

Buffalo News, December 18, 2010

Earmarked projects in WNY lose 2011 funding

By **Mark Sommer**

NEWS STAFF REPORTER

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The Martin House Complex, Hauptmann-Woodward Medical Research Institute and University at Buffalo are among Western New York projects that stand to lose out after Senate Democrats abandoned a nearly \$1.3 trillion spending measure.

Several Niagara Falls projects also now will miss out, including Niagara University, the Niagara Falls Air Reserve Station and YWCA of Niagara. Also losing are water projects on Grand Island and in the towns of Niagara and Barker, as well as rail improvements in Town of Tonawanda.

In all, \$34 million earmarked for projects in Western New York will not be forthcoming.

“It is disappointing that the Martin House and many other good projects will not receive funding in fiscal year 2011. This is a significant blow for many in our region,” said Mary Roberts, Darwin Martin House’s chief operating officer.

The complex stood to gain \$1 million to continue interior restoration.

Sen. Charles E. Schumer, D-N. Y., vowed to continue to fight for the money.

“In the past, we have secured funding for projects such as cleaning radioactive waste in **West Valley**, supporting women’s bone health research at Erie County Medical Center and a new science building at Canisius College, all of which are essential for job creation and more in Western New York,” Schumer said in a statement. “Losing funds for projects like these is very disappointing.”

Senate Majority Leader Harry Reid, D-Nev., pulled the plug on the 1,924-page legislation — a combination of 12 end-of-the-year bills — after conservatives balked at the more than \$8 billion in home-state earmarks. They also threatened to have the entire bill read aloud, which would have taken more than two days.

A resolution is expected to pass soon to fund the government at current levels for the next one or two months.

Buffalo projects that were to be funded include:

- \$3.6 million for a cyclotron at UB Clinical and Translational Research Center.
- \$2 million to the Hauptmann- Woodward Medical Research Institute, for viral research on genetically engineered biological weapons for the protection and treatment of soldiers.

- \$1 million for the Buffalo Niagara Medical Campus, to make improvements to physical infrastructure, including traffic reduction, pedestrian access and public safety features.
- \$960,000 for Roswell Park Cancer Institute's Advanced Cancer Genome Institute.
- \$800,000 for the Calspan University at Buffalo Research Center's biological detection program.
- \$150,000 for Medaille College to renovate science laboratories.
- \$500,000 for Canisius College for the science center.
- \$360,000 for Buffalo Police Department surveillance cameras.
- \$200,000 for Every Person Influences Children's (EPIC) newborn health and parent education program.

Niagara County projects that were to be funded include:

- \$9.5 million for a C-130 flight operations facility at the Niagara Falls Air Reserve Station.
- \$600,000 for geothermal improvements to the YWCA of Niagara's Carolyn House in Niagara Falls.
- \$4.2 million for the Army Corps of Engineers, Buffalo District, for Niagara River and Lake Ontario projects.
- \$550,000 toward the B. Thomas Golisano Center for Integrated Sciences at Niagara University in Lewiston.

“While we are disappointed as a university, we are still very energized about the project and the impact that building will have on the community,” said Tom Burns, NU spokesman. “The money was to have been used for equipment inside that building, but we’re still moving forward with the project.”

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Buffalo News, Thursday, December 23, 2010

Letters to the Editor

Writer ignores dangers posed by nuclear power

Updated: December 23, 2010, 6:29 AM

In response to the letter touting the safety and low cost of nuclear energy, I'd enjoy hearing the writer's comments on the "safe" railroad transportation across the country and eternal storage in abandoned mines and caves of the glass-encased, highly radioactive deadly waste products of this process.

Our defunct **West Valley** processing plant, oozing waste into the ground and nearby creek, would also be an interesting topic for him to comment on.

Pete Youngers
Holland

Springville Journal

Thursday, January 20, 2011

During a regular meeting of the Ashford Town Board on Wednesday, Jan. 12, Supervisor Chris Gerwitz stated that the County Board of Elections has offered the town the option of keeping their voting machines or letting the county pick them up. There was agreement by all board members to keep the machines and eventually sell them for scrap.

It was decided that since the Ashford taxpayers purchased the machines, they should be the ones to benefit from the sale.

In other board news:

- According to Gerwitz, there will be an audit of the books on Wednesday, Jan. 19 at 7:30 p.m., after which the water company will discuss the raise in water rates.

- Program Manager Tom Attridge from NYSERDA stated that the DOE has completed installing the tank drying system in the high level waste tank farm at West Valley Demonstration Project and it is now operational. It will take three to six years to complete drying of the remaining liquids in the tanks. He also said that the permeable treatment wall is up to take care of the ground water plume. There are wells on each side to monitor its effectiveness.

