



Department of Toxic Substances Control



Matthew Rodriguez
Secretary for
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Deborah O. Raphael, Director
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Edmund G. Brown Jr.
Governor

October 11, 2012

Dr. James W. Wright
Deputy Associate Administrator
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ENFORCEABLE SCHEDULE TO ACHIEVE CLEANUP OF NASA AREAS BY 2017, SANTA SUSANA FIELD LABORATORY, VENTURA COUNTY, CALIFORNIA

Dear Dr. Wright:

The purpose of this letter is to request your assistance in ensuring that the funding the National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) makes available for environmental remediation activities at the Santa Susana Field Laboratory (SSFL) is budgeted and maintained at a level sufficient for it to accomplish all of the investigation, characterization, demolition and cleanup activities by 2017, the date committed to in the agreements entered between NASA and the Department of Toxic Substances Control (DTSC)(the 2010 Administrative Order on Consent (Docket No. HSA-CO 10/11 – 038)(AOC) and the 2007 Consent Order (Docket No. P3-07/08-003)(2007 Consent Order)). The AOC requires completion of soils cleanup by 2017, and the 2007 Consent Order requires the installation of groundwater remedies by 2017.

DTSC appreciates NASA's efforts and the positive, cooperative working relationship that has been forged between NASA project staff and DTSC staff. In order to meet the 2017 date, NASA must plan for and maintain an aggressive schedule for the investigation, characterization, demolition and cleanup activities that will comprise the cleanup. Although NASA has acknowledged that an aggressive schedule needs to be maintained, DTSC is aware of NASA's postponements and schedule adjustments of site investigation activities due to the limitations on funding allocated SSFL activities. DTSC is concerned that this type of budget limitation and the postponement of activities it causes could prevent NASA from maintaining its progress to meet the 2017 deadline.

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DTSC recently sent a letter to Mr. Allen Elliott requiring NASA to develop a comprehensive schedule that includes key milestones from characterization through cleanup completion. DTSC believes that a comprehensive schedule will allow both NASA and DTSC to manage their respective fiscal requirements and resource and personnel allocations more effectively, and facilitate NASA's meeting the 2017 deadline. This schedule, once approved, in accordance with the AOC, will be deemed incorporated into the AOC and fully enforceable.

Thank you again for your commitment to fully supporting NASA's cleanup responsibilities and the commitments it has made at SSFL. If there is anything more I can do to assist in securing resources, or if you have questions regarding the contents of this letter, please contact me at (916) 322-0504, or via e-mail at Debbie.Raphael@dtsc.ca.gov.

Sincerely,



Deborah O. Raphael
Director

cc: (Sent via email)

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