

To: West Valley Citizen Task Force
From: Bill Logue and Loraine Della Porta*, Citizen Task Force Facilitators
Date: July 16, 2014
Subject: **Summary of the June 25, 2014 Meeting**

Next Meeting

The next Citizen Task Force Meeting will be: June 25, 2014

Time & Date: **6:30 – 8:00 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

Clyde Drake, Chris Gerwitz, Mike Hutchinson, Lee James*, Paul Kranz*, Eric Lawton, Lee Lambert*, Kathy McGoldrick, Joe Patti, Ray Vaughan, Eric Wohlers. Alternates present: Barbara Frackiewicz, John Walgus.

Agency Participants and Observers

Department of Energy (DOE): Bryan Bower, Ben Underwood*.

New York State Energy Research and Development Authority (NYSERDA): Paul Bembia.

CH2M Hill B&W West Valley, LLC. (CHBWV): Cindy Dayton, John Rendall.

New York Department of Health: David O'Herir*.

Observers: Diane D'Arrigo*, Paul Siepierski, Barbara Warren*.

INTRODUCTIONS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Bill Logue welcomed all present and reviewed the meeting agenda and materials¹. CTF Members and DOE and NYSERDA representatives welcomed Clyde Drake as the new representative for the Town of Concord in place of Bill Snyder who will continue as an alternate for Mr. Drake. They also welcomed John Walgus who will serve as alternate for Mike Hutchinson. Mr. Drake and Mr. Walgus reviewed their backgrounds. Paul Bembia informed the CTF that Elizabeth Lowes was no longer with NYSERDA and a new individual would be hired to replace her. A site tour for new CTF members and alternates will be planned.

CHBWV PROJECT OVERVIEW

John Rendall of CHBWV presented an update of current work activities.

Milestone 1: High-Level Waste (HLW) Relocation Project. Mr. Rendall reviewed the equipment status for moving the High-Level Waste (HLW) canisters from the Main Plant Process Building (MPPB) to the storage pad. The Tugger is on site; the Vertical Cask Transporter is complete, undergoing load testing and will be delivered on June 30; the Automatic Welding System fabrication is complete, weld testing will be performed in July with a July delivery; the TL220 to move casks through the Load In/Load Out Facility is 25% complete and will be delivered in September; and the low profile rail cart is 25% complete and will be delivered in November. The HLW pad security and video surveillance system are installed and area cleanup and seeding are complete. The HLW canister decontamination unit prototype is being tested. The Chemical Process Cell has been inspected with a GoPro camera. The grout plan to fill floor voids in the Equipment Decontamination Room is in peer review.

¹ Each is listed at the end of this summary and may be found at www.westvalleyctf.org under 2014 Meeting Materials.

*Participated by telephone.

In response to questions Mr. Rendall noted that shipping wastes and purchasing equipment when funds become available helps even out work flow. Road upgrades to the storage pad may include paving and steel plates and concrete over culverts. CHBWV will be ready to present on infrastructure upgrades in several months.

Milestone 2: Waste Operations. Mr. Rendall noted that Legacy Waste shipments are ahead of schedule. There were no shipments in May and shipments will continue as funds are available. Low-Level Waste (LLW) shipping is 53% complete, Mixed-LLW 79% complete; and industrial and hazardous waste shipment is complete. LLW and MLLW processing and preparation for shipment continues in the Waste Processing Area and Remote Handled Waste Facility. Cost efficiency is being maximized by reusing shielded containers and consolidating remote handled LLW.

Milestone 3: Facility Disposition. The MPPB deactivation and cleanout continues with: Raschig Ring removal in Tanks 13D-7 and 13D-8; asbestos removal in the first floor plant office; Off-Gas Trench hatch removal; debris removal in the Analytical Aisle hot cells; and preparing for dismantlement activities in Extraction Cell-1, including refurbishment of the remote mechanical arm. Some of the work involves cleaning and applying fixatives. In the Vitrification Facility debris is being vacuumed from the floor pit and set up performed for Cell wash down and waste load out. The water used in wash down will evaporate and moist air then will be HEPA filtered. Some of this work was not completed under prior contract and CHBWV is now authorized to conduct the work through a contract modification. The total of this and other contract modifications will add about \$70-80 million and extend the contract by about 18 months.

