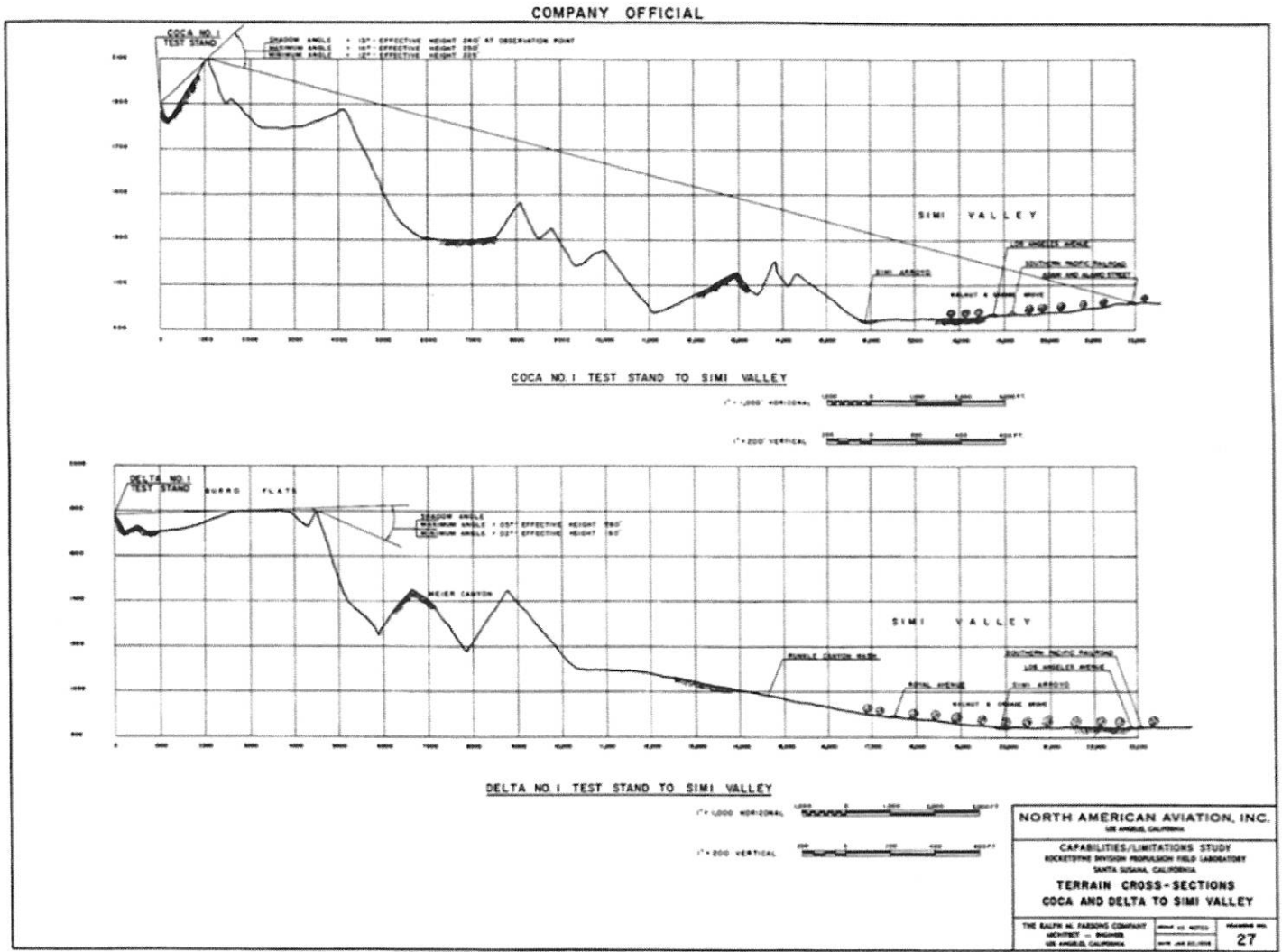


Dear City of Simi Valley,

Item #7 (Neighborhood Council #1 Agenda – Dated August 9th, 2018) Discussion and Feedback on a Study to Determine the Feasibility of Using Simi Valley Groundwater as a Supplemental Water Source raises concerns for Human Health and the Environment. As we all know the Santa Susana Field Laboratory sits above Simi Valley (Seen in Graph Below). The California Department of Toxic Substances Control and the Environmental Protection Agency have documented Chemicals and Radioactive Substances in Simi Groundwater. The City effort to save costs on outside water vendors could result in lawsuits, sickness and/or death.



