T.H. AGRICULTURE AND NUTRITION SUPERFUND SITE

U.S. ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY • REGION 9 • SAN FRANCISCO, CA • JULY 2006

U.S. EPA Proposes to Delete Site from Superfund List

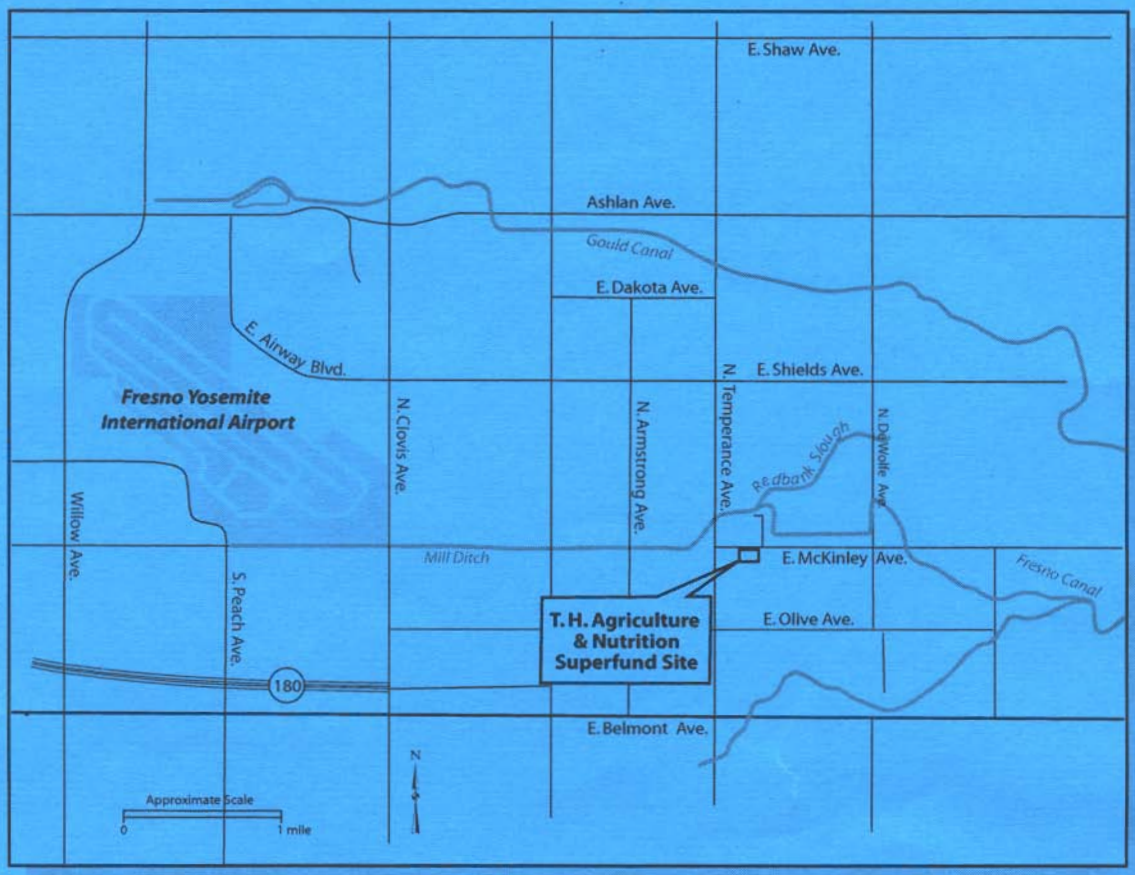
The United State Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) announces its intent to delete the Thompson Hayward Agriculture and Nutrition (THAN) Superfund Site, located northeast of Fresno, California, from the National Priorities List (NPL). The NPL is a list of the most hazardous waste sites nationwide that have been identified for cleanup under the federal Superfund program. Deleting the site from the NPL means that the cleanup of contamination has been completed. If new information becomes available, which indicates a need for additional action, EPA may initiate further cleanup activities. A public notice of this proposal was published in the Federal Register and the Fresno Bee on July 11, 2006. This fact sheet provides an update of Site activities at the site and describes how the public may obtain further information and comment on the proposed deletion. Public comments are due within 30 days from the date of the Federal Register notice.

