

To: West Valley Citizen Task Force  
From: Bill Logue, Citizen Task Force Facilitator  
Date: November 19, 2018  
Subject: **Summary of the October 24, 2018 Meeting**

## **Next Meeting**

Date & Time: **January 23, 2018 at 6:30 PM**  
Location: Ashford Office Complex  
9030 Route 219  
West Valley, NY

## **CTF Members and Alternates Attending**

Clyde Drake, Charlie Davis, Lee James\*, Paul Kranz\*, Tony Memmo, Ray Vaughan.

## **Agency Participants and Observers**

**Department of Energy (DOE):** Bryan Bower, Marty Krentz, Moira Maloney, Audrey Seeley.

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

**CH2M HILL BWXT West Valley, LLC. (CHBWV):** Scott Anderson, Joe Pillittere, Alison Steiner, Robert Steiner.

**New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (NYSDEC):** Patrick Concannon.

**Neptune and Company:** Sean McCandless\*.

**Public:** Patricia Townsend, William Townsend, Barbara Warren\*. **Facilitator:** Loraine Della Porta\*.

## **Introductions, Announcements, Administrative Business**

Bill Logue welcomed all present and reviewed the meeting agenda and materials<sup>1</sup>. Later in the meeting the group confirmed the meeting schedule for 2019 which will follow the past pattern and be posted online and circulated to the CTF. The CTF decided to forego the December meeting absent urgent business.

## **CHBWV Project Update**

Scott Anderson of CHBWV presented a project update. At the outset he stated that John Rendall would return as Deputy General Manager of CHBWV.

**Safety.** The 12-month average for Total Recordable Cases for is 1.32. If there are no new cases in November this will drop. Days Away, Restrictions, Transfers continues at 0.00. There have been minor injuries, but none have resulted in lost work time.

**Milestone 2 - Legacy Waste.** Legacy Waste shipment was completed on September 6 and included: 151 shipments to offsite disposal facilities or 1,750 containers/180,000 cubic feet of waste. A number of shipping containers were re-purposed and reused. The Chemical Process Cell-Waste Storage Area is emptied and being prepared for demolition. The large components (195-ton Vitrification Facility Melter, 167-ton Concentrator Feed Makeup Tank, and 150-ton Melter Feed Hold Tank) were shipped for disposal. Some shipping will continue through the November/December timeframe. The RCRA Closure process has been started for the Chemical Process Cell-Waste Storage Area as all waste stored in the facility has been removed.

**Deactivation Progress Under Milestone 3.** The Vitrification Facility demolition is complete. Waste shipping will continue through November and possibly into December. Work included demolition and removal of outer access aisles, Process Cell, In Cell Coolers, Shield Windows, Crane Maintenance Room Shield Door, Transfer Tunnel Shield Door, three cranes and equipment, Transfer Tunnel walls and roof and Secondary Filter Room roof. The number of debris shipments is below the expected volume and 303 of 344 intermodals have been shipped as of October 17. Mr. Anderson displayed pictures and a video of the Vitrification Facility at the start of

---

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

\* Participated by telephone.

demolition, during the work and after the completion of demolition. On September 27 the workers, management, agencies and dignitaries celebrated the completion of Vitrification Facility demolition and Legacy Waste shipment.

The MPPB deactivation is 93% complete. Six crews continue to remove asbestos containing material and deactivate radiological areas. The Vent Exhaust Cell stabilization of the upper and lower plenums is complete. Workers conducted initial entry into the Vent Washroom to remove excess tools and equipment and obtain radiological dose surveys of the area and scrubber unit. In the Chemical Process Cell preparations are underway for grouting. Planned completion is in November. MPPB demolition is on hold pending an evaluation on the best way to proceed safely during open air demolition. A number of ancillary facilities to the MPPB were removed or demolished, including the MPPB stack which was lowered and cut into segments for shipping.

