



Exide Technologies Monthly Status Report

March 2015



This update is issued monthly by DTSC to provide interested community members with information about the Exide Technologies (Exide) facility. The Monthly Status Update summarizes the investigation, closure, and cleanup activities under California Department of Toxic Substances Control's (DTSC) oversight that occurred through March 2015, as well as activities that are anticipated in the spring of 2015.

Starting in 2015, DTSC will provide an electronic copy of the Monthly Status Report online. If you would like to receive a notice via email when these reports are posted, please sign up for the Exide e-list by clicking the last bullet item on the left side of the Exide website titled "Subscribe to Exide e-list (NEW)" at <http://www.dtsc.ca.gov/HazardousWaste/Projects/UpdateExideSuspension.cfm>

Summary of Recent Activities

On-Site: Exide Technologies Facility (Pages 2-4)

- Exide Facility Closure
- Order to Ship Waste Off-Site

Off-Site: Surrounding Residential Properties (Pages 5-7)

- Soil sampling and soil-clean-up at homes in the Northern and Southern Assessment Areas
- Community Meeting - Save the Date



DTSC ANNOUNCES ORDER TO CLOSE EXIDE FACILITY AND STEPS TO PROTECT COMMUNITY WITH ENHANCED CLEANUP

On March 12, 2015, the California Department of Toxic Substances Control (DTSC) issued an order to Exide Technologies battery recycling plant in Vernon to revise the Closure Plan for final closure and provide for enhanced cleanup of residential properties in the surrounding community. DTSC will ensure that Closure activities are protective of the community and the environment.

In February 2015, DTSC initiated the process of denying the company's permit application. After a detailed review of the facility's record and its permit application, the department concluded that the facility cannot operate in compliance with California's safeguards to protect public health and the environment and Exide was notified. The order to close the facility is stipulated in an amendment to the DTSC order issued November 2014.

Link to Stipulation and Order Amendment

http://www.dtsc.ca.gov/HazardousWaste/Projects/upload/Stipulation_and_Order_Amend.pdf

A key concern in DTSC's discussions with the company over recent weeks has been Exide's ability to ensure adequate funding for safely closing the facility and the complete cleanup of lead contamination in the surrounding community. The company has been in Chapter 11 bankruptcy protection since June 2013.

"We have been working on a plan for closure for a number of weeks" said DTSC Director Barbara Lee. "In keeping with our commitment to the community, our priority now is to ensure the safe closure of the Exide plant and to complete the cleanup of contaminated yards in the surrounding neighborhoods."

DTSC's decision to close the plant was based on several factors, including the facility's incomplete application following several notices of deficiency, inability to meet safety standards, failure to certify the structural integrity of a containment building used to hold hundreds of tons of lead, and poor history of compliance with environmental and health protection laws.



