

California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA)

NOTICE OF EXEMPTION

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**TO: Contra Costa County  
Clerk-Recorder's Office  
555 Escobar Street  
Martinez, CA 94553**

**FROM: Bay Area Air Quality  
Management District  
375 Beale Street, Suite 600  
San Francisco, CA 94105**

**SUBJECT: FILING OF NOTICE OF EXEMPTION PURSUANT TO CEQA § 21152(b) AND CEQA  
GUIDELINES § 15062.**

**PROJECT TITLE: CORTEVA AGRISCIENCE – PITTSBURG OPERATIONS – REPLACEMENT OF A  
HYDROCHLORIC ACID PACKED BED SCRUBBER (A-18) WITH A LIKE FOR LIKE (A-1012)  
(APPLICATION 701839)**

**Public Agency Approving Project (Lead Agency): Bay Area Air Quality Management District (Air  
District), 375 Beale Street, Suite 600, San Francisco, CA 94105, Kevin Creaven, Air Quality  
Engineer, Telephone: (415) 749-4793, Email: kcreaven@baaqmd.gov**

**Project Applicant and Entity Carrying Out Project: Corteva Agriscience – Pittsburg Operations  
(Corteva)**

**Project Applicant Mailing Address: 901 Loveridge Road Pittsburg, CA 94565**

**Project Applicant Contact Person: Suzanne Chaewsky, Air Specialist, Corteva Agriscience – Pittsburg  
Operations, Telephone: (925) 432-5583, Email: suzanne.chaewsky@corteva.com**

**Project Location: 901 Loveridge Road Pittsburg, Contra Costa County, CA 94565, Nearest Cross Street:  
Near East 3<sup>rd</sup> Street**

**Project Description:**

This permit action approves replacing an old abatement device with a new one. The facility's hydrochloric acid packed bed scrubber is at the end of its lifespan and needs to be replaced to ensure safe operation and continued abatement of toxic emissions. The replacement unit will achieve the same control efficiency, and the project will not result in any increase in emissions. The permit action specifically approves a like-for-like replacement of a Packed bed scrubber (A-18) with a new one (A-1012):

A-1012 Hydrochloric Acid Storage Tanks Scrubber

Packed Bed Scrubber

Replacing

A-18 Hydrochloric Acid Storage Tanks Scrubber

Packed Bed Scrubber

The new replacement unit's only purpose is to replace the existing unit's function, and it will be the same or similar to the existing unit in size, design, capacity, operating conditions, and will achieve at least the same control efficiency. Both existing and replacement abatement devices have a throughput capacity of 7 tons per hour and an abatement efficiency of at least 99%.

**Finding of Exemption:**

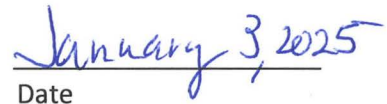
This permit action is exempt from CEQA because: (i) the replacement components of the abatement device constitute a replacement of an existing facility (CEQA § 21084; CEQA Guidelines § 15302) with substantially the same size, purpose, and capacity as the existing structure; and (ii) because the permitting of the project involved a no expansion of use beyond that existing at the time of the Air District's CEQA determination. (CEQA § 21084; Guidelines § 15301).

**Basis for Exemption:**

The Air District has determined that approval of the replacement of A-18 with A-1012 is exempt from CEQA because it constitutes the replacement of an existing structure or facility (CEQA § 21084; CEQA Guidelines § 15302) with substantially the same size, purpose, and capacity as the existing structure. Also, the Air District has determined that approval is exempt from CEQA because it will not result in any expansion of use beyond that existing at the time of the Air District's CEQA determination. (CEQA § 21084; Guidelines § 15301.) Approval of the permit will not result in any increase in emissions or throughputs. Guidelines section 15301(f) also specifically applies as it exempts "safety or health protection devices," i.e., air pollution abatement equipment.



Pamela J. Leong  
Director of Engineering  
Bay Area Air Quality Management District



Date