

**From:** [Christine Rowe](#)  
**To:** [MSFC-SSFL-EIS](#)  
**Cc:** [Elliott, Allen \(MSFC-AS01\)](#); [Fellows, Merrilee \(HQ-LD000\)](#)  
**Subject:** Fwd: PSR LA  
**Date:** Sunday, September 29, 2013 6:30:11 AM  
**Attachments:** [PSR LA Tell NASA to Uphold its SSFL Cleanup Agreement.jpg](#)

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Dear Mr. Elliott,

This action alert was posted on a website on FACEBOOK that I am a member of. I erased the preprogrammed message that was on this alert - below in red. I put in my own comments. Unfortunately, I sent the message without copying my comments. My comments were related to the fact that - to the best of my understanding - the person that posted this message does not live in the community that is impacted by the SSFL site today, or by any of the NASA SSFL proposed traffic routes - unless it is a freeway route? I am not sure where this person actually lives - but I believe it is in the eastern part of the San Fernando Valley.

Furthermore, the information from this individual's posts makes me believe that he has not read the whole document - and I believe that he is misquoting you? Yet I have never seen this person at a DTSC or NASA related meeting - because I have not seen him does not mean that he has not attended one.

Should you receive a PSR- LA action alert from me, could you please have someone from your staff forward it to me so that I can be assured that the message that I sent on that alert that you received was truly my own words?

It will come in from [rowecl@yahoo.com](mailto:rowecl@yahoo.com) - that should be an easier search for you from me.

Thank you.

Respectfully,

***Christine L. Rowe***

[http://org2.salsalabs.com/o/5393/p/dia/action3/common/public/?action\\_KEY=15435](http://org2.salsalabs.com/o/5393/p/dia/action3/common/public/?action_KEY=15435)

## Tell NASA to Uphold its SSFL Cleanup Agreement

PSR-LA has been working for a proper cleanup of the Santa Susana Field Laboratory (SSFL) for over thirty years. SSFL, located in the hills above the San Fernando and Simi Valleys, was the site of extensive nuclear reactor work and rocket testing beginning in the early days of Cold War and lasting for decades that left it grossly polluted with radiological and chemical contaminants.



In addition to a partial nuclear meltdown and other nuclear accidents, approximately thirty thousand rocket tests were conducted at SSFL. These tests and related activities

released large quantities of chemically hazardous materials, including extraordinary quantities of TCE, PCBS, dioxins, and toxic heavy metals that contaminated soil and groundwater. Also used in large quantities was perchlorate, a thyroid disrupter that causes developmental disorders, and also contaminates much soil and groundwater at SSFL. Over 30,000 rocket tests were conducted at SSFL.

The contaminants at SSFL pose a significant threat to public health. Federally-funded studies have found evidence that exposures onsite resulted in significantly elevated rates of death from various cancers for exposed workers, indications of increased cancer rates in nearby populations associated with their proximity to the site, and offsite releases of pollutants from SSFL at levels that could produce significant health effects in the surrounding communities.

In 2010, PSR-LA and hundreds of community members, health professionals, and concerned organizations successfully advocated for NASA and the Department of Energy to enter into agreements with the California Department of Toxic Substances Control to clean up the contamination on their portion of SSFL to background levels. In short, this means if they detect contamination, they are to clean it up.

NASA published a draft Environmental Impact Report on the SSFL cleanup that examined two options – one, a cleanup to background levels as it agreed to do in 2010, and the other, “no action.” There are indications that some within NASA are pushing for it to break out of its cleanup agreement. Please tell NASA to uphold its commitment to the cleanup agreement, and fully and completely carry out its provisions, which provide substantial protections to public health from toxic chemicals at the site.

A sample message is below but we strongly encourage you to use your own words. You can just go into the body of the sample email and edit it as you see fit. If you do personalize your message, we encourage you to customize the e-mail subject line too. The deadline is Tuesday October 1. **Please send your message today!**

**"Dear Mr. Elliott,**

**I'm writing to applaud NASA for having entered into a binding agreement with the State of California in 2010 to clean up all detectible contamination at the polluted Santa Susana Field Laboratory (SSFL). In response to NASA's Draft Environmental Report on the SSFL cleanup, I now urge NASA to now fully and rigorously carry out the commitments made in that cleanup agreement.**

**NASA's portion of SSFL is contaminated with toxic chemicals including PCBs, perchlorate, dioxins, heavy metals, and various volatile and semi-volatile organic compounds, all of which can produce harmful health effects. These materials can cause solid cancers and leukemias as well as developmental, genetic, neurological and immune system disorders.**

**NASA's contamination at SSFL has the potential to impact communities near the site and beyond. Indeed, pollutants from the site have already migrated offsite. The best way to ensure that public health is protected is to clean up to background as NASA has agreed to do.**

**NASA should be commended for having entered into the 2010 cleanup agreement. Now it is time to, without further delay, implement this historic cleanup agreement, thoroughly and completely.**

**Sincerely,"**

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### Sample E-mail

Subject:

### E-mails will be sent to:

Allen Elliott  
NASA SSFL Program Director  
Email:msfc-ssfl-eis@mail.nasa.gov



Over 30,000 rocket tests were conducted at SSFL.

