



West Valley Demonstration Project

Challenges

Bryan Bower, Director
DOE West Valley Demonstration Project

September 27, 2006, CTF Meeting

18848_1



History



From 1966 – 1982, the West Valley site was operated and managed by Nuclear Fuel Services, which leased the site from the New York State Energy Research and Development Authority

September 27, 2006, CTF Meeting

18848_2



WVDP Act Directions

◆ October 1, 1980

- Public Law 96-368 signed into law by President Carter in Niagara Falls, NY
- Act authorized the U. S. Department of Energy to conduct a high-level radioactive waste management demonstration project at the Western New York Nuclear Service Center (the Center)
- DOE is directed to:
 - Solidify the high-level radioactive waste at the Center
 - Develop containers suitable for permanent disposal of the waste
 - Transport the solidified waste to a federal repository for permanent disposal
 - Dispose of low-level radioactive waste and transuranic waste produced by solidifying the high-level radioactive waste
 - Decontaminate and decommission – the tanks and other facilities in which the high-level radioactive waste solidified under the Project was stored; facilities used in the solidification of the waste, and any material and hardware used in connection with the Project

September 27, 2006, CTF Meeting

18848_3



WVDP Act Directions

◆ September 27, 2006

— DOE Work Status:

- | | |
|---------------------|---|
| Done | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Solidify the high-level radioactive waste at the Center • Develop containers suitable for permanent disposal of the waste |
| On Hold | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Transport the solidified waste to a federal repository for permanent disposal |
| Being Worked | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dispose of low-level radioactive waste and transuranic waste produced by solidifying the high-level radioactive waste • Decontaminate and decommission – the tanks and other facilities in which the high-level radioactive waste solidified under the Project was stored; facilities used in the solidification of the waste, and any material and hardware used in connection with the Project |

September 27, 2006, CTF Meeting

18848_4



Challenges External to WVDP

- ◆ Challenges related to completing the WVDP **not** related to DOE/NYSERDA positions
 - HLW repository availability
 - HLW shipping casks
 - HLW shipping routes
 - Load-Out Facility construction at WVDP
 - Access to facility for transuranic waste disposal
 - Characterization and determination of disposal option(s) for non-typical radioactive wastes such as material vacuumed from floors of former reprocessing chambers

September 27, 2006, CTF Meeting

18848_5



WVDP Completion Challenges

- ◆ DOE & NYSERDA remain apart on the following issues:
 - Disposal fee for vitrified HLW
 - Respective obligations for long-term stewardship, if any
 - Ultimate responsibility for pre-Project north plateau groundwater plume
 - Ultimate responsibility for the NRC-licensed Disposal Area (NDA)
 - Total amount of facility credit due under Amended Cooperative Agreement
 - How to cooperatively resolve technical challenges that currently hinder EIS development process

September 27, 2006, CTF Meeting

18848_6