

# Energy Technology Engineering Center

## Overview

The Energy Technology Engineering Center (ETEC) site is located at the Santa Susana Field Laboratory (SSFL), approximately 30 miles northwest of downtown Los Angeles, California. From the 1950s until 1988, DOE and its predecessor agencies conducted nuclear and liquid metals research on a portion of the site. While DOE does not own any land at the SSFL (today owned by The Boeing Company), the Department is responsible for demolition of the DOE-owned buildings and remediation of Area IV (290 acres and the adjoining Northern Buffer Zone).

The lead regulatory agency for cleanup of ETEC is the State of California Department of Toxic Substances Control (DTSC). However, the cleanup at ETEC is governed by many laws and regulations, and other federal, state, and local regulatory agencies.

## Calendar Year 2023 Accomplishments

- **Significantly reduced volatile organic compound impacted groundwater concentrations from 10,000 parts-per-billion (ppb) in 2017 to less than 500 ppb through ongoing groundwater interim measures**
- **Participated in the Santa Susana Field Laboratory Sacred Sites Council meeting with area Tribal leaders as part of continued engagement with Tribal representatives to provide guidance on protecting areas of cultural importance that could be impacted by the cleanup**

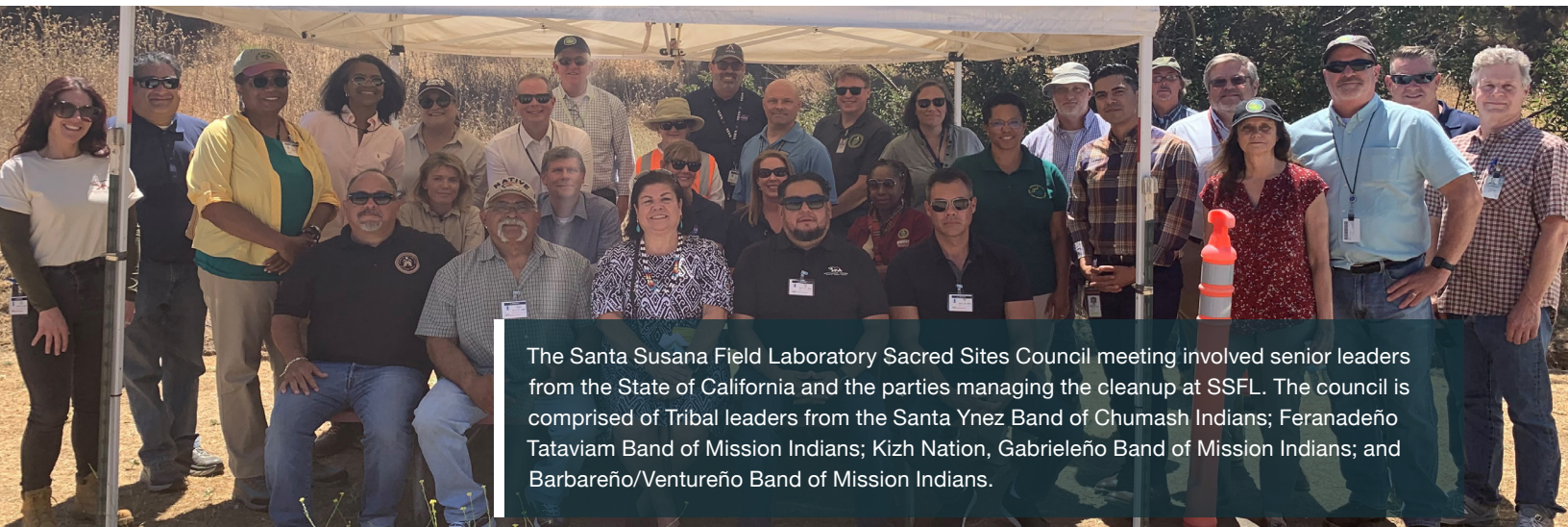
- **Commenced a collaborative study with DTSC, Boeing, and NASA to assess laboratory capabilities and local backfill availability to support final soils cleanup plans**

## Planned Cleanup Scope 2024–2034

Over the coming decade, EM will work with the state of California to make progress on both groundwater and soil remediation at SSFL. The State of California issued and certified a Final Program Environmental Impact Report for SSFL in 2023, which is a necessary step for the state to approve DOE's remediation plans. DOE is resolving some final comments from the state on groundwater treatment approaches as work continues on groundwater remediation. An automated pumping system is being installed at the Former Sodium Disposal Facility expected to start operations in 2024 and a pilot test for in-situ treatment has been approved for the Hazardous Waste Storage Area. DOE and the state are actively working towards reaching a timely resolution on remaining issues to allow EM to publish a Record of Decision needed to begin soil cleanup activities.

## Key Regulatory Milestones 2024-2034

In 2010, DOE signed an Administrative Order on Consent with California regulators that required soil remediation to background. EM remains committed to meeting this obligation and is engaging with California regulators on a path forward.



The Santa Susana Field Laboratory Sacred Sites Council meeting involved senior leaders from the State of California and the parties managing the cleanup at SSFL. The council is comprised of Tribal leaders from the Santa Ynez Band of Chumash Indians; Feranadeño Tataviam Band of Mission Indians; Kizh Nation, Gabrieleño Band of Mission Indians; and Barbareño/Ventureño Band of Mission Indians.



## Post-2034 Cleanup Scope

Remaining cleanup activities at ETEC post 2034 will depend on progress made on soil and groundwater remediation during the next 10 years. The envisioned end state for the ETEC site is an open space for the surrounding community to enjoy and to provide habitat for the wildlife of the Santa Susana Mountains. The land's future as an open space habitat will preserve the land as a wildlife corridor; benefit the unique and critical habitat of local plants and animals, many of which are threatened; and preserve its many Tribal and cultural resources.



Debris is removed following the Sodium Pump Test Facility demolition.