



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, April 2006

# Westside Disposal Facility Fellows, California

## Draft Post-Closure Permit Public Comment Period

### Introduction

The Department of Toxic Substances Control (DTSC) invites public review and comment on the Draft Post-Closure Permit for the Westside Disposal Facility. The Westside facility is located near the town of Fellows, in Kern County, California. If approved the Draft Post-Closure Permit details how Chevron-Texaco would handle hazardous waste left in place after the facility was closed. This fact sheet contains information concerning the facility background, the public comment period, facility history, the Draft Post-Closure Permit, the California Environmental Quality Act Notice of Exemption, information repositories, DTSC contacts and mailing list information.

### Public Comment Period

The public comment period for the Draft Post-Closure Permit begins Tuesday, April 25, 2006 and ends Thursday, June 8, 2006. Written comments must be postmarked by Thursday, June 8, 2006 and emailed comments must be sent by midnight of that same date. Comments can be sent to:

Francisco Gutterres  
Project Manager  
8800 Cal Center Drive  
Sacramento, California 95826-3200  
[fgutterr@dtsc.ca.gov](mailto:fgutterr@dtsc.ca.gov)

DTSC has not scheduled a public hearing on the Draft Post-Closure Permit. However, interested parties may request a public hearing. Public hearing requests must state the reasons for the public hearing and the issues or concerns that would be aired. Public hearing requests must be sent to Francisco Gutterres at the address above and be received by the close of the public comment period.

### Response to Comments

Before making a final permit determination, DTSC will review and respond to all public comments in writing in a Response to Comments document. Those who submitted comments and those who request a copy will receive the Response to Comments. A copy of the Response to Comments will be placed in the information repositories listed in this fact sheet.



## Site Background

The Westside Disposal Facility is located on the north ½ of the southeast ¼ of Section 25, Township 31 South, Range 22 East, Mount Diablo Base and Meridian. The site is situated between Highway 33 and Shale Road, just north of the town of Fellows, in Kern County.

The Westside Disposal Facility operated as a hazardous waste disposal site from 1973 through 1985, accepting approximately 15.1 million barrels of waste primarily from nearby oil fields. Small amounts of plating waste containing heavy metals were also accepted. The facility operated by spreading liquid waste throughout the 80 acre site. The waste was incorporated into the soil to a depth of about 30 inches and allowed to biodegrade and evaporate.

A closure plan for the facility was approved in April 1991, and DTSC accepted closure certification in April 1992. Closure consisted of evaluation of the site for areas exceeding site-specific cleanup levels; removal and closure of monitoring wells, piezometers (soil moisture measuring device), lysimeters (water level measurement device), and oil wells; dike remediation; leveling of the site surface; installation of new oil well pads; verification soil and air sampling; seeding of the site surface; and final surveying for closure certification. The final site configuration includes a sloped drainage surface, two fenced areas, a drainage channel, and two oil well pads.

## Post-closure Overview

Because the facility closed with waste left in place, state and federal regulations require that a post-closure plan for a minimum 30-year period be developed and submitted to DTSC for approval. The post-closure plan must address two primary activities:

1. Maintenance of closure structures, and
2. Financial assurance to provide for 30 years of care for the facility.

The Draft Post-Closure Permit proposes to approve the submitted plan and requires Chevron to implement the plan as approved.

## Groundwater Monitoring Variance

In support of this post-closure permit renewal DTSC has issued a variance from groundwater monitoring requirements. The variance is based on the low potential for hazardous wastes to contaminate the groundwater beneath the site. The variance continues the provisions that were in place as a result of waivers from groundwater monitoring requirements issued to the previous facility owners by the California Department of Health Services and the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency. Factors unique to this site include the depth to groundwater (650 to 900 feet below ground surface), a thick low permeability clay layer underlying the site, low rainfall and high evaporation, and the presence of naturally occurring oil in the uppermost aquifer, producing groundwater of poor water quality.

## California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA)

In compliance with the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), DTSC has reviewed the proposed post-closure activities and determined they will not have any potential for an adverse effect on public health and the environment. Therefore, DTSC has exempted this project from CEQA requirements and prepared a Notice of Exemption (NOE). The NOE document, which lists the specific reasons of why the project is exempt, is part of the administrative record for this project. A copy is located at the information repositories listed in this fact sheet.

## Information Repositories

The Draft Post-Closure Permit and other site related documents are available for public review at the Information Repositories listed below. The entire administrative record is available for public review at the DTSC office at 8800 Cal Center Drive. The administrative record includes copies of the post-closure permit application, closure and post-closure plans, the CEQA Notice of Exemption, fact sheets and other site specific documents.

Information Repositories are located at:

Kern County Library, Taft Branch  
27 Emmons Park Drive  
Taft, California 93294  
(661) 763-3294

Department of Toxic Substances Control  
8800 Cal Center Drive  
Sacramento, California 95826  
Contact: Bobbi Jensen at  
(916) 255-3560 for an appointment

## Information Contacts

If you have any questions or would like additional information on the Westside Disposal Facility post-closure project please contact:

Francisco Gutterres  
Project Manager  
Department of Toxic Substances Control  
8800 Cal Center Drive  
Sacramento, California 95826-3200  
(916) 255-3740  
[fgutterr@dtsc.ca.gov](mailto:fgutterr@dtsc.ca.gov)

Randy Sturgeon  
Public Participation Specialist  
Department of Toxic Substances Control  
8800 Cal Center Drive  
Sacramento, California 95826  
(916) 255-3649  
[rsturgeo@dtsc.ca.gov](mailto:rsturgeo@dtsc.ca.gov)

### Media Contact

Carol Singleton  
DTSC Public Information Officer  
(916) 324-0936  
[csinglet@dtsc.ca.gov](mailto:csinglet@dtsc.ca.gov)

### **Anuncio**

Si prefiere hablar con alguien en español acerca de ésta información, favor de llamar a José Salcedo, Departamento de Control de Sustancias Tóxicas. El número de teléfono es (916) 255-3741.

### **Notice to Hearing Impaired**

You can obtain additional information by using the California State Relay Service at: 1-888-877-5378. Ask them to contact Randy Sturgeon at (916) 255-3649.

### *ARE YOU ON DTSC's MAILING LIST?*

If you would like to be on the mailing list for the Westside Disposal Facility fill out the information below and mail back to Randy Sturgeon, Public Participation Specialist, 8800 Cal Center Drive, Sacramento, CA 95826.

Please print name and address clearly.

Name:

Address:

City/State/Zip:

Phone:

Fax:

E-mail:

Please take me off the mailing list.

Note: While the mailing list is solely for DTSC use, the list is considered a public record.