



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

SENT VIA ELECTRONIC MAIL

November 17, 2023

Dan Williams
Director of Facilities
Lassen Community College
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Governor's Office of Planning & Research

Nov 17 2023

STATE CLEARINGHOUSE

RE: NEGATIVE DECLARATION (NEG DEC) FOR THE LASSEN COMMUNITY COLLEGE STUDENT HOUSING PROJECT, DATED OCTOBER 27, 2023 STATE CLEARINGHOUSE # [2023100830](#)

Dear Dan Williams:

The Department of Toxic Substances Control (DTSC) received a Negative Declaration for the Lassen Community College Student Housing Project. The proposed project would include a final design and construction of an approximately 36,400 square foot residence hall at the Lassen Community College main campus, north of the existing residence hall. The new two-story residence hall would include approximately 20,000 square feet of assignable residential living area, 2,000 square feet of community spaces, and 4,000 square feet of building support, along with outdoor walkway areas covered by the roof. The project also includes the demolition and relocation or reconfiguration of existing parking, pedestrian walkways, and a basketball court to accommodate the new building. A new 40,000-gallon water storage tank would be located

adjacent to the newly relocated parking spaces to expand existing storage for fire flows and residence hall needs.

In the Impact Discussion of the Draft Initial Study, it states, “Since all existing and future development in the Project area is required to comply with regional, federal, state, and local regulations addressing safety from hazards, including hazardous materials, the significance of this impact is anticipated to be less than significant.” Although there is demolition and construction activities, the presence of Asbestos may be encountered. Furthermore, soil management is not discussed and should be addressed given the project description. Based on our review, DTSC recommends your consideration of the following:

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 2006 [Interim Guidance Evaluation of School Sites with Potential Contamination from Lead Based Paint, Termiticides, and Electrical Transformers](#)
2. If any projects initiated as part of the proposed project require the importation of soil to backfill any excavated areas, proper sampling should be conducted to ensure that the imported soil is free of contamination. DTSC recommends the imported materials be characterized according to [DTSC’s 2001 Information Advisory Clean Imported Fill Material](#) webpage.

DTSC believes Lassen Community College must address this concern to determine if any significant impacts under the California Environmental Quality

Act (CEQA) will occur and, if necessary, avoid significant impacts under CEQA. DTSC recommends Lassen Community College connect with our unit if any hazardous waste projects managed or overseen by DTSC are discovered.

DTSC appreciates the opportunity to comment on the Lassen Community College Student Housing 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,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Dave Kereazis". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Dave Kereazis
Associate Environmental Planner
HWMP - Permitting Division – CEQA Unit
Department of Toxic Substances Control

cc: (via email)

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