



**Jared Blumenfeld**  
Secretary for  
Environmental Protection



## Department of Toxic Substances Control

Meredith Williams, Ph.D., Director  
8800 Cal Center Drive  
Sacramento, California 95826-3200



**Gavin Newsom**  
Governor

March 16, 2020

Governor's Office of Planning & Research

**APR 02 2020**

Mr. Darren Nash  
City of Paso Robles  
1000 Spring Street  
Paso Robles, California 93446

### STATE CLEARINGHOUSE

DRAFT ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT FOR PASO ROBLES  
GATEWAY PROJECT – DATED FEBRUARY 2020 (STATE CLEARINGHOUSE  
NUMBER: 2013101050)

Dear Mr. Nash:

The Department of Toxic Substances Control (DTSC) received a Draft Environmental Impact Report (EIR) for Paso Robles Gateway Project. The proposed 170-acre Paso Robles Gateway Project involves development of the following components or "areas": (1) Vine Street Vineyard Hotel; (2) Village Commercial Center, including workforce residential units; (3) Hillside Premium Destination Resort Hotel; (4) Promontory Commercial Center; (5a) Highway 46 Resort or (5b) 80 Multi-Family Residences; (6) Vine Street Commercial Center; and (7) approximately 98 acres of agriculture and open space uses. For the purposes of this EIR, it is assumed that area 5a will be developed with 5b (80 multi-family residential units with a resort overlay). The Project includes a request for a Sphere of Influence (SOI) amendment and an annexation from the County of San Luis Obispo into the City of Paso Robles, a Pre-Zoning application, a General Plan amendment, approval of a Master Development Plan, a Lot Line Adjustment (PR/COAL 18-0098), a Vesting Tentative Tract Map (TTM 3120), and approval of a Development Agreement.

DTSC recommends that the following issues be evaluated in the EIR Hazards and Hazardous Materials section:

1. The EIR should acknowledge historic or future activities on or near the project site that may have the potential to result in the release of hazardous wastes/substances on the project site. In instances in which releases have occurred or may occur, further studies should be carried out to delineate the nature and extent of the contamination, and the potential threat to public health and/or the environment should be evaluated. The EIR should also identify the mechanism(s) to initiate any required investigation and/or remediation and the

government agency who will be responsible for providing appropriate regulatory oversight.

2. Refiners in the United States started adding lead compounds to gasoline in the 1920s in order to boost octane levels and improve engine performance. This practice did not officially end until 1992 when lead was banned as a fuel additive in California. Tailpipe emissions from automobiles using leaded gasoline contained lead and resulted in aerially deposited lead (ADL) being deposited in and along roadways throughout the state. ADL-contaminated soils still exist along roadsides and medians and can also be found underneath some existing road surfaces due to past construction activities. Due to the potential for ADL-contaminated soil DTSC, recommends collecting soil samples for lead analysis prior to performing any intrusive activities for the project described in the EIR.
3. If buildings or other structures are to be demolished on any project sites included in the proposed project, surveys should be conducted for the presence of lead-based paints or products, mercury, asbestos containing materials, and polychlorinated biphenyl caulk. Removal, demolition and disposal of any of the above-mentioned chemicals should be conducted in compliance with California environmental regulations and policies. In addition, sampling near current and/or former buildings should be conducted in accordance with DTSC's 2006 *Interim Guidance Evaluation of School Sites with Potential Contamination from Lead Based Paint, Termiticides, and Electrical Transformers* ([https://dtsc.ca.gov/wpcontent/uploads/sites/31/2018/09/Guidance\\_Lead Contamination\\_050118.pdf](https://dtsc.ca.gov/wpcontent/uploads/sites/31/2018/09/Guidance_Lead Contamination_050118.pdf)).
4. If any projects initiated as part of the proposed project require the importation of soil to backfill any excavated areas, proper sampling should be conducted to ensure that the imported soil is free of contamination. DTSC recommends the imported materials be characterized according to DTSC's 2001 *Information Advisory Clean Imported Fill Material* ([https://dtsc.ca.gov/wp-content/uploads/sites/31/2018/09/SMP\\_FS\\_Cleanfill-Schools.pdf](https://dtsc.ca.gov/wp-content/uploads/sites/31/2018/09/SMP_FS_Cleanfill-Schools.pdf)).
5. If any sites included as part of the proposed project have been used for agricultural, weed abatement or related activities, proper investigation for organochlorinated pesticides should be discussed in the EIR. DTSC recommends the current and former agricultural lands be evaluated in accordance with DTSC's 2008 *Interim Guidance for Sampling Agricultural Properties (Third Revision)* (<https://dtsc.ca.gov/wp-content/uploads/sites/31/2018/09/Ag-Guidance-Rev-3-August-7-2008-2.pdf>).

DTSC appreciates the opportunity to review the EIR. Should you need any assistance with an environmental investigation, please submit a request for Lead Agency Oversight Application, which can be found at: <https://dtsc.ca.gov/wp->



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March 16, 2020  
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[content/uploads/sites/31/2018/09/VCP\\_App-1460.doc](#). Additional information regarding voluntary agreements with DTSC can be found at: <https://dtsc.ca.gov/brownfields/>.

If you have any questions, please contact me at (916) 255-3710 or via email at [Gavin.McCreary@dtsc.ca.gov](mailto:Gavin.McCreary@dtsc.ca.gov).

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Gavin McCreary', with a long, sweeping horizontal line extending to the right.

Gavin McCreary  
Project Manager  
Site Evaluation and Remediation Unit  
Site Mitigation and Restoration Program  
Department of Toxic Substances Control

cc: (via email)

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