



Statement

Thank you for this opportunity to provide DOE with comments on the draft EIS. Boeing is the owner of Area IV and the Northern Buffer Zone, the property that is primarily under evaluation in the draft EIS. We look forward to continuing to work cooperatively with DOE and NASA as cleanup activities at Santa Susana are implemented.

Boeing will be submitting written comments on the draft EIS, but we wanted to take this opportunity to express our support of your agency's approach to its analysis under NEPA in preparing the draft EIS.

NEPA requires a statement of the purpose and need for the proposed action, and DOE properly concluded that it is to remediate its portion of the site to protect both human health and the environment. The applicable federal and state statutes mandate this purpose. NEPA also requires the consideration of alternatives that will achieve the same purpose of reducing risk but will cause fewer or less serious environmental impacts. We support DOE's decision to evaluate alternatives to an AOC LUT Values cleanup.

We appreciate DOE's acknowledgment in the draft EIS that Boeing, as the property owner, will permanently preserve the land as open space; there will never be homes, gardens or any agricultural use. The draft EIS demonstrates that the AOC LUT Values alternative is at odds with the future use of the property as open space because it would profoundly disturb natural resources, ecosystems, wildlife habitat and wildlife corridors, resulting in decades-long or permanent damage to these irreplaceable environmental resources. The AOC LUT Values cleanup would also impose on the community a decade of unnecessary truck traffic, with increased emissions and traffic accident risk.

Boeing supports a responsible cleanup of the site that fully protects people, wildlife, habitat and cultural resources. As the property owner, Boeing is pleased that your draft EIS acknowledges that alternative approaches to remediating Area IV and the Northern Buffer Zone will be protective of human health, shorten the cleanup schedule, reduce impacts to adjacent communities, and limit damage to Santa Susana's unique biological and cultural resources that are worthy of protection.

Thank you.

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