



Department of  
Toxic Substances  
Control

*Preventing  
environmental  
damage from  
hazardous waste,  
and restoring  
contaminated  
sites for all  
Californians.*



State of California



California  
Environmental  
Protection Agency

Fact Sheet, June 2007

## You may comment on a proposed modification to the closure plan for one of the landfills at the Kettleman Hills Facility

### Introduction

A proposed modification to a landfill closure plan for the Chemical Waste Management Kettleman Hills Facility is available for public comment. The permit modification, if approved, will modify the Closure Plan for the landfill unit B-19 which currently holds both hazardous waste and non-hazardous waste (household garbage) in separated areas. The modification is needed to allow safe operation of a bioreactor (described below) in the non-hazardous part of the landfill.

The Department of Toxic Substances Control (DTSC) invites you to review and comment on a proposed Class 3 Permit Modification for Chemical Waste Management's Kettleman Hills Facility, located at 35251 Old Skyline Road near Kettleman City, California. Please [see page 2 for a map](#) of the facility's location.

The facility conducted a public comment period and held a public meeting on January 4, 2007. DTSC is continuing the comment period and will hold our own public hearing on the proposal (please see the box below).

### Proposed bioreactor in the garbage portion of Landfill B-19

The Kettleman Hills Facility proposes to convert about 18 acres of the 30-acre garbage area in Landfill B-19 into a bioreactor disposal unit, which will add liquids to speed up breakdown of the garbage waste. Four acres of the bioreactor unit will be located over the hazardous waste separation liner. The remaining 11 acres of the garbage area will remain a traditional dry landfill. The proposed bioreactor project will not alter the hazardous waste operations currently permitted at the Kettleman Hills Facility.

Several regulatory agencies have reviewed and approved the use of the bioreactor in the non-hazardous part of the landfill. The Integrated Waste Management Board, the Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board, and Kings County Department of Public

### PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD, PUBLIC MEETING AND HEARING

The community is invited to submit comments on the Proposed Class 3 Permit Modification for the Kettleman Hills Facility from

June 12, 2007 to July 26, 2007

Please submit your comments to Ruth Cayabyab at the [addresses listed on page four](#)

We also invite you to a Public Meeting and Hearing :

July 12, 6:30 P.M., Cafeteria, Kettleman City Elementary School, 701 General Petroleum St.  
Kettleman City CA 93239

### Anuncio

Si prefiere hablar con alguien en español acerca de ésta información, favor de llamar a Jesus Cruz, Departamento de Control de Substancias Tóxicas. El número de teléfono es (866) 495-5651.





Health have reviewed and approved a Joint Technical Document for the proposed bioreactor operation in Landfill B-19. The San Joaquin Valley Unified Air Pollution Control District approved “An Authority to Construct” permit for the bioreactor. [Please see the figure on page three for the location of proposed bioreactor.](#)

Although DTSC does not have authority over the bioreactor operation, DTSC does have authority over the entire landfill and has to make sure it is a proper and safe operation. We also must make sure that Landfill B-19 can be safely and properly closed in the future. Our review made sure that all modifications to the closure plan met DTSC requirements.

**Proposed Class 3 Permit Modification: Revised Landfill B-19 Closure Plan Objectives**

The Kettleman Hills Facility has requested approval from DTSC to modify the Landfill B-19 Closure Plan to incorporate the changes planned for the non-hazardous waste operations. The following are major parts of the revised closure plan:

- Closure of the hazardous waste operations at Landfill B-19;
- Change in the cover slope and waste fill configuration for the non-hazardous part;
- Placement of a cover over the non-hazardous management area;

- Use of a bioreactor for a sizable portion of the non-hazardous area.
- A determination that Landfill B-19, with the proposed changes, meets all state regulations for hazardous waste and for non-hazardous waste.

### Facility Background

Chemical Waste Management Incorporated operates the permitted hazardous waste treatment, storage, and disposal facility on 499 acres of a 1600 acre parcel. The Kettleman Hills Facility accepts virtually all solid, semisolid, and liquid hazardous waste. It is not permitted to accept biological agents or infectious wastes, radioactive materials, and compressed gases and explosives.

