

California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA)

NOTICE OF EXEMPTION

TO: Contra Costa County
Clerk Recorder's Office
555 Escobar Street
Martinez, CA 94553

FROM: Bay Area Air Quality Management District
375 Beale Street, Suite 600
San Francisco, CA 94105

SUBJECT: FILING OF NOTICE OF EXEMPTION PURSUANT TO PUBLIC RESOURCES CODE § 21080(b)(1) AND CEQA GUIDELINES §§ 15268(a), 15301, and 15302.

Project Title: CHEMTRADE WEST US LLC – Issuance of Authority to Construct for an Alteration of Existing Source 1, Sulfuric Acid Plant (Air District Application 744611).

Public Agency Approving Project (Lead Agency): Bay Area Air Quality Management District (Air District), 375 Beale Street, Suite 600, San Francisco, CA 94105; Contact Person: Kevin Perez, Senior Air Quality Engineer; Telephone: (415) 749-8643; Email: kperez@baaqmd.gov

Project Applicant and Entity Carrying Out Project: Chemtrade West US LLC (Chemtrade).

Project Applicant Mailing Address: 525 Castro Street, Richmond, CA 94801.

Project Applicant Contact Person: Bashar Alwash, Plant Manager, Chemtrade West US LLC, 525 Castro Street, Richmond, CA 94801; Telephone: (510) 232-7193; Email: balwash@chemtradelogistics.com

Project Location: 525 Castro Street, Richmond, Contra Costa County, CA 94801. Nearest Cross Street: Richmond Lane.

Project Description:

This permit action issues an Authority to Construct for an alteration. Chemtrade applied to replace the iron trough distributors and mist eliminator candles in the absorber tower that abates sulfur dioxide emissions from the Sulfuric Acid Plant (Source 1). The proposed replacement is for maintenance purposes and will not affect the efficacy of the absorber tower in abating sulfur dioxide emissions from Source 1.

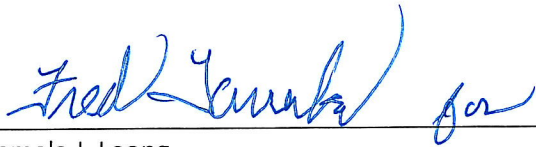
The proposed project will not result in an increase in potential to emit from Source 1. The replacement of the distributors and mist eliminator candles will not increase the throughput capacity of Source 1 and will not result in debottlenecking of sources upstream or downstream of Source 1. Therefore, the proposed project constitutes an alteration of Source 1, per the definition in Air District Regulation 2-1-233.

Finding of Exemption:

The Air District has determined that the issuance of this Authority to Construct for an alteration is statutorily exempt from CEQA.

Basis for Exemption:

The Air District's evaluation and permit action for this application was conducted using the fixed standards and objective measures in the Air District's rules and regulations. Also, the permit application did not trigger Best Available Control Technology (BACT) or Best Available Control Technology for Toxics (TBACT), and therefore did not allow room for differences in professional opinion or judgement about whether the outcomes of this permit action complies with applicable regulations, nor discretion from the Air District to deny or shape the outcomes of the permit action. Therefore, this permit action is not subject to CEQA because the Air District's evaluation is a ministerial action (Public Resources Code Section 21080(b)(1) and CEQA Guidelines Section 15268(a)).

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Fred Yamba", followed by a horizontal line and the word "for" in cursive.

Pamela J. Leong
Director of Engineering
Bay Area Air Quality Management District

A handwritten date in blue ink, "September 30, 2026", written above a horizontal line.

Date