

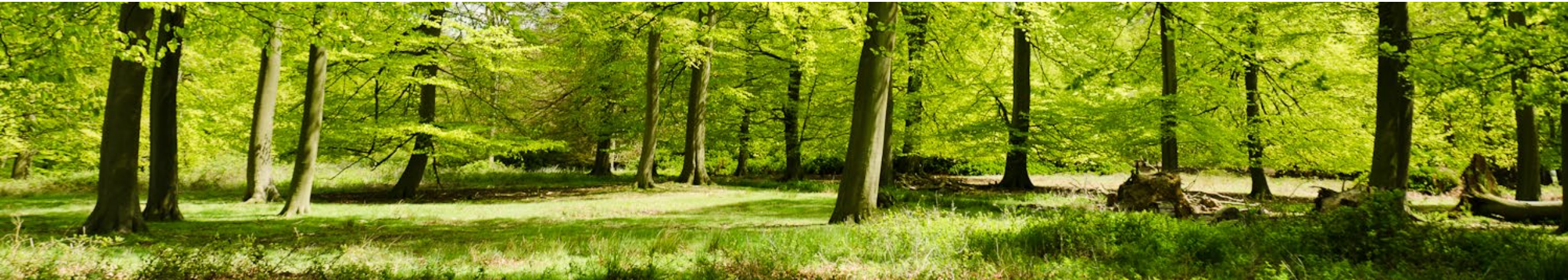


Department of  
Toxic Substances  
Control




# Draft Permit for Phibro-Tech Inc. Public Meeting and Hearing

July 12, 2023



## Language and Captions


Simultaneous audio interpretation is available through Zoom. Click the interpretation icon  at the bottom of your screen or Zoom app to select language.

Presentation materials (in English and Spanish) are available at DTSC Website:

[https://www.envirostor.dtsc.ca.gov/public/hwmp\\_profile\\_report?global\\_id=CAD008488025&starttab=](https://www.envirostor.dtsc.ca.gov/public/hwmp_profile_report?global_id=CAD008488025&starttab=)

Select the Community Involvement tab

## Idioma y Subtítulos


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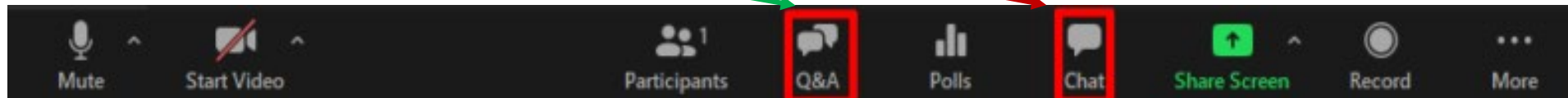
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Seleccione la pestaña “Community Involvement”

# Public Meeting Instructions

- You are in a listen and view only role 
- If you have a question:
  - Do not use chat
  - Use Q&A for questions



- We will respond to questions during the Q&A section
- We will take comments during the Public Hearing section of this meeting
- Automated closed captions have been turned “on” for this meeting.
- You can turn them off by clicking the “CC” icon or move the captions box.
- The closed captions are in English only.

## Meeting & Hearing Agenda

- Public Meeting
  - Permitting Process Overview
  - Draft Permit Decision
  - Q&A Section
- 5-Minute Break
- Public Hearing
  - Public Hearing Instructions
  - Formal Comment Section
- Next Steps and Closing

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**Select the Community Involvement tab**

## Meeting Guidelines

- By participating in this meeting, you understand that:
  - this meeting is being recorded.
  - you may be muted for background noise.
- During the Questions and Comments, we will focus on topics related to today's presentations.
- Time allowed for questions and comments will be limited to 3 minutes so that everyone can participate.
- Thank you for your patience and understanding.