Milestone 4: Balance of Site Facilities. After removal of some facilities, such as the E-Lab, soil restoration and seeding has been performed. The Con-Ed Building, which supported the Waste Tank Farm, is being deactivated. Approvals are in place from the Army Corps of Engineers and NYSDEC for Lake 1 spillway repairs and approvals for Lake 2 repairs to redirect the overflow flume are being coordinated. The repairs are needed in large part from damage done in the 2009 large rain event.

Other. DOE, NYSERDA and CHBWV provided project presentations to the West Valley Central School on June 12 and site tour, from outside the secure fenced area, on June 13. CHBWV presented scholarship checks to four graduating seniors who plan to focus on science or engineering.

RAIL LINE AND RAIL SPUR STATUS

Bryan Bower of DOE presented on the Rail Line and Rail Spur. The latter is a 1.8 mile section of track within the Western New York Nuclear Service Center. It then continues as the rail line 8 miles south through the hamlet of West Valley to Ashford Junction. Maintenance of the entire track section was part of the previous contract. Under the CHBWV contract only the Spur portion is covered. As part of repairs to the Spur the Lake 2 overflow repairs will be incorporated. When a rail company has sufficient freight traffic over a section of track it performs maintenance and repair. When there is insufficient use, the users contract for maintenance. Buffalo & Pittsburgh RR has done rail work in the past for \$250,000 - 300,000/year. Presently there is no maintenance contract in place. No rail shipments are planned in the near term.

The Spur and Line will be maintained until a Phase 2 decision is made and it is known whether they are needed. Depending on the disposal location, they may support waste shipment as part of the MPPB demolition during Phase 1. Generally, when radioactive material is shipped by rail for security reasons there is limited public information disclosed. Generally, DOE coordinates with the states and the states coordinate with communities and first responders along the route. Mr. Bower explained that a rail carrier can move to abandon tracks and if there is no objection it is a relatively easy process. However, if communities or users object, rail lines usually decide it is easier not to move forward with abandonment. Abandonment was raised as a possibility years ago and the users of the line objected.

PHASE 1 STUDIES UPDATE

Bryan Bower of DOE gave an update on the Phase 1 Studies. The **Erosion Working Group** has submitted its study plans. The agencies reviewed a draft and requested more specificity. They are currently reviewing the revised plan and will post it on the Phase 1 Studies website it is when final. The goal is to have some studies initiated this field season. The **Exhumation Working Group** recommended studies have been reviewed by the Independent Scientific Panel which the agencies are now reviewing. The ISP review will be posted on the website.

CTF DISCUSSION

The CTF discussed the May 14 trip of a delegation of members to meet with House Appropriations Committee staff and leadership at DOE Environmental Management concerning project funding. Bryan Bower and Paul Bembia also attended the meetings. Staff from Congressmen Reed, Higgins and Collins accompanied the delegation to the DOE meeting where the group advocated for increased funding for the 2016 budget. At this meeting, Mr. Craig of DOE noted that the agency was limited in its total request by the Congressional agreements on the overall budget. In discussion Mr. Bower noted that WVDP was one of the larger non-defense sites. There was a brief discussion of the funding to fix issues at the Waste Isolation Pilot Plant, which is a defense site.

A meeting followed with staff from House Appropriations. The meeting felt productive to CTF members. Although the overall recommendation increased from the subcommittee for non-defense when the details were released the CTF learned that the subcommittee followed the President's request for WVDP.

After discussion the CTF agreed to write letters to: DOE thanking them for the meeting and re-emphasizing the need for funding; to the Congressmen for their assistance and support and a request that they look at a funding amendment; and to Senators Schumer and Gillibrand in the hope that a greater funding from the Senate could result in increased 2015 funding through the budget reconciliation process. Joe Patti and Bill Logue will work on the drafts.

The group decided to forego a July meeting unless a pressing topic emerges in the coming weeks. Possible future meeting topics: a Trench 14 Leachate update and on-site reservoirs as a surface water source for future site use. Eric Lawton thanked the agencies and CHBWV for the student tour and noted that the next Future meeting for the West Valley Central School is scheduled for July 29. He invited all to participate.

OBSERVER COMMENTS

There were no observer additional observer comments.

ACTION ITEMS

Action	Who; Date
Follow-up letters on funding	Patti & Logue; TBD

DOCUMENTS DISTRIBUTED

Document Description	Generated by; Date
Meeting Agenda	Logue; 6/25/2014
WVDP Project Update	CHBWV; 6/25/2014
News Clippings Distributed at Meeting	NYSERDA; 6/25/2014