

SmartZone Communications Center Collaboration Suite

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draft letter

Monday, April 05, 2010 11:41:53 AM

From: bradley@greenaction.org

To: lindarodrn@comcast.net

April 5, 2010

Shane McAfee  
General Manager  
Greater Vallejo Recreation District  
395 Amador Street  
Vallejo, CA 94590

RE: Threat to Glen Cove Sacred Site in Vallejo

Dear Mr. McAfee,

I am writing to urge the Greater Vallejo Recreation District to take immediate action to provide full protection for the Glen Cove Sacred Site in Vallejo. As an organization concerned about the protection of the environment, health and Native cultural and sacred sites, Greenaction urges you to truly protect this area.

We are concerned to learn that development including building of a parking lot, bathrooms, trails, tree-clearing and the spraying of herbicides planned by GVRD and the City of Vallejo threatens to destroy and desecrate this sacred and culturally significant site.

Due to the presence of burial sites, GVRD has a responsibility to ensure that its actions comply with the Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act. Construction activities, spaying of herbicides and over-use of the area pose a devastating threat to the physical and spiritual-well being of the sacred site.

Dow AgroSciences specimen label for Garlon 4 states that: "The pesticide is toxic to fish. Do not apply directly to water or where surface water is present or to intertidal areas below the mean high water mark. The chemical has properties and characteristics associated with chemicals detected in groundwater. The use of this chemical in areas where soils are permeable, particularly where the water table is shallow, may result in groundwater contamination."

The Dow AgroSciences' Material Safety Data Sheet for the Garlon 4 Herbicide says: "Material is highly toxic to aquatic organisms on an acute basis."

We urge you to work with the Native community and neighbors to find a mutually acceptable way to provide permanent protection for the Glen Cove Sacred Site.

We look forward to your response to this request.

Sincerely,

Bradley Angel  
Executive Director  
Greenaction for Health and Environmental Justice