
Phase I & limited Phase II Investigation: railroad rights-of-way (Beverly Hills, California)

Lindmark Engineering conducted a Phase I and Limited Phase II Investigation at multiple railroad rights-of-way to determine whether chemicals of environmental concern had affected the sites. We used several sources to construct a history of the project area, including interviews, Sanborn Fire Insurance Maps, aerial photographs dating back to 1928, and governmental agency files, records, and database lists. Information from these sources and a site reconnaissance enabled us to identify areas of potential environmental concern.

To characterize the sites, we collected soil samples from 67 locations at shallow depths along the tracks and near the property boundaries. We analyzed both composite and discrete soil samples for various chemicals commonly associated with old railroad properties, including asbestos, herbicides, petroleum hydrocarbons, and volatile organic compounds. We also analyzed selected soil and wood samples for semivolatile organic compounds such as creosote and pentachlorophenol. In addition, we collected groundwater samples from two locations and analyzed them for selected compounds.

Chemicals of concern were detected in shallow soil beneath the railroad tracks and in limited areas away from the tracks. We completed the investigation by providing recommendations to the client for a corrective action plan, along with associated cost estimates. *Client: City of Beverly Hills*

For more information on this project, please contact Lindmark Engineering at (818) 707-6100 or ulf.lindmark@efiglobal.com.