



CALIFORNIA LAND RECYCLING CONFERENCE

Imagine | Innovate | Implement
September 29 – October 1, 2026 | Foster City

HELP ME HELP YOU:

Getting to a Regulatory “Yes”



OFFICE OF BROWNFIELDS
Department of Toxic Substances Control - Cleanup in Vulnerable Communities Initiative



CENTER FOR CREATIVE
LAND RECYCLING
RECLAIM. CONNECT. TRANSFORM.

SPEAKERS



MARYAM TASNIF-ABBASI

California DTSC



PRESTON BROOKS

Cox, Castle & Nicholson, LLP



MARKUS NIEBANCK

Amicus

Help DTSC Help You

#1. Ask for pre-agreement scoping meetings

#2. Provide clear development schedules, deadlines and drivers, and update DTSC as things change

#3. Communicate why DTSC oversight is needed and share project goals, community benefits and evolving needs

#4. Ask for detailed project kickoff meetings with decision makers
Ask for clear direction on end goals for delineation

#5. Know your DTSC PM, Unit Chief and Branch Chief and check in periodically

#6. Scoping meetings before submitting documents and request follow-up if disagreements arise

#7. Resolve comments through meetings as early as possible

#8. Consider the cost of time spent debating comments versus accounting recommendations

#9. Focus on realistic endpoints for contamination and site use

#10. Ask DTSC to consider risk-management decisions when appropriate

#11. Align DTSC CEQA with project CEQA when applicable

#12. Provide rationale tables for all workplans, technical memos and cleanup plans

#13. Request to submit simple technical memos for step-outs after workplan approval

#14. Collaborate on an exit strategy for each medium; update/discuss routinely

#15. Share community engagement plans and community concerns; support community engagement

#16. Incorporate Community Considerate Cleanup approaches

#17. Encourage and support site visits

#18. Invite DTSC to site events, groundbreakings and grand openings

#19. Elevate issues to the PM, Unit Chief, Branch Chief or Division Chief when needed

#20. Low Income Housing Tax Credit projects – **come to us before you apply!**

Tell Us the Plans for the Property

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Scope Projects and Documents

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Things That Can Make a Difference

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Get to Know Us, Talk to Us

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Show Us What the Work is Really About

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A GUIDE TO GETTING TO A REGULATORY “YES”



Maryam Tasnif-Abbasi
California DTSC



Preston Brooks
Cox, Casle & Nicholson



Markus Niebanck
Amicus

Contact us anytime day
or night for anything that
you may need at all:

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THANK YOU!

**IMAGINE, INNOVATE, IMPLEMENT
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We appreciate your feedback, follow this QR code
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