

Jakub, Barbara, Env. Health

From: Jakub, Barbara, Env. Health
Sent: Monday, February 28, 2011 10:54 AM
To: 'John Kawahara'
Cc: Drogos, Donna, Env. Health
Subject: RE: 16550 Ashland Ave.

John,
I'm a bit confused about your request for us to reconsider our decision for closure as I have not even reviewed the case for closure yet and have not made the determination that the site is either closeable or not closeable. I received the site from another caseworker who left the position and have not yet had the opportunity to review the site. Your consultant Frank Goldman has now petitioned the case and not even submitted the closure request on our ftp site or on the State's database, Geotracker. We did receive it by email but Mr. Goldman should know that the requirements for submitting reports are to submit a copy to our ftp site and one to Geotracker. We do not accept documents by email. Alameda County Environmental Health received the petition from the State Board on January 20, 2011 and your site is now in the petition process and outside of our normal closure review process. We have requested and received an extension to reply to the petition by March 31, 2011. I am unsure of the timeframe for the State Board to review the petition and respond to it. Please feel free to call me with any questions or further concerns you may have.
Regards,

Barbara Jakub, P.G.
Hazardous Materials Specialist
Alameda County Environmental Health
1131 Harbor Bay Pky.
Alameda, CA 94502
Direct: 510-639-1287
Fax: 510-337-9335

PDF copies of case files can be downloaded at:

<http://www.acgov.org/aceh/lop/ust.htm>

From: John Kawahara [<mailto:jkawahara@kawaharanurseries.com>]
Sent: Monday, February 28, 2011 9:32 AM
To: Jakub, Barbara, Env. Health
Cc: Drogos, Donna, Env. Health
Subject: 16550 Ashland Ave.

Dear Ms. Jakub,

My brother and I own the underground storage tank site located at 16550 Ashland Ave., San Lorenzo.

This correspondence has been sent to request that you reconsider closure on the site sooner than later.

Our family plant nursery business started on this site in the 1950's and we also lived on the property. In the early 1980's, we moved our main office and business to Morgan Hill where we acquired more property to keep up with the growing demands of our customers. We were able to get our Morgan Hill location going 100% after some years and the nursery in San Lorenzo became less important to our business. As time went on, we kept San Lorenzo going only because our father wanted something to do.

My father passed away on January 11th, 2011 at the age of 91. We have no reason to keep the San Lorenzo property as all our family is out of the area. Our nursery business has been hurt by the recent downturn in the economy. Since we need financing, selling our property in San Lorenzo would be a tremendous help in keeping our business alive.

Our subsurface investigations at the site have been a great expense and this case has been open for over 17 years. My environmental consultant has provided a comprehensive rationale which provides justification for site closure.

We would like you to reconsider your decision for site closure as the cost to my family and the State far exceeds the benefit obtained in terms of environmental protection.

Sincerely,

John Kawahara