Energy Technology Engineering Center
Area IV, Santa Susana Field Laboratory
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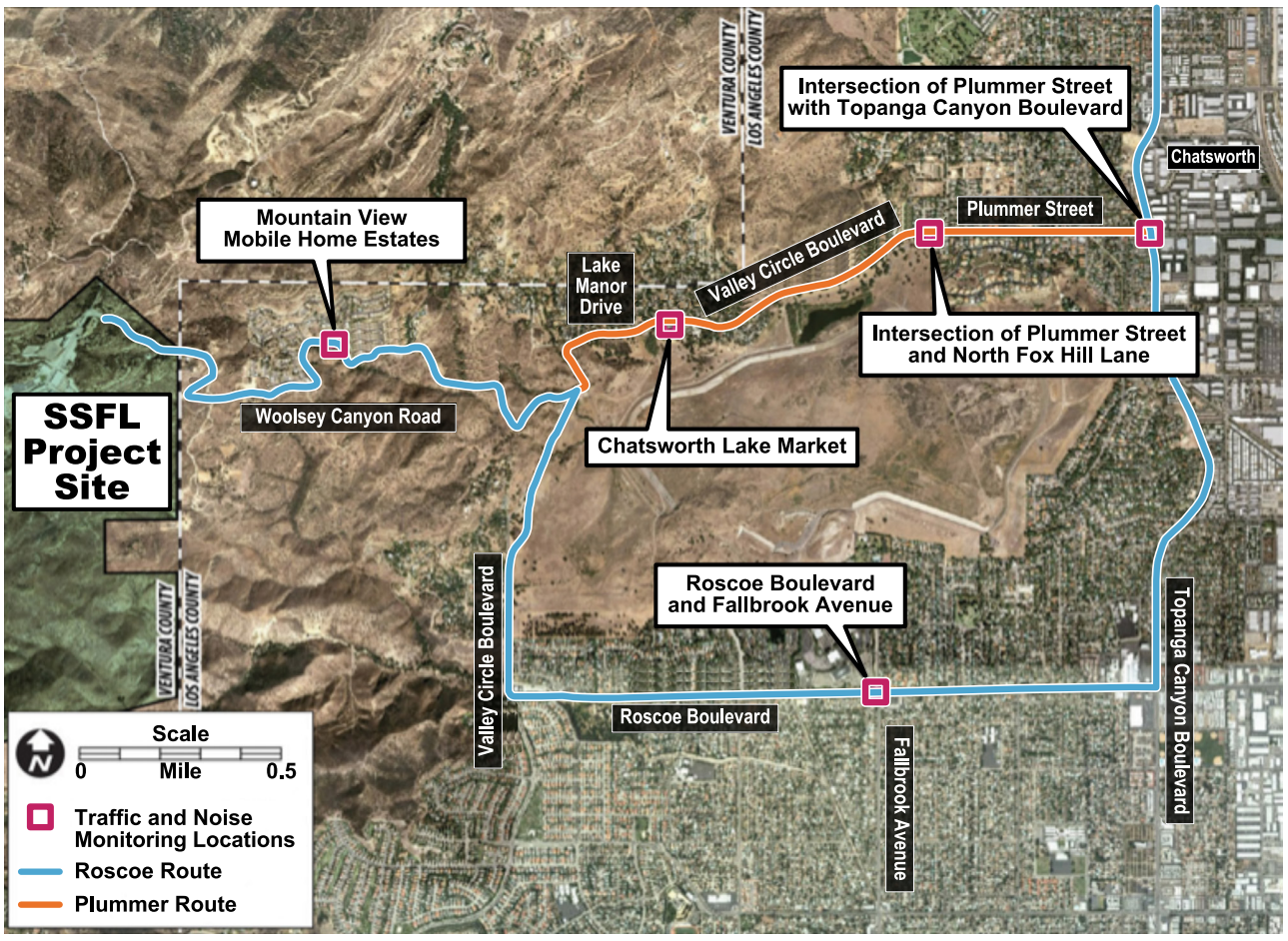
DOE to Gather Data on Traffic and Noise Levels Expected from Trucks during SSFL Area IV Future Cleanup and Building Demolition

Proposed Plan for Traffic and Noise Monitoring

The future soil cleanup and demolition of buildings from Area IV of the Santa Susana Field Laboratory (SSFL) will involve movement of heavy construction equipment and demolished building materials by truck up and down roads to and from the site. This effort will result in increased truck traffic along surface streets through residential areas.

