



BOARD OF SUPERVISORS COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES

856 KENNETH HAHN HALL OF ADMINISTRATION / LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA 90012
Telephone (213) 974-4111 / FAX (213) 613-1739

HILDA L. SOLIS
SUPERVISOR, FIRST DISTRICT

November 28, 2017

Mr. Gideon Kracov, J.D., Chair
Independent Review Panel
Department of Toxic Substances Control
1001 I Street
Sacramento, CA 95814-2828

Subject: County of Los Angeles Recommended Changes in Exide Residential Cleanup Plan

Dear Mr. Kracov:

We appreciate the recent work of the Independent Review Panel (IRP) to evaluate performance issues at the California Department of Toxic Substances Control (DTSC) pursuant to Senate Bill 83. We understand that the IRP will soon release its report on the DTSC, and in advance, we wish to provide the following information for the Panel's consideration.

There are a number of examples throughout California where DTSC's poor performance in regulating industrial operations has placed the public at risk. In Los Angeles County, the most troubling example of public risk due to DTSC's lack of regulation is the Exide battery recycling facility in the City of Vernon. DTSC's 35-year history of poor regulation unnecessarily exposed thousands of persons in the adjoining communities to toxic air emissions and soil contamination, which continues to substantially elevate their risk of harm. California has some of the strongest environmental laws in the nation, but they were of little value in protecting residents and workers in the communities surrounding the Exide facility. Numerous criminal violations were documented at the facility, and yet, Exide continued to operate with impunity, under a temporary permit it held for more than 20 years. Only after the corporation was confronted by the U.S. Attorney with the possibility of criminal prosecution did it agree to permanently close the facility.

The formation of the IRP was in part due to the DTSC's regulatory failures identified at Exide. We are confident that the IRP will include in its report a series of recommendations to bring needed reforms to the DTSC that will mitigate the potential for similar regulatory failures in the future. While we believe this is an essential purpose served by the IRP, we see an additional opportunity for the IRP to include a recommendation that could bring immediate relief to the communities impacted by DTSC's unprecedented and symbolic failure at Exide.

Specifically, as DTSC prepares to implement a massive cleanup of thousands of contaminated homes in the surrounding communities, three serious deficiencies exist in DTSC's planned implementation of the Cleanup Plan that threaten to leave contamination behind. Unless changes

are made to the Plan, residents who have long endured degraded conditions in their communities would now be denied the protections of a full and rapid cleanup of contaminated soil and dust which have accumulated on both the interior and exterior of their properties. For months, community leaders and the County have urged the DTSC to make three vital changes in implementation of the current Cleanup Plan as presented in the recommended changes below. To date, we have not received a response from DTSC on these requests. We ask the IRP to consider including in its report a recommendation to address these three critical changes in the Cleanup Plan.

RECOMMENDED CHANGES IN EXIDE RESIDENTIAL CLEANUP PLAN

1. Cleanup of Parkways Immediately Adjacent to Residential Properties

Parkways are the strips of grass or dirt between the sidewalk and street in front of residences. Of the cleanups that have occurred to date, DTSC has not cleaned up the parkway in front of homes when it cleans up a residence. We believe it is critical for public health protection that the parkways also be included as part of the residential cleanup because children walk and play in the parkway areas in front of their homes, and may come in contact with contaminated soil, even after the rest of the property is cleaned. Leaving the parkways uncleaned risks recontamination of cleaned residential properties as dirt is tracked onto the property and into the home by residents, visitors and pets. Incorporating this small strip of land into the cleanup plan will improve the continued safety of the residences for occupancy, and show the community that their voices have been heard.

2. Cleanup of Home Interiors

DTSC currently intends to provide residents with a “coupon,” to redeem for an interior cleanup by a vendor after the exterior of the property is cleaned. Residents must “opt in” to have the interior of their homes cleaned. The County and community leaders believe the scope of the proposed interior cleanup is inadequate, and that DTSC’s use of a coupon has led to confusion and discouraged residents from exercising this option, which is a critical element of the cleanup. The County specifically requests the following changes be made to DTSC’s current provision for interior cleaning: (a) DTSC adoption of an interior cleaning protocol to ensure effectiveness and consistency; (b) DTSC performs interior cleaning as part of the exterior cleanup, so residents are not confused or discouraged from having the interior of their homes cleaned; and (c) DTSC testing of home interiors after the cleanup is completed to confirm it was effective.

The U.S. EPA incorporated an interior cleanup and confirmation sampling of residential properties at the USS Lead Superfund site in East Chicago, Indiana, and the County believes DTSC should offer the same protection to the Exide community.

3. Cleanup of Residences on a Block-by-Block Basis

Finally, the County is concerned with how the Exide residential sampling data collected by DTSC is being used to select residences for cleanup. DTSC is selecting homes for cleanup on a “parcel by parcel” basis, using the data from approximately 15 samples collected from each property. As a result, some residences that are on the same block, and located at a similar

distance from the Exide facility, may be selected for cleanup, while others are not. The County believes the data is not sufficient to identify hotspots on each property requiring cleanup because of the large spacing between samples.

To evaluate this concern, the County re-sampled five residences that were not prioritized for cleanup based on DTSC's sampling, but located on blocks where other homes are slated for prioritized cleanup. Of the five homes resampled, hotspots were identified at three residences that would warrant a priority cleanup under DTSC's own standards. While these results have been shared with DTSC, the County has not received a formal response.

To be clear, the County's concern is not with DTSC's sampling methodology, but how the sampling data is used in making decisions on which properties should be cleaned. To remedy this situation, the County recommends making cleanup decisions on a "block-by-block" basis rather than "parcel by parcel," to reduce the likelihood of missing hotspots and to make consistent cleanup decisions for the entire block. The County also recommends that cleanups be conducted on a block-by-block basis for greater efficiency, and to avoid the risk of recontamination, if homes on the same block are cleaned at different times.

In addition to the above recommendations, the County and the community remain concerned about the pace of the cleanup. While DTSC certified an EIR and approved the Cleanup Plan in July of 2017, it has inexplicably failed to implement the plan to date. Each day homes with high levels of lead on the property wait for cleanup increases the risk of exposure of the community, including pregnant women and children, to harmful levels of lead. The community is justifiably upset with the pace of the cleanup, and the County strongly urges that the residential cleanup commence immediately.

Representatives of County DPH have communicated the above concerns and recommendations, in writing, and in person, on multiple occasions to DTSC leadership. (See attached correspondence from LA County DPH to DTSC dated August 21, 2017; August 9, 2017; July 14, 2017; June 27, 2017; May 16, 2017; and March 24, 2017). Additionally, these concerns have repeatedly been raised by residents and community members at DTSC Exide Advisory Group meetings. We would be happy to meet with the IRP on a moment's notice to share the technical basis for these vital recommended changes in the implementation of the DTSC's Cleanup Plan.

The County and the communities surrounding Exide are grateful for the work of the IRP, and we look forward to your upcoming report. We appreciate your consideration of this opportunity for the IRP to assist in restoring conditions and protecting health in the communities that have been, and continue to be affected by Exide.

