

# West Valley Citizen Task Force

## Summary of Accomplishments – 2014

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### Introduction

This memorandum summarizes the accomplishments, activities, attendance and 2014 year-end survey results for the West Valley Citizen Task Force. This summary is intended to be an aid to discussion and decision-making for 2015. Listed first are the accomplishments for the year. Following that is an analysis of attendance for the year.

### Meetings, Presentations and Other Accomplishments

During 2014 the CTF accomplished the following:

- Five CTF meetings were held. The CTF continued to forgo four meetings in favor of the Quarterly Public Meetings being scheduled on the days the CTF meeting would traditionally have been held. A number of CTF members attended the Quarterly Public Meetings and these are factored into CTF attendance.
- Conducted outreach to the Congressional representatives, primarily concerning funding for the West Valley Demonstration Project (WVDP), this included a small delegation of CTF members traveling to Washington DC in May to meet with Congressional Staff and senior leadership at the Department of Energy.
- Topics of presentations and discussions at CTF meetings included:
  - Phase 1 Studies Process. (Multiple updates.)
  - DOE/CHBWV Project updates. (Multiple updates and presentations based on the four contract milestones.)
    - Particular attention was paid to the High-Level Waste Relocation Project.
  - DOE Budget updates. (Multiple updates and presentations.)
  - DOE update on the WVDP Decommissioning Status for each of the Waste Management Areas.
  - DOE & NYSERDA Update on the Path Forward to Phase 2 Decommissioning Decisions.
  - DOE update on the status of the rail line extension and spurs.
  - State-Licensed Disposal Area – Leachate Levels.
  - Probabilistic Performance Assessment contracting.
- DOE, NYSERDA & several CTF members held a conference call with Senator Schumer's Staff.
- Website maintenance and updates continued throughout the year.

### Correspondence Sent & Received

The following correspondence was sent by the CTF in 2014:

- January 22, 2014 letters concerning funding to DOE, Senate and House Appropriations Committees and Western New York Congressional Delegation.
- March 26, 2014 Letter to House Appropriations Leadership.
- November 18, 2014 Letter from CTF members Joe Patti and Ray Vaughan thanking Senator Schumer's staff for the conference call initiated by them.

The following correspondence was received by the CTF in 2013:

- Copy of Cattaraugus County Legislature Resolution on WVDP Funding.
- Copy of Erie County March 20, 2014 Resolution on WVDP Funding.
- Copy of Town of Ashford March 25, 2014 Resolution on WVDP Funding.
- Copy of Town of Persia April 11, 2014 Resolution on WVDP Funding.

All correspondence is available on the CTF website at [www.westvalleyctf.org](http://www.westvalleyctf.org) on the 2014 meeting materials page.

## Press Coverage

Numerous press articles and coverage directly and/or indirectly mentioned the West Valley Demonstration Project and the CTF. These articles are available with the materials for each meeting on the website at [www.westvalleyctf.org](http://www.westvalleyctf.org).

## Membership and Attendance


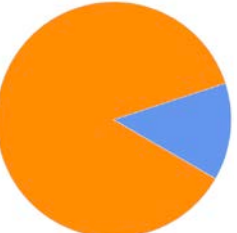
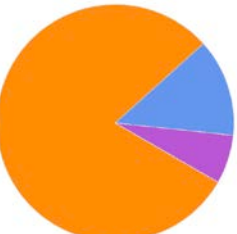
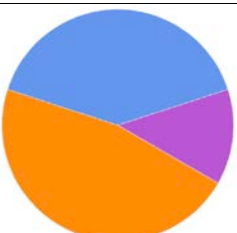
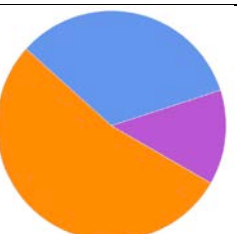
Clyde Drake joined the CTF as the representative of the Town of Concord and Bill Snyder became his alternate.

