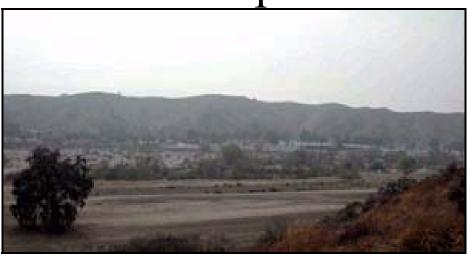


DEPARTMENT OF TOXIC SUBSTANCES CONTROL

Region 3, 1011 North Grandview Avenue, Glendale, CA 91201 Para información en español por favor comuníquese con Leticia Hernández al (714) 484-5488.

Public Participation Plan



Whittaker Corporation, Bermite Facility 22116 West Soledad Canyon Road, Santa Clarita, California

May, 2004

Approved by:

Tim Chauvel Public Participation Specialist Department of Toxic Substances Control (714) 484-5487, Fax 714-484-5329 Email: tchauvel@dtsc.ca.gov

Initial draft submitted by: Whittaker Corporation, in consultation with CERREL & Associates Inc.

Whittaker prepared this Plan in accordance with the requirements of the *Imminent and Substantial Endangerment and Remedial Action Order-Docket No. IS&E 02/03-009, November 2002, Section 5.8, page 30; Health & Safety Code sections 25356.1 and 25358.7; and DTSC's 2001, Public Participation and Guidance Manual*

TABLE OF CONTENTS

ļ	Page
1.0 INTRODUCTION	2
1.1 ORGANIZATION OF THIS PUBLIC PARTICIPATION PLAN	2
1.2 SOURCES OF INFORMATION USED FOR THIS PUBLIC PARTICIPATION PLAN	2
1.3 AGENCIES WITH OVERSIGHT RESPONSIBILITIES	3
2.0 FACILITY DESCRIPTION AND HISTORY	4
2.1 SITE LOCATION, DESCRIPTION, AND SURROUNDING LAND USE	4
2.2 FACILITY HISTORY	5
FIGURE 1. WHITTAKER-BERMITE SITE LOCATION MAP	6
3.0 DESCRIPTION OF CONTAMINATED SITES AND CLEANUP ACTIVITIES	7
3.1 HAZARDOUS MATERIALS USAGE AT THE SITE	7
3.2 INVESTIGATION AND CLEANUP	7
3.3 WORK IN PROGRESS	8
TABLE 1. WHITTAKER-BERMITE OPERABLE UNIT (OU) SCHEDULE	10
FIGURE 2. WHITTAKER-BERMITE OPERABLE UNIT (OU) SITE LOCATION MAP	10
4.0 PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT AND OUTREACH	11
4.1 COMMUNITY CONCERNS	11
4.2 STAKEHOLDER CONCERNS	11
4.3 DEVELOPMENT OF THREE STEP PUBLIC OUTREACH STRATEGY	12
4.4 IMPLEMENTATION OF PUBLIC OUTREACH STRATEGY	12
TABLE 2. WHITTAKER-BERMITE 2004 PUBLIC OUTREACH STRATEGY	14
APPENDIX A — KEY CONTACTS AND DTSC'S MANDATORY MAILING LIST	15
APPENDIX B — COMMUNITY SURVEY RESULTS	19
APPENDIX C — DEMOGRAPHIC PROFILE	61
APPENDIX D — HISTORY OF WHITTAKER'S ROLE IN SITE CLEANUP ACTIVITIES, AND ACTIONS TO BE TAKEN UNDER THE 2002 UNILATERAL ORDER	62
APPENDIX E — LOCATIONS WHERE YOU CAN FIND SITE RELATED INFORMATION	66
APPENDIX F — CHEMICAL AND WASTE SUMMARY BY PRODUCT CATEGORY	67

1.0 INTRODUCTION

The purpose of this Public Participation Plan (Plan) is to promote effective communication between the Department of Toxic Substances Control (DTSC), the community, and other stakeholders associated with the cleanup of the Whittaker-Bermite Facility located in Santa Clarita, California. DTSC will use this Plan to identify community concerns and issues related to the site, and to outline a strategy for keeping the community informed and involved throughout the cleanup process. A further goal of this Plan is to present a summary overview of historical and ongoing site characterization and cleanup activities.

The former Whittaker-Bermite Facility is the site of historic ordnance manufacturing by a series of companies dating back to the 1930s. As a result of this past industrial use of the property the DTSC has determined that certain substances are present in soil and groundwater at levels that require remediation to prepare the site for redevelopment and protect surface and ground water quality. Section 2 and Appendix E give more details on the contamination and cleanup activities taking place at the site.

1.1 Organization of this Public Participation Plan

Section 1.0 describes the purpose of this Plan, introduces the site, lists the sources of information used to prepare the Plan, and describes the agencies that oversee the site.

Section 2.0 outlines the site location and surrounding land use, and gives a brief

history of the manufacturing operations at the facility.

Section 3.0 explains the hazardous materials contamination at the site and the investigation and cleanup activities.

Section 4.0 summarizes community and stakeholder concerns about the site based on surveys and interviews, and describes the three step public outreach process DTSC will implement to keep the community informed and involved.

Appendix A is a list of key contacts.

Appendix B is a summary of the community survey results sent to 5,000 local residents.

Appendix C gives a demographic profile of the community surrounding the site.

Appendix D gives a detailed history of Whittaker's involvement in the site investigation and cleanup.

Appendix E gives locations where technical documentation about the site assessment and cleanup can be reviewed.

1.2 Sources of Information Used for this Public Participation Plan

This Plan is based on information gathered from interviews with elected state and county officials, the Santa Clarita City Council, the Santa Clarita Chamber of Commerce, the Whittaker/Bermite Community Advisory Group (CAG), and the Santa Clarita Organization for Planning and the Environment (SCOPE).

This Plan was also based on

demographic data and file information from Whittaker Corporation and public comments from a community survey mailed to approximately 5000 residents and businesses living near the facility.

1.3 Agencies with Oversight Responsibilities

Department of Toxic Substances Control (DTSC). DTSC regulates hazardous waste facilities and oversees the cleanup of hazardous waste sites in California.

Department of Health Services (DHS).

DHS enforces the federal and state Safe Drinking Water Acts. DHS also evaluates and approves treatment technologies for contaminated drinking water supplies. In addition, the DHS Radiological Branch provides oversight and workplan review input for the remedial activities involving radiological issues associated with the depleted uranium in Operable unit 3.

Regional Water Quality Control Board (RWQCB). The mission of the RWQCB is to preserve and enhance the quality of California's water and to work with DTSC to assess regional groundwater quality. The RWQCB oversees and enforces waste discharge permits.

South Coast Air Quality Management District (SCAQMD). The South Coast Air Quality Management District makes and enforces air pollution regulations. AQMD also has broad authority to regulate toxic and hazardous air emissions.

2.0 FACILITY DESCRIPTION AND HISTORY

2.1 Site Location, Description, and Surrounding Land Use

The former Whittaker, Bermite Facility is located at 22116 West Soledad Canyon Road, Santa Clarita, California 91352. The location of the Property is shown in Figure 1.

The Property covers approximately 996 acres. It consists of chaparral covering the undisturbed portions of the acreage, firebreaks, dirt roads and remnants of building foundations. The climate is semi-arid and the landscape includes steep hillsides with intermittent streams and deep canyons.

Whittaker ceased operations at the facility in 1987 and removed most of the structures at that time. Approximately 20 structures still remain in the northern portion of the site, which were or are still used as offices.

The surrounding areas consist of commercial (retail), light industrial (business park), and residential land uses. The Saugus Speedway is northwest of the property. The Circle J Ranch residential community borders the property to the south. Approximately 10 acres along the northern fringe of the Property have been developed as a Metrolink commuter rail station.

The following is a list of schools, preschools, and community activity centers located in close proximity to the Whittaker facility:

Golden Valley High School 20501 Golden Valley Road,

Santa Clarita, CA 91321

Bowman Continuation High School 21508 Centre Pointe Parkway, Santa Clarita, CA 91350

Child & Family Center Kids Corner Preschool – Circle of Care 21545 Centre Pointe Parkway Santa Clarita, CA

CBS Early Childhood Education Centre Congregation Beth Shalom 21430 Centre Pointe Parkway Santa Clarita, CA

Creative Years Nursery School 21710 West Golden Triangle Road Santa Clarita, CA

Notre Dame Infant Centre & Preschool 21706 West Golden Triangle Road Santa Clarita, CA

His Little Lambs Preschool A Ministry of Faith Community Church 21704 West Golden Triangle Road Santa Clarita, CA

Santa Clarita Sports Complex 20870 Centre Pointe Parkway, Santa Clarita, CA

Santa Clarita Aquatic Center 20850 Center Pointe Parkway, Santa Clarita, CA

Santa Clarita Activity Center 20880 Centre Pointe Parkway, Santa Clarita, CA

Please note that the above schools and activity centers are not located on the facility location map on page 6.

2.2 Facility History

During the early history of the site, manufacturing was restricted to the northern portion of the Property. The manufacturing plant later expanded toward the southeast into the central portion of the property. Of the entire 996 acres, the actual production facilities occupied approximately 50 acres.

Early Explosives Manufacturing at the Site: 1934-1967

From 1934 to 1936, the Los Angeles Powder Company reportedly manufactured dynamite on the site. In 1939, Golden State Fireworks produced fireworks. The Halifax Explosives Company reportedly manufactured fireworks at the facility from 1936 to 1942. The Bermite Powder Company produced detonators, fuzes, boosters, coated magnesium, and stabilized red phosphorus from 1942 to 1967. In addition, between 1942 and 1953 they produced flares, photoflash bombs for battlefield illumination, and other explosives.

Whittaker's Operations at the Site: 1967-1987

Whittaker purchased Bermite Company and assumed ownership of the property in 1967. The property became known as the Whittaker-Bermite Facility. Whittaker operated the property from 1967 through 1987, as a munitions manufacturing, testing and storage facility. They manufactured various products in the general categories listed below:

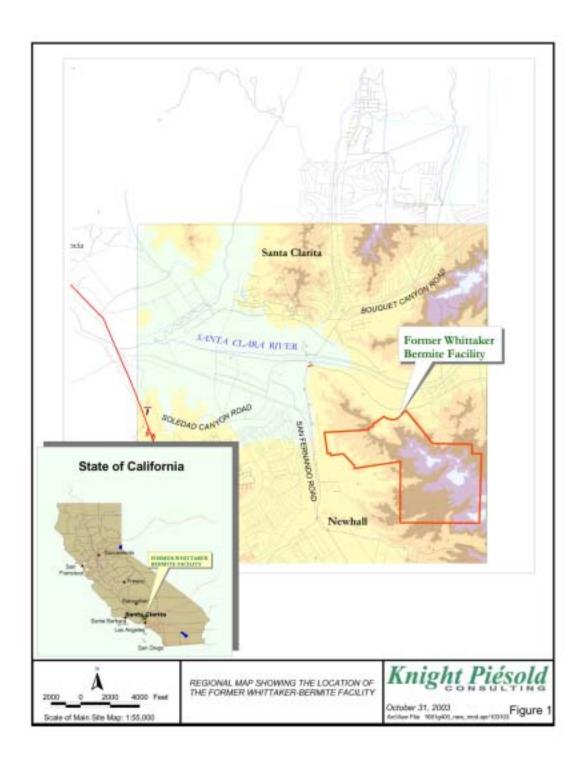
- Ammunition rounds
- Detonators, fuzes, and boosters

- Flares and signal cartridges
- Glow plugs, tracers, and pyrophoric pellets
- Igniters, ignition compositions, and explosive bolts
- Power charges
- Rocket motors and gas generators
- Missile main charges

Some of the products listed were produced in small quantities while others were mass-produced as a result of large defense contracts. Other products remained in research and development stages and were tested onsite.

In 1987, the facility ceased all of its manufacturing, testing, and storage of ordnance and explosive items.

Figure 1. Whittaker-Bermite Site Location Map



3.0 DESCRIPTION OF CONTAMINATED SITES AND CLEANUP ACTIVITIES

3.1 Hazardous Materials Usage at the Site

Hazardous materials used at the facility included lead azide, red phosphorus, barium, zinc, copper, chromium, and chlorinated solvents such as tetrachlorethylene (PCE) and trichloroethylene (TCE). Potassium and ammonium perchlorate were used in propellant mixtures for various rocket and missile motors. Depleted uranium and mercury were also tested and used at the facility. See Appendix F (page 67) for a full summary of hazardous materials used at the site.

Whittaker operated a total of 14 treatment, storage, and disposal units that were permitted under interim status provisions of the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA). These included surface impoundments, burn areas, waste ordnance storage magazines, a detonation range, and a hazardous waste treatment and storage facility. Liquids containing regulated hazardous wastes were collected in containers and transported off the site for recycling or disposal at permitted facilities.

Non-hazardous solid waste, refuse, and demolition debris were disposed of on site, primarily in areas that had been used as landfills since the early 1930s. Because these were not hazardous wastes, they were not included in the RCRA interim permit.

3.2 Investigation and Cleanup

The Property has been divided into seven Operable Units (OUs), see Figure 2, page 10. These operable units group together areas that are topographically connected with common drainages with exception of the groundwater OU 7. Using operable units makes the investigation and cleanup easier to manage and more efficient to conduct clean up operations.

OU 1 through 6 are soil OUs that are focused on assessing soil contamination from the surface to 200 feet below ground surface.

OU 1 is located along the eastern boundary of the property and was divided in 1999 into five sub-OUs, known as A, B, C, D, and E, in order to expedite the construction of Golden Valley Road for the City of Santa Clarita. OU1 A, B, and C, were investigated under the DTSC Preliminary Endangerment Assessment process. Potential contaminants of concern identified during the Remedial Investigation of OU1 D and E include:

- Perchlorate
- Volatile Organic Compounds
- Metals (not specified at this time)

OU 2 is located adjacent to OU1 D south, and contains OU6 within its boundary. The potential contaminants of concern include:

- Perchlorate
- Volatile Organic Compounds
- Metals (not specified at this time)

OU 3 is located in the central portion of the property. The potential contaminants of concern include:

- Perchlorate

- Volatile Organic Compounds
- Mercury
- Buried Waste
- Depleted Uranium
- Ordnance Explosive Items

OU 4 is located in western portion of the property. The potential contaminants of concern include:

- Perchlorate
- Buried Waste
- Ordnance Explosives

OU 5 is located in the northern portion of the property. The potential contaminants of concern include:

- Perchlorate
- Volatile Organic Compounds
- Semi-Volatile Organic Compounds
- Ordnance Explosives
- Metals (silver)

OU 6 is the one remaining RCRA unit that has not yet been closed located within OU 2. This site has soil and groundwater that has been contaminated with TCE and during the recent 2003 field investigation perchlorate has also been identified.

OU 7 encompasses all the groundwater throughout the site and area where soil contamination was identified below 200 feet. The main contaminants of concern in the groundwater are:

- Perchlorate
- Volatile Organic Compounds

Regional Groundwater Study

In 2002, Congress funded a region-wide study of groundwater contamination in the Eastern Santa Clara River Subbasin region. This study, co-sponsored by the Castaic Lake Water Agency, is based on the fact that many facilities in the region, including the Bermite facility, were involved in the production of products for the U.S. military. This project is administered by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers. The investigation activities are being integrated and incorporated into the OU7 Remedial Investigation program that Whittaker is performing under DTSC oversight.

3.3 Work in Progress

Whittaker consultants and contractors are currently conducting additional investigations in OU1D, OU2. OU3 and OU6 to further characterize and assess the condition of the Property. The known source areas identified during previous site investigations conducted in 1995 through 1998 and other suspect areas since identified will be further investigated, characterized, and evaluated as required.

Additional sampling is proposed where previous site investigations have identified contaminants of concern from a list of chemicals potentially present in specific areas of the site.

As with the initial investigations, fieldwork will include soil borings, investigative trenching, soil gas surveys, geological fault investigations, ordnance and explosive waste surveys, installation of monitoring wells, well development, aquifer testing and other activities.

Whittaker has retained a contractor with specialized training and expertise in dealing with potential ordnance explosives including unexploded ordnance (UXO). This contractor performed a study, funded by the U.S. Army, to demonstrate technologies for

the removal of landfill material that may contain unexploded ordnance.

