

COMMUNITY UPDATE

THE MISSION OF DTSC IS TO PROTECT CALIFORNIA'S PEOPLE AND ENVIRONMENT FROM HARMFUL EFFECTS OF TOXIC SUBSTANCES BY RESTORING CONTAMINATED RESOURCES, ENFORCING HAZARDOUS WASTE LAWS, REDUCING HAZARDOUS WASTE GENERATION, AND ENCOURAGING THE MANUFACTURE OF CHEMICALLY SAFER PRODUCTS.

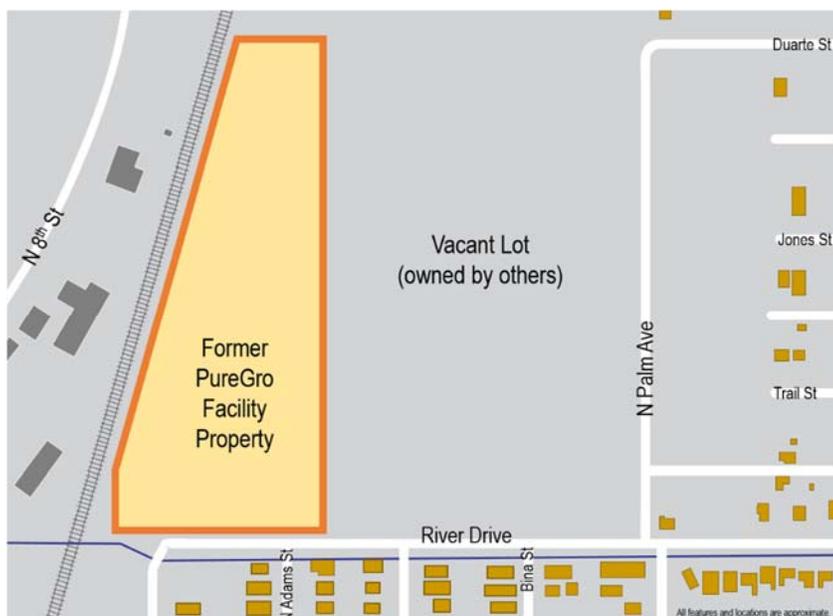
Draft Remedial Action Plan (RAP) and Negative Declaration for Former PureGro Company Facility in Brawley Available for Public Review and Comment PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD: JANUARY 24, 2018 – FEBRUARY 23, 2018

Why This Notice?

The Department of Toxic Substances Control (DTSC), as a lead regulatory agency, invites you to review and comment on a proposed Remedial Action Plan (RAP) and California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) Negative Declaration for the 11-acre former PureGro Company facility located at 1025 River Drive, in Brawley. The proposed RAP summarizes detailed environmental studies conducted and the proposed remedy to address contaminated soil and groundwater at the property. If approved, the RAP will allow for an engineered cap with institutional and engineering controls and groundwater monitoring to address soil and groundwater contaminated primarily with pesticides.

This Community Notice provides information on:

- ❖ Why the Remedy is Necessary
- ❖ Background/Site History
- ❖ Proposed Remedial Action Plan (RAP)
- ❖ California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA)
- ❖ How You Can Participate
- ❖ Where to Find Project Documents
- ❖ Whom to Contact at DTSC for More Information
- ❖ Next Steps



You Are Invited to Participate

PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD
January 24, 2018 to February 23, 2018

DTSC encourages you to review and provide comments on the draft RAP and draft CEQA Negative Declaration. **All public comments must be postmarked or e-mailed by February 23, 2018 and sent to:**

Rania Zabaneh, Project Manager
Dept. of Toxic Substances Control
5796 Corporate Avenue
Cypress, CA 90630-4732
E-mail: Rania.Zabaneh@dtsc.ca.gov

COMMUNITY MEETING ANNOUNCEMENT

DTSC will host a Community Engagement Session to provide information about the draft RAP and accept public comments. To learn more about this project, please join us on:

Thursday, February 8, 2018
6:00 pm to 8:00 pm
Del Rio Branch Library Community Room
1501 "I" Street, Brawley, California
(ICOE Campus at corner of S. Eastern Ave.)

