



Matthew Rodriguez
Secretary for
Environmental Protection



Department of Toxic Substances Control

Deborah O. Raphael, Director
700 Heinz Avenue
Berkeley, California 94710-2721



Edmund G. Brown Jr.
Governor

Certified Mail

November 7, 2011

Marie Podesta
640 Lisbon St.
Daly City, California 94014

Dear Mrs. Podesta:

The Department of Toxic Substances Control has records indicating that your property at 17380 Amethyst Street, Fort Bragg, received fly ash around the year 1987 from the now closed Georgia-Pacific mill in Fort Bragg. Some fly ash from the Georgia-Pacific mill contained concentrations of dioxin/furans at levels that may be hazardous to public health, but not all fly ash did. DTSC has identified Georgia-Pacific as the party responsible for the placement of the fly ash and will look to Georgia-Pacific for the payment of the investigation, and if needed, any clean up.

To identify whether contamination from fly ash exists at your property at levels that would pose a health risk or require measures to reduce the risk, DTSC had previously sought access to your property. Although our previous request was refused, DTSC again seeks your written approval to access and sample your property.

Please respond to this request, in writing, by December 7, 2011. If you approve, you may write the word "APPROVED" on the enclosed copy of this letter, then sign and date by your name above, and send it back to me by US mail to the address above or by fax to (510) 540-3819.

To provide some background, DTSC has tested other fly ash sites without finding hazardous levels of dioxin/furans in the soil. Based on these investigations, the dioxin/fly ash concerns for each of those sites were cleared and closed by DTSC. One notable exception was the McGuire Ranch on Bald Hill Road. McGuire Ranch had accepted fly ash for over 10 years and detailed records identified the date and location of each application. Soil sampling from the site between 2006 and 2009 identified only a single 15 acre field out of over 250 total acres that exceeded DTSC's recommended clean up goal of 40 parts per trillion (ppt) of dioxin toxic equivalents (TEQ) for cattle pasture and range land. McGuire Ranch had applied fly ash to this field during 2001 and 2002, a time when off-site wood waste was used for feed stock at the mill's wood

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burning electrical power plant. Georgia-Pacific accepted responsibility and fully funded the investigation and cleanup of the affected area.

While the McGuire Ranch investigation has identified fly ash generated in 2001 and 2002 as problematic, fly ash generated in other years might also contain unacceptable levels of dioxin/furans. For this reason DTSC wishes to continue to sample sites that have received fly ash from the Georgia-Pacific mill. The benefits of this investigation include: determining if hazardous levels of dioxin exist at properties, clearing properties that do not have hazardous levels of dioxin, and increasing our understanding of dioxin/furan levels in fly ash from the Georgia-Pacific mill from particular time periods, and of course, allowing us to address any contamination that may be present.

We look forward to receiving your approval and resolving this concern for your property. If you have any questions you may contact me at 510-540-3776 or at tlanphar@dtsc.ca.gov.

Sincerely,



Thomas P. Lanphar
Senior Hazardous Substances Scientist
Brownfields and Restoration Program

Certified Mail No.: 7010 0290 0001 2290 1404

Enclosure

cc: Vivian Muria, Staff Council
Department of Toxic Substances Control
VMuria@dtsc.ca.gov