CALIFORNIA

Water Boards

STATE WATER RESOURCES CONTROL BOARD

REGIONAL WATER QUALITY CONTROL BOARDS

Supporting Agencies

- Office of Environmental Health Hazard Assessment (OEHHA)
- Department of Toxic Substances Control
- Los Angeles County Fire Department
- Los Angeles County Public Health Department; and
- City of Carson

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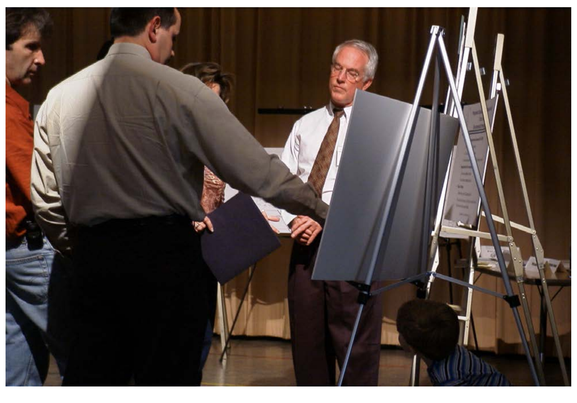
State Water Resources Control Board
Regional Water Quality Control Boards

Purpose of Today's Open House

- **Receive comments from public on scope of CEQA document.**
  - **The purpose of scoping is to identify priorities that need to be addressed in considering what impacts the cleanup will have on the environment within the community. Scoping meetings are held early in the CEQA process so as much information as possible can be taken into account.**

- **This forum enables you to meet with Regional Board staff and provide suggestions that will help us prepare the CEQA analysis. Please:**
  - **Ask Regional Board staff to clarify any issues you are unclear about.**
  - **Provide information about site-specific concerns.**
  - **Provide information about the site that may be unknown to others.**
  - **Suggest ways in which potential environmental effects or site sensitivities might be addressed.**
  - **Submit your comments to the Regional Board.**



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What is CEQA?

California Environmental Quality Act

- **1970 State of California environmental law**

- **Purpose of CEQA:**
  - **Provide information to decision makers and public about environmental consequences of actions**
  - **Evaluate the project's anticipated physical environmental effects**
  - **Provide the public with an opportunity to comment on the environmental issues**
  - **Obligation to avoid or reduce harm to the environment when feasible**

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CEQA's Core Principles

- **Projects should try to <u>avoid</u> or <u>reduce</u> adverse environmental impacts.**
- **Public decision makers should make <u>informed decisions</u> about the environmental consequences of their decisions.**
- **<u>Public participation</u> is integral to the environmental review process.**
- **Environmental review should occur as <u>early</u> in the life of the project as possible.**

