

California Legislature

April 1, 2009

The Honorable Gavin Newsom
Mayor, City of San Francisco
City Hall, Room 200
1 Dr. Carlton B. Goodlett Place
San Francisco, CA 94102

Dear Mayor Newsom,

As Members of the Legislature representing San Francisco, we are concerned about the United States Navy's commitment to cleaning up contamination at the Hunters Point Naval Shipyard. We are particularly concerned about the estimated 1.5 million tons of toxics and radioactive material still remaining in parcels C, D, G and E-2.

As you know, San Franciscans voted overwhelmingly (86.4%) for Proposition P (attached), an ordinance which recognized that the Navy has for decades negligently polluted the seismically-active Shipyard, and that the City should not accept early transfer of the Shipyard unless and until it is cleaned-up to the highest standards, including a "removal solution for the landfill contaminating Parcel E".

We have serious questions about the City accepting what is essentially a hazardous and radioactive waste landfill adjacent to a state park along the Bay, in a high liquefaction zone with rising sea levels. We understand that the Navy is pushing for a comparatively low-cost engineering solution which the Navy believes will contain toxics and radioactive waste in this very unstable geology. We hope that you and your staff aggressively oppose this option. It has come to our attention that many other landfills, in much more stable areas, have leaked and have had to ultimately be removed. We believe the Navy's reliance on containment instead of removal is merely a way for them to walk away from decades of pollution and from its obligations to our community.

Fortunately, part of the Economic Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 provides more than \$6.0 billion for contamination cleanup at former weapons production facilities and \$1.2 billion in funding to the United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) for cleanup at Superfund locations. The stimulus also includes a Department of Defense earmark of \$9.3 million and an EPA earmark of \$8 million — both specifically for

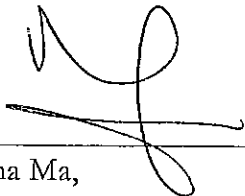
remediation at the Shipyard. Hunters Point qualifies under both categories. Given these new federal funding sources, we are interested to know if the Navy has indicated which alternative from the three originally proposed in 2005 that they will use for addressing the landfill.

Given the new federal funding sources and the overarching importance of assuring the Bayview-Hunters Point neighborhood is left with a clean and environmentally remediated property for future generations to use, we would like to have assurances from you that the City, under your leadership, will not allow the Navy to cap and leave behind the toxic and radioactive landfill in parcel E-2, and will clean other parcels to the standards expected by the citizens of San Francisco under Proposition P. We strongly urge the City to not accept transfer of the Hunters Point Naval Shipyard until the contamination has been cleaned to the fullest extent possible in accordance with Proposition P.

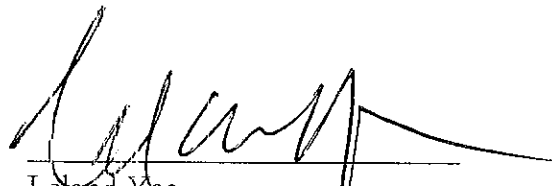
Sincerely,



Tom Ammiano
Assemblymember, 13th District



Fiona Ma,
Assemblymember, 12th District



Leland Yee
Senator, 8th Senate District

Cc: Supervisor Eric Mar District 1
Supervisor Michela Alioto-Pier District 2,
Supervisor David Chiu, District 3
Supervisor Carmen Chu, District 4
Supervisor Ross Mirkarimi, District 5
Supervisor Chris Daly, District 6
Supervisor Sean Elsbernd, District 7
Supervisor Bevan Dufty, District 8
Supervisor David Campos, District 9
Supervisor Sophie Maxwell, District 10
Supervisor John Avalos, District 11
Michael Cohen, San Francisco Mayor's Office of Economic and Workforce Development