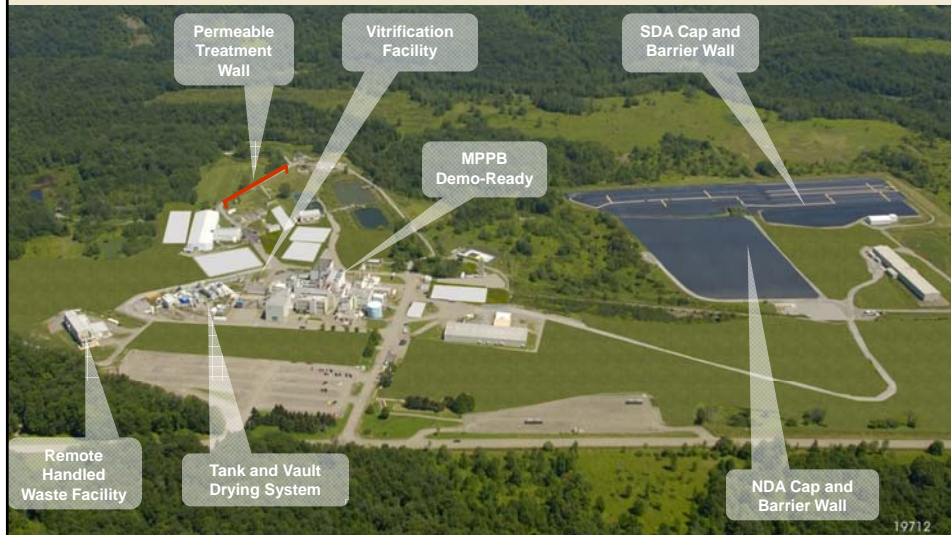


**Final  
Environmental Impact Statement for  
Decommissioning and/or  
Long-Term Stewardship at the  
West Valley Demonstration Project and  
Western New York Nuclear Service Center**  
*(Decommissioning and/or Long-Term Stewardship EIS)*

Bryan Bower, DOE Project Director  
U.S. Department of Energy  
West Valley Demonstration Project

January 27, 2010  
20420\_1

**What is the “starting point” for this EIS?**



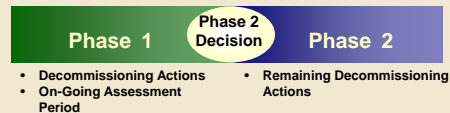
## What is the Proposed Action?

The Proposed Action in this EIS is the completion of the West Valley Demonstration Project (WVDP) and the decommissioning and/or long-term management or stewardship of the Western New York Nuclear Service Center (WNYNSC)

- DOE proposes to decontaminate and decommission tanks and other WNYNSC facilities in which high-level radioactive waste (HLW) solidified under the WVDP is stored, the facilities used to solidify the waste, and any material or hardware used in connection with the project, in accordance with the WVDP Act.
- NYSDERDA must determine how the facilities and property it is responsible for will be managed or decommissioned.
- Three action alternatives for achieving the Proposed Action were considered in the Draft EIS in addition to the potential impacts of No Action.

## What Action Alternatives are examined in the Final EIS?

- Complete removal of all facilities and contaminated soil, allowing unrestricted land use
- Close-in-place of facilities, that could provide for partial release of the land, with possible long-term license management agreement
- Phased Decisionmaking, decommissioning and/or long-term stewardship decisions in 2 phases



## What were the results of the Public Comment Period?

- Comments Received
  - 269 comment letters
  - 8 "postcard" campaigns
  - 17 resolutions
  - Public hearing transcripts (52 speakers)
  - Stakeholder Videoconference (10 speakers)
  - Full Cost Accounting Study (Synapse Report)
- Comment Topics
  - Erosion
  - Drinking water safety
  - Dose to the public
  - Structure of preferred alternative; Phase 2 decision sooner than 30 years
  - Adequacy of DEIS
  - Preference for Sitewide Removal alternative
  - Use of discounting in cost estimating of future activities
  - Request for comment period extension to September 8, 2009

The Revised Draft Environmental Impact Statement for  
Decisionmaking and/or Long-Term Stewardship on the West Valley  
Decisionmaking Project and Western New York Nuclear Service Center  
Decisionmaking and/or Long-Term Stewardship EIS

**Comment Form** Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
Organization: \_\_\_\_\_  
Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
City, State, Zip Code: \_\_\_\_\_  
E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

NOTE: Please do not include personal information such as address or phone number if you object to a being included in the Final EIS; otherwise, comment will be included in the record.

