



DEPARTMENT OF
TOXIC SUBSTANCES
CONTROL

*The mission of the
Department of Toxic
Substances Control is
to provide the
highest level of safety,
and to protect public
health and the
environment from
toxic harm.*



State of California



Cal/EPA

Fact Sheet, May 2012

Proposed Cleanup Plan for the Former Pechiney Cast Plate, Inc., Facility, Available for Public Review and Comment

The Department of Toxic Substances Control (DTSC) invites you to review and comment on a draft plan to clean up contaminated soil from the former Pechiney Cast Plate, Inc., (Pechiney) facility, located at 3200 Fruitland Avenue, in Vernon. The draft cleanup plan, called a Remedial Action Plan (RAP), was developed specifically for the Pechiney facility (site), and describes in detail the environmental investigation conducted, findings and the proposed remedy selected to address concrete, soil and soil vapor contamination onsite and for the future protection of groundwater beneath the site. Under the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), DTSC proposes a Negative Declaration, as the proposed RAP activities will not have a significant negative effect on human health or the environment.

Historic operations at the facility resulted in releases of hazardous waste in soil, soil vapor and groundwater. Inside this fact sheet you will find more information on:

- Site Background
- Environmental Investigations conducted & Findings
- Proposed Cleanup Plan (draft RAP)
- California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) & How You Can Participate
- Where to find Project Documents & Next Steps
- Who to Contact for More Information

Why Cleanup Is Necessary

There is no immediate health risk because the public is not exposed to the contaminated soil or groundwater. Also, the contaminated ground-water, located 150 feet beneath the ground surface is not used for drinking water. However, to ensure safety of the site for future use, DTSC recommends a cleanup plan be prepared and implemented to address contaminated soil and groundwater at the site. DTSC will oversee the proposed remedial actions and ensure that work is performed in a manner that does not harm people or the environment.

PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD - MAY 10th TO JUNE 10th, 2012

The draft RAP and CEQA Negative Declaration is available for public review and comment during the 30-day public comment period. Public comments must be postmarked or e-mailed no later than **June 10th, 2012**, and sent to: **Chand Sultana, Ph.D., DTSC Project Manager, 9211 Oakdale Avenue, Chatsworth, CA 91311-6520, E-mail: csultana@dtsc.ca.gov**. The draft RAP, CEQA Negative Declaration and other project documents are available for review at the Information Repository locations listed on page 3 inside this Fact Sheet.

PUBLIC MEETING ANNOUNCEMENT

June 4th, 2012, 6:30 PM

*Resurrection Church, Multi-Purpose Room
3324 Opal Street, Los Angeles, CA 90023-2917*

DTSC invites you to attend the Public Meeting at 6:30 pm to present the draft RAP proposal and accept public comments. Please join us to learn more about this project in your community.



Site Background

The 26.9 acre site is located at the southeast corner of the intersection of Boyle Avenue and Fruitland Avenue and was formerly occupied by about 600,000 square feet of building area. The original site owner, Aluminum Company of America (Alcoa) began manufacturing operations at the site in approximately 1937. Alcoa's production of cast aluminum plates required the use of fuels and Stoddard solvent, both of which were stored in underground storage tanks. Industrial operations generated hazardous waste that was stored at various locations throughout the site. Stoddard solvent is a colorless petroleum mixture, used as paint thinner in some types of photocopier toners, printing inks, and adhesives; as a dry cleaning solvent; and as a general cleaner and degreaser.

In 1998, Alcoa sold the western portion of the facility (3200 Fruitland Avenue) to Century Aluminum Company. In 1999, Pechiney purchased the site and used the facilities to produce high-precision aluminum cast plates until January 2006, when all manufacturing operations stopped and the Vernon Facility closed.

The site is located in an area zoned for industrial use. A land use deed covenant is proposed for the site to prohibit residential development. It is expected that after the site is cleaned up, it will be developed for industrial or commercial use.

Environmental Investigation(s) Conducted & Findings

Previous environmental investigations at the site found polychlorinated biphenyls (PCBs) in concrete building slabs, total petroleum hydrocarbons (TPH, including Stoddard solvent), metals, PCBs, and volatile organic compounds (VOCs) in soil, TPH and VOCs in soil vapor, and VOCs in groundwater. Concrete building slabs, soil and soil vapor impacts are at levels that require cleanup. VOCs that were found in groundwater are currently being monitored to evaluate and ensure groundwater safety under DTSC oversight.

PCBs are used in transformers and other high temperature equipment like insulators, coolants, and lubricants because they don't burn easily and are good lubricants. TPHs are a mixture of chemicals found in crude oil, jet fuel, gasoline, and other petroleum products (such as Stoddard solvent). VOCs are chemicals used during the manufacturing process and are typically found in paints and solvents. They evaporate quickly

when released into the atmosphere.

Proposed Cleanup Plan – Draft RAP

The draft RAP proposes excavation and disposal of shallow soil containing PCBs and arsenic, use of **Soil Vapor Extraction (SVE)** for shallow and deep VOC-impacted soil, SVE and **Bioventing** for shallow and deep Stoddard solvent-impacted soil; and demolition and disposal of PCB-impacted concrete. Concrete and soil will be transported to a licensed disposal and/or treatment facility. Concrete impacted with PCBs below cleanup levels will be reused on-site as restricted fill, and non-impacted concrete will be crushed and reused on-site as unrestricted fill material. These proposed remedial actions will further protect groundwater and is the most health protective and cost effective to implement. Confirmation sampling will be conducted to ensure cleanup goals have been achieved.

