July 8, 2022

Dear Community Member:

State law (Air Toxics "Hot Spots" Information and Assessment Act of 1987) protects your right to know about possible health risks from toxic air contaminants emitted by sources of air pollution in your neighborhood. The San Diego County Air Pollution Control District (APCD) is the local government agency responsible for implementing the Air Toxics “Hot Spots” Program in San Diego County.

The following facility is required to notify all community members living in areas where there is a potential health risk at or above the significant risk threshold in accordance with APCD Rule 1210 and hold a public meeting to discuss this information. The enclosed map shows the boundaries of the area where the health risks are at or above the significant risk threshold.

Facility Name: Otay Landfill Inc.
Address: 1700 Maxwell Road, Chula Vista, CA 91910
Type of Business: Landfill

Based on air emission data in 2017 the APCD requested a health risk assessment from Otay Landfill Inc. The health risk assessment, approved by the APCD on April 7, 2022, shows that some toxic air contaminants, primarily Arsenic resulting from the operation of stockpiles and the landfill, from Otay Landfill Inc. may be increasing the cancer risks for people who live in the area shown to a maximum risk of 30.39 chances in one million of getting cancer.

In addition to the cancer risk, the health risk assessment also shows that the level of exposure to some toxic air contaminants, primarily Arsenic and Hydrogen Sulfide resulting from the operation of stockpiles and the landfill, from Otay Landfill Inc. may result in greater potential for adverse health impacts for people who live in the area shown. Specifically, the health risk assessment shows the Maximum Residential Acute Non-Cancer Health Hazard Index is 1.05. The noncancer health hazard index is calculated by dividing the estimated level of exposure to chemicals emitted from a facility to the level of exposure that is not expected to cause any adverse health effects. If the hazard index is less than one (1.0), then the estimated level of exposure is not likely to result in adverse health effects. A hazard index at or above one (1.0) indicates that there may be greater potential for adverse health effects from exposure to the toxic air contaminants of concern. A hazard index is calculated for both acute (short-term) and chronic (long-term) exposures to air toxic contaminants in facility emissions.

APCD Rule 1210 defines significant health risk thresholds as, and requires public notification and a public meeting, when the cancer risk is at or above 10 in one million, or when any of the
non-cancer health hazard indexes or cancer burden is at or above 1.0. As indicated above, for this facility, the maximum residential cancer risk is at 30.39 in one million, which is above 10 in one million, and the maximum residential acute health hazard index is 1.05, which is above one (1.0). APCD Rule 1210 also requires facilities with emissions at or above significant health risk thresholds (for cancer risk the 10 in one million health risk threshold applies to emissions that occurred in calendar year 2018 or later) to submit an application for a risk reduction audit and plan with a proposal to reduce their health risks below these health risk thresholds. This facility has already submitted an application for a risk reduction plan that was required for their 2013 emissions. The District has evaluated and approved this risk reduction plan, which the facility is required to implement this year. Once the approved risk reduction measures are implemented, the acute risk for their 2017 emissions will also be reduced below the significant health risk threshold.

The APCD has prepared the enclosed “Program Fact Sheet” regarding its Air Toxic Hot Spots Program and a survey card to obtain your questions and comments regarding the information provided in this notice. If you would like more information, please complete and return the enclosed survey card to the APCD via mail, 10124 Old Grove Road, San Diego, 92131, or e-mail at APCDEngineering@sdapcd.org.

Additionally, a virtual public meeting has been scheduled for Wednesday, August 10, 2022, at 5:00 P.M. to discuss the information on this notification and address your questions. Registration for the public meeting can be found at: https://bit.ly/apcdotenvy2022. For more information regarding the APCD’s Air Toxics Hot Spots program, please contact the APCD at 858-586-2600 or via email at APCDEngineering@sdapcd.org. For more information regarding the facility please contact Marco Cervantes with Otay Landfill via email at MCervantes2@republicservices.com or at 619-332-9021.

Sincerely,

PAULA FORBIS
Air Pollution Control Officer