Investigation and Assessment of "Brownfield" Sites in Hawai'i



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Hawai'i Department of Health

Solid & Hazardous Waste Branch:

- •Underground storage tanks;
- •Illegal dumps post 1980s;
- •Permitted hazardous waste facilities.

Hazard Evaluation and Emergency Response

- •Everything else;
- •Former industrial properties;
- •Tank farms;
- •Pesticides, etc.

Environmental Investigation Process



Hawai'i DOH Guidance for the Investigation, Cleanup and Management of Contaminated Properties

<u>1. Testing Soil, Water and Air for Contamination:</u></u> *Technical Guidance Manual***: Hazard Evaluation and Emergency Response: http://eha-web.doh.hawaii.gov/eha-cma/Org/HEER/**

2. Determining if There is a Problem:

Evaluation of Environmental Hazards at Sites with Contaminated Soil and Groundwater:

http://eha-web.doh.hawaii.gov/eha-cma/Leaders/HEER/EALs

<u>3. Long-Term Management:</u>

Long-Term Management of Petroleum-Contaminated Soil and Groundwater: http://www.hawaiidoh.org/

HEER OFFICE TECHNICAL GUIDANCE MANUAL

- Site history review;
- Investigation design;
- Sample collection;
- Identification of potential environmental concerns;
- Remediation +/- long-term management.













Environmental Hazards Posed by Contaminated Soil and Groundwater



Environmental Hazard Evaluation - Something for Everyone -

- Chemistry: What is it?
- Geology: Where is it?
- Physics: Where is it going?
- Toxicology: Can it harm me?
- Ecology: Can it harm ecological habitats?
- Combined: What are the concerns?
- Engineering: What can be done?
- Lawyers: Who's going to pay for it?

Safeway-Target Hilo Redevelopment (2010)





- Ten-acre property;
- 250,000 ft² (?) floor space;
- \$100++ million development;
- Two-year construction period.

Unexpected Delays Can Cause BIG Problems



Safeway-Target Hilo Redevelopment Former Maintenance Yard (10-acres)

Former Wood Treatment (arsenic & dioxins)

Area (petroleum, solvents, lead)

Maintenance



Former Railroad (arsenic)

Safeway-Target Hilo Redevelopment Former Maintenance Yard (10-acres)





- Site divided into targeted areas for testing;
- Small area of arsenic and dioxin contamination identified adjacent to former wood treatment facility;
- Impacted soil consolidated and capped on site (cost to ship to mainland prohibitive);
- Small area of petroleum contaminated soil removed;
- Property redeveloped without delays.

Former Sugar Mill Pesticide Mixing Areas (arsenic, dioxins)



Former Sugar Mill Redeveloped for Residential Homes

Main Mill Area

Exposed Soil in Yards (Exposure Area DUs)

> Former Pesticide Mixing Area (arsenic, dioxins) Top Two feet of soil removed

> > Eye alt 1290 ft

Top two feet of soil removed;
Warning barrier installed;
Capped with clean soil

159°24'24.20" W elev 0 ft

Contaminated or Potentially Contaminated Sites in Hawai'i County – A Legacy of the Past



John Peard, Remediation Project Manager, Hilo Office Hawai'i Department of Health Hazard Evaluation & Emergency Response Office (HEER Office) Brownfields Workshop Hilo, Hawai'i, November 2, 2017

What do these terms mean?

Phase 1 – What happen in the past?

Phase 2 – How bad is it and how far does it go?

No Further Action (unrestricted) – I can build on it and use it however I want to

No Further Action with Institutional Controls – I can use it as long as I follow the guidance the HDOH gives me.

Environmental Hazard Management Plans (EHMP)





Knapsack Sprayer – Ola'a Plantation - (Larsen, 1914)

Kohala Sugar PMA^{Halawa} Mill

Hawai'ian Islands

Niulii Mill Honokaa Poison Shed Paauhau Seed Dipping Vat Paauilo Airstrip Paauilo Airstrip Papaaloa PMA Hakalau Poison Shed Honomu Sugar Co. Pesticide WarehousHakalau Sugar Airstrip Pepeekeo Airstrip Hawaii Hilo Sugar PMA Indicates house number of increment collection Waiakea Uka Gym Waiakea Uka Park Waiakea Mill Co.-Camp 6

Kailua-Kona

Island of Hawai'i

Kau Agribusiness PMA (closed)

Image Landsat / Copernicus Data SIO, NOAA, U.S. Navy, NGA, GEBCO Data LDEO-Columbia, NSF, NOAA © 2017 Google

Google Earth

Overlay of Historic Map on Google Earth Image





Suspect Pesticide-Mixing Tanks (abandoned)



Procedures for Soil Sample Collection and Processing

30+ Increments Collected

Study Area Selection Sample Processing Samule Area 2 - Garden annle Area L. Var **DU Increments Potential Sampling Study area** combined to one **Areas (Decision boundaries** sample **Units or DUs):** Taken to lab for marked (DUs) • Gardens **Soil increments** processing and **Yards** analysis spaced regularly **Bare Soil** Sample can also be across area ۲ Children's screened by XRF for Top 2 – 6 inches **Play Area** soil sampled, metals in the field before sending to lab typically



Cutler, W. G., PhD Thesis, 2011



Plantation Camp Gardens







Soil Arsenic and Lead Bioaccessibility Testing

• Estimates the fraction of arsenic or lead in soil that could be solubilized in stomach acid and be available for uptake.

• Remaining portion assumed to pass through the body without potential adverse effects.

Canec Plant, Hilo, Hawai'i – 1930-1960 -Arsenic Impacts



Waiakea Pond Sediment Investigation (arsenic contamination of sediment)



Replacement of Older Steel Water Tanks



Former Sugarcane Land Planned for Residential Development



Screening Building Perimeter Foundation Area for Lead and Arsenic Contamination



Former Housing Foundation Pads



Termiticide Treatments of Building Foundations



Steel Bridges and Impacts from Past Use of Lead-based Paints



Hilo Harbor Petroleum Terminals



Abandoned/Sealed Petroleum Pipelines in Hilo Harbor Area



Oil Sheen on Shallow Groundwater in Hilo Harbor Area



1949 Aerial Photo of Hilo Harbor – Arrow Shows former HELCO Electrical Substation



Soil Sampling in a Waste Pile at a Landfill Site





Rights-of-Way – Potential for Soil Contamination from Historic Weed Control Activities.

Multiple Historic Contamination Sources are Identified in Soil in Hawai'i County, including:

- Former Sugarcane Pesticide Mixing, Seed Dipping, and some field areas: arsenic, and dioxins, mercury
- Harbor areas: petroleum
- Historic Steel bridges: lead
- Former Landfills: Metals, PAHs, or other
- Former Large Above Ground Tanks: lead
- Building Foundation areas (<1988): lead, arsenic, termiticides
- Former Rights of Way: arsenic or dioxins
- Specific Commercial/Industrial
 Operations, e.g. Gas Stations and Auto Maintenance, Wood Treatment, Canec
 Mfg., etc. : (site-specific contaminants)

Questions?

