To: West Valley Citizen Task Force
From: Bill Logue, Citizen Task Force Facilitator & Loraine Della Porta
Date: August 20, 2013
Subject: **Summary of the July 24, 2013 Meeting**

Next Meeting

The next Citizen Task Force Meeting will be: September 25, 2013

Time & Date: **6:30 – 9:00 PM**
Location: Ashford Office Complex
9030 Route 219
West Valley, NY

Note: Participants must be U.S. citizens and have photo identification. Please contact Bill Logue (860-521-9122, Bill@LogueGroup.com) with questions or comments concerning this summary or future meetings.

CTF Members and Alternates Attending

Rob Dallas, Chris Gerwitz, Mike Hutchinson, Lee James*, Lee Lambert, Paul Kranz*, Joe Patti, Ray Vaughan.

Agency Participants and Observers

Department of Energy (DOE): Bryan Bower, Martin Krentz, Moira Maloney, Sandra Szalinski, Ben Underwood*, Zintars Zadins.
New York State Energy Research and Development Authority (NYSERDA): Paul Bembia, Lee Gordon, Elizabeth Lowes, Andrea Mellon, Allyson Zipp*.
CH2M Hill B&W West Valley, Inc. (CHBWV): Lynette Bennett, Charles Biedermann, Dan Coyne, John Rendall, Bill Schaab.
New York State Department of Environmental Conservation: Patrick Concannon.
Observers: Diane D'Arrigo*, Melissa Fratello, Joanne Hameister, Barry Miller, Barbara Warren".

Introductions and Announcements

Bill Logue welcomed all present and reviewed the meeting agenda and materials[1]. He noted that the letter of appreciation from the CTF to Congressmen Reed & Higgins had been acknowledged by their staff and staff for Senators Schumer and Gillibrand. Congressman Reed will not be able to meet with the CTF in August; however, if an opening develops his staff will be in touch.

NYSERDA Updates

Thomas Corners Road Bridge Replacement - Elizabeth Lowes, NYSERDA. (Much of this presentation is in the form of images and graphics available online with the meeting materials.) The bridge over Buttermilk Creek on Thomas Corners Road is located in the northwest corner of the Western New York Nuclear Service Center (WNYNSC). Cattaraugus County is replacing the bridge and requires easements from NYSERDA. Because of radionuclide discharges from the site dating back to reprocessing operations in the 1960's-1970's there was a potential for contamination. To support the bridge work, NYSERDA performed walkover radiation surveys, developed a sampling plan and gathered samples in the work area and comparative background samples. Stream bank and stream bed soil/sediment samples were taken

[1] Each is listed at the end of this summary and may be found at www.westvalleyctf.org under 2013 Meeting Materials.
*Participated by telephone.

with geoprobes and hand augurs. Ms. Lowes reviewed the survey and the sampling approach and locations. The goal of the sampling effort was to support worker protection during bridge removal and replacement activities that involved disturbance of potentially impacted soils/sediment. The county has finished demolition and will begin construction.

Gamma scan results indicated no areas of activity greater than two times background. Likewise, none of the analytical results indicated gross alpha or tritium levels over twice background levels. Two samples showed gross beta levels slightly over twice background levels. One sample indicated Cs-137 levels of ~15 picocuries/gram, significantly above background of ~0.5 picocuries/gram but not a level of concern from a worker protection standpoint. Because this was the only result that indicated levels significantly over background NYSERDA had the laboratory reanalyze the sample and also took another sample in the same area and had it analyzed. The reported value of the sample reanalysis was in line with the original reported result of ~15 picocuries/gram, however, the second sample taken at the location did not show elevated Cs-137. Regardless of the one Cs-137 result, NYSERDA's survey/sampling effort confirmed that there was not a significant potential for workers to encounter contamination at levels that would present a hazard. Nevertheless, NYSERDA provided radiation survey coverage during bridge demolition/construction activities that involved disturbance of potential impacted soils/sediment; during these surveys no activity greater than twice background was encountered. Ms. Lowes concluded the presentation by providing a status of the County's bridge replacement work.

Frank's Creek Erosion Mitigation Project – Lee Gordon, NYSERDA. Mr. Gordon reminded the group of the previous erosion control work at Erdman Brook. The design for Frank's Creek is similar to that of Erdman Brook, a pool-riffle installation designed by Bergman Engineering to dissipate energy to protect the downstream area from erosion. Permits were required from the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (NYSDEC) and the US Army Corps of Engineers. National Fuel replaced a natural gas line under the creek. Work is planned for completion in September. In response to questions, Mr. Gordon explained that from valley wall-to-wall the structure is anchored to the 100-year flood level, larger interlocking concrete blocks are unlikely to move in a large storm, smaller materials may move. He was hesitant to say what size storm would move materials. There are automated time-lapse photography lapse cameras at the Frank's Creek work site that take pictures approximately every 15 minutes.

