

Woodland Hills

Rotary Club

April 22, 2009

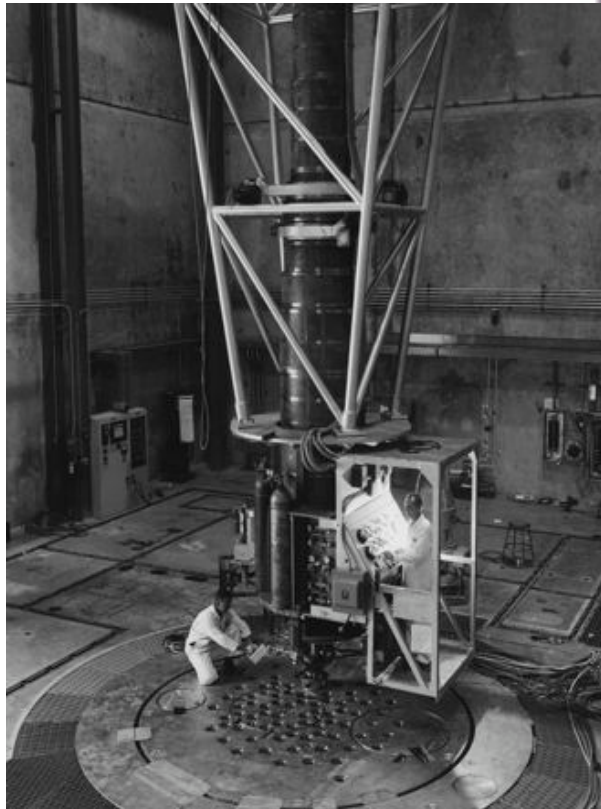
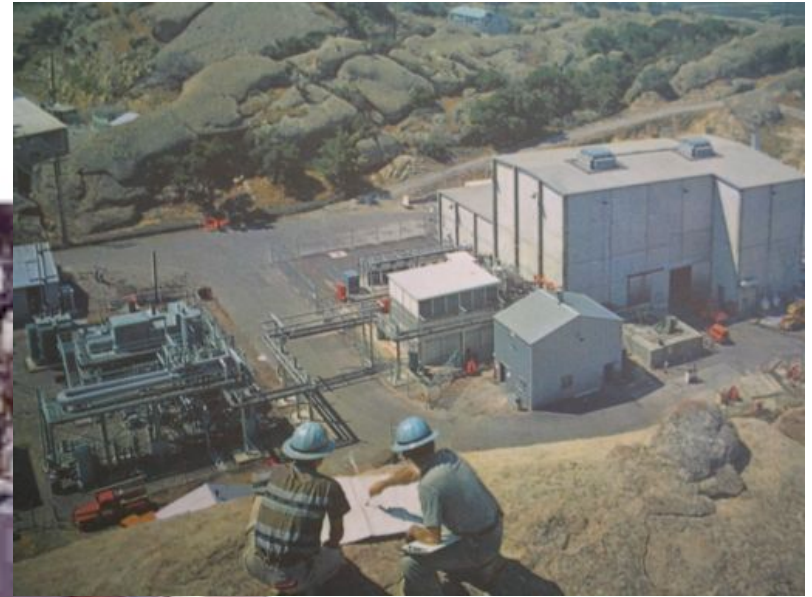
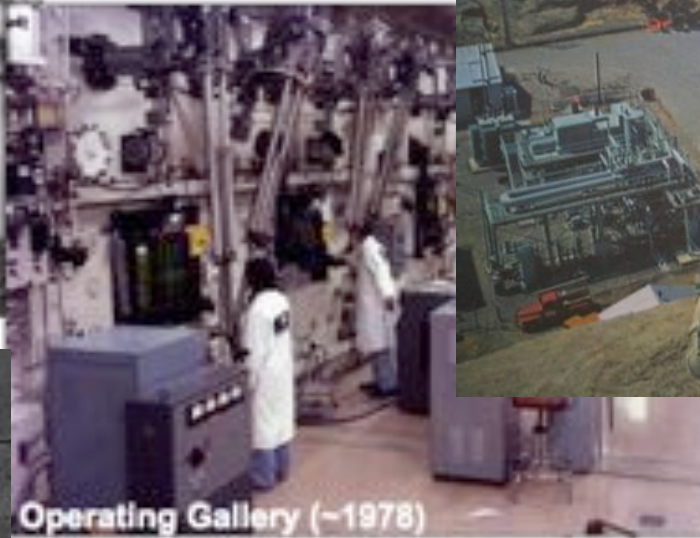
ACHELA.ORG  
cleanuprocketdyne.org





The Santa Susana Field Laboratory, sitting at 1694 to 2120 feet above Sea Level is the Headwaters to Many Watersheds...Including the Los Angeles River.





