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June 4, 2018

The Honorable Karen Mitchoff District IV Supervisor, Contra Costa County 651 Pine Street Martinez, CA 94553

Re:

Request for Financial Assistance with Investigation of Keller Canyon Landfill Related to the Disposal of Potentially Radioactive Material from the Former Hunters Point Naval Shipyard

Dear Supervisor Mitchoff:

We write in response to your letter dated May 21, 2018, to Preston Hopson, Senior Vice President, General Counsel, and Secretary for Tetra Tech, Inc. ("Tetra Tech"). Our firm represents Tetra Tech and Tetra Tech EC, Inc. ("TtEC") with respect to the sampling and remediation work conducted by TtEC at Hunters Point Naval Shipyard. As noted in Mr. Hopson's May 3, 2018 letter to Supervisor Glover (enclosed), TtEC was not responsible for any transport or disposal of material to offsite landfills.

Moreover, the allegations in the April 22, 2018 SF Chronicle newspaper article, on which the Contra Costa County Board of Supervisors bases its request that Tetra Tech fund the hiring of a consultant for the County, are false and misleading. In particular, any modifications to waste screening procedures at Hunters Point were authorized by the Navy, not by TtEC, and the characterization of soil for transport and disposal was managed by other Navy contractors at the Hunters Point site.

In addition, the former employees quoted in the April 22 SF Chronicle article were brought to Hunters Point by New World Technology ("NWT"), a subcontractor that TtEC was required by the Navy to hire for radiological work at the site. In fact, it was three former NWT employees, including Anthony Smith, who have admitted responsibility for any sampling misconduct that occurred at Hunters Point. Don Wadsworth, also quoted in the April 22 article, is the founder and president of NWT; however, the SF Chronicle article curiously omits any information associating Mr. Wadsworth with NWT.

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Tetra Tech and TtEC support the County's efforts to investigate and obtain answers from the Navy regarding waste disposal activities conducted by the contractors tasked with transportation or disposal of materials from Hunters Point, as supervised by the Navy. However, because TtEC was not involved in such work, Tetra Tech declines the County's request to provide funding for the hiring of a consultant as part of the County's investigation.

Sincerely,

Davina Pujari

Enclosure

cc: Dr. Marilyn C. Underwood, Director of Environmental Health



The Honorable Federal D. Glover District V Supervisor, Contra Costa County 651 Pine Street Martinez, CA 94553

Email: district5@bos.cccounty.us

Dear Supervisor Glover:

We read that you and your office expressed concern about the transportation of waste from Hunters Point Shipyard to Keller Canyon Landfill in Contra Costa County. We are writing you to clear up and clarify misinformation that has been spread about this issue.

The Navy selected several separate contractors for the excavation of waste material and the transport and disposal of material from Hunters Point Naval Shipyard (HPNS). Tetra Tech EC, Inc. (TtEC) was not responsible for <u>any</u> transport or disposal of material to offsite landfills.

Two types of waste were sorted at HPNS, based on the level of radiation detected in the waste material—low-level radioactive waste (LLRW) and non-LLRW. TtEC was responsible for operating radiological screening yards and a vehicle radiation portal monitor to screen trucks leaving the site with non-LLRW.

TtEC was only one of several Navy contractors performing excavation of potentially radiologically contaminated soil at HPNS. The Navy can provide you with the names of the other contractors performing this same work at the site. Each contractor sampled potentially radiologically contaminated soil in accordance with procedures approved by the Navy. Soil identified as exceeding the site-specific radiological release criteria was loaded into bins for disposal as LLRW by the LLRW transportation and disposal (T&D) contractor, which was not TtEC.

Soil that was considered non-LLRW was transferred to a staging area where the Navy's non-LLRW T&D contractor—not TtEC—took control of the waste, including sampling and analysis, to determine proper handling and disposal procedures. Once the proper disposal facility was determined based on the analysis of the T&D contractor, the waste was loaded into trucks. As one final check before leaving the site, the trucks went through the portal monitor, operated by TtEC, to ensure no radioactivity was present in the waste. Once the Radiation Control Technician released the truck, the truck departed the site for the landfill.

At most, if not all, California landfills, trucks must pass through another portal monitor owned, run and controlled by the landfill to confirm no radioactive material is being deposited at the landfill. (This serves as an independent check and balance—as neither the Navy nor any of its contractors control the landfill's separate portal monitor.) If the portal monitor at the landfill sounds an alarm, the landfill rejects the load and requires the driver to return the material to the waste generator.

We hope this information is helpful to you in clarifying the facts. If you have any additional questions, please feel free to contact me.

Sincerely, Tetra Tech, Inc.

Preston Hopson

Senior Vice President, General Counsel and Secretary



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