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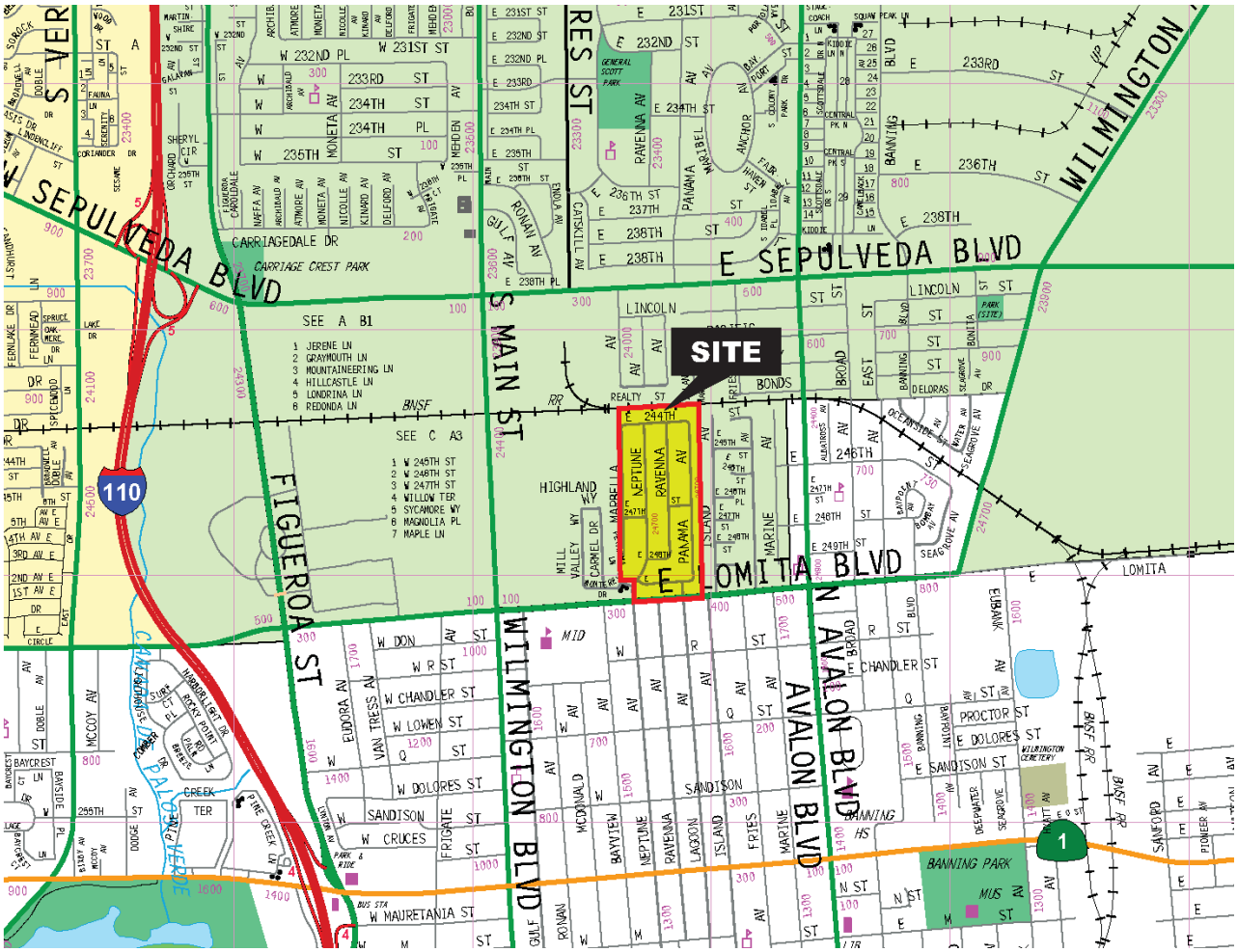
Facts and Locations

- **44-acre area in Carson, California**
- **Bounded to the North by East 244th Street, Lomita Boulevard to the South, Marbella Avenue to the West, and to the East by Panama Avenue**
- **285 single-family residential properties**



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Site History

- Kast Property Tank Farm - owned and operated by Shell Oil Company from 1924 through 1965, when it was sold to the developers
- Site included three crude oil reservoirs with a total capacity of 3.5 million barrels
- Reservoirs had concrete-lined earth slopes with frame roofs on wood posts, surrounded by earth levees averaging 20 feet in height with 7 foot-wide walks on top
- Demolition of the three crude oil reservoirs began in 1966
- Site redeveloped into a single-family residential neighborhood from approximately 1966

