



## Change to Approved Removal Action Workplan Former Mercury Dry Cleaners Pinole, California



The Department of Toxic Substances Control (DTSC) announces a change to the previously approved Removal Action Workplan (RAW), dated May 2002, for the former Mercury Dry Cleaners located at 2714 Pinole Valley Road, Pinole, California. The groundwater and soil was contaminated with a dry cleaning solvent, PCE (perchloroethylene), when solvent filters were stored behind the dry cleaners from 1959 to 1993. The approved RAW required removal and off-site disposal of the PCE-contaminated soil, which was performed in July 2002. The groundwater has been treated by injecting a compound, sodium lactate, to convert PCE into nontoxic chemicals such as water and carbon dioxide. The groundwater treatment has significantly reduced the levels of PCE in the groundwater but has not cleaned up the water to drinking water standards.

DTSC is changing the previously approved RAW and how it requires groundwater cleanup to be performed. The document, which describes the change to the original cleanup plan, is called an Explanation of Significant Differences. The primary method of groundwater cleanup is being changed from treatment to natural breakdown of the PCE. There will be long-term monitoring and additional treatment if the PCE concentrations significantly increase. The groundwater is currently not used as a drinking water source.

**California Environmental Quality Act:** DTSC has evaluated the project to determine the potential environmental impacts of the changes to the cleanup plan to comply with the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA). DTSC has determined that the changes to the approved RAW would have no negative impact on the environment, since natural breakdown with long-term groundwater monitoring and additional treatment will provide an improvement in environmental quality. Therefore, DTSC has prepared and filed with the Governor's Office of Planning and Research a CEQA Notice of Exemption for the project.

**Information Repositories:** The Explanation of Significant Differences and CEQA Notice of Exemption for Mercury Dry Cleaners are available in the information repositories listed below. Information on the previously approved RAW and other site-related documents are also available at DTSC web site: [http://www.envirostor.dtsc.ca.gov/public/profile\\_report.asp?global\\_id=07720037](http://www.envirostor.dtsc.ca.gov/public/profile_report.asp?global_id=07720037)

Pinole Valley Public Library  
2935 Pinole Valley Road  
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Hours: Please call for hours

DTSC File Room  
700 Heinz Avenue  
Berkeley, CA 94710  
(510) 540-3800  
Hours: Monday-Friday 8:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m.

**Additional Information:** If you would like to discuss this project with a DTSC representative, please contact the following individuals:

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