
Radioactive Materials Handling Facility (RMHF)

Engineering Evaluation & Cost Analysis
(EE/CA)
Community Meeting
April 17, 2007



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Agenda



- Introductions
- Overview
- RMHF EE/CA
- Public Comments

Jeff Smyth, Facilitator

Thomas Johnson, DOE

Brian Sujata, Boeing



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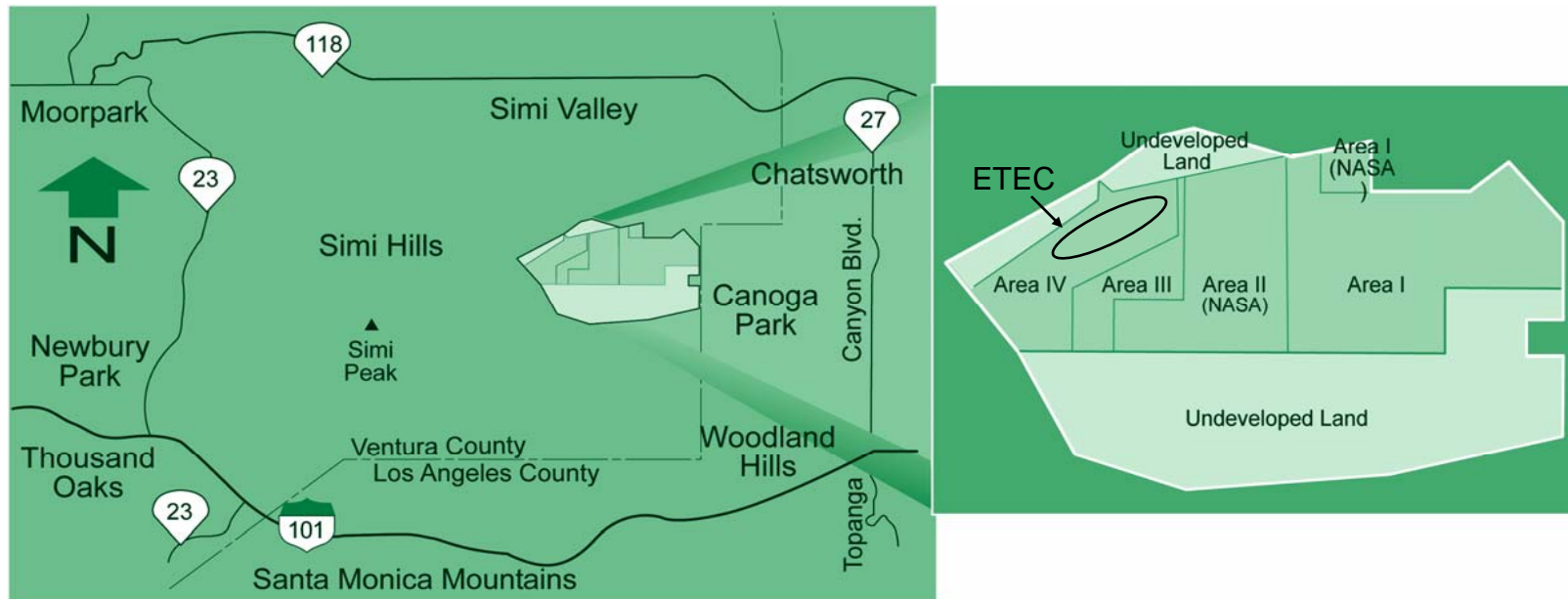
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Why are we here?



- Discussion of the Department of Energy's (DOE) plans for the removal of the Radioactive Materials Handling Facility (RMHF)
- Solicit public comments on the proposed removal action



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SSFL Looking East



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What is included in an EE/CA?



- Identification of removal action objectives
- Evaluation of removal action alternatives
- Recommendation of a preferred alternative

RADIOACTIVE MATERIALS HANDLING FACILITY DECONTAMINATION AND DECOMMISSIONING ENGINEERING EVALUATION/COST ANALYSIS



*Prepared by The Boeing Company
for the Department of Energy*

March 23, 2007



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What is DOE proposing?



- Decontaminate and demolish RMHF as a Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation and Liability Act (CERCLA) removal action
 - The removal action will be done in accordance with the 1995 joint DOE/EPA policy memorandum and is consistent with CERCLA
 - This approach includes consultation with EPA and DTSC as well as public participation



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Timeline



- **Administrative Record Established in Libraries and Available Online: March 23, 2007**
- **Congressional Notifications: March 26, 2007**
- **Public Notice:**
 - ❑ **Ventura County Star: March 29, 2007**
 - ❑ **Los Angeles Times: March 29, 2007**
 - ❑ **Daily News: March 31, 2007**
- **Public Meeting Notice to Mailing List: March 30, 2007**
- **Community Meeting: April 17, 2007**
- **Public Comments Due: April 30, 2007**

DOE Seeks Public Comment on the Radioactive Materials Handling Facility Decontamination and Decommissioning at the Santa Susana Field Laboratory

Santa Susana Field Laboratory, CA -- The U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) is seeking public comment on a document that summarizes removal alternatives for the decontamination and decommissioning of the DOE-owned Radioactive Materials Handling Facility (RMHF) at the former Energy Technology Engineering Center (ETEC). Using an Engineering Evaluation and Cost Analysis (EE/CA) process, DOE has identified removal and off site disposal of the former RMHF as the preferred alternative. The public comment period will begin March 26 and end April 30, 2007.