Several other municipalities with similar problems have elected or were even forced by lawsuits to rely on outside sources for their water. One month after the Pasadena City Council approved a resolution similar to the proposed Simi Valley document, they were slapped with a lawsuit that put a halt to it. The National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) Jet Propulsion Laboratory was to blame for their groundwater impact, not unlike the documented NASA contamination that sits above Simi Valley.

On the first day of June, the Pasadena City Council gave the green light to a two-year, \$4.5 million project that is expected to capture and store more fresh water than ever, restore aquatic and riparian habitats, increase trail access and create passive recreational opportunities along the Arroyo Seco Stream that flows through Hahamongna Watershed Park. In the language of the region's Tongva-Gabrieleño Native American settlers, Hahamongna means "Flowing Waters, Fruitful Valley."

The Arroyo Seco Canyon Project is the result of a partnership between the Pasadena Water and Power Department (PWP) and the Arroyo Seco Foundation (ASF). It is being bankrolled in large part with grant money provided by the California Integrated Regional Water Management Program, with the remainder of the funds provided by PWP. Initial conceptual design, which includes plans for constructing a lavatory on the site, removing the stream's headworks facility, restoring water intake outlets, increasing the size of the water spreading grounds at the top of Hahamongna, and reducing the nearby Jet Propulsion Laboratory (JPL) parking lot from 1,100 to 100 spaces, was performed by the Arroyo Seco Foundation, which secured a \$3.3 million in Proposition 84 grant funds to help pay for the changes.

One month and a day after the council gave its approval the project came under fire with the filing of a lawsuit alleging it will not make the area's water supplies any safer or more drinkable. Indeed, rain and stream water seeping into underground water basins near Jet Propulsion Laboratory (JPL) will mix with water that has been contaminated for many years, with neighboring JPL designated as an EPA Superfund toxic waste site, a fact sparsely mentioned in any of the environmental documents submitted to the council regarding the project.

According to the lawsuit filed July 2 in Los Angeles County Superior Court by the Spirit of the Sage Council, a Pasadena nonprofit grassroots coalition of environmental organizations working to protect native plants and animals and sacred lands, and Project Soliton, a nonprofit public benefit organization that seeks to empower citizens on environmental and human and civil rights issues, the project was approved by the council based on a mitigated negative declaration (MND) stating impacts posed by the concoction of poisons dumped into the site over the past several decades are being addressed and can be overcome.

"The area adjacent to JPL and south is a Superfund site," said Leeona Klippstein of the Spirit of the Sage Council. "The EPA designated it in 1992 and they did so because the city had actually contacted them about contaminated water. It took many years before JPL actually started cleaning up the water. It's been known for a long time that the water is contaminated, as well as that whole area."

Stop Everything

Council approval came in its decision to formally strike down an appeal filed by Klippstein's group and activist Hugh Bowles to a Board of Zoning Appeals decision to grant the Water and Power Department a conditional use permit (CUP), allowing repair or replacement of facilities within the Arroyo Seco Canyon area, including those damaged or destroyed by the Station Fire in 2009.

Although the council was made aware that problems with hazardous materials and other issues — noise, transportation, biological resources and recreation — were cited in an earlier environmental study of the area, it approved the MND for the project. That declaration determined that "with the incorporation of mitigation measures, these impacts would be reduced to less than significant levels," states the council agenda for its June 1 meeting. "Impacts to all other study areas were found to be less than significant" at the project locations at 3420, 3500, 4401, and 4500 Arroyo Seco Road.