Why the Remedy Is Necessary?

Agricultural products with pesticides, formerly used at the site, were released into soil and groundwater. Thus, DTSC is requiring Chevron (formerly UnoCal) to develop and implement a remedy to protect public health and the environment. DTSC will oversee the remedial implementation activities and ensure the work is conducted in a manner that does not harm human health or the environment.

Background/Site History

The former PureGro Company formulated, stored, and distributed agricultural products from the 1940s to 2000. At that time, a warehouse, machine shop, storage areas, wash/rinse areas, underground and aboveground storage tanks, and other features were housed on the property. Buildings and other structures were demolished in 2001, and the site is now vacant and fenced. In 2006, with DTSC oversight, about 15,000 cubic yards of contaminated soil was excavated and removed from the vacant lot (owned by others) east of the property. These soils were stockpiled within a fenced area on the former PureGro property, covered to prevent dust generation, and monitored until a final remedy (this draft RAP) is approved and implemented.

Proposed Remedial Action Plan (RAP)

To address contaminated soil and groundwater, DTSC proposes an engineered cap with institutional and engineering controls, and groundwater monitoring.

- **Site Preparation:** About 500 cubic yards of soil currently stockpiled on site will be removed, transported, and disposed of off-site at an approved landfill. The remaining 14,500 cubic yards of soil that meet State and Federal standards for commercial/industrial use will be reused by spreading it over the property to prepare for the engineered cap construction.
- **Engineered Cap:** After the stockpiled soil is spread over the property it will be covered by a cap made of a durable liner placed between two protective layers of geotextile fabric. To protect the cap from wind, weather, and human contact, layers of sand (or equivalent drainage material) and stone will be placed over the liner materials.
- **Long-Term Monitoring:** Groundwater will continue to be monitored, and the engineered cap will regularly be inspected to ensure the remedy remains protective.



To implement the proposed remedy several measures for dust control and dust monitoring will be conducted during all construction work. For example, site work will stop on windy days or any time dust is observed moving beyond the work area. In addition, DTSC will provide oversight.

Key Features of the Proposed RAP

Protective – protects public health and environment, and provides for potential future land use



Effective – several layers of durable materials covered by sand and stone provide a safe and reliable barrier



Implementable – construction focuses on safety:



Controls Dust – dust is monitored and controlled during the project and work will stop on windy days and whenever needed

Shortest Time – RAP is designed to be of short duration to minimize nuisance and noise in the neighborhood



Fewer Trucks – RAP focuses on public safety and avoids significant local truck trips compared to other options



Monitored – Implementation of the RAP will be done under DTSC oversight: 5-year reviews will be conducted to ensure continued remedy protection and effectiveness



The draft Remedial Action Plan proposes the following for
Protection of Public Health & Safety During Project Implementation

Health & Safety Plan

- Detailed written plan to protect worker and community safety during field work
- Daily safety meetings and reporting
- All site personnel will be in compliance with environmental regulations

Dust & Noise Controls

- Continuous dust monitoring
- Implementing dust controls
- Limits on noise and hours of operation per City's ordinance

Transportation Plan

- Plan and route to minimize traffic in and near the neighborhood
- Limits on truck idling and parking
- Loose soil removed from truck tires before leaving the project site

California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA): CEQA is a state law that requires the lead agency to consider and disclose the environmental effects of its proposed actions before approving them. In compliance with CEQA, DTSC proposes a Negative Declaration, as the proposed remedial activities will not have a significant effect on human health and the environment.

