

Hazardous Waste Facilities Operating Permit Decision Status Report

October 2024



Department of
Toxic Substances
Control

Permitting Division

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Acronyms and Short Terms

BES	Board of Environmental Safety
Buttonwillow	Clean Harbors Buttonwillow, LLC.
Cal. Code Regs., tit. 22, §	California Code of Regulations, title 22, section
CEMC	Chevron Environmental Management Company
CEQA	California Environmental Quality Act
DTSC	Department of Toxic Substances Control
Ecobat	Ecobat Resources California, Inc.
HSC	California Health and Safety Code
KHF	Chemical Waste Management, Inc., Kettleman Hills Facility
Permitting	Permitting Division
Report	Hazardous Waste Facilities Operating Permit Decision Status Report
Rho-Chem	Rho-Chem, LLC.
SB 158	Senate Bill 158
Veolia	Veolia ES Technical Solutions LLC Azusa

Introduction

Senate Bill 158 (SB 158), which Governor Newsom signed into law on July 12, 2021, imposed permit decision obligations on California's Department of Toxic Substances Control (DTSC) and the Board of Environmental Safety (BES). One of the obligations requires DTSC to issue a public report when an operating permit decision for a hazardous waste facility (facility) has not been issued by its statutory deadline. This *Hazardous Waste Facilities Operating Permit Decision Status Report* (Report) was prepared to meet this obligation pursuant to California Health and Safety Code, section 25200.25 (HSC 25200.25).¹ Specifically, this Report explains why certain operating permit decisions were not issued by the three-year timelines set forth in HSC 25200.25(c)(1)(C)(iii). The Report addresses the current status of work completed, actions and information still needed, and DTSC's proposed schedule for issuing the final operating permit decisions.

DTSC Permitting embarked on a journey to process improvement in 2013 when a third party consultant conducted an analysis of the Permitting process. As an initial response to the analysis, Permitting developed and implemented the extensive Permitting Enhancement Workplan. The result of the Workplan included increased staffing, implementation of standardized processes, and an improved management structure. In addition to that, Permitting invested into and developed Lean Six Sigma (LSS) Green Belts and Black Belts within the Division. LSS is a methodical process in which data is collected, the most significant opportunity to improve is identified, and the improvements are implemented. The Permitting Division currently has 13 LSS Green Belts and one LSS Black Belt and has successfully completed 14 LSS improvement initiatives that have made significant impacts on the Permitting processes. The result of all of these efforts is a culture change in which the staff in the Permitting Division incorporate continuous improvement in the work that they do. The timeline for processing permit applications has been significantly reduced and improvements are ongoing. These permits are associated with facilities that have very complex operations. This reduction means that the majority of the most complex facilities now have stronger, more enforceable permits that incorporate the latest technologies and are more protective of human health and the environment. It is crucial that we continue our progress toward addressing all continued permits so that all communities with permitted facilities experience improved protection of their health and environment.

¹ Pursuant to HSC 25200.25(c), this reporting requirement does not apply to the post-closure permit decisions, or to the Class 2 and Class 3 permit modification decisions.

Report Scope

For operating permits expiring before January 1, 2025, DTSC is required to issue permit decisions for those applying for permit renewals either: (1) within three years after the end of the permit's fixed term, or (2) within three years of the effective date of the statute (i.e., July 12, 2024), whichever is later, pursuant to HSC 25200(c)(1)(C)(iii). As of the effective date of the statute to the time of this writing, this requirement applies to 29 operating permits overseen by DTSC. To date, DTSC issued 22 of the 29 operating permit decisions prior to July 12, 2024.

DTSC did not issue seven of the 29 permit decisions within the statutory deadline of July 12, 2024 for the following operating permits:

- Chemical Waste Management, Inc., Kettleman Hills Facility (KHF)
- Chevron Environmental Management Company (CEMC)
- Clean Harbors Buttonwillow, LLC. (Buttonwillow)
- Ecobat Resources California, Inc. (Ecobat)
- Phibro-Tech (PTI)
- Rho-Chem, LLC. (Rho-Chem)
- Veolia ES Technical Solutions LLC Azusa (Veolia)

Of these seven, DTSC released draft permit decisions for four facilities. This reduction means that the majority of the most complex hazardous waste facilities now have stronger, more enforceable permits that incorporate the latest technologies and are more protective of human health and the environment. DTSC is committed to continuing its progress toward addressing all continued permits so that all communities with permitted facilities experience improved protection of their health and environment.

In this Report, an appendix for each facility listed above is included, addressing the status reporting requirements pursuant to HSC 25200.25. Each appendix includes DTSC's proposed permit decision schedule for BES to accept or modify. Schedules are estimates and subject to change.

Permitting Process

DTSC's Permitting Division (Permitting) focuses on making permit decisions that are technically sound, legally defensible, and transparent to protect Californians from hazardous waste storage, treatment and disposal. Over the past several years, Permitting has implemented significant improvements in the permitting process to increase the quality of permit application reviews and protections in permit conditions. Permitting also focuses on making timely permit decisions to keep communities

protected by considering the latest compliance issues from permitted facilities, modern advances in technologies from industries. Most recently, Permitting is proposing revisions to its process to enhance earlier community engagement, consider community vulnerabilities and develop science-based setback distances for communities. Permitting is exploring new ways to encourage hazardous waste management practices that are more sustainable and supportive of a circular economy. To provide background on how permit decisions are made, this section provides an overview of the permitting process.

The permitting process consists of five different phases: pre-application, administrative review, technical review, draft permit decision, and final permit decision. Each of these phases has different objectives and deliverables.



A. Pre-Application Phase

The **pre-application phase** of the permitting process initiates direct communication between Permitting and the applicant before the permit application is submitted. During this phase, a reminder letter is issued to the facility (if due for a renewal) and a pre-application meeting is held, where the applicant is informed of the current permitting process, estimated costs, and applicable statutory and regulatory requirements. At this time, Permitting and the applicant also discuss the hazardous waste management units (units) at the facility, as defined in California Code of Regulations, title 22, section 66260.10 (Cal. Code Regs., tit. 22, § 66260.10). Facility operations are organized into units (e.g. tank systems, container storage areas) to clearly define the applicable regulatory requirements for each area of a facility. The intent of this phase is to minimize potential deficiencies in the permit application that may lead to processing delays, extra costs, and/or permit denial.

B. Administrative Review Phase

The **administrative review phase** of the permitting process begins upon receipt of the facility's permit application and advance payment (for costs to process the permit application). During this phase, Permitting issues a public notice to notify the public and other agencies about the receipt and completed initial review of the permit application and specifies where the public can access the permit application. For applicants applying for permit renewals, their existing permits remain effective until a new permit decision is issued if the renewal application is timely filed pursuant to Cal. Code Regs., tit. 22, § 66271.51(a)(1).

C. Technical Review Phase

The **technical review phase** is the most resource and time intensive phase of the permitting process. The completion of this phase heavily relies on the applicant's submittal of a permit application that meets all applicable statutory and regulatory requirements in a timely manner. Permitting determines whether the permit application meets the applicable regulatory requirements set forth in Cal. Code Regs., tit. 22, §§ 66270.13 through 66270.27 as part of its technical review process. Permitting notifies the facility of any permit application deficiencies found. It is the applicant's responsibility to address any deficiencies.

In addition to the technical review process, the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) process and community outreach efforts occur in parallel. The CEQA process is used to evaluate whether DTSC's decision will result in any significant impacts to the environment. It also can specify measures to avoid or reduce environmental impacts.

