

CALIFORNIA ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY ACT 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
Site Mitigation and Restoration Program
5796 Corporate Avenue
Cypress, CA 90630

Project Title: Former Renu Plating Company - Proposed Nevin Avenue Elementary School Park Site Soils Management Plan

Project Location: 1527 and 1531 East 32nd Street, Los Angeles, CA 90011

County: Los Angeles

Project Applicant: City of Los Angeles Department of Recreation and Parks

Approval Action Under Consideration by DTSC: Soils Management Plan

Statutory Authority: California Health and Safety Code, Chapter 6.8

Project Description: The Department of Toxic Substances Control (DTSC) approved the Soils Management Plan for the Former Renu Plating Company Site (Project Site) to remove approximately 890 cubic yards of soil at the Project Site. The construction of the Nevin Avenue Elementary School Park is proposed following the soil removal.

Background: The Project Site is approximately 0.25 acres located between Compton Avenue and Nevin Avenue. The Nevin Avenue Elementary School surrounds the Project Site on the north, east, and west sides with residences located south of 32nd Street. The Project Site is vacant.

The Former Renu Plating Company operated a plating facility from 1955 to 1984. Metal polishing was conducted in Building 1527 and plating in Building 1531. Metal plating operations were discontinued in June 1984 and all plating equipment was removed except for the clarifier which was capped and sealed in April 1985.

In February 1999, DTSC conducted a hazardous waste inspection and found that the shop had violated hazardous waste regulations by disposing of hazardous wastewater to the sewer and storing hazardous waste without authorization by DTSC.

In 2001, DTSC issued an Imminent and Substantial Endangerment Determination and Remedial Action Order (I&SE) (Docket No. I&SE-D 00/01-002). Due to the Responsible Parties' inability to meet their commitments as described in the Order, DTSC deemed them in Non-Compliance and initiated a state-funded investigation and removal action at the Project Site which was designated as an Orphan Site.

Several Site Investigation Reports were completed from 2004 through 2007 which detected soil and soil gas contamination. The following hazardous substances were detected in soil: cadmium, copper, nickel, lead, and zinc. The reports also indicated that the following volatile organic compounds (VOCs) were detected in soil gas: tetrachloroethene (PCE) and trichloroethene (TCE).

A Removal Action Workplan (RAW) dated August 27, 2009 was prepared and implemented in September 2009 under the direction of DTSC. Implementation of the RAW activities consisted of the demolition of Building 1531 on May 30, 2009 and the excavation and disposal of approximately 450 cubic yards of soil contaminated with heavy metals. DTSC certified the Project Site on December 7, 2011 and recorded a Land Use Covenant with the County of Los Angeles Recorder's Office on October 20, 2011.

On January 17, 2017, DTSC signed a Prospective Purchaser Agreement (PPA) with the City of Los Angeles Department of Recreation and Parks (City). The City purchased the Former Renu property with the intent of converting the Project Site into a City Park that shall benefit the surrounding community. The City has demolished building 1527 and is currently preparing a "Demolition, Grading, and Soil Management Plan". Only the SMP activities will be overseen by DTSC.

Project Activities: The Project activities consist of:

- Remove the top two feet of soil across the Project Site, consisting of approximately 890 cubic yards (approximately 60 truckloads);
- Sample the removed soil to ensure proper disposal – any impacted soils will be transported to a licensed facility;
- Collect and test soil from remaining areas of the Project Site;
- Import clean soil to replace the removed soil to prepare the Project Site for development of the proposed park; and
- Conduct air monitoring and dust control measures to protect workers and the community.

The City and its contractors will follow the Soils Management Plan to minimize dust impacts during these activities.

DTSC will also update the Land Use Covenant to ensure it remains protective of the community. Along with other restrictions, it will also restrict the Project Site from being developed as a community garden.

In the event biological, cultural or historical resources are discovered during project activities, work will be suspended while a qualified biologist, cultural or historical specialist assesses the area and arrangements are made to protect or preserve any resources that are discovered. If human remains are discovered, no further disturbance will occur in the location where the remains are found, and the County Coroner will be notified pursuant to Health and Safety Code Chapter 2, Section 7050.5.

An analysis of the potential impacts of project activities upon existing environmental conditions indicates that implementation of environmental safeguards and monitoring procedures are enforceable and made a condition of project approval, and will ensure that impacts to the environment will be less than significant.

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

Name of Person or Agency Carrying Out Project: City of Los Angeles Department of Recreation and Parks

Exempt Status: Categorical Exemption: [Class 30, Categorical Exemption Cal. Code Regs., Title 14, §15330]

Reasons Why Project is Exempt:

1. The project is a minor action designed to prevent, minimize, stabilize, mitigate, or eliminate the release or threat of release of hazardous waste or hazardous substances.
2. The project will not exceed \$1 million in cost.
3. The project does not involve the onsite use of a hazardous waste incinerator or thermal treatment unit or the relocation of residences or businesses; and does not involve the potential release into the air of volatile organic compounds as defined in Health and Safety Code Section 25123.
4. The exceptions pursuant to California Code of Regulations, Title 14, Section 15300.2 have been addressed as follows:
 - a. Cumulative Impact. The project will not result in cumulative impacts because it is designed to be a short-term final remedy that would not lead to a succession of projects of the same type in the same place over time.
 - b. Significant Effect. The environmental safeguards and monitoring procedures that are enforceable and made a condition of project approval will prevent unusual circumstances from occurring so that there is no possibility that the project will have a significant effect on the environment.
 - c. Scenic Highways. The project will not damage scenic resources, including but not limited to, trees, historic buildings, rock outcroppings, or similar resources, because it is not located within a highway officially designated as a state scenic highway.
 - d. Hazardous Waste Sites. The project is not located on a site which is included on any list compiled pursuant to Section 65962.5 of the Government Code.
 - e. Historical Resources. The project will not cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of an historical resource at the Site because there are none at the Site.

The administrative record for this project is available to the public by appointment at the following location:

Department of Toxic Substances Control
Site Mitigation and Restoration Program
5796 Corporate Avenue
Cypress, CA 90630

Additional project information is available on EnviroStor:

https://www.envirostor.dtsc.ca.gov/public/profile_report.asp?global_id=19340643

Contact Person	Contact Title	Phone Number
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Approver's Signature:

Date:

April 9, 2021

Approver's Name	Approver's Title	Approver's Phone Number
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TO BE COMPLETED BY OPR ONLY

Date Received for Filing and Posting at OPR: