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10	UNITED STATES	DISTRICT COURT
11	NORTHERN DISTRI	ICT OF CALIFORNIA
12		
13	BAYVIEW HUNTERS POINT RESIDENTS, DANIELLE CARPENTER, CHRISTOPHER	Case No. 3:19-cv-01417-JD
14	CARPENTER, DECEASED, BY DANIELLE CARPENTER, REPRESENTATIVE AND	DEFENDANCE TETDA TECH EC INC
15	SUCCESSOR IN INTEREST; CATHERINE	DEFENDANTS TETRA TECH EC, INC., TETRA TECH, INC., DAN L. BATRACK,
16	MUHAMMAD, Including All Parties Listed In Exhibit A; and Doe Plaintiffs 1-40,000, on	and STEVEN M. BURDICK'S NOTICE OF MOTION AND MOTION TO DISMISS
17	behalf of themselves, and all others similarly situated,	CORRECTED FOURTH AMENDED COMPLAINT; MEMORANDUM OF
18	Plaintiffs,	POINTS AND AUTHORITIES IN SUPPORT
19	v.	Filed Concurrently with Request For Judicial
20	TETRA TECH EC, INC., et al.	Notice and [Proposed] Order
21	Defendants.	Date: September 10, 2020 Time: 10:00 a.m.
22		Courtroom: 11, 19th Floor
23		Judge: Hon. James Donato
24	TO ALL PARTIES AND THEIR ATTORNEYS	OF RECORD:
25	PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that pursuant t	o the Stipulation and Order Regarding
26	Responsive Pleading Briefing (ECF No. 62), on S	September 10, 2020, at 10:00 a.m., or as soon
27	thereafter as counsel may be heard, in Courtroom	11, 19 <sup>th</sup> Floor, United States District
28	Courthouse, 450 Golden Gate Avenue, San Franc	cisco, California, 94102, before the Honorable
		1

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James Donato, and pursuant to Federal Rules of Civil Procedure ("FRCP") 8(a), 9, 10(b), 1 2 12(b)(1), 12(b)(6), 12(b)(7), 12(f), 17, 19, 20(b), and 23, Defendants Tetra Tech EC, Inc., Tetra 3 Tech, Inc., Dan L. Batrack, and Steven M. Burdick will and hereby do move this Court to dismiss 4 with prejudice Plaintiffs' Corrected Fourth Amended Complaint (the "Complaint"). Alternatively, 5 Defendants move to dismiss specific causes of action, to strike the class allegations, and to sever Plaintiffs' improperly joined personal injury and wrongful death actions. 6 7 Defendants move to dismiss the Complaint with prejudice because Plaintiffs' lack of 8 standing cannot be cured. Defendants further move on grounds that the Complaint does not 9 contain a short, plain statement of Plaintiffs' claims, does not plead fraud with particularity, 10 purports to state claims not available under California law, and fails to state a claim as to the First, Second, Third, Fourth, Fifth, Sixth, Ninth, Tenth, Eleventh, and Twelfth Causes of Action. The 11 12 Complaint also does not plead facts demonstrating that Plaintiffs may proceed as a class under 13 FRCP 23, does not name indispensable parties the United States Navy and Environmental 14 Protection Agency, which are required parties under FRCP 19(b), and improperly joins more than 15 9,200 personal injury and/or wrongful death Plaintiffs in one civil action, without identifying for 16 each Plaintiff the specific injuries, cause of death, date of occurrence, source of injury, or facts 17 supporting proximate cause. The Complaint also must be dismissed as to Tetra Tech, Inc., Dan L. 18 Batrack, and Steven M. Burdick because the Complaint makes no allegations against those parties. 19 /// 20 /// 21 22 /// 23 24 /// 25 /// 26 /// 27 28 <sup>1</sup> Subject to General Order No. 72-4.

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- 1	
1	This Motion is based on this Notice of Motion and Motion, the Memorandum of Points
2	and Authorities, the pleadings, files, and records in this proceeding, the concurrently-filed Request
3	for Judicial Notice, all matters of which this Court may take judicial notice, and on such other and
4	further information and argument as may be presented at hearing.
5	
6	DATED: July 16, 2020 HANSON BRIDGETT LLP
7	
8	By: /s/ Rosslyn Hummer
9	DAVINA PUJARI
10	MERTON A. HOWARD ROSSLYN HUMMER
11	Attorneys for TETRA TECH EC, INC., TETRA TECH, INC., DAN L. BATRACK, and STEVEN
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TETRA TECH DEFENDANTS' NOTICE OF MOTION TO DISMISS PLAINTIFFS' CORRECTED FOURTH AMENDED COMPLAINT (Case No. 3:19-cv-01417-JD)

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#### **Memorandum of Points and Authorities**

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Defendants Tetra Tech EC, Inc. ("TtEC"), Tetra Tech, Inc. ("TTI"), Dan L. Batrack, and Steven M. Burdick (collectively, "Defendants") move to dismiss with prejudice Plaintiffs' Corrected Fourth Amended Complaint (the "Complaint") in its entirety.

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#### STATEMENT OF ISSUES TO BE DECIDED

6 7 1. Do Plaintiffs lack standing under Article III of the U.S. Constitution and California substantive law?

8

2. Have Plaintiffs failed to sue indispensable parties?

9

3. Have Plaintiffs pleaded purported causes of action unrecognized by California law?

10

3. Have Plaintiffs failed to plead facts showing causation with regard to TtEC?

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4. Have Plaintiffs failed to plead any facts against TTI, Dan L. Batrack, or Steven M.

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Burdick?

- 5. Are Plaintiffs' claims inappropriate for resolution by class action?
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6. Are Plaintiffs' claims improperly joined?

