



Nancy Pelosi
Speaker Emerita

November 24, 2025

The Honorable John Phelan
Secretary of the Navy
United States Department of Defense
1400 Defense Pentagon
Washington, D.C. 20301

Dear Mr. Secretary:

I am writing to you to encourage continued and consistent communication between the U.S. Department of Navy (“Navy”) and the Bay Area delegation around the decades’ long effort at Hunters Point Shipyard, a Superfund site that was home to radioactive pollution.

Until this development, the Base Realignment and Closure Program (“BRAC”) has been responsive and engaged with my office. Unfortunately, the Hunters Point community and my office learned about heightened levels of plutonium-239 (“radioactive plutonium”) from regular air monitoring levels through the press¹—not from the Navy. While it was encouraging that no harm was posed to San Franciscans, my office was informed of that detail after the fact. This instance was a missed opportunity in both transparency with the community on their safety and health as well as a proactive update to Congress.

The continued cadence of misfires in communication and delays with the completion of the cleanup further erode the public trust in the Navy’s ability to complete this long-awaited clean up and redevelopment. This concern was shared at the community meeting convened by the Hunters Point Shipyard Citizens Advisory Committee on November 17, 2025.²

I am hopeful that the continued conversations and engagement between local, state and federal regulatory agencies, stakeholders, community leaders, and funding will further

¹Mission Local. “U.S. Navy found elevated plutonium in Bayview . SF say it was kept in the dark.” October 30, 2025. <https://missionlocal.org/2025/10/navy-elevated-plutonium-bayview/>


² KTVU Fox 2. “Community meeting turns tense over delayed Navy disclosure of plutonium test at Hunters Point Shipyard.” November 17, 2025. <https://www.ktvu.com/news/community-meeting-turns-tense-over-delayed-navy-disclosure-plutonium-test-hunters-point-shipyard>

move the dial towards restoration and transformation of this vibrant and historic neighborhood.

I am counting on your commitment to the Navy's continued efforts in the Hunters Point Shipyard and will fight to ensure robust resources continue to be secured so that this project can be complete once and for all. That effort is entirely reliant on the Navy's ongoing, frequent dialogue with total transparency.

Thank you for your service to our country.

best regards,



NANCY PELOSI
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