CALIFORNIA ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY ACT

NOTICE OF EXEMPTION

To: Office of Planning and Research State Clearinghouse P.O. Box 3044, 1400 Tenth Street, Room 212 Sacramento, CA 95812-3044

From: Department of Toxic Substances Control Permitting Division 8800 Cal Center Drive Sacramento, CA 95826

<u>Project Title</u>: Level II Emergency Response Permit for Destruction of Universal Activated Release System Units and Hydrazine Fuel Supply Assembly at Beale Air Force Base (AFB) by Detonation, Beale AFB Open Burn/Open Detonation Range, Beale, California

Project Location: 6425 B. Street, Building 25390, 9CES/CEI, Beale AFB, California 95903

County: Yuba

Project Applicant: Blaze O. Baker, Installation Management Flight Chief, Department of the Air Force, 9th Civil Engineer Squadron, 9th Reconnaissance Wing

Approval Action Under Consideration by DTSC: Emergency Permit

Statutory Authority: California Health and Safety Code, Chapter 6.5

Project Description: The California Department of Toxic Substances Control (DTSC), pursuant to authority granted under California Code of Regulations, Title 22, Division 4.5, Chapter 20, Section 66270.61, has issued an Emergency Permit to Beale AFB (EPA ID# CA7570024508) to treat hazardous waste by open detonation. Specifically, four-Universal Water Activated Release System and one Hydrazine Fuel Supply Assembly. No alternative treatment to detonation is available.

The hazardous waste items are currently being stored at the Beale AFB. DTSC has determined as a safety precaution to prevent an accident or severe injury, an Emergency Permit should be issued to treat the hazardous waste at the nearest safe location, which has been determined to be a Beale AFB Explosive Ordnance Disposal (EOD) Open Burn/Open Detonation Demolition Range.

Background: The four Universal Water Activated Release System and one Hydrazine Fuel Supply Assembly contain explosive materials. When explosive materials degrade, such as within expired products, the explosives become increasingly unstable. Unstable explosives can unpredictably detonate when improperly handled, making expired explosive materials hazardous. Detonation is the recommended treatment for expired explosives.

Treatment will be performed at the Beale AFB on an active EOD Open Burn/Open Detonation Demolition area. The EOD Open Burn/Open Detonation Demolition area is a secure and secluded military explosive training area. The area is located within the entire forty-five acres EOD Demolition Range and is 200 feet from the nearest sensitive natural resource. Beale AFB is a secured government installation, and no unauthorized personnel are allowed on the Base property. During operations, the range is secure, and any surrounding activities are monitored by the Beale AFB EOD and Hazardous Waste Management Team.

Project Activities: The treatment of the hazardous waste involves the addition of other explosives to trigger detonation of the waste explosives. Only EOD trained specialists will be handling the material. Movement, preparation, and treatment of the items will be in accordance with established military procedures. The area shall be inspected after treatment to ensure there is no release of hazardous waste from the area. Any untreated waste will be immediately re-treated by repeated detonation, as necessary.

Within 10 business days of the expiration of this permit, Beale AFB will submit a final report, signed in accordance with Title 22, California Code of Regulations section 66270.11(d). The report shall include certification that the treatment area has been cleared of all residual hazardous waste generated from this emergency treatment and all generated waste has been properly managed.

The Emergency Permit is effective beginning November 8, 2021 and shall expire on February 7, 2022.

Name of Public Agency Approving Project: Department of Toxic Substances Control

Name of Person or Agency Carrying Out Project: Department of the Air Force, Beale Air Force Base.

Exempt Status: Emergency Project [PRC, Sec. 21080(b)(4); 14 CCR, Sec.15269(c)]

<u>Reasons Why Project is Exempt</u>: This action is necessary to prevent an emergency and mitigate the impact of detonation.

The administrative record for this project is available to the public by appointment at the following location:

Department of Toxic Substances Control File Room Permitting Division 8800 Cal Center Drive Sacramento, CA 95826

Contact Person Matthew Mullinax Contact Title Hazardous Substances Engineer Phone Number 916-255-6531

Approver's Signature:

Date:

Matthew Mullinax

November 8, 2021

Approver's Name Matthew Mullinax Approver's Title Hazardous Substances Engineer Approver's Phone Number 279-895-5288

TO BE COMPLETED BY OPR ONLY

Date Received for Filing and Posting at OPR: