



Fact Sheet #6, August 2013

Former Athens Tank Farm, Community Open House Announcement

The purpose of this fact sheet is to invite you to a *Community Open House* and to update you on the on-site and off-site environmental investigation and cleanup activities related to the former Athens Tank Farm, a 122-acre site in the Willowbrook area of unincorporated Los Angeles County. The site includes the Earvin Magic Johnson Regional Park (“Park”), the Ujima Housing Corporation (UHC) properties, and the former Ujima Village apartment complex. This entire area is collectively referred to as the “site”. As you may know, environmental work being conducted has been under the regulatory lead of the Los Angeles Regional Water Quality Control Board (Regional Board) with support from the Department of Toxic Substances Control (DTSC). This is a co-lead role where the Regional Board is lead for site cleanup and enforcement and DTSC is lead on the required health risk assessment and any indoor air sampling activities, and is also lead on community outreach efforts. Under the oversight of the Regional Board, ExxonMobil is investigating soil, soil gas and groundwater impacts at the site.

How You Can Participate – Community Open House

In response to community concerns related to the former Athens Tank Farm site, DTSC has asked the *Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry (ATSDR)* and the *California Department of Public Health (CDPH)* to attend this *Community Open House* to listen to the community’s health and exposure concerns that have been voiced at past meetings. *ATSDR* and *CDPH* staff will be available to discuss their roles, ways of investigating health impacts at sites, and opportunities to improve community health. Please join us for this important community event.

COMMUNITY OPEN HOUSE ANNOUNCEMENT

Saturday, August 17th, 2013

Open House 1:00 PM – 5:00 PM

Enterprise Park Gymnasium

13055 Clovis Avenue, Los Angeles 90059-3432

DTSC invites you to a *Community Open House*. *The Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry (ATSDR)* and *the California Department of Public Health (CDPH)* will participate. The **Open House** will take place from **1:00 pm to 5:00 pm**. During this time there will be information tables where staff from the health agencies will be available to meet with you and hear any health concerns you may have related to the site. Spanish interpretation services will also be available. Habrá interpretación al español disponible.

For questions on this Open House event, please contact Stacey Lear, DTSC Public Participation Specialist at (714) 484-5354 direct or via e-mail: Stacey.Lear@dtsc.ca.gov.



Environmental Work

Historic operations at the former Athens Tank Farm oil storage facility resulted in detectable levels of petroleum hydrocarbons (which include volatile organic compounds (VOCs) such as hexane and benzene), lead and arsenic in soil, soil vapor and groundwater. Environmental work is ongoing to address environmental impacts from historical operations at this site.

A health risk assessment was performed using analytical results of the soil, soil gas, air and groundwater samples. The findings indicate the contamination detected at the site does not pose a health risk to Park users and people living in the area at this time. The Park drinking and irrigation water is safe. Park drinking and irrigation water is supplied by the Metropolitan Water District and Golden State Water Company and is obtained from different sources outside the community. It is tested regularly to ensure all federal and state drinking water standards are met.

On-site Activities

Agency Approved Phase 1 Remedial Action Plan (RAP); Implementation to Begin in Third Quarter 2013

In February 2013, the Regional Board approved the Phase 1 Remedial Action Plan (RAP) – or “cleanup plan” – after considering all public comments received during the fall 2013 public comment period. Implementation of the approved RAP cleanup plan will include excavation of limited areas of the site, along with the use of a cleanup technology known as Soil Vapor Extraction (SVE) for specific areas. SVE is the process of pulling out the vapor found in the spaces between soil particles (referred to as soil vapor) in order to remove volatile chemical compounds. After securing necessary permits for construction, installation of the Phase 1 SVE system is anticipated to begin in the third quarter of 2013, and will take about six (6) months to complete.

Sherriff Deputies will be on-site while work crews are installing the SVE system, during operation and maintenance visits, and during the excavation work. Traffic detours, safety fencing and other precautionary measures will be taken to ensure the safety of Park users and work crews during excavation and construction activities. Please follow any guidelines and safety precautions provided by the Regional Board and DTSC in Park signs or work notices near work areas.

ExxonMobil will prepare a report following the soil excavation, and will also submit periodic reports regarding SVE system operation to the Regional Board and DTSC. These reports will be available to the public.

