



November 8, 1996

Pete Wilson  
Governor

James M. Strock  
Secretary for  
Environmental  
Protection

Department of  
Toxic Substances  
Control

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Sacramento, CA  
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Mr. Reagan M. Wilson  
Chief Executive Officer  
Stanislaus County  
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CROWS LANDING FLIGHT FACILITY

Dear Mr. Wilson:

The Department of Toxic Substances Control (DTSC) understands that National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) intends to transfer Crows Landing Flight Facility (Facility) to Stanislaus County (County) in the very near future. As the State lead environmental regulatory agency with jurisdiction over the ongoing environmental cleanup at the Facility, DTSC believes it is prudent to notify you of DTSC's concerns with the environmental remediation of that site. To date, the Navy, which owned the facility prior to transferring it to NASA on July 1, 1994, has been funding the investigation and cleanup. Although DTSC expects that the Navy will complete the investigation and cleanup, the State has no agreement with NASA or the Navy assuring that the investigation and cleanup will be completed. Since under both state and federal law (California Health and Safety Code Section 25360.1 et seq. and 42 USC Section 9607(a), respectively,) all owners of property are liable for cleaning up contaminated property, the County would become liable for cleaning up the Facility at the time it becomes the owner.

To ensure that all potentially liable parties understand their obligations to clean up the Facility, DTSC will request that upon taking title to the Facility, the



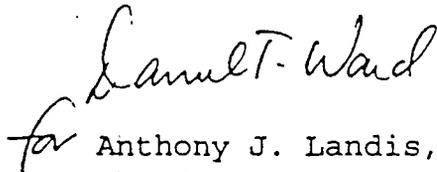
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County and the Navy enter into an enforceable agreement with DTSC to set out the actions that will be undertaken and completed by the parties. The purpose of the enforceable agreement will be to assure that the Navy will complete the cleanup.

As you know, DTSC, the County and NASA will be meeting on November 15, 1996 at 10:30 a.m. at the Stanislaus County Administration Building to discuss environmental remediation and the transfer of the Facility.

If you have any questions or concerns regarding this matter, please do not hesitate to contact Mr. Kent Strong, DTSC's Project Manager, at (916) 255-3705.

Sincerely,

 Samuel T. Ward

for Anthony J. Landis, P.E.  
Chief

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## TRANSMITTAL

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**Subj: CERCLA Administrative Record Materials**  
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