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Unified Command Site Bulletin: Fruitland Magnesium Fire Incident Response – Update 7/5/16

MAYWOOD, CALIF. – The Unified Command for the Fruitland Magnesium Fire Incident in Maywood, Los Angeles County, Calif., continues response operations and assessment of hazardous materials in the aftermath of the fire that began on June 14, 2016. The Unified Command is comprised of representatives from the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), the Los Angeles County Department of Public Health (DPH), and the Los Angeles County Fire Department Health Hazardous Materials Division (HHMD).

Response Highlights:

Over the Fourth of July weekend, Unified Command made significant accomplishments in the cleanup response.

Since June 30, 16 households were moved from their previous temporary accommodations to new hotels/motels. All displaced households were offered free public transportation cards, food and water provided by the Food Center, Tzu Chi Water Company and Los Angeles County Supervisor Hilda Solis's office. Further, the Los Angeles Dodgers donated free tickets to an upcoming baseball game to all displaced residents.

On July 2, the first residence was approved by DPH and Unified Command for re-occupation. The returning household was greeted by representatives from The City of Maywood, LA County Fire Department, DPH and EPA. Residents were provided a "Welcome Home" gift basket by the City of Maywood in celebration of their re-occupancy.

On July 3, four residences were approved by DPH and Unified Command for re-occupation. On that day, all outdoor cleanups were completed and 14 of the properties were signed off by the Unified Command Ash Cleanup and Assessment Teams.

By the morning of July 5, four more residences were approved for re-occupation. It is anticipated that eight households will return home in the next two days.



Response by the Numbers (Updated 7/5/16)

- 10 households have been notified that they can move back home. Five were reoccupied from July 2 to July 5.
- 37 households have been temporarily relocated, including four on the south side of E. 52nd St. (for medical reasons only)
- 172 people remain temporarily relocated
- All outdoor soil sampling has been completed. Sampling was conducted at 24 parcels, including seven parcels on the south side of E. 52nd St. Some of these parcels include multiple residences.
- All outdoor cleanup has been completed on 14 parcels requiring cleanup. Three parcels are nearly complete.
- All indoor sampling has been completed.
- Nine residences have been identified as requiring indoor cleaning, and all have been cleaned up. UC is awaiting verification sampling results to return before clearing the homes for re-occupancy.

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