

Murray, Dillan

From: Marie Mason [REDACTED]
Sent: Sunday, June 28, 2020 4:55 PM
To: Murray, Dillan
Subject: NOMINATION OF THE SANTA SUSANA FIELD LABORATORY AS THE BURRO FLATS CULTURAL DISTRICT

Marie Mason
[REDACTED]
Susana Knolls, CA 93063

RE: SSFL Site

Dear Mr. Murray

I have lived in the Knolls community since 1972 directly below this site. Once again I wake up to a disturbing headline in the Daily News “Lab site could get cultural protection”. This is like a bad joke at a time when we don’t need any. The idea that NASA is trying to get the total 2800 acres as a cultural site is beyond belief. This is one of the most contaminated sites in CA with not only chemical contamination from the years of rocket testing but also has extensive radiological contamination from several nuclear reactors along with a meltdown in 1959. This seems to be something that NASA conveniently left out in their nomination.

The ownership of this site by Boeing, NASA and DOE resulted in this site along with areas outside the boundaries of this site impacted with wide spread contamination leading to health issues not only for me and my family but many families who continue to be impacted by this toxic site. To have these same polluters now claim that they care about this site that was used by Native Americans is absurd. The users of this site have shown no regard for the site and even less regard for the families that live below. They seem to only NOW care that the site was used for religious ceremonies many years ago because they want to walk away from doing their legal and moral responsibility to clean up all the toxic mess they have made and now want to leave behind.

There is only a small portion of this site, according to the newspaper, 25 acres out of the 2800 acres called Burro Flats Painted Cave Area that are cultural in nature since the remainder of the site has been paved and they have mowed down most of the natural terrain to install all the hundreds of buildings, roads and rocket test stands. SSFL has been a working industrial site for over 60 years and not much is the way it was when the Native Americans used it. The Burro Flats area is already protected.

I urge you to deny this request. Please see it for what it really is, that one of the largest and wealthiest corporations along with the federal government, as a new plan to just walk away from the total clean up the community was promised in 2010 with the excuse we need to save it for the Native Americans. This site is not safe for the families of the surrounding communities unless all the toxic chemical and radiological contamination is cleaned up.

I have been working and waiting for this clean-up for 31 years almost half of my adult life. The community doesn’t need another diversion from what needs to be done to clean up the toxic mess they have left behind

The Cultural Heritage Board needs to remove this from consideration until this site is fully cleaned up to the agreements signed in 2010.

Regards
Marie Mason