Throughout this technical review phase, DTSC sends community outreach documents such as community surveys, community updates, and public notices to the public. The intent of these documents is to further encourage public involvement in the permitting process.

D. Draft Permit Decision Phase

The **draft permit decision phase** of the permitting process is when Permitting issues its draft permit decision for public review. This includes draft permit decisions to either issue a (new or renewal) permit, revoke a permit, or deny the permit application. During this phase, a public notice of the draft permit decision is circulated for public review. Depending on the community's level of interest, a public meeting and hearing may be held, where DTSC provides a presentation on the draft permit decision and provides opportunity for oral comments. Translation services are provided for both the public notice and public meeting or hearing, as needed. The public and applicant can submit oral comments during the public hearing or written comments at any time during the public comment period.

E. Final Permit Decision Phase

The **final permit decision phase** is the last phase of the permitting process. During this phase, DTSC reviews and considers all public comments and prepares a written Response to Comments document. DTSC releases a final permit decision and finalizes the CEQA document(s). Appeals of permit decisions are administrated by the Board of Environmental Safety (BES).

This same permitting process is used for all permit applications reviewed. The timing to complete each phase may vary depending on the permit, but the same five phases of the permitting process still apply. The completion of each phase is highly dependent on

the complexity of the facility's operations, the applicant's responsiveness, community engagement needs, and other factors.

General Findings

Today, DTSC's permits are more protective, more enforceable, more protective, and include more of the neighboring community's perspective. Although timing is a significant factor for permit decisions, Permitting recognizes that these other factors cannot be sacrificed at the expense of time. Nevertheless, there are opportunities to improve the timing associated with permit decisions. Delays associated with the permit decisions that have not been completed in 3 years or less can be categorized as listed below:

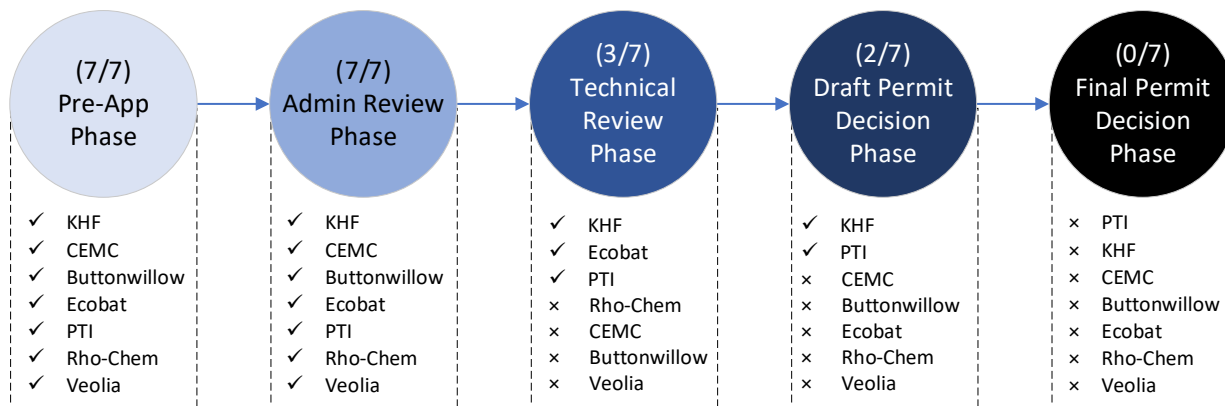
- Complex facility operations
- Enhanced community outreach
- Coordination with other public agencies
- CEQA analysis
- Enforcement issues
- Timing of responses to Notice of Deficiencies
- Permit modifications
- Violations Scoring Procedure process
- Technical review of revised designs and plans

To work through these, Permitting has resolved timing obstacles by implementing several strategies including short-term fixes to specific delays and long-term solutions for recurring delays. For example, a permit modification request submitted during review of a permit application can delay a permit decision. For some modification requests, Permitting assigns additional staff to work with the project manager on the modification request to minimize the delay. For other requests, the permit decision is prioritized over the modification request. Another example of a short-term fix is the delay associated with late responses to Notice of Deficiencies. Permitting works directly with enforcement when deadlines for responses are missed by applicants.

For long-term solutions, Permitting has implemented various initiatives designed to improve our processes. Permitting now works more closely with our enforcement colleagues to work through compliance issues including permit denials and responsive permit conditions. Permitting established and regularly updates a library of guidance documents for project managers working on complex facility operations. Permitting has developed an automated tracking system for all pending permit decisions with internal timing metrics. Permitting has changed the ways permits are written to include more permit conditions that protect communities, and Permitting now engages with other public agencies and communities earlier in the process, as much as resources allow.

Next Steps

The following graphic provides a summary of the permitting phases completed to date for each of the pending operating permit decisions:



Please see Appendix A through G to view the information and action still needed, and the proposed final decision schedule for each pending permit decision. Schedules are estimates and subject to change.

Appendices

Appendix A: Chemical Waste Management, Inc., Kettleman Hills Facility

Appendix B: Chevron Environmental Management Company

Appendix C: Clean Harbors Buttonwillow, LLC.

Appendix D: Ecobat Resources California, Inc.

Appendix E: Phibro-Tech, Inc.

Appendix F: Rho-Chem, LLC.

Appendix G: Veolia ES Technical Solutions LLC Azusa

Appendix A: Chemical Waste Management, Inc., Kettleman Hills Facility

Operating Permit Decision Status Report for Chemical Waste Management, Inc., Kettleman Hills Facility (KHF)

I. Hazardous Waste Facility and Permit Background

- KHF is an existing, permitted hazardous waste transfer, storage, treatment, and disposal facility located near Kettleman City. This is the third renewal application for the storage and treatment operations at the facility.
- The current DTSC operating permit (Permit Number 02-SAC-03) was issued on June 16, 2003, and expired on June 13, 2013. However, the permit renewal application was administratively approved by DTSC on June 11, 2013, which allows the facility to operate on a continued status under the current permit. A class 3 permit modification was issued on June 23, 2014.
- The CalEnviroScreen 4.0 percentile score at Kettleman City is 92% and the linguistic isolation percentile is 92%. The CalEnviroScreen 4.0 percentile score at the facility location is 77% and the linguistic isolation percentile score is 96%.
- Documents related to DTSC’s review of this facility are available at [DTSC’s KHF website](#) (select “Permitting Activities” link) or use the [KHF EnviroStor](#).

II. Current Status of Work Completed (HSC 25200.25(a)(1))

- DTSC has completed the administrative review and technical review phases.
- The permitting review process is currently in the draft permit decision phase.
- DTSC prepared a draft permit for KHF that was issued for public review and comment. The 90-day public comment period began on April 3, 2024 and ended on July 19, 2024.
- During the comment period, DTSC held a public workshop for the Kettleman City Vulnerability Evaluation using CalEnviroScreen Data (CalEnviroScreen Report) on May 9, 2024, and a Public Hearing for the Draft Permit on May 15, 2024. Both meetings were held in Kettleman City.

