



PUBLIC NOTICE OF CLOSURE REPORT AND ENVIRONMENTAL STUDY

Long Beach Power Generating Station Long Beach, California

PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD: March 21, 2005 to April 20, 2005

We invite you to review and comment on a report describing the closure of a hazardous waste treatment and storage basin at the Long Beach Generation, LLC Power Generating Station. The station is located at 2665 West Seaside Blvd. in the city of Long Beach. The generating station was built in 1927. The retention basin was built and operated by Southern California Edison from 1977 to 2000. It is about 130 feet long, 120 feet wide, and 7 feet deep with a center divider wall. In 1998, the station was sold to the Long Beach Generation, LLC Company. In 2000, NRG El Segundo Operations, Inc. took over operations of the generating station from Edison. Our agency, the Department of Toxic Substances Control (DTSC), regulates the creation, storage, treatment, and removal of hazardous waste in California.

The report, called the Closure Demonstration Report, describes the investigation of hazardous waste contamination at the retention basin, the removal of some contaminated soil, an assessment of the risk from the contaminants beneath the basin and the plan for future use of the site. From 1977 to 1990, Edison stored and treated hazardous waste in the retention basin. Waste water from the equipment used to generate power was treated to neutralize the acidity and remove oil residue before it was transferred to the retention basin. The waste water from the basin was discharged, along with station cooling water, to a channel which connects to the Long Beach Harbor. This discharge is allowed under a permit issued by the California Regional Water Quality Control Board under the United States Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA) National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System.

Our agency filed a complaint in 1995 against Edison for treating and storing hazardous waste in a retention basin without a permit, and for failing to identify the hazardous chemicals in the waste. The hazardous waste water contained chemicals called volatile organic compounds (VOCs), and metals such as nickel and arsenic.

In February 1995, an agreement signed by Edison and our department was filed in the Superior Court of Los Angeles to settle the complaint. Edison agreed to find out if any chemicals from the waste water may have been released to air, soil, surface water, and ground water; clean up any contamination; and stop using the retention basin to treat and store hazardous waste in the future.

To do this, Edison prepared a Closure Demonstration Report. This report includes the investigation (closure) plan to determine if the basin released any contamination; the results of the investigation; an assessment of the risk to people, the environment, and ecological receptors; and lastly, performed the activities to protect human health, the environment, and ecological receptors.

A study called a Human Health and Ecological Risk Assessment was performed after the investigation was completed. This study looked at whether the contamination at the site poses a risk to human health, the environment, and ecological receptors. The conclusion from the study is that there is no risk to workers on the site, the environment, or ecological receptors. Because the site was not evaluated for residential uses, it will be restricted to industrial land use only and

a land use covenant will be recorded on the deed of the property. We will inspect the site annually to make sure that the terms of the land use restriction are being met.

We encourage you to review and comment on both the Closure Demonstration Report and the Notice of Exemption and other related documents to the site during the 30-day comment period of March 21, 2005 through April 20, 2005. Please send written comments, emailed or postmarked by April 20, 2005, to Penny Nakashima, DTSC Project Manager, 1011 North Grandview Avenue, Glendale, CA 91201. Email: Pnakashi@dtsc.ca.gov.

Copies of the Closure Demonstration Report, Notice of Exemption, and other documents related to the site are available at the Long Beach Public Library at 101 Pacific Avenue in Long Beach, (562) 570-7500. They are also at our agency's office at the Glendale address shown above. Please contact Ms. Jone Barrio at (818) 551-2952 to make an appointment to see them.

If you have questions about the project, please contact either of these two people at our agency (Department of Toxic Substances Control):

Penny Nakashima, Project Manager
(818) 551-2900
Email: pnakashi@dtsc.ca.gov

Leticia Hernandez, Public Participation Specialist
(714) 484-5488
Email: lhernand@dtsc.ca.gov

NOTICE TO THE HEARING IMPAIRED:

TDD users can obtain additional information by using the California Relay Service (1-888-877-5378) to reach Leticia Hernandez at (714) 484-5488.