

To: West Valley Citizen Task Force
From: Melinda Holland
Subject: Summary of March 19, 2002, CTF Conference Call
Date: March 25, 2002

Next Meeting

The next full Citizen Task Force (CTF) meeting will be held as follows:

Date: Tuesday, April 9, 2002
Time: 7:00 p.m. - 9:30 p.m.
Location: Ashford Office Complex
9030 Route 219, West Valley, NY

If you have questions or comments regarding the upcoming meeting or about this summary, please contact Melinda Holland at (864) 457-4202, or Tom Attridge at (716) 942-2453.

CTF Conference Call Attendees

CTF Members attending were: Ray Vaughan, Paul Piciulo, Mark Mitskovski (for Larry Rubin), Bridget Wilson, Lee Lambert, Elizabeth Lowes (for Alice Williams), and John Pfeffer.

CTF Members not attending were: Eric Wohlers, Bill King, Joe Patti, John Beltz, Michelle Enser, Mark Steffan, Lana Redeye, Pete Scherer, Warren Schmidt, Tim Siepel, and Nevella McNeil.

Other Attendees

Tom Attridge, New York State Energy Research and Development Authority (NYSERDA)
Sonja Allen, West Valley Nuclear Services Company (WVNSCO)
Chad Glenn, Chip Cameron, Claudia Craig; U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC)

Conference Call Highlights

1. The April 9th Task Force meeting will focus on preparation of CTF questions, issues, and remarks to be presented to NRC the following week at the CTF meeting on April 16th and the public meeting on April 17th.
2. NRC will attend a special CTF meeting to be held on April 16th. At this meeting, NRC representatives will answer questions about the Policy Statement and hear the CTF member concerns and recommendations
3. NRC encouraged CTF members to attend and present comments at the NRC public meeting on the Policy Statement to be held on April 17th at 7:00 p.m.

Conference Call Summary

Melinda Holland opened the conference call at 7:00 p.m. by reviewing the agenda. The call began with only CTF and site representatives participating. NRC representatives joined the call at 7:40 p.m. The CTF participants on the call expressed their disappointment and concerns over the undefined terms and conditions found in NRC's Policy Statement including its treatment of the "incidental waste criteria." Task Force members also expressed concern that NRC may not be giving the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (NYSDEC) and other regulatory agencies an adequate opportunity to help craft a consensus agreement over the regulatory agency roles, responsibilities and cleanup requirements.

The CTF members on the call agreed on the need to craft specific responses and recommendations regarding the Policy Statement prior to the April 16th and 17th meetings. They agreed to meet on April 9th to prepare for the two meetings. They also agreed to present the CTF's concerns at the public meeting on April 17th.

A Task Force member asked site representatives to obtain a copy of the television broadcast "60 Minutes" shown on March 17th which provided a critical report on the Savannah River and Hanford sites. Sonja Allen agreed to obtain the tape which will be shown at a future CTF meeting.

NRC representatives Chad Glenn, Chip Cameron, and Claudia Craig joined the conference call at 7:40 p.m. They explained that the April 17th public meeting will feature NRC explaining the Policy Statement and answering questions, the various regulatory agencies explaining their roles, responsibilities and cleanup requirements for the West Valley site, and hearing from the public on both.

The CTF invited the NRC representatives to attend a special CTF meeting on April 16th to provide an opportunity for the CTF to dialogue with NRC staff, express concerns about the Policy Statement, and have questions answered. The NRC representatives agreed. In response to a question, a NRC staff member stated that they would give equal weight to CTF input offered on the 16th as that provided by the public on April 17th. They also agreed to invite the NRC Commissioners to attend one or both of these meetings and to find a way to focus the Commissioner's attention on CTF concerns provided at those meetings.

NRC staff encouraged the CTF to also attend and present comments at the public meeting on April 17th and pointed out that on the 17th the other regulatory agencies and members of the public would be present to hear the CTF's concerns.

NRC hopes to finalize and release the "Regulator's Communication Plan" before the public meeting, and will post it on NRC's web site. They noted that this document may need revision in the future, and they are treating it as a "living document." They stated that NRC has held several productive meetings with the other regulatory agencies to develop the Regulator's Communications Plan which will describe each agencies roles and responsibilities vis-a-vis the West Valley site. The Plan will also describe each agencies area of regulatory jurisdiction over the cleanup at West Valley - an area they admitted was a bit more difficult to reach agreement on.

The call concluded with a brief discussion about who the NRC and the site will notify of the upcoming public meeting.

As only two members of the Future Site Use Work Group were on the call, no effort was made to select the next meeting date for that group.

Next Steps

The next meeting of the CTF is scheduled for April 9, 2002 and will focus on preparing for the NRC's public meeting at West Valley on the Policy Statement. A special CTF meeting will be held on April 16th to meet with NRC representatives. It was decided to postpone the scheduled April 9th presentation (by Alice Williams) and discussion on the "lay up" of the High-Level Waste Tanks until a future CTF meeting.

Action Items

Action	Assigned to	Due Date (2002)
Share an electronic version of the NRC Policy Statement.	Sonja Allen	March 20
Notify CTF of need to read the Policy Statement prior to the April 9 th CTF meeting, and to share with other CTF members, in writing, an outline of their concerns	Melinda Holland	March 20
Share the site's mailing list, including state and federal elected officials with NRC, assist with notification regarding the public meeting.	Sonja Allen	March 25
Obtain a copy of television broadcast "60 Minutes" shown on March 17 th which provided a critical report on the Savannah River and Hanford sites.	Sonja Allen	April 9