

To: Citizen Task Force
From: Melinda Holland, Holland and Associates
Subject: Summary of July 14, 1999, Task Force Meeting
Date: July 23, 1999

Next Meeting:

The next Citizen Task Force (CTF) meeting is scheduled as follows:

Date: September 21, 1999
Time: 7:00 p.m. - 9:30 p.m.
Location: Ashford Office Complex
9030 Route 219, West Valley, NY

A meeting announcement and draft agenda for the next meeting will be circulated prior to that meeting. If you have questions or comments regarding the upcoming meeting or about this summary, please contact Melinda Holland at (864) 457-4202 or Tom Attridge at (716) 942-2453.

CTF Attendees:

Attending were: Lana Redeye, Ray Vaughan, Nevella McNeil, Tim Siepel, Pete Scherer, Warren Schmidt, Barbara Mazurowski, John Pfeffer, Lea Lambert, Paul Piciulo, Rich Tobe, and Joe Patti. Not attending were: Eric Wohlers, Murray Regan, Larry Smith, Bill King, Bridget Wilson, Pete Cooney.

Regulatory Agency Attendees

Jack Krawjewski, New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (NYSDEC); Tim Rice, NYSDEC;

Attending via video conference

Tim Johnson, Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC); John Greeves, NRC; Bill Reemer; and Larry Camber, NRC.

July 14th Meeting Summary:

Tom Attridge and Melinda Holland opened the meeting by reviewing administrative issues and the agenda.

DOE announced that one or two CTF members are invited to attend a workshop on Long-Term Stewardship in Grand Junction, Colorado, August 30th - September 2nd [a copy of the announcement for this meeting is attached to this summary]. The next High Level Tank Closure Workshop is planned for this October in Las Vegas - a CTF member is also invited to attend that workshop. CTF members who are interested in attending either workshop should notify Melinda Holland or Tom Attridge as soon as possible.

Next, DOE gave a presentation entitled "A Vision of the Future," a pictorial version of Jim Turi's

vision as presented to the CTF earlier this year. This is the same material that was presented at the last WVDP Quarterly Meeting. Discussion and questions regarding the presentation are summarized below.

A CTF member expressed his concern that DOE's vision has not changed since they have received the D&D criteria from NRC. A DOE representative responded that based on the current tank closure design, the intruder doses would be less than 100 mrem. A question on the amount of waste remaining in the tank after it is cleaned was addressed to DOE which responded that the goal is to remove as much waste as is technically and economically feasible. A Task Force member questioned the magnitude of estimated dose reduction attributed to the new engineering design, he reminded the group that the DEIS estimated 89,000,000 mrem based on the original closure design. Another member compared an abdominal X-ray dose of 400 mrem to the 500 mrem limit for intruder dose. DOE explained that the new closure designs are different and improved from those featured in the DEIS, which accounts for the lower dose numbers. DOE offered to have a discussion on the revised closure designs at a future CTF meeting.

A CTF member suggested that the site consider a slurry wall around both the tanks and building with a perimeter wall around both areas, however a site representative stated that would not improve the performance of the walls. A CTF member suggested that the drum cell be considered for canister storage but a site representative responded that it had been considered but found it would not provide enough shielding.

DOE stated that it would take about 18 years to complete this vision at a cost of approximately 2 billion dollars. DOE indicated that this is achievable at the current level of funding. When asked if the vision would comply with the NRC's License Termination Rule [LTR], DOE representatives responded that they felt it would with the exception of the NDA which will require a long-term stewardship program. Whether DOE or NYSERDA will be responsible for long-term stewardship is one of the topics for the ongoing negotiations between the two agencies and has not been resolved. The site may choose not to decommission the NDA, the current vision shows a cap and slurry wall closure with management of the wastes in-place. A CTF member stated that he felt the site would need a NRC license for any waste remaining in place and not meeting the LTR. Site representatives stated that to meet LTR requirements, the NDA wastes would have to be excavated.

In response to a CTF member question, the NRC representatives on video conference stated that they will submit a draft policy statement to the Commission on the D&D criteria for West Valley in early September. This will be followed by a 60 day comment period and a public meeting held somewhere near the West Valley site. NRC also provided the following citation to their web site where Draft Guide 4006 [provides more detail on compliance with the LTR] is available for review: <http://www.nrc.gov/NRC/RG/DG/4006/dg4006.pdf>. In response to another question, an NRC representative stated that he is skeptical of the revised dose analysis for the HLW Tanks and agrees that the NDA closure proposed will not satisfy LTR requirements. Task Force members commended NRC on their excellent efforts to include the public and stakeholders in the decision-making process to date.

The meeting continued with CTF members being introduced to Barry Lawson, the mediator recently hired to assist with the on-going negotiations between NYSERDA and DOE. Mr. Lawson gave a brief overview of his 22 years of experience as a mediator and listened to the suggestions and concerns of the CTF members about the negotiations while they are underway. He reminded the group, that as a neutral, he would not be able to disclose information about the

negotiations. He has read the CTF recommendations report and said he understood a CTF member's comment that the report speaks for itself and it should be considered in its entirety, not piecemeal.

Next Steps

CTF members agreed to return to meeting twice a month for the Fall to cover a number of topics of interest to the group. The Task Force scheduled four additional meetings:

- September 21
- October 6
- October 19
- November 3

Topics for those meetings may include:

- Presentation and discussion on the re-engineering for closure of the HLW Tanks and the Process Building
- CTF discussion on DOE's proposed vision for closure
- Institutional controls, how the performance analysis of institutional controls is performed; and funding for long term controls
- Status of erosion modeling
- Probability analysis/ decision-tree approach to calculation of doses
- CTF response to the NRC's draft policy statement and CTF testimony for the NRC public hearing

Observer Comments

An observer asked the Task Force and site representatives to look 20 to 30 years into the future when deciding how to close the site. He sees extensive growth in tourism for this region based on existing trends. He suggested that the 3,300 acres be given to the Department of the Interior to become a National Park with a museum on the atomic age.

Action Items

- Develop and distribute an agenda and materials for the September 21st meeting.
- CTF members to inform Tom Attridge or Melinda Holland if they wish to be considered to attend the two workshops described at the beginning of this summary