Department of Toxic Substances Control

Edwin F. Lowry, Director
700 Heinz Avenue, Bldg. F, Suite 200
Berkeley, California 94710-2721

Winston H. Hickox
Secretary for
Environmental
Protection

Gray Davis
Governor

June 29, 1999

Mr. Raymond C. Pang
Caltrans
111 Grand Avenue
P.O. Box 23660
Oakland, CA 94623-0660

Dear Mr. Pang:

GENERAL TRANSPORTATION SITE, PORTION OF 3211 WOOD STREET, CYPRESS RECONSTRUCTION PROJECT, OAKLAND, CALIFORNIA

The Department of Toxic Substances Control (DTSC) has received the June 23, 1999 memorandum from Ms. Celia McCuaig to Ms. Marta Bayol, which notes for Caltrans' Right-of Way records that the Site is restricted to freeway-type uses. This memorandum was required in DTSC's April 16, 1997 letter as chemicals levels at the Site were compared to health-based criteria developed for the Cypress Freeway Realignment Project based upon freeway use exposure scenarios.

With receipt of this document, DTSC determines that no further action is necessary with respect to investigation and remediation of hazardous substances at the portion of the 3211 Wood Street property obtained by Caltrans and evaluated in the *Preliminary Endangerment Assessment, General Transportation, 3211 Wood Street, Oakland, California* prepared by TRC Environmental Solutions, Inc. and dated June 1995. This property is shown on the enclosed Figure. As with any real property, if previously unidentified contamination is discovered at the Site, additional assessment, investigation and/or cleanup may be required.

If you have any questions regarding this determination, please contact Janet Naito at (510) 540-3833.

Sincerely,

Barbara J. Cook, P.E., Chief
Northern California
Coastal Cleanup Operations Branch

Enclosure

cc: Mr. Derek Lee
Regional Water Quality Control Board
San Francisco Bay Region
1515 Clay Street, Suite 1400
Oakland, California 94612

Ms. Susan Hugo
Alameda County Health Agency
Department of Environmental Health
1131 Harbor Bay Parkway, 2nd Floor
Alameda, California 94502-6577

Mr. Andrew Clark-Clough
City of Oakland - Public Works Agency
1333 Broadway, Suite 330A
Oakland, California 94612

Mr. Christopher Wilson
Caltrans-Environmental Engineering
P.O. Box 23660
Oakland, California 94623-0660

Mr. Peter Altherr
Caltrans-Environmental Engineering
P.O. Box 23660
Oakland, California 94623-0660

Mr. Leroy Griffin
City of Oakland - Fire Department
Office of Emergency Services
1605 Martin Luther King Jr. Drive
Oakland, California 94612

