



CHEMICAL WASTE MANAGEMENT, INC.

# Kettleman Hills Facility

## About the Kettleman Hills Facility

The Department of Toxic Substances Control (DTSC) is responsible for permitting hazardous waste facilities in California. The Kettleman Hills Facility (Facility) has a permit for hazardous waste transfer, treatment, storage, and disposal.

The Facility is located at 35251 Old Skyline Road, Kettleman City, California, which is 3.5 miles south-west of Kettleman City and is accessed via State Highway 41.

The Facility's total area is 1,600 acres, 700 acres of which are used for hazardous waste management. The remainder of the Facility is open space used for cattle grazing.

## Activities Occurring at the Kettleman Hills Facility

### Hazardous Waste Transfer

- Waste transfer involves combining waste from multiple containers into a single container.
- The Facility tests waste streams to ensure safe mixing.

### Hazardous Waste Treatment

- Waste is treated by mixing it with ingredients such as cement.
- The Facility performs testing to verify that the treated waste is safe for disposal.

### Hazardous Waste Storage

- Waste is stored in containers for up to a year and must then be disposed.
- The Facility stores containers on lined pads designed to contain leaks and spills.

### Hazardous Waste Disposal (Solid)

- Solid waste is placed in an on-site landfill for permanent disposal.
- The Facility can only dispose of solids in the landfill.

### Hazardous Waste Disposal (Liquid)

- Liquid waste is moved to one of three ponds. The solids settle to the bottom and the liquids evaporate.
- The facility can only dispose of liquids with low levels of chemicals that evaporate.

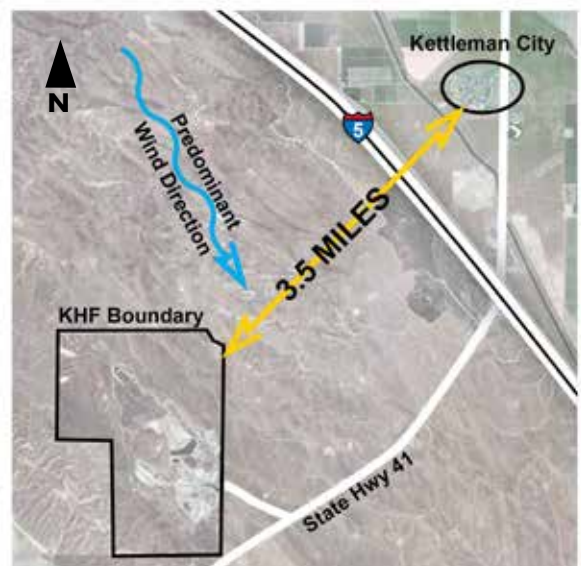
## Supporting Activities

### Post-closure Care

- Closed landfills and other disposal areas are capped with plastic liners and clean soil.
- The Facility inspects the closed landfills and performs maintenance when necessary.

### Environmental Monitoring

- Ambient air, soil gas, and groundwater samples are collected and tested.
- The Facility collects samples from specific locations, and at the frequency stated in the permit.



Location of Kettleman Hills Facility in relation to Kettleman City.

### Corrective Action

- If a release of hazardous waste occurs, the Facility is responsible for the cleanup.
- The Facility must promptly report any waste spills to DTSC.

## DTSC's Role at the Kettleman Hills Facility

### Permit Processing

- Permits must be renewed every ten years. DTSC issued the Facility's current permit in June 2003.
- The permit has been continued beyond its 2013 expiration while DTSC reviews a permit renewal application.

### Permit Writing

- DTSC issues permits that specify the type and quantity of waste that may be managed at the Facility.
- If renewed, DTSC will make the draft permit available for public review and comment.

### Environmental Impacts

- DTSC is required to consider the environmental impact of permit decisions.
- The permit requires the Facility to reduce any environmental impacts of operations, such as requiring the use of modern trucks.

### Oversight and Maintenance

- DTSC reviews reports covering activities occurring at the Facility. In addition, DTSC modifies the permit as necessary to ensure that it remains current and enforceable.
- The Facility's permit was modified in July 2017 to update the safety plan.

### Inspections

- DTSC performs surprise inspections to determine whether the Facility is following the conditions of its permit.
- DTSC performed two inspections of the Facility in 2016.

