

COMMUNITY Notice

The mission of DTSC is to protect California's people and environment from harmful effects of toxic substances through the restoration of contaminated resources, enforcement, regulation and pollution prevention.

HOLLISTER PG&E MANUFACTURED GAS PLANT (MGP) SIXTH AND SALLY STREETS, HOLLISTER, CALIFORNIA PROPOSED LOW-THREAT UNDERGROUND STORAGE TANK CASE CLOSURE PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD: March 25, 2013 THROUGH MAY 23, 2013

The Department of Toxic Substances Control (DTSC) invites you to review and comment on the proposed closure request of the underground storage tank (UST) case for the former Hollister Manufactured Gas Plant site at Sixth and Sally Streets in Hollister, California (the Site). The Site is owned and operated as a service center and storage facility by Pacific Gas and Electric Company (PG&E).

The chemicals of concern (COC) in soil and groundwater at the Site are related to the former gasoline UST. Groundwater impacts from the former gasoline UST do not extend more than 100 feet down gradient from the former UST location and are within the Site boundary. Soil impacts extend down to groundwater, which is around 50 feet below ground surface.

The former gasoline UST case at the Site meets the general and media-specific criteria described in the State Water Board's Low-Threat UST Case Closure Policy and poses a low threat to human health, safety and the environment. No further corrective action is needed and the Site is appropriate for closure, per Health and Safety Code section 25296.10.

SITE HISTORY AND BACKGROUND

The Site is about 1.2 acres in size and consists of a PG&E service center and storage facility enclosed by a chain-link fence and approximately 3,000 square feet of open sidewalk space adjacent to Seventh Street and Sally Street.

PG&E installed the UST in 1968 to store gasoline. In 1988, a 2,000-gallon UST located near the western property boundary was removed. The UST was used to store leaded and unleaded gasoline. The pipe fittings associated with the UST were found to be loose, resulting in a release of gasoline over time.

SITE INVESTIGATION

Between 1988 and 1990, PG&E conducted site investigations and found soil and groundwater in the vicinity of the former UST had been impacted by gasoline-

Public Comment Period



**Beginning March 25, 2013
ending May 23, 2013**

DTSC is accepting public comments on the proposed underground storage tank (UST) case closure. DTSC will hold a 60-day public comment period. All comments must be postmarked or received by April 30, 2013. Mail written comments to:

Henry Chui
700 Heinz Avenue
Berkeley, California 94710
henry.chui@dtsc.ca.gov
(510) 540-3759

DTSC has not scheduled a hearing for the proposed UST case closure. However, upon receiving requests from the public, DTSC will consider conducting a public meeting.

related residue. PG&E estimated 7,000 to 8,000 gallons of gasoline had been released through a leaking pipeline system. A soil vapor extraction system was installed in 1989 to treat impacts from the gasoline leakage. The extraction system operated until 1991. Based on the results of soil sampling, the Hollister Fire Department (HFD) approved case closure in 1992 and requested destruction of all soil vapor extraction (SVE) and groundwater monitoring wells. The wells were destroyed in 1994. The Regional Water Quality Control Board, Central Coast Region (RWQCB) agreed with the case closure in 1998.

In May 2009, PG&E assessed current site conditions related to the former gasoline UST. Groundwater samples were collected from seven soil borings. Gasoline-related volatile organic compounds (VOCs) were detected in five of the seven samples. PG&E submitted these results to the RWQCB in a report dated July 2009. RWQCB requested investigations to define the soil and groundwater impacts from the former gasoline UST release and provided groundwater cleanup goals. PG&E requested DTSC be the lead oversight agency for the UST-related impacts because PG&E had recently entered into a Voluntary Cleanup Agreement (VCA) for the Site with DTSC. The RWQCB agreed to this request.

LOW-THREAT UST CASE CLOSURE

PG&E evaluated current site conditions based on the State Water Board's Low-Threat UST Case Closure Policy and presented the evaluation in a Closure Request submitted to DTSC in December 2012. DTSC determined this UST case meets general and media-specific criteria established in the Policy. Based on this determination, DTSC proposes to close this UST case in accordance with the Policy.

CALIFORNIA ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY ACT

In accordance with the *California Environmental Quality Act* (CEQA), DTSC has prepared a CEQA Initial Study (IS)

and Negative Declaration (ND) including an evaluation of potential impacts the proposed closure may have on the environment. DTSC has determined the project does not have the potential to cause significant environmental impacts under CEQA. The CEQA IS and ND are available for public review at the information repositories listed below.

NEXT STEPS

DTSC will review all public comments received during the public comment period prior to making a final decision on the UST case closure. A public hearing may be held should a statement of opposition and a request for a public hearing be made. DTSC will provide a Notice of Decision and Response to Comments as our official response to the public comments received. This document will list the comments received and how they were considered prior to making a final decision on the UST case closure. These documents will become part of the project Administrative Record and a copy will be placed in the information repositories and sent to all those who submitted comments.

Within 30 days after closure of the comment period, and if there is no revision of DTSC determination based on the comments received, DTSC will issue a uniform closure letter for the UST case, pursuant to Health and Safety Code section 25296.10.

Should the case closure request be approved, PG&E will destroy the three former UST groundwater monitoring wells installed at the Site. Well destruction and related waste disposal will be conducted in accordance with local, state and regulatory requirements.

INFORMATION REPOSITORIES

The UST case closure request, CEQA, IS, ND and related project documents can be reviewed at:

Department of Toxic Substances Control

Berkeley Regional Office
700 Heinz Avenue
Berkeley, California 94710
File room: (510) 540-3800

San Benito County Free Library

470 Fifth Street
Hollister, California 95023
(831) 636-4107

You may also access this information through the internet on the DTSC EnviroStor website: <http://www.envirostor.dtsc.ca.gov/public/>. You can search by City or select "Site/Facility Search" and enter 201784 in the "Site Code" search field.

DTSC CONTACT INFORMATION

Please contact any of the following individuals with questions or concerns you may have regarding the project.

For questions regarding the draft Response Plan, contact:

Henry Chui
DTSC Project Manager
Berkeley Regional Office
700 Heinz Avenue
Berkeley, California 97410
(510) 540-3759
henry.chui@dtsc.ca.gov

For questions regarding public participation, contact:

Veronica Lopez-Villasenor
DTSC Public Participation Specialist
Sacramento Regional Office
8800 Cal Center Drive
Sacramento, California 95826
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For questions from the media, contact:

Charlotte Fadipe
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