



Pemaco Superfund Site Update Planning, Design and Community Input

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency • Region IX • San Francisco

Maywood, California

July 2005

This fact sheet was prepared by the United States Environmental Protection Agency (U.S. EPA) to update the community on the progress made at the Pemaco Superfund site located at 5050 E. Slauson Blvd. in Maywood, CA (see Figure 1).

The Pemaco Site is a former chemical blending facility that was contaminated during past industrial practices. U.S. EPA has studied the extent of the contamination at Pemaco and in March 2004, released a report to the community called The Pemaco Proposed Plan describing the results of these studies and suggesting a way to clean it up. In April and May of 2004, U.S. EPA held two public meetings to share the findings and cleanup options with the community.

Several community members expressed concerns about the proposed cleanup systems and requested additional meetings to review and discuss all cleanup alternatives with U.S. EPA and other technical experts. After several meetings with community representatives, elected officials, technical experts and other interested parties, U.S. EPA chose the preferred cleanup

At a Glance...

- A Record of Decision (ROD) for Pemaco was signed on January 13, 2005, after several community meetings and community concerns were considered.
- U.S. EPA will hold a community information session to share project details and to hear from the community. Please join us:

Saturday, July 23, 10 a.m. to 12 p.m.
Maywood Community Center
4801 E. 58th St., Maywood, CA

- Draft Design documents are ready for review at the Maywood Public Library.
- The City of Maywood has begun construction on the neighboring portions of the park.

option described in the Pemaco Proposed Plan and signed the Record of Decision (ROD) on January 13, 2005. In response to community concerns, U.S. EPA added extra safety measures to the remedy (see the box, Summary of the Chosen Cleanup for Pemaco Described in the ROD, on the next page). If you would like a copy of the Proposed Plan or the ROD, please contact U.S. EPA staff or visit the Pemaco information repository at the Maywood César Chávez Public Library.

Next Steps at Pemaco: Planning and Design

U.S. EPA is currently in the design phase of the Pemaco cleanup. During this phase, the U.S. EPA and contractors prepare the cleanup plans, which include design documents and drawings for the Electrical Resistive Heating (ERH) System and Soil Vapor Extraction (SVE) system, engineered drawings for the plans, health and safety plan for workers, and timelines. The design documents

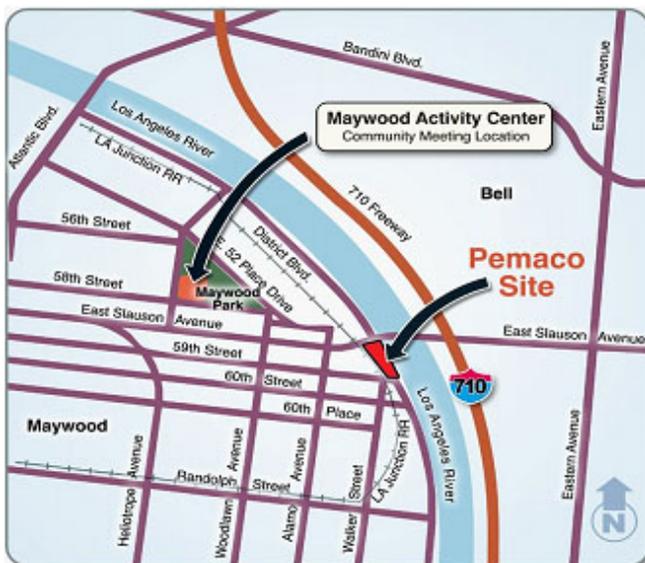


Figure 1: Location of Pemaco Superfund Site

show the locations of the extraction wells, location and components of the treatment plant, and piping diagrams depicting how contaminated vapors and groundwater will be transported to the appropriate treatment equipment. **Construction on subsurface piping and groundwater wells will begin this summer. Construction on the ERH system and the treatment plant will begin in early fall.**

Opportunities for Community Participation

During this planning and design phase, the U.S. EPA encourages members of the community to participate in upcoming community meetings and ask questions. U.S. EPA welcomes telephone calls and individual or group meetings upon request. A draft design plan for the SVE system and the groundwater treatment system has been prepared and is available for review at the Maywood Public Library. A copy was sent to community representatives in May. A second design document for the ERH system will be prepared and will also be placed in the library for review this fall. U.S. EPA is having the first of a series of community open houses and informational meetings where people can drop in and get additional information and ask questions.



See box on Page 1 for location information.

Summary of the Chosen Cleanup for Pemaco described in the ROD

- for the surface and near-surface soils, a soil cover and revegetation
- for the upper vadose soils and perched groundwater, high-vacuum dual-phase extraction [HVDPE] (This process will use ultraviolet oxidation [UV Ox] and granular activated carbon [GAC] for water treatment, and flameless thermal oxidation [FTO] and GAC for treatment of vapors.)
- for the lower vadose soils and exposition groundwater, electrical resistance heating [ERH] with vapor extraction [VE], vacuum-enhanced groundwater extraction, groundwater pump and treat [Groundwater P&T] and monitored natural attenuation (MNA) (This process will use UV Ox and GAC for water treatment, and FTO and GAC for treatment of vapors.)

