

April 20, 2017

Ms. Heather Harris
Principal
Emerson/Bandini Elementary School
3510 Newton Ave.
San Diego, CA 92113

Subject: Water Quality Investigation at Emerson Elementary School Campus

Dear Ms. Harris:

The following information is provided as a project closeout report for the recent water quality investigation and remediation work at the Emerson campus of Emerson-Bandini Elementary school.

On January 26, 2017 the district Safety Office received a report of a water quality concern in room 127 of the San Diego Cooperative 2 charter school, which is collocated on your campus. The report indicated the presence of a sheen atop the water in a dog's water bowl. Safety staff were dispatched to the site to begin an investigation while bottled water, dispensers and cups were delivered to both schools occupying the Emerson campus. Safety staff collected water samples from the site and delivered the samples to an accredited local laboratory for analysis to detect the presence of bacteria/fecal coliforms and volatile organic compounds (VOC).

On February 9 results were received indicating that there were no detectable levels of fecal coliforms or VOCs in the samples taken at your school; however, there were elevated levels of VOC found in rooms occupied by the charter school. Out of an abundance of caution for the health & safety of your students a decision was made to continue using bottled water at both schools on the Emerson campus until we could determine and mitigate the cause of the elevated VOC's at the charter school. Since the presence of vinyl chloride in water is associated with the degradation of polyvinyl chloride (PVC), piping plumbers and plumbing estimator/inspectors were dispatched to the site to investigate the water conveyance system and site plumbing plans. After an in-depth review of as-built drawings and historical work documents, they determined that there was an underground section of PVC piping that was supplying water to a portion of the charter school.

In early March, work was performed by maintenance plumbers to bypass the underground PVC water supply line by connecting all of the charter school buildings to a different water meter and all copper piping. Upon completion of this work city water staff resampled the water at the charter school for a final time. These samples indicated the remediation work performed by district plumbers was effective and that vinyl chloride was no longer present in the water.

During the course of this remediation and investigation work, district representatives met with City of San Diego Water Department staff to discuss a new district-wide lead in drinking water sampling program enacted by the State Water Resources Control Board Division of Drinking

Water. During this meeting it was decided that lead sampling would be conducted first at the Emerson campus of Emerson-Bandini ES and San Diego Cooperative 2.

On March 7 City water staff collected 5 water samples from both schools on your campus and analyzed them for the presence of lead. The results indicated lead in the water exceeded the 15 parts per billion action level established by the state in the outdoor fountain near room 115 of the Emerson campus of Emerson-Bandini ES. District plumbing staff were dispatched and conducted remediation work including the replacement of fountain components and valves.

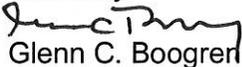
Upon completion of the remediation work, city and safety office staff returned on April 6 to resample the fountain previously identified as having elevated levels of lead. On April 12 sample results were received indicating that the remediation work was effective and levels were below the action level.

Since some of the charter school portables on the Emerson campus were found to have elevated levels we thought it prudent to sample portables on the Emerson side as well. Initial results indicated elevated levels in two portable classrooms. Plumbers were dispatched again and additional remediation was performed. Follow-up sampling indicates that this remediation work was effective in lowering levels below the state standard.

In addition to the work detailed above and at your request safety staff sampled water in other rooms on your campus; reports from our independent lab indicate that those results were also below the action level. I have attached a site sampling log to this letter which shows all of the sampling conducted at your school since January 26, 2017.

I hope the information contained in this letter and attachment provides you with a clear understanding of the water quality issues encountered on your campus and the work performed to remedy those issues. If you have any questions or concerns regarding this please contact me.

Sincerely,



Glenn C. Boogren

Manager; Safety, Training, Personnel, & Environmental Compliance