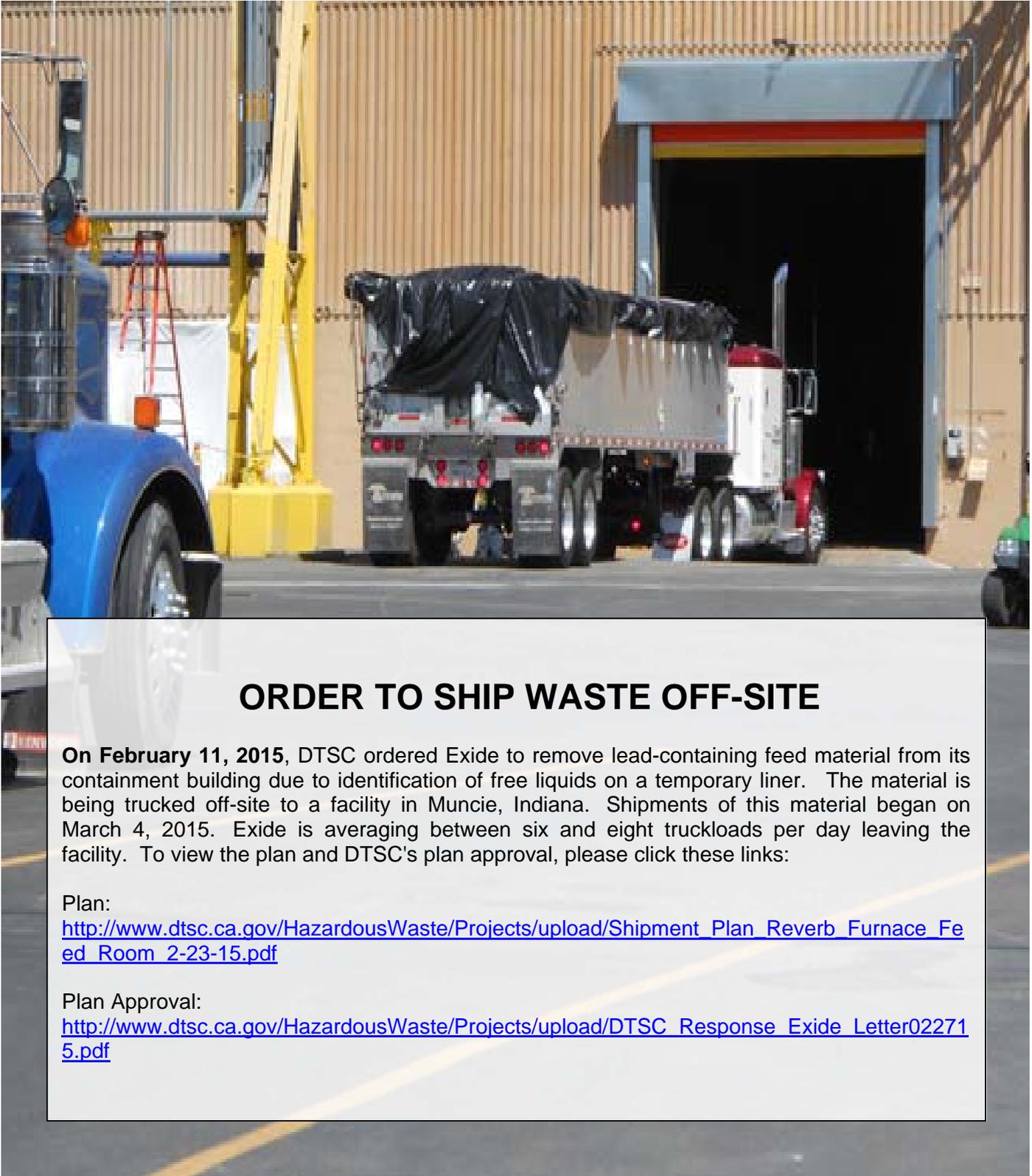
EXIDE FACILITY CLOSURE PROCESS

Exide submitted a Closure Plan to DTSC in August 2014 as part of the Part B Permit Application and DTSC's Permitting staff had been actively reviewing it for compliance with closure standards. Exide is required to submit an updated Closure Plan for final closure. The new Stipulation and Order Amendment requires submittal of the Closure Plan for final closure by May 15, 2015.

DTSC will review the updated Closure Plan for compliance with closure standards. DTSC will ensure that the updated Closure Plan eliminates the need for further maintenance and that it controls, minimizes or eliminates post closure escape of hazardous waste and related constituents to the ground, surface water, groundwater or atmosphere. A Closure Plan that is deficient will not be approved by DTSC. DTSC will issue a Notice of deficiencies to Exide and require a revised Plan. After the first revision, if the revised Closure Plan is determined to be still deficient by DTSC then Permitting staff will revise the Closure Plan to ensure that it meets the standards.

DTSC will then present the Closure Plan for Final Closure to the public and solicit public input. DTSC will open up a public comment period and hold a public hearing to collect comments from all stakeholders for the Plan. Each comment received will be considered; the Closure Plan will be revised as necessary. DTSC will prepare a Response to Comments document and the Final Closure Plan before the Plan is approved.

Concurrently, DTSC will also be preparing an Initial Study to determine what type of California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) document is appropriate for the closure of the facility. The CEQA process will ensure that the public is fully informed of any potential adverse environmental impacts that result from closure plan activities. In addition, CEQA requires that feasible mitigation measures are identified to address potential impacts. DTSC will prepare an Environmental Impact Report if potential impacts cannot be mitigated to a less than significant level.



