

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
 Permitting Division
 8800 Cal Center Drive
 Sacramento, CA 95826

Project Title: EMERGENCY PERMIT FOR LEVEL II EMERGENCY RESPONSE DISPOSAL TREATMENT BY DETONATION, NAVAL AIR FACILITY (NAF) BOMBING RANGE		
Project Address: 1065 3 rd St, Building 139	City: NAF El Centro	County: Imperial
Project Applicant: Kathy Beverly, Supervisory Environmental Engineer, Department of the Navy, Region Southwest		
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"/> Emergency Permit	<input type="checkbox"/> Other (specify):	
Statutory Authority:		
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> California H&SC, Chap. 6.5 <input type="checkbox"/> California H&SC, Chap. 6.8 <input type="checkbox"/> Other (specify):		

Project Description:

The California Department of Toxic Substances Control (DTSC), pursuant to authority granted under California Code of Regulations, Title 22, Division 4.5, Chapter 20, Section 66270.61, has issued an Emergency Permit to Naval Air Facility (NAF) El Centro to treat hazardous waste by open detonation. Specifically, one (1) expired marine marker flare, fifteen (15) expired pyrotechnic hand grenade simulators, and five (5) vehicle modular overpressure disruptors must be treated. No alternative treatment to detonation is available.

The hazardous waste items are currently being stored at Naval Air Station Coronado (EPA ID CA7170090016) in San Diego, California. DTSC has determined as a safety precaution to prevent an accident or severe injury, an Emergency Permit should be issued to treat the hazardous waste at the nearest safe location, which has been determined to be NAF El Centro's Bombing Range (EPA ID CA6170090017).

Background:

The marine marker flares, the pyrotechnic hand grenade simulators and the vehicle modular overpressure disruptors contain explosive materials. When explosive materials degrade, such as within expired products, the explosives become increasingly unstable. Unstable explosives can unpredictably detonate when improperly handled, making expired explosive materials hazardous. Detonation is the recommended treatment for expired explosives.

Treatment will be performed at the NAF El Centro on an active Explosive Ordnance Device (EOD) training area. The range is a secure and secluded military facility designed for this use. The range is located in a remote area and the nearest residential community is eight miles away. NAF El Centro is a secured government installation and no unauthorized personnel are allowed on the Base property. During operations, the range facility is secured, and any surrounding activities are monitored.

Project Activities:

The treatment of the hazardous waste involves addition of other explosives to trigger detonation of the waste explosives. Only EOD trained specialists will be handling the material. Movement, preparation, and treatment of the items will be in accordance with established military procedures. The area shall be inspected after treatment to ensure there is no release of hazardous waste from the area. Any untreated waste will be immediately re-treated by repeated detonation, as necessary.

Within 10 business days of the expiration of this permit, NAF El Centro will submit a final report, signed in accordance with Title 22, California Code of Regulations section 66270.11(d). This report shall include certification that the treatment area has been cleared of all residual hazardous waste generated from this emergency treatment and all generated waste has been properly disposed.

The Emergency Permit is effective from December 26, 2019 through March 25, 2020.

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

Name of Person or Agency Carrying Out Project: Department of the Navy, Naval Air Facility (NAF) El Centro.

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

Exemption Title: Specific actions necessary to prevent or mitigate an emergency.

Reasons Why Project is Exempt: This action is necessary to prevent an emergency.

The administrative record for this project is available for inspection at:

Department of Toxic Substances Control
Sacramento Regional Office
8800 Cal Center Drive
Sacramento, California 95826

Matthew Mullinax
Project Manager

Hazardous Substances Engineer
Title

916-255-6531
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Matthew Mullinax

Approver's Signature

12/26/2019
Date

Matthew Mullinax
Approver

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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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