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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

October 7, 2024

Shane Stueckle
Deputy Town Manager
Town of Yucca Valley
58928 Business Center Drive
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sstueckle@yucca-valley.org

RE: MITIGATED NEGATIVE DECLARATION FOR THE YUCCA VALLEY COMMUNITY CENTER ATHLETIC FACILITY PROJECT DATED SEPTEMBER 17, 2024, STATE CLEARINGHOUSE NUMBER [2024090676](#)

Dear Shane Stueckle,

The Department of Toxic Substances Control (DTSC) received a Mitigated Negative Declaration (MND) for the Yucca Valley Community Center Athletic Facility Project (Project). The proposed Project will redevelop the Project site with sixteen pickleball courts (two are proposed at a future date), two basketball courts, tables and seating areas and bleachers with shade structures, and a restroom building. The proposed Project also includes expanding the parking lot, demolishing and reconstructing the skate park, and installing new fencing and landscaping throughout the project site. No subterranean levels are proposed. Construction of the proposed project would occur over three phases. After reviewing the Project, DTSC recommends and requests consideration of the following comments:

1. 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](#).

2. 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 Yucca Valley Community Center Athletic Facility 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 clarification on DTSC's comments, please respond to this letter or via [email](#) for additional guidance.

Shane Stueckle
October 7, 2024
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Sincerely,

Tamara Purvis

Tamara Purvis
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cc: (via email)

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