) 540-3806 or
e-mail at JRandeni@dtsc.ca.gov

Nancy Cook
Public Participation Specialist
(510) 540-3923 or
e-mail at ncook@dtsc.ca.gov

For media questions, contact:
Angela Blanchette
Information Officer
(510) 540-3732 or
e-mail at ablanche@dtsc.ca.gov

Glossary

1, 1-dichloroethane - A colorless, oily liquid having an ether-like odor. It is used to make other chemicals and to dissolve other substances such as paint and varnish, and to remove grease. In the past, this chemical was used as a surgical anesthetic, but it is no longer used for this purpose.

1,1,1-trichloroethane – Trichloroethane is used as a cleaning agent for metals and plastics. It is toxic.

California Environmental Quality Act - A law mandating environmental impact review of governmental actions in California. The Act applies generally to all activities undertaken by state and local agencies, and to private activities financed, regulated, or approved by state and local agencies.

Department of Toxic Substances Control

- A department within the California Environmental Protection Agency charged with the responsibility for overseeing the investigation and clean up of hazardous waste sites. DTSC was formerly the California Department of Health Services, Toxic Substances Control Program.

Fuel Hydrocarbons - An organic compound containing only carbon and hydrogen and often found occurring in petroleum.

Groundwater - Water beneath the earth's surface that flows through soil and rock openings, aquifers, and often serves as a primary source of drinking water.

In-situ – or “in the original place”. In-situ cleanup processes are activities, such as injection of a treatment chemical or other substance, which occur at the current location of the contamination.

Institutional Controls – Restrictions that limit how a property or groundwater underneath a property is used.

Maximum Contaminant Level - A contaminant level for drinking water, established by the California Department of Health Services, Division of Drinking Water and Environmental Management, or by the U. S. Environmental Protection Agency. These levels are legally-enforceable standards based on health risk (primary standards) or non-health concerns such as odor or taste (secondary standards).

Natural Attenuation - Naturally occurring physical, chemical, and biological processes in the groundwater to break down the contamination into non-toxic components.

Notice of Exemption – A document prepared in compliance with the California Environmental Quality Act. An NOE is filed when the lead regulatory agency decides that there is no possibility that the activity may have a significant effect on the environment.

Removal Action Workplan (RAW) - A Removal Action Workplan is prepared and approved by DTSC and includes a plan for conducting the removal action, a description of the onsite contamination, the goals to be achieved by the removal action, and any alternative removal options that were considered.

Vinyl Chloride - Vinyl chloride is widely used in the plastics industry in creating polyvinyl chloride (PVC). It is listed as a cancer-causing agent under Proposition 65.

Volatile Organic Compounds (VOCs) - Chemical compounds found in a number of products including solvents, degreasers, nail polish, and gasoline. VOCs can also be found in tars, a by-product of the historical gas-manufacturing process. VOCs tend to move easily through soil and groundwater, but when exposed to air they quickly evaporate.

Figure 1: Vicinity Map of Hudson Site

