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The SF Shipyard HOA
c/o 11 Innes Court
San Francisco, CA 94124

Hunters Point Naval Shipyard Parcel A-1, Radiation Health and Safety Scanning Survey: Final Progress Update

Since the beginning of this scanning effort, CDPH has been providing weekly updates to the residents. This update is a final update that compiles all of the currently available scanning data from the Parcel A-1 radiation health and safety survey.

The radiation health and safety scanning survey began on July 16 and field work was completed on October 26. The survey consisted of a walkover scan (“hand scans”) and towed array scan in Parcel A-1. Specifically, it covered outdoor publicly accessible areas, such as open areas of uncovered ground, landscaped areas and areas with limited shielding, such as streets and sidewalks. In addition, due to input and requests from the residents, the survey also included common areas between residences, a large soil stockpile, and most of the slopes of A-1.

The total number of anomalies detected stands at 89 with 40 from the walkover scan and 49 from the towed array system. Please note that this is a provisional number that is subject to change as our survey teams continue to quality-check our initial readings and perform additional verification work. If these analyses and work confirm any additional anomalies, they will be included in the final report. Of these 89 anomalies, all but one have been determined to be potassium-40, a naturally occurring radioisotope of potassium. It is a substance found throughout nature, including in plants, animals, various foods and our bodies. Detection of potassium-40 is not unusual for a radiation scan of this type and is not a health or safety concern for people or the environment.

The one exception was determined to be a naval deck marker that was buried under approximately 10 inches of soil, located near Galvez and Donahue at the bottom of the hill on the north side of Parcel A-1 in an undeveloped and fenced area. The radiation emitted from the deck marker was measured at 0.09 mrem/hr on soil surface. The



amount of radiation output by this deck marker would not have resulted in a health or safety hazard to anyone who happened to be at that spot previously. It was removed by a Navy contractor under CDPH observation. The hole which contained the deck marker was scanned as was the removed soil. No radiation above background was detected, which indicated that the deck marker was intact and that no radium leaked out of the marker.

CDPH appreciates the assistance of residents throughout this survey effort, ranging from moving parked cars to the various suggestions and inquiries that led to an improved work plan and execution. All of this allowed CDPH to complete this survey work efficiently and with accurate results in order to provide residents an assessment of what, if any, level of potentially harmful radiation exposure might exist at Parcel A-1. A final report, including final data and a complete archive of all work performed (e.g., maps, enhanced measurements, etc.), will be published next month and will be made available to the public.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Mark Starr". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a prominent horizontal stroke at the end.

Mark Starr, DVM, MPVM, DACVPM
Deputy Director for Environmental Health
California Department of Public Health