Sincerely,



HILDA L. SOLIS
Supervisor, 1st District



Dr. Barbara Ferrer
Director, Los Angeles County Public Health

ATTACHMENT 1

Letter from County DPH to State DTSC, August 21, 2017



BARBARA FERRER, Ph.D., M.P.H., M.Ed.
Director

JEFFREY D. GUNZENHAUSER, M.D., M.P.H.
Interim Health Officer

CYNTHIA A. HARDING, M.P.H.
Chief Deputy Director

313 North Figueroa Street, Room 806
Los Angeles, California 90012
TEL (213) 240-8117 • FAX (213) 975-1273

www.publichealth.lacounty.gov

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

Hilda L. Solis
First District
Mark Ridley-Thomas
Second District
Shella Kuehl
Third District
Janice Hahn
Fourth District
Kathryn Barger
Fifth District

VIA U.S. MAIL AND EMAIL [barbara.lee@dtsc.ca.gov]

August 21, 2017

Barbara A. Lee, Director
California Department of Toxic Substances Control
1001 I Street, 25th Floor
Sacramento, CA 95812

**OUTSTANDING REQUEST FOR REVISION OF DTSC'S EXIDE RESIDENTIAL RAP
CLEANUP PRIORITIZATION METHODOLOGY**

Dear Ms. Lee:

The Los Angeles County Department of Public Health (DPH) again urges DTSC to reconsider its methodology for residential cleanup prioritization and adopt DPH's recommendation to assess cleanup prioritization on a block-by-block decision unit basis.

Given the continuing concerns of the community and DPH that DTSC's prioritization methodology does not adequately characterize homes within the PIA, DPH performed supplemental sampling at 5 residential parcels previously tested by DTSC and determined by DTSC to not meet its established criteria for priority cleanup. DPH had three sets of additional samples collected from each of the five parcels using DTSC's residential sampling methodology. Soil samples were collected from 0-3 inches in depth and sent to a State-certified laboratory for soil lead analysis. The supplemental soil results show that while DTSC's soil lead results indicated the 95% UCL of the mean values were below 400 mg/kg and no measurement of soil lead was above 1000 mg/kg on the parcel, the supplemental sets include observations that would warrant prioritized cleanup because of 95% UCL values above 400 mg/kg and/or the detection of a hotspot above 1000 mg/kg.

Barbara A. Lee
August 21, 2017
Page 2

The soil lead results of DTSC's original set of samples, the three sets of DPH samples, and the combined results from all samples for each of the 5 parcels are show in the attached figures. The yellow highlighted data indicate DPH sample sets that would qualify for prioritized cleanup based on DTSC's prioritization methodology.

In summary, the results of DPH's sampling were that 3 of the 5 parcels not previously prioritized for cleanup by DTSC, would be prioritized for cleanup based on use of an alternative set of soil samples. Therefore, DTSC's parcel-by-parcel prioritization methodology does not ensure contaminated homes are receiving consistent prioritization.

These conflicting results are not surprising given the spacing between individual samples and the inherent uncertainty associated with relying on these samples to determine the presence of hotspots on each parcel. DTSC's use of the sampling data on a parcel-by-parcel basis results in a substantial probability that a hotspot 5 to 10 ft in diameter would be undetected. This assessment uncertainty can be mitigated through prioritization using a block-by-block decision unit, where the results from all the parcels on a block are used to provide an evaluation of parcel conditions for the entire block. A block-by-block approach would result in parcels that are reasonably expected to have similar levels of contamination receiving comparable cleanup prioritization.

DPH's supplemental results elevate the urgency of DPH's request for DTSC to revise its prioritization approach before RAP implementation begins.

Please feel free to contact Angelo Bellomo, Deputy Director for Health Protection, or me if you have any questions regarding the above issues. We remain ready to discuss this information in greater detail at your earliest opportunity.

I look forward to your response.

Sincerely,



Barbara Ferrer, Ph.D., M.P.H., M.Ed.
Director

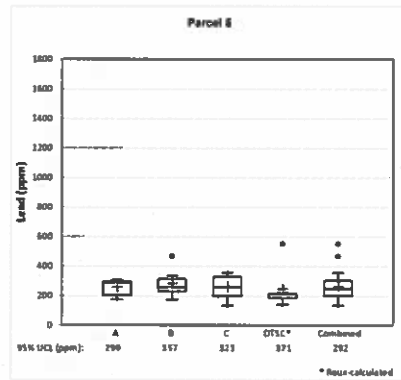
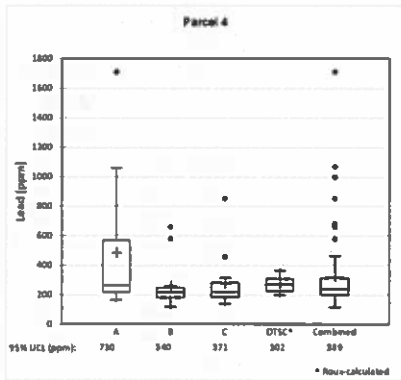
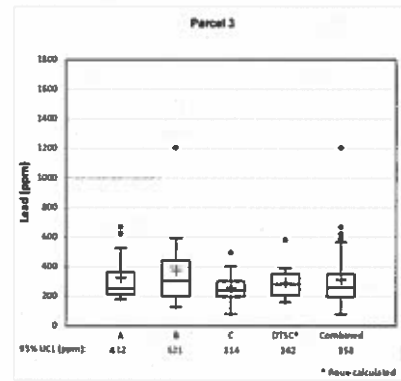
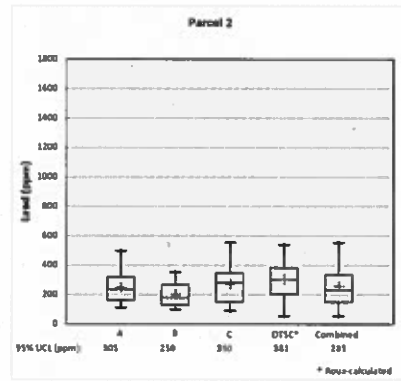
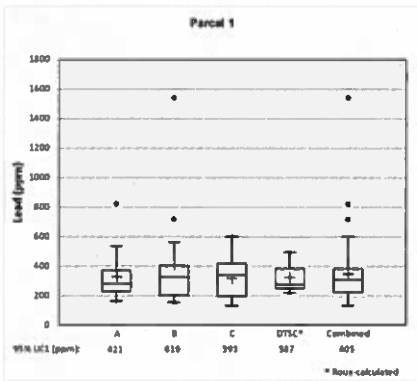
BD:al

Attachment

cc: Governor Jerry Brown
Matt Rodriguez, Cal/EPA
Supervisor Hilda Solis, County of Los Angeles
Cynthia Harding, County DPH
Angelo Bellomo, County DPH
Robert Ragland, County Counsel's Office

