



CALIFORNIA ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

NEWS RELEASE

Department of Toxic Substances Control

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Department Denies Permit to Statewide Environmental Services

SACRAMENTO -- The California Environmental Protection Agency's Department of Toxic Substances Control (DTSC) today announced its decision to deny a hazardous waste permit for Statewide Environmental Services, Inc. (SES). If the decision is not appealed, the facility must begin the regulatory process of closure.

The facility, located at 12618 South Main Street in South Central Los Angeles, was issued an Interim Status Document (temporary authorization) in 1990, to accept, consolidate, and store hazardous wastes generated by other hazardous waste generators. SES then ships the wastes to other facilities for treatment, recycling, or disposal.

The decision to deny the permit was based on noncompliance with state hazardous waste management laws and regulations, and noncompliance with previous settlement agreements.

The decision was also based on omissions of information (seismic reports and analysis of waste streams) necessary for a permit determination and misdemeanor convictions for violations of the Vehicle Code regulating transportation and handling of hazardous waste.

A review of the DTSC's records revealed that SES had not complied with two Consent Orders and one Stipulation and Order. Although SES agreed to the terms, the facility subsequently violated the orders. Under the orders, the facility was required to pay penalties which totaled \$92,000.

Sixteen DTSC inspections and/or complaint investigations at the SES facility from 1991 through 1997 revealed over 70 violations. Inspection reports indicate that nine times between 1991 and 1997, the facility stored in excess of the capacity authorized in the Interim Status Document and on seven occasions the facility was cited for storing ignitable wastes within 50 feet of its property boundary line.

Other violations have included:

- failing to follow the facility waste analysis plan and to adequately analyze hazardous waste;
- mixing incompatible wastes;
- conducting unauthorized treatment of hazardous wastes;
- keeping inadequate operating records;
- storing unauthorized wastes on site; and,
- failing to take precautions to prevent releases, fires, or ignition of hazardous wastes.

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