## DTSC Project Team

- **Tammy Pickens** – Public Participation Specialist, Moderator
- **Phil Blum, P.E.** – Supervising Hazardous Substances Engineer I, DTSC Hearing Officer
- **Rao Akula, P.E.** – Senior Hazardous Substances Engineer, Project Manager
- **Cy Jeng, Ph.D.** – Staff Toxicologist, Human and Ecological Risk Office
- **Mai Ngo, Ph.D.** – Staff Toxicologist, Human and Ecological Risk Office
- **Andy Cano, P.G.** – Unit Chief, Corrective Action, Site Mitigation & Restoration
- **Laura Radke** – Project Manager, Corrective Action, Site Mitigation & Restoration
- **Jose Marcos, P.G.** -Supervising Engineering Geologist, Geological Services Branch
- **Christine Bucklin, P.G.** – Senior Engineering Geologist, Geological Services Branch
- **Rebecca De Pont** – Supervising Environmental Planner, Unit Chief, CEQA Unit
- **Elizabeth Leslie-Gassaway**– Public Information Officer, Office of Communications

# **Phil Blum, P.E.**

SUPERVISING HAZARDOUS SUBSTANCES ENGINEER I  
PERMITTING DIVISION



## Who is DTSC?

### We are:

- Over 1,000 professional experts
- Dedicated to protecting Californians and our environment
- Committed to engaging the public
- For more info, see: <https://dtsc.ca.gov/who-we-are/>

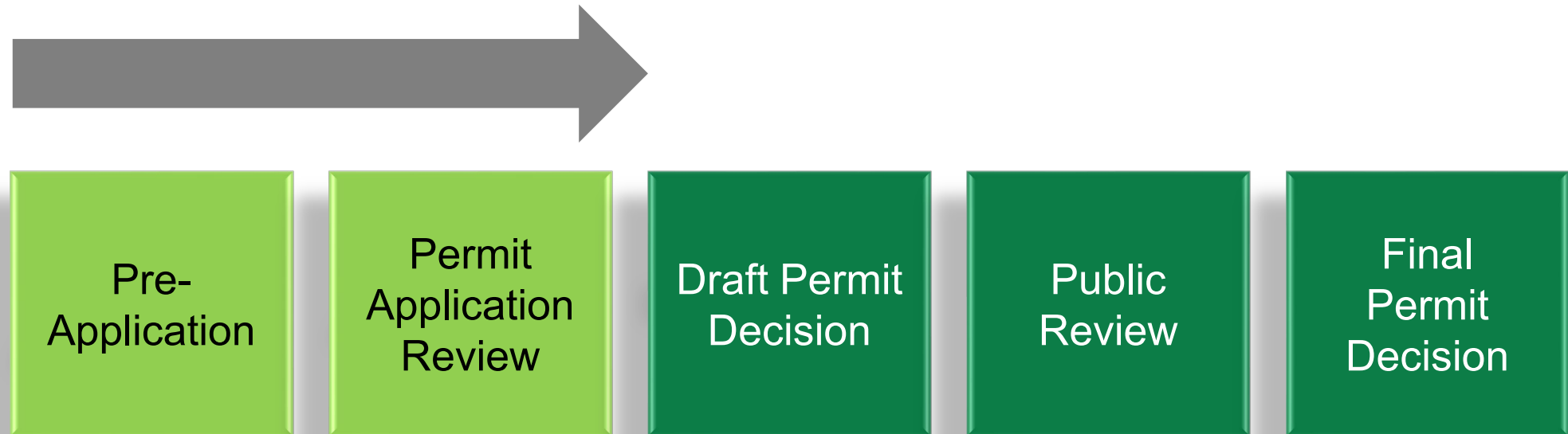
## **DTSC Permitting Division Mission**

The Permitting Division protects Californians and the environment from toxic harm by making timely, enforceable, and protective permit decisions for the operation of hazardous waste facilities in accordance with all applicable laws and sound science.