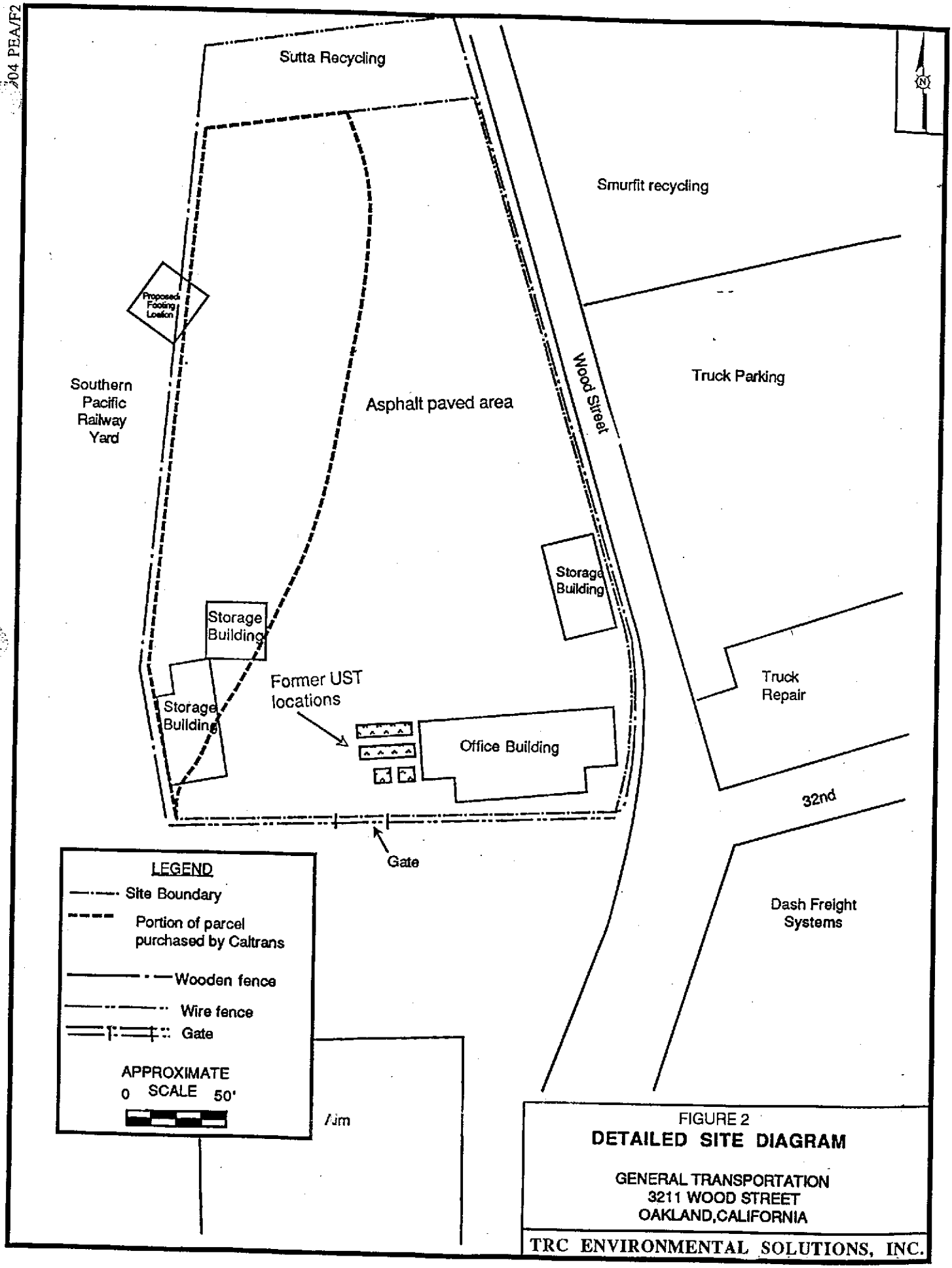


FIGURE 2
DETAILED SITE DIAGRAM

GENERAL TRANSPORTATION
3211 WOOD STREET
OAKLAND, CALIFORNIA

TRC ENVIRONMENTAL SOLUTIONS, INC.

Background on the Sherwin-Williams Site...

Continued from page 1

and 1991 revealed the presence in soil and shallow groundwater of *Volatile Organic Compounds* (VOCs) and *Semi-Volatile Organic Compounds* (SVOCs), as well as elevated concentrations of metals — primarily lead and arsenic. This discovery resulted in the implementation of several *Interim Remedial Measures* at the Site to contain and minimize the migration of pollutants and reduce or eliminate the potential for human exposure . These measures include a *slurry wall*, an asphalt cap, a storm water collection system, and a groundwater extraction and treatment system.

In March 1997, additional arsenic and lead contamination were discovered in soil along both sides of Horton Street, adjacent to the site. In response to this discovery, the RWQCB issued a cleanup order in April 1997 requiring Sherwin-Williams to address the contamination in this area immediately. After extensive soil sampling, removal of contaminated soil along Horton Street, 45th Street and Sherwin Avenue began in June 1997. The soil removal and replacement of sidewalks and curbs was completed in Fall 1997.

In October 1997, contaminated groundwater was discovered infiltrating stormwater lines on the Sherwin-Williams property. In response to this discovery, Sherwin-Williams implemented immediate measures to prevent the spread of the contaminants and prevent human contact with them. Sherwin Williams is currently cooperating with the RWQCB to develop a long-term remedy that will address contamination in this area, as well as on the remainder of the Site. Development of this comprehensive remedy is described in the section below.

Overview and Status of the Site Cleanup

Since completion of the Emergency Removal Action in the fall of 1997, Sherwin-Williams has been working with the RWQCB and cooperating with other agencies to complete the necessary investigations and develop and implement a long-term, comprehensive remedy for the remaining contamination at the Site. The steps involved in developing a remedial action plan for the Site are described in the "Site Cleanup Requirements Order" issued by the RWQCB in February 1998. This Cleanup Order (#98-009) requires Sherwin-Williams to conduct a comprehensive investigation of conditions at the site and an evaluation of the remedial alternatives for cleaning up the site. The paragraphs below describe the stages of the investigation/remedial action process as it will be implemented at the Site, as well as the estimated schedule for the project. This information is also presented graphically in Figure 2.

