



Department of Toxic Substances Control



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SANTA SUSANA FIELD LABORATORY STATUS REPORT March 2011

The purpose of this update is to inform the community of Santa Susan Field Laboratory (SSFL) activities that have occurred from February 18 through March 18, 2011 and activities that are expected to occur in the next 30 days.

Activities Completed:

Soil Investigations:

- Field work for the co-located sampling for chemical analysis with the US EPA radiological sampling locations continued in Area IV.
HSA 5C
 - All field work completed
 - All chemical analytical data received being validated
 - HSA 5C Technical Memo being prepared to show results from chemical sample analysis*HSA 5B*
 - All field work was complete
 - 75% of the chemical analytical data received, data validation in progress*HSA 5A*
 - Currently in field with EPA
 - Surface samples collected
 - 25% soil borings completed
- In accordance with the DTSC/NASA Administrative Order on Consent (AOC), On March 7, 2011, NASA submitted a draft Remedial Investigation Workplan for the NASA sites at SSFL. The Workplan describes the conceptual approach to complete the characterization of the NASA sites in Groups 2, 3, 4 and 9 at SSFL.
- DTSC is evaluating methods to document refinements to the SSFL risk assessment process for the portions of SSFL not covered by the Administrative Order on Consent (AOC). As RFI site data are collected, new Chemicals of Potential Concern (COPCs) may be added to the site-wide list of COPCs; while

others that clearly do not play a significant role in determination of health risk may be eliminated. In addition, methods that improve the transparency of risk calculations need to be formally incorporated into the SSFL risk assessment process. The collective goal of these refinements is to simplify the risk assessment process and thereby facilitate its understanding by all involved parties. DTSC will discuss approach to changing the document and presented the ideas and possible approaches with the public for further consideration and feedback.

- DTSC is evaluating the current Expedited rural residential Risk-Based Screening Level (RBSL) list and exposure pathways to ensure compliance with SB990 requirements.

Groundwater Investigations:

- DTSC issued a conditional approval to allow implementation of the *Groundwater Remedial Investigation Data Gap Sampling & Analysis Plan (SAP)*. The SAP proposes installation of several groundwater monitoring wells located within identified source areas and the Area I Burn Pit, Since DTSC is currently reviewing the Groundwater RI report we cannot determine that the data gaps present in the SAP represent the totality of data gaps for the groundwater investigation at the site. DTSC agreed that the identified data gaps could be addressed with the following conditions:
 - collection of continuous rock cores,
 - multi-level monitoring well construction and mitigation during construction to minimize the potential for vertical cross contamination,
 - additional source characterization in the Coca RI site source area, and
 - assessment of the Burro Flats fault including vertical characterization of contaminants in WS-09A.

Chemical Background Study:

- DTSC met with EPA to discuss statistical evaluation approaches for Chemical and Radionuclide Background Studies. EPA presented a proposal on different statistical approaches including use of the Upper Simultaneous Limit (USL) for establishing background values during a public meeting on March 2, 2011. DTSC is considering using a similar statistical parameter to represent chemical Background Study data populations.

Feasibility Study: No New Updates

Building Demolition:

- NASA submitted draft Standard Operating Procedures for Building Demolition Debris Characterization and Management as part of the Administrative Order on Consent (AOC) requirement.

Interim Source Removal Actions: No New Updates

Permits:

- On February 3, 2011, The Boeing Company (Boeing) submitted a permit modification notification letter for Boeing and (NASA) post-closure permits. The Class 1* (with prior approval) permit modifications will amend the closure plans for eight inactive groundwater treatment units. DTSC provided revised public notice text and the facility mailing list to Boeing and NASA for their use to issue the public notice. The public notices were sent to addresses on the facility mailing list and published in two local papers during the week ending February 11, 2011.

Public Outreach:

- On March 16, 2011, DTSC hosted a mandatory meeting in the Chatsworth office with community members interested in participating in the staking and/or sampling events for the Chemical Soil Background Study being conducted by DTSC for the SSFL cleanup. During the meeting, participants received a health and safety briefing, signed liability waivers and signed up to attend specific days for location staking.
- Groundwater U, an educational series (six sessions) sponsored by DOE, NASA, and Boeing, in cooperation with DTSC began in March 2011. The series is designed to help interested stakeholders prepare to review upcoming technical documents that will be available for public review and comment. The first two sessions covered general geology/hydrogeology and the fate and transport of contaminants in groundwater.

Activities Proposed for the Next 30 Days:

Soil Investigations:

- Continue co-located sampling for chemical analysis with the US EPA radiological sampling locations at HAS 5A. DOE, in coordination with DTSC will present and discuss the technical memorandum chemical co-located sampling plan for HAS 8 North with the community on March 25 via a web based format.
- Continue Off-site survey for potential debris, pending access agreements.

Groundwater Investigations:

- US EPA will be conducting first quarter (1Q) 2011 groundwater sampling for radioisotopes in the Area IV.
- Boeing will be conducting second quarter (2Q) 2011 groundwater sampling for chemicals

Chemical Background Study:

- Field staking of the proposed chemical background sample locations is scheduled to begin March 21 and anticipated to run through April 8.
- DTSC is in the process of finalizing the Chemical Background Study Sampling & Analysis Plan (SAP). When finalized and approved, DTSC will post the SAP to the SSFL website.
- DTSC anticipates meeting with the stakeholders in April to discuss and receive input on chemical background laboratory selection. Final selection of the lab is anticipated in early May.

Feasibility Study: *No New Updates*

Building Demolition: *No New Updates*

Interim Source Removal Actions: *No New Updates*

Permits: *No New Updates*

Public Outreach:

- Groundwater U, an educational series sponsored by DOE, NASA, and Boeing, in cooperation with DTSC will continue in April 2011. The series is designed to help interested stakeholders prepare to review upcoming technical documents that will be available for public review and comment. Lectures will be held at 6:30pm on the following dates: April 5, April 28, May 5, and May 19. To register, please go to <http://groundwateru1.eventbrite.com>.
- On March 23, 2011, DTSC will host a meeting with the SSFL PPG in the DTSC Chatsworth Office. The agenda will be announced at a future date.
- DTSC continues to work on updating the SSFL Web site. A page dedicated to the SSFL PPG is currently in development and is available.