

CALIFORNIA ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY ACT
NOTICE OF EXEMPTION

2019120664

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: Travis Air Force Base RCRA Hazardous Waste Facility Permit Renewal

Project Applicant: Travis Air Force Base

Project Location: 411 Airmen Drive, Travis Air Force Base, California 94535

County: Solano

Project Description: The Department of Toxic Substances Control (DTSC) is considering the renewal of the Hazardous Waste Facility Permit (Permit) for Travis Air Force Base (AFB). This Permit will allow Travis AFB to store hazardous waste generated through aircraft and base infrastructure operation and maintenance activities. The hazardous waste is stored in the Travis AFB Hazardous Waste Storage Facility (Facility), which consists of two units: Building 1365 and the Tank Farm. Building 1365 is a container storage building that stores 55-gallon drums in 15 different bays at the capacity of 56,760 gallons (equivalent to approximately 1,032 55-gallon drums). The Tank Farm holds six Onground Tanks, at the capacity of 2,500 gallons per tank. The changes to the proposed Permit include the following minor operational changes:

- Addition of 49 (36 EPA-listed and 13 California-listed) new categories of allowable hazardous waste at the existing storage facilities;
- Addition of operating flexibility for all bays within Building 1365 to allow storage on any permitted hazardous waste without restriction except as required by regulations to meet hazard protection standards; and
- Allow two existing Onground Tanks in the Tank Farm to store jet fuels contaminated with only water (Retrograde Material) that may be resold.

Background: Travis AFB is owned and operated by the United States Air Force, 60th Mobility Wing and located in Fairfield, California. The Facility has been permitted since 1985, originally by the Department of Health Services, the predecessor to DTSC. The 1985 permit was determined to be Categorically Exempt from CEQA and a Notice of Exemption was filed on May 5, 1985 with the State Clearinghouse (SCH 1985050565).

The 1993 permit was issued by DTSC after DTSC prepared a Negative Declaration. The 1993 permit renewal included expansion of operations at Building 1365 to the current levels, the pre-existing Tank Farm unit, and the PCB Storage building. The PCB Storage building was closed in 1993, cleaned of contamination between 1999 and 2008, and was removed from the permit upon completion of the cleanup.

The most recent permit was issued in 2008 and was determined by DTSC to be exempt from CEQA, for which a Notice of Exemption was filed on January 3, 2008 (SCH 2008018017). No changes to the previous operations at Buildings 1365 or the Tank Farm were proposed or included in the 2008 permit. This Permit includes inspection plans and contingency plans for any hazardous waste spills. Building 1365 and the Tank Farm were last assessed and certified by professional engineers in July 2006 and March 2019, respectively. The Facility has no significant changes from its previous permit to this Permit.

Project Activities: The proposed Permit authorizes Travis AFB to continue storing hazardous waste in the Facility. The capacity of the waste being stored will not change from the previous permit. The only changes from the previous permit is that the Facility will be storing 36 additional EPA listed wastes and 13 additional California listed wastes and added operational flexibilities consistent with current hazardous waste operational regulations and standards.

This Facility generates the following hazardous wastes: used fuels/oils, used solvents, paint waste, granular wastes, rags/absorbents, wastewater, sludge, corrosive liquid, used fiber liquids, and unused chemicals. These waste streams are generated at Travis AFB from its operation and maintenance activities. The wastes are stored in Travis AFB's Facility, which has two permitted units: Building 1365 and the Tank Farm. These wastes are kept onsite no longer than one year.

Building 1365 (container storage), is approximately 145 feet (north-south) by 90 feet (east-west). The unit has 15 different bays, where there are six double storage bays in the east side and three double and six single storage bays on the west side. Each bay stores wastes in containers. These containers are never filled to capacity to avoid damage and are kept

closed at all times except for the incidental time needed for sampling or repacking. Incompatible wastes are also never stored in the same bay. The containers that store free liquid wastes are kept in bays with secondary containment. Containers that contain waste without free liquids (e.g. rags or soils) are stored separately from those that contain liquid wastes. These drums are not exposed to windblown rain because they are kept inside Building 1365. Therefore, the risk of waste spills leaking into the environment is low.

The other unit is the Tank Farm, which consists of six Onground Tanks. These tanks are used to store Jet-A fuels, JP-8 fuels, and petroleum-based oils (Used Oils and Used Fuels). Jet fuels contaminated with only water are not useable by Travis AFB and the Facility manages these fuels as Retrograde Material, which is sold offsite to industrial users. These unusable fuels are stored in Tanks 1 and 2. Tanks 3, 4, 5, and 6 store wastes contaminated with hazardous constituents and water. The risks of incompatible waste stored together is very unlikely since each tank only stores a particular waste stream. These tanks have both a secondary and tertiary containment. Each tank has a secondary containment that can hold up to 100% of each tank’s capacity. The Tank Farm also has a tertiary containment, which is designed to hold up to 2,500 gallons (capacity of one tank) if any leaks or spills were to happen from a tank leak.

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

Name of Person or Agency Carrying Out Project: United States Air Force

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: [CCR, Sec. 15301]
- Statutory Exemptions: [State code section number]
- Common Sense Exemption [CCR, Sec. 15061(b)(3)]

Exemption Title: Existing Facilities

Reasons Why Project is Exempt: This project involves the renewal of the existing Permit. The permit renewal will not result in any physical changes to the facility. The permit renewal will not result in any expansion of the existing use of the facility and will not create any impacts upon the environment. Only minor operational changes will occur, which will not result in a change in levels or volumes of operations. DTSC has evaluated whether any of the exceptions to the categorical exemptions apply to this project, as described in Public Resources Code Section 21084(c), (d), and (e), and CEQA guidelines Section 15300.2. DTSC has determined that no exceptions to the categorical exemption apply to this project.

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

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