

# **The WEST HILLS NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL's SANTA SUSANA MOUNTAIN AREA COMMITTEE**

## **MINUTES**

**WEDNESDAY, May 27, 2009 @ 7:00 p.m.**

**at the Fairwinds Retirement Center, 8138 Woodlake Ave, West Hill**

1. **CALL TO ORDER** and **SELF-INTRODUCTION OF PARTICIPANTS**

Tom Seckington	Jim Biederman	Thomas Johnson
Merrilee Fellows	Stephie Jennings	John Wondelock
Bob Hromadka	Albert Saur	Allen Elliott
Christina Walsh	Bonnie Klea	Abe Weitzberg
William Bowling	Adam Salkin	Holly Huff
Barry Seybert	Marie Mason`	Jacquie Young
Dan Brin	Dawn Kowalski	Thomas Eisenhauer
Alec Uzemek	Elizabeth Crawford	Linnea Luker
Charlene Rothstein	Daniel Wiseman	

2. **APPROVAL of the AGENDA**

3. **CHAIRPERSON's COMMENTS:** This meeting was chaired by Chris Rowe (SSMAC VP).

4. **Tom Seckington, a hydrogeologist with DTSC for the Santa Susana Field Lab project discussed current concepts of the "Dynamics of SSFL surface and deep water flow".**

Working with ground water flow. September Groundwater RFI report coming due in September, 2009. Data not available yet. Project hydrogeologist with DTSC – overseeing the project. The mountain is made of fine grained silt stone or sand stone content. There is a very complex bedrock system with fracture network systems. Fractures are very small and very irregular. They foster unpredictable crosswise (lateral), diffusion types of water flow.

Northeast TCE plume is going off the site and is under active investigation. Core holes with discrete depth sampling helps define the flow of contaminates. Geologic mapping helps determine the flow of the systems along with faults, shelf units and fractures in this area. Core holes were done every 18 inches so that there is a detailed sampling matrix. Delta core hole goes down over 900 feet and will be drilled to 1400 feet to find the bottom of the TCE

contamination. Three dimensional groundwater flow model has been developed trying to show how the flow works in this area.

Seeps/springs sampling of identified springs around the area. No contamination has been found in these springs in the last samplings. Characterizations of water may show the origins of the water. A sampling and analysis plan will also be submitted proposing the scope of work necessary to complete characterization.

[tseckington@dtsc.ca.gov](mailto:tseckington@dtsc.ca.gov) 714.484-5424 [www.dtsc-ssfl.com](http://www.dtsc-ssfl.com)

DTSC will be going to Orcutt Ranch to sample.

Chris Rowe asked about the perchlorates in Dayton Canyon. Extremely high concentration of perchlorates found there on one occasion. The maximum concentrations were much higher than those in Happy Valley (SSFL) and distribution between the two areas was not consistent. There may be more than one source. Current conditions show that there are no more perchlorate residuals.

Liz Crawford said that findings from Ventura Co. which showed very high concentrations in the Brandeis Camp and Simi Valley prompted an investigation into Happy Valley and Dayton Canyon.

According to the 2008 DTSC Annual Report shows the Tritium radiation levels are increasing.

Barry Seybert has 2 wells and a piezometer on his street. He has not been provided with testing data (results). Doug Sheets is reviewing the off site well info done by Boeing.

5. Allen Elliott and Merrilee Fellows of NASA presented an update on the Santa Susana Field Lab portion owned by NASA. We are in a public comment period with DTSC for the cleanup of AREA II and the LOX area which are owned by NASA. "THE GROUP 2 RCRA FACILITY - **Public Comment Period: April 20, 2009 – June 4, 2009**"  
[http://www.dtsc-ssfl.com/files/lib\\_pub\\_involve/pub\\_notices/3758 SSFLGroup2%20PN409.pdf](http://www.dtsc-ssfl.com/files/lib_pub_involve/pub_notices/3758_SSFLGroup2%20PN409.pdf)

Allen Elliott is project manager of SSFL and part that NASA owns. LOX in Admin 1 and Area II. Air force original owners.

Identify sources of potential releases

Determine if contamination exist (nature and extent and where it is fate & transport.