The following table provides a summary of the permitting process work completed to date:

Phase	Event	Completed Date
Administrative Review Phase	Application Part A Received	02/15/2013
	Application Part B Received	02/15/2013
	Administrative Review Approved	06/11/2013
Technical Review Phase	1st NOD Issued	11/18/2016
	Response to 1st NOD Received	07/14/2017

Appendix A: Chemical Waste Management, Inc., Kettleman Hills Facility

	2nd NOD Issued	11/06/2017
	Response to 2nd NOD Received	03/06/2018
	3rd NOD Issued	03/29/2019
	Response to 3rd NOD Received	09/30/2019
	4th NOD Issued	06/03/2020
	Response to 4th NOD Received	06/11/2021-10/06/2023
	Community Survey Mailed Out	10/07/2022
	Community Profile Completed	11/30/2023
	Final Application Received	10/06/2023
	Technical Complete Letter Issued	04/02/2024
Draft Permit Decision Phase	Draft Decision Issued and Public Comment (Begin)	04/03/2024
	Public Comment (Public Workshop)	05/09/2024
	Public Comment (Meeting/Hearing)	05/15/2024
	Public Comment (End)	07/19/2024

Independently from the permit renewal process, several activities carried out by DTSC occurred concurrently during the technical review phase. The following table provides a summary of the activities that impacted the permit decision schedule:

Other Actions and Processes	Completed Date
Title VI Settlement Agreement	Ongoing
Civil Rights Analysis	10/03/2023
Kettleman City Vulnerability Evaluation using CalEnviroScreen Data (CES Report)	04/03/2024
Extensive reviews of CEQA documentation and CES Report	August 2023-March 2024

III. Actions and Information Needed (HSC 25200.25(a)(2))

The following actions and information are needed to complete the remaining phases of the permitting process:

Final Permit Decision Phase

- Consideration of all public comments and draft permit revisions
- Response to Comments document to be issued
- Final Permit Decision document to be prepared
- Phase II Civil Rights Analysis
- CEQA documents to be filed
- Notice of Final Permit Decision to be issued

Appendix A: Chemical Waste Management, Inc., Kettleman Hills Facility

IV. Reasons for Delay (HSC 25200.25(a))

- Complex Facility Operations – New waste acceptance procedures, new post-treatment verification methods, changes to groundwater monitoring program, new soil monitoring program, changes to soil-gas monitoring program, addition of drum shredder, and landfill design consideration for site-specific issues unique to Kettleman Hills. Additional time was required for DTSC to conduct an appropriately thorough review of the aforementioned operational and monitoring improvements.
- DTSC conducted additional CEQA-related activities including circulation of an Environmental Document Analysis and later Addendum for public review and translation.
- DTSC engagement with high level of stakeholder interest – Multiple advocate groups, community members as well as other stakeholders have provided input into the permit decision.
- Title VI Settlement Agreement – DTSC met with the Signatories of the Settlement Agreement throughout the review of the permit application. The Settlement Agreement necessitated certain DTSC actions (e.g., CalEnviroScreen Report and Civil Rights Analysis) as part of DTSC’s permit decision process.
- DTSC issued four notices of deficiency (NODs) and granted multiple extension requests which resulted in an extended technical review period. These NODs and extensions were necessary for the permit application to meet all the technical requirements required by law and regulation. The facility was responsive to DTSC’s requests each time. However, the complex nature of this site required extensive reviews of the permit application to achieve technical completeness.
- DTSC coordinated with other agencies including but not limited to United States Environmental Protection Agency, California Department of Public Health, Office of Environmental Health Hazard Assessment, Department of Pesticide Regulation, California Air Resources Board, Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board, San Joaquin Valley Air Pollution Control District, and Kings County Department of Public Health. This extensive cross-agency collaboration, which was necessary to ensure protection of human health and the environment, is reflective of the complex nature of the facility’s operations and the in-depth review conducted by DTSC of the facility’s permit renewal application.
- DTSC coordinated a Civil Rights Analysis using a contractor which was conducted to assess whether DTSC’s permitting process is consistent with Civil Rights Laws.
- DTSC prepared a Kettleman City Vulnerability Evaluation using CalEnviroScreen Data (CES Report) which was done to assess community vulnerabilities in lieu of the SB 673 track 2 regulations being in place.

Appendix A: Chemical Waste Management, Inc., Kettleman Hills Facility

- DTSC conducted extended community outreach including Spanish translation of most permit renewal documents, community surveys, community interviews, community profiles, community updates, and public participation plan. All documents are available for public review in three Kings County library branches of Hanford, Avenal, and Kettleman City as well as the DTSC file room in Sacramento. DTSC provided a longer public comment period than required, hosted two public meetings (one workshop and one public hearing) held in Kettleman City, and extended the public comment period at the request of stakeholder input.

V. Proposed Permit Decision Schedule (HSC25200.25(a)(2))

The figure below indicates the estimated date for completion of the remaining phases of the permitting process. DTSC’s proposed schedule for issuing the final hazardous waste facilities permit decision for the KHF operating permit is **March 2025**.



Appendix B: Chevron Environmental Management Company

Operating Permit Decision Status Report for Chevron Environmental Management Company (CEMC)

I. Hazardous Waste Facility and Permit Background

- Chevron Environmental Management Company (CEMC), historically known as Chevron Chemical Company, is a permitted hazardous waste storage facility located in Richmond, California.
- The CalEnviroScreen 4.0 percentile score for the area CEMC is in is 71%. The linguistic isolation percentile score is 38%.
- CEMC has two units: the Integrated Wastewater Pond System (IWPS) and the Consolidation Area. The IWPS consists of a single surface impoundment that is subdivided into eight separate ponds. The IWPS does not manage any hazardous waste. It only manages nonhazardous stormwater runoff and treated and extracted groundwater. The Consolidation Area is a closed landfill in post-closure care.
- The renewal application being reviewed by DTSC is the third renewal request for the continued operations of the IWPS to receive nonhazardous wastewater under delayed closure. The renewal request also includes ongoing postclosure care of the Consolidation Area.
- In 1995, DTSC verified the closure of the Consolidation Area, which has since been in postclosure care. DTSC issued CEMC a delayed closure operating permit in 1999, which was renewed in 2010. CEMC submitted a Part B permit renewal application in 2020.
- CEMC has ongoing groundwater monitoring under the Regional Water Quality Control Board (RWQCB) Waste Discharge Requirements Order No. R2-2015-0030. USEPA has also indicated that further corrective action activities are needed for the contaminated soil underneath the IWPS ponds and the berms separating the ponds.
- Documents related to DTSC’s review of this facility are available at [CEMC EnviroStor](#).

II. Current Status of Work Completed (HSC 25200.25(a)(1))

- DTSC has completed the administrative review. The technical review phase is in progress.

The following table provides a summary of the permitting process work completed to date:

Phase	Event	Completed Date
Administrative Review Phase	Application Part A Received	01/29/2020
	Application Part B Received	01/29/2020

Appendix B: Chevron Environmental Management Company

	Administrative Review Approved	04/20/2020
Technical Review	1st NOD Issued	08/26/2020
	Community Survey Mailed Out	09/23/2020
	Response to 1st NOD Received	10/30/2020
	Community Profile Completed	11/30/2020
	Reiteration of 1 st NOD Issued	03/08/2021
	Response to Reiteration of 1 st Nod Received	10/29/2021
	2nd NOD Issued	01/07/2022
	Partial Response to 2nd NOD Received	02/28/2022
	Reiteration of 2 nd NOD Issued	08/09/2024

III. Actions and Information Needed (HSC 25200.25(a)(2))

The following actions and information are needed to complete the remaining phases of the permitting process:

