

## **Key Questions for the EPA:**

### **1. Regulatory and Legal Compliance**

- What federal, state, and local regulations are governing this site?
- Has an Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) or Environmental Review been conducted?
- Were any permits or waivers issued for hazardous waste sorting at this location?
- Does this site comply with the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA) for hazardous waste management?

### **2. Environmental & Health Risks**

- What specific toxic substances (e.g., heavy metals, asbestos, PFAS, dioxins) are being sorted and stored at this location?
- What risk assessments were performed before choosing Will Rogers Beach?
- Is there any airborne contamination risk (e.g., from ash, fine particulates, carcinogens)?
- Could these materials leach into the groundwater or ocean via runoff?
- Have there been soil and water quality tests conducted before and do you plan on testing during and after sorting started?
- What safety measures are in place to protect workers and the public from exposure?
- What is the process of sorting this material?
- What safety measures are in place?
- Why was there no public notice or community consultation before the site was established?
- How is the EPA monitoring and reporting potential contamination risks to the public?
- What emergency response plan is in place if there is a spill or accident?
- Will the EPA commit to independent third-party testing to verify safety and contamination levels?

### **3. Site Selection & Alternatives**

- Why was Will Rogers Beach chosen instead of a designated industrial or hazardous waste site?
- Were alternative locations considered? If so, which ones, and why were they rejected?
- Has the potential impact on marine life and coastal ecosystems been evaluated?

- Is there a plan to relocate the sorting to a safer, less environmentally sensitive area?
- Why wasn't our community given an opportunity to weigh in or be involved in this decision?

#### **4. Community Safety & Public Notification**

- What emergency response measures are in place if there's a spill or accident?
- How is the EPA monitoring air and water quality to detect contamination?
- What steps are being taken to ensure beachgoers, nearby residents, and wildlife are safe?

#### **5. Accountability & Oversight**

- Who is responsible for oversight of this operation (EPA, state agencies, contractors)?
- How will the public be kept informed of test results and contamination risks?
- Is there independent oversight to verify EPA's findings and safety assurances?

#### **6. Miscellaneous**

- Are you contracting this work out, if so, to whom?
- Are the people hired to conduct the sorting experienced in this kind of work?
- Why is the EPA not testing the ground soil of homes?
- Will EPA be testing the sorting site locations before, during, and after?
- What is the time frame the sorting sites will be operational?
- When do you anticipate turning the parking lot over to normal use?
- Are materials being sorted as we speak? Is the sorting site fully operational?
- Why the lack of testing from FEMA and EPA?
- Is this a presidential directive?
- Is expediency the priority?

#### **7. Debris on beaches and shoreline**

- Does the EPA have any plans to address and remediate all the debris, soot and ash on the beach and coastline?

#### **8. Transport of debris and hazardous materials**

- What is the risk and exposure level of the hazardous materials being transported?

- What is the risk on the exit route ie. PCH just past channel road?
- Would you feel comfortable having your infant child live directly on PCH?
- The wall at PCH is where my family and infant child lives. Can you say that's a trusted and safe situation?

## **Request for Action & Potential Solutions**

- **Primary Request: Relocation of the Hazardous Waste Sorting Site**
  - Moving the operation to a more **appropriate industrial site** with better infrastructure for hazardous waste processing.
- **Secondary Request: EPA Support for Beach Remediation if the Site Moves Forward**
  - If the site remains at Will Rogers Beach, the **EPA must provide immediate assistance in remediating the soot, ash, and debris from our beaches** resulting from the Palisades Fire.
  - The **City of Santa Monica lacks the equipment and resources** for large-scale beach cleanup.
  - We **require county, state, and federal support** for machinery, personnel, and logistical coordination.
  - Since **EPA disaster response teams are equipped for environmental cleanups**, they should deploy teams and resources to remove fire-related pollutants from our beaches.

## **Potential Concerns**

- **Public health risks** – Exposure to toxic ash, airborne particulates, and chemical runoff.
- **Marine ecosystem damage** – Contaminants leaching into the ocean affecting fish, birds, and marine mammals.
- **Regulatory violations** – The site may not comply with hazardous waste handling laws.
- **Community transparency** – Lack of prior community consultation or public notice.
- **Long-term contamination** – Residual toxins in the soil, water, and air could persist even after cleanup.