

CALIFORNIA ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY ACT NEGATIVE DECLARATION

Department of Toxic Substances Control
Site Mitigation and Restoration Program
9211 Oakdale Avenue
Chatsworth, CA 91311

Subject: DRAFT FINAL MITIGATED

Project Title: Removal Action at LeFiell Manufacturing Company

State Clearinghouse No.:

Project Location: Santa Fe Springs

County: Los Angeles

Project Description:

The Department of Toxic Substances Control (DTSC) is proposing to approve a Removal Action Work Plan (RAW) for the LeFiell Manufacturing Company Facility (Site) pursuant to Chapter 6.8, Division 20, Sections 25323.1 and 25356.1 of the California Health & Safety Code. The RAW proposes remediation of soil, soil vapor and groundwater contaminated with volatile organic compounds (VOCs) to eliminate or reduce the risk to human health of site workers and the environment (groundwater). The RAW proposes to use air sparging (AS) to clean groundwater and soil vapor extraction (SVE).

The Site is an industrial property located at 13700-13770 Firestone Boulevard, in the City of Santa Fe Springs, California. The Site is bordered by Firestone Boulevard and Marquardt Avenue, with Interstate Highway 5 (I-5) immediately beyond to the northeast; Alondra Boulevard to the south, and Union Pacific Railroad to the southwest. The Site is located within an area encompassing other industrial properties. No residential properties exist adjacent to the site. The nearest residential property is located approximately 1/3-mile south of the site. LeFiell Manufacturing Company designs and manufactures precision tubular products for the commercial airplane, defense and aerospace industries with a smaller portion of operations involving the manufacture of masts for sailing vessels. Until LeFiell Manufacturing Company began operations at the Site in 1958, it was unimproved agricultural land.

The Site covers approximately 9.5 acres and fully developed with various manufacturing and support structures, as well as associated staging and parking areas. The southeastern portion of the property Site is currently leased to Budget Truck Rentals and is operated separately. The LeFiell Manufacturing Company facility occupies the northern approximately 7.5 acres of the property (corresponding to 13700 and 13750 Firestone Boulevard).

The Site is located in the southeastern part of Los Angeles County, in the northeast portion of the Central Plain of the Los Angeles Basin (the Basin). The Site is underlain by alluvial soils, which mostly consist of sand and silty sand to 15 feet below ground surface (bgs), and primarily silt and lesser amounts of clay to the maximum depth explored (approximately 36 feet bgs). Groundwater beneath the Site is first encountered at approximately 20 to 24 feet bgs. Since April 2011, groundwater elevations have fallen by an average of more than five feet across the Site. The shallow groundwater at the Site flows towards the east/northeast at an average rate of approximately 10 feet/year. The ground surface at the Site slopes gently to the east with an observed elevation difference of approximately seven feet. The elevation of the Site is approximately 70 feet above mean sea level.

Environmental investigations identified VOC impacts to soil, soil vapor and groundwater. The primary constituents of concern identified through these investigations are tetrachloroethene (PCE); trichloroethene (TCE); 1,1,1-trichloroethane (1,1,1-TCA); 1,1-dichloroethene (1,1-DCE); 1,1-dichloroethane (1,1-DCA); and cis-1,2-dichloroethene (cis-1,2-DCE). Site investigations included assessments of all of the known potential contaminant sources at the Site and resulted in identification of two areas of concern, which require remediation:

- Building F area, where PCE and 1,1,1-TCA were previously used in a former open-air degreaser; and
- Building H area, including an area near the currently operating TCE-based parts cleaner, and an area near the recently removed hydraulic press.

In addition, groundwater beneath certain areas of the Site, most notably downgradient from Building F, is also impacted with a variety of VOCs.

The RAW includes removal action objectives (RAOs) for impacted soil, soil gas and groundwater selected to mitigate the threat to human health and the environment in a manner consistent with current and anticipated future industrial use of the Site. The RAOs for the Site are as follows:

- Building F - reduce subsurface (soil, soil vapor and groundwater) concentrations and control migration of VOCs; thus reducing the potential for intrusion of VOCs into breathable air, as well as reducing the inhalation exposure and associated human health risk to levels within the established thresholds and/or risk management range; and
- Building H – reduce subsurface soil and soil vapor concentrations, thus reducing the VOCs available to impact the underlying groundwater.
- Groundwater (site-wide) – control the expansion of the groundwater plume and reduce the concentrations of VOCs in groundwater such that they no longer present a risk to either the human health or the environment.

The RAW proposes Soil Vapor Extraction (SVE) and air sparge (AS). SVE is based on extracting contaminants from impacted soil in vapor form. Typically, the extracted vapors are subsequently treated to control the associated air emissions. Treatment methods for extracted vapors most commonly include thermal destruction (oxidation) and adsorption by Granular Activated Carbon (GAC). Along with excavation and off-site disposal, SVE is one of the preferred remedial alternatives for clean-up of subsurface chlorinated VOC contamination, and is considered to be a presumptive remedy by both DTSC and Federal EPA for sites with chlorinated VOC impacts. A typical SVE system consists of soil vapor extraction well(s), a vacuum blower, thermal oxidizer or GAC vessels to control extracted vapors, conveyance piping for extracted vapors, and support appurtenances and instrumentation.

AS is the process of injecting air directly into groundwater. AS (sometimes also referred to as in-situ air stripping) promotes volatilization of contaminants from the groundwater into a vapor phase within the unsaturated zone (i.e., soil). As the contaminants move into the soil, a SVE system is usually used to remove vapors. A typical AS system consists of air sparge well(s), an air compressor, conveyance piping for compressed air, and support appurtenances and instrumentation.

The RAW evaluated the following remedial alternatives for groundwater remediation – pump-and-treat, dual-phase extraction, in-situ chemical oxidation, bioremediation, and AS.

As Lead Agency for the approval of the RAW DTSC prepared an Initial Study to address the potential environmental impacts associated with implementation of the proposed removal actions upon approval of the RAW.

Finding Of Significant Effect On Environment: None

Mitigation Measures: None

This Initial Study and the Subsequent Negative Declaration (ND) have been prepared to identify and evaluate the potential environmental impacts associated with implementing the RAW. The Initial Study did not identify any significant impacts or impacts that require additional mitigation measures to reduce impacts to a less than significant level; therefore, DTSC has determined that an Initial Study and Subsequent ND are the appropriate CEQA documents to address the RAW pursuant to Title 14, California Code of Regulations (California Code Regulations [CEQA Guidelines], Title 14, §15162). A Notice of Determination will be filed with the State of California Office of Planning and Research (OPR), State Clearinghouse.

Branch Chief Signature

Date

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