

1 WURTSMITH RESTORATION

2 ADVISORY BOARD (RAB) MEETING

3

4

5

6

7

8

9

10 Oscoda United Methodist Church

11 120 West Dwight Street

12 Oscoda, Michigan

13 Wednesday, August 27, 2025

14 5:00 p.m.

15

16

17

18

19

20

21

22

23 Marcy A. Klingshirn, CER 6924
24 Certified Electronic Recorder
Esquire Deposition Solutions
25 Firm Registration No. 8035

APPEARANCES

RAB CO-CHAIRS:

Mark Henry
Steven Willis, Air Force
Dave Iacovone, Air Force

Local Government
Stakeholder RAB
Members Present:

Staci Bator, MDHHS
Tim Cummings, Oscoda Township
Amy Handley, EGLE
Michael Munson, OWAA
Eric Strayer, Au Sable Township
Ben Wiese, USDA Forest Service

Community RAB Members
Present:

William Gaines
Kyle Jones
Arnie Leriche
Scott Lingo
Greg Schulz
Daniel Stock (via Teams)
Josh Sutton
Rex Vaughn
Cathy Wusterbarth

Also Present in
Person:

Dan Banks, Diane Banks, Charlie
Bauer, Megan Berry, Dennis Bidigare,
Natausha Bly, Thomas Chatel, Greg
Cole, Ann Dawley, Mitchel Dykla, Greg
Gangnuss, Ross Kadish, Michael
Kovauch, Matt Lipiec, Kelly Lively,
Wendi Michael, Jay Mullett, Barry
Nelson, Beth Place, Samantha Reach
Tony Spaniola, Andrea Stawowy, Cory
Tackett, Rachel Tsubakitani, Gary
Weiss

Also Present via
Teams:

Amanda Armbruster, Matt Baltusis,
Col. Joel Bolina, Grace Borst,
Michelle Brown, Peter Butkovich,
Christina Coulon, Celeste Creger,
Melissa Harris, Bentley Johnson,
Kenny Johnson, Andrea Keatley, Diana
Klida, Larisa Lawrence, Tess Nelkie,
Mike Neller, Natalie Perez, Megan R.,
Matt S., Matt Santala, Erin Simpson,
Hannah Theodorovich, Peter V., Bryan
VanDuinen, Sharon Vaughn, Mark
Weegar, Jenni, Oscoda Joe

1
2
3
4
5
6
7
8
9
10
11
12
13
14
15
16
17
18
19
20
21
22
23
24
25

TABLE OF CONTENTS		PAGE
1.	Welcome and Introductions	4
2.	Community RAB Member Updates	14
3.	Government RAB Member Updates	22
4.	RAB Business Update	57
5.	TWG Discussion and Vote	64
6.	RAB Member Questions	74
7.	Public Comment	110
	1. Tony Spaniola	111
	2. Kelly Lively	114
	3. Tony Spaniola	115
	4. Michelle Brown	121
8.	Conclusion	120

Oscoda, Michigan

Wednesday, August 27, 2025 - 4:59 p.m.

MR. TIM SUELTFUSS: All right. Welcome everyone. Thank you for -- for joining us, the former Wurtsmith Air Force Base Restoration Advisory Board. My name is Tim Sueltenfuss. I'll be facilitator this evening. Nice to see everyone here. And we would like to start off our meeting.

One of the first things that we will do is turn to our co-chairs, the Air Force co-chair and the Community co-chair, for any opening remarks that you may have. So, Steve, I'll let you start.

MR. STEVEN WILLIS: All right. Thanks everyone for coming. It looks like we've got a good -- good crowd. I do see some new faces. It's always nice to have new attendees at these. For those that are new, we do have a tri-fold brochure. It's got a little bit of history on the side with a map. So I would encourage you to grab one of those before you leave tonight. Keep that for future, handy reference. And, Mark, I'll turn it over to you.

MR. MARK HENRY: I'd like to thank you all for coming. We have a new -- a bunch of new people here because we're kind of getting into a new phase of this and a new approach. So I'm hoping that this new

1 approach, providing more technical information to the
2 decision making process will help, and this is all part
3 of it. So thank you for coming.

