

REA/Marc Baswell



Department of Toxic Substances Control

Edwin F. Lowry, Director
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California Environmental
Protection Agency

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December 13, 2002

Mr. Mike Leonardo
District Director
California Department of Transportation, District 6
1352 West Olive Avenue
Fresno, California 93728

CALTRANS LEAD CONTAMINATED SOIL VARIANCE MODIFICATION, DISTRICT 6.

Dear Mr. Leonardo:

This letter concerns the lead contaminated soil variance the Department of Toxic Substances Control (DTSC) issued to Caltrans, District 6 (the District) on September 22, 2000. The variance governs the District's management of soil that contains aerially deposited lead. DTSC has conducted a new risk assessment in the course of processing another variance application from Caltrans. The new risk assessment shows the total lead levels specified in the District's current variance are somewhat higher than the new recommended levels. Therefore, conditions 9.a.1 and 2 in the District's variance have been modified to incorporate the new recommended lead levels and provide more clarity. Specifically, the following paragraphs shall replace the existing sections in the variances:

- 9.a.1. Lead contaminated soil containing 500 ug/l extractible lead or less (based on a modified waste extraction test using deionized water as the extractant) and 1411 mg/kg or less total lead may be used as fill provided that this soil is placed a minimum of five (5) feet above the maximum water table elevation and covered with at least one (1) foot of nonhazardous soil.
- 9.a.2. Lead contaminated soil containing ~~more than 500 ug/l~~ and less than 50 mg/l extractible lead (based on a modified waste extraction test using deionized water as the extractant) and ~~more than 1411 mg/kg total lead~~ but less than 3397 mg/kg total lead may be used as fill provided that this soil is placed a minimum of five (5) feet above the maximum water table elevation and protected from infiltration by a pavement structure which will be maintained by Caltrans.

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c: JML

The energy challenge facing California is real. Every Californian needs to take immediate action to reduce energy consumption. For a list of simple ways you can reduce demand and cut your energy costs, see our Web-site at www.dtsc.ca.gov.

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Effective upon receipt of this modification language, all new projects conducted pursuant to the District's variance shall be required to use the modified lead levels specified above. This letter will formally modify the variance issued to the District and shall be attached as addendum to the existing variance.

If you have any questions or comments, please contact Mr. Michael Choe of my staff at (916) 322-5308.

Sincerely,



Frederick S. Moss, Chief
Permitting Division
Hazardous Waste Management Program

cc: Ms. Marge Rouch, Chief
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