



STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH
P. O. BOX 3378
HONOLULU, HI 96801-3378

In reply, please refer
to:
13-618-JP

PUBLIC NOTICE

December 05, 2013

The Hawai'i Department of Health (HDOH) invites the public to review and comment on the Draft Removal Action Report (Draft RAR) for the cleanup of soil arsenic and dioxin contamination at the former Kohala Sugar Company pesticide mixing site near Hawi, located in the North Kohala District of the island of Hawai'i (TMK 03-5-5-019:025, portion). A Draft Cleanup Grant application for this site that the landowner is planning to submit to a competitive USEPA grant program is also available for public review and comment. You are also invited to attend a public meeting to learn more about the cleanup options proposed and recommended for the site, as well as the landowner's Draft Cleanup Grant application. Comments on the Draft RAR and the landowner's Draft Cleanup Grant application will be accepted at the public meeting as well as during the overall 35-day public comment period.

The former Kohala Sugar Plantation pesticide mixing site is an approximately 1/2 acre portion of property currently owned by the Hawai'i Island Community Development Corporation (HICDC). Site investigations by HDOH and two environmental consultant firms have confirmed soil arsenic and dioxin contamination on parts of the property that will require cleanup action to address potential exposure hazards. At least four cleanup alternatives were compared and considered, and the response action being proposed is to physically remove all soils on this HICDC property that exceed current HDOH environmental action levels for residential use. Impacted soils on the site are proposed to be excavated, trucked, and buried at the West Hawai'i sanitary landfill.

A Draft Removal Action Report (Draft RAR) describes in detail the response options considered and proposed to address the soil contamination. Copies of the Draft RAR, a site fact sheet, and the HICDC Draft Cleanup Grant application for cleanup assistance funding are available for review at the North Kohala Public Library (during library hours, ask at the Reference desk), or at the Hawai'i Department of Health, Environmental Health Building, 1582 Kamehameha Avenue in Hilo (8:00 AM to 4:30 PM, weekdays) during the public comment period. If you have questions or would like a copy of the site Fact Sheet, Draft RAR, and/or Draft HICDC Cleanup Grant application mailed or e-mailed to you, please call John Peard at the HDOH Hilo HEER Office (808) 960-0080, e-mail him with your request at john.peard@doh.hawaii.gov, or access the site documents on the HDOH HEER Office website: <http://hawaii.gov/doh/heer> in the "What's New" section of the homepage. For questions about the HICDC Draft Cleanup Grant application, you can also contact Brian Nishimura (for HICDC) at (808) 935-7692 or btnishi@hawaiiantel.net.

A Public Meeting on the Draft RAR and the Draft HICDC Cleanup Grant application for the former Kohala Sugar Company pesticide mixing site will be held:

Date: Thursday, December 12, 2013
Meeting Time: 6:00 PM to 8:00 PM
Location: Old Courthouse, North Kohala Senior Center
Address: Kapa'au, HI 96755

The purpose of the public meeting is to inform all interested parties about the cleanup response actions considered and proposed for the site, discuss the HICDC Draft Cleanup Grant application, answer questions, and invite the public to provide comments at the meeting or during the public comment period.

Written comments regarding the proposed soil cleanup at the site as well as the Draft HICDC Cleanup Grant application will be accepted from December 5, 2013 through January 8, 2014. Comments on the proposed soil cleanup should be mailed or emailed to:

John Peard, Project Manager
Hawai'i Department of Health, HEER Office
1582 Kamehameha Avenue
Hilo, Hawai'i 96720-4623, or
email: john.peard@doh.hawaii.gov

Comments on the proposed grant application should be mailed or emailed to:

Brian T. Nishimura, Planning Consultant
101 Aupuni Street, Suite 217
Hilo, Hawai'i 96720, or
email: btnishi@hawaiiintel.net