



**Yana Garcia**  
Secretary for  
Environmental Protection



## Department of Toxic Substances Control

Meredith Williams, Ph.D., Director  
700 Heinz Avenue  
Berkeley, California 94710-2721



**Gavin Newsom**  
Governor

### MEMORANDUM

TO: Nicole Yuen, Project Manager  
Senior Environmental Scientist  
Cleanup Program, Berkeley Office  
Site Mitigation and Restoration Program

FROM: Mark Sorensen, PG 7448  
Engineering Geologist  
Geological Services Branch – Berkeley  
Site Mitigation and Restoration Program

DATE: November 10, 2022

SUBJECT: **REVIEW OF CORPORATION YARD: EAST MEADOW AND BUILDING  
120 AREA, RICHMOND FIELD STATION,  
UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA, BERKELEY**

SITE 201605-00 PCA: 11018 MPC: TECHMEMO WR 20088626



*Mark Sorensen*

### DOCUMENT REVIEWED

As requested, the Berkeley Geological Services Unit (GSU) has reviewed the *Corporation Yard: East Meadow and Building 120 Area, Richmond Field Station, University of California, Berkeley* (Letter), dated August 24, 2022. The Letter was prepared by Tetra Tech, Inc. The Letter offers recommendations as a follow-up to a November 2019 letter that provided incremental sampling methodology (ISM) results from 17 decision units in three Corporation Yard areas. The Report was reviewed with respect to geologic and hydrogeologic interpretations and technical adequacy.

### BACKGROUND

The established cleanup goal for total polychlorinated biphenyls (PCBs) in site soils is 1 milligram per kilogram (mg/kg). ISM sampling addressed the area referred to as “South of Building 120” through additional triplicate sampling, as conveyed in an earlier letter of May 2022 that recommended no further evaluation or soil cleanup in that area

(represented by decision units [DUs] 9 through 17). The remaining two areas are the subject of this Letter, with (1) additional ISM sampling proposed to characterize soils in a portion of the East Meadow Area, and (2) excavation proposed for areas around Excavations 3A, 3B, and 4 that exceed the cleanup goal.

## COMMENTS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

1. *East Meadow Area, Page 2*

In the second paragraph, DU2 is listed twice in the first sentence. Please change the second DU2 to DU3.

2. *Laboratory Processing, Subsampling, and Analyses, Page 3*

Please cite the applicable quality assurance project plan (QAPP) or sampling and analysis plan (SAP), or state whether new plan(s) will be created.

3. *Field Triplicates and Calculating the Weighted-95UCL, Pages 5-6*

a. At the end of the first paragraph, EPA North Meadow is mentioned. Please indicate its location relative to the areas discussed in the Letter.

b. In the third paragraph of this section, please edit the text as follows:

“Note that if all sample results are below 1 mg/kg, UC Berkeley will conclude that existing site conditions meet the cleanup goal and recommend that no further statistical evaluation is necessary **in the sampled areas.**”

This clarification appears necessary because we know that laboratory results for certain samples from the East Meadow do not meet the cleanup goal.

4. *Building 120 Area, Page 6*

In the first paragraph of the section, please edit the text to read:

“Per discussions with DTSC and EPA, secured fencing with PCB warning signage was placed around the area, as shown **by the red fence pattern** on Figure 2.”

5. *Figures 1 and 2*

Unneeded confusion is introduced by referring to DUs 1 through 17 as “New Decision Units,” as they are currently indicated in the legends of these two figures. These DUs are no longer “New,” having been sampled in 2019. Also, the title of Figure 2 refers to results of these DUs as “Previous Sampling Results.” Please change the legend designation to “Previously Sampled Decision Units” or simply “Decision Units.”

6. *Figure 3*

Please indicate in the title or elsewhere that the depicted area is within the East Meadow Area.

If you have any questions or comments regarding this memorandum, please contact Mark Sorensen at (510) 540-3947 or [Mark.Sorensen@dtsc.ca.gov](mailto:Mark.Sorensen@dtsc.ca.gov), or Jon Buckalew (Buck) King at (510) 540-3955 or [Buck.King@dtsc.ca.gov](mailto:Buck.King@dtsc.ca.gov).

**Reviewed by:** Theodore (Ted) Mazzoli, PG  
Engineering Geologist, Geological Services Unit  
Geological Services Branch  
Site Mitigation and Restoration Program