GREENACTION
for Health & Environmental Justice

October 19, 2016

Alexis Strauss
Acting Regional Administrator
United States Environmental Protection Agency, Region IX

Matthew Rodriquez
Secretary
California Environmental Protection Agency

Barbara Lee
Director
Department of Toxic Substances Control

RE: Tetra Tech and the Hunters Point Naval Shipyard

Dear Regional Administrator Strauss, Secretary Rodriquez, and Director Lee,

As you know, The United States Environmental Protection Agency and the California Environmental Protection Agency/Department of Toxics Substances Control are responsible for protecting the health and environment of low income communities of color from hazardous and radioactive exposures.

While we appreciate your recent action halting transfers of parcels from the Hunters Point Shipyard in response to Tetra Tech's falsification of soil samples at the site, current and future investigations and remedial actions must have integrity and fully protect the people, community and environment from this highly contaminated area – unlike what has taken place to date.

Your September 13th letter to the US Navy appears to acknowledge community concerns and states clearly:

"…integrity of the data from the Navy's contractor Tetra Tech ECI, Incorporated, ("Tetra Tech") is of the utmost importance in ensuring the cleanup decisions are made in a manner that protects public health and the environment and complies with requirements of the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act (CERCLA). We understand that several agencies are currently engaged in ongoing investigations regarding the nature and extent of Tetra Tech's misrepresentation of data delivered to the Navy. I am confirming that we agreed …that the Navy will not propose any further transfers of Navy property at HPNS without results of these investigations and/or any other Navy action necessary to clarify the actual potential public exposure to radioactive material at and near the HPNS."

In light of Tetra Tech's improper and likely illegal actions, we have no trust whatsoever in Tetra

Greenaction for Health and Environmental Justice
559 Ellis Street, San Francisco, CA 94109
PO Box 277, Kettleman City, CA 93239
Phone: (415) 447-3904 Fax: (415) 447-3905
www.greenaction.org greenaction@greenaction.org

Tech's past or current work at the Shipyard since they became a federal contractor at the site in the 1990's. We are further alarmed at the totally unacceptable "settlement" announced by the NRC on October 11th that makes a mockery of the serious violations committed by Tetra Tech.

Therefore, on behalf of our members and constituents in Bayview Hunters Point, San Francisco whose health, environment, and well-being is threatened by toxic and radioactive contamination at and near the Hunters Point Naval Shipyard site, we call on USEPA and CalEPA/DTSC to take the following actions:

1. Terminate Tetra Tech's contract immediately and ensure they receive the maximum penalty for falsification of soil samples and any other violations that may be found during recent, current and/or future investigations. Tetra Tech must pay all government and community costs incurred in new and future investigations and site remediation resulting from Tetra Tech's malfeasance;

2. Your investigations must include interviewing the former employees and other whistleblowers that came forward to allege improper and illegal actions regarding hazardous and radioactive wastes;

3. Conduct a comprehensive sampling and testing of the entire original Shipyard site including parcels that have already been transferred, as well as adjacent areas where reports indicate dumping may have occurred:

   (a) New comprehensive testing should include surface scanning and sub-surface core sampling, and
   (b) New testing must be conducted with full independent community oversight, with experts of our choosing participating in the new testing and provided split samples;

4. A technical assistance grant should be provided to the community so we can have the resources hire a qualified independent expert and to pay for sampling and testing.

Very importantly, we request a meeting with your agency leadership and project staff and experts to discuss your investigation and our requests.

For environmental justice,

Bradley Angel

Bradley Angel
Executive Director, Greenaction for Health and Environmental Justice

Greenaction for Health and Environmental Justice
559 Ellis Street, San Francisco, CA 94109
PO Box 277, Kettleman City, CA 93239
Phone: (415) 447-3904 Fax: (415) 447-3905
www.greenaction.org greenaction@greenaction.org