



Yana Garcia
Secretary for
Environmental Protection



Department of Toxic Substances Control

Meredith Williams, Ph.D., Director
8800 Cal Center Drive
Sacramento, California 95826-3200



Gavin Newsom
Governor

November 2, 2023

Rob Ferrera
Environmental Specialist & Tribal Relations Coordinator
SMUD
6201 S Street
Sacramento, CA 95817



RE: DRAFT ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT (DEIR) FOR THE STATION J BULK TRANSMISSION SUBSTATION PROJECT DATED OCTOBER 04, 2023 STATE CLEARINGHOUSE # [2023020549](#)

Dear Rob Ferrera:

The Department of Toxic Substances Control (DTSC) received a DEIR for the Station J Bulk Transmission Substation Project. The Station J Bulk Transmission Substation Project includes construction and operation of a new substation housing electrical equipment, including power transformers, gas insulated equipment, and a control building. Station J would include up to five 40 MVA 115/21 kV transformers to serve the SMUD network. Initial installation of two 40 MVA transformers is anticipated to occur by 2030. The project would also include up to 7 miles of overhead and underground 115kV and 21kV connections into the substation from nearby existing SMUD facilities and infrastructure. The site also includes space for expansion as future needs are identified.

DTSC has identified that this Project may affect a potentially hazardous site, [SP-Purity Oil](#) that is located at 1324 A Street Sacramento, California 95814. Historically, the site was owned by Southern Pacific Transportation Company (SP), a portion of the site was leased for use as a waste oil reprocessing facility from 1966 to 1978. The western portion of the site is currently vacant. The eastern portion of the site was formerly occupied by Lonestar Cement and is currently used for transitional cottage housing units for the homeless. Several soil removal actions have been completed from 1985 to the present. Ground water monitoring continues. Lead and oil contaminated soil and ground water with VOC's have been found at the site. All cleanup has been completed

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and the Land Use Covenant was terminated in 2014. Based on our Project review, we request the consideration of the following comment:

In section 3.8.2 Hazards and Hazardous Materials Environmental Setting of the DEIR, the section on groundwater conditions at Purity Oil is accurate; however, DTSC recommends the mention of 1,2-dichloroethane (1,2-DCA) be included for completeness. The [June 28, 2013 DTSC certification letter](#) states, "The 1,2-DCA levels fluctuating around the cleanup goal [maximum contaminant level (MCL)] are detected in the general area and may be associated with an upgradient offsite source. 1,2-DCA is only found in the shallow aquifer which is not a source for drinking water." The [August 14, 2014 land use covenant termination](#) states, "The remaining contaminant in groundwater is 1,2-DCA. Although very low levels of 1,2-DCA are still present in groundwater, the level is statistically within range of the [MCL] of 0.5 parts per billion allowed in drinking water."

DTSC appreciates the opportunity to comment on the Station J Bulk Transmission Substation 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: Governor's Office of Planning and Research
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