

ANNUAL REPORT

Programmatic Agreement Regarding the Proposed Cleanup of Santa Susana Field Laboratory Area IV and Northern Buffer Zone, Ventura County, California

January 2022 – December 2022



**U.S. Department of Energy
Energy Technology Engineering Center
Santa Susana Field Laboratory
Simi Valley, CA 93063**

TABLE OF CONTENTS

1.0	Summary of Undertaking Updates during the Reporting Period.....	1
	Building Demolitions	1
	Groundwater Cleanup and Related Activities	1
	Soil Cleanup and Related Activities	2
2.0	Status of Programmatic Agreement Stipulations	2
APPENDIX A	A-1

ACRONYMS

CEQA	California Environmental Quality Act
CMI Plan	Corrective Measures Implementation Plan
DOE	Department of Energy
DTSC	California Department of Toxic Substances Control
PEIR	Program Environmental Impact Report
FSDf	Former Sodium Disposal Facility
ICR	Indigenous Community Representatives
NASA	National Aeronautics and Space Administration
PA	Programmatic Agreement
SRAIP	Soil Remedial Action Implementation Plan

This annual report summarizes activities conducted from January 2022 through December 2022 pursuant to the *Programmatic Agreement between the United States Department of Energy and the California State Historic Preservation Officer Regarding the Proposed Cleanup of Santa Susana Field Laboratory Area IV and Northern Buffer Zone, Ventura County, California* (PA).

1.0 Summary of Undertaking Updates during the Reporting Period

The Department of Energy's (DOE's) undertaking covered under the PA includes a three-phased proposal to (a) demolish and remove 18 DOE-owned buildings in Area IV; (b) perform groundwater cleanup and related activities; and (c) perform soil cleanup and related activities. This section describes the status of each of these activities and discusses anticipated actions during the next reporting period.

Building Demolitions

Activities Completed or Underway within the Reporting Period. DOE completed demolition of the above-ground portions of all 18 DOE-owned buildings by the end of 2021 (see map in Appendix A). The only work conducted in 2022 was completing the offsite disposal of the remaining debris from the demolition activities. No ground-disturbing activities were conducted in 2022. Nothing was uncovered during the 2022 disposal activities that triggered any procedures related to unexpected discoveries of cultural resources or human remains.

Activities Expected in 2023. No ground-disturbing activities are expected in 2023.

Groundwater Cleanup and Related Activities

Groundwater Investigation Wells

Activities Completed or Underway within the Reporting Period. During 2022, DOE initiated planning activities related to automating the groundwater extraction system in the area of the Former Sodium Disposal Facility (FSDF). This will allow for more frequent groundwater extraction without having a site worker present each time groundwater is extracted. The project will include installing submersible pumps powered by solar panels along with conveyance piping for existing wells. The conveyance piping will consist of a combination of above- and below-ground piping.

Pursuant to PA Stipulation VI and the standard protection measures in PA Attachment 8, all new well-related infrastructure is designed to avoid identified archaeological sites. Dr. Karen Foster (Leidos), an archaeologist who meets the PA's qualification standards, visited the FSDF area in June 2022 to review the location of the proposed infrastructure prior to installation. The site visit was also attended by Native American representatives and a biological resource expert. Based on the field visit, Dr. Foster confirmed that no recorded archaeological sites were located within 50 feet of proposed ground disturbance, and no new (unrecorded) archaeological material was observed during the site visit.

Activities Expected in 2023. Installation of the automated groundwater extraction system described in the paragraphs above.

Groundwater Cleanup

Activities Completed or Underway within the Reporting Period. DOE continued active groundwater remediation (e.g., manual pumping and off-site treatment and disposal of extracted groundwater) at the FSDF that has been ongoing since 2017.

Activities Expected in 2023. No ground-disturbing activities are anticipated in 2023. The timing of DOE's groundwater remediation work is dependent on the California Department of Toxic Substances Control's (DTSC) completion of a Final Program Environmental Impact Report (PEIR) pursuant to the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA). DOE is preparing a draft Groundwater Corrective Measures Implementation (CMI) Plan, describing the proposed groundwater cleanup actions, that DOE will provide to DTSC upon certification of its Final PEIR. DOE will consult with the Consulting Parties about the proposed corrective measures, per PA Stipulation VIII, upon certification of DTSC's Final PEIR and before finalizing the CMI Plan for submission to DTSC.

