

Energy Technology Engineering Center

4100 Guardian Street, Suite 160 Simi Valley, CA 93063

February 7, 2014

DOE Invites Your Participation in Scoping the Environmental Impact Statement for Remediation of Area IV and Northern Buffer Zone of the Santa Susana Field Laboratory

The Department of Energy (DOE) is preparing an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) to consider options for cleanup of Area IV and the Northern Buffer Zone (NBZ) at the Santa Susana Field Laboratory (SSFL). We know the community is concerned about contamination and cleanup of Area IV and we hope you will help us as we develop an EIS that will analyze environmental issues associated with Area IV cleanup. We are seeking your input on alternatives and the "scope" or range of issues to be analyzed in the EIS. We invite you to attend a public meeting scheduled for Thursday, February 27, and Saturday, March 1, 2014, or to provide comments in writing and sent to the addresses below. The scoping period begins on February 7, 2014, with the publication in the *Federal Register* of an Amended Notice of Intent to prepare the EIS, and will end on March 10, 2014. DOE will consider all comments received during the scoping period in defining the scope of the EIS. Comments received after March 10, 2014, will be considered to the extent practicable.

Background

SSFL is located on approximately 2,852 acres in the hills between Chatsworth and Simi Valley, CA. The site was originally selected in the 1950s because it was remote and provided the opportunity to test rocket engines and conduct nuclear research. Area IV occupies 290 acres on the western side of SSFL. Starting in the mid-1950s, nuclear energy research was conducted on a 90-acre portion of Area IV, known as the Energy Technology Engineering Center (ETEC). The NBZ consists of 180 acres adjacent to Area IV. All nuclear research activities were completed in 1988. Over the 30+ years that DOE conducted nuclear research at SSFL, chemical and radiological contamination occurred in and around various facilities. DOE needs to complete remediation of SSFL Area IV and the NBZ to comply with applicable requirements for radiological and hazardous contaminants. These requirements consist of regulations, orders and agreements, including the 2007 Consent Order, and the 2010 AOC. To this end, DOE needs to remove the remaining DOE structures in Area IV of SSFL and clean up the affected environment in Area IV and the NBZ in a manner that is protective of the environment and the health and safety of the public and workers. The National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) includes two key objectives for any EIS process.

- 1. Inform, involve, and interact with other government agencies, organizations, interest groups, and the public. Accordingly, DOE seeks your engagement throughout the entire EIS process (which is expected to be completed in late 2015).
- 2. Inform DOE decision makers about the potential consequences of the alternative approaches that would accomplish cleanup. Following the completion of the EIS process, DOE will select one alternative or a combination of alternatives, and then document the preferred alternative in a Record of Decision.

Scoping Meetings - February 27 and March 1, 2014

During the scoping period, DOE will work with other government agencies, Native American tribes, organizations, interest groups, and the public to ensure a full range of reasonable alternatives and methods to address the contamination at Area IV are considered. Also, based on public input DOE will determine the issues that should be evaluated when comparing alternatives. Public participation during scoping helps make sure that the EIS will be responsive to community concerns. During the scoping meetings, DOE will share alternative concepts that were developed by community members. Most importantly, the public will be invited to suggest alternatives and issues that should be evaluated in the EIS.

Each scoping meeting will begin with a 30-minute informal open house format to provide stakeholders with the opportunity to ask questions and get information on the EIS from DOE representatives. The open house session will be followed by a 20-minute presentation. A formal public comment session will begin immediately thereafter. Oral comments during the formal public comment time at the meetings will be scheduled on a first-come, first-served basis. Alternatively, oral comments may be given privately to a court reporter during the open house portion of the meeting. Oral comments recorded by the court reporter or written comments provided during the comment period, will become part of the EIS Administrative Record and be considered in the development of the EIS. DOE will share the same information at each of the scoping meetings described below.

The public is invited to attend either of the scoping meetings.

	Thursday, February 27, 2014
When are the Scoping Meetings?	6:30 – 9:30 p.m.
	• 6:30 p.m.: Informal open house, discussions with project
	representatives
	 7 p.m.: DOE project presentation
	• 7:25-9:25 p.m.: Formal public comment period
	Simi Valley, California:
	Simi Valley City Council Chambers
	Simi Valley City Hall
	2929 Tapo Canyon Road
	Simi Valley, California
	Saturday, March 1, 2014
	• 9:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.
	 9:30 a.m.– Informal open house, discussions with project
	representatives
	• 10 a.m. – DOE project presentation
	• 10:25 a.m. – 12:25 p.m.: Formal public comment period
	Calabasas, California:
	Agoura Hills/Calabasas Community Center
	27040 Malibu Hills Road
	Calabasas, California

Who Can I Contact for More Information on Scoping and How do I Submit Comments?	Ms. Stephanie Jennings, NEPA Document Manager, U.S. Department of Energy, 4100 Guardian Street, Suite 160, Simi Valley, CA 93063. Telephone Number: (805) 416-0990, Fax: (855) 658- 8695, e-mail to SSFL_DOE_EIS@emcbc.doe.gov (use "Scoping comments" for the subject). Comments may also be submitted through the ETEC website: www.etec.energy.gov
How Can I Find Out More About the EIS?	We invite you to visit our website: www.etec.energy.gov Click on Environmental Impact Statement listed under Quick Links. You can also find additional information at the four reading rooms.
Where are the Reading Rooms?	Simi Valley, CA Simi Valley Library, 2969 Tapo Canyon Road (805) 526-1735 Woodland Hills, CA Platt Branch Library, 23600 Victory Blvd. (818) 340-9386
	Northridge, CA California State University Northridge, Oviatt Library 2 nd Floor - Room 265 (818) 677-2285
	Chatsworth, California State of California Department of Toxic Substances Control, Regional Records Center, 9211 Oakdale Avenue (818) 717-6521 or -6522

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