



West Hills Neighborhood Council

*"It's our neighborhood.
Let's build a community."*

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October 2, 2013

Mr. Allen Elliott, SSFL Program Director
NASA MSFC ASO1
Building 4494
Huntsville, Alabama 35812

**Re: WHNC Resolution Letter for the NASA Draft Environment
Impact Statement (DEIS)**

Dear Mr. Elliot:

The West Hills Neighborhood Council (WHNC) is in complete disagreement with the plan being proposed by NASA. There are two major areas of concern.

The first is the traffic and transportation scheme in which NASA estimates it will require 142 one-way truck trips per day (284 when round trips) for the disposal of 94,536 tons of building and rocket stand debris, the removal of 500,000 cu. yds. of contaminated soil and the installation of 167,000 cu. yds. of backfill soil from off-site sources. This work is to be done between 7:00 AM and 7:00 PM for a five day week and over a period of 3 years.

NASA points out the impacts to the safety of school children and the danger of driving trucks down a mountain road, Woolsey Canyon and the traffic affected by 142 one-way truck trips (284 when round trips) on Valley Circle and Roscoe Blvd. The threats to child safety are unacceptable. The proposed traffic volume needs to be reduced.

The second is that council has serious concerns with the removal of such a large amount of soil fearing that erosion will endanger the creeks in Dayton Canyon, Bell Canyon and Woolsey Canyon.



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Mr. Allen Elliott, SSFL Program Director
October 2, 2013
Page 2

Native American artifacts and sites including sacred areas and historic locations are to be destroyed and the plan includes the removal of the natural habitat for many wild animals, plants and trees. Further, the removal of the rocket test stands will eliminate historic reminders of our national space program.

The cleanup method that NASA has chosen calls for the most stringent standard, clean up to background, and this plan does not recognize the eventual use of the NASA land as open area which only requires limited cleanup. No consideration has been given to intermediate cleanup methods that are risk based and that are approved by the USEPA and used throughout the United States. These methods would reduce the amount of soil to be removed.

The WHNC requests that NASA reconsider its decision to limit the selection of one cleanup method and look at other alternatives and procedures that would mitigate the negative effects of this DEIS.

Very Truly Yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'D J Brin', with a horizontal line extending to the right.

Daniel J. Brin, President/Co-Chair
West Hills Neighborhood Council

cc: Councilman Mitchell Englander
12th Council District
cc: West Hills Neighborhood Council Board