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New director named at WVDP

By:

WEST VALLEY - The West Valley Demonstration Project (WVDP) has a new director - Bryan C. Bower, who most recently served as the project's acting director. He was appointed as director, effective Sunday.

WVDP is located within the New York State Department of Energy's (DOE) Office of Environmental Management organization.

Before becoming acting director, Bower filled various roles for the WVDP over 11 years. He has also served as performance assessment manager for the DOE's Office of Waste Isolation Pilot Plant (WIPP) in Germantown, Md.; waste operations manager for the DOE's WIPP Project Office in Carlsbad, N.M.; and as a physics laboratory instructor for New Mexico State University in Alamogordo, N.M.

Bower also served five years in the United States Air Force, where he achieved the rank of captain. He graduated from Pennsylvania State University with a bachelor's degree in nuclear engineering.

The public may comment until July 29 on a Draft Environmental Assessment (EA) for the decontamination, demolition and removal of various facilities at the WVDP. The comment period, which began June 29, was scheduled to end Thursday but was extended by the DOE. This draft is part of DOE's ongoing cleanup of the WVDP.

The Draft EA evaluates the potential environmental impacts of demolishing and removing a set of 42 structures and other facilities which have been or are currently used by the WVDP.

Also, the public meeting planned for Wednesday, to receive oral comments on the Draft EA, has been rescheduled for July 19. This public comment session will be held from 7 to 9 p.m. at the Ashford Office Complex, 9030 Route 219, West Valley. To register to submit an oral comment or to request a copy of the Draft EA, contact WVDP Communications at (716) 942-2152 or via e-mail to sonja.allen@wvnsco.com.