- Code Enforcement Officer Gary Perkins reported on the issuance of building permits. He advised that, per the NYS code book, building permits are supposed to be issued for all roofing work, whether new or re-roofing.

There was a lively discussion about the need for this, as most were opposed to it. Per Perkins, yearly permits are also needed for hazardous materials on any property. This would include items such as propane, diesel fuel and asphalt. The amount in gallons would be the determining factor in the need for a permit. Fees would cover the cost of paperwork and inspection. A new fee schedule is expected to be formulated.

- Councilwoman Beverly Hess requested information about any incentives that the town might offer to new businesses wishing to develop in the town. Gerwitz said that the Southern Tier West IDA makes those decisions for the smaller rural towns and does have a five-year plan in place.



- Deputy Supervisor Charles Davis brought up the suggestion that the town board, school board and chamber of commerce work together on long and short term goals that would benefit all. This was agreed upon by the whole board.

- Highway Superintendent Tim Engles mentioned that truck No. 16 needs clutch repair and that the spare truck is not doing well either. He said the new one, however, is performing flawlessly.

- The board gave the OK for Gerwitz to sign a letter of agreement with the county to take over Gulf and Henrietta roads. Gulf Road has been closed since the flood in August of 2009 washed out the sluices and damaged the road. The county did not intend to re-open Gulf Road, but the town is hoping to do so. The board members agreed that they would walk the site to assess what needs to be done.

The next meeting of the Ashford Town Board will be held on February 9 at 7:30 p.m.

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January 20, 2011 09:00 AM Eastern Time

Homeland Security Capital Corporation's Subsidiary Safety and Ecology Corporation Wins Protest

Awarded Two Upheld Contracts

ARLINGTON, Va.--([BUSINESS WIRE](#))--**Homeland Security Capital Corporation (OTCBB:HOMS)**, an international provider of specialized technology-based radiological, nuclear, environmental, disaster relief and security solutions to government and commercial customers, announced that its subsidiary, Safety and Ecology Corporation (SEC), has received notification from the United States Small Business Administration's Office of Hearing and Appeals (OHA), that SEC is not in violation of the small business size qualification and ruled in SEC's favor on the size determination protest. As stated in the OHA official announcement issued on January 12, 2011, "OHA publishes a redacted version of the decision for public release," and the conclusion states that the company SEC "is a small business."

As previously announced in a HOMS press release dated August 16, 2010, SEC proactively defended a protest made by the unsuccessful bidders, as they were disputing SEC's business size under the rules of the Small Business Administration (SBA).

"We are extremely pleased with the ruling, as it has been difficult for all companies involved. Communications, business development and strategic planning becomes complicated during litigation, therefore we are continuing to move forward, and are eager to put this behind us," said C. Thomas McMillen, Chairman and CEO of HOMS.

Due to this determination, DOE was able to move forward with two procurements that were upheld pending the SBA ruling. As such, DOE officially awarded SEC two contracts, both of which were published on the federal business opportunities (FBO.gov) website on December 22, 2010.

SEC was awarded the DOE Office of Environmental Management West Valley Demonstration Project (WVDP) environmental characterization and support services contract. Under this Indefinite Delivery/Indefinite Quantity (IDIQ) single award contract with an estimated contract ceiling of \$25M, SEC will perform environmental characterization support services including, but not limited to soil, sediment and groundwater characterization, environmental monitoring, and associated regulatory documentation supporting decommissioning activities at WVDP. This five year project is located within the Western New York Nuclear Service Center owned by the New York State Energy and Development Authority.

The second contract was officially awarded to SEC, from the DOE Office of Environmental Management, for the Nationwide Multiple Award Small Business set-aside IDIQ contract. SEC is one of the twelve companies that are eligible for contract awards for future work to be performed at various DOE sites. The total value of the cleanup projects can reach up to \$926 million over five years. Task orders may include environmental remediation services, deactivation, decommissioning, demolition, removal of contaminated facilities services, waste management and regulatory services.

"We are extremely grateful for the decision, and look forward to continuing to perform work to move the DOE missions forward," said Christopher Leichtweis, President of Homeland Security Capital Corporation and CEO of SEC.

About Safety and Ecology Corporation

Safety and Ecology Corporation (SEC) is a rapidly growing environmental services company in the U.S., providing services nationally, in Europe and the Caribbean. The Company specializes in the removal and remediation of hazardous nuclear materials for the U.S. Department of Energy, U.S. Department of Defense, and other federal agencies. SEC also provides advanced environmental services for private industry across the country and internationally. Since its founding in 1991, SEC has grown approximately 30 percent per year, and has emerged as a technology innovator with more than 450 personnel worldwide and with annual revenues of more than U.S. \$70 million. For more information on SEC, visit www.sec-tn.com.

