

California Regional Water Quality Control Board

Los Angeles Region



F 27

Linda S. Adams Cal/EPA Secretary 320 W. 4th Street, Suite 200, Los Angeles, California 90013
Phone (213) 576-6600. FAX (213) 576-6640 - Internet Address: http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/losangeles

Arnold Schwarzenegger

December 3, 2008

Mr. Thomas D. Gallacher, Director SSFL – Safety, Health & Environmental Affairs The Boeing Company Santa Susana Field Laboratory 5800 Woolsey Canyon Road Canoga Park, CA 91304-1148 Certified Mail
Return Receipt Requested
Claim No. 7008 1830 0004 3360 0939

CALIFORNIA WATER CODE SECTION 13304 ORDER TO PERFORM INTERIM/SOURCE REMOVAL ACTION OF SOIL IN THE AREAS OF OUTFALLS 008 AND 009 DRAINAGE AREAS, THE BOEING COMPANY SANTA SUSANA FIELD LABORATORY, UNINCORPORATED VENTURA COUNTY, CALIFORNIA (SCP NO. 1111, SITE ID NO. 2040109)

Dear Mr. Gallacher:

The California Regional Water Quality Control Board, Los Angeles Region (Regional Board), is the public agency with primary responsibility for the protection of ground and surface water quality for all beneficial uses within major portions of Los Angeles and Ventura County, including the above-referenced project site.

The Santa Susana Field Laboratory (SSFL) occupies approximately 2,850 acres and is located at the top of Woolsey Canyon Road in the Simi Hills, Ventura County, California. The SSFL is jointly owned by The Boeing Company (Boeing) and the United States of America. The National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) administers the portion of the property owned by the federal government. The site is divided into four administrative areas (Areas I, II, III, and IV) and undeveloped land areas to both the north and south. The NASA property includes a portion of Area I and all of Area II. Ninety acres of Areas IV are leased to the United States Department of Energy (DOE).

Boeing and its predecessors' operations at SSFL since 1950 include research, development, assembly, disassembly, and testing of nuclear reactors, rocket engines, and chemical lasers. NASA operations included rocket engine assembly and testing, and propellant and fuel storage and loading. DOE conducted past operations in research and development of energy related programs, and seismic testing experiments. Current DOE activities onsite are solely related to facility closure, environmental remediation, and restoration.

Regional Board Order R4-2004-0111 and previous orders originally permitted discharges of excess water at the SSFL from its groundwater treatment system, industrial activities, onsite wastewater reclamation system, and rainfall runoff that has the potential to contain pollutants from the facilities. Most recently, the only wastewater generated onsite and discharged to the streambeds is treated groundwater which is associated with activities that are being regulated by the Department of Toxic Substances Control (DTSC) under the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA). All other wastewater discharges have been terminated. However, storm water traversing the site had yielded exceedances of water quality based effluent limits in the National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) Permit for the facility.

California Environmental Protection Agency

Only storm water is discharged through Outfalls 008 and 009 (see attached map):

- <u>Discharge Outfall 008</u> This outfall captures storm water runoff from an area that has previously been used for operations that involved perchlorate and other contaminants of concern. Storm water from Happy Valley flows to Dayton Canyon Creek. The flow from Dayton Canyon Creek joins Chatsworth Creek, which flows south to Bell Creek southwest of the intersection of Shoup Avenue and Sherman Way. Bell Creek flows east to the Los Angeles River. This area has since undergone an "interim measure cleanup", which was completed in September 2004, under the direction of DTSC.
- <u>Discharge Outfall 009</u> The watershed that drains into Outfall 009 is on Boeing and NASA property and begins near the entrance to the property and traverses several potential areas of concern. The Outfall collects storm water runoff from the Area 1 and Area 2 Landfills, and the former LOX plant located on NASA owned property. In addition, Outfall 009 picks up storm water run on from Sage Ranch where agricultural operations took place and a gun shooting range was located. This outfall drains to Arroyo Simi.