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#### I. INTRODUCTION

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Plaintiffs purport to bring thousands of unique toxic tort claims against Defendants, alleging that contamination *caused solely by the Navy* has made them sick and fearful of getting

sicker. The fundamental problem is that the Navy, not Defendants, contaminated Hunters Point

Naval Shipyard ("Hunters Point") with radionuclides, metals, and chemicals. Plaintiffs do not sue the Navy, however. Instead, they hope to bridge the glaring causation gap with hyperbole and

21 unsupported speculation about alleged widespread data falsification. Yet, even if Plaintiffs'

overblown fraud allegations were true (they are not), and even if Defendants could be held liable

for secretive, unsanctioned acts by rogue employees (they cannot), the insurmountable causation

problem remains. Plaintiffs cannot tie their alleged personal injuries to Defendants, because

Plaintiffs' claims are inextricably tied to the contamination at Hunters Point placed there by the

26 Navy – and the Navy is not named a defendant.

Alleged data falsification, even if it occurred, does not cause physical injuries. The bulk of Plaintiffs' allegations are about Navy conduct at Hunters Point dating to 1939 (long before any

-1-

TETRA TECH DEFENDANTS' MOTION TO DISMISS PLAINTIFFS' CORRECTED FOURTH AMENDED COMPLAINT (Case No. 3:19-cv-01417-JD)

Defendant set foot on the site), with which they attempt to tar Defendants. Plaintiffs have failed to plead facts necessary to establish standing to prosecute their Complaint, much less the elements of any cause of action entitling them to relief from Defendants. Indeed, the overwhelming majority of the Plaintiffs fail to identify the injuries or properties they seek damages for, the dates they were diagnosed or acquired their properties, and other basic elements required to assert a personal injury or fear of cancer claim. The Complaint thus fails the most basic and foundational requirement for suit: it must present a case or controversy in order for this Court to act, and it does not.

Many more problems with the Complaint abound, including that Plaintiffs allege an excessive number of facts with no clear organization, and then assert that all of those alleged facts describe every cause of action. This style of "shotgun pleading" is disfavored precisely because it causes problems of the kind now faced by this Court and Defendants: sorting out what Plaintiffs allege and against whom they allege it. The Complaint unfairly burdens the Court and Defendants with the task of distilling cogent allegations against Defendants from the mass of accusations thrown into the Complaint. Plaintiffs' shotgun Complaint (1) violates the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure ("FRCP"); (2) prevents Defendants from knowing what they are actually accused of; (3) glosses over contradictory facts; and (4) unfairly burdens Defendants' defenses.

#### II. THE COMPLAINT'S ALLEGATIONS

More than 9,200 people and an undefined group called "Bayview Hunters Point Residents" accuse Defendants of defrauding them, causing them personal injuries and property damage, and putting them in fear for their lives. Plaintiffs allege their community suffers from higher cancer and asthma rates due to the "Navy's dumping of toxic materials" at Hunters Point. (Compl. ¶3.) They allege fear of cancer and birth defects, claim they suffer increased rates of cardiovascular and respiratory illness, and that the contamination is a substantial factor in causing them myriad injuries, including cancer, respiratory failure, heart attack, stroke, and premature death preceded by "misery, discomfort, and anguish[.]" (Compl. ¶¶ 3, 115, 121, 123, 169, 177, 183, 215, 219, 226, and 232.) Yet Plaintiffs do not allege facts to show they have standing, either under Article III or California law. The Complaint does not plead facts showing Defendants are liable for the

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criminal conduct of two rogue (now former) TtEC employees. It does not plead allegations against TTI, Dan L. Batrack, or Steven M. Burdick. It does not allege injury to Plaintiffs different from injury to the community as a whole. Plaintiffs also fail to allege that Defendants made any misleading statements to them, that they relied on any allegedly misleading statement, or that they were injured because of that reliance.

Incredibly, the Complaint fails to identify a specific toxic exposure or illness alleged for any of the more than 9,200 named Plaintiffs, other than decedent Christopher Carpenter. (Compl. ¶123.D.) And Plaintiffs completely fail to meet their pleading burden for fear of cancer claims; they do not assert it is more likely than not they will develop a specific cancer (negligence standard), nor do they plead that each of them has been individually evaluated by a qualified expert offering reliable medical or scientific opinion that his/her exposure to a specific toxic substance was caused by Defendants, and that such exposure significantly increased his/her risk of developing a specific type of cancer and has resulted in an actual risk that is significant (negligence based on malicious, oppressive, or fraudulent conduct).

#### III. ARGUMENT

A. The Complaint Must Be Dismissed with Prejudice Because its Defects Cannot Be Cured.

The Complaint is plagued by fatal defects that cannot be cured by amendment. These include Plaintiffs' lack of Article III standing, their failure to name indispensable parties, and suing parties without making any allegations against them. The futility of any attempt to re-plead Plaintiffs' claims means the Court must dismiss the Complaint with prejudice. *Steckman v. Hart Brewing, Inc.*, 143 F.3d 1293, 1298 (9th Cir. 1989). Particularly where Plaintiffs attempt to plead causes of action not recognized in California law, dismissal without leave to amend must be granted. *Id.* at 792. Similarly, where federal law precludes "citizen enforcement in the enactment itself, either explicitly, or implicitly by imbuing it with its own comprehensive remedial scheme[,]" amending the Complaint cannot cure this problem. *Okwu v. McKim*, 682 F.3d 841, 844 (9th Cir. 2012) (collecting cases).

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#### 1. <u>Plaintiffs Do Not and Cannot Establish Standing.</u>

The "irreducible constitutional minimum of standing contains three elements." *Lujan v. Defenders of Wildlife*, 504 U.S. 555, 560 (1992). Plaintiffs must establish, at the outset and at every stage of the action, that (1) they have suffered "injury in fact[,]" (2) a "causal connection between the injury and the conduct complained of" exists; and (3) it is likely "that the injury will be 'redressed by a favorable decision." *Id.* at 560–61; *Spokeo, Inc. v. Robins*, 136 S. Ct. 1540, 1547 (2016); *Simon v. Eastern Ky. Welfare Rights Organization*, 426 U.S. 26, 38, 41–43 (1976).

#### a. Plaintiffs Do Not Have Article III Standing to Prosecute Their Claims.

The Complaint fails the most basic and foundational requirement for suit: it must present a case or controversy in order for this Court to act. U.S. Const. art. III, § 2, cl. 1; *Town of Chester, N.Y. v. Laroe Estates, Inc.*, 137 S. Ct. 1645, 1650 (2017). Absent a case or controversy, this Court has no jurisdiction to hear Plaintiffs' claims. *Steel Co. v. Citizens for a Better Environment*, 523 U.S. 83, 93–94 (1998). A case or controversy exists only where the party invoking Court jurisdiction has standing. *FW/PBS, Inc. v. City of Dallas*, 493 U.S. 215, 231 (1990). Whether Plaintiffs have standing must be determined first, before attending to any of the merits of their claims. *Steel Co.*, 523 U.S. at 94.

