



Agency for Toxic Substances
and Disease Registry
Atlanta, GA 30333

September 20, 2007

Rajiv Bhatia, M.D., M.P.H.
Director of Occupational and Environmental Health
1390 Market Street
Suite 910
San Francisco, California 94102

Dear Dr. Bhatia:

On July 17, 2007, you requested that the Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry (ATSDR) respond to concerns related to grading operations at Hunter's Point Shipyard (HPS) Parcel A in San Francisco. As you know, ATSDR funds the California Department of Public Health (CDPH), Site Assessment Section (SAS), to assist us with work within the State of California. The CDPH provided a written evaluation of your request on September 10, 2007. This evaluation is enclosed.

ATSDR concurs with the essential findings, conclusions, and recommendations made by CDPH regarding asbestos and dust levels. There was clear evidence that levels of asbestos exceeded mandated thresholds at both the fence line and in the community. The concentrations of dust could not be interpreted because of the sampling methods. It is reasonable to conclude that levels of dust and asbestos were similar during the months when sampling did not occur. The exposures did result in some increased risk for community residents, although it is not possible to quantify this risk. Medical follow-up or screening is not recommended because there are no valid tests to identify current exposures or predict developing future disease.

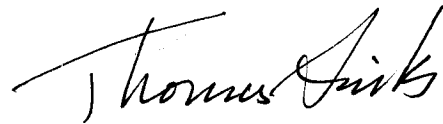
Public health follow-up should focus on effective efforts to further reduce exposures and to monitor and verify that these reductions occur. These steps are outlined in the CDPH letter.

You and the Bay Area Air Quality Management District have taken many steps to protect the public from the dust and asbestos generated during work activities at HPS Parcel A. ATSDR and CDPH support your efforts and are committed to helping you address the issues we have raised.

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Please feel free to contact CAPT Susan Muza at (415) 947-4316; via email at Muza.Susan@epamail.epa.gov or me at (404) 498-0004; via email at TSinks@cdc.gov if you have comments or concerns.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Thomas Sinks". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, sweeping initial "T".

Thomas Sinks, Ph.D.
Deputy Director, National Center for Environmental
Health/Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease
Registry

Enclosure:
Letter from CDPH

cc:
Dr. Rick Kreutzer, CDPH
Ms. Karen Henry, USEPA, Region 9
Mr. Clancy Tenley, USEPA, Region 9
Dr. Tina Forrester, ATSDR, Division of Regional Operations (DRO)
CAPT Susan Muza, ATSDR, DRO