Name	Jan 22	Mar 26	Apr 23	Jun 25	Sept 24	Feb QPM	May QPM	Aug QPM	CTF Present	QPM Present	Total Meetings Present	Alt Present
<b>Members</b>												
Deb Aumick	y	n	n	n	n	y	y	y	1	3	4	0
Rob Dallas	y	y	y	n	n	y	n	y	3	2	5	0
Clyde Drake				y	y			n	2	0	2	0
Judy Einach	a	y	y	a	a	y	a	a	2	1	3	5
Chris Gerwitz	y	n	n	y	n	n	n	y	2	1	3	0
Mike Hutchinson	n	y	y	y	y	n	n	a	4	0	4	1
Lee James	y	y	y	y	n	y	y	n	4	2	6	0
Deb John	y	y	a	n	n	n	a	y	2	1	3	2
Lee Lambert	n	y	n	y	n	n	n	n	2	0	2	0
Eric Lawton	y	n	y	y	y	y	n	n	4	1	5	0
Joe Patti	y	n	y	y	y	y	y	n	4	2	6	0
John Pfeffer	n	n	n	n	n	n	n	n	0	0	0	0
Mary Reid	y	y	n	n	y	n	n	n	3	0	3	0
Bill Snyder	n	n				n			0	0	0	0
Ray Vaughan	y	y	y	y	y	y	n	y	5	2	7	0
Maria Whyte	a	a	a	a	a	n	n	n	0	0	0	5
Eric Wohlers	n	y	a	y	a	n	n	n	2	0	2	2
<b>Alternates</b>												
Mike Brisky	n	n	n	n	n	n	n	n	0	0	0	
Chris Crawford (Wohlers)	n	n	y	n	y	n	n	n	2	0	2	
Barbara Frackiewicz (Vaughan)		y	y	y	n		y	n	3	1	4	
Deborah King (Snyder)	n	n	n			n			0	0	0	
Paul Kranz (Whyte)	y	y	y	y	y	n	n	n	5	0	5	
Chris Pawenski (Whyte)	n	n	n	n	n	n	n	n	0	0	0	
Kathy McGoldrick (Einach)	y	n	n	y	y	n	y	y	3	2	5	
Bill Snyder (Drake)				n	n	n	n	n	0	0	0	
John Walgus (Hutchinson)			n	y	y			y	2	1	3	
Deleen White (John)	n	y	n	n	n	n	y	n	1	1	2	

## Year-end Survey

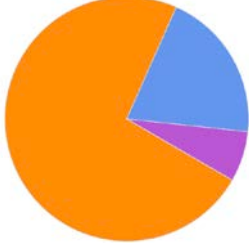

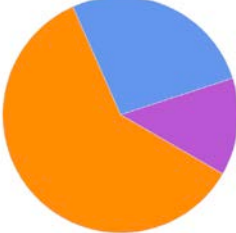
An online survey was distributed to members and alternates as of the end of the year. The survey was completed by 15 of the 17 members and alternates who received it. (The survey was sent to members or their alternate when the alternate is the regular/de facto attendee for the member.) The survey was replicated from the prior year's survey. A parallel survey was completed by 9 representatives of DOE, NYSERDA and CHBWW. Answers were based on a scale ranging from strongly agree to strongly disagree with an opportunity for open responses. The answers are depicted in simple pie and column charts. The survey results are attached.



Question	CTF
<p>1. I am comfortable asking questions and speaking candidly about issues in the CTF process.</p>	 <p>15 of 15 answered</p>
<p>2. I am comfortable working with other CTF participants and discussing issues of concern with them.</p>	 <p>15 of 15 answered</p>
<p>3. The CTF is appropriately addressing its objectives as specified in the Ground Rules by: Providing a forum for open discussion of related issues by community representatives.</p>	 <p>15 of 15 answered</p>
<p>4. The CTF is appropriately addressing its objectives as specified in the Ground Rules by: Identifying and understanding the various interests of the community and other interested parties.</p>	 <p>15 of 15 answered</p>
<p>5. The CTF is appropriately addressing its objectives as specified in the Ground Rules by: Increasing the flow of information between DOE, NYSERDA and the Task Force Members (and their constituencies).</p>	 <p>15 of 15 answered</p>