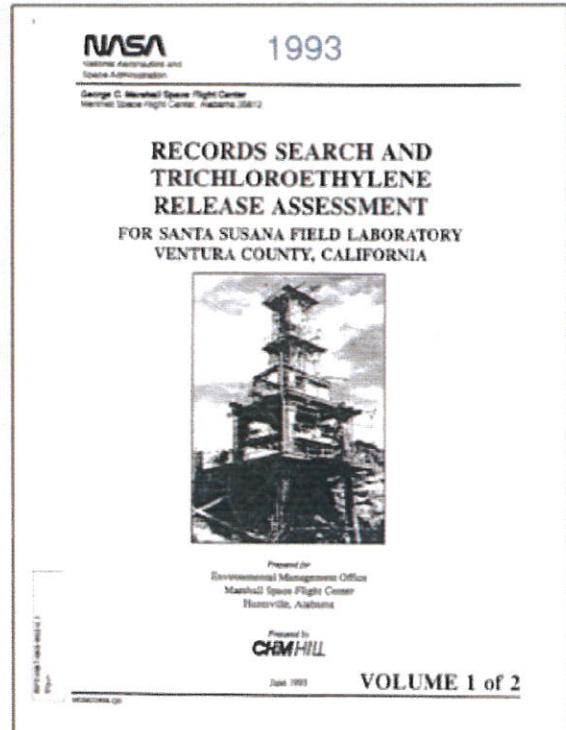
Estimates of TCE Released to Ground (1955-1984)

530,400 Gallons

9,643 drums

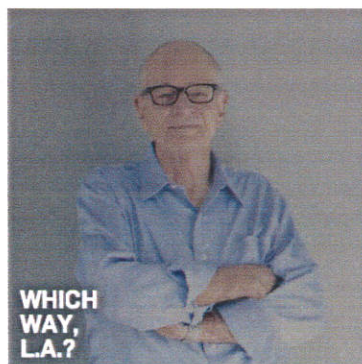


~ 95% used between 1955 to 1966



NASA has estimated over half a million gallons of cancer-causing solvents were released into the groundwater at Santa Susana. This has infiltrated the aquifer in the San Fernando and Simi Valleys and it's not the only constituent. There has been Perchlorate (Causes Thyroid Cancer) found in wells in Simi Valley as well as Radioactive Tritium.

 THE WORLD 
HOSTED BY: MARCO WERMAN     
00:31:38 / 01:00:00
LISTEN LIVE SHOWS PODCASTS MUSIC SCHEDULE BLOGS PLAYLIST EVENTS DONATE



High Level Radioactivity in Groundwater at Santa Susana

Excessive levels of radioactive Tritium have been found in water wells drilled near the site of a nuclear reactor, which melted down in 1959. It's in the Santa Susanna Mountains, between the San Fernando and Simi Valleys. The federal government has promised to clean up decades of nuclear and chemical contamination, and...

