

From: [Lee M. Gordon](#)
To: [Diane D'Arrigo](#); [REDACTED]; [REDACTED]; [REDACTED]
Cc: [Paul J. Bembia](#); [Bryan C. Bower](#); [Moira Maloney](#); [Alita M. Dueringer](#); [Andrea L. Mellon](#); [Lee M. Gordon](#)
Subject: RE: request for information on the new Study Areas
Date: Friday, April 13, 2012 2:23:04 PM
Attachments: [image001.png](#)
[PAS announcement_022312.pdf](#)

Hi Diane,

Please see the attached DOE/NYSERDA announcement on the next Potential Areas of Study for the Phase 1 Studies. We made this announcement in advance of the 5/23/2012 QPM in response to stakeholders' requests that the decision to move forward with additional PAS be announced as soon as possible. This announcement can be found on DOE's website here:

http://www.wv.doe.gov/Documents/Phase_1_Studies-Plans_To_Proceed_With_Five_Potential_Areas_Of_Study.pdf

and on NYSERDA's website here:

<http://www.nyserda.ny.gov/Page-Sections/West-Valley/Announcements.aspx>

Subject Matter Experts have not yet been identified for these study areas. DOE and NYSERDA anticipate forming two SME working groups. One group would address the three study areas related to Exhumation and another group would address the two study areas related to engineered barriers. DOE, NYSERDA, and ECS are currently conducting a worldwide search for SME we feel have the necessary technical expertise and experience to address these topics. ECS and the agencies will thoroughly examine candidates' background information and engage them in discussion prior to their selection as an SME. This has not yet taken place.

The scope for the SME is outlined in the Phase 1 Studies Guidance. The SME are to examine relevant background information on the study area (including stakeholder comments) and, if appropriate, recommend a study, or suite of studies, to facilitate interagency consensus on Phase 2 decommissioning decisions. The agencies will then review these recommendations in order to determine what studies will be conducted.

In the Forward to the FEIS, NYSERDA raised concerns regarding engineered barrier performance assumptions. DOE's Record of Decision identified 'technologies for in-place containment' as a potential topic for Phase 1 Studies. In an effort to recommend and conduct studies to facilitate interagency consensus on the topic, the SME will evaluate engineered barrier performance, including the impact of institutional controls, performance degradation, etc.

DOE and NYSERDA will consider input provided by the public and provide stakeholder input/recommendations (including input/recommendations on direction, scope, etc.) to the SME Working Groups. As evidenced by the addition of Dr. Shrader-Frechette to the ISP and Dr. Young to the Erosion Working Group, the agencies feel we are giving meaningful consideration to input received from public stakeholders.

We wish to thank you and for your dedication to the West Valley site and look forward to your continued involvement as we move forward with the Phase 1 Studies.

Sincerely,

Lee Gordon

NYSERDA

and

Moira Maloney
DOE

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ANNOUNCEMENT

March 23, 2012

RE: Plans to Proceed with Five Additional Potential Areas of Study (PAS)

The US Department of Energy (DOE) and the New York State Energy Research and Development Authority (NYSERDA) are announcing plans to move forward with the evaluation of additional Potential Areas of Study (PAS) within the Phase 1 Studies process. Over the coming months, the agencies will work with the Phase 1 Studies contractor (Enviro Compliance Solutions; ECS) to assemble two teams of Subject Matter Experts (SME) for the evaluation of additional PAS.

While work is continuing on the Erosion study area and the scoping and scheduling of a climate change workshop, SME groups will be assembled to address five additional PAS that are grouped under the **Exhumation** and **Engineered Barriers** topical areas. These SME teams will evaluate the following PAS:

- Exhumation
 - Alternative approaches to, costs of, and risks associated with complete waste and tank exhumation
 - Viability, cost, and benefit of partial exhumation of waste and removal of contamination
 - Exhumation uncertainties and benefit of pilot exhumation activities
- Engineered Barriers
 - In place closure containment technologies
 - Engineered barrier performance

The agencies will discuss progress on these PAS with stakeholders during the May 23, 2012 Quarterly Public Meeting and throughout the Phase 1 Studies process. DOE and NYSERDA will give consideration and respond to written comments.

Questions and/or comments should be directed to Moira Maloney (DOE; Moira.N.Maloney@wv.doe.gov) and Lee Gordon (NYSERDA; LMG@nyserda.org).

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