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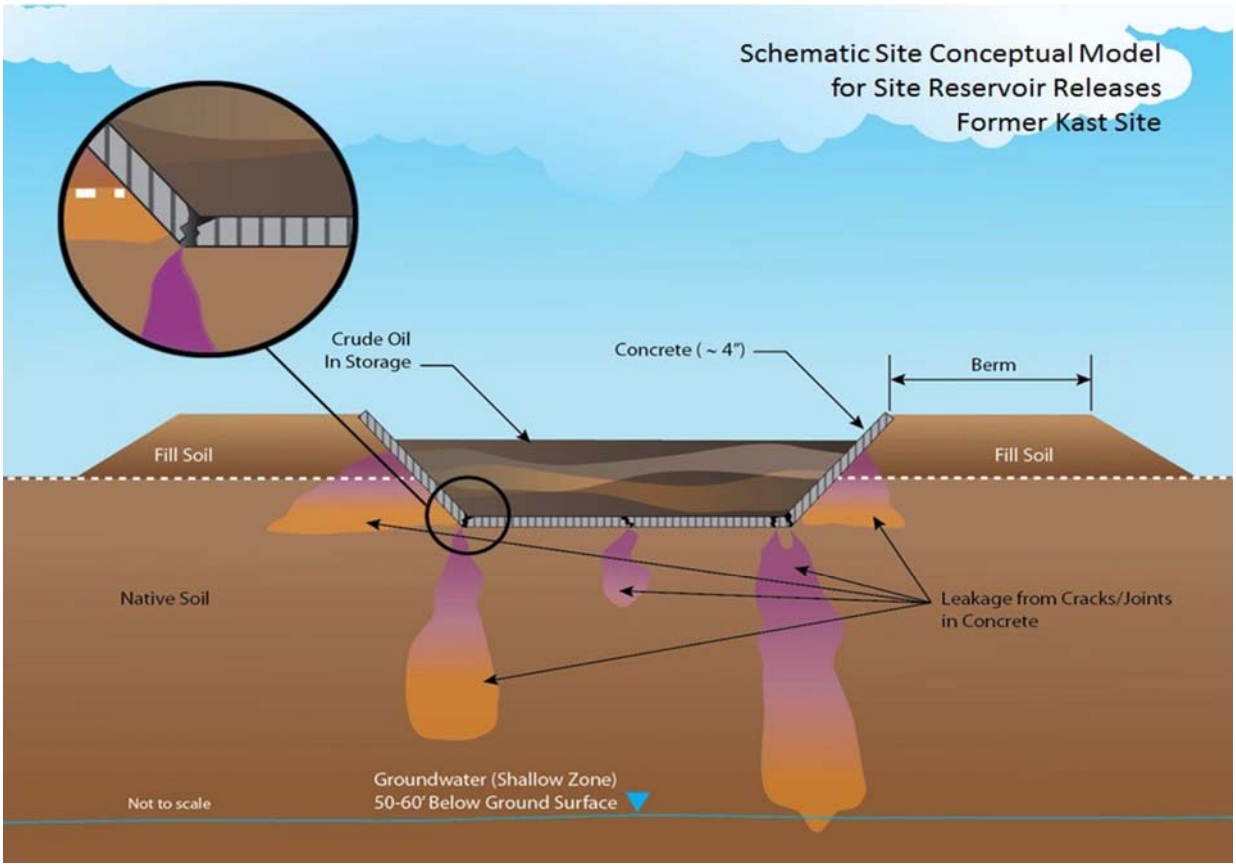
Site Contamination
Schematic of Leaking Reservoir

How Contamination Occurred between 1920 and 1965



Contaminants of Concern:

- **Methane**
  - Flammable
