



**Yana Garcia**  
Secretary for  
Environmental Protection



**Department of Toxic Substances Control**

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Katherine M. Butler, MPH, Director  
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[dtsc.ca.gov](http://dtsc.ca.gov)



**Gavin Newsom**  
Governor

**SENT VIA ELECTRONIC MAIL**

October 30, 2024

Mehran Mohtasham  
Director  
Riverside Community College District  
3801 Market Street  
Riverside, CA 92501  
[Mehran.Mohtasham@rccd.edu](mailto:Mehran.Mohtasham@rccd.edu)

RE: MITIGATED NEGATIVE DECLARATION FOR THE NORCO COLLEGE CENTER FOR HUMAN PERFORMANCE AND KINESIOLOGY BUILDING DATED OCTOBER 01, 2024, STATE CLEARINGHOUSE NUMBER [2024100025](#)

Dear Mehran Mohtasham,

The Department of Toxic Substances Control (DTSC) received a Mitigated Negative Declaration (MND) for the Norco College Center for Human Performance and Kinesiology Building project (project). The proposed project site is located at 2001 Third Street in the City of Norco (City), on the existing Norco College campus and would involve the construction of the Center for Human Performance and Kinesiology Building (building), a 56,284 gross square feet, two-story building, which would support Norco College's physical education program. The building would include one classroom laboratory, office space, a conference room, a lounge, and athletic space. The athletics space would include a multi-use gymnasium with retractable seating for 500, a weight room, a training room, a cardio and wellness studio, exercise studios, storage space, a laundry room, student locker rooms, and faculty changing rooms. After reviewing the project, DTSC recommends and requests consideration of the following comment:

1. There are several areas of which DTSC has regulatory oversight over that are within the proposed project site, whether they are listed as having documented contamination, land use restrictions, are subject to a Hazardous Waste Facility Permit, or the potential for the project site to be included on a list of hazardous materials sites compiled pursuant to Government Code Section 65962.5. Therefore, DTSC acknowledges the Norco College past and current efforts to coordinate with the Department as the proposed project impacts areas that fall under DTSC's oversight.
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](#).

DTSC appreciates the opportunity to comment on the MND for the Norco College Center for Human Performance and Kinesiology Building 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.

Mehran Mohtasham

October 30, 2024

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Sincerely,

*Tamara Purvis*

Tamara Purvis

Associate Environmental Planner

HWMP - Permitting Division – CEQA Unit

Department of Toxic Substances Control

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cc: (via email)

Governor's Office of Land Use and Climate Innovation

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