

May 16, 2019

## Town hears updates at WVDP

**Max Borsuk**  
Associate Editor

As decommissioning work continues at the West Valley Demonstration Project, the Ashford Town Board heard the latest updates at its May 8 meeting. WVDP Director for the U.S. Department of Energy Bryan Bower reported about a recent contract modification proposal and work progress at the plant.

Bower reported the Department of Energy received the contract modification proposal from CH2M HILL BWXT

West Valley, LLC to put the demolition of the main plant back into the contract for phase one decommissioning. The demolition of the main plant was previously put on hold and DOE is currently reviewing the proposal.

Work is progressing at the WVDP as crews work on the inside of the main plant building. Bower said DOE got a proposal last fall from CHBWV to do additional deactivation working within the main plant, which is

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continuing in planning and execution. Crews are also continuing the deactivation of the fuel receiving and storage facility and CHBWV is looking into doing additional source term removal in the main plant.

"It will buy us some margin if we proceed with open air demolition to make sure that we are not going to have any unanticipated releases," Bower said. "One of the ways we can help improve that is by removing additional material."

Upcoming "skyline changes" at the plant will include work at the liquid pre-treatment system and the utility room extension, Bower said.

Ashford Supervisor Charles Davis presented the idea of having a grant writer for the town. The board later approved a resolution for Davis to get quotes and more information from grant writers for the town and bring it back at a later board meeting.

"The reality is there are a number of grants that are available, but the planning board doesn't really have the time nor is it really part of our charter to be doing a lot of grant applications," Planning Board Chairperson Andrea Mellon said. "Anybody that can help that has that type of experience would be very beneficial to the town and the community."

In other board news:

– Mellon reported work continues for hosting a community market later this year at West Valley Central School. The market would be on Sundays starting Aug. 1 until the end of October from 9 a.m. - 1 p.m. It would be held outside in the circle at WVCS or in the auditorium during inclement weather.

– John Pfeffer reported Armstrong and Spectrum have started stringing cable in Ashford for high-speed internet.

The next Ashford Town Board meeting will be Wednesday, June 12 at 7:30 p.m. at the Ashford Community Center, 9377 Route 240, in West Valley.

### West Valley Demonstration Project Quarterly Public Meeting

**Wednesday, May 22, 2019,  
6:30 – 8:00 p.m.**

**Ashford Office Complex**

9030 Route 219, West Valley, NY 14171

The U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) and the New York State Energy Research and Development Authority (NYSERDA) will hold a public meeting to provide an update on the WVDP project activities and to discuss progress on the Phase 1 Studies. NYSERDA and DOE will provide the public with an opportunity to ask questions and provide comments.

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