

CALIFORNIA ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY ACT
NOTICE OF EXEMPTION

2019038413

To: Office of Planning and Research
State Clearinghouse
P.O. Box 3044, 1400 Tenth Street, Room 212
Sacramento, CA 95812-3044

From: Department of Toxic Substances Control
Site Mitigation and Restoration Program
5796 Corporate Avenue
Cypress, CA 90630

Project Title: Associated Plating Company Corrective Measure Study

Project Location: 9636 Ann Street, Santa Fe Springs, California 90670

County: Los Angeles

Project Description: Project activities include installation of an in-situ soil vapor extraction (SVE) system for volatile organic compounds (VOCs) in soil and soil gas; implementation of institutional controls for metals in soil; and monitoring of VOCs in groundwater. The project is a minor action that is designed to mitigate potential risk to human health and the environment from VOCs in soil and soil gas. In addition, a Land Use Covenant (LUC) will be recorded to restrict land use to commercial/industrial, and to maintain the concrete and asphalt surface to prevent exposure of onsite workers to impacted soil.

Background:

The 1.25-acre Site is developed with an approximately 17,000 square foot metal plating facility. The plating facility specializes in the use of fused tin and tin/lead alloys to conduct electro and electroless plating. Nickel and copper are the most commonly used metals at the Associated Plating Company (APC) facility. Precious metal plating is also performed using silver, gold, tin, zinc, and aluminum. Several plating lines, with associated tanks, are located within the facility. DTSC authorized operation of two hazardous waste units on August 4, 1993 under the DTSC Permit by Rule. The Site is surrounded by industrial facilities to the north, east, south, and west.

Previous Investigations:

On December 31, 1996, APC submitted a Phase I Environmental Assessment and Limited Environmental Compliance Assessment to DTSC. On March 9, 2001, DTSC identified five solid waste management units that required further investigation. Subsequent Phase II investigations in November 2001 and February 2002 identified soil and ground impacts by total petroleum hydrocarbon (TPH) and VOCs. DTSC and APC entered into a Corrective Action Consent Agreement in January 2004.

Several facility investigation (FI) events were conducted in September 2004, April 2006, April 2012, and February 2014, which included further soil, soil gas, and groundwater investigation to aid the understanding of contaminant distribution and conceptual site model development. More monitoring wells were installed in January, February, and December 2015, and groundwater was monitored intermittently until May 2017. The groundwater concentrations over the past three years have been generally below the levels safe for human health, except for slight exceedance of vinyl chloride in a few wells. The total risk at the Site exceeds the acceptable levels, primarily due to VOCs in soil vapor.

The first draft CMP was prepared in February 2007. In June 2016, an SVE Pilot test was conducted to develop an effective design and establish performance objectives for a full-scale SVE remedy. Based on DTSC review and comments on the SVE Pilot test report, additional soil vapor samples were collected to provide updated subsurface conditions and ensure optimal positioning of SVE wells. The CMP was then revised in February 2018 based on the SVE pilot test, and again in July 2018 based on DTSC's comments.

Project Activities:

1. Installation and operation of an in-situ SVE system to remove VOCs from soil and soil gas: a total of 4 dual-nested vertical extraction well clusters, conveyance piping, an extraction system and soil vapor monitoring wells will be installed. Extracted vapors will be treated using Vapor Granular Activated Carbon (V-GAC) Vessels. The SVE system will comply with the standards specified in the SVE permit from the South Coast Air Quality Management District.
2. Implementation of institutional controls for metals in soil: a LUC will be executed to restrict use of the Site to commercial/industrial use. The existing concrete and asphalt surface will be maintained, and a soil management plan will be implemented, to minimize/prevent exposure of workers to impacted soil
3. Monitoring of VOCs in groundwater using existing wells: groundwater monitoring will continue as currently conducted

Name of Public Agency Approving Project: Department of Toxic Substances Control

Name of Person or Agency Carrying Out Project: Associated Plating Company

Exemption Status:

- Ministerial [PRC, Sec. 21080(b)(1); CCR, Sec. 15268]
- Declared Emergency [PRC, Sec. 21080(b)(3); CCR, Sec. 15269(a)]
- Emergency Project [PRC, Sec. 21080(b)(4); CCR, Sec. 15269(b)(c)]
- Categorical Exemption: [Class 30 Categorical Exemption Cal. Code Regs., Title 14, §15330]
- Statutory Exemptions: [State code section number]
- General Rule [CCR, Sec. 15061(b)(3)]


Exemption Title: Minor actions to prevent, minimize, stabilize, mitigate or eliminate the release or threat of release of hazardous waste or hazardous substances.

Reasons Why Project is Exempt: DTSC has determined that the project is a Class 30 categorical exemption project (as provided in California Code of Regulations, title 14, sections 15300.2 and 15330) and is, therefore, exempt from the provisions of California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) and the Guidelines for the following reasons:

1. The project is a minor action designed to prevent, minimize, stabilize, mitigate, or eliminate the release or threat of release of hazardous waste or hazardous substances.
2. The project will not exceed \$1 million in cost.
3. The project will be consistent with applicable State and local environmental permitting requirements including, but not limited to stormwater discharge requirements issued by the State Water Resources Control Board or an appropriate Regional Water Quality Control Board; and approved by the regulatory body with jurisdiction over the Site.
4. The project does not involve the onsite use of a hazardous waste incinerator or thermal treatment unit.
5. The project does not involve the relocation of residences or businesses.
6. The project does not involve the potential release into the air of volatile organic compounds as defined in Health and Safety Code Section 25123. (Exception: Small-scale in situ soil vapor extraction and treatment systems which have been permitted by the local Air Pollution Control District or Air Quality Management District.)
7. The exceptions pursuant to California Code of Regulations, Title 14, Section 15300.2 have been addressed as follows:
 - a. Cumulative Impact. The project will not result in cumulative impacts because it is designed to be a short-term final remedy that would not lead to a succession of projects of the same type in the same place over time.
 - b. Significant Effect. The environmental safeguards and monitoring procedures that are enforceable and made a condition of project approval will prevent unusual circumstances from occurring so that there is no possibility that the project will have a significant effect on the environment.
 - c. Scenic Highways. The project will not damage scenic resources, including but not limited to, trees, historic buildings, rock outcroppings, or similar resources, because it is not located within a highway officially designated as a state scenic highway.
 - d. Hazardous Waste Sites. The project is not located on a site which is included on any list compiled pursuant to Section 65962.5 of the Government Code.
<http://calepa.ca.gov/sitecleanup/cortese/elist/default.htm>
 - e. Historical Resources. The project will not cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of a historical resource at the Site because there are none at the Site.

Evidence to support the above reasons is documented in the project file record, available for inspection at:

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Site Mitigation and Restoration Program
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 Branch Chief Signature		<u>3/15/19</u> Date
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TO BE COMPLETED BY OPR ONLY

Date Received for Filing and Posting at OPR:

Governor's Office of Planning & Research

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