



MICHAEL N. FEUER
CITY ATTORNEY

June 3, 2022

Via e-mail to: Renee.Purdy@waterboards.ca.gov

James Stahl, Acting Chair
Renee Purdy, Executive Officer
Los Angeles Regional Water Quality Control Board
320 West 4th Street, Suite 200
Los Angeles, CA 90013

Re: **Agenda Comment**, June 9, 2022, Regional Water Quality Control Board meeting
Agenda Item No. 7
Resolution Approving MOU between the Los Angeles RWQCB and Boeing
Company regarding cleanup at the former Santa Susana Field Laboratory Site

Dear Mr. Stahl and Ms. Purdy:

On behalf of the City of Los Angeles, I urge the Los Angeles Regional Water Quality Control Board (“Board”) not approve the resolution for the proposed memorandum of understanding (“MOU”) between the Board and Boeing Company (“Boeing”) regarding cleanup at the former Santa Susana Field Laboratory site (“SSFL”). (Agenda Item No. 7.) **The City requests the Board continue the item for a minimum of two months in order to provide the public with sufficient time to review the MOU and Settlement Agreement.**

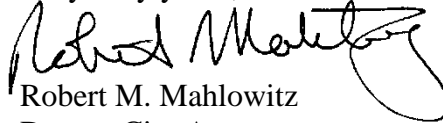
The MOU would make effective a settlement agreement between the Department of Toxic Substances Control (“DTSC”) and Boeing which sets forth Boeing’s obligations to remediate radioactive and toxic chemical waste at SSFL (“Settlement”). We are concerned that the Settlement was negotiated without any public review or input and was only recently released to the public on May 9, 2022 – a month prior to the proposed Board action. The document is lengthy and complex – it is 796 pages long, containing significant scientific and technical data. Neither the City, any other local public agency, nor we are told, any of the public interest groups that have long been engaged on this matter, were aware of the Settlement terms or its new remediation standards prior to its release a few weeks ago.

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For decades the City has been committed to full cleanup of all environmental hazards at SSFL. Although DTSC and Boeing state the Settlement will achieve that goal, the City's longstanding public interest group partners, National Resources Defense Fund and Committee to Bridge the Gap, have identified significant concerns about the adequacy of the chemical remediation Standards provided by the Settlement.

The City requests the Board not approve the MOU with Boeing at its June 9, 2022 meeting and, at a minimum, continue consideration for at two months. This will provide time for the City to adequately review the scientific materials presented by DTSC and Boeing, to provide meaningful comments, and to determine whether the MOU is sufficiently protective of the health, safety and welfare of people living and working near SSFL.

Very truly yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Robert Mahlowitz", written in a cursive style.

Robert M. Mahlowitz
Deputy City Attorney

RM:ev