

# Attachment F

**Center for Health, Environment & Justice and Silver Valley Community Resource  
Center News Release**

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**OVER 70 ORGANIZATIONS CALL ON EPA TO CORRECT ENVIRONMENTAL  
INJUSTICES AT ONE OF NATION'S LARGEST SUPERFUND SITES—IDAHO'S  
BUNKER HILL LEAD MINING SITE**

(Washington, DC) More than 70 organizations from across the country delivered a letter today to the Environmental Protection Agency urging them to address serious environmental injustices at one of the nation's largest toxic waste sites—Idaho's Bunker Hill Mine Federal Superfund site. The large coalition of groups called on the newly appointed EPA Directors of the Superfund and Environmental Justice programs to correct the environmental injustices of the past when an unsafe cleanup plan was decided on by the agency under the Bush Administration. Sierra Club, Breast Cancer Fund, Just Transition Alliance and many other national, state and regional groups urged EPA to improve the cleanup plan. (Letter below and at [www.chej.org](http://www.chej.org)).

The Bunker Hill Mine and Metallurgical site, located in Northern Idaho, and the surrounding community, is heavily contaminated with lead. The community suffered the most extensive case of childhood lead poisoning from industrial pollution that has ever been recorded in the country, and contamination still poses threats with lead levels in homes up to 52,000 parts per million (ppm). Despite strong community opposition, Bush-appointed EPA regional staff is moving ahead with \$3.2 million in federal economic stimulus funds to dispose of waste at the Mission site, near the National Historic Landmark's Sacred Heart Mission, and in the same region that has already suffered from the site's pollution.

Lois Gibbs, CHEJ Executive Director, said "The Bunker Hill site is a poster child site for the environmental injustices of the Bush era EPA which allowed thousands of people to be exposed to toxic lead. It is critical that the newly appointed EPA officials take action to address this serious discrimination by establishing a health-protective cleanup plan including improved child-protective cleanup levels, timely remediation of contaminated homes, review of permanent cleanup technologies and funding for a Community Lead Health Center."

Barbara Miller, SVCRC Director, said: "There has been an ongoing injustice in the Silver Valley communities for more than a hundred years and action is needed now. We appreciate the support of over 70 groups in helping to raise this serious injustice so that we will receive a proper cleanup and medical help that our families need. The time is long overdue for EPA and the state to establish a cleanup plan, with full public input, which truly protects our health. " ([www.silvervalleyaction.com](http://www.silvervalleyaction.com))

Dr. Bob Colonna, PhD, SVCRC Board member, said "It is time now for EPA to correct the double standard of cleanup at the Bunker Hill site. How can EPA justify using an unsafe 1000 parts per million (ppm) standard instead of their 400 ppm standard. "