State-Licensed Disposal Area Trench 14 Leachate Levels – Lee Gordon, NYSERDA. Mr. Gordon reminded the group that between early 2011 and December 2012 the Trench 14 leachate levels rose 4" but have not increased or decreased since. Water/leachate level monitoring frequency has increased from quarterly to monthly and results are reported to NYSDEC. A contract for a hydrological evaluation of the leachate level increase is being put in place.

PROJECT UPDATE

Dan Coyne of CHBWV presented a project update. He noted that 5 months of work has been performed without a recordable injury. Management will cook lunch for site workers in appreciation for safe work.

Site Operations. The dam and rail inspections are complete. A repair of a 36" gate valve for Lake 2 is planned. The rail repair plan is being developed and will be presented in the future. A hydrant was remotely repaired avoiding excavation. In the Main Process Plant Building (MPPB) and Vitrification Facility a new heating system has been installed allowing asbestos removal work from steam pipes.

MPPB & Vitrification Facility. The MPPB Lower Extraction Aisle deactivation is complete, as is asbestos abatement on piping in the Analytical Lab Aisle, Analytical Decon Aisle and Laundry. In the Vit Facility the Out-of-Service piping systems in the Operating Aisles are deactivated and clean out continues of equipment, materials and debris from the Vit Cell.

Balance of Site Facilities. Work instruction packages are being developed for demolition of four additional facilities. Waste load out is complete for the Old Warehouse Foundation, Waste Tank Farm Test Tower, Vitrification Fabrication Shop Slab and 3 of 4 Hazardous Waste Lockers. The remaining, former hazardous waste locker is being used to replace the old lube storage shed, which is starting to rust.

Tank & Vault Drying System. All liquids in Tank 8-D3 are projected to be evaporated by September 30, 2013. In April 2013 evaporation was reduced in Tank 8D-4 to allow time to develop a plan for disposition of the tank and its contents before the sludge is uncovered. There are currently ~3,700 gallons of liquid and ~1,100 of sludge in the tank. The liquid shields the highly radioactive Cesium in the sludge. The Savannah River site is developing and testing techniques that may be applicable to WVDP. Budget allocations need to be determined and DOE will present the plan at a future meeting.

Waste Shipping. Mr. Coyne reviewed the volumes and percentage completion of waste shipments. Low-level waste (LLW) shipment is 38% complete; mixed-LLW is 25% complete, and all industrial and hazardous waste shipments are complete.

Melter, CFMT, MFMT Shipping. The Vitrification Melter, Concentrator Feed Makeup Tank (CFMT) and Melter Feed Hold Tank (MFHT) shipping preparations are under way. In July routes and destinations will be identified, grouting components and specifications, disposal certification and the solicitation for hauling released. In August the hauling and transportation plan RFP will be released, crane mobilized, grouting performed and package certification. In September the hauling contract will be awarded.

TRU Waste Disposition. A TRU Waste Disposition Plan will establish the scope of remaining work. Waste will be packaged to Waste Isolation Pilot Plant (WIPP) like standards on the assumption that WIPP criteria will meet those of any facility which would ultimately accept the waste. The plan will address re-characterization of the inventory, inventory with inadequate visual inspection, characterization of commingled waste and the best means to process high fissile gram equivalent (FGE), and high dose containers.

HLW Canister Storage Project & HLW Accomplishments. Design is complete for the Multi-purpose Canister Overpacks (MPC), Vertical Storage Casks, Storage Pad and Transport System. Decontamination testing with remote vacuuming of canister tops is complete. Proposals for the storage pad and canister decontamination system are being evaluated. A Stormwater Pollution Prevention Plan was submitted to NYSDEC. The procurement award is complete for 8 Vertical Storage Cask Liners, materials for 8 MPCs and the cask transporters. The roadway from the MPPB to the pad area is being analyzed and clearing the path in the MPPB for canister move continues. An RFP for pad construction was released. The Shipping Cask Safety Analysis Report Amendment is drafted and will be submitted for NRC approval.

Discussion. A CTF member asked if the performance based contract method was yielding the desired results in performance and cost savings. Mr. Bower stated that the contract was awarded at a lower cost level than the government estimated in the Request for Proposal. As such, the contractor provides a plan,

and cost schedule that complies with the contract and that DOE monitors it on a monthly basis. Some areas are doing well and others, such a moving the 3C-2 Dissolver, less so. DOE and CHBWV have been able to manage the additional funding in FY 2012 and Sequestration funding in 2013 to adjust and accelerate some work. Funding for FY 2014 and its impact has yet to be determined. Mr. Coyne noted that the uncertainty in funding cycles have been a distraction to workers.

PERMEABLE TREATMENT WALL UPDATE

Charles Biedermann of CHBWV presented a performance update on the North Plateau Groundwater Plume (NPGP) Permeable Treatment Wall (PTW). At the outset he summarized the design requirements which are essentially to remove Strontium-90 from the contaminated groundwater through an ion exchange process using the zeolite wall without redirecting the contamination or changing the groundwater flow. The system is designed not to limit strategies for addressing the plume during decommissioning and to be removable. Installation was completed in November 2010 and includes 66 monitoring wells in the wall and 22 wells adjacent to the wall. Baseline monitoring was performed in early 2011. In addition to well monitoring and sampling, there are periodic physical inspections and limitations on salt and limestone use in the area. A 5-year comprehensive sampling and monitoring report will be released in January 2015.