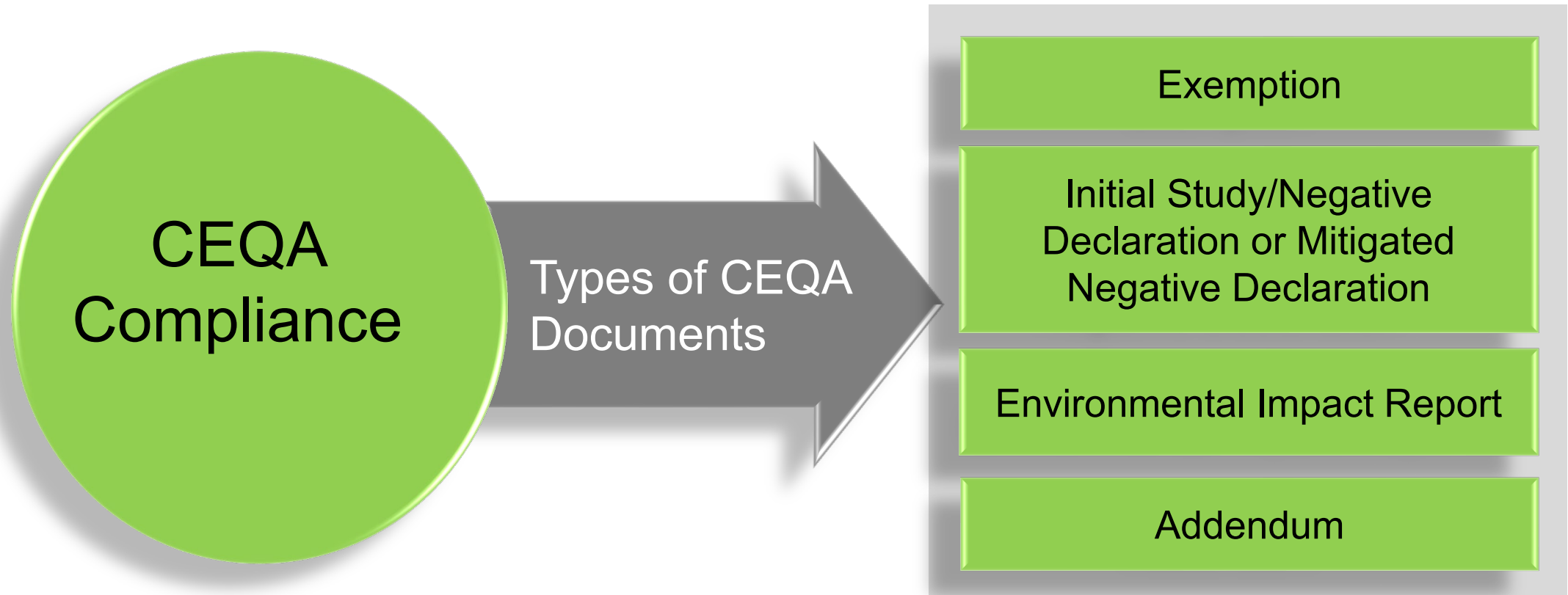
# Hazardous Waste Regulatory History

- 1972 – California Hazardous Waste Control Act
- 1976 – US Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA)
- 1978 – Love Canal
- 1991 – DTSC and Cal EPA established
- 1992 – EPA authorizes DTSC to implement RCRA
- 2013-2023 – DTSC Permitting Process Improvements
- See the DTSC Website about DTSC, Our History for more details:  
<https://dtsc.ca.gov/about-dtsc/our-history/>

# Permitting Process Overview



# California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA)



## **DTSC CEQA Compliance for PTI Permit**

- 1990 – Initial Study/Negative Declaration
- 1991 – Final Initial Study/Negative Declaration
- 1991 – Notice of Determination
- March 9, 2022 – Addendum to the previously adopted Final IS/ND

# **Rao Akula, P.E.**

SENIOR HAZARDOUS SUBSTANCES ENGINEER & PROJECT MANAGER  
PERMITTING DIVISION



## **Draft Permit Phibro-Tech Inc., (PTI) – Overview**

- DTSC Permitting Process for the PTI Permit Decision
- Facility Overview & Operations History
- Permitting History
- Highlights of What is Different Now (Proposed Changes in Operations)
- The Revised Draft Permit Application
- Draft Permit Highlights
- Draft Permit Special Conditions

## **DTSC Permitting Process for the PTI Permit Decision**

- DTSC Documents - Draft Permit, Community Update, Fact Sheet, CEQA Addendum
- Public Notice and Review of the Draft Documents (120 days (August 19-December 16, 2022) + 50 days (now, June 6-July 25, 2023))
- Public Meeting and Hearing, Public Comments (today)
- DTSC Response to Comments
- Verify Financial Assurance is in Place
- DTSC Determination (Permit Approval/Denial)
- CEQA Notice of Determination to State Clearing House

