RESOLUTION TO SUPPORT THE DESIGNATION OF THE SANTA SUSANA FIELD LABORATORY AS A NATIONAL MONUMENT BY THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES

Whereas the Santa Susana Field Laboratory (SSFL) preserves some of last remaining large contiguous areas of open space that serves as a wildlife linkage (or corridor) to neighboring undeveloped areas in the Santa Monica and Santa Susana Mountains surrounding the densely populated area of the San Fernando Valley, Los Angeles County, California, and

Whereas the SSFL in eastern Ventura County, California is rich in natural, cultural, and historic resources; and

Whereas the current proposal to clean up contaminated soil and groundwater at the SSFL threatens to destroy those resources in order to meet unjustified clean-up standards using destructive methodology; and

Whereas the natural resources include a number of endangered, threatened, and rare plants and animals; and

Whereas the cultural resources, within the background of natural resources, include irreplaceable sites and artifacts sacred to the Chumash people and other local Indian tribes; and

Whereas the historic resources include rocket engine test stands and other facilities critical to the U. S. effort to bring about the first manned lunar landing and other notable achievements in space exploration while enabling the preservation of natural and cultural resources; therefore,

SFVAS hereby calls on the President of the United States to designate the SSFL as a National Monument using whatever authorities are available;

SFVAS further resolves that the appropriate steward for the National Monument is the National Park Service, which has the expertise to preserve and manage the aforementioned resources.


Upon motion by Mark B. Osokow

Seconded by ________________