Nikita D. Kyriakis, G.

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Mr. Clark

I attended the meeting on March 6th at the Holiday Inn in Nogales. At that meeting, I asked that all the contaminated parcels be cleaned up. My parcel is the second parcel to the south. It is about 70 feet south of the Border Patrol shooting range.

I was unaware of any lead contamination until a Phase 1 was done. The 2009 Phase 1 Environmental Assessment found bullets and recommended a Phase 2 be done to quantify the concentrations and extent or area of contamination. At this point it was unknown if the concentrations were high enough to be of concern.

The Phase 2 Environmental Assessment was a real eye opener. Not only did it find concentrations above residential levels, but also above industrial standard by more than 20 times. This area is perpendicular to the direction of fire from the range. The second thing that the Phase 2 revealed was that the contamination covered a much larger area than the experts found evidence of during the phase 1.

I was surprised to learn that a diversion dam was placed on my property to divert the stream flow around the shooting range. This diversion was made with steel landing mats and broken chunks of concrete. This diversion dam was placed on my property without my knowledge or permission.

Nothing seemed to be happening regarding the clean-up. Border Patrol said it would be cleaned up, promised to start the process. BP did take steps to clean-up the range area only. The 3.7 million dollar price tag to clean-up 1/2 acre was scary. The contamination on my parcel is larger than 1/2 acre and the limits of the contamination were beyond the scope of the Phase 2 conducted by Santa Cruz County.

My neighbor and I decided to determine the extent of the contamination, so we ordered an enlarged Phase 2 Assessment. Again we were surprised when this expanded scope did not find the limits, so we expanded the area one more time. This time the limits were reached. It was also found that the diversion dam used highly contaminated soil behind the landing mat.

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Border Patrol's first step in cleaning up the adjacent properties was done in January of this year. BP hired a consultant to evaluate a portion of the contaminated area on my parcel. The results of that survey and its actual extent is yet to be sent to me. It is distressing to see BP is not looking at all of the contaminated area on my parcel, just a portion of it. But it is a first step.

I am disappointed that at the public meeting earlier this month, that the Army Corps of Engineers, who are now in charge of the clean-up instead of Border Patrol, were not intending to clean the adjacent parcels. What can I expect from the Corps regarding the clean-up of my parcel? And what are you willing to commit to now in writing that I can rely on?

Thank-you for this opportunity to speak to you.

Mariposa Property (Kyriakis Brothers)

By: Nikita D. Kyriakis G