■ Strongly Agree  
■ Somewhat Agree  
■ Neutral

■ Somewhat Disagree  
■ Strongly Disagree  
■ N/A

Question	CTF
<p><b>6. The CTF is appropriately addressing its objectives as specified in the Ground Rules by: Expanding areas of agreement, clarifying differences, and exploring ways to establish mutually agreed upon recommendations among the Task Force Members.</b></p>	 <p>15 of 15 answered</p>
<p><b>7. The CTF is appropriately addressing its objectives as specified in the Ground Rules by: Enhancing public involvement in the decision-making process.</b></p>	 <p>15 of 15 answered</p>
<p><b>8. The CTF is appropriately addressing its objectives as specified in the Ground Rules by: Coordinating with regulators.</b></p>	 <p>15 of 15 answered</p>
<p><b>9. Other comments on process and participation:</b></p>	<p>1. I believe that the CTF is meeting its objectives as specified, however, (Not completed)</p> <p>2. Participation is understandably off during this phase but likely to improve as we move closer to Phase 2. Low participation does not necessarily reflect lack of interest or less need for the CTF. CTF is a valuable entity.</p> <p>3. Time (my time and other CTF members' time) is often the limiting factor. The CTF process works pretty well but we could probably do a little better if we had more time to devote to it.</p>

Strongly Agree






Somewhat Disagree

Somewhat Agree

Strongly Disagree

Neutral

N/A

Question	CTF
<b>10. The facilitator helps the CTF participants engage in the process.</b>	 <p>15 of 15 answered</p>
<b>11. The facilitator helps the CTF manage time well.</b>	 <p>15 of 15 answered</p>
<b>12. The facilitator has reached out to understand my interests, issues and concerns.</b>	 <p>15 of 15 answered</p>
<b>13. The facilitator is open to feedback and suggestions.</b>	 <p>15 of 15 answered</p>
<b>14. The facilitator understands the key issues and is prepared for meetings.</b>	 <p>15 of 15 answered</p>

Strongly Agree


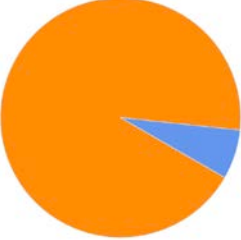
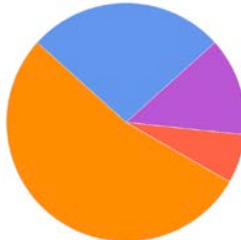
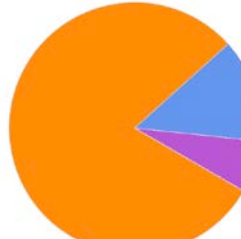
Somewhat Disagree

Somewhat Agree

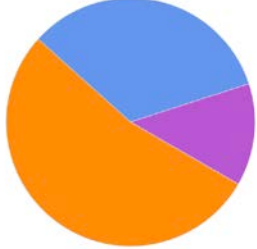
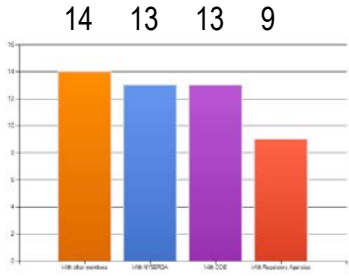
Strongly Disagree

Neutral


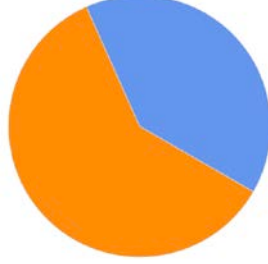
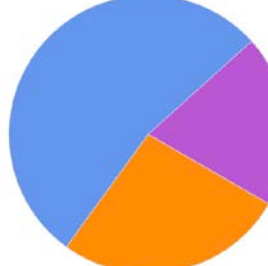
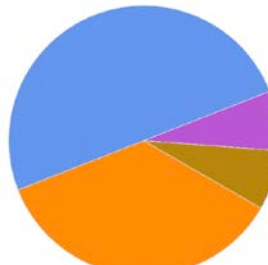
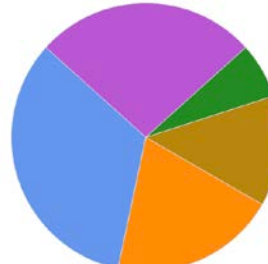
N/A

