

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
9211 Oakdale Avenue
Chatsworth, CA 91311

Project Title: Los Angeles County Department of Agricultural Commissioner Weights and Measures Department Corrective Action Remedy Statement of Basis

Project Location: 8841 East Slauson Avenue, Pico Rivera, California 90660

County: Los Angeles

Project Applicant: Los Angeles County Department of Agricultural Commissioner Weights and Measures Department

Approval Action Under Consideration by DTSC: Closure Plan

Statutory Authority: California Health and Safety Code, Chapter 6.5

Project Description: The Project involves the ongoing groundwater monitoring and the recordation of a Land Use Covenant at the Los Angeles County Department of Agricultural Commissioner Weights and Measures Department Site (LADAC Project Site). The Department of Toxic Substances Control (DTSC) determined remediation of the Project Site was required to address hazardous waste contamination at the Project Site. This determination was based upon the findings of the Statement of Basis which included previous Site Investigations and the selection of the appropriate remedial measures to address the onsite contamination. DTSC approved the Statement of Basis, dated October 7, 2020.

Background: The LACDAC Project Site, is an approximately 1.9-acre parcel of land which has been used by the Los Angeles County since 1930 for the raising of beneficial insects, mixing of rodents and bird baits for pest control, disposal of pesticides acquired from LACDAC's pesticides collection program, and the incineration of plants held under quarantine for pests or disease.

LACDAC is located in a mixed residential, industrial, and commercial area. It is bounded on the north, west, and east by residential properties, and industrial facilities to the south. It is surrounded by an 8-foot high concrete block wall on the east, north and west sides, and an 8-foot chain link fence with a locked gate on the south.

Major chemicals used at LACDAC included various rodenticides insecticides and herbicides.

The LACDAC Project Site operated under a Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA) hazardous waste facility permit which the State of California, Department of Health Services, DTSC's predecessor agency, issued in 1985 authorizing use of a container storage area aka "shipping container", "Sea bin" or "Van" as a hazardous waste management unit (HWMU). A 4,000-gallon underground storage tank (UST) system had also been authorized under Interim Status but was taken out of service by LACDAC in 1983 before the Permit was issued. The Permit allowed the storage of hazardous waste for up to one year. The collection of unused pesticides was discontinued in 1989. LACDAC ceased operation of this Facility in 1992 and all storage structures were removed from the Site by 2001 but the former main building remains. After various focused and sitewide environmental investigations, DTSC determined in 2012 that LACDAC had not met the closure performance standards, and the LADAC Facility was considered to be closed with "waste-in-place", and LACDAC was required to provide post-closure care for the former UST system HWMU.

The RCRA corrective action requires evaluation and cleanup, if necessary, of releases of hazardous and constituents (in all affected environmental media) associated with HWMUs, Solid Waste Management Units (SWMUs) and Areas of Concern (AOCs). SWMUs and AOCs are not identified in the RCRA permit (but include HWMUs) but portions of the Facility where hazardous waste or hazardous waste constituents might have been released from same? coeval or previous operations. A RCRA Preliminary Assessment (PA) was completed on September 21, 1989 by Ecology and Environmental, Inc., contractor for the United States Environmental Protection Agency, which identified ten SWMUs and nine AOCs. Investigations were performed across the LADAC Facility addressing them and interim measures were performed to cleanup releases at the former septic-tank/cesspool system and at the UST system (4,000-gallon UST, wash rack/concrete pad, clarifier and piping), and the mixing room of the main building. Waste remain in place at the UST system and cesspool at depths below the Human Health Risk Assessment (HHRA) depth of concern (ten feet below ground surface) but within the zone of historical groundwater fluctuation and at concentrations that exceed the EPA risk-based soil screening level for ground water protection.

Project Activities: The project activities described in the Statement of Basis involves the following:

- (1) The LACDAC Project Site will be subject to the recordation of a Land-Use Covenant with the LA County Assessor's office which will restrict future land use of the property;
- (2) The LACDAC shall provide post-closure care for the 4,000-gallon Waste UST System HWMU in accordance with Title 22 California Code of Regulations, Section 66265.118; and
- (3) Ongoing groundwater monitoring to confirm that groundwater elevations are not returning to historical highs and rising into the residual contaminated soil at the HWMU and providing precautions regarding infiltration from the surface.

The groundwater monitoring will occur indefinitely until DTSC determines that the monitoring is no longer required.

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 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: Los Angeles County Department of Agricultural Commissioner/Weights and Measures (Proponent); SCS Engineers (Consultant).

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

1. **Reasons Why Project is Exempt:** 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 a 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
9211 Oakdale Avenue
Chatsworth, CA 91311

Additional project information is available on EnviroStor: www.envirostor.dtsc.ca.gov/public/

Contact Person:
Steve Rounds

Contact Title:
Hazardous Substances Engineer

Phone Number:
(818) 717-6602

Approver's Signature:



Date:

04/15/2021

Approver's Name:
Haissam Y. Salloum, P.E.

Approver's Title:
Branch Chief
Site Mitigation and Restoration
Program- Chatsworth
Department of Toxic Substances
Control

Approver's Phone Number:
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