Off-site Activities

Private Residence Air Sampling Results

At the direction of the Regional Board, ExxonMobil was ordered to conduct air quality sampling at thirty-six (36) residences to the east of the Park, due to their close proximity to elevated soil vapor levels associated with the former Athens Tank Farm facility. So far, five (5) of the residences have given access and were tested in summer/fall 2012 and again in winter 2013. The sampling at these residences included soil vapor samples taken at the residential properties, outdoor air samples taken in the vicinity of the residences and air samples taken from crawl spaces beneath and/or indoor air inside the residences. The samples were tested for methane, benzene and other VOCs. DTSC was on-site for the sampling and collected split samples so the two sets of results could be compared. Based on these sampling results, the Regional Board and DTSC have concluded that methane and VOCs detected in soil vapor are not

accumulating at unsafe levels in the crawl space at these five residences, and do not pose an indoor air health risk at this time. In addition, the Regional Board-approved methane and VOC monitoring program will continue to ensure no significant change in the extent and level of soil vapors around the site. Access agreements will be required prior to implementing the work on the remaining private residences.

Soil Vapor/Air Monitoring at Local Schools

The Regional Board also ordered ExxonMobil to conduct soil vapor investigation and/or air quality monitoring at four schools near the site: Centennial High School, Los Angeles Adventist Academy, New Designs Charter School and Animo Watts College Preparatory Academy. ExxonMobil will install soil vapor probes within school properties and/or test for the presence of methane in school buildings using hand-held monitoring equipment. Work is already in progress at Los Angeles Adventist Academy, and New Designs Charter School; activity at other schools is expected to commence once access has been granted. All work will be conducted on weekends and after hours to minimize disruption to school activities.

Completed Demolition Activities at former Ujima Village Apartment Complex

In August 2012, the Housing Authority of the County of Los Angeles commenced demolition activities on the Ujima Village apartment complex. Pre-demolition mitigation work within certain buildings began last August 2012 and building removal began the following month in September 2012. To protect worker and public safety, lead and asbestos containing materials were removed in accordance with regulatory standards. Demolition activities were completed in February 2013. The former Ujima Village apartment complex area is fenced to restrict public access. Information regarding the demolition plan can be found at AC Bilbrew Library, 150 E. El Segundo Boulevard, Los Angeles, CA 90061-2356.

Future Plans for Earvin Magic Johnson Regional Park

The Housing Authority of the County of Los Angeles has received approval from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development to revitalize the land previously used for Ujima Village and additional park and recreational uses. The Los Angeles County Department of Parks and Recreation anticipates beginning a community planning process for a master plan for the expanded Earvin “Magic” Johnson Regional Park in fall 2013.

Where to Find Project Documents

Copies of investigation results and other related project documents are available for public review at the following Information Repositories:

AC Bilbrew Library

150 East El Segundo Boulevard
Los Angeles, CA 90061-2356
(310) 538-3350 call for hours

Los Angeles Regional Water Quality Control Board

320 West 4th Street, Suite 200
Los Angeles, CA 90013-1105
(213) 576-6600 by appointment or (213) 576-6717 fax request

Dept. of Toxic Substances Control

Regional Records Office
5796 Corporate Avenue
Cypress, CA 90630-4732
(714) 484-5337
Mon – Fri: 8:00 am – 5:00 pm
Please contact Julie Johnson for an appointment

You may also view these documents electronically at www.geotracker.waterboards.ca.gov/search.asp.

Who to Contact at DTSC or the Regional Board for Information

If you have any questions about the project or project related activities please contact the following DTSC or Regional Board staff:

DTSC:

Maryam Tasnif-Abbasi, Project Manager
Dept. Toxic Substances Control
5796 Corporate Avenue
Cypress, CA 90630-4732
(714) 484-5489
E-mail: Maryam.Tasnif-abbasi@dtsc.ca.gov

Regional Board:

Teklewold Ayalew, Project Manager
Regional Water Quality Control Board
320 West 4th Street, Suite 200
Los Angeles, CA 90013-1105
(213) 576-6739
E-mail: tayalew@waterboards.ca.gov

Stacey Lear, Public Participation Specialist
Dept. Toxic Substances Control
5796 Corporate Avenue
Cypress, CA 90630-4732
(714) 484-5354
E-mail: Stacey.Lear@dtsc.ca.gov

For more information about the former Athens Tank Farm site visit www.EnviroStor.dtsc.ca.gov. For more information about DTSC, please visit our website at www.dtsc.ca.gov. ExxonMobil established a toll-free information line for project information. Please call 1-866-278-7207 to access additional information from ExxonMobil.

Notice to Hearing Impaired Individuals

TDD users can use the California Relay Service at 1-888-877-5378 to reach Ms. Stacey Lear, Public Participation Specialist at (714) 484-5354 or toll-free 1-866-495-5651.



Stacey Lear, Public Participation Specialist

Department of Toxic Substances Control

5796 Corporate Avenue

Cypress, CA 90630-4732

Inside: Information on the former Athens Tank Farm Site

For more information about the DTSC, please visit our web site at www.dtsc.ca.gov