Phase 1 Studies Update to the West Valley Citizens’ Task Force

September 26, 2012

Climate Change Workshop held August 2, 2012
- Guidance report expected to be released in early November 2012

Three Potential Areas of Study (PAS) Initiated:
- **Erosion:**
  - Recommendation developed and presented at the August 22, 2012 Quarterly Public Meeting
  - Recommendation and public comments provided to Independent Scientific Panel (ISP) who will provide input by October 2012
  - Next steps: DOE/NYSERDA determine a path forward for the studies, followed by Study Plan development by Erosion Subject Matter Experts (SMEs)
- **Engineered Barriers:** Recommendation anticipated mid-November 2012
- **Exhumation:** Kickoff anticipated October 2012; Recommendation anticipated within 90 days following kickoff
Phase 1 Studies Website

http://westvalleyphaseonestudies.org/

Welcome

The U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) and the New York State Energy Research and Development Authority (NYSERDA) organized Phase I of the West Valley Studies (WVS) project to determine the feasibility of the West Valley Nuclear Waste Disposal Project (WVNWP) and the eastern New York Nuclear Waste Site (ENYNWS).

Under the Phased Decision-Making Approach, the effort will be conducted in two phases. Phase I, proposed for 2015, will take about 3 years and number of sites designated as a candidate site for the WVNWP will be narrowed down. During Phase II, the DOE and NYSERDA will test candidate areas based on a detailed environmental study. Phase I Studies is intended to identify locations that meet preliminary environmental standards prior to selecting sites for detailed studies. A site selection for Phase II Studies is not expected.

NYSERDA and DOE are committed to conducting Phase I Studies through a process that involves input from Federal, State, and local governments, the regulated industry, and the public.

Guiding Principles

DOE and NYSERDA agree that the Phase I Studies process will be conducted in accordance with the following guiding principles:

- The process will be independent in order to address the issues, with consideration of recommendations to the NYSERDA and DOE, and input from the regulated industry and the public.
- The studies will be as rigorous as possible, with a focus on evaluating the impacts of the WVNWP on the environment, public health, and safety.
- The studies will be completed by the end of 2018, subject to any necessary delays due to unforeseen circumstances.