NOTICE OF PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD

The Draft Cleanup Plan For The New Roseland Elementary School Site Is Available For Review

Santa Rosa, California

PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD: November 3, 2008 through December 5, 2008

WHAT'S BEING PROPOSED?

A draft cleanup plan to remove lead contaminated soil and to ensure polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons (PAHs) detected in Roseland Creek would not pose a potential health impact to the future occupants, students and staff who will attend the New Roseland Area Elementary School (Site) is available for public review and comment. The draft cleanup plan, also called Removal Action Workplan (RAW), was submitted by the Roseland School District (District) for the property located at 1683 Burbank Avenue, Santa Rosa.

Investigations found elevated levels of lead in soil around building structures on the Site. The suspected source of lead contamination is from lead-based paint on the structures. Elevated levels of PAHs were also found in shallow sediments within Roseland Creek at the location where the creek flows under Roseland Avenue. PAHs are chemicals formed during the incomplete burning of coal, oil and gas, garbage, or other organic substances like tobacco or charbroiled meat. PAHs are usually found as a mixture containing two or more of these compounds, such as soot or waste oil. The suspected source of PAHs in the creek is from road runoff from Burbank Avenue.

There is no immediate health risk because the public is not currently exposed to the lead or PAH contaminated soil. Moreover, the PAHs do not pose a risk to human health based on the proposed use of the Site as a school. However, because potential exposure to elevated levels of lead and PAHs could cause adverse health effects, DTSC recommended that the District prepare a cleanup plan to address the soil and creek contamination to protect the future occupants, students and staff who will attend the new school. DTSC will oversee the cleanup 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.

The 11.38 acre Site was historically used for agricultural purposes. The Site has one wood-framed residence and several out buildings associated with the residence. The buildings are vacant and the rest of the property is currently unused. Roseland Creek cuts across the property diagonally from east to west.

The draft RAW proposes removal and off-site disposal of 40 cubic yards (about 4 truckloads) of lead contaminated soil. To address elevated levels of PAHs in Roseland Creek, the draft RAW proposes to restrict the use of the Site as a school with a Land Use Covenant (LUC). The LUC will remain effective in perpetuity, or until cleanup of the creek is completed by the local agencies.

CALIFORNIA ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY ACT - NOTICE OF EXEMPTION

As required by the California Environmental Quality Act, DTSC evaluated any possible impacts of the removal action for this project and has prepared a draft Notice of Exemption (NOE). The draft NOE states that this removal action will not have significant impacts on the environment. The draft NOE is available for public review, along with other supporting documents.

HOW DO I PARTICIPATE?

Your participation is encouraged. Comments concerning the draft RAW may be submitted in writing to Neal Hutchison, DTSC Project Manager, 8800 Cal Center Drive, Sacramento, California 95826, or email: HHutchis@dtsc.ca.gov. All mail must be postmarked by 5 PM on December 5, 2008. Emailed comments must be received by DTSC no later than 5 PM on December 5, 2008. A public meeting will be considered if a request identifying the issues to be raised is made to Chao Thao by November 14, 2008.

WHERE DO I GET MORE INFORMATION?

A copy of the draft RAW and NOE are available for review in the Information Repositories located at Santa Rosa Central Library, 211 E Street, Santa Rosa; Roseland School District, 1934 Biwana Drive Santa Rosa; or DTSC File room, 8800 Cal Center Drive, Sacramento. The draft RAW is also available on-line at www.envirostor.dtsc.ca.gov/public/profile_report.asp?global_id=70000113

CONTACT:

If you have any questions or wish to discuss the project, please contact Neal Hutchison, DTSC Project Manager, at (916) 255-4369 or by e-mail to HHutchis@dtsc.ca.gov. For public participation activities, please contact Chao Thao, DTSC Public Participation Specialist, at (916) 255-3649, toll-free at (866) 495-5651 or by e-mail to CThao@dtsc.ca.gov. Members of the media should contact Claudia Loomis, DTSC Public Information Officer, at (916) 255-6578 or by email to CLoomis@dtsc.ca.gov.