## Aerial View of PTI and Surrounding Area



## Phibro-Tech Inc.



Hazardous Wastes Treatment, Storage  
and Disposal  
(TSD) Facility

EPAID CAD008488025

AIN: 8168-001-022

4.8 Acres

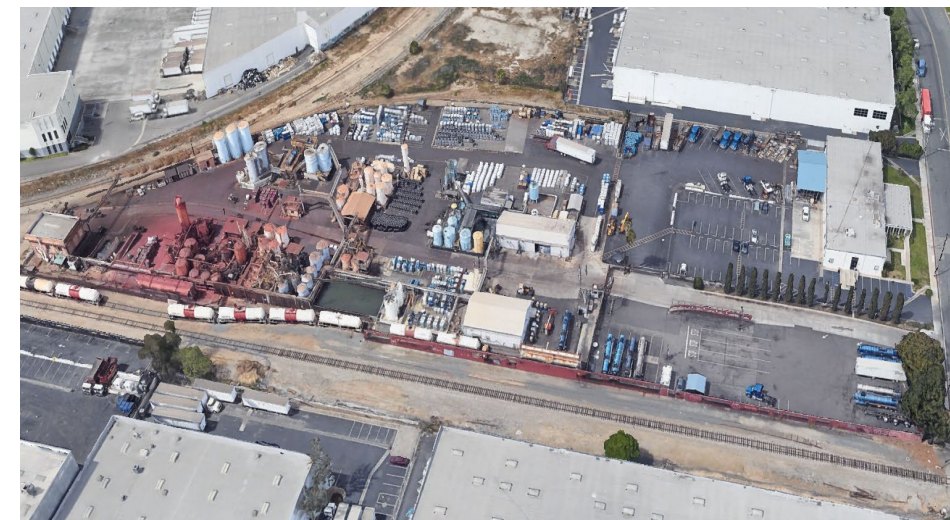
Feeds: Inorganic Hazardous Wastes (and  
virgin materials)

Main Processes: Reclaiming Metals and  
Ammonia from Hazardous Waste

Products: Inorganic Chemicals and  
Industrial Etchants (for sale)

## Overview Summary

- DTSC approved health risk assessments showed no significant risks
- DTSC thoroughly reviewed the permit application and required extensive revisions before acceptance
- Phibro-Tech is regularly and frequently inspected
- DTSC Violations Scoring Procedure results in enhanced compliance, enforcement effectiveness, and supports ability of DTSC to suspend or revoke the permit
- Permit conditions have been expanded, strengthened
- Hazardous waste treatment capacity decreased
- The permit is much more specific, enforceable and promotes compliance



## PTI Operations

- Inorganic hazardous waste streams from industry
- Chemical Products are made by treating and recycling hazardous wastes
- Products are sold to the electronic, semi-conductor and water treatment industries
- PTI is permitted to store and treat California and RCRA hazardous wastes
- PTI disposes treated wastewater to LA County sanitary sewer

Phibro-Tech, Inc. Website:

[https://www.pahc.com/product\\_services/performance-products/phibro-tech/](https://www.pahc.com/product_services/performance-products/phibro-tech/)

## PTI Facility Operations History

- 1940s-1950s Pacific Electric Railway - Railroad Switching Station
- 1957 Pacific Western Chemical Company manufacturing inorganic chemicals
- 1959 Name Changed to Southern California Chemical Co (SCCC).
- 1984 CP Chemicals (Phibro-Tech's predecessor) acquired SCCC.
- 1990s Name Changed to Entech Recovery Inc.
- 1994 Phibro-Tech Inc., was formed by combining CP, SCCC, and CP inorganic, as a subsidiary of Phibro Animal Health Corporation (PAHC)

## PTI Permitting History

- 1981 DHS Interim Status Document
- 1987 USEPA RCRA Facility Assessment (RFA)
- 1988 DHS Variance & Pond 1 Closure Plan
- 1991 DHS and USEPA 5-year Permits
- 1995 DTSC Initiated Modification (Corrective Action, Pond 1 CP, etc.)
- Permit Modifications (various) (2006, 2013, 2016, 2017, 2019)
- Permit Renewal Applications (1996, 2006, 2010, 2014, 2016, 2021)

## PTI Corrective Action History

- The Facility is in Santa Fe Springs, on land zoned as “M-2 Heavy Manufacturing”
- Records show Industrial Activities as early as 1920s, Foundry, Casting Industries since 1940s, Chemicals manufacturing since 1957.
- 1987 RCRA Assessment showed contaminated (heavy metals, volatile organics, petroleum hydrocarbons) soil and water
- 1988-95 corrective action and remediation requirements defined and added to permit.
- 2021 Most of the remediation complete; There is no current health risk from the sub-surface contamination to the Facility personnel and to the vicinity; threat to groundwater from some residual chemicals in the soil remains

## PTI Compliance and Enforcement History\*

- Past violations included storage, aisle space, secondary containment, treatment, documentation, record keeping, labeling, waste characterization, etc. PTI paid fines and returned to compliance.
- Repeat violations of requirements for storage, aisle space, hazardous waste management/treatment, and record keeping.
- Incidents and complaints about releases were investigated.
- Failure to close an interim status surface impoundment (Pond 1) had been a long-term violation, but PTI closed Pond 1 in 2019/2020.

