

From: Lisa Lappin
To: Rohlfes, Larry@DTSC; Kracov, Gideon@DTSC; Cade Williams
Subject: Fwd: Discrepancies within SCAQMD Presentation to Public in Paramount
Date: Wednesday, September 21, 2016 3:56:28 PM

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

From: Lisa Lappin <ljtutoring@gmail.com>
Date: September 19, 2016 at 9:57:41 PM PDT
To: snakamura@aqmd.gov, "DWright@da.lacounty.gov" <DWright@da.lacounty.gov>, Debmeyerslb@yahoo.com, swilliams@da.lacounty.gov, Joe@ccair.org, "Barboza, Tony" <Tony.Barboza@latimes.com>, Liza Tucker <liza@consumerwatchdog.org>, Cade Williams <dcapjane@aol.com>, Robina <robinasuwol@earthlink.net>, "O'Neill, Michaela" <Moneill@cta.org>, michele lewis <michlew99@gmail.com>, "surferapril@aol.com" <surferapril@aol.com>, Lisa Lappin <ljtutoring@gmail.com>, Milton Hernandez-Nimatuj <Nimatuj@cbecal.org>, Debwoodcm2013@yahoo.com, Yana Garcia <a.yanagarcia@gmail.com>, Jo A Arias <pitajo1212@att.net>, Daniel Mensher <dmensher@kellerrohrback.com>, Damon Honaker <damon1215@aol.com>, Ingrid Brostrom <ibrostrom@crpe-ej.org>
Subject: Discrepancies within SCAQMD Presentation to Public in Paramount

Dear Ms. Nakamura,

I am very concerned about the way the data regarding hexavalent chromium levels was represented to the Paramount community at the Town Meeting on August 16, 2016 and again on September 15, 2016. On both occasions South Coast Air Quality Management District (SCAQMD) indicated that the monitor from Compton was used from MATES IX 2015 to serve as the ambient air reference. What is the logic in using the monitor that registers the highest level of hexavalent chromium out of all 10 monitors used in MATES IX 2015 assessment throughout the South Coast Air Quality Management region as the ambient reference for Paramount? The Compton monitor showed a 0.12 level whereas the overall average of all 10 monitors measured was 0.05. When the Compton monitor is used as a reference, it gives a false picture of the situation in Paramount. According to your Powerpoint presentation (see below), the levels of hexavalent chromium near monitor 2 on Vermont street were 4 times higher than ambient. However, if you use the average level of hexavalent chromium (0.50) rather than the Compton monitor it is actually 8 times above background. Using the Compton monitor also skews the information regarding monitor 3 on California St. located on the District Office for Paramount Unified

School District and beside Lincoln School. Rather than registering as slightly above the ambient level as the graph indicates, the level at monitor 3 on California St. (0.16) is three times above the overall average of the region (0.05). The elevated hexavalent chromium levels in Compton were again employed in the presentation to compare the cancer risk between the residents in Compton vs. those in Paramount. If the average level of hexavalent chromium for the region were calculated instead the monitor at Compton, the data would correctly show that the overall odds of cancer in the region are ~30 in a million (rather than ~60 in a million as it is for Compton) which is then compared to the risk for cancer in the affected areas of Paramount which is ~165 per million in Paramount. Furthermore, I do not understand why SCAQMD waited 8 months before informing the public that hexavalent levels had been consistently elevated for the first five months of 2016 and were in fact higher than anywhere in the SCAQMD region according to data in MATES IX 2015. As I and others in the community expressed at the August meeting, we would like to see SCAQMD have a greater sense of urgency when it comes to this issue which affects the health and safety of residents and workers in Paramount. Please correct these discrepancies so that the community members can accurately understand the exact nature of the risks that they are facing.

Sincerely yours,

Lisa Lappin

References:

1. See website below for MATES IX 2015 - see page 2-17 for Compton monitor and average hexavalent chromium levels for the South Coast Air Quality Management District region

<http://www.aqmd.gov/docs/default-source/air-quality/air-toxic-studies/mates-iv/mates-iv-final-draft-report-4-1-15.pdf?sfvrsn=7>

2. See Powerpoint below for presentation shared with Paramount community (see page 12 for graph referred to above: please note REL line is missing on page 12 for hexavalent chromium but not on page 11 for nickel which is registering considerably lower levels).

<http://www.aqmd.gov/docs/default-source/compliance/Carlton-Forge-Works/final-8-16-16-paramount-town-hall-mtg.pdf?sfvrsn=4>

3. NIOSH guidelines for hexavalent chromium in the workplace

https://www.cdc.gov/niosh/docs/2013-128/pdfs/2013_128.pdf