

CHIRON

ENVIRONMENTAL
PROTECTION
96 DEC 13 PM 3:46

December 10, 1996

Ms. Susan Hugo
Alameda County Environmental Health Services
1131 Harbor Bay Parkway, Suite 250
Alameda, CA 94502-6577

Re: Remediation of South Wall of the Rifkin Building

Dear Ms. Hugo:

I am writing to update you on the status of remedial measures that have been taken in connection with the south wall of the Rifkin Building and to request a meeting to discuss the additional measures that will be necessary to allow demolition of the building to proceed.

As you know, on October 18, 1996, Chiron discovered that the south wall of the Rifkin Building was significantly affected by arsenic and low pH that appears to have originated from the Sherwin-Williams' lead arsenate and acid plant that once abutted this wall. Upon discovery, Chiron immediately reported this finding to the National Response Center and the California Office of Emergency Services.

Additionally, Chiron barricaded off the interior of the building in the immediate vicinity of the south wall and posted warning signs for the purposes of: (1) limiting access to Chiron employees, contractors and trespassers and thereby reduce the possibility of any exposure; and (2) preventing any disturbance of the affected wall which could generate arsenic-laden dust or debris.

Due to the existence of leaks in the roof of the Rifkin Building, Chiron also installed a temporary berm on the concrete floor approximately five feet out from the affected wall. The purpose of this berm is to prevent any puddles of rainwater from coming in contact with the affected wall or any debris on the concrete floor immediately adjacent to the wall.

Finally, additional sampling of the wall has been conducted to further characterize the nature and extent of the contamination.

We believe that these remedial measures have temporarily mitigated the threat to human health and the environment posed by the affected wall.

As you know, this discovery has delayed the demolition of the Rifkin Building (excluding the northern third of the building) which had been scheduled to occur in November. The demolition of the building is a requirement of the City of Emeryville

due to the structural and fire hazards posed by this portion of the building. In addition, this site is needed to support Chiron's business operations. Therefore, we are anxious to proceed with demolition as soon as possible.

Sherwin-Williams' environmental consultant, Levine-Fricke-Recon is currently developing a plan for removing the affected wall in conjunction with the planned demolition of the building. We would like to schedule a meeting with you next week to discuss this plan and to ensure that all applicable health and safety and waste disposal requirements associated with the removal of the affected wall are addressed to your satisfaction.

Sincerely,

CHIRON CORPORATION



Ric Notini
Manager, Environmental Health & Safety

cc: Sum Arigala, RWQCB
Ravi Arulanantham, RWQCB
Stephen Johnson, Chiron
Vera Nelson, EKI
Mark Knox, LFR
Dave Gustafson, Sherwin-Williams

Impermeable membrane

PROJECT SHERWIN WILLIAMS
SHEET NO. 2/2 FILE NO. _____
CALCULATED BY _____ DATE _____
CHECKED BY NB DATE 10/29/96