Boeing has violated Waste Discharge Requirements contained in Order No. R4-2004-0111, as amended by Order Nos. R4-2006-0008, R4-2006-0036, and R4-2007-0055 (hereinafter Order No. R4-0111) by discharging storm water and/or permitting storm water to be discharged to waters of the State, which contains wastes that have chronically exceeded effluent limitations for 2,3,7,8-Tetrachlorodibenzo-p-dioxin (TCDD) toxic equivalent (TEQ), heavy metals (e.g., copper, lead, and cadmium), and other pollutants (e.g., oil and grease and pH) at Outfalls 008 and 009 from 2005 through 2008.

The Regional Board has determined that an order pursuant to Water Code section 13304 is the most appropriate manner to achieve compliance with the requirements of Order No. R4-2004-0111. The Regional Board's objective is that contaminated soil are to be removed in order to eliminate the contaminants that have resulted in violations of effluent limitations and are an ongoing source of contaminants, creating a condition of pollution or nuisance. Site-wide cleanup of soil, soil vapor, and groundwater will continue under regulatory oversight by the DTSC.

Therefore, pursuant to Section 13304 of the Water Code, Boeing is hereby ordered to cleanup and abate the waste that are discharging to waters of the State, minimize impacts to the streambed adjacent habitat during the cleanup, protect the water quality during and after the cleanup, and restore the streambed and surrounding habitat following the cleanup.

Compliance with this order shall include, but not be limited to completing the requirements listed below. Boeing shall:

- 1. Commence activities necessary to undertake source removal of wastes that are causing or contributing to violations of limitations contained in Order No. R4-2004-0111 at Outfalls 008 and 009, subject to Regional Board approval of the plans required by paragraphs 2 and 3, below.
- 2. Submit work plans to develop and select the appropriate treatment technologies to be used during source removal, including identification and delineation of the lateral and vertical extents of contaminants in soil. by **February 15, 2009** for the Regional Board's approval.
- 3. Submit for the Regional Board's approval an interim source removal action (ISRA) plan by May 1, 2009.
- 4. Submit a report documenting compliance with the removal process and detailing the results of confirmation soil samples following the completion of the interim source removal of impacted soil from the areas for Outfalls 008 and 009 watersheds. The Regional Board will determine the submittal due date for this report upon approval of the ISRA.
- 5. Reimburse the Regional Board for all reasonable costs incurred by the Regional Board staff to oversee soil cleanup, abatement of the effects thereof, or other remedial actions.
- 6. Communicate and work cooperatively with NASA for the proposed ISRA necessary for the NASA Area I and II property located within the Outfall 009 Drainage Area. The Regional Board understands that Boeing may undertake the actions under this order on the NASA property only with the approval of NASA.
- 7. All proposed projects located within state or federal jurisdictional waters must comply with the applicable sections of the federal Clean Water Act (CWA) and California's Porter Cologne Water Quality Control Act (Porter Cologne). The United States Army Corps of Engineers (USACOE) (CWA Section 404 permitting) and the Regional Board (CWA Section 401 water quality certifications) may permit fill activities in waters of the United States under the CWA. The Regional Board may also permit fill activities in waters of the State of California under Porter Cologne by issuing Waste Discharge Requirements (WDR). Further, the California Department of Fish and Game (F&G), through streambed alteration agreements, also has jurisdiction over fill projects that affect waters of the State. These agencies must be notified of any plans that could impact these waters to determine if permitting will be required.

Failure to comply with this Order may result in imposition of civil liabilities, either administratively by the Regional Board or judicially by the Superior Court in accordance with Section 13350 of the California Water Code, and/or referral to the Attorney General of the State of California for such action as he may deem appropriate.

Any person aggrieved by this action of the Regional Water Board may petition the State Water Board to review the action in accordance with Water Code section 13320 and California Code of Regulations, title

California Environmental Protection Agency

23, sections 2050 and following. The State Water Board must receive the petition by 5:00 p.m., 30 days after the date of this Order, except that if the thirtieth day following the date of this Order falls on a Saturday, Sunday, or state holiday, the petition must be received by the State Water Board by 5:00 p.m. on the next business day. Copies of the law and regulations applicable to filing petitions may be found on the Internet at: http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/public_notices/petitions/water_quality or will be provided upon request.

