



# Area IV Santa Susana Field Laboratory Energy Technology Engineering Center (ETEC)

April 25, 2008

# DOE Mission at Area IV SSFL

- The primary DOE activities at Area IV SSFL were:
  - Nuclear research
    - There were ten research reactors.
  - Liquid metal research
    - Sodium component test facilities.



- Reactor operations ended in 1980.
- All nuclear research completed in 1988.

# History of Energy Technology Engineering Center (ETEC)

- The Atomic Energy Commission (AEC), a predecessor agency of DOE, funded nuclear energy research in Area IV starting in the mid-1950s.
- ETEC was established in the early 1960s by the AEC, as a “center of excellence” for liquid metals technology.
- ETEC is located on 90 acres of SSFL Area IV.



- Research conducted at ETEC mostly involved the development and testing of components used in liquid sodium systems.



# Prior ETEC Cleanup Activities

- Cleanup activities prior to 2003 were performed under National Environmental Policy Act (“NEPA”) utilizing categorical exclusions.
  - Approximately 250 structures have been removed.
- DOE issued an Environmental Assessment and corresponding Finding of No Significant Impact in March 2003.



**EM** *Environmental Management*

safety ❖ performance ❖ cleanup ❖ closure

[www.em.doe.gov](http://www.em.doe.gov)

# Remaining Cleanup Actions

- Completion of Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for Area IV.
  - Gap Analysis / Data Needs
- Pending EIS decision, cleanup and removal of four DOE facilities and associated contaminated soils.
  - Hazardous Waste Management Facility
  - Sodium Pump Test Facility
  - Radioactive Materials Handling Facility
  - SNAP Environmental Test Facility
- Complete State of California Corrective Action process for all DOE Solid Waste Management Units and groundwater.



# Key EIS Milestones

- CDM/SAIC team selected to prepare EIS and associated gap analysis, additional sampling to perform a CERCLA-based risk assessment, and an analysis of full range of alternatives
- Draft Gap Analysis will be shared with regulators and stakeholders in May/June 2008
- Public scoping meetings July 2008
- Field Sampling Plan and associated health and safety plans July 2008
- Potential Sampling activities Fall 2008
- Preliminary Draft EIS April 2009
- Final EIS September 2010
- Record of Decision November 2010

Public Involvement and Participation  
Ongoing Throughout Process



**EM** *Environmental Management*

safety ❖ performance ❖ cleanup ❖ closure

[www.em.doe.gov](http://www.em.doe.gov)

# Summary

- The EIS will evaluate a wide range of alternatives and consider:
  - Appropriate action levels
  - Cumulative impacts
  - Soil and groundwater contamination
  - Chemical and radiological contamination
- DOE remains dedicated to working cooperatively with the EPA, State regulatory agencies, stakeholders, and interested parties to conduct the EIS while meeting all milestones and schedules requested by the State of California.

# Additional Information

- Historical information on the various facilities is available on the ETEC website.
  - <http://www.etc.energy.gov>
- DOE National Environmental Policy Act-specific information and guidance is available on this website.
  - <http://www.eh.doe.gov/nepa/>
- For further information contact:
  - Thomas Johnson, Deputy Federal Project Director
    - 818-466-8959; [thomas.johnson@emcbc.doe.gov](mailto:thomas.johnson@emcbc.doe.gov)
  - Stephie Jennings, NEPA Document Manager
    - 818-466-8162, [stephanie.jennings@emcbc.doe.gov](mailto:stephanie.jennings@emcbc.doe.gov)

