

CALIFORNIA ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY



LINDA S. ADAMS
SECRETARY FOR
ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION

1001 I Street, Sacramento, California 95814 • P.O. Box 2815, Sacramento, California 95812-2815 (916) 323-2514 • (916) 324-0908 Fax • www.calepa.ca.gov

ARNOLD SCHWARZENEGGER
GOVERNOR

January 14, 2009

Mr. Wayne Nastri Regional Administrator U.S. Environmental Protection Agency 75 Hawthorne Street San Francisco, California 94105-3901

Re: Santa Susana Field Laboratory

Ventura County

Dear Mr. Nastri: Why

On December 6, 2007, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (U.S. EPA) asked the State of California for the State's position on whether or not U.S. EPA should list the Santa Susana Field Laboratory (SSFL) site on the Superfund National Priorities List (NPL). I write today on behalf of the State to inform you that that the State's position is that U.S. EPA should not list the site on the NPL. California has an unprecedented opportunity to achieve a comprehensive and expedited cleanup of the SSFL site. However, if the circumstances change, the State reserves the right to change this position at a later time.

During 2008, U.S. EPA granted the State's two requests for additional time to evaluate arguments for and against listing. We sincerely appreciate U.S. EPA's respect for our desire to thoroughly consider this matter. We have reached our decision after careful consideration of all factors that have been stated in letters and face-to-face discussions between our respective organizations.

A key factor for the State is implementation of Senate Bill 990 (Kuehl, Statutes of 2007, Chapter 729). SB 990 requires that this site be cleaned up to the strictest standards. With DTSC implementing SB 990 for both chemical and radiologic contamination, DTSC is in the best position to direct a comprehensive and protective cleanup and to ensure that the responsible parties meet their cleanup obligations by the earliest possible date. Another key factor is that members of the communities surrounding the SSFL support this decision.

We appreciate U.S. EPA's work on this site and coordination with the California Environmental Protection Agency and DTSC. We look forward to a continued partnership

Mr. Wayne Nastri, Regional Administrator U.S. Environmental Protection Agency January 14, 2009
Page 2

with U.S. EPA that results in action to protect the health and safety of the affected communities around the site. In particular, the State appreciates U.S. EPA's ongoing involvement in the development of a background data set for radionuclides, and we look forward to U.S. EPA completing the radiologic characterization of SSFL Area IV in cooperation with the U.S. Department of Energy as required by H. R. 2764.

The State will lend whatever assistance it can to assure that those investigative projects are completed in a thorough and timely manner. At the same time, the State renews its requests, outlined in my letter of January 15, 2008, for U.S. EPA's support in the area of radiological assessments. We appreciate the assistance U.S. EPA has provided to date.

If you have any questions or concerns regarding this matter, please call me at (916) 324-9214.

Sincerely,

Łín∕da Adams

Secretary for Environmental Protection

cc: The Honorable Arnold Schwarzenegger Governor of California State Capitol Building Sacramento, California 95814

The Honorable Diane Feinstein United States Senate 331 Hart Senate Office Building Constitution Avenue & 2nd Street NE Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Barbara Boxer United States Senate 112 Hart Senate Office Building Constitution Avenue & 2nd Street NE Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Henry Waxman U.S. House of Representatives 2204 Rayburn House Office Building Washington, DC 20515-0523

The Honorable Elton Gallegly U.S. House of Representatives 2309 Rayburn House Office Building Washington, DC 20515-0523

Mr. Wayne Nastri, Regional Administrator U.S. Environmental Protection Agency January 14, 2009 Page 3

The Honorable Brad Sherman U.S. House of Representatives 2242 Rayburn House Office Building Washington, DC 20515-0524

The Honorable Julia Brownley California State Assembly State Capitol, Room 6011 Sacramento, California 95814

The Honorable Audra Strickland California State Assembly State Capitol, Room 4208 Sacramento, California 95814

The Honorable Member Cameron Smyth California State Assembly State Capitol, Room 4153 Sacramento, California 95814

Chris Kahn, Legislative Secretary Governor's Office State Capitol Sacramento, California 95814

Mike Chrisman, Secretary Resources Agency 1416 Ninth Street, Suite 1311 Sacramento, California 95814

Karen Scarborough, Undersecretary Resources Agency 1416 Ninth Street, Suite 1311 Sacramento, California 95814

Cindy Tuck, Undersecretary California Environmental Protection Agency P.O. Box 2815 Sacramento, California 95812-2815

Sheila Kuehl, Board Member
California Integrated Waste Management Board
1001 | Street
P.O. Box 2815
Sacramento, California
95812-2815

Mr. Wayne Nastri, Regional Administrator U.S. Environmental Protection Agency January 14, 2009 Page 4

John Moffatt, Deputy Legislative Secretary Governor's Office State Capitol Sacramento, California 95814

Patty Zwarts, Assistant Secretary for Legislation California Environmental protection Agency P.O. Box 2815 Sacramento, California 95812-2815

Rick Brausch, Legislative Director
Department of Toxic Substances Control
P.O. Box 806
Sacramento, California 95812-0806

Norman E. Riley, SSFL Project Director Department of Toxic Substances Control P.O. Box 806 Sacramento, California 95812-0806

Thomas Gallacher, Director Safety, Health and Environmental Affairs The Boeing Company 5800 Woolsey Canyon Road MC T-487 Canoga Park, California 91304-1148

Allen Elliot, Manager
Environmental Engineering and Occupational Health
National Aeronautics and Space Administration
George C. Marshall Space Flight Center
Mail Code: AS10
Marshall Space Flight Center, Alabama 35812

Thomas Johnson
Federal Deputy Project Director
U.S. Department of Energy
MC T-487
5800 Woolsey Canyon Road
Canoga Park, California 91304-1148