



EIN

SANTA SUSANA

FIELD LABORATORY-GROUNDWATER INVESTIGATION

As a result of past rocket-engine testing and energy research, chemicals seeped into the soil and groundwater of the Santa Susana Field Laboratory site. The primary groundwater contaminant is trichloroethylene (TCE), a common industrial solvent. TCE was used in the early years at the lab to clean out residual fuel after rocket engine testing and degrease parts and equipment.

In 1984, Rocketdyne, the previous owner of the property, began an

extensive investigation and cleanup program to identify and prevent the spread of groundwater that was contaminated. Groundwater experts (for more information see page 2). Under their direction, several new techniques were developed to examine the fractured bedrock and deep groundwater and study the distribution, transport and fate of chemical contamination.

67.4 (9(n a2.5 (o.1 (n a)-10.1d (oo (e)-f)-013.9 r5.1 (o)-5.3 .3 Td.2 () (e)-19.r3.2

Explanation of the Findings

Contamination is contained. The limited movement of groundwater contamination at Santa Susana is due to characteristics of the aquifer at the site. Groundwater at the former Santa Susana Field Laboratory is primarily in the Chatsworth formation, a common geologic formation of the Simi Hills and western Santa Susana Mountains. The Chatsworth formation is primarily sandstone, with some embedded

GROUNDWATER STUDIES

Treatability studies **IN-WORK**



Contamination concentration is decreasing.

The lessening extent of groundwater contamination and decreasing concentration of contaminants in the groundwater indicate that contaminants are actively breaking down on their own (natural degradation). Even so, Boeing is currently conducting studies to determine the feasibility of other options to potentially accelerate the reduction or elimination of chemical concentrations in groundwater below the Santa Susana property. One of the interim measures will be to pump groundwater from certain areas of Santa Susana and treat the water at the GETS before re-injecting the clean water back into the ground.

Drinking water is not affected.

It is important to note that although Boeing, DOE and NASA are working under the oversight of DTSC to reduce contamination in groundwater at Santa Susana, groundwater below the Santa Susana site is not — and never will be — used for public consumption. The use of groundwater for drinking water purposes is expressly prohibited in the 2017 Conservation