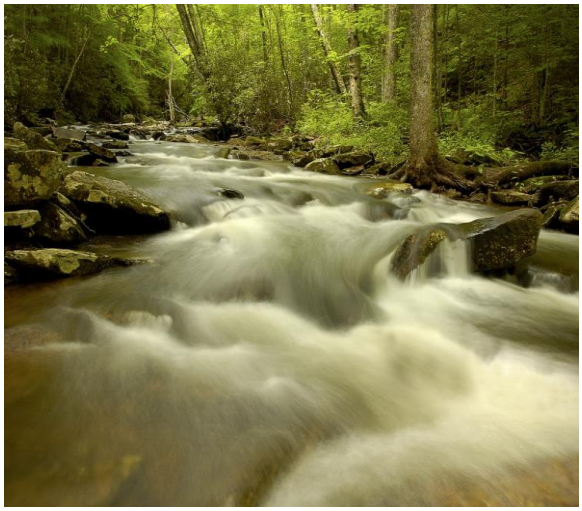
West Valley WasteWatch---TAKE ACTION! Winter Spring 2015

NO SECRET SCIENTIFIC SCHEMES at the WEST VALLEY NUCLEAR SITE!!!
Tell Senators to Tell Dept. of Energy and NYS to make all information public

The West Valley Nuclear Waste Site has some of the most radioactive bomb and power waste in the world stored and buried in the pastoral setting in the hills south of and upstream of Buffalo, Western New York, the Seneca Nation of Indians Cattaraugus Territory, Canada and our drinking water intakes. It's ski country, dairy (local milk, cheese, butter, ice cream), farmlands, upstream of some of the most scenic creeks and streams where we all swim, play, boat and fish.

Radiation causes cancer, heart ailments, birth defects, and reduced immunity so greater susceptibility to disease. There's *NO SAFE LEVEL*. Prevention, not dilution, is imperative.

This waste from 1960s and 1970s nuclear power and weapons still threatens us today and it will remain fiendishly radioactive for millennia, longer than the ground in which it is buried will stay put. Independent scientists agree that the land in which it is buried and stored **will erode into the streams, creeks and Great Lakes** during the time that waste is still dangerous. The waste can leak out slowly, as it already has, or quickly as in disastrous storms (like a really big one in 2009) which will happen more often because of climate change.



WHY NOT CLEAN IT UP? MORE STUDIES- a new ASSESSMENT (PPA)….

Instead of digging the waste up before it leaks out, New York State (NYSERDA, site-owner) and the US Department of Energy (DOE, responsible for part of the clean-up) have been STUDYING. The webpage www.westvalleyphaseonestudies.org lists the studies. NOW, DOE and NY are hiring another contractor to do a statistical review. While the barrels and boxes disintegrate and water oozes in and out of the trenches and holes, the government agencies are hiring nuclear statisticians to crunch numbers to reassess our risks. Maybe the numbers and calculations will tell us what geologists

already told us—the land is unstable and will erode…or maybe the new calculations will claim to predict the land won't erode and the doses to all of us downstream are "acceptable." New York hopes that the outcome of these calculations will convince DOE to dig up at least some of the waste. We have to do more than hope!

We have to watchdog this potentially secret scientific scheme. Several groups in the West Valley Action Network have written to NY and DOE calling for complete transparency and access to information (soon to be posted at www.westvalleyaction.org)

CONTACT US Senators Schumer and Gillibrand and all Western NYS Senators

Call for WEST VALLEY NUCLEAR WASTE SITE:

1) Dig It Up NOW—at least start a pilot project!
2) No secret schemes-—make all studies and assessments TRANSPARENT, PUBLIC and ACCESSIBLE while being carried out….especially the new statistical review (called PPA Probabilistic Risk Assessment). Guarantee public access to all the information, computer codes and models, assumptions being made while the statistical review is being done! Provide a searchable electronic library and resources for independent review of the [PPA] Assessment.
3) Make sure there is Public Comment and Hearings to "Scope" the upcoming "supplemental environmental impact statement." And clear report on the connection of the studies and assessments to the "supplemental environmental impact statement."
4) Fully fund cleanup at West Valley AND demand transparency and accountability from the US DOE and NYSERDA

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