This Monthly Status Update is to inform the community about Exide Technologies (Exide) investigation, permit status, and cleanup activities under California Department of Toxic Substances Control’s (DTSC) oversight that occurred through February 2015, as well as activities that are anticipated in early 2015.

Starting in 2015, DTSC will provide an electronic copy of the Monthly Status Report online. If you would like to receive a notice via email when these reports are posted, please sign up for the Exide e-list by clicking the last bullet item on the left side of the Exide website titled “Subscribe to Exide e-list (NEW)” at [http://www.dtsc.ca.gov/HazardousWaste/Projects/UpdateExideSuspension.cfm](http://www.dtsc.ca.gov/HazardousWaste/Projects/UpdateExideSuspension.cfm)

### Summary of Recent Activities

These activities are described in detail on the pages indicated throughout this report.

**On-Site: Exide Technologies Facility (Pages 2-3)**
- Enforcement Order against Exide Technologies
- Continue review of the Facility Permit Application

**Off-Site: Surrounding Industrial Area Properties (Page 4)**
- Investigation and subsequent rapid response clean-up of nearby businesses, streets, sidewalks and storm water conveyance system

**Off-Site: Surrounding Residential Properties (Pages 5-7)**
- Soil sampling and soil-clean-up at homes in the Northern and Southern Assessment Areas
- Blood lead levels in residents of the community continue to be sampled
On-Site: Exide Technologies Facility

**Enforcement Order**

On November 6, 2014, DTSC announced an Enforcement Order against Exide Technologies. The Enforcement Order outlines steps that Exide must take to protect public health and to comply with California’s hazardous waste laws. The enforcement order is separate from any decision regarding Exide’s permit. If Exide fails to emerge from bankruptcy, it is still legally responsible for cleaning up its contamination and safely closing the facility.

The order requires Exide to:
- Set aside $38.6 million to cover expected closure costs, an increase of more than $27.5 million over the previous amount.
- Set aside $9 million for the cleanup of nearby residential properties contaminated by lead. DTSC review of data showed the $9 million is sufficient to remove contamination from every home in the two residential areas most likely impacted by Exide’s past operations.
- Pay $526,000 in penalties for recent hazardous waste violations and take immediate steps to correct those violations. Reimburse $760,000 of DTSC’s costs related to its oversight.

A copy of the Enforcement Order and additional information can be found on DTSC’s website:
[http://www.dtsc.ca.gov/HazardousWaste/Projects/UpdateExideSuspension.cfm](http://www.dtsc.ca.gov/HazardousWaste/Projects/UpdateExideSuspension.cfm)

**Facility Permit**

Exide operates the facility under an interim status authorization, and has applied for a full hazardous waste facility permit.

- DTSC is currently reviewing the August 2014 permit application.
- DTSC will complete review of the application in early 2015. If the application is considered technically complete, DTSC will begin the permit decision process.
- DTSC is currently overseeing the development of a draft Environmental Impact Report (EIR).
On-Site: Exide Technologies Facility

DTSC Issues Violations against Exide Facility in Vernon

On January 28, 2015, DTSC issued eight violations of state hazardous waste laws against Exide Technologies.

DTSC’s eight violations are described in a Summary of Violations issued to Exide on January 28, 2015. The violation findings are the result of an inspection by a team of DTSC and U.S. Environmental Protection Agency inspectors on January 20 and 21, 2015, and oversight activities on December 12, 2014. The two-day evaluation of Exide’s operations is part of DTSC’s oversight of the Exide facility and its review of the company’s application for a hazardous waste permit.

Among the most serious violations observed by DTSC inspectors was treatment of contaminated sludge in tanks that Exide is not authorized to operate at its Vernon facility. Inspectors also found evidence the company has failed to sufficiently protect against spills in an area where it stores materials including battery acid.

In addition to use of the unauthorized tanks and failure to sufficiently protect against spills, other alleged violations include:

- Improperly labeling and not closing containers holding hazardous waste;
- Lack of adequate secondary-containment system and engineer’s certification for temporary tanks used to store waste; and
- Placing hazardous waste with liquids in a containment building without a functioning leak detection and collection system.

DTSC has directed Exide to protect public health by immediately stopping all violations. The company also is required to submit documentation that the violations have ceased. Exide Technologies faces potential penalties and the possibility of additional enforcement actions for these violations, and will face increased penalties if it fails to fully comply.
Off-Site: Nearby Industrial Area Properties

Investigation and Rapid Response Clean-up

Through the Stipulation and Order established in October 2013, DTSC directed Exide to perform off-site surface soil and dust sampling for lead on industrial properties immediately adjacent to the Exide facility. Exide completed an initial round of dust and soil sampling with the purpose of identifying the extent of lead emitted by Exide.