- Technical Review Phase
 - Final application to be received with all deficiencies corrected
 - Disclosure statement to be deemed complete
 - CEQA document(s) to be prepared
 - Financial assurance for closure/postclosure/corrective action to be in place
 - Community survey to be mailed out
 - Community profile to be completed
 - Technical completeness letter to be issued
- Draft Permit Decision Phase
 - Draft permit decision and Statement of Basis documents to be issued for public review and comment
 - Public notice, community update, radio ad to be issued
 - Public meeting and hearing to be held, if needed
 - Public comment period
- Final Permit Decision Phase
 - Consideration of all public comments and associated revisions to documents based on comments received
 - Response to public comments document to be issued
 - Final permit decision document to be issued
 - CEQA documents to be filed
 - Notice of final permit decision to be issued

Appendix B: Chevron Environmental Management Company

IV. Reasons for Delay (HSC 25200.25(a))

- During the technical review phase, CEMC proposed an “administrative clean closure” approach using pre-RCRA impacts to the site as the baseline for assessment of contamination, rather than background or risk-based concentration levels. This approach would allow CEMC to close without conducting any closure activities. Since November 2020, CEMC has held five coordination meetings with DTSC to discuss their proposed administrative clean closure approach. Overall, the primary reason for delay is CEMC’s continued opposition to DTSC’s position that the facility needs to renew its operating permit. As of this date, the facility has accepted DTSC’s position that they need to renew their operating permit.
- As part of its proposed clean closure approach, CEMC presented data from 1987-1988 that show concentrations of arsenic is as high as 360 mg/kg in surface soils. The San Francisco Bay RWQCB established an upper bound for background arsenic in soils of 11 mg/kg (RWQCB, 2019). CEMC’s data is much higher than the established upper bound for background arsenic in soils and also does not demonstrate that CEMC did not contribute to the elevated levels of arsenic in the soil. As such, DTSC’s initial conclusion was that the facility cannot clean close.
- DTSC reviewed all data presented by CEMC and had many internal discussions, as well as discussions with USEPA Region 9 staff, to review CEMC’s proposed approach. Throughout this time, DTSC provided CEMC with feedback on their proposed clean closure approach and requested further data for review from CEMC. After an in-depth review, DTSC confirmed its prior position and determined that the proposed clean closure approach is not appropriate and not protective of human health and the environment. These discussions between DTSC and CEMC, within DTSC, and between DTSC and USEPA, which also included the question of the appropriate nature of the “delayed closure” raised by USEPA, have led to significant, unforeseen delays. However, the questions about delayed closure, clean closure, and handling of pre-RCRA activities, are relevant to many other sites and merit the careful consideration thus far provided.
- USEPA provided a written opinion to DTSC on these issues; their opinion includes recommending corrective action activities for the soils under the IWPS.
- DTSC is currently working with RWQCB to delineate corrective action oversight responsibility for the facility pursuant to SB 1082. DTSC is prepared to assume responsibility for corrective action oversight over the soils.

Appendix B: Chevron Environmental Management Company

V. Proposed Permit Decision Schedule (HSC 25200.25(a)(2))

DTSC's proposed schedule for issuing the final hazardous waste facility permit decision for the CEMC operating permit is April 2025.



Appendix C: Clean Harbors Buttonwillow, LLC.

Operating Permit Decision Status Report for Clean Harbors Buttonwillow, LLC. (CHB)

I. Hazardous Waste Facility and Permit Background

- Clean Harbors Buttonwillow (CHB) is an existing, permitted hazardous waste disposal facility approximately 6 miles west of Buttonwillow in Kern County. CHB was originally permitted in 1983, and then renewed the permit in 1996. CHB is currently operating under the 1996 permit which expired in 2006. However, the permit renewal application was administratively approved by DTSC on October 31, 2005, which allows the facility to operate on a continued status under the current permit.
- CHB is permitted to operate two hazardous waste landfills, one treatment facility, two storage tanks, 1 truck wash station, 1 drum handling area, and post-closure activities for two closed hazardous waste landfills.
- The CalEnviroScreen 4.0 percentile score for the Buttonwillow community is 96%, and the linguistic isolation percentile score is 83%. The CalEnviroScreen 4.0 percentile score at the facility location is 81% and the linguistic isolation percentile score is 58%.
- The application for a renewal permit proposes several changes to the operations, including the construction of 3 new treatment units to replace older processes.
- CHB is conducting minor corrective action under the direction of DTSC to remediate wastes within the active hazardous waste landfill that do not meet land disposal restrictions. The scheduled fieldwork has been completed and DTSC is waiting for CHB to submit the final report.
- Documents related to DTSC's review of this facility are available at [CHB EnviroStor](#).

II. Current Status of Work Completed (HSC 25200.25(a)(1))

- DTSC has completed the administrative review phase and is in the technical review phase. The most recent version of the application was received in 2022. DTSC is a Responsible Agency under CEQA for the permit renewal. Kern County is the Lead Agency and is preparing an Environmental Impact Report, anticipated to be finalized in September by the Kern County Board of Supervisors.
- The following table provides a summary of the permitting process work completed to date:

Appendix C: Clean Harbors Buttonwillow, LLC.

Phase	Event	Completed Date
Administrative Review Phase	Application Part A Received	10/01/2005
	Application Part B Received	10/01/2005
	Administrative Review Approved	10/31/2005
Technical Review	1st NOD Issued	01/19/2007
	Response to 1st NOD Received	Not Applicable
	2nd NOD Issued	10/04/2007
	Response to 2nd NOD Received	11/15/2013
	3rd NOD Issued	10/11/2018
	Response to 3rd NOD Received	12/31/2018
	4 th NOD issued	5/11/2018
	Response to 4th NOD Received	12/31/2018
	Final Application Received	05/04/2022
	Community Survey Mailed Out	09/13/2023

Independently from the permit renewal process, several activities carried out by DTSC occurred concurrently during the technical review phase. The following table provides a summary of the completed activities that impacted the permit decision schedule:

Other Actions and Processes	Completed Date
Developed Soil and Soil Gas monitoring programs	08/07/2019
Revamped Groundwater Monitoring Program	11/01/2019
Approved New Ambient Air Monitoring Program	10/19/2021
Construction of WMU-35 Cell 6	03/27/2020
Closure of WMU-35 Cell 4	10/08/2020
Denial of Variance Request	07/14/2022
Review of Human Health Risk Assessments	05/22/2023
Corrective Action Order issued	07/18/2023
Construction of WMU-35 Cell 7	04/09/2024

III. Actions and Information Needed (HSC 25200.25(a)(2))

The following actions and information are needed to complete the remaining phases of the permitting process:

- Technical Review Phase
 - DTSC plans to wait for Kern County’s certification of their EIR, as DTSC’s CEQA review must consider impacts identified in the EIR from construction of new municipal landfills. Kern County plans to bring the document before their Board of Supervisors in September 2024 for final approval. Once the EIR is certified,

Appendix C: Clean Harbors Buttonwillow, LLC.

- DTSC plans to evaluate whether it can be used for DTSC's permit decision and anticipates preparation of its own CEQA documents per CEQA guidelines.
- Public participation plan is being prepared.
- Technical completeness letter to be issued.
- Draft Permit Decision Phase
 - Draft decision documents to be issued
 - Public notice, community update, radio ad to be issued
 - Draft permit decision to be issued for public review and comment
 - Public meeting and hearing to be held
 - Public comment period
- Final Permit Decision Phase
 - Consideration of all public comments and possible revisions to draft decision based on comments received
 - Response to public comments document to be issued
 - Final permit decision document to be issued
 - Notice of final permit decision to be issued
 - Final permit decision to be issued
 - CEQA documents anticipated to be filed after consideration of Kern County's certified EIR.

