



Yana Garcia
Secretary for
Environmental Protection



Department of Toxic Substances Control

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Director
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Gavin Newsom
Governor

SENT VIA ELECTRONIC MAIL

September 27, 2024

Edgar Esquivel
Director of General Services
Salinas Union High School District
320 Rose Street
Salinas, CA 93901
edgar.esquivel@salinasuhsd.org

RE: MITIGATED NEGATIVE DECLARATION FOR THE NORTH SALINAS HIGH SCHOOL STADIUM IMPROVEMENTS DATED SEPTEMBER 17, 2024, STATE CLEARINGHOUSE NUMBER [2024090671](#)

Dear Edgar Esquivel,

The Department of Toxic Substances Control (DTSC) received a Mitigated Negative Declaration (MND) for the North Salinas High School Stadium Improvements project (project). The Salinas Union High School District proposes to make the following improvements to the existing stadium at North Salinas High School: four (4) lighting poles (two 90-foot-tall; two 80-foot-tall); increase permanent seating at the existing stadium by 298 seats for the home seating area for a total of 1,548 available home seats; egress lighting along pedestrian pathways; electrical trenching under existing concrete pathway; new public access system; lighting in existing parking area; stormwater infrastructure improvements; renovations to existing restrooms; drinking fountain improvements; new football goal posts; new 8x36 foot press box on bleachers; and various accessibility improvements in and around the stadium.

After reviewing the project, DTSC recommends and requests consideration of the following comments:

1. If the district plans to use California Department of Education (CDE) State funds for the project, then the district shall comply with the requirements of Education Code (EDC), [§17210](#), [§17213.1](#), and [§17213.2](#), unless otherwise specifically exempted under section [§17268](#). If the district is not using CDE State funds for the project, or is otherwise specifically exempt under section [§17268](#), DTSC recommends the district continue to investigate, clean up the Site under the oversight of Monterey County and in concurrence with all applicable DTSC guidance documents, if necessary. For more information on the CDE State funding, please visit the [Office of Public-School Construction](#) webpage.

A local education agency may also voluntarily request the CDE site/plan approval for locally funded site acquisitions and new construction projects. In these cases, CDE will require DTSC to review and approve prior to its final approval, except when exempt under section 17268.

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 [DTSC's Preliminary Endangerment Assessment \(PEA\) 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 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. 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 PEA Guidance Manual](#).

DTSC appreciates the opportunity to comment on the MND for the North Salinas High School Stadium Improvements project. If you would like to proceed with DTSC's school environmental review process, please visit [DTSC's Evaluating & Clean-up School 3-Step Process to begin a Phase I Environmental Site Assessment](#).

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 clarification on DTSC's comments, please respond to this letter or via [email](#) for additional guidance.

Sincerely,



Tamara Purvis
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Edgar Esquivel
September 27, 2024
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cc: (via email)

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