



**Yana Garcia**  
Secretary for  
Environmental Protection



## Department of Toxic Substances Control

Meredith Williams, Ph.D.  
Director  
8800 Cal Center Drive  
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**Gavin Newsom**  
Governor

### SENT VIA ELECTRONIC MAIL

July 15, 2024

Corinna Sandmeier  
Principal Planner  
City of Menlo Park  
701 Laurel Street  
Menlo Park, CA 94025

[cdsandmeier@menlopark.gov](mailto:cdsandmeier@menlopark.gov)

RE: DRAFT ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT FOR THE PARKLINE PROJECT  
DATED JUNE 20, 2024, STATE CLEARINGHOUSE NUMBER [2022120058](#)

Dear Corinna Sandmeier,

The Department of Toxic Substances Control (DTSC) received a Draft Environmental Impact Report (DEIR) for the Parkline Project (Project). The Project would redevelop Stanford Research Institute (SRI) International's existing 63.2-acre research campus adjacent to city hall and near Menlo Park's downtown and Caltrain station. The Project would include a new office/research and development (R&D) campus with no increase in office/R&D square footage; up to 550 new dwelling units comprised of 450 units and a proposed land dedication to an affordable housing developer that could accommodate up to 100 affordable units; new bicycle and pedestrian connections; approximately 26.4 acres of the Project site to be available as open space; removal of approximately 708 existing trees, including 198 heritage trees, and planting of approximately 873 new trees; and decommissioning of a 6 megawatt natural gas cogeneration energy plant. In total, the Project would result in approximately 1,768,802 square feet (sf) of mixed-use

development, with approximately 1.38 million total sf of office/R&D uses and approximately 675,200 sf of residential uses. The Project would demolish 35 of 38 existing SRI buildings, excluding Buildings P, S, and T. The DEIR also includes a description and evaluation of a variant of the Proposed Project, called the “Increased Development Variant” (Project Variant). The Project Variant is a variation of the Proposed Project at the same Project Site (although the Project Site would be slightly expanded to include 201 Ravenswood Avenue). The Project Variant would include up to 250 additional residential units (800 units total) and a 2- to 3-million-gallon emergency water reservoir that would be buried below grade in the northeast area of the Project site, in addition to a small pump station, an emergency well, and related improvements that would be built at grade (i.e., emergency generator, disinfection system, surge tank). After reviewing the Project, DTSC recommends and requests consideration of the following comments:

1. If buildings or other structures are to be demolished on any Project sites included in the proposed Project, surveys should be conducted for the presence of lead-based paints or products, mercury, asbestos containing materials, and polychlorinated biphenyl caulk. Removal, demolition, and disposal of any of the above-mentioned chemicals should be conducted in compliance with California environmental regulations and policies. In addition, sampling near current and/or former buildings should be conducted in accordance with [DTSC's Preliminary Endangerment Assessment \(PEA\) Guidance Manual](#).
2. DTSC recommends that all imported soil and fill material should be tested to assess any contaminants of concern meet screening levels as outlined in the [PEA Guidance Manual](#). Additionally, DTSC advises referencing the [DTSC Information Advisory Clean Imported Fill Material Fact Sheet](#) if importing fill is necessary. To minimize the possibility of introducing contaminated soil and fill material there should be documentation of the origins of the soil or fill material and, if applicable, sampling be conducted to ensure that the imported soil and fill material are suitable for the intended land use. The soil sampling should

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include analysis based on the source of the fill and knowledge of the prior land use. Additional information can be found by visiting [DTSC's Human and Ecological Risk Office \(HERO\) webpage](#).

3. Based on the findings of the different environmental investigations at the site, it is recommended that a soil and groundwater management plan is developed for managing and identifying potentially contaminated soil and groundwater. Furthermore, while the detections of per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances in groundwater do not exceed the Federal Maximum Contaminant Levels, their presence in groundwater indicates a past release that should be investigated.

DTSC appreciates the opportunity to comment on the DEIR for the Parkline Project. Thank you for your assistance in protecting California's people and environment from the harmful effects of toxic substances. If you have any questions or would like any clarification on DTSC's comments, please respond to this letter or via [email](#) for additional guidance.

Sincerely,

*Tamara Purvis*

Tamara Purvis

Associate Environmental Planner

HWMP - Permitting Division – CEQA Unit

Department of Toxic Substances Control

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cc: (via email)

Governor's Office of Planning and

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