DRAFT

DPH Sampling Results
August 2017



ATTACHMENT 2

Letter from County DPH to State DTSC, August 9, 2017



BARBARA FERRER, Ph.D., M.P.H., M.Ed.
Director

JEFFREY D. GUNZENHAUSER, M.D., M.P.H.
Interim Health Officer

CYNTHIA A. HARDING, M.P.H.
Chief Deputy Director

313 North Figueroa Street, Room 806
Los Angeles, California 90012
TEL (213) 240-8117 • FAX (213) 975-1273

www.publichealth.lacounty.gov

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

Hilda L. Solis
First District
Mark Ridley-Thomas
Second District
Shella Kuehl
Third District
Janice Hahn
Fourth District
Kathryn Berger
Fifth District

August 9, 2017

VIA U.S. MAIL AND EMAIL [barbara.lee@dtsc.ca.gov]

Barbara A. Lee, Director
California Department of Toxic Substances Control
1001 I Street, 25th Floor
Sacramento, CA 95812

THE JUNE 20, 2017, EXIDE ADVISORY GROUP MEETING

Dear Ms. Lee:

I am writing to correct the record on several issues discussed by the California Department of Toxic Substances Control (DTSC) at the June 20, 2017, Exide Advisory Group meeting regarding comments about the County of Los Angeles Department of Public Health (DPH).

There appears to be continuing confusion about DPH's Childhood Lead Poisoning Prevention Program (CLPPP). I am told that on several occasions, DTSC representatives suggested that DPH has a program to address lead-based paint in homes. While CLPPP provides access to blood lead testing and information on preventing exposure to lead and associated risks, the program does not include funding for abatement of lead-based paint in homes. Your assistance in providing accurate information about DPH services at future community meetings is greatly appreciated.

In response to requests from the community to expand the Preliminary Investigation Area (PIA) beyond 1.7 miles, DTSC representatives indicated that DPH agrees with the limits of the current PIA. As you may recall, based on the initial sampling results, the County's consultants agreed with DTSC that contamination from Exide extends out *at least* 1.7 miles and supported DTSC's expansion of the area to the existing 1.7-mile PIA. In reviewing the additional sampling data recently released by DTSC, County experts report that the data now shows contamination extends further than 1.7 miles in some directions. DTSC was advised of this by letter (see attached) and during our last meeting in Sacramento on June 29, 2017.

To date, the DTSC residential cleanups have excluded the parkway strip of land between the sidewalk and the street in front of residences. In response to requests at the recent meeting from the community and Advisory Group members to include this land as part of the cleanup, DTSC representatives indicated that residential yards pose a greater public health risk than the parkways; therefore, the parkways will not be cleaned. DPH believes the parkways do pose a public health risk and strongly supports incorporating the

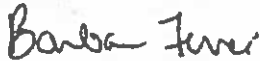
Barbara A. Lee, Director
August 9, 2017
Page 2

parkways in the residential cleanup efforts. Parkways are directly accessible to all residents and frequently serve as areas where children play. Cleanup of the parkways in conjunction with the adjacent residences will reduce chances of exposure to lead and recontamination of cleaned residences.

Most importantly, DPH repeatedly requests that DTSC uses all efforts to expedite the cleanup now that the Removal Action Plan (RAP) and Environmental Impact Report have been approved and certified. DPH also requests that the implementation of the RAP includes the recommendations by DPH outlined in the attached correspondence and discussed during our last meeting. These include: enlarging decision-making units from individual parcels to a block-by block basis; prioritizing blocks with the highest levels of contamination and closest to the former Exide facility; and enhancing DTSC's interior cleanup protocol to include, at a minimum, post-cleanup sampling to confirm that lead dust has been removed and the home is safe for occupancy. Finally, DPH requests that DTSC develops a comprehensive funding strategy to clean all of the affected properties in the PIA.

If you have any questions or require additional information, please contact me at (213) 240-8117, or you may contact Angelo Bellomo, Deputy Director, Health Protection Bureau at (213) 351-0397.

Sincerely,



Barbara Ferrer, Ph.D., M.P.H., M.Ed.
Director

BF:al

Attachment

c: Governor Jerry Brown
Matt Rodriguez, CalEPA
Hilda Solis, Supervisor, First District
Cynthia Harding, Chief Deputy Director
Angelo Bellomo, Deputy Director, Health Protection
Robert Ragland, Principal Deputy County Counsel



BARBARA FERRER, Ph.D., M.P.H., M.Ed.
Director

JEFFREY D. GUNZENHAUSER, M.D., M.P.H.
Interim Health Officer

CYNTHIA A. HARDING, M.P.H.
Chief Deputy Director

313 North Figueroa Street, Room 808
Los Angeles, California 90012
TEL (213) 240-8117 • FAX (213) 975-1273

www.publichealth.lacounty.gov



BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

Hilda L. Sofo
First District
Mark Ridley-Thomas
Second District
Shella Kuehl
Third District
Janice Hahn
Fourth District
Kathryn Berger
Fifth District

Via U.S. Mail and Email (hmuniz@dtsc.ca.gov) (Barbara.Lee@dtsc.ca.gov)

July 14, 2017

Barbara A. Lee, Director
California Department of Toxic Substances Control
1001 "I" Street, 25th Floor
Sacramento, CA 95814

Hortensia Muniz
DTSC – Exide
8800 Cal Center Drive
Sacramento, CA 95826

Comments by the County of Los Angeles Department of Public Health on DTSC's Finalized Approach to Prioritization and Cleanup of Residences within the Exide PIA

Dear Ms. Lee and Ms. Muniz:

I am writing to express to you the County Department of Public Health's (DPH) disappointment in DTSC's final version of the Removal Action Plan (RAP) and Environmental Impact Report (EIR) for the parcels that fall within the Exide Preliminary Investigation Area (PIA). Throughout DTSC's process of the RAP and EIR development, DPH has repeatedly expressed its concerns and provided residential clean-up and prioritization recommendations that would ensure future health protection for residents. Unfortunately, our recommendations were not adopted in the final plan.

More specifically, the final versions of the RAP and EIR did not incorporate the following DPH recommendations:

1. Enlarge the cleanup decision-making units from individual parcels to a block-by-block basis;

Barbara A. Lee
July 14, 2017
Page 2

2. Prioritize blocks with the highest levels of lead contamination and closest to the former Exide facility; and
3. Modify DTSC's current interior cleanup protocol to ensure effectiveness, and include a post clean-up sampling to confirm lead dust has been removed and the interior of the home is safe for occupancy.

Contrary to DPH recommendations to enlarge the assessment decision unit, the final RAP and EIR allow the reduction of the current decision unit to a sub-parcel scale that would result in cleanup of only a portion of a contaminated parcel. The final RAP and EIR also did not explain the approach for managing the public health risk related to the approximately 2000 unsampled parcels. The expected outcome of DTSC's implementation of the final RAP is a patchwork approach to residential clean-up that will leave many affected homes unaddressed for years. DPH maintains that DTSC has failed to assign the urgency to this cleanup that is warranted. The current projection of 2 years to complete the cleanup of only 2,500 homes is unacceptable to DPH, and further delays relief for families that live in the impacted communities. DTSC should develop a plan for expedited cleanup utilizing additional resources that can operate in parallel, as was done for the residential assessments, so that cleanup is completed as soon as possible.

