



November 7, 2012

Ms. Barbara Warren
Citizens' Environmental Coalition
33 Central Avenue, 3rd Floor
Albany, New York 12210

Dear Ms. Warren:

SUBJECT: Memorandum, Barbara Warren, et al. to Lee Gordon and Moira Maloney, "The Subject Matter Expert Panel on Erosion Report and Recommendations," dated September 6, 2012

Thank you for the input provided on the Erosion Working Group (EWG) Recommendations received via the subject memorandum. The majority of the input presented in the section of your memorandum titled "Background on the Present situation" reflected process-related concerns, particularly in regard to the processes in place for public involvement. We wish to point out that the agencies have made a number of changes to the process in response to public comments and requests, including the addition of Dr. Kristin Shrader-Frechette to the Independent Scientific Panel (ISP), the addition of Dr. Richard Young to the Erosion Subject-Matter Expert (SME) group, the convening of a climate change workshop, the development of a Phase 1 Studies website, and the use of WebEx conferencing for public workshops and meetings.

Additionally, the details provided in your March 24, 2011 correspondence titled "Recommended Additions to the Phase 1 Study List" were forwarded to the ISP and are being made available to the SME groups. Both agencies recognize the need to provide feedback on input received regarding recommended studies, and we are planning to do this in a future meeting.

DOE and NYSEERDA acknowledge that your comments on the Erosion SME Scope of Work (dated February 29, 2012) were not immediately forwarded to the Erosion SME. DOE and NYSEERDA have implemented a more stringent correspondence tracking process to prevent this from occurring again. Upon discovery, these comments were provided to the Erosion SME group for their immediate review. Following their review, the group concurred that all of your suggestions pertaining to technical aspects of erosion analyses are covered within the currently recommended set of studies (*Recommendations for Phase 1 Erosion Studies*, July 20, 2012).

With respect to your concerns regarding the Erosion SME Scope of work, the SMEs were instructed to review a number of background documents in order to become familiar with the site and the specific issues of relevance. We recognize the need for integration of ideas and communication amongst

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the various SME groups and are working with our Phase 1 Studies contractor Enviro Compliance Solutions (ECS) to manage these activities. The technical input provided in the subject memorandum has been forwarded to the EWG SMEs as well as the ISP for consideration as the Phase 1 Studies move forward. The next stage of the process will include agency feedback to the EWG, including input from the ISP. SMEs will be available to discuss and address input at future QPMs as they formulate their study plans.



Bryan C. Bower, Director
U.S. Department of Energy
West Valley Demonstration Project



Paul J. Bembia, Director
West Valley Site Management Program
New York State Energy Research &
Development Authority

PJB/BB/amd

ec: Anne Rabe, Center for Health Environment, and Justice, _____
Joanne Hameister, Coalition on West Valley Nuclear Wastes, _____
Judith Anderson, Environmental Justice Action Group of Western NY, Inc., _____
Diane D'Arrigo, Nuclear Information and Resource Service, _____
Lynda Schneekloth, Sierra Club, Niagara Chapter, _____
Patricia Shelly, Downstream Denizen (Buffalo, NY), _____
Kathy Boser, Concerned Citizens of Cattaraugus County, _____
Laura Haight, New York Public Interest Research Group, _____
Vincent Agnello, Niagara Watershed Alliance, _____
Jessica Azulay, Alliance for a Green Economy, _____
Lee Gordon, NYSERDA-WV, _____
Moir Maloney, DOE-WVDP, _____
Bill Logue, Logue Group, _____
Lynette Bennett, CHBWV, _____
Dhananjay Rawal, ECS, _____