

# Department of Toxic Substances Control

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Gray Davis  
Governor

  
Winston H. Hickox  
Secretary for  
Environmental  
Protection

May 27, 1999

Ms. Mary Ellen Waller  
185 Bell Canyon Boulevard  
Bell Canyon, California 91307

Dear Ms. Waller:

## BELL CANYON SOIL AND SEDIMENT SAMPLING

Thank you for your letter of May 10, 1999, which expressed your concerns in obtaining the Bell Canyon soil and sediment sampling results from State and Federal agencies. As explained to you in our February 24, 1999 letter, the Department of Toxic Substances Control (DTSC) has been awaiting completion of the analyses and verification of the results from the split samples by our Hazardous Materials Laboratory (HML) and the radionuclides results from the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (US EPA). There was a considerable backlog of samples for dioxin analysis at our HML that caused the delay in completing analysis of the Bell Canyon samples. Our HML results arrived at our office on April 26, 1999. Copies of these data are attached for your information. DTSC's evaluation of these data will take place in the context of its overall corrective action oversight program at the Santa Susana Field Laboratory (SSFL). These data will be used in its decisions for any future DTSC requirements for off-site RCRA Facility Investigation (RFI) work by Boeing.

Please be aware that the split samples were taken at the time of a Boeing initiated off-site sampling of soil and sediment. It needs to be made very clear, that this was not a sampling program initiated by DTSC request. In a letter to Mr. Steve Lafflam (copy attached), dated June 10, 1998, DTSC indicated that it had reviewed the Bell Canyon Residence Sampling Plan which had been provided strictly for DTSC's information and was providing comments as to consistency with the approved RFI Work Plan --- which was for on-site sampling and analysis at Solid Waste Management Units (SWMUs). DTSC also urged that Boeing inform the Santa Susana Field Laboratory (SSFL) Workgroup with respect to any such future off-site sampling endeavors.

Finally, DTSC had staff present to observe the sampling and obtain split samples. This was done in order to have an independent means of evaluating any data from this work that Boeing might in the future seek to use to influence agency decisions regarding any off-site RFI work plan that might be required.

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California Environmental Protection Agency  
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Ms. Mary Ellen Waller

May 27, 1999

Page 2

If you have any questions concerning the sampling and the delay in the analytical results, please contact Penny Nakashima at (818) 551-2900 or Philip Chandler at (818) 551-2921.

Sincerely,



Jose Kou, P.E., Chief

Southern California Permitting Branch

Enclosures

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Ms. Mary Ellen Waller  
May 27, 1999  
Page 3

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Ms. Mary Ellen Waller  
May 27, 1999  
Page 4

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Ms. Mary Ellen Waller  
May 27, 1999  
Page 5

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