March 30, 2022

Dear Employee:

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 employees working in areas where there is a potential health risk at or above the significant risk threshold in accordance with APCD Rule 1210. The enclosed map shows the boundaries of the area where the health risks are at or above the significant risk threshold.

Facility Name: Pacific Ship Repair & Fabrication Inc.  
Address: 1625 Rigel St., San Diego, CA 92113  
Type of Business: Ship Repair & Fabrication

Based on the above facility’s air emission data that occurred in 2019 the APCD requested a health risk assessment from Pacific Ship Repair & Fabrication Inc. The health risk assessment, as approved by the APCD in January of 2022, shows that some toxic air contaminants, primarily Hexavalent Chromium, from Pacific Ship Repair & Fabrication Inc. may be increasing the cancer risks for people who work in the impacted area shown in the enclosed map by a maximum risk of 121.5 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 Nickel, from Pacific Ship Repair & Fabrication Inc. may result in greater potential for adverse health impacts. Specifically, the Health Risk Assessment shows the Maximum Worker Acute (short term) Non-Cancer Health Hazard Index is 3.00. 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 for anyone, including sensitive individuals such as children and the elderly. A hazard index at or above one (1.0) indicates that there may be greater potential for adverse health impacts 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 requires public notification 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 one (1.0). As indicated above, for this facility, the maximum worker cancer risk is at 121.5 in one million, which is above 10 in one million, and the maximum worker acute (short-term) health hazard index is at 3.00, 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 threshold applies to emissions that occurred in calendar year 2018 or later) to reduce their health risks below these health risk thresholds.

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 public meeting has been scheduled for Tuesday, April 26, 2022, at 5pm – 7pm to discuss the information in this notification and address your questions. If interested, please join the meeting at https://tinyurl.com/PSRF-2019-HRA. 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 David Bain at (619) 232-3200, extension 111 or at DBain@pacship.com.

Sincerely,

Paula Forbis
Air Pollution Control Officer