Notice of Public Availability
United States Department of Energy
Santa Susana Field Laboratory Office
CERCLA Action Memorandum for the Decommissioning of the System
for Nuclear Auxiliary Power Environmental Test Facility, Building
4024, at the Energy Technology Engineering Center at Santa Susana
Field Laboratory, California

The action memorandum is currently available and documents the Department of Energy's (DOE) selection of the non-time critical removal action alternative recommended in the Building 4024 Decontamination and Decommissioning Engineering Evaluation and Cost Analysis (EE/CA), Santa Susana Field Laboratory (SSFL), California. Signing of the action memorandum occurred on May 1, 2007.

As the former Systems for Nuclear Auxiliary Power (SNAP) Environmental Test Facility (SETF), Building 4024 tested SNAP reactors in a simulated operational environment. SNAP reactors were originally developed and tested as a nuclear power source for space vehicles. Building 4024 currently consists of an above-grade high-bay and below-grade test vaults. As a result of exposure to neutrons from the reactors, the walls, ceiling, floor and remote handling equipment of the test cells have become radioactive.

The EE/CA's preferred alternative, "demolition/removal and off-site disposal," is the action DOE has chosen. This alternative involves the removal of Building 4024 in its entirety and any soil in the project area that fails to achieve the removal action objectives. A MARSSIM-guided final status survey in the excavated areas will be performed to ensure that the objectives have been met.

Public comments were solicited for decommissioning alternatives in the Building 4024 D&D EE/CA. Initial EE/CA notification was published in the Los Angeles Daily News on January 26th, 2007, and the Ventura County Star on January 27th, 2007. The Building 4024 D&D EE/CA was the topic of a public comment meeting on February 21, 2007. As a result of public request, DOE extended the public comment period to April 9th, 2007. Comments were received at the meeting, via e-mail, and in letter form.

The Building 4024 D&D EE/CA was revised based on public feedback during the comment period. Comment responses are noted in the Building 4024 Decontamination and Decommissioning Responsiveness Summary located in the Administrative Record.

The action memorandum is part of the Administrative Record, which contains the documents that DOE used to identify alternatives and to support its decision. The Administrative Record is available to the public at the following DOE information repositories:

Simi Valley Library 2969 Tapo Canyon Road Simi Valley, CA 93063 (805) 526-1735 Platt Branch Library 23600 Victory Blvd. Woodland Hills, CA 91367 (818) 340-9386 California State University, Northridge Oviatt Library 2nd Floor, Room 265 Northridge, CA 91330 (818) 677-2285 These documents also are available online at http://apps.em.doe.gov/etec/

Questions regarding the chosen action, EE/CA, administrative record, and/or other issues should be directed to:

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General questions concerning the Santa Susana Field Laboratory should be directed to Blythe Jameson, Manager of Environmental Communications, at (818) 466-8793.