

Dear Neighbor –

We wanted to share information with you about some revised technical reports we recently submitted to the Department of Toxic Substances Control (DTSC) that will inform Boeing's final cleanup at the Santa Susana Field Laboratory.

A decade ago, we made a commitment to preserve our land at Santa Susana as open space. As you're probably aware, we have fulfilled that promise by entering into a conservation easement in favor of North American Land Trust, ensuring that almost 2,400 acres that Boeing owns at Santa Susana is forever preserved as open space habitat for the benefit of local wildlife and neighboring communities.

After recording our conservation easement, we submitted an updated Standardized Risk Assessment Methodology work plan to the DTSC. The updates were necessary under our 2007 Consent Order with DTSC and account for the restricted land use and other technical updates since the document was last revised three years ago. In our updated work plan, we proposed an approach for calculating risk assessment using recreational exposure assumptions consistent with the site's future use as open space habitat. The risk calculations will be used to evaluate cleanup options in two upcoming DTSC reports.

The DTSC's Environmental Impact Report (EIR) will provide information regarding impacts the cleanup will have on the community and the quality of the environment. The EIR will be followed by a Corrective Measures Studies report that will evaluate cleanup alternatives to determine site cleanup requirements. Based on the Corrective Measures Studies and the EIR, the final cleanup will be determined.

Our proposed cleanup will protect the health of any individuals who will visit the site in the future for recreational purposes and the residents in the surrounding neighborhoods. It will also protect the ecological resources that make the site a unique open space and wildlife habitat, as well as preserve the invaluable Native American cultural resources. The revised proposed cleanup will be based on recreational land use scenarios, and not a "residential" cleanup as we originally volunteered. We acknowledge this difference and would like to explain why we made the change.

Since 2007, we have worked with the DTSC to try to precisely define what a voluntary "residential" cleanup should entail since it includes a complex set of assumptions. One of those assumptions is based on the residential and agricultural provisions for the site's current zoning and would include consideration of onsite residents and fruits and vegetables grown for human consumption. Including assumptions such as people living onsite and growing and eating fruits and vegetables that are grown onsite is inconsistent with the site's future use as open space habitat. Our conservation easement legally prohibits gardens and residential uses that might otherwise be allowed under county zoning. As a result, our updated work plan clarifies that residential considerations are unnecessary and inappropriate for the cleanup on our portions of the site.

In addition, this type of cleanup would destroy vital habitat, impose additional truck traffic, unnecessarily burden the local community with years of delay in the cleanup, and threaten sacred Native American cultural resources at the site. It would be excessive and destructive and would have negative consequences without additional public health or environmental protection benefits.

Our proposed cleanup is consistent with the 2007 Consent Order, which specifies a risk-based cleanup that is consistent with actual future land use. In other words, it will be safe for people using the site, for neighboring communities, and for the wildlife that live onsite and pass through this vital wildlife linkage. It will also preserve Santa Susana's numerous resources that make the site invaluable as open space and wildlife habitat, and of great importance to Native Americans.

The next steps in the process include DTSC's review of the risk assessment work plan, as well as the release of the State's draft Environmental Impact Report. These are some of the many future steps to be completed prior to initiating the cleanup and there will be opportunities for public input at each step along the way.

We look forward to working with DTSC, as well as local stakeholders, to implement this cleanup. If you have any questions, please feel free to call or email.

Sincerely,

Kamara Noelle Sams
Environmental Community Relations
The Boeing Company