



Department of
Toxic Substances
Control

*The mission of the
Department of Toxic
Substances Control is
to provide the
highest level of safety,
and to protect public
health and the
environment from
toxic harm.*



State of California



Cal/EPA

Fact Sheet, February 2009

Environmental Cleanup Plan & Notice of Exemption Available for Review

A draft plan to conduct an Interim Corrective Measure (ICM) at the Exide Technologies, Incorporated (Exide) facility is open for public review and comment. An Interim Corrective Measure is a cleanup action taken to protect public health and the environment while long-term solutions are being developed. The draft plan was submitted by the Exide facility located at 2700 South Indiana Street in Vernon.

Environmental investigations under the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA) have been taking place at Exide. The Phase 2 results indicate that the Old Slag Landfill Area, Earthen Acid Pit Area, and the Old Mixed-Metals Extrusion Building Area (OMME) are contaminated with metals, primarily lead and arsenic. Trichloroethylene (TCE), tetrachloroethylene (PCE) and other volatile organic compounds (VOCs) were found at the OMME and had been previously detected in ground water at the facility. DTSC requested Exide to prepare a workplan for an interim corrective measure to address the VOCs contamination in the soil.

This Fact Sheet Provides a Brief Summary of:

- Location and Operations at the Facility
- Corrective Action Program
- Proposed Interim Measure
- California Environmental Quality Act
- Next Steps
- Who to Contact for More Information

PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD

February 25, 2009 to March 25, 2009

The draft ICM and the Notice of Exemption for this facility is available for review and public comments at the Huntington Park Public Library, Huntington Park, California. Please submit your comments in the enclosed postage paid return envelope postmarked by March 25, 2009 or email before the deadline date no later than 5 p.m. to:

Mr. Jess Villamayor, Project Manager

9211 Oakdale Avenue

Chatsworth, CA 91311

(818) 717-6601

E-mail: jvillama@dtsc.ca.gov

*Para información en español por favor contacte a Ricardo Gonzalez al
(818) 717-6603*





Exide Technologies 2700 Indiana Street, Vernon, California

Facility Location & Operation

Exide is located in a heavy industrial zone (M-2) and occupies 24 acres of land on the north corner of Bandini Boulevard and South Indiana Avenue. Exide is operating as an Interim Status Facility and has applied for a hazardous waste facility permit.

Exide is a battery recycler, receives spent/used lead acid batteries and other lead bearing materials, and recycles them to recover lead and polypropylene plastic casings while the sulfuric acid in the batteries is recycled and used in the waste water treatment system. Exide also recycles lead-bearing plant scrap and secondary materials that come primarily from lead-acid battery manufacturers.

The average production of the facility is approximately 100,000 to 120,000 tons of recovered lead per year. The Department of Toxic Substances Control (DTSC) is continuing to work with Exide to cleanup contamination resulting from its operation.

Corrective Action Program

Corrective action refers to the investigation and cleanup process at a hazardous waste site. The mandate for corrective action at the Exide facility is contained in RCRA. RCRA is a federal law that regulates the use, treatment, storage, and disposal of hazardous waste. Pursuant to RCRA, (42 U.S.C. Section et seq.), interim status facilities are required to implement corrective action to address releases of hazardous wastes/substances found at the facility.

In 2002, DTSC and Exide entered into a corrective action consent order (CACO) to implement the corrective action program. Thirty eight (38) solid waste management units (SWMUs) and thirty-four (34) areas of concern were identified in the CACO for investigation. DTSC also required the facility to prepare a Water Quality Sampling and Analysis Plan to establish a quarterly groundwater detection monitoring program that would show if any contaminated release has occurred from a regulated unit.

DTSC further determined that the scope of work needed to be broken down into phases based on environmental media to prioritize work on the problematic portions of the facility.

Phase 1

In 2004, during Phase 1 RCRA Facility Investigation, sampling was conducted in the open concrete drainage channel that crosses the facility. Most sediment samples collected on the banks and on the channel bottom had concentrations above screening level for lead (250 mg/kg), with some as high as 56,000 mg/kg. DTSC required Exide to immediately address the clean up of the channel.

Approximately 20 cubic yards of contaminated soil was excavated and removed from the banks and concrete floor of the channel. The contaminated soil and debris were transported to a state permitted disposal facility. DTSC oversaw the implementation of these emergency measures.