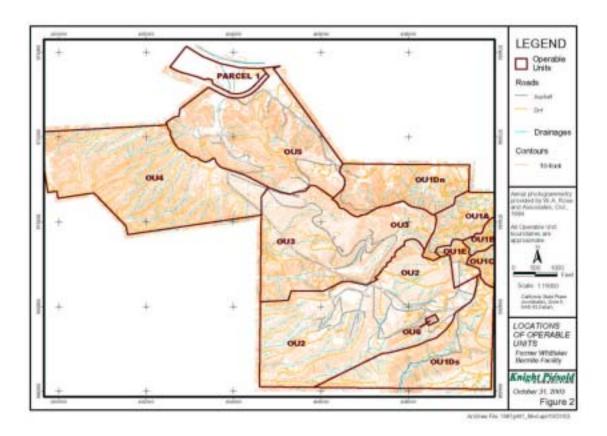
See Table 1. (page 9) for DTSC's proposed OU work schedule. Also see Appendix D (page 62) for a more in depth history of Whittaker's role in site cleanup activities, and additional actions to be conducted under the November 2002 Imminent and Substantial Endangerment Order.

Table 1. Whittaker-Bermite Operable Unit (OU) Schedule

OPERABLE UNIT	WORKPLAN DUE	INVESTIGATION COMPLETE	FINAL RI REPORT DUE	FINAL FS REPORT DUE	DRAFT RAP DUE	FINAL RAP DUE	EXPECTED DATE OF CERTIFICATION
OU1	Complete	Complete	April 2004	April 2004	May 2004	June 2004	June 2005
OU2/OU6	Complete	Aug. 2003	Dec. 2003	May 2004	Sept 2004	Nov 2004	Oct 2006
OU3	July 2003	Jan. 2004	May 2004	Sept. 2004	Jan 2005	Mar 2005	Mar 2007
OU4	Jan 2004	July 2004	Jan 2005	Mar 2005	July 2005	Sept 2005	Nov 2006
OU5	Dec 2003	May 2004	Sept 2004	Dec 2004	Mar 2005	May 2005	May 2007
OU7 Alluvium	June 2003	Jan 2004	June 2004	Dec 2004	June 2005	Aug 2005	Aug 2010
OU7 Saugus	July 2003	Jan 2004	June 2004	Dec 2004	June 2005	Aug 2005	Aug 2010

Note: The dates outlined in the above OU schedule are estimations dependent upon conditions identified during field activities that are beyond the control of the field investigation and remedial action field teams using best available control technology. Certification means DTSC has approved the implementation of the remediation methods or technology. Operations and maintenance may continue until DTSC deems the site is cleaned up to the required level.

Figure 2. Whittaker-Bermite Operable Unit (OU) Site Location Map



4.0 PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT AND OUTREACH

Dating back to the early 1990's, a number of fact sheets focusing on the status of the site investigation and cleanup efforts were produced by DTSC. More recently, the City of Santa Clarita provided additional bulletin and Web site updates regarding the property, property owner, and the City's efforts to expedite the remediation of the soil and groundwater.

In 1998, a Community Advisory Group (CAG) was formed by local residents concerned with the health and safety of the community and the pace of cleanup.

Between 1999, when Santa Clarita, LLC (SCLLC) purchased the Property, and SCLLC's default in 2001-02, DTSC and SCLLC regularly addressed the community at CAG meetings and City Council and/or Planning Commission Study Sessions.

CAG History

The CAG has been instrumental in focusing concern on specific issues that are of importance to the community. Appendix B community survey comment number 113, pages 32 & 33, gives a more detailed account of the CAG's formation and interaction with Government officials.

4.1 Community Concerns

Members of the public forwarded 658 written responses to a July 2003, DTSC community survey questionnaire that was mailed out to five thousand residents and businesses. Public comment relating to DTSC's site

investigation and cleanup activities focused on the following main concerns:

- ∠ Perceived exposure to water contaminated with perchlorate (a primary ingredient in the manufacture of rocket propellant), was cited as the number one concern.
- ∉ Perceived exposure to dust blown chemical contaminants.
- Protection of children's health
 from the perceived exposure to
 chemical contaminants was of
 paramount importance to parents.
- Repeated frustration was expressed at the lack of cleanup of groundwater contamination which resulted in the shutting down of five water supply wells.
- The community expressed an overwhelming need for information that clearly indicates the potential risk and safeguards concerning the protection of public health.

The complete survey results and associated unabridged public comment can be found in Appendix B, and also on DTSC's Web site at: http://www.dtsc.ca.gov/SiteCleanup/Whi ttaker Bermite/index.html.

4.2 Stakeholder Concerns

Face-to-face interviews were undertaken with Government officials and community representatives between May and August, 2003. Interviewees' comments and concerns focused on the following main points:

- Protect the short-and-long-term health of the community.
- Protection and cleaning of public drinking water supplies and groundwater is the number one priority.
- ∉ An aggressive timetable is needed in order to move forward with both soil and groundwater investigation and remediation activities.
- ✓ Direct communication between DTSC, stakeholders, and the public must be enhanced.
- ∉ The Department needs to be more proactive in engaging the public.
- ✓ Need for a coordinated comprehensive public education outreach effort.
- Public information must focus on outlining the ongoing site characterization and cleanup activities.
- ∉ Information must be descriptive and non-technical. Technical documents can be placed on DTSC's Website.

4.3 Development of Three Step Public Outreach Strategy

After review of the community survey results, face-to-face interview notes, and

the incorporation of a closing round of stakeholder comment, a public outreach strategy was identified that incorporates the following three steps:

- ★ Step 3: Implementation of an action item timetable indicating the responsible party and timeline for each public outreach step that will be undertaken.

4.4 Implementation of Public Outreach Strategy

In order to address public concerns effectively, DTSC and key stakeholders have agreed to implement a public outreach strategy that focuses on an integrated multi-stakeholder communication approach that utilizes resources and communication tools.

Implementation of the communication outreach strategy will start in early 2004. Ideally, the strategy will be flexible enough to incorporate and implement new public outreach tools and information as needed.

The communication strategy will be evaluated annually in order to gauge the

effectiveness of the outreach in addressing community and stakeholder concerns.

As agreed by DTSC and key stakeholders, Table 2 (page 14) outlines the public outreach strategy that will be implemented in 2004 and beyond.

Table 2. Whittaker-Bermite 2004 Public Outreach Strategy

Table 2. Whittaker-Bern	mite 2004 Pub		n Strategy	
Action	Communication	Required by	Responsible	Timeline
	Tools	Law	Party	
	∉ Fact sheet ∉ Public notice ∉ Public Hearing ∉ 30-day public comment period ∉ Formal response to public comments ∉ DTSC Web site www.dtsc.ca.gov ∉ Facility mailing list ∉ E-mail list ∉ Free call in number (661) 705-1444	YES	Department of Toxic Substances Control (DTSC)	Start 2004 through 2010
∉ Two six monthly updates on soil and groundwater investigations, remediation activities, and perchlorate contamination cleanup activities.	 ∉ Fact sheet ∉ Web site ∉ Mailing list ∉ E-mail list ∉ Public meetings ∉ Call in number (661) 705-1444 	NO	DTSC/Whittaker/ Cerrell & Associates	Start 2004 (Ongoing/ as required)
∉ Yearly updates on the property, property ownership, and cleanup actions.	✓ Newsletter(s)✓ City Web site✓ www.santa-clarita.com✓ Mailing list	NO	City of Santa Clarita	Ongoing/ as required
 ∉ Ongoing development of expanded outreach to Home Owner Associations (HOA), Schools, and local residents. ∉ Yearly review of public outreach strategy. 	 ∉ CAG meetings ∉ Mailing list ∉ E-mail list ∉ Media outreach ∉ Web site(s) ∉ Call in number (661) 705-1444 	NO	DTSC/Whittaker/ CAG/ Cerrell & Associates	Ongoing/ as required
 ∉ Update Administrative Record ∉ Periodic updates on technical studies. 	∉ Work plans and reports ∉ Web site ∉ Fact sheets ∉ Mailing list ∉ Call in number (661) 705-1444	(As required)	US Army Corps of Engineers	Ongoing/ as required

Appendix A — Key Contacts and DTSC's Mandatory Mailing List

Key Contacts:

Elected Officials

Congressman Howard McKeon

25th District, California

Field Representative: Linda Lambourne

District Office:

23929 W. Valencia Blvd., Suite 410

Santa Clarita, CA 91355 Phone: (661) 254-2111

Fax: (661) 254-2380

State Senator WM. J. "Pete" Knight

Field Representative: Patty Kelly

District Office:

25709 Rye Canyon Road, #105

Santa Clarita, CA 91355

Phone: (661) 294-8184 Fax: (661) 294-8188

State Assemblyman Keith Richman

District 38

Field Representative: Fred Trueblood

District Office:

10727 White Oak Ave., Suite 124

Granada Hills, CA 91344 Phone: (818) 368-3838

Fax: (818) 885 885-3307

Supervisor Michael D. Antonovich

Fifth District, County of Los Angeles

Planning Deputy: Paul Novak

869 Kenneth Hahn Hall of

Administration

Los Angeles, CA 90012

Phone: (213) 974-5555 Fax: (213) 947-1010

Government Agency Contacts

Department of Toxic Substances Control (DTSC)

1011 North Grandview Avenue Glendale, CA 91201

Project Manager: Tony Espinosa

Phone: (818) 551-2948

Public Participation: Tim Chauvel

Phone: (714) 484-5487

Media Contact: Jeanne Garcia

Phone: (818) 551-2176

Department of Health Services (DHS)

District Engineer: Jeff O'Keefe

Phone: (213) 580-3181

Drinking Water Field Operations 1449 West Temple Street, Room 202

Los Angeles, CA 90026

U.S. Army Corps of Engineers

Larry Sievers, Project Manager Eastern Santa Clarita Subbasin Study

911 Wilshire Boulevard Los Angeles, TBD

Phone: (213) 452-3989

South Coast Air Quality Management District (AQMD)

Phone: (909) 396-2000 Web site: www.agmd.gov

Castaic Lake Water Agency

Steve McClean, Operations Engineer

27234 Bouquet Canyon Road

Santa Clarita, California 91350-2173

Phone: (661) 297-1610 Fax: (661) 297-1611

Local Government

City of Santa Clarita

Lisa Hardy, Senior Planner Phone: (661) 255-4330 23920 Valencia Blvd., Suite 300 Santa Clarita, CA 91355-2196

Community Representatives

Connie Worden-Roberts, Community Advisory Group (CAG) Chair Phone: (661) 295-0006

Whittaker Corporation

Brain Kelleher, Kelleher & Associates Phone: (408) 528-7719

DTSC's Mandatory Mailing List:

State Wide Listing

Mr. Jim Marxen, Chief, PP&E DTSC, P.O. Box 806, Sacramento, CA 95812-0806

Ms. Diane Takvorian Environmental Health Coalition 1717 Kettner Blvd., #100 San Diego, CA 92101

Environment California 107 9th Street, Suite 601 Sacramento, CA 95814

Ms. Liz Allen Sierra Club, 394 Blaisdell Claremont, CA 91711

Ms. Jane Williams California Community Against Toxic P.O. Box 845, Rosamond, CA 93560 Mr. Jose Kou, Permitting Chief, DTSC, Region 3, 1011 North Grandview Avenue, Glendale, CA 91201

Ms. Marilyn Underwood Department of Health Services Environmental Health Investigation Branch, 1515 Clay Street, Suite 1700 Oakland, CA 94612

Ms. Vanessa Byrd Environmental Justice Coordinator DTSC, 8800 Cal Center Drive Sacramento, CA 95814

Mr. Carlos Porras Communities for a Better Environment 1611 Telegraph Avenue, Suite 450 Oakland, CA 94612

Ms. Ann Coombs League of Women Voters 65 Avalon Drive Los Altos, CA 94022

Ms. Gwendolyn Eng Regional Representative, U.S. EPA Region IX, 75 Hawthorne Street San Francisco, CA 94105

Mr. Bill Magavern Sierra Club, 1414 K Street, Suite 500 Sacramento, CA 95814

Mr. Bradley Angel Green Action, One Hallidie Plaza, Ste. 760, San Francisco, CA 94102

Greenpeace 75 Arkansas Street, Suite 1 San Francisco, CA 94107-2434

DTSC's Mailing List Continued:

Ms. Jeanne Garcia, Public Information Officer, DTSC, 1011 North Grandview Avenue, Glendale, CA 91201

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Mr. Joe Lyou California Environmental Rights Alliance, P.O. Box 116 El Segundo, CA 90245-0116

Mr. Chuck White Waste Management Inc. 915 L. Street, #1430 Sacramento, CA 95814

Mr. Andre Amy, Duty Officer DTSC – Region 3 1011 Grandview Avenue Glendale, CA 91201

Ms. Sharon Fair, Branch Chief School Property Evaluation and Cleanup Division, DTSC - Region 3 1011 Grandview Avenue, Glendale, CA 91201

Ms. Randi Jorgensen Public Participation Supervisor DTSC – Region 3, 1011 Grandview Avenue, Glendale, CA 91201

Mr. Guenther Moskat Office of Legal Council/Planning Analysis Env. Assessment, P.O. Box 806, Sacramento, CA 95812-0806 Ms. Kelly Moran TDC Environmental 4020 Bayview Avenue San Mateo, CA 94403

California Council for Environmental & Economic Balance Mr. Victor Weisser 100 Spear Street, #805 San Francisco, CA 94105

Triss Chesney, Unit Chief School Property Evaluation & Cleanup Division DTSC – Region 4 5796 Corporate Avenue Cypress, CA 90630

Ms. Mona Arteaga Public Participation Supervisor DTSC – Region 4 5796 Corporate Avenue Cypress, CA 90630

Ms. Gloria Conti Duty Officer DTSC – Region 4 5796 Corporate Avenue Cypress, CA 90630

RCRA Projects

Mr. Steve Armann U.S. EPA Region IX, 75 Hawthorne Street, San Francisco, CA 94105-3901

Los Angeles County

Ms. Maggie Ide SCAG, 818 West 7th Street Los Angeles, CA 90017

DTSC's Mandatory Mailing List Continued:

Mr. Herman Mulman Seniors for Political Action 6255 Ben Avenue North Hollywood, CA 90048

Directing Attorney NAACP Legal Defense 1055 Wilshire Blvd., Suite 1480 Los Angeles, CA 90017

Mr. Shahin Nourishad, Supervisor L.A. County Fire Department Site Mitigation Unit 5825 Rickenbacker Road Commerce, CA 90043

Ms. Pang Mueller, Manager Reclaim Administrator South Coast Air Quality Management District, 21865 East Copley Drive Diamond Bar, CA 91765-4182

Dr. Paul Simon L.A. County, Department of Health Services, 313 N. Figueroa Street Room 127, Los Angeles, CA 90012

Mr. Bill Piazza LAUSD, 1449 S. San Pedro Street Los Angeles, CA 90015

Hon. Yvonne B. Burke LA County Hall of Administration 500 W. Temple Street, Suite 866 Los Angeles, CA 90012

Ms. Miriam Simmons Senior Deputy, Environmental Issues LA County Hall of Administration 500 W. Temple Street, Suite 866 Los Angeles, CA 90012 Ms. Sharon Thomas LAUSD, 335 S. Grand Avenue, Suite 702, Los Angeles, CA 90071

Communities for Better Environment 5610 Pacific Boulevard, Suite 203 Huntington Park, CA 90255

Ms. Debra Mulligan Community Coalition for Change P.O. Box 59027 Los Angeles, CA 90059

Councilmember Ed Reyes City of Los Angeles 200 N. Spring Street, Room 410 Los Angeles, CA 90012

Ms. Sharon Lowe Office of Councilmember Reyes 200 N. Spring Street, Room 410 Los Angeles, CA 90012

County of Los Angeles Environmental Health 5050 Commerce Dr. Baldwin Park, CA 91706

Directing Attorney Legal Aid Foundation of L.A. 8601 S. Broadway Los Angeles, CA 90003

Mr. Bill Piazza LAUSD 1449 S. San Pedro Street Los Angeles, CA 90071

Appendix B — Community Survey Results



WHITTAKER-BERMITE **COMMUNITY SURVEY RESULTS** October 2003





DEPARTMENT OF TOXIC SUBSTANCES CONTROL

Compiled by:

Tim Chauvel **Public Participation Specialist** Department of Toxic Substances Control 5796 Corporate Avenue, Cypress, CA 90630 Tel: (714) 484-5487, Fax: (714) 484-5329

E-mail: tchauvel@dtsc.ca.gov

TABLE OF CONTENTS

	Page
1.0 INTRODUCTION	
TABLE 1: SUMMARY OF SURVEY RESULTS	
2.0 SURVEY RESULTS	24
SURVEY QUESTION 1: HOW LONG HAVE YOU LIVED IN	N THE AREA?24
SURVEY QUESTION 2: WHAT IS YOUR CURRENT LEVE	L OF INTEREST IN THIS SITE? 24
SURVEY QUESTION 3: DO YOU HAVE ANY SPECIFIC CO	DMMENTS REGARDING THIS SITE? 24
3.1 PUBLIC COMMENT CONCERNING SITE CLEAN	JP ACTIVITIES25
3.2 PUBLIC COMMENT CONCERNING HEALTH	
3.3 PUBLIC COMMENT RELATING TO COMMUNICA	ATION 45
3.4 PUBLIC COMMENT RELATING TO LAND DEVEL	LOPMENT49
3.5 NON WHITTAKER-BERMITE RELATED PUBLIC	COMMENT 54
SURVEY QUESTION 4: WHAT IS THE BEST WAY TO PRO	OVIDE YOU WITH INFORMATION? 56
SURVEY QUESTION 5: DO YOU CURRENTLY ATTEND F	
SURVEY QUESTION 6: PLEASE INDICATE IF YOU HAVE INFORMATION REPOSITORIES THAT DOCUMENT SITE	
SURVEY QUESTION 7: HAVE YOU HAD ANY CONTACT OFFICIALS REGARDING THIS SITE?	
SURVEY QUESTION 8: CAN YOU SUGGEST ANY OTHER BE INTERESTED IN RECEIVING INFORMATION ABOUT	
3.0 MAILING ADDRESS PROVIDED; NUMBER AND GEO	50

LIST OF FIGURES

Pag	e
Figure 1: Site Map of the Whittaker-Bermite Facility	2
LIST OF TABLES	
Table 1: Summary of Community Survey Results	3
Table 2: Question 7 – Public Indicated contact with the following officials5	7
Table 3: Question 8 – Public recommended contacting the following	8
APPENDIX	
Appendix A: 2003 Whittaker-Bermite Community Survey Questionnaire6	0

1.0 Introduction

The Department of Toxic Substances Control (DTSC) supervised the mailing of a community survey to approximately 5,000 residents living within a minimum 1.5 mile radius of the Whittaker Corporation, Bermite Facility located at 22116 West Soledad Canyon Road, Santa Clarita, California (see map below). The survey was mailed and also posted on the DTSC Website at www.dtsc.ca.gov on July 18, 2003, and a news article discussing the survey was published in the local Santa Clarita Signal Newspaper on Saturday July 19, 2003.

