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December 11, 2015

The Honorable Barbara Lee
Director
California Department of Toxic Substances Control (DTSC)
P.O. Box 806
Sacramento, CA 95812-0806

Dear Director Lee:

I write to follow-up on our recent discussion regarding the on-going clean-up of the Santa Susana Field Laboratory (SSFL) site.

I appreciate knowing of our shared commitment to protecting the public health, and am glad to know that you share my commitment to upholding the Administrative Orders on Consent (AOCs) signed by the Department of Energy and National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA). The federal agencies have also reiterated their AOC commitments to me in our recent meetings. I am also pleased to know that DTSC intends to hold Boeing responsible for a full clean-up that meets all potential future land-uses, as outlined by Ventura County's zoning regulations, which indicate a wide array of both residential and agricultural uses. It is vitally important that we hold all three responsible parties to the highest standards that will fully protect the public health from harmful chemical and radionuclide contamination.

As we discussed, clean-up of this site is a high public health and safety priority, and my involvement with the clean-up goes back to my time in the California Assembly as a principal co-author of SB 990. Since coming to Congress, I have been laser focused on oversight of the two responsible federal agencies, both of which have committed to me that the agencies are commitment to cleaning up the site in accordance with the Administrative Orders on Consent (AOCs). I have also been working to ensure that Congress appropriates the necessary funding for the clean-up.

As the state and federal environmental documents are prepared pursuant to the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) and the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), it is critical that DOE, NASA, and DTSC continue to engage with the local community to ensure that local resident and stakeholder views are heard.

I look forward to continuing to work with you to ensure a full clean-up of the SSFL site.

Sincerely,

JULIA BROWNLEY
Member of Congress