

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.

ASCON LANDFILL SITE: FINAL REMEDY UPDATE

INFORMATION ABOUT PROJECT MILESTONES AND NEXT STEPS

ASCON LANDFILL SITE, 21641 MAGNOLIA STREET, HUNTINGTON BEACH

This Community Update provides information about a public workshop, an update, and notifies the surrounding community, public, and applicable agencies about the Final Remedy (final cleanup) work at the Ascon Landfill Site (Ascon). The Site is located at 21641 Magnolia Street (corner of Magnolia Street and Hamilton Avenue) in Huntington Beach, California. The Final Remedy field work began in January 2019.

Why the Public Workshop: Our agency, the Department of Toxic Substances Control (DTSC), is hosting this **Public Workshop** to inform the surrounding community on the progress of the cleanup work, the next phases, and to answer any community questions. In response to community concern, on May 15th, 2019, DTSC attended a meeting hosted by the City of Huntington Beach to respond to complaints on various issues such as odor, dust and public health. DTSC has heard the community's feedback from this meeting and is evaluating potential options.

The Final Remedy was approved by DTSC and is being conducted under permits with the City of Huntington Beach, the South Coast Air Quality Management District, and the California State Water Resources Control Board. As the lead regulatory agency for remedial work conducted at the Site, DTSC certified the Final Environmental Impact Report (EIR) and approved the Remedial Action Plan (RAP) for Ascon in June 2015.

Final Remedy of the Ascon Landfill Site: In the first quarter of 2019, the project team mobilized, vegetation clearing work was conducted, a buttress was constructed in the northern and eastern portions of Lagoons 4 and 5 (near Hamilton Avenue), concrete was collected from throughout the Site and crushed for future use onsite (i.e., reinforcement layer), and excavation and backfill occurred.

Current and upcoming work includes:

- Excavation and removal of waste from areas near the Site perimeter, and reconsolidation to the Site's interior, changing the appearance of the Site;
- Waste removal from Pit F, involving excavation under a negative-pressure enclosure (tent);
- Environmental cap installation and vegetation; and
- Installation of perimeter fencing, seeding, final security measures and institutional controls for monitoring / maintenance.

PUBLIC WORKSHOP



Thursday, June 6, 2019
6:00 pm – 8:00 pm

Edison High School - Cafeteria
21400 Magnolia Street
Huntington Beach, CA 92646

DTSC staff will be available to talk with you, answer questions, listen to your concerns, and provide more information about the next steps.

24-Hour Public HOTLINE: A 24-Hour NON-EMERGENCY Public Hotline, **(714) 388-1825**, is established for this work by the project team to ensure questions or concerns from the public can be addressed promptly. This is not an emergency number. Calls received by the Ascon project team and their responses are documented and shared with DTSC. Emergency calls should be directed to 911.

In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), if you need assistance to participate in the June 6, 2019, **Public Workshop**, please contact Stacey Lear via e-mail: Stacey.Lear@dtsc.ca.gov, no later than 48 hours prior to the Public Workshop to ensure reasonable arrangements and accessibility.



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There is ongoing air quality monitoring and odor and dust mitigation during field work, including grading. Air quality data is reviewed and posted by DTSC at www.EnviroStor.dtsc.ca.gov.

Frequently Asked Questions & Answers

Q. What work has already been done at Ascon?

Past activities since 2002 have included extensive field investigations, interior roadway improvements, installation of storm water best management practices, weed abatement, Site maintenance, groundwater monitoring, improvements to Site security, and the following field actions.

Lagoon Solidification and Oil Well Abandonment: Completed Spring 2018, including solidification of select materials and the plugging and permanent sealing of two 1920s era oil wells.

Interim Removal Measure: Completed spring 2011, including the removal and disposal of approximately 98,000 tons of tarry waste materials from the southwest interior of the Site.

Emergency Action: Completed in early 2006, work addressing structural concerns with the earthen berm along Hamilton Avenue, prompted by 200-year rain events. Approximately 62,000 tons of tarry waste materials were removed and disposed of at an approved landfill during this work.

Q. Is the odor harmful to public health?

Because of the nature of the petroleum material at the Site, some odor is anticipated during work activities. Odors that the community may detect are not expected to pose a health risk. Several different odor control measures are taken including the use of a non-toxic odor suppressant foam. An air monitoring program is implemented to ensure air quality during field work activities. The public is asked to call the project hotline if they have an odor concern, 714-388-1825.

Q. Will the Site remedial work cause deterioration of air quality in the surrounding neighborhood?

Air quality is monitored using two types of measurements: real-time on-site monitoring and off-site laboratory analysis. Real-time measurements of odor, dust, and volatile organic compounds (VOCs) are used for the immediate evaluation of the need for more air quality management actions, including stopping work if necessary. Air samples are also collected through field operation hours and sent to an off-site laboratory for in-depth analysis, and the results are available on DTSC's EnviroStor website.

DTSC staff visits the Site on a regular basis, frequently unscheduled, to observe Site work and check for any potential impact to the surrounding community. DTSC staff also conducts real-time screening of air quality, including dust and VOCs in the community.

SCAQMD inspectors are available (1-800-CUT-SMOG, or 1-800-288-7684) to visit the Site periodically and upon public requests to ensure compliance with applicable permits.