The survey was undertaken in order to document the public's comments and concerns regarding DTSC's cleanup activities taking place at the Whittaker-Bermite Facility. The survey results will also be used to revise a 1996 DTSC Public Participation Plan and community outreach strategy for 2004.

A total of 660 community surveys were returned by members of the public living within 17 geographical locations (see page 41 for location of returned survey responses). Four surveys were returned via the Internet, five surveys were received by fax.

There are 3 main sections, and 13 subsections to this report. Where relevant, each section begins with the original survey question followed by the public's unabridged written comment.

- ∉ Unabridged public comment are compiled under specific concerns, and then sorted alphabetically by mailing location.
- ✓ Name and mailing address details are omitted in order to protect the identity of survey respondents.

Copies of the community survey results are available at local information repositories as listed in Appendix E, page 66).

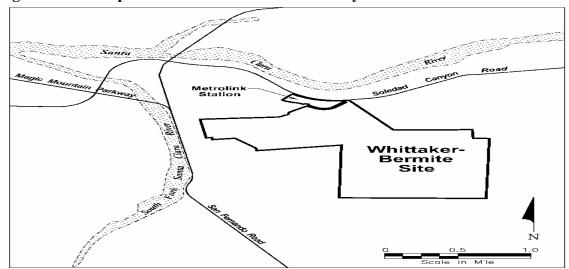


Figure 1: Site Map of the Whittaker-Bermite Facility

Note: Map not to scale

Table 1: Summary of Survey Results

Survey Results	No. of Responses	Percentage	Page
Number of Survey Responses Received	660	13%	6
How Long Have You Lived In The Area			6
0-5 years	160	24%	-
6-12 years	163	25%	-
13-20 years	176	28%	-
21 or more years	148	23%	-
Level of Public Interest			6
High	314	48%	-
Moderate	218	33%	-
Low	52	8%	-
No Interest	73	11%	-
Specific Public Comment			
Public comment concerning site cleanup			
activities	146	22%	7
Public comment concerning health	121	18%	18
Public comment concerning communication	80	12%	26
Public comment concerning development	61	9%	31
Non-Whittaker-Bermite public comment	4	1%	35
What Is The Best Way To Provide You Wi	th Information		36
Fact Sheets	532	81%	-
Public Meetings	96	15%	-
E-mail/Website	79	12%	-
Mail	50	8%	-
Newspapers/TV	31	5%	-
Phone	4	1%	-
Fax	2	.5%	-
Do You Currently Attend Public Meetings			36
Yes	71	11%	-
No	536	81%	-
Not aware public meetings take place	13	2%	-
Number of People Who Have Visited Infor	mation Repositories		36
Valencia Branch Public Library	109	17%	-
Canyon Country Branch Library	80	12%	-
City of Santa Clarita Planning Department	63	10%	-
Bermite Facility	18	3%	-
Have You Had Contact With State or Loca	l Officials		37
Yes	66	10%	-
No	543	83%	-

NOTE: Table does not show complete list of survey results.

2.0 Survey Results

Number of Survey Responses Received = 660 (13%)

Note: An approximate total of 5,000 community surveys were mailed out to the public. Six hundred and sixty (13%) of the surveys were completed and returned directly back to DTSC.

Disclaimer: The self-selected group of people who responded to the community survey may not be statistically representative of the total population of residents living in the Santa Clarita Valley due to the fact that only a small percentage of the total population was surveyed.

Note: n = number of responses. % = percentage calculated from 658 surveys return mailed by the public. All percentages were rounded to the nearest decimal point.

Survey Question 1: How long have you lived in the area?

Public Response:

0 – 5 years	6 – 12 years	13 – 20 years	21 or more years
24 % (n=160)	25 % (n=163)	27 % (n=176)	23 % (n=149)

Survey Question 2: What is your current level of interest in this site?

Public Response:

No	Low	Moderate	High
Interest	Interest	Interest	Interest
11 % (n=73)	8 % (n=52)	33 % (n=219)	48 % (n=314)

Survey Question 3: Do you have any specific comments regarding this site?

<u>Public response</u>:

Total number of responses to Question 3	No response to Question 3
62 % (n=411)	38 % (n=247)

Note: The following public comments are unabridged direct quotes. Many survey respondents wrote specific comments which have been reprinted as they were originally sent to DTSC. Comments are categorized into specific areas of concern.

3.1 Public comment concerning site cleanup activities

Number of Survey Responses 22 % (n=146)

Note: All public comments are unabridged direct quotes.

Public response from Acton:

1. Interested in finding out which areas were furnished water from contaminated wells. [Acton]

Public response from Beverly Hills:

2. Please forward...any updates on the status of the cleanup. We are very interested to hear the results of any testing and if contamination is migrating. [Beverly Hills]

Public response from Canyon Country:

- 3. Clean it up and test before any building. [Canyon Country]
- 4. We were not aware of this issue since we recently moved to Santa Clarita. Now that we are aware we would like to know more about how it will be cleaned up, how long it will take and any dangers. [Canyon Country]
- 5. Please clean up site! [Canyon Country]
- 6. We moved out here to a valley with less pollution than Los Angeles or the San Fernando Valley in order to raise our family in a healthier environment. My husband stated that he used to have a buddy that worked at Bermite tell him the area was full of "chemicals and debris" and therefore, the future growth in the surrounding area would be impossible to clean up. As a long-term resident, I don't see this area being considered healthy enough to accommodate businesses, housing or any other human related project. [Canyon Country]
- 7. Site is an eyesore. Can't it be fenced visually? [Canyon Country]
- 8. Whittaker-Bermite should be made to cleanup this area. [Canyon Country]
- 9. We would like it cleaned up. Wouldn't everyone?[Canyon Country]
- 10. Single most important issue facing Santa Clarita so far, there has been much talk, study and maneuvering compared to cleanup. There is room for cleanup action to take place in the legal and responsibility avoidance action that is currently taking place. [Canyon Country]
- 11. What does the cleanup effort entail? [Canyon Country]
- 12. The perchlorate problem needs to be removed completely. [Canyon Country]
- 13. The loss of the five wells that have been shut down to date has significantly reduced the water pressure to the homes in my area. [Canyon Country]
- 14. First off, we know for a fact that this site is filled with toxic substances and why they hell it is taking so long to do something about this is a joke. Whittaker-

- -Bermite facility worked for or was contracted by the government and if at some time in the past that government had some control with or over this facility, then the government should come up with cleanup funds. But, get the show on the road. [Canyon Country]
- 15. Don't let Whittaker sell this facility without paying for the clean-up. Too often, Companies' pull money out and leave the tax payers with the clean-up. [Canyon Country]
- 16. I am concerned about toxicity and safety as follows: air pollution now and during clean-up/abatement, water supply due to toxins in the ground. [Canyon Country]
- 17. I want this site cleaned up-toxic free, so via Princessa can go through as planned. [Canyon Country]
- 18. Let's fix it and move on. [Canyon Country]
- 19. It is alarming to learn that additional wells had to be shut down due to contamination. I live less than five miles east of this location and I am concerned. [Canyon Country]
- 20. I hope it gets cleaned up and becomes usable and safe. [Canyon Country]
- 21. According to your letter, the DTSC detected toxic levels of perchlorate in 5 wells between 1997 and 2002. These wells were shut down. Why hasn't the DTSC enforced their mandate to ensure that Whittaker Corp. cleans up the site? Why do you need a remedial investigation? Since you already determined that the toxic levels were high enough to shut down the wells? [Canyon Country]

Public response from Castaic:

22. I would like to know all findings upon completing the investigation. [Castaic]

Public response from Las Vegas:

23. I am concerned that no compromise be made on thoroughness of soil remediation, e.g. depleted uranium in OU-3. (2) Santa Clarita has a long history of neglect by AQMD in terms of dust migration measures relating to construction. SCV also has a long history of severe respiration illness when mass grading is occurring. AQMD response time is typically 30 days AFTER incidents – e.g. no enforcement. (3) Remediation plans need to include funds to pay for independent third party personnel (e.g. not AQMD or City) to enforce dust control and have power to stop construction. [Las Vegas]

Public response from Newhall:

- 24. Pressure Whittaker-Bermite to start cleanup or sell to some company that will. [Newhall]
- 25. We would like to have the water contamination cleaned up so that we would have use of the wells that have been shut down. [Newhall]

- 26. I would like to see the site cleaned up and developed it's been far too long. [Newhall]
- 27. Site must be cleaned up. [Newhall]
- 27. Non-residential use due to risk of toxicity after cleanup and liabilities. [Newhall]
- 28. Get all the OU's cleaned up as quickly as possible. Cooperate with the water companies. Santa Clarita to minimize costs to city and local residents. [Newhall]
- 29. We are on wells in the canyon directly below you. I remember seeing strange smoke/clouds going up from Bermite when something got away from them. My husband built some bunkers on the site to protect workers when things exploded. So I know there's a lot of stuff up there. [Newhall]
- 30. The problem of interest appears to be perchlorate. The danger is problematical, but activist try to set the danger level at the minimum detectable. Obviously it is a state responsibility to establish danger levels based on observable, statistically valid observation. If real danger levels are exceeded it is state responsibility to clean it up as soon as possible. If Whittaker is ultimately responsible, sue for monetary recovery. But do the right thing now and cut off the political maneuvering. [Newhall]
- 31. Request that all federal requirements for cleanup be complete before any soil movement or building takes place. [Newhall]
- 32. Stop Delaying-Get it done! [Newhall]
- 33. It should not have taken so long to address the problems. Who has avoided the issues?[Newhall]
- 34. Please cleanup our water supply ASAP. [Newhall]
- 35. Has perchlorate traveled east of site? Have you tested wells on Sierra Highway? [Newhall]
- 36. Absolutely needs to be cleaned, our water is at risk. Problem has been unchecked for too many years. [Newhall]
- 37. Yes: I want it all cleaned to residential use standards as soon as possible (ground) and I want the water cleaned up and made usable ASAP. [Newhall]
- 38. I am very concerned about groundwater pollution. I don't think the water agencies are telling the truth or disclosing the extent and full impacts of the pollution. [Newhall]
- 39. Where will the removed soil go? How will it be treated? [Newhall]
- 40. Frankly, I think too many people speak "double speak" on such issues as clean ups. I have concerns about whether this site can actually, for real, be made safe. Is the technology such that something can really be done to guarantee that the groundwater, specifically, and the environment, generally can be reversed. What test would one look too validate any cleanup actions? I own horses. I take great pains to make sure nothing I do with them adversely affects my surrounding environment, including the oak tree on my property. It is not easy and not necessarily cheap. Would hate to see public money used to cleanup the site only to have nothing, really to show for the effort and expense. [Newhall]

- 41. Chemical contaminant residues remain in the area, when will it completely be removed? Are there possible contaminants still in the water supplies and ground? Is the water, any part of it, contaminated? What can we do to abate nearby or present residues? Please keep me informed with the cleanup project. [Newhall]
- 42. Yes, I am concerned about contaminated groundwater as well as clean up procedures of the site. Will "clean up" cause toxins to be released in the air and add to toxic exposure? Will there be an independent entity overseeing this project to safeguard against falsifying information for \$?[Newhall]
- 43. I'm very concerned about the environment. [Newhall]

Public response from Palmdale:

44. Site is so central to our town plans for cleanup and use of development is of interest to so many of our citizens. We want to know what manor of cleanup is to be used, how successful it is expected to be, how long it may take, cost, who can be expected to pay? [Palmdale]

Public response from Santa Clarita:

- 45. How can the land be built on if it is not cleaned up? [Santa Clarita]
- 46. Water contamination is key issue. [Santa Clarita]
- 47. Enough talk and headlines let's take care of this site...if there's a problem let's deal with it! We all love Santa Clarita, if there's a "cancer in out body" find a doctor! [Santa Clarita]
- 48. Please get the area cleaned up! [Santa Clarita]
- 49. We are happy to have <u>had</u> the military explosives and solid rocket fuel, [it is] part of the cost of running a war...<u>All</u> citizens should pay for clean up. The Federal Government should pay the total cost. That is you and me!! [Santa Clarita]
- 50. I do wish to see the cleanup go in a prompt and safe way. [Santa Clarita]
- 51. I hope Bermite starts cleanup and quits dragging feet. They polluted this site, they abandoned site and did not do any real clean up, and it's time they acted responsibly! [Santa Clarita]
- 52. How hard is it to test soil and make clean-up? Why has this been so difficult? [Santa Clarita]
- 53. Who will perform cleanup? What involvement does the City Gov. have? [Santa Clarita]
- 54. I don't understand why it is taking so long to have this cleaned up. [Santa Clarita]
- 55. Site is close to our home. One concern is dust from any construction in that area. Water toxicity already shown what affects is already happening from continuing percolation, especially if homes are built. [Santa Clarita]

- 56. We would like to see this site cleaned up ASAP! [Santa Clarita]
- 57. Clean it up so it stops affecting our water and most likely air. [Santa Clarita]
- 58. I believe the whole site has to be cleaned before any building occurs. If the entire site is not cleaned people may move into this area and become contaminated while other areas of the site are being cleaned. This would cause possible cancers and other diseases that would result in who knows what-loss of life, property, etc. You then would have lawsuit claims etc. Clean it up at first for better results later down the line. [Santa Clarita]
- 59. Yes, I believe the site should be cleaned up. But, I do not believe it will ever be safe for homes or businesses to be developed on it. Also, I am concerned that the clean up will expose other areas to toxic contamination. [Santa Clarita]
- 60. 1) I would like to know how expensive the cleanup would be and will we as taxpayers be expected to pay for it/or be charged for it, or the developers, or whoever made the mess in the first place? 2) Also-will all of the contaminants be able to be cleaned up? 3) Are the wells-water supplies expected to be used in the future? 4) Prior to the shut downs of wells in 1997, were we being pumped this contaminated water in our homes?[Santa Clarita]
- 61. Why did this take so long? [Santa Clarita]
- 62. Concerned that the chemicals used at the site have or will contaminate our land and water. [Santa Clarita]
- 63. Whittaker Corporation should be held completely liable for all the environmental damage that they have caused to the community. The DTSC has the duty to pursue them until the environment is totally cleaned up and restored to its natural state. The property should be converted into a regional park. [Santa Clarita]
- 64. I do not support any roads or construction until total cleanup is completed. I am very concerned about water quality and supply. [Santa Clarita]
- 65. How long to clean it up? [Santa Clarita]
- 66. I feel strongly that both Whittaker and the US Govt. share responsibility for the problem and therefore should be held accountable for the cleanup and that they should stop dragging their feet and get it done! [Santa Clarita]
- 67. Have we detected any perchlorate before shut down of the wells? [Santa Clarita]
- 68. Just get it cleaned up. [Santa Clarita]
- 69. Clean up the wells but do <u>not</u> build on the property. [Santa Clarita]
- 70. It should have been cleaned up years ago! [Santa Clarita]
- 71. The site should be completely cleaned by the former owner. [Santa Clarita]
- 72. Water reserves are very important to protect. [Santa Clarita]
- 73. Do not allow any (including roads) development until the entire site is clean-no partial development. I understand that developers need money from sales to fund- cleanup-that should not and is not something the community needs to bear (my back yard borders Bermite). [Santa Clarita]

