

To: West Valley Citizen Task Force  
From: Melinda Holland  
Subject: Summary of September 24, 2002, CTF Meeting  
Date: October 15, 2002

### **Next Meeting**

The next full Citizen Task Force (CTF) meeting will be held as follows:

Date           **October 29, 2002**  
Time           7:00 - 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.

### **CTF Attendees**

*Attending were:* Nevella McNeil, Gayla Gray (for Lana Redeye), Bill King, Lee Lambert, Mark Mitskovski (for Larry Rubin), Tim Siepel, Joe Patti, John Pfeffer, Paul Piciulo, Pete Scherer, Ray Vaughan, Alice Williams, and Eric Wohlers.

*CTF Members not attending (nor represented by an alternate) were:* John Beltz, Warren Schmidt, and Mark Steffan.

### **Agency Attendees**

Jack Krajewski, New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (NYSDEC).

### **Meeting Highlights**

Topics discussed included:

- ▶ Status of negotiations between DOE and NYSERDA
- ▶ Formation of a CTF Workgroup to plan future meeting topics
- ▶ Formation of a Technical Workgroup
- ▶ Status of DOE funding support for Future Site Use Study
- ▶ CTF membership
- ▶ Long-term stewardship; and
- ▶ Decommissioning EIS Notice of Intent

### **Meeting Summary**

Tom Attridge opened the meeting by briefly describing the written materials that were disseminated at the meeting (see the list at the end of this summary) and Melinda Holland reviewed the agenda. Mike Hutchinson was introduced as a new Task Force member and discussed his background and areas of greatest interest regarding the CTF. Mr. Hutchinson is the Supervisor of the Gowanda Wastewater Treatment Facility, a member of the Cattaraugus Creek Basin Task Force, and a member of the Town of Collins Water Board. Mr. Hutchinson requested a list of all of the documents which support the 1996 Draft Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) and other materials that have been provided to the CTF. Melinda and Tom suggested that the CTF Tool Box Binders would be a good place to access information and agreed to create an index of all materials (presentations, technical reports, correspondence, etc.) that

have been provided to the CTF since its inception. John Chamberlain also said he would make sure the technical library at the AOC is up-to-date with all information that has been publicly released to date.

### ***New Workgroups***

A Task Force member suggested forming a Technical Workgroup and asked for members. Those expressing an interest in the Technical Workgroup included Ray Vaughan, Mike Hutchinson, and Gayla Gray. The proposed focus for the Technical Workgroup is to review and discuss in detail, technical studies and documents produced by the site (such as the erosion modeling study) and report back to the full CTF.

CTF members expressed a desire to be briefed on recent technical studies, such as the seismic study which was presented at the last WVDP Quarterly Public Meeting. CTF members requested an opportunity for briefing and review of studies/documents under development before they are released to the public.

A new CTF workgroup was formed to assist with developing CTF agendas including a list and schedule of topics for future meetings. A Task Force member suggested three on-going agenda topics: 1) the preferred alternative and its technical components; 2) the ongoing negotiations between DOE and NYSERDA; 3) NYSERDA's plans for use of its property in the future. Another suggested periodic updates on the North Plateau groundwater plume and other areas of the site that are contaminated.

Members of the Agenda Workgroup are: Lee Lambert, Gayla Gray, and Ray Vaughan. Melinda Holland, Tom Attridge, Sonja Allen, and John Chamberlain have agreed to support this work group in identifying appropriate agenda topics based on timely, available information. DOE and NYSERDA agreed to provide the workgroup with a list of documents/studies under development and their schedule for completion to aid the Agenda Workgroup in its planning process. The workgroup will meet by conference call as soon as this material is received.

### ***Status of DOE/NYSERDA Negotiations***

A negotiating meeting is scheduled for October 2. The last negotiating meeting was held on June 27, 2002. NYSERDA provided DOE with a draft proposal on July 17, 2002. DOE scheduling difficulties precluded a meeting in July and August. DOE and NYSERDA stated that negotiations will focus on near-term work scope issues, because the major issues, such as long-term stewardship and the high level waste disposal fee, are too difficult to resolve at this time. CTF members expressed consternation over the lack of progress, lack of commitment, and concerns that future site funding would be negatively impacted by continued delays. Lack of agreement between NYSERDA and DOE will delay development of an end-state and preferred alternative, a Task Force member stated. CTF members discussed asking their Congressional representatives to legislate solutions to the items at impasse if nothing is accomplished at the October 2 meeting. DOE also suggested that the CTF wait and see what happens at the October 2<sup>nd</sup> negotiations meeting. There was also discussion about waiting until after the elections in November to contact elected officials.