\* See DTSC [\*Inspection Envirostor\*](#) for details

# PTI Compliance and Enforcement History (continued)

◆ = Class 1 Violation    
 ◆ = Class 2 Violation    
 ◆ = Minor Violation    
 ◆ = Inspection - No Violations    
 - Colored Circles = Financial Reviews



Year	Number of Inspections	New Violations			Return to Compliance Date
		Class 1	Class 2	Minor	
2023	1	0	1	0	
2022	1	0	0	0	N/A
2021	2	0	3	1	5/6/2022
2020	2	0	1	2	1/19/2021
2019	1	4	1	2	10/31/2019
2018	3	2	0	0	1/24/2019

## Assuring Compliance in the Future

- SB-673 Signed in 2015; VSP Regulations (Track 1) effective 2019; Track 2 regs in progress
- The Permit includes
  - Complete descriptions of units, authorized wastes and activities
  - Conditions for safe operations; Authorization for additional Storage & Management Areas
  - Financial Assurance for Closure, Post-Closure, if needed, and Corrective Action
- Continued Enforcement
  - Inspections,
  - Permit Conditions,
  - Regulations, and
  - Health and Safety Code

## **PTI - What is Different Now? (Proposed New Operations)**

- PTI has removed bulk of the sub-surface contamination (corrective action)
- PTI will implement the remaining requirements under the existing consent order and its subsequent future amendments and/or a new order
- Pond 1 Closure Plan implemented
- New wastewater treatment system built

## **PTI - What is Different Now? (Permitted Operations)**

- Permit Renewal Application includes the following changes:
  - permitted containers storage capacity increased
  - permitted tanks storage capacity increased
  - permitted waste treatment capacity reduced
- New Waste Codes and Waste Streams – 24 Different Waste Streams (Previously 20)
- No Excluded Recyclable Materials
- No RCRA listed wastes to be processed

# PTI - What is Different Now? (Permitted Operations)

Permitted Capacity/Feature	1990	Existing NR	Now	Remarks
Characteristic HW rec'd., MMGPY	27.9		13.3	
Listed HW rec'd., MMGPY	5.56		0	
Storage in Containers, MGallons	173.1	80.7	251.3	liquids
Storage in Containers, Cubic Yards			143	solids
Storage in Tanks, MGallons	237.5	76.6	460.5	
Treatment, Gallons Per Day	137,200	Note 2	1,111,683	19 units
Treatment, Tons/day		Note 1	125.1	11 units
Excluded Recyclable Materials			None	
Number of HWMUs	N/A		40	

MMGPY = Million Gal/Year  
 MGallons = Thousand Gal  
 HWMU=Haz Waste Mgmt Unit  
 NR=Newly Regulated Units  
 N/A= Not Applicable

## Note 1

Existing Operating Areas  
 Newly Regulated Treatment Misc. HWMUs  
 Ribbon Blender  
 CuCo3 Baghouse, Dryer  
 Filterpress 1  
 Filter Press 2 A  
 Filter Press 3  
 F Area Filter Press  
 Portable Filter Press 1  
 Portable Filter Press 2  
 CuCO3 Filter Press  
 CuO Centrifuge  
 Dryer Blender Staging Area

Note 2 Corrected capacity, treatment rate in tanks

## PTI Draft Permit Application Highlights

- Authorize Existing Equipment/Areas to be part of the Permit
  - Nine Tanks; Seven Filter Presses, Copper Oxide Centrifuge, Blender Dryer, Copper Carbonate Blower, Dryer, Bag house, Main Transfer Pump, Rail Car Loading/Unloading
- Construction, installation of newly permitted equipment and areas
  - Modifications to two of the existing container storage areas,
  - Addition/installation/construction of 3 new container storage areas, 7 new tanks, and 5 container pumping stations
- Removal/demolition/closure of two tanks and three pumping station pans
- Corrected many and various deficiencies of prior permit