- 74. Would the cleanup make the closed wells useful? [Santa Clarita]
- 75. How will the dust created during soil treatment and subsequent construction activities be contained so adjacent homes and business are not impacted? [Santa Clarita]
- 76. Clean it up-soil, water, etc. [Santa Clarita]
- 77. Is there a danger of explosions? Are contaminates airborne dust? [Santa Clarita]
- 78. I was not aware of all the contamination that this plant had caused? [Santa Clarita]
- 79. The site needed to be cleaned up. Unfortunately it has probably affected the water supply underground. I ride the Metrolink and hope Santa Clarita Station will remain. [Santa Clarita]
- 80. Do not want to spend the money on this clean up. Land should be considered unusable. [Santa Clarita]
- 81. When will site be cleaned up completely? [Santa Clarita]
- 82. From reading the cover letter I have the understanding that the cleanup itself will cause a risk. What is that risk and can it be avoided? What areas are now being affected and what areas will be further affected? I would like a more comprehensive preferably plat map of the area. [Santa Clarita]
- 83. I would like to attend for educational purposes on some of the cleanup activities. I am a Geologist recently started GEO-X. I also have military experience once and know about ordinance, so I was interested in this site and its cleanup techniques. [Santa Clarita]
- 84. The Whittaker-Bermite must be properly clean; they should follow the Federal, State policies to assure this area is clean of all the chemicals that maybe in the ground. [Santa Clarita]
- 85. I am very concerned about the thorough cleanup of this site as well as current and future contamination of water and the environment. [Santa Clarita]
- 86. Bermite and their customers made the mess and they should clean it up ("simple kindergarten logic!!"). [Santa Clarita]
- 87. We are very concerned that the extent of the ground water pollution and its impacts on the local water pollution and its impacts on the local water supply is not being disclosed to the public by the water agencies. They are not disclosing correct information to the City and County. [Santa Clarita]
- 88. (1) Is it affecting the water supply of Circle J. Ranch? (2) Will cleanup cause air born toxins? (3) What has been the activity of the injection wells over the years? (4) What happens when the injection wells close down? (5) What about previous toxic burn site operations from Lockheed on the Bermite site? [Santa Clarita]
- 89. Whittaker-Bermite should clean any toxic waste it has deposited in the soil. [Santa Clarita]
- 90. I think the road crossing the Valley needs to be completed as soon as possible to help with the traffic problems. [Santa Clarita]

- 91. Clean it up before doing anything. Not houses and everything is overcrowded with cars and people. Build a mall. [Santa Clarita]
- 92. Clean up of this site should have been done years ago. Our water supply is in danger of permanent contamination. The government should step up and take control. [Santa Clarita]
- 93. If there's contamination, it definitely has to be cleaned up. [Santa Clarita]

Public response from Saugus:

- 94. Some of us live adjacent to the site. Accordingly, please keep cleanup activities <u>quite</u> from 6 p.m. to 8:00 a.m. Some of the preliminary investigations have been late at night or early morning and were <u>noisy</u>. <u>Also</u> keep the site visually appealing during cleanup, i.e. cleanup trucks, no dust, fences, roads, etc. [Saugus]
- 95. No cleanup, no build. [Saugus]
- 96. Complete clean-up must be done now. The wells that are contaminated must be looked at closer. [Saugus]
- 97. I have known about the problem for a long time, it's time to clean it up. [Saugus]
- 98. I am concerned that the cleanup may prove a greater of contamination-than in currently present. [Saugus]
- 99. Specific concerns are how the water quality can be improved from just cleanup? [Saugus]
- 100. Please do not allow corners to be cut, deals to be made, or concessions be applied that would effect the full and complete remedial investigation and cleanup of the site. [Saugus]
- 101. Due to the Santa Susana problem we need immediate disclosure and solutions to this problem. [Saugus]
- 102. The ground and water needs to be cleaned up. [Saugus]
- 103. No comments for now. Just have it cleaned ASAP. [Saugus]
- 104. I think it is important to clean the entire Bermite site before any construction or building projects begin. I am also concerned about well water contamination near the site. [Saugus]
- 105. The landowner and/or Whittaker Corporation should pay for the cleanup not the City of Santa Clarita or the State of California. [Saugus]

Public response from Stevenson Ranch:

106. Please keep me advised as to the cleanup and current activities. [Stevenson-Ranch]

Public response from Torrance:

107. How does proposed clean-up of site in Santa Clarita affect Torrance? [Torrance]

Public response from Valencia:

- 108. [Site] Needs cleanup. [Valencia]
- 109. Seriously interested in getting this site cleaned up! [Valencia]
- 110. Bermite made munitions for the federal government. The government needs to put this as a super site and fund the cleanup. [Valencia]
- 111. I believe that the sole responsibility for cleaning this property should be that of Whittaker-Bermite. The citizens nor the City of Santa Clarita should spend not one dime towards the cleaning of that property. [Valencia]
- 112. I am the Superintendent of Newhall School District, much of the property is in the district. Obviously we have concerns about cleanup as we anticipate a school site in the project if it is developed. We would want to know how this process dovetails with the DTSC requirements for school sites. [Valencia]
- 113. BACKGROUND: As a long time resident and someone who has been and continues to be very involved in community and civic issues, I have followed the happenings at the Whittaker-Bermite site over the years with great interest.

As a new resident in the 1970's, I was aware of frequent accidents and problems at the Bermite plant. Explosions and news of injuries were often reported in the local paper. Orange colored skies (which we later learned was magnesium and other explosives) occurred regularly.

Later, laws changed to preclude the three Bs (Blow, Burn or Bury) the contaminants. These had been prior methods of disposal – all of which resulted in leaving toxic residue in the soil. It was then that I asked by our Congressman Barry Goldwater Jr. to participate in discussions designed to find another method for disposing of the toxic materials which had been temporarily stored in 55 gallon drums throughout the site. No longer could the old methods of disposal be used, and the sending of the materials to Camp Irvine was ended.

Finally, after months of research, a facility in South Carolina was identified that could accept the barreled waste. Thousands of barrels were loaded onto railroad cargo carriers and shipped to the East Coast. During the period of search for a solution, the armed services personnel and Bermite management discussed candidly that they thought it was a good thing they only had to worry about shipments of the barreled waste. They caustically commented they "sure as hell" didn't know where all the toxins were because they were buried everywhere!

Public comment relating to cleanup activities from Valencia continued:

<u>Comment 113 Continued</u>: Other potential buyers who purported to have an interest in the clean-up and development of this critical site (such as RFI) never demonstrated either the understanding of the complexity or the significant cost associated with the clean-up. In the vernacular much of what was proposed was merely "smoke and mirrors." The desire to clean-up operable units and build on them as each was cleaned was correctly viewed by the City Council as potentially dangerous to the Valley and the concept of DS 12 may indeed have saved the City.

As the site clean-up languished, and further harmful contaminants were discovered (such as the perchlorates, a few citizens and I met with DTSC officials and elected state officials to inquire about the formation of a Citizens Advisory Committee [CAG]. Numerous persons had expressed grave interest and concerns about learning more about the site. After meeting with DTSC in the Glendale Office, a formation committee was convened. The group selected me to chair the committee. We have now met for nearly four years.

PERCHLORATE DISCOVERY: Adding to the totality of concerns about the Whittaker-Bermite facility was the discovery of perchlorate in the production wells in 1997. Subsequently 5 production wells have been closed. While these wells which are primarily used in times of drought, they are extremely important to the residents throughout the Santa Clarita Valley. The Water Agencies became understandingly alarmed and went to Whittaker and Bermite to immediately address this extremely important subject. Neither did anything to solve the problem! The water agencies had to raise the funds and to seek support from the Army Corps of Engineers through our Congressman H.P. McKeon. Whittaker and Bermite should have immediately stepped up to the issue, but did not. This became a factor that later precipitated the Unilateral order issued by the Department of Toxic Substances Control to Whittaker, and very belatedly did Whittaker become involved in helping solve the threatening problems at this site.

The search for the appropriate technology is still under study and the recent discovery of a hot spot with 58,000 ppb, when the current allowable is 4ppb of perchlorate has once again alarmed the community.

REQUEST FOR APPROPRIATE AND SWIFT ACTION: It is my fervent request that immediate clean-up of the perchlorate be undertaken. It is my understanding that ion exchange methodology similar to, but advanced in its application at the San Dimas site can be implemented. I urge the process go forward with all due haste and utilizing the very best technology. Insurance payments from Whittaker must be applied as soon as possible, even if in the future the Federal Government steps up to assume some or all of the responsibility. While other contaminants and unexploded ordnance exist on the site, it is the general belief that there is readily accepted and well documented procedures for clean-up of all these materials.

<u>Comment 113 Continued</u>: The scope of the clean-up must not be minimized. Nearly one thousand acres (996) comprise this location in the very center of the City. Hopefully, once the problems have been adequately addressed it can be brought into a significant economic advantage for the City of Santa Clarita.

The CAG looks forward with cautious optimism to a well thought out, comprehensive development plan that the Cherokee Company who are in the process of due diligence. It would be our hope that such a plan will rid the area of all contaminants while contributing to the economic vitality of the area and preserve much of the beauty of this challenging site [Valencia]

- 114. The site must be cleaned sooner rather than later. [Valencia]
- 115. I have concerns over water quality as I live close to the site. [Valencia]
- 116. How will the site be cleaned up? Who will be responsible for the clean up? How will ensure that contamination will not leak into existing homeowner property? [Valencia]
- 117. For the sake of the Santa Clarita Community the area needs to be cleaned up. [Valencia]

Public response from Van Nuys:

118. Tests contaminated wells for acid levels and perchlorate daily. Remove depleted uranium shells that are buried on site. [Initiate] mandatory [Dept.] of Fish and Game tests for groundwater as well as well water. Contaminated soils to be hauled off, not treated on site. [Van Nuys]

Public response - no name or address given:

- 119. Clean up the mess! [no address given]
- 120. What if anything is going to be done with the... glass asbestos buried east of the San Fernando Road? Water that may have chemicals is being drained through the Circle J Ranch home area from the South East section of the Whittaker-Bermite property. What is going on with all of the test drilling in the area? How soon will a public road cross this property via Princessa? [no address given]
- 121. Cleanup up the contaminants in the groundwater but do not cleanup the site. [no address given]
- 122. Requires extensive cleanup immediately. [no address given]
- 123. The water contamination problem must be rectified with complete cleaning of the site. [no address given]
- 124. The site needs to be cleaned up immediately! This is long over due. [no address given]
- 125. I'm glad action is being taken at Bermite and that they are being held accountable. [no address given]
- 126. I would like it cleaned up and developed responsibly. [no address given]

- 127. Whittaker-Bermite should clean up the ground they contaminated. [no address]
- 128. The proposed road starting at Via Princessa will become another speedway as it is throughout Santa Clarita. It's a speed zone now. It will become a major headache. [no address given]
- 129. Interfering with completion of Cross Valley connector of Via Princess to Wiley Canyon, the most important one connecting Canyon Country to Valencia. [no address given]
- 130. Please remove and cleanup toxins safely. Do not let cleanup workers get harmed in the process. Thank you. [no address given]
- 131. (1) Regarding cleanup, can perchlorate become dangerous when airborne? (2) What time will cleanup begin and end each day? (3) Will all the Bermite be cleaned prior to any construction? (4) Will H2O trucks keep site damp to prevent excess dust? [no address given]
- 132. More concerned about groundwater contamination then the ability to build more houses. [no address given]
- 133. As a resident in the area I'm concerned about groundwater! [no address given]
- 134. It must be cleaned up thoroughly, completely and as quickly as possible. [no address given]
- 135. Are you still considering closing the Santa Clarita Metrolink Station? I ride everyday and have been for the past 10 years. This is a vital and beautiful station. No other compares. [no address given]
- 136. I do agree it should be cleaned up. [no address given]
- 137. Does this perchlorate contamination affect any of the water supplies from Newhall, Saugus, or Valencia. [no address given]
- 138. I was told by some folks what really went on there. Stuff thrown down a well and covered up. [no address given]
- 139. This problem has been pushed around the table long enough. Time to solve the problem. [no address given]
- 140. Do what's needed to protect the water supply, but don't spend/waste money doing unnecessary actions. Most cleanups waste a lot of money and provide little results. Spend more time preventing leaks. [no address given]
- 141. It should be detoxified ASAP. [no address given]
- 142. Just get it done! [no address given]
- 143. Unaware of site and the ramifications on cleanup. [no address given]
- 144. It is most important that the clean up take place promptly and thoroughly as the safety of our water is very important to the citizens of this community. [no address given]
- 145. Bermite must take full responsibility for the clean up of this site. Proof that water has not or will be contaminated must be provided. [no address given]
- 146. Less talking and more action! [no address given]

3.2 Public comment concerning health

Number of Public Responses 18 % (n=121)

Note: All public comments are unabridged direct quotes.

Public response from Agua Dulce:

1. Lots of people live in this area more by the minute. I am concerned with the air my children breathe. Point blank. [Agua Dulce]

Public response from Canyon Country:

- 2. It would be very interesting to know what long/short term medical/skin conditions these chemicals have been linked to. As it is interesting that my daughter, now 23, did not experience the Vitiligo condition she has until moving to the area in 1985 when she was five, due to the fact that we cannot trace this condition in any family member on either side of the gene pool. So it is that we would be quite interested in the studies and any other data compiled about the site and its chemicals! [Canyon Country]
- 3. Please keep me updated concerning this matter. I am very much interested and concerned if there are any risks regarding health issues in the area. [Canyon country]
- 4. Hopefully residents of Santa Clarita do not have contaminated water supply. [Canyon Country]
- 5. Are we being exposed to toxic chemicals?? If so, what are the anticipated affects they will have on us and our children?? [Canyon Country]
- 6. Health Risks? Is tap water safe to drink? [Canyon Country]
- 7. Health concerns=5 people in this tract had thyroid abnormalities. Living here between 1985-2000, that we have knowledge of. [Terri Drive, Canyon Country]
- 8. Anytime there is an issue with respect to human health I am very concerned. In this case the site is close to my home as well as to a new high school that is being built. I want to be sure that my family and our community (esp. children) are safe drinking the water provided to them and not exposed to toxins. The same is true with the air they breathe, etc. [Canyon Country]
- 9. I have recently become aware of seven (7) neighbors diagnosed with cancer (one has deceased). Has a study/investigation been done on this?[Emmett Road, Canyon Country]
- 10. Would this toxic waste have anything to do with infertility? Has it been proven or suspected in damaging ovum in women or cause deformities in children?[Canyon Country]
- 11. Is there any chance this site has spread to Golden Triangle? The new sports center for children. [Canyon Country]

