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June 2, 2026

VIA CERTIFIED MAIL AND ELECTRONIC MAIL

Debbie Larson, REHS
Environmental Health Director
Local Enforcement Agency / CUPA
Tuolumne County Community Development Department
48 Yaney Avenue / 2 South Green Street
Sonora, CA 95370

Re: DEMAND FOR IMMEDIATE ENFORCEMENT ACTION — 18955 Industry Way, Sonora, CA 95370 (APN 097-090-010); Ongoing Violations of Your May 11, 2026 Directive; Confirmed Asbestos-Containing Material; Imminent Public Health Hazard

Dear Director Larson:

This office represents Ree Anderson, a resident and property owner in the immediate vicinity of the above-referenced parcel. I write to demand immediate enforcement action against John Lamar Slaton and Trustees Diane and Robert A. Woodworth (collectively, "Slaton") arising from ongoing operations at 18955 Industry Way that are in direct violation of your office's May 11, 2026 enforcement letter and that constitute an imminent and ongoing public health hazard involving confirmed asbestos-containing serpentinite material.

I. SLATON IS ACTIVELY VIOLATING YOUR MAY 11, 2026 DIRECTIVE

Your May 11, 2026 letter to Slaton imposed specific, mandatory requirements governing all material handling at the site. Within approximately three weeks of receiving that directive, Slaton has commenced removal operations involving material the letter expressly identifies as requiring controlled handling. Those operations are generating visible dust in the surrounding residential neighborhood — in direct and knowing violation of the letter's explicit requirements.

Your May 11 letter required the following, none of which appear to have been satisfied:

- All transfer operations involving uncrushed asphalt with serpentine adherence must include effective dust control;
- Slaton must submit to EHD a removal plan, destination facility, and receipts verifying proper disposal or recycling before removal operations proceed;
- Asbestos sampling of crushed material containing serpentinite is required before that material may be moved or disposed of, as the appropriate disposal category depends on whether the material meets hazardous waste criteria;

- Any pile testing as hazardous waste must be covered, labeled, and properly disposed of within 30 days under CUPA hazardous waste control laws (Cal. Health & Safety Code § 25404; CCR Title 22, Chapter 11, Article 1, § 66261.3 et seq.).

Slaton's current operations violate each of these requirements. Dust is being generated and dispersed into a residential area from material that has not been tested, from a site for which no removal plan has been submitted to EHD. This is not a technical or procedural deficiency — it is the ongoing dispersal of potentially hazardous respirable asbestos fibers into the air breathed by residents whose homes are within 500 feet of the operations.

II. THE SITE HAS BEEN IN CONFIRMED VIOLATION OF STATE ASBESTOS LAW SINCE AT LEAST JANUARY 2022

As you are aware, the current violations do not arise in a vacuum. Attached hereto as Exhibit A is a Bulk Sample Analysis (PLM) Report, Report No. 220111004, prepared by Precision Micro-Analysis, Inc., a California-certified asbestos testing laboratory. This report documents the results of samples collected on December 21, 2021 from green serpentine rock on the northeast portion of the parcel — samples collected by Kent Rasmussen of the Tuolumne County Air Pollution Control District.

The results are unambiguous. Both samples returned positive findings for Chrysotile and Tremolite asbestos — two distinct asbestos fiber types — at concentrations of 1.50% and 2.25% respectively. These concentrations:

- Exceed the 1.0% threshold defining "asbestos-containing material" under the federal National Emission Standards for Hazardous Air Pollutants (NESHAP), 40 C.F.R. Part 61, Subpart M, triggering federal Clean Air Act requirements for any demolition, grinding, or disturbance of the material;
- Exceed the 0.25% threshold defining "asbestos-containing material" under the California Air Resources Board Airborne Toxic Control Measure for Construction, Grading, Quarrying, and Surface Mining Operations, Cal. Code Regs. tit. 17, § 93105 ("ATCM"), which independently requires an approved Asbestos Dust Mitigation Plan before any grading, crushing, stockpiling, or disturbance of this material on a parcel exceeding one acre;
- Exceed the 0.1% threshold triggering Cal/OSHA worker protection requirements under 8 C.C.R. § 341.6 for any work disturbing asbestos-containing construction materials.

These results have been in the possession of Tuolumne County since January 2022. Crushing operations involving this material continued at the site for years thereafter. No Asbestos Dust Mitigation Plan was ever submitted to or approved by the APCD. No NESHAP-compliant handling protocol was implemented. Residents of the Rugged Trail Road neighborhood were exposed to the resulting dust without warning, notice, or protection for years. There is no record of this asbestos-containing material being safely removed from the site so the only reasonable assumption is that some or all of the hazardous material is still present. Additionally, as noted by CalRecycle, there is a high likelihood that concrete on the site contains asbestos-containing serpentine.

The implications of this history are grave. The confirmed presence of asbestos at concentrations far exceeding applicable regulatory thresholds, known to county agencies since early 2022, was not communicated timely to neighboring residents (the report was only disclosed in response to a CPRA request), was not used as a basis to halt operations, and did not prevent former Community Development Department Director Quincy Yaley and former Building Safety Director Brian Bell from issuing subsequent permits that enabled the continuation and expansion of site operations.

Your May 11, 2026 letter explicitly and commendably acknowledges that prior county staff communications cannot override state solid waste regulations or the LEA's duty to enforce them. That acknowledgment implicitly confirms that prior county conduct in enabling these operations was outside the bounds of lawful regulatory authority.

My client and her neighbors are not asking this office to adjudicate the conduct of former county officials at this time. We raise this history solely to underscore the urgency of the present situation: the neighborhood has already been exposed to confirmed asbestos-containing dust for years without any protective response from the county. Current removal operations generating additional dust represent a continuation — and under the circumstances, an aggravation — of that ongoing harm.