About Homeland Security Capital Corporation (HOMS)

Homeland Security Capital Corporation is a company engaged in the strategic acquisition, development, and consolidation of homeland security-related businesses, within the fragmented homeland security industry. The company is focused on creating long-term value by taking controlling interest and developing its subsidiary companies through superior operations and management. The company is headed by former Congressman C. Thomas McMillen, who served three consecutive terms in the

"We are extremely grateful for the decision, and look forward to continuing to perform work to move the DOE missions forward"

U.S. House of Representatives from the 4 Congressional District of Maryland. HOMS operates businesses that provide homeland security products and services solutions, growing organically and by acquisitions. The company is targeting emerging companies that are generating revenues but face challenges in scaling their businesses to capitalize on homeland security opportunities.

HOMS's portfolio of companies, in addition to SEC, includes:

Nexus Technologies Group, a mid-Atlantic security integrator for the corporate and governmental security markets that specializes in non-proprietary integrated security solutions including access control, alarm, video, communication, perimeter protection and bomb and metal detection security systems. Utilizing cutting-edge technologies, Nexus provides innovative, engineered and scalable solutions to effectively protect people, property and assets. For more information about Nexus, visit www.nexusna.com.

Polimatrix, Inc., a system integrator and total solutions provider delivering advanced radiation and nuclear protection and detection services. The company has been operating since September 2006 as a joint venture between Homeland Security Capital Corporation and Polimaster, Inc. For more information about Polimatrix, visit www.polimatrix.com.

For more information about Homeland Security Capital Corporation, visit www.hscapcorp.com.

Forward-Looking Statement

This release includes certain statements that may be deemed to be "forward-looking statements" within the meaning of the Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995. All statements in this release, other than statements of historical facts, that address future activities, performance, events or developments, are forward-looking statements. Although HOMS believes the expectations expressed in such forward-looking statements are based on reasonable assumptions, such statements are not guarantees of future performance, and actual results or developments may differ materially from those in the forward-looking statements.

Contacts

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Permalink: <http://www.businesswire.com/news/home/20110120005265/en/Homeland-Security-Capital-Corporation%E2%80%99s-Subsidiary-Safety-Ecology>



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January 20, 2011, Mountain Express – Asheville and Western North Carolina

A blue-ribbon, “nuclear” bus ride

Posted by [Webmaster](#) in [Opinion](#) |

SUBMITTED by local alternative-energy advocate Ned Ryan Doyle

How could a nuclear-energy park in South Carolina impact the people of WNC? On January 7th, a “WNC Citizen’s Delegation” chartered a bus to Augusta, GA, for the only public hearing in the Southeast held by President Obama’s appointed “Blue Ribbon Commission on America’s Nuclear Future”. It was my privilege to join 33 other citizens for the day, we left before dawn and were treated in South Carolina to an impressive sunrise with blazing crimsons reflecting from the underside of low western clouds, a simmering gold melting to darkness at the cloud tops.

The hearing was the best attended to date, as the President’s Commission considers the future course of nuclear power in the United States. It was also a remarkably informed gathering, representing all sides of the nuclear issues, together for the day, offering opinions and speaking out. Augusta was the destination because the local business community representing the nearby Savannah River Site, for decades a nuclear materials industrial location, is lobbying for federal funding for a new, expanded nuclear program called the “SRS Energy Park”.

In fact, this proposal could have a significant impact for WNC in particular and the nation. Some of the intractable challenges facing the President’s Commission -and the public- include some 67,000 metric tons of highly radioactive waste in temporary storage today, the prospect of expanded production of plutonium as both a health and a national security threat, nationwide transportation of highly radioactive waste, to and from, the Savannah River Site over road, rail and waterways and the unresolved problem of finding a secure repository for the long term storage of nuclear waste.

Unfortunately for WNC, a significant percentage of the nation’s high level radioactive waste moved by truck over the roadways currently would be routed via Interstate 26 and Interstate 40 corridors. Asheville would be the Nuclear Crossroads for many, if not a majority, of these shipments. Conservative estimates suggest thousands of these shipments by truck, not counting rail or waterways to the “SRS Energy Park”. Reflecting the hazards, federal guidelines currently suggest such shipments avoid high population areas, such as Charlotte and Atlanta, but tellingly- not avoiding the WNC region.

