

West Valley Citizen Task Force

Summary of Activities – 2024

Introduction

This report summarizes the activities for the West Valley Citizen Task Force in 2024. This summary is intended to be an aid to discussion and decision-making for 2025.

Meetings, Presentations, and Other Accomplishments

During 2024, the CTF accomplished the following:

The CTF held six public CTF meetings (January, March, April, June, September, October) in a hybrid format of in-person and Zoom (October was held only on-line). The CTF continued to forego four meetings a year in favor of the Quarterly Public Meetings in February, May, August, and November.

In July, 12 CTF members attended a tour of the West Valley Demonstration Project.

Meeting summaries and materials are available at <https://westvalleyctf.org/meeting-information/meeting-summaries-2024/> and <https://westvalleyctf.org/meeting-information/2024-meeting-materials/>

Topics of presentations and discussions at CTF meetings included:

- CHBWV project updates (Kelly Wooley, CHBWV). Topics included:
 - Safety
 - Main Plant Process Building Deconstruction
 - Waste disposition
 - Level 3 CAM alarm in September and site response
 - Community support, including Toys for Tots and a food drive.
- U.S. DOE End State Contracting Model (Steve Bousquet, DOE)
- Revisions to CTF ground rules (Lee Gordon, NYSERDA – see below for more information)
- Phase 2 Decision Milestones Update (Lee Gordon, NYSERDA)
- Progress on the Town of Ashford’s ECA grant, including the hydro-geologic erosion study and public engagement (Ray Vaughan, CTF, 3 presentations)
- TRU and high-level waste storage at West Valley (Joe Ebert, CHBWV)
- History of the Western New York Service Center (Brad Frank, NYSERDA)

Website maintenance and updates continued throughout the year. In addition, virtual meeting equipment was updated to improve sound and visual quality during the meetings.

Revisions to CTF Ground Rules

Working with DOE and NYSERDA, the CTF approved revisions to the CTF ground rule in these sections:

- II.B, pertaining to the roles of NYSERDA and DOE on the Task Force
- III.B, pertaining to procedures for CTF work groups
- IV, pertaining to procedures for open meetings, observers, meeting summaries, and the facilitator
- V.C, pertaining to the right to a private sidebar

Final ground rules, as adopted, are available here: https://westvalleyctf.org/wp-content/uploads/2024/08/2024.03.27_CTF_Mission_and_Ground_Rules_4th.pdf

Discussion

CTF members discussed potential changes to statements in the CTF's 1998 final report regarding CTF expectations for modeling. No final action was taken on this topic.

Correspondence

There was no official correspondence from the CTF in 2024.

Press Coverage

Press articles and coverage directly and/or indirectly mentioned the West Valley Demonstration Project and the CTF. These articles are compiled between meetings and are available with the materials for each meeting. Articles are posted on the website at www.westvalleyctf.org.

Changes in Membership

- John Eberth replaced Heidi Hartley as the representative for Assemblymember Giglio's office.
- Kara Stimson replaced John Eberth as the representative for State Senator Borello's office.
- Ken Kassel replaced Kimberly Krzemien as the representative for the Town of Concord.
- Jordan Buffalo replaced Anna Carr as the alternate for the Seneca Nation.
- Adam Fisher became the alternate for West Valley Central Schools.
- Shannon Seneca is now the alternate for the League of Women Voters.