

U.S. EPA Issues PCB Permit for US Ecology Nevada, Inc.



November 2012

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Region 9 (“U.S. EPA”) is renewing and modifying an Approval (permit) issued to US Ecology Nevada, Inc. (“US Ecology”). This Approval will allow US Ecology to continue to operate a commercial polychlorinated biphenyl (“PCB”) storage and chemical waste landfill facility (“Facility”) and allow use of a new landfill for PCB disposal. US Ecology is located approximately 11 miles southeast of Beatty, Nevada (see Site Location Map). The Approval allows US Ecology to continue: (1) commercial storage of PCB wastes; (2) treatment of PCB wastes in two stabilization tanks for final disposal; and (3) disposal of PCBs in the Trench 11 landfill. The Approval also authorizes PCB disposal in the Trench 12 landfill which has been receiving hazardous wastes since 2008 under a hazardous waste permit issued by the State of Nevada.

The Approval is being issued pursuant to Section 6(e)(1) of the Toxic Substances Control Act (“TSCA”) of 1976, 15 U.S.C. Section 2605(e)(1), and 40 C.F.R. Part 761.

Proposed Approval and Public Comments

A Proposed Approval, with a Statement of Basis supporting the decision, was subject to a 45-day public comment period that began on August 10, 2012 and ended on September 24, 2012. On September 13, 2012, U.S. EPA conducted an informational public meeting and hearing for the Proposed Approval. U.S. EPA received a total of 10 public comments on the Proposed Approval from two commenters.

The public comments, U.S. EPA’s response to the comments, changes to the Proposed Approval made as a result of the comments, and U.S. EPA’s rationale for issuing the Approval are included in U.S. EPA’s “PCB Approval Decision and Response to Public Comments” document dated November 5, 2012 (“PCB Approval Decision”).

The Approval and PCB Approval Decision are available for public review as part of the Administrative Record (see “For More Information” below).

Requirements Satisfied

Based upon review of the Approval application, as amended, and the public comments, U.S. EPA concludes that this Approval for US Ecology satisfies the requirements of TSCA and 40 C.F.R. Part 761 for storage of PCBs and for disposal of PCBs in a chemical waste landfill. U.S. EPA has also concluded that PCB operations at the Facility do not pose an unreasonable risk of injury to human health or the environment.

In addition to TSCA and the regulations at 40 C.F.R. Section 761.75, U.S. EPA has determined that issuance of this



Aerial Photo, US Ecology Nevada

Approval is consistent with Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act, Environmental Justice per Presidential Executive Order 12898, and Section 7 of the Endangered Species Act.

For additional information on how issuance of the Approval satisfies regulatory requirements, see U.S. EPA’s Statement of Basis, Approval for Commercial Storage and Disposal of Polychlorinated Biphenyls (PCBs), US Ecology Nevada, Inc., Beatty Nevada,” November 5, 2012.

For More Information

The Approval and the PCB Approval Decision documents have been incorporated into the Administrative Record (“AR”) for the Approval Decision. The AR contains the documents and information that U.S. EPA considered in issuing the Approval to US Ecology. The AR is physically located at the U.S. EPA Region 9 Office in San Francisco, California.

Satellite information repositories containing the most pertinent documents and an index of the AR are located at the Beatty Library, 400 North 4th Street, Beatty, NV 89003-0129 and the Nevada Division of Environmental Protection office in Las Vegas, Nevada (“NDEP”) at 2030 E. Flamingo Road, Ste. 230, Las Vegas, NV 89119.

The most pertinent documents used in the decision making process and an index of the AR can also be found on U.S. EPA’s website at www.epa.gov/region9/pcbs/usecology/. If you wish to view a document listed in the index that cannot be found online, at the Beatty Library or NDEP office, please contact U.S. EPA for a copy.

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U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Region 9
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Inside...

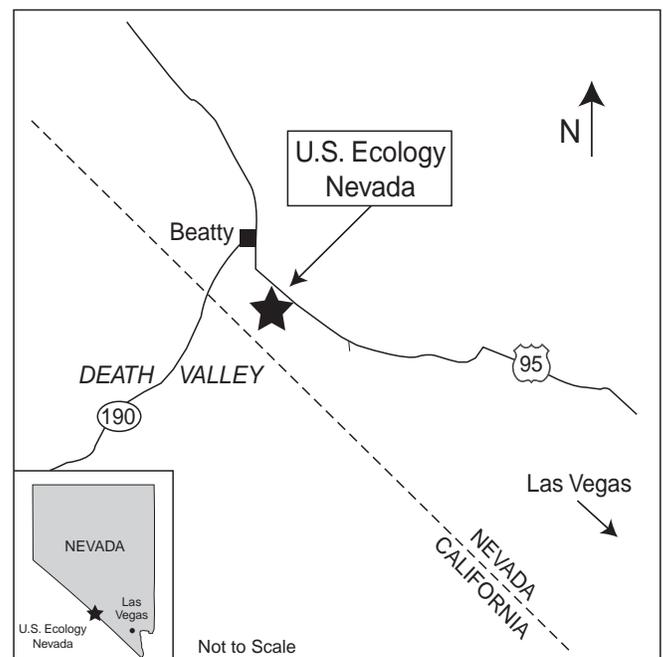
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For questions, concerns or further information, please contact:

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Site Location Map, US Ecology Nevada