- 12. Yes, my family and I live within 1.5 miles of the site. My concern is twofold: 1) the amount of toxic substances deposited over a period of fifty years in the ground (water table) and if we have been affected over the years we have lived here? 2) possibility of hundreds of homes built on that site and the effects on new families. [Canyon Country]
- 13. My wife developed a severe case of graves disease (i.e. thyroid problem) about 3-4 years (1983-1984 timeframe) after moving to Canyon County. Was the water supply in that area affected by the situation at the Whittaker-Bermite site? [Hideaway Avenue, Canyon Country]
- 14. We live to the east of the site, and I don't know whether any of our water comes from the wells with elevated perchlorate wells. I'm wondering whether there may be a link from that to my hypothyroid condition diagnosed in 1997. [N. Rainbow Glen Drive, Canyon Country]
- 15. First of all...What is perchlorate and how can it affect us as humans?? Also, at the rate this valley is growing, my concern is my children and the future. I have small children and obviously we are building and have plans of building new schools, businesses etc. I am worried that some hot shot will say yes it's cleaned up when in fact you really can't clean up 100%. I am worried... I want these things done right so my children's future isn't jeopardized. [Canyon Country]
- 16. I would like to know if it is affecting the groundwater that my family may be drinking? [Flo Lane, Canyon Country]
- 17. I have lived in this valley for 38 years. I can remember when Bermite was very active and we could see fireworks in the sky. I am concerned that I have been drinking water from these wells all those years and hope that there will be no side effects. [Ridge View Dive., Canyon Country]
- 18. Any and all necessary clean up steps should be taken as a public health precaution for our growing community. [Canyon Country]
- 19. I would like to know current perchlorate levels in Santa Clarita public water supply? [Canyon Country]
- 20. What are the health risks? What are the environmental impacts?[Canyon Country]
- 21. I'm worried about the safety of my kids and the water and soil where I live. [Emmett Road, Canyon Country]
- 22. In addition to the health risks that I and my family may have been exposed to due to the negligence of the Whittaker Corporation. [Canyon Country]
- 23. I would like to know specifically what neighborhoods would have been affected by this water contamination and what effect using the water might have on individuals. [Canyon Country]
- 24. Is perchlorate being found in my tap water? What is the health affects known to be caused by perchlorate? What is the health affects on children? What is being done to protect my family from consuming perchlorate? [Canyon Country]

- 25. Concerned about toxic substances being blown toward our home. [Canyon Country]
- 26. I would like to know how it affects our drinking water and if we should do something to further clean our water up at our own expense. I would like to know if it is causing any health hazard what-so-ever. [Canyon Country]
- 27. Very interested in findings and possible hazards to the community. [Canyon Country]
- 28. I'm concerned about my health. Is there any impact on people living here from 1993? If there is a potential health impact, this should be measured in those people. [Canyon Country]
- 29. This has been a community subject for many years now. I hope that people don't have to start getting sick before it gets taken care of. With the rapid growth of our City it concerns me that people will be buying houses on contaminated land due to lack of thorough ground studies. [Canyon Country]

Public response from Newhall:

- 30. Being a NCWD customer, I'm concerned about perchlorate in water. Probably already consumed [perchlorate] for a number of years, all family included. [Quigley Canyon Road, Newhall]
- 31. I have a well for an orchard and horses. If any water is not safe, I want to know. [Quigley Cyn. Rd., Newhall]
- 32. We live just south of the site in Placerita Canyon and have for almost 30 years. We have just had a thyroid related illness diagnosis which may be related to the contamination. [Placerita Cyn Road, Newhall]
- 33. My husband passed away from non-Hodgkin's at home last year. Cancer from continued exposure to toxins is a major concern. [Azure Field, Newhall]
- 34. I am very concerned that the levels of perchlorate will continue to rise and spread to other pumping locations. [Newhall]
- 35. What are my health risks? [Newhall]
- 36. Risk to human health and environment. [Newhall]
- 37. My son just died August 6, 2002, from testicular cancer. I have been informed that testicular cancer is being connected in some form from the San Fernando area and Santa Clarita dump site. [Rainbow Glen Drive, Newhall]
- 38. I was a vender at Saugus Swap Meet from 1987 1996, ... every Sunday and during the week. I have skin cancer (Basal Cell) and would like to know if this is the cause. Also, I lived in the area near blasting from Bermite. [Avenue of the Oaks, Newhall]
- 39. Does it affect drinking water in the area? [Newhall]
- 40. I have 3 sons and would like to know that their health is not being jeopardized. [Newhall]

Public response from Redondo Beach:

41. Clean it up of cancer causing chemicals etc. [Redondo Beach]

Public response from Santa Clarita:

- 42. 1) My daughter is going to the Master's College and I would like to know what implications the toxic problems have on her residing there. Would it be better for her to live at home rather than on campus? Has it affected their H20 or environment in other ways? 2) Also, what impact does this have on my residing and living here in my home? [Ave. of the Oaks, Santa Clarita]
- 43. We live in the 2nd house adjacent to this site. (1) Need further information on the possible toxic vent pipes upwind, as we are located downwind. (2) Many dirt bike riders frequent the area, load motorcycles in evening and weekends. (3) Is this property secure? (4) Concerned about dry toxic dirt drifting downwind, especially if area will be developed by a residential home developer. [Santa Clarita]
- 44. Living in this area, are resident's health at risk? How much at risk? We are very concerned with the effects of this site now and in the future years. How are residents affected? Are there ways that we can avoid any possible health risks without moving? [Santa Clarita]
- 45. How hazardous is the cleanup going to be to local residents? Will there be any airborne hazards? Will debris be spilled on any roads due to trucking material away? There are schools in the area, how much at risk will the students be as a result of the cleanup operation? [Santa Clarita]
- 46. How is this going to affect the Health of my neighbors? We are also concerned about our water supply. The site is very close to us and the new High School. [Santa Clarita]
- 47. Yes, I am concerned about the current toxic air/water challenges we have here in SCV. My oldest daughter recently underwent surgery for the removal of a tumor attached to the outside of one of her ovaries. Many Valencia High School students are currently under care and receiving cancer treatment. Some families have reported large numbers of epilepsy in Castaic. I believe that moving the soil at all will be hazardous. [Santa Clarita]
- 48. I'm very concerned that contaminants will pollute our water or possibly affect the health of our citizens, particularly children. [Santa Clarita] I am concerned about toxic substances behind our house and infection into ground water supplies. Are we in danger? [Santa Clarita]
- 49. Mr. ... has thyroid and autoimmune disease (IBM) since living in his house since 1991. We must know if there is any correlation between the two. [Circle J Ranch Road, Santa Clarita]
- 50. Will clean up activities prevent hazardous materials from affecting nearby houses and schools? I assume no airborne pollutants will be released? Is that correct? My children attend a nearby Elementary School. [Santa Clarita]

- 51. Our property is adjacent to the Whittaker site, and we are very concerned about any risk from chemicals on the site. We were unaware of the shut-down of the 5 wells. Were these wells serving our area? [Santa Clarita]
- 52. We are concerned over the health and property value issues. [Santa Clarita]
- 53. Need to know specific exposures to area and possible effects on people living within certain areas of toxics. [Santa Clarita]
- 54. Let's clean it up? I live ¼ mile from this site, so the impact of this polluted site to my family is real and considered dangerous to our well being. [Santa Clarita]
- 55. You are opening up a "Pandora's box" you have no idea what the ramifications will be in the next ten years. You are exposing thousands of people including hundreds of children to potential health threats that most likely will take years to show the effects. But as usual it all comes down to money. None of you live here so those are not your concerns. If you did you to would want to leave these hills alone and not take any chances. [Santa Clarita]
- 56. This place is polluting our valley and I'm against it. My family and I suffer from allergies and even asthma since we moved to this area. [Santa Clarita]
- 57. I would like to be notified and I am concerned about this situation. Especially if the toxic site is in the same or close proximity to the new Golden Valley High School. [Santa Clarita]
- 58. When a toxic hazardous waste site is cleaned up, health hazards to the community are reduced! [Santa Clarita]
- 59. I want to make sure my family's health is not endangered including our water supply. [Santa Clarita]
- 60. I would like to be notified if it [site] presents any further health risk. I now drink bottled water, but still use tap water for bathing and laundry. [Santa Clarita]
- 61. My wife and I have experienced sever and frequent sinus/respiratory problems since having moved here. So have our adult children who live in the Claiborn Circle J tract. [Santa Clarita]
- 62. Is there any risk to us as a result of the perchlorate contamination? Is our Well water contaminated in any way? [Santa Clarita]
- 63. Take action to fix this deadly issue. [Santa Clarita]
- 64. Big health hazard. My two dogs have died from lymphoma in last 7 years. Another dog in the neighborhood was only 3 and died of cancer. [Stratford Drive, Santa Clarita]
- 65. Concerned with water table and continual water pollution. [Santa Clarita]
- 66. The safety and health of our citizens should be the most important issue to cleanup the toxic chemicals to make our environment safe. [Santa Clarita]
- 67. What is the environmental impact of this site to the community? [Santa Clarita]
- 68. I am very concerned about the safety and care of our environment. [Santa Clarita]
- 69. We use water in the daily production of products sold at our facility. [Via Princessa, Santa Clarita]

- 70. I was diagnosed with a hyper-thyroid shortly after moving into the area. From all the newspaper articles I have been reading, it appears that perchlorate levels found in the water supply contribute to the disease. [Oxford Lane, Santa Clarita]
- 71. We live very close to this site and we are very concerned. Rolling Ridge Drive, Santa Clarita]
- 72. I am concerned due to the High School being built near the site and homes also being built. [Santa Clarita]
- 73. My home is in the Circle J. area and I'm concerned about toxic waste so close to my home. [Santa Clarita]
- 74. Will there be any health issues for me and my family? What kinds of studies have been done on the effects of the waste from this site?[Santa Clarita]
- 75. My concerns are more long-term, i.e.... cancers and other illnesses. [Santa Clarita]
- 76. Health. I am 93 years old. [Santa Clarita]

Public response from Saugus:

- 77. I was unaware about this site until recently. I am concerned about the possible effects of the chemicals on the air quality, and if there are increases in certain diseases in this area because of the chemicals. [Saugus]
- 78. I have cancer, there seems to be a high rate of cancer in this housing tract. I would like a call from someone regarding cancer studies and the toxins remaining at this cleanup. [Manchester Way, Saugus]
- 79. What are the risks to my family? What is being done to ensure our safety? Are property values affected? What is the length of time for clean up? [Saugus]
- 80. I feel that the level of toxic chemicals should have been disclosed to us, the Circle J Community. We have 16 people so far that have thyroid disease probably from the perchlorate in the water. I am very concerned because I have 3 children who drank the water. I remember years ago they tested the runoff water in our drains in the middle of July and told us the water was safe to drink. I often wonder if the water had been tested during the rainy season if the results would have been different! [Saugus]
- 81. My water comes from Castaic Lake water. I am very concerned on the possible health risks this may have on my family. [Saugus]
- 82. <u>CONCERNS</u>: Water table water supply if it goes to houses traffic street usage. [Saugus]
- 83. I am concerned about the water delivered to my home. Water safety issues is the land-Circle J Ranch- where I live affected? [Saugus]
- 84. From the map, the Metrolink seems close to the site. Is or will there be potential danger for the Metrolink, the railroads or the people that take the Metrolink to work because of the chemical deposits??? [Saugus]
- 85. My only concern is airborne contaminants during clean-up. [Saugus]

- 86. I believe that for the health of the citizens and animal population of Santa Clarita this area must be thoroughly and completely cleaned up of all toxins and dangerous substances and chemicals before any construction is permitted at this site-this includes roads through the fringe areas. [Saugus]
- 87. I am concerned that the drainage from Bermite may be running through the bottom of my lot. [Parvin Rd, Saugus]
- 88. I moved to Saugus in 1956, my daughter was 9 years old. She went to Saugus Grammar School, across from the plant that made records. Then we learned that SVC was dangerous to health. Now it is in the water. [Saugus]

Public response from Stevenson Ranch:

- 89. I would like a detailed report of what exactly are the risks of perchlorate in drinking water. [Stevenson Ranch]
- 90. 1) What kinds of cancers do these toxic substances cause? 2) Does over crowding mean anything to you? 1500 homes would bring over 300 more cars to our street. [Stevenson Ranch]

Public response from Valencia:

- 91. I am very concerned, I have lived in Valencia (near Seco Cyn.) for the past 23 years my husband had cancer, my neighbor across the street died of cancer (resident for past 18 years). I think if there is contamination in the water we need to know about it. [Laurel Creek., Valencia]
- 92. Is there any danger to nearby resident's health? Is it safe to drink the water? [Valencia]
- 93. I am interested to know how widespread effect of contaminants reached surrounding area and its effect on children and adults. [Valencia]
- 94. My daughter had thyroid cancer. We lived in Placentia Canyon. [Rockefeller Avenue, Valencia]
- 95. Mainly concerned about the level of contamination and now it will affect the residents of Santa Clarita. Is it unsafe?[Valencia]
- 96. I am actually quite worried about the effects which the water we were drinking before the wells were closed may have had on us. I know that perchlorate adversely affects the thyroid and I am concerned that my children may have become victims of its poison. [Valencia]
- 97. Your map doesn't show surrounding areas that would add to the concern of the general public. The Golden Valley High School is being built next to the site. The Santa Clarita Sports Complex with a skate park and aquatic center are next to the site. The recent change in street name from Redview Drive to Center Point Drive may cause some of your survey mail to be returned. There will be thousands of children in this area daily. They are the most susceptible receptors of environmental pollution. A health risk assessment must be done. [Valencia]

98. You have approved a high school and a sports complex in this area. It is not the responsibility of the public to protect the children on these sites it is the responsibility of our government agencies. [Valencia]

Public response – no name or address given:

- 99. I live directly next to the site. I am concerned for my children's health. [no address given]
- 100. It needs to be cleaned up. Levels of perchlorate need to be checked for risks of cancer. [no address given]
- 101. I'm worried about the health effects of toxic substances on our water supply and possible cancer and other ailments that may result.[no address given]
- 102. What are the dangers this poses to the surrounding areas? [no address given]
- 103. I've stopped drinking the water 5 years ago. [no address given]
- 104. As an environmentalist I have great concern for the environment and health of its inhabitants. I believe successful cleanup is vital as these substances have enormous ramifications: human life (healthy) is dependent on a healthy environment. [no address given]
- 105. You need to poll this neighborhood on diseases related to the toxins. We have a high level of breast cancers, thyroid diseases and children with ADHD. Three deaths in one small neighborhood related to breast cancers. Two right next door to each other. What are the odds? [no address given]
- 106. Concerned about the environment-water, air...[no address given]
- 107. I have two children and live very close to Soledad Canyon. My concerns are for the safety of our health. I work with a realtor and would like to be abreast of new info for my family and future families moving to S. Clarita. [no address given]
- 108. Contamination of water wells in the area. [no address given]
- 109. What are the effects of this chemical? How would the chemical affect our water, air, etc.. [no address given]
- 110. It concerns me that my family may be at risk due to the toxicity of the chemicals that spilled and leaked at the 996 acre site. [no address given]
- 111. The potential for future health hazards for this site are great. Even if this site is "cleaned," will people be willing to live in this area and risk their family's health? There have been several recent owners of this property, none of which have been willing or able to investigate the health and safety conditions. The site is too large for any in-depth hazard investigation. I suggest that a small representative site (5 10 acres) be investigated for health hazards to see if it is feasible to develop the entire 996 acres. [no address given]
- 112. Hope we all don't die of cancer too early. [no address given]
- 113. Where exactly did these wells serve? Should I be drinking filtered water from my sink or should I bring water in?[no address given]

- 114. Even if they cleaned up the site, I would not live there. There have been so many problems regarding it, I would not trust that it actually has been cleaned up. Most people I talk to agree with that. I grew up in Circle J and my father along with numerous people in our neighborhood had thyroid cancer which is what is caused by that chemical. Our area has been claimed to be clean and look what happened. [no address given]
- 115. Chemical spillage could cause cancer. [no address given]
- 116. Concern regarding impact on our water supply and cancers. [no address given]
- 117. My main interest would be for the safe clean up activities of any type of chemicals on the site which would be hazardous to humans and animals. [no address given]
- 118. I'd like the site to be cleaned up. The idea of our drinking water being impacted by the chemicals is not very reassuring to me. I am already worried about the air quality in SCV. Also the Bermite site and other proposed endeavors (i.e. Elsmere, Canyon landfill proposal) etc... I'd like to protect the environment as much as possible and especially the one I (and family) live in. [no address given]
- 119. All new home owners who have children will end up playing on the contaminated ground ... at the site. [no address given]
- 120. How can I be affected by the proposed clean-up? [no address given]
- 121. Contact the Biological Department of CSUN and CSU-Ventura and the College of the Canyons. The COC Biological Department will be expanding over the next few years maybe you could offer some programs that help the college students earn degrees while helping the DTSC. [no address given]

3.3 Public comment relating to communication

Number of Public Responses 12 % (n=80)

Note: All public comments are unabridged direct quotes.

