Nancy Pelosi
Democratic Leader

May 14, 2018

The Honorable Scott Pruitt
Administrator
United States Environmental Protection Agency
1200 Pennsylvania Avenue, Northwest
Washington, D.C. 20460

The Honorable Richard V. Spencer
Secretary
United States Navy
1000 Navy Pentagon
Washington, D.C. 20350

Dear Administrator Pruitt and Secretary Spencer:

Thank you for the work of dedicated federal civil servants in your Department on the remediation of the Superfund site at the former Hunters Point Naval Shipyard. With over $1 billion in federal funds secured over many years towards the cleanup and conveyance of this former installation, much progress has been made in the removal of radiological and other harmful materials that once plagued the Shipyard.

However, the indications of massive potential manipulation and falsification of data by Navy contractor Tetra Tech, as well as the recent guilty pleas of two former Tetra Tech cleanup supervisors, has caused deep concerns for the project in our community.

As the Navy, EPA, and state regulatory agencies work together to formulate a workplan for the necessary excavation, resampling, and rescanning of fraudulent work, I request your assistance in working together to find agreement on the workplan and promptly begin retesting. Involving the public continues to be a top priority; members of the Bayview-Hunters Point community deserve to be briefed, included, and listened to as we formulate a response that safeguards public health and safety while ensuring a timely cleanup and transfer of parcels.

With regards to Parcel A, a section of the Shipyard transferred to San Francisco in 2004 that is now a home to a community of residents, I appreciate the repeated assurance of both your agencies that it is safe; that it was historically used for housing and administrative offices, not industrial activities. However, given the air of doubt that now surrounds this project, property values can be affected and community members living in Parcel A have expressed their strong desire for retesting. I agree, and believe out of an abundance of caution, a rescanning of Parcel A should be swiftly conducted.

The level of work to get this project back on track is vast, and will require the full attention and resources of the federal government. I pledge to continue doing my part in the Congress, and was proud to help secure the increase in federal funds for base cleanup in the recent omnibus funding bill that led to a $36 million increase in funds for Hunters Point.

With last week's sentencing of two former Tetra Tech supervisors who plead guilty to falsifying records, I applaud the work of the dedicated federal prosecutors and the law enforcement personnel from the Department of Defense, EPA, and the Nuclear Regulatory Commission whose investigation led to the conviction.

The public deserves to know how such widespread data falsification could have occurred, and whether this level of fraud extended beyond the two supervisors. These actions represent a breach of the public trust, and the Navy must seriously consider the evidence against Tetra Tech and specifically subsidiary Tetra Tech EC, which may be of such a serious and compelling nature that suspension or disbarment should be enforced. All federal agencies contracting with Tetra Tech should be made aware of the serious investigations underway regarding their work at Hunters Point, so that they can be on guard to safeguard against other potential fraudulent activities.

Contractors who defraud our government must be held to account, taxpayers must be made whole, and all those who commit fraudulent activities must be brought to justice.

Thank you for your attention to these immediate concerns.

best regards,

Nancy Pelosi

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