Developing Guidelines for the Investigation and Cleanup

The initial step in the process has been substantially completed. This stage has consisted of completing several workplans that provide the framework and guidelines for the investigation and remediation of the Site. The *Health and Safety Plan* provides guidelines for protecting workers during site investigation and remediation activities. The *Public Participation Plan*, which has been finalized and approved by the RWQCB, describes the steps that will be taken to keep the community involved in the cleanup. The *Quality Assurance Project Plan* describes the procedures by which data from the site will be collected, analyzed, and reported. Copies of the Public Participation Plan, the Health and Safety Plan, and the Quality Assurance Project Plan are available for public review in the Information Repositories.

Evaluating the Effectiveness of the Interim Remedial Measures

The next step in the investigation and remediation process relates to the existing and proposed interim remedial measures at the Site. Interim remedial measures currently in place at the Site include the existing slurry wall, the asphalt cap, the stormwater collection system and the groundwater extraction and treatment system. In the report entitled, *Evaluation of Existing Interim Remedial Measures and Work Plan for Implementation of Future Interim Remedial Measures*, the effectiveness of the existing remedial measures was evaluated and a workplan was developed for additional interim measures to be implemented before the final clean up plan is developed. The report, still in draft form, concluded that, while certain interim remedial measures may be effective, the

Continued on page 3

Overview and Status of the Site Cleanup...

Continued from page 3

A *Risk Assessment* for the Site will be done within 60 days of the approval of the RI. While the site poses no imminent health risk, the Risk Assessment will analyze what risk, if any, the Site could pose over the long term to any persons potentially exposed to it, including plant workers and area residents.

The Draft Remedial Action Plan (Draft RAP)

The final stage in the process will involve the development of a remedial action plan for the Site. Within two months of the approval of the Risk Assessment, Sherwin-Williams will submit a report to the RWQCB that includes: a summary of the RI findings; an evaluation of the IRMs in place; a feasibility study that evaluates the remedial alternatives; a risk assessment for each alternative; the recommended remedial alternative and proposed cleanup standards; and recommended implementation tasks and time schedule.

The Final Remedial Action Plan (Final RAP)

Once the Draft RAP has been submitted to the RWQCB, a fact sheet that describes the remedial alternatives and recommends one of these alternatives will be sent to community members. A public hearing will also be held to discuss the proposed plan and hear community input . The RWQCB will summarize and respond to community concerns in writing before the Final RAP is approved. Once the plan has been approved, implementation will begin.

Contact Information

Community members with site-related questions and/or comments are encouraged to contact any of the people listed below:

Larry Mencin
Project Manager
Sherwin-Williams
101 Prospect Street
Cleveland, OH 44115
phone: (216) 566-1768

Mark Johnson
Project Officer
RWQCB
2101 Webster Street
Oakland, CA 94612
phone: (510) 286-0305

Mara Feeney
Public Participation Coordinator
Mara Feeney & Associates
19 Beaver Street
San Francisco, CA 94114
phone: (415) 863-8760

Glossary

Arsenic- A crystalline gray, highly poisonous metal, used as an alloy for metals, especially lead and copper. It is also used in insect-killing chemicals and weed killers. In its inorganic form, arsenic is listed as a cancer-causing chemical under Proposition 65.

Cap- A layer of material, such as clay or a synthetic material, used to prevent rainwater from penetrating and spreading contaminated materials. The surface of the cap is generally sloped so water will drain off.

Conduit- A pipe or channel, such as the gravel fill around buried pipelines, that conveys water or other fluids.

Interim Remedial Measures (IRMs)- Cleanup actions taken to protect public health and the environment while long-term solutions are being developed.

Lead- A poisonous heavy metal that is present in small amounts everywhere in the environment. Lead can get into the body from drinking contaminated water, eating vegetables grown in contaminated soil, or breathing contaminated dust. Lead can damage the nervous system or blood cells if present in the body. Children are at highest risk from exposure to lead contamination because their bodies are still developing. Lead is listed as a reproductive toxic substance for women and men under Proposition 65.

Risk Assessment-A health risk assessment is a document that describes the possible adverse health effects that may result from exposure to contaminants. A health risk assessment does not address the possibility of, or adverse health effects resulting from, a highly unusual or illegal situation such as a fire or major spill. The health risk assessment cannot predict health effects; it only describes the increased possibility of adverse health effects, based on the best scientific information available. The assessment should describe the uncertainties and assumptions that form part of the basis for the calculations.