In addition, the full extent of Exide's impact in the surrounding residential and commercial community remains incomplete. DTSC needs to define the geographic boundary that will ultimately determine the parameters for a comprehensive cleanup.

Finally, DTSC's current prioritization is based on funding cleanup for only a quarter of the homes in the PIA. DPH urges DTSC to develop a comprehensive funding strategy for the cleanup of all affected homes and commercial properties, as well as the Exide facility. This is a vital first step in assuring sufficient resources are made available to complete the cleanup and protect the health of all residents and workers within the impacted communities.

Sincerely,



Barbara Ferrer, Ph.D., M.P.H., M. Ed.
Director

BF:al

- c: Jeffrey D. Gunzenhauser, M.D., M.P.H., Interim Health Officer
Cynthia A. Harding, Chief Deputy Director
Angelo J. Bellomo, Deputy Director for Health Protection
Cyrus Rangan, M.D., Bureau of Toxicology & Environmental
Robert Ragland, Principal Deputy County Counsel

ATTACHMENT 3

Letter from County DPH to State DTSC, July 14, 2017



BARBARA FERRER, Ph.D., M.P.H., M.Ed.
Director

JEFFREY D. GUNZENHAUSER, M.D., M.P.H.
Interim Health Officer

CYNTHIA A. HARDING, M.P.H.
Chief Deputy Director

313 North Figueroa Street, Room 806
Los Angeles, California 90012
TEL (213) 240-8117 • FAX (213) 975-1273

www.publichealth.lacounty.gov



BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

Hilda L. Solis
First District

Mark Ridley-Thomas
Second District

Sheila Kuehl
Third District

Janice Hahn
Fourth District

Kathryn Barger
Fifth District

Via U.S. Mail and Email [hmuniz@dtsc.ca.gov] [Barbara.Lee@dtsc.ca.gov]

July 14, 2017

Barbara A. Lee, Director
California Department of Toxic Substances Control
1001 "I" Street, 25th Floor
Sacramento, CA 95814

Hortensia Muniz
DTSC – Exide
8800 Cal Center Drive
Sacramento, CA 95826

Comments by the County of Los Angeles Department of Public Health on DTSC's Finalized Approach to Prioritization and Cleanup of Residences within the Exide PIA

Dear Ms. Lee and Ms. Muniz:

I am writing to express to you the County Department of Public Health's (DPH) disappointment in DTSC's final version of the Removal Action Plan (RAP) and Environmental Impact Report (EIR) for the parcels that fall within the Exide Preliminary Investigation Area (PIA). Throughout DTSC's process of the RAP and EIR development, DPH has repeatedly expressed its concerns and provided residential clean-up and prioritization recommendations that would ensure future health protection for residents. Unfortunately, our recommendations were not adopted in the final plan.

More specifically, the final versions of the RAP and EIR did not incorporate the following DPH recommendations:

1. Enlarge the cleanup decision-making units from individual parcels to a block-by-block basis;

Barbara A. Lee

July 14, 2017

Page 2

2. Prioritize blocks with the highest levels of lead contamination and closest to the former Exide facility; and
3. Modify DTSC's current interior cleanup protocol to ensure effectiveness, and include a post clean-up sampling to confirm lead dust has been removed and the interior of the home is safe for occupancy.

Contrary to DPH recommendations to enlarge the assessment decision unit, the final RAP and EIR allow the reduction of the current decision unit to a sub-parcel scale that would result in cleanup of only a portion of a contaminated parcel. The final RAP and EIR also did not explain the approach for managing the public health risk related to the approximately 2000 unsampled parcels. The expected outcome of DTSC's implementation of the final RAP is a patchwork approach to residential clean-up that will leave many affected homes unaddressed for years. DPH maintains that DTSC has failed to assign the urgency to this cleanup that is warranted. The current projection of 2 years to complete the cleanup of only 2,500 homes is unacceptable to DPH, and further delays relief for families that live in the impacted communities. DTSC should develop a plan for expedited cleanup utilizing additional resources that can operate in parallel, as was done for the residential assessments, so that cleanup is completed as soon as possible.

In addition, the full extent of Exide's impact in the surrounding residential and commercial community remains incomplete. DTSC needs to define the geographic boundary that will ultimately determine the parameters for a comprehensive cleanup.

Finally, DTSC's current prioritization is based on funding cleanup for only a quarter of the homes in the PIA. DPH urges DTSC to develop a comprehensive funding strategy for the cleanup of all affected homes and commercial properties, as well as the Exide facility. This is a vital first step in assuring sufficient resources are made available to complete the cleanup and protect the health of all residents and workers within the impacted communities.

Sincerely,



Barbara Ferrer, Ph.D., M.P.H., M. Ed.
Director

BF:al

c: Jeffrey D. Gunzenhauser, M.D., M.P.H., Interim Health Officer
Cynthia A. Harding, Chief Deputy Director
Angelo J. Bellomo, Deputy Director for Health Protection
Cyrus Rangan, M.D., Bureau of Toxicology & Environmental
Robert Ragland, Principal Deputy County Counsel

ATTACHMENT 4

Letter from County DPH to State DTSC, June 27, 2017



BARBARA FERRER, Ph.D., M.P.H., M.Ed.
Director

JEFFREY D. GUNZENHAUSER, M.D., M.P.H.
Interim Health Officer

CYNTHIA A. HARDING, M.P.H.
Chief Deputy Director

313 North Figueroa Street, Room 806
Los Angeles, California 90012
TEL (213) 240-8117 • FAX (213) 875-1273

www.publichealth.lacounty.gov



BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

Hilda L. Solis
First District

Mark Ridley-Thomas
Second District

Shella Kuehl
Third District

Janice Hahn
Fourth District

Kathryn Berger
Fifth District

June 27, 2017

VIA U.S. MAIL AND EMAIL [hmuniz@dtsc.ca.gov]

Hortensia Muniz
DTSC - Exide
8800 Cal Center Drive
Sacramento, CA 95826

SUPPLEMENTAL COMMENTS OF THE COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES ON PROPOSED EXIDE TECHNOLOGIES RESIDENTIAL CLEANUP AND DRAFT ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT

Dear Ms. Muniz:

The County of Los Angeles submits these supplemental comments on the Department of Toxic Substances Control's ("DTSC") Draft Remedial Action Plan ("RAP") and Draft Environmental Impact Report ("DEIR"), which were prepared to address the residential cleanup efforts associated with the former Exide Technologies Battery Recycling Facility in Vernon. This letter reflects a refined approach to the prioritization and cleanup of the residences within the Exide Preliminary Investigation Area (PIA) that I forwarded to DTSC Director Barbara Lee on May 16, 2017 (copy attached).

