



**Public Notice of Emergency Permit  
Death Valley National Park  
Death Valley, California  
April 11, 2008**



On April 9, 2008 the Death Valley National Park requested an Emergency Permit from the California Department of Toxic Substances Control (DTSC). Death Valley National Park proposes to treat dynamite by open detonation (OD). DTSC requires an Emergency Permit for the requested treatment by detonation because the Death Valley National Park (National Park) does not hold any other facility hazardous waste treatment permit.

The permit application is for treatment of deteriorating and crystallized nitroglycerin-based dynamite. The dynamite was discovered on March 28, 2008 in the southern section of the National Park, about ¾ of a mile north of the Ashford Mine area, Inyo County. National Park staff, in consultation with Navy specialists, has determined that the dynamite is too unstable for transportation and no alternative on-site treatment is available. The treatment will be carried out on site by Explosive Ordnance Disposal personnel from the Naval Air Weapons Station, China Lake, following all applicable military protocols.

DTSC finds there is a potential imminent and substantial endangerment to human health and the environment. As such, DTSC is issuing this emergency permit to the National Park effective April 11, 2008 through April 30, 2008. The emergency permit includes measures to minimize any adverse impact to the community or the environment during the treatment.

**California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA)**

DTSC has determined that this Emergency Permit is exempt from the requirements of CEQA as an action necessary to prevent or mitigate an emergency. A Notice of Exemption (NOE) will be filed which starts a 35-day time period for any legal challenges to DTSC's CEQA determination for this Emergency Permit. This activity is necessary to prevent an emergency because the material has become too unstable to store, handle or ship off-site without posing a threat to property and human health.

**Additional Information**

For further information regarding the Emergency Permit for the National Park, please contact Ms. Beverly Rikala, Hazardous Substances Engineer, at (916) 255-3746 or [BRikala@dtsc.ca.gov](mailto:BRikala@dtsc.ca.gov), or Mr. Nathan Schumacher, Public Participation Specialist, at (916) 255-3650 or [NSchumac@dtsc.ca.gov](mailto:NSchumac@dtsc.ca.gov). A copy of the Emergency Permit, NOE, and the National Park's request as well as the full Administrative Record for this project are available for review at **Department of Toxic Substances Control, 8800 Cal Center Drive, Sacramento, CA 95826**. For media inquiries, please contact Ms. Jeanne Garcia, DTSC Public Information Officer, at (818) 717-6573 or [JGarcia1@dtsc.ca.gov](mailto:JGarcia1@dtsc.ca.gov).

**Notice to the Hearing Impaired**

You can obtain additional information by using the California State Relay Service at 1-888-877-5378 (TDD). Ask them to contact Nathan Schumacher at (916) 255-3650 regarding Death Valley National Park.

For additional information regarding DTSC please visit our web site at [www.dtsc.ca.gov](http://www.dtsc.ca.gov).