

**MINUTES OF THE TASK FORCE MEETING  
BAYVIEW HUNTERS POINT ENVIRONMENTAL  
JUSTICE RESPONSE TASK FORCE**

**Thursday, April 21, 2016**

**TASK FORCE MEETING**

The Bayview Hunters Point Environmental Justice Response Task Force convened the monthly meeting in the Southeast Community College, Alex Pitcher Room at 1800 Oakdale, Bayview Hunters Point, San Francisco, California, on the above date.

**I. Introductions and Pending Pollution Complaints**

Bradley Angel reviewed the IVAN website.

Karen Cohn from Department of Public Health (DPH) noted that some odor complaints have not been confirmed because the complaints were posted anonymously. In response, Marie Harrison said she confirms the noxious odors because she was there with the person who filed the complaints. Karen responded that any odor complaints should be filed directed to the DPH, via phone call, so that an inspector can go and check the site immediately.

Dr. Ray Tompkins believes that the air monitors at Alice Griffith are not getting accurate data because the surrounding, overgrown weeds and bushes impede the airflow into the air filters. He took pictures on Tuesday (4/19/2016) from a fence opening, showing the overgrown weeds and bushes, and no distinct path or access to the monitors. Karen from CPH responds that the weeks have since been cleared and that there is access to the air monitors. She believes the picture was taken from a bad angle. Ray expressed concerned over the validity of past data in general, and asked that the agencies overseeing Alice Griffith agree to take care of the monitor situation. Additionally, that all the bushes and weeds be completely cut down.

Lily Lee with DPH will get more information about the legality of having vegetation near air monitoring instruments.

**II. Ana Mascarenas Presents on Cumulative Impacts**

**III. US Navy Presents on the Shipyard, with Public Comments**

Derek Robinson of the Navy gave a presentation on the Hunters Point Naval Shipyard Environmental Remediation Program. He discussed the history of the Shipyard, the environmental cleanup process, parcels, the parcel transfer schedule, and the procedures in place to ensure on-going protection.

Etecia Brown, organizer with Greenaction, comments on Derek Robinson (US Navy) presentation. She felt it lacked a sense of humanity toward the health disparities in the Bayview Hunters Point community. The presentation also lacked information about long term plans to

ensure the health and safety, and instead simply ended with a pretty picture of what the Navy shipyard will look like. She feels that this is essentially a bandaid and not a real solution.

Leotis, organizer with Greenaction, expressed concern about the dust impacting the community on the hill and his perception that people are being lied to.

Tony Verios (Little Hollywood) mentioned the NBC investigative report of Tetra Tech falsifying soil readings and samples. How is the Navy investigating Tetra Tech?

Dr. Ray Tompkins had questions about the allegations that the Navy buried radiation in locations that were said to be previously cleaned.

Derek Robinson (US Navy) responded that the initial investigation into Tetra Tech was in fact conducted by the Navy and that the information was released by them. He noted that they also retested samples that were fraudulent in areas that were identified to have been falsified. He concluded by saying that he isn't allowed to say much about the situation.

Dr. Ahimsa Sumchai, cofounder of the Radiological Subcommittee of the Restoration Advisory Board, commented that, as a scientist and a physician, she mistrusts the Navy and the cleanup process at the shipyard. She has documents of historical radiological assessments, which are no longer accessible to the general public, which contradict what Mr. Robinson said in his presentation. Her documents show that in 1995, most toxic parcels received a "no action" classification and that the public had access to supposedly clean areas until 2012.

#### **IV. UCSC Working Group Presents Report on US Navy Remediation Project at HPNS**

The in-depth report by UCSC students suggests that the cleanup at the shipyard does not meet EPA standards. In particular, the regulation guide being used is outdated and was designed by an agency which no longer exists.

#### **V. General Public Comments**

A question from the audience – how is the toxic property being transferred? Why is San Francisco in such a rush to remove it from the remediation process when it's not clean? Derek Robinson responded that four of the parcels removed were "not toxic". Dr. Sumchai responded that one of them (Parcel A) was previously industrial.

Another question – Why not clean up HPNS as the Presidio was cleaned? Dr. HPNS said that 87% of San Francisco residents voted for a thorough cleanup of HPNS but that decision was overturned by the city and developers in deciding to use landfill caps instead.

Marie Harrison asks whether the Navy can assure the community that they will be back to answer the questions that they could not answer today? She hoped to allow for more time for questions and concerns. Derek Robinson responded that he will return only if the questions are submitted ahead of time.

Dr. Sumchai asked why there have been no criminal charges against Tetra Tech for falsifying soil samples? Dr. Tompkins asked, why is Tetra Tech still contracted by the US Navy?

***The next meeting will be Wednesday, May 18, from 2-4 pm***