Currently owned by the Boeing Company and NASA, the Santa Susana Field Laboratory or SSFL was home to 27 Nuclear Research Facilities within the AREA IV portion of the property (Currently, AREA IV is Leased to the Department of Energy). This also included several Nuclear Reactors used in Aerospace and Commercial operations.

**RADIATION  
CAUTION**



**Historical Site Assessment of Area IV  
Santa Susana Field Laboratory  
Ventura County, California**

**Volume 1 – Methodology**



*Prepared by Sapere Consulting, Inc. and  
The Boeing Company for the Department of Energy  
Under Contract DE-AC03-99SF21530*

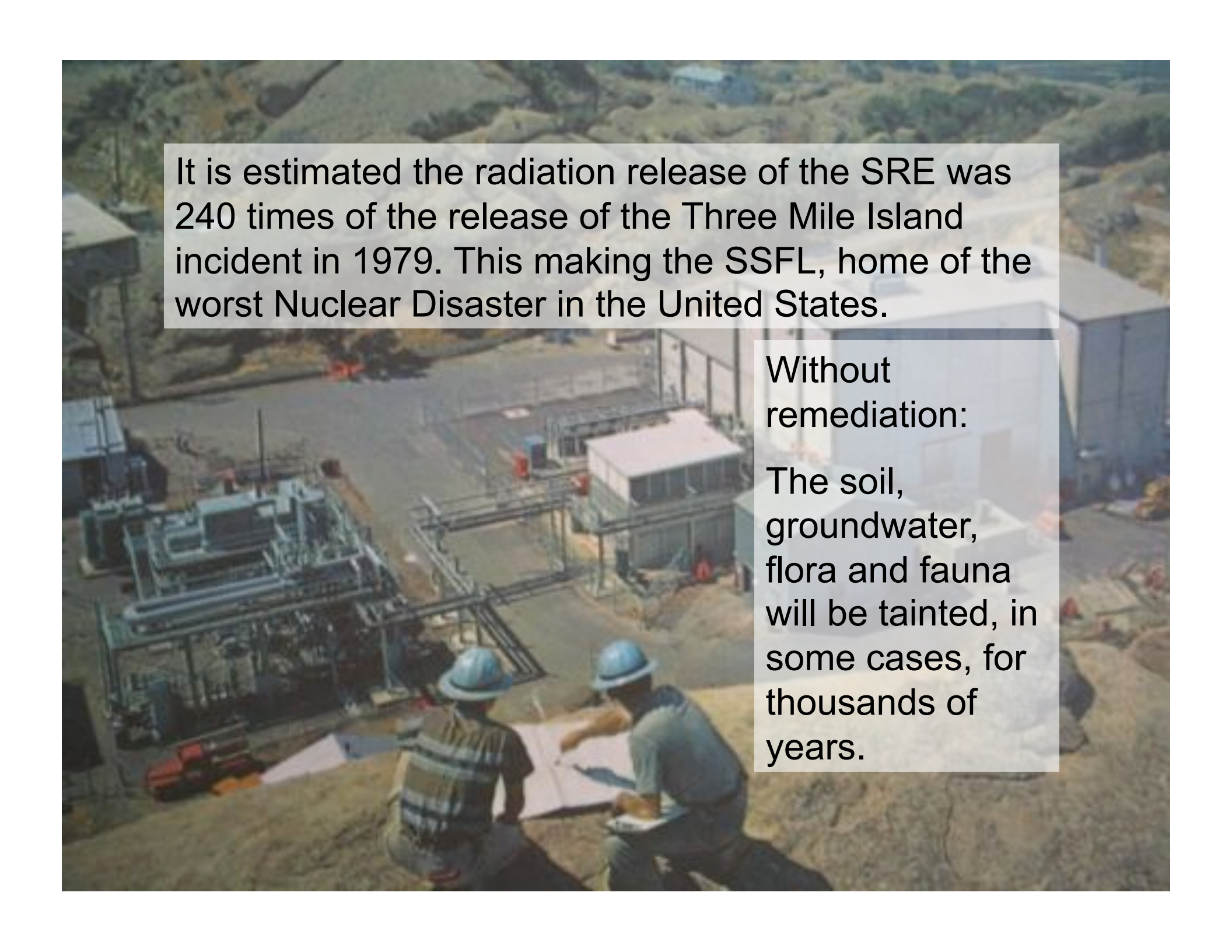
**May 2005**

Operating a research facility comes with risk. Several documented accidents listed in Boeing's own Historical Site Assessment have impacted this site for years to come.



One of the most serious accidents at the SSFL was the Meltdown of the SRE or Sodium Reactor Experiment.