The U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) is planning to conduct a traffic count and noise monitoring study, over a period of four days, to assess (1) baseline traffic and noise levels without the increased truck traffic expected during future cleanup and demolition of buildings, and (2) noise levels expected with increased truck traffic during future cleanup and demolition of buildings. Monitoring for increased truck traffic will be on a day with increased truck traffic from proposed Boeing building demolition activities that could be comparable to what can be expected during future soil cleanup and demolition of buildings. Data from this monitoring will be used for an environmental review of impacts associated with cleanup and demolition activities.

DOE has prepared this fact sheet to answer questions members of the public may have regarding the study.



Planned Traffic and Noise Monitoring Locations

Where Will the Traffic and Noise Monitoring Take Place?

DOE plans to monitor traffic and noise levels at five stations along two routes that Boeing currently uses for trucks approaching and leaving the SSFL site. The two routes and planned monitoring stations are identified on the map, but these locations could change based upon the ability to obtain permission of property owners, safety concerns, or other issues. These Chatsworth-area routes are:

(1) Woolsey Canyon Road to Valley Circle Boulevard going south, then on Roscoe Boulevard to Topanga Canyon Boulevard, and then north to Highway 118.

(2) Woolsey Canyon Road to north Valley Circle Boulevard, to Plummer, then north on Topanga Canyon Boulevard to Highway 118.

DOE has identified five preliminary monitoring locations based on their proximity to members of the public and areas where trucks most likely will stop, slow down, accelerate, or travel unimpeded. They include:

- Near the entrance to the Mountain View Mobile Home Estates on Woolsey Canyon Road
- Near the Chatsworth Lake Market, 23400 Lake Manor Drive, Chatsworth Lake Manor
- Pedestrian sidewalk near the intersection of Plummer Street and North Fox Hill Lane
- Intersection of Plummer Street and Topanga Canyon Boulevard
- Intersection of Roscoe Boulevard and Fallbrook Avenue

How Will the Traffic and Noise Monitoring be Conducted? What Can Passersby Expect to See During Traffic and Noise Monitoring?

In order to obtain information on noise and safety issues, DOE will monitor sound levels and determine traffic and pedestrian volumes along the routes. Noise monitoring equipment will be placed at the five locations and set to automatically record data for a 24-hour period. Also, the DOE team will place traffic data recorders at three locations, to track the number and type of vehicles passing. At the same three locations, video cameras will be set up to record the pedestrians passing by, and to help researchers distinguish the SSFL trucks from other trucks. Although the noise monitor and video camera will be hidden, passersby may see the small traffic tube running across the road used to count traffic.

How Can the Public Get More Information on the Traffic and Noise Monitoring Study?

DOE has prepared a Draft Field Sampling Plan for the traffic and noise monitoring along Area IV transportation routes currently used by Boeing for trucks leaving the SSFL site (Draft Field Sampling Plan, Traffic and Noise Monitoring at Area IV, Santa Susana Field Laboratory, Ventura Country, California). This Plan provides more details on the traffic and noise monitoring activity. You may request a copy of the Draft Plan by contacting Debbie Kramer at 818-466-8730, or by sending an email to: debbie.kramer@emcbc.doe.gov. The Draft Plan is also available on the DOE SSFL website at: http://www.etec.energy.gov/.

Noise monitoring activities will use noise monitors like these to measure sound levels associated with passing vehicles.