

**NEGATIVE DECLARATION**

Department of Toxic Substances Control  
 Hazardous Waste Management Program – Cypress Office  
 5796 Corporate Avenue  
 Cypress, CA 90630

Subject:  DRAFT  FINAL  MITIGATED

Project Title: Topock Upland In Situ Pilot Test, Aquifer Testing, Groundwater Well Maintenance And Well Decommissioning

State Clearinghouse No.: **2007021035**

Project Location: Topock, Arizona; Needles, California

County: San Bernardino

Project Description: The Department of Toxic Substances Control (DTSC) is currently overseeing investigative and remedial activities at the Pacific Gas and Electric Company (PG&E) Topock Compressor Station. The Topock Compressor Station (project site) is located in eastern San Bernardino County, California. The site is located approximately 15 miles southeast of Needles (see Figure 1). Historical operations at the project site involved the use of chromium in the compressor station cooling water. Subsequent discharge of the cooling water resulted in chromium entering the groundwater aquifer.

PG&E has submitted the following three work plans to DTSC for approval:

- *In-situ Hexavalent Chromium Reduction Pilot Test Work Plan – Upland Plume Treatment* (Arcadis 2006)
- *Work Plan for Hydraulic Testing in Bedrock Wells* (CH2M HILL 2006g and CH2M HILL 2006h)
- *Well PGE-6 Revised Decommissioning Work Plan* (CH2M HILL 2006f)

The work plans referenced above describe: 1) a proposed pilot test of in-situ groundwater remediation technique; 2) proposed aquifer testing and maintenance at three groundwater wells; and 3) the decommissioning of a fourth well. Data resulting from implementation of the pilot test and aquifer testing activities will be utilized to support formulation of a long-term remediation plan (i.e., a final remedy). The final remedy will be formulated based on a forthcoming Corrective Measures Study (CMS) prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA). The selection of a final remedy will be subject to additional environmental analysis and documentation prepared in accordance with California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA). The information and analysis in this Initial Study for the Topock Upland In Situ Pilot Test, Aquifer Testing, Groundwater Well Maintenance and Well Decommissioning has been prepared in accordance with CEQA as provided for in Public Resources Code Section 21000 et seq. and California Code of Regulations, Title 14, Section 15000 et seq.

Finding Of Significant Effect On Environment: DTSC has determined that the project will not have a significant effect on the environment as defined in the Public Resources Code Section 21068.

Mitigation Measures: As explained in the Initial Study, this project does not require mitigation measures.



Branch Chief Signature

3/20/07

Date

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