HEALTH RELATED INFORMATION FOR FIRST RESPONDERS AND WORKERS

On June 14, 2016, a fire started at 3570 Fruitland Avenue in Maywood, CA. The facility held Panda International Trading and Sokor Metals. Panda International Trading was a scrap metal recycling facility and Sokor Metals was a precious metal recovery facility. On June 14, 2016 from 1100-1700, the South Coast Air Quality Management District sampled air 50 feet from the fire source. Heavy metals such as lead, magnesium, copper, aluminum, antimony, calcium, iron, sulfur, tin, potassium, and zinc were detected during this initial testing. Other chemicals including bromine and chlorine were also released during the fire.

The health effects from exposure to these metals in this setting included short-term symptoms such as irritation to the eyes, nose, throat, and lungs. Some individuals may have experience skin irritation from exposure to ash. The Department of Public Health does not expect there to be long-term health effects from short-term exposure to metals and chemicals at the levels that were detected.

Equipment with visible ash can be rinsed off with water. Clothing can be washed in the washing machine using warm water and detergent. After washing clothing, run a cycle with the washing machine empty to clear ash left in the machine. If you come into contact with ash, wash exposed skin with soap and warm water.