



Jared Blumenfeld
Secretary for
Environmental Protection



Department of Toxic Substances Control

Meredith Williams, Ph.D., Director
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Gavin Newsom
Governor

9/3/2020

September 2, 2020

Governor's Office of Planning & Research

Mr. Phillip Alfano, Ph.D.
Superintendent
Patterson Unified School District
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Sep 02 2020

STATE CLEARINGHOUSE

NOTICE OF COMPLETION OF DRAFT MITIGATED NEGATIVE DECLARATION FOR THE PATTERSON UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT, EL SOLYO RANCH ELEMENTARY SCHOOL PROJECT, WEST OF NORTH HARTLEY STREET AND BETWEEN OLIVE AVENUE AND WALNUT AVENUE, PATTERSON, STANISLAUS COUNTY, CALIFORNIA

Dear Dr. Alfano:

The Northern California Schools Unit of the Department of Toxic Substances Control (DTSC) has received the Notice of Completion (NOC) for a draft Initial Study and Mitigated Negative Declaration (IS/MND) for the El Solyo Ranch Elementary School project proposed by the Patterson Unified School District (District). The due date to submit comments is September 3, 2020.

As reported in the draft MND, the District has proposed to construct and operate a new elementary school in Patterson, California. The proposed project site occupies 19.5 acres north of the existing Walnut Grove School (grades K-8) in northeast Patterson, Stanislaus County, California (Site). The proposed site of El Solyo Ranch Elementary School is located west of North Hartley Street and between Olive Avenue and Walnut Avenue and situated on Assessor's Parcel Number (APN) 047-031-006-000. The Site is located within the city limits of Patterson in Section 19 of Township: 5S, Range: 8E and latitude/longitude: 37.4850580620778°, -121.129485473541°.

The District entered into an Environmental Oversight Agreement with DTSC on November 1, 2019 (HSA-FY19/20-039) and made a commitment to work with DTSC to conduct a Preliminary Environmental Assessment (PEA) to complete the investigation of environmental impacts at the Site. Based on the results of the PEA, DTSC issued a determination that further action (supplemental site investigation) was required to confirm that no residual contamination remains in place at the Site.

Based on a review of the NOC and draft IS/MND, DTSC would like to provide the following comment:

- The environmental investigation, and mitigation and/or removal if deemed necessary, should continue to be conducted under DTSC oversight. The Initial Study (IS) requires an analysis of the potential public health and environmental impacts associated with the proposed response action, if necessary, pursuant to requirements of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA - Pub. Resources Code, Division 13, section 21000 et seq.), and it's implementing Guidelines (California Code of Regulations, Title 14, section 15000 et seq.), prior to approval or adoption of the IS/MND for the Project. If necessary, a discussion of the mitigation and/or removal actions and associated cumulative impacts to the Site and the surrounding environment, should be included in the IS/MND. If sufficient information to discuss the proposed mitigation and/or removal actions, and their associated impacts to the Site and the surrounding environment, are not available for inclusion in the IS/MND, then an Addendum may be required.

DTSC is also administering the Revolving Loan Fund (RLF) Program which provides revolving loans to investigate and clean up hazardous materials at properties where redevelopment is likely to have a beneficial impact to a community. These loans are available to developers, businesses, schools, and local governments.

For additional information on DTSC's Schools process or RLF Program, please visit DTSC's web site at www.dtsc.ca.gov. If you would like to discuss this matter further, please contact me at (916) 255-3695 or via email at Bud.Duke@dtsc.ca.gov.

Sincerely,



Harold (Bud) Duke, P.G.
Northern California Schools Unit
Site Mitigation and Restoration Program
Department of Toxic Substances Control

cc: (see next page)

cc: (via email)

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