Semivolatile Organic Compounds (SVOCs)-Compounds that partially evaporate or change from liquid to gas readily at normal temperatures.

Slurry wall- Barriers used to contain the flow of contaminated groundwater or subsurface liquids. Slurry walls are constructed by digging a trench around a contaminated area and filling the trench with material that tends not to allow water to pass through it. The groundwater or contaminated liquids trapped within the area surrounded by the slurry wall can be extracted and treated.

Volatile Organic Compounds (VOCs)- VOCs include solvents that readily evaporate at temperatures normally found at ground surface and at shallow depths.

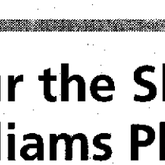
Informal Community Meeting Planned

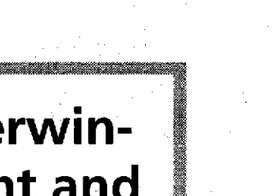
An informal community meeting will be held at the Emeryville Artists Co-op on July 13, 1998 to discuss the progress of the site cleanup and to introduce George Stavnes, the new Sherwin-Williams plant manager. Representatives from the Regional Water Quality Control Board and Sherwin-Williams will also be available to answer any questions you may have and provide information on site-related activities and documents. The meeting will be held in the Co-op meeting room from 7 pm-8:30 pm. Refreshments will be served. Please contact Mark Johnson (510-286-0305) or Mara Feeney (415-863-8760) if you have questions about the meeting.

Tour the Sherwin-Williams Plant and Meet the New Plant Manager

On July 10th and August 14th, community members will have an opportunity to tour the Sherwin-Williams plant and meet the new plant manager, George Stavnes. On these dates, Mr Stavnes will be available to conduct plant tours, as requested, throughout the day. Please contact Mr. Stavnes in advance if you would like to participate in a tour. He can be reached at 510-420-7215, extension 215, during regular business hours.

Mark Johnson
Regional Water Quality Control Board
2101 Webster Street, Fifth Floor
Oakland, CA 94612





- **Community Meeting July 13, 1998**
- **Plant Tours Scheduled For July 10 & August 14,1998**
- **New Documents Available For Public Review**

Susan Hugo
Alameda Co. Dept. of Environmental Health
1131 Harbor Bay Parkway, 2nd Floor
Alameda, CA 94502

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REGIONAL WATER QUALITY CONTROL BOARD

Sherwin-Williams Site

(Emeryville, California)

July, 1998

This fact sheet has been prepared to inform community residents and other interested parties about site-related events and remedial activities in progress at the Sherwin-Williams site in Emeryville, California. The Regional Water Quality Control Board (RWQCB) is the regulatory agency responsible for overseeing environmental cleanup work for this site.

A glossary of technical terms used in this fact sheet is included on page 5. Words in the glossary are printed in italics the first time they appear in the text.

Background on the Sherwin-Williams Site

The Sherwin-Williams Company has owned and operated a coatings manufacturing plant at 1450 Sherwin Avenue in Emeryville since the early 1900s. The company also produced lead arsenate pesticides at the plant from the 1920s to the 1940s. The contamination at the site is associated with the production in the past of oil-based paints and pesticides. These products are no longer manufactured at the site. The plant was converted to water-based paint production in 1987. The Sherwin-Williams Site is currently defined as the entire Sherwin-Williams property on Sherwin Avenue, as well as a portion of the adjacent former "Rifkin Property" on Horton Street (see Figure 1) . The Rifkin property, now owned by Chiron, consists of a large paved parking lot and two warehouses.

Several phases of soil and groundwater testing have been conducted at the Site since 1988. Testing conducted between 1989