IV. Reasons for Delay (HSC 25200.25(a))

- DTSC needs to consider impacts identified in the updated EIR being created by Kern County when making this permit decision. DTSC has coordinated with Kern County during the creation, review, and public comment period for the Draft EIR. The EIR is not planned to be finalized until after the presentation of the Draft EIR to the Kern County Board of Supervisors, which is currently scheduled for September 2024. Once the EIR is finalized, DTSC will then consider the EIR for use in our draft permit decision.
- During the technical review phase, the groundwater monitoring program was completely revamped to account for changing conditions.
- DTSC required an Ambient Air Monitoring Program to be established and implemented to comply with monitoring requirements.
- DTSC required annual Human Health Risk Assessments. Soil and soil gas monitoring programs were created.
- A land disposal restriction violation led to DTSC denying a variance request and issuing a corrective action order.
- Ongoing construction and closures of landfill cells are completed in approximately 3-year cycles.
- A new land disposal treatment verification program was created and placed in the Waste Analysis Plan.

Appendix C: Clean Harbors Buttonwillow, LLC.

- A new Environmental Impact Report is being developed to include additional activities since the environmental study was completed in 1994.
- Four Notice of Deficiency (NOD) documents were issued during the technical review phase, which means the permit application did not meet all the regulatory requirements after three previous iterations. A fourth NOD was allowed as the previous responses were not determined to be substantially incomplete or substantially unsatisfactory.

V. Proposed Permit Decision Schedule (HSC25200.25(a)(2))

The figure below indicates the estimated date for completion of the remaining phases of the permitting process. DTSC's proposed schedule for issuing the final hazardous waste facilities permit decision for the CHB operating permit is **June 2025**.



Appendix D: Ecobat Resources California, Inc.

Operating Permit Decision Status Report for Ecobat Resources California, Inc. (Ecobat)

I. Hazardous Waste Facility and Permit Background

- Ecobat Resources California, Inc. (Ecobat) is an existing, permitted hazardous waste storage and treatment facility located in the City of Industry.
- The CalEnviroScreen 4.0 percentile score is 90-95%. The linguistic isolation percentile score is 73%.
- The initial permit was issued in 2005 and was subsequently appealed by a member of the community. The appeal was resolved in 2007. This permit expired on September 15, 2015. Ecobat submitted its permit renewal application in 2015, which was approved for administrative completeness by DTSC on June 9, 2015. This allows the facility to operate on a continued status under the current permit until a decision is made on the permit application.
- Ecobat recovers lead primarily from spent lead-acid batteries. The batteries, primarily from the auto industry, are shipped to the Facility where the lead is separated from the other components, smelted, and then refined to meet customer specifications.
- DTSC requires Ecobat to conduct post-closure care activities through a post-closure permit for a closed surface impoundment and a former waste pile. Both were closed in 1995. DTSC included the post-closure permit with the operating permit in 2005.
- DTSC requires corrective action at the facility and has established a Corrective Action Consent Agreement (Agreement) with Ecobat. Under the Agreement, Ecobat has performed DTSC approved investigations of soil onsite and offsite. The corrective action work is ongoing.
- Documents related to DTSC's review of this facility are available at [Ecobat EnviroStor](#).

II. Completed Work (HSC 25200.25(a)(1))

- DTSC has completed the administrative review and technical review phases.
- DTSC has prepared an Addendum to the previous CEQA Environmental Impact Report.
- DTSC has prepared draft permits for Ecobat's operation and post-closure and is currently seeking input from the public. The public comment period began on July 16, 2024, and will end on November 18, 2024.
- The following table provides a summary of the permitting process work completed to date:

Appendix D: Ecobat Resources California, Inc.

Phase	Event	Completed Date
Administrative Review Phase	Application Part A Received	03/06/2015
	Application Part B Received	03/06/2015
	Administrative Review Notice of Deficiency (NOD)	04/07/2015
	Administrative Review Approved	06/09/2015
Technical Review	1st NOD Issued	03/03/2017
	Response to 1st NOD Received	06/28/2017
	2nd NOD Issued	03/23/2018
	Response to 2nd NOD Received	07/16/2018
	3rd NOD Issued	10/12/2020
	Response to 3rd NOD Received	11/30/2020
	Additional NOD	05/13/2021
	Response to Additional NOD Received	07/14/2021
	Additional NOD	10/19/2021
	Response to Additional NOD Received	11/12/2021
	Community Survey Mailed Out	11/16/2022
	CEQA Analysis EDA/Addendum	06/12/2024
	Final Application Received	05/29/2024
	Technical Complete Letter Issued	06/10/2024
Draft Permit Decision	Draft Decision Issued and Public Comment Begin	07/16/2024

Independently from the permit renewal process, several activities carried out by DTSC occurred concurrently during the technical review phase. The following table provides a summary of the activities that impacted the permit decision schedule:

Other Actions and Processes	Completed Date
Submittal of Perimeter Area Soil Investigation Report	07/2017
Completed Class 1 Permit Modification for Changes to HW Plastic Packaging and Loading Procedures	10/5/2018
Filed Complaint for Civil Penalties and Injunctive Relief	10/31/2018
Completed Class 1* Permit Modification for Modifications to Treatment of HW Plastic	01/09/2019
Completed Class 1 Permit Modification to Modify HW Plastic Washing Process	09/23/2019
Completed Temporary Authorization for Dewatering Equipment	04/09/2021
Submittal of Transect Sampling Report	05/03/2021
DTSC SMRP Acceptance of Current Conditions Report	08/31/2021
Completed Class 2 Permit Modification of Dewatering Equipment	02/23/2022

Appendix D: Ecobat Resources California, Inc.

Submittal of Final Aerially Deposited Metals Sampling Work Plan	06/04/2022
Completed Second Temporary Authorization for Dewatering Equipment	07/22/2022
Filed Support of Motion for Entry of Final Judgment and Permanent Injunction	01/05/2023
DTSC SMRP Approval of Cost Estimate for Corrective Action	11/16/2023

III. Actions and Information Needed (HSC 25200.25(a)(2))

The following actions and information are needed to complete the remaining phases of the permitting process:

- Draft Permit Decision Phase
 - Public Meeting and Hearing to be held
 - Public Comment Period ends on November 18, 2024
- Final Permit Decision Phase
 - Consideration of all public comments and associated revisions to draft permit decision based on comments received
 - Response to Comments document to be issued
 - Final Permit Decision document to be issued
 - CEQA documents are prepared to be filed
 - Notice of Final Permit Decision to be issued
 - Final Permit Decision to be issued

IV. Reasons for Delay (HSC 25200.25(a))

- The permit renewal decision for Ecobat is technically two permit decisions (Operation and Post-Closure). Previously, in 2005, Ecobat was issued a combination operation and post-closure permit.
- Complex and lengthy permit application review.
 - Ecobat is a large treatment and storage facility that has 52 proposed hazardous waste management units (HWMU's) including a containment building. The number of proposed units and the information required to authorize a containment building are not typical for most other permitted facilities in the state. This increased the amount and complexity of regulatory analysis.
 - Ecobat's operations are regulated by both federal and California HW requirements. Most, but not all of Ecobat's hazardous waste operations require a HW permit only in California. The facility is also subject to the Clean Air Act (CAA) and regulated by South Coast Air Quality Management District. HW and CAA requirements can sometimes intertwine and requires some understanding of the CAA requirements to

Appendix D: Ecobat Resources California, Inc.

