

To: West Valley Citizen Task Force  
From: Bill Logue, Task Force Facilitator  
Date: May 27, 2022  
Subject: **Summary of April 27, 2022 Meeting**

## Next Meeting

Date & Time: June 22, 2022  
Location: Zoom

## CTF Members and Alternates Attending

Anna Carr, Charlie Davis, Heidi Hartley, John Hood, Lee James, Kathy McGoldrick, Tony Memmo, Ray Raffel, Pat Townsend, Ray Vaughan. Facilitators: Bill Logue & Loraine Della Porta.

## Agency Participants and Observers

**Department of Energy (DOE):** Bryan Bower, Patrick Hefflinger, Carol Streczywilk.

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

**CH2M HILL BWXT West Valley, LLC (CHBWV):** Joe Pillittere, John Rendall, Robert Steiner, Kelly Wooley.

**New York State Department of Environmental Conservation:** Pat Concannon.

**New York State Department of Health:** David O’Hehir.

**Government Accountability Office:** Janice Poling.

**Neptune & Company:** Sean McCandless.

**SC&A:** Cynthia Costello. Charlotte Salmon.

**Observers:** Diane D’Arrigo, Joanne Hameister, Phillip Levert, Rick Miller, Barbara Warren, Misa Yasumiishi, and unidentified phone in callers.

## Introductions, Announcement, Administrative Business

Bill Logue welcomed all present and reviewed the meeting agenda and materials<sup>1</sup>.

Lee Gordon of NYSERDA reminded the CTF that the Draft SEIS Scope had received over 2,000 comments. Pursuant to the New York State Environmental Quality Review Act (SEQRA) process the Final Scope will be published on May 4 on the New York State Environmental Bulletin and on the SEIS website. The Final Scope will be distributed to interested and involved agencies and commenters by NYSERDA in compliance with SEQRA requirements. On publication the agencies will provide links to the facilitator to disseminate to the CTF.

Mr. Gordon also informed the CTF that the contract with Neptune & Company for the Probabilistic Performance Assessment (PPA) was being routed for signature through internal agency processes. After Neptune resumes work, presentations on technical topics will be developed for future Quarterly Public Meetings.

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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)

Bryan Bower of DOE informed the CTF of the retirements of Dan Sullivan and Moira Maloney who had a combined experience of over 50 years. Steve Bousquet will assume Dan Sullivan's responsibilities. Moira Maloney's position will be backfilled in the future.

## CHBWV Project Update

Kelly Wooley of CHBWV presented a project update. In response to a question on dose modeling and particle size posed by an observer at the March meeting, Mr. Wooley clarified that the "Air Mod" used by the Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) is designed to assess on-site dose to workers and the "Cap 88" is on modeling used by the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) for public dose modeling. A meeting was held with NRC to discuss and explain how the Air Mod particle size density of 1.0 microns was determined. With near field modeling a larger particle size is the more conservative approach. On December 21, 2021, NRC issued a letter to DOE stating that the assumptions in the air modeling are reasonable and adequate for measuring dose to the public.

**Safety.** The Total Recordable Case Rate and Days, Away, Restricted are at .33 as of March 2022.

**COVID-19 Controls.** COVID Phase 2 activities related preventive cleaning and sanitizing with an emphasis on good hygiene. Masks are not required at this time. Regional infection rates will continue to be monitored and additional controls implemented if necessary per any guidance.

**Main Process Plant Building (MPPB) Deactivation.** Nitrocision® decontamination scabbling of the Product Purification Cell (PPC) continues with 1,232 ft<sup>2</sup> completed out of 2,400 ft<sup>2</sup> on new areas of the west wall. Inspections are conducted using a mast climber. In the Vent Wash Room cutting and removal of the vent duct is complete along with room cleanup and fixative application.

**Demolition of Ancillary Support Structures.** The demolition of the Load-In/Load-Out Facility is complete. Crews completed final removal and backfilling of the gas piping under the building and a French drain was installed to support future water management.

