LEE, LILY

From: LEE, LILY
Sent: Thursday, September 18, 2014 6:59 PM
To: 'ken aronovsky'
Subject: Followup to your concerns about Hunters Point, Candlestick Park, and Yosemite Slough

Dear Mr. Aronovsky:

Thank you for your emails during September, 2014, expressing concerns about contamination at Hunters Point, Candlestick Park, and Yosemite Slough. To follow up on my multiple voicemails and emails to you, below is information I hope will help.

You expressed concern about contamination at the Hunters Point Naval Shipyard. At this site, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (US EPA) oversees and enforces Navy compliance with the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act (CERCLA), which created the "Superfund" program, to ensure the cleanup at the Shipyard is protective of human health and environment. The Navy is addressing the contamination through a variety of methods including removal, treatment, and containment of the contamination. The US EPA and other environmental agencies review the Navy's testing results, plans for addressing contamination, and confirmation that cleanup is complete before any properties can be transferred for further development. Even though some low levels of contamination will indeed remain at the site, the Navy is taking measures to contain that remaining contamination to protect public health and the environment in compliance with the requirements of the US EPA's Superfund program. In addition, before the Navy transfers any properties, any future owners must agree to implement construction, operation, maintenance, and inspection requirements to continue protecting public health and the environment. More information is available at this link: www.epa.gov/region09/HuntersPointNavalShipyard

In addition, you wrote that you believe US EPA should take enforcement action against the Lennar Urban San Francisco developer ("Lennar"). Even though US EPA has not taken enforcement action, the Bay Area Air Quality Management District ("District") has. The District issued the following two Notices of Violation (NOVs) to Lennar alleging violations of the Asbestos Dust Mitigation Plan (ADMP): NOV#A46068, issued September 9, 2006, alleges a failure to properly conduct air monitoring for a period of time and a failure to provide a gravel truck wheel wash bed at an exit road. NOV#A46075, issued October 26, 2007, alleges the overfilling of trucks with material and a failure to maintain wheel wash beds free of accumulated material. Both NOVs were settled on August 12, 2008, without litigation, in accordance with California Health and Safety Code section 42403(b), for a civil penalty of $515,000. Since then, the District issued a Notice to Comply to Lennar in January 2009 for inadequate track-out prevention and control. The District sends an Air Quality Inspector to conduct unannounced daily inspections at the Bayview Hunters Point neighborhood. More information is available at this link: http://www.baaqmd.gov/~/media/Files/Compliance%20and%20Enforcement/Fact%20Sheets/Lennar%20Fact%20Sheet.ashx?la=en.

You have expressed concerns about the plans for redevelopment. Many agencies are involved in the Hunters Point community. Land use decisions are made at the local level. This is the contact person for the City/County of San Francisco to learn more about land use decisions at the Hunters Point redevelopment area:

Ethan Warsh
Office of Community Investment & Infrastructure
Successor to the San Francisco Redevelopment Agency
One South Van Ness Avenue, 5th Floor
San Francisco, CA 94103

(415) 749-2577
ethan.warsh@sfgov.org

Mr. Warsh can tell you more about ways to stay informed about the project, including monthly public meetings of the Hunters Point Shipyard Citizens Advisory Committee (CAC). At those meetings, the City presents on most decision points of the project, including designs, and any proposed changes to the plan. More information is available at www.sfocii.org.

In addition, you had concerns about environmental conditions at Candlestick Park. Here, also, many agencies are involved. US EPA does not have a direct oversight role at this site. Stephanie Cushing is the appropriate contact person in the San Francisco Department of Public Health related to Candlestick Park. After I sent your message to her on September 16, 2014, I saw that she has already sent you an explanation of the steps that Lennar has already taken to test the soil and address the contaminants found. For more information, please contact her at Stephanie.cushing@sfdph.org or 415-252-3926.

Finally, you expressed concerns about Yosemite Slough. US EPA and other environmental agencies have tested the water and sediment at Yosemite Slough and have developed an approach-for cleanup described in an Action Memo. To date, there has not been any chemical contaminant cleanup work in the Slough. EPA's preliminary best case schedule estimates that the Slough cleanup will commence in the summer of 2017. Potentially responsible parties (PRPs) refers to companies that are potentially responsible for generating, transporting, or disposing of the hazardous waste found at the site and that could be required to pay for the cleanup of the Slough. US EPA has conducted enforcement investigations to identify PRPs for the Yosemite Slough Site. These efforts have identified over 70 PRPs who have received enforcement notice letters called "General Notice Letters" under CERCLA also known as the federal Superfund law. US EPA intends to reach a legal settlement under which the PRPs would conduct the design and implement the cleanup remedy selected by the Action Memo. All PRP work would be pursuant to U.S. EPA review and approval. More information is available at this link:
www.epa.gov/region9/yosemiteslough

I hope this information helps. Please contact me with any other questions at 415-947-4187 or lee.lily@epa.gov.

Sincerely,

Lily Lee

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