



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

Governor's Office of Planning & Research

Jul 18 2022

STATE CLEARINGHOUSE

Mr. Kevin Heerschap
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INITIAL STUDY/MITIGATED NEGATIVE DECLARATION FOR THE SPORTS
FACILITIES LIGHTING PROJECT AT RANCHO ALAMITOS HIGH SCHOOL
(SCH #2022060319)

Dear Mr. Heerschap:

The Department of Toxic Substances Control (DTSC) has received the Initial Study and Notice of Intent to Adopt a Mitigated Negative Declaration (IS/MND) for the Sports Facilities Lighting Project at Rancho Alamitos High School (RAHS). The RAHS is located at 11351 Dale Street in the City of Garden Grove. The IS/MND includes project description and analyzes environmental impacts from project activities.

The Garden Grove Unified School District (District) plans to add sports lighting to its seven comprehensive high schools including RAHS. The District plans to light the tennis courts, football field, baseball field, softball field, and the soccer practice field at RAHS by installing 25 light poles. The proposed lighting improvements are prompted by the passage of Senate Bill (SB) 328, which requires high schools to start no earlier than 8:30 a.m. The proposed project would require limited demolition of hardscape and softscape to install lighting poles at the existing sports facilities.

DTSC recommends the following items be addressed in the IS/MND:

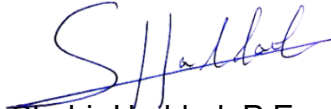
1. A Phase I Environmental Site Assessment is necessary to identify any recognized environmental conditions. If state funding is anticipated, then DTSC review/approval is required pursuant to California Education Code. For school projects that do not require state funding, DTSC recommends environmental 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)
7. Discuss procedures to be taken if the soil and/or groundwater contamination is suspected during construction/demolition in the project area.

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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 or me at (714) 484-5368 or Shahir.Haddad@dtsc.ca.gov.

Sincerely,



Shahir Haddad, P.E.
Supervising Engineer
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Site Mitigation and Restoration Program

mv/ja/sh

cc: (via e-mail)

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