



Terry Tamminen
Agency Secretary
Cal/EPA



Department of Toxic Substances Control

1011 N. Grandview Avenue
Glendale, California 91201



Arnold Schwarzenegger
Governor

November 12, 2004

Mr. Ralph Patterson
Assistant Superintendent
Claremont Unified School District
2080 North Mountain Avenue
Claremont, California 91711

REMOVAL ACTION CLOSURE REPORT, PROPOSED LA PUERTA ELEMENTARY SCHOOL SITE, 2475 NORTH FORBES AVENUE, CLAREMONT (SITE CODE 304393)

Dear Mr. Patterson:

The Department of Toxic Substances Control (DTSC) reviewed the removal action closure (RAC) report dated October 6, 2004, received October 13, 2004 and prepared for the subject site by Environmental Geoscience Services. The RAC report presents the details of the removal action activities completed at the site, in accordance with a DTSC approved Removal Action Workplan (RAW).

This 9.7-acre site has been owned by the Claremont Unified School District, since 1967. A small portion of the site is developed with two school buildings and a temporary class room structure, which are currently unoccupied. The site was used for agricultural purposes at least since 1928 until 1968. It was used as an intermediate school between 1968 and 1978, a private school in 1983 and an adult school from 1988 through the end of 2002. A Preliminary Endangerment Assessment (PEA) investigation revealed elevated levels of arsenic (up to 141 milligrams/kilogram (mg/kg) soil) and total petroleum hydrocarbons (TPH, up to 2,000 mg/kg), predominantly in the northeast corner of the site.

The removal action consisted of the excavation and off-site disposal of contaminated soils. Clean up target goals of 8.68 mg/kg arsenic and 1,000 mg/kg TPH were set for the removal action, based on analysis of the background samples in the vicinity and in consultation with DTSC. At the time of the RAW approval, the consultant estimated that 316 cubic yards (474 tons or 20 truck loads) of contaminated soil would be removed from the site. However, approximately 629 tons (27 truck-loads) of contaminated soil were removed from the site as non-hazardous waste, in order to achieve the clean up objectives. Approximately 354 tons were sent to the Western Waste facility in McKittrick, California. In addition, about 275 tons were sent to the Western Environmental Inc. facility in Mecca, California.

Mr. Ralph Patterson
November 12, 2004
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Based on the information presented, DTSC has determined that all appropriate response actions have been completed, all acceptable engineering practices were implemented and hereby approves the RAC report. No further removal/remedial action is necessary. The final certification for completion of removal action at this site is enclosed for your records. In accordance with California Education Code, section 17213.2, subsection (e), if, at anytime during construction at a school site, a previously unidentified release or threatened release of a hazardous material or the presence of a naturally occurring hazardous material is discovered, the school district shall cease all construction activities at the site, notify and take actions as required by DTSC.

If you have any questions, please contact Mr. Rao Akula, Project Manager at (818) 551-2847 or me at (818) 551-2821.

Sincerely,



Sharon Fair, Chief
Glendale/Sacramento Branch
School Property Evaluation and Cleanup Division

Enclosure


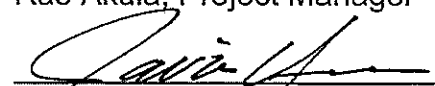
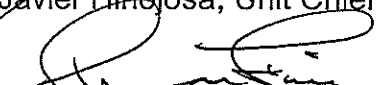
cc: Mr. Jeff Findl, R.G.
Geologist Owner
Environmental Geoscience Services
909 Electric Avenue, Suite 312
Seal Beach, California 90740

Mr. Michael O'Neill
Consultant/Environmental Coordinator
School Facilities Planning Division
California Department of Education
1430 N Street, Suite 1201
Sacramento, California 95814

REMOVAL ACTION CERTIFICATION
Proposed La Puerta Elementary School Site, 2475 North Forbes Avenue,
Claremont

1. **Certification of Remedial or Removal Action:**

I hereby certify that the following information is true and correct to the best of my knowledge.

