Message

From: Scott, Jeff [/O=EXCHANGELABS/OU=EXCHANGE ADMINISTRATIVE GROUP (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/CN=RECIPIENTS/CN=AFAC6D298397450094BD69BCE7B3746F-JSCOTT]
Sent: 7/20/2016 7:17:19 PM
To: Huetteman, Tom [Huetteman.Tom@epa.gov]
Subject: RE: A PCB Site that may come to your attention

Thanks!

Jeff Scott
Director, Land Division
EPA Region 9
75 Hawthorne St
San Francisco, CA 94105

Phone: (415) 972-3311
Fax: (415) 947-3530

From: Huetteman, Tom
Sent: Tuesday, July 19, 2016 4:00 PM
To: Strauss, Alexis <Strauss.Alexis@epa.gov>
Cc: Scott, Jeff <Scott.Jeff@epa.gov>; Barhite, Steven <Barhite.Steven@epa.gov>; Armann, Steve <Armann.Steve@epa.gov>; Lyons, John <Lyons.John@epa.gov>; LEONIDO-JOHN, STEVEN <Leonido-John.Steven@epa.gov>
Subject: A PCB Site that may come to your attention

Alexis,

At your meeting tomorrow in Los Angeles we understand that Penny Newman will be present and that she may raise to your attention concerns associated with the Riverside Agricultural Park site, a PCB cleanup of a proposed new housing development. Here is some background on the site and the ongoing concerns. Please let me know if you have any questions or concerns. Thanks, Tom

In 2015 DTSC certified Riverside Agricultural Park ready for residential development. At the request of CCAEJ (Penny's organization), Land Division's Corrective Action Office worked with DTSC to develop and implement verification sampling for the cleanup. Unfortunately, that verification sampling as well as subsequent sampling identified elevated concentrations of PCBs above residential health based levels and additional work is needed before construction of a new residential development can proceed. These findings also supported CCAEJ's lack of confidence in DTSC's ability to properly address the site and reinforce concerns that the site contamination is more extensive than previously thought.

EPA worked with DTSC to help develop the initial verification sampling plan and two subsequent plans to significantly expand characterization of the site. We also collected our own samples for analysis by the R9 lab which resulted in a modification to the laboratory procedures DTSC was requiring of the developer. Most recently, EPA concurred with DTSC's approval of the developer's cleanup plan to address the additional PCB contamination found at the site. We are also in discussions with DTSC regarding increased "at depth" sampling, a CCAEJ concern, and with the assistance of Matt Plate from the QA Office, we are reviewing an air monitoring plan to be implemented during the cleanup activities.

Community members are also concerned that PCB contamination has spread to existing residential areas adjacent to Riverside Agriculture Park. DTSC has recently established a community advisory group to evaluate this concern. Patrick Wilson participates on this group. ATSDR is also involved in evaluating health concerns expressed by the community.

Two weeks ago Penny reached out to Superfund Division by email asking for additional assistance and a meeting with EPA. In response, Land Division attempted to contact Penny by phone and email and we are still awaiting her response. Although Penny may not agree, we believe that DTSC is on the right path to ensure cleanup of the property for new residential development. Contamination concerns beyond the housing development need more evaluation, which is underway.

Additional Site History:
Riverside Agricultural Park is the former site of a sewage treatment plant built by the Army as part of Camp Anza. From 1943 until 1946 Camp Anza was used as a processing base for troops going to the Pacific. After the war, the sewage treatment plant was taken over by the City of Riverside and operated until 1965. Rohr Industries, an aircraft parts manufacturing company located approximately one mile from the site, discharged PCB containing waste to the sewage treatment plant. Sludge containing PCBs was dried on the land around the site. In 2003, the developer graded the property and damage the old digester resulting in a release of sludge containing PCBs at concentrations up to 4,300 ppm. The property is currently graded and ready for residential development. Road and associated drainage infrastructure is already in place.

Tom Huetteman, Assistant Director
Land Division, USEPA Region 9
415-972-3751