Department of Toxic Substances Control

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Secretary for
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Katherine M. Butler, MPH, Director
8800 Cal Center Drive
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Gavin Newsom
Governor

CALIFORNIA ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY ACT

NOTICE OF EXEMPTION

To: Office of Land Use and Climate Innovation (LCI)
State Clearinghouse
P.O. Box 3044, 1400 Tenth Street, Room 212
Sacramento, California 95812-3044

From: Department of Toxic Substances Control
Permitting Division
8800 Cal Center Drive
Sacramento, California 95826

Project Title: Emergency Permit for Management of Hazardous Waste, J. Craig Venter Institute, La Jolla, California

Project Location: 4120 Capricorn Lane, La Jolla, California 92037

County: San Diego

Project Applicant: Jeff Hoffman, Lab Operations Manager in La Jolla

Approval Action Under Consideration by DTSC: Emergency Permit

Statutory Authority: California Health and Safety Code, Chapter 6.5

Project Description: The California Department of Toxic Substances Control (DTSC), pursuant to authority granted under California Code of Regulations (CCR), Title 22, Division 4.5, Chapter 20, Sec. 66270.61, has issued an Emergency Permit to J. Craig Venter Institute (EPA ID# CAL000389131) to treat hazardous waste through a controlled reaction with a chemical solution. Specifically, one (1) 50-gram container of Ethanol/Water and Silver Azide be stabilized prior to transport to an authorized hazardous waste treatment, storage, and disposal facility.

This chemical is currently being stored at J. Craig Venter Institute located at 4120 Capricorn Lane, La Jolla, California 92037. DTSC has determined as a safety precaution to prevent an accident or severe injury, an Emergency Permit should be issued to chemically stabilize the hazardous waste prior to storage and eventual transportation off-site.

Background: Shock and/or temperature sensitive materials can decompose or detonate with external energy when dry or concentrated. If the material is improperly handled, there is a potential

for a reaction, which includes fire, deflagration, or detonation. Due to the presence of shock sensitive materials, DTSC considers this chemical to be an imminent and substantial endangerment to human health and the environment. Chemical stabilization is recommended prior to transport to a permitted treatment, storage, and disposal facility.

Project Activities: The treatment of this hazardous waste involves the addition of a solution to the container in a controlled manner to reduce the reactive or ignitable characteristics of the chemical. Treatment will take place within a designated exclusion zone. Only technicians from Clean Harbors will be allowed in the exclusion zone. Movement, preparation, and treatment of the container will be in accordance with established standards.

Within 10 business days of the expiration of this permit, J. Craig Venter Institute will submit a final report, signed in accordance with Title 22, CCR Sec. 66270.11(d). The report shall include certification that the treatment area has been cleared of all residual hazardous waste generated from this emergency treatment and all generated waste has been properly managed. The Emergency Permit is effective beginning November 26, 2025 and shall expire on January 26, 2026.

Name of Public Agency Approving Project: Department of Toxic Substances Control

Name of Person or Agency Carrying Out Project: Clean Harbors Environmental Services

Exempt Status: Emergency Project Public Resources Code (PRC), Sec. 21080(b)(4); 14 CCR, Sec.15269(b)(c)

Reasons Why Project is Exempt: This action is necessary to prevent an emergency. Chemical stabilization of this chemical is necessary prior to transportation to an authorized hazardous waste treatment, storage, and disposal facility to prevent accidental fire and/or explosion during transport.

The administrative record for this project is available to the public by appointment at the following location:

Department of Toxic Substances Control
Permitting Division
File Room
8800 Cal Center Drive
Sacramento, CA 95826

State of California – California Environmental Protection Agency
Department of Toxic Substances Control

Approver's Name	Approver's Title	Approver's Phone Number
Michelle Snapp	Hazardous Substances Engineer	(916) 255-3647

Approver's Signature: Date:

Michelle Snapp November 17, 2025

TO BE COMPLETED BY LCI ONLY

Date Received for Filing and Posting at LCI: