



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
REGION IX
75 Hawthorne Street
San Francisco, CA 94105

January 9, 2003

TO: Distribution Lists

RE: EPA's Independent Assessment of Building Decontamination and Decommissioning (D&D) Program at the Boeing Rocketdyne Propulsion and Power Division Santa Susana Field Laboratory (SSFL)

EPA has completed its independent assessment of the Building D&D program at the SSFL, located in the Simi Valley Hills of Ventura County, California.

EPA's independent assessment included: (1) reviews of previous decommissioning survey workplans and final radiological survey reports for eleven buildings, and (2) performance of confirmation radiological surveys (field measurements and laboratory analysis of samples) for eight of those buildings. EPA's contractor, Tetra Tech EM, Inc. (Tetra Tech) reviewed documentation of previous D&D work and surveyed Buildings 12, 29, 363 and 59 in January, October and December 2000 and surveyed Buildings 11, 19, 55 and 100 in October 2001. Tetra Tech also reviewed the documentation of the D&D work performed for buildings 9, 23, and 28, which were unavailable during the EPA survey events.

An EPA representative was present on-site overseeing Tetra Tech during the verification surveys. EPA also invited community members to observe the verification surveys conducted by our contractor. Community members observed the verification surveys and in some instances selected locations where samples of concrete, steel and removable radioactivity (swipe samples) were collected for laboratory analysis.

EPA reviewed the findings of Tetra Tech's document review and verification surveys and reached the following conclusions:

- ▶ The previous surveys sampled in appropriate and representative locations,
- ▶ The measurements made in previous surveys were accurate,
- ▶ EPA concurred with the conclusions made by the Department of Energy (DOE) and Boeing Rocketdyne about the locations and levels of residual radioactivity, and
- ▶ The residual radioactivity in the buildings does not exceed DOE and Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) established limits for unrestricted release.

Enclosed for your use is a compact disk containing an electronic copy (pdf format) of the three document review reports and three survey reports prepared by Tetra Tech. Also enclosed is a hard copy compilation of the executive summaries for the six reports. In addition, we are providing the project information repositories and selected individuals with hard copies of the six reports (about 900 pages).

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A complete set of the six reports is available at the information repositories for the Boeing Rocketdyne SSFL. If you are interested in obtaining a hard copy of the reports, please call me at (415) 972-3339 or leave a message for Vicki Rosen on EPA's toll free line (800) 231-3075. Please feel free to contact me, or John Beach at (415) 972-3347, if you need additional information.

Sincerely,



Larry Bowerman, Manager
RCRA Corrective Action Office

Enclosures (see attached distribution lists)

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