Plaintiffs do not and cannot establish the "triad of injury in fact, causation, and redressability [at] the core of Article III's case-or-controversy requirement[.]" *Steel Co.*, 523 U.S. at 103. Specifically, Plaintiffs fail to identify specific personal injuries and the location of real properties alleged to have been damaged, along with other "injury in fact" details required by the FRCP. But the defects in their Complaint are deeper and broader than these obvious omissions.

Plaintiffs allege that "admitted falsifications and 'mishandling' of soil samples [mean] none of the Navy or EPA's representations of planned action are reliable, which has greatly elevated the fear, anxiety, and emotional distress among" Plaintiffs. (Compl. ¶ 55.) Defendants have made no such admissions, and the Complaint does not allege that they did. Instead, the Complaint merely asserts that Defendants are liable for employee criminal conduct based on *respondeat superior*. (Compl. ¶¶ 30–34.) Even if the Court improperly accepts this legal theory as akin to a factual allegation that the admitted criminal conduct of two employees should be imputed

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1	to Defendants, the Complaint does not tie that criminal conduct to Plaintiffs' alleged injuries.
2	Plaintiffs do not allege that Stephen Rolfe's and Justin Hubbard's admitted falsification of soil
3	sample records were the proximate cause of any of their injuries. Rather, they allege that
4	"Plaintiffs' fear, anxiety, and emotional distress" arise from representations made to them by the
5	Navy and EPA, which Plaintiffs do not sue.
6	b. Plaintiffs Likewise Do Not Have Standing Under California Law to
7	Prosecute Four of Their Causes of Action.
8	The Complaint does not plead facts showing that Plaintiffs have standing to pursue their
9	Unfair Competition and Fraudulent Advertising Law, Proposition 65, or Public Nuisance claims.
10	i. <u>Plaintiffs Do Not Plead Standing Under the UCL and the FAL.</u>
11	In 2004, Proposition 64 tightened standing requirements for private parties prosecuting
12	representative unfair competition and false advertising claims. Kwikset Corp. v. Superior Court,
13	51 Cal. 4th 310, 317 (2011). Standing for Unfair Competition Law ("UCL") claims is restricted to
14	private individuals who have "suffered injury in fact" and "lost money or property as a result of
15	the unfair competition." Cal. Bus. & Prof. Code § 17204. For False Advertising Law ("FAL")

ties prosecuting . Superior Court, aims is restricted to erty as a result of g Law ("FAL") claims, only individuals who have "suffered injury in fact" and "lost money or property as a result of [false advertising]" have standing. Id. at § 17535. To prevail, Plaintiffs must suffer economic injury caused by a UCL violation. Kwikset, 51 Cal. 4th at 317. The "apparent purpose [of Proposition 64 was] to eliminate standing for those who have not engaged in any business dealings with would-be defendants[.]" Id. A "simple test" determines standing to prosecute Plaintiffs' First and Second Causes of Action: do Plaintiffs plead (1) "a loss or deprivation of money or property sufficient to qualify as injury in fact, i.e., economic injury, and (2) show that that economic injury was the result of, i.e., caused by, the unfair business practice or false advertising that is the gravamen of the claim"? *Id.* at 322 (emphasis in original).

The Complaint fails this test. Plaintiffs level accusations of several kinds of fraud against Defendants, but do not allege economic "injury in fact" from Defendants' alleged conduct. Plaintiffs seek "restitution of all monies wrongfully obtained through [Defendants'] unfair and fraudulent business practices[,]" but do not allege that Defendants obtained any of the monies they

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want restored from Plaintiffs. (Compl. ¶ 143.) Plaintiffs allege that Defendants' "wrongful conduct adversely impacts the public interest [and] is a factual and legal cause of financial harm to PLAINTIFFS and class members." (Compl. ¶ 153.) But adverse impacts to the public interest are not injury in fact to Plaintiffs. Cal. Bus. & Prof. Code § 17204. Moreover, because they do not show their legal remedies are inadequate, Plaintiffs cannot obtain restitution under federal common law. *Sonner v. Premier Nutrition Corp.*, 962 F.3d 1072, 1081 (9th Cir. 2020).

Plaintiffs' FAL claim is even flimsier. Plaintiffs allege that Defendants made undated, misleading statements to the general public on its website—not to Plaintiffs specifically. (Compl. ¶ 167.) Plaintiffs do not plead any facts demonstrating economic harm from those allegedly false statements. (*Id.*) And Plaintiffs' assertion of "justifiable reliance" cannot be maintained without any allegation that misrepresentations were made to any of them specifically. (*See* Compl. ¶¶ 168–169.)

#### ii. Private Parties Do Not Have a Direct Remedy to Abate a Public Nuisance.

Public nuisance law protects community interests. *Birke v. Oakwood Worldwide*, 169 Cal. App. 4th 1540, 1547 (2009). Plaintiffs would have "a direct remedy to abate a public nuisance that is a private nuisance as to [them,] if the nuisance is 'especially injurious to [them], but not otherwise.'" *Zach's, Inc. v. City of Sausalito*, 165 Cal. App. 4th 1163, 1192 (2008) (quoting Cal. Civ. Code § 3493). Thus, Plaintiffs must plead that Defendants created a condition particularly harmful to them. *Birke*, 169 Cal. App. 4th at 1547; *Zach's*, 165 Cal. App. 4th at 1192. However, Plaintiffs allege that they represent their entire community and that they have all been injured by the same conduct in the same manner. (*See, e.g.*, Compl. ¶ 215, 217, 219.) Without allegations showing how each Plaintiff was especially injured by the alleged nuisance, no Plaintiff has standing to prosecute the Ninth Cause of Action.

# iii. <u>Plaintiffs' Failure to Plead Compliance with Proposition 65's Notice of Violation Requirement Is Fatal to the Fifth Cause of Action.</u>

Before suing, private enforcers of Proposition 65 must serve notice of the alleged violation, including a certificate of merit, on the public prosecutor with jurisdiction and the alleged violator.

Cal. Health & Safety Code § 25249.7(d)(1). The notice requirement is jurisdictional. *Consumer* 

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Advocacy Grp., Inc. v. Kintetsu Enterprises of Am., 150 Cal. App. 4th 953, 963 (2007). The

Complaint does not allege pre-suit notice. Thus, Fed. R. Civ. Proc. 12(b)(6) requires dismissal of
the Fifth Cause of Action with prejudice. See Gompper v. VISX, Inc., 298 F.3d 893, 898 (9th Cir.
2002).

