



CALIFORNIA ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
Department of Toxic Substances Control

PRESS RELEASE

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Maureen F. Gorsen, Director

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CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF TOXIC SUBSTANCES CONTROL APPROVES PERMIT FOR RHO-CHEM LLC

SACRAMENTO – The California Department of Toxic Substances Control (DTSC) has issued a ten-year hazardous waste facility permit to Rho-Chem LLC, authorizing the Inglewood facility to continue recycling industrial solvents. Under the permit, Rho-Chem is approved to increase its maximum drum storage capacity from 59,400 gallons to 89,650 gallons; other tank storage and treatment capacities will remain unchanged.

“Because Rho-Chem operates equipment that reduces vapors from hazardous waste, it lowers greenhouse gases and therefore provides environmental and, ultimately, economic benefits to the community,” said DTSC Director Maureen F. Gorsen. “This is the 21st permit issued by a team DTSC formed to promote transparency, increase efficiency, and dramatically reduce the time it takes to review and issue a permit. The processing span for a given permit has improved from an average of 4.3 years to 18 months,” Gorsen added.

The permit enables DTSC to regulate the facility’s hazardous waste management activities and includes provisions for waste analysis, operation inspections, closure procedures, security, contingency planning and emergency response, personnel training programs, and health and safety programs. Before making its final determination, DTSC concluded there were no objections from the community to the draft permit presented at the May 7 public hearing.

Formerly known as American Better Chemical Company, the facility recycles, redistills, and resells used solvents that may consist of hazardous wastes. Operations including bulk storage and distribution of oils, lubricants, and solvents began at the site about 1953. The facility began recycling waste solvents in 1964 and added repackaging and distributing virgin solvents in 1974, when it was renamed Rho-Chem Corporation.

DTSC issued the permit on July 25, which becomes effective August 28 and expires August 27, 2018. The permit does not go into effect until expiration of a 30-day appeals period, beginning July 25 and ending August 28. Rho-Chem is located at 425 Isis Ave in Inglewood.

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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 provide the highest level of safety, and to protect public health and the environment from toxic harm.