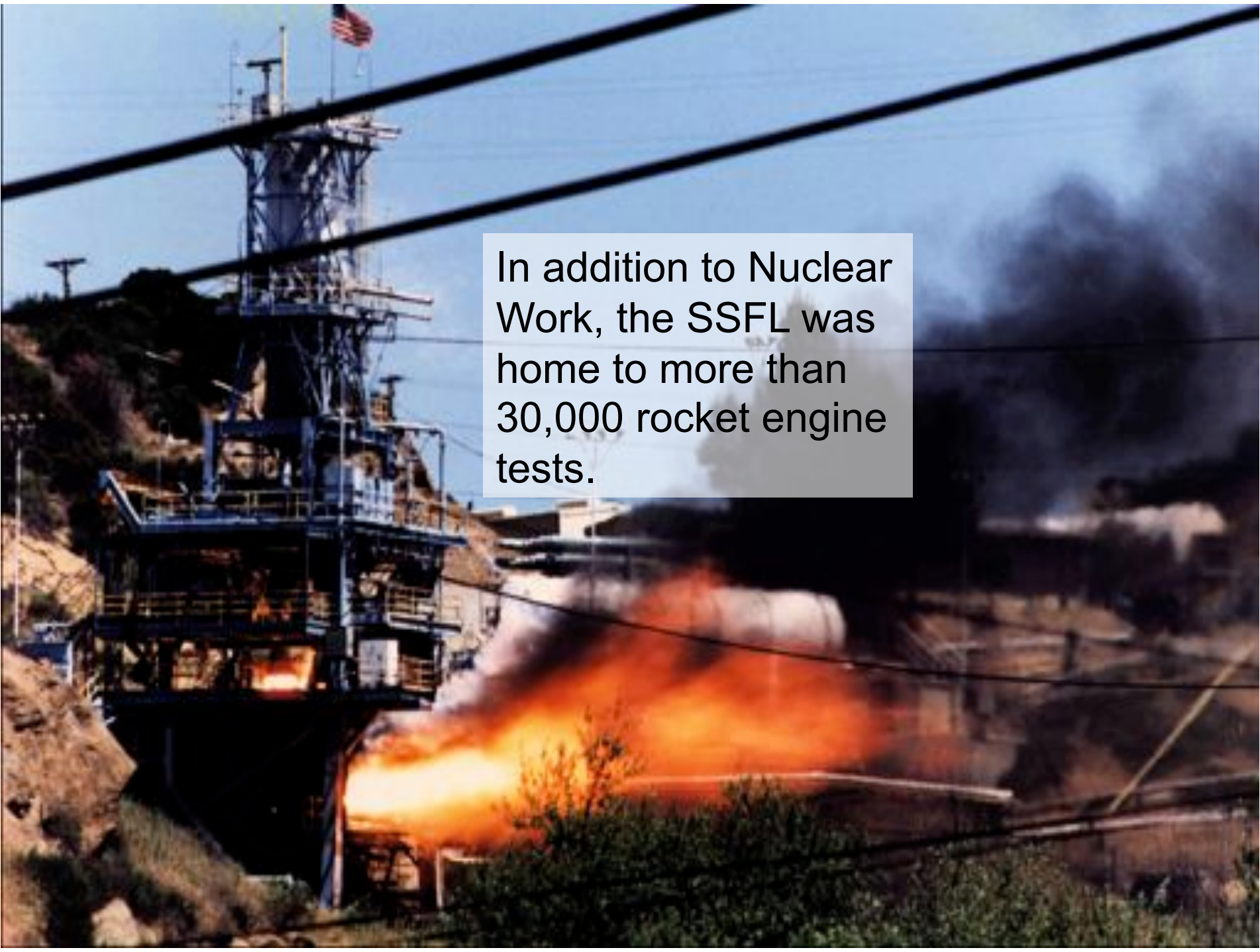
An aerial photograph of a nuclear power plant site. In the foreground, two workers wearing hard hats and safety vests are looking at a large set of plans or documents on the ground. The middle ground shows various industrial structures, including a large building with a white roof and several smaller buildings. The background consists of a hilly, vegetated landscape. The image is overlaid with two semi-transparent text boxes.

It is estimated the radiation release of the SRE was 240 times of the release of the Three Mile Island incident in 1979. This making the SSFL, home of the worst Nuclear Disaster in the United States.