4 MR. TIM SUELTFUSS: All right. Well, thank
5 you very much. Let me ask our technical support to go
6 ahead and display slide two, our -- our package, please.
7 The RAB meeting we have tonight is a hybrid meeting, so
8 a lot of us, as you can see, here in person and others are
9 connected remotely as well. And I'd like to just go
10 ahead and -- and run through a number of items indicated
11 on the -- on the screen here.

12 So if we would -- if you don't mind, prefer,
13 please for those who are connected remotely, if you are
14 connected by telephone, please use that dial-in number
15 that you have, the call-in number, and enter the access
16 code you have to enter our meeting. To -- to raise your
17 hand electronically if you are connected by telephone,
18 please hit star five and hit star six to mute or unmute
19 yourself. RAB members who are connected remotely -- let
20 me just see if we have any RAB members who are connected
21 remotely. We'll -- we'll check that in just a moment.
22 But if you do need to speak, please go ahead and come
23 off mute, but otherwise keep yourself muted just so we
24 don't have any background noise, please. Let's see.
25 Please use that raise hand function to indicate you have

1 a question or provide a comment. The RAB coordinator
2 will unmute your microphone and you may also need to
3 unmute your microphone as well. There is a way to enable
4 closed captioning for language support. Please just
5 click "more" and then "language and speak," and "turn on
6 live captions." Use that chat for any questions that
7 you may have. And then also if you have any trouble
8 accessing the meeting, you can e-mail Wendi Michael. We
9 have that e-mail address there. It's also in the
10 presentation that was shared with all RAB members as
11 well. So just a few -- a few notes there.

12 Let's go to slide three if we could. And
13 you'll see the agenda that we have for tonight. But
14 let's begin maybe just with some quick introductions.
15 And we'll just start right here. And Mr. Munson, if you
16 mind just kind of start us off?

17 MR. MICHAEL MUNSON: Oh, yes. Hi. I'm Mike
18 Munson. I'm -- I represent the Oscoda Wurtsmith
19 Airport.

20 MR. ERIC STRAYER: Eric Strayer. I'm the
21 superintendent for Au Sable Township.

22 MR. GREG SCHULZ: Greg Schulz, Community RAB.

23 MR. JOSH SUTTON: Josh Sutton, Community RAB.

24 MR. BILL PALMER: Bill Palmer, Community RAB.

25 MR. BILL GAINES: Bill Gaines, Community RAB.

1 MS. STACI BATOR: Staci Bator, MDHHS.

2 MS. AMY HANDLEY: Amy Handley, EGLE, RRD.

3 MR. TIM SUELTFUSS: Okay. Thanks. And let's
4 go to Ben, please.

5 MR. BEN WIESE: Good evening. Ben Wiese, U.S.
6 Forest Service.

7 MR. REX VAUGHN: Rex Vaughn, Community RAB.

8 MR. ARNIE LERICHE: Arnie Leriche, Community
9 RAB.

10 MR. SCOTT LINGO: Scott Lingo, Community RAB.

11 MS. CATHY WUSTERBARTH: Cathy Wusterbarth,
12 Community RAB.

13 MR. KYLE JONES: Kyle Jones, Community RAB.

14 MR. MARK HENRY: Mark Henry, Community RAB
15 co-chair.

16 MR. DAVE IACOVONE: Dave Iacovone, RPM, AFCEC,
17 out of Wright-Patterson Air Force Base.

18 MR. STEVEN WILLIS: I'm Steve Willis. I'm the
19 Community -- the Air Force's co-chair for the RAB. And
20 Dave -- as I think all of you know, this is my last RAB
21 meeting and so Dave will be taking over as the Direct
22 Environmental Coordinator for Wurtsmith.

