



SSFL COMMUNITY ADVISORY GROUP

**Citizens Working Together for the Responsible Cleanup of the
Former Santa Susana Field Laboratory**

<http://ssflcag.net/>
mail@ssflcag.net

Governor Gavin Newsom,
State of California

I am writing to inform you of recommendations of the communities near the Santa Susana Field Lab (SSFL) regarding the cleanup of that site. Four neighborhood councils, a rural town council and a number of environment organizations are calling for a risk-based cleanup of the soils on land to be used as open space and the organizations all agree with the process described and preferred in the Department of Energy (DOE) Final Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for the Remediation of Area IV and the Northern Buffer Zone of the SSFL. DOE held public meetings and responded in writing in an auxiliary report to community comments, which was issued with the EIS.

Four neighborhood councils support the risk-based cleanup. Neighborhood councils are part of the Los Angeles City administration per the city charter. Members of the councils are elected by their communities and represent those communities to government agencies, corporations and community organizations. The West Hills NC, Chatsworth NC, Woodland Hills NC and the Canoga Park NC have communicated their support to DTSC and each NC represents over thirty five thousand residents in their communities or a total of over one hundred thousand residents of the communities which surround the SSFL and will be most affected by any consequences of the cleanup. The Lake Manor Town Council favors the risk-based cleanup.

The SSFL Community Advisory Group (CAG) was formed five years ago under the supervision of and with the help of the California Department of Toxic Substances Control and since then CAG members have attended meetings, toured the site, and analyzed and commented on technical reports from all agencies and responsible parties. The CAG supports the risk-based cleanup for future open space, which follows US EPA guidelines.

The Chatsworth Community Coordinating Council (founded 1961), and the Santa Susana Mountain Park Association (founded 1971) have both expressed to DTSC their support of the risk-based cleanup.

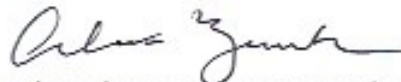
All of the participants listed above are familiar with the findings and technology in the cleanup and favor the risk-based cleanup and endorse the use of this procedure, a procedure that is used throughout California and the rest of the United States.

Others, who call for cleanup to background, want soil removed that may contain any one of a very long list of chemicals and radionuclides without any consideration of the toxicity or end use of the property and without the use of US EPA guidelines. As a result, the cleanup to background would require eight

times more soil excavation than the risk-based cleanup and, per DOE calculations, the remaining risk after both methods would be virtually the same. A greater amount of soil would be excavated and transported through the surrounding communities and the excavation would seriously damage the SSFL environment and culture beyond any possible restoration.

It is imperative that we all listen to the voices of the many thousands of residents who live close to the SSFL and have direct interests in the methods and consequences of the cleanup.

Those voices call for a risk-based soils cleanup at the SSFL.



Alec Uzemeck Co-chair SSFL Community Advisory Group