Public response from Acton:

1. Provide fact sheets by mail – offering the opportunity to attend public meetings for further clarification of facts. [Acton]

Public response from Canyon Country:

- 2. Provide info. on Santa Clarita City Website. [Canyon Country]
- 3. I really wasn't aware of the facility and the possible danger which it poses. The site was not discussed to me when I bought my home in April 1998. [Canyon Country]
- 4. Fact sheets provide info, pubic meetings allow for community feedback and questions, e-mails would also be good. [Canyon Country]
- 5. I have no idea of this site it's far from my residential area. [Canyon Country]
- 6. Fact sheets are the easiest way of keeping interested people informed and updated of procedures and results of testing. [Canyon Country]
- 7. This is the first time we have heard about this. I have looked on the DTSC Website and the Santa Clarita Website but all information has been vague. [Canyon Country]
- 8. *I don't have any ideas about this site.* [Canyon Country]
- 9. Provide public meetings that present no bull. Publish information in the LA Times, Daily News, and the Signal. [Canyon Country]
- 10. Provide information by fact sheet so that we can have proof in writing. [Santa Clarita]
- 11. I have relocated from the Bay Area (Northern California) only 1 year ago, so I am still in the learning process in addition to focusing on obtaining a job out here. Updated mailers will assist me in keeping myself informed. [Canyon Country]
- 12. Please send me fact sheets in Spanish. [Canyon Country]
- 13. An e-mail would be great outlining cleanup progress. [Canyon Country]

Public response from Castaic:

14. Provide fact sheet – more people in the area will receive more information concerning the condition of the site and the potential hazards. [Castaic]

Public response from Las Vegas:

15. Mailings of 4-8 page reports which have accurate information. Our experience in SCV has been that DTSC mailers in which property owners have input are widely inaccurate e.g. mailed fact sheet on Golden Valley High School. [Las Vegas]

Public response from Newhall:

- 16. I am concerned but I don't know much, I would like to learn more. [Newhall]
- 17. Use public access television to deliver information. [Newhall]
- 18. Placerita Canyon Property Owners Association arrange to speak at a meeting and/or put updates in their bulletins. [Newhall]
- 19. I haven't really heard much about this issue. [Newhall]
- 20. I can't attend meetings, so a fact sheet or Web info would be great. [Newhall]
- 21. Thank you for contacting us. This is the first we have heard of it. [Newhall]
- 22. I am very interested but did not know how to get information. [Newhall]
- 23. I would like more information on how the site has affected the water supply. [Newhall]
- 24. Send out information via e-mail. [Newhall]
- 25. I was unaware of the problem before I purchased my home. [Newhall]
- 26. This is the first time I have heard of the Whittaker-Bermite facility. I would be interested in environmental impact reports re: indigenous and endangered plant and animal species. [Newhall]
- 27. Not always able to attend meetings fact sheet mailings keep everyone informed. [Newhall]
- 28. I have not lived in the area long enough to be really informed. [Newhall]
- 29. Provide information through newspapers or mailings this survey was great. [Newhall]

Public response from Santa Clarita:

- 30. Fact sheets are the best because it is hard to attend public meetings in our busy schedule. [Santa Clarita]
- 31. I trust our City Council to make decisions regarding the property. They are informed while I am not. [Santa Clarita]
- 32. Please inform local residents about each step of the cleanup process, and keep us informed of the progress monthly. [Santa Clarita]
- 33. Public information aspect of project has been lacking. [Santa Clarita]
- 34. A Website or a link from the City Website where the community can easily retrieve info. and ask questions. [Santa Clarita]
- 35. *Mail is really the best way to be kept informed. [Santa Clarita]*
- 36. Meetings need to be announced ahead of City of Santa Clarita Council meetings with DTSC in attendance. [Santa Clarita]

- 37. Although public meetings offer the best forum, work schedules sometimes prevent me from attending. Therefore, fact sheets can be very helpful. [Santa Clarita]
- 38. I was never made aware of this matter when I purchased my home last 9/02. [Santa Clarita]
- 39. Make fact sheet mailings available to all residents who because of time constraints may not be able to attend public meetings. [Santa Clarita]
- 40. Why bother. Your going to do what you want anyway, I found that out through your public meetings. The public meetings made me realize nothing I said or did would make a difference sad!! [Santa Clarita]
- 41. I would like to be updated from time to time regarding the progress of the cleanup process. [Santa Clarita]
- 42. I would like to be updated from time to time regarding the progress of the cleanup process. [Santa Clarita]
- 43. I'd just like to be kept notified of what's going on in clean up. [Santa Clarita]
- 44. I was totally unaware of this site. [Santa Clarita]
- 45. I own a business and it is hard for me to attend public meetings. [Santa Clarita]
- 46. I bought my house in this area and wasn't informed of this cancer causing issue. Please make sure we get the facts as fast as possible. [Santa Clarita]
- 47. If you have sent this survey to every homeowner or resident in Santa Clarita, I consider it a waste of taxpayer's money when so few are affected or involved. [Santa Clarita]
- 48. Send automatic e-mail notification of new information or DTSC meeting minutes regarding the Bermite facility. [Santa Clarita]
- 49. It is difficult to find the time, as a self-employed individual to attend meetings for all the issues (including the TMC mining threat). Thank you for sending this questionnaire. [Santa Clarita]
- 50. I follow this topic through the local newspaper. It might also be helpful to televise public meetings or provide important information on the local public access channel 20. [Santa Clarita]
- 51. I'm unable to attend public meetings. [Santa Clarita]
- *52. Provide updates on the internet.* [Santa Clarita]
- 53. E-mail mailings of events, status etc. [Santa Clarita]
- 54. I was unaware of public meetings. [Santa Clarita]
- 55. I am a member of the CAG, but am not notified of meetings. Better notification of CAG meetings and evening hours are more inclusive for working residents. Right now, you hear from business owners who can attend day time meetings and retirees who make their own schedules. This is not reflective of the majority of residents. [Santa Clarita]
- 56. Suggest you provide press releases for news articles. [Santa Clarita]
- 57. Is this site currently being cleaned? It was my understanding from local media that nothing has been done yet. More information needs to be made available to the community. I was unaware that there was an information repository at the public library. [Santa Clarita]

58. Did not know information repositories existed. [Santa Clarita]

Public response from Saugus:

- 59. I have made calls [to officials] before hard to get information. [Saugus]
- 60. Did not know of this site until this survey. [Saugus]
- 61. Getting to meetings is difficult. [Saugus]

Public response from Stevenson Ranch:

62. I would like to know more. I did research before moving to Stevenson Ranch. I did not move to West Hills because of the Rocketdyne Boeing problem. I would like to know more about this in great detail. I have 2 young children. [Stevenson Ranch]

Public response from Valencia:

- 63. I first questioned state rep Rick Varenchik when the site development was first proposed-he, like I, he was very concerned about the toxic waste left behind by Whittaker-Bermite. I think it is necessary to keep this problem in the news, in front of residents because we have so many new residents who are unaware of the sites history. I know our paper (the SCV Sun-quarterly) will continue to cover the story. [Valencia]
- 64. Can't always get to public meetings, but still want updates on info from Water Companies, Army Corps of Engineers etc. [Valencia]
- 65. I understand that in order to manufacture certain items, dangerous chemicals may be used. As long as these chemicals are properly maintained on the company's premises, I do not see the need for public involvement. [Valencia]
- 66. In newspapers provide a map showing the surrounding development and allow more time for the public to respond. [Valencia]
- 67. Sending information via e-mail is most convenient. [Valencia]
- 68. Contact others whose water quality and air quality could be affected. [Valencia]

Public response from Van Nuys:

69. Have public meetings and <u>no</u> closed meetings like the King/Gates project. [Van Nuys]

Public response – no name or address given:

- 70. We keep informed via the Signal newspaper. [no address given]
- 71. This is the first I've heard of this. [no address given]

- 72. Need regular newspaper (Daily News, Signal, L A Times) announcements not just news stories are needed. [no address given]
- 73. Let's just focus our current resources, albeit limited resources to the job at hand not wasting time and money on public relations efforts that do not affect the actual clean-up. [no address given]
- 74. E-mail to save taxpayers dollars. [no address given]
- 75. I am 84 years old. I have no voice box with which to speak or express my feelings, but I wish to thank you for thinking of me. [no address given]
- 76. I didn't know anything about this site. [no address given]
- 77. Concerned about the fact that this is the first that I have heard about this perchlorate contamination. [no address given]
- 78. Contact the community by way of the Signal. [no address given]
- 79. I get sufficient info from newspapers e.g. Daily News, Santa Clarita Section. [no address given]
- 80. I would like to be kept current on all findings regarding this area. Please mail all reports. [no address given]

3.4 Public comment relating to land development:

Number of Public Responses 9 % (n=61)

Note: All public comments are unabridged direct quotes.

Public response from Canyon Country:

- 1. Do not build this awful place. [Canyon Country]
- 2. My primary concern in relation to this site is the completion of the Via Princessa. This valley desperately needs an alternative rout between the 5 and 14 [freeways], and it is frustrating to know that we are so close, yet so far away from a solution. Please resolve your differences quickly so that the citizens of Santa Clarita will no longer be so inconvenienced. Thank you. [Canyon Country]
- 3. We are interested because of how it will affect development in the area, especially the impact of traffic. We're also concerned if after cleanup there will be any effects from the chemicals on the water or to future residents on the site. Also, we are interested because we want to see Via Princessa Road eventually extended and if this site affects that happening anytime soon. [Canyon Country].
- 4. No building please keep it as it is now rural and a buffer in the center of too much growth! The historical aspects of the site are <u>so</u> important too! [Canyon Country]
- 5. Concerned about planned High School to be built on site in addition to roads and housing. [Canyon Country]

- 6. Do not develop the site. Maybe a road paralleling San Fernando Road and/or Soledad Canyon. Leave the rest as an open area, maybe a park. Do not develop the land, we have too much traffic and road congestion as it is. [Canyon Country]
- 7. I was following this case somewhat for a few years quite a struggle between developers, owners, investors, and the City. Simple logic has it that the land needs to be cleaned by the one who contaminated it in the first place, even if nothing is ever built on the land. Simple logic says contaminated water kills people and wildlife, now and in the future. Obviously, nobody wants to pay to correct the wrong, but everyone wants to be a profiteer in the end. Despite the financial hurdles, the land needs to be satisfactorily cleaned before any road, home, business, or park is built not cleaned in stages which will delay the cleanup for years more. Safety for us existing families first before more development. [Canyon Country]
- 8. I believe there are too many homes out there in the first place. Adding more homes will just cause more traffic, crime, and not enough schools for kids. At what point will this City's government see that the over population is going to be the ruin of this valley. The SCV City Council is in the <u>pocket</u> book of Newhall Land and Farm. [Canyon Country]
- 9. Please keep site underdeveloped. [Canyon Country]
- 10. I have found that most of my neighbors are unaware of this superfund site and its history and problems. Sadly, most people in this town are ignorant or apathetic about the land their precious overpriced dream homes are built on. They only look at a floor plan. Please don't ever build anything on this land! Especially schools, homes, or parks! Maybe when it is properly cleaned up it can be used for lesser populated uses such as a construction storage yard or just put a road through, like extending Via Princessa, but that's all. I will not send my children to a school built on this land, or purchase a home. The land my own house is on worries me even. [Canyon Country]
- 11. The wisdom of building on land that was polluted since I don't trust that land can be cleanup up 100%. This would not be a place I would prefer to work or learn and those inhabiting that area should be notified. The city is eager to build up this area. [Canyon Country]
- 12. Turn it into a NASCAR Race track or leave it as open space. [Canyon Country]
- 13. As I understand it, the land is pretty much locked up for development until it is cleaned up. This is stopping a road from going across it which will connect Via Princessa on both sides of the Bermite site. Until this road can be completed, all traffic uses Rainbow Glen from Via Princessa as a shortcut to Soledad Canyon. We live on the corner of Rainbow Glen and Gilbert and get an enormous amount of traffic at the stop sign. We're hoping once the road is opened at the top, the traffic will decrease somewhat at the stop sign hence our personal interest in the clean up. [Canyon Country]

14. Of additional concern is the future expansion of homes in this community that will further tax the remaining water supply that appears to be threatened by the continuing movement of the contaminants and whether the taxpayers will be left to bear the cost of cleanup. [Canyon Country]

Public response from Newhall:

- 15. We would like to see Via Princessa connected to the bridge over San Fernando Rd. We also want the Metro link station to continue on the site. [Newhall]
- 16. Use if open space and other developments, i.e. Entertainment, recreation, tourism, convention center, multi-use trails connecting to the city trail system. [Newhall]
- 17. Are there any plans to build on the site after cleanup? [Newhall]
- 18. I am concerned about the contaminants that have gotten into the groundwater and carcinogens that continue to be present. The idea of building housing on or around that site frightens me. [Newhall]
- 19. Site should not be developed. It should be left as is or turned into a natural park. [Newhall]
- 20. I do not feel any more housing is needed in this area. We are over crowded now. Why take a chance with this area. Not knowing about all the chemicals that were dumped. Please, enough is enough. Leave our valley alone. No more building. No more houses, no more people. Our roads are over crowded, our schools are over crowded. [Newhall]
- 21. If planning to build homes on site, I would not live there. [Newhall]
- 22. Housing does not seem like an appropriate use. I have doubts the property could ever be completely clean. Because of the costly cleanup, the high price of Insurance, I'm concerned the site might be partially developed and then abandoned. [Newhall]
- 23. What are the future plans for the site? [Newhall]
- 24. Having grown up in Placentia Canyon, we as kids spent most of our days hiking along the back fences of this property which has now all been leveled and is under most of Circle J houses-we used to watch them dump all sorts of 55 gallon drums and various debris into what was used to be canyons now covered with homes and being curious kids always wondering what it was, especially knowing they manufactured military items. I think clean up of this property is pretty impossible-who knows what has been buried already. Clean up would be great for health and safety but if it means building thousands of homes-please leave it contaminated. [Newhall]
- 25. We would like a horse trail through this site. We don't care if it's toxic, we don't touch anything, don't stay long, and don't leave trash. [Newhall]

Public response from Palmdale:

26. Site is so central to our town plans for cleanup and use of development is of interest to so many of our citizens. Under development we want to know what it is safe to build and who it is safe to have occupy the site?[Palmdale]

Public response from Santa Clarita:

- 27. Please clean site up to allow for additional roads and development. [Santa Clarita]
- 28. I am concerned with the need to build must needed schools. This land <u>should</u> not be used for schools or homes, especially not while the high levels in the well water and soil. Our children must be protected. [Santa Clarita]
- 29. I live in Circle J Ranch Estates and sell real estate in the area. People ask me about future development and cleanup and I would like to be able to answer their questions. [Santa Clarita]
- 30. Concerned about future school site on the property. [Santa Clarita]
- 31. Please no housing development. The city cannot handle the traffic. Potential lawsuits for sight. [Santa Clarita]
- 32. From a viewpoint that the SCV will become a San Fernando Valley in 50 yrs—when I won't be here but others will, cleanup needs to begin ASAP. But I believe the land should be allowed to "rest" for 100 years and nothing should be built on it. I think it should be made into a major park for the entire valley (no homes—no business) of the future. I'm speaking of a park like New York's Central Park, San Francisco's Golden Gate Park, LA's Griffith Park. There could be a small zoo, a major trail for bicycling and jogging, a "nature station," a concert bowl, horse back riding etc. I know we have much of this already—but it's helter-skelter, make it concentrated here! [Santa Clarita]
- 33. Please do not allow any development of the Whittaker/Bermite site until it is thoroughly de-contaminated to a minimum of 50% below federal or state acceptable levels, which ever are lower. Typically with sites of this nature they are not decontaminated to acceptable levels because of back room deal making or a last minute campaign contribution giving the site an all clear signature. Development begins and 10-15 years later much higher than normal cancer rate appears in the residents living in the development, especially children. If all funds are not available, DO NOT START THE CLEANUP EFFORT!!! [Santa Clarita]
- 34. I am aware of the proposed development of this area. I have concerns as to the level of contamination to water before it was detected. Prior to the wells being shut down, what type of detection methods were employed and what type of contamination already occurred previously. Has the health of residents been affected before the contamination was detected? [Santa Clarita]
- 35. I would like it to be a requirement that the site is completely cleaned up prior to any development being allowed. [Santa Clarita]