Without remediation:

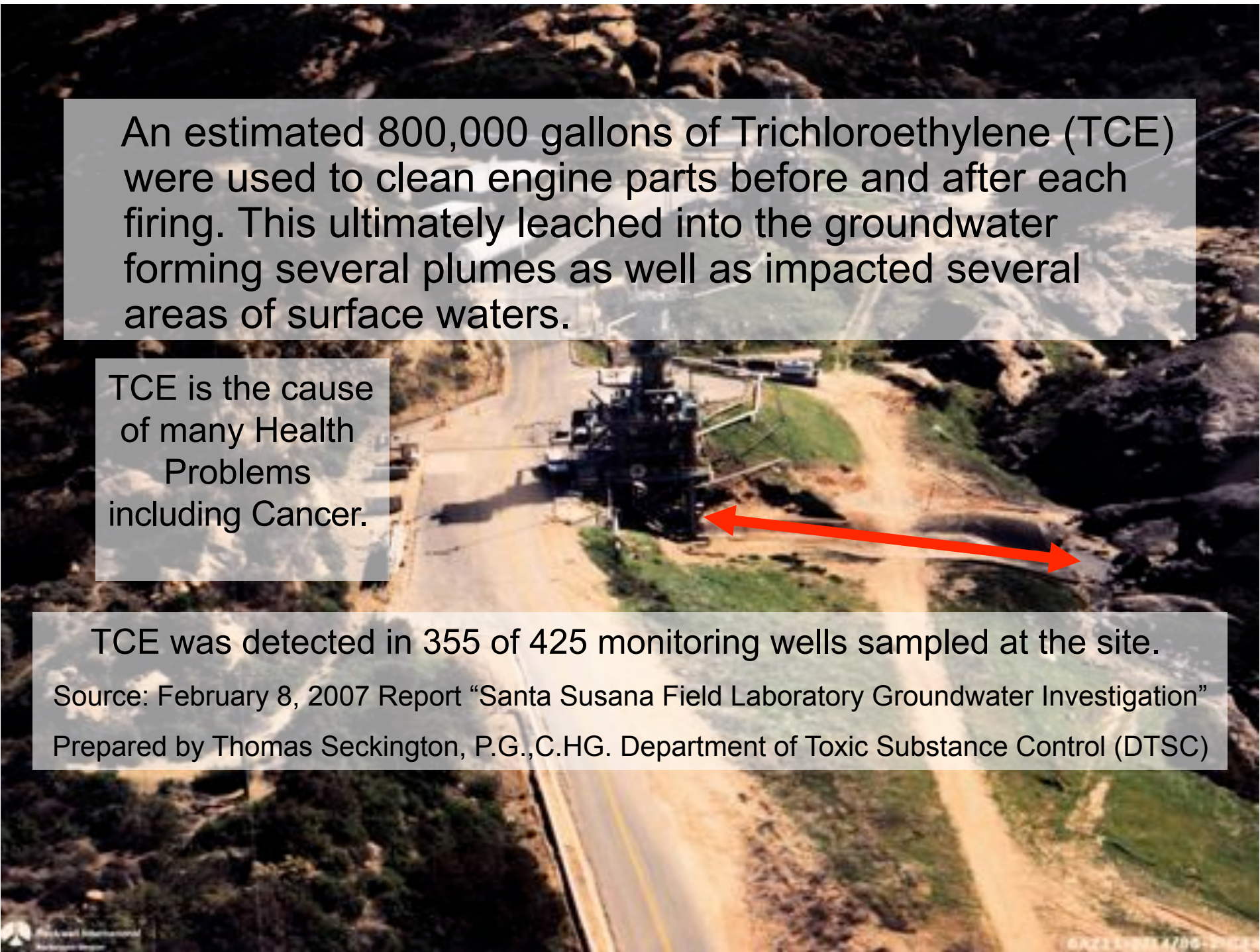
The soil, groundwater, flora and fauna will be tainted, in some cases, for thousands of years.





In addition to Nuclear Work, the SSFL was home to more than 30,000 rocket engine tests.



An aerial photograph of an industrial site. In the center, there is a large, dark, cylindrical tank or piece of machinery. To the right of the tank, a red arrow points from the tank towards a stream or body of water. The surrounding area is a mix of dirt, grass, and rocky terrain. The background shows a hilly landscape with some vegetation.

