



August 26, 2016

Soil Contamination Statement

On June 7, 2016, VTA determined that employees of Graniterock (GRC) and its subcontractors working within a very limited area of the Berryessa campus site on VTA's Silicon Valley Berryessa Extension Project may have been inadvertently exposed to contaminated soils. This potential exposure occurred during excavation work between November 10-18, 2015 and in mid-May 2016.

VTA's first and foremost focus since this discovery has been on health and safety. An existing stockpile thought to contain excavated contaminated material was immediately covered, and the open excavation and potentially contaminated soils were cordoned off to prevent worker ingress. Work was stopped in this specific area while soil sampling and testing of the suspected soils was conducted to detect the presence and classification of any hazardous contaminants.

Based on the soil sampling test results, it has been concluded that the current subsurface conditions have non-hazardous levels of contaminants and therefore determined acceptable to work in the area with standard levels of construction personal protection equipment.

The risk at issue is the potential inhalation of dust containing arsenic or lead that exceed accepted health risk criteria. The test results show that with normal construction dust control measures, it is unlikely that workers were exposed to levels of arsenic- or lead-containing dust that exceeded permissible exposure limits set by Cal/OSHA. However, the test results do not address the health and safety issues associated with the absence of the correct level of protection due to inhalation, ingestion, or dermal exposure as a result of not having proper hand washing facilities on site, clothing protection, and dust control measures.

Moreover, even though the risk of exposure through inhalation is very low, the risk is still present and is being further addressed with potential worker health risks. VTA has requested assistance and confirmation from Graniterock to: 1) provide a list of workers who conducted excavation and handling of soils for further testing; and 2) confirm that dust control methods were used during that period to prevent risk of inhalation exposure.

VTA is taking ownership and the appropriate actions to notify employees, test and make all test results available while respecting individual privacy. Soil sampling test results have been [posted to the Regional Water Quality Control Board's GeoTracker website](#). The Water Board provides health and safety oversight for VTA's BART Silicon Valley Extension Project.