2. Plaintiffs Failed to Sue Indispensable Parties.

Plaintiffs rail at the Navy for the Superfund site it created by allegedly burning, spreading,
using, and dumping toxic and radioactive materials over decades, polluting the "ground, buildings,

Plaintiffs rail at the Navy for the Superfund site it created by allegedly burning, spreading, using, and dumping toxic and radioactive materials over decades, polluting the "ground, buildings, sewer lines, landfills, and surrounding areas[.]" (Compl. ¶¶ 3, 11, 36, 42, 43.) They allege that when the Navy studied and disposed "hundreds of irradiated mice, rats, dogs, goats, mules, and pigs," it "contaminated the soil, dust, sediments, surface water and groundwater[.]" (Compl. ¶¶ 43 and 5.) Yet Plaintiffs do not sue the Navy. In TtEC's Notice of Removal (ECF No. 1), TtEC noted that it was sued for its actions conducted at the direction of a federal officer (ECF No. 1 at 4:3-9; 5:1-3), which Plaintiffs admit at paragraphs 19, 48, 88, 153, and 166 of the Complaint. The Navy is an indispensable party; the case simply cannot proceed without it.

Plaintiffs also berate EPA over remediation of Hunters Point, but do not sue EPA, even as they demand relief available only from the EPA. They seek "comprehensive" remediation, an injunction ordering Defendants to "cease and desist" from "any additional remediation" of HPNS, and an undefined injunction because monetary damages are alleged to be insufficient. (Compl. ¶¶ 244; 247.) None of this relief is available without the EPA. *See Atlantic Richfield Co. v. Christian*, 140 S. Ct. 1335, 1353–1354 (2020).

Plaintiffs will not be able to cure these problems; they cannot now sue either the Navy or the EPA, because both sovereign departments of the federal government are immune, and Plaintiffs have not established a valid exception to sovereign immunity for their claims. Plaintiffs also cannot sue EPA acting, as here, in a regulatory capacity overseeing a Superfund site cleanup. *United States v. Skipper*, 781 F. Supp. 1106, 1111 (E.D.N.C. 1991) (citing *United States v. Azrael*, 765 F. Supp. 1239 (D.C. Md. 1991)).

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# 3. The Complaint Does Not Allege any Facts to Support its Claims Against TtEC, TTI, Dan L. Batrack, and Steven M. Burdick.

Plaintiffs' entire theory of liability against TtEC rests on the legal doctrine of *respondeat superior*—that TtEC is liable for its [former] employees' conduct. However, the Complaint does not contain any facts allegedly showing that Defendants are responsible for the criminal conduct of Stephen Rolfe or Justin Hubbard. Instead, the Complaint simply sets out *factors* used to determine whether *respondeat superior* liability exists. But factors are not facts. A legal argument about alleged employer ratification does not state facts required for relief. The Court should not accept legal conclusions "couched as factual allegations" as true. *Bell Atlantic Corp. v. Twombly*, 550 U.S. 544, 555 (2007) (quoting *Papasan v. Allain*, 478 U.S. 265, 286 (1986)).

Plaintiffs have no theory of liability against TTI, Batrack, or Burdick; the Complaint includes no allegations against any of them. Without any facts whatsoever alleged about these Defendants, these Defendants must be dismissed from this action. *See United States Liability Ins. Co. v. Haidinger-Hayes, Inc.*, 1 Cal. 3d 586, 595 (1970).

# B. Even if the Complaint Could Survive Dismissal with Prejudice, Several Additional Defects Must Be Cured Before this Action Can Proceed.

For all its bluster, the Complaint cannot make up for what is not there: concrete factual allegations showing (a) causation<sup>2</sup> by and (b) redressability from Defendants. Plaintiffs also fail to comply with the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure, which require the Complaint to contain a short and plain statement showing Plaintiffs are entitled to relief, plead with particularity claims for fraud, and set forth claims in numbered paragraphs, with each paragraph "limited as far as practicable to a single set of circumstances[.]" Fed. R. Civ. Proc. 8(a)(2), 9(b) and 10(b). Rule 17 requires the action to be prosecuted by a real party in interest with capacity to sue, as governed by California law. The Complaint violates all of these Rules. Plaintiffs must demonstrate cures for these defects in order to proceed in this action.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Plaintiffs fail to provide factual support for other required elements of each of the ten causes of action which are in fact cognizable causes of action they attempt to plead. Defendants do not have sufficient space, however, to address every missing element of each of these causes of action here.

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1. The Complaint Exemplifies Prohibited "Shotgun Pleading" and Unfairly Burdens the Court and the Parties.

The Complaint's first 143 paragraphs paint an ugly picture of Navy conduct, all of which gets incorporated into the first cause of action against Defendants for unfair and fraudulent business practices. (Compl. ¶ 144.) Plaintiffs then demand a remedy from Defendants that only the Navy can provide. Fed. R. Civ. Proc. 8(a) requires Plaintiffs to plead "a short and plain statement of the claim showing that the pleader is entitled to relief." At 80 pages long (not including hundreds of additional pages of exhibits), and having incorporated more than 252 paragraphs of allegations into the 13 causes of action, the Complaint is neither "short" nor "plain."

Shotgun pleading is disfavored precisely because it creates problems sorting out what Plaintiffs allege and against whom they allege it. The bulk of the allegations in the Complaint are about the Navy's alleged harms to Plaintiffs and their community, yet Plaintiffs look to Defendants to answer for the Navy's alleged misdeeds. This shotgun Complaint imposes unfair burdens on the Court and Defendants to distill from this morass any allegations against these Defendants.

Shotgun pleadings such as the Complaint "overwhelm defendants with an unclear mass of allegations and make it difficult or impossible for defendants to make informed responses to the plaintiff's allegations." SEC v. Bardman, 216 F. Supp. 3d 1041, 1051 (N.D. Cal. 2017) (quoting Sollberger v. Wachovia Sec., LLC, 2010 WL 3674456, at \*4 (C.D. Cal. 2010)). These pleadings deploy "a multitude of claims and incorporate[] by reference all ... factual allegations into each claim, making it nearly impossible for Defendants and the Court to determine with any certainty which factual allegations give rise to which claims for relief." Jackson v. Bank of America, N.A., 898 F.3d 1348, 1356 (11th Cir. 2018). Defendants simply cannot parse the claimed injuries and their alleged genesis. The scattershot, disorganized Complaint disobeys FRCP 10(b) because it fails to "frame the issue[s] and provide the basis for informed pre-trial proceedings." Bautista v. Los Angeles County, 216 F.3d 837, 841 (9th Cir. 2000). Plaintiffs' flawed Complaint does not permit Defendants to "reasonably frame a responsive pleading." Bobosky v. adidas AG, 2011 WL 13250946, \*2 (D. Or. Jun. 21, 2011).

