

# COMMUNITY FACT SHEET

**Former Ketema/AMETEK Facility, 790 Greenfield Drive , El Cajon, CA**

**June 2016**

For more information about the investigation, please contact the project representatives listed below.

Documents for this project are available for review at the San Diego Water Board office and online at:

<http://geotracker.waterboards.ca.gov>

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## Facility History

The former Ketema/AMETEK facility is an aerospace and electronics manufacturing facility that has operated since the 1950s. Chlorinated solvents were used in operations and were discharged to groundwater. The site is currently operated by Senior Aerospace, but has been owned and operated by several different companies in the past. AMETEK operated the site from 1968 to 1988 and is the current responsible party for environmental cleanup.

## Chlorinated Solvents

The groundwater chemicals of concern are trichloroethene, tetrachloroethene, and 1,4 dioxane. These chemicals can form vapors, which can potentially migrate upward into overlying buildings.

## Groundwater Investigation and Cleanup

This Community Fact Sheet is being distributed to notify interested parties of an environmental investigation and cleanup being conducted at the former Ketema/AMETEK aerospace facility (Figure 1). Groundwater investigations and clean-up efforts are being performed under the direction of the California Regional Water Quality Control Board, San Diego Region (San Diego Water Board). Environmental monitoring at the adjacent Magnolia Elementary School is overseen by the California Department of Toxic Substances Control (DTSC). Both agencies are part of the California Environmental Protection Agency.

**Groundwater Contamination.** Past operations at the facility have resulted in groundwater contaminated with chlorinated solvents. The contamination was discovered in 1987 and, since that time, licensed environmental contractors have collected soil, soil vapor, and groundwater samples. The investigation and cleanup efforts have included:

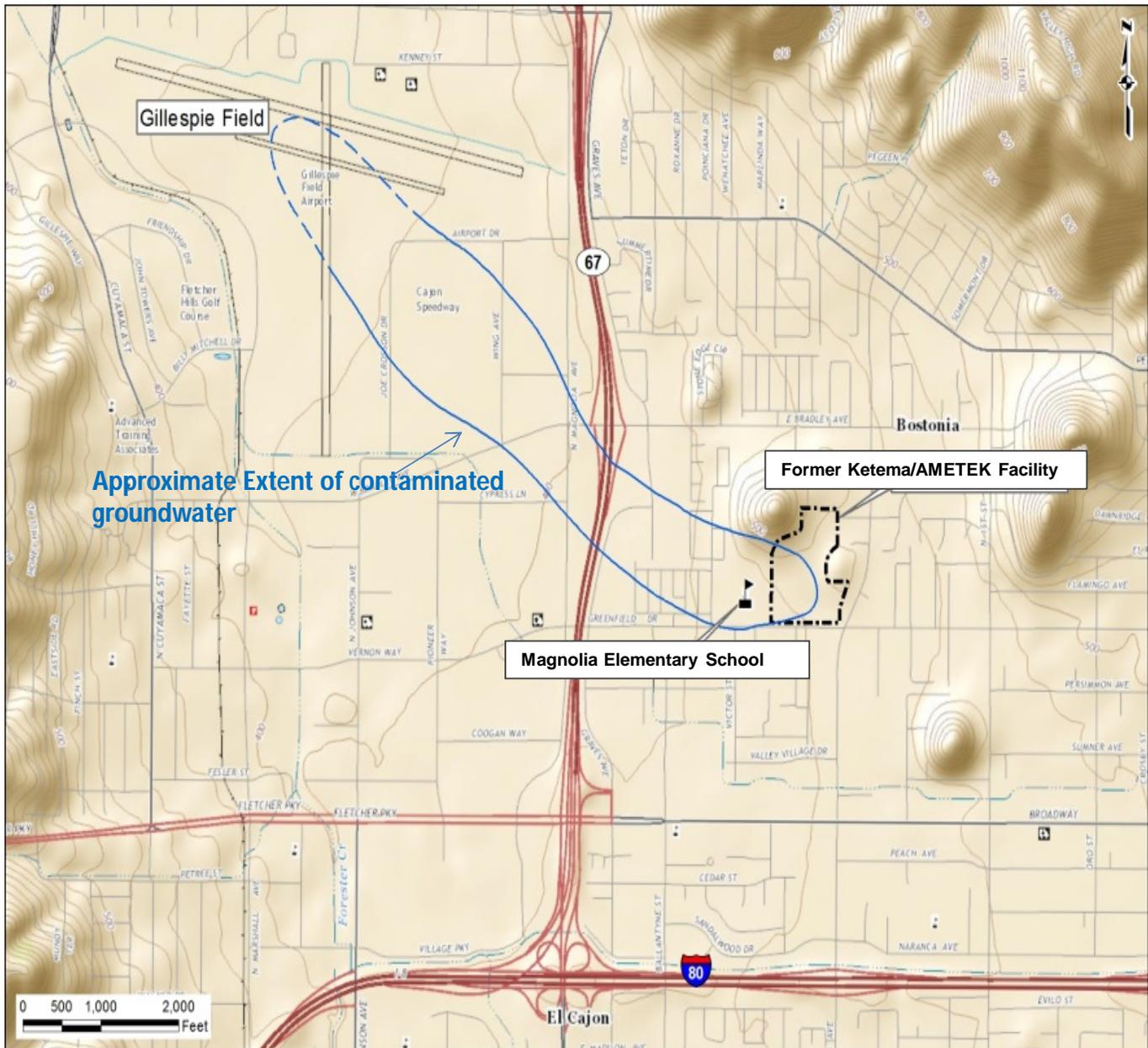
- Installation and periodic testing of more than 60 groundwater monitoring wells;
- Groundwater extraction and treatment from the site and adjacent Magnolia Elementary School; and
- Application of an approved oxidant compound to destroy the contaminants in the groundwater.

The concentrations in groundwater are stable or decreasing in most monitoring locations, which indicates the chemicals are naturally decreasing and cleanup efforts are effective. Groundwater and remediation monitoring will continue until the pollution is cleaned up.

**Your Drinking Water is Safe** The groundwater is not used for drinking water purposes. The City of El Cajon receives water from the Helix Water District (HWD), which receives its drinking water from other sources. HWD regularly tests the water to ensure it meets all federal and state drinking water standards before it is delivered to your home. For more information about your drinking water, please contact HWD at: [helix@helixwater.org](mailto:helix@helixwater.org).

**Magnolia Elementary School is Safe** Soil vapor and indoor air testing has been conducted at the school since 1994 and DTSC has concluded that the school is safe to occupy for both staff and students. Vapor monitoring at the school will continue until the groundwater pollution is cleaned up.

**Additional Work Proposed for 2016** A health risk assessment will be conducted to assess potential vapor intrusion for the areas overlying the groundwater plume between Magnolia Elementary School and State Route 67. The risk assessment work will begin in the summer of 2016.



**Figure 1: Former Ketema/AMETEK Facility Location and Extent of Contaminated Groundwater**

**GeoTracker** is a Internet-accessible database system used by the State Board, Regional Boards, and Local Agencies to track and archive compliance data from contaminated sites. The tools built into Geotracker can help the user quickly identify and display groundwater monitoring reports, site assessments, human health risk assessments, and remediation reports. To access this data, just click on the link below for the GeoTracker case file on the Ketema/AMETEK Facility.

[http://geotracker.waterboards.ca.gov/profile\\_report.asp?global\\_id=SL209234198](http://geotracker.waterboards.ca.gov/profile_report.asp?global_id=SL209234198)