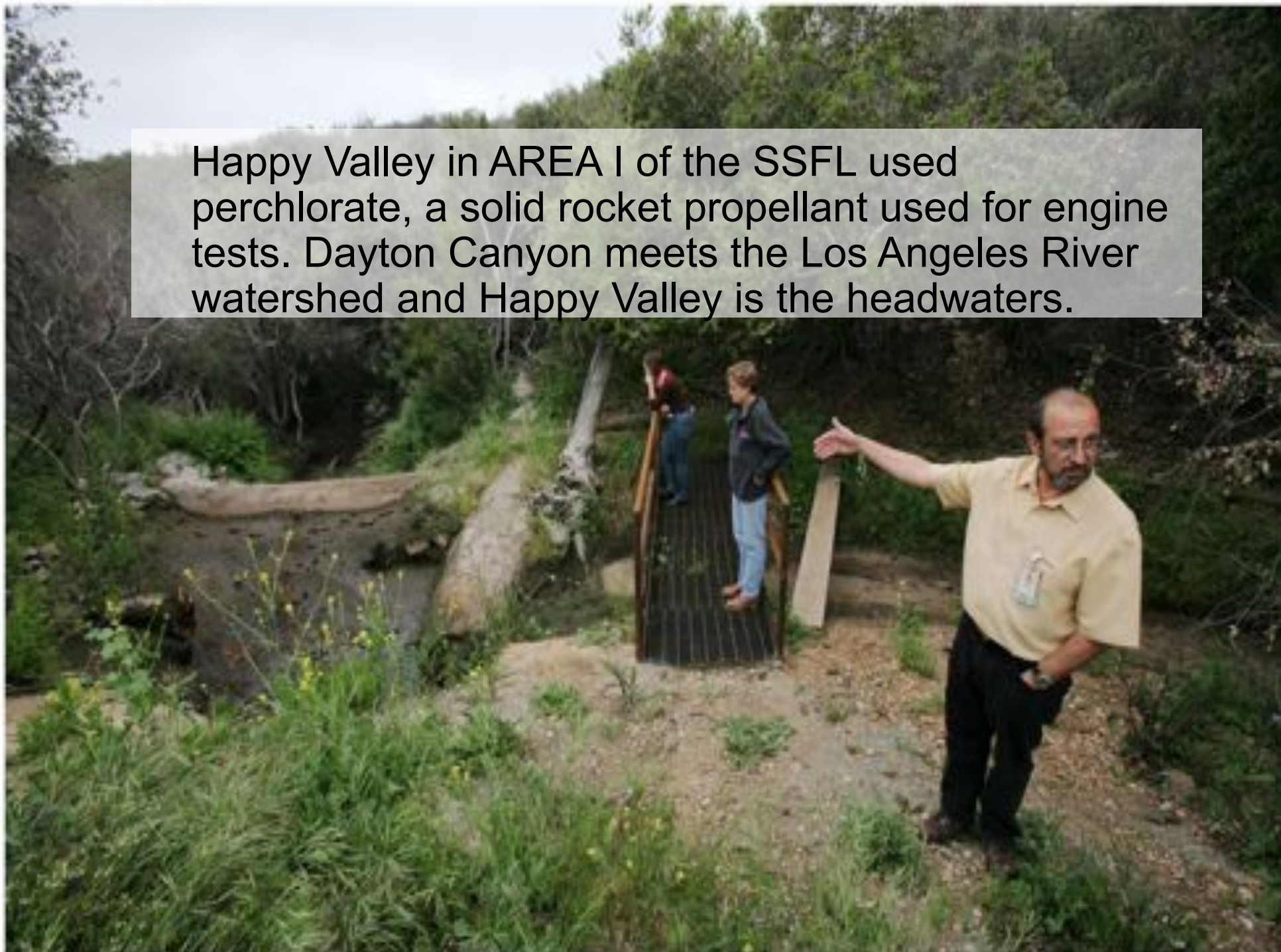
An estimated 800,000 gallons of Trichloroethylene (TCE) were used to clean engine parts before and after each firing. This ultimately leached into the groundwater forming several plumes as well as impacted several areas of surface waters.

TCE is the cause of many Health Problems including Cancer.