**SSFL remediation scope**

**Surficial media groups 2,3,4 and 9**

**Group 2 status**

6. **W. James Biederman of the U.S. Federal General Services Administration (G.S.A.) described the process that NASA (or any federal agency) must go through when they decide that they have no further use for a particular property.**

[Wjames.biederman@gsa.gov](mailto:Wjames.biederman@gsa.gov)

There is no “Report of Excess” from NASA, yet. NASA remains the custodian of the land until the end of the disposition. Title is held by US government. They will develop a website dedicated to this site. Screen for fed or tribal interest. An EIS will be developed. They will screen for public benefit conversion - (park wildlife conservation historic monument, emergency management, education, etc.)

In response to questions by Daniel Wiseman, GSA has had no major contact with DTSC, yet, and Mr. Beiderman accepted the recommendation to delay the appraisal until DTSC was close to completion of the cleanup. Appraisal is determined by best and highest use. Restrictions can be placed in the deeds.

Formerly used defense sites. FUDS

Disposition process: <http://propertydisposal.cgsa.gov>

federal lands to park program: [www.npa.gov/flp](http://www.npa.gov/flp)

Zoning authority is Ventura Co.

7. Thomas Johnson and Stephanie Jennings of Department of Energy (DOE, ETEC) reported on the AREA IV cleanup of the Santa Susana Field Lab.

ETEC – Energy Technology Engineering Center is still in the process of conducting the EIS – doing cultural and historic (flora and fauna and Native use) preparing a single document to respond to the comments received last year (750 comments). Specific response to each comment.

Panel discussion on SRE (sodium reactor) to be held later this summer – no date determined yet. Notice will be on ETEC website. Continuing efforts on background study – EPA has the lead on this.

Stimulus package gave them money to fund radiological survey. Under the stimulus package, ETEC has \$15.4 million for shovel ready projects. They could demolish remaining structures (4 various buildings: Sodium pump test facility, hazardous waste management, building 24 and building 47) and asked for our support. Prior demo plans placed on hold (?by court action). Is it safe (Char)? Closure plans must be approved by State of California (DTSC). Money ends on end of 2011. Otherwise, they will dedicate money elsewhere.

8. Alec Uzemeck of the WHNC reported on the current status of Corporate Pointe site. There will be discussions regarding this property in regards to recent sampling required by DTSC and an Order for Sampling from the LARWQCB.

Planning Commission has issued a letter of condition CP@WH is moving ahead on construction. Regional Water Board \$1,000 day No RAD survey for City Council.

**Action:** WHNC should request a RAD report and EIS report prior to onset of construction.

(Motion by Daniel Wiseman/Charlene Rothstein) **MOTION PASSED – verify details**

9. **Action Items** - Motions to take to the full Board on June 3, 2009:

1) A Motion by the WHNC Board to request that a formal group be formed that recognizes all of the communities that are impacted by the Santa Susana Field Lab. This motion will be formalized prior to the meeting and discussed.

2) A recommendation by the WHNC Board that the existing SSFL Workgroup be required to include representatives from the many groups involved in the cleanup of the Santa Susana Field Laboratory.

At present, there are only two community members on the Workgroup at this time – they represent Simi Valley.

3) The request for a health risk analysis for the communities surrounding the Santa Susana Field Lab.

4) The request for a health risk analysis for the communities surrounding the Corporate Pointe site.

**These motions were all tabled.**

10. **ANNOUNCEMENTS of Important Meetings.**

a. **TASC Meeting – Tuesday, May 26<sup>th</sup>, 2009, 6:30 PM – 9:30 PM at the Radisson Hotel, 9777 Topanga Canyon Blvd, Chatsworth. This is a meeting with the EPA to discuss getting help from experts to read technical documents.**

b. **Santa Susana Field Lab Workgroup Meeting - Thursday, May 28<sup>th</sup>, 2009, 6:30M – 10:00 PM. Simi Valley Cultural Arts Center, 3050 Los Angeles Avenue, Simi Valley, CA 93063**

11. **ADJOURNMENT** – Meeting was adjourned at 10:04 p.m.