



ECA Update

June 7, 2024

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

ASHFORD BOARD HEARS ECA GRANT PUBLIC OUTREACH PRESENTATION

Springville Journal | 06/06/2024

WEST VALLEY – The Ashford Town Board, at its May 8 meeting, heard an outreach presentation from Ray Vaughn of the West Valley Citizen Task Force outlining progress and information on the nuclear waste cleanup at the Western New York Nuclear Service Center.

In 2023, the town of Ashford was awarded \$50,000 through the Energy Communities Alliance Local Government Education and Outreach Funding grant. The funding would retain qualified experts who can analyze and explain the plans, proposals, models, assumptions, data and alternatives involved in the Probabilistic Performance Assessment that is being developed by the DOE as part of the Supplemental EIS for the West Valley Demonstration Project. This effort will be led by the West Valley Citizens Task Force with frequent reporting to the ECA and Town of Ashford.

Vaughn presented the draft of the outreach portion of the grant to the board. Looking at the history and progress of the decommissioning, Vaughn said they are currently at the end of phase one, where some buildings will remain, along with disposal areas and the vault drying system.

In phase two, the permanent disposal site for transuranic waste will be determined, along with high level waste canister shipment. Decisions in phase two will also determine closure decisions for the waste tank farm, NRC-licensed disposal area and state licensed disposal area, construction and demolition debris landfill, non-source area of groundwater plume and contaminated soil and sediment.

Agencies will issue a Draft Supplemental EIS for phase two, which will most likely be in late 2025 with a six-month comment period. Vaughn also said phase two could cost another \$1-10 billion and take 20-100 years.