



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

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***** PRESS RELEASE *****

**CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH (“CDPH”)
COMPLETES RADIATION HEALTH AND SAFETY SCANNING ON
HUNTERS POINT NAVAL SHIPYARD PARCEL A-1**

CDPH scan confirms no health or safety risks to members of the Parcel A-1 residential community

San Francisco— On November 16, 2018, the California Department of Public Health (CDPH) released a Hunters Point Shipyard (HPS) Parcel A-1, Radiation Health and Safety Scanning Survey Final Progress Report. The report summarizes the results of the radiological survey CDPH conducted between July 16, 2018 and October 26, 2018 of the “Hilltop” at HPS.

The CDPH survey results to date have found no radiation health or safety risks to residents, workers, or tenants on Parcel A-1 of the Hunters Point Naval Shipyard.

CDPH conducted the survey under a July 3, 2018 work plan prepared by its Radiological Health Branch. It involved a walkover scan (“hand scans”) and towed array scan of the publically accessible areas (uncovered areas, landscaped areas, streets and sidewalks) as well as private common areas between homes, a large stockpile, and slopes.

The only non-naturally occurring element CDPH detected was associated with a naval deck marker that was buried under approximately 10 inches of soil, located near Galvez and Donahue at the bottom of the hill on the north side of Parcel A-1 in an undeveloped, fenced, non-public area. CDPH measured the level of radiation emitted from the deck marker and determined that the amount of radiation from the deck marker would not have resulted in a health or safety hazard to anyone who happened to be at that spot previously. A Navy contractor removed the deck marker under CDPH observation. Scans of the hole that contained the deck marker and of the removed soil around the deck marker detected no radiation above background levels, which indicated that the deck marker was intact and that no radium leaked out of the marker.

Potassium-40, which CDPH detected 88 times while scanning, is a naturally occurring element normally found throughout nature, including in plants, animals, various foods and our bodies. CDPH advises that detection of potassium-40 is not unusual for a radiation scan of this type and is not a health or safety concern for people living, working, or visiting on the Shipyard, or for the environment.

To read CDPH’s Final Progress Update on the Parcel A-1 scan, go to www.cdph.ca.gov

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