



August 5, 2014

Ms. Barbara Warren
Citizens' Environmental Coalition
warrenba@msn.com

Ms. Diane D'Arrigo
Nuclear Information & Resource Service
dianed@nirs.org

Ms. Joanne Hameister
Coalition on West Valley Nuclear Wastes
jhameister@roadrunner.com

Dear Mses. Warren, D'Arrigo, and Hameister:

The U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) and the New York State Energy Research and Development Authority (NYSERDA) wish to thank you for your continued interest in the Phase 1 Studies and Phase 1 decommissioning work being performed at the West Valley Demonstration Project (WVDP) and the Western New York Nuclear Service Center (WNYNSC). In response to your July 28, 2014 memo addressed to Moira Maloney and Lee Gordon (Reference), DOE and NYSERDA have prepared the attached matrix, which includes a response to each of your comments in your July memorandum.

DOE and NYSERDA value your continued interest in the Phase 1 Studies and Phase 1 decommissioning of the WVDP and WNYNSC. Should you have any questions or comments regarding this letter or the attached matrix, please contact Moira Maloney at (716) 942-4255 or Lee Gordon at (716) 942-9960, Extension 4963.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Moira N. Maloney".

Moira N. Maloney, Team Leader
Regulatory Strategy & Environmental Compliance
U.S. Department of Energy
West Valley Demonstration Project

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Lee M. Gordon".

Lee M. Gordon, Ph.D.
Project Manager/Geologist
West Valley Site Management
Program
New York State Energy Research &
Development Authority

Mses. Warren, D'Arrigo and Hameister
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LMG/MNM/amd

Attachment:

1. DOE and NYSERDA Responses to July 28, 2014 Barbara Warren, Diane D'Arrigo, and Joanne Hameister Memo: *Agenda Recommendations for August Quarterly Public Meeting*.

Reference:

Memo, Barbara Warren, Diane D'Arrigo, and Joanne Hameister to Moira Maloney and Lee Gordon, "Agenda Recommendations for August Quarterly Public Meeting," dated July 28, 2014.

cc: B. C. Bower, USDOE-WVDP, w/att. Bryan.Bower@wv.doe.gov
M. P. Krentz, USDOE-WVDP, w/att. Martin.Krentz@wv.doe.gov
Z. Zadins, USDOE-WVDP, w/att. Zintars.Zadins@wv.doe.gov
P. J. Bembia, NYSERDA-WV, w/att. pjb@nyserda.ny.gov
H. Brodie, NYSERDA-Albany, w/att. hbl@nyserda.ny.gov
A. L. Mellon, NYSERDA-WV, w/att. alm@nyserda.ny.gov
Bill Logue, Logue Group, w/att. Bill@LogueGroup.com
D. Rawal, ECS, w/att. drawal@ecs-i.com
DOEsupportstaff@wv.doe.gov, w/att.
File #61806, w/att.

**DOE/NYSERDA Responses to the July 28, 2014 Barbara Warren, Diane D'Arrigo, and Joanne Hameister Memo: Agenda
Recommendations for August Quarterly Public Meeting
(Dated August 5, 2014)**

Item	Comment	Response
1	UPDATE on Characterization, Sampling and Analysis Plan work to date and plans for next phase	<p>The August 27, 2014 Quarterly Public Meeting (QPM) currently has a full agenda. An update on the Characterization Sampling and Analysis Plan work to date can be included as an agenda topic at a future QPM.</p> <p>However, please note that the Phase 1 Characterization Sampling and Analysis Plan for the WVDP (CSAP) described the data collection activities that will support Phase 1 decommissioning activities described in the Phase 1 Decommissioning Plan for the WVDP. As discussed in the CSAP, the four primary purposes of CSAP data collection are: (1) pre-design data collection, (2) remedial support, (3) post-remediation status documentation, and (4) Phase 2 decision-making support.</p> <p>To date, CSAP data collection activities have concentrated on collecting gamma walkover survey (GWS) data and soil radiological analytical data for remedial support (characterization of background soils and the HLW Canister Interim Storage Area excavation), and post-remediation status documentation objectives (characterization of exposed soil after removal of WVDP facilities). The following WVDP facilities removed by CHBWV have been characterized in accordance with the CSAP:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Product Storage Area • Vitrification Fabrication Shop • Vitrification Waste Storage Area • Old Warehouse and Counting Lab Foundation • Vitrification Diesel Fuel Oil Storage Building • Vitrification Hill Trailer Area • South Waste Tank Farm Test Tower • Expanded Environmental Laboratory • New Cooling Tower • T-FS-04 Shed • Biovent System Shack

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		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Expanded Environmental Laboratory Foundation Footers <p>Post-remediation status characterization activities will continue as additional WVDP facilities are removed. Pre-design data collection will commence near the end of the Facility Disposition contract to provide data to support the design planning for the WMA 1 and WMA 2 excavations that will be completed during the subsequent Soil Remediation contract.</p> <p>Phase 2 decisionmaking will be supported by data collected from a variety of DOE and NYSERDA programs including but not limited to: the Phase 1 Studies; the WVDP site environmental monitoring program; regulatory programs (RCRA); DOE and NYSERDA site characterization programs (North Plateau Plume, SDA); aerial gamma surveys; best management practices (Permeable Treatment Wall investigation); and CSAP sampling that support Phase 1 decommissioning activities.</p>
2	Discussion of key Phase I study recommendations that are related to the two current ongoing erosion and exhumation studies, i.e., seismic hazard, slope stability and slope failure	Slope stability, slope failure, and seismic hazard were listed as Potential Areas of Study (PAS) in the Phase 1 Studies Guidance. The agencies have not yet determined whether these PAS will be evaluated through the Phase 1 Studies Process. We do agree that a comprehensive analysis is necessary to integrate these technical components in an evaluation of potential impacts associated with Phase 2 Decisions. This integration will occur in the analysis performed as part of a Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement (SEIS).
3	Aerial Radiation Survey Plans: We understand this will be on the agenda and we would like to include a discussion of the Scoby Dam and plans for reconstruction	The upcoming aerial radiation survey of the Western New York Nuclear Service Center and Cattaraugus Creek is an agenda topic for the August 27, 2014 QPM and will be discussed. DOE and NYSERDA are not participating in the Scoby Hill Dam Fish Passage Project, and as such, questions regarding the construction plans should be provided to the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers. The WVDP sediment sampling program

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		can be a topic for a future QPM.
4	Safety Issues related Transuranic Storage at West Valley	The August 27, 2014 QPM currently has a full agenda. Storage of transuranic (TRU) waste at the WVDP can be included as an agenda topic for a future QPM.
5	Report on the Radiological contamination discovered last fall prior to constructing the concrete pad for HLW storage	The Radiological Characterization Report for the High Level Waste Canister Interim Storage Area has been finalized and is available via a FOIA request.
6	Summary review of the Annual report on the performance of the Permeable Treatment Wall	The Permeable Treatment Wall Annual Monitoring Report for 2014 has not yet been finalized. This document will be available via a FOIA request when final.
7	We remain interested in a detailed presentation of the methodology for decontaminating and transferring the HLW canisters out of the building. Dan Coyne promised us this, but we don't know if the plan is sufficiently developed yet.	At the August 27, 2014 QPM, CHBWV will provide a presentation of the planned HLW canister transfer operations and will discuss methodology for decontamination.