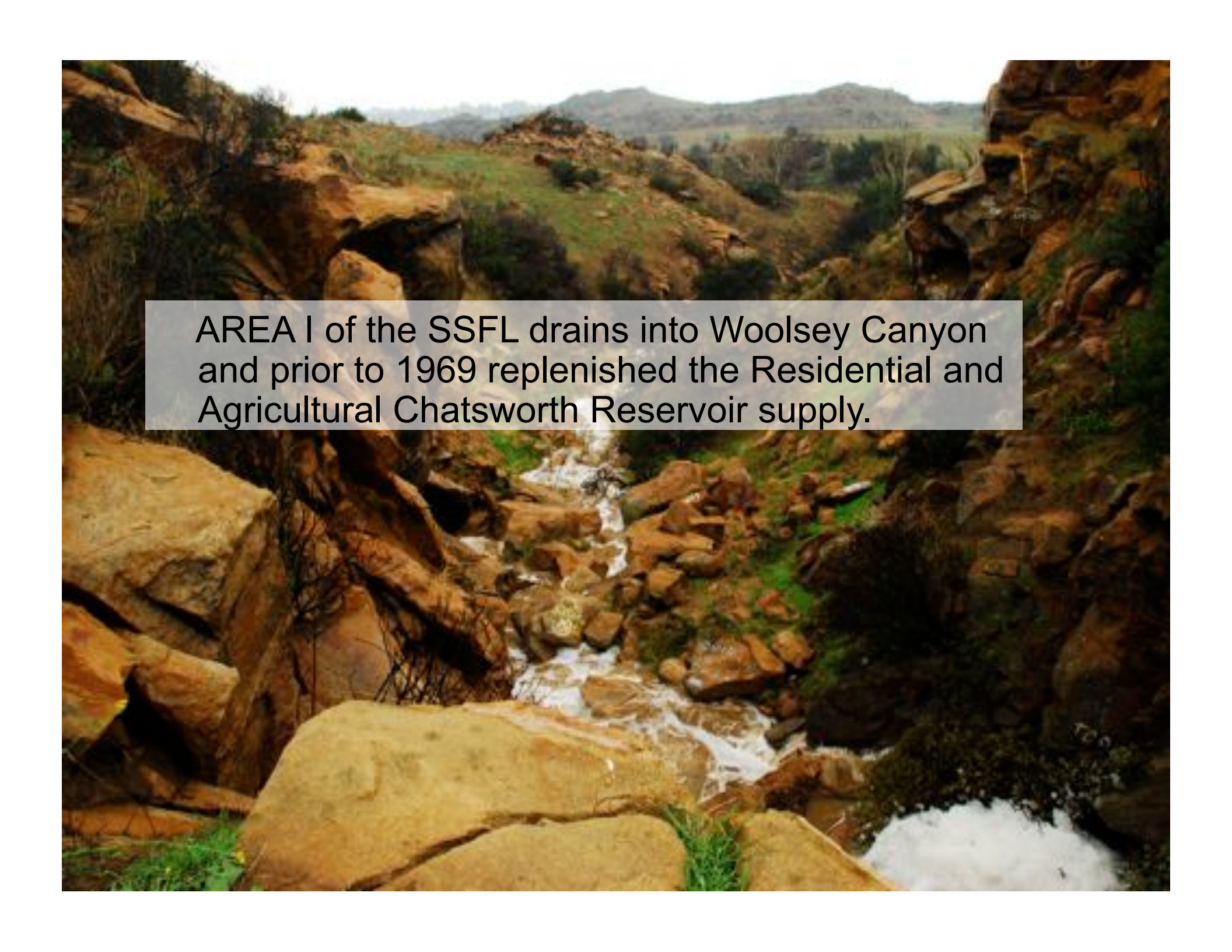
TCE was detected in 355 of 425 monitoring wells sampled at the site.  
Source: February 8, 2007 Report "Santa Susana Field Laboratory Groundwater Investigation"  
Prepared by Thomas Seckington, P.G., C.H.G. Department of Toxic Substance Control (DTSC)



Happy Valley in AREA I of the SSFL used perchlorate, a solid rocket propellant used for engine tests. Dayton Canyon meets the Los Angeles River watershed and Happy Valley is the headwaters.