- **Benzene**
  - Carcinogen
- **Petroleum Hydrocarbons**
  - (Polyaromatic hydrocarbons, naphthalene)

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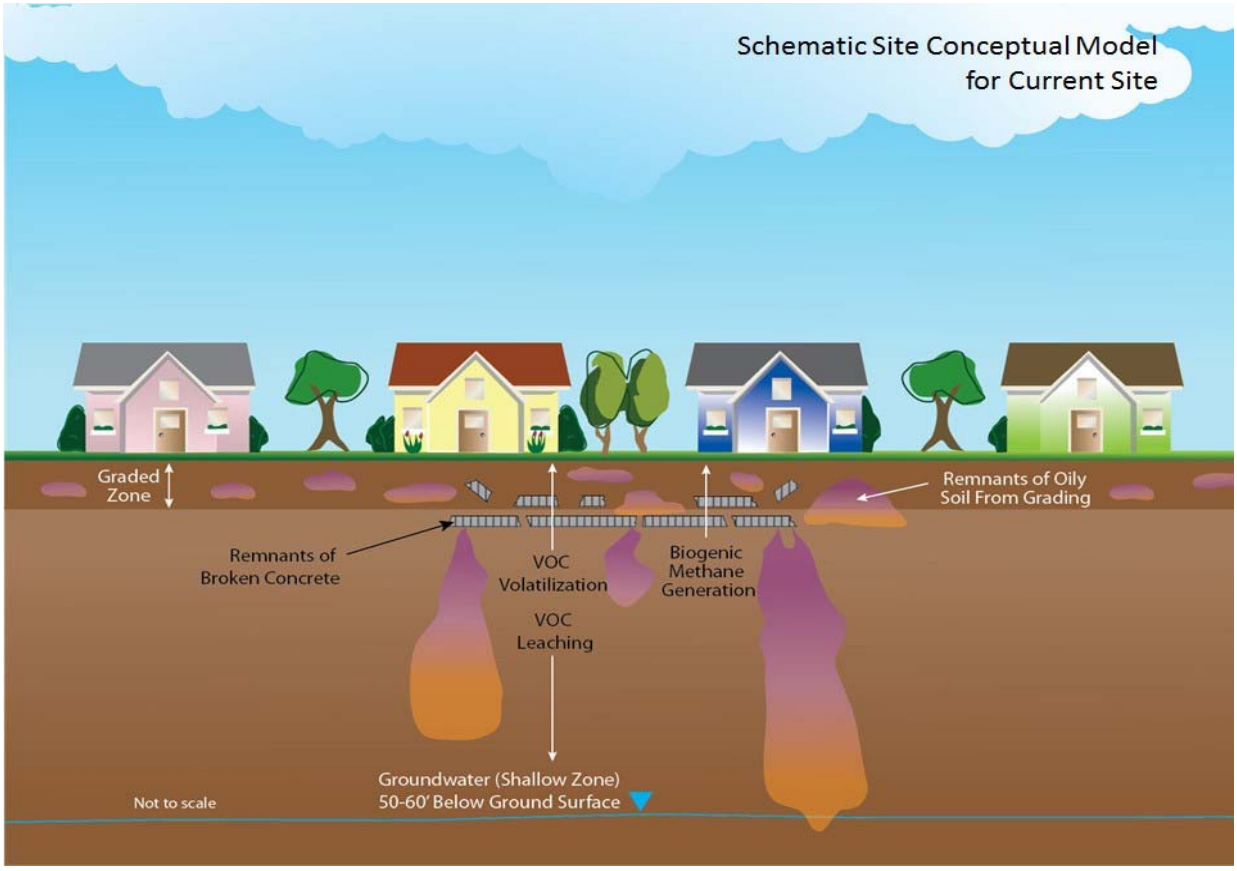
Site Contamination
Schematic of Current Site

