

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
FACT SHEET No. 5
Preservation Aviation, Inc.
10800 Burbank Blvd., North Hollywood, CA
October 27, 2004



Since May 27, 2004, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA) has been assessing and removing radioactive materials from the Preservation Aviation, Inc. (PAI), located at 10800 Burbank Boulevard. in North Hollywood, California.

Background

PAI sold gauges used in World War II airplanes. In the past, instrument panel gauges were painted with radioactive paint containing Radium 226 (Ra-226) to make them glow in the dark. Radiation from materials containing and contaminated by Ra-226 poses a threat to human health.

Cleanup Activities, Status, and Updates

The USEPA's activities at PAI are expected to continue until approximately March 2005. Removal activities will include the following:

- Removal of all radium containing/contaminated materials;
- Removal of all hazardous substances;
- Removal of all debris;
- Decontamination of all on-site structures; and
- Assessment and removal of environmental contamination.

The USEPA understands that removal activities can be disruptive and is taking steps to minimize any disruption.

Removal of Radioactive Materials

The USEPA is segregating all of the materials on-site into various categories for disposal. This segregation process allows for the proper transportation of contaminated items in accordance with the Department of Transportation regulations. In addition, this process helps USEPA control disposal cost and conserve valuable radioactive disposal space.

During this segregation process, trucks delivering and removing waste storage containers will be operating on Riverton Avenue between 10:00 a.m. and 3:00 p.m. Traffic control procedures may restrict traffic on Riverton Avenue while trucks are present.

Decontamination of Site Structures

The USEPA will decontaminate all on-site structures and the storage yard surfaces after the removal of contaminated items from the site. Structural decontamination activities are expected to begin in early February 2005.

Assessment of Environmental Contamination

The USEPA will assess on-site and off-site subsurface soils after decontaminating the structures. Soil assessment activities are expected to begin in approximately March 2005. The USEPA will remove and dispose of all soil found to be above the Preliminary Remediation Goals, which are cleanup guidelines.

Safety Precautions

The USEPA is monitoring air quality and controlling surface contamination migration to ensure the public health is protected. Monitoring has shown no off-site migration of contaminants to date. The USEPA cleanup personnel wear personal protective equipment to minimize their exposure, as they work closely with radioactive items. Visitors must enter the site at the on-site office, located at 5543 Riverton Ave.

For More Information

You can find fact sheets and other site cleanup information on our website at: http://www.epaosc.net/Preservation_Aviation.. You can also pick up fact sheets at the on-site office listed below. If you have questions or concerns about the Preservation Aviation site, please do not hesitate to contact either of the USEPA staff listed below.

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On-Site Office
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