

NOTICE OF EXEMPTION

To: Office of Planning and Research
State Clearinghouse
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From: Department of Toxic Substances Control
Permit Renewal Team
700 Heinz Ave, Suite 200
Berkeley, CA 94710

Project Title: RCRA Permit Renewal for the Storage Facility (2233) and Storage Magazine (0312) for United Technologies Corporation (UTC).

Project Location: 600 Metcalf Road, San Jose, California 95138

County: Santa Clara

Project Description:

The Department of Toxic Substances Control has received the RCRA Permit Renewal Application for the Storage Facility (2233) and Storage Magazine (0312) for United Technologies Corporation. UTC is currently undergoing operations to close facility sites previously used for the development, manufacture, and test of solid rocket motors for space defense and exploration. The Storage Facility (2233) and Storage Magazine (0312) will be use to store RCRA hazardous waste as well as debris that have come in contact with RCRA hazardous constituents found at different locations of the facility site that are currently going through closure activities, and through routine cleaning and maintenance activities of units previously permitted which produced RCRA hazardous waste as a byproduct of manufacturing operations.

Background:

UTC is located at 600 Metcalf Road in Santa Clara County. UTC formerly developed, manufactured, and tested solid rocket motors for a variety of space exploration and defense purposes from 1959 through 2004. The major portion of the manufacturing process was the mixing, casting, and curing of solid rocket motor propellants. During the development period all hazardous waste produced due to the different operations conducted within UTC were stored in the Storage Facility (2233) and Storage Magazine (0312) depending on their ignitability or reactivity. Currently the hazardous wastes that are stored from different closure activities follow the same parameters as the ones used under the development period with regards to its ignitability and reactivity.

Project Activities:

UTC is no longer a manufacturing site. The current operations still produce Resource Conservation Recovery Act (RCRA) and California regulated (non-RCRA) hazardous waste which needs to be stored in a permitted facility in order to accumulate and later be shipped to an authorized TSDF. All storage of hazardous wastes that are in the Storage Facility (2233) and Storage Magazine (0312) follow the standards required by DTSC with the handling and management of Hazardous Wastes in order to prevent a negative impact to human health or the environment. These parameters include the correct management of incompatible waste by correctly identifying the waste and storing it in different locations or appropriate distance with one another in order to prevent any possible accidental contact. The facility will also manage ignitable and reactive hazardous waste and will store them separately in underground magazines in order to prevent the proximity of ignitable waste to reactive waste. Some of the RCRA hazardous wastes that are going to be encountered are: Water with high solids, Aqueous or Organic Waste with other reactives (e.g. explosives), Acid and Caustic aqueous waste with metals, Halogenated Solvents, Lab packs, Spent Carbon, PCB, and Rinsate water.

The Storage Facility (2233) consists of an 80-foot by 100-foot reinforced concrete slab covered by a pre-fabricated steel weather cover and a paved area containing office building and storage sheds. The Storage Facility (2233) receives wastes generated onsite from closure activities taking place in another area of the facility site (decommissioning of facilities and equipment, site remediation), as well as the facility's support operations (routine cleaning and maintenance). The Storage Facility (2233) is located on Las Animans Road within UTC 2.0 miles from the San Felipe Road.

The Storage Magazine (0312) is a pre-cast concrete in-ground magazine. The magazine consists of three separate, detached rooms, each measures about 24 feet long, 13 feet wide, and 9 feet high. An earthen mound covers all three rooms. The Storage magazine was built to meet the Department of Defense (DOD) and the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms (ATF) requirements. The Storage Magazine (0312) was installed and constructed in 1984 and is presently used for storage of ignitable and reactive wastes for a period up to one year. The Storage Magazine (0312) is located on Las Animans Road with UTC about 1.75 miles from San Felipe Road.

