



Department of
Toxic Substances
Control

*Our mission is
to protect
California's people
and environment
from harmful effects
of toxic substances
by restoring
contaminated
properties,
identifying and
promoting safer
ingredients in
consumer products,
and ensuring
stewardship through
enforcement,
regulation and
pollution
prevention.*



State of California



California
Environmental
Protection Agency

Fact Sheet, October 2011

Exide Technologies Recycling Facility, Public Comments Sought on Notice of Preparation for Environmental Impact Report

A **Notice of Preparation** (NOP) is currently available for public review and comment. The purpose of the NOP is to solicit guidance from agencies and stakeholders for the scope and content of the environmental information to be included in the **Environmental Impact Report** (EIR). The Department of Toxic Substances Control (DTSC) is the **lead regulatory agency** for assessing the potential environmental effects associated with issuance of a proposed Hazardous Waste Facility Permit requested by Exide Technologies (Exide) for its Recycling Facility located in Vernon, California. Under the **California Environmental Quality Act** (CEQA), DTSC must prepare an EIR for the initial issuance of a hazardous waste facilities permit to evaluate environmental impacts of this proposed action as part of the approval process. (*Words in bold and italics appear in the Glossary of Terms*). This fact sheet provides information on:

- Project Background
- California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA)
- Upcoming Public **Scoping** Meeting & How You Can Participate
- Additional Information Sources
- Information Repository Locations
- Who to Contact at DTSC for Information
- Environmental Impact Report (EIR) Project Timeline
- Glossary of Terms

PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD FOR NOTICE OF PREPARATION (NOP) October 14th, 2011 Through November 13th, 2011

A 30-day public comment period for the NOP will begin October 14th, 2011, and end November 13th, 2011. **All public comments must be postmarked or e-mailed by November 13th, 2011, and sent to:**

Ms. Chia-Rin Yen, Project Manager
Department of Toxic Substances Control
9211 Oakdale Avenue, Chatsworth, CA 91311-6520
E-mail: cyen@dtsc.ca.gov

PUBLIC SCOPING MEETING Thursday, October 27th, 2011, at 6:30 PM

DTSC invites you to participate at a DTSC hosted Public Scoping Meeting to solicit input on this environmental project. Your participation is encouraged. Please join us at:

*Resurrection Church, Multi-Purpose Room
3324 Opal Street
Los Angeles, CA 90023-2917*

Project documents are available for public review at the Information Repository locations listed inside this Fact Sheet on page 3. We will consider all NOP public comments received during the public comment period in preparing the EIR.





Project Background

The Exide Technologies Vernon California operation, located at 2700 South Indiana Street in Vernon is an existing secondary lead smelting facility which recycles lead. The facility recovers and reprocesses lead from used automotive batteries and other sources. About 85 percent of the lead recycled at the facility is derived from used automobile batteries, with the remaining 15 percent consisting of other batteries and scrap lead. About 22 million automotive batteries are processed annually at the facility. As a result, Exide conducts the following major activities on site:

- Storing lead acid batteries, lead bearing materials, and hazardous waste generated as a result of the facility's operation;
- Breaking spent batteries and separating the battery components;
- Conducting smelting to recover lead from spent lead acid batteries;
- Operating wastewater treatment to neutralize sulfuric acid and treat both process water and stormwater.

California law requires lead battery recycling and hazardous waste management activities conducted by Exide to be performed in accordance with requirements specified in California Code of Regulations (CCR), Title 22, Division 4.5. Exide is applying for a hazardous waste facility permit for storing and treating hazardous waste to recover lead.