- | | |
|---|------------------|
| 1. 
Rao Akula, Project Manager | 11/12/04
Date |
| 2. 
Javier Hinojosa, Unit Chief | 11/12/04
Date |
| 3. 
Sharon Fair, Branch Chief | 11/12/04
Date |

2. **Certification Statement:** Based upon the information which is currently and actually known to the Department,

The Department has determined that all appropriate response actions have been completed, that all acceptable engineering practices were implemented and that no further removal/remedial action is necessary.

The Department has determined, based upon a remedial investigation or site characterization that the site poses no significant threat to public health, welfare or the environment and therefore implementation of removal/remedial measures is not necessary.

The Department has determined that all appropriate removal/remedial actions have been completed and that all acceptable engineering practices were implemented; however, the site requires ongoing operation and maintenance (O&M) and monitoring efforts. The site will be deleted from the "active" site list following (1) a trial operation and maintenance period and (2) execution of a formal written settlement between Department and the responsible parties, if appropriate. However, the site will be placed on the Department's list of sites undergoing O&M to ensure proper monitoring of long-term cleanup efforts.

3. **Site Name and Location:** (Street address, County, City and zip code)
Proposed La Puerta Elementary School Site
Property at 2475 North Forbes Avenue
Claremont, California 91711

A. List any other names that have been used to identify this site:

None

B. Address of site if different from above:

NA

C. Assessor's Parcel Number 8670-003-90. This parcel number identifies the 18.75-acre property that includes the 9.7-acre La Puerta School site. This certification applies to the school property only.

4. **Responsible Parties:** (Use extra pages if necessary.)

Name: **Mr. Ralph Patterson**

Title: **Assistant Superintendent**

Firm: **Claremont Unified School District**

Address: **2080 North Mountain Avenue**

City: **Claremont, California**

Zip: **91711**

Telephone: **(909) 398-0602**

Relationship To Site: (such as generator, hauler, etc.)

Current Landowner/Operator: **Claremont Unified School District**

5. **Brief Description and History of the Site:** (Include previous and current uses of site, a brief description of the cleanup action and concentrations of significant hazardous substances left on site)

This 9.7-acre site has been owned by the Claremont Unified School District, since 1967. A small portion of the site is developed with two school buildings and a temporary class room structure, which are currently unoccupied. The site was used for agricultural purposes at least since 1928 until 1968. It was used as an intermediate school between 1968 and 1978, a private school in 1983 and an adult school from 1988 through the end of 2002. A Preliminary Endangerment Assessment (PEA) investigation revealed elevated levels of arsenic (up to 141 milligrams/kilogram (mg/kg) soil) and total petroleum hydrocarbons (TPH, up to 2,000 mg/kg), predominantly in the northeast corner of the site. The removal action consisted of the excavation and off-site disposal of contaminated soils. Clean up target goals of 8.68 mg/kg arsenic and 1,000 mg/kg TPH were set for the removal action, based on analysis of the background samples in the

vicinity and in consultation with DTSC. Approximately 629 tons (27 truck-loads) of contaminated soil were removed from the site as non-hazardous waste, in order to achieve the clean up objectives. Approximately 354 tons were sent to the Western Waste facility in McKittrick, California. In addition, about 275 tons were sent to Western Environmental Inc. facility in Mecca, California.

6. **Type of Site:** (Check appropriate response)

Included in Bond Expenditure Plan? Yes ___ No N/A

RCRA-Permitted Facility _____ Bond - funded
RCRA Facility Closure _____ RP - funded

*NPL ___ N/A

Federal Facility

Other (i.e., walk-in): _____ Explain Briefly:

7. **Size of Site:** (Based on Expenditure Plan definition of size)

Small ___ Medium X Large ___ Extra Large

8. **Dates of Remedial or Removal Action:**

A. Initiated: February 5, 2004 B. Completed: November 10, 2004

*Per SARA, any NPL site that is not permanently cleaned must be scheduled for a follow-up visit after 5 years to verify that cleanup measures are still satisfactory.