Identifying contamination and remediation methods:



Investigation Process:

- **What is the lateral and vertical extent of the contaminants?**
- **What are the contaminants?**
- **Which technologies are most effective for the remediation?**

Water Boards

Method 1: Excavation

- **Removal of Soil;**
- **Replacement with Certified Clean Soil; and**
- **Restoration of landscape**

Before

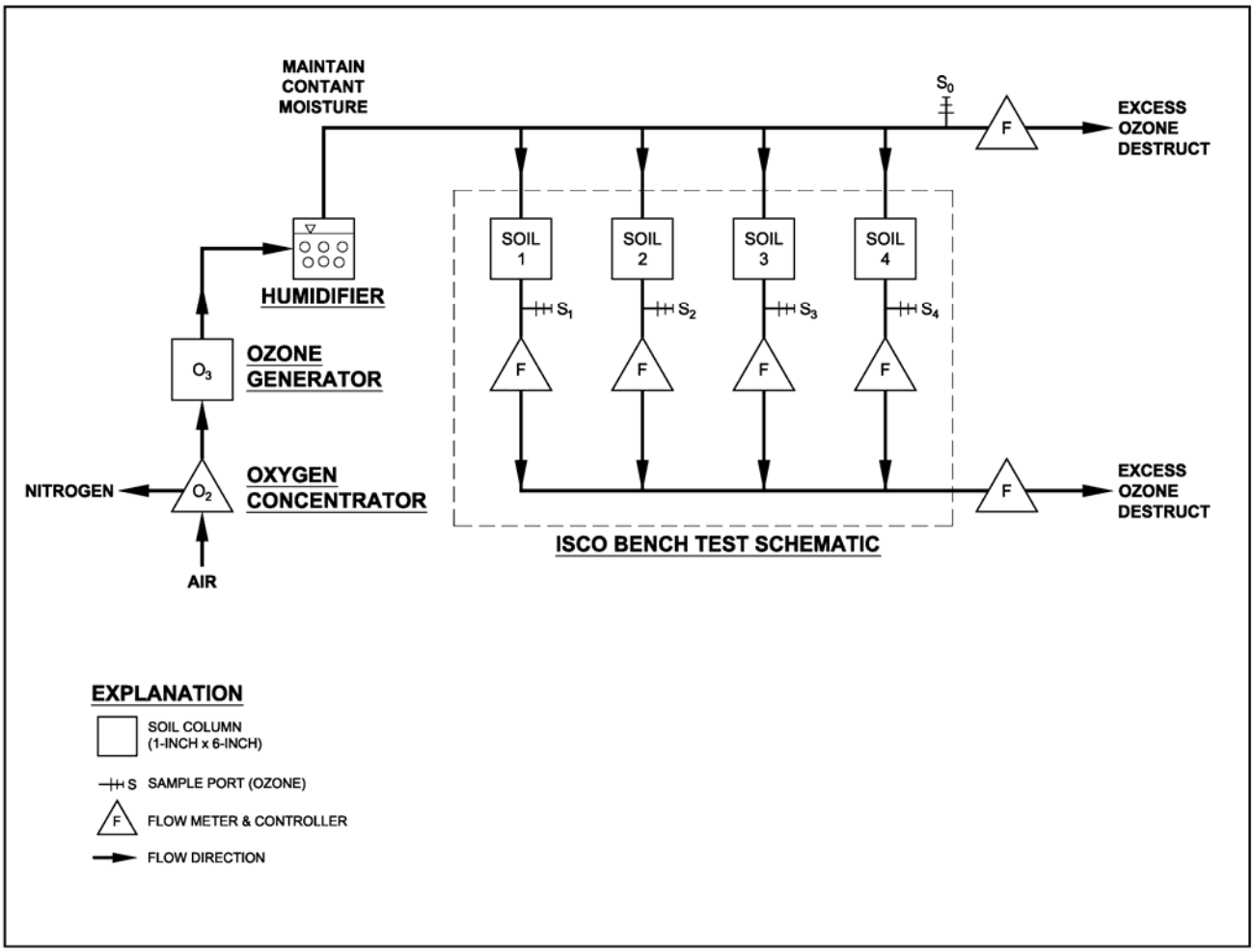
After

Method 2: Bioventing

- **Enhances the activity of soil bacteria and breaks down hydrocarbons to carbon dioxide and water**

Method 3:
In Situ Chemical Oxidation

- **Strong chemical oxidizers (ozone) are injected directly into soil to destroy chemical contaminants**



Method 4:
Soil Vapor Extraction

- Volatilize contaminants from soil into soil vapor
- Extract soil vapors from the ground
- Extracted soil vapors are treated

Environmental Factors

- **The pilot tests that were conducted are among the proposed remedies that are being considered for the cleanup of the community. The Regional Board is seeking public input regarding the environmental factors such as those listed below that may potentially be affected by proposed cleanup activities.**

	Aesthetics		Agriculture and Forestry		Air Quality
	Biological Resources		Cultural Resources		Geology/Soils
	Greenhouse Gas Emissions		Hazards and Hazardous Materials		Hydrology/Water Quality
	Land Use/Planning		Mineral Resources		Noise
	Population/Housing		Public Services		Recreation
	Transportation/Traffic		Utilities/Service Systems		

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The Regional Board is beginning the CEQA process, which includes the following steps:

- **Hold a scoping meeting to receive input from the public, including community members, and other governmental agencies with jurisdiction in the project area.**

- **Issue a Notice of Preparation if preparing an Environmental Impact Report.**

- **Prepare a draft EIR or Negative Declaration describing existing conditions in the project area, analyzing the project's significant environmental effects, and identifying measures to avoid, reduce, or mitigate significantly adverse environmental impacts of the remedial process.**

- **Distribute the draft EIR (or Negative Declaration) and draft RAP for a 30 or 45-day public review period and obtain comments from agencies and the public.**

- **Prepare written responses to comments received during the public comment period.**

