



Jared Blumenfeld
Secretary for
Environmental Protection



Department of Toxic Substances Control

Meredith Williams, Ph.D., Director
8800 Cal Center Drive
Sacramento, California 95826-3200



Gavin Newsom
Governor

February 10, 2020

Governor's Office of Planning & Research

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Ms. Mitra Emami
California Department of Water Resources
Division of Flood Management
3110 El Camino Avenue, Room 140
Sacramento, California 95821

STATE CLEARINGHOUSE

NOTICE OF INTENT TO ADOPT A MITIGATED NEGATIVE DECLARATION FOR
SUTTER BYPASS PUMPING PLANT REHABILITATION PROJECT – DATED
JANUARY 2020 (STATE CLEARINGHOUSE NUMBER: UNKNOWN)

Dear Ms. Emami:

The Department of Toxic Substances Control (DTSC) received a Notice of Intent to Adopt a Mitigated Negative Declaration for (MND) for Sutter Bypass Pumping Plant Rehabilitation Project.

The proposed project consists of retrofitting maintenance structures at three separate pumping plants along the East Levee of the Sutter Bypass in Sutter County. Construction work would occur in two phases. Phase 1 activities would include: Geotechnical investigations to support the final design (preconstruction), Demolition of the abandoned control buildings at Pumping Plant Nos. 1 and 2 to allow access to the gravity drainpipe inlets, Extension of the gravity pipes, replacement of the damaged trash rack systems of the gravity, drain pipes, weir/stop log structures, and an automated screw gate system at all three pumping plants, Levee reconstruction and partial filling of the old sump basin at Pumping Plant No. 3. Phase 2 activities would include the construction of new weir/stop log structures at the inlet of each pumping plant to enable future inspection and maintenance of the pumping plant trash racks and inlet basins.

DTSC recommends that the following issues be evaluated in the MND Hazards and Hazardous Materials section:

1. The MND should acknowledge the potential for project site activities to result in the release of hazardous wastes/substances. In instances in which releases may occur, further studies should be carried out to delineate the nature and extent of the contamination, and the potential threat to public health and/or the

environment should be evaluated. The MND should also identify the mechanism(s) to initiate any required investigation and/or remediation and the government agency who will be responsible for providing appropriate regulatory oversight.

2. If any sites within the project area or sites located within the vicinity of the project have been used or are suspected of having been used for mining activities, proper investigation for mine waste should be discussed in the MND. DTSC recommends that any project sites with current and/or former mining operations onsite or in the project site area should be evaluated for mine waste according to DTSC's 1998 Abandoned Mine Land Mines Preliminary Assessment Handbook (https://dtsc.ca.gov/wp-content/uploads/sites/31/2018/11/aml_handbook.pdf).
3. If buildings or other structures are to be demolished on any project sites included in the proposed project, surveys should be conducted for the presence of lead-based paints or products, mercury, asbestos containing materials, and polychlorinated biphenyl caulk. Removal, demolition and disposal of any of the above-mentioned chemicals should be conducted in compliance with California environmental regulations and policies. In addition, sampling near current and/or former buildings should be conducted in accordance with DTSC's 2006 *Interim Guidance Evaluation of School Sites with Potential Contamination from Lead Based Paint, Termiticides, and Electrical Transformers* (https://dtsc.ca.gov/wpcontent/uploads/sites/31/2018/09/Guidance_Lead Contamination_050118.pdf).
4. If any projects initiated as part of the proposed project require the importation of soil to backfill any excavated areas, proper sampling should be conducted to ensure that the imported soil is free of contamination. DTSC recommends the imported materials be characterized according to *DTSC's 2001 Information Advisory Clean Imported Fill Material* (https://dtsc.ca.gov/wp-content/uploads/sites/31/2018/09/SMP_FS_Cleanfill-Schools.pdf).
5. If any sites included as part of the proposed project have been used for agricultural, weed abatement or related activities, proper investigation for organochlorinated pesticides should be discussed in the MND. DTSC recommends the current and former agricultural lands be evaluated in accordance with DTSC's 2008 *Interim Guidance for Sampling Agricultural Properties (Third Revision)* (<https://dtsc.ca.gov/wp-content/uploads/sites/31/2018/09/Ag-Guidance-Rev-3-August-7-2008-2.pdf>).

DTSC appreciates the opportunity to review the MND. Should you need any assistance with an environmental investigation, please submit a request for Lead Agency Oversight Application, which can be found at: https://dtsc.ca.gov/wp-content/uploads/sites/31/2018/09/VCP_App-1460.doc. Additional information regarding voluntary agreements with DTSC can be found at: <https://dtsc.ca.gov/brownfields/>.

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If you have any questions, please contact me at (916) 255-3710 or via email at Gavin.McCreary@dtsc.ca.gov.

Sincerely,



Gavin McCreary
Project Manager
Site Evaluation and Remediation Unit
Site Mitigation and Restoration Program
Department of Toxic Substances Control

cc: (via email)

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