As discussed in greater detail in the attached document, the County's supplemental comments consist of two critical elements, as follows:

- 1. Refinements to Residential Cleanup Prioritization Decision Making:** The County recommends enlarging cleanup decision making units from individual parcels to a block-by-block basis, prioritizing for cleanup those blocks that have the highest levels of lead contamination and are closer to the former Exide facility, working toward the blocks with the lowest levels of lead contamination within the PIA that still warrant cleanup. In addition, the County recommends that DTSC treat all decision making units as if small children live or spend a significant time at the location.

Hortensia Muniz
June 27, 2017
Page 2

2. **Incorporation of Assessments with Interior Cleanups:** The County recommends that the proposed interior residential cleanup protocol include, at a minimum, post-cleanup verification sampling to confirm that the interior of the home is safe for continued occupancy. Further, the addition of a pre-cleaning interior assessment would better enable focused cleanup efforts.
3. **Removal of Contaminated Soil in Affected Parkways:** The County recommends that the residential clean-up includes the removal of contaminated soils on the parkways that immediately adjoin the properties.

The County believes that this approach provides greater health protection for residents, addresses the concerns of the community, and is consistent with the principles outlined in the RAP, such that it can be incorporated into the existing RAP and DEIR without delay. Accordingly, the County requests that DTSC incorporate these three elements in the final RAP and DEIR, prior to approval and certification or, in the alternative, incorporate them in the design and implementation of the currently-proposed RAP and DEIR.

Please feel free to contact the County should you have any questions regarding the above supplemental comments. Staff are available to clarify any of the items above in order to assist DTSC in continuing to move forward with the proposed clean-up efforts in a timely fashion.

Thank you for your consideration of these comments.

Sincerely,



Barbara Ferrer, Ph.D., M.P.H., M.Ed.
Director

BF:cc

Attachment

c: Cynthia A. Harding, Chief Deputy Director
Angelo J. Bellomo, Deputy Director, Health Protection
Robert Ragland, Principal Deputy County Counsel



BARBARA FERRER, Ph.D., M.P.H., M.Ed.
Director

JEFFREY D. GUNZENHAUSER, M.D., M.P.H.
Interim Health Officer

CYNTHIA A. HARDING, M.P.H.
Chief Deputy Director

313 North Figueroa Street, Room 806
Los Angeles, California 90012
TEL (213) 240-8117 • FAX (213) 975-1273

www.publichealth.lacounty.gov

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

Hilda L. Solis
First District
Mark Ridley-Thomas
Second District
Shella Kuehl
Third District
Janice Hahn
Fourth District
Kathryn Barger
Fifth District

May 16, 2017

Barbara A. Lee, Director
California Department of Toxic Substances Control
1001 "I" Street, 25th Floor
Sacramento, California 95814

**FOLLOW-UP REQUEST FOR EXIDE RESIDENTIAL SOIL TESTING DATA, AND
PROPOSED DPH APPROACH TO PRIORITIZATION AND CLEANUP OF
RESIDENCES IN THE PIA**

Dear Ms. Lee:

I am writing to follow up on my letter request to you dated March 24, 2017 (attached) for all soil testing data within the Exide Preliminary Investigation Area (PIA). Additionally, please find enclosed a document prepared by the County Department of Public Health (DPH) outlining an alternative approach to the prioritization and cleanup of the residences located within the PIA.

DPH is offering this approach in response to concerns both we and the community have expressed to DTSC over ongoing environmental exposures that are likely to persist under the current DTSC cleanup proposal. We believe DPH's approach provides greater health protection for residents, addresses the concerns of the community, and is consistent with the principles outlined in DTSC's RAP, such that it can be incorporated into the existing RAP and EIR without delay. That said, with RAP and EIR approval, certification and implementation scheduled by DTSC for June 2017, time is of the essence.

Key elements of DPH's proposed approach are:

1. Enlarge the cleanup decision-making units from individual parcels to a block-by-block basis;
2. Treat all properties as if small children spend significant time at the location;
3. Prioritize blocks with the highest level of lead contamination and closest to the former Exide facility; and

Barbara A. Lee, Director

May 16, 2017

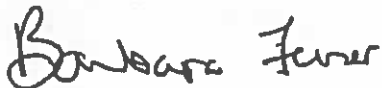
Page 2

4. Modify DTSC's current interior cleanup protocol to ensure effectiveness, and include a post cleanup sampling to confirm lead dust has been removed and the interior of the home is safe for occupancy.

When we spoke in early April, you were supportive of DPH's request for the un-redacted residential soil sampling data. To date, DPH has only received one batch of data with results for only 1,900 residential properties. Coupled with the 500 properties that the County sampled itself, this is less than a quarter of the approximately 7,600 homes that DTSC reports it has sampled to date. DPH needs the balance of this sampling data to potentially refine its proposal as referenced above, and to conduct targeted health outreach to those residents most in need. Accordingly, I am requesting that the remaining residential soil testing data be provided to DPH immediately. Please inform me when this data will be provided.

In April, you also expressed interest in discussing DPH's alternative prioritization and cleanup proposal. I would like to meet with you on this matter as soon as possible.

Sincerely,

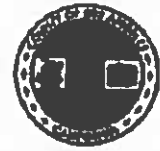


Barbara Ferrer, Ph.D., M.P.H., M.Ed.
Director

BF:ajb

Enclosures

- c: Jeffrey D. Gunzenhauser, M.D., M.P.H., Interim Health Officer
Cynthia A. Harding, Chief Deputy Director
Angelo J. Bellomo, Deputy Director for Health Protection
Cyrus Rangan, M.D., Bureau of Toxicology & Environmental
Robert Ragland, Principal Deputy County Counsel



BARBARA FERRER, Ph.D., M.P.H., M.Ed.
Director

JEFFREY D. GUNZENHAUSER, M.D., M.P.H.
Interim Health Officer

CYNTHIA A. HARDING, M.P.H.
Chief Deputy Director

313 North Figueroa Street, Room 806
Los Angeles, California 90012
TEL (213) 240-8117 • FAX (213) 875-1273

www.publichealth.lacounty.gov

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

- Milda L. Sells
First District
- Mark Ridley-Thomas
Second District
- Shada Kweh
Third District
- Jarvis Hahn
Fourth District
- Kathryn Berger
Fifth District

March 24, 2017

VIA EMAIL

Barbara A. Lee, Director
California Department of Toxic Substance Control
1001 "I" Street
P.O. Box 806
Sacramento, CA 95812-0806

REQUEST FOR SOIL TESTING DATA WITHIN THE EXIDE PRELIMINARY INVESTIGATION AREA

Dear Ms. Lee:

During the past 10 weeks, the County of Los Angeles Department of Public Health (DPH) has made multiple requests to the Department of Toxic Substances Control (DTSC) for soil testing data within the Exide Preliminary Investigation Area (PIA). To date, the DTSC has been unresponsive in providing this critical information to DPH.

