



Department of Toxic Substances Control



Matthew Rodriguez
Secretary for
Environmental Protection

Barbara A. Lee, Director
1001 "I" Street
P.O. Box 806
Sacramento, California 95812-0806

Edmund G. Brown Jr.
Governor

May 22, 2015

Mr. John Russo
City Manager
City of Riverside
3900 Main Street
Riverside, California 92522

Dear Mr. Russo:

I wanted to provide you with this update on the Department of Toxic Substances Control's (DTSC's) activities regarding the Riverside Agricultural Park site (Site) within the City of Riverside. As I am sure you are aware, questions have been raised about the cleanup activities at the site and the Department is reviewing what was done to make sure that it was protective of human health and the environment. I understand the City would like DTSC staff to present information about the cleanup before a meeting of your City Council, and we would be happy to do that once we have concluded our review of the site.

DTSC provided oversight on the investigation and remediation of PCB contaminated soil at the Site, located at 7020 Crest Avenue in Riverside. This work was done first under a Voluntary Cleanup Agreement with the City of Riverside, and then transitioned in 2006 to a California Land Reuse and Revitalization Agreement with a developer, Friends of the Riverside Airport. As you may know, the site was closed and certified for unrestricted land use by DTSC in April 2014.

I was appointed Director of DTSC on October 31, 2014 and started in December 2014. On March 5, 2015, I received a letter from the Center for Community Action and Environmental Justice about the Site. The letter was sent to DTSC as well as other state and federal agencies. In late March 2015, I toured the site and in April 2015 I met with Ms. Penny Newman the Executive Director of the Center for Community Action and Environmental Justice. This community group has requested that DTSC investigate specific issues concerning the history and efficacy of clean-up activities on the Site, and that other state and federal government agencies also undertake certain actions with respect to the Site.

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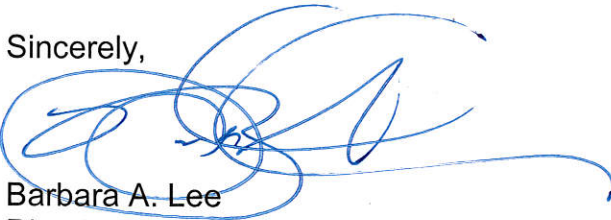
I have agreed to look into the concerns raised by the Center for Community Action and Environmental Justice and directed staff to complete the review as expeditiously as possible. I want to ensure that the site will not present risk of harm to the public or the environment and I believe we can do this without undue delay.

I also want to ensure whatever information is conveyed to the City Council is thorough and accurate and also is able to answer questions that have been raised by residents within the city. For this reason, I have asked my staff to wait until the review is complete before making any presentations regarding the site.

If you or members of the City Council are interested discussing DTSC's activities concerning the Site, please feel free to contact my office and we can set up a meeting in person or over the telephone. When we are nearing conclusion of our review, I will have my staff contact you to schedule a time to discuss the findings of our investigation.

Thank you very much. If you have any questions or concerns, you can reach me at (916) 322-0504.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to be "Barbara A. Lee", with a large, stylized flourish extending to the right.

Barbara A. Lee
Director