COMMUNITY Notice

The mission of DTSC is to protect California's people and environment from harmful effects of toxic substances through the restoration of contaminated resources, enforcement, regulation and pollution prevention.

UC Richmond Draft Removal Action Workplan Available for Public Comment

Why This Notice?

The California State Department of Toxic Substances Control (DTSC) announces that a Draft Removal Action Workplan (RAW) for the proposed University of California (UC) Richmond Bay Campus is available for public comment. The RAW addresses a part of the proposed Richmond Bay Campus (RBC) property known as the Richmond Field Station (Site) located at 1301 South 46th Street in Richmond, California.

The Environmental Impact Report (EIR)

The activities identified in the draft RAW are also outlined and analyzed in the Draft Environmental Impact Report (EIR) for the proposed RBC Long Range Development Plan (LRDP). UC is conducting a **separate public hearing** in accordance with the California Environmental Quality Act on the Draft RBC LRDP EIR, **December 11, 2013, 7 to 9 pm at the Richmond City Council chambers, 440 Civic Center Plaza in Richmond.** The public comment period on the Draft RBC LRDP EIR extends from November 15, 2013 through January 13, 2014. Comments on the RBC LRDP EIR may be emailed to *rbc@lbl.gov.* Information regarding the EIR, including notice of availability, review period, and public hearing date is provided at:
http://richmondbaycampus.lbl.gov/environmental_documents.html

This fact sheet provides:

- a Site history,
- summary of the proposed cleanup,
- opportunities for public involvement.

DTSC invites you to review and comment on the Draft RAW for the Richmond Bay Campus (RBC) property known as the Richmond Field Station (Site).

Public Comment Period

November 26, 2013 to January 10, 2014

Please submit your comments by **5 pm January 10, 2014** to:

Lynn Nakashima
DTSC Project Manager
700 Heinz Avenue
Berkeley, CA 94710
or *Lynn.nakashima@dtsc.ca.gov*

RAW PUBLIC MEETING:
December 5, 2013,
6:30 to 8:30 pm
Richmond Field Station,
Building 445
Richmond, California

This meeting will provide an opportunity for the community to ask questions, provide input, and learn more about the draft RAW.

For information about public participation, please contact:

Wayne Hagen, DTSC Public Participation Specialist
(510) 540-3911 or
Wayne.hagen@dtsc.ca.gov

History of the Site

The Site is located at 1301 South 46th Street in Richmond, California, along the eastern shoreline of the Richmond Inner Harbor. The Site was owned by the California Cap Company from the 1870s to the 1940s. UC purchased the property in 1950 to house expanding research and academic programs and is cleaning up contamination from previous industrial activities at the Site.

The California Cap Company manufactured blasting caps, shells, and explosives on portions of the Site. The main contaminants identified during initial studies were metals from a former mercury fulminate manufacturing plant, and pyrite cinder waste from sulfuric acid production at the former neighboring Stauffer Chemical plant. The metals include arsenic, cadmium, copper, lead, mercury, selenium, and zinc.

UC Berkeley previously removed contaminants from the Site. In 2002, a large amount of contaminated soil was excavated, treated, and transported off-site for disposal. The excavated areas were restored and are now a native marsh and coastal terrace prairie. In 2005, continued investigation and remediation oversight was transferred to DTSC.

UC Berkeley conducted soil and groundwater investigations between 2010 and 2012 to further characterize site conditions. The results were compiled into a Final Site Characterization Report, which includes a risk assessment. The findings of this document support the final cleanup actions for the Research Education and Support (RES) Area and groundwater.

What is the Contamination?

Based on the information collected, further action is required due to the elevated concentrations of mercury, pyrite cinders-related metals (arsenic and lead), polychlorinated biphenyls (PCB), polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons (PAH), and dioxins detected in soil, as well as carbon tetrachloride and trichloroethylene (TCE) in groundwater.

What Can Be Done to Clean It Up?

The objective of a draft RAW is to evaluate cleanup alternatives and to identify a preferred cleanup plan which prevents or reduces risks to public health and the environment. Cleanup alternatives are evaluated on the basis of their effectiveness, ability to be implemented, and cost. A draft RAW identifies the cleanup plan that DTSC recommends. Before DTSC makes a final decision to approve or modify a cleanup plan the draft RAW is made available to the public for review during a public comment period. All comments are reviewed and considered before the RAW is approved.

Cleanup Alternatives Considered

Four soil alternatives were identified for the Mercury Fulminate Area (MFA), Corporation Yard, and remainder of RES Area within the Site; a fifth capping alternative was evaluated at the MFA only. An evaluation of alternatives for PCB cleanup was not conducted since excavation and removal is an acceptable alternative.

Four groundwater alternatives were identified to address the carbon tetrachloride. The remedy for TCE in groundwater originating from the former Zeneca Site, is subject to the former Zeneca Site Order and was not evaluated in this draft RAW.

Soil Aternatives

Soil Alternative 1, No Action: Under the no-action alternative, no actions would be taken at the site. Soil would be left in place without any actions.

