January 15, 2021

Dear Community Member:

State law (Air Toxics "Hot Spots" Information and Assessment Act of 1987) ensures 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 this requirement in state law.

The following facility is required to notify all community members in the area where there is a potential health risk above thresholds established by APCD Rule 1210.

Facility Name: Sycamore Landfill
Address: 8514 Mast Boulevard, Santee, CA 92071
Type of Business: Landfill

Based on air emission data in 2013, the APCD requested a health risk assessment from Sycamore Landfill. The health risk assessment, approved by the APCD in October 2020, shows that some toxic air contaminants, primarily arsenic and diesel particulate matter, from Sycamore Landfill may be increasing the cancer risks for people who live in the area to a maximum increase of 38 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 crystalline silica, may result in greater potential for adverse health impacts. Specifically, the health risk assessment shows the Maximum Residential Chronic Non-Cancer Health Hazard Index is 2.90. 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 or equal to one, 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 above one indicates that there may be greater potential for adverse health impacts from exposure to the toxic air contaminants of concern. Hazard indexes are 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 above 10 in one million or when any of the non-cancer health hazard indexes is greater than 1.

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@sdcounty.ca.gov.

For more information regarding the APCD’s Air Toxics Hot Spots program, please contact the APCD at (858) 586-2600 or via e-mail at apcdengineeering@sdcounty.ca.gov. For more information regarding the facility please contact Marco Cervantes, Environmental Manager, at (619) 332-9021 or MCervantes2@republicservices.com.

Sincerely,

ROBERT C. REIDER
Interim Air Pollution Control Officer