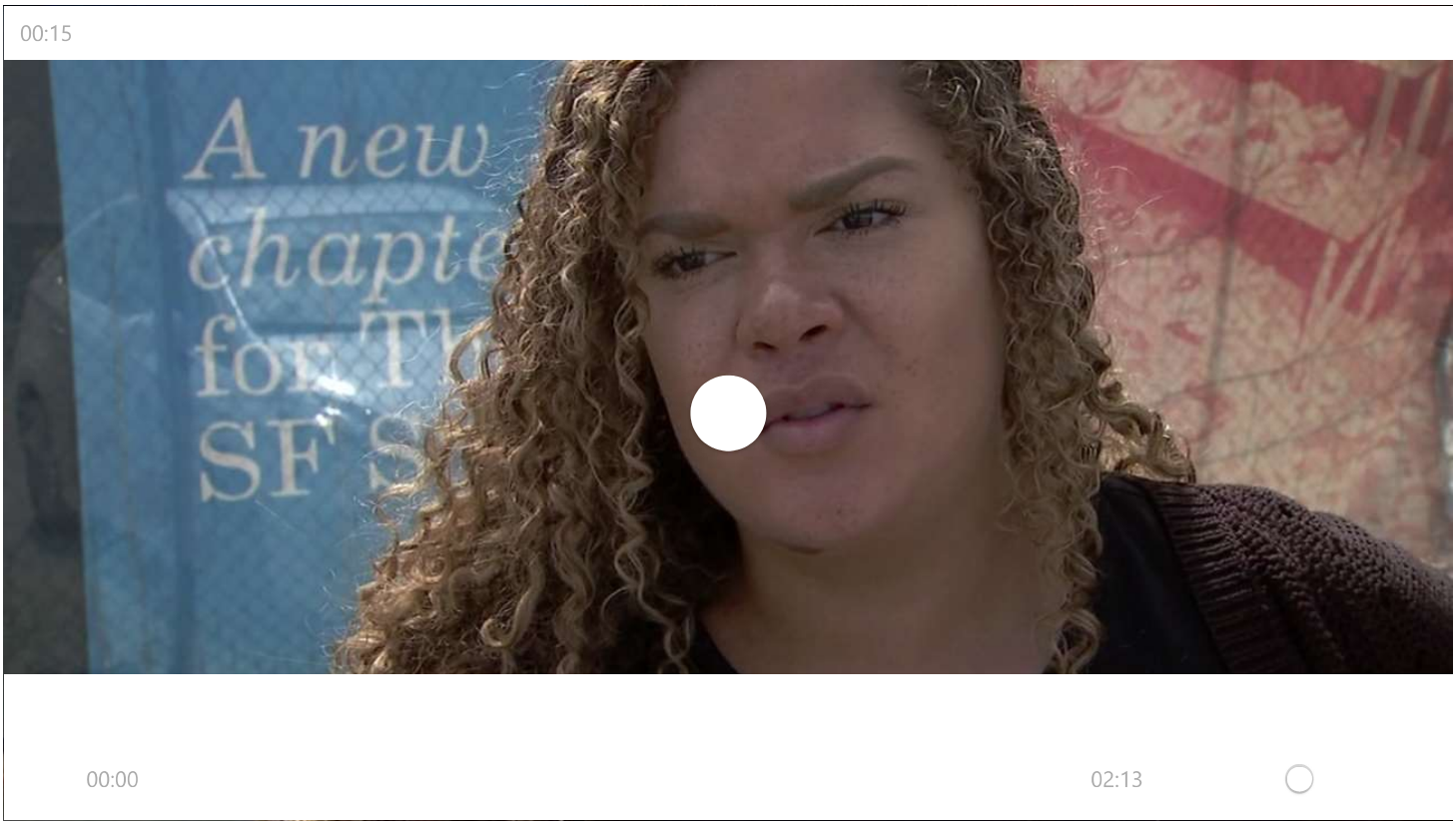
WATCH LIVE: Continuing coverage tracking Florence

IN THE WAKE OF THE EARTHQUAKE IN NEPAL
MONETARY DONATIONS HELP THE MOST

REAL ESTATE

Radioactive object found near Hunters Point homes despite years of 'clean-up'

SHARE TWEET SHARE EMAIL



EMBED </> MORE VIDEOS

"With a baby on the way, it's really scary," said Lennar Homes resident Seray Ellington about the object that was found, a device known as a deck marker. (KGO-TV)

By Eric Thomas

Friday, September 14, 2018 06:29PM

SAN FRANCISCO (KGO) -- There's been a new scare for people living in a housing development on the old Hunters Point Naval Shipyard. The former base was known to be contaminated with toxic and radioactive waste.