This data is urgently needed for two reasons. Critical to our review of the Remedial Action Plan proposed by the DTSC, including the method to prioritize contaminated properties for cleanup, is our analysis of the distribution of soil lead concentrations throughout the PIA. Second, properties with elevated soil lead concentrations expose residents to a continued risk of permanent health effects, particularly in children. Efforts by DPH to protect the health of residents include visits by public health nurses to inform families about the dangers of lead exposures, methods to minimize exposure, and to deliver healthcare information on blood lead screening, cancer and stress.

We ask that you provide, without further delay, all residential testing data generated within the PIA. If you should have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact the undersigned.

Sincerely,

Barbara Ferrer, Ph.D., M.P.H., M.Ed.
Director

Jeffrey D. Gunzenhauser, M.D., M.P.H.
Interim Health Officer

BF:JDG:cc

- c: Cynthia A. Harding, Chief Deputy Director
- Angelo J. Bellomo, Deputy Director, Health Protection
- Cyrus Rangan, M. D., Director, Bureau of Toxicology & Environmental
- Robert Ragland, Principal Deputy County Counsel

County of Los Angeles Department of Public Health

Establishing Appropriate Cleanup Criteria for the Residences Surrounding Exide

Background

The Exide facility has operated in Vernon, California from 1922 until the facility was initially shut down in 2013. The facility was operated for many years without the appropriate permits, and was regularly found in violation of the applicable laws and regulations. For decades, the facility released a spectrum of air contaminants, including lead, arsenic and organic vapors into the surrounding industrial, commercial, and residential communities. The health risks and impacts associated with exposure to these contaminants have been a burden on this community for generations.

Preliminary soil testing in the residential community around Exide was performed in 2014 and determined the homes closest to the facility were contaminated by lead emissions from Exide. Following expanded testing in 2015, the Department of Toxic Substances Control (DTSC) determined emissions from the facility similarly contaminated properties to a distance of, at least, 1.7 miles. This area includes approximately 10,000 residential parcels. DTSC reports that testing of all homes within 1.7 miles will be completed by summer 2017.

DTSC has published a Draft Remediation Action Plan (RAP) and Draft Environmental Impact Report (EIR) that describe how they plan to use parcel-by-parcel soil testing results for the selection and prioritization of residential parcels for cleanup. DTSC further reports that cleanup of the prioritized residences will begin once the RAP and EIR are finalized, which they expect will be in summer 2017.

DTSC's methodology for prioritization and cleanup of homes within 1.7 miles relies on a "parcel-by-parcel" interpretation of contamination and risk. Cleanup decisions by DTSC will primarily be based on: (1) the average level of soil lead (expressed as the 95% upper confidence limit, or 95% UCL) and (2) whether young children currently reside or spend significant time on the parcel. DTSC has also proposed cleanup of residential interiors for those homes where soil cleanup is performed.

Review of the Draft RAP by the County Department of Public Health (DPH) found that it does not provide sufficient detail to assure residential soils and home interiors will be safe once the cleanup is complete. Public comments on the Draft RAP and EIR have also raised this concern over the plan proposed by DTSC.

Deficiencies in the Proposed Plan

DTSC's proposed approach to cleanup in the residential community falls short in the following ways.

1. DTSC's use of an average soil-lead level to characterize potential risk on a resident parcel does not adequately account for the presence of soil hot spots. Averaging can result in a property with hot spots being characterized as having average values that do not accurately reflect the true risk of exposure or potential hazard to site residents. That is, the parcel-averaging calculation can result in low soil-lead levels in some sample locations on the parcel off-setting high values in other locations.

2. The proposed plan inadequately addresses uncertainties and inconsistencies in the parcel-by-parcel assessments. DTSC's sampling methodology is recognized as having limited ability to identify hot spots, which results in significant uncertainty in the thoroughness of results for any one parcel. Despite well over 100,000 soil samples taken throughout the residential community, this uncertainty remains great on any individual parcel. Additionally, it is illogical to many residents that adjacent properties would be treated differently, i.e., DTSC's current approach could determine no need for cleanup action on one parcel, and priority cleanup action for the two parcels adjoining it. Rather, it seems logical that adjoining properties would receive similar cleanup prioritization to account for inherent assessment uncertainty.

3. DTSC's use of "current occupants" for prioritizing homes for expedited cleanup may not account for current visitation or future occupancy by young children. Children are present throughout the community and frequently visit family members and friends residing on other parcels. For this reason, every parcel should be made similarly safe for children who may visit the premises or become an occupant in the future.

4. The proposed plan does not provide an upfront assessment of home interiors to determine whether and where interior cleanup is required. Decades of particulate lead emissions being deposited in the communities surrounding Exide would be expected to have entered home interiors, either via windows, doors and vents, or by repeated resident and pet traffic tracking outdoor contamination into the dwelling. In addition, the plan does not provide post-cleanup verification sampling to assure the interior cleanup methodology was effective.

Recommended Approach to Cleanup

DPH recommends an alternative approach¹ that overcomes the inadequacies identified above. Overall, the alternative approach assumes properties within 1.7 miles warrant cleanup, unless the parcel and its surrounding parcels are all observed to have lead level that do not require cleanup. The DPH's approach seeks to make full utilization of the over 100,000 soil sample results to produce a more consistent cleanup prioritization, as well as a more confident outcome, that residential soils will no longer present a potential hazard after the cleanup is completed. There are five elements to the County's recommended approach to residential cleanup:

1. Rather than using strict parcel-by-parcel units for assessment and cleanup prioritization, it is recommended that larger decision units be used, such sectors consisting of full blocks of parcels, or band of parcels extending radially outward from the Exide facility at given distance intervals, e.g., 0.5, 1.0, 1.5 miles from the facility. This would enable prioritization of cleanup uniformly among neighbors, and increase the confidence that all residences requiring cleanup are identified and made safe.

¹ Development of DPH's recommendations is based on analysis of a limited dataset generated during the County's assessment of 500 residential parcels tested by the County. The analysis would be improved by including DTSC's full residential soil sample database.

² Alternatively, other decision units could be utilized, such as a "sector", or grouping of full blocks of parcels, or a "band" of parcels extending outward from the Exide facility at a given distance interval.

DRAFT – Work in Progress

- 2. Evaluate not only overall block² average lead levels (95% UCL) but also the probability of having a hot spot that requires abatement to protect health, based on the frequency of hot spots observed on blocks with similar 95% UCL values.**
- 3. Treat every location as if small children live or spend a significant amount of time at that location.**
- 4. Prioritize block-by-block cleanup in the community beginning with those blocks that have the highest levels of lead contamination and are closest to the former Exide facility; and then working toward the blocks with the lowest levels of lead contamination and furthest from the facility, but still warrant cleanup.**
- 5. Modify the current interior residential cleanup protocol to, at a minimum; provide post-cleanup verification sampling that confirms the interior of the home is safe. The addition of an initial residential interior assessment would also enable resource optimization of the interior cleanup effort.**

