September 19, 2003

To: California School District Superintendents:

The Department of Toxic Substances Control (DTSC) was recently awarded federal funds from the United States Environmental Protection Agency, under the “Small Business Liability Relief and Brownfield’s Revitalization Act of 2002.” The grant will fund various activities designed to encourage brownfields redevelopment in California.

Using limited grant funds, DTSC has successfully completed Preliminary Environmental Assessments (PEAs) of proposed school sites for five school districts. DTSC plans to continue its efforts to use a portion of the new brownfields funds to assist more school districts in conducting PEAs at their proposed school sites. Although funding is limited, DTSC plans to select several sites and will use the grant monies to pay for both DTSC’s contractor and staff oversight costs. At this time, DTSC is considering only proposed school sites which were used for or potentially impacted by industrial and/or commercial operations and meet the eligibility criteria developed by DTSC.

If you are interested in working with DTSC and its contractor to conduct a PEA at your proposed school site, please submit a written request to Mr. Ken Chiang of my staff at the letterhead address as soon as possible. Funds will be distributed on a “first-come, first-serve” basis. Therefore, we encourage you to submit applications as soon as possible. In addition, to assist in making our selection, please submit the proposed schedule for completion of the PEA and school construction.

If you have any questions, please contact Mr. Ken Chiang at (818) 551-2860, or me at (818) 551-2821.

Sincerely,

Sharon Fair
Branch Chief
School Property Evaluation and Cleanup Division
Department of Toxic Substances Control

The energy challenge facing California is real. Every Californian needs to take immediate action to reduce energy consumption. For a list of simple ways you can reduce demand and cut your energy costs, see our Web-site at www.dtsc.ca.gov.

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