



FRONTIER FERTILIZER SUPERFUND SITE

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency \$ Region 9 \$ San Francisco, CA \$ April 2009

Update: EPA Will Sample Groundwater and Test Soil Gas

Beginning in April 2009, the U. S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) plans to collect groundwater and soil gas samples near the intersection of Caricia Drive and Alegre Way, along the bike path south of Mace Ranch and in the Target Retail Development Project (Target Parcel). EPA is completing the fieldwork in and adjacent to the Target Parcel to further investigate 1,2,3-trichloropropane (TCP) discovered in recent groundwater samples east of the planned Target building. TCP is a man-made chemical associated with the formulation of pesticide products.

The field activities will include sampling groundwater at the water table approximately 45 feet below ground surface (bgs) in eight locations in the Target Parcel and installing two separate soil gas sample probes (one at about six feet and the other at about 20 feet bgs) near two monitoring wells in the Mace Ranch neighborhood and in twenty-five locations along the bike path (see map). EPA will use direct push technology to install the soil gas probes and collect the groundwater samples. A soil gas sample measures organic chemicals between the ground surface and the water table. Soil gas is the preferred method for detecting TCP and other Site chemicals of concern (COC) in soil because these compounds are volatile organic compounds (VOCs), meaning that they evaporate easily. Soil gas measurements will help EPA determine whether trace amounts of COCs present in groundwater can move up into overlying soils. Once the results are known, EPA will work with the State of California and other stakeholders to determine what, if any, additional steps will be necessary to complete this investigation.

Why are we doing this?

As part of an administrative agreement with EPA, Target, Inc. completed groundwater sampling at the planned building location and throughout the Target Parcel. EPA's long-term and Target's more recent chemical contamination studies identified TCP in two of 40 groundwater sample locations in the Target Parcel and did not reveal any contamination at

the Target building location itself. The groundwater samples with TCP were found in the Target Parcel in two shallow groundwater zones at approximately 40 and 70 feet bgs; these zones are not currently used as drinking water sources. The TCP was found at 17 micrograms/liter (ug/l) (at 44 feet bgs) and 16 ug/l (at 75 feet bgs). In EPA's 2006 Record of Decision, EPA established a TCP groundwater cleanup value of 0.5 ug/l.

In addition to investigating the extent of TCP groundwater contamination in the Target Parcel, EPA is taking the opportunity to collect soil gas measurements in the Mace Ranch neighborhood and along the bike path to update our previous studies.

What are we going to do?

It will take EPA a couple of weeks to collect the groundwater samples and to install the soil gas monitoring probes at the locations shown on the map. About a one foot square area of grass along the sidewalk near the existing monitoring well locations will be cleared to do the work. Once installed, the cover for each probe will rest below grass level and just above the ground surface similar to the nearby monitoring wells. The installation of the soil gas probes will be noisy at times and vehicle, bicycle, and pedestrian traffic may be re-routed temporarily while this work is being done. EPA will work to minimize inconvenience to residents. The installations will occur on a weekday between 7:00 am to 7:00 pm, in accordance with the City of Davis ordinance.

What happens next?

EPA will evaluate the data from these investigations and work with the State of California, to determine if any new action is required. We will continue to seek comment from the Frontier Fertilizer Site Oversight Group (FFSOG) as we move forward with our studies.

If you have questions or concerns, please contact:

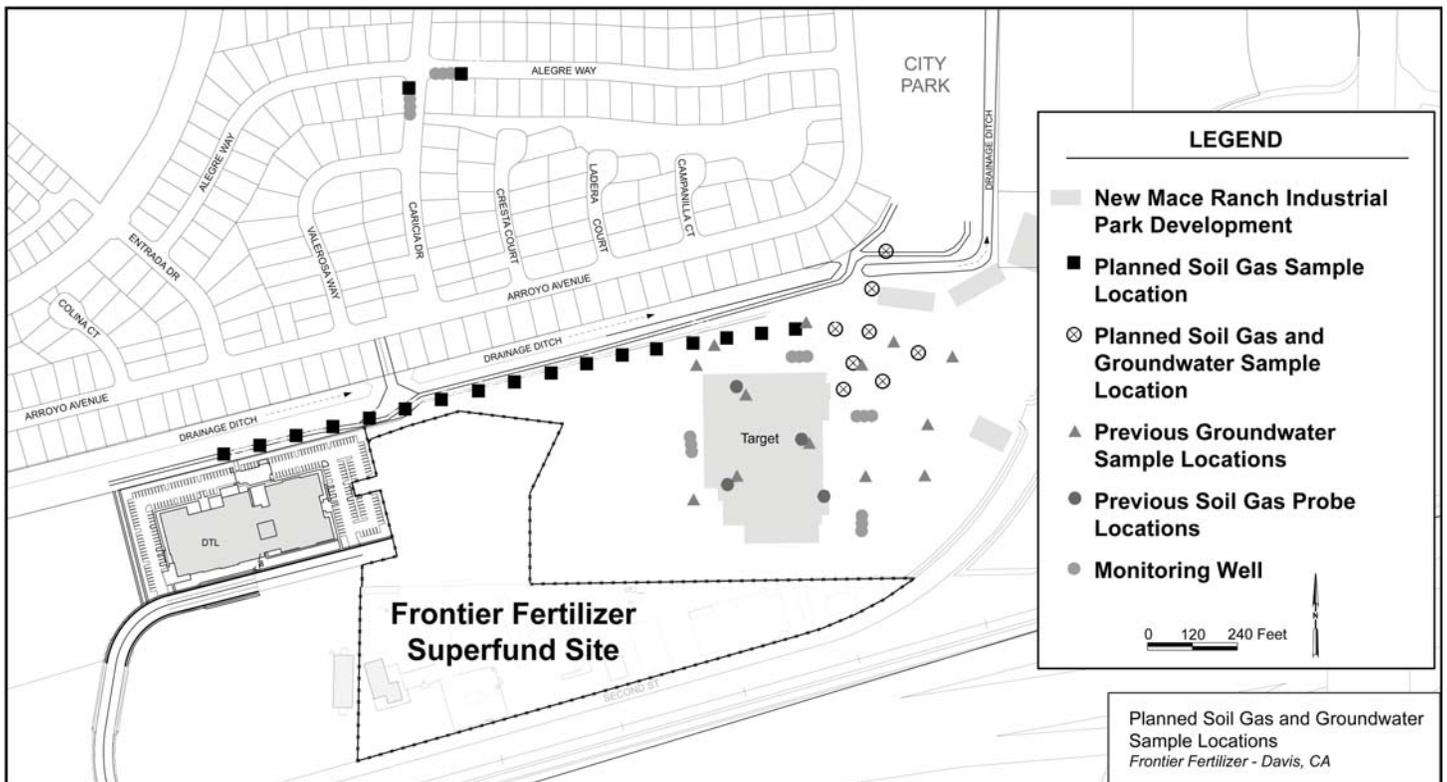
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You also can leave messages with each of them by calling EPA's toll-free number **1 (800) 231-3075**.





Frontier Fertilizer Superfund Site EPA Starts Soil Sampling In April 2009

Access to Site Information and Repositories



For more information, please visit the Region 9 Superfund Site Information web page: www.epa.gov/region09/FrontierFertilizer

For detailed information, visit the libraries listed below:

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