ATTACHMENT 5

Letter from County DPH to State DTSC, May 16, 2017



BARBARA FERRER, Ph.D., M.P.H., M.Ed.
Director

JEFFREY D. GUNZENHAUSER, M.D., M.P.H.
Interim Health Officer

CYNTHIA A. HARDING, M.P.H.
Chief Deputy Director

313 North Figueroa Street, Room 806
Los Angeles, California 90012
TEL (213) 240-8117 • FAX (213) 975-1273

www.publchealth.lacounty.gov



BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

Hilda L. Solis
First District
Mark Ridley-Thomas
Second District
Shella Kuehl
Third District
Janice Hahn
Fourth District
Kathryn Barger
Fifth District

May 16, 2017

Barbara A. Lee, Director
California Department of Toxic Substances Control
1001 "I" Street, 25th Floor
Sacramento, California 95814

**FOLLOW-UP REQUEST FOR EXIDE RESIDENTIAL SOIL TESTING DATA, AND
PROPOSED DPH APPROACH TO PRIORITIZATION AND CLEANUP OF
RESIDENCES IN THE PIA**

Dear Ms. Lee:

I am writing to follow up on my letter request to you dated March 24, 2017 (attached) for all soil testing data within the Exide Preliminary Investigation Area (PIA). Additionally, please find enclosed a document prepared by the County Department of Public Health (DPH) outlining an alternative approach to the prioritization and cleanup of the residences located within the PIA.

DPH is offering this approach in response to concerns both we and the community have expressed to DTSC over ongoing environmental exposures that are likely to persist under the current DTSC cleanup proposal. We believe DPH's approach provides greater health protection for residents, addresses the concerns of the community, and is consistent with the principles outlined in DTSC's RAP, such that it can be incorporated into the existing RAP and EIR without delay. That said, with RAP and EIR approval, certification and implementation scheduled by DTSC for June 2017, time is of the essence.

Key elements of DPH's proposed approach are:

1. Enlarge the cleanup decision-making units from individual parcels to a block-by-block basis;
2. Treat all properties as if small children spend significant time at the location;
3. Prioritize blocks with the highest level of lead contamination and closest to the former Exide facility; and

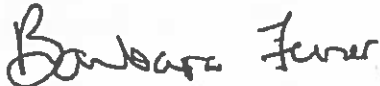
Barbara A. Lee, Director
May 16, 2017
Page 2

4. Modify DTSC's current interior cleanup protocol to ensure effectiveness, and include a post cleanup sampling to confirm lead dust has been removed and the interior of the home is safe for occupancy.

When we spoke in early April, you were supportive of DPH's request for the un-redacted residential soil sampling data. To date, DPH has only received one batch of data with results for only 1,900 residential properties. Coupled with the 500 properties that the County sampled itself, this is less than a quarter of the approximately 7,600 homes that DTSC reports it has sampled to date. DPH needs the balance of this sampling data to potentially refine its proposal as referenced above, and to conduct targeted health outreach to those residents most in need. Accordingly, I am requesting that the remaining residential soil testing data be provided to DPH immediately. Please inform me when this data will be provided.

In April, you also expressed interest in discussing DPH's alternative prioritization and cleanup proposal. I would like to meet with you on this matter as soon as possible.

Sincerely,



Barbara Ferrer, Ph.D., M.P.H., M.Ed.
Director

BF:ajb

Enclosures

- c: Jeffrey D. Gunzenhauser, M.D., M.P.H., Interim Health Officer
Cynthia A. Harding, Chief Deputy Director
Angelo J. Bellomo, Deputy Director for Health Protection
Cyrus Rangan, M.D., Bureau of Toxicology & Environmental
Robert Ragland, Principal Deputy County Counsel



BARBARA FERRER, Ph.D., M.P.H., M.Ed.
Director

JEFFREY D. GUNZENHAUSER, M.D., M.P.H.
Interim Health Officer

CYNTHIA A. HARDING, M.P.H.
Chief Deputy Director

313 North Figueroa Street, Room 608
Los Angeles, California 90012
TEL (213) 240-8117 - FAX (213) 875-1273

www.publichealth.lacounty.gov

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

Milda L. Salas
First District
Mark Ridley-Thomas
Second District
Shella Kuehl
Third District
Jarvis Nahn
Fourth District
Kathryn Berger
Fifth District

March 24, 2017

VIA EMAIL

Barbara A. Lee, Director
California Department of Toxic Substance Control
1001 "I" Street
P.O. Box 806
Sacramento, CA 95812-0806

REQUEST FOR SOIL TESTING DATA WITHIN THE EXIDE PRELIMINARY INVESTIGATION AREA

Dear Ms. Lee:

During the past 10 weeks, the County of Los Angeles Department of Public Health (DPH) has made multiple requests to the Department of Toxic Substances Control (DTSC) for soil testing data within the Exide Preliminary Investigation Area (PIA). To date, the DTSC has been unresponsive in providing this critical information to DPH.

This data is urgently needed for two reasons. Critical to our review of the Remedial Action Plan proposed by the DTSC, including the method to prioritize contaminated properties for cleanup, is our analysis of the distribution of soil lead concentrations throughout the PIA. Second, properties with elevated soil lead concentrations expose residents to a continued risk of permanent health effects, particularly in children. Efforts by DPH to protect the health of residents include visits by public health nurses to inform families about the dangers of lead exposures, methods to minimize exposure, and to deliver healthcare information on blood lead screening, cancer and stress.

We ask that you provide, without further delay, all residential testing data generated within the PIA. If you should have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact the undersigned.

Sincerely,

Barbara Ferrer, Ph.D., M.P.H., M.Ed.
Director

Jeffrey D. Gunzenhauser, M.D., M.P.H.
Interim Health Officer

BF:JDG:cc

- c: Cynthia A. Harding, Chief Deputy Director
- Angelo J. Bellomo, Deputy Director, Health Protection
- Cyrus Rangan, M. D., Director, Bureau of Toxicology & Environmental
- Robert Ragland, Principal Deputy County Counsel

County of Los Angeles Department of Public Health
Establishing Appropriate Cleanup Criteria for the Residences Surrounding Exide

Background

The Exide facility has operated in Vernon, California from 1922 until the facility was initially shut down in 2013. The facility was operated for many years without the appropriate permits, and was regularly found in violation of the applicable laws and regulations. For decades, the facility released a spectrum of air contaminants, including lead, arsenic and organic vapors into the surrounding industrial, commercial, and residential communities. The health risks and impacts associated with exposure to these contaminants have been a burden on this community for generations.

Preliminary soil testing in the residential community around Exide was performed in 2014 and determined the homes closest to the facility were contaminated by lead emissions from Exide. Following expanded testing in 2015, the Department of Toxic Substances Control (DTSC) determined emissions from the facility similarly contaminated properties to a distance of, at least, 1.7 miles. This area includes approximately 10,000 residential parcels. DTSC reports that testing of all homes within 1.7 miles will be completed by summer 2017.

DTSC has published a Draft Remediation Action Plan (RAP) and Draft Environmental Impact Report (EIR) that describe how they plan to use parcel-by-parcel soil testing results for the selection and prioritization of residential parcels for cleanup. DTSC further reports that cleanup of the prioritized residences will begin once the RAP and EIR are finalized, which they expect will be in summer 2017.

