

**From:** Breyse, Patrick N. (CDC/ONDIEH/NCEH) [pjb7@cdc.gov]  
**Sent:** Wednesday, December 16, 2015 2:19 PM  
**To:** 'Abe Weitzberg'  
**Cc:** Knowles, Robert (ATSDR/DCHI/WB); Vianu, Libby (EPA) (CDC epa.gov); Rayman, Jamie (ATSDR/DCHI/WB); Rodenbeck, Sven (ATSDR/DCHI/OD)  
**Subject:** RE: Public Health Education

Dear Dr. Weitzberg:

I appreciated the opportunity to speak with you on December 3, 2015, regarding ATSDR's decision to not pursue further activities related to the Santa Susana Field Laboratory. Thank you for your follow-up email on December 4, 2015, requesting ATSDR support in educating the community on associated health risks and the relationship of our agency and work to the Cohen and Morgenstern study.

I recognize your concerns for the affected community and their understanding of health risks associated with hazardous exposures related to this site. However, at the present time ATSDR has decided not to conduct health education activities for the SSFL community.

ATSDR's 1999 preliminary site evaluation was based upon the data and literature available at the time. At this time, ATSDR does not plan to hold or participate in any public panels to discuss our 1999 preliminary site evaluation. ATSDR funded the 2006 Cohen and the 2007 Morgenstern evaluations, but the associated reports and conclusions were not reviewed or approved by ATSDR. As we have stated, our ATSDR environmental health scientists and leadership have had the opportunity to evaluate information shared through our recent engagements as well as the new data available since ATSDR's previous involvement at SSFL. We have concluded that a thoughtful process has been used to evaluate threats to public health and develop plans to address those health threats. Therefore, ATSDR will not conduct any new public health investigation as a result of the recent petitions.

Again, I appreciate the time and effort that you, others in the community, and government agencies have invested in the interest of protecting public health. If you have any other questions please contact CAPT Robert Knowles, ATSDR Region IX Director at (415) 947-4317 or via email at [rknowles@cdc.gov](mailto:rknowles@cdc.gov).

**Patrick Breyse, PhD, CIH**

Director

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