



**Yana Garcia**  
Secretary for  
Environmental Protection



**Department of Toxic Substances Control**

Katherine M. Butler, MPH, Director  
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[dtsc.ca.gov](http://dtsc.ca.gov)



**Gavin Newsom**  
Governor

**SENT VIA ELECTRONIC MAIL**

February 10, 2026

Veronica Martinez  
Associate Planner  
City of Bakersfield  
1715 Chester Avenue  
Bakersfield, CA 93301  
[vmartinez@bakersfieldcity.us](mailto:vmartinez@bakersfieldcity.us)

RE: MITIGATED NEGATIVE DECLARATION FOR THE VESTING TENTATIVE TRACT  
MAP 7451 (PHASED) DATED FEBRUARY 6, 2026, STATE CLEARINGHOUSE  
NUMBER [2026020227](#)

Dear Veronica Martinez,

The Department of Toxic Substances Control (DTSC) reviewed the Mitigated Negative Declaration (MND) for the Vesting Tentative Tract Map 7451 (Phased). McIntosh & Associates, representing Diamond Farming Company (Owner), is proposing a vesting tentative tract map for 313 residential lots, 1 multi-use trail lot, and a parking lot on 40.77 acres. DTSC recommends and requests consideration of the following comments:

1. When agricultural crops and/or land uses are proposed or rezoned for residential use, several contaminants of concern (COCs) can be present. The Lead Agency shall identify the amounts of Pesticides and Organochlorine Pesticides (OCPs) historically used on the property. If present, OCPs requiring further analysis are dichloro-diphenyl-trichloroethane, toxaphene, and dieldrin. Additionally, any level of arsenic present would require further analysis and sampling and must meet approved local area baselines or thresholds. If they do not, remedial action must take place to mitigate them below those thresholds. Additional COCs may be found in mixing/loading/storage areas, drainage ditches, farmhouses, or any

other outbuildings and should be sampled and analyzed. If smudge pots had been routinely utilized, additional sampling for Polycyclic Aromatic Hydrocarbons and/or Total Petroleum Hydrocarbons may be required. These recommendations should be adhered to and become part of the environmental document. Please refer to the [DTSC's Human and Ecological Risk Office \(HERO\) webpage](#) for the most recent guidance and screening levels.

2. DTSC recommends all imported soil/fill material be tested to ensure all COCs meet screening levels as outlined in [DTSC's Preliminary Endangerment Assessment Guidance Manual](#). Furthermore, DTSC advises referencing the [DTSC Information Advisory Clean Imported Fill Material Fact Sheet](#) if importing fill is necessary. To minimize the possibility of introducing contaminated soil/fill material there should be documentation of the origins of the soil/fill material and, if applicable, sampling be conducted to ensure that the imported soil/fill material are suitable for the intended land use. The soil sampling should include analysis based on the source of the soil/fill and knowledge of prior land use.

DTSC would like to thank you for the opportunity to comment on the MND for the Vesting Tentative Tract Map 7451 (Phased). Thank you for your assistance in protecting California's people and environment from the harmful effects of toxic substances. If you have any questions or would like clarification on DTSC's comments, please respond to this letter or via our [CEQA Review email](#) for additional guidance.

Sincerely,

*Tamara Purvis*

Tamara Purvis  
Associate Environmental Planner  
HWMP - Permitting Division – CEQA Unit  
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Veronica Martinez  
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cc: (via email)

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