Question	CTF
<p><b>15. The facilitator upholds the ground rules and works in an impartial manner.</b></p>	 <p>13 of 15 answered</p>
<p><b>16. The facilitator helps the CTF deal with difficult issues in a constructive manner.</b></p>	 <p>15 of 15 answered</p>
<p><b>17. Other comments or suggestions for the CTF facilitator:</b></p>	<p><b>1.</b> Mr. Logue does a great job with what can sometimes be contentious or opposing viewpoints on the direction the Committee is going or actions taken.</p> <p><b>2.</b> Bill Logue is an excellent facilitator and keeps the agenda on track</p>
<p><b>18. The presentations provided by agency staff meet the information needs of the CTF participants.</b></p>	 <p>15 of 15 answered</p>
<p><b>19. The format of the CTF meetings provides for open discussion of the key issues.</b></p>	 <p>15 of 15 answered</p>



Question	CTF												
<p><b>20. Other comments or suggestions on CTF meetings:</b></p>	<p><b>1.</b> At some meetings we face a difficult balance between intensive detail and oversimplification. No easy answer on this. Facilitator usually manages to steer a course that stays approximately in the middle. His knowledge of the issues generally allows him to follow the train of thought, so he's often able to judge when detailed discussion remains productive and doesn't necessarily cut it off prematurely.....but it remains a difficult judgment call.</p>												
<p><b>21. The CTF is an effective voice for the surrounding community.</b></p>	 <p>15 of 15 answered</p>												
<p><b>22. The CTF process provides a full and balanced exchange of views, information and advice: (Check all that apply)</b></p> <p>With</p> <table border="0" style="margin-left: 40px;"> <tr> <td><span style="color: orange;">■</span></td> <td><span style="color: blue;">■</span></td> <td><span style="color: purple;">■</span></td> <td><span style="color: red;">■</span></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Other</td> <td>NYSERDA</td> <td>DOE</td> <td>Reg Agencies</td> </tr> <tr> <td colspan="4">CTF Members</td> </tr> </table>	<span style="color: orange;">■</span>	<span style="color: blue;">■</span>	<span style="color: purple;">■</span>	<span style="color: red;">■</span>	Other	NYSERDA	DOE	Reg Agencies	CTF Members				 <p>14 of 15 answered</p>
<span style="color: orange;">■</span>	<span style="color: blue;">■</span>	<span style="color: purple;">■</span>	<span style="color: red;">■</span>										
Other	NYSERDA	DOE	Reg Agencies										
CTF Members													




Question	CTF
<p><b>23. I am able to provide input on significant issues in a timely manner.</b></p>	 <p>15 of 15 answered</p>
<p><b>24. I have developed positive relationships with the other CTF participants.</b></p>	 <p>15 of 15 answered</p>
<p><b>25. The CTF is effective at sharing information with members' constituents and the community.</b></p>	 <p>15 of 15 answered</p>
<p><b>26. I keep my constituents informed of the CTF developments and issues. (For agencies this means agency management and regulators)</b></p>	 <p>14 of 15 answered</p>
<p><b>27. I participate in the WVDP Quarterly Public Meetings to keep current on the issues.</b></p>	 <p>15 of 15 answered</p>



■ Strongly Agree  
■ Somewhat Agree  
■ Neutral

■ Somewhat Disagree  
■ Strongly Disagree  
■ N/A

Question	CTF
<p><b>28. The local community understands the issues being addressed by the CTF.</b></p>	 <p>15 of 15 answered</p>
<p><b>29. Other comments or suggestions concerning CTF outreach:</b></p>	<p><b>1.</b> Time (my time and other CTF members' time) is definitely a limiting factor for outreach. We could/should do better.</p> <p><b>2.</b> Re: question 27, we have consciously chosen not to attend the QPMs because of certain parties' tendency to interject their biased agendas into the proceedings.</p>
<p><b>30. General comments and thoughts:</b></p>	<p><b>1.</b> Due to family obligations in the past year, it has been difficult to make meetings. I plan to improve upon this in the coming year.</p> <p><b>2.</b> Overall good process. Issues are moving forward.</p> <p><b>3.</b> Keep up the good work Bill!</p> <p><b>4.</b> New to committee, learning ropes, and look forward to 2015.</p>