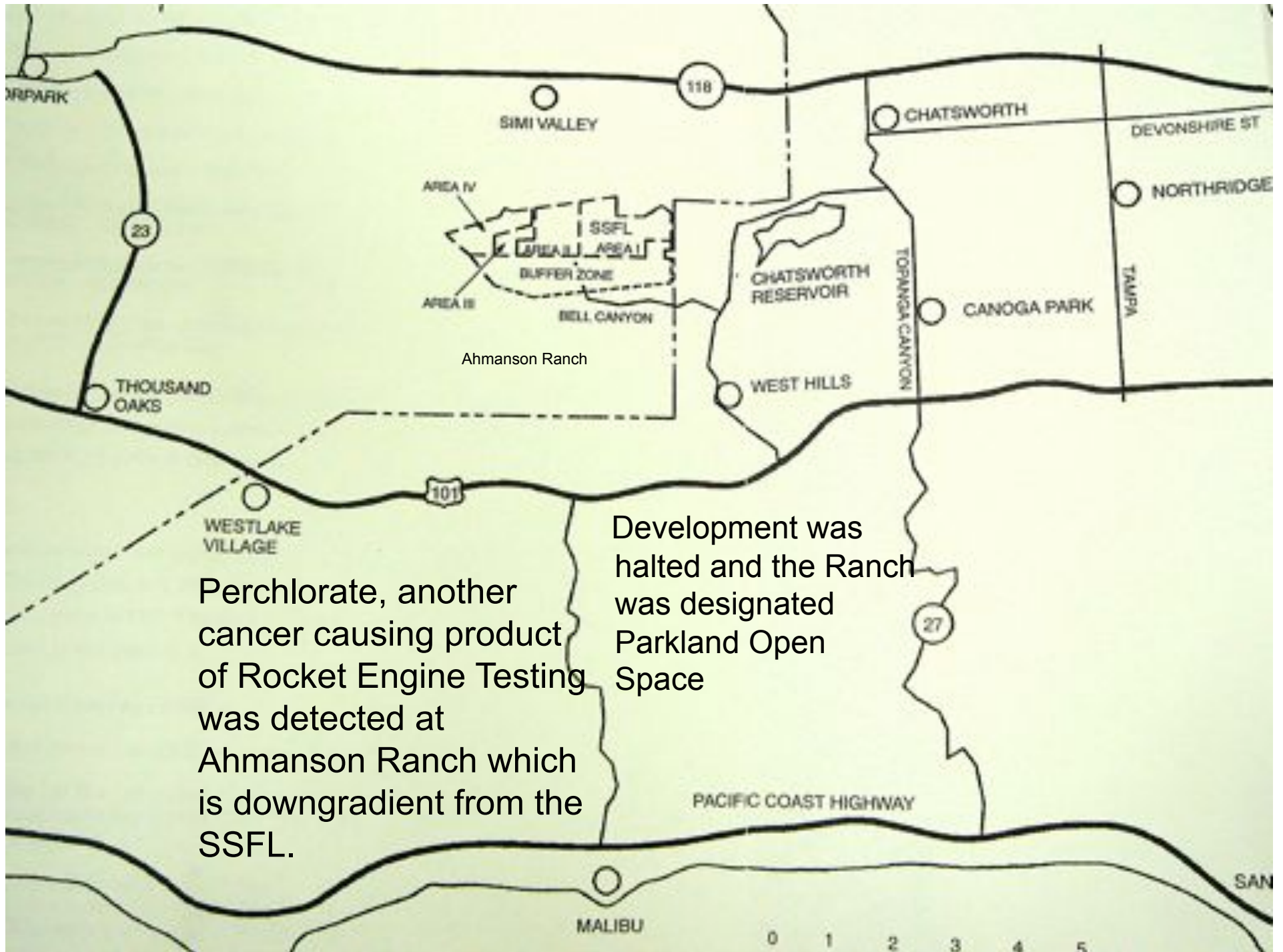


AREA I of the SSFL drains into Woolsey Canyon and prior to 1969 replenished the Residential and Agricultural Chatsworth Reservoir supply.



An aerial photograph showing a large, irregularly shaped reservoir area. The central part of the reservoir is a large, dry, light-brown basin, while the surrounding areas are filled with water, appearing in shades of blue and green. The terrain is relatively flat with some low-lying vegetation. A semi-transparent white text box is overlaid on the upper left portion of the image. Two red arrows are present: one points from the right edge of the text box towards the central dry basin, and another points from the central basin towards the left edge of the text box.

In 1969 the Chatsworth Reservoir was drained and in 1972 marked the completion of a diversion tunnel. This tunnel was intended to divert the Woolsey Canyon waters away from the Chatsworth Reservoir to “Improve the water quality.” What they did was direct potentially polluted water into the L.A. River via Chatsworth Creek.



Perchlorate, another cancer causing product of Rocket Engine Testing was detected at Ahmanson Ranch which is downgradient from the SSFL.

Development was halted and the Ranch was designated Parkland Open Space





L.A. River

Westfield Topanga Shopping Center

Former Nuclear Reactor and Research Site

We have also seen groundwater contaminated with Trichloroethylene (TCE) and Radioactivity at the Rocketdyne Canoga Facility. Monitoring wells have documented releases into the L.A. River.

Currently owned by Pratt & Whitney, a United Technologies Company, formerly Boeing, Rocketdyne, Rockwell International and in the 1950's & 60's it was the Atomics International Nuclear Research Facility.





Many accidents associated with Nuclear work impacted the Surrounding Areas

MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

NO-10-01 W3 15-47

MEMORANDUM TO: Michael F. Weber, Chief  
Low-Level Waste and Decommissioning Projects Branch  
Division of Waste Management/WMS

FROM: Ross A. Scareno, Director  
Division of Nuclear Materials Safety

SUBJECT: ROCKWELL INTERNATIONAL SITE VISIT

As you are aware, Oak Ridge Associated Universities (ORAU) recently reviewed 89 terminated research and test reactor license docket files. ORAU concluded that 30 files did not contain sufficient decommissioning and disposition information. One of the 30 files was Docket 80-30, License R-19.

License R-19 was issued to Atomics International, a Division of North American Aviation, for the L-47 reactor. This reactor operated between 1953-1958 at a Atomics International facility located in Canoga Park, California. The facility is now controlled by Rockwell International.