If you have any questions, please contact Mr. David Bacharowski at (213) 576-6607.

Sincerely,

Tracy J. Egoscue
Executive Officer

cc: Honorable Fran Pavley, Senator

Honorable Julia Brownley, Assemblymember

Ms. Rondi Guthrie, c/o Assemblywoman Audra Strickland

U. S. Environmental Protection Agency, Region 9, Permits Branch (WTR-5)

Mr. Thomas Kelly, Environmental Protection Agency, Region 9, (WTR-5)

Environmental Protection Agency, Region 9, Office of Radiation Programs

Mr. Michael Lopez, U.S.D.O.E., Oakland

Mr. Thomas Johnson, ETEC Project Manager, United States Department of Energy

Ms, Rebecca Tadesse, Branch Chief of Materials Decommissioning, U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission

U.S. Army Corps of Engineers

NOAA, National Marine Fisheries Service

Department of Interior, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

Mr. William Paznokas, Department of Fish and Game, Region 5

Mr. Norm Riley, Department of Toxic Substances Control, Sacramento

Mr. Jim Pappas, Department of Toxic Substances Control, Sacramento

Mr. Gerard Abrams, Department of Toxic Substances Control, Sacramento

California Coastal Commission, South Coast District

Department of Health Services, Public Water Supply Branch

Los Angeles County, Department of Public Works, Environmental Programs Division

Los Angeles County, Department of Health Services

City of Los Angeles, Bureau of Engineering, Wastewater Systems Engineering Division

ULARA Watermaster

Water Replenishment District of Southern California

Ventura County Air Pollution Control District

Ventura County Public Works

Ventura County Environmental Health Division

Ms. Linda Parks, Ventura County Board of Supervisors

City Manager, City of Simi Valley

Dr. Mark Gold, Heal the Bay

Mr. David Beckman, NRDC

Mr. Mati Waiya, Wishtoyo Foundation

Friends of the Los Angeles River

Los Angeles and San Gabriel Rivers Watershed Council

Bell Creek Homeowners Association, c/o Michael Bubman

Bell Creek Homeowners Association, c/o Jerry Murphy

Ms. Carol Henderson, Office Manager, Bell Canyon Association

Ms. Barbara Johnson, Susana Knolls Homeowners, Inc.

Ms. Gayle Demirtas, Simi Valley Library

Mr. Howard Kaplan and Mr. Arthur Pinchey, Brandeis-Bardin Institute

Dr. Joseph K. Lyou, Executive Director, Committee to Bridge the Gap (CBG)

Mr. Dan Hirsch, CBG

Mr. Jerome Raskin, Pierce College

Mr. Sheldon Plotkin, SCFS

California Environmental Protection Agency

Mailing List (continued)

Mr. Wayne Lee

Simi Valley Library

California State University, Northridge

Mr. Evan Rose, L.A.U.S.D.

Mr. Cybil Zeppieri

Mr. Lori Zinkan

Ms. Christina Walsh

Ms. Teresa Jordan

Ms. Mary Wisebrock

Masry & Vititoe Law Offices

Mr. Jonathan Parfrey, Executive Director, Physicians for Social Responsibility

Mr. Matt Hagemann, Soil/Water/Air Protection Enterprise

Ms. Bonnie Klea

Ms. Laura Plotkin, c/o Senator Sheila Kuehl

Mr. John Farrow, M. R. Wolfe & Associates, P.C.

Mr. Anthony Zepeda

Ms. Lorraine Scott

Florence and Dorri Raskin

Ms. Kirsten James, MESM, Staff Scientist, Heal the Bay

Ms. Elizabeth Crawford, Senior Environmental Specialist, Physicians for Social

Responsibility

Paul Costa, Boeing

Ms. Sharon Rubalcava, Weston, Benshoof, Rochefort, Rubalcava, MacCuish, LLP

Ms. Darlene Ruiz, Hunter Ruiz Research, Consulting and Advocacy

Mr. Jack M. Wallace

Mr. Jae Kim, TetraTech