9. **Response Action Taken on Site:** (check appropriate action)

- Removal Action (satisfactory abatement of site)
 Final Remedial Action
 RCRA Enforcement/Closure action
 No action, further investigation verified that no cleanup action at site was needed.

A. Type of Remedial or Removal Action (e.g. Excavation and redisposal, cap, on-site treatment?):

Excavation: Removal of 629 tons of soil

B. Estimated quantity of waste associated with the site (i.e., tons/gallons/cubic yards) which was:

- | | |
|--|-------------------------|
| 1. <input type="checkbox"/> treated | Amount: |
| 2. <input type="checkbox"/> untreated (capped sites) | Amount: |
| 3. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> removed | Amount: <u>629 tons</u> |

10. Cleanup Levels/Standards:

A. What were the cleanup standards established by the Department of Toxic Substances Control (DTSC) pursuant to the final remedial action plan (RAP) or workplan (if cleanup occurred as the result of a removal action (RA) prior to development of a RAP)?

8.68 mg/kg for arsenic, 1000 mg/kg for total petroleum hydrocarbons

B. Were the specified cleanup standards met? Yes No

C. If "no", why not:

11. DTSC Involvement in the Remedial or Removal Action:

A. Did the Department order the Remedial or Removal Action?
Yes No Date of Order

B. Did the Department review and approve the following plans/procedures? (indicate date of review/approval if done):

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Sampling Analysis Procedures	Date <u>April 13, 2004</u>
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Health & Safety Protections	Date <u>April 13, 2004</u>
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Removal/Disposal Procedures	Date <u>April 13, 2004</u>
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Removal Action Plan	Date <u>April 13, 2004</u>

C. If site was abated by a responsible party, did the Department receive a signed statement from a licensed professional on all phases of the Remedial Actions? (indicate date of statement)

Removal Action Closure Report Date October 6, 2004

D. Did a registered engineer or geologist verify that acceptable engineering practices were implemented?

Yes No Name Mr. Jeff Findl

E. Did the Department confirm completion of all Remedial Actions?

Yes No ___ Date of verification November 10, 2004
(i.e. manifest, sampling, demonstrated installation and operation of treatment)

F. Did the Department (directly or through a contractor) actually perform the Removal Action?

Yes ___ No Name of Contractor: Environmental Geoscience

G. Was there a community relations plan in place? Yes ___ No

H. Was a removal action workplan developed for this site? Yes No ___

I. Did DTSC hold a public meeting regarding the draft RAW? Yes ___ No

J. Were public comments addressed?
Yes No ___ Date of DTSC analysis and response:

K. Are all the facts cited above adequately documented in the DTSC files? Yes No ___

If no, identify areas where documentation is lacking.

12. EPA Involvement in the Remedial or Removal Action:

A. Was the EPA involved in the site cleanup? Yes ___ No

B. If yes, did EPA concur with all remedial actions? Yes ___ No ___

C. EPA comments

EPA staff involved in cleanup:
(Name, Title)

(Address, Phone Number)

13. Other Regulatory Agency Involvement in the Cleanup Action: N/A

Agency: Activity:

- ___ RWQCB
- ___ ARB
- ___ CHP
- ___ Caltrans
- ___ Other

Name of contact persons and agency:

14. Post-Closure Activities: N/A

A. Will there be post-closure activities at this site? (e.g. Operation and Maintenance) Yes ___ No X If yes, describe:

B. Have post-closure plans been prepared and approved by the Department? Yes ___ No N/A

C. What is the estimated duration of post-closure (including operations and maintenance) activities?
N/A years.

D. Are deed restrictions proposed or in place? Yes ___ No X

If "yes", have deed restrictions been recorded with the County recorder?

Yes ___ No ___ Date

If "no", who is responsible for assuring that the deed restrictions are recorded?