What is Soil Vapor Extraction (SVE)?

SVE is commonly used to clean up chemicals found in soil. SVE consists of wells and piping installed beneath the ground surface. SVE uses a vacuum component to pull air from soil containing the contamination into the wells and piping and then to a cleanup system. The cleanup system removes the contamination from the air stream with carbon. Any moisture collected within the system will be collected and transported off-site to an approved disposal facility, along with the carbon. A permit from the South Coast Air Quality management District (SCAQMD) will be required for the SVE system to operate.

What is Bioventing?

Similar to SVE, bioventing consists of below-grade wells and piping and involves the aeration of soil to promote biodegradation of fuel-related total petroleum hydrocarbons. In contrast to SVE, bioventing uses a blower to slowly push air into the piping and wells to provide oxygen to the soil and to sustain microbial activity.

DTSC will require an Operations and Maintenance Plan be developed and implemented to provide a monitoring schedule for the SVE and SVE/Bioventing systems. SVE and SVE/-Bioventing system monitoring will be done under DTSC oversight until confirmation is established that site cleanup goals have been achieved.

Safety & Dust Control During Cleanup

Remedial activities require the demolition and crushing of on-site concrete slabs and below-

grade structures and the removal and off-site disposal of concrete and soil. The following steps will be taken to minimize dust and to protect on-site workers and the surrounding community:

- Fence site perimeter with windscreens for security and dust control;
- Spray work areas to control dust
- Spray and cover temporary soil stockpiles;
- Secure trucks with covers before exiting the site;
- Minimize soil drop height from excavator to transport trucks;
- Monitor wind speed to ensure dust stays at safe levels;
- Install clean gravel pad to buffer between site soil and public streets;
- Remove truck/tire debris from tires and vehicle under carriage;
- Drive vehicles at slow speeds while on site property and streets
- Sweet sweeping, as needed.

California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA)

Under CEQA, an Initial Study was prepared to evaluate potential environmental impacts that may result from the RAP activities. DTSC determined the RAP activities would not result in significant impacts on the environment. Therefore, DTSC proposes a Negative Declaration.

How You Can Participate

DTSC encourages you to review and comment on the draft RAP and CEQA Negative Declaration. **The 30-day public comment period begins May 10th, and ends June 10th, 2012. All public comments must be post-marked or e-mailed by June 10th, 2012 and sent to:**

Chand Sultana, Ph.D., Project Manager
Department of Toxic Substances Control
9211 Oakdale Avenue
Chatsworth, CA 91311-6520
E-mail: csultana@dtsc.ca.gov

DTSC is hosting a **Public Meeting on June 4th, 2012**, to present the draft RAP and accept public comments. Please join us to learn more (see front page for location and hours).

Where to Find Project Documents

The draft RAP, CEQA Negative Declaration, and other related site documents are available for review at the following Information Repositories:

City of Vernon Health & Environmental Control
4305 S. Santa Fe Avenue
Vernon, CA 90058-1714
(323) 583-8811
Hours: 7:00 am – 5:30 pm, Monday - Thursday

Department of Toxic Substances Control
Regional Records Office
9211 Oakdale Avenue
Chatsworth, CA 91311-6520
(818) 717-6500
Mon – Fri 8:00 am – 5:00 pm
Please contact Ms. Vivien Tutaan at the number above to make an appointment.

Site documents are also available electronically at www.envirostor.dtsc.ca.gov/public. If viewing documents at the DTSC Chatsworth office, a computer is available in the DTSC file room for your use.

Next Steps

DTSC will consider all public comments received during the public comment period before making a decision on the draft RAP. If the RAP is approved, field work will begin in July 2012 and take about 4 to 5 months to complete. Field work will include below grade demolition and soil removal and the installation of the SVE systems. You may notice workers and field equipment in the area. Work will be conducted daily between 7:00 am and 5:00 pm. No street or road closures are anticipated to occur.

Who to Contact for Information

If you have questions about the draft RAP, CEQA Negative Declaration, or project cleanup activities please contact:

Chand Sultana, Ph.D., DTSC, Project Manager
9211 Oakdale Avenue
Chatsworth, CA 91311-6520
(818) 717-6552, E-mail: csultana@dtsc.ca.gov

Stacey Lear, DTSC, Public Participation
5796 Corporate Avenue
Cypress, CA 90630-4732
(714) 484-5354, E-mail: slear@dtsc.ca.gov

For Media Inquiries

Jeanne Garcia, DTSC, Public Information Officer
(818) 717-6573, E-mail: jgarcia1@dtsc.c.gov

Notice to Hearing Impaired Individuals

TDD users can contact the California Relay Service at 1-888-877-5378 to reach Stacey Lear, DTSC Public Participation Specialist at (714) 484-5354 or toll-free 1-866-495-5651.



State of California
Department of Toxic Substances Control
Attn: Stacey Lear
5796 Corporate Avenue
Cypress, CA 90630-4732

For more information about the DTSC, please visit our web site at www.dtsc.ca.gov