**MPPB Demolition Preparation.** Testing and training is complete for the water management system. Preventive Maintenance cards were issued and Standard Operating Procedures are being finalized.

**Balance of Site Facilities and Infrastructure.** Soil, debris and containment structure removal from the installation of the Permeable Treatment Wall (PTW) is complete and the area has been regraded and is awaiting seeding in the spring and the last soils have been loaded into intermodals. A drainage swale was installed alongside the PTW roadway.

Demolition and removal of the Utility Room diesel tank is complete.

**New Scope.** Under the new addition to scope: construction began on April 25 for the new guard house; the Chemical Process Cell degraded legacy waste SUREPAK containers will be moved inside once the overpacks are received; plans for Tank 8-D4 waste sampling and characterization continue; and draft conceptual design is complete for the re-route of Lagoons 4 and 5 and procedures are being developed for a bench scale study to support the design.

In response to a question, Mr. Wooley noted that the hood over the Nitrocision® nozzle limits some access to the corners for scabbling. The higher contamination in the PPC-South was from leaks coming down the center of the walls during operations and this was why initial surveys showed significantly less contamination in the corners. Additional data has been collected through wall shavings to identify focus areas for decontamination.

## Budget Briefing

Carol Streczywilk of DOE provided an update on the federal budget. She reminded the CTF that DOE works on three budgets at the same time: the current enacted budget in implementation (FY22), the upcoming fiscal year (FY23) which is at the stage where the president has submitted his proposed budget to congress, and the budget under development (FY24) which is now at the stage of being drafted internally at DOE.

Ms. Streczywilk compared the FY 2021 enacted budget with the FY22 enacted budget for WVDP. For WVDP FY 2021 the Non-Defense portion is \$88.113 million and Safeguards and Security is \$4.298 million for a total of \$92.411 million. The FY 2022 for the Non-Defense portion is \$88.120 million and for Safeguards and Security is \$5.298 million for a total of \$93.418 million which includes an addition \$1.0 million for Safeguards and Security. DOE feels that this is good news for funding of the WVDP.

## CTF Discussion

The facilitator reported that he had inquired about holding meetings at the Firemen's Banquet Hall and for a variety of reasons that will not work. Ray Vaughan stated that he has had a number of initial conversations and email exchanges on the Structured Invitation for expert advice. He will provide additional updates at future meetings.

CTF members raised a number of questions. The following are responses:

- The agencies clarified that fees for the Neptune contract are shared equally by the agencies and the DOE portion is included in the budget presented earlier in the meeting.
- For sampling and characterization of Tank 8D-4, access is through an 8" opening and an articulating arm is being designed to reach the ends and bottom of the tank to obtain representative samples, including of the sludge. Representatives estimated that the tank contains 10,000-15,000 curies.
- NRC conducted site visits in October 2021 and April 2022 and typically issues a report of the visit based on an MOU between DOE and NRC. NRC has commented on the demolition plan and viewed work on PPC-South, the Water Management System, the Drum Cell and other facilities.
- The agencies will consider offering opportunities for technical meetings with Neptune prior to QPM presentations. Erosion modeling will be a topic of one of their early presentations on resumption of work. To the extent they are able, DOE and NYSERDA will pass along relevant information concerning PPA preparation.

## Observer Questions and Comments

In response to a question, Mr. Wooley stated that there is no plan to replace any portion of the PTW at this time. The May Quarterly Public Meeting will likely include an update on the PTW performance. MPPB demolition will begin in the August to October timeframe.

## Follow Up

Description	Generated by; Date
None	

## Meeting Documents Available on the CTF Website

Description	Generated by; Date
Meeting Agenda	Logue; 4/27/22
CHBWV Project Update	CHBWV; 4/27/22
DOE Budget Briefing	DOE; 4/27/22
News Clippings Since the Last Meeting	NYSERDA; 4/27/22