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Julianne Polanco
State Historic Preservation Officer
Office of Historic Preservation
Department of Parks & Recreation
1725 23rd Street, Suite 100
Sacramento, CA 95816

Mark A. Beason
State Historian II
Office of Historic Preservation
Department of Parks & Recreation
1725 23rd Street, Suite 100
Sacramento, CA 95816

Subject: Section 106 Consultation for the MFA Airside Fuel Farm Facility Project at NASA Ames Research Center, Moffett Field, Santa Clara County, CA

Dear Ms. Polanco,

Per the requirements of the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended through 2006, and its regulations found at 36 CFR Section 800, the National Aeronautics and Space Administration Ames Research Center (NASA ARC) as the lead federal agency requests initiation of Section 106 consultation regarding the Moffett Federal Airfield (MFA) Airside Fuel Farm Facility Project (Undertaking) at Moffett Federal Airfield (MFA) in Santa Clara County, California. NASA ARC has entered into a long-term lease agreement with Planetary Ventures, LLC (PV). Pursuant to its lease, PV proposes to relocate fuel farm activities from its current location west of Hangar 3 to an airfield-side location at the northeast corner of the East Aircraft Parking Apron. The relocation of these activities and the construction of a new airside fuel farm facility will allow for more efficient and controlled fueling, as well as provide expanded functionality or an existing at-capacity system. The proposed project will require the construction of new Above-ground Storage Tanks (ASTs), fueling stations, a new fuel farm office, as well as the relocation of the existing aircraft wash rack, which is currently located at the northeastern periphery of the airfield. Additionally, the project will involve some utility and security upgrades to accommodate the new fuel farm facility. The existing fuel farm will be deactivated with select demolition of existing equipment; the majority of below-grade elements will be abandoned in place. Prior to construction of the new facility, a small number of investigative geotechnical borings will be conducted at limited locations within the facility’s footprint.

At NASA ARC and PV’s request, Stantec Consulting Services, Inc. (Stantec) prepared a Technical Memorandum that includes a description of the Undertaking, the Area of Potential Effects (APE), and the historic properties identified in the APE. The Technical Memorandum also includes an analysis of the
Undertaking under the Criteria of Adverse Effects, per 36 CFR Section 800.5(a) and recommendations for mitigation in the case of inadvertent discovery of unidentified cultural resources.

The APE is located within the expanded Naval Air Station (NAS) Sunnyvale Historic District, which is eligible for the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP) and includes several of the contributors to the district. One contributor to the district that is eligible for the NRHP, the East Airfield Parking Apron (MF1002) will be directly impacted by the project. However, the analysis concludes that the Undertaking, which involves the installation of a new airside fuel farm facility, will not have the potential to alter, directly or indirectly, any of the characteristics that qualify a historic property for inclusion in the NRHP. Based on the findings in the Technical Memorandum (attached for your review), NASA ARC has determined that the Undertaking will result in No Adverse Effect on historic properties.

NASA ARC requests your concurrence on its finding of No Adverse Effect related to this Undertaking, pursuant to 36 Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) 800.5(b). NASA ARC requests your response within 30 days of receipt of this letter, as specified in 36 CFR 800.5(c).

Please contact me at jonathan.d.ikan@nasa.gov or at (650) 604-6859 with your comments or questions.

Sincerely,

Jonathan Ikan
Cultural Resource Manager, Facilities Engineering Branch
NASA Ames Research Center, Mail Stop 213-8
Moffett Field, CA 94035
(650) 604-6859
Jonathan.d.ikan@nasa.gov

Cc:

Ms. Rebecca Klein, NASA FPO
Environmental Management Division
NASA Headquarters
300 E Street, SW
Washington, DC 20546-0001

Lease Administration Team
Planetary Ventures
1600 Amphitheater Pkwy
Mountain View, CA 94043

Legal Department/Legal Matters
Planetary Ventures
1600 Amphitheater Pkwy
Mountain View, CA 94043

Enclosures: One (1) copy of the Section 106 Technical Memorandum.