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#### 2. The Complaint's Structure Confuses Its Claims and Makes It Confusing.

The Complaint<sup>3</sup> names more than 9,279 Plaintiffs and two proposed class representatives, but also indicates that all Plaintiffs will serve as class representatives, including unidentified Does. (Compl. ¶¶ 16 - 18.) The proposed class includes current residents of ZIP Code 94124 since 2004 and anyone who "had substantial contact with[] the Hunters Point Community[.]" (Compl. ¶ 16.)

#### Improperly Joined Claims Should Be Severed. a.

The Rules prohibit joinder of thousands of unspecified personal injury claims that do not arise out of a single occurrence. Here, each Plaintiff's injury necessarily differs from the next, yet the Complaint does not plead exposure and injury for each alleged toxic substance, nor does it allege the time period and location of exposure for each Plaintiff, the date of diagnosis of injury for each Plaintiff, or the cause of each Plaintiff's injury. Plaintiffs must plead, for each of the more than 9,200 Plaintiffs, that each of the Defendants caused any one Plaintiff's alleged injuries generally (whether the substance(s) can cause the alleged injury); and specifically (whether individual exposure to the substance(s) did cause the individual's specific alleged injury). Plaintiffs must identify (1) the alleged substance causing the alleged harm; (2) exposure to each substance; facts showing (3) the substance entered his/her body; (4) that s/he suffers from a specific illness; (5) that each substance alleged to have entered his/her body was a substantial factor in bringing about, prolonging, or aggravating that illness; and (6) a connection between the substance alleged to have entered his/her body and each named defendant. Bockrath v. Aldrich Chemical Co., Inc., 21 Cal. 4th 71, 79–80 (1999). The Complaint fails this test.

Long standing principles of procedural fairness and transparency established by the FRCP ensure that meritless claims have no place in Court. Allowing thousands of disparate, unrelated claims to be lumped together into a single Complaint causes significant prejudice and harm to the litigants and the judicial process. Opaque and unsubstantiated claims convey false information; they increase the burden, expense, and length of litigation; they complicate rather than clarify the assessments needed to understand the strength and value of cases; and they make it difficult, if not

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> On June 26, 2020, Plaintiffs amended Exhibit A without stipulation or leave. (ECF No. 56.)

impossible, to select meaningful bellwether cases for discovery and trial. Plaintiff fact sheets and other discovery are not the solution. At the outset, each individual Plaintiff must be required to set forth specific allegations (presumably based on supporting evidence) of exposure to the alleged harm, identification of the specific injury in question, and proximate cause. Only then will the Court and the litigants be able to ascertain the correct course for the litigation for those who are deserving, to ensure a fair and timely resolution of the matters at issue.

#### b. The Complaint Does Not State a Plausible Claim.

Rule 8(a) requires a "short and plain statement" of grounds for court jurisdiction and "of the claim showing the pleader is entitled to relief." If a complaint's allegations are to be accepted as true, the complaint must contain enough facts to show that it requests relief "plausible on its face." *Aschroft v. Iqbal*, 556 U.S. 662, 678 (2009) (quoting *Twombly*, 550 U.S. at 570). This means "[t]hreadbare recitals of the elements of a cause of action, supported by mere conclusory statements" is not allowed. *Id.* "[F]ormulaic recitation of the elements of a cause of action will not do[.]" *Twombly*, 550 U.S. at 555. "[U]nadorned the-defendant-unlawfully-harmed-me accusation[s]" do not pass muster. *Iqbal*, 556 U.S. at 678. Legal conclusions "couched as factual allegation" need not be accepted as true. *Twombly*, 550 U.S. at 555 (quoting *Allain*, 478 U.S. at 286). Because the Complaint fails to allege facts supporting the elements of each cause of action, the Court cannot accept as true Plaintiffs' legal conclusions couched as "facts."

#### c. The Class Allegations Should Be Stricken.

Class action treatment of mass personal injury claims is inherently unworkable where the allegations involve separate exposures (*Amchem Prods., Inc. v. Windsor*, 521 U.S. 591, 624–25 (1997)), because these suits are akin to products liability suits, where no "single happening or accident occurs to cause similar types of physical harm or property damage." *In re N. D. Cal. Dalkon Shield IUD Prods. Liab. Litig.*, 693 F.2d 847, 853 (9th Cir. 1982). "Commonality" requires proposed class members to "have suffered the same injury[.]" *General Teleph. Co. of Southwest v. Falcon*, 457 U.S. 147, 157 (1982). Class actions are not appropriate where "[n]o single proximate cause applies equally to each potential class member and each defendant." *Dalkon Shield*, 693 F.2d at 853. In determining whether a class action can succeed, *i.e.*, whether

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common questions of law or fact predominate, the focus must be on whether the questions raised by the proposed class action can be answered in the same way, not on whether the questions it asks are the same. See, generally, Wal-Mart Stores, Inc. v. Dukes, 564 U.S. 338, 349–50 (2011). California law is in accord. A "class action cannot be maintained where each member's right to recover depends on facts peculiar to his case[.]" City of San Jose v. Superior Court, 12 Cal. 3d 447, 459 (1974). Commonality also fails when a mass of plaintiffs seeks medical monitoring because of alleged exposure to toxic substances. Lockheed Martin Corp. v. Superior Court, 29 Cal. 4th 1096, 1109–1111 (2003). 

Pursuant to FRCP 12(f), the Court should strike the class allegations in the Complaint as "redundant" and "immaterial." Class allegations may be stricken at the pleading stage. *Ott v. Mortgage Investors Corp. of Ohio, Inc.*, 65 F. Supp. 3d 1046, 1062 (D. Or. 2014) (citing *Kamm v. California City Dev. Co.*, 509 F.2d 205, 212 (9th Cir. 1975)). Although rare, a Complaint that demonstrates on its face "that a class action cannot be maintained" warrants the grant of an FRCP 12(f) motion to strike class allegations. *Id.* (citing *Tietsworth v. Sears, Roebuck & Co.*, 720 F.Supp.2d 1123, 1146 (N.D. Cal. 2010). The Complaint here exemplifies an attempt to plead claims as a class action that have no hope of ever satisfying any of the FRCP 23 requirements.

