

National Aeronautics and Space Administration



Notice of Availability

▶ **NASA announces the availability of a document called a RECORD OF DECISION**

that describes how and why NASA will expand an existing groundwater treatment system that is located on-site at the Jet Propulsion Laboratory (JPL).

▶ **In addition to the Record of Decision, a document called the REMEDIAL DESIGN/REMEDIAL ACTION (RD/RA) WORK PLAN is available for review.**

The existing plant was constructed by NASA in 2004 and became operational in early 2005 to allow for a detailed study of treatment technologies that would remove volatile organic compounds and perchlorate from groundwater directly beneath the Laboratory, where the highest levels of chemicals are located. The plant has proven to be so successful that it now will be expanded to more than double its rate of groundwater treatment, bringing that treatment rate from 150 gallons per minute to approximately 350 gallons per minute. Construction for this expansion will begin on the JPL facility in late February.

To expand the plant, NASA will add one extraction well to bring groundwater from beneath JPL to the above-ground treatment plant. NASA will also install one additional injection well to return clean water to the aquifer. The expansion will include pipeline installation to connect the new wells to the existing plant. This expansion cleanup will target what is referred to as the "source area," an eight-acre by 100-foot-thick area of the aquifer beneath the Laboratory that contains chemicals disposed of by historic practices in the 1940s and '50s.

The plant utilizes two technologies – a liquid-phase granular activated carbon system to remove volatile organic compounds, and a fluidized bed reactor to remove perchlorate. Liquid-phase granular activated carbon is the most commonly used method to remove volatile organic compounds from groundwater, and the newer fluidized bed reactor perchlorate removal process has proven to be highly effective at the JPL site.

The public may review the Record of Decision for the on-site treatment plant expansion and supporting technical documents on the Web at the NASA JPL Groundwater Cleanup Website at <http://JPLwater.nasa.gov> or by requesting a copy of it from Merrilee Fellows at mfellows@nasa.gov or by mail to the attention of: **Ms. Merrilee Fellows**

NASA Manager for Community Involvement
NASA Management Office
180-801 Jet Propulsion Laboratory
4800 Oak Grove Drive
Pasadena, CA 91109

The Record of Decision and supporting documents also may be found at any of the NASA public information repositories located at the:

Pasadena Central Library
285 E. Walnut St.
Pasadena, CA 91101
(626) 744-4052

Altadena Public Library
600 E. Mariposa St.
Altadena, CA 91001
(626) 798-0833

La Cañada Flintridge Public Library
4545 Oakwood Ave.
La Cañada Flintridge, CA 91011
(818) 790-3330