



# GTE Operations Incorporated

Progress Report #2

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Region IX • San Francisco, California • April 2000

## Introduction

This is the second in a series of progress reports by the United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) for current and future residents at the California Station, Town Square and Whisman Park properties in Mountain View about ongoing cleanup activities. Currently, GTE Operations, Incorporated (GTE) is working with EPA to continue cleaning up environmental releases from past operations. In 1999, GTE Government Systems was sold to General Dynamics.

## Background

In November 1998, EPA held a public meeting for residents of the properties mentioned above, to describe cleanup activities which include the remediation of volatile organic compounds (VOCs) in groundwater found to be above EPA standards. The primary VOCs in the groundwater are trichloroethylene (TCE) and cis-1,2-dichloroethylene (DCE).

**The groundwater is not used for drinking water. Your drinking water is safe; it comes from the Hetch Hetchy Valley and from groundwater wells in Mountain View that are not located on this property.**

## Ongoing Cleanup and Current Activities

Since the public meeting in 1998, EPA has worked with GTE to continue operating the groundwater extraction and treatment

system to reduce the levels of TCE in groundwater. Throughout most areas of the site, TCE levels have declined.

In the area with the highest measured concentrations of TCE, a new extraction well was constructed and began operating in December 1998 (Figure 1). Since then, three rounds of soil-gas sampling have been conducted in this area to evaluate how effectively the extraction well has reduced TCE concentra-

tions. (Soil-gas sampling measures the amount of chemical that has vaporized in between soil particles.) Although levels of TCE in soil-vapor have generally declined, there has not been as significant a decrease as expected.

As a precautionary measure, EPA will provide indoor air sampling at pre-selected residences to make sure that contaminants from the groundwater are not a problem in these homes. (These homes are located in the areas with the highest measured concentrations of TCE in groundwater and vapors beneath the property.)

By the time you receive this fact sheet, EPA will have already

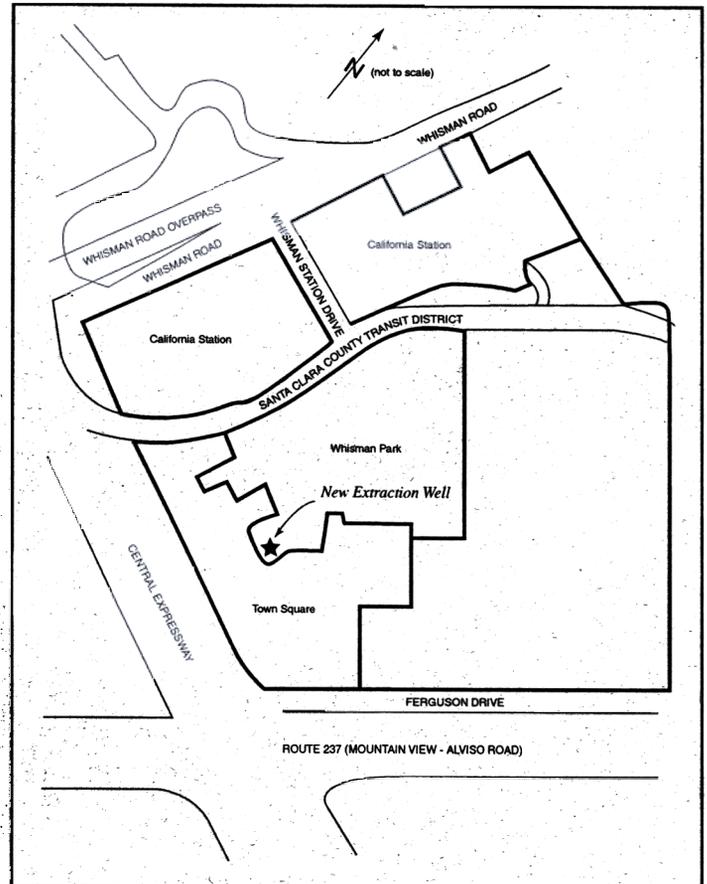


Figure 1: Location of New Extraction Well

contacted these residences by mail. So, if you have not been directly contacted by someone from our agency, your home is not one of the pre-selected residences. To keep you informed, EPA will announce a meeting in the next 6-8 weeks for all residents of the California Station, Town Square and Whisman Park areas. At the meeting, EPA will present the results of the in-home air sampling and other ongoing cleanup activities and respond to your questions and comments.

Throughout this effort, GTE will continue to monitor and operate its groundwater extraction and treatment system site-wide.

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## INSIDE: ONGOING CLEANUP & CURRENT ACTIVITIES AT GTE OPERATIONS

### For More Information

If you have any questions or would like more information, please contact:

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Or you may leave a message on EPA's toll-free information line:

*(800) 231-3075*

and we will return your call.