May 9, 2018

The Honorable Catherine Baker
California State Assembly
State Capitol, Room 2130
Sacramento, CA 95814

RE: Notification of Request for State Assistance

Dear Assembly Member Baker:

On behalf of the Contra Costa County Board of Supervisors, I am writing to inform you of the request we have made for technical assistance from the Department of Public Health (CDPH), Department of Toxic Substances, and the S.F Regional Water Quality Control Board (RWCB) as we respond to a concern that radioactive material from the Hunters Point Naval Shipyard was sent for disposal to the Keller Canyon Landfill, a Class II landfill, in Contra Costa County based on unreliable sampling data.

This is a serious allegation, and we are asking the Navy, the responsible party, to take specific action to help us address community health concerns. However, because we are not experts in understanding the types of contamination, the cleanup timeliness, and consultant responsibilities. Contra Costa County Environmental Health is forming an agency and stakeholder group to assist us. CDPH and DTSC involvement is vital. RWQCB participation is critical because they have responsibility for oversight of Class II waste that was sent to the landfill. The waste that came from Hunter’s Point Naval Shipyard was Class II waste.

We have asked CDPH, DTSC and RWQCB to participate on this agency and stakeholder workgroup. We thank CDPH and RWQCB who have already committed to participating. We look forward to DTSC participation as well.

We thank you, in advance, for your assistance should we need it.

Sincerely,

KAREN MITCHOFF
Chair, Board of Supervisors
Enclosure: Letter from Board Chair Karen Mitchoff to US Secretary of the Navy dated May 7, 2018

cc: Board of Supervisors
    David Twa, County Administrator

    John Fassell
    California Department of Public Health- Radiologic Health Branch
    MS-7610, PO Box 997414
    Sacramento, CA 95899-7414

    Juanita Bacey
    California Department of Toxic Substances Control
    700 Heinz Avenue
    Berkeley, CA 94710

    Keith Roberson
    S.F. Regional Water Quality Control Board
    1515 Clay Street, Suite 1400
    Oakland, CA 94612