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Sen. Pavley Responds to Proposed Santa Susana Clean-up Agreement

AGOURA HILLS, CA - Senator Fran Pavley (D-Agoura Hills) today complimented the representatives of the state and federal agencies who negotiated a proposed historic settlement for the clean-up of Santa Susana Field Laboratory, one of the most contaminated sites in the United States

"Years of work have gone into the proposed settlement that was announced today by the California Environmental Protection Agency (CalEPA)," Senator Pavley said. "It is a remarkable announcement in that the strongest possible public health protections will be used in the cleanup, and it brings to a very successful conclusion the negotiations between the state, the U.S. Department of Energy and the National Aeronautic and Space Administration (NASA)."

The Santa Susana Field Laboratory (SSFL) is located 30 miles northwest of downtown Los Angeles in southeastern Ventura County, near the crest of the Simi Hills at the western border of the San Fernando Valley.

A former rocket engine test and nuclear research facility, the 2,849-acre field laboratory has been the focus of a comprehensive environmental investigation and cleanup program, conducted by Boeing, the United States Department of Energy (DOE) and the National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA), and overseen by the Department of Toxic Substances Control.

"I want to thank Cal-EPA Secretary Linda Adams, Governor Schwarzenegger, U.S. Department of Energy Secretary Steven Chu, NASA Administrator Charles Bolden, and many others at the Department of Toxics Substances Control for the years of work they have put into this clean-up," Senator Pavley said. "Special thanks go to U.S. Senator Barbara Boxer who has been very forceful on behalf of the public health protections that should be in place and who worked very hard with the federal agencies to make sure this agreement adhered to state law."

The settlement will fully implement SB 990, legislation authored by former State Senator Sheila Kuehl, who represented Senate District 23, from 2000-2008.

The proposed settlement will be available for public comment for 30 days and can be accessed on the Department of Toxic Substances Control (DTSC) website.

These agreements in principle must be finalized formally before they become effective. DTSC invites public review and comment until October 1, 2010. All comments should be addressed to:

<u>DOE Agreement in Principle: http://www.dtsc-ssfl.com/files/lib_correspond/agreements//64704_FINAL_DOE_Agreement_in_Principle.pdf</u>

<u>DOE Confirmation Sampling Protocol: http://www.dtsc-ssfl.com/files/lib_correspond/agreements//64709_DOE_Confirmation_Sampling_Protocol.pdf</u>

NASA Agreement in Principle: http://www.dtsc-ssfl.com/files/lib correspond/agreements//64711 FINAL NASA Agreement in Principle.pdf

(NOTE to Media: All of these individual documents can be accessed more conveniently in one single location as of Tuesday, 9/7/10 at

http://www.dtsc.ca.gov/SiteCleanup/Santa Susana Field Lab/SSFL-Agreements.cfm. DTSC's website is down for maintenance over the Labor Day weekend and these individual links are provided so that the media and public can have access during the weekend.)

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