Results of inspections and monitoring to date indicate no significant erosion, no substantial alteration of groundwater flow and effective removal of Strontium-90 based on the significant decreases in the down gradient wells. Some local variations in performance were expected and have been observed. These are in 6 intra-PTW wells and one up and one down gradient well showing higher contamination. The former included 2 wells that exceed the Derived Concentration limits. Data is being analyzed to assure no breakthrough in the wall and the design limit of 10 picocuries has not been exceeded. The down gradient well has decreased and issue is likely due to east-west water flow passing through the wall obliquely. Mr. Biedermann showed detailed graphics of water flow and contamination levels. The Swamp Ditch levels are decreasing but, as annual levels fluctuate year to year, this will take time to determine conclusively.

In conclusion Mr. Biedermann noted that the PTW is functioning as designed, monitoring and evaluations will continue quarterly. The PTW received a 2012 DOE Sustainability Award.

AIR MONITORING PROGRAM UPDATE

John Rendall of CHBWV provided an update on the air monitoring program which is part of the overall monitoring program for air and water effluents. As reference he noted dose from man-made and natural background radiation is each 310 mrem/year and the dose at WVDP is 0.044 mrem/year. Monitoring results are reported to the US EPA.

Stacks. The monitoring of 7 stacks is continuous monitoring for gross alpha and beta particles and continuous sampling for them and site isotopes. Fifteen portable ventilation units perform continuous sampling. Emissions are extremely low at 0.03% of the standard for 2012. And at 0.0027 mrem/year for the Maximum Exposed Offsite Individual where the standard is 10 mrem/year.

Demolition Support. Low volume air samplers were used to support worker safety and control of work area monitoring. Dust monitoring was also performed. These air samples were monitored every 30 minutes during work and at shift end. Contamination surveys were performed at the work perimeter every 30 minutes. There were no observed levels of concern.

Ambient Air. This program has background and 16 stations near the site perimeter. Fiber filters are 99.98% efficient. The commitment is to have stations monitoring continuously at least 80% of the time; this has been exceeded. Data is compared to models. There have been no observable levels of concern. The system detection capability is at 5% of the EPA National Emission Standards for Hazardous Air Pollutants (NESHAP) standard. In conclusion, Mr. Rendall showed summaries of the last two quarters of validated data that show results consistent with background levels. No issues are apparent for May through June.

CTF Discussion

In answering questions concerning the recent budget amendment, Mr. Bower noted that other sites were not cut as severely and that even if the amendment passes the full $18 million is not guaranteed for WVDP. A CTF member asked the agencies to provide information on what the funds will be used for, how effectively they have been used, and the impact of less, level and increased funding. This will help make the case in asking for funding and ensure that funds are being used appropriately. Several commented that with reduced funding min-safe costs would increase because some facility maintenance and equipment replacement could not be deferred. Others noted that as work performed has reduced risk it has also reduced funding thereby postponing final cleanup. It was proposed that the next convincing argument for funding relates to the Phase 2 decision and work. Mr. Bower committed to communicating with the CTF the information that they requested which will help in informing legislators and constituents about appropriate funding. This ties in with the Outreach Work Group efforts to create dashboard metrics. Some of this may need to await a contract modification between DOE and CHBWV.

Bill Logue reported that outreach to potential additional CTF members was ongoing. The CTF will not meet in August and the Quarterly Public Meeting will be held on August 28.

Observer Comments

Barbara Warren asked for a presentation on the HLW canister move. Mr. Coyne explained this could be a topic for a Quarterly Public Meeting and that the contract for the canister was signed with NAC in June and the canister decontamination plan was being refined. She also asked about air monitoring and Mr. Rendall explained that this had been in place since fall 2012 with some stations previously in the community with prior site contractors. She also asked about canister contamination and it was explained that some surface contamination was expected based on the airflow through the MPPB. A CTF member asked if canister washing would be sufficient. It was explained that there were initial plans for CO^2 decontamination but that the "wet wipes" appeared to be working.

Action Items

Action	Who; Date
Requested Information to CTF to assist in funding outreach	DOE & NYSERDA; TBD

DOCUMENTS DISTRIBUTED

Document Description	Generated by; Date
Meeting Agenda	Logue; 7/24/2013
NYSERDA Update on Thomas Corners Road Bridge Replacement	NYSERDA; 7/24/2013
WVDP Project Update	CHBWV; 7/24/2013
Permeable Treatment Wall Update	CHBWV; 7/24/2013
Air Monitoring Program Update	CHBWV; 7/24/2013
CTF Letter to Congressmen Reed and Higgins	CTF; 7/17/2013
News Clippings Distributed at Meeting	NYSERDA; 7/24/2013