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Mr. David Szymanski  
Supervisor, Santa Monica Mountains  
National Recreation Area  
401 West Hillcrest Drive  
Thousand Oaks, CA 91360

July 9, 2013

The **Porter Ranch Neighborhood Council** requests that the National Park Service (NPS) step forward to be the eventual administrator of the Santa Susana Field Laboratory in the Simi Hills.

The General Services Agency (GSA) is tasked with disposing of excess federal property. Approximately 450 acres of the 2,700-acre Santa Susana Field Laboratory site is owned by the federal government and administered by NASA; NASA has declared that property to be no longer needed and GSA is disposing of it through a federal government process of transfer to other federal agencies, or sale to private parties. Under this process, the transfer/sale will occur in the near future and will include a binding obligation for NASA to clean up the parcel to appropriate standards prior to handover of the administration of the property.

We believe that the NPS is the entity that has the expertise and experience to preserve this land in perpetuity. We envision this site as particularly well suited to house a public museum honoring the nation's rocketry and space achievements. It is, as well, a critical habitat linkage between the Santa Monica Mountains National Recreation Area and the Los Padres National Forest. The NASA site also includes a significant Native American pictograph area, on the National Registry of Historic Places, and has an extensive Archaeological District with many artifacts and sites that show it was heavily used by Native Americans.

We, the **Porter Ranch Neighborhood Council**, ask for your help in preserving forever this parcel that contributes in so many ways to public goals and preserves this space for future public use. This parcel will assist with the key linkage between the Santa Monica Mountains and other open space, and may become part of the Rim of the Valley Trail. This site, above all others, provides an opportunity to maintain significant, unique cultural and historic riches as resources that we - and our grandchildren - will be able to visit and marvel at in perpetuity.

Thank you for your support,

Paula Cracium  
President, Porter Ranch Neighborhood Council

The PORTER RANCH NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL is an elected body of 11 members within the City of Los Angeles representing approximately 31,000 residents ( 10,200 households ) in the Community of Porter Ranch, California.