



Darryl Cotton <151darrylcotton@gmail.com>

(no subject)

3 messages

Tate, Andranee <ALTate@sandiego.gov>
To: "151darrylcotton@gmail.com" <151darrylcotton@gmail.com>

Mon, Jun 15, 2026 at 10:22 AM

Good morning,

This is Nae' from San Diego Fire – Rescue.

Thank you,

Nae' Tate
Wildfire Prevention & Mitigation Administrator

City of San Diego

Fire - Rescue Department

📞 O: (619) 533-4444

Confidential Communication:

"To protect lives and the environment of San Diego by preventing fires and other hazardous conditions through inspections and enforcement of the Fire and Life Safety Codes."

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Darryl Cotton <151darrylcotton@gmail.com>
To: "Tate, Andranee" <ALTate@sandiego.gov>

Fri, Jun 26, 2026 at 7:23 AM

Nae',

Following up on our June 15 contact regarding the United Rentals operation at 6144 Federal Blvd., adjacent to my property at 6176 Federal Blvd. I have not received any further communication since then, and the operation is continuing daily — 10 or more vacuum trucks delivering porta-potty (septage) waste into the on-site FRAC storage tank.

I'm bringing this back to Fire-Rescue specifically because of your department's fire and life-safety authority. Your own correspondence describes the mission as preventing "fires and other hazardous conditions through inspections and enforcement of the Fire and Life Safety Codes," and that is exactly the issue here.

Since we last spoke, I had the tank's roof vent and hatch reviewed; the analysis is attached. In brief: the corrosion is concentrated at the vent and hatch in a pattern consistent with hydrogen-sulfide and biogenic sulfuric-acid attack from the stored waste. The same anaerobic decomposition produces methane, so the headspace carries a mixture that is both toxic and flammable. The photographs do not show the ignition-control features expected for this service — flame arrestor, pressure/vacuum vent, bonding and grounding, hazardous-area-rated electrical — and a general-purpose light tower and electrical sit nearby. The analysis is explicit that photographs cannot confirm the cause and that an on-site assessment by a licensed engineer or industrial hygienist is needed. That is precisely what I'm asking your department to do: look.

For context on where this stands with the other agencies:

- The Air Pollution Control District documented the strong odor but closed its Rule 51 complaint and directed explosion/safety questions to the County Haz Mat team.
- The County Department of Environmental Health, Hazardous Materials Division, advised that the human waste itself is excluded from the hazardous-waste definition and is therefore outside the CUPA's purview, and referred the matter elsewhere.

The result is that the flammable/toxic-gas and tank-integrity hazard — the fire and life-safety question — has not been examined by anyone. Recognized standards bearing on it include NFPA 820 (wastewater facilities), API 2000 (tank venting), the NEC hazardous-location articles, and OSHA hot-work and confined-space rules.

I would ask that you, or the appropriate Fire Prevention inspector if this should be routed within your department, confirm jurisdiction and arrange an on-site inspection of the tank's venting and ignition-control configuration. Because access to the property has been denied to my representative, an inspection by your office may be the only practical way to verify the condition. Please also forward to me any corrective orders issued to United Rentals or the property owner, Westport Properties, LLC.

I'm attaching the corrosion/explosion analysis and the supporting record. Please confirm receipt and let me know the case or reference number assigned.

Thank you.

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Darryl Cotton
619.954.4447

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3 attachments



1) Petition w Signatures.pdf
2265K



4.10) 2026.06.18 FRAC_Tank_Roof_Vent_Corrosion and Explosion_Analysis.pdf
3573K



4.11) 6144 Federal Historical Timeline Images.pdf
750K

Darryl Cotton <151darrylcotton@gmail.com>
To: Jeffrey Davies <daviescre@gmail.com>

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3 attachments



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