- 36. I believe we should allow development on or near the sight until it is fully cleaned up. I also believe the surrounding area should be regularly monitored to detect possible runoff contamination. Please keep us informed. Although the company I work for is one of many who lost money in the Porta Bella Project, I don't feel it should go forward unless the property has a clean bill of health. [Santa Clarita]
- 37. Never allow building on Bermite site. In my opinion, it will never be cleaned up! Also, why is Greene Valley High School being built on land that is due to ail wells that have been capped in the fairly recent past? All the children who will attend G.V.H.S. will be in Peril. Also, these residents of the Lantana housing development are facing the same danger. You will see much Leukemia, T-cell Lymphoma and other cancers. All I can say is God Help them all. [Santa Clarita]
- 38. Leave it as is, so they will not develop it. [Santa Clarita]
- 39. I'm glad to see progress in the much needed development of the property primarily roads: Golden Valley at Via Princessa. [Santa Clarita]
- 40. Do not develop the site. [Santa Clarita]
- 41. It is best left underdeveloped. [Santa Clarita]
- 42. We are concerned not only for the cleanup of toxic substances, but also treasure the open spaces so needed to enhance the quality of life here. With the massive growth (top in the country), open space is at a premium. This community is getting too large for the land carrying capacity for the region not only water use, but transportation access is getting over loaded. Please balance priorities. [Santa Clarita]
- 43. I believe the entire area needs to be cleaned before any of the land is developed. [Santa Clarita]

Public response from Saugus:

- 44. This site should be turned into a wilderness park for all to use including the local wild life. [Saugus]
- 45. 1. Site must be cleaned up before any building is allowed [in order] to protect future family's. 2. Limit new homes that may be built. [Saugus]
- 46. 1) The site must be entirely cleaned before allowing development. 2) Can the contaminated water be used for other purposes (re: irrigation)? If so, include a golf course on the site. [Saugus]
- 47. Please build roads and houses there. [Saugus]
- 48. Let's get it done and allow development in the area. [Saugus]

Public response from Valencia:

49. Because I own property in SCO and would like to see the site developed when it is safe. [Valencia]

Public response – no name or address given:

- 50. We already have too many trucks on Soledad and Sierra Highway. In the last few years it has doubled. [no address given]
- 51. Run off from Bermite flow across my property.[no address given]
- *Do not feel that homes should be built on the site. [no address given]*
- 53. What is going to happen with it?[no address given]
- 54. No development until all clean up is finished. [no address given]
- 55. Don't believe houses or schools should ever be built on the Bermite facility property until such time as complete eradication of toxic chemicals can be guaranteed. [no address given]
- 56. No development until entire site is cleaned up and safe. [no address given]
- 57. Take out the bad dirt and build new roads and homes. Put in a park and a new school as well. [no address given]
- 58. That the ultimate use be something like a park so that in the future we won't have another Belmont High School fiasco or toxic waste showing up 30 years from now in a housing tract. [no address given]
- 59. Drop the whole issue and ignore the site leave it un-developed. It will never be clean, there will always be lawsuits and we have too many houses as it is. [no address given]
- 60. Traffic, noise and view. [no address given]
- 61. I would not want homes built on this site. It is hazardous to people's health. [no address given]

3.5 Non Whittaker-Bermite related public comment:

Number of Public Responses 1 % (n=4)

Note: All public comments are unabridged direct quotes.

Public response from Canyon Country:

- 1. My husband and I are very concerned about the high school, Golden Valley, being on contaminated ground. Our sons will most likely attend that school in the future. We read about cover-ups and miss-handled inspections all the time and fear this will happen at Bermite. I personally feel that pollutants and chemicals are contributing to so many people having cancer these days (and animals). Finally, there are more then enough houses in Santa Clarita. We don't need any more to be built on this land. [Canyon Country]
- 2. How safe is the "Golden Valley" High School concerning this matter? [Canyon Country]

Public comment relating to non Whittaker-Bermite related public comment:

Public response from Newhall:

3. Yes, there is a site here in Newhall that is worse that the Bermite site. I have a lot of information regarding this site. Many people are sick because of the contaminations on this site. [Wheeler Road, Newhall]

Public response from Van Nuys:

4. Dear DTSC, please check into the contamination of former Santa Clarita Green Waste facility "Pine Street Incident." All contaminated water was buried on site. Now part of the Gates/King development project. [Van Nuys]

Survey Question 4: What is the best way to provide you with

information?

Note: Some members of the public made more than one suggestion regarding how to provide information.

Public response:

Fact Sheets	Public Meetings	No Response to Question 4
81 % (n=533)	15 % (n=96)	5 % (n=36)

Survey respondents requested that information be made available by the following:

Provide	Provide	Provide	Provide	Provide
information by	information	information by	information by	information
e-mail/Website	by mail	news papers/TV	phone	by Fax
12 % (n=80)	8 % (n=50)	5 % (n=31)	1 % (n=4)	0.5 % (n=2)

Survey Question 5: Do you currently attend public meetings related to this site?

Public response:

Yes	No	Not aware/informed that public	No Response to
		meetings are taking place	Question 5
11 % (n=71)	81 % (n=537)	2 % (n=13)	6 % (n=37)

Survey Question 6: Please indicate if you have visited any of the four information repositories that document site activities.

Note: Some survey respondents indicated that they had visited more than one information repository.

Public response:

Valencia Branch Public Library	Canyon County Branch Library	City of Santa Clarita Planning Department	Bermite Facility	No Response to Question 6
17 % (n=109)	12 % (n=80)	10 % (n=63)	3 % (n=18)	69 % (n=454)

Survey Question 7: Have you had any contact with local, state or other officials regarding this site?

Public response:

Yes	No	No Response to Question 7
10 % (n=66)	83 % (n=544)	7 % (n=48)

Table 2: Question 7 – Public indicated contact with the following officials:

Name or Type of Organization	No. of Responses	%
City of Santa Clarita (non-specific)	27	4%
Congressman McKeon	8	1%
State Officials (non-specific)	5	1%
Department of Toxic Substances Control	3	0.5%
Federal Environmental Protection Agency	2	0.3%
Santa Clarita Chamber of Commerce	2	0.3%
State Assemblyman Richman	1	0.1%
Senator Knight	1	0.1%
Former Assembly Member George Runner	1	0.1%
Santa Clarita Chamber Legislative Committee	1	0.1%
Department of Health Services (DHS)	1	0.1%
Public Utilities Commission	1	0.1%
Water Agencies (non-specific)	1	0.1%
Intergovernmental Affairs Office	1	0.1%
Air Quality Management District (AQMD)	1	0.1%

Survey Question 8: Can you suggest any other person or groups that might be interested in receiving information about this site?

Public response:

Number of public who made a response	No response to Question 8
8 % (n=55)	92 % (n=603)

Table 3: Public recommended contacting the following:

Name of organization/or individual	No. of Responses	%
Placerita Home Owners Association (HOA)	6	1%
Sierra Club of Santa Clarita	4	1%
Circle J Ranch (HOA)	3	0.5%
Santa Clarita City Council	3	0.5%
Scenic Hills (HOA)	3	0.5%
Congressman McKeon	2	0.3%
Department of Fish & Game	2	0.3%
Santa Clarita Water Department	2	0.3%
Los Angeles Times Newspaper	2	0.3%
Signal Newspaper	2	0.3%
Rio Vista Elementary School	2	0.3%
Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA)	2	0.3%
Golden Valley High School	1	0.1%
Valley View parent Teacher Association (PTA)	1	0.1%
Pacific Grove (HOA)	1	0.1%
Rainbow Glen (HOA)	1	0.1%
American Beauty (HOA)	1	0.1%
Friendly Valley (HOA)	1	0.1%
Assemblyman Richman	1	0.1%
Santa Clarita Valley Transit Council	1	0.1%
Valencia Industrial Association	1	0.1%
Pacific Legal Foundation	1	0.1%
S C Organization for Planning the Environment (SCOPE)	1	0.1%
Community Advisory Group (CAG)	1	0.1%
Whittaker Corporation	1	0.1%
Southland Regional Board of Realtors	1	0.1%
GEO-X-Geologists	1	0.1%
First Care Medical Group	1	0.1%
Erin Brockovich	1	0.1%
Teamsters	1	0.1%
Army Corps of Engineers	1	0.1%
Newhall Redevelopment Committee	1	0.1%
Canyon Country Advisory Committee	1	0.1%
Old Town Newhall Association	1	0.1%
Air Quality Management District (AQMD)	1	0.1%

3.0 Mailing address provided; number and geographical location of survey responses

78 % (n=515)

location of survey responses Mailing address provided No name or mailing address provided

Only e-mail address provided	Request to be taken off site mailing list
1 % (n=8)	4 % (n=28)

21 % (n=135)

NOTE: The following locations of survey responses are sorted by greatest number of responses from each geographical location:

Response from Santa	Response from Canyon	Response from Newhall
Clarita	Country	
29 % (n=190)	20 % (n=133)	15 % (n=98)

Response from Saugus	Response from Valencia	Response from Stevenson
		Ranch
8 % (n=51)	5 % (n=32)	0.3 % (n=2)

Response from Castaic	Response from Agua Dulce	Response from Van Nuys
0.3 % (n=2)	0.3 % (n=2)	0.1 % (n=1)

Response from Torrance	Response from Palmdale	Response from Glendale
0.1 % (n=1)	0.1 % (n=1)	0.1 % (n=1)

Response from Beverly Hills	Response from Acton	Response from Redondo Beach
0.1 % (n=1)	0.1 % (n=1)	0.1 % (n=1)

Response from Las Vegas	Response from Florida
0.1 % (n=1)	0.1 % (n=1)

APPENDIX A: 2003 Whittaker Bermite Community Survey Questionnaire

State of California Department of Toxic Substances Control Whittaker Corporation, Bermite Facility COMMUNITY SURVEY QUESTIONNAIRE 2003

Para información en español por favor comuníquese con Leticia Hernández al número (714) 484-5488.

The Department of Toxic Substances Control (DTSC) is involved in the oversight of chemical cleanup activities taking place at the Whittaker-Bermite Facility, located at 22116 West Soledad Canyon Road, Santa Clarita, California 91351. As part of ongoing oversight activities, DTSC is undertaking a review of public outreach activities. With this in mind, the Department has sent you this survey that will assist in the future planning of public outreach. Please mail, fax, or e-mail your survey comments to DTSC by the 18th of August, 2003.

su	rvey comments to D'	ISC by the 18 th of	August,	2003.		
1.	How long have you	lived in the area	1 ?			
Ż	$\dot{7}$ 0 – 5 years	\ddot{Y} 6 – 12 years	Ÿ	13 – 20 years	Ÿ 21 or more ye	ears
2.	What is your curre	nt level of intere	st in this	site?		
	Ÿ No interest	Ÿ Low		Ÿ Moderate	Ÿ High inter	rest
	Do you have any spesponse:		_	•	s, please print you	
	What is the best wo				ct sheets Ÿ Public	Meetings
5.	Do you currently a	ttend public mee	etings rela	nting to the site?	Ÿ Yes Ÿ No	
	Please indicate if yo	ou have visited a	ny of the	four information	n repositories that d	ocument
Ÿ	West Corporation, B 2216 West Soledad Santa Clarita, CA 91	Canyon Road	Va 23	lencia Branch	ountain Parkway	
Ÿ	City of Santa Clarita Canyon County Bra 18536 Soledad Cany Santa Clarita, CA 91	nch yon Road	2392	of Santa Clarita P 0 Valencia Boule a Clarita, CA 913	evard	
7.	Have you had any Ÿ Yes Ÿ No. If Y			or other officials	regarding this site?	
8.	Can you suggest a information about	•	or group	s that might be i	nterested in receivin	g

Appendix C — Demographic Profile

Santa Clarit		.5-mile Radius		
D 14'	.5-mile Radius	.5-mile Radius	1-mile Radius	2-mile Radius
Population				
2008 Projection	0	8	4,532	41, 154
2003 Estimate	0	7	4,469	37,884
2000 Census	0	6	4,388	35,798
1990 Census	0	3	3,810	28,573
Growth Rate 2003-2008	0.0%	14.29%	3.65%	8.63%
Growth Rate 2000-2003	0.0%	16.67%	1.85%	5.83%
Growth Rate 1990-2000	0.0%	100.00%	15.17%	25.29%
Age				
2000 Average Age	0	34.14	35.61	35.14
Population Above 20 years	0	57.4%	67.49%	68.34%
Population Below 20 years	0	42.86%	32.51%	31.66%
Housing				
2008 Projected Housing Units	0	2	1,645	14,582
2003 Estimate	0	2	1,607	13,504
2000 Census	0	2	1,593	12,820
1990 Census	0	1	1,458	10,279
Growth 2003-2008	0.00%	14.29%	2.36%	7.98%
Growth 2000-2003	0.00%	0.00%	0.88%	5.34%
Growth 1990-2000	0.00%	100.00%	9.26%	24.72%
2003 Median Prop. Value	\$0	\$625,000	\$261,000	\$253,495
2000 Avg. Household Size	0.00	3.34	2.72	2.79
One-Person Households	0.00%	0.00%	21.78%	22.70%
Owner-Occupied	0.00%	0.00%	65.21%	70.06%
Renter-Occupied	0.00%	0.00%	34.79%	29.94%
Family Households in 2000	0.00%	100.00%	71.25%	70.85%
Population By Race*				
White	0.00%	85.71%	86.04%	80.19%
Black	0.00%	0.00%	0.85%	1.42%
Hispanic (Latino)*	0.00%	14.29%	11.3%	20.47%
Asian or Pacific Islander	0.00%	0.00%	5.84%	5.46%
Other Races	0.00%	0.00%	2.95%	8.43%
Household Income				
2003 Average HH Income	\$0	\$225,098	\$102,319	\$93,132
2003 Median HH Income	\$0	\$200,000	\$94,114	\$76,874
Estimated Per Capita Income	\$0	61,295\$	\$32,756	\$33,253
Education Level				
Elementary	0.00%	0.00%	2.32%	4.90%
Some High School	0.00%	0.00%	5.95%	7.45%
High School Graduate	0.00%	25.00%	16.15%	17.84%
Some College, No Degree	0.00%	25.00%	27.41%	27.34%
Associate Degree	0.00%	0.00%	12.39%	9.04%
Bachelor Degree	0.00%	25.00%	25.09%	22.78%
Graduate Degree	0.00%	0.00%	2.08%	2.08%

Source: 2000 Census

^{*} Population by race figures includes Hispanic (Latino) as an origin rather than a race. For the 2000 Census, many respondents who indicated that they are of Hispanic origin also indicated that they were Caucasian, African-American, Asian or other race classifications. Therefore, the "race" percentages exceed 100%.

Appendix D — History of Whittaker's role in site cleanup activities, and actions to be taken under the 2002 Unilateral Order

In 1987, Whittaker submitted a list of their Solid Waste Management Units (SWMU) to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency. SWMU are storage areas for drums and other containers of liquid and solid materials that are hazardous.

In 1992, DTSC executed a search warrant which discovered information identifying 77 additional areas of concern at the facility that were not included in the previous reports.

In 1994, Whittaker entered into a Consent Order with DTSC to conduct comprehensive site-wide investigation of the 77 areas of concern. The investigation included all the old landfills and any areas where solid or liquid wastes were potentially discharged to drainage areas or into the ground.

In compliance with the Consent Order, from 1994 through 1996 Whittaker consultants conducted background investigations on all 77 areas.

For 59 of the areas of concern, Whittaker contractors conducted field investigations under a work plan and field sampling plan approved by DTSC and under supervision of DTSC staff. The investigations included soil vapor surveys, exploratory trenching, near-surface soil sampling, and exploratory borings. Soil samples were collected and analyzed for a long list of physical and chemical constituents.

In September 1996, based on the results of investigations in progress, Whittaker submitted to DTSC, proposals to conduct various removal actions and pilot tests to address areas where contamination was encountered at levels exceeding targeted cleanup goals.

In January 1997, Whittaker submitted to DTSC a draft 14-volume Remedial Investigation (RI) Report setting forth the site investigation findings. The report identified problems in 8 of the 77 areas and referenced the work plans that had been submitted to DTSC to promptly address these problems. DTSC prepared comments on the RI Report, but Whittaker never addressed these comments.

In 1997, perchlorate was found in four domestic production wells located near the Property. Whittaker consultants, under DTSC oversight, performed a series of site investigations to assess perchlorate contamination of soil, groundwater, and surface water.

The interim remediation programs and pilot tests that had been proposed in 1996 and 1997 were placed on hold due to the priority given to the perchlorate issue. The additional investigations confirmed that perchlorate contamination was present in near-surface and subsurface soils at various locations and was also present in surface water drainage and the groundwater along the northern border of the facility.

