Alameda County JAN 2 9 2009

**Environmental Health** 

2009 1811 (1911)



Housing Authority of the City of Oakland, California

20 143

EXECUTIVE OFFICE: 1619 HARRISON STREET OAKLAND, CA 94612, (510) 874-1500

January 27, 2009

Mr. Ariu Levi Director Alameda County Environmental Heath 1131 Harbor Bay Parkway Alameda, CA 94502-6577

Dear Mr. Levi:

Re: Status of Alameda County Environmental Health's Final

Determination, in response to its review of the Remediation Activities

Report submitted for former Chevron Station 9-0020

1633 Harrison Street Site, Oakland, CA 94612

This is to request your immediate assistance with the resolution of a matter we believe has languished far too long. The matter about which we have great interest is Chevron's remediation of 1633 Harrison Street, in Oakland. The location, which was formerly the site of a Chevron Service Station, was the subject of an extensive remediation in January and February 2008. The Remedial Activities Report, which included the analysis of the work completed by Chevron and its environmental consultant and project manager, Conestoga-Rovers Associates (CRA), was submitted to the Department of Environmental Health in July 2008.

We are compelled to write and inquire about the status of the County's review and approval, because of the material consequence to our proposed development project, if we are unable to provide the City of Oakland and the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) with confirmation of the County's unconditional approval of the remediation of 1633 Harrison Street, consistent with its eventual and targeted use as part of a site on which affordable senior housing will be constructed. The Authority, the property owner, and the project's two non-profit, joint-development partners, Oakland Housing Initiatives (OHI) and Christian Church Homes of Northern California (CCHNC), are currently awaiting the City's decision on an Affordable Housing NOFA funding application. The decision, which is expected by mid to late February 2009, will be subject to your agency's final determination on the site's remediation.

In complying with HUD's requirements, the project's joint-development partners must also complete federal environmental review requirements (NEPA) for the project. Those also require evidence of the unencumbered approval of the site's remediation. Both the local and federal processes have now become extremely time-sensitive. Evidence of the County's approval is needed before its funding decisions are finalized in February, and

the same information is needed in time to begin the work that will be completed when an environmental consultant is procured in March 2009. An initial estimate suggests that three to four months will be needed complete and submit the required assessment to HUD. The input from Chevron and the County are therefore extremely essential, if the project is able to start construction by September 2009.

Please do not hesitate to contact us immediately if you have any questions, especially as they may relate to our timing requirements. Please contact Philip Neville, the Deputy Executive Director for Real Estate Development, or Shad Small, Development Program Manager, at (510) 587-2112 or 587-2144, respectively. Your earliest attention to this matter is greatly appreciated.

Sincerely,

July Unile Jon Gresley

Executive Director

cc: Steven Plunkett, Alameda County Environmental Health

Aaron Costa, Chevron

Charlotte Evans, Conestoga-Rovers Associates

Don Stump, CCHNC Karl Lauff, CCHNC Philip Neville, OHI Shad Small, OHI