ORDER TO SHIP WASTE OFF-SITE

On February 11, 2015, DTSC ordered Exide to remove lead-containing feed material from its containment building due to identification of free liquids on a temporary liner. The material is being trucked off-site to a facility in Muncie, Indiana. Shipments of this material began on March 4, 2015. Exide is averaging between six and eight truckloads per day leaving the facility. To view the plan and DTSC's plan approval, please click these links:

Plan:

http://www.dtsc.ca.gov/HazardousWaste/Projects/upload/Shipment_Plan_Reverb_Furnace_Feed_Room_2-23-15.pdf

Plan Approval:

http://www.dtsc.ca.gov/HazardousWaste/Projects/upload/DTSC_Response_Exide_Letter022715.pdf



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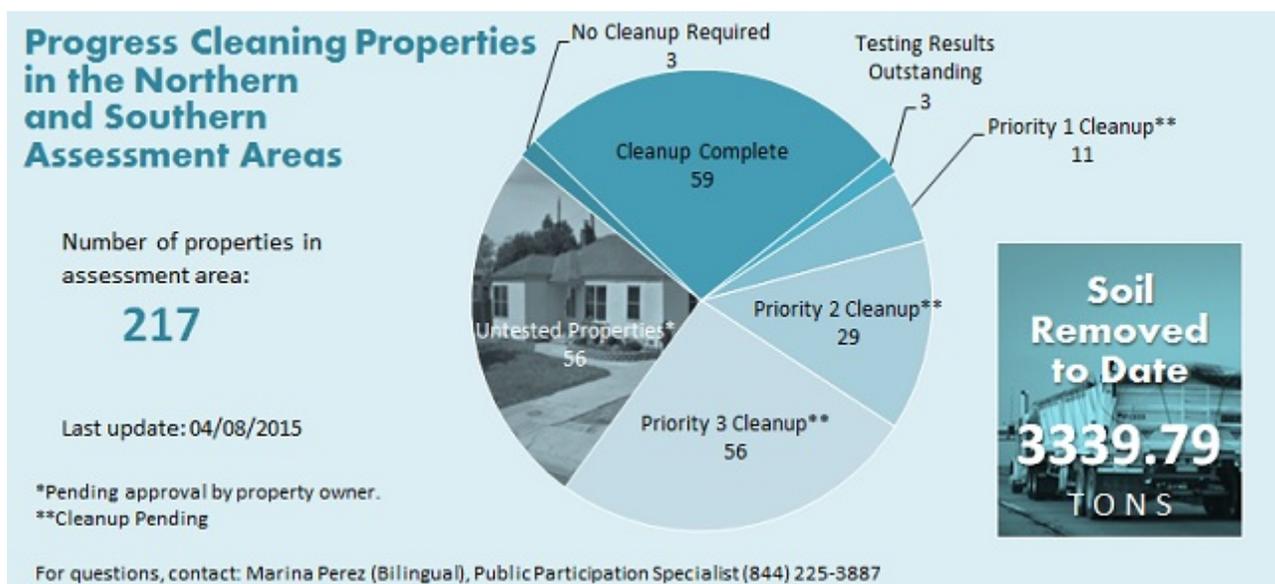
Off-Site: Surrounding Residential Properties Soil Sampling and Clean-Up in Northern and Southern Assessment Areas

DTSC ordered Exide Technologies to test for lead in residential yards in portions of Boyle Heights, East Los Angeles and Maywood. Yards showing soil sample results of lead levels higher than the DTSC cleanup level for these Assessment Areas of 80 parts per million (ppm) are being cleaned up at no cost to the property owner. Properties are prioritized for clean-up based on the lead levels; Priority 1 properties have the highest levels of lead and are cleaned-up first, Priority 2 properties have lower levels and are cleaned-up second, and Priority 3 properties have the lowest levels and are cleaned-up last.

