



# *Community Update:* **May 6, 2015 Public Workshop**

## Closing of Exide Technologies and Opportunities for Community Involvement

### Overview

In February 2015, the Department of Toxic Substances Control (DTSC) informed Exide Technologies that it would deny the company's permit application.

In March 2015, DTSC issued an order requiring Exide to begin closing its facility in Vernon and to expedite placing money in a trust fund to pay for cleaning up contamination in the surrounding residential area.

The closure process involves the safe dismantling and permanent shutting down of the facility.

During the closure and cleanup, DTSC will improve opportunities for public participation in its decision-making process. DTSC will hold a community workshop on May 6, 2015, to discuss soil sample results from residential yards in expanded areas. Future community meetings will occur on a regular basis with the creation of a community advisory group that will give residents additional opportunities to learn about the project and to participate. DTSC will provide

funding for a community technical advisor who can review data and interpret results for a meaningful public input.

### Closure of the facility

- By May 15, 2015, Exide must submit a proposed closure plan to safely remove buildings and clean up hazardous waste units at the facility, and address soil and groundwater contamination.
- The public will have an opportunity to comment on the closure plan. After a public comment period, DTSC will consider the comments and

make any necessary revisions to ensure closure is conducted safely and in compliance with DTSC standards that are protective of human health and the environment. Once the closure plan is approved, a two-phase closure process will begin.

### Closure – Phase 1:

- All equipment, buildings and other structures will be decontaminated and removed from the site. This work is expected to take up to 24 months, and is anticipated to start in spring 2016.

## Public Workshop

**Wednesday, May 6 • 6 - 8pm**  
**Resurrection Church, Parish Hall**  
**3324 E. Opal Street, Los Angeles, CA. 90023**

Please join officials from DTSC, Los Angeles County, South Coast Air Quality Management District and City of Vernon to discuss the results of the expanded area soil sampling. DTSC ordered the additional sampling to better understand the extent of contamination from the Exide plant. Translation services will be provided.

## Closure – Phase 2:

- Exide will take extensive samples under the hazardous waste units to analyze the contamination of the site.
- Timing of the second phase will depend on the extent of contamination at the site, but is expected to take up to 24 months.

## Plant Closure Funding

DTSC's 2015 Amendment requires that Exide make payments into a trust fund for expedited closure of the facility. Exide was ordered to deposit a total of \$26 million over the next three years to ensure a successful closure. Exide will pay for closure expenses out of its own funds, and will not be reimbursed for these expenses from the funds that have been set aside for closure. Instead, DTSC will retain the closure financial assurance funds. DTSC will also have the ability to transfer closure funds into a trust fund for residential corrective action or other corrective action in the future if the amount in the financial assurance for closure exceeds what will be needed in the future. By law, Exide is required to



*Above: A residential yard after cleanup.*

pay for all closure costs, even if they exceed projections. DTSC will ensure Exide pays the full amount needed to close the facility.

## Funding for cleaning up residential properties

Exide will continue to sample and remove contaminated soil in two residential neighborhoods totaling 217 properties in portions of Boyle Heights and Maywood. Of those, 166 have been sampled, and DTSC is encouraging

remaining property owners to agree to have their properties sampled. In addition, 146 residential properties, four parks and five private schools were sampled in an expanded region beyond those two neighborhoods. The results of the soil sampling in the expanded area will be shared with property owners.

In November 2014, Exide was ordered to set aside \$9 million to pay for cleaning up the properties in the two residential areas. In March 2015, DTSC ordered Exide to set aside an additional \$5 million to fund any further residential cleanup – bringing the total that can be expended for residential area cleanups to \$14 million.

## Progress Cleaning Properties in Northern and Southern Assessment Areas

Number of properties in assessment area: **217**

Last update: 04/23/2015

\*Pending approval by property owner.  
\*\*Cleanup Pending



## More Information

For information on Exide Technologies, contact the Department of Toxic Substances Control at **1-844-225-3887** or visit [www.dtsc.ca.gov](http://www.dtsc.ca.gov).