III. IMMEDIATE ACTION DEMANDED

On behalf of my client, I hereby demand that the Tuolumne County Environmental Health Department / LEA take the following actions immediately and in no case later than five (5) business days from the date of this letter:

1. Cease and Desist Order. Issue a formal written cease and desist order to Slaton immediately halting all material removal, transfer, disturbance, and handling operations at 18955 Industry Way pending: (a) submission and EHD approval of a removal plan satisfying the requirements of your May 11, 2026 letter; (b) completion of asbestos characterization testing of all serpentinite-containing crushed material; and (c) implementation of an EHD-approved dust control protocol for all subsequent operations.
2. Site Inspection. Conduct an immediate site inspection to document current site conditions, identify all material categories present, and determine whether operations currently underway comply with the requirements of your May 11, 2026 letter and applicable state solid waste, hazardous waste, and ATCM regulations.
3. Expedited Asbestos Testing. Expedite the asbestos sampling referenced in your May 11 letter. All material that may contain serpentinite must be tested, covered, and labeled as potentially hazardous pending results. Testing must be completed and results provided to EHD, CalRecycle, the APCD, and affected neighbors without delay.
4. APCD Coordination. Refer the confirmed CARB ATCM § 93105 violation — specifically, the absence of an approved Asbestos Dust Mitigation Plan for any grading, crushing, or disturbance of asbestos-confirmed serpentinite material on a parcel exceeding one acre — to the Tuolumne County Air Pollution Control District for independent enforcement action.

5. CalRecycle Notification. Notify CalRecycle of current site violations and the failure to comply with your May 11, 2026 directive, and request that CalRecycle exercise its independent enforcement authority under Public Resources Code § 43209.
6. Violation Documentation. Document all current violations in writing and provide copies to my client, to CalRecycle, and to the APCD. Specifically document: (a) the absence of an approved removal plan; (b) the absence of asbestos testing results; (c) the absence of effective dust control measures; and (d) the history of confirmed asbestos-containing material dating to the January 2022 APCD laboratory results.
7. Neighbor Notification. Provide written notice to all residents within 1,000 feet of the parcel of the confirmed asbestos findings, the nature of current violations, and the enforcement actions being taken. Affected residents have a right to know the nature of the hazard to which they have been and continue to be exposed.

IV. RESERVATION OF RIGHTS

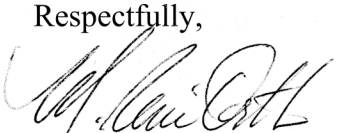
My client expressly reserves all legal rights and remedies arising from the matters described herein, including without limitation claims for private nuisance, public nuisance, trespass, negligence per se, and violations of the California Unfair Competition Law (Bus. & Prof. Code § 17200) against Slaton, and all available administrative and judicial remedies against the County of Tuolumne. Nothing in this letter constitutes a waiver of any such rights or remedies, and all applicable statutes of limitations are hereby tolled as to the County of Tuolumne to the extent permitted by law.

This letter also constitutes notice to the County of Tuolumne of a potential claim under the California Government Claims Act (Gov. Code § 910 et seq.) for injuries arising from the County's failure to enforce mandatory state solid waste, hazardous waste, and air quality regulations with respect to the operations at 18955 Industry Way.

My client's preference is resolution through cooperative enforcement action that protects the health of the neighborhood and brings this matter into compliance with state law. We are prepared to work constructively with your office toward that end. However, the current situation — active dust generation from confirmed asbestos-containing material, without an approved plan, without testing, and without notice to affected residents — requires immediate action, not further delay.

Please confirm receipt of this letter and advise as to the specific enforcement steps your office is taking by no later than June 5, 2026.

Respectfully,



M. Renée Orth, Esq.

Encl:

Bulk Sample Analysis (PLM) Report No. 220111004, Precision Micro-Analysis, Inc., dated January 11, 2022; samples collected December 21, 2021 by Kent Rasmussen, Tuolumne County

Air Pollution Control District, from 18955 Industry Way, Sonora, CA 95370; confirming Chrysotile and Tremolite asbestos at concentrations of 1.50% (Sample KR-01) and 2.25% (Sample KR-02)

cc:

- Michael Clegg, CalRecycle
- Kent Rasmussen, Tuolumne County Air Pollution Control District
- Roger Root, Interim Director, Tuolumne County Community Development Department
- Tuolumne County Board of Supervisors
- California Attorney General, Environmental Section

PRECISION MICRO-ANALYSIS INC

SPECIALISTS IN ASBESTOS-RELATED ANALYSIS

Bulk Sample Analysis (PLM) Report

Report# 220111004

Kent Rasmussen
County of Tuolumne, Air Pollution Control District
2 South Green Street
Sonora, CA 95370

Phone: (209) 533-6678

Date Collected: 12/21/21
Date Received: 01/10/22
Date Analyzed: 01/11/22

Job Information:
18955 Industrial Way
Sonora, CA 95370

Sample Number	Sample Location	Sample Description	Analytical Results
KR-01 *Lab# 22-397727*	Northeast part of property	Green serpentine rock	POINT COUNT RESULT: 1.50% CHRYSOTILE & TREMOLITE ASBESTOS (6 asbestos points, 394 non-empty points)
KR-02 *Lab# 22-397728*	Northeast part of property	Green serpentine rock	POINT COUNT RESULT: 2.25% CHRYSOTILE & TREMOLITE ASBESTOS (9 asbestos points, 391 non-empty points)

OFFICIAL NOTICE: After 45 days, samples are disposed of through a licensed waste hauler, unless client requests their return.

Total number of samples: 2

Supervisor _____ Analyst _____

Note: The test result findings are made to the methodologies and parameters described on the reverse of this page.

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