



Department of Toxic Substances Control



Matthew Rodriguez
Secretary for
Environmental Protection

Deborah O. Raphael, Director
9211 Oakdale Avenue
Chatsworth, California 91311

Edmund G. Brown Jr.
Governor

SANTA SUSANA FIELD LABORATORY STATUS REPORT AUGUST 2011

The purpose of this update is to inform the community of Santa Susan Field Laboratory (SSFL) activities that have occurred from July 24 through August 23, 2011 and activities that are expected to occur in the next 30 days.

Activities Completed:

Soil Investigations:

- Area IV
Field work for the co-located sampling for chemical analysis with the US EPA radiological sampling locations continued.
- HSA-5C
Field work completed.
Chemical analytical data received and 100% of analytical data has been validated
- HSA-5B
Field work completed.
All chemical analytical data received and 99% of analytical data validated
- HSA-5A
Field work completed.
All chemical and analytical data received and 95% of analytical data validated
- HSA-8N
Field work completed.
All chemical analytical data received, validation in progress
- HSA-5D North
Field work completed.
Approximately 60% of the chemical analytical data received, validation in progress

- HSA-6
Surface sampling completed
35% of soil borings completed
5% of the chemical analytical data received, validation in progress.
- On August 17, 2011 DOE and DTSC along with US EPA jointly presented proposed radiological and chemical sampling activities for Subareas 3, 7, 5D South and 8 South at a Stakeholder meeting. DOE and DTSC also presented an update on the progress of the co-located chemical sampling activities.

Groundwater Investigations:

- 2011 Q-3 groundwater monitoring sampling was completed
- Began on-site seep drilling (sampling)
- Began fault study and trenching at the Happy Valley Fault
- Rehabilitated well RD-10

Chemical Background Study:

- The following documents were posted to the DTSC SSFL website: Chemical Background Study Sampling and Analysis Plan, Appended Quality Assurance Project Plan, Locations Addendum to the Sampling and Analysis Plan, and responses to Stakeholder comments.
- DTSC staff worked to address administrative issues to complete the chemical background study.

Feasibility Study:

No new updates.

Building Demolition:

- Demolition of CTL-III in Group 1B was initiated.
- Post demolition dust and erosion controls were conducted at CTL-V and at Canyon

Interim Source Removal Actions:

- DTSC participated in biweekly project calls involving planning activities for ISRA including excavation, best management practices (BMPs) to minimize sediment, and stream bank stabilization work. Conducted SSFL site visit of AP/STP-1E2, and AP/STP-1E3 with RWQCB and NASA on June 28.

NASA

- On August 4, 2011, DTSC hosted a community technical roundtable discussion on the draft NASA Subgroup 1 Field Sampling Plan (FSP), which describes the proposed additional investigation to complete data gap sampling of soils at three NASA SSFL sites (Alfa Bravo Fuel Farm, Coca Delta Fuel Farm, and Propellant Loading Facility). At the meeting, DTSC, NASA, and CH2M Hill staff presented an overview of the draft NASA FSP document to members of the public, solicited public feedback and comments on the plan, and provided instruction for the August 10, 2011 community tour of the sites.
- On August 10, 2011, DTSC staff participated in a community tour of the three NASA SSFL sites covered in the draft NASA Subgroup 1 Field Sampling Plan (FSP), which include the Alfa Bravo Fuel Farm, Coca Delta Fuel Farm, and the Propellant Loading Facility. NASA and CH2M Hill staff led the morning tour, which showed the community members the site layouts and remnant features, described former site operations, pointed out the locations of previous samples, and the staked location of the soil samples proposed in the Draft FSP.

Permits:

- Demolition activities were started on the eight former groundwater treatment systems in Areas I, II and III. Pumped groundwater is treated at the Groundwater Extraction and Treatment System (GETS).

Public Outreach:

- On August 10, 2011, DTSC and DOE jointly hosted a general site visit to observe the chemical and radiological co-located sampling activities in Area IV.
- DTSC hosted a public meeting on August 11, 2011 for the Sitewide Groundwater Remedial Investigation Report. A short presentation by DTSC staff was followed by a question and answer session, and formal comment session. The meeting was attended by 22 community members.

Activities Proposed for the Next 30 Days:

Soil Investigations:

- Area IV co-located sampling efforts for HSA-6 and HSA-7 – continue co-located sampling for chemical analysis with the US EPA radiological sampling locations.
- On September 14, 2011, DOE and DTSC will jointly host a general public site visit to observe the chemical and radiological co-located sampling activities in Area IV. DTSC and DOE will continue to host future public tours on the second Wednesday of each month.

Groundwater Investigations:

- Complete straddle packer testing at coreholes as part of the data gaps efforts.
- Complete on-site seeps drilling
- Conduct off-site seeps drilling
- Continue fault study and trenching in the Happy Valley fault area
- Drilling of source zone wells in Area I Burn Pit, CTL-V, SRE Pond, and COCA and of data gap wells at various locations in Areas I, II and IV.

Chemical Background Study:

- Revised Quality Assurance Project Plan (including updated lab-related information and analytical reporting limits), revised lab-evaluation and selection Technical Memorandum (including lab-specific analytical method modification standard procedures), and responses to Stakeholder comments will be posted to the DTSC SSFL website.

Field sampling expected to resume in early September in the China Flats area of Lang Ranch.

Building Demolition:

- Continue demolition of CTL-III in Group 1B.
- Continue demolition on the eight former groundwater treatment systems in Areas I, II and III.
- Complete installation of Canyon post-demolition dust and erosion control measures.

Interim Source Removal Actions (ISRA):

Permits:

- Boeing will begin field activities once all contracting issues with NASA are resolved. Planned activities for ISRA Phase III excavation at Ash Pile/ Sewage Treatment Plant Area (AP/STP) areas are: AP/STP-1B, AP/STP-1C1, AP/STP-1C2, AP/STP-1E1, AP/STP-1E2, and AP/STP-1E3. Anticipated field activities include vegetation clearance, utility clearance, field mobilization, and construction of BMPs. DTSC plans to participate in biweekly meetings associated with ongoing ISRA activities and conduct site inspections when field activities resume.

Risk Assessment:

No new updates.

Public Outreach:

- SSFL Workgroup meeting scheduled for September 8, 2011 at 6:30 pm in the Simi Valley Cultural Center, 3050 Los Angeles Avenue, Simi Valley
- The next SSFL PPG meeting is scheduled for September 20, 2011 at 6:00 pm in the DTSC Chatsworth Office, 9211 Oakdale Avenue.
- DTSC is developing a plan to address repository space issues. LA County libraries and the DTSC file room are running out of space for additional hard-copy files.

DTSC will continue to provide monthly updates regarding the progress of the site investigation and cleanup process to the community.