

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

**WEDNESDAY, June 24, 2009 @ 7:00 p.m.
at the Fairwinds Retirement Center,
8138 Woodlake Ave, West Hills
(South east corner of Roscoe and Woodlake – enter from Woodlake)**

- 1. CALL TO ORDER and SELF-INTRODUCTION OF PARTICIPANTS with BRIEF elaboration of recent activities, conferences, meetings or communications of interest.**
- 2. The AGENDA was reviewed and approved/
The April 2009 and May 2009 Minutes were read, corrected and approved.**
- 3. CHAIRPERSON's COMMENTS:**
 - a, The Conduct of the Meeting was described by Chair Daniel Wiseman**
 - b. We want to thank the many agency and consultant participants that took the time out of their busy schedules to come and participate in our May 2009 SSMAC meeting and this meeting.**
- 4. FIRST PUBLIC COMMENT on matters not on this agenda – 10 minutes.**
 - a. Bill Bowling announced an event at the ACMELA on June 25 commemorating the 50th anniversary of the SRE incident.
- 5. Introduction of the Federal EPA-Region IX by Vice Chair Chris Rowe
– “ Update on EPA's Radiological Studies at SSFL ”
- Nicole Moutoux and Craig Cooper – 30 minutes**

A Power Point of this presentation may be found at [EPA's website for the SSFL at www.epa.gov/region09/SantaSusana](http://www.epa.gov/region09/SantaSusana). http://www.etec.energy.gov/Health-and-Safety/Documents/EPARadSurvey/EPA_Background_Study_Presentation_December_1_2008_R5.pdf

EPA will be conducting a community meeting on July 15 at the Grand Vista Hotel in Simi Valley at 6:30 PM to describe the EPA's proposed Survey of Radioactivity in Area iv of the SSFL.

The plan is to start conducting the soil testing [for the radioactivity background study](#) by mid-August 2009 and produce a finished report [on the SSFL Area IV radioactivity study](#) by September 2011. The EPA requested and has received \$ 1.5 million for the background study and \$ 40 million for the [SSFL Area IV radioloactivity study](#) which includes [\\$38.3M from the American Reinvestment and Recovery Act \(ARRA\) of 2009.](#)

There are three sampling areas proposed for background testing (50 surface samples per site = 100 and 40 subsurface samples).

Craig Cooper is leading the onsite study to test and report on locations with elevated radiological levels in soil and groundwater. Focus of EPA study is Area IV and the facilities operated by ETEC. Although restricted to Area IV, further considerations may be necessary if contamination is seen to approach (and presumably cross) SSFL property lines.

Studies will be done by the gross gamma scanners and a separate work plan will be prepared. Gamma radiation data information will be uploaded to EPA computers immediately so that the information can be evaluated in real time. They anticipate the study will take a year and an EPA gamma scanner operator from EPA's Las Vegas laboratory will be relocated to this area.

Soil and water testing plans will be developed in different work plans. Plans for testing subsurface soil will be included in the soil testing workplan.

Soil and water samples can figure upwards to 10,000 samples. One goal of the Area IV study will be chasing the edges of the soil contamination.

Contamination outside of the boundaries will be taken into consideration but it is not definite yet. On-site data will need to be assessed first before any decision for off-site testing. EPA and the State will coordinate prior to any off-site testing.

The gamma scanning work is anticipated to end December 2010.

American Recovery and Reinvestment Act will be funding part of the study. The DOE will be working with the EPA to conclude the study by September of 2011. There is no actual date for ending the study for the EIS mandated by the court. Once the EPA is done, then it will take the DOE another 18 months to complete the EIS.

DOE has appropriated funds for the EPA and the DOE has provided EPA with \$38.3 million. The DOE website will provide additional information. The act requires transparency as well as creating jobs.

They are planning to mitigate damages to the flora and fauna in the area as well as cultural relics. Experts will be working to assess the area for Chumash artifacts as well.

EPA is continuing to evaluate the TASC involvement and no decision has been reached.

Hydrogeology Inc. is the prime EPA contractor for the background radioactivity study as well as the soil and water testing for the Area IV radioactivity study. Colleen Garcia of HydroGeoLogic, Inc. was in attendance at this meeting.

6. Current Status of Corporate Pointe – Alec Uzemeck – 5 minutes

The Trammel-Crow Construction Project has been going on for 20 months. DTSC gave the go ahead and has cleared planning. Alec signed off on the negotiated points as chairperson of the Hidden Lake development. He will be part of the monitoring of the development. They want to get back to the EIS, the risk assessment of the site and what the DTSC and EPA are going to do. LACITY Planning department has the case number of: CPC-2007-237-GPA-ZC-CU and the hearing date.

Q-conditions have been added to the plan and we will need follow up to make sure they are followed. If not followed, we will have to call Trammel Crow and report to Code Watch. Planning department will have to review and the landscaping letter will bring up the parking garage already in existence. More complete review report of our committee will have to go and a letter has to be provided.

Further discussions on Corporate Pointe were tabled by Dr. Sauer and Wally seconded. Motion carried.

**7. New Environmental Project – 22566 Vanowen Street / 6747 Sale Ave
– Should there be an EIR? - Alec Uzemeck – 5 minutes**

Wally Perfect stated that all of the data is not in. Daniel Wiseman voiced his concern that there would not be enough staff to assure the safety of 40-45 children 2,3 4 and 5 years of age.

8. Discussion of guidelines for the Santa Susana Mountain Area Committee – 50 minutes

These proceedings were attended by our DONE Neighborhood Empowerment Analyst – Tom Soong.

Public health and safety issues may become an issue of concern if there is a substantial correlation. This will be determined in committee.

a. Mission & Vision Statements of the Santa Susana Mountain Area Committee?

Joanne moves that we retain the current mission statement with the addition of (Simi Hills) and Char seconded. It passed.

Chris Rowe suggested that the SSMAC Vision Statement should be similar to the Cal Dept of Health Vision Statement viz: to protect the public health and the environment of the West Hills and the surrounding communities. The safest, cleanest and healthiest community we can provide. There was no formal motion made on the vision statement.

b. SSMAC Membership. Voting privileges? Use of the “straw vote.”

Membership may be based on regular attendance, some knowledge of the subject matter,

Joanne Yvanek-Garb moved that voting membership be limited to WHNC board members and that general membership be open to all interested parties (no second). Dan Brin moved that the WHNC board be asked to determine the voting and membership structure of this committee. This replaced Joanne's motion. Dr. Saur seconded.

The **MOTION PASSED**: 8 for, 5 against, 1 abstention

The following items of discussion were deferred to the general meeting and a vote by the board:

- (1) It was suggested that meetings be guided by Robert's Rules or other forms of Parliamentary Procedures?
- (2) Does the Vice-Chair have all authority of the Chair in the absence or inability of the Chair.
- (3) The appointment of a first Vice-Chair (Executive Officer)
second Vice-Chair (Program Chairman)
Moderator,
Parliamentarian,
Sergeant at Arms?
What should their responsibilities be?
- (4) Shall the officers of SSMAC be an Executive Committee to create the agenda?
- (5) Policy on Public Comment. Time limits. Open for presentations and actions?
- (6) Connections and relationships between the SSMAC and other concerned parties. Is our Policy (stated above) sufficient?

9. **ANNOUNCEMENTS:** Next meeting will be 7/22/09 – same time same place.
10. Meeting adjourned at 9:15 pm.