

NOTICE OF COMMENT PERIOD AND PUBLIC MEETING

HAZARDOUS WASTE STORAGE FACILITY
CLASS 2 PERMIT MODIFICATION
AND
COMPLETION OF CORRECTIVE ACTION

LOS ANGELES COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURAL COMMISSIONER/WEIGHTS AND
MEASURES

8841 East Slauson Avenue, Pico Rivera, CA 90660

PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD: Aug. 15, to Oct.15, 2007

PUBLIC MEETING: Sept. 8, 2007 at 10 a.m.

MEETING LOCATION: El Rancho High School
6501 Passons Boulevard
Pico Rivera, CA 90660

WHAT IS BEING PROPOSED?

The Los Angeles County Department of Agricultural Commissioner/Weights and Measures (ACWM) invites public comments and provides opportunities for public participation during a 60-day public comment period on the following: 1) a modification to its permit, called a Class 2 Permit Modification, which will enable it to close its Hazardous Waste Management Units; and 2) a proposed Completion of Corrective Action which allow ACWM to close the facility located at 8841 East Slauson Avenue in Pico Rivera.

ACWM determined it will no longer store hazardous waste and therefore submitted a modified Closure Plan to DTSC in Nov. 2006 (Revised Jan. 2007). The modified Closure Plan includes comprehensive information in all sections of the document not required by the Permit which was issued in 1985.

ACWM will incorporate the modified Closure Plan into the 1985 Permit through a Class 2 Permit Modification. ACWM is notifying the public of this permit modification in accordance with the California Code of Regulations, Title 22, Section 66270.42(b). Implementation of the modified Closure Plan will be carried out within 180 days of DTSC's written approval.

Since ACWM intends to close the entire Pico Rivera facility, it was required to investigate the site for any possible releases of hazardous substances. A site-wide health risk assessment, or HRA was prepared with information from the investigation. Results of the HRA indicated that the releases from the site have insignificant impact to human health and the environment at the site.

The Closure Plan will be incorporated into the permit through a Class 2 Permit Modification. As described in the Closure Plan, closure will involve less than 100 cubic yards of soil to be excavated from the site that may pose an unacceptable health risk. Implementation of the Closure Plan is anticipated to be completed within 180 days of the approval of the permit modification.

SITE HISTORY

The site has been used by ACWM since approximately 1930 for office use, raising beneficial insects, mixing of rodent and bird baits for pest control, disposal of pesticides acquired from pesticide collection program, and incineration of plants held under quarantine for pests or disease. Also, a program in which unused pesticides were collected to help the community dispose of unwanted pesticides was conducted by ACWM until around 1989. Pesticides acquired from this program were stored on-site.

ACWM operated under a hazardous waste facility permit which the State of California, Department of Health Services, DTSC's predecessor agency, issued in 1985. This permit allowed the storage of hazardous waste for up to one year. As mentioned, the collection of unused pesticides was discontinued in 1989. The facility ceased operation in 1992 and began a site environmental investigation. All storage structures were removed from the facility in 2001.

The permitted units were a 4,000-gallon underground storage tank, and a container storage area. These hazardous waste units were located west of the northern end of the main facility building.

SITE INVESTIGATION

ACWM performed soil and groundwater investigation at the entire facility. Soil samples were analyzed for volatile organic compounds (VOCs), semi-volatile organic compounds (semi VOCs), pesticides, herbicides, strychnine, petroleum hydrocarbons, and metals. The 4,000-gallon underground storage tank was the source of a pesticide release. Soil investigation data was used for a HRA which concluded that the facility poses an insignificant cancer risk for residential use, if contaminated soil near the storage tank is removed. Arsenic at 25-30 feet below the surface of the ground was also detected near a removed cesspool at the facility.

Based on the HRA, the arsenic detected at 25-30 feet does not pose any risk for residential or industrial land use purposes. Groundwater wells were installed to monitor the groundwater quality underlying the facility. Groundwater sampling results indicate that there was no release of contaminants to groundwater.

CLOSURE ACTIVITIES

The excavation of less than 100 cubic yards of contaminated soil will be done in the area where the 4,000-gallon underground storage tank was formerly located. Also, the DTSC is proposing the approval of the Completion of Corrective Action for the site once the closure of the permitted units is completed.

WHY THIS NOTICE?

ACWM is providing the interested public an opportunity to: 1) learn about the project, 2) ask questions, for which ACWM will provide answers, and 3) submit written comments to DTSC by October 15, 2007.

HOW DO I PARTICIPATE?

A public meeting will be held at 10 a.m. on Saturday, Sept. 8, 2007 at El Rancho High School in Pico Rivera, to answer your questions about the permit modification request, on the Closure Plan, and the Completion of Corrective Action. You can address your comments to ACWM at the meeting or submit written comments to Ms. Maria Fabella, DTSC Project Manager, 1011 North Grandview Avenue, Glendale, California 91201. Written comments must be postmarked by Oct. 15, 2007.

The public comment period starts on Aug. 15, and ends on Oct. 15. At the close of the comment period, DTSC will respond in writing to those who have submitted comments, will consider all comments, and will make a final decision on the Class 2 Hazardous Waste Storage Facility Permit Modification request, and Completion of Corrective Action. Everyone who provides written comments or signs in at the public meeting will be notified of the decision. The public repositories (see below) will contain the Record of Decision, the comments received, and the Response to Comments document.

WHERE DO I GET MORE INFORMATION?

A copy of the Closure Plan, Supplemental Resource Conservation and Recovery Act Facility Investigation Report, and related project documents, are available at the Pico Rivera Library, 9001 Mines Avenue, Pico Rivera, between the hours of 10 a.m. and 9 p.m., Mon. and Tue., between the hours of 10 a.m. and 6 p.m. Thu. and Fri., and between the hours of 10 a.m. and 5 p.m., Sat. These documents and the Administrative Record are also available for review from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m., Mon. through Fri. at the DTSC Regional Records Office, located at 1011 North Grandview Avenue, Glendale, CA 91201. Contact Ms. Jone Barrio at (818) 551-2886 for an appointment.

WHO DO I CONTACT?

Please direct any questions to Ms. Maria Fabella, DTSC Project Manager, at (818) 551-2918; or Mr. Ray Smith, Deputy Director, ACWM, at (626) 575-4393.

HEARING IMPAIRED

Please contact the State Relay Service at 1-888-877-5378 (TDD) and ask for Ms. Maria Fabella, DTSC Project Manager, at (818) 551-2918.