EPA added the following safety measures based on community concerns:

- EPA will conduct indoor air sampling and additional vapor monitoring on Walker Avenue and 59th Street during FTO operations,
- EPA will design the FTO unit so that a heat exchanger and a vapor-phase GAC adsorption unit will be installed to the post-exhaust side of the FTO unit to reduce the possibility of dioxin being released to the environment, and
- Thorough emission monitoring of the FTO unit will be performed and vapor samples will be tested for dioxins and furans along with other analytes.

What contamination was found at Pemaco and what does it mean to me?

- Contamination was found in three major zones - shallow soil, shallow groundwater and deep groundwater.
- The contamination at Pemaco is not currently affecting drinking water wells.
- No one is currently being exposed or affected by the contamination at Pemaco.
- U.S. EPA is cleaning up the contamination to prevent future exposure risks to health and to clean groundwater.

For more information

You can look at **U.S. EPA's Web site**.
Go to: <http://yosemite.epa.gov/r9/sfund/techdoc.nsf>
and choose Pemaco.
For other site references, go to:
<http://www.epa.gov/region9/waste/sfund/superfundsites.html>



Also, there is an information repository at

The César Chávez Public Library

4323 E. Slauson Avenue
Maywood, CA 90270
(323) 771-8600

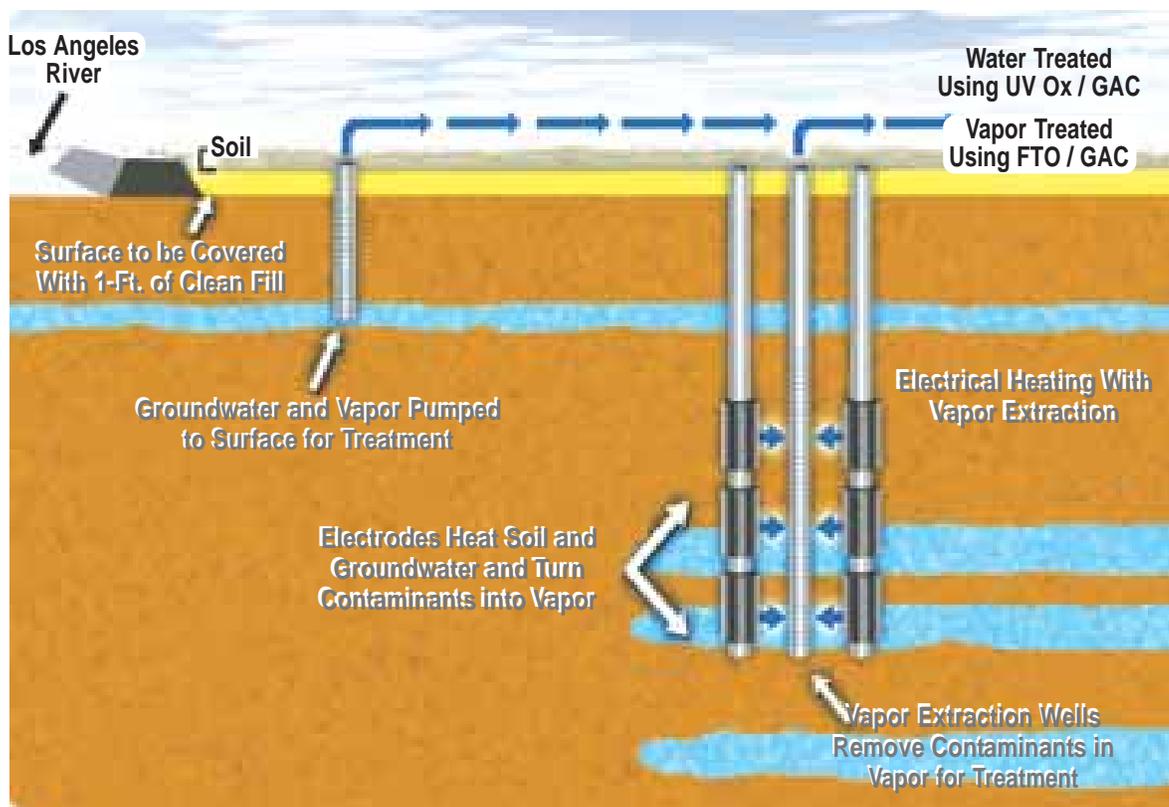


Figure 2: Diagram of finished treatment system and piping

Who to contact at U.S. EPA

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Para su conveniencia, una versión traducida en español de este boletín está disponible y se ha enviado para acompañar la versión en inglés.

For your convenience, a Spanish-translated version of this newsletter is available and has been sent to accompany the English version.

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