Phase 2

The Phase 2 RCRA investigation results indicated that the Old Slag Landfill Area (SWMU-1), Earthen Acid Pit Area (SWMU-6) are contaminated with metals, primarily lead and arsenic, but significantly less in the OMME (SWMU-11). However, soil gas sampling results at the OMME shows concentrations of TCE and PCE and other VOCs in shallow soils. Soil gas or vapors form in the soil when chemicals in the soil evaporate. VOCs are chemicals commonly found in solvents, degreasers, petroleum compounds and other industrial products.

To protect human health and environment, DTSC requested Exide to implement Interim Corrective Measures.

Proposed Interim Corrective Measures

The draft ICM proposes to install a Soil Vapor Extraction (SVE) system near the Engineering Building and Material Storage Building. The SVE system will apply a vacuum to the soil to remove the TCE, PCE and other VOCs from the soil. This will reduce the potential of further contaminating the ground water and also reduce the potential risk of vapor migration from the soil to indoor air.

The SVE system is being proposed because it is protective of human health and the environment, its effectiveness, ability to implement, cost and reliability. Also, the site is heavily developed and the SVE system can fit in extremely limited space.

The proposed SVE system will operate until elimination of the threats to indoor air and of migration to ground water are eliminated. Soil gas and ground water will continue to be monitored during the operation of the SVE.

The SVE system will operate under a permit issued by South Coast Air Quality Management District (SCAQMD), and the SVE system will be monitored to ensure compliance with the permit.

California Environmental Quality Act

In compliance with the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), DTSC has prepared a draft Notice of Exemption (NOE) for this project. The NOE states that the proposed cleanup will not have a significant negative impact on human health and the environment because of short duration and the controlled way in which the SVE system is to be installed and operated.

Public Involvement

DTSC encourages interested community members to review the documents and submit comments during the public comment period which runs from February 25, 2009 to March 25, 2009. The draft documents are available at locations listed below. The Administrative Record for the Exide facility, including the facility's environmental compliance record is available at the DTSC Regional Office in Chatsworth.

Next Steps

Before making a final decision, DTSC will consider all public comments and incorporate them into the ICM as appropriate. If approved, installation of the SVE system is planned to take place sometime in April 2009. Operation and periodic maintenance of the SVE system will follow after completion of the SVE system installation.

Where to Find Documents

Documents related to the site are available for your review at the following locations:

Huntington Park Public Library

6518 Miles Avenue
Huntington Park, California 90255
Phone: (323) 583-1461

Library hours:

Mon. and Tues.: 1:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.
Wed. and Thu.: 11:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.
Saturday: 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.
Friday and Sunday: Closed

Exide Technologies

2700 South Indiana Street
City of Vernon, CA 90023
(323) 262-1101

Department of Toxic Substances Control

9211 Oakdale Avenue
Chatsworth, CA 91311
Mon.-Fri. 8:00 am - 5:00 pm
Please call Viven Tutaan at (818) 717-6521 for an appointment

For more information about DTSC, please visit our web site at www.dtsc.ca.gov

If you have questions about the project, please contact:

Mr. Jess Villamayor, Project Manager
9211 Oakdale Avenue
Chatsworth, CA 91311
(818) 717-6601
E-mail: jvillama@dtsc.ca.gov

