

## **MEMORANDUM**

To: Citizen Task Force

From: Melinda Holland, Clean Sites

Subject: Summary of July 21, 1998, Task Force Conference Call

Date: July 24, 1998

### **Next Meeting:**

The next Citizen Task Force (CTF) meeting will feature a video conference with Representative Amo Houghton and is scheduled for:

Date: Wednesday, July 29, 1998  
Time: 7:00 p.m. - 9:30 p.m.  
Location: Ashford Office Complex  
9030 Route 219, West Valley, NY

If you have questions or comments regarding the upcoming meeting or about this summary, please contact Melinda Holland at (864) 457-4202 or Tom Attridge at (716) 942-2453.

### **July 21, 1998 Conference Call Attendees:**

Attending were: Bridget Wilson, Bill King, Joe Patti, Paul Piciulo, Tom Attridge, Barb Mazurowski, Larry Smith, Murray Regan, Rich Tobe, Ray Vaughan, Elizabeth Lowes, Dan Sullivan, Pete Scherer, and John Chamberlain. The call was facilitated by Melinda Holland.

### **July 21, 1998 Conference Call Summary**

The purpose of the conference call was to discuss what the CTF wanted to present to Congressman Houghton at the video conference scheduled for July 29, 1998 at 7:00 pm. A number of topics were discussed on the conference call in regard to the final CTF recommendation report and the April video conference held with Congressman Houghton.

In summary, the CTF members on the conference call agreed on several key items to be presented to and discussed with the Congressman on July 29. These include...

- Request Congressman Houghton's assistance in arranging a meeting with a representative(s) from DOE Headquarters [such as Jim Owendoff, the Acting Assistant Secretary for Environmental Management], DOE's Ohio Field Office, NYSERDA Albany, and elected officials at the state and federal level whom the Congressman would

suggest. The purpose of this meeting will be to allow the CTF to present their recommendation report, request support from the agencies and elected officials to have the recommendations implemented, and to request input on when the CTF can expect a response to the CTF report from the agencies.

- Ask for the Congressman's assistance in dealing with CTF concerns regarding DOE Project funding reductions for FY 1999 and forward, the need for a sustained budget commitment, and the need to recognize that significant cleanup work remains to be done at the West Valley site after completion of the high-level waste vitrification program.
- Ask for the Congressman's opinion regarding seeking additional political support from members of the New York State delegation and other members of Congress.

Bill King agreed to provide brief introductory remarks at the beginning of the video conference. To ensure that the request for support in arranging a meeting and the concern regarding funding reductions are presented, Rich Tobe agreed to speak to the meeting support request and Ray Vaughan agreed to present the funding issue. The participants agreed that given the limited time available to meet with the Congressman it was important to focus on these primary requests.

A number of other issues, primarily related to the April video conference were discussed. CTF members requested that site personnel send Representative Houghton a copy of a fact sheet listing the estimated range of costs for cleanup at the site and a copy of the West Valley Demonstration Project Act highlighting section 2(a)(4) and 2(a)(5). The participants also stated that they hope to receive answers to the questions posed at the end of the last video conference with Congressman Houghton. Site representatives agreed to share the DOE and NYSERDA letters written in response to the Congressman's request for additional information to help him answer the questions. NYSERDA agreed to send an information package, including a letter from Congressman Houghton to the Secretary of Energy requesting information and the Department of Energy's and NYSERDA's response, to the CTF members.

Paul Piciulo and Tom Attridge agreed to brief Houghton's staff on the CTF's key items and provide some additional Project background information relative to site clean up and long-term management. The participants on the conference call agreed that this might assist the Congressman in preparing for the video conference.

The group agreed to arrive on July 29 by 7:00 p.m. and review the approach they had agreed upon prior to the video conference beginning at 7:15 p.m. The Congressman plans to be available from 7:15 p.m. to 7:45 or 8:00 p.m. The July 29 meeting will continue with a discussion of the results of the San Diego conference from the CTF attendees and a discussion of CTF next steps.