

CALIFORNIA ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY ACT NEGATIVE DECLARATION

Department of Toxic Substances Control
Hazardous Waste Management Program
Office of Permitting
8800 Cal Center Drive
Sacramento, CA 95826-3200

Subject: ☒ DRAFT ☐ FINAL ☐ MITIGATED

Project Title: Interim Measures – Northern and Southern Assessment Areas

State Clearinghouse No.:

Project Location: Northern Assessment Area (Boyle Heights and East Los Angeles): East Olympic Blvd., & Indiana St., Southern Assessment Area (city of Maywood): 52nd St. & Everett Ave.

County: Los Angeles

Project Description:

The Department of Toxic Substances Control (DTSC or Department), pursuant the authority granted under Chapter 6.5 of the Health and Safety Code is considering approval of an Interim Measure project. The Department has approved a draft Interim Measure Work Plan (IMWP) for the purpose of mitigating potential health risks from lead impacted soils in off-site residential properties located in the Northern Assessment Area and the Southern Assessment Areas. The Northern Assessment Area encompasses portions of the unincorporated communities of Boyle Heights and East Los Angeles, and the Southern Assessment Area is located within the city of Maywood (collectively referred to as Assessment Areas). There are a total of 215 homes in the Assessment Areas, 91 homes in the Northern Assessment Area and 124 in the Southern Assessment Area.

Project Activities:

The draft IMWP describes the work necessary to complete soil removal work at properties where the sampling shows lead in soils at concentrations warranting removal in yard areas. Prior to the start of removal activities on a property, meetings will be held with each property owner/tenant to describe the soil removal and restoration activities to be performed on the property. Additional topics to be discussed will include protection of property and sentimental yard fixtures, relocation options, the means of paying per diem expenses, interior cleaning work, property security and post-restoration watering and care. Prior to soil removal activities, a Contractor will assess all vegetation on the property (excluding trees) and create a Landscape Inventory. Prior to soil removal work all required permits pertaining to excavation and traffic control will be obtained prior to mobilization to the site. The following permits are expected to be required for this work: Grading and Drainage Permits; and, Lane Closure (Traffic Control) Permits.

The amount of soil removed per property is dependent on concentrations of lead in soils and on per site conditions. The Interim Measures work will be performed at those properties in the Assessment Areas with lead concentrations exceeding 80 milligrams per kilogram (mg/kg)(also referred to herein as part-per million [ppm]). The maximum depth of excavation is expected to be no more than 18 inches; excavation depths may be less depending on concentrations of lead found in the soil. Areas within the biological root zone of trees will be excavated to a maximum depth of six inches in order to preserve the integrity and survivability of the trees. Excavations will be conducted using small construction equipment proposed by the Contractor (e.g., mini-excavator, skid steers). Hand excavations may be conducted in proximity to structures, utilities, mature trees or other areas, as needed, that would be difficult to excavate around or that may become damaged by equipment. Soil removal will not be performed beneath or inside structures, roads, sidewalks, brick patios, driveways or other inaccessible or permanent features. Excavations against houses, garages, outbuildings, driveways, sidewalks, structural perimeter walls and fences and patios will be limited to six inches for a one foot offset from the structure. If all homes in the Assessment area require soil removal work, the total amount of soil per yard is assumed not to average approximately 75 cubic yards. Approximately 6,675 cubic yards of soil is assumed for excavation and off-site disposal in the Northern Assessment Area and approximately 9,300 cubic yards of soil is assumed excavation and off-site disposal from the Southern Assessment Area for a total of 15,975 cubic yards of soil.

In order to prevent any sediment from leaving the work area during soil disturbance activities, silt socks will be used on the perimeter of the property as needed. Additionally, inlet control devices will be utilized in case of a rain event. Actual erosion control devices will be proposed by the Contractor performing the work and will be shared with DTSC for review and approval at least one week prior to the beginning of field work or at the pre-excavation meeting. The work will require the spraying of water as a mist on the excavation areas prior to removal in order to prevent fugitive dust during construction. Water spraying during loading will be conducted while the transport vehicle is located on a decontamination area consisting of plastic sheeting and a water collection point provided by the Contractor. All water used for loading and/or decontamination will be captured and transported to approved facility for treatment and disposal. Dry decontamination methods (i.e. shovels to remove any fallen soil, brushes to loosen caked on soil, etc. followed by HEPA vacuuming) are anticipated to be used on transport trucks and on excavation equipment following construction.

Additionally, the Contractor shall take measures to minimize any potential intrusion of fugitive dust into the residential structures by dust suppression techniques and by requesting all residence windows and doors be closed prior to excavation activities. A rule of "no visible dust" will be applied to all aspects of the work. Air monitoring will be performed by Exide's Consultant during excavation activities to ensure that there is no fugitive dust from the excavation activities. Real-time particulate monitors and personal air monitors (PAMs) will be utilized during the operations. Real-time Particulate Monitors Exide will utilize three (3) particulate dust monitors at an excavation area daily. Particulate dust monitors measure the total dust in the air. A monitor will be placed downwind of the excavation area to provide a baseline dust concentration. A monitor will be placed upwind of the excavation to monitor any dust coming from sources unrelated to the work. The third monitor will be placed at the closest entryway to the home to understand any particulates in proximity to the work.

The Contractor will identify the disposal facility, based on the characterization results, prior to removal work. The trucks/roll-offs will proceed directly to the disposal facility after loading and decontamination. Following the transport vehicle departure, the Contractor will remove any residual soils from the decontamination area using the techniques discussed above. Transport vehicle departure will be scheduled when the transport vehicle has reached its limit of weight or volume. Excavated material will be transported via surface streets directly to the off-site disposal facility. Backfill will be transported directly to the residential property. The Contractor will control construction vehicular traffic to make sure activities are performed safely and efficiently. The Contractor and his personnel will remain cognizant of the nature of this work within residential neighborhoods. Speed limits will be established and implemented by signs and flagmen, as necessary, to minimize dust generation and maintain a safe environment for workers and local residents, including children. All trucks hauling excavated or backfill soil will be tarped during transportation.

Structural soil fill material will be used to achieve backfill grades to within 3 inches of final grade for excavation areas that are 12 inches or greater. Soil samples of any fill materials will comply with DTSC's *Information Advisory for Clean Imported Fill Material*, dated October 2001.

Finding Of Significant Effect On Environment: None (*An Initial Study supporting this finding is attached.*)

Mitigation Measures: None

Branch Chief Signature

Date

Branch Chief Name

Branch Chief Title

Phone #