The California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA)

CEQA is a state law that requires the lead agency of a project to consider and disclose the environmental effects of its proposed actions before approving them. DTSC has been designated as the lead agency for completing the CEQA process for the Hazardous Waste Facility Permit requested by Exide for its facility. DTSC will prepare an EIR to assess the potential environmental effects of the permit prior to its issuance. DTSC and Exide entered into a

Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) for the preparation of the EIR, which will be performed by an independent consultant, Anchor QEA; however, DTSC retains full control of the content and conclusions in the EIR. The first step in the EIR process is to prepare a NOP with subsequent steps including the following:

- Hold **scoping** meetings to obtain input from other agencies with jurisdiction in the project area or over project activities and community members on the scope and content to be evaluated in the EIR.
- Prepare a Draft EIR – describing existing conditions in the project area, analyzing the project's potential effects, and identifying measures to avoid, reduce, or mitigate adverse impacts as a result of the Facility's operations – that assesses the potential environmental impacts from the proposed permit.
- Distribute the Draft EIR for a 60-day public review period and obtain comments from agencies and the public.
- Prepare written responses to comments received during the public review period.
- Prepare and certify the Final EIR.
- Make a decision on the proposed action
- File the **Notice of Determination (NOD)**.

Upcoming Public Scoping Meeting and How You Can Participate

The upcoming Public Scoping Meeting planned for **Thursday, October 27th, 2011**, is an opportunity for agencies and the community to provide their input on the scope of the EIR for this project. The upcoming Public Scoping Meeting will be formally recorded to capture the meeting content, feedback and public comments. The Public Scoping Meeting will be held at the time and location listed on the front page of this fact sheet.

A 30-day public comment period will begin October 14th, 2011, and end November 13th, 2011, to receive public comments on the scope of the NOP. Public comments must be postmarked or e-mailed no later than November 13th, 2011, and sent to:

Ms. Chia-Rin Yen, DTSC Project Manager
 Department of Toxic Substances Control
 9211 Oakdale Avenue
 Chatsworth, CA 91311-6520
 E-mail: cyen@dtsc.ca.gov

DTSC will consider all public comments received during the public comment period in the EIR preparation.

Additional Information Sources

DTSC will continue to keep the public informed

during the EIR process. A notice will be sent to anyone who has requested notification of the availability of the Draft EIR for review and comment. DTSC anticipates a Draft EIR will be available for review during the second quarter of 2012. Project information can be found at DTSC's main website: (<http://www.dtsc.ca.gov/HazardousWaste/Projects/Exide.cfm>). This website provides a useful overview of the project.

Site documents are also available for electronic review on DTSC's EnviroStor website at www.EnviroStor.dtsc.ca.gov. Enter "Vernon" as the City and select "EXIDE TECHNOLOGIES, HAZ WASTE – OPERATING PERMIT". Click on the link for "Report". Or go to www.dtsc.ca.gov, under QUICK LINKS, and click "Exide". **If you would like DTSC to notify you via e-mail when new EnviroStor documents, such as workplans and reports, are available online for this site, please click on the "Sign Up for E-mail Alerts" link to the right of the site name, and complete the sign up form.**

All documents made available to the public by DTSC can be made available in an alternate format (i.e., Braille, large print, etc.) or in another language as appropriate, in accordance with State and Federal law. Please contact Ms. Stacey Lear, DTSC Public Participation Specialist for assistance with alternative information formats.

Information Repository Locations

Project documents (NOP and fact sheet.) are available for public review at the following Information Repositories:

City of Vernon – City Hall
Finance Counter
4305 S, Santa Fe Avenue, 2nd Floor
Vernon, CA 90058-1714
(323) 583-8811
Call for hours

Maywood Cesar Chavez Public Library
4325 E. Slauson Avenue
Los Angeles, CA 90270-2837
(323) 771-8600
Call for hours

Huntington Park Public Library
6518 Miles Avenue
Huntington Park, CA 90058-4318
(323) 583-1461
Call for hours

City of Commerce Central Library
5655 Jillson Street
Commerce, CA 90040-1493
(323) 722-6660

Department of Toxic Substances Control

Regional Records Room
9211 Oakdale Avenue
Chatsworth, CA 91311-6520
(818) 717-6521
Monday – Friday: 8 am to 5 pm
Please contact Ms. Vivien Tutaan or Glen Castillo at the above number to make an appointment.

