

COMMUNITY Notice

The mission of DTSC is to protect California's people and environment from harmful effects of toxic substances through the restoration of contaminated resources, enforcement, regulation and pollution prevention.

DTSC Cracks Down on Kettleman Landfill for Failing to Report Hazardous Waste Spills

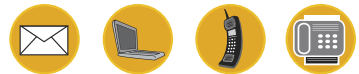
On November 15, 2012, the Department of Toxic Substances Control announced issuing 72 violations against the Waste Management (CWM) facility located 3 and 1/2 miles from Kettleman City. The violations are for failing to report hazardous waste spills on their property. None of the spills happened outside the facility and there is no evidence of any significant risk to workers or to the nearby communities. DTSC has referred this case to the State Attorney General's office as it violates our permit.

The spills occurred in the loading and sampling areas of the facility. The 72 spills mostly took place from June 2008 to 2012. The spills were small in volume (less than 5 pounds) and did not result in contamination outside the facility. Examples of what was spilled included: herbicides, lead contaminated soil, and polychlorinated biphenyls (PCBs). There is no evidence of any danger to workers at the facility, nearby communities or to the environment.

Our permit with CWM requires that the facility report all spills so that DTSC can document the spill cleanup and to better evaluate facility operations. During a routine inspection in April 2012, DTSC discovered that CWM had created an internal log of spills but had failed to notify DTSC. The current permit requires verbal notification within 24 hours of a hazardous waste spill and written notification within 10 days of the spill's discovery. In May 2011, DTSC ordered CWM to pay \$46,000 in penalties for a similar failure to report releases of hazardous waste.

Si desea informacion en espanol - Comuniquese con Jesus Cruz a numero gratis, (866) 495-5651 or Jesus.Cruz@dtsc.ca.gov.

Notice to the Hearing Impaired - You can obtain additional information by using the California State Relay Service at 711 or (800) 735-2929 and asking for Nathan Schumacher at (916) 255-3650 regarding Kettleman.



For more details, please visit the following website:

<http://www.dtsc.ca.gov/HazardousWaste/Projects/CWMI/Kettleman.cfm>

For Further Information:
please contact Nathan Schumacher, DTSC Public Participation Specialist at (916) 255-3650, toll free at (866) 495-5651 or by e-mail at Nathan.Schumacher@dtsc.ca.gov.

You may also contact Wayne Lorentzen, Project Manager, at (916) 255-3883 or by e-mail at Wayne.Lorentzen@dtsc.ca.gov.

For media inquiries, please contact Charlotte Fadipe at Charlotte.Fadipe@dtsc.ca.gov or at (916) 323-3395.