



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
REGION IX
75 Hawthorne Street
San Francisco, CA 94105-3901

January 7, 2010

Ms. Laura Duchnak
Department of the Navy
Base Realignment and Closure
Program Management Office West
1455 Frazee Road, Suite 900
San Diego, CA 92108

Re: Hunters Point Restoration Advisory Board

Dear Ms. Duchnak:

On January 6, 2010, EPA received via email the Navy's final Restoration Advisory Board (RAB) dissolution notice, dated December 23, 2009. In addition, on January 4, 2010, we received a document entitled "Ongoing Community Involvement Opportunities", with a request for comments by January 15, 2010.

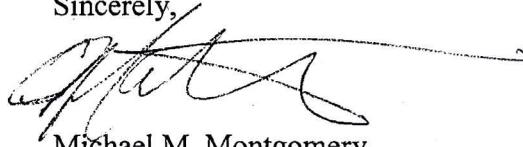
In my April 24, 2009 letter to you regarding the RAB, EPA urged the Navy to work with the existing RAB members focusing specifically on issues of communication. We do not believe that the Navy has followed our recommendations to take the appropriate steps to resolve conflicts with the RAB. Without addressing the underlying issues at hand and developing a revised, comprehensive community involvement strategy, EPA believes the conflicts will continue to hamper the type of meaningful community involvement envisioned under the National Contingency Plan and EPA guidance.

In light of your RAB dissolution notice and the significant role the RAB played in your community involvement program, we urge the Navy to develop a revised Community Involvement Plan (CIP), rather than simply relying on the "Ongoing Community Involvement Opportunities". The CIP is an important document and subject to provisions under the Federal Facility Agreement.

By February 8, 2010, the Navy should submit to EPA and the State parties a draft Workplan for revising the CIP. The Workplan should include activities and timelines for completing tasks in support of a revised draft CIP, including plans to conduct community interviews and facilitated meetings with a broad cross-section of Hunters Point community members.

Additionally, the final revised CIP should include a provision to reevaluate, at least once every two years, community interest in reestablishing the RAB, as specified in your Deputy Assistant Secretary's dissolution notice. If you would like to discuss this matter, I may be reached at (415) 972-3438.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "M. Montgomery", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Michael M. Montgomery
Assistant Director, Superfund Division
Federal Facility and Site Cleanup Branch

cc: Barbara Cook, DTSC
Alec Naugle, RWQCB