



UNITED STATES
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20555-0001

January 22, 2009

West Valley Citizen Task Force
c/o The Logue Group
PO Box 270270
West Hartford, CT 06127-0270

SUBJECT: RESPONSE TO WEST VALLEY CITIZEN TASK FORCE

Dear Members of the West Valley Citizen Task Force (CTF):

This letter is in response to your November 19, 2008, letter to the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) and U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC). In your letter, you objected to DOE's handling of community involvement and advice in preparing the Phase 1 Decommissioning Plan (DP) for the West Valley Demonstration Project (WVDP).

NRC's review of the Phase 1 DP under the WVDP Act is mandated to be an informal process that cannot include formal procedures or actions by the NRC. Therefore, NRC cannot institute a formal process to solicit and respond to public comments on the Phase 1 DP, although the NRC will continue to review and respond to correspondence from you and any other interested stakeholders. The NRC will include in its Requests for Additional Information (RAIs) any relevant information received before the RAIs are sent to DOE. The CTF should also forward any comments it has to DOE since NRC is not responsible for addressing all comments in developing the RAIs.

NRC has tried to ensure that activities related to this DP are open to public observation. Over the past year, NRC hosted several publically-noticed meetings to discuss the scope and content of the DP. NRC also posted meeting notices, meeting materials, and meeting summaries on the NRC decommissioning website. In these meetings, members of the public were given an opportunity to provide their views and comments on these topics. NRC is committed to providing such opportunities throughout the decommissioning process.

CTF

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If you have any questions regarding this matter, please contact me at (301) 415-0606, or Chad Glenn at (301) 415-6722.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "R. Tadesse". The signature is written in a cursive style with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

Rebecca Tadesse, Chief
Materials Decommissioning Branch
Decommissioning and Uranium Recovery
Licensing Directorate
Division of Waste Management
and Environmental Protection
Office of Federal and State Materials
and Environmental Management Programs

cc: G. Baker, NYSDOH
P. Bemba, NYSERDA
B. Bower, DOE
E. Dassatti, NYSDEC
P. Giardina, EPA
M. John, Seneca Nation of Indians