



CALIFORNIA ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
Department of Toxic Substances Control

News Release

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Maziar Movassaghi, Acting Director

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CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF TOXIC SUBSTANCES CONTROL JOINS U.S. EPA TO PUT MILLIONS OF FEDERAL STIMULUS DOLLARS TO WORK IN BAY AREA

SACRAMENTO – Department of Toxic Substances Control (DTSC) Acting Director Maziar Movassaghi held a joint news conference with the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency to announce the release of millions of dollars in federal stimulus money to clean up and improve toxic industrial and commercial sites in Northern California. He joined several federal, state and local officials, including Laura Yoshii, acting Regional Administrator for the U.S. EPA in the Pacific Southwest, to discuss how this latest Recovery Act funding will benefit East Oakland and Alameda County.

“I applaud EPA’s decision to invest about \$9 million in brownfields funding for California, more than \$3 million of which is stimulus funding,” said Movassaghi. “About 20 different cities and communities will benefit from these funds which can be used to create or safeguard green jobs. I am especially delighted that Oakland’s Lion Creek Crossings project benefits as this is an area in which DTSC has long been involved. The foresight and the cleanup actions taken by DTSC have paved the way for today’s stimulus funding to ultimately lead to 72 more affordable housing units for Oakland residents.”

Alameda County will receive more than \$2.2 million in brownfields grants. This includes one grant of \$200,000, awarded to the Oakland Housing Authority to revitalize Lion Creek Crossing Housing Development (formerly known as Coliseum Gardens). This will help to create and safeguard green jobs as the funds will be spent cleaning up soil and later developing 72 units of affordable townhomes and flats on the site.

Officials also toured the site of the Lion Creek Housing Development and a park which is the centerpiece of the property, developed in partnership with the City of Oakland.

In accordance with Governor Schwarzenegger’s leadership and vision, DTSC has pursued an active policy of having contaminated land cleaned-up and then returned to beneficial use by local communities. The Lions Creek project is an example of how a modern affordable housing project can be created on what was once a contaminated property. From the 1940s, an iron and metal recycling company, a salvage company and a former acetylene gas plant existed on this site. DTSC supervised the cleanup of more than 6,800 tons of soil and ground water. Some of the contaminants included toxic metals lead and arsenic.

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The funds awarded today are part of an overall \$111.9 million dollar package of EPA Brownfields grants that are being awarded to communities across the nation. One-third of that amount comes from the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 that President Obama signed into law on Feb 17, 2009.

Click this link to see a list of all the California projects that received funding.

<http://www.dtsc.ca.gov/SiteCleanup/Brownfields/upload/CA-Brownfields-Funding-Fact-Sheet.pdf>

Click these links to see examples of previous DTSC 'Brownfields' success stories

[Barbary Coast Steel in Emeryville becomes Bay Area's first IKEA](#)

[Agnews Development Center in Santa Clara becomes a new planned community](#)

[Toxic nuisance property in East Oakland becomes Habitat for Humanity affordable housing](#)

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FOR GENERAL INQUIRIES: Contact the Department of Toxic Substances Control by phone at (800) 728-6942 or visit www.dtsc.ca.gov. To report illegal handling, discharge, or disposal of hazardous waste, call the Waste Alert Hotline at (800) 698-6942.

The mission of the Department of Toxic Substances Control is to protect public health, safety, and the environment from toxic harm.