



Yana Garcia
Secretary for
Environmental Protection



Department of Toxic Substances Control

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Gavin Newsom
Governor

SENT VIA ELECTRONIC MAIL

January 17, 2025

Jeff Percell
Superintendent
Riverdale Joint Unified School District
PO Box 1058
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jperc@rjUSD.org

RE: REQUEST FOR EARLY CONSULTATION FOR THE RIVERDALE HIGH SCHOOL FACILITY IMPROVEMENTS DATED JANUARY 13, 2025, STATE CLEARINGHOUSE NUMBER [2025010373](#)

Dear Jeff Percell,

The Department of Toxic Substances Control (DTSC) received a Request for Early Consultation (CON) for the Riverdale High School Facility Improvements (Project). The Project proposes to renovate the football/soccer and track stadium, reconstruct a parking lot, expand a stormwater basin, construct new community multi-use athletic fields, reconstruct the Agriculture Barn Education Facility, and improve a section of S. Hazel Avenue. 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 Fresno 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](#).

DTSC appreciates the opportunity to comment on the CON for the Riverdale High School Facility Improvements. 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 [CEQA Review email](#) for additional guidance.

Jeff Percell
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Sincerely,

Tamara Purvis

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