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Secretary for
Environmental Protection



Department of Toxic Substances Control

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Gavin Newsom
Governor

SENT VIA ELECTRONIC MAIL

July 16, 2024

John George

Planner III

City of Fresno

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RE: MITIGATED NEGATIVE DECLARATION FOR THE ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT NO. T-6192 PROJECT DATED JUNE 28, 2024, STATE CLEARINGHOUSE NUMBER [2024061304](#)

Dear John George,

The Department of Toxic Substances Control (DTSC) received a Mitigated Negative Declaration (MND) for the Environmental Assessment No. T-6192 project (project). Vesting Tentative Tract Map 6192 proposes to subdivide approximately 15.82 acres of the subject property into a 128-lot conventional single-family residential development. Planned Development Permit Application No. P23-03377 proposes to modify the Single-Family Residential, Medium Density zone district development standards to allow for a reduction in lot size, front, street side, garage from primary façade, and rear yard setbacks, an increase in lot coverage. After reviewing the project, DTSC recommends and requests consideration of the following comments:

1. When agricultural crops and/or land uses are proposed or rezoned for residential use, a number of contaminants of concern (COCs) can be present.

The Lead Agency shall identify the amounts of Pesticides and Organochlorine Pesticides (OCPs) historically used on the property. If present, OCPs requiring further analysis are Dichlorodiphenyltrichloroethane, toxaphene, and dieldrin. Additionally, any level of arsenic present would require further analysis and sampling and must meet [HHRA NOTE NUMBER 3, DTSC-SLs](#) approved thresholds. If they are not, remedial action must take place to mitigate them below those thresholds.

2. Additional COCs may be found in mixing/loading/storage areas, drainage ditches, farmhouses, or any other outbuildings and should be sampled and analyzed. If smudge pots had been routinely utilized, additional sampling for Polycyclic Aromatic Hydrocarbons and/or Total Petroleum Hydrocarbons may be required.

3. DTSC recommends that all imported soil and fill material should be tested to assess any contaminants of concern meet screening levels as outlined in [DTSC's Preliminary Endangerment Assessment 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 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](#).

DTSC appreciates the opportunity to comment on the MND for the Environmental Assessment No. T-6192 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.

John George
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Sincerely,

Tamara Purvis

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cc: (via email)

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