### Enforcement

- When inspections identify violations, DTSC takes enforcement action. The Facility must correct the violations and may be required to pay penalties.
- View the Facility's compliance history at: [dtsc.ca.gov/HazardousWaste/Projects/CWMI\\_Kettleman.cfm](http://dtsc.ca.gov/HazardousWaste/Projects/CWMI_Kettleman.cfm)

## Additional Sources of Information

DTSC website: [www.dtsc.ca.gov](http://www.dtsc.ca.gov)

EnviroStor Database: [www.envirostor.dtsc.ca.gov](http://www.envirostor.dtsc.ca.gov)

Ryan Batty, Project Manager:

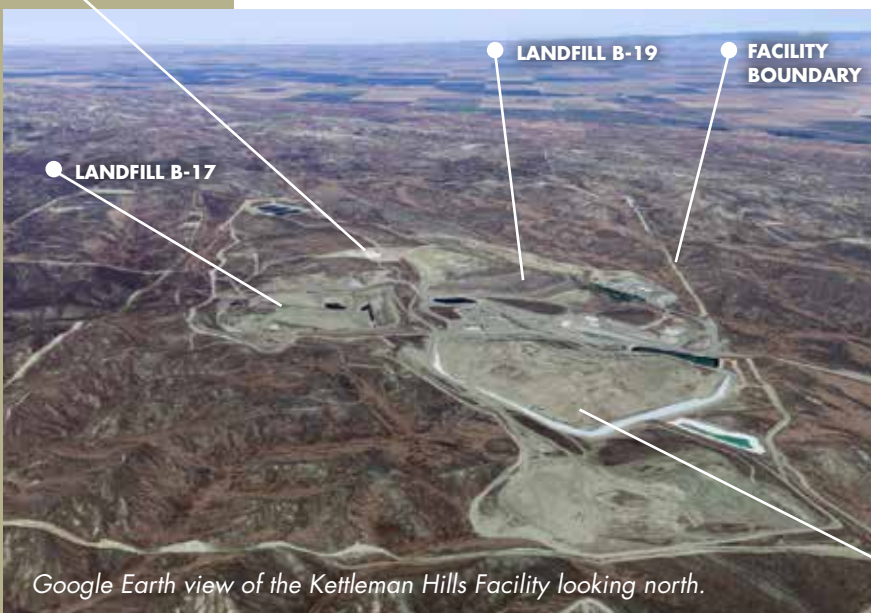
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● The drum storage unit at the Facility.



Google Earth view of the Kettleman Hills Facility looking north.



● Landfill B-18 looking east.



DEPARTMENT  
OF TOXIC  
SUBSTANCES  
CONTROL

Our  
**MISSION**  
is to protect  
California's  
people and  
environment from  
harmful effects of  
toxic substances  
by restoring  
contaminated  
resources,  
enforcing  
hazardous waste  
laws, reducing  
hazardous waste  
generation, and  
encouraging the  
manufacture of  
chemically safer  
products

**Español  
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# Preventing environmental damage from hazardous waste, and restoring contaminated sites for all Californians

The Department of Toxic Substances Control (DTSC) has over 900 staff, including scientists, engineers, chemists, geologists, attorneys, investigators and more, working towards achieving our mission.

## DTSC Programs

### Brownfields & Environmental Restoration

**Brownfields:** These are under-used properties due to contamination. We encourage developers and property owners to clean up brownfields sites.

**Schools:** We ensure that school sites are cleaned to a safe level.

**Military Bases:** We provide expert assistance on cleaning up active and closed military bases.

**Superfund Sites:** Our State Superfund program oversees, and in some cases pays for, very large federal Superfund cleanups.

**Voluntary Cleanup Agreement Sites:** We work with businesses and developers to clean up their properties so they are safe for development.

### Hazardous Waste Management

We regulate thousands of businesses that use hazardous chemicals to ensure they use and dispose of hazardous waste safely.

**Enforcement:** We conduct surprise inspections and take action if hazardous waste laws and regulations are not followed.

**Permitting:** We issue permit decisions for hazardous waste facilities in California that have treated, stored and disposal of hazardous waste.



### Office of Criminal Investigation:

Our sworn peace officers investigate violations of hazardous waste control laws and pursue criminal charges against polluters.



### Safer Consumer Products



This program uses a four-step process to reduce toxic chemicals from products. It asks manufacturers:  
*Is this chemical necessary?*  
*Is there a safer alternative?*

### Environmental Chemistry Laboratory

DTSC scientists study soil samples to find out what chemicals are present and how much. Toxicologists carefully review the lab information to determine if the soil is harmful to the environment and people.



DTSC's lab also provides other California agencies with expertise to help them solve pollution problems.

### Public Participation

Help us protect communities and the environment. What do you know about the sites and businesses in your community? What are your ideas for how we should clean up a site?

*We want to hear from you!*

**800-72-TOXIC or 800-728-6942**

*If you see a toxic waste spill or leak, call:*

**800-69-TOXIC or 800-698-6942**

Department of Toxic Substances Control  
9211 Oakdale Avenue  
Chatsworth, California 91311  
[www.dtsc.ca.gov](http://www.dtsc.ca.gov)