



Port Seeks Public Comment on Proposed Tank Farm Expansion

Port to hold meetings in advance of environmental review

June 19, 2007

The Port of Long Beach is gathering public input on a proposal to add two storage tanks to the Chemoil Corp. tank farm facility on Pier F, about one and a half miles from downtown Long Beach.

The Port has completed a Notice of Preparation on Chemoil's proposal and will be hosting two public "scoping" meetings, on June 26 and 28. In the meetings, members of the public can provide input on topics they would like to see addressed in the project's Environmental Impact Report (EIR).

"We welcome public input and community involvement in every step of the process," said Dr. Robert Kanter, Managing Director of Environmental Affairs and Planning.

There will be additional opportunity for public comment upon release of the draft EIR, before any decisions are made by the Long Beach Board of Harbor Commissioners, Kanter noted.

Chemoil has submitted an application for a permit to add two storage tanks to help meet market demand for cleaner-burning low-sulfur gasoline and low-sulfur diesel fuel. The site now has 13 tanks with a storage capacity of 465,000 barrels; the two additional tanks would increase Chemoil's storage capacity by 130,000 barrels. Chemoil is seeking to expand its facility to 4.1 acres by acquiring 0.7 acres of the neighboring Morton Salt facility.

If this project is approved, Chemoil's lease with the Port would be renegotiated. As part of any new lease agreement, the Port has proposed environmental covenants that would require Chemoil to reduce air pollution by incorporating appropriate Clean Air Action Plan (CAAP) measures.

The Port will solicit public comments at two upcoming hearings: June 26 at 7 p.m., at the Port of Long Beach Administration Building, 925 Harbor Plaza, Long Beach, 90802; and June 28 at 7 p.m., at Long Beach City Council Chambers, 333 W. Ocean Blvd., Long Beach, 90802.

Written comments can be sent through July 21 to Dr. Robert Kanter, Managing Director of Environmental Affairs and Planning, Port of Long Beach, 925 Harbor Plaza, Long Beach, 90802.

The Chemoil Tank Farm Modification Notice of Preparation is available online at the Port's Web site at www.polb.com/environment/environmental_documents.asp.

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