#### 3. The Complaint's Structure Reveals Problems with the Parties.

The Complaint names thousands of Plaintiffs, yet only discusses six in any detail: Danielle Carpenter (¶¶ 16, 124, 125, 139); Catherine Muhammad (¶¶16, 125, 139); Monica Miranda Arevelo (¶ 123.A.); an anonymous 74 year-old woman (¶ 123.B.); Carolyn Ann Nash (¶ 123.C.); and decedent Christopher Carpenter (¶ 123.D.) (together, "The Six"). Every Plaintiff alleges that TtEC "terrifyingly exacerbated" "the cancers, asthma, debilitating respiratory illnesses and many other diseases" they suffer because of the toxic conditions at Hunters Point (¶¶ 2 and 48), but identifies only The Six with any of these ailments. Plaintiffs allege they "are marinating in radioactive, carcinogenic killer toxins," they suffer from being Hunters Point's neighbors, and their "higher incidences of cancer and asthma are caused by the Navy's dumping of toxic

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materials, including radioactive materials, into the land adjacent to their neighborhood."<sup>4</sup> (*Id.* and ¶¶ 3, 115.) However, the Complaint does not allege any facts showing how Plaintiffs came to "marinate" in the Navy's toxic substances, let alone facts showing anything Defendants did to expose Plaintiffs to those substances. In fact, the Complaint does not allege any facts indicating actual exposure and resulting harm to anyone, except Mr. Carpenter. (Compl. ¶ 123.D. at 41:20-21.) The Complaint simply connects the Plaintiffs to Hunters Point by virtue of their ZIP Code, with nothing more.

#### a. Plaintiffs Do Not Plead Facts Showing Their Capacity to Sue.

Only those persons expressly identified in California Code of Civil Procedure section 377.60 have standing to maintain a wrongful death action. Amended Exhibit A (ECF No. 56) identifies its first 428 Plaintiffs as deceased, but the Complaint does not include any allegations about the timing or circumstances of any Plaintiff's death, other than Mr. Carpenter (Compl. ¶ 123.D.). Nor do the Complaint and Amended Exhibit A demonstrate that the alleged decedent representatives have standing to bring claims as personal representatives.

In California, only one wrongful death action per death is permitted. *Romero v. Pacific Gas & Elec. Co.*, 156 Cal. App. 4th 211, 216 (2007). California law regulates such actions with the "one action rule" for wrongful death claims. Cal. Code Civ. Proc. § 377.60; *Corder v. Corder*, 41 Cal. 4th 644, 652 (2007) (while each heir designated in section 377.60 has a personal and separate wrongful death cause of action, the actions are deemed joint, single and indivisible and must be joined together in one suit). California courts have long held the one action rule to be *procedural*, but it operates as a substantive bar as well, preventing more than one wrongful death action per decedent. *National Metal & Steel Corp. v. Colby Crane & Mfg. Co.*, 200 Cal. App. 3d 1111, 1115–1116 (1988).

Amended Exhibit A identifies "Minor Children in Lawsuit," but does not include a single fact showing that the individuals identified in Amended Exhibit A are qualified to represent the 2,023 listed minors. Amended Exhibit A also omits names of minor's representatives throughout.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> Here, again, Plaintiffs admit that it is the Navy's alleged actions, not Defendants, that has caused their alleged injuries.

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Cal. Fam. C. § 6601; Cal. Code Civ. Proc. § 372. Failure to comply with these requirements is grounds for dismissal.

In sum, Amended Exhibit A confusingly breaks down Plaintiffs into three categories: "Deceased Plaintiffs," "Minors," and "Plaintiffs Seeking Damages for Personal Injuries." But the

Minors (under age 18) and incompetents do not have capacity to sue in their own names; the

litigation must be conducted through a guardian, conservator of the estate, or guardian ad litem.

"Deceased Plaintiffs," "Minors," and "Plaintiffs Seeking Damages for Personal Injuries." But the Complaint demands restitution to all Plaintiffs of the entire alleged dollar value of the TtEC remediation contracts at Hunters Point. (Compl. ¶ 239.) The categories of Plaintiffs on Amended Exhibit A and the Complaint's allegations are out of sync and unintelligible. The Exhibit should be stricken from the Complaint.

#### b. Plaintiff "Bayview Hunters Point Residents" Lacks Capacity to Sue.

No plaintiff may prosecute a claim absent capacity to sue, which is governed by forum state law. *Streit v. County of Los Angeles*, 236 F.2d 552, 565 (9th Cir. 2001). California has long closed its courthouses to unincorporated associations. *See, e.g., Grand Grove of United Ancient Order of Druids of Cal. v. Garibaldi Grove, No. 71, United Ancient Order of Druids*, 130 Cal. 116, 119 (1900). "Bayview Hunters Point Residents" lacks the organizational or associational standing required for Article III standing. Without distinct harms alleged to it, as opposed to its members, no case or controversy will lie. *Lujan*, 504 U.S. at 560; Fed. R. Civ. Proc. 17(b). This fictional entity should be dismissed or stricken as a named Plaintiff.

# 4. Plaintiffs' First, Second, and Sixth Causes of Action Fail to Plead Fraud with Particularity.

Plaintiffs purport to plead three claims sounding in fraud, including their UCL and FAL claims, but none alleges the "circumstances constituting fraud" required by FRCP 9(b). Indeed, Plaintiffs never plead facts showing the "who, what, when, and where" of the alleged fraud. In addition, to plead fraud, Plaintiffs must state a "complete causal relationship" between the fraud and their damages. *Williams v. Wraxhall*, 33 Cal. App. 4th 120, 132 (1995) (citing *Garcia v. Superior Court*, 50 Cal. 3d 728, 737 (1990)). All species of fraud in California prohibit statements from being used to "willfully deceive another with intent to induce him to alter his position to his

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injury or risk." Cal. Civ. Code § 1709; *Vess v. CIBA-Geigy Corp. USA*, 317 F.3d 1097, 1106 (9th Cir. 2003). But Plaintiffs do not plead that Defendants (1) made any representation *to them* of any kind, true or false; (2) intended that *they rely* on any representation; (3) that they *reasonably relied* on any representation; or that (4) their reasonable reliance on any representation was a substantial factor in *causing* the harm they allege. Without alleging anything directed at Plaintiffs causing them to alter their position to their detriment, Plaintiffs' fraud claims fail. The absence of facts alleging reliance similarly guts Plaintiffs' fraud claims. *Mirkin v. Wasserman*, 5 Cal. 4th 1082, 1091 (1993).

