

This Public Notice document was amended as of 9/25/02 to correct typographical errors and reposted to the website on 9/25/02

PUBLIC NOTICE

September 4, 2002

To: Parents and guardians of students enrolled at St. Jerome Elementary, El Cerrito Senior High School, Apple School Golden Gate, and Harding Elementary.

Persons at residences or other properties within 1000 feet of the crematory retorts located near the intersection of Balra Drive and Seaview Drive in El Cerrito, California.

ALAMEDA COUNTY
Roberta Cooper
Scott Haggerty
(Vice-Chairperson)
Nate Miley
Shelia Young

From: Bay Area Air Quality Management District

CONTRA COSTA COUNTY
Mark DeSaulnier
Mark Ross
Gayle Uilkema

Re: Modification to Air Quality Permit for Two Crematory Retorts
Sunset View Cemetery, El Cerrito, CA
Permit Application # 2995

MARIN COUNTY
Harold C. Brown, Jr.

NAPA COUNTY
Brad Wagenknecht

SAN FRANCISCO COUNTY
Chris Daly
Leland Yee
(Vacant)

SAN MATEO COUNTY
Jerry Hill
Marland Townsend
(Secretary)

SANTA CLARA COUNTY
Randy Attaway
(Chairperson)
Liz Kniss
Julia Miller
Dena Mossar

SOLANO COUNTY
John F. Silva

SONOMA COUNTY
Tim Smith
Pamela Torliatt

William C. Norton
**INTERIM CEO/EXECUTIVE
SECRETARY**

Ellen Garvey
**AIR POLLUTION
CONTROL OFFICER**

Summary

The Bay Area Air Quality Management District (the "District") is the regional agency in the Bay Area that regulates stationary sources of air pollution such as factories, industrial sites, and gasoline stations.

Under State law, the District must notify parents and neighbors before issuing a permit for a project that will emit any toxic air contaminant near a school. The purpose of this notice is to inform you of one such proposed project in your area. Sunset View Cemetery has applied to modify its air quality permit to operate two crematory retorts at a site located near the intersection of Balra Drive and Seaview Drive in El Cerrito, which is located within 1,000 feet of four schools: St. Jerome Elementary, El Cerrito Senior High School, Apple School Golden Gate, and Harding Elementary.

The District has prepared a health risk screening report that describes the possible health effects which may result from exposure to the increased toxic air contaminants. Based on this screening, the maximum cancer risk has been determined to be no more than 2.5 chances in a million for the nearest residents. For students who attend nearby schools, the maximum risk is no more than one chance in a million. These levels of risk that have been calculated are within acceptable levels established by the District in its Risk Management Policy. The District will not approve any project that will result in a significant risk to the public health.

In order to put the preceding risk estimate into perspective, here are some other risk numbers for comparison:

- 1) The lifetime risk of cancer (excluding skin cancers) in the general population is about one in three, or 333,000 chances in a million.
- 2) The risk of cancer due to background concentrations of toxic air contaminants routinely monitored in the Bay Area is about 200 chances in a million.

Health Risk Screening Report is Available

The health risk screening report is a routine part of the evaluation of the permit application. The proposed permit modifications will result in a small increase in the quantity of the following toxic air contaminant emissions: acetaldehyde, arsenic, beryllium, cadmium, hexavalent chromium, copper, formaldehyde, hydrogen chloride, hydrogen fluoride, lead,

mercury, nickel, selenium, zinc, chlorinated dibenzodioxins and furans, and polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons (PAHs).

The potential risk values were calculated using a standard risk assessment methodology. This methodology assumes that residents and students are exposed to the maximum concentrations of toxic air contaminants for 24 hours a day continuously for 70 years. The screening methods used by the District to estimate risk are based on conservative or "worst case" assumptions of the operating conditions for this facility. This type of analysis is considered to be health protective and is not meant to determine the actual risk, rather it is performed under strict guidelines as a means to compare the source to other regulated sources throughout the District. The District's Risk Management Policy can be viewed on our website at <http://www.baaqmd.gov/permit/toxics/rmpgen.htm>.

The Health Risk Screening Report describes the basis for the risk estimate in detail. You may review this report on the District website (<http://www.baaqmd.gov/permit/pn.htm>) or by making an appointment with:

District Permit Services, (415) 749-4990
St. Jerome Elementary, (510) 525-9484
El Cerrito Senior High School, (510) 525-0234
Apple School Golden Gate, (510) 526-8570
Harding Elementary, (510) 525-0273

Public Comment Period

There is a thirty-day period for public response to this proposal. **The public comment period for this project will end on October 4, 2002.** If you wish to comment on the proposed modification to air quality permits for these two crematory retorts, you may call Suzi Kwar at (415) 749-4636 and leave a message up to one minute in length. Please include your name and mailing address, or name and telephone number, so that a District staff person may respond to your message. Alternatively, you may make your comments in writing. Please address them to:

**Sunset View Cemetery Public Notice Response
BAAQMD
939 Ellis Street
San Francisco, CA 94109
Attn: Julian J. Elliot**

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