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Secretary for
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Department of Toxic Substances Control

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Gavin Newsom
Governor

March 2, 2021

Mr. David McCready
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Governor's Office of Planning & Research

Mar 03 2021

STATE CLEARINGHOUSE

REVIEW OF DRAFT INITIAL STUDY AND MITIGATED NEGATIVE DECLARATION FOR THE PARADISE UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT RIDGEVIEW HIGH SCHOOL PROJECT

Dear Mr. McCready:

The Northern California Schools Unit of the Department of Toxic Substances Control (DTSC) has reviewed the Initial Study (IS) and Mitigated Negative Declaration (MND) for the Ridgeview High School Project proposed by the Paradise Unified School District (District). The due date to submit comments is March 2, 2021.

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

1. Reference is made in Section 3.9. of the IS (Hazards and Hazardous Materials) of the performance of a Phase I Environmental Investigation and the need for the preparation of a Phase I Addendum to evaluate the site for the presence of lead in soil from lead-based paint and organochlorine pesticides in soil from termiticide use from former buildings. The DTSC recommends Section 3.9. of the draft IS/MND be revised to include a reference to DTSC's oversight of the Phase I Addendum, and the environmental investigation, and mitigation and/or removal if deemed necessary, should continue to be conducted under DTSC oversight.

The 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 its 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

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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, PG
Northern California Schools Unit
Site Mitigation and Restoration Program

cc: (via email)

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