REMEDIAL SITE ASSESSMENT DECISION - EPA REGION IX

EPA ID: CAN000908498 **Site Name:** SSFL: SANTA SUSANA FIELD LABORATORY **State ID:**

Alias Site Names: SANTA SUSANA FIELD LABORATORY (SSFL)

City: SIMI VALLEY **County or Parish:** VENTURA **State:** CA

Refer to Report Dated: 11/30/2007 **Report Type:** SITE INSPECTION 001

Report Developed by: Weston Solutions

DECISION:

- ☐ **1. Further Remedial Site Assessment under CERCLA (Superfund) is not required because:**
  - ☐ **1a. Site does not qualify for further remedial site assessment under CERCLA (No Further Remedial Action Planned - NFRAP)**
  - ☐ **1b. Site may qualify for action, but is deferred to:**
- ☒ **2. Further Assessment Needed Under CERCLA:**
  - **2a. Priority:** ☒ **Higher** ☐ **Lower**
  - **2b. Other: (recommended action)**

DISCUSSION/RATIONALE:

The Santa Susana Field Laboratory (SSFL) is located approximately 2 miles south of the City of Simi Valley, California and occupies 2,850 acres. The SSFL is divided into four administrative areas (Areas I, II, III, and IV), with undeveloped land acting as buffer zones to the northwest and south.

The main operations at the SSFL included research, development, and testing for liquid fueled rocket engines. In addition to rocket engine testing, the SSFL was used for nuclear energy research and testing. These operations were conducted on a 90-acre section of the site known as the Energy Technology and Engineering Center (ETEC).

Multiple operations at the SSFL over the last six decades have resulted in contamination of surface and subsurface environmental media by various hazardous substances. There are no residences, schools, day-care facilities, or terrestrial sensitive environments located on or within 200 feet of surfical contamination at the SSFL. A release of trichloroethylene (TCE) to the groundwater beneath the SSFL is documented. The groundwater discharges to the surface water at 28 spring/seep locations. Recent data indicated that TCE has been detected at one of the spring/seep locations. The SSFL and surrounding land support habitat for endangered and threatened species. Analytical data indicate that both the shallow aquifer and the deeper Chatsworth Formation aquifer have been contaminated with TCE. Records indicated that TCE was detected in an onsite drinking water well at a concentration of 9 parts per billion (ppb), which exceeded the State and Federal drinking water limits of 5 ppb. Approximately 330 workers were subjected to contaminated groundwater from this drinking water well. The well was shut down due to the contamination. The groundwater beneath the SSFL continues to be contaminated. Currently, there are approximately 7,624 people that receive groundwater from a blended municipal drinking water system that is located between a 3-4 mile radius from the SSFL.

The site is recommended for further assessment under CERCLA.

Site Decision Made by: D. RICHMOND

Signature: Dawn Richmond **Date:** 11/30/2007

EPA Form # 9100-3

REMEDIAL SITE ASSESSMENT DECISION - EPA REGION IX

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Alias Site Names: SANTA SUSANA FIELD LABORATORY (SSFL)

City: SIMI VALLEY **County or Parish:** VENTURA **State:** CA

Refer to Report Dated: 11/30/2007 **Report Type:** PRELIMINARY ASSESSMENT 001

Report Developed by: Weston Solutions

DECISION:

- ☐ **1. Further Remedial Site Assessment under CERCLA (Superfund) is not required because:**
  - ☐ **1a. Site does not qualify for further remedial site assessment under CERCLA (No Further Remedial Action Planned - NFRAP)**
  - ☐ **1b. Site may qualify for action, but is deferred to:**
- ☒ **2. Further Assessment Needed Under CERCLA:**
  - **2a. Priority:** ☒ **Higher** ☐ **Lower**
  - **2b. Other: (recommended action)**

DISCUSSION/RATIONALE:

The Santa Susana Field Laboratory (SSFL) is located approximately 2 miles south of the City of Simi Valley, California and occupies 2,850 acres. The SSFL is divided into four administrative areas (Areas I, II, III, and IV), with undeveloped land acting as buffer zones to the northwest and south.

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