Soil Alternative 2, Excavation to Unrestricted Reuse and Off-site Disposal: This alternative involves the excavation and disposal of all pyrite cinders and soil in the RES Area containing chemicals at concentrations greater than unrestricted risk-based concentrations.

Soil Alternative 3, Excavation to Commercial Reuse, Off-site Disposal, Land Use Controls, and Soil Management Plan (SMP): This alternative involves excavating soils above commercial cleanup goals, or

managing soils above commercial standards so that they are not accessible. Land Use Controls (LUCs) related to soil will be required to restrict use of the Site. An SMP would guide soil sampling and handling during future construction activities.

Soil Alternative 4, Land Use Controls: This alternative would restrict use of the property to prohibit certain activities or uses that would expose people to contamination. The LUCs would be composed of the deed restrictions summarized in Soil Alternative 3. Under this alternative, soil would be left in place without implementing any containment, removal, or treatment actions.

Soil Alternative 5, Asphalt Cap, LUCs, and SMP (MFA only): This alternative involves construction of a single-layer asphalt cap over the areas containing mercury at concentrations greater than the cleanup goals.

Groundwater Alternatives

Groundwater Alternative 1, No Action: Under this alternative, no actions will be taken at the site. Groundwater would be left in place without taking any action.

Groundwater Alternative 2, Permeable Reactive Barrier, LUCs, and Groundwater Monitoring: A funnel and permeable reactive barrier would be designed to treat carbon tetrachloride in groundwater as the groundwater moves through the barrier. LUCs would consist of a deed restriction prohibiting the use of groundwater. This alternative would include groundwater monitoring.

Groundwater Alternative 3, Bioremediation, LUCs, and Groundwater Monitoring: The treatment system would consist of installing approximately 15 to 25 injection point wells within the carbon tetrachloride plume to anaerobically biodegrade carbon tetrachloride in groundwater. LUCs would consist of deed restrictions and monitoring.

Groundwater Alternative 4, Monitored Natural Attenuation and LUCs: Monitored natural attenuation (MNA) refers to the reliance on natural processes to achieve cleanup objectives. This alternative would include installing monitoring wells around the contamination. This alternative includes groundwater monitoring, as well as contingency cleanup measures. LUCs would consist of deed restrictions and reporting.

DTSC Recommended Alternative

DTSC recommends **Soil Alternative 3** and **Groundwater Alternative 4** as the preferred cleanup alternatives for the RES Area and groundwater at the Site. The recommended soil alternative also includes cleanup of PCB-impacted soil. The recommended groundwater alternative also includes continuing an ongoing Site-wide monitoring program. DTSC believes that these alternatives protect human health and the environment, are cost effective, and can be readily implemented.

California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA)

The draft EIR for the proposed RBC LRDP includes discussion of the potential environmental impacts of RAW activities and related LRDP mitigation measures. UC is the lead agency for the EIR that examines the overall effects of implementation of the RAW for purposes of CEQA. DTSC is the responsible agency for the RAW activities. The responsible agency is the public agency which proposes to carry out or approve a project, for which a lead agency has prepared an EIR. The EIR provides information that will inform DTSC decision-making on the actions identified within the RAW. DTSC will document its review of the EIR and responsible agency approval through completion of the CalEPA Responsible Agency Checklist.

What Happens Next?

The draft RAW is not final until all comments from the public are considered. At the end of the public comment period, the comments are evaluated and any necessary changes are made to the RAW. Additionally, DTSC will consider all comments regarding the draft EIR. A Response to Comments document will be sent to all of

How Can I Find Out More?

Information Repositories

DTSC has established the following information repositories for this Site:

Department of Toxic Substances Control
700 Heinz Avenue, Berkeley, CA 94710
Call for appointment (510) 540-3800

Richmond Public Library
325 Civic Center Plaza, Richmond, CA 94804
(510) 620-6554

DTSC's Enivorstor Website: *http://www.envirostor.dtsc.ca.gov/public.* Click on "Site/Facility Search" and enter "Richmond" as the City then click "Get Report." Find the "UC Richmond" Site then click on the "Report" link..
If you also would like DTSC to notify you via email when new Envirostor documents are available online, please sign up to receive email alerts on the EnviroStor report page.

Contact Information:

For questions: Lynn Nakashima, DTSC Project Manager (510) 540-3839 or *Lynn.Nakashima@dtsc.ca.gov.*
For public participation: Wayne Hagen, DTSC Public Participation Specialist (510) 540-3911 or *Wayne.Hagen@dtsc.ca.gov.*
For media inquiries: Sandy Nax (916) 327-6114 or *Sandy.Nax@dtsc.ca.gov.*

All documents made available to the public by DTSC can be provided in an alternative format (i.e. Braille, large print, etc.) or in another language, as appropriate, in accordance with State and Federal law. Please contact the public participation specialist for assistance.

Si prefiere recibir la información en español o hablar con alguin en español acerca de esta información, favor de llamar a Especialista en Participación Pública de el Departmento de Control de Substancias Tóxicas. El numero de telfono es (510) 540-3877