

Follow-up Q&A from the March 22, 2005 DOE Community Meeting

Here are answers to questions that we received, but were unable to answer, at our last DOE meeting on March 22. We are committed to answering all of your questions.

Are antimony and molybdenum present in Area IV and considered contaminants of concern in the cleanup?

Antimony and molybdenum are naturally-occurring metals that are present in the soil at background levels across the Santa Susana Field Laboratory (SSFL) and are considered contaminants of concern. In several small, localized areas at SSFL, including in Area IV, these metals are above the background levels. Most of the areas with concentrations above background are associated with scrap metal debris or metal testing operations. Of the thousands of soil samples collected onsite, only three samples have had antimony concentrations above health-based levels. All detected molybdenum concentrations in soil have been below health-based levels.

Which outfalls in Area IV, if any, are tributary to the Callegus Creek and are they monitored for radiation?

Five outfalls on the northern side of SSFL, Outfalls 003 (RMHF), 004 (SRE), 005 (FSDF1), 006 (FSDF2), 007 (B/100), exit the site via the Meir and Runkle Canyons to the Arroyo Simi, which is a tributary of Callegus Creek. These five outfalls are monitored for gross alpha and beta, combined radium-226 & 228, tritium, and strontium-90. This data is available in both the quarterly and annual NPDES reports at the libraries.

When will the special surface water monitoring requested by the L.A. Regional Water Quality Control Board be over? (10 events)

The special monitoring requires that ten sampling events be conducted. It also specifies that of these ten samples, seven are to be wet weather related and three are to be taken during dry weather conditions. The seven wet weather samples have been taken, however due to reduced operational activities at SSFL, there have been no dry weather discharges. Therefore, this special monitoring study has not yet been completed. Some preliminary results are provided in the first quarter 2005 NPDES report to the Water Board, available on the web site indicated below.

Is the wind sock and meteorological data going to be made available to the public?

Wind Rose charts for recent years have been included in a variety of published documents available in the information repositories. These charts identify the direction of the wind and its velocity distribution over an annual average. A 1960 – 1961 Annual Surface Wind Rose for the SSFL (then known as the 'RDFTL') is presented on the other side of this page.

Regarding the Waste Management Protocol in the 50s & 60s, was radiological waste shipped in open containers?

Radioactive materials are shipped in closed and sealed containers. Shipping of radioactive materials has always required that containment integrity of the packages be maintained during transportation. Containment integrity requirement ensures the material to be secure and stable.

What is the website address for the Santa Susana Field Laboratory environmental information?

The current website address is: www.boeing.com/defense-space/space/rdyne/shear/index.html
We are working to simplify this address to make it easier to access.

June 22, 2005

