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TO: Interested Parties, Santa Susana Field Laboratory Site Cleanup (SSFL)

SUBJECT: DTSC & Boeing reach agreement to extend statute of limitations in order to complete negotiations on SSFL cleanup consent order

The California Department of Toxic Substances Control (DTSC) announced today that it has reached an agreement with The Boeing Company to temporarily suspend a statute of limitations deadline allowing the parties to continue negotiating a cleanup order for the contaminated Santa Susana Field Laboratory site.

DTSC said the agreement extends the two-year statute of limitations for a lawsuit to be filed challenging SB990, the California law that requires stringent cleanup of the Santa Susana property. Governor Schwarzenegger signed SB990 into law on October 14, 2007.

The agreement gives DTSC and Boeing until February 15, 2010 to negotiate a draft consent order for cleanup of the Santa Susana site, a 2,800-acre research facility mostly owned and operated by Boeing. The agreement includes strict deadlines that must be met and specifically calls for public involvement before a consent order can be successfully negotiated.

Members of nearby communities had expressed strong concern recently that Boeing, facing the statute of limitations, would file a lawsuit and ultimately delay the cleanup work. Another concern expressed by the community was that Boeing was not part of previously released draft consent orders (1.9 and 2.0) that included U.S. Department of Energy and NASA, the two other parties responsible for the pollution at the site.

Public comment on those previously released draft orders recently ended. DTSC said today that it will produce a new draft consent order by October 30, 2009 after negotiations with the three parties responsible for the contamination at the site and consideration of public comments.

DTSC is committed to reaching final agreement with Boeing, the Department of Energy and NASA to ensure a cleanup that is in strict compliance with the law, including SB990, allows for public involvement throughout, and requires the responsible parties to pay.