Nancy Pelosi
Democratic Leader

July 27, 2018

The Honorable Arthur A. Elkins, Jr.
Inspector General
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
Office of Inspector General
1200 Pennsylvania Avenue, Northwest (2410T)
Washington, D.C. 20460

Dear Inspector General Arthur A. Elkins, Jr.:

The massive manipulation and falsification of data by Navy contractor Tetra Tech EC has left an unacceptable cloud of fear and doubt over the Hunters Point community. The ongoing threat to the health and safety of Bayview-Hunters Point residents and the disturbing lack of transparency threaten to undermine the confidence of the community and incredible work that dedicated civil servants and community leaders have committed to this landmark development.

The EPA Office of Inspector General must immediately investigate whether the EPA provided the appropriate level of oversight during the original clean-up and testing process, how they handled whistleblower accusations against Tetra Tech EC, whether any fraudulent or false reporting is present in other Tetra Tech EC contracts, and whether they are following best practices during the re-testing process.

Immediate investigations are essential to guarantee that all those responsible for Tetra Tech EC's abuse have been held to account. The sentencing earlier this year of two former Tetra Tech EC supervisors who pled guilty to falsifying records represents important but insufficient progress.

The level of work to get this project back on track is extensive. It will require the full attention and resources of the federal government and the continued support of those who live and work in the shipyard and surrounding Bayview community.

Moving forward, the Navy, EPA, and state regulatory agencies must continue to work together to formulate and execute a work plan for the necessary excavation, resampling, and rescanning of Hunters Point to ensure, beyond any doubt, the health and safety of the residents and the brave men and women in uniform who have sworn an oath to protect the people of San Francisco. Given the numerous unaddressed concerns of the community, I request an immediate briefing on the status of the Hunters Point clean-up and re-testing.

During this critical process, members of the Bayview-Hunters Point community deserve to be briefed, included, and heard. Nothing less than total transparency will suffice. I am calling for the creation of a Hunters Point Hotline to give concerned residents an avenue to engage with government officials and raise legitimate concerns.

It has been my honor to fight in Congress for the continued funding for Hunters Point. This spring, Bay Area Democrats fought for and won an additional $36 million in critical funding in the omnibus. In the weeks ahead, we will continue to demand thorough and deliberate investigations, and relentlessly fight to ensure that the Hunters Point community has the resources and information they need to guarantee the health and safety of themselves and their families.

Thank you for your immediate attention to this urgent matter.

best regards,

Nancy Pelosi

NANCY PELOSI
House Democratic Leader