LISTEN TO THIS EPISODE
MAY 20, 2004

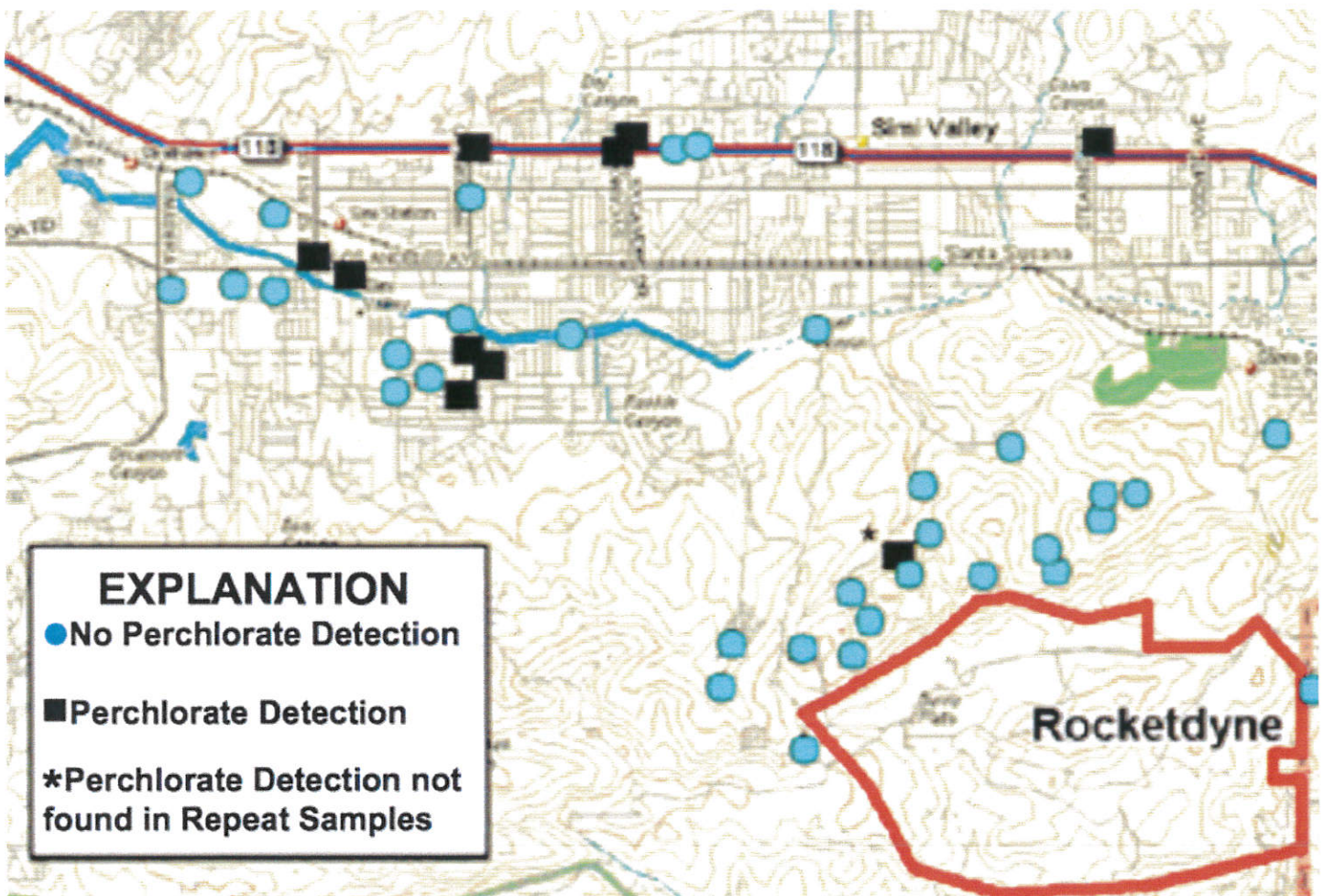
FOLLOW | SHARE

PLAY

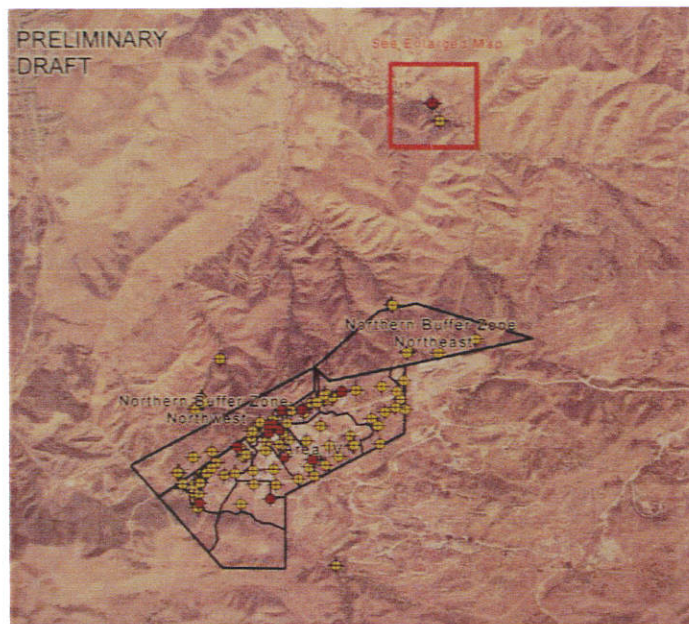
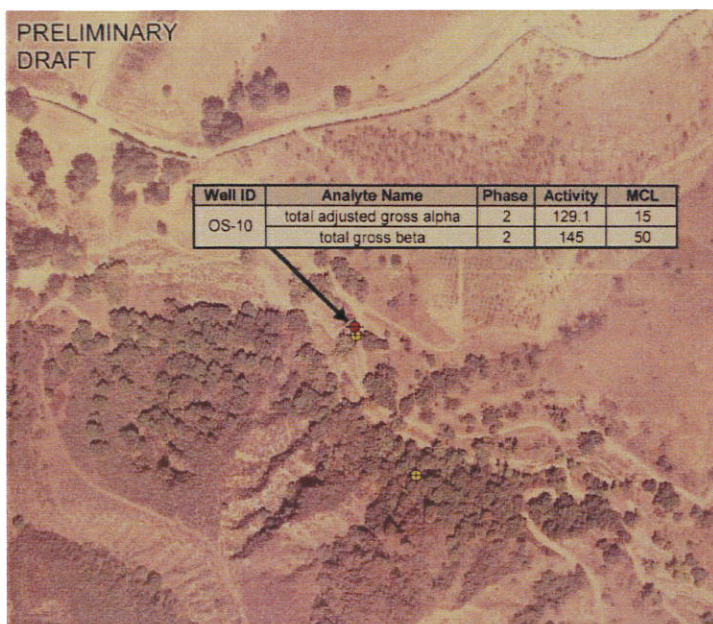


