

West Valley Demonstration Project



Decommissioning Plan

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WVDP Phase 1 Decommissioning

The following presentation is based upon data and analysis associated with the presumptive Preferred Alternative in the Draft Environmental Impact Statement for Decommissioning and/or Long-Term Stewardship at the West Valley Demonstration Project and Western New York Nuclear Service Center, which is still under development. To the extent the presumptive Preferred Alternative is either modified or changed during the course of the NEPA process, the information contained within this presentation may correspondingly change.



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Decommissioning

- Decommissioning at facilities that handle radioactive material applies to the actions taken to shut down a facility, including the steps taken to reduce or stabilize radioactive contamination
- At the West Valley site, decommissioning will be done to meet criteria established by the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC)
- The proposed Phase 1 of West Valley Demonstration Project (WVDP) decommissioning is based on the Core Team recommended alternative



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At the West Valley Site...

- NYSERDA owns the 3,345-acre Western New York Nuclear Service Center (Center) and holds an NRC license that was issued in the 1960s for nuclear fuel reprocessing operations
- DOE assumed control in 1982 of approximately 200 acres of the Center to conduct the WVDP, and will decommission facilities used for the WVDP in accordance with NRC- prescribed criteria



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Final Policy Statement

- In February 2002, NRC issued a Final Policy Statement for Decommissioning Criteria for the WVDP
- The Policy Statement prescribes the NRC's License Termination Rule (LTR) as the decommissioning criteria for the WVDP



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Decommissioning Options

- **Unrestricted Release (Use)**
 - Site suitable for reuse with no controls
 - 25 mrem/yr or less (ALARA) potential human exposure from all pathways
- **Restricted Release (Use)**
 - Institutional controls applied (ex. fences, deed restrictions, etc.)
 - With institutional controls (IC) in effect < 25 mrem/yr (ALARA) human exposure off-site from all pathways
 - With IC not in effect intruder exposure < 100 mrem/yr
- **Ongoing License**
 - Active (people present) control/monitoring
 - Off-site dose < 100 mrem/yr or with loss of control intruder exposure < 500 mrem/yr
 - In both cases, must demonstrate that further reductions are not technically achievable, prohibitively expensive, or would result in net public or environmental harm



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Phase 1 Decommissioning

- For Phase 1 of WVDP decommissioning DOE intends that the actions would meet the requirements for unrestricted release
- Removing the Main Process Plant Building and the radioactive waste water treatment lagoon system to meet unrestricted release would leave all decommissioning options for the Phase 2 decision on the remaining facilities



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At the West Valley Site...

- DOE will conduct the “physical” work to decommission WVDP facilities to meet the LTR criteria
- Actual removal of the site or a portion of the site from the NRC license (license termination) is an “administrative” action and would be NYSERDA’s action when control of the area is returned to NYSERDA



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Decommissioning Plan

- The Phase 1 Decommissioning Plan demonstrates how the activities to be conducted would achieve the criteria to ensure public health and safety and protection of the environment
- The WVDP Phase 1 Decommissioning Plan is being drafted based on the Core Team recommended alternative



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Decommissioning Plan Schedule

- Phase 1 Decommissioning Plan is being developed in parallel with the Decommissioning EIS.
 - Initial DOE-NRC scoping meeting May 19, 2008
 - Any follow up meetings will be publicly noticed on the NRC's website
 - Decommissioning Plan delivered to NRC or acceptance review concurrent with draft EIS release for public review Fall 2008
 - NRC Technical Evaluation Report issued following Final EIS and prior to Record of Decision Late 2009



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