National Aeronautics and
Space Administration

Ames Research Center
Moffett Field, CA 94035-1000

Reply to Attn of: Q:218-6

June 2, 2005

Mr. Milford Wayne Donaldson
FAIA - State Historic Preservation Officer
1416 9th Street, Room 1442-7
Sacramento, CA 95814

Dear Mr. Donaldson:

The purpose of this letter is to request your participation in regards to an undertaking with the potential to adversely affect historic properties at NASA Ames Research Center, Moffett Field, California.

Background

NASA Ames Research Center currently controls federal property at Moffett Field, California that includes Shenandoah Plaza National Historic District. This district is listed on the National Register of Historic Places as the "U.S. Naval Air Station, Sunnyvale". In 1994, the U.S. Navy conveyed this property to NASA as the result of a Base Realignment and Closure Commission decision. However, the Navy retained responsibility for remediation of contamination caused by its actions, in accordance with applicable environmental laws.

Hazardous Conditions

Recent environmental investigations have determined that hazardous materials are associated with Hangar One, a significant contributing property of the district. The contamination includes PCBs, lead and asbestos. The Environmental Protection Agency has mandated that the contamination to the environment be eliminated. The U.S. Navy plans a Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act (CERCLA, 42 U.S.C. § 9601 *et seq.*) removal action to address the contamination. Possible solutions that the Navy is considering for the elimination of the hazardous contamination may result in an undertaking with adverse effect to Hangar 1.

NHPA - CERCLA

The National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA), section 106, requires that undertakings having the potential for adverse effect be coordinated with the State Historic Preservation Officer and the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation for significant issues. However, the CERCLA process is the primary process for this action; and, regarding the

NHPA, EPA policy suggests that CERCLA requires compliance with only the substantive requirements of the NHPA.

SHPO – ACHP Participation

With these considerations in mind, NASA Ames is requesting the participation of, and coordination and discussions with, the California State Historic Preservation Office and the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation regarding issues associated with this matter.

If you have any questions, I can be reached at 650-604-3355 or by email at: solliges@mail.arc.nasa.gov

Sincerely,

Sandy Olliges
Deputy Director, Office of Safety
Environmental and Mission Assurance

cc:
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