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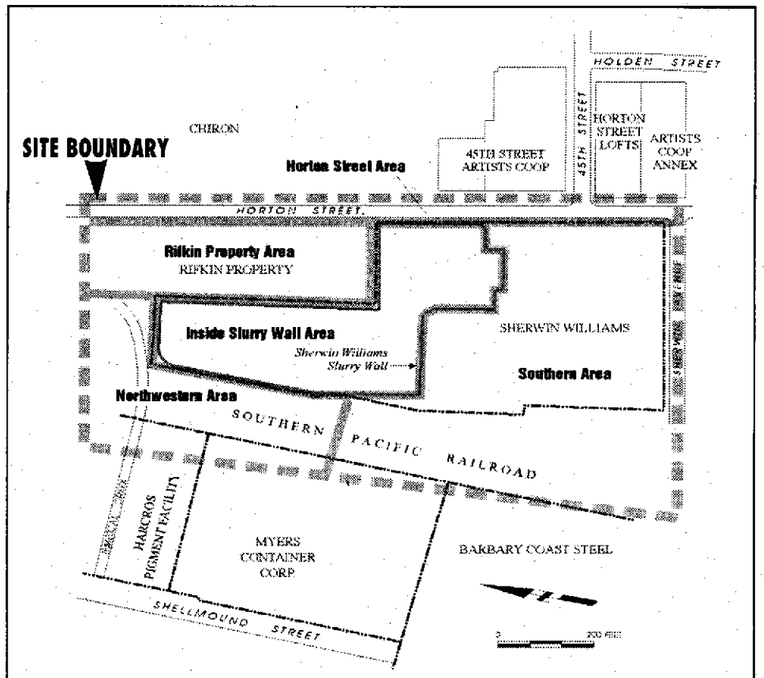


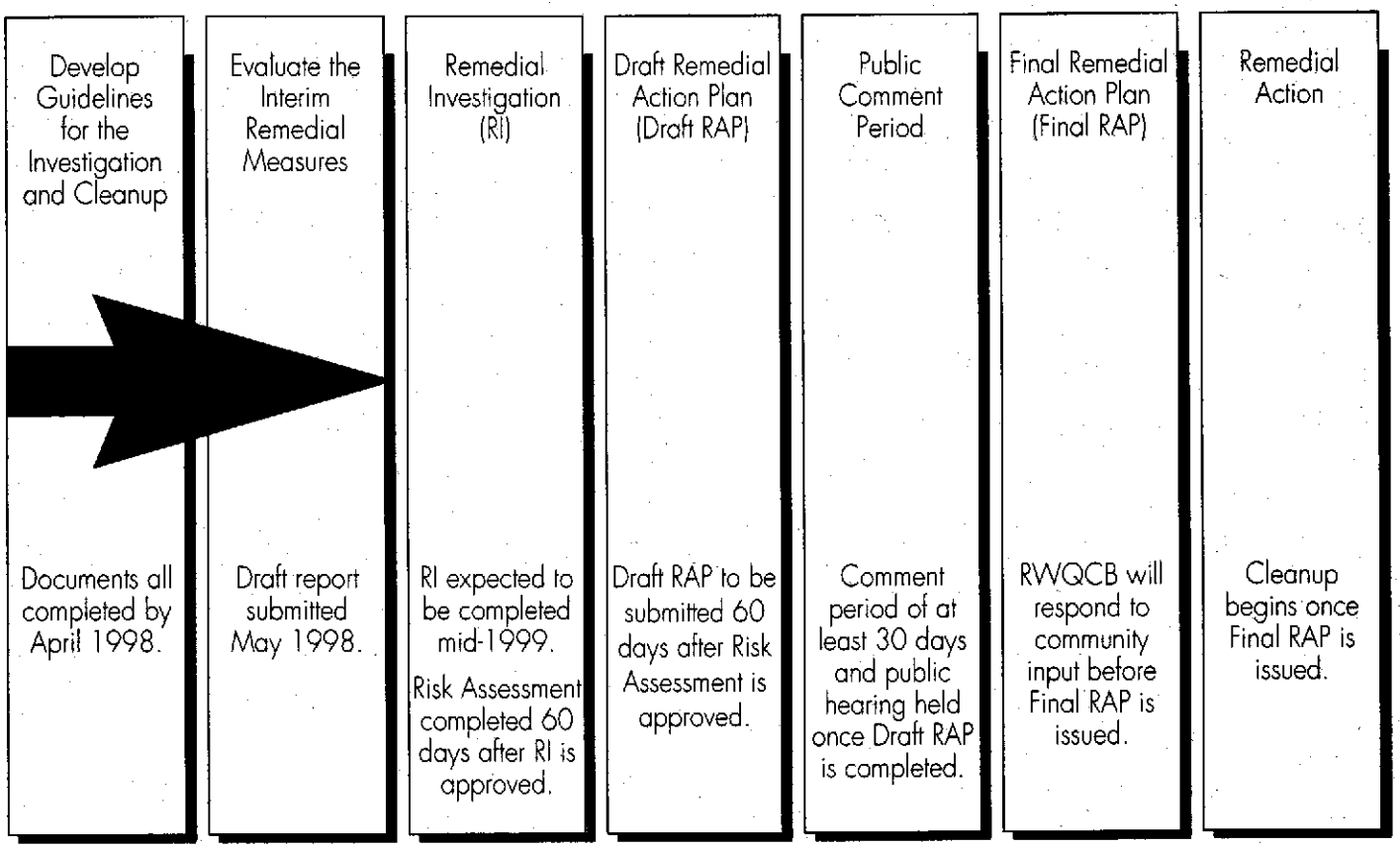
Figure 1 - Diagram of Site Vicinity

See page 4 for information about site documents now available for public review.

