



PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD

December 17, 2003—January 20, 2004

Former Palms Springs Landfill Cleanup

We invite you to review and comment on a proposal to clean up the former Palm Springs Landfill at Ramon Road and Gene Autry Trail in Palm Springs. The cleanup would allow future commercial development of the property, which is currently a vacant 36-acre lot. The property owners, Geiger LLC, are paying for the cleanup project. This landfill was used from the 1930s to the 1960s for household waste and construction debris. Trash was burned in pits on site during that time. Tests of the soil have found some hazardous chemicals and metals deep below the surface that could pose a risk to future construction workers if not removed before construction begins. Our agency, the Department of Toxic Substances Control (DTSC), is offering the cleanup plan, called a draft Removal Action Workplan (RAW), for public comment from December 17, 2003 through January 20, 2004. If approved, the cleanup would consist of excavating landfill debris and contaminated dirt, moving it to another part of the landfill, compacting it, covering it with three feet of clean soil, then paving it over and using that part of the site as a parking lot. The cleared area could then be used to build a commercial center. The work would take approximately four months. We also invite you to review and comment on a draft "Negative Declaration," which is our agency's finding that the cleanup actions (the excavation, hauling, use of heavy equipment, etc.) will not harm the environment. Both the draft RAW and the draft Negative Declaration are available at the Cathedral City Library at 33520 Date Palm Drive, (760) 328-4262, and at our office at 1011 N. Grandview Ave. in Glendale (call Jone Barrio, File Room coordinator, at (818) 551-2952 to make an appointment to view them). They are also on our website at www.dtsc.ca.gov. You may send written comments on the draft RAW and draft Negative Declaration, postmarked or emailed no later than January 20, 2004, to Stephen Cutts, DTSC Project Manager, 1011 North Grandview Ave., Glendale, CA 91201; email: scutts@dtsc.ca.gov. All comments will be considered and responded to in writing before a final decision is made. For more information, please contact Stephen Cutts at the email address shown above or at (818) 551-2178; or Kim Foreman, Public Participation Specialist, at (714) 484-5324, kforeman@dtsc.ca.gov.