

**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  
Southern California Permitting and  
Corrective Action Branch  

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1011 N. Grandview Avenue  

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Glendale, CA 91201  

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**Project Title:** Boeing Satellite Systems, Inc. - Permit Renewal

**Project Location – Specific:** 1920 E. Imperial Highway

**Project Location – City:** El Segundo

**Project Location – County:** Los Angeles

**Description of Project:**Background:

The Boeing Satellite Systems located in El Segundo is an aerospace satellite company. The facility is permitted to store hazardous waste in four hazardous waste management units located throughout the facility. The Company has been in operation at this location since 1978. It is engaged in the design and production of communication satellites. It also manufactures electronics units, propulsion units and several related parts and components that are used in satellites.

Project Activities:

Department of Toxic Substances Control has granted a Hazardous Waste Facility Permit to continue operating a hazardous waste storage facility for a term of ten additional years. No new construction activity is proposed. The facility consists of four hazardous waste storage units [S-12, S-15, S-16, S-17 (Area I and 2)]. Each unit stores a combination of 5, 20 and 55 gallon containers. The storage capacities are:

S-12 3,600 gallons, largely Ignitable Acids, Alkalines and Halogenated Solvents  
S-15 7,600 gallons, largely Acids, Alkalines and Halogenated Solvents, Ignitables and Cyanides  
S-16 1,770 gallons, Ignitable Solvents and Corrosives  
S-17 3,050 gallons ( acids and bases) and  
1,370 cubic feet of solid waste. (Debris, sand blast grit and metals)

Hazardous wastes are generated from the manufacture and assembly of satellite communication hardware and electronic components. These wastes include:

- acidic and alkaline solutions containing heavy metals from the electro-plating, cleaning and etching of microwave integrated circuits;
- halogenated and non-halogenated solvents used for cleaning and degreasing operations; paint sludge and thinners; rags, Q-tips and K-drys containing trace of halogenated and non-halogenated solvents generated during cleaning and degreasing operations;
- miscellaneous laboratory waste chemicals and ;
- waste oils from machine-cutting operations and equipment maintenance.

Wastes are separated into separate bays and containment areas within each unit to avoid incompatible material mixing in the event of any release. While stored in various locations and container sizes, the total volume of the facility is equivalent to approximately (300) 55 gallon drums. Most of the wastes stored are: acid, alkaline, or ignitable liquids, and halogenated solvents. All wastes are stored in drums. All areas with liquids wastes are stored within secondary containment. All wastes are generated from the Boeing Satellite Systems facilities.

Boeing Satellite Systems does not treat any of these wastes but only stores them in containers that conform to Department of Transportation (DOT) specifications and ships them to off-site facilities for recycling, treatment, or disposal.

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

**Name of Person or Agency Carrying Out Project:** Boeing Satellite Systems, Inc.

**Exempt Status:** *(check one)*

- Ministerial (Sec. 21080(b)(1); 15268);  
 Declared Emergency (Sec. 21080(b)(3); 15269(A));  
 Emergency Project (Sec. 21080(b)(4); 15269(b)(c));  
 Categorical Exemption. State type and section number: 15301  
 Statutory Exemptions. State code number: \_\_\_\_\_  
 General Rule (Sec. 15061(b)(3))

**Exemption Title:** Minor change to the operation of existing facilities.

**Reasons Why Project is Exempt:**

The project will not have potential for a significant effect on the environment. There are no significant changes to the original permit.

1. No changes to the facility and waste types are proposed. No new construction or excavation will occur.
2. Boeing Satellite Systems has increased the hazardous waste storage capacity, by less than 10% of the total permitted hazardous waste volume.
3. The site is not located in the earthquake Ground Shaking Zone-D.
4. The facility is located in an industrial zone. No Substantial changes in the surrounding land uses have occurred since the issuance of the last permit. The facility is not open to the public. During operating hours an emergency coordinator is at the facility at all times. After normal business hours, the facility gate is locked. There are securities guards present at the facility at all times
5. The current permitted hazardous waste management units was built in 1986 and was used to store hazardous waste in 1993. It was located, designed, constructed, maintained, and operated to minimize emergency situations. The hazardous waste management units were designed with a concreted foundation and sealed floor, spill segregation and containment, emergency eyewash and shower, concrete masonry wall construction, box structural system and steel roof decking.
6. There are no residential housing areas within 1,000 feet of the facility. The hazardous waste is contained within the closed containers and stored at each hazardous unit with secondary containment.
7. There are no ecologically sensitive areas within the facility and none are known to exist in the general vicinity.
8. No significant traffic issues have been identified in the vicinity of the facility. The number of shipments in open-bed trucks and tractor-trailers (various capacities) from the hazardous waste management units to offsite treatment and disposal facilities is less than 100 (200 round trips) per year. The minor increase in hazardous waste volume allowed will result in less than one additional truck load shipped per month.
9. The hazardous waste management units are designed with secondary containment to contain hazardous waste spillage. Therefore, no migration of liquid hazardous waste can occur.
10. The hazardous waste management units are open to the atmosphere. Releases to the atmosphere from the operations are negligible, and no permit is required by the South Coast AQMD.
11. The corrective action at the Boeing Satellite Systems site is not related to the operation of storing hazardous waste at the hazardous waste management units. The corrective action is in the negotiation process for a number of past releases from other operations, not from the hazardous management activities at the hazardous waste management units. These past releases will be investigated and remediated through the Corrective Action Consent Agreement once it is agreed and finalized by the Department of Toxic Substances Control and Boeing Satellite Systems.

Based on the June 25, 2003 Status Report submitted by Boeing Satellite Systems for the corrective action work

performed for the Boeing facility’s existing solid waste management units, DTSC concluded that further investigation is needed to determine the nature and extent of the contamination in 6 solid waste management units (SWMUs) and two (2) areas of concern (AOCs) as documented in the Status Report. The hazardous waste and hazardous waste constituents of concern at the Facility are: isopropyl alcohol, trichlorotrifluoroethane, acetone, hydrocarbons (diesel fuel and gasoline), 2-ethyl-1-butanol, methyl ethyl ketone, and trichloroethylene.

- 12. Boeing Satellite Systems is not on the Hazardous Waste and Substances Sites List (also known as the Cortese List) pursuant to Government Code 65962.5.

Vu Nguyen Lead Agency Contact Person	( 818 ) 551-2199 Phone #
DTSC Branch Chief Signature	Date
Jose Kou DTSC Branch Chief Name	Supervising Hazardous Substances Engineer II DTSC Branch Chief Title

**TO BE COMPLETED BY OPR ONLY**

**Date Received For Filing and Posting at OPR:** \_\_\_\_\_