



Toward Cleanup at Santa Susana

Environmental Impact Statement for Remediation of Area IV of the Santa Susana Field Laboratory

Making your Voice Heard: Details on Public Scoping Comments

The U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) invites stakeholders to comment on the scope and issues related to the Environmental Impact Statement for Remediation of Area IV of the Santa Susana Field Laboratory through August 14, 2008.

DOE proposes to clean up contamination left from past nuclear reactor and liquid metals research in Area IV. Prior to evaluating potential impacts of various cleanup alternatives and examining related issues, DOE is seeking public input on what options and issues should be examined.

How to Comment

DOE encourages stakeholders to contribute comments in person during public scoping meetings, or in writing. Comments will be considered equally, whether presented orally or in writing. Stakeholders may comment in person at any of six public scoping meetings scheduled for the locations, dates, and times below. Two meetings are scheduled in each location, one in the afternoon, and one in the evening, to accommodate attendees' schedules. Each meeting will include a brief presentation on the EIS, followed by public comment.

Locations	Dates	Times
Simi Valley, California Grand Vista Hotel 999 Enchanted Way	July 22, 2008	2:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. 6:30 p.m. to 9:30 p.m.
Northridge, California World Vision Church 19514 Rinaldi Street	July 23, 2008	2:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. 6:30 p.m. to 9:30 p.m.
Sacramento, California Sacramento Central Library 828 I Street	July 24, 2008	2:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. 6:30 p.m. to 9:30 p.m.

Stakeholders may deliver written comments at any of these meetings or send them by regular mail, telefax, or email to:

Ms. Stephanie Jennings
NEPA Document Manager
U.S. Department of Energy, P.O. Box 10300
Canoga Park, CA 91309

Express Mail Delivery Address:
5800 Woolsey Canyon Road, Canoga Park, CA 91304

Telefax: 818-466-8730

e-mail: stephanie.jennings@emcbc.doe.gov (use "Scoping comments" for the subject)

Reminder: The due date for scoping comments is August 14, 2008. DOE will accept comments beyond that date to the extent possible.

Making Your Comments Count: Helpful Hints

Commenting on public policy issues or documents as a private citizen can be daunting, especially if the issues are technical. Consider the suggestions below to help make it a little easier and more effective to participate in the development of the Environmental Impact Statement for Remediation of Area IV of the Santa Susana Field Laboratory.

For Scoping, offer ideas for issues to be considered and alternatives to be evaluated.

- Collect information on the issues, including laws, regulations, agency materials or guidance. Sign up for DOE, Environmental Protection Agency, California Department of Toxic Substances, and other relevant mailing lists. Make a checklist of the issues you want addressed. Explain how proposed actions may affect you. Give examples. Tell what you do support as well as what you don't.

Once a draft document is issued, review the document, then make your comments.

Using your checklist, make notes on:

- Issues not addressed or addressed inadequately
- Accuracy, substantive errors, or omissions
- Consistency with other information
- Relevance to issues you consider important

During scoping or on a draft document comment period, write your comments, or make notes if you are presenting them orally. Cover the following:

- Establish your authority to comment, whether it is as a concerned citizen, representative of an interest group, or an expert. If you are an oral commenter, state your name first.
- For other documents, such as the *Draft Gap Analysis Report*, present additional information or specific knowledge you may have.
- For extensive comments, summarize your major concerns first, then describe them in detail.
- If you are recommending changes to a document, suggest specific language when possible.
- If you believe technical information contained in an EIS or other resource document is in error or inadequate, cite the reference and explain why. Provide copies of back-up material.
- Offer solutions – draw on your expertise as an interested stakeholder to suggest innovative ideas.
- Consider these format and style suggestions:
 - Start by offering general or summary comments
 - Even if you are commenting orally, use headings, topic sentences, and short sentences
 - Avoid asking questions – rather, pose your questions as comments to be considered
 - Be respectful of your fellow commenters and agency representatives

Finally, understand comment deadlines and processes. Find out how your comments will be used and considered and how responses will be provided.

Note: *For the Environmental Impact Statement for Remediation of Area IV of the Santa Susana Field Laboratory, scoping comments will be considered in the identification of issues and in the development of alternatives to be evaluated. DOE will prepare a response to comments summary document, and will post it on the website at www.etec.energy.gov.*

Excerpted and adapted from "Successful Advocacy: Tips for Public Comment" by Wendy L. Wilson, and Elizabeth D. Mullin, from the Environmental Law Institute website at <http://www.eli.org>.