### Landfill B-19 Background

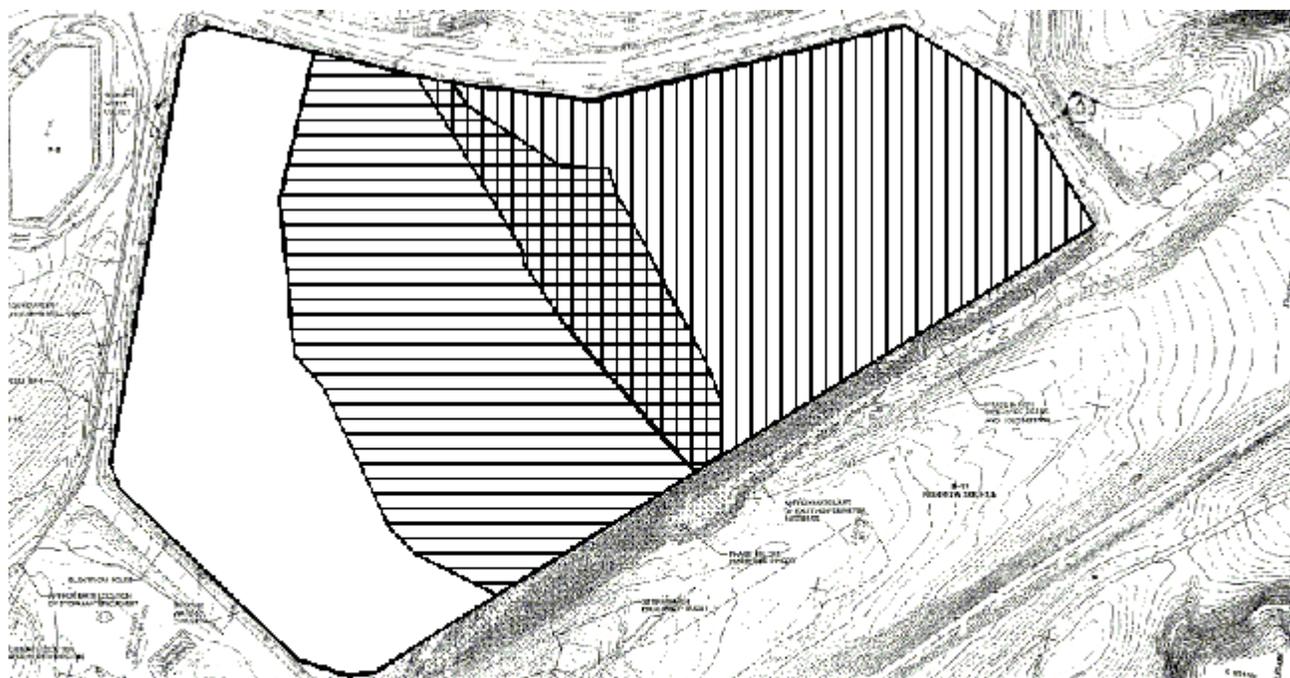
Landfill B-19 was permitted as an approximately 43-acre hazardous landfill with approximately seven million cubic yards of total capacity. Landfill B-19 was built between 1986 and 1989, and began accepting hazardous waste in 1987.

From 1988 to 1992, Landfill B-19 was a hazardous waste landfill. In 1992, DTSC placed it into inactive status, and a temporary cover was placed over it.

In 1997, the remaining unused portion of the landfill was converted from hazardous waste into a garbage unit. The base liner was designed in accordance with the state regulations for non-hazardous waste. A separation liner over the hazardous waste portion of the landfill was also designed to prevent the movement of any liquid from the non-hazardous unit into the partially closed hazardous waste unit. Please see the figure below for the location of the hazardous waste in B-19.

### California Environmental Quality Act

Under the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), DTSC is responsible for reviewing the potential health and environmental impacts from the proposed permit modification. We have determined that the Kings County Final Subsequent Environmental Impact Report, May 2005,



	<b>HAZARDOUS WASTE</b> (11 acres)		<b>BIOREACTOR</b> WET TRASH (4 acres) OVER DRY TRASH OVER HAZARDOUS WASTE
	<b>DRY TRASH (11 acres) OVER HAZARDOUS WASTE</b>		<b>WET TRASH (14.3 acres)</b>

**MODIFIED CLOSURE PLAN  
CLASS I LANDFILL,  
EXISTING CONDITIONS AND  
PROPOSED LIMITS OF  
BIOREACTOR**

provides the necessary environmental analysis for the DTSC decision on the permit modification.

### **For more information**

If you have questions about this project please contact the following staff:

Ruth Cayabyab  
DTSC Project Manager  
8800 Cal Center Drive  
Sacramento CA 95826

[RCayabya@dtsc.ca.gov](mailto:RCayabya@dtsc.ca.gov)  
(916) 255-3601

Nathan Schumacher  
DTSC Public Participation Specialist

[NSchumac@dtsc.ca.gov](mailto:NSchumac@dtsc.ca.gov)  
Toll free (866) 495-5651  
(916) 255-3650

If you are a member of the media, contact:

Ron Baker  
DTSC Public Information Officer  
[RBaker@dtsc.ca.gov](mailto:RBaker@dtsc.ca.gov)

(916) 324-3142

*You may review the documents at these locations*

The Proposed Class 3 Permit Modification application, the CEQA documents, and other supporting documents are located at the following locations:

Avenal Library  
501 East Kings Street  
Avenal, CA 93204  
(559) 386-5741

Monday: 11 am – 8 pm

Tuesday – Wednesday: 11 am – 7 pm

Thursday: 12 pm – 5 pm

Friday: 1 pm – 5 pm

Hanford Library  
401 North Douty Street  
Hanford, CA 93230  
(559) 582-0261

Monday – Wednesday: 10 am – 8 pm

Thursday: 10 am – 6 pm

Friday – Saturday: 12 pm – 5 pm

Kettleman City Library  
106 Becky Pease Street  
Kettleman City, CA 93239

8800 Cal Center Drive  
Sacramento, CA 95826

Please contact Bobbi Jensen at (916) 255-3779 to make the necessary arrangements.

Some information is also available at our website:

[http://www.dtsc.ca.gov/HazardousWaste/Projects/CWMI\\_Kettleman.cfm](http://www.dtsc.ca.gov/HazardousWaste/Projects/CWMI_Kettleman.cfm).

### **Notice for the Hearing Impaired**

TDD users may obtain additional information by using the California State Relay Service at (888) 877-5378 (TDD). Please ask them to contact Nathan Schumacher (916) 255-3650 regarding Kettleman Hills Facility.