NOTICE OF PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD

DRAFT REMOVAL ACTION WORKPLAN
SOUTH REGION MIDDLE SCHOOL #2
LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA

PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD: March 22 – April 5, 2007

WHAT IS BEING PROPOSED?

The California Department of Toxic Substances Control (DTSC) invites public comment on the Draft Removal Action Workplan (RAW) for the Los Angeles Unified School District's (LAUSD) proposed South Region Middle School #2 (SRMS #2) site. This Draft RAW describes the removal and off-site lawful disposal of approximately 600 cubic yards (900 tons) of soil from the site. The proposed 6.88 acre site is bordered by Gage Avenue to the north, by Orchard Avenue to the east, by Loma Vista Place to the west, and by residential properties to the south. During the site investigation, lead and Total Petroleum Hydrocarbons (TPH) were detected in shallow soils in concentrations exceeding DTSC health risk levels for school sites. Elevated levels of lead were detected on 29 of the 46 properties being acquired by LAUSD, and elevated levels of TPH were detected on 2 properties. It is estimated that soil will have to be excavated to a maximum depth of 5 feet below ground surface (bgs) for lead, and 10 feet bgs for TPH contaminated soil. Therefore, LAUSD proposes to lawfully remove the contaminated soil and transport it to a permitted off-site disposal facility. The soil removal is expected to take place as early as early April 2007. DTSC has prepared a draft Notice of Exemption (NOE) for this soil removal pursuant to the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA). This project is considered exempt since it will not have a significant negative impact on the human health and the environment because of the relatively short duration and the controlled manner in which the contaminated soils will be excavated, loaded onto trucks and taken off-site for lawful disposal/treatment.

HOW DO I PARTICIPATE?

The interested community is provided an opportunity to learn more about the project and submit comments to DTSC regarding the proposed cleanup during a fifteen-day public comment period that starts on March 22, 2007, and ends on April 5, 2007. Your participation is encouraged. Comments concerning the draft RAW may be submitted in writing to Amit Pathak, Project Manager, at the DTSC address listed below, and must be postmarked by **April 5, 2007.**

WHERE DO I GET MORE INFORMATION?

A copy of the Draft RAW and other project documents are available at the Corona Elementary School, 3825 Bell Ave., Los Angeles, CA 90201; Martha Escutia Primary Center, 6401 Bear Ave., Bell, CA 90201; Bell Library, 4411 E. Gage Ave., Bell, CA 90201; LAUSD, Office of Environmental Health and Safety, 1055 W. 7th St., 9th Floor, Los Angeles, CA 90017; and at www.laschools.org. Also, all site documents and the full Administrative Record pertaining to this project are available for review during office hours at the DTSC Regional Records Office, 5796 Corporate Avenue, Cypress, CA 90630-4732. Contact: Julie Johnson, (714) 484-5337.

CONTACT:

If you have any questions or wish to discuss the project, please contact Cynthia Miller, DTSC Public Participation Specialist, at (818) 551-2846 or e-mail: cmiller@dtsc.ca.gov; or Amit Pathak, DTSC Project Manager, at (714) 484-5468 or email: apathak@dtsc.ca.gov.

Si desea información en español, comuníquese con: Leticia Hernandez, Especialista en Participación Pública del DTSC, al (714) 484-5488.