



CALIFORNIA ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

NEWS RELEASE

Department of Toxic Substances Control

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State Approves Agreement for Rocketdyne Environmental Impact Report

SACRAMENTO-- The California Department of Toxic Substances Control (DTSC) and the Boeing Company have entered into a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) for the preparation of a draft Environmental Impact Report (EIR) for the Rocketdyne, Santa Susana Field Laboratory. An EIR identifies the significant environmental impacts which must be considered by DTSC prior to approving a hazardous waste remediation (cleanup) for the 2,849 acre site located in the Simi Hills in southeastern Ventura County.

Under the terms of the MOU, work on the EIR is expected to begin later this year and the final document is anticipated to be completed by the end of 2002. The draft EIR will be prepared by an independent contractor recommended by the Boeing Company with DTSC approval. DTSC's approval will be based on the contractor's technical approach, conformance with MOU provisions, California Environmental Quality Act qualifications, cost estimations and potential for conflict of interests.

The Santa Susana Field Laboratory was established after World War II and has been used to test engines for missiles, spacecraft and rockets. The facility has also been used to develop lasers for defense and commercial applications. During test activities, a number of industrial solvents were released into the soil and groundwater. DTSC is overseeing the cleanup of soil and groundwater contaminated with these hazardous chemicals.

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DTSC is one of the six boards and departments within the California Environmental Protection Agency. DTSC's mission is to protect and enhance public health and the environment by regulating the management of hazardous waste and promoting reduction.