

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Region 9
75 Hawthorne Street (WST-4)
San Francisco, CA 94105
Attn: Cynthia Ruelas

Official Business
Penalty for Private Use, \$300

Address Service Requested

FIRST-CLASS MAIL
POSTAGE & FEES
PAID
U.S. EPA
Permit No. G-35



U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
Pacific Southwest/Region 9



Serving Arizona, California, Hawaii, Nevada, the Pacific Islands and 148 Tribes

Waste Management Division
RCRA Facilities Management Office • February 2013

75 Hawthorne Street, San Francisco, CA 94105
866-EPA-WEST • www.epa.gov/region9

COMMUNITY INFORMATION FACT SHEET: Veolia Environmental Services Technical Solutions 5736 West Jefferson Street, Phoenix, Arizona Polychlorinated Biphenyl Waste Permit Project

Purpose of Permitting Action

Veolia Environmental Services Technical Solutions (Veolia) has submitted a permit renewal application to continue to manage polychlorinated biphenyls (PCBs) under the Toxic Substance Control Act (TSCA). The PCB activities conducted at the Veolia facility include receiving, storing, processing, and shipping for disposal PCB waste; and recovery of metals from PCB equipment. Federal regulations require a permit for PCB activities to help ensure that PCB storage and disposal facilities operate in a manner that protects human health and the environment, and otherwise comply with federal regulations. The current permit that the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) issued to Veolia has expired, and they have requested a renewal of their permit. Until a permit decision has been made, they can operate under their current permit. EPA is reviewing Veolia's permit application, and will be proposing a permit decision covering PCB activities at the facility.

Versión en Español incluida



COMMUNITY INFORMATION FACT SHEET:

Veolia Environmental Services Technical Solutions

Versión en Español incluida

Contact Information:

Cynthia Ruelas, EPA Project Manager
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
75 Hawthorne Street (WST-4)
San Francisco, CA 94105

You are receiving this Community Information Fact Sheet regarding Veolia Environmental Services Technical Solutions, LLC (Veolia), in Phoenix, Arizona, because you are either an owner or tenant of a property located in the vicinity of the Veolia facility.

The Veolia facility stores and processes polychlorinated biphenyls (PCBs) for later off-site disposal. The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) is reviewing a Toxic Substance Control Act (TSCA) PCB commercial storage renewal permit application from Veolia. As EPA reviews the renewal application for PCB storage, we are interested in hearing your questions and comments about the facility and the permit application. EPA will only make the decision to grant the facility a permit if it demonstrates that PCB operations do not pose an unacceptable risk to human health and the environment.

Phone number: (415) 972-3329
Fax number: (415) 947-3530
Email: ruelas.cynthia@epa.gov
<http://www.epa.gov/region9/pcbs/storage/veolia/>

All comments received will be considered in making a final permit decision.

FACILITY FACTS

- **PREVIOUS LAND USE:** Prior to development, the property and surrounding area was used for agriculture for many years.
- **PROPERTY DEVELOPMENT:** The property was first developed in 1991, and is currently owned by Jewell Investments, who leases the facility to Veolia.
- **PROPERTY ZONING:** The property is zoned by the City of Phoenix as A-1: Light Industrial.
- **RCRA ACTIVITIES:** Hazardous waste activities conducted at Veolia primarily include managing mercury-containing waste. These activities are permitted under the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA) and are overseen by the Arizona Department of Environmental Quality. RCRA activities take place in Buildings 1, 2, 4, and the hazardous waste storage building.
- **TSCA ACTIVITIES:** The PCB activities described in this fact sheet are permitted under TSCA and are overseen by EPA. TSCA activities currently take place in Buildings 2, 3, and 4.



Aerial View of Facility

Where is the Veolia Facility?

The facility address is 5736 West Jefferson Street in Phoenix, Arizona, and is located within the Westgate Industrial Center. The facility is located approximately six miles west of downtown Phoenix and one mile south of Interstate 10 (I-10). The property is on 2.67 acres and consists of four approximately 8,000 ft² buildings, an approximately 1,000 ft² hazardous waste storage building to the northwest, and an outdoor storage yard on the northern part of the site.



