



Office of the City Manager

February 20, 2018

To: Honorable Mayor and Members of the City Council

From:  Dee Williams-Ridley, City Manager

Subject: Safe Drinking Water & Toxic Enforcement Act of 1968: Proposition 65

I am writing to let you know that the Regional Water Quality Control Board notified tenants of 1110 University Avenue of a discharge of trichloroethene (TCE) and tetrachloroethylene (PCE) at the property. The chemicals are likely connected to Tower Cleaners, a dry cleaning operation at this address. The Water Board, which state law designates as the lead agency on this issue, has taken steps to mitigate the discharge and is analyzing whether further steps are required.

State law requires that Council also be notified of the notice, which is attached to this memo. The Water Board has also notified the Alameda County Board of Supervisors. The notification provided to tenants also lists names of Water Board staff to be contacted to explain the risks and the response to the detection.

City staff assisted the Water Board to notify tenants and will continue to receive updates until the issue is fully resolved.

Attachment: Proposition 65 Notification from the Water Board

cc: Jovan Grogan, Deputy City Manager  
Ann-Marie Hogan, City Auditor  
Mark Numainville, City Clerk  
Matthai Chakko, Assistant to the City Manager  
Timothy Burroughs, Interim Director, Planning & Development  
Paul Buddenhagen, Director, Health, Housing & Community Services (HHCS)  
Dr. Lisa Hernandez, Health Officer, HHCS  
Farimah Brown, City Attorney  
David Brannigan, Chief, Fire Department  
Phil Harrington, Director, Public Works

**STATE WATER RESOURCES CONTROL BOARD NOTIFICATION Form TO COUNTIES OF HAZARDOUS WASTE DISCHARGE  
SAFE DRINKING WATER AND TOXIC ENFORCEMENT ACT OF 1968, PROPOSTION 65**

**SECTION I: PRELIMINARY NOTIFICATION DECISION<sup>1</sup>**

<b>1. DOES THE DISCHARGE MEET ALL FIVE OF THE PREREQUISITES?</b> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO	<b>2. DATE:</b> 2/2/2018	<b>3. TIME:</b> 16:30
<b>4. STATE OR REGIONAL BOARD OFFICE:</b> San Francisco Bay (R2)	<b>5. PROGRAM</b> (e.g. UST, DoD, NPDES, other): SCP	

**SECTION II: DISCHARGE INFORMATION**

<b>1. DATE OF DISCHARGE:</b> 1965-2009	<b>2. DISCHARGE TYPE:</b> Release of PCE from dry cleaning operations
<b>3. HOW DISCHARGE DISCOVERED:</b> Analytical sampling of soil, soil vapor, groundwater, and indoor air all identified solvent contamination.	
<b>4. <u>REPORTING SOURCE</u> NAME:</b> Richard Makdisi, Stellar Environmental Solutions, Inc. <b>STREET ADDRESS:</b> 2198 6 <sup>th</sup> Street, Suite 201 <b>CITY/STATE/ZIP CODE:</b> Berkeley, CA 94710 <b>EMAIL:</b> rmakdisi@stellar-environmental.com <b>PHONE:</b> (510) 644-3123	<b>5. <u>PROBABLE DISCHARGER</u></b> <b>NAME:</b> Berkeley Cleaning Center / Tower Cleaners <b>STREET ADDRESS:</b> 1110 University Avenue <b>CITY/STATE/ZIP CODE:</b> Berkeley, CA 94702 <b>EMAIL:</b> stephenparker@gmail.com <b>PHONE:</b> (510) 390-2031
<b>6. <u>DISCHARGE LOCATION</u></b> <b>NAME:</b> Tower Cleaners <b>STREET ADDRESS:</b> 1110 University Avenue <b>CITY/STATE/ZIP CODE:</b> Berkeley, CA 94702 <b>PHONE:</b> (510) 390-2031 <b>GIS LOCATION:</b> Latitude 37.86887415, Longitude -122.29130745	<b>7. <u>DESCRIPTION OF DISCHARGE INCIDENT:</u></b> Tetrachloroethylene (PCE) and trichloroethylene (TCE) released from Tower Cleaners has migrated to indoor air at 1110 University Ave. in Berkeley. The concentrations of TCE exceed the urgent response action level indicating an unacceptable risk of short term health effects.

**MONITORING INFORMATION**

<b>8. CHEMICAL NAME</b>	<b>9. VOLUME, MASS AND UNITS OF THE CHEMICAL</b>	<b>10. MEDIA TYPE (AIR, WATER, SOIL)</b>
Trichloroethene (TCE)	15 µg/m <sup>3</sup>	Indoor Air

<sup>1</sup> The discharge incident must meet all five of the prerequisite listed in the instruction sheet. If all five prerequisites are met, this starts the 72 hour county notification clock. See instructions for more information.