Despite a continuing clean-up, residents were just notified that a radioactive item was found near homes.

Theo Ellington and his wife Seray live in the Lennar Homes development at Hunters Point. They were aware when they bought their home that the soil was contaminated. But this is something new.

RELATED: Whistleblowers: We were 'puppets on a string' falsifying toxic soil reports at Hunter's Point Shipyard

They were among the residents and environmental activists who gathered today at the development to complain that federal and local governments aren't living up to their promise clean up the site.

"They're flouting their responsibilities to clean this up properly, to do it safely and to do it legally," said attorney David Anton.

For decades toxic chemicals from ships leached into the soil at the Hunters Point base, along with radioactive paint and contaminants from early nuclear tests. The Navy, EPA, and state and local governments promised a clean-up.

But the Navy has accused Tetra Tech, one of the companies involved in the clean-up, of falsifying test results. Tetra Tech denies it.

RELATED: Hearing held to discuss SF Hunters Point toxic cleanup discrepancy

The Ellingtons believe the device was found behind a fence on what's known as parcel A. That's less than 30 yards from their home. Seray Ellington is eight and a half months pregnant.

"We don't know long term effects and, you know, with a baby on the way, it's really scary," she said.

The device is called a deck marker and was used to guide ships to their berth. It contains Radium 226.

Dr. Ahimsa Sumchai, a physician in San Francisco, said Radium 226 can cause "everything from itching skin, ulceration, dermatitis, cancer."

RELATED: EPA letter reveals Navy's downplay of radioactive soil in SF's Bayview

The Navy admitted the deck marker was found after scanning for radiation on parcel A.

Their statement said "one anomalous reading was identified as a historical deck marker and removed by the Navy."

The San Francisco public health department added: "Today we are confident that the parcel A site is safe and that the object that was found poses no risks to the residents or workers there."

Developer Lennar said "it was not found on their property."

Environmentalists said they will recommend that officials test everyone within one square mile for radioactive contamination.

Report a Typo

Related Topics:

real estate | real estate development | soil contamination | radiation | toxic waste | navy | Hunters Point | San Francisco

(Copyright ©2018 KGO-TV. All Rights Reserved.)

SPONSORED CONTENT

[Pics] Nicole Disappeared On Her Way To Work. 20 Year Later Her Brother Makes A Brave Facebook Confession
Nocartridge

I Gave HelloFresh A Taste. Here's Why I'm Never Going Back.
Popdust

Top Cardiologist: "This Is Why You Have Less Energy After 50"
Health Headlines

If You Can Qualify for Any Credit Card, These Are the Top 6
NerdWallet

We Ranked This Year's Best Luxury Vehicles for Seniors! The Winners Are...
Faqeo

Don't do these 5 things during hurricanes and power outages
Energizer

MORE FROM ABC7 NEWS

BTS Army celebrates at Oracle Arena for 'Love Yourself' concert in Oakland

Snell Fire in Napa County 20 percent contained after burning 2,400 acres

'No Drone Zone' campaign launches in Santa Clara County

VIDEO: K-Pop mania in Oakland for BTS' 'Love Yourself Tour' at Oracle

Scenes from 2018's Oakland Pride festivities

Fall 'hole punch clouds' seen across the Bay Area

Recommended by

REAL ESTATE

Football helping Bay Area teachers afford homes

Demolition underway at Solano County Fairgrounds

Retiring bishop says he won't be moving into $2.3M home, San Jose diocese to sell

SJ diocese criticized for purchasing $2.3M home for retiring bishop

MORE REAL ESTATE

TOP STORIES

WATCH L

Palo Alto professor accuses Supreme Court nominee of sexual misconduct
Updated 46 mins ago

WATCH LIVE: Continuing coverage tracking Florence
Updated 2 hrs 39 mins ago

VIDEO: Aerial look at destructive NC flooding from Florence
Updated 2 hrs 37 mins ago

Stray dogs rescued from I-580 in Oakland

SpaceX changes plans to send tourists around the moon
Updated 23 mins ago

ESPN
Davis hits slam in 9th but A's again stumble, Rays win 5-4
Updated 1 hr 47 mins ago

Diaper-wearing man allegedly fakes disability to meet women
Updated 1 hr 1 min ago

SHOW MORE

abc7 NEWS SAN FRANCISCO OAKLAND SAN JOSE

Home
AccuWeather
Traffic
Local News
Categories
Station Info
Shows
Apps

Search Our Site GO

Follow Us

Privacy Policy
Children's Privacy Policy
Your California Privacy Rights
Terms of Use
Interest-Based Ads
Public Inspection File

Copyright © 2018 ABC Inc., KGO-TV San Francisco. All Rights Reserved.
34em/544px