

Berkeley factory odor battle

By Charles Burress
Examiner staff writer

BERKELEY — Residents living near a smelly steel plant here say they are fed up with bureaucratic delays in removing the foul odors from their neighborhood.

"People are angry," said Michael Freud, a lawyer speaking for a group of the neighbors. "They want to get the ball rolling."

"It's been eight months, and our neighborhood still stinks," shouted one resident from the audience during a City Council hearing on the issue this week.

The source of the complaints is recent expansion of an old Berkeley firm in the city's oldest neighborhood. The 50-year-old Pacific Steel Casting Co., located on Second Street in the city's mixed industrial-residential Oceanview district, recently added a third foundry plant. It built the second foundry in 1975.