



Matthew Rodriguez
Secretary for
Environmental Protection



Department of Toxic Substances Control

Deborah O. Raphael, Director
9211 Oakdale Avenue
Chatsworth, California 91311



Edmund G. Brown Jr.
Governor

March 5, 2013

To: Mr. Lee Smith
leesmith371@rocketmail.com

RE: Your e-mail on Thursday 1/3/2013 7:24 AM regarding Draft Post Closure Permit for Former International Light Metals Facility, Torrance

Dear Mr. Smith:

On January 3, 2013, you e-mailed your comments (attached) to Mr. Mike Eshaghian of Department of Toxic Substances Control (DTSC) on the draft Hazardous Waste Post Closure Permit for the former International Light Metals facility located at 19200 S. Western Avenue, Torrance, California. The following is DTSC's response to your comments:

The Department of Toxic Substances Control's (DTSC's) mission is to protect public health and the environment. This mission can be achieved by permitting facilities that manage hazardous wastes. The DTSC uses the permit process as a means to control operation of hazardous waste facilities by requiring facilities to reduce their pollution and comply with different environmental laws and regulations. DTSC as a state agency makes every effort to inform the communities located near our sites. To this end, we have placed a public notice in the local newspaper, broadcast a message on a local radio station and have mailed fact sheets soliciting nearby residents' involvement in our process. For this post closure permit, the fact sheet was mailed out; a radio announcement was broadcasted on KIIS FM 102.7 and the public notice was published in the Daily Breeze newspaper on December 5, 2012. This was done in order to notify the community who are concerned and to answer their questions and consider their comments in the final decision. Copies of the related documents were placed in the reference desk, Torrance Public Library at 3301 Torrance Blvd., Torrance and at the DTSC file room at 9211 Oakdale Avenue, Chatsworth.

DTSC has over 1,000 sites in California for which it makes all documents available to the public. In addition, many of these sites have multiple activities. This requires that the website be organized in a branching fashion so that each site can have all its information posted. We have listed two ways in the fact sheet to get the information from the DTSC envirostor site. The second link is more direct as listed below:
http://www.envirostor.dtsc.ca.gov/public/hwmp_profile_report.asp?global_id=CAD030398622

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The project manager, Mike Eshaghian's e-mail address and phone number was also posted for direct contact. In fact Mr. Eshaghian sent you two e-mails inviting you to call him to answer any questions you may have and walk you through the project. In addition, DTSC held a public meeting on January 8, 2013 to respond to community questions.

The post closure permit will require groundwater monitoring; operation and maintenance activities for the monitoring wells and the asphalt/concrete surfaces and site inspection. The Corrective Action and site cleanup is conducted under the oversight of DTSC. The site has been investigated to determine where the chemicals of concern from this site are located in soils and groundwater and the extent of contamination. This investigation has been supported by a Human Health Risk Assessment and has found that there is no potential impact to nearby residents from chemicals in soil and groundwater from this facility.

With respect to your concern regarding drinking water, DTSC has compelled the parties responsible for the contamination to do an extensive search to find all production wells in the area and have found that all wells producing drinking water in the area have concentrations which meet regulatory standards for drinking water. The groundwater monitoring will be continued to make sure the contamination does not migrate to other areas while it is being remediated.

The facility site has been developed to provide use for warehouses and parking lots. Access is restricted to employees and deliveries in and out. The site is currently paved and covered with asphalt and concrete so there is no run-off of contaminated soils. The development of the property to five huge warehouses may have contributed to a higher employment and higher property value in that area.

DTSC has added you to our e-mail list for this property to keep you informed of any public participation events or future fact sheets.

The final Permit will be issued by DTSC on March 5, 2013 in accordance with the California Code of Regulations, title 22, section 66271.14.

The final Permit may be appealed in accordance with California Code of Regulations, title 22, section 66271.18. Please see the attached Permit Decision Letter for the appeal process.

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Thank you for your comments and questions. If you have further questions, please e-mail or call the project manager, Mike Eshaghian at (818) 717-6679.

Sincerely,

//Original signed by//

Mike Eshaghian
Project Manager
Office of Permitting

Attachment

Eshaghian, Mike@DTSC

From: Lee Smith <leesmith371@rocketmail.com>
Sent: Thursday, January 03, 2013 7:24 AM
To: Eshaghian, Mike@DTSC; leesmith371@rocketmail.com
Subject: Cleanup project

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

Dear Sir,

Recently I received a Fact Sheet in the mail from your office about the cleanup work you are doing at the International Light Metals Building. This property is not far from my neighborhood. I appreciate you taking the time to let me know about this work since this was the first I had heard of it.

My family is a new member of this community and things like this are good to know about since we have grand kids that live with us. A couple questions and then you asked for our comments.

First, we did not know about this issue before moving to this area. How can the state be better at keeping us informed? Had I not paid attention to this fact sheet I would never know what was going on. There has been no news coverage of this problem. Is there a reason this has not been more made public so that we know what is going on? Where at the library do I find your materials? I have problems finding stuff on your website maybe it could be better fixed?

Then, my concern is what does this really mean to me and my family. Do I have anything to be worried about? Is my drinking water safe? My kids play around this area all the time is the dirt and runoff from these buildings a danger? Does this work have anything to do with what my house is worth now?

We have a small garden in our back yard should I be concerned about the vegetables we eat?

I would like to be on your email list to receive future information and if my time allows I will try to come to the meeting in January.

Thank you sir for your time and answering my questions.

L. Hernando Smith
leesmith371@rocketmail.com