

NOTICE OF EXEMPTION

To: Office of Planning and Research
State Clearinghouse
P.O. Box 3044, 1400 Tenth Street, Room 212
Sacramento, CA 95812-3044

From: Department of Toxic Substances Control
Northern California Permitting and Corrective Action
Branch
8800 Cal Center Drive
Sacramento, CA 95826

Project Title: KW Plastics of California, Permit Modification (Class 1* and 3)

Project Location: 1861 Sunnyside Court, Bakersfield, California 93308

County: Kern

Project Description: KW Plastics of Bakersfield, California (KW) will modify their existing treatment system to update and improve the efficiency of their lead-impacted polypropylene chip treatment process (chip treatment process). KW receives lead-impacted polypropylene chips (remnants of lead-acid battery casings) from an off-site lead-acid battery recycling facility and manufactures the reclaimed polypropylene into paint buckets. The facility does not handle any containers or drums, and treats hazardous waste polypropylene to render it non-hazardous. The facility plans to replace the existing treatment tank system with a new, upgraded tank system and washing process. The tank system modification is expected to require approximately 3-4 weeks. During the transition period, all incoming hazardous waste shipments will be halted at their points of origin until the new treatment system is certified as operational. These modifications are outlined in the April 28, 2006 Class 3 permit modification request and in the March 22, 2007 Class 3 permit modification addendum, and will **not** increase KW's waste volume capacity. The modifications include:

- Replacement of existing drying system (spin dryer and rotating dryer) with 3 high-efficiency spin dryers, each with a water recycling tank ranging from 360 to 540-gallons (proposed Tanks 4,6, and 8), and a drying tower;
- Replacement of existing 2,800-gallon float separator tank (Tank G) with 2 wash tanks (proposed Tank 3, 6,700-gallons, and Tank 5, 5,400-gallon) and a rinse tank (proposed Tank 7, 6,700-gallon);
- Replacement of existing 4,500-gallon float separator tank (Tank C) with a 6,700-gallon float separator tank (proposed Tank 1), including corresponding 280-gallon water recycling tank (proposed Tank 2);
- Replacement of existing 5,000-gallon water recovery tank (Tank P) with a 7,800-gallon water recovery tank (proposed Tank 9); and
- Replacement of existing 500-gallon holding tank (Tank U) with a 7,800-gallon holding tank (proposed Tank 10); with the possibility of redesignating the 500-gallon tank (Tank U) solely for the purpose of regulating wastewater flow into the filter press.

Concurrently submitted for DTSC approval was a Class 1* modification to alter KW's previously approved closure plan for the existing units; which includes additional equipment for closure and a more stringent closure standard and sampling plan. The closure of old equipment will be done in a manner that: "Controls, minimizes, or eliminates, to the extent necessary to prevent threats to human health and the environment, post-closure escape of hazardous waste, hazardous waste constituents, leachate, contaminated rainfall, or waste decomposition products to the ground or surface waters or to the atmosphere." In addition to the replacement of the tanks, the secondary containment for the existing treatment room will be increased to ensure adequate containment volume for the wastewater stored within these new tanks and ancillary piping.

A summary of the benefits of the new system include:

- **No** new or significant impacts on the environment;
- Improved efficiency in chip and wastewater treatment;
- Prevent disruptions of ongoing waste management activities;
- Decrease in utility consumption;
- Decrease in personnel exposure and manpower requirements;
- Decrease overall chip treatment time; and
- Increase worker safety.

Name of Public Agency Approving Project: Department of Toxic Substances Control

Name of Person or Agency Carrying Out Project: KW Plastics of California

Exemption Status: (check one)

- Ministerial [PRC, Sec. 21080(b)(1); CCR, Sec. 15268]
- Declared Emergency [PRC, Sec. 21080(b)(3); CCR, Sec.15269(a)]
- Emergency Project [PRC, Sec. 21080(b)(4); CCR, Sec.15269(b)(c)]
- X Categorical Exemption: [CCR, Section 15301 for existing facilities]
- Statutory Exemptions: [State code section number]
- General Rule [CCR, Sec. 15061(b)(3)]

Exemption Title: Class 1: the "existing facilities" exemption.

Reasons Why Project is Exempt: This project meets the Class 1 “Existing Facilities” exemption whereby minor alteration of existing structures, facilities, and mechanical equipment is proposed, with negligible or no expansion of use beyond that previously existing.

Specifically, this project will involve negligible change in the current use of the facility, as there will be no change in the volumes of wastes treated. As a result, the project will not cause any new or additional impacts to the environment. All environmental resources were analyzed, including historical resources and air quality and transportation impacts. The minor facility alterations will provide increased efficiency and less use of water and energy. The new process will also add safety and health protection features to increase worker safety and ensure greater environmental protection.

Summary of reasons for the finding of exemption:

- Project poses **no** new or significant impacts on the environment;
- New system will **not** increase waste volume capacity;
- No additional waste codes will be handled;
- No increase in chip washing;
- No increase in wastewater treated;
- No increase in off-site disposal of waste;
- Improved efficiency results in decrease in utility consumption;
- Decrease in personnel exposure and manpower requirements; and
- Overall increase worker safety.

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Project Manager Name	Project Manager Title	Phone #

Branch Chief Signature	Date

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