



**CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF TOXIC SUBSTANCES CONTROL (DTSC)
HUMAN AND ECOLOGICAL RISK OFFICE (HERO)**

HERO is pleased to announce our third “Quarterly Updates from HERO” – October 2015

1. Revised Human Health Risk Assessment (HHRA) Note 3 – DTSC-Modified Screening Levels (DTSC-SLs), September 2015. The update to HHRA Note is described below with a link to the entire HHRA Note:

HHRA Note 3 – DTSC has developed modified screening levels based on the U.S. EPA Regional Screening Levels (RSLs) for use in the human health risk assessment process at hazardous waste sites and permitted facilities. This revision of HHRA Note 3 incorporates HERO recommendations based on review of the June 2015 releases of the RSL tables for soil, tapwater, and ambient air. HHRA Note 3 presents recommended screening levels (derived using DTSC-modified exposure and toxicity factors) for constituents in soil and tap water for which the DTSC-SL is at least three-fold more protective than the corresponding RSL. For ambient air, HHRA Note 3 presents screening levels for volatile compounds with a DTSC-SL that is more protective than the corresponding RSL, regardless of degree. A link is provided for download of the HHRA Note 3 narrative and screening-level document, as well as a link to supporting Appendices that provide computational details for the derivation of the screening levels. An additional link is provided to spreadsheet-based versions of the screening-level tables for users' convenience. The updated HHRA Note 3 can be found at:

<http://www.dtsc.ca.gov/AssessingRisk/upload/HHRA-Note-3-2015-10.pdf>,
<http://www.dtsc.ca.gov/AssessingRisk/upload/HHRA-Note-3-Appendices-2015-09.pdf>, and
<http://www.dtsc.ca.gov/assessingrisk/humanrisk2.cfm>.

2. Revisions to Human Health Risk Assessment (HHRA) Note 4 – Conducting Screening Level Human Health Risk Assessments, October 2015. The update to this HHRA Note is described below with a link to the entire HHRA Note:

HHRA Note 4 - HHRA Note 4 outlines the current recommended methodology for conducting screening level human health risk assessments and how to apply the recommended screening levels discussed in HHRA Note 3 at DTSC hazardous waste sites and permitted facilities. This HHRA Note replaces our 1994 memorandum and is an update to our June 9, 2011 Note 4. Among other updates, this revision incorporates updated recommendations for use of the U.S. EPA ambient air RSLs, a definition of a screening level risk assessment, and use of incremental sampling for soil at DTSC sites. The updated HHRA Note 4 can be found at:

<http://www.dtsc.ca.gov/AssessingRisk/upload/HERO-HHRA-Number-4-October-6-2015.pdf>, and
<http://www.dtsc.ca.gov/assessingrisk/humanrisk2.cfm>.

3. Revised Preliminary Endangerment Assessment Guidance Manual (PEA Guidance Manual) with a link below to the document:

The Revised PEA Guidance Manual will be posted on DTSC's website by the end of October 2015. This version of the PEA Guidance Manual incorporates: 1) comments received since releasing the October 2013 Interim version; 2) inclusion of certain human-health-risk-based environmental

screening levels published by the San Francisco Bay Regional Water Quality Control Board that are acceptable screening levels for use in a PEA; and 3) revisions to the exposure equations that incorporate the 2014 recommended EPA exposure parameters. Please look for the revised guidance on DTSC's website at:

http://www.dtsc.ca.gov/PublicationsForms/prog_pubs.cfm?prog=Site%20Cleanup.

Please contact your site toxicologist if you have any questions.

Thank you,

HERO