## DTSC Draft Permit - Highlights

- Five-year Term
- Enhances Permittee Compliance and Enforceability
- Forty (40) Permitted Units
- Financial Assurance for the following Cost Estimates (2023):
  - Closure (\$4,639,602)
  - Pond 1 Closure (\$2,440,550)
  - Post-Closure Care, if needed (\$3,076,828)
  - Groundwater Monitoring and Remedy Maintenance (\$2,088,105)
- Special Conditions Added – 70 (for all Units) and 94 (unit-specific)

## Draft Permit Special Conditions (Partial List)

- Reporting of environmental “incidents” (releases/spills/fires/injuries)
- Reporting of violations from other agencies, occupational injuries/OSHA Logs
- Requirements for continuous fence-line monitoring to detect releases of hazardous substances (ammonia, hydrogen chloride)
- Conduct annual public meetings in Santa Fe Springs to provide last year’s environmental monitoring results
- Improvements for managing containers



## Draft Permit Special Conditions (Partial List)

- Improvements on receipt and treatment of specific waste types
- Tank Integrity Assessments required every 3 years
- Restrictions for loading/unloading, sampling of hazardous wastes
- Waste management requirements for wastes generated at the Facility
- Improvements for reporting modifications, removals, in-kind replacements, as-built drawings

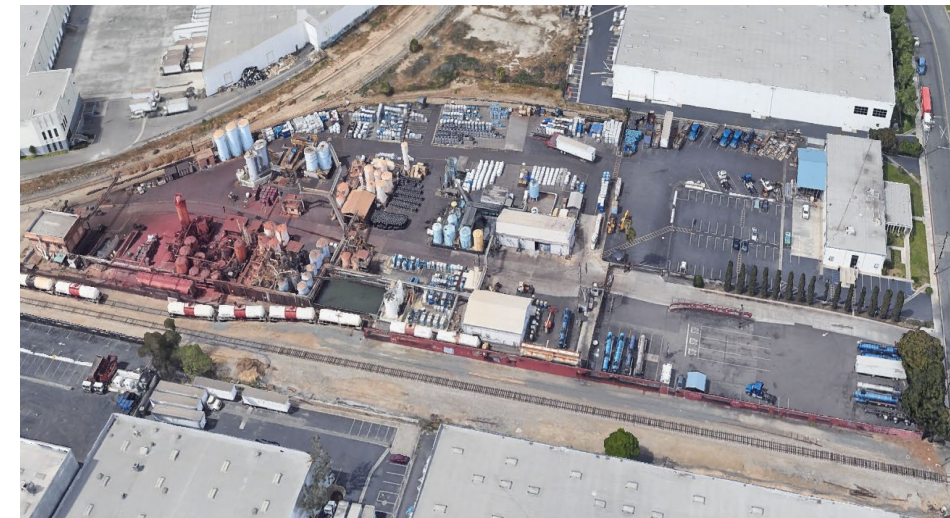


## Two Human Health Risk Assessments (2015)

- **Current Operations:**
  - No significant health effect to workers or residents
- **Historical Releases:**
  - No significant health effect to current workers or residents and no current risks.
  - Potential health effects to future on-site workers if the pavement is disturbed for construction without additional cleanup
  - However, cleanup activities completed since 2015 have reduced this risk
  - There is a Land Use Covenant for this Facility, and a Corrective Action Consent Order managed by the Site Mitigation Program to prevent and/or control any future exposures

## Summary

- DTSC approved health risk assessments showed no significant risks
- DTSC thoroughly reviewed the permit application and required extensive revisions before acceptance
- Phibro-Tech is regularly and frequently inspected
- DTSC Violations Scoring Procedure results in enhanced compliance, enforcement effectiveness, and supports DTSC's ability to suspend or revoke the permit if needed
- Permit conditions have been expanded, strengthened
- Hazardous waste treatment capacity decreased
- The permit is much more specific, enforceable and promotes compliance



