Illegal Drug Lab Removal Program Fact Sheet

What is the Illegal Drug Lab Removal Program?

The Department of Toxic Substances Control (DTSC) offers assistance to state and local law enforcement agencies and other emergency response agencies in providing hazardous substances removal actions at illegal drug lab manufacturing sites, as well as locations involving drug lab waste abandonments.

The Illegal Drug Lab Removal Program (Program) is limited to "removal" actions, which include the removal and disposal of bulk chemicals, precursors, waste residues, and grossly contaminated materials. The Program also provides for limited soil removal where chemicals or wastes pose a direct contact threat.

This Program does not provide for "remedial cleanup," such as the removal and disposal of contaminated structures and associated appurtenances, including floors, drywall, counters, etc., nor does it provide for groundwater or soil remediation.

Funding for Illegal Drug Lab Removal Actions

Section 25354.5, Chapter 6.8 of the California Health and Safety Code established the Illegal Drug Lab Cleanup Account (IDLCA) in the General Fund, which provides for emergency removal actions at illegal drug labs.

Funding Criteria

Materials to be removed must be associated with an illegal drug lab, and exhibit at least one of the following characteristics:

- ✓ Flammability (by watch glass test)
- ✓ Corrosivity (pH ≤ 2 or ≥ 12.5)
- ✓ Reactivity to air or water
- ✓ Toxicity

Required Information

The following information is required in order to report an incident to DTSC's Illegal Drug Lab Removal Program:

- ✓ Type of illegal drug laboratory
- ✓ Inventory of hazardous substances by container, quantity, and hazard class or chemical name
- ✓ Location and address of illegal drug lab site or abandonment
- ✓ Name and address of operator(s) and property owner(s)
- ✓ Name, agency, phone number, etc. of the requestor

Required Documentation

- ✓ Clan Lab Removal Incident Report
- ✓ Clan Lab Removal Work Log
- ✓ Copy of Hazardous Waste manifest

DTSC Emergency Response Duty Officer

- ✓ Receives requests for assistance

- ✓ Determines if request meets funding criteria

- ✓ Establishes contractor scope of work

- ✓ Obtains cost estimate and estimated time of arrival for DTSC contractor

- ✓ Issues Clandestine Laboratory Unit Expenditure (CLUE) number

- ✓ Is the only person that has the authority to dispatch and/or direct work of DTSC contractors

Important Facts

- ✓ This is <u>not</u> a reimbursement program

- ✓ DTSC does <u>not</u> provide for collection, storage, or disposal of evidentiary samples

- ✓ DTSC Emergency Response Duty Officers are available 24 hours per day, 7 days per week

- ✓ The requesting law enforcement agency is responsible for maintaining site security until the removal action is complete

DTSC Contractors

- ✓ Are not first responders

- ✓ Provide removal and disposal, but do not assist law enforcement in entering, securing, or processing drug labs

- ✓ Are dispatched only by the DTSC duty officer. If you dispatch, you pay!

DTSC Will Not Fund the Following:

- ✓ Marijuana growing operations

- ✓ Remedial actions

- ✓ Removal of solid waste, garbage, or other non-hazardous items

- ✓ Cylinders containing non-drug lab related gases

How Requesting Agencies Can Obtain DTSC Assistance:

- ✓ During normal business hours (Monday through Friday, from 8:00 am to 5:00 pm), contact the DTSC Emergency Response Duty Officer at (916) 255-6504 or toll-free at (800) 260-3972.

- ✓ After hours, weekends, and holidays, contact the California Governor's Office of Emergency Services (Cal OES) State Warning Control Center toll-free at (800) 852-7550.

  - o Request that Cal OES contact the DTSC Emergency Response Duty Officer.

  - o The Emergency Response Duty Officer (available 24 hours per day, 7 days per week) will then contact the requesting agency.

If you have any questions or concerns regarding DTSC's Illegal Drug Lab Removal Program, please contact the DTSC Emergency Response Unit at (916) 255-6504 or toll-free at (800) 260-3972, or visit DTSC's public website.