

To: West Valley Citizen Task Force
From: Melinda Holland
Subject: Summary of March 25, 2003, CTF Meeting
Date: April 15, 2003

Next Meeting

The next full Citizen Task Force (CTF) meeting will be held as follows:

Date: **Wednesday, April 23, 2003**
Time: 7:00 - 9:30 p.m.
Location: Ashford Office Complex
9030 Route 219, West Valley, NY

If you have questions or comments regarding the upcoming meeting or about this summary, please contact Melinda Holland at (828) 894-5963, or Tom Attridge at (716) 942-2453.

CTF Attendees

Attending were: Mark Mitskovski (for Larry Rubin), Bill King, Joe Patti, Paul Piciulo, Deb Hutchinson (for Mike Hutchinson), Pete Scherer, Ray Vaughan, Warren Schmidt, Elizabeth Lowes (for Alice Williams), John Beltz, and Eric Wohlers.

CTF Members not attending (nor represented by an alternate) were: Lee Lambert, Tim Siepel, Bill Kay, Nevella McNeil, John Pfeffer and Lana Redeye.

Agency Attendees

In Person: Jack Krajewski and Kent Johnson (Albany), New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (NYSDEC).

Meeting Highlights

Topics discussed included:

- ▶ Presentation on Notice of Intent for the Draft EIS Decommissioning and/or Long-Term Stewardship of the West Valley Demonstration Project and WNY Nuclear Services Center;
- ▶ Update on the Senate Bill S 619 and House Bill HR 576;
- ▶ CTF Strategy for Continued Congressional Involvement;
- ▶ CTF 2003 Work Plan;
- ▶ Report on New Member Search; and
- ▶ West Valley End-State Vision.

Meeting Summary

Administrative Announcements

Colleen Gerwitz, NYSERDA, opened the meeting by briefly describing the written materials that were disseminated at the meeting (see the list at the end of this summary) and Melinda Holland reviewed the agenda. The agenda was revised slightly with the addition of a discussion of the Agenda Work Group's revised draft 2003 CTF Work Plan.

Presentation on the Notice of Intent

Dan Sullivan, DOE, gave a brief presentation on DOE's "Notice of Intent for the Draft EIS Decommissioning and/or Long-Term Stewardship of the West Valley Demonstration Project and WNY Nuclear Services Center." Public comment meetings on this document will be held on April 9 and 10 at the Ashford Office Complex, 9030 Route 219, West Valley, NY. Public comment on the Notice of Intent is open until April 28. DOE's goal is to complete the Draft EIS, including a preferred alternative, as early as December 2003. Up to a six-month public comment period will be held after publication of the document. In response to a CTF member question, Mr. Sullivan stated that this EIS will be a revision to the 1996 Draft EIS and that all comments received on the 1996 and 2003 DEIS will be considered and addressed. As clarification, he mentioned that individual comments may be grouped with similar comments under the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) procedures. A CTF member stressed the importance of being careful how the comments are grouped together for response. The CTF member also suggested that 'reading the fine print' in the document was important and mentioned that he has concerns and comments on the Notice of Intent, but did not elaborate in the interest of saving time at this meeting. CTF members had no recommended Task Force action items regarding the Notice of Intent.

Senate Bill S 619 and House Bill HR 576

A CTF member reported that House Bill HR 576 and Senate Bill S 619 have been referred to subcommittee and are number 7 and 50 or 51, respectively. Neither the House or Senate Bill has seen any activity. Both Bills must move from the Subcommittee to the full Committee and from there to the Floor for a vote. The increased costs to the federal government which would result if these Bills are passed may be a concern to the Administration or Congress. The CTF member suggest that a Task Force letter to the Chair of each Subcommittee could be helpful to get the Bills moving.

