

To: West Valley Citizen Task Force
From: Bill Logue, Citizen Task Force Facilitator
Date: December 13, 2021
Subject: **Summary of the October 27, 2021 Meeting**

Next Meeting

Date & Time: December 15, 2021 at 6:30 PM
Location: Zoom

CTF Members and Alternates Attending

Deb Aumick, Charlie Davis, Clyde Drake, John Eberth, John Hood, Lee James, Kathy McGoldrick, Tony Memmo, Joe Patti, Pat Townsend, Ray Vaughan, Eric Wohlers. Facilitators: Bill Logue & Loraine Della Porta.

Agency Participants and Observers

Department of Energy (DOE): Bryan Bower, Patrick Hefflinger, Bethany MacNeill, Audrey Seeley.

New York State Energy Research and Development Authority (NYSERDA): Paul Bembia, Lee Gordon, Peter Vlad, Brad Frank.

CH2M HILL BWXT West Valley, LLC. (CHBWV): Peggy Loop, Joe Pillittere, John Rendall, Kelly Wooley.

New York State Department of Health: David O’Herir.

Neptune & Company: Sean McCandless.

SAIC: Charlotte Salmon

Public: Wayne Barber, Larry Boing, Charley Bowman, Anna Carr, Diane D’Arrigo, Rosalind Ground, Kathleen Kellogg, Rick Miller, Kelsey Shank, Barbara Warren. (Other dial-in only callers not identified.)

Introductions, Announcements, Administrative Business

Bill Logue welcomed all present and reviewed the meeting agenda and materials¹. Bryan Bower of DOE reminded the group that DOE was operating under continuing budget resolutions at the FY 21 budget level pending Congressional approval of the FY 22 budget. The proposed FY 22 budget is similar to the FY 21 budget. Associate Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary for Regulatory and Policy Affairs Mark Gilbertson is retiring and Jay Mullis of the Oak Ridge Office of Environmental Management will serve in an acting capacity.

CHBWV Project Update

Kelly Wooley of CHBWV presented a project update.

Safety. Mr. Wooley reviewed safety information. The total recordable Case Rate is 1.10 and Days Away Restricted or Transferred at 0.37.

October 26 Event. On the afternoon of October 26th the Emergency Operations Center was activated to provide support for an event that occurred while relocating four large waste containers in support of Main Plant Processing Building (MPPB) demolition. During the move of the third container, a spotter observed liquid dripping from the SUREPACK container. Work was stopped, the area secured and the container leveled and stabilized. A radiological survey found material on the trailer and on the ground immediately around the truck and sandbags were placed around the area to prevent migration due to rain. Surveys confirmed no migration of the liquid beyond the immediate area. The port the leak occurred was plugged and the container tarped. A plan for moving the container will be developed. The SUREPACK was packed in

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

1986 and has a 2-foot diameter plug on top.

COVID-19 Controls. Mr. Wooley reiterated Executive Order 14042 regarding COVID-19 and the following workplace safety guidance for Federal contractors mandating vaccinations for Federal employees and contractors. On October 5th CHBWV initiated the program and held meetings with employees on October 6th. Currently 75% of employees are fully vaccinated and the plan is to achieve the requirements in the Executive Order by December 8.

MPPB Deactivation and Demolition Preparation. Deactivation is complete for the General Purpose Cell (GPC) and GCR Extension and General Operating Aisle. Decontamination continues in the Product Purification Cell using Nitrocision®. The process is going well; although restarting of some of the equipment after the shutdown was temporarily challenging. Three teams totaling 30-35 workers are involved in this work. Weekly radiological surveys are conducted and fixative applied. Workers wear protective suits and respirators and have air monitors and dosimeters. The various processes monitor for gamma, alpha, and beta radiation.

Diamond wire cutting in the Vent Wash Room has commenced. In this high dose area worker time is limited to reduce exposure. Fixative application is complete in the Chemical Process Cell (CPC) and equipment fluids drained. The Acid Recovery Cell and Off Gas Aisle west wall were removed to create access for floor cutting. The Load-In Facility isolation and air gapping of pipe and electrical is complete, as is draining of fluids from equipment. The Water Management System testing is being finalized and training conducted for the pre-treatment skid. The 10-Plex office complex shower drain line and air mover installation are complete.

Balance of Site Facilities (BOSF). Soil shipments from the Permeable Treatment Wall (PTW) and containment structure continue. As of October 21st, 259 soil and 87 debris intermodals have been filled with soil and the containment structure. 333 inter-modals have been shipped by rail to Energy Solutions. 231 intermodals have been received and prepared for shipping. Drum Cell modifications to support waste shipping continue with crane modifications complete. In preparation for pouring of the concrete floor 296 curbs were moved.

New Additions to Contract Scope. CHBWV is working with DOE on the layout of a new guard house and roadway. A contract is in place for design and fabrication of four shielded containers for shipping and disposal of repackaged legacy waste. Planning for sampling and characterization of Tank 8D-4 wastes continues. A contract was awarded for design of rerouting for Lagoons 4 and 5 that will allow Lagoon 3 to be taken out of service.

CTF Discussion

NYSDEC Letter to NYSERDA The Facilitator noted that the CTF had received a letter from the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation to NYSERDA entitled: Radiological Performance Assessment Criteria for the State-Licensed Disposal Area, Western New York Nuclear Service Area. Paul Bembia informed the CTF that Tim Rice of NYSDEC had planned to present the letter to the CTF at the time of his passing and this resulted in the delay in sending the letter to the CTF. Ray Vaughan stated that he was not sure that he agreed that the Part 382 criteria are the equivalent of 25 millirem per year but that he felt that the overall criteria set forth in the letter was good.

Preparation Assistance for PPA & SEIS. The CTF discussed how they might approach preparing to assess and respond to information coming out of the Probabilistic Performance Assessment (PPA) and Draft Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement (DSEIS) by finding experts to review studies and drafts particularly with respect to climate impacts and landscape evolution. Ray Vaughan shared with the CTF a draft outline of topics and how to elicit expert opinion on a pro bono or volunteer basis. The CTF agreed to share the draft with the agencies and to form a working group to further explore the concept. The following members volunteered: Ray Vaughan, Charlie Davis, Kathy McGoldrick and Pat Townsend.

Erie County Climate Action Plan. John Hood discussed the county's climate action team and how it was drawing from a large group of experts. He offered to invite Deputy Commissioner Lawrence to present to the CTF. Mr. Vaughan mentioned that he had been contacted by an intern about involvement in the process for the CTF. Mr. Bembia and Mr. Bower noted that state and federal governments and agencies were also working on plans and wondered how those would be coordinated with the county plans.

The CTF agreed to continue discussing both of these issues at future meetings.

Future Meetings. The CTF agreed to consider a December meeting to hear from Erie County and continue discussion of other business. Some members expressed an interest in resuming in person meetings. Mr. Bower noted that meetings at the AOC would need to follow federal protocols.

A topic suggested for the January annual organizational meeting is succession planning.

Observer Comments

Observer comments have been included in the above summary.

Follow Up

Description	Generated by; Date
Contact Erie County about Presentation	John Hood, Bill Logue; TBD

Meeting Documents Available on the CTF Website

Description	Generated by; Date
Meeting Agenda	Logue; 10/27/21
CHBWV Project Update	CHBWV; 10/27/21
News Clippings Since the Last Meeting	NYSERDA; 10/27/21