## ALAMEDA COUNTY HEALTH CARE SERVICES AGENCY



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FACT SHEET PROPOSED SOIL CLEANUP RED STAR YEAST April 28, 2011

Site Name: Red Star Yeast

Site Location: 1396 5th Street, Oakland, CA 94607

SLIC Case RO0002896 and GeoTracker Global ID T06019794669.

**Summary** – This fact sheet has been prepared to inform community members and other interested parties of the status of a proposed soil excavation and removal action at the former Red Star Yeast facility at 1396 5<sup>th</sup> Street in Oakland, California (see map on back). The site was formerly occupied by the Red Star Yeast Company but all buildings and appurtenant structures have been removed. Red Star Michaels LLC is proposing to construct a five-story building at the site with retail and office space on the first floor and senior housing on the upper floors.

Soil borings advanced at the site in 2004, 2006, and 2011, encountered a layer of fill material composed of dense sand with varying amounts of brick, concrete, gravel, and debris from ground surface to depths ranging from approximately 2.5 to 4 feet below ground surface (bgs). Laboratory analysis of soil samples from the fill material detected elevated concentrations of cadmium, lead, mercury, and copper at several locations across the site. The metals appear to have been brought to the site with the fill material and do not appear to be related to site activities. The fill material is believed to have been placed at the site sometime between 1862 and 1890. Petroleum hydrocarbons were also detected in site soils and shallow groundwater.

Red Star Michaels LLC, the lead responsible party for the case, is proposing excavation and removal of soil to depths of approximately 2 to 5 feet below ground surface. The contaminated soil will be characterized for proper disposal off-site at a landfill. Following excavation of contaminated soil, the excavation will be backfilled with imported, engineered fill.

**Background** – The site was occupied by a yeast manufacturing company that had several different names over its history but was most commonly known as Red Star Yeast. Yeast manufacturing was conducted under various names at the site from 1902 until operations were discontinued in 2003. Site buildings were reportedly demolished in 2004. The site is currently a vacant lot surrounded by a fence.

**Next Step** – Red Star Michaels LLC is working with Alameda County Environmental Health (ACEH) to implement cleanup of shallow soils at the site. The proposed cleanup consisting of excavation and off-site disposal is described in a report entitled, "Remedial Action Plan, Former Red Star Yeast Company, 1396 5<sup>th</sup> Street, Oakland, California," dated April 4, 2011 (Remedial Action Plan). ACEH has requested some revisions to the Revised Remedial Action Plan in correspondence dated April 20, 2011. The public is invited to review and comment on the proposed excavation and removal action proposed in the Remedial Action Plan. The "Remedial Action Plan," as well as ACEH correspondence on the case can be viewed over the Internet on the ACEH website (http://www.acgov.org/aceh/lop/ust.htm) or the State Water Resources Control Board Geotracker website (http://www.swrcb.ca.gov/ust/cleanup/electronic reporting). Please send written comments to Jerry Wickham at the address below; all comments will be forwarded to the responsible party. **Comments received by May 30, 2011** will be considered and responded to prior to a final determination on the proposed cleanup.

Additional information: Contact Jerry Wickham of the Alameda County Department of Environmental Health, 1131 Harbor Bay Parkway, Alameda, CA 94502 at 510-567-6791 or by email at jerry.wickham@acgov.org