There is the ongoing question of a long term repository for high level nuclear waste. Decades ago, the Sandy Mush area, only miles from Asheville, was identified as potential repository site, due to granite formations in the area. A political decision was made in the 1980’s to develop a site known as Yucca Mountain in Nevada. However, after almost 20 years and an estimated nine billion dollars spent, that site has been deemed unsuitable by engineers, geologists and the scientific community due to seismic activity, salt concentrations, water migration and other issues. Meanwhile, Sandy Mush as a potential site has never been rejected, merely ‘mothballed’.

Overshadowing these daunting technical and social issues is the current economic crisis we face in paying for this new nuclear proposal. Utilities, business communities and nuclear technology companies advocated openly at the hearing for billions of federal dollars and increased utility rates, since their

fundamental funding problem is simple. There's essentially zero interest from private investors or Wall Street for nuclear technology today. The nuclear advocates are not willing to take the risk of investment themselves - without tax payer funded federal loan guarantees and/or "Construction Works In Progress" state legislative actions that force utility rate payers to cover, upfront, utilities capital investments – with very limited, or no, financial risk to a utility's shareholders.

Citizen delegates, and speakers for non-profit, public organizations, questioned spending billions in new taxes and rate payer money on the "SRS Energy Park" proposal, considering the currently viable, affordable energy options and especially in light of our struggling economy, debt and deficits. Dozens of peer reviewed studies, some from utilities themselves, conclude the best investment for our energy future is a transition to energy efficiency and sustainable technologies, not continuing to build more expensive, centralized nuclear plants. Dealing with current nuclear waste is an additional cost. Starting conservatively at tens of billions of rate payer & tax dollars, there is no projected end in sight. Private corporations would benefit from the public cash flow, but they clearly declined to take responsibility for the needed investments for their proposals.

Proposals for the "SRS Energy Park" outlined the development of a new nuclear fuels reprocessing program, the continued development of a MOX (mixed oxide nuclear fuels) Plant, prototypes of new designs for "next generation" modular, small nuclear reactors, and additional research into nuclear fusion as a future energy source. There were nods to "green", such as a proposed bio-algae project. However, quoting from the presentation from Savanna River NUCLEAR SOLUTIONS, which includes Flour Daniel, Northrup Grumman and Honeywell, "SRS is primarily a nuclear site" and "The backbone of the SRS energy park must be nuclear (bold in original text)".

Back to Western North Carolina 'in particular' and why 34 citizens rode the Blue Ribbon Bus. It's no secret that temporary storage facilities for high level nuclear waste at our nation's nuclear plants are at, or beyond, design capacity. The proposal to reprocess 67,000 metric tons at the "SRS Energy Park" would mean transporting all those nuclear materials to them to extract about 1-2% in the form of plutonium for bomb material or more proposed power production. It would then be a matter of re-transporting the waste -from the waste- created from the reprocessing, (which would be increased in volume by an estimated one hundred times), to an as yet to be determined location, or locations, for final storage. WNC sits at the Nuclear Crossroads for highway shipments, so even if WNC is not designated as a waste repository, it would still leave open the probability of accidents & the so-called "acceptable" radiation hazards posed by high level radioactive waste shipped to, and from, the proposed "SRS Energy Park".

It's a very reasonable concern that WNC might become the nation's dumping ground for nuclear waste. The Sandy Mush area is in relatively close proximity to SRS and one of the stated considerations is to be as close as possible to the reprocessing site. One Commissioner suggested in a personal conversation that he thought the best place for a high-level waste dump could be in granite and he mentioned the Appalachians. The Commission co-chair, Brent Scowcroft, says they aren't a "siting commission" but if they do point the way to WNC - they may well be followed by Congress.

Proponents of the SRS project candidly said they did NOT want to be long term waste storage facility and urged a variety of options, from choosing new sites to re-considering the failed Yucca Mountain site. And in fact, the SRS property, comprising 300 square miles, is not suitable for long term waste storage, in

large part due to the water table and geology. Proponents also expressed concern regarding tons of additional nuclear waste material currently in temporary storage at SRS itself, in light of leaking containers and other issues. Openly, they want to profit from extracting plutonium from current nuclear waste and build new reactors, yet they want no part of being responsible for the long term storage of nuclear waste generated at SRS or other locations. And you can't blame them- they understand the hazards & the costs.

President Carter's Executive Order banned nuclear fuel reprocessing in the 1970's. Congress recently – and quietly – passed legislation at the behest of the nuclear industry and utilities that appears to circumvent that decision. President Carter's pre-White House experience included naval nuclear engineering, and he issued a prudent ban based on science and facts, not politics. The problems created then in New York state still remain today at **West Valley**, the nation's first site of attempted reprocessing. Globally, reprocessing in other nations, including the socialist energy system in France, has withered, facing the same difficulties with containment, storage, transportation and funding.