Whom to Contact at DTSC for Information

If you have any questions about the project, NOP, EIR or other project related activities, please contact the following DTSC staff:

Ms. Chia-Rin Yen, DTSC Project Manager
Department of Toxic Substances Control
9211 Oakdale Avenue
Chatsworth, CA 91311-6520
(818)717-6681
E-mail: cyen@dtsc.ca.gov

Ms. Stacey Lear, Public Participation Specialist
Department of Toxic Substances Control
5796 Corporate Avenue
Cypress, CA 90630-4732
(714) 484-5354 direct
E-mail: slear@dtsc.ca.gov

Environmental Impact Report (EIR) Timeline

Fall/Winter 2011 – NOP Distribution and Public Scoping Meeting.

Spring/Summer 2012 – Draft EIR Prepared.

Summer 2012 – Public Review of Draft EIR and Receipt of Comments.

Fall/Winter 2012 – Preparation of Responses to Comments and Final EIR.

Spring 2013 – Final EIR Certified and Notice of Determination Filed.

Media Inquiries

Jeanne Garcia, Public Information Officer
Department of Toxic Substances Control
9211 Oakdale Avenue
Chatsworth, CA 91311-6520
(818) 717-6573
E-mail: jgarcia1@dtsc.ca.gov

For more information about our department, please visit our website at www.dtsc.ca.gov

Notice to Hearing-Impaired Individuals

TDD users can use the California Relay Service at 1-888-877-5378 to reach Ms. Stacey Lear, DTSC Public Participation Specialist at (714) 484-5354 or toll-free 1-866-495-5651.

PUBLIC COMMENT FORM AND MAILING COUPON

**NOTICE OF PREPARATION FOR ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT
AND 30-DAY PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD**

EXIDE TECHNOLOGIES RECYCLING FACILITY, 2700 SOUTH INDIANA STREET, VERNON, CA

You may use this form to send in your written public comments on the Notice of Preparation (NOP). You may also use this form to ask to be added or deleted from the Exide facility mailing list. If you know of any persons or organization that would like to be on the mailing list, use this form to notify us. Please address all mailings to Ms. Chia-Rin Yen, DTSC Project Manager, Department of Toxic Substances Control, 9211 Oakdale Avenue, Chatsworth, CA 91311-6520.

Reminder: All public comments on the Notice of Preparation (NOP) must be postmarked or e-mailed by November 13th, 2011.

Name: _____

Agency or Organization: _____

Address: _____

Telephone #: _____

Please add me to the Exide facility mailing list.

Please delete me from the Exide facility mailing list.

Comments:

DTSC mailings are solely for the purpose of keeping persons informed of DTSC activities. Mailing lists are not routinely released to outside parties. However, they are considered public records and, if requested, may be subject to release.

Glossary of Terms

California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA): Enacted in 1970 to provide long-term environmental protection, this law requires that governmental decision-makers and public agencies study the environmental effects of proposed activities and that significant adverse effects be avoided or reduced where feasible.

Environmental Impact Report (EIR): A report designed to examine the potential environmental impacts of proposed activities.

Lead Regulatory Agency: The public agency responsible for decision making on a project.

Notice of Determination (NOD): Formal notice filed with the California State Clearinghouse after the Final EIR is being prepared and to request input on the content of the EIR.

Notice of Preparation (NOP): A notice that is sent by the lead agency to notify agencies and the public that an EIR is being prepared and to request input on the content of the EIR.

Scoping: A process to gain input from agencies and the public regarding the content of the EIR.



Stacey Lear, Public Participation Specialist
Department of Toxic Substances Control
5796 Corporate Avenue
Cypress, CA 90630

Inside: Information on the Exide Technologies Recycling Facility
For more information about the DTSC, please visit our web site at www.dtsc.ca.gov