



**Jared Blumenfeld**  
Secretary for  
Environmental Protection



## Department of Toxic Substances Control

---

Meredith Williams, Ph.D., Director  
700 Heinz Avenue  
Berkeley, California 94710-2721



**Gavin Newsom**  
Governor

June 9, 2022

Greg Haet, P.E.  
EH&S Associate Director, Environmental Protection  
Office of Environmental, Health & Safety  
University of California, Berkeley  
University Hall, 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor, #1150  
Berkeley, California 94720  
[gjhaet@berkeley.edu](mailto:gjhaet@berkeley.edu)

Dear Mr. Haet:

The Department of Toxic Substances Control (DTSC) has reviewed the *Final Removal Action Workplan Research, Education, and Support Area and Groundwater Five-Year Review* (Review) for the Richmond Field Station Site (Site), located in Richmond, California, and dated June 6, 2022. The Review incorporates comments received from DTSC on October 29, 2020 and December 1, 2021. The Review evaluates whether the remedy remains effective at protecting human health and the environment. The remedy selected in the Removal Action Workplan approved by DTSC on July 18, 2014 includes the following components:

### Soil Remedy

- Excavation of polychlorinated biphenyl (PCB)-impacted soils.
- Excavation of mercury-impacted soils.
- Management of cinders encountered during soil excavation.
- Implementation of land use covenants restricting usage of the Site to commercial/industrial usage only, and mandating that future site soil disturbing activities or soil movement be conducted under the Soil Management Plan (SMP).
- Implementation of the SMP which provides a framework for excavation and soil management in conjunction with redevelopment or construction projects.

## Groundwater Remedy

- Monitoring natural attenuation of carbon tetrachloride in groundwater.
- Continuing groundwater monitoring throughout the Site.
- Treatment and monitoring of contaminants in groundwater originating from the adjacent former Zeneca/Campus Bay Site, including trichloroethylene (TCE) and its breakdown components, under the Site Investigation and Remediation Order, dated September 15, 2006 (Docket No. IS/E-RAO 06/07-005) for the Zeneca/Campus Bay Site.
- Implementation of land use covenants prohibiting groundwater extraction for purposes other than groundwater monitoring/treatment or construction dewatering.

Issues and recommendations identified in the Report include the following:

- The next Five-Year Review will include a comprehensive evaluation of remedy protectiveness with regard to predicted sea level rise; however, additional evaluation or actions may be required sooner if impacts related to climate change are observed at the Site.
- As TCE is being addressed under the remedy at the adjacent Zeneca/Campus Bay site, the risk-based concentration of TCE in groundwater for the Site will need to be updated when Zeneca/Campus Bay updates their site-specific goals.

Based upon the information presented in the Review, DTSC concludes that the remedy being implemented at the Site continues to be effective and protective of human health and the environment and is functioning as intended. DTSC hereby approves the Review. The next Five-Year Review will be conducted in 2024.

If you have any questions, please contact Nicole Yuen at (510) 540-3881 or via email at [Nicole.Yuen@dtsc.ca.gov](mailto:Nicole.Yuen@dtsc.ca.gov).

Sincerely,



Julie Pettijohn, MPH, CIH  
Branch Chief – Berkeley Office  
Site Mitigation and Restoration Program  
Department of Toxic Substances Control

cc: see next page

Mr. Greg Haet  
June 9, 2022  
Page 3 of 3

cc: (via email)

Alicia Bihler  
University of California, Berkeley  
Environment, Health & Safety  
[abihler@berkeley.edu](mailto:abihler@berkeley.edu)

Jason Brodersen, PG, QSD  
Tetra Tech, Inc.  
[Jason.Brodersen@tetrattech.com](mailto:Jason.Brodersen@tetrattech.com)

Vivek C. Mathrani, PhD, DABT  
Staff Toxicologist  
Department of Toxic Substances Control  
[Vivek.Mathrani@dtsc.ca.gov](mailto:Vivek.Mathrani@dtsc.ca.gov)

Sara Ziff, PE  
US Environmental Protection Agency  
[Ziff.Sara@EPA.gov](mailto:Ziff.Sara@EPA.gov)