



**Jared Blumenfeld**  
Secretary for  
Environmental Protection



## Department of Toxic Substances Control

Meredith Williams, Ph.D., Director  
5796 Corporate Avenue  
Cypress, California 90630



**Gavin Newsom**  
Governor

July 18, 2022

**SENT VIA ELECTRONIC MAIL**

Mr. Kevin Heerschap  
Assistant Director  
Facilities Department  
Garden Grove Unified School District  
11700 Knott Avenue  
Garden Grove, California 92841  
[kheerschap@ggusd.us](mailto:kheerschap@ggusd.us)  
[facilities@ggusd.us](mailto:facilities@ggusd.us)

**Governor's Office of Planning & Research**

**Jul 18 2022**

**STATE CLEARINGHOUSE**

**DRAFT ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT FOR THE SPORTS FACILITIES  
LIGHTING AT LA QUINTA HIGH SCHOOL PROJECT (SCH # 2022060312)**

Dear Mr. Heerschap:

The Department of Toxic Substances Control (DTSC) has received the draft Environmental Impact Report (EIR) for the Sports Facilities Lighting Project at La Quinta High School (LQHS). The LQHS is located at 10372 West McFadden Avenue in the City Westminster. The EIR includes project description and analyzes environmental impacts from project activities.

The proposed improvements plan to light the tennis courts, and football/track, baseball, softball, and soccer fields at La Quinta High School by installing 38 light poles. The proposed project is prompted by the passage of SB 328, which requires high schools to start no earlier than 8:30 a.m. As a result, the Garden Grove Unified School District (District) proposes to add lights to the baseball, football/track, soccer, and softball fields, as well as its tennis courts and track at LQHS. Sports lighting would consist of concrete bases with galvanized steel poles between 50 and 80 feet tall, with LED luminaires mounted at various heights. The proposed project would require limited demolition of hardscape and softscape to install lighting poles power at the existing sports facilities.

DTSC recommends the following items be addressed in the EIR:

1. A Phase I Environmental Site Assessment is necessary to identify any recognized environmental conditions. If state funding is anticipated, then DTSC review/approval is required pursuant to California Education Code. For school projects that do not require state funding, DTSC recommends environmental review under the DTSC school program oversight to ensure the school is safe for students and staff.
2. Identify the mechanism to initiate any required investigation and/or remediation, if needed, and the government agency to provide appropriate regulatory oversight.
3. Identify whether the site was previously used for agriculture. If the site was used for agricultural or related activities, residual pesticides may be present in onsite soil. DTSC recommends investigation and mitigation, as necessary, to address potential impact to human health and environment from residual pesticides.
4. Discuss potential presence of hazardous chemicals related to building materials, such as lead-based paints, mercury, and asbestos containing materials. If these chemicals are identified, removal and disposal should be conducted in accordance with applicable local, state, and federal regulations and policies.
5. If there are any recognized environmental conditions in the project area, then proper investigation, sampling and remedial actions overseen by the appropriate regulatory agencies should be conducted prior to the new development or any construction. DTSC recommends environmental review under the DTSC schools program oversight prior to construction to ensure the school is safe for students and staff.
6. Discuss whether project may require soil excavation or backfill in certain areas. If soil is contaminated, it must be properly characterized and disposed of. If the project proposes to import soil to backfill the areas excavated, DTSC recommends sampling be conducted in accordance with DTSC's Information Advisory Clean Imported Fill Material ([https://dtsc.ca.gov/wp-content/uploads/sites/31/2018/09/SMP\\_FS\\_Cleanfill-Schools.pdf](https://dtsc.ca.gov/wp-content/uploads/sites/31/2018/09/SMP_FS_Cleanfill-Schools.pdf))
7. Discuss procedures to be taken if the soil and/or groundwater contamination is suspected during construction/demolition in the project area.

Discuss procedures to be taken if the soil and/or groundwater contamination is suspected during construction/demolition in the project area.

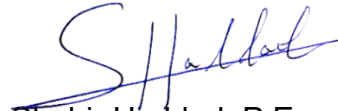
Mr. Kevin Heerschap

July 18, 2022

Page 3

If you have any questions regarding this letter, please contact Mr. Johnson P. Abraham, Project Manager, at (714) 484-5380 or [Johnson.Abraham@dtsc.ca.gov](mailto:Johnson.Abraham@dtsc.ca.gov) or me at (714) 484-5368 or [Shahir.Haddad@dtsc.ca.gov](mailto:Shahir.Haddad@dtsc.ca.gov).

Sincerely,



Shahir Haddad, P.E.  
Supervising Engineer  
Brownfields Restoration and School Evaluation Branch  
Site Mitigation and Restoration Program

mv/ja/sh

cc: (via e-mail)

Governor's Office of Planning and Research  
State Clearinghouse  
P.O. Box 3044  
Sacramento, California 95812-3044  
[State.clearinghouse@opr.ca.gov](mailto:State.clearinghouse@opr.ca.gov)

Mr. Dave Kereazis  
Office of Planning & Environmental Analysis  
Department of Toxic Substances Control – Sacramento Office  
[Dave.Kereazis@dtsc.ca.gov](mailto:Dave.Kereazis@dtsc.ca.gov)

Mr. Robert Romero  
Hazardous Substances Engineer  
Site Mitigation and Restoration Program - Cypress Office  
[Robert.Romero@dtsc.ca.gov](mailto:Robert.Romero@dtsc.ca.gov)

Mr. Johnson Abraham  
Project Manager  
Brownfields Restoration and School Evaluation Branch – Cypress Office  
[Johnson.Abraham@dtsc.ca.gov](mailto:Johnson.Abraham@dtsc.ca.gov)

Brownfields Restoration and School Evaluation Branch Reading File – Cypress