



CALIFORNIA ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

NEWS RELEASE

Department of Toxic Substances Control

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Closure Plan With Conditions Approved for International Technology (IT) Panoche

SACRAMENTO -- Citing Department Closure and Post-Closure Plan conditions that are reflective of all comments, including City officials' and community residents' concerns, California Department of Toxic Substances Control (DTSC) Director, Jesse R. Huff, today announced approval of a modified closure and post-closure plan for the International Technology (IT) hazardous waste disposal facility located near Benicia.

"With the approval of these modified closure and post-closure plans and the certification of the Environmental Impact Report in December of 1997, we now have the environmental and technical documents necessary for closing this facility," said Huff.

The conditions were added to IT's closure and post-closure plans that were public noticed in June of 1996 for DTSC for public review and comment. Some of the Department's conditions were developed after a series of community workshops, a public hearing, DTSC geological and technical reviews, and comments and consultations with City of Benicia officials.

The modified closure and post-closure plans include various work plans. The first work plan to be implemented will determine the location of the groundwater divide.

Removal of the drums and contaminated soils from Drum Burial Area (DBA) V is scheduled to commence after the rainy season ends. Groundwater contamination from DBA V was addressed through a Consent Agreement signed between DTSC and IT last year. Groundwater monitoring and extraction wells have been installed to remove and treat contaminated groundwater before it reaches Paddy Creek.

The 242-acre facility, located on Lake Herman Road, was in operation for 18 years (1968-1986). While in operation, an estimated 80,000 to 200,000 tons of hazardous wastes were disposed of annually.

In 1985, operational units at the facility included 45 surface impoundments or ponds, four waste piles, two landfills and five hazardous waste drum burial areas.

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