In January 1999, Whittaker sold the Property to Santa Clarita, LLC (SCLLC), a division of Remediation Financial Inc., a Brownfield development company based out of Phoenix, Arizona. In addition to assuming all of the remaining environmental cleanup responsibilities when they purchased the property, SCLLC also acquired the right to develop the property.

Since 1999, SCLLC continued the process of conducting remedial investigations, feasibility studies, and baseline risk assessments at the Property. In 2001, SCLLC entered into an Enforceable Agreement with DTSC in which SCLLC agreed to complete all environmental investigations and cleanup of the Property.

However, in 2002, DTSC notified SCLLC that it had defaulted on its site cleanup responsibilities. In the fall of 2002, DTSC opened negotiations with Whittaker to resume the site investigation and cleanup work that SCLLC had failed to complete.

In October 2002, SCLLC made known its intention to sell the Property. As part of that sale, the prospective purchaser would assume the site investigation and remediation responsibilities.

In November 2002, DTSC broke off negotiations with Whittaker. On November 11, 2002, DTSC issued a Imminent and Substantial Endangerment Order requiring Whittaker to complete a comprehensive site investigation and feasibility study for all contaminants of concern. On November 22, 2002, Whittaker agreed to perform under the November 11, 2002 Order notwithstanding SCLLC's pending sale of the Property.

Additional actions to be conducted under the November 2002 Unilateral Order

Under the February 2001Unilateral Order and consistent with the Enforceable agreement DTSC entered into with SCLLC, Whittaker is required to investigate and remediate the OUs in accordance with the following formal regulatory process:

- (1) Prepare remedial investigation work plan;
- (2) Implement approved remedial investigation work plan;
- (3) Prepare interim screening and evaluation document and work plan for testability studies;
- (4) Implement DTSC approved treatability studies work plan;
- (5) Prepare remedial investigation report;
- (6) Conduct baseline risk assessment using investigation findings;
- (7) Prepare feasibility studies and baseline risk assessment report;
- (8) Prepare draft remedial action plan (RAP) for DTSC and public review;
- (9) Prepare responses to comments received on draft RAP and incorporate changes as needed;
- (10) Prepare final remedial action plan;
- (11) Prepare detailed remedial design plans for DTSC review;
- (12) Implement DTSC approved remedial action plan;

- (13) Prepare/submit implementation report;
- (14) Prepare/submit O&M work plan;
- (15) Prepare/submit remedial action review work plan;
- (16) Implement DTSC-approved followup monitoring and confirmation sampling plan;
- (17) Prepare/submit emergency response action report if needed based on the results of the follow-up monitoring.

The Unilateral Order also requires Whittaker to do the following:

- Prepare and implement a public participation plan
- Submit monthly summary reports
- Submit a work plan for checking for and removing unexploded ordnance or other explosive wastes.

According to the Order, the regulatory process is already complete for the portion of OU1 located along the eastern boundary of the Property. The Order includes a schedule under which the process is to be completed for the rest of the Property.

The first deadlines are associated with completing work that SCLLC started before their default, including implementation of remedial investigations for OU1D, OU2 and OU6, and the submittal of a remedial investigation/baseline risk assessment report for OU1E.

The next steps are the submittal and implementation of remedial investigation work plans for OU7 and OU3, the preparation of a remedial investigation and baseline risk assessment report for OU1D, and the preparation of a final interim remediation work plan for OU1E.

Background detail of Whittaker's environmental investigations and cleanup activities from 1987 through 1999

The following work was conducted by Whittaker as a result of the 1987 investigations aimed at closure of the RCRA unit known as OU6. However, since VOC contamination was identified, DTSC required cleanup prior to granting closure.

Between the end of manufacturing operations in 1987 and the sale of the Property in early 1999, Whittaker conducted environmental investigations and cleanup activities at the Property under the supervision of DTSC and DTSC's predecessor state agency, the Department of Health Services. The following is a list of cleanup-related activities that Whittaker conducted:

- Partial excavation and onsite treatment of volatile organic compounds (VOCs)
- Installation of a groundwater extraction and treatment system
- Partial excavation and screening of historic landfills
- Installation of a soil vapor extraction system

At Building 317, Whittaker excavated some of the TCE-contaminated soil and installed an onsite soil vapor extraction system to treat the remaining soil. Whittaker also installed a groundwater extraction and treatment system that was operated until contaminant levels were reduced to below detection limits. The excavated soils were treated by aeration—spreading them out along the ground to allow air and sunlight to destroy the TCE. The aerated soils remain onsite.

During the demolition of the manufacturing facilities in the late 1980s and early 1990s, Whittaker conducted an investigation that included partial excavation and screening of materials in various landfills. Materials identified as hazardous were segregated and hauled offsite for proper disposal in a Class I landfill.

Appendix E — Locations where you can find site related information

LOCATION AND OPENING TIMES OF INFORMATION REPOITSORIES

The following locations hold information relating to site cleanup reports, community survey results, and Public Participation Plans:

City of Santa Clarita **Planning Department**

Contact: Lisa Hardy Suite 300 23920 Valencia Boulevard Santa Clarita, CA 91355 (661) 259-2489

Website: www.santa-clarita.com

Hours of Operation:

M - T: 7.30 a.m. -5.30 p.m. SAT – SUN: Closed

City of Santa Clarita Public Library Valencia Branch

Contact: Reference Desk 23743 W. Magic Mountain Parkway Santa Clarita, CA 91355 (661) 259-8942

M - T: 10 a.m. - 9 p.m.10 a.m. - 6 p.m.SAT: 10 a.m. - 5 p.m.SUN: 10 a.m. - 5 p.m.

Hours of Operation:

City of Santa Clarita Public Library **Canyon Country Branch**

Contact: Reference Desk 18601 Soledad Canyon Road Santa Clarita, CA 91351 (661) 251-2720

Hours of Operation: M - W: 10 a.m. - 8 p.m.T - F: 10 a.m. - 6 p.m. 10 a.m. - 5 p.m.SAT: SUN: Closed

Department of Toxic Substances Control

1011 North Grandview Avenue, Glendale, CA 91201. (818) 551-2171

Hours of Operation: M - F: 8 a.m. - 5 p.m.

Appendix F — Chemical and Waste Summary by Product Category

CHEMICAL AND WASTE SUMMARY BY PRODUCT CATEGORY Whittaker Bermite Facility

PRODUCT CATEGORY: Ammunition Rounds

PRODUCT NAMES:	CHEMICAL NAME	WASTE/BY-PRODUCT
I KODOCI IMMILD.		WASIL/DI-IKODOCI

20, 3mm cartridge PBXN-5 Contaminated Paper

RDX Contaminated Tools **Experienced Test Items** Aluminum **Neutralized Salts** Aluminum Oxide

Neutralized Solutions Boron

Calcium Resinate **Powders** Reject Units **Epoxy Polyamide** Epoxy Varnish Solvents Graphite Thinner

Lacquer (incl. black, clear)

Laocquer Thinner Methylene Chloride Nitro Cellulose

Paint (primer + enamel) Polyvinyl Acetate Potassium Nitrate Potassium Perchlorate Smokeless Powder

Thread locking Compound

PRODUCT CATEGORY: Detonators, Fuzes, and Boosters

PRODUCT NAMES: CHEMICAL NAME WASTE/BY-PRODUCT

Hm-6 Initiating charge, M57A1 HMX

Detonator, M505A3, Fuze, MK 43 **PETN** RDX

Acetone Antimony Sulfide Barium Chromate

Barium Nitrate Boron Boron Chromate

Butyl Acetate (n) Calcium Chromate Calcium resinate

Ceric ammonium nitrate

Ferric oxide Graphite

Hydrochloric acid

Lacquer (incl. black, clear)

Contaminated Paper **Contaminated Tools Expended Test Items Neutralized Salts Neutralizing Solution**

Powders Reject Units Solvents Thinner Wash Water

PRODUCT CATEGORY: Detonators, Fuzes, and Boosters Continued

PRODUCT NAMES: CHEMICAL NAME WASTE/BY-PRODUCT

Lacquer thinner
Lead Azide
Lead Carbonate
Lead dioxide
Lead styphnate
Lead styphnate, basic
Potassium nitrate
Sodium chloride
Sodium hydroxide

Tetracene

Xylene substitute solvent

PRODUCT CATEGORY: Detonators, Fuzes, and Boosters

<u>PRODUCT NAMES</u>: <u>CHEMICAL NAME</u> <u>WASTE/BY-PRODUCT</u>

Zirconium

PRODUCT CATEGORY: Flares and Signal Cartridges

PRODUCT NAMES: CHEMICAL NAME WASTE/BY-PRODUCT

MK 24 mod 4, MK 4 Signal Cartridge, W-9 and W-17 Sidewinder Practice Signals Hycar Acetone
Laminal 4116 Aluminum Sulfate
Viton A Application Tubes

Viton A Application Tubes
Acetone Butyl Acetate
Aluminum Sulfate Cobalt Sulfate

Barlum Chromate Contaminated Paper
Black Powder Contaminated Tools
Boron Expended Test Items
Butyl acetate (n) Ferrous Sulfate

Cobelt naphthenate Hydrochloric Acid Copper sulfate Pellets

Ferrous Sulfate Pellets
Powders

Hexane Red Phosphorous
Lead carbonate Reject Lines
Lead dioxide Smokeless Powder
Lead, red Sodium Sulfate

Magnesium Solids Methyl ethyl ketone Solvents

Nitro cellulose Titanium Dioxide

Paint (primer + enamel) Varnish Phosphorous, red stabilized Wash Water

Polytetraflorethylene Potassium perchlorate Shotgun primer Smokeless powder

PRODUCT CATEGORY: Flares and Signal Cartridge Continued

CHEMICAL NAME PRODUCT NAMES: WASTE/BY-PRODUCT

Sodium bicarbonate Sodium sulfate Sulfuric acid Titanium dioxide Titanium tetrachloride

Varnish

PRODUCT CATEGORY: Glow Plugs, Tracer, and Pyrophoric Pellets

PRODUCT NAMES: CHEMICAL NAME WASTE/BY-PRODUCT

23mm Tracer Pellet, HEI-T-TP, MTV Type I, II and III, APD-S,

M221

Barlum Chromate

RDX Viton A Acetone Aluminum

Aluminum Oxides

Powders

Black Powder Boron

Calcium resinate Carbon black Ethyl alcohol Ethyl cellulose Graphite Hexane

Isopropyl alcohol Magnesium

Polytetrafluoroethylene Potassium perchlorate Strontium nitrate Strontium peroxide Tetrachloroethylene Trichloroethane (1, 1, 1-)

Trichloroethylene Vegetable oil

PRODUCT CATEGORY: Igniters, Ignition Compositions and Explosive Bolts

PRODUCT NAMES: **CHEMICAL NAME** WASTE/BY-PRODUCT

Bp-1, mk 192 Igniter, IB-52 Ignition Composition, MK 125 Acetone Igniter MK 1 mod 1 Squib, MK Barium chromate

17 Torpedo Igniter

Laminal 4116

Benzene

Black powder Boron

Calcium resinate

Contaminated Paper **Expended Test Items** Lacquer

Contaminated Paper

Contaminated Tools Expended Test Items

Powder Wash Water

Pellets

Reject Units Solvents

Methylene Chloride

Pellets **Powders** Rags

PRODUCT CATEGORY: Igniters, Ignition Compositions and Explosive Bolts Continued

Solvents

Thinner

PRODUCT NAMES: CHEMICAL NAME WASTE/BY-PRODUCT

Calcium stearate
Diazodinitrophenol
Dibutyl phthalate
Diphenyl amine
Epoxy polyamide
Ethyl alcohol

Ethyl cellulose Graphite

Lacquer (incl. black, clear)

Lacquer thinner Lead chromate Magnesium Manganese

Methylene chloride Nitro cellulose Nitrostarch Pluronic flake Polyvinyl acetate Potassium chlorate Potassium perchlorate Smokeless powder Titanium

Tricresyl phosphate

Tungsten

PRODUCT CATEGORY: Igniters, Ignition Compositions, and Explosive Bolts

PRODUCT NAMES: CHEMICAL NAME WASTE/BY-PRODUCT

Vinyl acetate/vinyl chloride copolymer

PRODUCT CATEGORY: Power Charges

PRODUCT NAMES: CHEMICAL NAME WASTE/BY-PRODUCT

Baker #420, Baker Oil Tool asphalt Bulk Bakalets
Carbon black Bulk Solids

Dimer acid disocyanate

Dioctyl adipate

Contaminated Paper
Contaminated Tools

Expended Test Items

Dioctyl adipate Hydroxyl-terminated-

polybutadiene

Isophorone dlisocyanate Filed Tubes
Kerosene Powders
Oxamide Solvents

Potassium perchlorate

PRODUCT CATEGORY: Power Charges Continued

PRODUCT NAMES: CHEMICAL NAME WASTE/BY-PRODUCT

Strontium nitrate

Sulfur

Tetrachloroethylene Trichlorethane (1, 1, 1-) Trichloroethylene

PRODUCT CATEGORY: Rocket Motors and Gas Generators

CHEMICAL NAME WASTE/BY-PRODUCT PRODUCT NAMES:

Ammonium Perchlorate Water

Propellent Contaminated Paper

Propellent Contaminated Tools

Mixed Pyrotechnics

Seal Rite Containers

Neutralized Salts

Paint

Resins Sand

Solvents

Stripper

Sidewinder, Chaparrel, JATO, PAPI Spin Motor, MC3003, Yardney PETN

TMAP TMP

> VYLP binder XYHL copolymer Zytel-61

Acetone

Aliphatic Polyurethane Aluminum

Aluminum oxide Ammonium dichromate Ammonium perchlorate

Antimony sufide Barium chromate Barium nitrate Benzene Boron

Butyl acetate (n) Butylcarbitol formal Butylcatechol (tertiary)

Carbon black

Carboxyl-terminated polybutadiene

Ceric ammonium nitrate Chromium octoate Cobait naphthenate Copper chromate Copper chromite Cumene hydroperoxide

Diarytanilide yellow Dlatomaceous earth Dloctyl adipate Dlphenyl guankline Epoxy resin

Ethyl cellulose Ferric oxide Graphite

PRODUCT CATEGORY: Rocket Motors and Gas Generators Continued

PRODUCT NAMES: CHEMICAL NAME WASTE/BY-PRODUCT

Grease

Hydrochloric acid

Hydroxyl-terminated polybutadiene

Isophorane disocyanate

Isopropyl alcohol

Lead azid

Lead carbonate

Lead dioxide

Lead styphnate

Lead styphnate, basic

Lead thiocyanate

Lecithin

Lupersol

Magnesium

Magnesium Oxide

Methanol

Methyl azindinyl phosphoric oxide

Methyl ethyl ketone

Nitric acid

Nitro guanidine

Oxamide

Paint (primer +enamel)

Polybutadiene butarez

Polyester resin

Polysulfide monomer

Polytetrafluoroethylene

Potassium nitrate

Potassium perchlorate

Quinine dioxime (para)

Slilca

Sodium chloride

Sodium hydroxide

Strontium nitrate

Styrene monomer

Sulfur

Sylmar resin

Tetracene

Tetrachloroethylene

Tetranitrocarbazole

Thread locking compound

Trichloroethane (1,1,1-)

Trichloroethylene

Trisodium phosphate

Tungsten

Varnish

Zinc chromate

Zirconium

PRODUCT CATEGORY: Rocket Motors and Gas Generators Continued

PRODUCT NAMES: CHEMICAL NAME WASTE/BY-PRODUCT

Zirconium carbide

PRODUCT CATEGORY: Unspecified/unknown

<u>PRODUCT NAMES</u>: <u>CHEMICAL NAME</u> <u>WASTE/BY-PRODUCT</u>

Acrylonitrile
Barium dioxide
Calcium silicide
Copper (powder)
Ferric sulfide

Iron carbonyl (powder) Nitronaphthalene (1-) Polybutadiene (cis-) Potassium chloride Sodium citrate Sodium stearate

Tetraethylenepentamine

Tetryl Toluidine Trinitrotoluene Triphenyl Zinc stearate

PRODUCT CATEGORY: Missile Main Charges

<u>PRODUCT NAMES</u>: <u>CHEMICAL NAME</u> <u>WASTE/BY-PRODUCT</u>

Sidewinder and Chaparral

Missile Paper

Main Charges RDX

Aluminum

PBXN-3

Aluminum oxcides
Barium nitrate
Bituminous Solvent

Calcium stearate

Lacquer (incl. black, clear)

Lacquer thinner

Paint (primer + enamel)

Paraffin

Contaminated Tools

Neutralizing Solution

Powders Reject Units Thinner

Contaminated