Soil Cleanup and Related Activities

Activities Completed or Underway within the Reporting Period. There were no activities related to soil cleanup conducted during this reporting period.

Activities Expected in 2023. No ground-disturbing activities are anticipated in 2023. The timing of DOE's soil remediation work is dependent on the DTSC's completion of a Final PEIR pursuant to the CEQA. DOE is preparing a draft Soil Remedial Action Implementation Plan (SRAIP), describing the proposed soil cleanup actions, that DOE will provide to DTSC upon certification of its Final PEIR. DOE will consult with the Consulting Parties about proposed exemption areas, per PA Stipulation VIII, upon certification of DTSC's Final PEIR and before finalizing the SRAIP for submission to DTSC.

2.0 Status of Programmatic Agreement Stipulations

The following table provides the current status of the PA stipulations.

Stipulation	Title	Status
I	Definitions	No change.
II	Professional Qualifications	DOE confirms that technical work during this reporting period was carried out by, or under, the direct supervision of professionals who meet professional standards.
IIIa	Tribal Involvement	Although no ICR meetings were held in 2022, DOE continued to coordinate with the Santa Ynez Band of Chumash Indians on a monthly basis.
IIIb	Tribal Monitoring	DOE ensured its contractor(s) hired tribal monitors when required and that monitoring was conducted pursuant to the <i>Monitoring and Inadvertent Discovery Plan</i> .
IV	Modification of the Area of Potential Effects	No change; the Area of Potential Effects has not been modified.
V	Building Demolition and Removal	All 18 above-ground structures have been demolished, as described in Section 1.0. There was no reason to reopen consultations with the Consulting Parties, per Stipulation V.c.
VI	Groundwater Investigations	There were no new wells or groundwater related facilities installed in 2022.
VII	Soil and Groundwater Cleanup: Identification and Evaluation	DOE did not conduct any activities during this reporting period. As described in NASA's 2021–2022 PA Annual Report (April 2022), the <i>Burro Flats Cultural District Traditional Cultural Property</i> nomination proceeded through the county, state, Native American, and Federal review processes, and NASA intends to continue with the listing process.
VIII	Soil and Groundwater Cleanup: Assessment of Adverse Effects	No activities occurred during this reporting period.
IX	Soil and Groundwater Cleanup: Treatment of Historic Properties	No activities occurred during this reporting period.
X	Monitoring Plan for Tribal and Archaeological Monitors	DOE developed a <i>Monitoring and Inadvertent Discovery Plan</i> in 2020. Nothing was uncovered during the current reporting period that triggered any of the Monitoring Plan's procedures for unexpected discoveries of cultural resources or human remains.

Stipulation	Title	Status
XI	Inadvertent Discovery of Cultural Resources and Human Remains, Graves, and Associated Funerary Items	DOE developed a <i>Monitoring and Inadvertent Discovery Plan</i> in 2020. Nothing was uncovered during the current reporting period that triggered any of the Monitoring Plan's procedures for unexpected discoveries of cultural resources or human remains.
XII	Curation	No activities occurred during this reporting period.
XIII	Review of Documents	DOE followed this stipulation during development and review of the <i>2021 Annual Report</i> .
XIV	Communication	DOE communications were consistent with this stipulation.
XV	Annual Reporting	DOE developed this annual report consistent with the requirements of Stipulation XV.
XVI	Confidentiality	DOE has conducted activities consistent with this stipulation.
XVII	Dispute Resolution	There were no disputes needing resolution during this reporting period.
XVIII	Duration	No change.
XIX	Amendments	No amendments were enacted during this reporting period.
XX	Addition and Termination	There were no additions or terminations during this reporting period.
XXI	Antideficiency Act	No change.
XXII	General Provisions and Scope of Agreement	No change.
XXIII	Execution	The PA was executed in September 2019.