How You Can Participate? You are invited to review and comment on the draft RAP and CEQA Negative Declaration, which are available at the Information Repositories listed below. The public comment period begins on January 24, 2018 and ends on February 23, 2018. **All public comments must be postmarked or e-mailed no later than February 23, 2018 and sent to: Rania Zabaneh, DTSC Project Manager, 5796 Corporate Avenue, Cypress, CA 90630, e-mail: Rania.Zabaneh@dtsc.ca.gov.**

COMMUNITY MEETING

Thursday, February 8, 2018 – from 6:00 pm to 8:00 pm

Del Rio Branch Library Community Room

1501 "I" Street, Brawley, California (ICOE Campus at corner of S. Eastern Ave.)

DTSC will host a Community Engagement Session to provide information on the proposed RAP and solicit your comments.

Where to Find Project Documents? Project documents are available for electronic review at https://www.envirostor.dtsc.ca.gov/public/profile_report.asp?global_id=13070097, or at the following Information Repositories:

Brawley Public Library

400 Main Street # 1

Brawley, CA 92227

(760) 344-1891

11:00 am – 8:00 pm Tuesday-Thursday

9:00 am – 5:00 pm Friday-Saturday

Department of Toxic Substances Control

Regional Records Office

5796 Corporate Avenue

Cypress, CA 90630

(714) 484-5336

8:00 am – 5:00 pm Monday-Friday **Call: Jone Barrio for an appointment**

All documents made available to the public by DTSC may be provided in an alternate format (i.e., Braille, large print, etc.) or in another language as appropriate, in accordance with State and Federal law. Please contact Phil McPhaul, DTSC Public Participation Specialist, for assistance with alternative information formats. **Meeting Accessibility:** If you require reasonable accommodation at the community meeting, please contact Phil McPhaul, DTSC Public Participation Specialist at (714) 484-5488, or via e-mail: Philip.McPhaul@dtsc.ca.gov, by January 30, 2018, for arrangements.

Whom to Contact at DTSC for more Information? If you have any questions about the project, please contact:

Rania Zabaneh

DTSC Project Manager

5796 Corporate Avenue

Cypress, CA 90630-4732

Rania.Zabaneh@dtsc.ca.gov

(714) 484-5479

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Phil McPhaul

DTSC Public Participation Specialist

5796 Corporate Avenue

Cypress, CA 90630-4732

Philip.McPhaul@dtsc.ca.gov

(714) 484-5488

Next Steps: If approved, RAP activities are anticipated to begin in winter 2018 and last approximately 14 weeks. Approved RAP activities will be implemented in accordance with an approved Health and Safety Plan.

**PUBLIC COMMENT FORM
30-DAY PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD
January 24, 2018 to February 23, 2018
DRAFT REMEDIAL ACTION PLAN (RAP) AND CEQA NEGATIVE DECLARATION
FORMER PUREGRO COMPANY FACILITY
1025 RIVER DRIVE, BRAWLEY, CA**

Please use this form to send in your written public comments on the draft Remedial Action Plan (RAP) and CEQA Negative Declaration. You can also ask to be added or removed from the former PureGro Company Facility (site) mailing list. If you know of anyone or any organizations that would like to be on the project mailing list, use this form to notify us. All comments are to be mailed to: Rania Zabaneh, DTSC Project Manager, Department of Toxic Substances Control, 5796 Corporate Avenue, Cypress, CA 90630-4732. You can also e-mail the comments to: Rania.Zabaneh@dtsc.ca.gov.

Reminder: All public comments on the draft RAP and/or CEQA Negative Declaration must be postmarked or e-mailed by February 23, 2018.

NAME: _____
AGENCY OR ORGANIZATION (if applicable): _____
ADDRESS: _____
TELEPHONE NUMBER: _____

Please add me to the former PureGro Company Facility Site mailing list.

Please remove me from the former PureGro Company Facility site mailing list.

Comments: _____

DTSC mailings are solely for the purpose of keeping persons informed of DTSC activities. Mailing lists are not routinely released to outside parties. However, they are considered public records and, if requested, may be subject to release.