

To: West Valley Citizen Task Force
From: Bill Logue, Citizen Task Force Facilitator
Date: June 15, 2009
Subject: **Summary of the May 27, 2009 Meeting**

Next Meeting

The next Citizen Task Force Meeting will be:

Time & Date: **7:00 – 9:30 PM, June 24, 2009**
Location: Ashford Office Complex
9030 Route 219
West Valley, NY

Note: All participants must be United States citizens and must bring photo identification. If you have questions or comments regarding the upcoming meeting or about this summary, please contact Bill Logue (860-521-9122, Bill@LogueGroup.com).

CTF Participants

CTF Members and Alternates attending: Rob Dallas, Judy Einach, Steve Kowalski, Paul Kranz, Lee Lambert, Kathy McGoldrick, Anthony Memmo, Pete Scherer, Warren Schmidt, Tim Siepel, Bill Snyder, Ray Vaughan, Eric Wohlers.

Agency Participants and Observers

Department of Energy (DOE): Bryan Bower.

New York State Energy Research and Development Authority (NYSERDA): Tom Attridge, Paul Bembia, Andrea Mellon, Jean Williams.

West Valley Environmental Services, LLC (WVES): Sonja Allen, Charles Biedermann, Steve Warren.

Introductions and Announcements

Bill Logue welcomed the group and reviewed the meeting documents.¹ He noted that the Nuclear Regulatory Commission had issued the Request for Additional Information to DOE Concerning the Phase 1 Decommissioning Plan.

Comments on DEIS

The CTF engaged in a broad discussion concerning their comments and the overall tone of their letter.

Lee Lambert expressed concern that if the CTF supports the Phased Decisionmaking Alternative that, while the actions in Phase 1 would be completed, it would facilitate DOE leaving the site without further cleanup that the CTF feels should occur. She also noted that Phase 2 might not have NEPA public participation safeguards and that the CTF might not be in place to raise public concerns at that time. Paul Bembia noted that the cost of Phase 1 is approximately \$1.2 billion dollars and will remove the Main Process Plant Building (MPPB), the source area of the North Plateau Ground Water Plume (NPGP), the lagoons and take other actions, all of which are compatible with cleanup as removal actions. He also noted how DOE had changed its posture, reminding the CTF that, a number of years ago, the discussion had centered on rubbleizing the MPPB in place and pouring a concrete monolith over it. Ray Vaughan noted that the overall tenor of the CTF comments were critical of the Phased Decisionmaking approach

¹ The documents are listed at the end of this summary and may be found at www.westvalleyctf.org

but were balanced by distinguishing that the CTF supports the *work* in Phase 1. He feels that the deficiencies in the Draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS) need to be highlighted to ensure that the proper work is done in Phase 2. As currently written, the DEIS could support the close in place option; an outcome which is unacceptable to the CTF. Bill Snyder noted that the Town of Concord passed a resolution supporting Phase 1 because it moves important work forward, while emphasizing that Phase 2 needs to focus on site-wide cleanup.

After considerable discussion around this philosophical approach, the CTF agreed on stronger and clearer language at the outset of the letter stating: “The West Valley Citizen Task Force supports all Phase 1 activities being accomplished without delay. Further, the CTF supports the full site-wide removal alternative. In the event that the Phased Decisionmaking Alternative is selected, the CTF would support a Record of Decision for Phase 1 and insists that a supplemental EIS be required for Phase 2.”

The group also discussed the language concerning the DEIS being tantamount to an interim remedial action and the issue of segmentation of the EIS. Paul Bembia stated that the Phase 1 actions, noted above, are major federal actions and therefore require an EIS. Paul Kranz and others agreed but noted that the lack of a Phase 2 decision makes it very difficult to evaluate the DEIS. He also noted that some issues, such as the lack of a disposal location for high level waste, are unlikely to be resolved any time in the near future. The lack of possible public process for Phase 2 is of great concern to CTF members. Paul Bembia stated that NYSERDA had committed to a second DEIS/FEIS and a SEQRA process for the State-Licensed Disposal Area future decision. Bryan Bower stated that, if the Phased Decisionmaking alternative is selected, DOE will have a public process for the Phase 2 decision. The activities for Phase 1 will result in unrestricted release conditions for some facilities (e.g., the MPPB). Any phase 2 decision is a decommissioning decision and will be bounded by the unrestricted release and restricted release alternative impacts found in the DEIS. DOE will follow its Supplement Analysis Guidance for determining the level of Phase 2 public involvement process prior to issuing a second Record of Decision for Phase 2. At the conclusion of the discussion, the CTF agreed that they would advocate for a supplemental EIS for a Phase 2 decision.

At the conclusion of the meeting the CTF agreed up the final language for the comment letter. The letter was then signed by CTF members present.

Upcoming Meetings

The CTF confirmed that it will meet on June 24 and will then cancel the July and August meetings. Regular monthly meeting will resume in September. At the June meeting DOE will provide an update on the WVDP, NYSERDA will review the results of the Deer Hunting Program and the CTF will select topics for future meetings.

Observer Comments

There were no observer comments.

Action Items

Action	Assigned To	Due Date
Edit specific comments to indicate they are final, compile with 1998 CTF Final Report and CTF signed comment letter and send to DOE and identified recipients	Logue	6/3/2009

Documents Distributed

Document Description	Generated by; Date
Reformatted and revised comment letter.	5/26/2009 revision
Newspaper clippings distributed at the meeting	NYSERDA; 5/27/2009