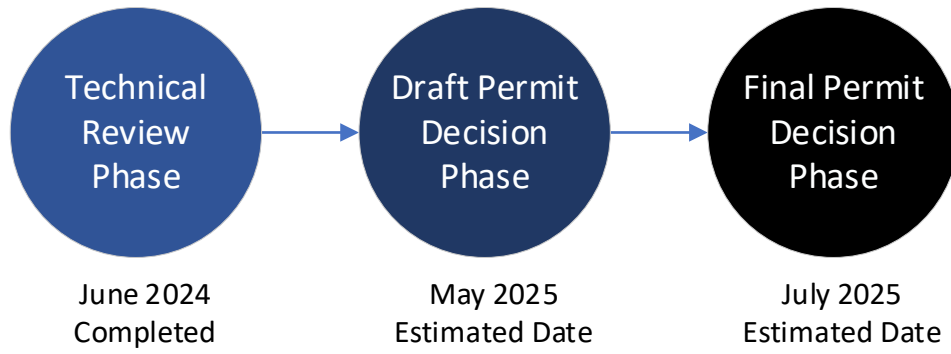
demonstrate that the facility can operate the HWMU's in a protective manner. For example, DTSC regulates some HWMU's as miscellaneous units that require performance-based demonstrations to show that they will be protective of human health and the environment. An element of such a demonstration is the applicability of regulations and authorizations from other oversight agencies to the operation of the unit.

- The application included many deficiencies that resulted in multiple notices of deficiencies (NOD). The facility also requested and was granted extensions totaling several months to address many of the NODs. Some deficiencies were discovered through enforcement actions. For example, from an inspection DTSC identified the containment building leak detection system was not functioning properly. This resulted in DTSC requiring Ecobat to provide a reconfigured floor and leak detection system design in the permit application.
- DTSC required a groundwater monitoring program for post-closure to be designed, installed, and operated in order to complete an acceptable plan for monitoring groundwater. Once Ecobat provided a proposal DTSC found acceptable, DTSC required approximately 15 new groundwater monitoring wells to be installed and operational for a year so an accurate background data set could be established.
- DTSC required a soil pore gas study containing data obtained from the summer and winter seasons to be completed.
- DTSC's Site Mitigation and Restoration Program has been overseeing soil investigations onsite and offsite, reviewing required cost estimates, and reviewing an ongoing perimeter soil monitoring plan that the Permitting Division considered as part of the review of the permit application.
- In 2023, DTSC extended the permit review timeline to hold opportunities for earlier public engagement before release of the draft permit decision. DTSC held two pre-draft decision public meetings in July and November, 2023. The purpose of this was to proactively address public concerns in the draft permit decision.

V. Proposed Permit Decision Schedule (HSC25200.25(a)(2))

The figure below indicates the estimated date for completion of the remaining phases of the permitting process. DTSC's proposed schedule for issuing the final hazardous waste facilities permit decision for the Ecobat operating permit is **July 2025**.

Appendix D: Ecobat Resources California, Inc.



Appendix E: Phibro-Tech, Inc.

Operating Permit Decision Status Report for Phibro-Tech, Inc. (PTI)

I. Hazardous Waste Facility and Permit Background

- The PTI facility (the Facility) is an existing, permitted hazardous waste management facility located at 8851 Dice Road, Santa Fe Springs, Los Angeles County, California 90670, about 10 miles southeast of Downtown Los Angeles. The Facility operates on 4.8 acres within an industrial-zoned land use area (M-2 Heavy Manufacturing). The facility is owned by Phibro-Tech, Inc., based in Teaneck, New Jersey.
- The CalEnviroScreen 4.0 percentile score is 93%. The linguistic isolation percentile score is 94%.
- The Facility is an inorganic chemical manufacturing facility that also conducts treatment/recycling and transfer of inorganic hazardous wastes (mostly from the electronics and aerospace industries). PTI receives inorganic hazardous wastes from off-site generators and treats the wastes at the Facility by reclaiming metals and inorganic chemicals, which PTI then sells to customers. Also, PTI produces etchants from non-waste (virgin) materials in a separate portion of the Facility.
- The original RCRA permit for the facility was issued in 1991. The permit renewal application has been pending since 1996. A draft permit was issued for public review in 2010. The 2010 draft permit was withdrawn due to concerns regarding missing/new information, several enforcement issues, and pending changes proposed by the permittee to the permit application. DTSC directed PTI to submit a new revised permit application. PTI submitted a new permit renewal application in 2014. On August 19, 2022, DTSC proposed a new draft permit decision.
- Also in progress is the closure of an existing interim status surface impoundment (a surface impoundment is a natural or topographic depression, man-made excavation or diked area which is designed to hold an accumulation of liquid wastes, with or without liners), where historic onsite operations (i.e. 1950-70s) contaminated the subsurface with arsenic, cadmium, chromium, hexavalent chromium, copper, iron, lead and nickel, commonly known as Pond 1.
- DTSC initiated corrective action activities in 1995 and are ongoing.
- DTSC is proposing the issuance of a five-year permit for PTI. The proposed permit is stronger and more enforceable than its current operating permit from 1991.
- Documents related to this facility and the pending permitting decision are available at [PTI EnviroStor](#).

Appendix E: Phibro-Tech, Inc.

II. Completed Work (HSC 25200.25(a)(1))

- Permit modification for implementation of corrective action was signed in 1995.
- Pond 1 closure implementation has been pending since mid-1980s.
- DHS approved a Closure Plan for Pond 1 in 1988, DTSC approved a revised Closure Plan in June 2016, as a DTSC initiated permit modification. An independent DTSC Appeals Officer denied PTI's appeal of DTSC's permit mod approval decision September 20, 2017. Accordingly, the revised Pond 1 Closure Plan became effective on September 20, 2017.
- A permit modification to relocate and replace a wastewater treatment system was approved in 2017 and implemented in 2019.
- A permit modification to resolve an enforcement action (inclusion of Tank C-40 in the permit) was approved in 2019.
- PTI submitted a Pond 1 Closure Report in 2020 and revised it after additional closure activities in 2023. The closure activities reduced the hexavalent chromium levels in the soil to a large extent, but some arsenic and hexavalent chromium contamination (over above the closure performance objectives) remains in the soil and groundwater. If PTI fails to demonstrate that the closure performance objectives are met, a post-closure permit application will be required.
- Enforcement issues/penalties for 2011-2015 were settled on January 31, 2019. The permitting decision has been delayed due to the time needed to resolve the outstanding enforcement issues and revise the permit application accordingly.
- DTSC has completed the administrative review, technical review, and draft permit phases. On August 19, 2022, a draft permit was issued for public review and comment. The public comment period ended on July 15, 2023. Public comments are in review.

The following table provides a summary of the permitting process work completed to date:

Phase	Event	Completed Date
Administrative Review Phase	Application Part A Received	09/16/2014
	Application Part B Received	09/16/2014
Technical Review	1st NOD Issued	06/23/2015
	Response to 1st NOD Received	10/08/2015
	2nd NOD Issued	12/31/2020
	Response to 2nd NOD Received	05/28/2021
	Draft CEQA Addendum to Neg Dec	03/09/2022
	Community Survey Mailed Out	01/04/2021
	Community Profile	11/24/2021
	Final CEQA Addendum to Neg Dec	Pending
	Final Application Received	08/17/2022
	Technical Complete Letter Issued	08/23/2022

Appendix E: Phibro-Tech, Inc.