Who is the Department contact? **Rao Akula, Project Manager**
Name/Phone Number **818-551-2847**

E. Has cost recovery been initiated? Yes X No
If yes, amount received \$52,123.22 ___ % of DTSC costs.

F. Were local planning agencies notified of the cleanup action? Yes
No

If yes, the name and address of agency:

15. Expenditure of Funds and Source:

(Information to be supplied by Toxic Accounting Unit.)

Funding Source and amount expended:

___ HWCA	\$	_____	___ HSA	\$
___ HSCF	\$	_____	___ RCRA	\$

____ RP \$ _____ Other \$
____ Federal Cooperative Agreement \$
____ Other (Site Remediation Account)
To be paid by Claremont Unified School District

16. Additional Comments:

Sandra Jones

From: Jeff Shoemaker [jshoemak@chs.cusd.claremont.edu]
Sent: Wednesday, July 14, 2004 12:48 PM
To: Ralph Patterson
Subject: FW: Update concerning the La Puerta soil excavation work

Ralph, for your review. Please contact me if you would like to discuss further. Thanks, p.s. I have observed Henry's level of service, and ability to answer questions during this process to be very good. J. Shoemaker
-----Original Message-----

From: Environmental Geoscience [mailto:envgeos@yahoo.com]
Sent: Wednesday, July 14, 2004 12:11 PM
To: Jeff Shoemaker
Subject: Update concerning the La Puerta soil excavation work

Jeff,

As we discussed, I have prepared this message to give you an update as to the status of the soil excavation work at the La Puerta Site.

We completed the initial excavation work on Thursday July 8th. I collected numerous soil samples from the sidewalls and base of the excavation, which were submitted to the laboratory for analysis.

Based on the analytical results, limited additional excavation work is needed to remove several small areas of soil that had detectable concentrations which exceeded our cleanup limits. This includes two areas in the base of the excavation and two areas along the sidewalls of the excavation.

The additional excavation work has been scheduled for Thursday (7/15/04) at 0700. It is anticipated that it will take only one day to conduct this additional excavation work. After this additional excavation work has been completed I will collect additional soil samples to verify that we have removed all soil which exceeds the cleanup limits.

On a side note, the analytical results from the stockpiled soil are within the limits that will allow the soil to be hauled as non-hazardous material. The results are being sent to the landfill for final approval.

If you have any questions, I can be reached at the office at (562) 280-3481 or tomorrow on my cell phone at (562) 761-4153.

Henry Ames

Environmental Geoscience Services
909 Electric Ave. suite 312
Seal Beach CA 90740

phone (562) 280-3481 fax (562) 280-3485

Sandra Jones

From: Environmental Geoscience [envgeos@yahoo.com]
Sent: Wednesday, June 30, 2004 4:26 PM
To: Rao Akula
Cc: Jeff Shoemaker; Andy Begun; Ralph Patterson; shane@eee.org
Subject: La Puerta School, Claremont, CA - Soil Excavation Schedule

Rao:

As we discussed this morning, the Claremont Unified School District is ready to start the soil excavation work for the proposed La Puerta Elementary School site. The work will be conducted in accordance with the Removal Action Workplan (dated December 26, 2003), which was approved by the DTSC in a letter dated April 13, 2004.

The first day of field work is scheduled for Tuesday July 6, 2004. We will be conducting our Health and Safety meeting at 0800 and then will commence with the removal of the asphalt parking surface in the area of the planned excavation. The arsenic contaminated soil excavation work will be conducted during Tuesday and Wednesday (7/6 and 7/7).

Excavation verification soil samples will likely be collected on Wednesday afternoon after completion of the excavation work.

I will be onsite during all field activities. If you have any questions during the field work, please call me on my cell phone at (562) 761-4153.

Thank you

Henry Ames

Environmental Geoscience Services

Environmental Geoscience Services
909 Electric Ave. suite 312
Seal Beach CA 90740

phone (562) 280-3481 fax (562) 280-3485

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6/30/2004