

To: West Valley Citizen Task Force  
From: Bill Logue, Citizen Task Force Facilitator  
Date: February 20, 2013  
Subject: **Summary of the January 22, 2014 Meeting**

## **Next Meeting**

The next Citizen Task Force Meeting will be: March 26, 2014

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](mailto:Bill@LogueGroup.com)) with questions or comments concerning this summary or future meetings.

## **CTF Members and Alternates Attending**

Deb Aumick\*, Rob Dallas, Chris Gerwitz, Lee James\*, Deb John, Paul Kranz\*, Eric Lawton, Kathy McGoldrick, Joe Patti, Mary Reid, Ray Vaughan.

## **Agency Participants and Observers**

*Department of Energy (DOE):* Bryan Bower, Martin Krentz, Moira Maloney, Craig Rieman, Sandra Szalinski, Ben Underwood, Zintars Zadins.

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

*CH2M Hill B&W West Valley, LLC. (CHBWV):* Charles Biedermann, Dan Coyne, Cindy Dayton, John Rendall, Bill Schaab.

*New York State Department of Environmental Conservation:* Patrick Concannon, Ken Martin.

*Observers:* Barbara Fraciewicz, Paul Siepinski, Barbara Warren\*.

## **INTRODUCTIONS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Bill Logue welcomed all present and reviewed the meeting agenda and materials<sup>1</sup> and reiterated the protocols for observers and web participants. (Web participants experienced difficulties viewing materials online.) New CTF members Mary Reid of the Roswell Park Cancer Institute and Eric Lawton of the West Valley Central School introduced themselves. They participated in a site tour during the afternoon. During the meeting members signed letters on funding to DOE Senate and House Appropriations Committee leadership and the Western New York Congressional Delegation. Paul Bembia of NYSERDA noted that Andrea Mellon had been promoted to Program Manager for NYSERDA's State-licensed Disposal Area and Retained Premises Program.

## **CHBWV PROJECT OVERVIEW**

Dan Coyne of CHBWV presented an update of current work activities.

**Safety.** CHBWV has exceeded one year without a lost-time work injury or illness. Days Away/Restricted/Transferred and the Total Recordable Case Rate is at 0.33. The CHBWV team has been recommended for STAR status in the DOE-Voluntary Protection Program.

**High-Level Waste (HLW) Relocation Project.** The HLW pad and apron are complete. Eight storage casks have been fabricated and eight multi-purpose canister overpacks are under fabrication. The tow tractor, similar to those used for moving large planes, was purchased and is on site. The flow path within the building and to the pad for the

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<sup>1</sup> Each is listed at the end of this summary and may be found at [www.westvalleyctf.org](http://www.westvalleyctf.org) under 2014 Meeting Materials.

\*Participated by telephone.

canister move is being studied and developed. Structural analysis of the floors under the flow path is being conducted. In response to a question later in the meeting, Mr. Bower explained that the first canister moves are likely to occur in 2015 and the pace will be based on funding and the goal of maximizing workforce stability. Drums of high-dose waste (80R/hr) are being moved out of the Chemical Process Cell (CPC) and placed in concrete shield boxes.

**Waste Operations.** Sixty of 80 transuranic (TRU) waste drums in the Interim HLW Storage Facility have been placed in overpacks and moved to the CPC Waste Storage Area. The 2013 Waste Processing Area processing of 489 Legacy Waste containers is 96% complete. Mr. Coyne reminded those present that Legacy Waste is waste generated under prior cleanup contracts and Newly Generated Waste is waste generated under the current cleanup contract. Legacy waste shipment status: Low-Level Waste (LLW) 53% complete; Mixed LLW 79% complete; Industrial and Hazardous waste shipment is complete. Newly generated industrial waste contract-to-date shipment of 139,131 ft<sup>3</sup> with 25,920 ft<sup>3</sup> in November. In response to a question, Mr. Coyne stated that disposal costs depend on characterization of the waste. There is no disposal fee at the Nevada Test Site but the cost is \$15,000 per truckload for shipment. He committed to obtaining costs related to disposal at EnviroCare in Utah. Non-radioactive waste is shipped to Pennsylvania, mixed waste to Permafrix in Oak Ridge TN, LLW to either EnviroCare or the Nevada Test Site.

**Facility Demolition.** Thirteen structures and foundations have been removed to date including: New Cooling Tower, Vit Hill Breakroom Trailers, and Expanded Laboratory.

**Main Plant (MPPB) & Vitrification Facility.** MPPB preparation for demolition continues with facility characterization, asbestos removal and Liquid Waste Cell tell-tailing (tapping into a pipe for sampling without any leakage) and sampling. The Vit Facility equipment and debris removal is complete with preparations underway to vacuum the floor.

## **WVDP DECOMMISSIONING STATUS**

Bryan Bower of DOE presented an overview of the decommissioning status of each of the Waste Management Areas (WMAs). He started by reviewing how work under the Phased Decision Making alternative is to unfold. Phase 1 Decommissioning occurs in two steps under the 2010 Record of Decision and Statement of Findings.

First, is the **Phase 1 Facility Disposition** contract under which the HLW canisters are relocated; the Vit Facility, MPPB and ancillary facilities are removed; and LLW is shipped offsite. This was planned for 10 years at \$75 million/year. It has been funded at about \$60 million/year resulting in some delays. This work is being performed under the current contract with CHBWV. Following completion of the facility disposition contract, the plan for **Phase 1 Soil Remediation** is to remove the below grade portions of the MPPB, Vit Facility and 01-14 Building; the lagoons and Liquid Waste Treatment Facility; Ship Legacy TRU Waste; remove the Remote Handled Waste Facility and remaining ancillary facilities; and remediate WMAs 1 & 2. Planning for the Phase 1 Soil Remediation will start in 2018 and work will begin about 2 years later under a new contract. The **Phase 2 Decommissioning Decision**, with the Decommissioning ROD, will be made by 2020 concerning closure decisions for the Waste Tank Farm, the disposal areas, the Construction Demolition and Debris Landfill (CDDL) and contaminated media. Following that planning and contracting will occur for Phase 2 work.

