

To: West Valley Citizen Task Force
From: Bill Logue, Citizen Task Force Facilitator
Date: April 14, 2018
Subject: **Summary of the March 28, 2018 Meeting**

Next Meeting

Date & Time: **April 25, 2018, 6:30 PM**
Location: Ashford Office Complex
9030 Route 219
West Valley, NY

CTF Members and Alternates Attending

Clyde Drake, Barbara Frackiewicz, Todd Gates, Lee James*, Paul Kranz*, Eric Lawton, Tony Memmo, Joe Patti, Mary Reid, Ray Vaughan.

Agency Participants and Observers

Department of Energy (DOE): Bryan Bower, Marty Krentz, Moira Maloney, Audrey Seeley.

New York State Energy Research and Development Authority (NYSERDA): Paul Bembia, Lee Gordon*, Andrea Mellon.

CH2M HILL BWXT West Valley, LLC. (CHBWV): Scott Anderson, Joe Pillittere.

New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (NYSDEC): Pat Concannon*.

Neptune and Company: Sean McCandless*.

Public: Erik Shavers, Paul Siepierski. Boy Scout Troop 643 & Scout Masters: Adam Fisher, Benjamin Fisher, Simon George, Clifford Heitman, Kasper Heitman, Garrett Maul.

INTRODUCTIONS, ANNOUNCEMENTS, ADMINISTRATIVE BUSINESS

Bill Logue welcomed all present and reviewed the meeting agenda and materials¹. The members welcomed the Scout Troop 643, introduced themselves and described who they represent. Bryan Bower informed the CTF that the Omnibus Reconciliation Act included \$75 million in non-defense funding and about \$3 million in defense funding for the West Valley Demonstration Project. Recent funding has been approximately \$64 million/year. Mr. Lawton and Mr. Vaughan agreed to draft a letter of appreciation to the New York congressional delegation and a funding request letter to DOE for budgets in development. Mr. Bower stated that Anne Marie White was confirmed as Assistant Secretary for Environmental Management (EM-1).

CHBWV PROJECT UPDATE

Scott Anderson of CHBWV presented a project update.

Safety. The 12-month average for Total Recordable Cases is 1.65 and Days Away, Restrictions, Transfers at 0.66. If there are no incidents, these will trend down by 0.33 in April. The last recordable lost-time case was in April 2017 and last recordable injury was in November 2017.

Mr. Anderson then reviewed the contract scope milestones noting that the contract is cost plus award fee with incentives for each milestone completed on time or ahead of schedule.

Milestone 1. Relocation of the High-Level Waste (HLW) canisters to long-term interim storage is complete.

Milestone 2- Legacy Waste. Shipment is 93% complete with 23 shipments remaining. The three large vessels from the Chemical Process Cell-Waste Storage Area (CPC-WSA) are the most significant challenge. The dissolver has been moved to the Remote-Handled Waste Facility for processing, the reboiler has been processed and is ready for shipment and the separator was shipped intact for treatment and disposal in Texas, which saves time. Planned completion for Legacy Waste Processing is September 2018, ahead of the baseline date of April 2019.

¹ Each is listed at the end of this summary and may be found at www.westvalleyctf.org

* Participated by telephone.

Deactivation Progress Under Milestone 3. The Vitrification Facility demolition is underway and is 55% complete. Some delays have occurred due to cold weather conditions impacting hydraulics and freezing of the dust suppression mister. Phase 1 of the demolition was completed in November 2017. Phase 2 work is ongoing and includes the Process Cell, Shield Doors and South Wall and North Wall. The cooler units mounted high in the cell have been lowered through a roof penetration using a crane. They have been packaged in waste boxes for shipment. Phase 3 will be the demolition of the Crane Maintenance Room, Tunnel and Secondary Filter Room. Planned completion is spring/summer 2018. There are 129 intermodals loaded with Vit waste and 114 have been shipped. The intermodals are trucked to Blasdell, New York and loaded onto railcars bound for a repository in Nevada.

The MPPB deactivation is 84% complete with remaining work being very labor intensive, primarily on asbestos containing material removal and deactivation in radiological areas. The significant areas left for deactivation are the Vent Exhaust Cell, Process Mechanical Room, Vent Wash Room and Chemical Process Cell. Planned completion is mid to late summer 2018.

Balance of Site Facilities – Milestone 4. Nineteen of 47 other facilities on the site have been demolished with no further work planned at this time. After the Vit Facility and MPPB are demolished work will turn to these facilities. The Cattaraugus County Health Department approved the new potable water system. In response to a question, Mr. Anderson stated that the water was being treated for iron which posed no health hazard but did impact taste and staining. The new power lines are on overhead poles and should be operational in April. The power will eventually come in through the front of the site from Rock Springs Road rather than through the rear. The rail spur upgrades are scheduled for the spring/summer.

DOE – SEIS SCHEDULE & OVERVIEW OF THE NOTICE OF INTENT

Bryan Bower of DOE gave an overview of the SEIS schedule and Notice of Intent. At the outset, he reminded the CTF that any comments on scoping would have to be submitted through the SEIS process and what is said in a CTF discussion could not be incorporated into the formal comment process.

