



Recent DTSC Work to Enhance Protection of Public Health and the Environment September 20, 2016

- DTSC and the Cal EPA reached a historic agreement with Greenaction for Health and Environmental Justice, and El Pueblo/People for Clean Air & Water of Kettleman City. This is the first example of a voluntary resolution jointly developed by state agencies and community groups under Title VI of the federal Civil Rights Act. The agreement resolves a complaint over DTSC's 2014 approval of a permit to expand the Kettleman Hills hazardous waste landfill and contains provisions designed to improve public health and environment quality for people in Kettleman City.
http://www.dtsc.ca.gov/PressRoom/upload/News_Release_T-13-16.pdf
- Governor Brown appointed Mohsen Nazemi as the new Deputy Director for our Brownfields and Environmental Restoration Program. Mohsen brings thirty-eight years of experience as an environmental regulator at the South Coast Air Quality Management District (SCAQMD), where he served for eight years as the Deputy Executive Officer for the Office of Engineering and Compliance. Mohsen started with DTSC on Monday, September 19th, and is based in our Cypress office.
<https://www.gov.ca.gov/news.php?id=19546>
- Ardagh Glass Inc., a Madera company that manufactures wine bottles, agreed to pay \$3.5 million to settle violations of California's hazardous waste laws, which was received by DTSC on September 14, 2016. DTSC discovered the violations during inspections in 2010 and 2011, while the company was owned by Saint Gobain Containers, Inc. The settlement also requires Ardagh glass to follow audit practices to ensure that it remains in compliance with hazardous waste law.
https://www.dtsc.ca.gov/PressRoom/upload/News_Release_T-14-16.pdf
- Four more thermostat manufacturers have agreed to improve their methods for collecting used thermostats that contain mercury, a potent neurotoxin, under an agreement with DTSC. The manufacturers agreed to settle the enforcement actions against them for a penalty of \$25,000 each for failure to meet the out-of-service mercury-added thermostat collection requirement.
https://www.dtsc.ca.gov/PressRoom/upload/News_Release_T-15-16.pdf
- The DTSC Regulatory Assistance Office issued a new advisory that explains regulations governing the management of used oil filters and highlights the draining techniques that DTSC has found to be most effective at removing residual oil from the filters. During recent inspections conducted by the Office of Criminal Investigations, DTSC discovered a significant number of undrained or improperly drained oil filters that were sent to metal recycling facilities by



Department of Toxic Substances Control

generators of those filters.

http://www.dtsc.ca.gov/HazardousWaste/Documents/upload/Advisory-used-oil-filters_Final-09-14-16.pdf

- On August 15, 2016, thirty-one students graduated in Los Angeles after weeks of training through DTSC's Workforce for Environmental Restoration in Communities (WERC) program. The program was created to train under-employed residents who live in the communities impacted by the former Exide Technologies facility in Vernon. The training in environmental sampling and assessment field work will help them secure jobs with companies contracted to clean up around the facility. Twenty-eight graduates have been hired or offered positions with the contractors.
https://www.dtsc.ca.gov/PressRoom/upload/News_Release_T-16-16.pdf
- A DTSC investigation has led to six felony convictions against Panda International Trading Co. Inc. (Panda), and its owner Da Xiong Pan. After collecting evidence obtained in a 2013 search warrant, DTSC's Office of Criminal Investigations (OCI) determined the company released toxic levels of metal particulates onto the public sidewalk in front of its facility in Maywood. Both the company and Mr. Pan pled guilty to the charges on September 14, 2016. Pan received 16 months in prison, which was suspended to one day of jail and 1,000 hours of community service. Additionally, Mr. Pan and the company will pay a combined total of \$53,500 in restitution.