

NOTICE OF EXEMPTION

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
9211 Oakdale Avenue
Chatsworth, CA 91311

Project Title: Environmental Engineering / Cost Analysis Los Angeles Forebay Perchlorate and Volatile Organic Compound Cleanup Project (Vernon Perchlorate)		
Project Address: Saco Street and East 37th Street	City: Vernon	County: Los Angeles
Project Applicant: Water Replenishment District of Southern California		
Approval Action Under Consideration by DTSC:		
<input type="checkbox"/> Removal Action Workplan	<input type="checkbox"/> Initial Permit Issuance	<input type="checkbox"/> Permit Re-Issuance
<input type="checkbox"/> Corrective Measure Study/Statement of Basis	<input type="checkbox"/> Permit Modification	<input type="checkbox"/> Closure Plan
<input type="checkbox"/> Remedial Action Plan	<input type="checkbox"/> Regulations	<input type="checkbox"/> Interim Removal
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other (specify): Environmental Engineering and Cost Analysis		
Statutory Authority:		
<input type="checkbox"/> California H&SC, Chap. 6.5 <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> California H&SC, Chap. 6.8 <input type="checkbox"/> Other (specify):		

Project Description: The Project will address a perchlorate 'hot spot' and a comingled volatile organic compounds (VOC's) contaminant groundwater plume detected in monitoring well (MW3) as part of a Department of Toxic Substances Control (DTSC) Superfund remedial project of a former dry-cleaning recycler (AAD). The Site is located in an industrial area and is entirely paved. The proposed project will consist of a network of groundwater monitoring and extraction wells, with associated piping to carry the groundwater to a proximally located treatment system. The treatment system will employ a biological treatment/advanced oxidation process/granular activated carbon/single pass Ion Exchange train. The treated water will then be discharged to the storm drain with proper permitting. These actions are required to immediately reduce contaminant mass and the potential migration of contaminants found in AAD MW3.

Background: During periodic groundwater sampling events at AAD groundwater in AAD MW3 detected perchlorate at 5,000 parts per billion (ppb). The action level for Perchlorate is 6 ppb. Due to the facts that AADs predominant contaminant is perchloroethylene (PCE) and MW3 is located upgradient of AAD, DTSC determined that the Perchlorate in the well was from an offsite unknown source and not related to AAD. Although Perchlorate is found in many other wells in the area none were as concentrated or consistent therefore DTSC determined this perchlorate contamination appears to be a 'hot spot'. DTSC then partnered with the Water Replenishment District of Southern California (WRD) to form the Los Angeles Forebay Perchlorate and Volatile Organic Compound Cleanup Project (Vernon Perchlorate).

The State Water Resources Control Board (SWRCB), Division of Financial Assistance (DFA) administers Proposition 1 grant funds for various groundwater cleanup and prevention projects. WRD was awarded grant funding by the SWRCB to remediate the perchlorate "hot spot". These funds will be used to implement the project and work must be completed by February 2023. DTSC is providing regulatory oversight.

Project Activities: The installation of three groundwater extraction wells will operate to remove an anticipated 60 gallons per minute (gpm) (with an upper limit of approximately 100 gpm) to support the full-time operation of the treatment system. The system will include a raw water storage tank, a transfer pump, a granular activated carbon (GAC) system, pre-filtration system, an Ion Exchange (IX) system, and a treated water storage tank. Treatment unit piping will be constructed underground. The system installation is planned to be completed within 12 months.

The raw water tank will receive groundwater from the three groundwater extraction wells. The raw water tank will have a minimum capacity of 1,000 gallons. A transfer pump will convey the water from the raw water tank through the downstream treatment processes. A GAC system will be installed to remove VOCs (e.g., PCE and trichloroethylene [TCE]) from the water downstream of the raw water tank. The GAC system will include two adsorption vessels connected in series. Each vessel will have the capacity to contain a minimum of 2,000 pounds of GAC (4,000 pounds total). The initial fill of GAC will likely be virgin coconut shell carbon. Replacement fill may use a different type of material depending on the actual raw water quality and the performance of the coconut shell carbon. The GAC vessels will be periodically flushed to remove solids from the carbon and backwash water will be conveyed to the pre-filtration system or disposed of in the local sewer system. The GAC vessels will be periodically drained during GAC replacement. Water will be conveyed to the pre-filtration system. Spent GAC would be transported to a recycling facility or landfill for lawful disposal.

The pre-filtration system will be installed to remove solids from groundwater, which have the potential to interfere with downstream treatment processes. The pre-filtration system will include bag filters. Spent filters will be transported to a landfill for lawful disposal. The IX system will be installed to remove perchlorate from water downstream of the bag filters and will include two IX vessels connected in series. Each vessel will have the capacity to contain a minimum of 60 cubic feet of IX resin (120 cubic feet total). The IX vessels will be drained during IX resin replacement. Water will be conveyed to the pre-filtration system or disposed of in the local sewer system. Spent IX resin will be transported to a recycling facility or landfill for lawful disposal.

The treatment system will be permitted and operated in accordance with Los Angeles Regional Water Quality Control Board (Regional Board) requirements for treated water discharge to storm drain and downstream surface water (i.e., National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) requirements). Treatment system monitoring will be implemented to provide data to support the optimization of effective treatment and to confirm compliance with the Regional Board requirements. The project's objective 'to clean up a perchlorate hot spot' is expected to take 3 years.

Specific enforceable environmental safeguards and monitoring procedures will be made a condition of project approval to ensure that impacts to the environment are less than significant; these include an approved Excavation Plan, Health and Safety Plan, South Coast Air Quality Management District (SCAQMD) Rules 402 and 403 compliance, and Project Quality Assurance requirements, in addition to the NPDES.

In the event biological, cultural or historical resources are discovered in the course of project activities, work will be suspended while a qualified biologist, cultural or historical specialist makes an assessment of the area and arrangements are made to protect or preserve any resources that are discovered. If human remains are discovered, no further disturbance will occur in the location where the remains are found, and the County Coroner will be notified pursuant to the Health and Safety Code, Chapter 2, Section 7050.5.

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

Name of Person or Agency Carrying Out Project: Water Replenishment District and Department of Toxic Substances Control

Exempt Status: (check one)

- 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: [CCR Title 14, Sec. 153##]
 Statutory Exemptions: [State Code Section Number]
 Common Sense Exemption [CCR, Sec. 15061(b)(3)]

Exemption Title: Common Sense Exemption: It can be seen with certainty that there is no possibility that the activity in question may have a significant effect on the environment.

Reasons Why Project is Exempt: DTSC has determined with certainty that there is no possibility that the activities in question may have a significant effect on the environment because the project would not result in "a substantial, or potentially substantial, adverse change in any of the physical conditions within the area affected by the project, including land, air, water, minerals, flora, fauna, ambient noise, and objects of historic or aesthetic significance."

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

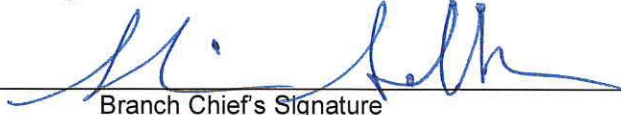
Department of Toxic Substances Control
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<https://www.envirostor.dtsc.ca.gov/public/>

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Branch Chief's Signature

10/16/2019
Date

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TO BE COMPLETED BY OPR ONLY Governor's Office of Planning & Research

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