



Department of Toxic Substances Control



Gavin Newsom Governor

Meredith Williams, Ph.D.
Director
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Sacramento, California 95826-3200

SENT VIA ELECTRONIC MAIL

March 9, 2023

Mr. Matt Johnston
Santa Cruz County
Planning Department
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MITIGATED NEGATIVE DECLARATION FOR THE LAKEVIEW ESTATES SUBDIVISION – DATED FEBRUARY 22, 2023 (STATE CLEARINGHOUSE NUMBER: 2022120531)

Dear Mr. Johnston:

The Department of Toxic Substances Control (DTSC) received a Mitigated Negative Declaration (MND) for the Lakeview Estates Subdivision (Project). The Lead Agency is receiving this notice from DTSC because the Project includes one or more of the following: groundbreaking activities, presence of site buildings that may require demolition or modifications, importation of backfill soil, and/or work on or in close proximity to an agricultural or former agricultural site.

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

- A State of California environmental regulatory agency such as DTSC, a Regional Water Quality Control Board (RWQCB), or a local agency that meets the requirements of <u>Health and Safety Code section 101480</u> should provide regulatory concurrence that the Project site is safe for construction and the proposed use.
- 2. The MND should acknowledge the potential for historic or future activities on or near the project site to result in the release of hazardous wastes/substances on the project site. In instances in which releases have occurred or may occur,

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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 MND 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.

- 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.
- 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 <u>Information</u> <u>Advisory Clean Imported Fill Material</u>.
- 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 MND. DTSC recommends the current and former agricultural lands be evaluated in accordance with DTSC's 2008 <u>Interim Guidance for Sampling Agricultural</u> <u>Properties (Third Revision).</u>

DTSC appreciates the opportunity to comment on the MND. Should you need any assistance with an environmental investigation, please visit DTSC's <u>Site Mitigation and Restoration Program</u> page to apply for lead agency oversight. Additional information regarding voluntary agreements with DTSC can be found at <u>DTSC's Brownfield website</u>.

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

Sincerely,

Gavin McCreary Project Manager

Site Evaluation and Remediation Unit
Site Mitigation and Restoration Program
Department of Toxic Substances Control

Janin Malanny

cc: (via email)

Governor's Office of Planning and Research State Clearinghouse State.Clearinghouse@opr.ca.gov

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