

To: West Valley Citizen Task Force  
From: Heike Jacob, Highland Planning  
Date: September 30, 2026  
Subject: **Summary of September 23, 2026 Meeting**

## Next Meeting

Date & Time: October 28, 2026

Location: Ashford Office Complex, 9030 U.S. 219, West Valley and Zoom

Zoom registration: [https://us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN\\_51sHvXD-QRqKHg3q7aOEgw](https://us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_51sHvXD-QRqKHg3q7aOEgw)

## CTF Members and Alternates Attending (in person or via Zoom)

**Members:** Charlie Davis, Kathy McGoldrick, Jordan Buffalo, John Pfeffer, Pat Townsend, Ray Vaughan

**Alternates:** Joanna Panasiewicz, Kevin Boyle, Shannon Seneca

**Facilitator and Notetakers:** Heike Jacob, Leanne Voit, Katrina Lim

## Agency Participants and Observers

**Department of Energy (DOE):** Bryan Bower, Steve Bousquet

**New York State Energy Research and Development Authority (NYSERDA):** Paul Bembia, Brad Frank, Lee Gordon

**West Valley Cleanup Alliance (WVCA):** Jason Casper, Joe Pillittere

**Observers:** Linda Ridzuan, Cynthia Costello, Lee James, Abe Zeitoun, Sean McCandless, Frank Zhang, Vanessa Schenavar, Janice Poling, Kelsey Shank, Nathaniel Kishbaugh

## Welcome/Administrative Updates

CTF Facilitator Heike Jacob opened the September 23, 2026, meeting, advising that CTF alternate Kevin Boyle had accepted a new non-union position with WVCA and therefore would no longer serve as Ray Raffel's alternate. After the announcement, she conducted a roll call. No administrative updates were reported from NYSERDA. DOE announced that there would be a visit from the Office of Environmental Management (EM) leadership on September 30, 2026.

## Project Update and Cleanup Progress

Jason Casper, President and Program Manager of WVCA, presented an update on the project and cleanup progress. There were two recent injuries at the site, one of which resulted in days away restricted or transferred (DART). Overall, injury rates remain low and WVCA is in discussions with DOE to see if any improvements to safety protocols or training are needed.

Cleanup efforts continue to focus on Phase 1B activities, including preparation for the excavation of Waste Management Area 1 (WMA-1). Part of that preparation is rerouting utility lines out of WMA-1. WVCA is constructing a new pump house for firewater and recently broke ground on the new water tank. New water lines will be run shortly. A subcontractor is completing the majority of this work, as it is highly specialized.

Radiological sampling to characterize the soils in WMA-1 for the construction of the retention wall that will be needed for excavation is almost complete. 18 of 19 holes for Phase 3 of the radiological sampling have been completed. The 19th hole is expected to be completed in the next few days. Planning for the construction of the retention wall is estimated to take another couple of months.

A CTF member asked how the data from the radiological sampling will be compiled and if a report on the data will be shared with the CTF. DOE confirmed that the data will be compiled in a report and that the report would be available upon a Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) request. A CTF member asked how the radiological data will be included in the probabilistic performance assessment (PPA) for the Phase 2 decision. DOE answered that the Phase 2 decision will assume that the soil in WMA-1 and WMA-2 is already removed, as that is part of the Phase 1B scope. A CTF member asked what would happen if high-level waste was found during excavation. DOE answered that the radiological sampling is going to guide the excavation strategy and boundary. Phase 1 of the radiological sampling has determined that the entire WMA-1 boundary needs to be excavated. The depth of the excavation will be as deep as needed to meet the derived concentration guideline levels (DCGLs) that were set forth in the Phase 1 decommissioning plan.

WCVA reported the successful demolition of the Fuel Receiving and Storage (FRS) facility. WVCA has also begun demolishing ancillary building slabs. There are 15 slabs being targeted for demolition; four of those slabs have been demolished. A CTF member asked when the slab that is above the source of the plume will be removed. The slab will be removed within two years, but it will be another couple of years before the secant walls are installed and soil excavation (to address the source of the plume) can begin. A CTF member asked if the secant wall crosses the plume. WVCA answered that the eastern boundary of the secant wall will cross the plume.

Planning continues for the removal and disposal of the tank farm pumps (13 pumps total). WVCA estimates that tank farm pump removal will begin in Spring/Summer 2027.

## CTF Business and Updates

Ray Vaughan proposed a presentation on the geologic fault that runs near Springville at the next CTF meeting. There were no objections from the CTF to the presentation proposal.

## Observer Comments

There were no observer comments.

## Next Steps

The next CTF meeting will be held on October 28, 2026 and the next Quarterly Public Meeting will be held on November 18, 2026.

### Meeting Documents Available on the CTF Website

| Description         | Generated by; Date |
|---------------------|--------------------|
| Meeting Agenda      | Jacob; 9/16/26     |
| WVDP Project Update | WVCA; 9/21/26      |