



Yana Garcia
Secretary for
Environmental Protection



Department of Toxic Substances Control

Katherine M. Butler, MPH, Director
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Gavin Newsom
Governor

SENT VIA ELECTRONIC MAIL

February 18, 2026

Mark Manstof
Executive Director, Operations
Huntington Beach City School District
8750 Dorsett Drive
Huntington Beach, CA 92646
mmanstof@hbcasd.us

RE: MITIGATED NEGATIVE DECLARATION FOR THE PETERSON ELEMENTARY SCHOOL FIELD LIGHTING PROJECT DATED FEBRUARY 12, 2026, STATE CLEARINGHOUSE NUMBER [2026020556](#)

Dear Mark Manstof,

The Department of Toxic Substances Control (DTSC) reviewed the Mitigated Negative Declaration (MND) for the Peterson Elementary School Field Lighting Project (Project). The proposed project would replace two unlit soccer fields with one new lit soccer field in the northwest portion of the Peterson Elementary School campus, including three approximately 62-foot-tall lighting poles with fixtures directed toward the field and automatically shut off by timers. Improvements would include electrical trenching, restriping of field lines, and use of existing on campus parking, with no off-site improvements or increase in campus capacity or enrollment. DTSC recommends and requests consideration of the following comments:

1. If the Huntington Beach City School District (District) plans to use California Department of Education (CDE) State funds for the Project, then the District shall comply with the requirements of Education Code (EDC), [§17210](#), [§17213.1](#), and [§17213.2](#), unless otherwise specifically exempted under [§17268](#). If the District is not using CDE State funds for the Project, or is otherwise specifically exempt

under [§17268](#), DTSC recommends the District continue to investigate, clean up the Site under the oversight of Orange County and in concurrence with all applicable DTSC guidance documents, if necessary. For more information on the CDE State funding, please visit the [Office of Public-School Construction](#) webpage. A local education agency may also voluntarily request the CDE site/plan approval for locally funded site acquisitions and new construction projects. In these cases, CDE will require DTSC to review and approve prior to its final approval, except when exempt under section 17268.

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 Peterson Elementary School Field Lighting Project. 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

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cc: (via email)

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