How was perchlorate discovered in Simi Valley?

In 1999, the City of Simi Valley (City) began a project to reduce flooding caused by high groundwater. This project included installing 11 non-drinking water wells to remove water from underground in the areas that often flood. In testing the water, the City found trace amounts of perchlorate in one well. Soon after, the U.S. EPA re-sampled the same well and found similar results. The City and the U.S. EPA asked DTSC to review the data. Following this review, DTSC coordinated with the Los Angeles Regional Water Quality Control Board (LARWQCB) and the City, and began an extensive program to sample soil, wells, springs and surface water drainages in key locations throughout the Simi Valley. (See map on page 2)



The City of Simi Valley has run into this in the past and Current City Council Members and/or staff should take this into consideration and put this idea to rest until the parties responsible for this contamination have it remediated.



In addition to the 1999 Perchlorate discovery in Central Simi Valley Wells, the Environmental Protection Agency in 2012 discovered Radioactivity in Offsite Well #10 at the American Jewish University's Brandeis-Bardin Campus providing further examples of the migration of Field Lab Contamination.

The City of Burbank has elected not to use their groundwater due to similar contamination and the City of Los Angeles Department of Water and Power sent a letter to the EPA (Attached) almost begging them to help as they has to shut down 47% of their wells used as potable sources.

U.S. EPA orders \$21 million in cleanup work at San Fernando Valley Superfund site

Agency also modifies cleanup plan at site to expand groundwater treatment

06/20/2018

Contact Information:

Nahal Mogharabi (mogharabi.nahal@epa.gov)
213-244-1815

LOS ANGELES—The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) has finalized three orders with Lockheed Martin Corporation and Honeywell International, Inc. requiring the companies to expand groundwater treatment and conduct additional groundwater contamination studies at the San Fernando Valley Area 1 Superfund site. The work is expected to cost more than \$21 million.

"These important actions bring us ever closer to ensuring safe groundwater supplies for decades to come," said EPA Pacific Southwest Regional Administrator Mike Stoker. **"We will continue to work with the Los Angeles Department of Water and Power and the Los Angeles Water Quality Control Board to implement a full and thorough cleanup."**

The first order, with Honeywell International, Inc., will require the company to construct four extraction wells on the western portion of the North Hollywood Operable Unit (NHO) site and build a treatment system for 1,4-dioxane, hexavalent chromium and other volatile organic compounds (VOCs) from the area that will prevent additional groundwater contamination. The project will cost about \$10 million and will be completed in 2019.

The order with Lockheed Martin Corporation, will require the company to design, construct, and operate four extraction wells for the eastern portion of the NHO that will address VOCs. The system will prevent further migration of existing groundwater contamination. It will be completed around 2020 and will cost approximately \$10 million.



The Seal of the City – Education, Religion, Nuclear Research and Agriculture.

Let's Educate the Public and Pray that the Contamination from the Santa Susana Field Lab is properly cleaned up so Simi Valley can thrive in agriculture like it once did and not have any worries about drinking the water.

