



Department of
Toxic Substances
Control

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



State of California



California
Environmental
Protection Agency

Fact Sheet, December 2008

Draft Text Modification to the Standardized Permit Available for Public Review and Comments

J&B Refining

1650 Russell Avenue, Santa Clara, California

Introduction

The California Environmental Protection Agency, Department of Toxic Substances Control (DTSC) has prepared this fact sheet to provide information on **a proposed modification to the standardized permit** for the treatment and storage of hazardous waste at J&B Enterprises, located at 1650 Russell Avenue, Santa Clara, CA. J&B Refining is a company involved in the recovery of precious metals from wastes generated by the electronics manufacturing industry including circuit boards, soldering waste, plating solutions and others. These materials are classified as hazardous wastes or their treatment and recovery generates hazardous waste. This fact sheet contains information on:

- DTSC's role in the permitting process
- The history of the facility
- Details of the proposed text language permit modification
- Who to contact for more information
- Where to find important documents

Public Comment Period: December 1, 2008 to Jan. 16, 2009

DTSC welcomes your comments during the 45-day public comment period on J&B's modified Standardized Permit. The comment period starts on Monday, December 1, 2008 through Friday, January 16, 2009. Comments received during these dates will be considered in the final permit decision. DTSC will amend documents including the final permit if necessary to address issues raised during the public comment period. Copies of the draft permit and the permit application are available for public review Monday through Friday from 8am to 5pm at repositories listed on the last page of this fact sheet. Please mail your comments no later than the last day of the public comment period to:

Waqar Ahmad, DTSC Project Manager,

700 Heinz Avenue, Suite 200, Berkeley, California 94710

(510)-540-3932 E mail: wahmad@dtsc.ca.gov



DTSC'S ROLE IN PERMITTING FACILITIES

The State of California requires that all facilities that treat and store hazardous wastes from offsite generators obtain a permit. Most of the wastes from which J&B recovers precious metals are considered hazardous waste in the State of California. DTSC is authorized by the State to issue standardized permits to those who treat and store these hazardous wastes provided that these parties provide a complete application and demonstrate that they can meet applicable laws and regulations governing the management of hazardous waste.

FACILITY BACKGROUND

J&B Enterprises is located on a parcel of land approximately 62,000 square feet (1.2 acres) owned by Challenger LLC, and located in an industrially zoned area of the City of Santa Clara. The property consists of a single building and adjacent spaces including loading docks, parking and service areas. The building is 20 feet high, 200 feet long by 100 feet wide, and most of the area adjacent to it, is paved by concrete.

Not all activities at this site are regulated under the proposed standardized permit. Regulated activities under the proposed permit take place only in certain portions of the building which includes the Drum Storage/Gold Recovery Area, the Wastewater Treatment Unit and the Solder Dross Storage Area. The Drum Storage/Gold Recovery Area and the Water Treatment Unit are both enclosed within secondary containment structures that can contain spills of hazardous wastes during a catastrophic collapse of a tank, or spills from a number of containers. The Solder Dross Storage Area does not require secondary container because solder dross is a solid waste. There is also a self-contained, portable storage unit for cyanide compounds located in the back of the building. This is a roofed metal unit with sufficient secondary

containment to capture a significant spill from container rupture.

CORPORATE HISTORY

J&B Refining, also known as J&B Enterprises, has been involved in precious metals recovery from electronics' waste since 1974. J&B presently operates a precious- metals recovery operation at 1650 Russell Avenue in Santa Clara, authorized under a standardized permit issued on December 23, 1997. The Permit became effective on January 7, 2002. If the proposed modification is granted, J&B will continue operations at 1650 Russell Avenue.

SCOPE OF THE PROPOSED MODIFICATION

DTSC detected a discrepancy in the J&B's Standardized Hazardous Waste Permit and the Operation Plan. This modification to the Permit revises the description of the permitted units, their waste streams and federal and State wastes codes in order to be consistent with the Operation Plan.

LAND USE AND ENVIRONMENTAL SETTING

J&B is located in an area zoned for heavy industry by the City of Santa Clara. The closest residence is approximately 1000 feet from the facility. There are no schools or hospitals within half a mile of the facility. US Interstate Highway 101 runs more than half a mile south of the facility and the nearest body of water is the Guadalupe River, which runs southwest to northeast in the area. It is more than one mile away from the project location.

THE CALIFORNIA ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY ACT (CEQA)

DTSC is required to review activities under the proposed permit because these activities meet the definition of “project” under CEQA. At the time of issuance of Standardized Hazardous Waste Facility Permit in 2002, DTSC conducted an Initial Study, and determined that the project will not have any significant adverse effect associated with it. The CEQA Initial Study and Negative Declaration were prepared. DTSC will file a Notice of Exemption with the State Office of Planning and Research.

WHO TO CONTACT:

For information about the project, please call DTSC Project Manager Waqar Ahmad, (510) 540-3932. E-mail: wahmad@dtsc.ca.gov

For questions on Public Participation, call Jesus Cruz, Public Participation Specialist (916) 255-3315. E-mail: JCruz@dtsc.ca.gov

For media questions, please call Angela Blanchette, DTSC Public Information Officer (510) 540- 3732. E mail: ABlanche@dtsc.ca.gov

WHERE TO FIND IMPORTANT DOCUMENTS:

Copies of the draft permit, and standardized permit application, are available for public review at the following information repositories:

DTSC File Room
700 Heinz Avenue, Berkeley, CA 94710
By Appointment Only
Phone: (510) 540-3800
Hours: M-F 9am - 5pm

City of Santa Clara Mission Branch Library
1098 Lexington Ave., Santa Clara, CA 95050
Phone: (408) 615-2964
Hours: M-W 10am - 9pm
T, Th, F 10am - 6pm
Sat. 10am - 5pm

Notice to Hearing Impaired Individuals
TDD users can obtain additional information about the Site by using the California State Relay Service (1 (888) 877-5378) to reach Public Participation Specialist Jesus Cruz at- (916-255-3315.

J & B FACILITY IS LOCATED AT 1650 RUSSELL ROAD, SANTA CLARA