The EE/CA was developed to keep the public informed of ongoing DOE actions and to provide for the public's input in the decision-making process on the proposed removal action alternative for the RMHF.

The RMHF is comprised of a group of ten buildings designed and constructed in 1969 for the safe storage and handling of new and irradiated nuclear fuel and other radioactive materials. In 1989, three buildings at the RMHF were authorized for the storage and treatment of mixed wastes generated at ETEC.

Decontamination and decommissioning of RMHF would involve the complete removal of all above and below grade buildings and structures and removal of any radiologically impacted soil as proposed by the EE/CA. The desired outcome of the removal action is an RMHF footprint that meets radiological standards for release for unrestricted use. A residential cleanup standard has been chosen that is fully protective of human health and the environment.

There will be a public meeting to receive comments on the RMHF EE/CA, on April 17, 2007 from 6:30 - 8:30 p.m., at the Grand Vista Hotel, 999 Enchanted Way, Simi Valley, CA.

The EE/CA and its supporting Administrative Record File were used to identify the preferred alternative. The documents can be viewed at <http://apps.em.doe.gov/etec> and at the following libraries.

Simi Valley Library
2969 Tapo Canyon Road
Simi Valley, CA 93063
(805) 526-1735

Platt Branch Library
2360 Victory Blvd.
Woodland Hills, CA 91367
818-340-9386

California State University,
Northridge Oviatt Library
2nd Floor, Room
Northridge, CA 91330
(818) 677-2285.

Comments on the RMHF EE/CA are requested by April 30 and may be submitted in writing or by electronic mail to:

Thomas Johnson, Jr., ETEC Project Manager U.S. Department of Energy Santa Susana Field Laboratory 5800 Woolsey Canyon Road Canoga Park, California 91304-1148

E-Mail comments to: etec@doeal.gov

Media inquiries may be directed to Bill Taylor, U.S. Department of Energy - Environmental Management, Consolidated Business Center, 513-246-0639 or william.taylor@emcb.doe.gov.

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



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What is RMHF?



- RMHF is a group of ten buildings built in 1959 to safely manage radioactive materials
- The paved area is about 1 ½ acres in size



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What did we do at RMHF?



- Storage of new and used nuclear fuel
- Storage of radioactive and mixed wastes
- Decontamination and waste packaging
- Most wastes have been removed and RMHF is no longer needed



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What is proposed?



The removal action objectives include:

- All buildings and remaining equipment
- All concrete foundations
- The subsurface vaults of Building 4022
- All underground utilities, including sewer, water and gas
- All asphalt
- Contaminated soils that do not meet our cleanup objectives



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Removal Action Alternatives

No Action

This is the baseline option required by CERCLA

✓ Yes. Only requires monitoring

No. Buildings and constituents of concern would remain

\$30 million over 30 years

Option

Implementable?

Effective?

Cost?

Demolition/Removal and Offsite Disposal

This option is the DOE preferred alternative and will achieve Removal Action Objectives

✓ Yes. Based on experience at ETEC and other DOE facilities

✓ Yes. Buildings and radiological constituents of concern removed

✓ Approximately \$13 million



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Cleanup objectives for soil



- Remove contaminated soils which do not meet CERCLA requirements for a residential exposure scenario



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How will we know the objectives have been met?



- We will sample the area to confirm that it meets the CERCLA requirements for a residential exposure scenario
- DOE will work with the EPA to develop the sampling and analysis plan
- An independent organization will perform verification sampling



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How will the action be protective?



A biological assessment of the area will be conducted to ensure the project will not harm on-site plants or animals

- The project will follow all relevant laws and requirements, including:
 - ❑ Radiation controls
 - ❑ Worker safety
 - ❑ Storm water pollution prevention
 - ❑ Control of air emissions and dust
 - ❑ Safe packaging
 - ❑ Transportation and disposal of wastes



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Where will the waste be shipped?



- Wastes will be characterized and segregated
- Wastes will be sent to approved federally-owned or commercial disposal sites
- Waste shipments will meet U.S. Department of Transportation requirements



Wastes will not be sent to any municipal landfills



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Where are we in the process?



- The DOE has identified a preferred alternative for the RMHF, but a decision has not yet been made
- The public is encouraged to comment on the preferred alternative at this meeting, or in writing, until April 30, 2007
- All comments submitted during the comment period will be reviewed and considered and a decision will be made



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What is not included in this action?



- Closure of permitted facilities
- Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA) corrective action requirements for soil and groundwater
- Former RMHF leach field



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For More Information



Visit the DOE website at <http://apps.em.doe.gov/etec>



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Public Comments



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