

CalEPA Tribal Advisory Committee

Quarters 2 and 3 (Spring and Summer) 2025

Department of Toxic Substances Control Report

Consultations

The Department of Toxic Substances Control (DTSC) invites the collaboration and input of the California Native American Tribes. Through rules, regulations, policies and programs, the engagement with California Native American Tribes assists DTSC with decisions and policies to protect Tribal Cultural Resources throughout the State. DTSC recognizes our responsibility to the people of California and the environmental laws and regulations that we enforce with the various remedies, cleanup plans, and permits that are under our purview. We value the Tribes' traditional ecological knowledge while protecting the people of California.

The Department of Toxic Substances Control (DTSC) fosters communication, collaboration and consultation between California's Native American Tribes. We coordinate with tribes in the development of policies, programs, and activities that may affect a tribe's community, ancestral territories, or cultural resources. We are committed to a meaningful engagement with indigenous communities, and to strengthening government-to-government relationships between the State and California Native Tribes.

Below are tables from Quarters 2 and 3 (2025) showing consultation information with Tribal representatives.

Table 1. Consultations During Q3

Project Name	County	Consultation Initiated	Closed	Number of Tribes Contacted	Number of Individuals Contacted
SOUTH POINTE (ECRG*)	San Joaquin	08/15/25	Ongoing	7	15
JONES HOLDINGS V, LLC	Los Angeles	08/08/25	09/19/25	8	16
PALACE CLEANERS GLENDALE	Los Angeles	08/08/25	09/19/25	8	16
EUCLID VILLAS (ECRG)	San Bernadino	08/08/25	09/19/25	12	23
PACIFIC STEEL, INC.	San Diego	07/31/25	09/17/25	12	19
CLEAN HARBORS BUTTONWILLOW	Kern	07/17/25	Ongoing	39	21
VINELAND FAMILY HOUSING	Los Angeles	09/25/25	Ongoing	9	17
HERNAN NORGE CLEANERS	Los Angeles	09/05/25	11/03/25	8	16

Project Name	County	Consultation Initiated	Closed	Number of Tribes Contacted	Number of Individuals Contacted
FORE FOOTHILL & GROVE	San Bernadino	09/25/25	Ongoing	13	25
SARGENT INDUSTRIES	Los Angeles	09/23/25	10/06/25	8	16
LA CADA	Los Angeles	09/29/25	11/10/25	10	20
Total=11	-	-	-	-	-

Table 2. Consultations During Q2

Project Name	County	Consultation Initiated	Closed	Number of Tribes Contacted	Number of Individuals Contacted
TILDEN WAY & CLEMENT AVENUE TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENT SITE	Alameda	6/30/2025	Ongoing	9	23
1371 WEST JEFFERSON BOULEVARD	Los Angeles	6/25/2025	6/30/2025	8	15
BEVERLY HILLS HIGH SCHOOL	Los Angeles	6/17/2025	Ongoing	8	15
METALCO	Alameda	5/29/2025	Ongoing	9	23
1 LESLIE DRIVE	Contra Costa	5/14/2025	9/9/2025	7	17
FORMER S & S POLISHING AND PLATING	Orange	4/23/2025	Ongoing	10	22
FULL FASHION DRY CLEANERS	Los Angeles	4/3/2025	Ongoing	7	9
Total=7	-	-	Ongoing	-	-

*ECRG is the Equitable Community Revitalization Grant Program

Topics include:

- Excavation and removal of contaminated soil at sites where chemicals of concern are present in order to prepare the site for more beneficial public use.
- Additional site assessments to determine degree of contamination where the results of investigations inform the kinds of remediation needed.
- Confirmation of the Location of former underground storage tanks (UST) and conduct groundwater assessments to determine whether Per- and Polyfluoroalkyl Substances (PFAS) are present in groundwater as a result of USTs.
- Installation of soil vapor extraction mechanisms to address and mitigate the impact of soil contamination and soil vapor impacted by chlorinated solvents and petroleum hydrocarbons
- Issuance of a Draft Permit Renewal for a currently functioning hazardous waste facility (Clean Harbors Buttonwillow) in Buttonwillow CA. The Draft Permit Renewal contains conditions that are protective of public health and the environment which will authorize Clean Harbors Buttonwillow to continue receiving, storing, treating and disposing of hazardous waste for the next 10 years.