5. <u>Plaintiffs Fail to Allege Facts to Support Their Third Cause of Action (Negligence Fear of Cancer).</u>

Plaintiffs do not plead any facts showing that each of them was exposed to a specific toxic substance; nor do they allege that their fear of cancer stems from knowledge, corroborated by reliable scientific or medical opinion, that such exposure is more likely than not to develop into a specific cancer. As such, Plaintiffs concede they are unable to meet the pleading standard for "Negligence – Fear of Cancer." *Potter v. Firestone Tire & Rubber Co.*, 6 Cal. 4th 965, 1009 (1993); Judicial Council of California Civil Jury Instruction ("CACI") No. 1622.

Instead, Plaintiffs offer general recitations of the elements for Negligence - Fear of Cancer based on "Malicious, Oppressive, or Fraudulent Conduct," which they attempt to tie to generic "expert" contentions that the entire group of more than 8,600 living Plaintiffs, as well as a putative class numbering in the tens of thousands, has a significantly increased risk of "cancer" caused by Defendants, who Plaintiffs admit were not responsible for causing the contamination that has allegedly harmed Plaintiffs. Such overly broad and unspecific pleading is insufficient.

To assert a fear of cancer claim based on alleged malicious, oppressive, or fraudulent conduct, each Plaintiff must allege, among other elements, that a defendant caused him/her to sustain a quantifiable exposure to a specific toxic substance, that reliable medical or scientific opinion confirms that his/her risk of developing a specific cancer was significantly increased by such exposure, and that the exposure has resulted in an actual risk that is significant. *Potter*, 6 Cal. 4th at 998, 1000, 1004; CACI 1623. Such opinion cannot be offered en masse, nor can it be based

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on unquantified and unqualified references to radionuclides, metals, and other chemicals that were improperly handled by the Navy. To legally implicate these Defendants, there must be specific and detailed allegations that (1) Defendants caused each Plaintiff specific exposures to defined substances, (2) such substances are known to cause particular cancers, and (3) reliable medical or scientific opinion confirms that (a) the exposure sustained by each Plaintiff created a significantly increased risk of developing the cancer in question, and (b) the exposure at issue resulted in an actual risk to the Plaintiff that is significant. *Id.* The Complaint does not meet this test. Indeed, in the absence of specificity, it is not plausible that Plaintiffs can meet their burden.

6. <u>Plaintiffs Fail to Allege Facts to Support Their Fourth Cause of Action</u> (Strict Liability for Ultrahazardous Activity).

Plaintiffs do not plead any facts that allege Defendants caused Plaintiffs' injuries or damages. Even a strict liability claim must plead facts alleging or supporting causation, *i.e.*, that Defendants' conduct was a substantial factor in causing Plaintiffs' alleged harm. In California, "one who undertakes an ultrahazardous activity is liable to every person who is injured as a proximate result of that activity." *Pierce v. Pac. Gas & Elec. Co.*, 166 Cal. App. 3d 68, 85 (Ct. App. 1985). Simply reciting that there *is* causation does not satisfy the requirement to plead *facts* alleging causation.

7. <u>Plaintiffs Fail to Allege Facts to Support Their Ninth and Tenth Causes of Action (Nuisance).</u>

In California, any nuisance that is not a public nuisance is a private nuisance. Cal. Civ. Code § 3481. The law further distinguishes between continuing and permanent nuisances.

Continuing nuisance can be (a) discontinued and (b) enjoined. *Phillips v. City of Pasadena*, 27

Cal. 2d 104, 107–08 (1945). Permanent nuisance occurs "where 'by one act a permanent injury is done [and] damages are assessed once for all." *Baker v. Burbank-Glendale-Pasadena Airport Auth.*, 39 Cal. 3d 862, 870 (1985) (citing *Williams v. Southern Pacific R.R. Co.*, (1907) 150 Cal. 624, 626). The type of nuisance controls the remedies available. When nuisance claims "rely on the same facts about lack of due care[,]" they are nothing more than a repackaged negligence claim. *Melton v. Boustred*, 183 Cal. App. 4th 521, 542 (2010) (quoting *El Escorial Owners' Assn.* 

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v. DLC Plastering, Inc., 154 Cal. App. 4th 1337, 1349 (2007).

Plaintiffs assert that TtEC, by allegedly falsifying records relating to its remediation contract with the Navy, created conditions that caused Plaintiffs' harm. They allege the false records were made by Justin Hubbard before January 2014, and by Stephen Rolfe in August 2012, in each instance more than three years before Plaintiffs filed suit on May 1, 2018. (Compl. ¶¶ 113, 114.) News reports in the Bay Area in February, May, and October of 2014 also aired detailed stories about accusations of improper remediation of Hunters Point. (*See* Request for Judicial Notice, Exhibits 1-3.) The statute of limitations for nuisance is three years. Cal. Code Civ. Proc. § 338(b). Plaintiffs' Causes of Action for Nuisance are time barred and must be dismissed. Furthermore, Plaintiffs do not plead facts alleging or supporting causation; this omission defeats both their private nuisance and negligence *per se* causes of action.

8. <u>Plaintiffs Fail to Allege Facts to Support Their Eleventh Cause of Action</u> (Survival).

Amended Exhibit A lists 428 deceased Plaintiffs, but no facts about any of the 428 survivors. In California, survivors cannot recover for pain and suffering, yet Plaintiffs seek these damages. (Compl. ¶ 232). These defects must be cured for this cause of action to survive.

9. <u>Plaintiffs Fail to Allege Facts to Support Their Twelfth Cause of Action (Wrongful Death).</u>

Plaintiffs' Twelfth Cause of Action purports to plead a claim for wrongful death, but other than incorporating by reference allegations regarding Mr. Carpenter, the Complaint does not identify when any of the deceased Plaintiffs died or their cause of death, let alone allege any facts linking the deaths to Defendants' alleged conduct. Without facts alleging general and specific causation for each deceased Plaintiff, the Wrongful Death Cause of Action must be dismissed.

