

SANTA SUSANA FIELD LABORATORY-COMMUNITY ADVISORY GROUP

November 17, 2104 MEETING

HIDDEN LAKE CLUBHOUSE-WEST HILLS, CALIFORNIA

Members present: Alec Uzemeck, Ron Ziman, Kathy Weiner, Richard Brandlin, Tim Brehm, Abe Weitzberg, Brian Sujata, John Luker, David Karchem, Michael Kuhn. A quorum was present.

I: Meeting called to order at: 7:12PM

II: Minutes from the October 22 meeting were approved unanimously.

Alec Uzemeck, CAG Chairman, requested questions be held until the end of the meeting.

III: **SSFL Storm Water & Permit Renewal Presentation**

**Cassandra Owens, LARWQCB**

The Los Angeles Regional Water Quality Control Board regulates point source discharges from industrial facilities.

Cassandra discussed the NPDES permit which enumerates:

- Compliance Points
- Effluent limits
- Receiving water limits
- Sediment limits

Monitoring requirements include the measuring of the level of pollution in the storm water & treated groundwater.

There have been some recent changes including a new outfall= Outfall 20 (by outfall 2 in the southern buffer zone)

There is also a change in the evaluation of chronic toxicity where prior the level was 5 units. (?)  
Currently, the first million is the level that has been incorporated into the new TMDLs.

Cassandra distributed a handout: Limits Comparison Table-7 pages

A full text of Cassandra Owens presentation is available on our website: [ssflcag.net](http://ssflcag.net)

IV: **SSFL Watersheds & Outfalls**

**Paul Costa, Manager Environmental Operations, Boeing**

Paul discussed the SSFL closure practice in relation to surface water management. He defined basic concepts such as: watershed, outfalls & composite samples. Paul spent the bulk of his presentation on Best Management practices. These encompass, according to Paul, anything that improves storm water quality. Paul reported that NPDES Permit Levels at or below the EPA Drinking Water Standards were at 94%.

3 of the Watershed Approaches that are being employed at SSFL to manage water;

#1: Large acreage watershed capable of holding large amounts of water, pumped into 2 major systems for discharges to Bell Canyon, at Outfalls 011 and 018.

#2: Water held in tanks then pumped to treatment systems

#3: Distributed Engineered Natural Treatment System

To read Paul Costa's full 11 page presentation text, please go to [ssflcag.net](http://ssflcag.net)

V: SSFL Outfalls 008 & 009

Dr. Michael Stenstrom, UCLA Professor

**Stormwater Expert Panel:**

Panel Members: Dr. Bob Gearheart, Humbolt State University

Jon Jones, Wright Water Engineers

Dr. Michael Josselyn, WRA

Dr. Bob Pitt, University of Alabama

Dr. Michael Stenstrom, UCLA

Brandon Streets, Geosyntec

**Expert panel scope of work:** With LARWQCBs consent the expert panel was engaged to oversee stormwater planning & design work, provide input on monitoring, source removal activities & various permit issues.

Their mission was to improve stormwater quality at Outfalls 008 & 009 and at other BMPs as needed.

The panel also works to oversee scientific studies & interfaces with the public on risk & science communication.

Several handouts were distributed including: 008 & 009 Best Management Practice (BMP) Examples, an outfall site map and Santa Susana Stormwater publication.

Dr. Stenstrom's 30 page presentation was very detailed and can be more fully appreciated in its entirety on our website: [ssflcag.net](http://ssflcag.net)

VI. Realtor Interviews

Tim Brehm, SSFL CAG member

Tim surveyed 10 realtors in the SSFL surrounding areas to determine what general knowledge that local realtors have about SSFL issues.

There were 5 general questions in the survey including: have you been following news developments about SSFL; if a client is looking for property in the SSFL surrounds and has concerns, what do you tell

them; have you personally been to a meeting about the clean-up; and would you be interested in attending a meeting specifically for realtors?

**Survey conclusions:** Bell Canyon realtors appear to have more knowledge of SSFL issues. None interviewed had read or even heard of specific studies that dealt with contamination or water runoff issues.

Only one realtor had been to a CAG meeting & none had attended public meetings.

Most realtors refer clients to “Google” for SSFL info. None had heard of ssflcag.net. HOAs do not publish info.

Some realtors said that if they themselves did research the issue and found out “bad” news they would then be obligated to disclose it.

SSFL issues are beginning to scare some clients away, especially in Bell Canyon, which seems to take the brunt of the bad PR.

Soil removal issues are not yet a big issue with the public or local realtors.

About half of the realtors interviewed would be interested in attending a CAG meeting for realtors only on SSFL issues.

VII: Public Comment: There were several questions from the audience that were addressed to the presenters.

Adjournment: 9:25PM Alec thanked the presenters and those in attendance. Next month we will be dark. Next CAG meeting is set for January 21, 2105

Respectfully Submitted,

Kathy Weiner

SSFL-CAG Secretary