William Preston Bowling
Founder ACME





ANTONIO R. VILLARAIGOSA
Mayor

Commission
NICK PATSAOURAS, *President*
EDITH RAMIREZ, *Vice President*
LEE KANON ALPERT
WALLY KNOX
FORESCEE HOGAN-ROWLES
BARBARA E. MOSCHOS, *Secretary*

H. DAVID NAHAI,
Chief Executive Officer and General Manager

March 7, 2008

Mr. Wayne Natri, Regional Administrator
United States Environmental Protection Agency
Region IX
75 Hawthorne Street
San Francisco, California 94105

Dear Mr. Natri:

**Subject: Remedial Action of Groundwater Contamination in the San Fernando Basin (SFB),
Chromium Workshop Comments**

The City of Los Angeles Department of Water and Power (LADWP) is very concerned about the delays in fully characterizing the SFB's contamination, identifying pollutant sources, and in implementing appropriate and comprehensive treatment processes to remediate the SFB, from which the City of Los Angeles draws its local groundwater supply.

Due to contamination, principally from volatile organic compounds (VOC), LADWP's capacity to pump its groundwater has substantially diminished. The City of Los Angeles has lost the ability to pump 47 percent of its wells in the SFB, which supply the needs of over 500,000 people.

LADWP has been interfacing with the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) for well over 20 years to address groundwater contamination, pollutant sources, and remediation strategies. Despite efforts by the EPA, the contamination is expanding to other areas in the SFB along with having increased concentrations of primarily Trichloroethylene (TCE), Tetrachlorethylene (PCE), and to a lesser extent, chromium. Emerging contaminants are also posing a threat as well. Additionally, while major sources of pollution have been identified, identification of all potential pollutant sources still remains. Lastly, the only remediation strategy that has been pursued to protect LADWP's groundwater resources, namely the North Hollywood Operable Unit, whose purpose was to contain and treat the contaminant plume, has failed. This has resulted in LADWP shutting down 54 of its 115 wells.

Shutting down the contaminated wells has caused the City of Los Angeles to rely on increased water from the fragile Delta system. Additionally, losses of supply from the Eastern Sierra, until recently the City's largest water source, have diminished due to environmental enhancement projects in the Owens Valley. These issues heighten the urgency to regain the full use of our local water supplies.

Water and Power Conservation ... a way of life

111 North Hope Street, Los Angeles, California 90012-2607 Mailing address: Box 51111, Los Angeles 90051-5700
Telephone: (213) 367-4211 Cable address: DEWAPOLA

Mr. Wayne Natri
Page 2
March 7, 2008

LADWP is anxious to have the EPA develop a long-term, comprehensive solution for the existing and emerging contamination issues for the entire SFB.

Sincerely,



H. David Nahai
Chief Executive Officer
and General Manager

JGY:jmm

c: Honorable Dianne Feinstein
Honorable Barbara Boxer
Honorable Fabian Nunez
Honorable Don Perata
Honorable Hilda Solis
Honorable Henry Waxman
Honorable Darrel Steinberg
Honorable Alex Padilla
Honorable Jack Scott
Honorable Gil Cedillo
Honorable Sheila Kuehl
Honorable Mark Ridley-Thomas
Honorable Bob Margett
Honorable Mike Feuer
Honorable Kevin de Leon
Honorable Hector De La Torre
Honorable John Laird
Honorable Jared Huffman

Honorable Mike Eng
Honorable Paul Krekorian
Honorable Lois Wolk
Mr. Stephen L. Johnson, USEPA
Mr. Fred Schauffler, USEPA
Ms. Rachel Loftin, USEPA
Ms. Linda Adams, Cal-EPA
Mr. Dan Dunmoyer, Governor's Office
Ms. Maureen Gorsen, DTSC
Ms. Tam Doduc, SWRCB
Ms. Dorothy Rice, SWRCB
Ms. Francine Diamond, RWQCB
Ms. Tracy Egoscue, RWQCB
Mr. James Starbird, City of Glendale
Ms. Mary Alvord, City of Burbank
Mr. Thomas M. Erb, LADWP