

## Updated 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 8 miles west of Buttonwillow in Kern County. CHB was originally permitted in 1983 and then DTSC 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 conducted 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 corrective action was completed in October 2024.
- 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 technical review phase and held a 90-day comment period to propose a draft permit. DTSC held two public meetings during the comment period. DTSC received eight public comments and is planning to issue a response to comments with the final decision.
- The following table provides a summary of the permitting process work completed to date:

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Phase	Event	Completed Date
Administrative Review Phase	Application Part A Received	10/01/2005
	Application Part B Received	10/01/2005
Technical Review	Administrative Review Approved	10/31/2005
	1st NOD Issued	01/19/2007
	Response to 1st NOD Received	N/A
	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 <sup>th</sup> 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
Draft Permit Decision	Draft Decision Issued and Public Comment Begin	07/17/2025
	Public Meeting	8/20/2025
	Public Hearing	9/10/2025
	Public Comment (End)	10/15/2025

- 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
Implemented Soil and Soil Gas Monitoring	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 Assessment	05/22/2023
Corrective Action Order Issued	07/18/2023
Construction of WMU 35 Cell 7	04/09/2024
Closure of WMU 35 Cell 5	02/11/2026

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### 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 (*estimated time to complete 1 month*)
  - o Consideration of all public comments and possible revisions to draft decision based on comments received
  - o Response to public comments document to be issued
  - o Final permit decision document to be issued
  - o Notice of final permit decision to be issued
  - o Final permit decision to be issued
  - o CEQA documents anticipated to be filed after consideration of Kern County's certified EIR.

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

- DTSC is thoroughly considering each comment and responding to them individually while preparing documentation for the final decision. Additional time is needed to finalize the documentation internally.

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

DTSC's proposed schedule for issuing the final hazardous waste facilities permit decision for the CHB operating permit is **May 15, 2026**.

Pursuant to HSC 25200.27(b), BES shall accept or modify the above proposed permit decision schedule.