



**UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
REGION IX**

**75 Hawthorne Street
San Francisco, CA 94105**

JAN 27 2014

The Honorable Bill Bogaard
Mayor of City of Pasadena
100 North Garfield Avenue
Pasadena, CA 91109

Re: Sunset Reservoir Drinking Water Wells Perchlorate Contamination

Dear Mayor Bogaard:

Thank you very much for your May 30, 2013 letter to Regional Administrator Blumenfeld, requesting assistance to resolve the perchlorate contamination issue at the Sunset Reservoir well area. The City is a very important stakeholder that has played a critical role in facilitating the cleanup of contaminated groundwater that has migrated off of the NASA JPL Superfund Site. There has been significant progress towards restoration of groundwater despite the extensive off-site impacts caused by NASA JPL.

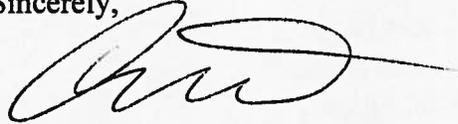
EPA takes Pasadena's concerns regarding perchlorate in the Sunset Reservoir wells very seriously. Since your letter, Michael Montgomery, my Assistant Director, engaged Pasadena Water and Power (PWP) in multiple discussions and EPA conducted extensive reviews of PWP technical memoranda and other data associated with the Sunset Reservoir well area perchlorate contamination. EPA and PWP then met on September 19 and December 16, 2013, to share presentations and exchange additional information and technical perspectives.

Having carefully considered and discussed all of the information, EPA and the regulatory team, which includes the California Department of Toxic Substances Control and the Los Angeles Regional Water Quality Control Board, concluded that the appropriate course of action at this time is to have NASA proceed to finalize the Focused Feasibility Study based on the remedial objectives and alternatives identified in the June 2013 draft Focused Feasibility Study and implement the proposed JPL treatment system optimization. Following regulatory approval, NASA will publish a Proposed Plan for public comment. EPA will ensure that NASA fully and impartially considers any PWP Proposed Plan comments submitted. Throughout the cleanup process, EPA will continue its oversight of NASA and ensure that NASA closely monitors groundwater conditions down-gradient of the Monk Hill facility. In the future, if Pasadena identifies data or data gaps that raise questions regarding the protectiveness of the remedies in place, we would ask that you share such information with us.

As we mentioned at our December 16 meeting, EPA would also be willing to convene a broader stakeholder group meeting to discuss options for addressing perchlorate throughout the Raymond basin that is not addressed by the cleanup actions at the NASA JPL Superfund site.

EPA would like to express our appreciation of the City of Pasadena's continued involvement in the ongoing cleanup of NASA JPL. We will continue to do what is necessary to ensure that the NASA remedies protect Pasadena resources. If you would like to discuss this matter further, I may be reached at 415-972-3843.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Enrique Manzanilla', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Enrique Manzanilla
Director, Superfund Division

cc: Phyllis Currie, City of Pasadena
Sayareh Amirebrahimi, DTSC
Kwang-il Lee, LA RWQCB
James Woolford, EPA OSRTI
Reggie Cheatham, EPA FFRRO
Steve Slaten, NASA JPL