The Town of Ashford passed the following resolution:

Work Session

Present: Christopher C. Gerwitz, Supervisor
John A. Pfeffer, Councilman
Beverly R. Hess, Councilwoman
William J. Heim, Councilman
Patricia R. Dashnaw, Town Clerk
Tim Engels, Highway Superintendent
Gary Perkins, Code Enforcement Officer
Absent: Charles E. Davis, Councilman, Deputy Supervisor

RESOLUTION 18-2014
REQUESTING FEDERAL GOVERNMENT TO RESTORE AND STABILIZE FUNDING FOR WEST VALLEY DEMONSTRATION PROJECT CLEANUP

On motion of Councilman Pfeffer, seconded by Councilwoman Hess the following resolution was ADOPTED

Ayes 4  Gerwitz, Pfeffer, Hess, Heim
Nays 0

I. WHEREAS, the President's 2015 federal budget request included only $60.5 million for the West Valley Demonstration Project (WVDP), and

II. WHEREAS, when the Department of Energy issued its Decommissioning Environmental Impact Statement in 2010, it assumed that Phase 1 Decommissioning activities could be completed in ten years with an annual federal appropriation of $75 million, and

III. WHEREAS, since that time, the annual federal appropriation has generally been between $60 and $65 million, and this level of funding has significantly impacted the 10-year schedule for Phase 1 decommissioning activities, and

IV. WHEREAS, if the WVDP receives an annual federal appropriation of just $60 million throughout Phase 1, it will take 20 years to complete, which is twice as long as DOE initially estimated when they assumed funding would remain at the $75 million level, and

V. WHEREAS, the extension of Phase 1 Decommissioning from 10 years to 20 years will add $200 million to the total project cost, and

VI. WHEREAS, we strongly encourage the Department of Energy to restore WVDP funding to the $75 million level that was anticipated when the Final Environmental Impact Statement was released in 2010, in order to continue the cleanup project on schedule and as expeditiously as possible, now, therefore, be it

I. RESOLVED, that the town board of the Town of Ashford hereby requests the federal government restore WVDP funding to the current $75 million that was anticipated when the Final Environmental Impact Statement and Record of Decision were issued in 2010, and be it further

II. RESOLVED, that this level of funding be stabilized for 10 years to complete all Phase 1 decommissioning work, and be it further

III. RESOLVED, that the Town of Ashford Town Clerk is hereby directed to forward copies of this resolution to US Secretary of Energy Moniz, Senators Schumer and Gillibrand, Congressmen Reed, Higgins & Collins, Governor Cuomo, State Senator Young, Assembly Member Giglio, Bryan Bower, USDOE Director of the WVDP, and Paul Bembia, NYSERDA Director of the West Valley Site Management Program.
Thank you for your interest in and consideration of this issue.

Copy to:
US Secretary of Energy Moniz
US Senator Charles E. Schumer
US Senator Kirsten E. Gillibrand
US Congressman Thomas W. Reed
US Congressman Brian Higgins
US Congressman Chris Collins
NY Governor Andrew Cuomo
NY Senator Catharine M. Young
NY Assemblyman Joseph M. Giglio
Bryan C. Bower, DOE Director WVDIP
Paul J. Bembia, NYSERDA Director WVSMP
Bill Logue, West Valley Citizen Task Force Facilitator