



CALIFORNIA ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY MEDIA ADVISORY

Department of Toxic Substances Control

T - 33- 05

For Immediate Release

June 6, 2005

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Kaiser Receives Corporate Certificate of Appreciation California Hospitals Now Virtually Mercury Free

Berkeley --- The Department of Toxic Substances Control (DTSC) will recognize Kaiser Permanente (Kaiser) for virtually eliminating mercury at its facilities throughout California and for completing the construction of four "mercury-free" hospitals and starting construction on another in the San Francisco Bay Area.

DTSC Chief Deputy Director Leonard Robinson will present Kaiser with individual hospital awards, as well as a special Corporate Certificate of Appreciation. The certificate is part of DTSC's Mercury Elimination Leadership Program (HELP) designed to reduce the amount of mercury in our environment. Kaiser has reduced its use of mercury by 87% at 26 of its 28 California facilities. The certificate will be presented during Kaiser's 2005 National Environmental Health and Safety (NEH&S) All Hands Conference.

HELP has certified some 54 hospitals statewide and continues the effort with agency partner, California Department of Health Services, to eliminate exposures to mercury in the sensitive medical facility environment.

Date: Tuesday, June 7, 2005
Time: 1:00 p.m. (awards ceremony)
Location: Renaissance Club Sport Hotel in Walnut Creek
2805 Jones Road
Walnut Creek, CA

*****Location is BART Accessible*****

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The Department of Toxic Substances Control's mission is to restore, protect, and enhance the environment and ensure public health, environmental quality and economic vitality by regulating hazardous waste, conducting and overseeing cleanups, and developing and promoting pollution prevention.