- **Prepare and certify the final EIR or approve the Negative Declaration.**

- **Make a decision on the proposed action.**

- **File the Notice of Determination (NOD).**

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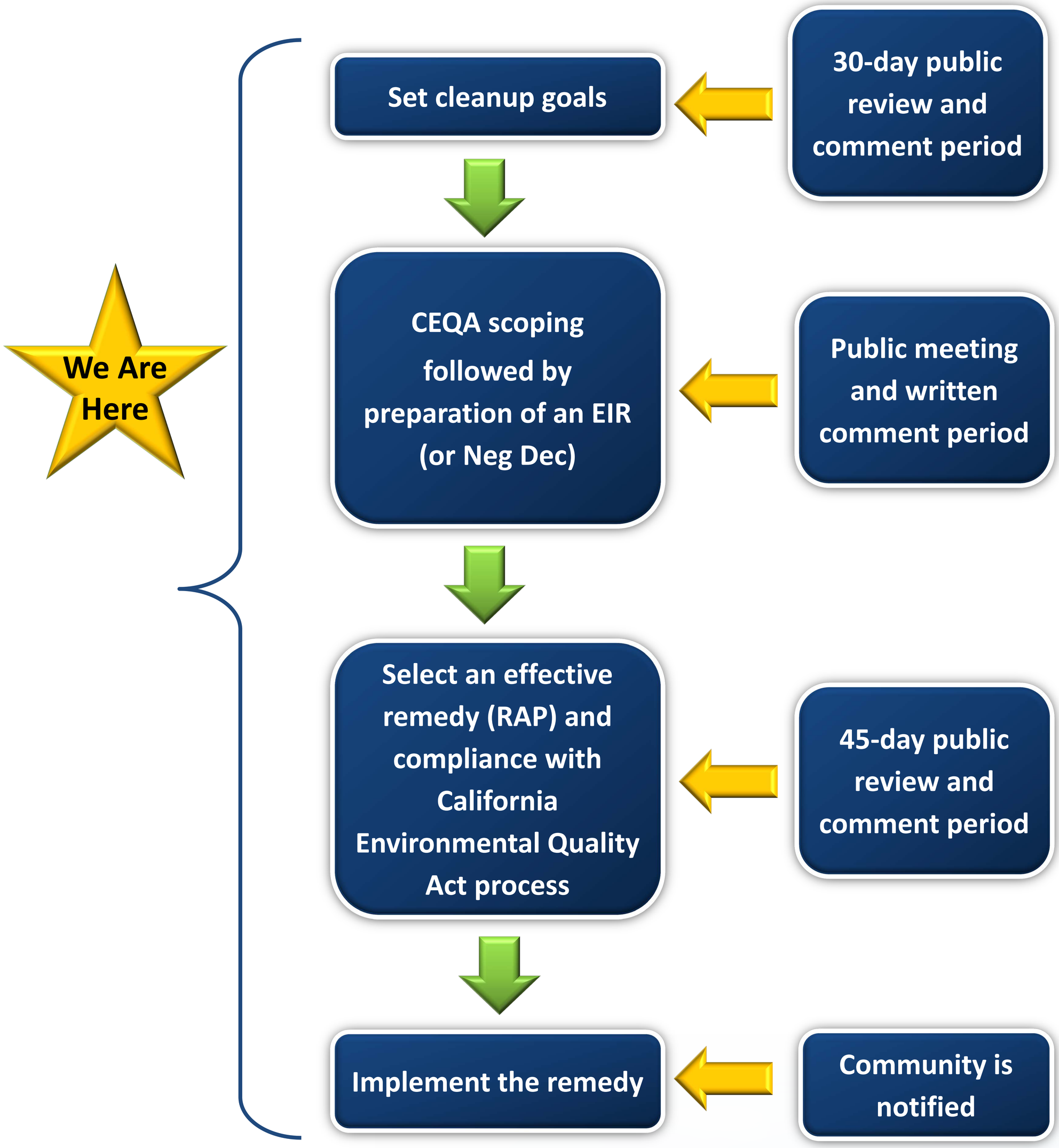
Set cleanup goals
30-day public review and comment period
CEQA scoping followed by preparation of an EIR (or Neg Dec)
Public meeting and written comment period
We Are Here
Select an effective remedy (RAP) and compliance with California Environmental Quality Act process
45-day public review and comment period
Implement the remedy
Community is notified

Public Participation Objectives

- **All members of the public shall have access to the decision-making processes of the California Environmental Protection Agency (Cal/EPA). Efforts to engage and inform the public began early and will continue through implementation of the decisions.**

Public Participation Objectives

Public participation is integral to the California Water Boards mission. Each State and Regional Water Board will:

- **Keep the public informed about Regional Board activities and the reasons why these activities are pursued;**
- **Seek input from and conduct dialogue with communities;**
- **Provide access to the Regional Board's decision-making process;**
- **Provide meaningful opportunities for the public to provide information and feedback to the Regional Board that can help the Regional Board make, implement, and enforce better decisions about water rights and water quality.**

Opportunities to Comment

- **You are encouraged to submit your comments by placing your completed comment card in the comment box (located near the entrance way).**

- **Please limit comments to environmental issues to be analyzed for purposes of CEQA.**

- **Written comments will be accepted until October 8.**

- **The draft CEQA document will be available for public review and comment in Spring of 2014.**

- **If you are unable to submit your comments today, please mail them to:**

Regional Water Quality Control Board

320 W. 4th Street, Suite 200

Attn: Cynthia Miller, Public Participation Specialist

Los Angeles, CA 90013

cynthia.miller@waterboards.ca.gov

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Is My Drinking Water Safe?

- **Yes. Water Quality Report is available.**

Who is the Supplier?

- **The California Water Service Company**

Visit: http://www.calwater.com/about/index.php

or call

the customer service department:

(310) 257-1400.

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