



Meeting Date: 05/01/07

ACTION	TYPE OF ITEM
<input type="checkbox"/> Approved Recommendation	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Info/Consent
<input type="checkbox"/> Ord. No(s). _____	<input type="checkbox"/> Report
<input type="checkbox"/> Res. No(s). _____	<input type="checkbox"/> Public Hearing (Info/consent)
<input type="checkbox"/> Other _____	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other Council Business

Prepared By: Alan Holmberg, Assistant City Attorney Agenda Item No. N-1

Reviewed By: City Manager *[Signature]* City Attorney *[Signature]* Finance *SW* Other (Specify) \_\_\_\_\_

DATE: April 25, 2007

TO: City Council

FROM: Gary L. Gillig, City Attorney *[Signature]*

SUBJECT: Placement of the Halaco Engineering Company Facility (the "Halaco Site") on the Super Fund National Priority List ("NPL") under the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation and Liability Act ("CERCLA")

**RECOMMENDATION**

That City Council execute a letter to the United States Environmental Protection Agency ("EPA") supporting placement of the Halaco Site located at 6200 Perkins Road, on the NPL.

**DISCUSSION**

Since early 2006, the EPA has been investigating the release of hazardous substances, pollutants or containments at the Halaco Site, including release affecting surrounding properties. The Halaco Site is an abandoned metal recycling facility. Scrap metal, including radioactive material, was processed at the facility. Waste was disposed of in the Oxnard Industrial Drain ("OID"), on a waste disposal parcel located on the east side of the OID, and later on another adjacent parcel. The EPA investigation has revealed contamination on the Halaco Site including heavy metals, radio nuclides, including aluminum, arsenic, magnesium, manganese, barium, cesium-137, potassium-40, thorium-228, thorium-230, and thorium-232. Most of these containments have been found at levels significantly above background.

As a result of EPA's findings at the Halaco Site, the EPA, on March 7, 2007, requested that the Halaco Site be placed on the NPL for federally funded clean-up efforts.

The City of Oxnard has cooperated with and supported EPA's investigative efforts. The attached letter indicates the support of the City of Oxnard for placement of the Halaco Site on the NPL.

**FINANCIAL IMPACT**

None.

Attachment #1 - Letter to the Environmental Protection Agency



## CITY COUNCIL OFFICE

305 West Third Street • Oxnard, CA 93030 • (805) 385-7428 • Fax (805) 385-7595

May 1, 2007

Docket Coordinator, Headquarters  
 U.S. Environmental Protection Agency  
 CERCLA DOCKET OFFICE (Mail Code 5305T)  
 1200 Pennsylvania Ave. NW  
 Washington, DC 20460

Re: **Halaco Engineering Company**  
**Docket Number: EPA-HQ-SFUND-2007-0072**

Dear Docket Coordinator:

The City of Oxnard ("City") strongly supports the Environmental Protection Agency's ("EPA") proposed addition of the Halaco Engineering Company site in Oxnard, California (the "Halaco Site") to the National Priorities List.

The residents of the City of Oxnard, including its City Council Members, have for years been extremely concerned with the activities of Halaco and their effect on the environment and the health of Oxnard residents.

The EPA's recent Integrated Assessment Report confirms the concerns of the City. The report found contamination on the Halaco Site, including several metals, radio nuclides, including aluminum, arsenic, barium, beryllium, cesium, chromium, copper, lead, magnesium, manganese, nickel, silver, zinc, cesium-137, potassium-40, thorium-228, thorium-230, and thorium-232. Contaminated soils and sediments containing these same metals and radio nuclides have been found on adjacent property, including wetlands and the public beach.

The wetlands are home to several endangered and threatened species such as the Western Snowy Plover, Tidewater Goby, and California Least Tern. Preservation and restoration of the Wetlands has been a priority of the City Council, which recently participated in the sale of over 275-acres adjacent to the Halaco Site to the Nature Conservancy for inclusion in a 750-acre wetlands restoration project.

The public beach is, of course, an important recreation area.

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Complete clean up and removal of all hazardous materials on the Halaco Site must be assigned a high priority given the site's location and the uses of surrounding areas. The addition of the Halaco Site on the National Priorities List is a long awaited solution for our community.

The City of Oxnard City Council strongly supports the EPA's proposal of listing the Halaco Site on the National Priorities List of Superfund Sites and strongly urges the EPA to designate top priority to the complete removal of onsite and offsite hazardous substances to adequately respond to the environmental and human health risks posed by the Halaco Site.

Very truly yours,

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Dr. Thomas E. Holden  
Mayor

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Dean Maulhardt  
Mayor Pro Tem

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John C. Zaragoza  
Councilmember

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Andres Herrera  
Councilmember

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Timothy B. Flynn  
Councilman

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