Interestingly, by U.S. law, once nuclear waste is removed from the property of the utilities, it then becomes the problem of the federal government and tax payers, and no longer a liability for utilities and corporate shareholders. So, there was a lot of talk of moving nuclear waste to SRS for a new attempt at reprocessing, suggestions that appeared to resonate in the sympathetic ear of at least one BRC Commissioner, John Rowe, chair of the largest nuclear power utility, Exelon.

All this supports reasonable questions about the "SRS Energy Park" and the potential impact on our WNC region. Will our citizens embrace being the Nuclear Crossroads for shipments? Are massive nuclear shipments through WNC compatible with our economic bases of tourism, agriculture and a natural environment? Will we be designated the nuclear waste dump for the nation? Will our citizens, or all American taxpayers and ratepayers, support the additional tens of billions of dollars for this new nuclear experiment and reprocessing?

Will tax payers choose the fiscal black hole of nuclear power - the most expensive & dangerous method in history to merely boil water – simply to generate electricity? Will we decide to create a few nuclear related jobs that cost, per dollars invested, in the range of five to ten million dollars per job? With the exception of concern for being a storage site, the SRS business community sidestepped all these questions, while enthusiastically proposing to the President's Commission they be selected to lead a "nuclear resurrection" for the nation.

Constructively, there was a general consensus among many others at the hearing that the least expensive, safest and most prudent action to take would be, for at least the immediate future, to take no action beyond attempting to secure the waste at current storage sites. It would be safer and more affordable to manage and store nuclear waste at current sites, rather than move these materials twice, as a high hazard each time. It would also be less expensive and more productive to engage the "SRS Energy Park" community of nuclear experts to develop an affordable method to safely contain current high level radioactive waste, rather than building new waste generators.

It's my opinion, based on the evident facts, that there is no legitimate economic, environmental or energy reason to go down this "SRS Energy Park" path. No sites are available to accept the current nuclear

waste, why create more waste from more reactors, while the current fleet of aging reactors continue to generate more tons each year? Plutonium is the most toxic substance known, and a bomb material that terrorist elements desire, so why produce more plutonium when we can already blow up the world some 1,000 times over?

With local, state and federal deficits of historic proportions, why spend money we don't have, for expensive systems we don't need, when we can't even fund our schools? The return on tax dollars in terms of jobs created would be miniscule compared to investing the same money, assuming that money is available at all, on sustainable energy technologies, green building and energy efficiency efforts.

In the seven decades since the Nuclear Age began, no one has been able to solve the waste storage problem, it only gets worse with radioactive debris piling up across the globe and in our oceans. Not counting Hiroshima and Nagasaki, hundreds of thousands, perhaps millions by some estimates, have been killed or sickened by radiation released, accidentally or routinely. Somewhere between two to four trillion in U.S. tax dollars has gone to the nuclear experiment, in all its forms over the decades, but now we face very real fiscal constraints.

The members of the President's Commission are talented, intelligent people handed a lofty mandate to address these problems. It's unreasonable, however, to think they could really solve these intractable problems with policy recommendations, due in draft form July of 2011, especially when most of the proposals are from the industry and interests that profit from these ongoing problems. But, they do have an opportunity, and a responsibility, to NOT make our problems even worse. Not making things worse would be a reasonable, responsible accomplishment for the "Blue Ribbon Commission on America's Nuclear Future", and for citizens and taxpayers, especially in WNC and the Southeast region.

Speaking for myself, and I believe a majority of the WNC Citizens Delegation who traveled to Augusta with me, I encourage the Blue Ribbon Commissioners to make a rational, cost effective and morally justifiable decision to recommend a nuclear "time out" to President Obama. Please don't expand the military industrial nuclear complex because we can't afford it, please weigh the price we've already paid and please consider the untold generations to come who face their own uncertain 'nuclear future' due to our current legacy of radioactive waste.

A nuclear "time out" -until technical problems are solved- is far preferable to an unaffordable, unsustainable and irrational "try it all over again" recommendation – one blind to the history of the proven negative consequences. I believe we can indeed eventually solve the technical problems, but like radioactive decay, it will take time. And to be clear, I am an avid supporter of nuclear energy – as long as it's 93 million miles away.

Several area residents have endorsed Mr. Doyle's statement: Jean Larson

Peggy Guy, Tom Coulson, Barbara Coulson, Clare Hanrahan, Ms. Leah Karpen, Patty Frost Jones, Mary Olson, James Sheeler, David Williams