

Public Notice

The mission of DTSC is to protect California's people and environment from harmful effects of toxic substances by restoring contaminated resources, enforcing hazardous waste laws, reducing hazardous waste generation, and encouraging the manufacture of chemically safer products.

DRAFT HAZARDOUS WASTE FACILITY PERMIT FOR THE NAVAL AIR WEAPONS STATION, CHINA LAKE

CHINA LAKE, CALIFORNIA

PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD: December 6, 2017 to January 30, 2018

The Department of Toxic Substances Control (DTSC) invites public comments on the draft Hazardous Waste Facility Permit (Draft Permit) for the Naval Air Weapons Station, China Lake, which is located at 429 East Bowen Road, MS 4014, China Lake, California 93555 (Facility). The Facility is located 150 miles northeast of Los Angeles in the Northern Mojave Desert, and operates as a research, development, test, and evaluation facility for naval weapons. The Facility covers 1.1 million acres and is mostly surrounded by Bureau of Land Management land. The nearest city is Ridgecrest. The Facility lies within three counties (Kern, Inyo, and San Bernardino) and is composed of two major areas, the North Range and the South Range.

The first Hazardous Waste Facility Permit was issued to the Facility in 1984, renewed in 2001 and expired August 7, 2011. If approved, the Draft Permit would allow the Facility to continue to operate its hazardous waste treatment and storage facility, which consists of the following: Polychlorinated Biphenyl (PCB) Storage Building, Hazardous Waste Storage and Transfer Facility, and the Burro Canyon Open Burn (OB)/Open Detonation (OD) Treatment Facility for another 10 years. The PCB Storage Building is used for nine-month storage of PCB wastes (both state and federal), including fluids in containers and articles (e.g., transformers), and containerized PCB-contaminated solid waste (e.g., spill cleanup material, contaminated soil, fluorescent light ballasts). The Hazardous Waste Storage and Transfer Facility provides the capability to safely receive, segregate, transfer, and store hazardous wastes generated at the Facility prior to final transport to an appropriate off-site disposal/treatment facility. The research, development, and testing of weapons at the Facility can create hazardous waste that is reactive and potentially explosive, such as laboratory waste from the formulation of new explosives and propellants, munitions items that have undergone testing, or outdated ammunition and munition items. The potentially explosive hazardous wastes are treated at the Burro Canyon OB/OD Treatment Facility. The Draft Permit was developed after DTSC completed a detailed technical review of the permit application and is intended to ensure that the Facility operates in a manner that protects human health, safety, and the environment. DTSC will hold a public hearing to accept your comments on **January 10, 2018 at 6:30 PM at: Kerr McGee Center (Fossil Falls/Ballarot Rooms), 100 West California Avenue, Ridgecrest, California 93555.**

Under the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), DTSC must evaluate whether the Permit may have any significant impacts on human health and the environment. Based on DTSC's review, it has been determined that the Permit will not have any significant adverse effects on public health or the environment. The Draft Permit, permit application, and CEQA-related documents are available for review at: **Ridgecrest Public Library, 131 East Los Flores Avenue, Ridgecrest, California 93555. Call (760) 384-5860 for library hours.**



The complete Administrative Record is available for public review at: **Department of Toxic Substances Control, 8800 Cal Center Drive, Sacramento, California 95826. Please call (916) 255-3758 for more information.**

To view electronic versions of the Draft Permit and CEQA-related documents, please visit DTSC's EnviroStor website: <http://www.envirostor.dtsc.ca.gov/public/>. Enter Ridgecrest as the City, then click on the link for Naval Air Weapons Station China Lake for additional information.

Please send your comments by **January 30, 2018 to: Elly Daoud, DTSC Project Manager, 8800 Cal Center Drive, Sacramento, California 95826 or via email at Elly.Daoud@dtsc.ca.gov**. Mr. Daoud can be reached for more information at (916) 255-3573.

For information on Public Participation, please contact: **Tammy Pickens, 8800 Cal Center Drive, Sacramento, California 95826, via email at Tammy.Pickens@dtsc.ca.gov or call (916) 255-3315, toll free at (866) 495-5651.**

For media questions contact: **Russ Edmondson, DTSC Public Information Officer, 1001 I Street, Sacramento, California 95812, via email at Jorge.Moreno@dtsc.ca.gov or call (916) 323-3372.**