One of the CTF members suggested ~~also~~ writing a letter to the Western New York Congressional delegation, expressing the CTF's support for the proposed bills. The Task Force discussed sending such a letter, with one member expressing concern about his willingness to support such a letter, without fully understanding the potential for hostile amendments to the proposed legislation. He requested a meeting with members of the WNY delegation or their staff to discuss these concerns. After a lengthy discussion, the Task Force developed language for a letter which was agreed to by consensus of those present. The letter was to be formatted, signed by Eric Wohlers, and distributed the next day.

During the discussions about the proposed letter, the CTF expressed their desire to meet with the WNY delegation. Warren Schmidt offered to contact Congressman Houghton's office the next day, and the letter included a request for meetings with the other members of the delegation.

Another CTF member reported that he had talked with Ron Hayes from Senator Quinn's office, and that Mr. Hayes indicated that he would consider sponsoring Congressional hearings in Washington, DC, on the proposed legislation, if the CTF desired.

CTF Membership

Ms. Holland recommended John Allan, a member of the Concord Town Council, to fill the vacant CTF position. The Task Force accepted the nomination. Ms. Holland will notify Mr. Allan.

CTF 2003 Work Plan

The Agenda Work Group reported the results of its last conference call. Based on the discussion, the Work Group agreed to revise the 2003 Work Plan to focus on the Preferred Alternative as applied at the various Waste Management Areas. DOE and NYSERDA revised the draft Work Plan according to the Work Group's instructions and presented the revised draft to the CTF. The CTF agreed to use this

version of the Work Plan, recognizing that it may need further revision based on future events.

End-State Vision

A member of the Task Force suggested they submit the CTF Final Recommendations Report to David Geiser, DOE Headquarters, as the CTF's "End-State Vision." The Task Force agreed to this and Ray Vaughan agreed to send a draft cover letter to Melinda Holland, who will in turn send the draft letter to the full CTF for their review.

Next Steps

The CTF scheduled meetings for June 18, July 16 and August 20, 2003.

Observer Comments

A CTF member thanked Jack Krajewski, who is retiring from NYSDEC, for his service to the CTF. Mr. Krajewski countered with a compliment to the CTF, stating that the West Valley CTF is the most productive citizen group he's encountered. Kent Johnson, from the NYSDEC office in Albany, reiterated the CTF's appreciation for Mr. Krajewski's work with the CTF, as well as the compliments on the CTF itself. Mr. Johnson will be working on West Valley issues for NYSDEC and is available to assist the CTF as needed.

Action Items

Action	Assigned to	Due Date
Send a letter to Representative Houghton and Senator Schumer with copies to the Western New York delegation and others, supporting the proposed legislation (as currently worded) and requesting a meeting to discuss the path forward.	Sonja Allen/Eric Wohlers	3/26
Contact Congressman Houghton's office to see if he or one of his staff is available to meet with members of the CTF.	Warren Schmidt	3/26
Draft a cover letter to transmit the CTF Final Recommendations Report to David Geiser, DOE Headquarters, to submit the report as the CTF's "End-State Vision."	Ray Vaughan	4/23
Route draft cover letter to David Geiser to CTF for review.	Melinda Holland	

DOCUMENTS DISTRIBUTED AT MEETING		
DOCUMENT SUBJECT	DOCUMENT DESCRIPTION	GENERATED BY - DATE (if applicable/known)
DOE Presentation	Decommissioning and/or Long-Term Stewardship Environmental Impact Statement for the WVDP and Western New York Nuclear Services Center	Dan Sullivan 3/25/03
CTF Membership	West Valley CTF Recommendation for New Member	Melinda Holland March 2003
Agenda Work Group	Agenda Work Group Conference Call Summary	Melinda Holland 3/18/03
Annual Work Plan	West Valley CTF Revised Work Plan for Calendar Year 2003	DOE and NYSERDA
Legislative Language	Senate Bill S 619, introduced by Senator Schumer and cosponsored by Senator Clinton	

For copies of any of the above documents, please contact Sonja Allen at (716) 942-2152.