

# **PUBLIC NOTICE**

**January 16, 2003**

To: Parents and guardians of students enrolled at Park Elementary School

Persons at residences or other properties within 1000 feet of the Emergency Diesel Generator located at 300 E. Blithedale Ave., Mill Valley, CA 95356.

From: Bay Area Air Quality Management District

Re: Emergency Diesel Generator  
Pacific Bell, Mill Valley, CA  
Permit Application # 6098

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

**CONTRA COSTA COUNTY**  
Mark DeSaulnier  
Mark Ross  
Gayle Uilkema

**MARIN COUNTY**  
Harold C. Brown, Jr.

**NAPA COUNTY**  
Brad Wagenknecht

**SAN FRANCISCO COUNTY**  
Chris Daly  
(Vacant)  
(Vacant)

**SAN MATEO COUNTY**  
Jerry Hill  
Mariland Townsend  
(Secretary)

**SANTA CLARA COUNTY**  
Liz Kniss  
Julia Miller  
Dena Mossar  
(Vacant)

**SOLANO COUNTY**  
John F. Silva

**SONOMA COUNTY**  
Tim Smith  
Pamela Torliatt

William C. Norton  
**EXECUTIVE OFFICER/APCO**

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## **Summary**

The Bay Area Air Quality Management District (the "District") is the local agency 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 increase emissions of any toxic air contaminant near a school. The purpose of this notice is to inform you of one such proposed project. Pacific Bell company has applied for a permit to operate an emergency diesel generator at a site located at 300 E. Blithedale Ave., in Mill Valley. This is near the following school: Park Elementary School.

The District has prepared a health risk screening report that describes the possible health effects from the increased toxic air contaminants. Based on this screening, the maximum cancer risk is no more than 9.93 chances in a million for the nearest commercial and industrial occupants in the area. For students who attend nearby schools, the maximum risk is no more than 0.63 chances in a million. These calculated levels of risk are within acceptable levels established by the District in its Risk Management Policy. The District plans to issue a Permit to Operate for the proposed project.

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 proposed permit will increase emissions of the following toxic air contaminant: diesel particulate matter (42.7 lb/year).

The potential risk values were calculated using a standard risk assessment methodology. This methodology assumes that residents are exposed to the maximum concentrations of toxic air contaminants for 24 hours a day continuously for 70 years. It further assumes that the school is occupied 8 hours per day, 200 days per year, 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/permits/toxics/rmpgen.htm>.

The Health Risk Screening Report describes the basis for the risk estimate. You may request a copy of this report by calling the District Permit Services Division at (415) 749-5087 or by downloading it from the District website at <http://www.baaqmd.gov/permit/pn.htm>.

### **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 the 15<sup>th</sup> of February, 2003.** If you wish to comment on the proposed project, you may make your comments in writing or by email. Please address them to:

**BAAQMD  
Pacific Bell Public Notice Response  
Attn: Thu Bui  
939 Ellis Street  
San Francisco, CA 94109  
tbui@baaqmd.gov**

Alternatively, you may call (415) 749-5087 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.

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