



**Yana Garcia**  
Secretary for  
Environmental Protection



**Department of Toxic Substances Control**

Katherine M. Butler, MPH, Director  
8800 Cal Center Drive  
Sacramento, California 95826-3200  
[dtsc.ca.gov](http://dtsc.ca.gov)



**Gavin Newsom**  
Governor

**SENT VIA ELECTRONIC MAIL**

April 30, 2025

Matthew Schulenberg  
Assistant Superintendent, Administrative Services  
Apple Valley Unified School District  
12555 Navajo Road  
Apple Valley, CA 92308  
[GHHSCEQA@avusd.org](mailto:GHHSCEQA@avusd.org)

RE: MITIGATED NEGATIVE DECLARATION FOR GRANITE HILLS HIGH SCHOOL  
ATHLETICS PROJECT DATED APRIL 23, 2025, STATE CLEARINGHOUSE NUMBER  
[2025041174](#)

Dear Matthew Schulenberg,

The Department of Toxic Substances Control (DTSC) reviewed the Mitigated Negative Declaration (MND) for Granite Hills High School Athletics Project (Project). The proposed Project would install a new track and field with artificial turf, four stadium lights, two football field goal posts, a scoreboard, permanent bleachers to the west and east of the track and field, a concessions building, a teams building, a trash enclosure, a PA system, four parking lots, a flood control basin, and include walkways and ornamental landscaping design features and vegetation. The proposed Project would also include track event infrastructure including a long jump area. New chain-link fencing with gates would be installed around the perimeter of the track and field and project site. Chain-link fencing and a pedestrian access gate would be installed between the Project site and the campus. Project construction would occur in two phases. 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 San Bernardino 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 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 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 Granite Hills High School Athletics 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](#). If you have any questions or would

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like clarification on DTSC's comments, please respond to this letter or via our [CEQA Review email](#) for additional guidance.

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)

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