Department of Toxic Substances Control

Yana Garcia
Secretary for
Environmental Protection

Katherine M. Butler, MPH, Director
8800 Cal Center Drive
Sacramento, California 95826-3200
https://dtsc.ca.gov/

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, Monterey Bay Aquarium Research Institute, Moss Landing, California

Project Location: 7700 Sandholdt Road, Moss Landing, CA 95039

County: Monterey

Project Applicant: Tara Vadas - EH&S Coordinator

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 the Monterey Bay Aquarium Research Institute (MBARI), (EPA ID# CAD982401283) to treat hazardous waste through a controlled reaction with chemical solutions. Specifically, one (1) 1-liter container of Diethyl ether, one (1) 500 mL container of Collodion solution 4-8% ethanol/diethyl ether, one (1) 2.5-liter container of tert-butyl methyl, one (1) 1-liter bottle of Tetrahydrofuran must be stabilized prior to transporting off-site to an authorized hazardous waste treatment, storage, and disposal facility.
These chemicals are currently being stored at MBARI located at 7700 Sandholdt Road, Moss Landing, CA 95039. DTSC has determined, as a safety precaution to prevent an accident or severe injury, an Emergency Permit should be issued for treatment of chemicals to chemically stabilize the hazardous waste prior to storage and eventual transportation off-site by Veolia.

Background: The containers have peroxide formation present on either the inside, outside, or the bottom of the chemicals' containers, as well as the thread container caps. The presence of peroxide formation may be unstable at relatively low concentrations, resulting in fire and/or explosion if improperly handled. Due to the presence of peroxide formation, DTSC considers these chemicals 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 these hazardous wastes involves the addition of solutions to the containers in a controlled manner to reduce the reactive or ignitable characteristics of the chemicals. Treatment will take place within a designated exclusion zone. Only technicians from Veolia will be allowed in the exclusion zone. Movement, preparation, and treatment of the containers will be in accordance with established standards.

Within 10 business days of the expiration of this permit, MBARI 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 22, 2025 and shall expire on January 22, 2026.

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

Name of Person or Agency Carrying Out Project: Veolia

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 the chemicals 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:

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

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

Approver's Name	Approver's Title	Approver's Phone Number
Hai-Yong Kang	Hazardous Substances Engineer	(916) 255-6522

Approver's Signature: Date:

Hai-Yong Kang November 20, 2025

TO BE COMPLETED BY LCI ONLY

Date Received for Filing and Posting at