



Reed Secures Increase in Funding for West Valley

May 4, 2017

Press Release

Increase Would Amount to Nearly \$5 Million for Current Fiscal Year

Congressman Tom Reed announced an increase of nearly \$5 million in funding for West Valley from Fiscal Year 2016 to Fiscal Year 2017. Funding for FY17 will increase to \$66,413,000. The bill will be up for a vote later this week.

“We care about protecting the people that live in and around West Valley. The funding increase for FY17 will provide additional resources to make the region safer for residents,” Reed stated.

Reed also plans to introduce legislation to reauthorize funding to support clean-up efforts at the West Valley Demonstration Project, to ensure funding will continue for the program. Additionally, the bill would reclassify the waste from commercial to defense-related waste.

“We must continue working to make the area safer. The reclassification to defense waste would deliver more federal resources that the community needs to clean up this toxic site,” Reed added.

A previous funding proposal, which Reed supported, provided \$61.6 million for the site. Reed has worked tirelessly since elected secure funds from the Department of Energy. These funds have recently helped West Valley remove the last high-level vitrified waste from the main process building.

The bill Reed plans to introduce aims to recognize the need for continued funding at West Valley. Reclassification to defense-related waste will remove a future financial burden New York taxpayers could be hit with for the disposal of the waste. This action follows a letter Reed sent to the Department of Energy in Fall 2016 requesting the reclassification. The letter was supported by several members of the New York Congressional delegation.