Funding for Tribes

Currently, DTSC has no discrete funding available for Tribes. At different times of the year (and not necessarily every year), funding may be available through an application process for the ECRG program and /or the Supplemental Environmental Projects (SEP) program.

Resources and Opportunities

Resources

- Resources available through DTSC specifically for tribes, include the information found on our website at www.dtsc.ca.gov/tribal-affairs.

Opportunities

- See Safer Consumer Products (SCP) description below.

Engagement & Key Priority Projects

Safer Consumer Products (SCP) Program – The 2027-2029 Priority Product Work Plan (PPWP) for the Safer Consumer Products Program identifies product categories that the program may evaluate for potential regulation. The current 2024-2026 Work Plan outlines the product categories that are being evaluated, and now SCP is seeking input for the next Work Plan cycle. It is essential for SCP to receive input from a broad and diverse coalition of people in CA. SCP is especially interested in hearing from Tribes and their communities. Some potential questions that would help inform the Product Work Plan from tribes include:

- What consumer product categories or specific consumer products would you like to see prioritized in the 2027-2029 PPWP?
- Do you know, or have a sense for, the most frequently used consumer products in your community?
- Are you aware of any chemicals from consumer products that are harming natural resources or water quality in your community?
- How can SCP work to better serve your community? How can we foster a healthy dialogue with tribal governments and communities?

ECRG Grant Program – Satellite Housing in partnership with Native American Health Center built a 5-story, 76 unit affordable mixed-use housing development in Oakland. The project will offer critical healthcare services and affordable housing units. As of this writing, this housing project is nearing completion and preparing for occupancy. The organizations anticipate having people move in this coming January or February. Additional information can be found at

<https://dtsc.ca.gov/ecrgrantee-Satellite-Affordable-Housing-Associates/>

A second ECRG investment during this reporting period was the Friendship House Association of American Indians for a site located within San Francisco's Golden Gate Park. Currently, the site is being assessed. The planned reuse includes an Indigenous Community Garden and Ceremonial Space in partnership with the Association of Ramaytush Ohlone, SF Park & Recreation Department, and Friendship House Association of American Indians, a social services organization serving American Indians since 1963.

Santa Susana Field Laboratory - We are currently in a public comment period for the SMOU Corrective Measure Study and the Statement of Basis. Working with the established Sacred Sites Council, a number of tribes, including the Gabrieleño Band of Mission Indians Kizh, Santa Ynez Band of Chumash Indians, Fernandeano Tataviam Band of Mission Indians, and the Barbareño/Ventureño Band of Mission Indians are involved. DTSC Tribal Affairs shares updates with the TAC each quarter. Additional information may be found at [Santa Susana Field Laboratory \(SSFL\) Home | Department of Toxic Substances Control](#)

Topock (PG&E Compressor Station) - A project with DTSC oversight for addressing and mitigating with PG&E and others the environmental harm and impacts to the Colorado River and surrounding area, between Needles Ca and Topock, Arizona. There are ten different tribes involved: Fort Mojave Indian Tribe (Nora's Tribe), Chemehuevi Tribe (Ron's Tribe), Colorado River Tribes, Fort Yuma Quechan Tribe, Cocopah Tribe, Hualapai Tribe, Havasupai Tribe, Twenty-Nine Palms Band of Mission Indians, Agua Caliente Band of Cahuilla Indians, and Yavapai-Prescott Indian Tribe.

Priorities for Next Quarter

- Developing further protocol of DTSC's Tribal outreach process for project leads to assure timely notification, communication, and opportunities for consultation with tribes. Create a protocol and series of informational videos for staff to review and communicate with Environmental Justice and Tribal Affairs staff.
- Continue identifying opportunities to highlight and develop Tribal-focused components in projects and initiatives across DTSC's programs.
- Continue participating at tribal-focused workshops and conferences to establish new network connections and incorporate best practices into DTSC's programs and initiatives.

For more information:

- Email: TribalAffairs@dtsc.ca.gov
- Tribal affairs website: <https://dtsc.ca.gov/tribal-affairs/>