DTSC's methodology for prioritization and cleanup of homes within 1.7 miles relies on a "parcel-by-parcel" interpretation of contamination and risk. Cleanup decisions by DTSC will primarily be based on: (1) the average level of soil lead (expressed as the 95% upper confidence limit, or 95% UCL) and (2) whether young children currently reside or spend significant time on the parcel. DTSC has also proposed cleanup of residential interiors for those homes where soil cleanup is performed.

Review of the Draft RAP by the County Department of Public Health (DPH) found that it does not provide sufficient detail to assure residential soils and home interiors will be safe once the cleanup is complete. Public comments on the Draft RAP and EIR have also raised this concern over the plan proposed by DTSC.

Deficiencies in the Proposed Plan

DTSC's proposed approach to cleanup in the residential community falls short in the following ways.

1. DTSC's use of an average soil-lead level to characterize potential risk on a resident parcel does not adequately account for the presence of soil hot spots. Averaging can result in a property with hot spots being characterized as having average values that do not accurately reflect the true risk of exposure or potential hazard to site residents. That is, the parcel-averaging calculation can result in low soil-lead levels in some sample locations on the parcel off-setting high values in other locations.

2. The proposed plan inadequately addresses uncertainties and inconsistencies in the parcel-by-parcel assessments. DTSC's sampling methodology is recognized as having limited ability to identify hot spots, which results in significant uncertainty in the thoroughness of results for any one parcel. Despite well over 100,000 soil samples taken throughout the residential community, this uncertainty remains great on any individual parcel. Additionally, it is illogical to many residents that adjacent properties would be treated differently, i.e., DTSC's current approach could determine no need for cleanup action on one parcel, and priority cleanup action for the two parcels adjoining it. Rather, it seems logical that adjoining properties would receive similar cleanup prioritization to account for inherent assessment uncertainty.

3. DTSC's use of "current occupants" for prioritizing homes for expedited cleanup may not account for current visitation or future occupancy by young children. Children are present throughout the community and frequently visit family members and friends residing on other parcels. For this reason, every parcel should be made similarly safe for children who may visit the premises or become an occupant in the future.

4. The proposed plan does not provide an upfront assessment of home interiors to determine whether and where interior cleanup is required. Decades of particulate lead emissions being deposited in the communities surrounding Exide would be expected to have entered home interiors, either via windows, doors and vents, or by repeated resident and pet traffic tracking outdoor contamination into the dwelling. In addition, the plan does not provide post-cleanup verification sampling to assure the interior cleanup methodology was effective.

Recommended Approach to Cleanup

DPH recommends an alternative approach¹ that overcomes the inadequacies identified above. Overall, the alternative approach assumes properties within 1.7 miles warrant cleanup, unless the parcel and its surrounding parcels are all observed to have lead level that do not require cleanup. The DPH's approach seeks to make full utilization of the over 100,000 soil sample results to produce a more consistent cleanup prioritization, as well as a more confident outcome, that residential soils will no longer present a potential hazard after the cleanup is completed. There are five elements to the County's recommended approach to residential cleanup:

1. Rather than using strict parcel-by-parcel units for assessment and cleanup prioritization, it is recommended that larger decision units be used, such sectors consisting of full blocks of parcels, or band of parcels extending radially outward from the Exide facility at given distance intervals, e.g., 0.5, 1.0, 1.5 miles from the facility. This would enable prioritization of cleanup uniformly among neighbors, and increase the confidence that all residences requiring cleanup are identified and made safe.

¹ Development of DPH's recommendations is based on analysis of a limited dataset generated during the County's assessment of 500 residential parcels tested by the County. The analysis would be improved by including DTSC's full residential soil sample database.

² Alternatively, other decision units could be utilized, such as a "sector", or grouping of full blocks of parcels, or a "band" of parcels extending outward from the Exide facility at a given distance interval.

DRAFT – Work in Progress

- 2. Evaluate not only overall block² average lead levels (95% UCL) but also the probability of having a hot spot that requires abatement to protect health, based on the frequency of hot spots observed on blocks with similar 95% UCL values.**
- 3. Treat every location as if small children live or spend a significant amount of time at that location.**
- 4. Prioritize block-by-block cleanup in the community beginning with those blocks that have the highest levels of lead contamination and are closest to the former Exide facility; and then working toward the blocks with the lowest levels of lead contamination and furthest from the facility, but still warrant cleanup.**
- 5. Modify the current interior residential cleanup protocol to, at a minimum; provide post-cleanup verification sampling that confirms the interior of the home is safe. The addition of an initial residential interior assessment would also enable resource optimization of the interior cleanup effort.**

ATTACHMENT 6

Letter from County DPH to State DTSC, March 24, 2017



BARBARA FERRER, Ph.D., M.P.H., M.Ed.
Director

JEFFREY D. GUNZENHAUSER, M.D., M.P.H.
Interim Health Officer

CYNTHIA A. HARDING, M.P.H.
Chief Deputy Director

313 North Figueroa Street, Room 806
Los Angeles, California 90012
TEL (213) 240-8117 • FAX (213) 975-1273

www.publichealth.lacounty.gov

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

- Hilda L. Solis
First District
- Mark Ridley-Thomas
Second District
- Shella Kuehl
Third District
- Janice Hahn
Fourth District
- Kathryn Berger
Fifth District

March 24, 2017

VIA EMAIL

Barbara A. Lee, Director
California Department of Toxic Substance Control
1001 "I" Street
P.O. Box 806
Sacramento, CA 95812-0806

REQUEST FOR SOIL TESTING DATA WITHIN THE EXIDE PRELIMINARY INVESTIGATION AREA

Dear Ms. Lee:

During the past 10 weeks, the County of Los Angeles Department of Public Health (DPH) has made multiple requests to the Department of Toxic Substances Control (DTSC) for soil testing data within the Exide Preliminary Investigation Area (PIA). To date, the DTSC has been unresponsive in providing this critical information to DPH.

This data is urgently needed for two reasons. Critical to our review of the Remedial Action Plan proposed by the DTSC, including the method to prioritize contaminated properties for cleanup, is our analysis of the distribution of soil lead concentrations throughout the PIA. Second, properties with elevated soil lead concentrations expose residents to a continued risk of permanent health effects, particularly in children. Efforts by DPH to protect the health of residents include visits by public health nurses to inform families about the dangers of lead exposures, methods to minimize exposure, and to deliver healthcare information on blood lead screening, cancer and stress.

We ask that you provide, without further delay, all residential testing data generated within the PIA. If you should have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact the undersigned.

Sincerely,

Barbara Ferrer, Ph.D., M.P.H., M.Ed.
Director

Jeffrey D. Gunzenhauser, M.D., M.P.H.
Interim Health Officer

BF:JDG:cc

- c: Cynthia A. Harding, Chief Deputy Director
- Angelo J. Bellomo, Deputy Director, Health Protection
- Cyrus Rangan, M. D., Director, Bureau of Toxicology & Environmental
- Robert Ragland, Principal Deputy County Counsel