Site Description and History

The T. H. Agriculture & Nutrition (THAN) site is located at 7183 East McKinley in Fresno County, about three miles northeast of Fresno. The Site consists of an approximately 5-acre parcel, which was utilized by a succession of owners for the formulation, packaging and warehousing of agricultural chemicals between 1951 and 1981. The plant was completely closed in 1983. In addition to this parcel, which is currently fenced and subject to a land use restriction, THAN currently owns an adjacent 20-acre orchard parcel that borders on the south, east, and west sides of the Site. Properties surrounding THAN's 25 acres of land consist of farms, orchards, and low-density residential developments.

Under the oversight of the California Department of Toxic Substances Control (DTSC), THAN conducted remedial investigation activities in the early 1980's. These activities involved the collection and analysis of more than 1,400 soil samples and 1,800 groundwater samples, and identified pesticides and agricultural chemicals as chemicals of concern. The Site was placed on the State Superfund List in 1985, then added to the NPL in 1986. DTSC remained the lead agency in the cleanup, while EPA provided technical assistance to support cleanup decisions.

Prior to selecting a Final Remedy in a Remedial Action Plan (RAP), interim cleanup measures were conducted to address soil and groundwater contamination. These activities included excavation and off-site disposal of approximately 25,000 cubic yards of chemically contaminated soils, 5,100 tons of chemically affected building debris, and 6,500 lbs of chemicals removed via soil vapor extraction, a treatment technology that removes vapors from air spaces in contaminated soil. In addition, alternative drinking water supplies were provided to nearby residences.



Location of T.H. Agriculture & Nutrition Superfund Site, Fresno County, California

A RAP was signed in 1999, and EPA concurred with the Final Remedy, which included construction of a cap over contaminated soils, continued provision of alternative drinking water supplies to nearby residents, institutional controls, and long-term plans for maintaining the remedy and monitoring groundwater.

In addition, the RAP established cleanup goals for groundwater. Groundwater monitoring indicates that these goals have been achieved since 2002. It is likely that this trend will continue, since receding groundwater levels reduce the chance that contaminated soils beneath the cap will become saturated and release contaminants into groundwater. In addition, provision (and expansion, as appropriate) of alternative water supply by connections to public water supply system, point-of use treatment, or bottled water ensures that humans are not exposed to contaminated drinking water.

The majority of the construction work to implement the Final Remedy was completed by 2003, including construction of Site access restrictions (fence and signs). The Final Remedy was fully implemented in 2005, when the Operation, Maintenance and Monitoring (OM&M) Agreement was finalized and a Deed Restriction recorded with the County of Fresno. The Deed Restriction, which limits the uses of the property, is the primary institutional control for the Site. Post-closure activities include periodic inspections and maintenance (as needed) of the cap, fencing, signs and monitoring wells, as well as long term groundwater monitoring. Five-year reviews will be conducted and published to evaluate the performance of the remedy and ensure that it remains protective of human health and the environment.

Public Comments

The public is invited to comment on EPA's proposed deletion of the THAN site from the NPL. Detailed instructions on how to submit comments are provided in the Notice of Intent to Delete, published in the Federal Register. When submitting comments, it is important to specify the Docket ID No. EPA-HQ-SFUND-1986-0005. Comments may be submitted by one of the following methods:

- **Online** at: http://www.regulations.gov. Follow the on-line instructions for submitting comments.
- **Email** the superfund docket center (specify docket ID number) - email address: superfund.docket@epa.gov
- **Fax** the docket center (specify docket number) - fax number: 202-566-0224
- **Mail** hardcopy to the docket center (specify docket number) to:

  Environmental Protection Agency
  EPA Docket Center (EPA/DC)
  Superfund, Mailcode 5202T
  1200 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW
  Washington, DC 20460

- **For FedEx**/Courier delivery, the following address should be added (specify docket number)to:

  1301 Constitution Ave., N.W.
  EPA West Building
  USEPA Docket Center
  Reading Room B-102
  Washington, DC 20460

Hand deliveries are only accepted during the Docket's normal hours of operation, and special arrangements should be made for deliveries of boxed information.

Information Repositories

Addition information concerning Superfund activities at the THAN Superfund Site is available on-line at htpp://www.epa.gov/superfund/sites/. A deletion docket, which contains documents supporting the proposed deletion, is available for review at:

Fresno County Library
Sunnyside Branch
5562 E. Kings Canyon Rd.
Fresno, CA 93727
(559) 255-6594

CA DTSC, Clovis Office,
File Room
1515 Tollhouse Rd.
Clovis, CA 93612
(559) 297-3961

Superfund Records Center
EPA Region 9
95 Hawthorne Street
Suite 403S
San Francisco, CA 94105
(415) 536-2000