



**City of Santa Barbara**  
Airport Department

**Memorandum**

**DATE:** October 10, 2019  
**TO:** IPM Advisory Committee  
**FROM:** Jeffrey McKee, Airport Facilities Manager  
**SUBJECT:** Exemption Request – Vikane (Sulfuryl Fluoride)

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The Airport Department requests a programmatic exemption for the use of Sulfuryl Fluoride (Vikane/Zythor) to eradicate drywood termite infestations in Airport buildings.

Airport Department is responsible for operation and maintenance of over 50, World War II era, wooden buildings. Buildings not used by the Airport Department are leased to private companies. Lease revenue is used to fund Airport operations and infrastructure improvements. Failure to maintain Airport buildings directly impacts lease revenues and the economic vitality of the Airport.

Due to the size of the buildings and the effectiveness of control, fumigation is the preferred course of action. Heat treatment is not generally recommended for buildings of this size and where electronic equipment is present.



***Describe the management goals and objectives for this site:***

Objective is to avoid structural drywood termite damage and maintain Airport buildings for continued use.

***Describe the pest problem.***

Drywood termites have been discovered in Airport buildings.

***What is the damage threshold for this pest at this site?***

The damage threshold for drywood termites is zero. Termites can cause structural damage to Airport buildings. Airport buildings are mostly wood frame structures, constructed by the Marine Corps during World War II and are ideal for termite infestation.

Airport has received complaints from tenants and staff regarding drywood termite infestations.

***What monitoring of the pest and potential predators (where applicable) has been conducted and what control methods have been previously used at the site?***

Site inspections and tenant complaints reveal the presence of these pests. No effective natural predators are known.

***Describe how the product would be applied including frequency, concentration, and method of application.***

Contractor would tent the building and fumigate to eradicate the drywood termite infestation. The proposed product is Vikane with sulfuryl fluoride as the active ingredient. Vikane has a "Danger" label.

***What non-target impacts do you anticipate?***

No non-target impacts are anticipated.

***How does the use of this product help achieve the site management goals and objectives? Note if this is curative or preventative.***

Curative. This approach is directed toward control of existing colonies of drywood termites that are known to damage wooden structures. Without control efforts, drywood termite damage could eventually render buildings unfit for use.

***How will the effectiveness of this product be monitored? Include your expected results and indicators of success.***

Contractor and/or Airport staff and/or tenants will conduct follow-up inspections to monitor for presence of drywood termites. Applicators offer various guarantees, usually 2 years. If re-infestation is discovered within that period the contractor re-treats.

***Describe the site conditions. Please note if this is a restricted access area, within 20 feet from a creek or body of water, subject to runoff or in a designated "Pesticide Free Zone."***

Most, if not all, Airport buildings are susceptible to termite infestation. Buildings are located throughout Airport property and are used by aviation related or commercial/Industrial businesses. The proposed product is a gas, so no contamination or residual product is expected.

***Describe the alternatives considered and detail why they were eliminated. Include an analysis of why this is the most environmentally prudent option and why a less-hazardous chemical, non-chemical option, or taking no action is not feasible.***

Heat treatment is the approach that is favored by the IPM Advisory Committee. Airport researched the heat treatment option and found that pest control contractors recommend fumigation for buildings of this size. In addition, fumigation is considered more effective.