- 10. Purported Causes of Action Unrecognized in California Must Be <u>Dismissed.</u>
  - a. There Is No Bad Faith Breach of Third-Party Beneficiary Contract Claim.

The covenant of good faith and fair dealing implied in every contract by California law benefits the parties to the contract. Plaintiffs attempt to combine this implied covenant with third-

TETRA TECH DEFENDANTS' MOTION TO DISMISS PLAINTIFFS' CORRECTED FOURTH AMENDED COMPLAINT (Case No. 3:19-cv-01417-JD)

1	party beneficiary theory to invent a cause of action that does not exist. The covenant does not run
2	to third-party beneficiaries of a contract because they are not in privity. United States, for the
3	Benefit and Use of Ehmke Sheet Metal Works v. Wausau Ins. Cos., 755 F. Supp. 906, 910–911
4	(E.D. Cal. 1991). Moreover, Plaintiffs do not plead any facts showing they were intended rather
5	than incidental beneficiaries to TtEC's contracts with the Navy. See, e.g., Klamath Water Users
6	Protection Ass'n v. Patterson, 204 F.3d 1206, 1210, 1212 (9th Cir. 1999); Orff v. United States,
7	358 F.3d 1137, 1147 (9th Cir. 2004).
8	b. Negligence per Se Is not a Cause of Action.
9	"[N]egligence per se is merely an evidentiary doctrine and not an independent cause of
10	action." People v. Kinder Morgan Energy Partners, L.P., 569 F.Supp.2d 1073, 1087 (S.D. Cal.
11	2008) (emphasis omitted). California Evidence Code section 669 codified the presumption.
12	Padilla v. Pomona College, 166 Cal. App .4th 661, 674 (2008). To deploy the presumption,
13	Plaintiffs must plead (1) violation of a statute; that (2) proximately causes Plaintiffs' injuries;
14	which (3) "resulted from an occurrence of the nature which the statute was designed to

prevent;" and that (4) they are in the class of persons for whose protection the statute was adopted.

Cal. Evid. Code § 669(a). Because it is a presumption, even if Plaintiffs successfully plead all four

elements of the presumption, they still must plead the *tort* to state a claim for relief. *Kinder* 

Morgan, 569 F.Supp.2d at 1087. The Complaint does not do this; it pleads no facts showing

Defendants caused any of the alleged injuries.

# c. The Claim for Injunctive Relief is Improperly Plead as a Cause of Action.

An injunction is a remedy, not a cause of action. *Mishiyev v. Alphabet, Inc.*, — F. Supp. 3d —, 2020 WL 1233843, \*5 (N.D. Cal. Mar. 13, 2020) (citing *Ivanoff v. Bank of America, N.A.*, 9 Cal. App.5th 719, 734 (2017). "California does not recognize a standalone claim for injunctive relief." *Id.* The cause of action should be stricken.

Plaintiffs' request for the *remedy* also fails because the "three fundamental characteristics of an injunction ... that it is (1) 'directed to a party,' (2) 'enforceable by contempt,' and (3) 'designed to accord or protect some or all of the substantive relief sought by a complaint in more

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TETRA TECH DEFENDANTS' MOTION TO DISMISS PLAINTIFFS' CORRECTED FOURTH AMENDED COMPLAINT (Case No. 3:19-cv-01417-JD)

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1	than [temporary] fashion," show that no injunction is available here. In re Lorillard Tobacco Co.,
2	370 F.3d 982, 986 (9th Cir. 2004) (citing Orange County, Cal. Airport Hotel Assocs. v. Hongkong
3	& Shanghai Banking Corp., 52 F.3d 821, 825 (9th. Cir. 1995)). Plaintiffs seek relief directed at
4	parties they failed to sue—the Navy and EPA. To the extent Plaintiffs seek public injunctive relief
5	under their UCL and FAL claims, that relief is foreclosed because they lack standing to pursue it.
6	See, e.g., McGill v. Citibank, N.A., 2 Cal. 5th 945, 954–55 (2017).
7	IV. CONCLUSION
8	For all of the foregoing reasons, the Court should dismiss Plaintiffs' Corrected Fourth
9	Amended Complaint with prejudice.
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11	DATED: July 16, 2020 HANSON BRIDGETT LLP
12	
13	By: /S/ Rosslyn Hummer
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15	ROSSLYN HUMMER
16	Attorneys for TETRA TECH EC, INC., TETRA TECH, INC., DAN L. BATRACK and STEVEN
17	M. BURDICK
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TETRA TECH DEFENDANTS' MOTION TO DISMISS PLAINTIFFS' CORRECTED FOURTH AMENDED COMPLAINT (Case No. 3:19-cv-01417-JD)

PROOF OF SERVICE 1 2 Bayview Hunters Point Residents, et a. v. Tetra Tech EC, Inc., et al. Case No. 3:19-cv-01417-JD 3 STATE OF CALIFORNIA, COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES 4 At the time of service, I was over 18 years of age and not a party to this action. I am 5 employed in the County of Los Angeles, State of California. My business address is 777 S. Figueroa Street, Suite 4200, Los Angeles, CA 90017. 6 On July 16, 2020, I served true copies of the following document(s) described as 7 DEFENDANTS TETRA TECH EC, INC., TETRA TECH, INC., DAN L. BATRACK, AND STEVEN M. BURDICK'S NOTICE OF MOTION AND MOTION TO DISMISS CORRECTED FOURTH AMENDED COMPLAINT; MEMORANDUM OF POINTS AND 8 **AUTHORITIES IN SUPPORT** on the interested parties in this action as follows: 9 BY CM/ECF NOTICE OF ELECTRONIC FILING: I electronically filed the document(s) with the Clerk of the Court by using the CM/ECF system. Participants in the case who are registered CM/ECF users will be served by the CM/ECF system. Participants in the case who are not registered CM/ECF users will be served by mail or by other means permitted by the court rules. 12 I declare under penalty of perjury under the laws of the United States of America that the 13 foregoing is true and correct and that I am employed in the office of a member of the bar of this Court at whose direction the service was made. 14 Executed on July 16, 2020, at Los Angeles, California. 15 16 /s/ Silvia Abrignani 17 Silvia Abrignani 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28