Your Comments on the Draft Decisionmaking and/or Long-Term Stewardship EIS:  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

## What additions or changes are included in the Final EIS?

- Written responses to comments received from public, agencies, and tribes
- Additional and updated baseline environmental information
- Revised Phased Decisionmaking Alternative (preferred alternative)

## What is the Preferred Alternative in the Final EIS?

DOE and NYSERDA agree on the Revised Phased Decisionmaking Alternative as the Preferred Alternative

### – Phase 1

- Remove major facilities such as the Main Plant Process Building and waste water treatment lagoons
- Remove contamination source area for the North Plateau Groundwater Plume
- Allow up to **10 years** for collection and analysis of data and information on major facilities or areas
- Make decision on Phase 2 (decommissioning of remainder of WVDP and WNYNSC) **within 10 years** of issuance of the Phase 1 Record of Decision by the Department of Energy and a Findings Statement by the New York State Energy Research and Development Authority

### – Phase 2

- Final decommissioning decision on remaining NRC-licensed facilities
- NYSERDA decision on the management of the SDA

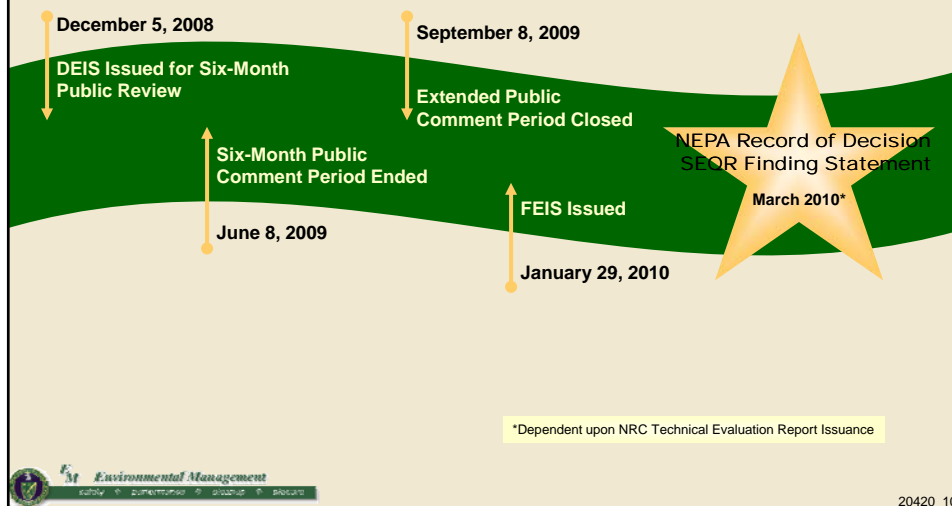
## Why was the Preferred Alternative Revised in the Final EIS?

- Response to public comments (concern about possible 30-year delay in second phase of cleanup)
- DOE and NYSERDA agreement that additional studies and analyses could be completed within 10 years
- DOE and NYSERDA acknowledgement that Phase 2 work would commence immediately after the Phase 2 decisions, but that some elements of that work may take a long time to complete
- Most importantly, the revised Preferred Alternative allows work to proceed directly from Phase 1 to Phase 2
  - Keeps cleanup momentum moving
  - Ensures existing trained workforce will not be lost between Phase 1 and Phase 2

## How will the public be involved in the Phase 2 Decision?

- Quarterly Public Meeting
- West Valley Citizen Task Force
- Input on developing studies for better informed Phase 2 Decisionmaking
- Public participation in required future National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) and State Environmental Quality Review Act (SEQRA) processes for the Phase 2 decision

## What's the timeline for the Record of Decision?



## BACKUP SLIDE

## Public Outreach Efforts

- 2008
  - Dec 17, West Valley Citizen Task Force
  - Dec 18, Seneca Nation of Indians
- 2009
  - Jan 20, Concord Town Meeting
  - Feb 3, Quarterly Public Meeting
  - Feb 12, West Valley Chamber of Commerce
  - March 19, Springville Chamber of Commerce
  - April 21, Buffalo State College Environmental Fair
  - May 6, Cattaraugus County Legislature
  - May 13, Ashford Town Board
  - September 4, Interested/Involved Organizations
  - December 11, Center for Health, Environment & Justice, Citizens' Environmental Coalition, Nuclear Information & Resource Service (NYSERDA)
  - December 16, Center for Health, Environment & Justice, Citizens' Environmental Coalition, Nuclear Information & Resource Service (DOE)

## Public Hearings, WVDP Public Meetings

- DEIS Public Hearings (2009)
  - March 30, Albany, NY
  - March 31, Seneca Nation of Indians reservation, Irving, NY
  - April 1, WVDP Ashford Office Complex, West Valley, NY
  - April 2, Buffalo, NY
- WV Citizen Task Force (2009)
  - January 14
  - February 10 and 25
  - March 11 and 25
  - April 7 and 24
  - May 6 and 27
- WVDP Quarterly Public Meetings (2008)
  - August 5
  - November 5

## Public Hearings, WVDP Public Meetings (cont)

- WVDP Quarterly Public Meetings (2009)
  - February 3
  - May 5
  - August 4
  - November 17