

SSFL CAG Resolution Regarding the SSFL Cleanup

Adopted by the SSFL CAG May 21, 2014, modified October 15, 2014

WHEREAS the Santa Susana Field Laboratory (SSFL) site has been contaminated with chemicals and radionuclides over the past decades and requires cleanup;

WHEREAS the majority owner of the SSFL (Boeing) has announced its intention to designate the site as parkland upon completion of the environmental restoration;

WHEREAS the SSFL Community Advisory Group (CAG) representing various communities has many concerns with the cleanup of the SSFL;

WHEREAS DOE and NASA voluntarily signed agreements requiring their respective areas to be cleaned up to background (or detect) while Boeing will use a risk-based cleanup to EPA's suburban residential standard;

WHEREAS the cleanup to background requires major excavation, soil removal, and soil replacement, and is disruptive to the environment and public health in surrounding communities;

WHEREAS the cleanup to background will remove cultural and historical items and sites including rocket engine test stands;

WHEREAS the cleanup to background will remove Native American artifacts and cultural areas in the SSFL that is Tribal sacred land;

WHEREAS the cleanup to background will negatively affect a wildlife corridor used by endangered species;

WHEREAS the cleanup method used by the US EPA throughout the nation is risk-based with end use of the land being a major determinant;

WHEREAS risk-based cleanup is fully protective and requires only a fraction of the excavation, soil removal and backfill compared to cleanup to background and thus presents a greatly reduced threat to public health and less disruption of surrounding communities;

WHEREAS it is apparent that suitable backfill will be difficult to find and the contemplated partial or complete use of crushed rock will not restore the environment consistent with its future use;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the SSFL CAG recommends that all responsible parties execute a risk-based cleanup to EPA's suburban residential standard that will minimize excavation, soil removal and backfill and thus reduce danger to public health and functions of surrounding communities;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the CAG membership encourages the Boeing Company to promptly take affirmative measures to formally guarantee that the future land use of the SSFL will be open space for the benefit of the public and wildlife;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the responsible parties fully employ all dust abatement and soil containment measures;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that DTSC immediately clarify the exceptions to the cleanup for “Native American artifacts” as contained in the Final Agreement in Principle attached to the 2010 Administrative Orders on Consent;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that all Native American cultural and sacred sites and traditional cultural places / landscapes, including without limitation archaeological sites, at the SSFL be prioritized as to significance and determined whether they are eligible for nomination to the National Historic register and / or protected under applicable environmental laws such as NEPA or CEQA;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that NASA retain representative examples of rocket engine test stands and associated structures for future generations;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that all responsible parties recognize the importance of the wildlife corridor, restore their respective land areas to accommodate preservation of the wildlife corridor, and execute site benefaction programs including sowing of native plants and abatement of non-native weeds and species.