# Questions and Answers Section



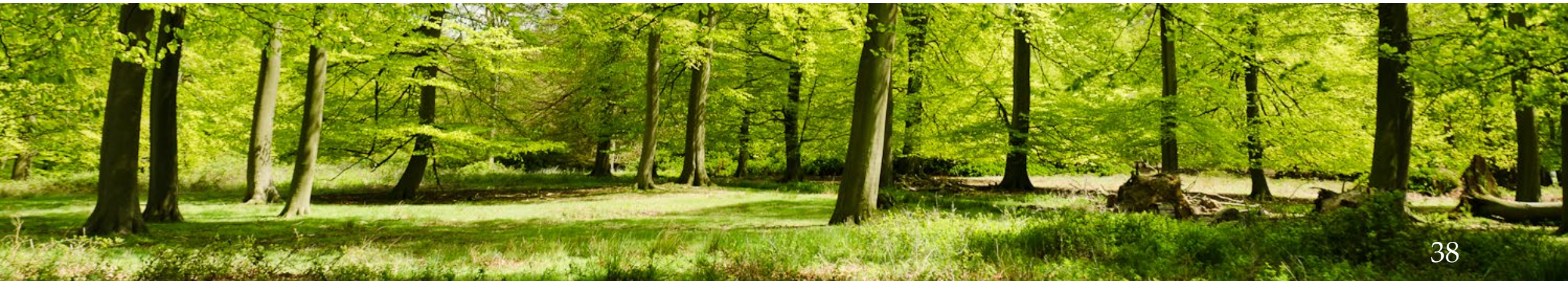
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1. **Zoom Audio:** Use the “raise hand” feature and you will be invited to unmute your audio when it’s your turn.
2. **Phone Audio:** Press \*9 to join the phone queue. The facilitator will say the last three digits of your phone number when it’s your turn. Press \*6 to unmute.
3. **Text Only:** Use the Q&A feature to have your question read by the facilitator.

We will listen carefully and do our best to answer your questions in this section. Answers will not appear in the response to comments document. If you want a written response to your comment, you must make it later, during the hearing.

Department of  
Toxic Substances  
Control


# 5-MINUTE BREAK



# Public Hearing Section



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Seleccione la pestaña “Community Involvement”

# HEARING OFFICER

**Phil Blum, P.E.,**

SUPERVISING HAZARDOUS SUBSTANCES ENGINEER I

PERMITTING DIVISION



## Public Hearing Comments - Instructions

- 1. Zoom Audio:** Use the “raise hand” feature and you will be invited to unmute your audio when it’s your turn.
- 2. Phone Audio:** Press \*9 to join the phone queue. The facilitator will say the last three digits of your phone number when it’s your turn. Press \*6 to unmute your line.
- 3. Text Only:** Use the Q&A feature to have your question read by the facilitator.

Oral comments are limited to 3 minutes to assure that all commenters will have a chance to comment. DTSC will review and consider all comments when making a final permit decision. DTSC will provide responses to all hearing comments in the response to comment document accompanying the final permit decision.

## How to Submit Additional Public Comments

- If you did not submit a comment during this hearing verbally, or using the Q&A function, or you wish to submit additional written comments, you may submit a written comment as follows:
  - By Mail: **Rao Akula, Project Manager,**  
**DTSC Chatsworth Regional Office**  
**9211 Oakdale Avenue**  
**Chatsworth, California 91311**
  - By Email: [Rao.Akula@dtsc.ca.gov](mailto:Rao.Akula@dtsc.ca.gov)
- All comments must be received by **July 25, 2023**

## Comment Period - Reminders

- Public Comment Period: **June 6, 2023 – July 25, 2023**
- Information regarding DTSC, the Phibro-Tech facility, the draft permit, and the permit application are located at the information repositories:
  - **Los Nietos Public Library**, 8511 Duchess Drive, Whittier, California 90606; Call (562) 695-0708 for hours
  - **Santa Fe Springs Library**, 11700 Telegraph Road, Santa Fe Springs, California 90670; Call (562) 868-7738 for hours
  - **DTSC – Chatsworth Regional Office**, 9211 Oakdale Avenue, Chatsworth, California 91311; Call (818) 717-6521 for an appointment
- DTSC's website: [www.envirostor.dtsc.ca.gov](http://www.envirostor.dtsc.ca.gov) id= CAD008488025  
[https://www.envirostor.dtsc.ca.gov/public/hwmp\\_profile\\_report?global\\_id=CAD008488025&starttab=](https://www.envirostor.dtsc.ca.gov/public/hwmp_profile_report?global_id=CAD008488025&starttab=)

**Click on Community Involvement below the Facility name**

# Thank You!

On behalf of DTSC, thank you for joining us!  
Please stay safe and be well.