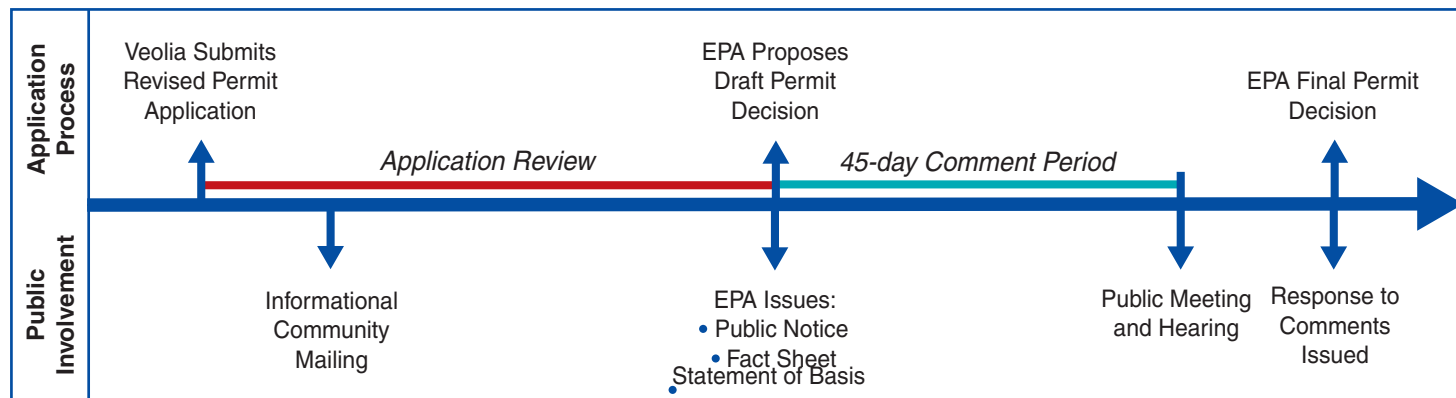
Truck staged in the truck-bay for PCB equipment and material unloading

PCB Activities at Veolia

Veolia receives PCB-containing equipment and containerized PCB liquid waste, regulated under TSCA, by truck. The PCB contaminated equipment received is inspected and then processed at the facility. Processing involves draining the equipment of all PCB liquids, flushing the emptied equipment, and then storing the liquid and solid waste in designated areas within the facility. Liquid waste received is combined in storage containers based on PCB concentrations. Finally, the materials are sent off site for appropriate disposal. Metals to be recovered from the equipment are cleaned with a performance-based solution (diesel/kerosene detergent mixture), and then shipped to an off-site recycling facility. Other non-recoverable solids are stored in bins in the yard, and later shipped to an appropriate disposal facility.

Schedule

EPA issued the facility a TSCA PCB Commercial Storage Approval for PCB-related operations in 1994. Veolia is currently operating under this 1994 Approval. EPA is currently reviewing Veolia's revised permit application. Once the permit application review is completed, EPA will propose a permit decision and will notify the public of the proposed permit decision through a fact sheet and public notice. This will initiate a 45-day public comment period, including a public meeting and hearing. The public meeting will help answer any questions expressed by community members. The schedule for making the final permit decision is depicted below.



What is in a permit application?

Among other things, a permit application includes the following components/information:

- **Standard Operating Procedures** - These cover a variety of facility operations including: inspections, logging incoming/outgoing shipments, waste processing, laboratory testing, waste handling procedures, and marking requirements.
- **Description of Storage Areas** - PCB storage areas must meet proper engineering standards and regulatory requirements to prevent chemical releases.
- **Spill Prevention and Cleanup Procedures** - Any measures taken to clean up spills within the facility must be carried out in accordance with the TSCA regulations.
- **Closure Plan and Financial Assurance** - Owners and operators of hazardous waste treatment, storage, and disposal facilities must demonstrate that funds will be available to properly close the facility.



Roll-off bins staged in the outdoor storage yard

What are PCBs?

PCBs are not known to occur naturally. They are man-made organic chemicals that were manufactured from 1929 until their manufacture was banned by EPA in 1979. PCBs range in consistency from crystalline to solids to sticky resins.



Drums in PCB storage area



PCB Profile

Characteristics	Previous Uses
PCBs do not degrade at high temperatures.	This is why PCBs were suitable for use in electrical equipment subject to heat, and in heat transfer and hydraulic equipment.
PCBs are highly soluble in oils and oil-like solvents.	This is why PCBs are often found mixed with mineral oil for use in electrical equipment.
PCBs remain stable over time.	This is one reason for the widespread use of PCBs as well as for their persistence in the environment.

PCBs in Products

When PCBs were manufactured, they were generally used in the following products:

- Adhesives
- Carbonless copy paper
- Construction materials
- Dedusting agents
- Electrical cable insulation
- Fuel tank coatings
- Inks
- Paint pigment
- Pesticides
- Gaskets
- Cutting oils



- Lubricants
- Vacuum pump fluid
- Sealants (caulk)
- Flame retardants
- Casting wax



Why Worry about PCBs?

PCBs are a class of toxic chemicals that are cancer-causing and may cause harmful effects on the body. Once released into the environment, PCBs can last for decades.



Tote containing PCB liquid

How is EPA Working with Veolia to Reduce Risk?

The main concern from a risk perspective is how to prevent spills and properly address spill cleanup and containment. Secondary containment units, in the form of steel containment pans, are available for totes and drums storing PCBs as well as PCB equipment, preventing any PCB liquid from escaping the facility. The PCB processing area is surrounded by a six-inch curb. The processing area has dedicated equipment and restricted access. To ensure proper containment, appropriate concrete surfaces are sealed with a layer of epoxy coating to prevent PCB liquids from leaching through porous concrete.

Workers assigned to PCB processing areas currently undergo TSCA training.

EPA inspectors separately visit the site and review all documentation submitted as part of the permit application. EPA conducts unannounced inspections at facilities like this to ensure the facility is complying with federal regulations and their current permit.