

# Notice of Determination

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**To:**

Office of Planning and Research

For U.S. Mail:

P.O. Box 3044,  
Sacramento, CA 95812-3044

Street Address:

1400 Tenth St., Room 212  
Sacramento, CA 95814

**From:**

California Department of Toxic Substances Control

5769 Corporate Ave  
Cypress, CA 90630

County Clerk

County of:

Address:

Contact: Aaron Yue

Phone: (714) 484-5439

Lead Agency (if different from above):

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Contact: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

SUBJECT: *FILING OF NOTICE OF DETERMINATION IN COMPLIANCE WITH SECTION 21108 OF THE PUBLIC RESOURCES CODE.*

State Clearinghouse Number (if submitted to State Clearinghouse): 2012111079

Project Title: PG&E TOPOCK COMPRESSOR STATION SOIL INVESTIGATION PROJECT

Project Location (include county): Needles, California (San Bernardino County)

**Project Description:**

The Project involves soil investigation activities within the PG&E Compressor Station (Station) fence line and surrounding vicinity, which has been affected by historical releases of hexavalent chromium and other chemicals of concern. Soil investigation activities include soil sampling and analysis as described in the Soil Resource Conservation Recovery Act (RCRA) Facility Investigation/Remedial Investigation (RFI/RI) Work Plan (known as the Soil Work Plan). Following soil sampling and analysis, bench scale tests, pilot studies, and geotechnical evaluations may be undertaken to support a future Soil Corrective Measures Study/Feasibility Study (Soil CMS/FS) and potential plant or other biota sampling activities may be undertaken to support a future ecological risk assessment. The Soil Investigation Project is required to determine the nature and extent of soil contamination at the Station and surrounding area. Additional Project objectives include:

- Finalizing the evaluation of soil properties and contaminant distribution to support preparation of the future Soil CMS/FS, including gathering a sufficient level of information to identify a range of remedial alternatives;
- Assessing whether soil contaminant concentrations pose a threat to groundwater; and
- Assessing whether soil and sediment contamination have the potential to migrate off-site and, if so, gathering sufficient information to assess measures that may be required to prevent and minimize such migration to ensure protection of health, safety, and the environment.

The Project includes soil sampling activities at a total of 292 locations with up to 876 total individual samples, with an contingency of 25 percent additional sampling locations (i.e., up to 73 locations). Specific locations and number of samples collected at each location may vary based on access considerations, the results of field screening, and field observations. Various investigation methods will be used, including hand tools, excavator, hydrovac, or rotosonic drill. The soil sampling component of the Project would occur for one year. The duration of any additional activities (geotechnical evaluations, bench scale tests, pilot studies, and plant or other biota sampling), if needed, would vary from 3 months for bench scale tests to more than 1 year for pilot studies, depending on the location.


The results gathered from implementing the Project will provide the data necessary for the completion of the Soil RCRA RFI/RI process that is consistent with applicable state law and will support evaluation of possible remedy action if determined necessary. The investigation of soil which is the subject of the EIR, along with existing soil data available at the Project Site, will enable the evaluation and selection of corrective measures, if necessary, in a future Soil CMS/FS, which would identify

potential soil remedial alternatives. Any future remedial action, if determined necessary, would require additional environmental review under the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA).

This is to advise that the California Department of Toxic Substances Control, as  Lead Agency or  Responsible Party under CEQA has approved the above-described project on August 24, 2015 and has made the following determinations regarding the above described project:

1. The project [ will  will not] have a significant effect on the environment.
2.  An Environmental Impact Report was prepared for this project pursuant to the provisions of CEQA.  
 A Negative Declaration was prepared for this project pursuant to the provisions of CEQA.
3. Mitigation measures [ were  were not] made a condition of the approval of the project.
4. A mitigation reporting or monitoring plan [ was  was not] adopted for this project.
5. A statement of Overriding Considerations [ was  was not] adopted for this project.
6. Findings [ were  were not] made pursuant to the provisions of CEQA.

This is to certify that the final EIR with comments and responses and record of project approval, is available to the General Public at: California Department of Toxic Substances Control, 5760 Corporate Ave, Cypress, CA 90630

Signature (Public Agency)  Title Project Manager

Date August 24, 2015 Date Received for filing at OPR \_\_\_\_\_



Authority cited: Sections 21083, Public Resources Code.  
Reference Section 21000-21174, Public Resources Code.