# Naturally-occurring Asbestos







#### Larry Greene Air Pollution Control Officer October 5, 2004



### What I'll Be Covering

- Asbestos overview
- AQMD's responsibilities
- State ATCM requirements
- Determination for Folsom
- Long-term actions

#### **Asbestos Overview**

 Asbestos fibers are a human health hazard when airborne.

•Chrysotile is the most common kind in California. Tremolite and actinolite are also found.



•Asbestos is classified as a carcinogen.

 Asbestos is often found in serpentine rock and ultramafic rock, especially near fault zones such as those in the foothills.

#### **Air District Responsibilities**

#### Demolition –

Properly removing asbestos-containing material (insulation, tiles, "cottage cheese" ceiling material) from buildings.

•Naturally-occurring asbestos (NOA) -Occurs in rock and soil as a result of natural geologic processes, often near earthquake faults.

> FACT: 44 of 58 counties in California have areas of NOA

#### ATCM

#### (Asbestos Airborne Toxic Control Measure)

The ATCM was created by Cal EPA/Air Resources Board and applies when:

- •The area of soil to be disturbed is in an ultramafic rock zone.
- •Any portion of the area has NOA, serpentine or ultramafic rock.
- NOA, serpentine or ultramafic rock is discovered by the land owner, a geologist or the APCO after the start of grading or construction.



### **ATCM Requirements**

The ATCM requires implementation of dust control measures, including:

•Regularly watering areas where grading or other soil disturbance is occurring.

•Preventing the "track-out" of soil by construction equipment leaving the work site.



•At the end of construction, covering disturbed soil with 3-inches of clean fill dirt or vegetative cover.





•July 21, 2004, DTSC notified AQMD that NOA had been found at proposed Lago Vista High School site in Folsom.



Proposed Lago Vista High School Site at Golf Links Drive and Broadstone Parkway





## **Determination (cont.)**

•Numerous meetings held with City of Folsom and Elliott Homes (developer of Empire Ranch).

- •Folsom immediately required developers to implement heavy watering to control dust.
- •Elliott Homes required to submit a dust mitigation plan for AQMD approval.



## **Determination (cont.)**

- •AQMD met with State Geologist's staff.
  - •On August 12, requested a determination by State Geologist on extent of NOA in Folsom.
- •Began preparations to assist Folsom with a community meeting to be held in October.
- Formed internal working group to monitor/manage process and to develop a long term strategy.
- •Received a response from State Geologist on September 17, 2004.





### **Determination (cont.)**

AQMD has now determined:

•Copper Hill Volcanics and Gopher Ridge Volcanics can be expected to contain asbestos.

•NOA occurrences are small and irregularly distributed.

•On-site inspection will be required to determine if asbestos is present.



•Areas are subject to the ATCM unless sampling of sites proves otherwise.







•The City of Folsom will create a standard policy for construction permits.

•AQMD will work with the County of Sacramento to determine procedures.

•City of Folsom will hole a public workshop on this issue with support from the AQMD.

•A more-defined geologic map is needed for the Folsom area.

•AQMD will work with State Geologist to determine cost and timeframe.



















Rock quarry and examples of development at Empire Ranch



Additional example of development at Empire Ranch (looking northwest)