Mr. Bower gave an abbreviated recap noting that the NEPA/SEQRA process started in 1988 resulting in the 2010 FEIS, Record of Decision and New York Finding Statement which selected the Phased Decisionmaking Alternative. He identified facilities and areas subject to upcoming Phase 2 Decisions (HLW Cask Storage Pad, NRC-Licensed Disposal Area, State-Licensed Disposal Area, Construction Demolition and Demolition Debris Landfill, Non-Source Area of the North Plateau Groundwater Plume, Waste Tank Farm and Cesium Prong, Contaminated Stream Sediments and the Balance of the WNYNSC property). The SEIS is being undertaken to further the purposes of NEPA and by including new information and changes since the 2010 FEIS and to provide robust and meaningful opportunities for public participation during decommissioning. The SEIS will use the 2010 FEIS as its starting point and will tier from the 2010 FEIS, and, where appropriate, information and analyses from the FEIS will be summarized and incorporated by reference in the SEIS. The SEIS will contain new information and analyses to ensure continued adequacy for Phase 2 decisionmaking. The SEIS will use the 2010 FEIS as a starting point and will be updated for completed Phase 1 work, the results of the Phase 1 Studies, the Probabilistic Performance Assessment (PPA) and other data collection and analysis.

The SEIS will consider a range of alternatives for the Phase 2 decisions including unrestricted release where the site could be used for any purpose and restricted release under conditions permitted under the License Termination Rule. Alternatives analyzed will include: No Action, Sitewide Removal, Sitewide Close-in-Place and Hybrid Alternatives. Consideration of the no-action alternative is statutorily required. These will be informed by analyzing potential long-term radiological and chemical dose/risk impacts on things including geology, water, soil, etc. The Draft SEIS will provide a summary and detailed analysis of each alternative, potential mitigation or best practices and identification of a preferred alternative. Through the scoping process DOE and NYSERDA are asking if there are inviting interested parties to help identify the range of reasonable alternatives and the environmental issues to be analyzed.

The current SEIS schedule was reviewed. The public comment meetings were held in March and the scoping comment period is scheduled to close April 23, 2018. During the comment meetings a number of people requested an extension of the scoping comment period and the agencies are reviewing this request. *If* an extension is implemented the goal would be to retain the existing schedule for other SEIS activities. Alternatives will be

developed through Q1 2019, Conceptual Engineering Design Report through Q3 2019. The drafting of the SEIS is starting now and will continue through 2020 with a six-month comment period through June 2021 after which the Final SEIS would be prepared and issued in Q1 2022 with the ROD and Finding Statement published in Q4 2022. In closing Mr. Bower provided the web, postal and email addresses to submit comments.

CTF DISCUSSION OF SEIS SCOPING COMMENTS & PROCESS

The Facilitator reviewed how the CTF developed comments for the DFEIS. Ray Vaughan had circulated SEIS draft scoping comments based on the ad hoc workgroup call and his own suggestions. The CTF then discussed the level of detail and approach for developing comments by the April 23 deadline. Mr. Vaughan reminded the group that the CTF was formed in part to provide guidance to the agencies on the selection of a preferred alternative.

After discussion, the CTF agreed that they should provide both general and detailed comments and key questions that the SEIS should address. They confirmed that at this time the CTF goal of sitewide removal expressed in the 1998 Final Report is most attractive and will provide the greatest safety for the environment, local community and Seneca Nation. They did acknowledge, although not desired, that a hybrid alternative could be a fallback under some circumstances and may be influenced by cost. Essential to the comfort level with any preferred alternative will be the transparency of the process, how work would be staged and the consideration of climate change and extreme weather events in the analysis. A member suggested that if anything less than sitewide removal is selected that final decisions be deferred because technical capability and cost will change over time that may allow for efficient complete waste removal in the future. Mr. Lawton noted that the West Valley Central School held a science fair recently which left him encouraged about the ability of the next generation to creatively address difficult technical and scientific issues.

In closing the discussion, the CTF agreed to review Mr. Vaughan’s draft and submit edits and suggestions to the facilitator who will compile them for a caucus conference call on April 4. On that call the group will then decide whether to have another call or meeting on April 11.

OBSERVER COMMENTS

There were no observer comments other than through answers incorporated in the narrative above.

ACTION ITEMS

Action	Who; When
Draft thank you and funding letters	Lawton & Vaughan supported by Logue
Format and recirculate Vaughan 2/25/18 draft comments to CTF & schedule call	Logue 2/29/18

DOCUMENTS DISTRIBUTED

Description	Generated by; Date
Meeting Agenda	Logue; 3/28/18
Project Update	CHBWV; 3/28/18
DOE SEIS Schedule & Overview of Notice of Intent	NYSERDA; 3/28/18
Vaughan 2/25/18 draft comments	Vaughan; 3/25/18
News Clippings Distributed at Meeting	NYSERDA; 3/28/18