

October 29, 2015

Sandra Lyon, Superintendent of Schools  
Santa Monica-Malibu Unified School District  
1651 16<sup>th</sup> St.  
Santa Monica, CA 90404  
By email to [slyon@smmusd.org](mailto:slyon@smmusd.org)

Dear Superintendent Lyon,

We are writing to provide new independent PCB test results from Malibu Middle and High School (MHS) from samples taken after the School District's remediation efforts this summer which have been sent today to Gina McCarthy, Administrator of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency by U.S. Representative Ted Lieu (D CA). We wanted you also to see these results, which are the fourth set of independent test results we have sent you since 2014, and which show that PCBs at illegal levels remain widespread at MHS. The test results include 31 new solid sample PCB results showing violations of TSCA in Buildings E, G, H and I of the school – in many cases with hundreds of thousands of parts per million of PCBs. We have attached a summary of these results, a map of the school displaying the results for your convenience, and a file with the EPA-certified laboratory reports.

These results show that illegal PCB contamination is not limited to the few windows and doors which the District claims were remediated this summer. Many additional non-remediated rooms, doors and windows are contaminated. Even a few of the exact windows, in the exact spots, the District claimed to remediate this summer still test over 50 ppm. This demonstrates that all old caulk in these buildings is likely to be contaminated with PCBs.

In accordance with the District's previous commitment to EPA to remediate any building materials determined to contain 50 ppm or more PCBs, we ask you to insure that these rooms are fully and promptly remediated. In addition, because every room tested in Buildings G, E and I is above legal limits, it is clear that these entire buildings are contaminated and remediation of the entire buildings should occur. Accumulating test results

showing PCBs in building materials above legal limits in all pre-1980 buildings (A, B/C, D, F, H, and Gym), also demonstrate widespread illegal contamination and the need to fully characterize and remediate these buildings too.

Finally, we ask that if remediation cannot occur immediately while school is in session, that it occur no later than Jan 15, 2016 and that as a short-term protective action, you immediately encapsulate all the caulk around windows and doors, both inside and outside, and paint all walls with epoxy paint. These interim actions will help protect students and staff from direct contact, accidental ingestion and inhalation of PCBs.

Urgent attention to this matter is required not only because it is necessary to comply with the law, but because of the alarming incidence of health conditions associated with PCBs among teachers, staff, students and alumni at these schools. We continue hearing of new incidences of disease, including the fact that numerous teachers and staff at MHS and Juan Cabrillo Elementary School (where high levels of PCBs have also been identified) have now been diagnosed with some form of thyroid disease.

We ask that you respond to this email with what action you will be taking to address this serious violation of Federal law. Malibu residents want to know when they can expect that the entire school will be in compliance with TSCA.

Sincerely,

Jennifer DeNicola, President, America Unites

Jeff Ruch, Executive Director, Public Employees for Environmental Responsibility (PEER)