

**From:** [IGHOTLINE](#)  
**To:** ["email@philrutherford.com"](mailto:email@philrutherford.com)  
**Subject:** RE: [EXTERNAL] FW: DTSC and DOE Should Agree to Terminate the 2010 AOC  
**Date:** Monday, April 20, 2026 1:02:51 PM

---

Mr. Phil Rutherford,

Thank you for contacting the U.S. Department of Energy's Office of Inspector General Hotline. This serves to acknowledge receipt of your message. The Hotline facilitates the reporting of allegations of fraud, waste, or abuse concerning Department of Energy programs and/or operations. You may obtain additional information regarding the Hotline at <http://energy.gov/ig/services>. The "Complaint Processing" section explains the actions the Office of Inspector General may take regarding your complaint.

We are reviewing the details of your complaint. If after reviewing your complaint and we still have additional questions, we would like to speak with you. Please provide a good contact number and availability for tomorrow, 21 Apr 2026 between the hours of 3pm -5pm EST.

Lastly, please provide a response to the two statements below. Additional information can be found at <http://energy.gov/ig/services>

1. Acknowledge the below.

I acknowledge that I have read the Office of Inspector General Hotline section of the OIG website regarding issues which should be reported to the OIG, complaint processing, anonymity, and the OIG confidentiality policy.

**YES or NO**

2. Confidentiality Information. Please read the below and annotate your preference.

**Consent to Disclosure:** I consent to disclosure of my identity outside the OIG on a need-to-know basis.

**Non-Consent to Disclosure (Confidential):** I do NOT consent to disclosure of my identity outside the OIG. I understand that if the OIG determines the allegation(s) I report cannot be investigated without disclosing my identity on a need-to-know basis to organizations outside the OIG, my lack of consent may prevent further action from being taken on my complaint. I also understand that even if I elect confidential status, my identity may be disclosed if required by applicable legal authority or if the Inspector General determines that such disclosure is unavoidable.

Thank you,

Hotline Coordinator  
U.S. Department of Energy  
Office of Inspector General  
<http://energy.gov/ig/services>  
KA

---

**From:** Phil Rutherford <[email@philrutherford.com](mailto:email@philrutherford.com)>  
**Sent:** Thursday, April 9, 2026 1:57 PM  
**To:** Secretary <[the.secretary@hq.doe.gov](mailto:the.secretary@hq.doe.gov)>; IGHOTLINE <[ighotline@hq.doe.gov](mailto:ighotline@hq.doe.gov)>  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] FW: DTSC and DOE Should Agree to Terminate the 2010 AOC

It appears that the email below failed to reach several DOE recipients, including Secretary Wright.

Secretary Wright, please consider opening a dialogue with the California DTSC with the view of terminating the 2010 AOC.

The Inspector General should also consider this a formal complaint of wasteful expenditure of taxpayer dollars.

Sincerely,

*Phil Rutherford Consulting*  
Mobile: +1 818-912-1501  
[email@philrutherford.com](mailto:email@philrutherford.com)  
[www.philrutherford.com](http://www.philrutherford.com)

---

**From:** Phil Rutherford <[email@philrutherford.com](mailto:email@philrutherford.com)>  
**Sent:** Sunday, April 5, 2026 10:19 PM  
**To:** [secretary@hq.doe.gov](mailto:secretary@hq.doe.gov); 'Butler, Katherine@DTSC' <[Katherine.Butler@dtsc.ca.gov](mailto:Katherine.Butler@dtsc.ca.gov)>  
**Cc:** [president@whitehouse.gov](mailto:president@whitehouse.gov); [EM@hq.doe.gov](mailto:EM@hq.doe.gov); [ighotline@hg.doe.gov](mailto:ighotline@hg.doe.gov); 'Mengers, Joshua' <[Joshua.Mengers@emcbc.doe.gov](mailto:Joshua.Mengers@emcbc.doe.gov)>; [etec@emcbc.doe.gov](mailto:etec@emcbc.doe.gov); [yana.garcia@calepa.ca.gov](mailto:yana.garcia@calepa.ca.gov); 'Becker, Steven@DTSC' <[Steven.Becker@dtsc.ca.gov](mailto:Steven.Becker@dtsc.ca.gov)>; [DTSC\\_SSFLCleanup@dtsc.ca.gov](mailto:DTSC_SSFLCleanup@dtsc.ca.gov); [Mindy.Mathias@dtsc.ca.gov](mailto:Mindy.Mathias@dtsc.ca.gov); 'Brosnan, Tanya@DTSC' <[Tanya.Brosnan@dtsc.ca.gov](mailto:Tanya.Brosnan@dtsc.ca.gov)>; [patrick.movlay@dtsc.ca.gov](mailto:patrick.movlay@dtsc.ca.gov); [julie.lincoln@dtsc.ca.gov](mailto:julie.lincoln@dtsc.ca.gov); 'Minas Masihi, Anaeis@DTSC' <[Anaeis.MinasMasihi@dtsc.ca.gov](mailto:Anaeis.MinasMasihi@dtsc.ca.gov)>; 'Miller, Elena@DTSC' <[Elena.Miller@dtsc.ca.gov](mailto:Elena.Miller@dtsc.ca.gov)>;

'Higginson, E. Paige@DTSC' <Paige.Higginson@dtsc.ca.gov>

**Subject:** DTSC and DOE Should Agree to Terminate the 2010 AOC

Dear Secretary Wright and Director Butler,

I write to you today to raise your awareness of the unacceptable conflict between the State of California and the federal government over radiologic cleanup requirements for the DOE's Energy Technology Engineering Center (ETEC) at the Santa Susana Field Laboratory (SSFL) in Ventura County, California.

For over 15 years ETEC has conducted environmental remediation and nuclear decommissioning under a state-ordered Administrative Order on Consent (AOC). This AOC is in clear conflict with both past federal practice and with current federal actions resulting from Presidential Executive Order 14300.

I respectfully request that DTSC and DOE agree to terminate the 2010 AOC and replace it with more conventional remedies in line with the rest of the U.S.

Please see attached or online letter at  
[https://philrutherford.com/SSFL/2010\\_AOC/2026-04-06\\_Open\\_Letter\\_to\\_Wright\\_and\\_Butler.pdf](https://philrutherford.com/SSFL/2010_AOC/2026-04-06_Open_Letter_to_Wright_and_Butler.pdf)

Sincerely,

*Phil Rutherford Consulting*  
Mobile: +1 818-912-1501  
[email@philrutherford.com](mailto:email@philrutherford.com)  
[www.philrutherford.com](http://www.philrutherford.com)

\*\*\*\*\*

This message does not originate from a known Department of Energy email system.  
Use caution if this message contains attachments, links or requests for information.

\*\*\*\*\*