



THE WEST VALLEY CITIZEN TASK FORCE

March 26, 2014

Honorable Harold Rogers, Chairman House Committee on Appropriations
2406 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

Honorable Nita Lowey, Ranking Member Committee on Appropriations
2365 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

Honorable Mike Simpson, Chairman Energy & Water Subcommittee
2312 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

Honorable Marcy Kaptur, Ranking Member Energy & Water Subcommittee
2186 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

RE: **West Valley Demonstration Project FY 2015 Budget**

Dear Congressman Rogers, Congresswoman Lowey, Congressman Simpson and Congresswoman Kaptur,

This is a follow-up to our January 2014 letter.

The members of the West Valley Citizens Task Force (CTF) are very disappointed by the President's budget request for the West Valley Demonstration Project (WVDP) in FY 2015. We recognize that the determination of the final budget allocation will fall to your committee and the Senate Appropriations Committee.

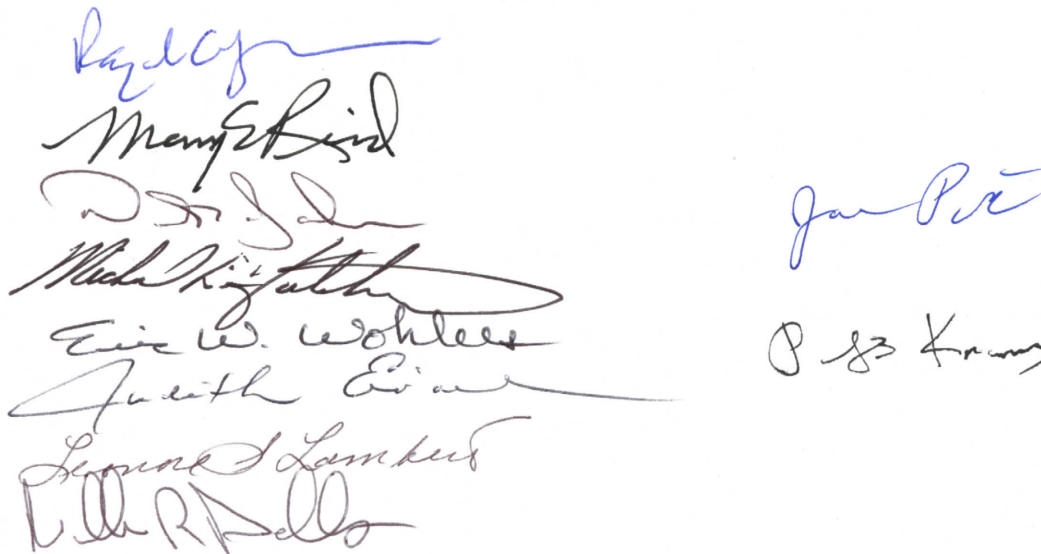
As previously stated, the CTF fully understands that all facets of the federal government are facing unprecedented budget pressures. The CTF also firmly believes that federal funds should be used wisely with a goal of reducing long-term expenditures. Such an opportunity exists at the West Valley Demonstration Project and the CTF implores you to make the fiscally wise decision to fund the project adequately now so as to save taxpayers tens of millions of dollars in the future.

With annual funding at the \$60.475 million level, the President's 2015 request, the completion of Phase 1 as outlined in the Record of Decision (ROD) will be delayed until 2033. This is far longer than the original 10 years contemplated in the ROD and will cost the taxpayers an additional \$143 million when compared to the \$75 million annual level projected in the ROD for Phase 1. At \$66 million annually,

Phase 1 will be complete by 2030 and cost taxpayers an additional \$63 million compared to the planned funding. Funded at the planned \$75 million in annual appropriation, Phase 1 can be completed in 2027. This math is straightforward and does not address other important aspects including the environmental and health benefits and reduced risk in expediting the cleanup.

This is an opportunity to make the fiscally prudent decision to take action now to reduce or eliminate future risk to the Great Lakes. Recent events have proven that the WVDP site can use the funding efficiently to reduce future expense. The CTF asks you once again to adequately fund the WVDP at the level envisioned in the Final EIS and 2010 Record of Decision, not out of pure self-interest but for the financial and environmental benefit of the country.

Sincerely,



A collection of handwritten signatures in blue ink. On the left side, there are seven signatures stacked vertically. On the right side, there are two more signatures stacked vertically. The signatures are: 1. A signature that appears to be 'Ray' with a long horizontal stroke. 2. 'Mary G. Baird'. 3. 'Don J. ...'. 4. 'Mick King' with a large flourish. 5. 'Eric W. Wohlers'. 6. 'Janeth ...'. 7. 'Lionel J. Lambert'. 8. 'Bill R. ...'. 9. 'Jan ...'. 10. 'P. ... King'.

Members of the West Valley Citizen Task Force

Copy:

- Honorable Andrew Cuomo, Governor
- Honorable Charles Schumer, U.S. Senate
- Honorable Kirsten Gillibrand, U.S. Senate
- Honorable Tom Reed, NY 23rd Congressional District, Olean Office
- Honorable Brian Higgins, NY 26th Congressional District, Buffalo Office
- Honorable, Chris Collins, NY 27th Congressional District, Lancaster Office
- Honorable Louise M. Slaughter, NY 25th Congressional District, Rochester Office
- Honorable Dan Maffei, NY 24th Congressional District, Syracuse Office
- David Huizenga, Senior Advisor, Assistant Secretary for Environmental Management, U.S. DOE
- Bryan Bower, Director, West Valley Demonstration Project, U.S. DOE
- John B. Rhodes, President and CEO, NYSERDA
- Paul Bembia, Director, West Valley Site Management Program, NYSERDA