



NASA & the Santa Susana Field Laboratory

In 2009, NASA continued its environmental investigations and cleanup of its portion of the Santa Susana Field Laboratory (SSFL) and continued to demonstrate its commitment to ongoing communication with the public.

NASA owns and administers 451.2 acres in two areas of SSFL and is committed to a cleanup of those areas to a level protective of public health and the environment. NASA also recognizes the importance of communicating directly with the community regarding its properties, current and former operations at SSFL, and the ongoing environmental cleanup taking place.

Creation of a New Website

To better provide an ongoing source of information to interested stakeholders, NASA created a new "Santa Susana Field Laboratory Environmental Cleanup and Closure" Website that can be viewed at: <http://ssfl.msfc.nasa.gov>. The site has eight sub-sections that tell NASA's SSFL cleanup story and includes a variety of documents and links that detail aspects of work completed and planned as well as including news updates.

Four Fact Sheets Published

NASA published in 2009 four fact sheets that include information about environmental investigations and cleanup activities at SSFL. Topics covered in the fact sheets are the following, and may be found on the new Website.

[An Overview of NASA's History at SSFL](#)

[The Use of Trichloroethylene at NASA's SSFL Sites](#)

[Historic Resources Survey](#)

[NASA's Interim Source Removal Action](#)

Interim Source Removal Action

In May 2009, NASA completed a work plan for an Interim Source Removal Action (ISRA) and began the first phase of the action in November, with oversight from the California Regional Water Quality Control Board (RWQCB) Los Angeles Region and in coordination with the California Department of Toxic Substances Control (DTSC). The ISRA is designed to remove potential sources of surface soil contaminants (cadmium, copper, lead, mercury and dioxins) and improve the quality of surface water discharge from NASA SSFL property. The proposed ISRA schedule calls for implementation of follow-on phases in 2010 and 2011, with completion expected by September 2011.

Remedial Investigations

NASA submitted to the DTSC three draft Remedial Investigation reports (formerly called Remedial Facility Investigations) during 2009. These investigations identified various substances targeted for potential cleanup, including liquid fuels, oils, propellants, freon, and solvents

such as trichloroethylene. One of the reports covered groundwater on NASA's portion of SSFL, and the others covered western and central portions of the NASA property.

Negotiations for a Revised Consent Order

NASA negotiated in 2009 with DTSC, Boeing and the Department of Energy, to develop a revised consent order for site cleanup. Those negotiations are expected to continue into 2010.

Site Tours

NASA managers also led or participated in several SSFL site tours with regulators and citizen groups such as the West Hills Neighborhood Council, the Santa Susana Mountains Area Committee, American Cancer Museum for Education, Heal the Bay and the Santa Susana Mountain Parks Association. Others with whom NASA toured included Secretary of Cal/EPA Linda Adams, Acting Director of DTSC Maziar Movassaghi, the Regional Water Quality Management Board's Executive Officer Tracy Egoscue, State Senator Fran Pavley, and State Assemblywoman Julia Brownley, representatives from the offices of U.S. Senators Dianne Feinstein and Barbara Boxer, and U. S. Representatives Henry A. Waxman and Elton Gallegly, as well as several Native American tribal representatives.

Report of Excess

Following a lengthy period of consideration and review of its current and future needs, NASA concluded in 2009 that it has no further need for its property located at SSFL. In accordance with statutory requirements, NASA notified Congress in April 2009 of NASA's intent to declare the lands "excess." On September 14, 2009, NASA submitted to the General Services Administration (GSA) a "report of excess" regarding the property, and the GSA conditionally accepted that report a month later. At the same time, NASA re-committed itself to the long-term achievement of cleaning up its portion of the SSFL.

For further information

on NASA and SSFL, contact Merrilee Fellows, NASA's Manager for Community Involvement at (818) 393-0754, or by email at: mfellows@nasa.gov. The NASA SSFL Website can be viewed at: <http://ssfl.msfc.nasa.gov>.