MEMORANDUM

TO: PROPERTY OWNER/TENANT

FROM: UNIFIED COMMAND: Fruitland Magnesium Fire Incident

SUBJECT: **Documentation Package for Residential Sampling and Cleanup resulting from the Fruitland Magnesium Fire**

DATE: **SEPTEMBER 29, 2016**

In response to the impacts of the Fruitland Magnesium Fire Incident in Maywood, Los Angeles County, Calif., that began on June 14, 2016, at the recycling facility located at 3570 Fruitland Avenue, the Unified Command was formed to conduct assessment and cleanup of hazardous materials. The Unified Command included the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), the Los Angeles County Department of Public Health (DPH), and the Los Angeles County Fire Department Health Hazardous Materials Division (HHMD). People from other state and national health agencies also participated in response efforts, including representatives from the California Department of Toxics Substances and Control and the Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry.

As part of the response efforts, homes along the north side of E 52nd Street between Everett Avenue and Maywood Avenue were assessed and affected properties were cleaned up. All of the homes on the north side of E 52nd Street were evacuated during the assessment and prevent additional contamination in homes. Homes and properties were cleaned up to ensure the safety of the residents. As part of this effort, you signed an Access Agreement allowing EPA and its contractors to conduct assessments of your property and your home, including soil sampling in the yard and air and dust sampling inside your home, for the presence of fire ash and/or debris released during the fire. Before homes were reoccupied, the Unified Command 1) reviewed the results of the sampling and assessments, 2) determined whether cleaning was necessary for the interior of your home and/or outdoor areas of the property, and 3) conducted the appropriate cleanup activities. If the interior of the home required cleaning, additional air and vacuum samples were collected inside the home to confirm the indoor cleaning activities were successful. Based on the data available, residents were notified when they could move back home.

What Are My Results?

Unified Command followed a detailed evaluation and testing process to ensure your home is not contaminated with metals that would pose a health concern to you and your family. When you returned to your home, you were shown the data that was used to make the decision for your re-occupancy. The data that is provided to you in this packet has been technically reviewed. Please take a look at the attached fact sheet which explains the various types of assessments that occurred in and around your home. The sampling results conducted inside and outside your home are attached in the tables of results. If the interior of your home was cleaned, the sampling results conducted were provided to you before and after cleanup. The screening levels for each contaminant of concern for the air and dust samples are

found on the Health Officer Determination page.

If you need more information about the metals of concern that were found inside the E 52nd Street homes, toxicological information is also attached at the end of this package. Photographs of the sampling and outdoor cleanup are also provided.

What Happens Next?

The fire debris at the facility has been covered with soil sealant and filter fabric to prevent ash and dust from spreading through ambient air as windblown dust. A fence with a geotextile barrier has been constructed around the perimeter of the fire-damaged facility, and the facility has been under 24-hour security surveillance since the fire. These protective measures will be in place until next steps at the facility are taken, either by the owner or agencies. Negotiations are currently underway with the facility owner, and agencies are evaluating the various programs which may be able to assist with cleanup if the owner cannot properly clean up the property. Federal, state and county agencies continue to work collaboratively on a comprehensive strategy to address contamination at the recycling facility. Before work begins at the facility, notification to residents will be provided with more details on the work and work schedule. As the cleanup activities continue on the property where the fire took place, every effort will be made to ensure that dust and ash do not re-enter your neighborhood. Occasionally, you may notice burned metal and other fire debris odors, depending on weather conditions.

Please report odors to the South Coast Air Monitoring District at 1-800-CUT-SMOG. If you have any health concerns, please contact LA County Public Health at 213.738.3220. For questions about the facility cleanup, you can speak with EPA's Community Involvement Coordinator, Carlin Hafiz, at 213.244.1814 or hafiz.carlin@epa.gov