# County of San Diego

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DIRECTOR

DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH
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Ms. Clarice Gaylord
Senior Policy Advisor
Region IX – US EPA
610 Ash Street
San Diego, CA 94101

Dear Ms. Gaylord:

I regret to inform you that the County of San Diego, Department of Environmental Health (DEH) is withdrawing its participation in the Community XL proposal.

The DEH began the Community XL planning process in December 1995, and the concept of "laboratory testing" strategic, innovative methods that streamlined administrative burdens and enhanced the quality of the environment was enthusiastically supported. On behalf of DEH, Ms. Linda Giannelli Pratt, Pollution Prevention Program Coordinator, invited a broad list of representatives from local government, nonprofits, and businesses to design a meaningful project. The result of months of meetings was a compelling proposal that focused on the commercial and industrial facilities leasing land from the Port of San Diego, along with the surrounding residential communities.

The San Diego Community XL proposal was first formally submitted to EPA headquarters in Washington, DC and to Region IX in the spring of 1996. As a result of EPA staff recommendations, it was resubmitted in October 1996 to more clearly define quantifiable outcomes, and also included a stronger link to working with the shipbuilding industry located in San Diego Bay. Due to the nature of some issues surrounding San Diego Bay, the project was revised for the last time, and resubmitted to EPA in December 1996. The ongoing planning committee meetings continued from December 1995 to February 1996, and there was tremendous commitment and dedication from all of the public agency representatives who would be tasked with fulfilling the objectives of the project.

Unfortunately for our department, Ms. Pratt has recently accepted employment outside the County of San Diego. Her departure, in addition to current staffing needs, has made it necessary for us to withdraw our proposal. Thank you for your support and consideration throughout this process. If you have any questions, please call me at (619) 338-2201.

Sincerely,

CHRIS GONAVER, Chief
Community Services and Planning Division