### ***Redevelopment Study Funding***

Alice Williams, DOE, stated that this week DOE Headquarters approved the release of \$40,000 toward a redevelopment study. This money will come out of the site's cleanup budget. The funding will go to Southern Tier West which has offered to take the lead on the redevelopment study working in cooperation with the CTF and Erie and Cattaraugus Counties. The U. S. Department of Commerce Economic Development Administration (EDA) had previously offered matching funding towards a study. DOE Headquarters has called EDA to say that EDA is the lead federal agency for this study. A CTF member asked for written documentation of this commitment. An Erie County representative said Erie County has

pledged \$25,000 towards the study adding that a Memorandum of Understanding and Statement of Work will be necessary to release the funding . A NYSERDA representative stated that he would consult with his management about providing funds for the study.

A CTF member reminded the group of recent press releases stating that DOE has been awarding millions in grants for redevelopment work around DOE facilities across the nation. He suggested enlisting the help of the congressional delegation in getting enough funding to do a first-class study. A Future Site Use Workgroup meeting may be scheduled on October 17 or 18 to discuss funding.

### ***New Task Force Member***

Melinda Holland reported on her search for someone to fill the vacancy created by Michelle Enser's resignation. Based on Task Force members suggestions that she should focus on a local resident with ties to the West Valley Central School, Ms. Holland has contacted a number of teachers and School Board members. Thus far no one has expressed willingness to serve on the Task Force. Ms. Holland will try a bit longer to find a local resident with ties to the school, but failing that will focus on other local residents ( who may not be affiliated with the school). Ms. Holland also requested that members continue to submit names of possible candidates.

### ***Long-Term Stewardship***

A copy of the latest draft of the DOE Headquarters Long-Term Stewardship Strategic Plan was distributed to the Task Force. While the official date for commenting on this draft has passed, DOE offered to accept CTF comments if submitted quickly. Ms. Holland asked Task Force members to inform her by September 30 if anyone thought the CTF should develop and submit comments on this document.

A Task Force member requested clarification at a future meeting on how the Long-Term Stewardship Strategic Plan relates to NRC's limits on the use of institutional controls.

### ***Notice of Intent***

A Task Force member asked that the CTF be allowed to review the draft Notice of Intent on the Decommissioning EIS. A DOE representative responded that the draft has been revised based on agency (NYSDEC, NRC, EPA, NYSDOH) comments and a revised version is currently being reviewed by DOE Headquarters. She indicated that the NOI, as part of the NEPA process, is intended to provide lead agency intention for the EIS, which opens up a scoping process (which is an open, public process). Therefore, it is not DOE's intent to provide the NOI to the public for review, however DOE will take the CTF's request to review the draft under advisement.

### **Next Steps**

The CTF has decided to hold the next meeting on October 29, 2002. Topics suggested for that meeting include:

- ▶ Preferred alternative
- ▶ NY's intentions for use of the property
- ▶ Presentation on the seismic study
- ▶ A report from the Agenda Work Group
- ▶ Status of negotiations between DOE and NYSERDA
- ▶ A report on funding for the redevelopment study
- ▶ Update or briefing on the Notice of Intent on the Decommissioning EIS
- ▶ Explanation of differences between the approach described in the DOE Headquarters Long-Term Stewardship Strategic Plan and NRC's requirements for Institutional Controls

- ▶ New CTF member recommendation

**Action Items**

<b>Action</b>	<b>Assigned to</b>	<b>Due Date</b>
Provide new CTF members an index of all the documents which have been previously given to the CTF.	Tom Attridge	10/25/02
Update the AOC public reading room technical library	John Chamberlain	10/29/02
Provide a list of all of the documents which support the 1996 Draft EIS.	Sonja Allen	10/25/02
Provide the Agenda Workgroup with a list of documents/studies under development and their schedule for completion.	DOE / NYSERDA	10/4/02
Provide a briefing on the seismic study.	DOE/WVNSCO	10/29/02
Schedule a conference call for the Agenda Workgroup.	Melinda Holland	10/7/02
Future Site Use Workgroup to meet on funding the study.	Eric Wohlers	10/17/02
NYSERDA to consult with management about providing funds for the redevelopment study.	NYSERDA	10/17/02
Respond to CTF request to review the Draft Notice of Intent for the Decommissioning EIS	DOE	10/29/02

**Observer Comments**

Jack Krajewski, NYSDEC, mentioned that his agency is negotiating Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA) issues with DOE.

**List of Documents** For copies, please contact Sonja Allen at (716) 942-2152.

- ▶ Meeting agenda
- ▶ Revised CTF Member Address List
- ▶ WVDP Brochure, *“First Vitrification Program Completion”*
- ▶ DOE’s Long-Term Stewardship Strategic Plan