

Detterman, Mark, Env. Health

From: Markus Niebanck [mniebanck@ci.emeryville.ca.us]
Sent: Tuesday, September 22, 2009 2:34 PM
To: Detterman, Mark, Env. Health
Cc: Maurice Kaufman; Helen Bean
Subject: 3310 Powell; Emeryville Marina

Mark:

I enjoyed our call yesterday. I'm glad we have the opportunity to work together again.

On this old case – I've read all the file material, historic and current, and arrive at a question similar to the one you've asked. Next steps – their nature and necessity – will be a function of the physical characteristics of the utilities that have been mentioned but less-than-completely described.

The drawing that was provided in our December 2008 Request for Closure appears a bit dated (it has Dec 77 in its source reference). I have not yet been able to close the loop with our consultant, but from review of his report and your correspondence I can't confirm that we've identified the precise location and burial depth of the utilities suggested as playing some important role in groundwater movement.

From my review of the materials in the file I see no evidence to suggest this as the case (though I reserve the right to be wrong). Our consultant has suggested that subsurface water-flushing facilitated by these utilities has cleansed the subsurface to the extent that no additional action is warranted. While it seems as if there are several compelling reasons to let this site expire naturally, I'm not sure utility water-flushing is one of them.

I'm going to locate the information you've asked for (and we require) and give you a call afterwards to discuss. Perhaps it would be helpful to meet at the site, as the spatial considerations here are best experienced in the field.

In closing, please be assured that both the City and I take environmental quality and compliance responsibilities very seriously. We'll do all we can to manage our cases proactively, and work hard to ensure the effective investment of scarce resources.

I'll be back to you soon on this case. In between now and then, be well. Give a call if you'd like to discuss this further.

Markus

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