



**COUNTY OF RIVERSIDE  
COMMUNITY HEALTH AGENCY  
DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH**

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:**

**HEALTH OFFICIALS MEET WITH AQMD REGARDING RIVERSIDE CEMENT PLANT**

Riverside County health officials met with regional air-quality regulators Wednesday as part of an effort to address concerns about a cancer-causing chemical found in elevated levels in Rubidoux. The Riverside County Community Health Agency will participate in a community meeting on Monday, April 21, 2008 at 6:30 p.m. at Ina Arbuckle Elementary School, 3600 Packard St., Rubidoux, CA 92509 to address residents' concerns.

County health officials learned last month that levels of hexavalent chromium near the Riverside Cement plant in Rubidoux were above normal. Officials with the South Coast Air Quality Management District, who notified the county, have focused on the plant as the likely source of the chromium emissions and are continuing their investigation.

Riverside County Public Health Officer Eric Frykman said Wednesday that available test results lead to questions about the actual levels of the chemical in nearby neighborhoods, and the potential health threat that contamination might pose. The test site with the highest readings is immediately adjacent to the cement plant, but AQMD test data from newly placed electronic monitors in the community should be available soon.

"We need to get a better idea about any hexavalent chromium inside the neighborhood," Frykman said. "That's the next step in determining the extent of any potential health risk."

The Agency will remain involved with the ongoing assessment of the site to ensure the protection of the health of nearby residents.

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