DOE = Department of Energy; ICR = Indigenous Community Representatives; PA = Programmatic Agreement; NASA = National Aeronautics and Space Administration

APPENDIX A

Map showing demolished buildings

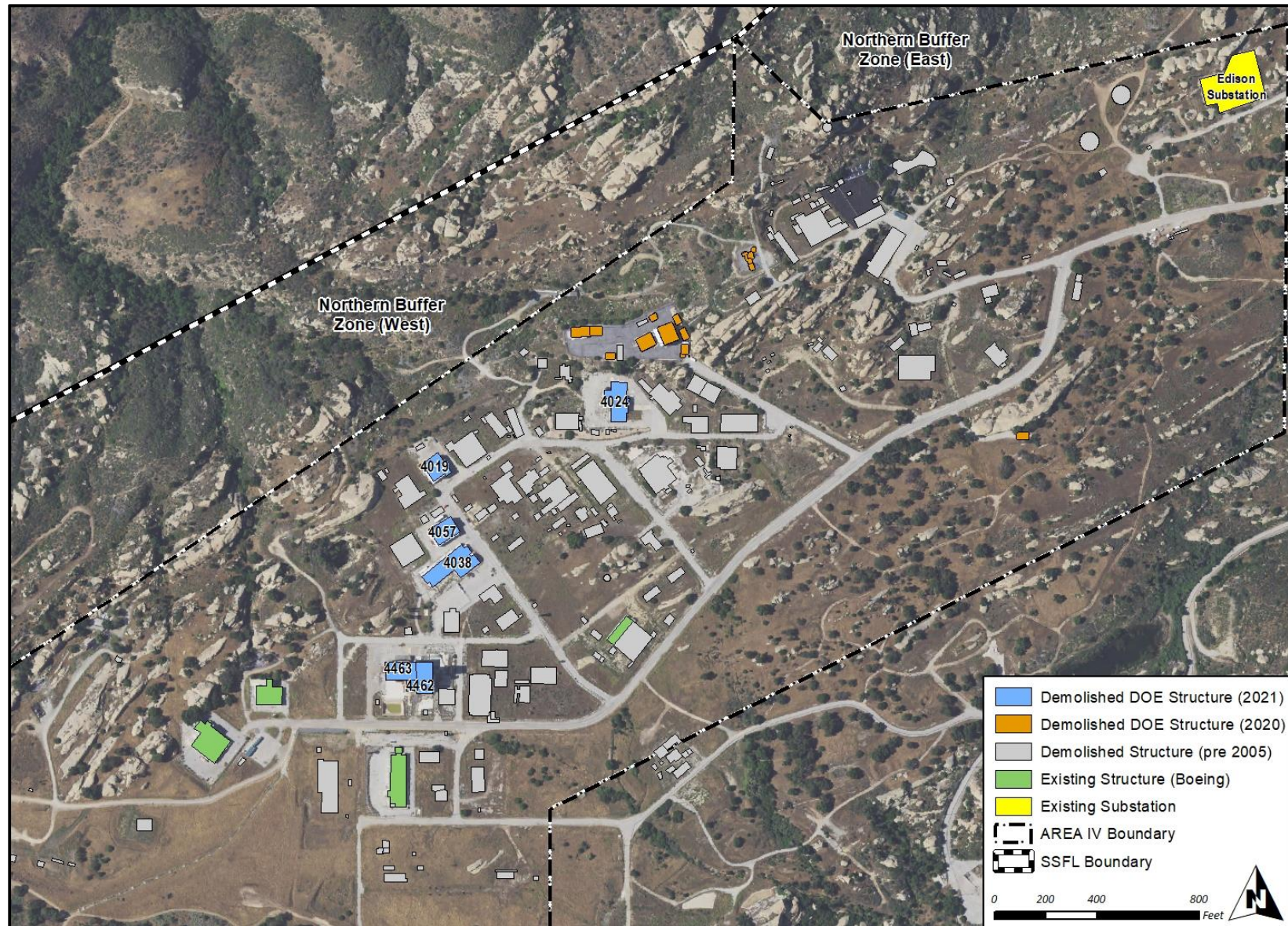


Figure A-1: Santa Susana Field Laboratory Area IV Building Status