

CALIFORNIA ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY ACT**NOTICE OF EXEMPTION**

To: Office of Planning and Research
State Clearinghouse
P.O. Box 3044,
1400 Tenth Street, Room 212
Sacramento, CA 95812-3044

From: Department of Toxic Substances
Control, Permitting Division
8800 Cal Center Drive
Sacramento, CA 95826

Project Title: Clean Harbors Buttonwillow, LLC., Hazardous Waste Facility Corrective Action
Workplan

Project Location: 2500 West Lokern Road, Buttonwillow, CA 93206

County: Kern County

Project Applicant: Clean Harbors Buttonwillow, LLC.

Approval Action Under Consideration by DTSC: Corrective Action

Statutory Authority: California Health and Safety Code, Chapter 6.5

Project Description: The California Department of Toxic Substances Control (DTSC) approved a Corrective Action Workplan for the *in situ* (within the existing place) stabilization of waste at the Clean Harbors Buttonwillow, LLC. hazardous waste landfill (Facility), pursuant to authority granted under California Health and Safety Code Chapter 6.5 and California Code of Regulations, Title 22, Division 4.5, Chapter 20. The Facility agreed to stabilize the waste *in situ* in the general grid locations where the mischaracterized waste was placed without first being stabilized. The Facility has agreed to conduct this corrective action as a result of the Corrective Action Order issued by DTS to return to compliance with land disposal restrictions that were violated when wastes were mischaracterized and disposed of without treatment. The affected cell will be excavated to expose the waste to be stabilized *in situ* using cement. The scope of work consists of removal of overburden to expose three (3) 50 feet x 50 feet x 5 feet (12,500 feet³) target grids within cell 35-5 and to stabilize the previously disposed mischaracterized waste in-place by mixing in cement. Upon completion of waste stabilization activities, confirmation samples will be collected to confirm that lead concentration and leachability meet regulatory criteria. Samples will be collected within 24 – 48 hours after the completion of the waste stabilization in each cell to allow the cement stabilizing agent to cure. The *in situ* stabilization will ensure that the mischaracterized waste will not migrate outside of the cell. All proposed waste stabilization activities will be temporary and will occur within the existing footprint of the landfill, no ground disturbance nor operational changes are proposed.

The Facility has both a municipal landfill as well as a permitted hazardous waste landfill. There will be ground disturbing activities and temporary waste stabilization activities related to the project only within the permitted hazardous waste landfill.

Background: Clean Harbors Buttonwillow, LLC. owns and operates a commercial hazardous waste treatment, storage, and disposal facility, in Kern County, California, approximately 8 miles west of Buttonwillow and 36 miles west of Bakersfield. The Facility occupies approximately 320 acres and Clean Harbors Buttonwillow, LLC. owns approximately 640 acres of additional acreage immediately adjoining the Facility that is set aside as a buffer property and is not used for Facility operations. Currently, the Facility provides treatment and disposal services for a variety of hazardous and nonhazardous wastes.

Project Activities: Corrective Action

Name of Public Agency Approving Project: Department of Toxic Substances Control

Name of Person or Agency Carrying Out Project: Clean Harbors Buttonwillow, LLC.

Exempt Status: Categorical Exemption: [Cal. Code Regs., tit. 14, § 15308]

Reasons Why Project is Exempt: DTSC has evaluated whether any of the exceptions to the categorical exemptions apply to this project, as described in Public Resources Code Section 21084(c), (d), and (e), and California Code of Regulations, title 14, section 15308. DTSC has determined that no exceptions to the categorical exemption apply to this project. The waste stabilization activities are consistent with the actions taken by a regulatory agency to assure the maintenance, restoration, enhancement, or protection of the environment. This approval will ensure the waste is properly stabilized to prevent any potential release.

The administrative record for this project is available to the public by appointment at the following location:

Department of Toxic Substances Control
Permitting Division
8800 Cal Center Drive
Sacramento, CA 95826

Contact Person

Randy Snapp

Contact Title

Senior Hazardous Substances
Engineer

Phone Number

(916) 255-3644

Approver's Signature:

Mohammed Omer

Date:

January 11, 2024

Approver's Name

Mohammed Omer

Approver's Title

Supervising Hazardous
Substances Engineer I

Approver's Phone Number

(916) 255-3883

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Date Received for Filing and Posting at OPR: