

**From:** Diane D'Arrigo [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Friday, August 24, 2012 10:30 PM  
**To:** [REDACTED]; Lee M. Gordon; Moira Maloney  
**Subject:** Next Quarterly Public Meeting plus questions for Erosion Team, ECS, DOE NYSERDA

August 25, 2012

Dear Lee Gordon and Moira Maloney, Lynette Bennett, Bill Logue and Dhananjay Rawal:

At the November Quarterly Meeting, please include updates on

- ➔ the Characterization report on the site (CSAP),
- ➔ the air monitoring (locations, types of monitors and what they can detect at what levels) ongoing and proposed, and
- ➔ how air monitoring results are being and will be reported to the public.
- ➔ How water monitoring results are being reported to the public
- ➔ More about the scopes of the new study teams and the assumptions they will be making – Response to our objections and concerns to initiating these teams
- ➔ Response to our suggested additional areas of study

A reminder for before the next meeting, we would like to know the status of the outstanding issues raised and listed at our pre-meeting just prior to the May Quarterly Public Meeting --at which Bill Logue and his recorder listed key issues of concern and promised followup. The air monitoring is one of those issues.

Thanks so much.

The August 22 2012 Quarterly Public Meeting was interesting – We appreciated the Erosion team attending and wish there had been more time to interact with them.

We were shocked to learn our technical comments were not passed on to ECS or the Erosion Team and surprised that we were not even informed directly that they were not being forwarded. This appears to violate the Guidance document which was imposed on the process. We were disappointed to see in the response to our Feb. 2012 letter to the Science Panel that DOE and NYSERDA are simply not following the National Academy of Science recommendations for public involvement in important environmental processes.

We appreciated having the full Erosion Team at the August 22 meeting. Having been introduced and hearing their perspectives, I am formulating more questions to which I wish I could hear their responses. Please ask the following TECHNICAL question(s) to the Erosion Working Group or Team members SMEs—

- ➔ As you make plans for extensive technical study of the geology of the area in the 4 different proposed studies, what kind of information from each of these studies could provide the justification for a decision for full excavation and what information could provide justification for leaving waste in place?
- ➔ After all the technical studies are done, will 1, 2, 3 or 4 or portions of one or more be sufficient to justify a site disposition decision?

- How will information that does not conform with other information be assessed, reported and incorporated?
- How much will these 4 studies cost and are they necessary and sufficient to determine the amount of instability of the site into the future?
- Do you each know that the some of the waste in the ground will remain radioactively hazardous for literally millions of years? EX: Iodine- 129 ~16 million year half life.
- Do you know that damaged irradiated fuel (high level radioactive waste) is buried in the NDA burial holes and that there are more than 14 pounds of plutonium (hazardous life 240,000 to 480,000 years) in the SDA trenches? The Full Cost Accounting Study, which you received (or at least the CD and website link for it) addresses some of this.

Now the quasi technical/quasi procedural questions:

Who is it that these studies need to convince?

DOE/Bryan Bower/ David Huizenga/Frank Marcinowski/ Secretary Chu or their successors?

NYSERDA/ Paul Bembia/ Frank Murray or their successors?

Since the Science Panel will be assessing all of the studies and giving their guidance, we once again ask that consideration be given to adding 2-3 public health experts with a public interest perspective to that Panel, if there is any hope it can gain public credibility.

Finally, FYI to DOE—The FOIA information request on geological information has not been received yet. Is there anything you can do to have it sent? We know West Valley staff worked hard and fast to gather the information but it still has not arrived.

Many thanks to NYSERDA for providing the requested data several months ago.

Sincerely,

Diane D'Arrigo

Radioactive Waste Project Director

Nuclear Information and Resource Service