As of April 8, 2015, the following properties have been prioritized for clean-up:

- Northern Assessment Area – 19 Priority 1 properties, 33 Priority 2 properties, 20 Priority 3 properties, and one property that requires no clean-up.
- Southern Assessment Area – 15 Priority 1 properties, 31 Priority 2 properties, 37 Priority 3 properties, and two properties that require no clean-up.
- Combined Northern and Southern Assessment Areas – 34 Priority 1 properties, 64 Priority 2 properties, 57 Priority 3 properties, and three properties that require no clean-up.

For soil sampling information contact DTSC at 1-844-225-3887 (Bilingual).





Community Meeting Closing Exide and Keeping the Community Safe

Thursday, April 9, 2015, 4:30p.m. – 8:00p.m.

Resurrection Catholic Church, Parish Hall,
3324 E. Opal Street, Los Angeles, CA 90023

You are invited to attend this community meeting on Thursday, April 9 at the Resurrection Catholic Church. The Department of Toxic Substances Control (DTSC), South Coast Air Quality Management District (SCAQMD), Los Angeles County Department of Public Health (LACDPH), City of Vernon Certified Unified Program Agency (CUPA), and elected officials will provide information on the cleanup of the closed Exide Technologies facility in Vernon; cleanup of residential yards in the surrounding community; and measures to protect community health.

These agencies will be available to hear your input and answer your questions. Spanish translation will be provided.

The meeting agenda will be provided prior to the meeting.

Meeting format:

- 4:30 p.m. - 5:30 p.m. - Information tables
- 6:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m. - Community Meeting

For additional information, contact: Marina Pérez (Bilingual), Public Participation Specialist, at 1-844-225-3887 or via e-mail at marina.perez@dtsc.ca.gov.

For media inquiries, contact Russ Edmondson, Information Officer, at (916) 323-3372 or via e-mail at Russ.Edmondson@dtsc.ca.gov.

For details on DTSC's oversight of Exide Technologies visit: www.dtsc.ca.gov



Public Participation

Public Participation Activities:

- DTSC, L.A. County Public Health and L.A. County Department of Parks and Recreation hosted a Community Workshop on March 18, 2015 regarding soil sampling at Parque De Los Sueños and the potential health effects of lead. Copies of the community meeting flyer was shared with the Exide e-list, state wide and mandatory mailing list, elected officials, and posted on the DTSC website: dtsc.ca.gov. A hard copy mailing was provided to a list of over 2,500, 50+ on the Exide e-list, 800+ to community based organizations, and more than 1,000 meeting flyers were deposited at the following public venues and churches: Robert L. Stevenson Branch Library, Maywood Cesar Chavez Public Library, Cypress DTSC Regional Office, Salazar Park, YWCA, Our Lady of Victory Catholic Church, Resurrection Catholic Church, and St. Rose of Lima Catholic Church. Door-to-door flyer distribution was conducted to 217 properties in the northern and southern assessment areas. A bilingual newspaper ad was provided to Eastern Group Publications.
- DTSC is conducting project status briefings with community stakeholders and stakeholder elected officials on a bi-weekly basis.
- For questions or concerns, contact DTSC Public Participation Specialist Marina Pérez, 1-844-225-3887 (bilingual).

Information including reports and correspondence between DTSC and Exide is updated on the DTSC's EnviroStor Website; community members are encouraged to visit the website at:

<http://www.envirostor.dtsc.ca.gov/public/>

Hard copies of Exide project documents are also available for review at the following repositories:

**Maywood Cesar Chavez
Public Library**
4323 Slauson Avenue
Maywood, CA 90270
(323) 771-8600

**Robert L. Stevenson
Branch Library**
803 Spence Street
Los Angeles, CA 90023
(323) 268-4710



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Activities Planned for Early 2015

- Community Meetings – April 9, 2015 and May 6, 2015
- Continued discussion with stakeholders and elected officials;
- Continued implementation of the November 2014 Enforcement Order and Amendment;
- Completion of Expanded Area Sampling;
- Continued soil cleanup at Priority 1 and 2 properties; and
- Scheduling of Priority 2 and 3 properties for clean-up.