



Department of Energy Environmental Management Consolidated Business Center
250 East 5th Street, Suite 500 Cincinnati, Ohio 45202

For Immediate Release

May 16, 2008

DOE Announces Notice of Intent to Perform Environmental Impact Statement for Area IV of Santa Susana Field Laboratory

Canoga Park, CA – The Department of Energy (DOE) today issued a Notice of Intent (NOI) to prepare an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) that will examine cleanup options for the remediation of the 290-acre Area IV of the Santa Susana Field Laboratory (SSFL). The Energy Technology Engineering Center (ETEC), located on 90 acres within SSFL Area IV, is where nuclear research was conducted until 1988.

The EIS will be developed in accordance with the National Environmental Policy Act and will focus on environmental restoration activities for Area IV, including soil and groundwater remediation and the decontamination and decommissioning or dismantlement of Government buildings and structures on the site. DOE will evaluate alternatives in the EIS for the disposition of radiological facilities and support buildings, chemical contaminants, remediation of the impacted environment, and disposal of all resulting waste at approved sites; with the goal of protecting human health and the environment. A final decision on the method for remediation to achieve cleanup levels will be based on a combination of public comments and the final land use.

In recognition of the value of the public's perspectives, the Department will engage the public during all phases of the EIS process. The NOI, published in the *Federal Register* today, starts a 90-day public comment period, where the Department will solicit comments on the scope of the EIS, the range of actions, and alternatives and issues that should be considered. Six public scoping meetings will be held during July 2008 to assist in further defining the scope of the EIS. Comments on the EIS and scoping process are requested by August 14, 2008.

For information on EIS and the scoping process, please contact the NEPA Document Manager, Stephanie Jennings, at: (818) 466-8162 or email: <mailto:stephanie.jennings@emcbc.doe.gov>

Two public meetings are scheduled for each of the following dates:

- **July 22, 2008:** Simi Valley, CA: Grand Vista Hotel, 999 Enchanted Way; 2 to 4 pm and 6:30 to 9:30 pm
- **July 23, 2008:** Northridge, CA: World Vision Church, 19514 Rinaldi Street; 2 to 4 pm and 6:30 to 9:30 pm
- **July 24, 2008:** Sacramento, CA: Sacramento Central Library, 828 I Street; 2 to 4 pm and 6:30 to 9:30 pm

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Additional information on the EIS, ETEC and Area IV of SSFL are available on the ETEC website at: <http://www.etc.energy.gov>

The NOI will be available on the internet at: <http://www.eh.doe.gov/NEPA>

Reading rooms with information about the SSFL Area IV are available to the public at:

- Simi Valley: Simi Valley Library, 2969 Tapo Canyon Road (805) 526-1735
- Woodland Hills: Platt Branch Library, 23600 Victory Blvd. (818) 340-9386
- Northridge: California State University Northridge, Oviatt Library, 2nd Floor, Room 265 (818) 677-2285

The 2,852-acre SSFL, located in the hills between Chatsworth and Simi Valley, California, is owned by The Boeing Company and small portions by the National Aeronautics and Space Administration. SSFL was developed as a remote site to test rocket engines and conduct nuclear research. The former Atomic Energy Commission (AEC) began conducting nuclear research in the 1950s on nuclear powered space vehicles and sodium coolant mediums at 10 small reactors at ETEC within Area IV. Cleanup of ETEC began in the 1960s as unnecessary facilities were decommissioned. To date, nearly 250 facilities have been decommissioned and removed, with only four inactive facilities remaining at ETEC. All demolition work was halted in June 2007. ETEC represents one-tenth of the entire SSFL site.

-DOE-

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