

# The Board of Supervisors

County Administration Building  
651 Pine Street, Room 106  
Martinez, California 94553

**John Gioia**, 1<sup>st</sup> District  
**Candace Andersen**, 2<sup>nd</sup> District  
**Diane Burgis**, 3<sup>rd</sup> District  
**Karen Mitchoff**, 4<sup>th</sup> District  
**Federal D. Glover**, 5<sup>th</sup> District

# Contra Costa County



**David Twa**  
Clerk of the Board  
and  
County Administrator  
(925) 335-1900

May 7, 2018

The Honorable Richard V. Spencer  
Secretary of the Navy  
1000 Navy Pentagon  
Washington, DC 20350-1000

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

Dear Mr. Secretary,

The Contra Costa County Board of Supervisors recently received and accepted a staff report and heard extensive public comment regarding the County's response to a San Francisco Chronicle newspaper article published on April 22, 2018 which included the assertion that a consultant of the United States Navy (USN), employed as part of the remediation of the former Hunters Point Naval Shipyard, deliberately falsified radiological soil sampling data thus compromising the adequacy of screening used to determine whether the soil could be accepted at Keller Canyon Landfill (KCL), as well as several other landfills in California. The Board directed staff to take a number of steps to further investigate and respond to this matter, including authorizing this letter to formally request the assistance of the Navy.

To date, KCL has received nearly 223,000 tons of material originating from the former Hunters Point Naval Shipyard. This material was deemed eligible for acceptance at KCL pursuant to Republic Services' review and approval of 13 separate "special waste applications" for this material, each application accompanied by its own data set certifying the material as non-hazardous. KCL has not been notified that any of that data accompanying any of the "special waste applications" was falsified. The sufficiency of the Navy's investigative efforts into their consultant's falsification of data, though, has not been determined. Therefore, the Contra Costa County Board of Supervisors, formally requests the United States Navy to:

- Make Navy personnel available for meetings with the community and other stakeholders in an effort to better understand the nature of the materials disposed of at KCL from the former Hunters Point Naval Shipyard.
- Investigate the quality and integrity of the data that was provided to Republic Services by the Navy consultants certifying that the material transported from the former Hunters

Point Naval Shipyard to KCL was non-hazardous and eligible for safe disposal in the landfill.

- Conduct a thorough surface survey of KCL by June 30, 2018 in association with the California Department of Public Health Radiologic Health Branch, City of Pittsburg, Republic Services, neighboring community, and County staff, to determine if radiological hazards associated with the former Hunters Point Naval Shipyard presently exist.

The United States Navy's prompt attention and response to the aforementioned requests is greatly appreciated.

The County is proceeding with establishing an agency and stakeholder workgroup to assist in ensuring the public health and safety of the community in relation to this issue. We ask to have Navy staff participate in the workgroup's meetings. We anticipate having the first meeting the week of May 14<sup>th</sup>. The County contact for this request is Marilyn C. Underwood, PhD, Director of Environmental Health, 925-692-2521

Sincerely,



KAREN MITCHOFF  
Chair, Board of Supervisors

cc: Contra Costa County Congressional Delegation  
Board of Supervisors  
David Twa, County Administrator  
Paul Schlesinger, Alcalde and Fay  
Marilyn C. Underwood, Environmental Health Director

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