Draft Permit Decision	Draft Decision Issued and First Public Comment/Review Begin	08/19/2022
	First Public Meeting and Hearing	9/28/2022
	First Public Comment Period Extended #1	10/19/2022
	First Public Comment Period Extended #2	11/21/2022
	Additional Repository of Documents & Public Review Opened	06/06/2023
	Additional Public Meeting/Hearing	7/12/2023
	Additional Public Comment Period End	07/25/2023

Independently from the permit renewal process, several activities carried out by DTSC occurred concurrently during the administrative, technical review, and draft permit phases. The following table provides a summary of the activities that impacted the permit decision schedule:

Other Actions and Processes	Completed Date
Human Health Risk Assessment for Current Ops Completed	1/15/2015
Human Health Risk Assessment for Historic Releases Completed	2/6/2015
CEQA Draft Addendum to previous CEQA Negative Declaration for an Interim Measure Workplan, two Permit Mods, Revised Corrective Measures Study, and Permit Renewal prepared	12/14/2015
Class 2 Permit Mod Request for Revised Pond 1 Closure Plan submitted	12/15/2015
Class 2 Permit Mod Request for Wastewater Treatment System Relocation submitted	12/18/2015
DTSC Approval of the Pond 1 Closure Plan (Appealed)	6/7/2016
PTI Appeal of the Pond 1 Closure Plan Approval Decision	7/8/2016
DTSC Approval of Wastewater Treatment System Permit Mod	2/17/2017
DTSC Approval of Pond 1 Closure Plan (Appeal denied)	9/20/2017
Temporary Authorization Request for Tank C-40 Received	12/18/2017
Class 2 Permit Mod Request for Tank C-40 Received	7/2/2018
DTSC Approval of Class 2 Permit Mod for Tank C-40	3/28/2019
Temporary Authorization Request for Reuse of Tanks W-3, W-4	3/5/2019
Temporary Authorization Request for Reuse of Tanks W-3, W-4 denied	3/26/2019
Draft Corrective Action Statement of Basis for Public Review	8/19/2022
Corrective Action Status Update for Public Review	8/19/2022

III. Actions and Information Needed (HSC 25200.25(a)(2))

The following actions and information are needed to complete the remaining phases of the permitting process:

Final Permit Decision Phase

Appendix E: Phibro-Tech, Inc.

- Consideration of all public comments and any applicable revisions to the permit or permit decision
- Response to Public Comments document to be issued
- Final Permit Decision document to be issued
- Notice of Final Permit Decision to be issued
- Final CEQA documents to be issued
- Notice of Determination to be filed with the State Clearing House

IV. Reasons for Delay (HSC 25200.25(a))

- Since 2014, DTSC undertook thorough internal and external reviews of the Permitting program and implemented extensive program reforms described in the DTSC Permitting Enhancement Workplan. Numerous process improvement items were implemented in Permitting and incorporated into the review of the PTI permit application and preparation of the draft permit.
- DTSC implemented further program reforms as required by HSC 25200.23, including increased public participation and outreach activities which led to extending the public comment period twice to a total of about 117 days, and reopening the public comment period for an additional approximately 50 days.
- Review of the public comments on the draft permit decision and preparation of the Response to Comments document.
- DTSC has increased its outreach to the community and stakeholders and has held numerous meetings, calls, and other outreach activities.
- Enforcement issues (from 2019 until now) regarding regulatory violations for non-compliance with Pond 1 closure plan implementation requirements/regulations required Permitting to redirect resources.
- Investigation and evaluation of the nitric acid vapor release from the facility on May 23, 2024, as well as six other similar incidents during the past 9 years and consideration of whether the permit should include additional conditions to reduce the potential of similar incidents in the future.

V. Proposed Permit Decision Schedule (HSC25200.25(a)(2))

The figure below indicates the estimated date for completion of the remaining phases of the permitting process. DTSC's proposed schedule for issuing the final hazardous waste facilities permit decision for the PTI operating permit is **Q4 2024**.

Appendix E: Phibro-Tech, Inc.



Appendix F: Rho-Chem, LLC

Operating Permit Decision Status Report for Rho-Chem, LLC (Rho-Chem)

I. Hazardous Waste Facility and Permit Background

- Rho-Chem is an existing, permitted hazardous waste storage and treatment facility located in Inglewood. The facility is located in an urban, industrial and commercial area, approximately one mile from the Los Angeles International Airport.
- The CalEnviroScreen percentile score is 95-100%. The linguistic isolation percentile score is 39%.
- At this facility, solid and liquid wastes are consolidated (repackaged), solidified, bulked (treated via mixing/blending), and then shipped off-site for final treatment, recycling, or disposal. Bulked liquid wastes are stored in aboveground storage tanks and then shipped to energy recovery facilities as fuel and to solvent recycling facilities. Permitted treatment activities also include drum crushing and solvent recycling; however, solvent recycling ceased in 2016 when Rho-Chem removed most of the aboveground tanks and equipment associated with those operations.
- The facility's operating permit was originally issued December 30, 1983, and renewed on September 28, 1990, and August 28, 2008. The 2008 permit expired on August 27, 2018. However, the permit renewal application was administratively approved by DTSC on June 15, 2018, which allows the facility to operate on a continued status under the current permit. The 2008 permit has had two permit modifications since 2018 to ensure that it remains current and enforceable while the permit renewal application is in review.
- The pending permit decision is Rho-Chem's third permit renewal for continued storage and treatment operations at the facility. The renewal proposes converting the former solvent recycling units to container storage units (solvent recycling is no longer included as a treatment activity), adding a storage unit for roll-off bins, and using the adjacent transfer facility property for loading/unloading operations at the existing loading bays and for the staging of containers.
- Corrective action is ongoing to address past releases that resulted in soil and groundwater contamination at the facility. DTSC provides oversight of the cleanup and investigation activities under a Corrective Action Consent Agreement with Rho-Chem and the prior facility owner/operator.
- Documents related to DTSC's review of this facility are available at [Rho-Chem EnviroStor](#).

Appendix F: Rho-Chem, LLC

II. Current Status of Work Completed (HSC 25200.25(a)(1))

- DTSC has completed the administrative review. The technical review phase is in progress.

The following table provides a summary of the permitting process work completed to date:

Phase	Event	Completed Date
Administrative Review Phase	Application Part A Received	2/28/2018
	Application Part B Received	2/28/2018
	Administrative Review Approved	6/15/2018
Technical Review Phase	1st Notice of Deficiency (NOD) Issued	5/10/2019
	Community Survey Mailed Out	6/10/2019
	Response to 1st NOD Received	8/30/2019
	Revised Application Received	9/15/2023
	2nd NOD Issued	9/29/2023
	Response to 2nd NOD Received	3/15/2024
	3rd NOD Issued	3/29/2024
	Response to 3rd NOD Received	5/17/2024

Independently from the permit renewal process, the Violations Scoring Procedure (VSP) “unacceptable” compliance tier challenge processes carried out by DTSC occurred concurrently during the technical review phase.¹ Resolution of the tier challenge processes for years 2019 through 2022 was required to determine the course of the pending permit decision. Pursuant to Cal. Code Regs., tit. 22, § 66271.57(a)(1), if at the conclusion of the tier challenge process DTSC upholds the “unacceptable” compliance tier assignment, DTSC must initiate a process to deny, suspend, or revoke the facility’s permit. The tier challenge processes concluded in 2023 when all the compliance tier assignments were amended to “conditionally acceptable.” The requirement for DTSC to initiate the process to deny, suspend, or revoke the facility’s permit was no longer applicable as of March 4, 2023 and DTSC resumed the technical review phase activities of the permitting process.

