



# NEWS

**For Immediate Release  
October 11, 2007**

**Contact: Karen M. Schkolnick  
415.749.4900 (office)  
415.816.5353 (after hours)**

## **Air District Releases Pacific Steel Casting Health Risk Assessment for Public Review**

**San Francisco, CA – The Bay Area Air Quality Management District (Air District)** has released to the public a draft Health Risk Assessment (HRA) prepared by Pacific Steel Casting Company (PSC) in Berkeley. The HRA report contains a comprehensive analysis of the toxic air contaminant emissions from PSC and an assessment of the potential health risks for residents of nearby neighborhoods.

The Air District called for PSC to prepare an HRA in order to meet the requirements of the Air Toxics Hot Spots (ATHS) program, established by AB 2588. PSC submitted a draft of the HRA to the Air District on July 23. The Air District required PSC to make certain revisions to render it complete and ready for evaluation. PSC submitted an updated version on September 24. The District has determined that the revised HRA document is complete and prepared in accordance with the ATHS Health Risk Assessment Guidelines.

“The Air District has released this HRA under terms of the Air Toxics Hot Spots Act of 1987, which requires California facilities to report the types and quantities of toxic substances they routinely release into the air,” said Air District Executive Officer, Jack P. Broadbent. “We encourage residents to review the information we are making available.”

As required by State statute, the agency is providing the HRA to Cal/EPA’s Office of Environmental Health Hazard Assessment (OEHHA) for review. The Air District is also providing copies of the HRA to the City of Berkeley and to the Berkeley Public Library to facilitate public review. Electronic copies may be obtained on DVD or downloaded from the District’s website at: [http://www.baaqmd.gov/pmt/public\\_notices/2007/1603/index.htm](http://www.baaqmd.gov/pmt/public_notices/2007/1603/index.htm). The Air District is planning a community meeting, scheduled to take place during the public comment period, to discuss the HRA.

The Air District will accept comments on the Health Risk Assessment until January 31, 2008. Comments should be submitted in writing to Scott Lutz, Manager of Toxic Evaluation Section, BAAQMD, at 939 Ellis Street, San Francisco, CA 94109, or by e-mail at [slutz@baaqmd.gov](mailto:slutz@baaqmd.gov).

#####