DTSC found this work to be inadequate.

In December 2013, DTSC ordered Exide to prepare an Emergency Response Interim Measures Work Plan. The Emergency Response Interim Measures consisted of:

- Removal of dust and dirt identified during sampling as having total lead concentrations greater than 1,000 parts per million (ppm);
- Vacuuming over 218,000 square feet of streets and sidewalks surrounding the facility (approximately 8,600 pounds of dust, dirt and debris were removed); and
- Cleaning of over 1,800 linear feet of storm sewer piping.

Exide conducted soil sampling upon completion of the Emergency Response Interim Measures to confirm the clean-up work was sufficient; Exide’s April 2014 report showed high levels of lead remained entrenched in concrete surfaces. DTSC directed Exide to provide a supplemental Work Plan by September 20, 2014 to address the remaining lead.

DTSC reviewed the Work Plan and found it to be inadequate.

On December 2, 2014 DTSC issued a letter to Exide directing them to do the following:

- Complete additional soil sampling of all private industrial properties (not just rights-of-way) within approximately 1,500 feet of the facility;
- Provide an updated supplemental Work Plan; and
- Upon DTSC approval of the updated Work Plan, begin implementation of the additional industrial property sampling in early 2015.
Off-Site: Surrounding Residential Properties

Soil Sampling and Clean-Up in Northern and Southern Assessment Areas

DTSC ordered Exide Technologies to test for lead in residential yards in portions of Boyle Heights, East Los Angeles and Maywood. These areas are the most likely to be affected by Exide’s air emissions of lead. Yards showing soil sample results of lead levels higher than the DTSC cleanup level of 80 parts per million (ppm) will be cleaned up at no cost to the property owner.

Soil Sampling Overview

- Over 200 property owners in these areas were contacted by DTSC to obtain access to sample their properties.
- Based on the soil sampling results, properties were categorized as a Priority 1, 2 or 3 for clean-up.
- Priority 1 homes have the highest lead concentrations in soil and will be cleaned-up first, Priority 2 homes have the next highest concentrations of lead in soil, and will be cleaned-up second, and Priority 3 homes have the lowest concentrations and will be cleaned up third.

For soil sampling information contact DTSC at 1-844-225-3887 (Bilingual).
Blood Lead Testing Program

The Los Angeles County Department of Public Health has extended their Blood Lead Test Program to March 31, 2015. Adults and children living, working, or going to school within 3 miles of the Exide Facility are encouraged to get a free blood test. Exposure to high levels of lead can cause health problems, especially in young children and pregnant women. For more information call: 1-844-888-2290 (Bilingual) or visit the website: www.bloodleadtesting.com

Blood Lead Testing Update:

- According to Los Angeles County Department of Public Health approximately 450 people have already been tested; of those approximately 50 were children.

- According to the Centers for Disease Control (CDC), a blood lead level of 5 micrograms per deciliter (µg/dl) or higher is considered high for children.

- Of the 450 people tested so far, there have been 5 people total (all adults) with levels greater than 5 µg/dl and according to the Los Angeles County Department of Public Health, none are of a level requiring medical intervention.

FREE BLOOD TESTING HOT LINE

1-844-888-2290
Off-Site: Surrounding Residential Properties

Public Participation

- In November 2014, DTSC began conducting project status briefings with community stakeholders and stakeholder elected officials.
- DTSC will continue to conduct stakeholder briefings as needed.
- For questions or concerns, contact DTSC Public Participation Specialist Marina Pérez, 1-844-225-3887 (bilingual).

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If you have questions on subscribing to the Exide e-list, contact: Sarah Cromie at Sarah.Cromie@dtsc.ca.gov.

Information including reports and correspondence between DTSC and Exide is updated on the DTSC’s EnviroStor Website; community members are encouraged to visit the website at:

http://www.envirostor.dtsc.ca.gov/public/

Hard copies of Exide project documents are also available for review at the following repositories:

**Maywood Cesar Chavez Public Library**
4323 Slauson Avenue
Maywood, CA 90270
(323) 771-8600

**Robert L. Stevenson Branch Library**
803 Spence Street
Los Angeles, CA 90023
(323) 268-4710
Activities Planned for Early 2015

- Continued discussion with stakeholders and elected officials;
- Continued implementation of the November 2014 Enforcement Order;
- Determination of the completeness of the facility Permit Application;
- Review of Surrounding Industrial Properties Sampling Workplan;
- Completion of Expanded Area Sampling;
- Continued soil cleanup at Priority 1 and 2 properties; and
- Scheduling of Priority 2 properties for clean-up.