NYSERDA’s Annual Deer Hunting Program

West Valley Citizen Task Force Meeting
September 24, 2008

History of the Program

- Started in 1994
  - Requests from Town of Ashford and general public
  - NYSDEC estimated deer population double the surrounding area
  - Recognized need to reduce deer car collisions on area roads

- Hunter Participation
  - 25 hunters in 1994 – 7 deer taken
  - 500+ hunters in 1997 – 149 deer taken
  - Average 300 hunters/year (between 40-75 deer taken/year)

- Program Improvements
  - Added archery season
  - Reduced regular season to seven days
  - Curtailed littering at hunting entry points
Elements of the Program

- Schedule
- Check-In/Out
- Entry Points
- Boundaries
- Neighbors
- No All-Terrain Vehicles
- No Rifles
- Radioactive Analysis of Venison

Cs-137 in Near-Site and Background Deer Samples From the WNYNSC
NYS Regulatory Agency Review

- NYSERDA provided the West Valley data to NYSDEC and NYSDOH
- NYSDOH conducted a similar assessment of Brookhaven National Laboratory deer population in 1999
- NYSDOH reviewed and compared the data to guidance and regulatory limits
- NYSDOH concluded that the radioactivity level in West Valley deer is not a public health hazard

Comparison of Data

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Data Type</th>
<th>Units</th>
<th>Value</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>FDA Guidance Levels</td>
<td>Pcs/gm</td>
<td>32.40</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BNL Deer Sample Data - Mean</td>
<td>Pcs/gm</td>
<td>4.38</td>
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<tr>
<td>WV Deer Sample - Highest Value</td>
<td>Pcs/gm</td>
<td>2.42</td>
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<tr>
<td>WV Deer Sample Data - Mean</td>
<td>Pcs/gm</td>
<td>0.1570</td>
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<tr>
<td>WV Background Deer Sample Data - Mean</td>
<td>Pcs/gm</td>
<td>0.0848</td>
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</tbody>
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Ongoing Activities

- NYSERDA will continue to offer hunters radioactive analysis of venison.
- NYSERDA will collect additional samples as part of this year’s program.
- NYSERDA will assess new data to gain more knowledge about deer population.
- NYSERDA will keep the public informed on this issue.