**Balance of Site Facilities – Milestone 4.** Twenty-three of 47 other facilities on the site have been demolished and the areas restored, including the former Administration Building. Site infrastructure reconfiguration continues. Work is complete on the natural gas distribution system with 2,800 feet of new pipeline on the WVDP and approximately 2 miles of new pipeline on the WNYNSC. The new electrical substation transformer will be hooked up within the week and Phase 1 of the electrical reconfiguration will be completed by the end of October and Phase 2 of the electrical reconfiguration schedule to be completed in the spring of 2019.

### **Permeable Treatment Wall Update**

Robert Steiner of CHBWV provided an update on the performance of the Permeable Treatment Wall (PTW). The PTW was installed in the fall of 2010 near the leading edge of the Strontium-90 North Plateau Groundwater Plume and is designed to use zeolite to remove the Sr-90 through an ion exchange process. Geochemical and Sr-90 data indicate the wall is performing as designed with Sr-90 downgradient activity decreased. Sr-90 levels downgradient from the PTW are expected to continue to decrease as treated groundwater flows into the area. There are approximately 60 monitoring wells at different depths within and on either side of the PTW. There are 6-9 wells in each of the plume lobes.

In response to a question about what would be done if the PTW becomes saturated or does not perform as expected, Mr. Steiner stated that would be indicated by similar Sr-90 levels up and downgradient and options would be considered and could include replacement of the zeolite media. This might be part of the Phase 2 decision-making for the non-source area of the plume.

Mr. Steiner displayed schematics of the wall and plume lobes with Sr-90 concentration levels and graphs showing the diminution of downgradient Sr-90 at two monitoring well locations. Quarterly monitoring will continue and wall performance evaluations and documentation in annual reports.

### **2017 Annual Site Environmental Report (ASER)**

Alison Steiner of CHBWV provided an overview of the 2017 ASER. (Available at [www.wv.doe.gov](http://www.wv.doe.gov)) Ms. Steiner displayed a graphic comparing doses from natural and man-made source, about 620 mrem/year, with the dose from WVDP in 2017, less than 0.47 mrem from effluents to air and water.

Air monitoring in 2017 occurred through five active air emissions stacks and up to 15 portable ventilation units. The 2017 concentrations were 0.088 of the DOE derived concentration standard where an individual would be exposed continuously for one year. Off-site air monitoring occurs at 16 ambient air samplers encircling the site within one mile. A background sampler is located at Great Valley 18 miles south of the WVDP. Samples are analyzed quarterly. The 2017 results are in compliance with National Emission Standards for Hazardous Air Pollutants regulations of an air dose of less than 10 mrem.

Other environmental samples were collected from 69 groundwater well sampling points quarterly, two drinking water supply wells monthly, 3 onsite and 6 off-site soil/sediment locations and a number of fish, deer and dairy farm and food crop locations. Direct radiation was also monitored at 10 onsite and 17 offsite locations. There were no drinking water exceedances. No radionuclides above background were detected in the fish, deer, milk or vegetable samples. The sediments at Thomas Corners Bridge continue to exceed background for Cesium-137 as they have since the early 1980s. Raw data from samples is included in the ASER.

In response to a question from an observer, Mr. Bembia explained the deer hunting program at the Western New York Nuclear Service Center and the fencing around the WVDP and stated that in tests no radionuclides had been found in deer from the site.

**CTF Discussion**

Mr. Vaughan will convene a call of CTF members interested in drafting comments on the DOE request for input on the definition of high-level radioactive waste. Tony Memmo and Charlie Davis expressed interest in participating. Comments are due December 10.

Neptune and Company will be presenting on the Probabilistic Performance Assessment at the November Quarterly Public Meeting. CTF members are encouraged to attend.

Early in 2019 the CTF may review and ask for a status on the questions raised in their scoping comments.

**Observer Comments**

Observer comments are noted above.

**Action Items**

Action	Who; When
Convene Technical Work Group Call on HLW comments	Logue/Vaughan

**DOCUMENTS DISTRIBUTED**

Description	Generated by; Date
Meeting Agenda	Logue; 10/24/18
Project Update	CHBWV; 10/24/18
Permeable Treatment Wall Update	CHBWV; 10/24/18
2017 Annual Site Environmental Report	CHBWV; 10/24/18
News Clippings Distributed at Meeting	NYSERDA; 10/24/18