Mr. Bower briefly reviewed the associated scopes of work for Phase 1. He then presented the decommissioning status of 10 WMAs. For each he presented a photograph showing the WMA and slides with charts summarizing the facilities in the WMA, the January 2014 Status, and the planned end states of Phase 1 Facility Disposition and Phase 1 Decommissioning. The presentation concerning the 10 WMAs is extensive and self-explanatory; please view it with the January 22, 2014 meeting materials at [www.westvalleyctf.org](http://www.westvalleyctf.org).

During the presentation, Mr. Bower answered a number of questions and explained the reasoning for why certain facilities will be removed at various stages and their potential use during some cleanup activities. During the Facility

Disposition contract the Fuel Receiving & Storage facility in WMA 1 will remain. The bottom of this facility has been grouted to affix contamination. The Permeable Treatment Wall (PTW) in WMA 4 is performing as expected with the general conclusion that down gradient levels of contamination are lower and dissipating. A CTF member questioned whether this might require that some CDDL material might need to be disposed of as radiologically contaminated.

The TRU waste needs a disposal pathway and a solution may require legislation concerning Greater-Than-Class-C Waste (GTCC). Before DOE makes a final decision on the GTCC disposal alternative, DOE will submit a report to Congress that includes a description of the disposal alternatives under consideration. DOE must then await Congressional action before making a final decision. It is possible the CHBWV contract could be modified to store TRU waste in Lag Storage Areas 3 and 4 pending a disposal pathway. A report will be released shortly on this and Mr. Bower committed to present more information at a future CTF meeting.

A CTF member expressed concern that site infrastructure not be removed in Phase 1 as it could be needed for Phase 2 work. Another member pointed out this could be the case for the Drum Cell. In response to another question, Mr. Bower stated that, given the current funding profile, there would be no gap in work between Phase 1 and Phase 2.

### **WVDP BUDGET CYCLE AND FY 2014 STATUS**

Bryan Bower of DOE presented an overview of the budget cycle. He noted that DOE works on three years simultaneously – implementation of the current budget (FY '14), formulation on action on the next year's budget through the executive branch and congressional action (FY '15), and DOE formulation and work with Office of Management and Budget on the subsequent year budget (FY '16).

He reviewed the 2012 budget, 2013 sequester funding and 2014 Omnibus Spending Bill. The latter will fund WVDP at \$66.015 million. Of this, \$64 million is through the DOE Non-Defense Environmental Cleanup line item and \$2.015 million is through defense for Safeguards and Security. Facility Deactivation and Decommissioning is 73% or \$48.5 million; TRU and Mixed/LLW Disposition is 24% or \$15.5 million and Special Nuclear Material Consolidation, Processing and Disposition is 3% or \$2.015 million. Mr. Bower noted the efforts in recent years made by Congressmen Reed and Higgins to ensure funding for the project through various amendments.

Paul Bembia of NYSEDA advised the CTF that is very important to influence DOE early in the budget development process to ensure that funds are in the President's budget submission as it is easier to defend the initial request than it is to have funds reinstated by Congress during budget negotiations.

### **CTF ANNUAL REVIEW OF ACTIVITIES AND DISCUSSION**

The CTF reviewed the draft Summary of Activities for 2013 and the meeting attendance prepared by the facilitator. They asked Bill Logue to contact members who had missed a number of meetings to discuss their interest in continuing to serve.

Bill Logue and Ray Vaughan informed the CTF that preparation of outreach materials including the dashboard and presentation are continuing and could be reviewed at an upcoming meeting. The presentation is being broken down into smaller sections with emphasis being added advocating more explicitly for funding and clean up. This will help members tailor it for their constituencies as needed. Bill Logue reported that the new method of emailing meeting information is working well.

The CTF decided to continue foregoing four meetings in favor of the Quarterly Public Meetings. CTF members may choose to participate in those meetings, which have their own format and customs, as members of the public.

With respect to the format of CTF meetings, they agreed to leave it to the facilitator to decide how and when to allow observer questions and comments with the caveat that non-CTF questions be deferred if it was disrupting the flow of the meeting too much.

Potential meeting topics during the year might include: budget updates, update on the status of the rail spur and rail line, project updates on HLW canister relocation, infrastructure issues and deactivation work.

### **OBSERVER COMMENTS**

An observer asked about the outreach process and suggested that some materials be geared to school age audiences and that links to basic overview information about reprocessing be included on the CTF website. Several people responded noting that both agency and CTF members had presented to the West Valley Central School. Basic information is available through a search online and vetting and maintaining links on the CTF website may be too cumbersome to do other than for official government sites.

### **ACTION ITEMS**

<b>Action</b>	<b>Who; Date</b>
Waste Disposal Costs at EnviroCare in Utah	CHBWV; TBD
TRU Waste Storage and Disposition Presentation to CTF	DOE; TBD

### **DOCUMENTS DISTRIBUTED**

<b>Document Description</b>	<b>Generated by; Date</b>
Meeting Agenda	Logue; 1/22/2014
WVDP Project Update	CHBWV; 1/22/2014
WVDP Decommissioning Status	DOE; 1/22/2014
WVDP Budget Cycle & FY 2014 Status	DOE; 1/22/2014
CTF Letter Providing Feedback to DOE & NYSERDA on Exhumation Working Group Recommendations	CTF; 1/14/2014
News Clippings Distributed at Meeting	NYSERDA; 1/22/2014