

## FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

### **What is the Santa Susana Field Laboratory?**

The Santa Susana Field Laboratory (SSFL) is an approximately 2,850-acre site where rocket engine testing and nuclear research took place.

### **Who is responsible for SSFL site cleanup?**

The California Department of Toxic Substances Control (DTSC) directs and oversees the site investigation and cleanup being conducted by three Responsible Parties (RPs): The Boeing Company (Boeing), the National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA,) and U.S. Department of Energy (DOE). In 2007, DTSC entered into a Consent Order with the RPs to begin SSFL cleanup for all media. In 2010, DTSC signed separate Administrative Orders on Consent (AOC) with DOE and NASA for soil cleanup in Area II, Area III and the Northern Buffer Zone. Groundwater for all three RPs is subject to the 2007 Consent Order. Soil cleanup in Boeing areas is also subject to the [2007 Consent Order](#).

### **What caused the contamination on site?**

Testing and maintenance operations at the site resulted in releases of contamination to soil and groundwater. The primary chemical contaminants include a variety of solvents (primarily trichloroethylene), metals and petroleum hydrocarbons. There were also releases of radionuclides associated with the nuclear research activities.

### **Am I at risk from contamination traveling offsite from SSFL?**

The migration of contamination from SSFL to the surrounding areas has been investigated and evaluated. Contamination at levels that pose a risk to human health are not traveling off-site.

### **What is currently happening?**

The extensive sampling and investigation process is nearing completion. The final investigation reports are being submitted for DTSC review and potential cleanup technologies have been identified. In September 2017, DTSC issued the draft Program Environmental Impact Report (PEIR) to evaluate how site cleanup activities will impact the environment and identified mitigation measures to address those environmental impacts. The public comment period closed December 14, 2017 and DTSC is reviewing and preparing responses to the public comments. DTSC anticipates issuing a final PEIR in 2018. Groundwater sampling and monitoring are ongoing and the Groundwater Interim Measures are expected to start spring 2018. NASA is conducting demolition activities as part of its site restoration program. SSFL is an ongoing cleanup project that will take years to complete. The site will continue to be monitored to ensure the safety of the community and the environment.

### **What are the next steps?**

Investigation reports for all three RPs still need to be approved. Data Summary Reports for soil in DOE and NASA responsible areas are under review and are subject to DTSC approval. When the Data Summary Reports are approved, Soils Remedial Action Implementation Plans (SRAIPs) will be developed for each of their respective cleanup actions. The draft SRAIPs will be made available for public review and comment.

After DTSC has approved Remedial Investigation Reports regarding Boeing sites, Corrective Measures Study (CMS) reports will be developed. CMS reports are subject to DTSC review and approval. When the CMS is approved, DTSC will develop a cleanup decision document for the Boeing soil cleanup. The draft cleanup decision document will be made available for public comment and review.

Groundwater Remedial Investigation Reports for Boeing, DOE and NASA are in review and are subject to DTSC approval. When the CMS is approved, a draft groundwater cleanup decisions document will be developed. The draft groundwater cleanup decision document will be made available for public comment and review.