FIGURE 2:

PROJECT SCHEDULE

Arrow shows steps completed to date



Note: Project-related documents are available for review in the Information Repositories (see page 4).

Overview and Status of the Site Cleanup...

Continued from page 2

measures, taken as a whole, are not operating as intended. To remedy this problem, the workplan proposes modifying and expanding the groundwater extraction and treatment system. The expanded groundwater extraction and treatment system is expected to be operational by the end of 1998. The draft version of The Evaluation of Existing Interim Remedial Measures has been completed and is in the Information Repositories.

THE REMEDIAL INVESTIGATION

The next phase of the process will be the completion of soil and groundwater testing at the Site. A report detailing current site conditions, site use history, and human-made *conduits* was submitted to the RWQCB in June 1998. After approval of this report, the Remedial Investigation (RI) will then be completed. The RI is expected to be completed by mid-1999. The results of the RI will be published in the *Remedial Investigation Report*, which will be available for public review in the Information Repositories. Findings from the RI will also be described in a fact sheet for community members and presented at a community meeting.

Continued on page 5

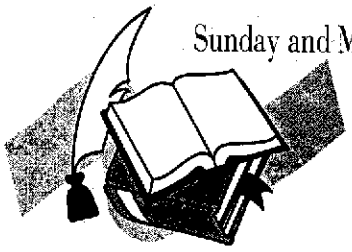
For More Information

Information Repositories

Two information repositories, containing key project documents and information, have been set up for community members' use. These repositories, which are updated regularly, contain all of the documents required under the RWQCB's cleanup order for the site. One repository has been set up in the office at the 45th Street Artists' Cooperative. Co-op residents may use the repository during normal office hours. Non-residents are encouraged to use the Information Repository at the Golden Gate Branch of the Oakland Public Library, 5606 San Pablo Avenue. Documents in the Information Repository are available for review during the library's regular hours:

GOLDEN GATE LIBRARY HOURS: PHONE: 597-5023

Tuesday	11:30 am-7:00 pm
Wednesday, Thursday and Saturday	10:00 am-5:30 pm
Friday	12:00 pm-5:30 pm
Sunday and Monday	Closed



Consultative Work Group

Meetings of the Consultative Work Group (CWG), formed for this project, are open to the public. The CWC consists of representatives from a wide range of regulatory agencies and health departments, as well as the City of Emeryville and Chiron. In addition, the 45th Street Artists Co-op is represented by its consultant, Jody Sparks and by Co-op Board member, Paul Germain. The CWG meets periodically to discuss draft technical documents and site activities. Most meetings are held at the RWQCB's downtown Oakland offices at 2101 Webster Street. The next meeting of the CWG, which will include a site tour, will be held on July 9th at 9:00 am at the Sherwin-Williams plant. If you would like to be notified of future CWG meeting dates, please contact Mara Feeney at (415) 863-8760. Notes from CWG meetings are placed in the Information Repositories for public review, as well.

Documents Available in the Information Repositories

The following documents have been completed and are now available for public review in the Information Repositories:

- The Public Participation Plan (April 1998)
- The Health and Safety Plan (April 1998)
- The Draft Quality Assurance Project Plan (April 1998)
- The Draft Evaluation of Existing Interim Remedial Measures and Work Plan for Implementation of Future Interim Remedial Measures (May 1998)
- Report on Current Site Conditions, Site Use History, and Human-Made Conduits (June 1998)
- Monthly status reports
- Notes from meetings of the Consultative Work Group
- Quarterly Groundwater Monitoring Report
- Quarterly NPDES Monitoring Report

The following documents will be added to the Information Repositories in the near future:

- Report on the Completion of the Horton Street Remediation
- Report on Storm Drain Emergency Response Activities and Corrective Actions

Change of Address for the Regional Water Quality Control Board

The Regional Water Quality Control Board is moving. Effective August 3, 1998, the project officer for this site, Mark Johnson, can be reached at:

The Regional Water Quality Control Board
1515 Clay Street, Ste 1400
Oakland, CA 94612
(510) 622-2493