



Yana Garcia
Secretary for
Environmental Protection



Department of Toxic Substances Control

Katherine M. Butler, MPH, Director
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Gavin Newsom
Governor

SENT VIA ELECTRONIC MAIL

February 24, 2025

Bradd E. Runge
Director of Facilities, Maintenance, and Operations
Perris Elementary School District
143 East First Street
Perris, CA 92570
bradd.runge@perrisesd.org

RE: MITIGATED NEGATIVE DECLARATION FOR THE SKY VIEW ELEMENTARY SCHOOL NEW CLASSROOM BUILDING PROJECT DATED FEBRUARY 19, 2025, STATE CLEARINGHOUSE NUMBER [2025020635](#)

Dear Bradd E. Runge,

The Department of Toxic Substances Control (DTSC) received a Mitigated Negative Declaration (MND) for the Sky View Elementary School New Classroom Building Project (Project). The Perris Elementary School District proposes to construct a new two-story classroom building at the southwest corner of the Sky View Elementary School Campus that would contain 10 new classrooms and two labs, restrooms, a work room, and mechanical and storage rooms. Additionally, the proposed project would expand the existing kitchen in the western portion of the campus. The proposed project would increase student capacity by approximately 45 percent. Additionally, the proposed project would include exterior changes and additions such as the relocation of three basketball courts, an outdoor learning space, and two outdoor shade structures with benches within the project site. 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 Riverside 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 MND for the Sky View Elementary School New Classroom Building 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](#).

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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.

Sincerely,



Dave Kereazis
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cc: (via email)

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