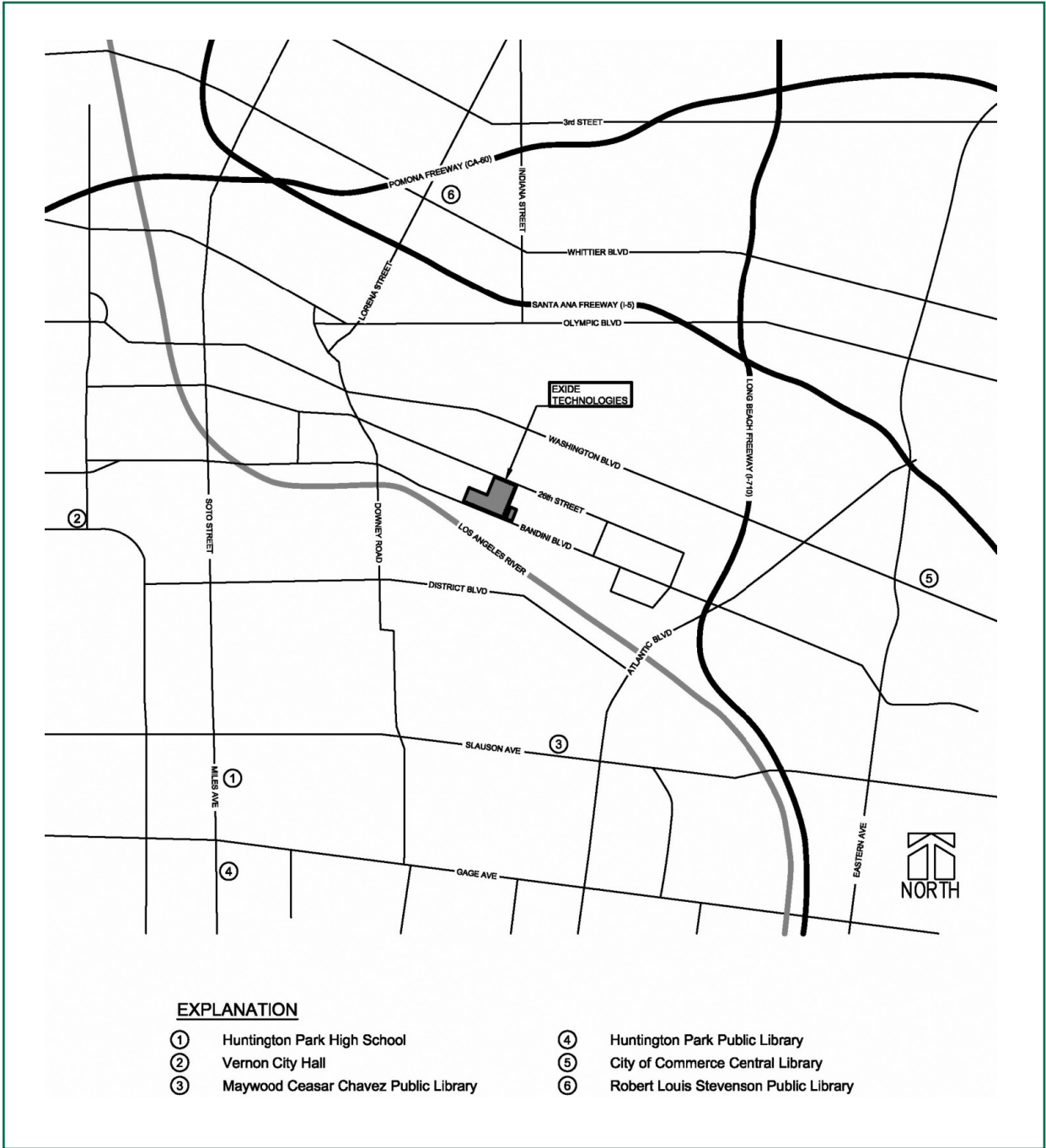
Maya Akula, Public Participation Specialist
9211 Oakdale Avenue
Chatsworth, CA 91311
(818) 717-6566 or or toll-free 1(866) 495-5651, press 3 then 1.
E-mail: makula@dtsc.ca.gov

Media Inquiries

Jeanne Garcia, Public Information Officer
(818) 717-6573
E-mail: jgarcia1@dtsc.ca.gov

Notice to Hearing-Impaired Individuals

You can obtain additional information about the site by using the California State Relay Service at (888) 877-5378 (TDD), or by calling Maya Akula, DTSC Public Participation Specialist, at (818) 717-6566.





Department of Toxic Substances Control

COMMENT FORM AND MAILING COUPON

**EXIDE TECHNOLOGIES, INC.
2700 SOUTH INDIANA STREET
CITY OF VERNON, CA 90023**

You may use this sheet to:

- **send us your comments**
- **be added to or taken off the mailing list**

If you use this form to send us your comments, please include your name and address. All written comments must be postmarked no later than **March 25, 2009**. Please send this form to:

**Mr. Jess Villamayor, Project Manager
Department of Toxic Substances Control,
9211 Oakdale Avenue,
Chatsworth, CA 91311**

You may also email this same information to: jvillama@dtsc.ca.gov

- Please take me off the mailing list
 Please add me to the mailing list

Name: _____

Address: _____

Affiliation (if any): _____

Phone number (optional): _____

Comments: (If you need more space, please feel free to use another sheet of paper)

Our mailing lists and your comments are considered public records and, if requested, may be subject to release.