The following table provides a timeline summary of the completed VSP “unacceptable” compliance tier challenge activities that impacted the permit decision schedule:

VSP “Unacceptable” Compliance Tier Challenge Activities	Completed Date
2019 “Unacceptable” Tier Assignment Issued by DTSC	9/27/2019
2019 Dispute Process Initiated by Rho-Chem	12/4/2019
2019 Tier Reassigned to “Conditionally Acceptable” due to Score Dispute Decision	4/27/2021

¹ The VSP regulations went into effect in January 2019.

Appendix F: Rho-Chem, LLC

VSP "Unacceptable" Compliance Tier Challenge Activities	Completed Date
2020 Tier Challenge Initiated by Rho-Chem	6/30/2021
2020 Tier Challenge Public Meeting Noticed and Meeting Held	11/17/2021
2020 Tier Decision Upheld by DTSC	9/2/2022
Rho-Chem Petition Against the 2020 Tier Decision Filed	10/3/2022
2021 and 2022 Combined Tier Challenge Initiated by Rho-Chem	12/23/2022
2020-2022 Tiers Reassigned to "Conditionally Acceptable" due to Amended Facility VSP Scores (rescinded violations)	4/4/2023
2021-2022 Tier Challenge Public Meeting Cancellation Circulated	5/26/2023
Rho-Chem Request to Dismiss Petition Filed	9/25/2023

III. Actions and Information Needed (HSC 25200.25(a)(2))

The following actions and information are needed to complete the remaining phases of the permitting process:

- Technical Review Phase
 - Final application to be received with all deficiencies corrected
 - Disclosure statement to be deemed complete
 - CEQA document(s) to be prepared
 - Financial assurance for closure to be in place
 - Community profile to be completed
 - Technical completeness letter to be issued
- Draft Permit Decision Phase
 - Draft permit decision and Statement of Basis documents to be issued for public review and comment
 - Public notice, community update, radio ad to be issued
 - Public Meeting and Hearing to be held, if applicable
 - Public Comment Period
- Final Permit Decision Phase
 - Consideration of all public comments and possible revisions to draft decision based on comments received
 - Response to Public Comments document to be issued
 - Final Permit Decision document to be issued
 - CEQA documents anticipated to be filed
 - Notice of Final Permit Decision to be issued
 - Final Permit Decision to be issued

Appendix F: Rho-Chem, LLC

IV. Reasons for Delay (HSC 25200.25(a))

- The technical review phase was delayed approximately 3.5 years, from approximately October 2019 to June 2023, when the VSP tier challenge processes and final compliance tier assignments reached resolution.
- The technical review phase was also delayed from approximately December 2023 to March 2024 due to Rho-Chem's incomplete 2nd NOD responses to DTSC after two extension requests.

V. Proposed Permit Decision Schedule (HSC 25200.25(a)(2))

The figure below indicates the estimated date for completion of the remaining phases of the permitting process. DTSC's proposed schedule for issuing the final hazardous waste facility permit decision for the Rho-Chem operating permit is **March 2025**.



Appendix G: Veolia ES Technical Solutions LLC Azusa

Operating Permit Decision Status Report for Veolia ES Technical Solutions LLC Azusa (Veolia)

I. Hazardous Waste Facility and Permit Background

- Veolia is an existing, permitted hazardous waste treatment and storage facility located in the city of Azusa in the county of Los Angeles.
- The CalEnviroScreen 4.0 percentile score is 95-100%. The linguistic isolation percentile score is 63%.
- Veolia, formerly known as the Oil and Solvent Process Company obtained a Hazardous Waste Facility Permit in August 1983, which was subsequently renewed in November 1989. In 2011, DTSC issued a renewed Permit with an expiration date of March 31, 2021. However, the permit renewal application was administratively approved by DTSC on December 30, 2020, which allows the facility to operate on a continued status under the current permit.
- Activities authorized by Veolia’s permit include treatment and storage of hazardous waste in containers and tanks, treatment of hazardous waste in miscellaneous units, loading/unloading of hazardous wastes, and management of universal wastes.
- Documents related to DTSC’s review of this facility are available at [Veolia EnviroStor](#).

II. Current Status of Work Completed (HSC 25200.25(a)(1))

- DTSC has completed the administrative review phase and is now in the technical review phase. DTSC has issued four Notices of Deficiency (NODs) to Veolia.
- DTSC received all sections of the revised Permit Application on June 3, 2024, with the exception of Section D which was submitted on June 6, 2024.

The following table provides a summary of the permitting process work completed to date:

Phase	Event	Completed Date
Administrative Review Phase	Application Part A Received	11/30/2020
	Application Part B Received	11/30/2022
	Administrative Review Approved	12/30/2020
Technical Review Phase	Community Survey Mailed Out	05/20/2021
	Community Profile	05/20/2021
	1st NOD Issued	08/06/2021
	Response to 1st NOD Received	01/10/2022
	2nd NOD Issued	03/23/2022
	Response to 2nd NOD Received	08/22/2022

Appendix G: Veolia ES Technical Solutions LLC Azusa

Revised Response to 2 nd NOD Received (reduced scope)	10/16/2023
3rd NOD Issued	11/27/2023
Response to 3rd NOD Received	02/26/2024
4 th NOD Issued	04/17/2024
Response to 4 th NOD Received	06/03/2024
CEQA Analysis	04/15/2024
Community Survey Mailed Out	05/20/2021
Community Profile Completed	05/31/2021

III. Actions and Information Needed (HSC 25200.25(a)(2))

The following actions and information are needed to complete the remaining phases of the permitting process:

- Technical Review Phase
 - Final application to be received with all deficiencies corrected
 - Disclosure statement to be deemed complete
 - CEQA document(s) to be prepared
 - Technical Complete Letter to be issued
- Draft Permit Decision Phase
 - Draft permit decision and statement of basis documents to be issued
 - Public notice, community update, radio ad to be issued
 - Draft permit decision to be issued
 - Public meeting and hearing to be held
 - Public comment period
- Final Permit Decision Phase
 - Consideration of all public comments and associated revision of documents
 - Response to Public Comments document to be issued
 - Final Permit Decision document to be issued
 - CEQA documents to be filed
 - Financial assurance for closure to be in place
 - Notice of final permit decision to be issued
 - Final permit decision to be issued

IV. Reasons for Delay (HSC 25200.25(a))

- The technical review phase was delayed due to the applicant changing the scope of the proposed operations in every revised permit renewal application submittal. For example, Veolia initially proposed to add a new Boiler and Industrial Furnace (BIF) unit and increase container and tank storage capacity by 36% and 76% respectively. Since its initial proposal, Veolia changed its proposal multiple times.

Appendix G: Veolia ES Technical Solutions LLC Azusa

The revised proposal increased the container and tank capacities to 54% and 190%, respectively. These changes impeded the technical review.

- Around November 2023, Veolia hired with TRC Environmental resulting in significant improvements in the revisions to the permit application submittals. However, prior to that DTSC issued four Notices of Deficiency (NOD) documents to Veolia's permit application for inadequate responses. The subsequent revised permit applications after each NOD were also incomplete and inconsistent, causing severe delays in the technical review phase.

V. Proposed Permit Decision Schedule (HSC25200.25(a)(2))

The figure below indicates the estimated date for completion of the remaining phases of the permitting process. DTSC's proposed schedule for issuing the final hazardous waste facilities permit decision for Veolia's operating permit is **May 2025**.