Q. What is being done to control potential dust leaving the Site into the neighborhood?

Active excavation areas, excavated material, and earthen roadways are watered frequently to suppress and minimize potential dust emissions. Dust monitoring is conducted continuously during excavation and grading activities, directly in the areas of excavation or earth moving, and at the Site perimeter. Mitigation actions are implemented as needed, including the use of foams and other dust suppressants. In addition, no excavation or grading will occur under high wind conditions, as defined by the SCAQMD and determined by onsite measurement.

The Ascon project is unable to mitigate dust generated by other nearby projects. Residents observing dust believed to be related to the Ascon project are encouraged to call the project hotline, 714-388-1825.

Q. How is storm water from the Site handled?

The Site operates under the Santa Ana Regional Water Quality Control Board's General Construction NPDES permit. The surface runoff from rainfalls is directed to the detention basins, and then evaporated or discharged to the City's storm drain system when accumulated to sufficient volume. The recent contact water that had ponded in the lagoons was treated and discharged to the sewer system with a permit from Orange County Sanitation District. Monitoring and sampling are conducted per the Site's Construction Storm Water Pollution Prevention Plan.

Q. What is the haul route for materials being transported from the Site?

The City of Huntington Beach-approved haul route avoids nearby schools and minimizes traffic near residential neighborhoods. Entering: haul trucks travel south on Beach Boulevard, make a left onto Pacific Coast Highway, a left turn onto Newland Avenue, right turn onto Hamilton Avenue, and a right to enter the Site. Exiting: Haul trucks departing the Site — after covering, inspection and manifest check for the export trucks — will use the southern-most gate on Magnolia Street, turn right on Magnolia Street to Pacific Coast Highway, turn right to travel north on Pacific Coast Highway to Beach Boulevard, and make a right onto Beach Boulevard to continue north to the 405 Freeway. Site workers will be positioned with flags at the entrance and exit gates during hauling activity to assist with pedestrian and vehicle safety.



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Q. How long will it take to implement the Remedy? What happens afterward?

The Final Remedy is anticipated to take approximately 18 months to complete, starting in January 2019 and ending in 2020. Permanent stewardship and Site maintenance will continue after the Final Remedy is deemed complete by DTSC. The surface of the environmental cap will be planted with drought-tolerant vegetation. Periodic maintenance of the vegetated cover will be conducted. Groundwater monitoring will be performed as part of permanent maintenance.

Information Repository Locations

Project documents including the approved RAP and California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA)-related documents are available for public review at the following Information Repositories:

Huntington Beach Central Library

7111 Talbert Avenue
Huntington Beach, CA 92648-1232
(714) 842-4481
Monday: 1 pm – 9 pm
Tues., Wed., Thurs: 9 am – 9 pm
Fri., Sat.: 9 am – 5 pm
Sunday: 1 pm – 5 pm

Banning Branch Library

9281 Banning Avenue
Huntington Beach, CA 92646-8302
(714) 375-5005
Tues., Wed., Thurs: 9 am – 6 pm
Fri., Sat.: 9 am – 5 pm
Sun., Mon.: Closed

Department of Toxic Substances Control

5796 Corporate Avenue
Cypress, CA 90630-4732
(714) 484-5336
Mon. – Fri.: 8 am – 5 pm
Please contact Ms. Jone Barrio at the above number to make an appointment.

Who to Contact at DTSC for More Information: For questions about the Ascon Landfill Site, please contact the following DTSC staff:

Scarlett Xihong Zhai, DTSC Project Manager
5796 Corporate Avenue
Cypress, CA 90630-4732
E-mail: Xihong.Zhai@dtsc.ca.gov
(714) 484-5316

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

Additional Information Sources

Site documents are also available for electronic review on DTSC’s EnviroStor website at www.EnviroStor.dtsc.ca.gov. Enter “Huntington Beach” as the City and select “Ascon Landfill” in the list of projects within the scroll-down menu. Then click on “Ascon Landfill” again on the map (pop-up window). Then, click on the “Activities” and “Community Involvement” tabs for a list of documents available for review. You may also visit www.asconhb.com for Site information and updates.

If you would like DTSC to notify you via e-mail when new EnviroStor documents, such as workplans and reports, are available online for the Site, please click on the “Sign up for E-mail Alerts” link to the right of the Site name and complete the sign-up form.

Media Inquiries

Sanford Nax, Public Information Officer
Department of Toxic Substances Control
P.O. Box 806
Sacramento, CA 95812-0806
(916) 327-6114
E-mail: Sanford.Nax@dtsc.ca.gov

For more information about the Ascon Landfill Site visit www.EnviroStor.dtsc.ca.gov, or www.ascon-hb.com. For more information about our department, please visit our website at www.dtsc.ca.gov.

Notice to Hearing Impaired Individuals

TTY users can use the California Relay Service at 711 in state or 1-800-855-7100 outside California. You may also call (714) 484-5354 to reach Stacey Lear, DTSC Public Participation Specialist or toll-free 1-866-495-5651.





State of California
Department of Toxic Substances Control
Attn: Stacey Lear
5796 Corporate Avenue
Cypress, CA 90630