In an attempt to gather more information about the reactor, a member of our staff, Mr. Robert Evans, visited Rockwell International on November 15-18, 1967. In summary, the whereabouts of the reactor were not identified although disposition information was located for some of the reactor fuel

17, 1967

commendations are in order for those personnel who assisted in the prompt extinguishment of the uranium fire which occurred on the north side of Building #001, Canoga Facility. Effective extinguishment prevented any loss to equipment or property.

Personnel involved:

Assistance:

V. L. Burgott  
R. Peroutti  
M. E. Weddle

MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD  
A Division of North American Aviation, Inc.

DATE: May 19, 1967

TO: THOSE LISTED

FROM: T. W. P. MURPHY  
ASST. DIR. D/752, Cans #003

INDEX: 2555

SUBJECT: COMMENDATION RE URANIUM FIRE,  
CANOGA FACILITY, MAY 17, 1967

Commendations are in order for those personnel who assisted in the prompt extinguishment of the uranium fire which occurred on the north side of Building #001, Canoga Facility. Effective extinguishment prevented any loss to equipment or property.

Personnel involved:

Assistance:

V. L. Burgott  
R. Peroutti  
M. E. Weddle

T. R. Brennan/D-752  
R. W. Getman/D-779  
K. Johns/D/766  
L. F. Wolte, Jr./D/766

The knowledgeable action taken by the above personnel reflects upon the value of specialized training received at Atomics International, and of the interest and effort expended by those who equip themselves in preparation for emergencies unique to our operations.

T. W. P. Murphy  
T. W. P. Murphy  
Chief, Protective Services

APPROVED:

J. E. Stewart, Jr.  
Director, Industrial

cc: F. Corning, D/752, C/003  
M. Cranstone, D/766, C/102  
W. G. Martin, D/779, C/001  
J. E. Stewart, Jr., D/752, C/003  
V. L. Burgott, D/752, C/003  
R. Peroutti, D/752, C/003  
M. E. Weddle, D/752, C/003  
T. R. Brennan, D/752, C/003  
R. W. Getman, D/779, C/001  
K. Johns, D/766, C/102  
L. F. Wolte, Jr., D/766, C/102 ✓

H-31-14  
H-45-26

Contractors for this facility claim Radioactivity in Groundwater is a “Naturally Occurring Phenomena

GROUNDWATER RESOURCES CONSULTANTS, INC.

CONSULTING HYDROGEOLOGISTS • ENVIRONMENTAL SPECIALISTS

2201 EAST 14TH STREET  
SUITE 400  
TUCSON, ARIZONA 85711  
PHONE (520) 326-0888

March 27, 1990

CHUCK W. JACKSON, P.G.  
DAVID S. HAWKINS, P.G.  
SHARON D. CLARK  
KURT J. BLUST, P.G.  
ALAN S. CROSTY, P.G.

Ms. Jennifer Crone  
Facilities and Plant Operations  
Rockadyne Division  
ROCKWELL INTERNATIONAL CORPORATION  
6633 Canoga Avenue  
Dept. 543, Mail Stop 28-16  
Canoga Park, California 91303

RE: Summary of Results of Sampling And Analysis  
For Radioactivity in Groundwater  
Rockadyne Canoga Avenue Facility,  
Canoga Park, California

Dear Ms. Crone:

Submitted herewith is the final report regarding radioactivity in groundwater samples from the vicinity of the Rockadyne Canoga Avenue Facility.

Presented are results of analyses for gross alpha radioactivity, gross beta radioactivity, radium-226, radium-228, isotopic uranium, gamma spectroscopy and strontium-90 in groundwater.

The results indicate that the uranium radioactivity exceeds drinking water standards in groundwater in the vicinity of the facility. This is indicated to be a naturally occurring phenomenon with no relationship to the Rockadyne facility. Radioactivity in groundwater other than the uranium alpha activity was insignificant and no other drinking water standards were indicated to be exceeded.

If you have any questions or desire discussion of this document, please contact our office.

Respectfully submitted,

GROUNDWATER RESOURCES CONSULTANTS, INC

COPY

Kurt J. Blust  
Associate Hydrogeologist





Photo of 55 Gallon Drums Taken from Westfield Topanga Parking Garage.

Today the Facility is Operational with unknown Hazards to the L.A. River watershed.



The recently passed Senate Bill 990 states, The Boeing Company will donate it's Santa Susana Field Lab land after clean up.

DOMESTIC WATER  
SUPPLY  
KEEP OUT





A person in silhouette is planting an American flag on a hill. The flag is waving in the wind. The background shows a hazy landscape with hills and a clear sky.

- What can YOU do?

- You can use your voice and weigh in.
- You can help us use ours
- Postcards, Letters, phone calls to your elected officials demanding that SB990 be complied with and followed.
- Visit ACME