23 MR. TIM SUELTFUSS: Well, thank you. Let me
24 ask our tech support. Do we have Dave Carmona on
25 remote? We do not. Okay. So Dave Carmona, another

1 Community RAB member is not on the channel. Gotcha.

2 Okay. Thank you.

3 Well, so the RAB operating procedures are
4 essentially the constitution, which drives how this --
5 this -- this board operates. We have you right here,
6 sir. It's the constitution of how we operate. And so
7 RAB operating procedures, section 2.4.8 defines a quorum
8 and we do have a quorum tonight. We have great
9 representation here. We just ran through introductions.
10 Do you mind just introducing yourself?

11 MR. TIM CUMMINGS: Sure. Hello again, Tim.
12 I'm Tim Cummings from Oscoda Township. I'm a trustee.
13 I've been appointed to this RAB for seven, eight years
14 now. I was -- I've been on the RAB since it was
15 founded.

16 MR. TIM SUELTFUSS: All right. Thank you
17 very much. I would also like to just reintroduce
18 myself. My name is Tim Sueltenfuss. It's great to be
19 back here. I -- I really appreciate the opportunity to
20 get together and work with you on the important work
21 that's going on here that you're all doing. Work that's
22 important not only for the community, but for the
23 nation, I think, is going on right here. I --

24 MS. CATHY WUSTERBARTH: Tim? Tim? I'm so
25 sorry.

1 MR. TIM SUELTFUSS: Yes.

2 MS. CATHY WUSTERBARTH: Can I interrupt?
3 Can -- can we ask if there's any congressional offices
4 in attendance?

5 MR. TIM SUELTFUSS: Yes, please.

6 MS. CATHY WUSTERBARTH: Can we have them
7 introduce themselves?

8 MR. TIM SUELTFUSS: Yeah. Thank you. Yeah,
9 let's go ahead and -- and offer up opportunity for any
10 staff supporting any elected officials, please.

11 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Virtually also.

12 MR. TIM SUELTFUSS: And if we could -- if we
13 could bring a microphone up, please? One of the things
14 I will be trying to work on is -- is to make sure that
15 we don't speak until we get that microphone. We do have
16 folks connected remotely, and we want to make sure that
17 they can hear. Thank you.

18 MS. KELLY LIVELY: Kelly Lively, regional
19 director for Senator Gary Peters.

20 MR. TOM BRATTON: Hi. I'm Tom Bratton with
21 Senator Slotkin's office. I'm her northern Michigan
22 regional manager. Glad to be here. Thanks.

23 MR. BRADY SCHULZ: I'm Brady Schulz. I'm
24 district representative for Congressman Jack Bergman.

25 MR. TIM SUELTFUSS: All right. And any other

1 congressional representatives in the room? And, yeah, I
2 was about to ask if we have anyone connected virtually
3 who is a representative of any elected officials? If
4 so, please just raise your hands. And I'll look to our
5 support staff to see if we have any hands raised. I see
6 a finger raised back there. I'm not sure if that's a
7 hand. Yes. Okay. And who is that who has the hand
8 raised, please? So, Zach, if you could let me know the
9 name of the person who has the hand raised?

10 MR. ZACHARY IRVING: Peter.

11 MR. PETER BUTKOVICH: Good afternoon,
12 everybody. My name is Peter Butkovich with the office
13 of Representative McDonald Rivet for Michigan's 8th
14 District.

15 MR. TIM SUELTFENFUSS: Great. Okay. Thank you
16 very much. And do we have any others? Any other hands
17 raised? No. Okay. Great. Thank you. Appreciate that.

18 Well, good. So let me also just kind of
19 reintroduce myself a bit. I've -- I've had quite a bit
20 of interaction with this group over the years. I was
21 the facilitator when the Wurtsmith RAB was reestablished
22 in 2017, and ran some of those RAB orientation sessions
23 that we had -- the two sessions that we had back in
24 2017. I've continued facilitating the Wurtsmith RAB
25 through about 2023, with a break here or there. I

1 really appreciate those who have covered that two-year
2 period and I'm happy to be back and -- and playing a
3 role to facilitate the RAB. I -- I am supporting also the
4 Department of Defense, Environmental Cleanup
5 Communication & Outreach Initiative, the ECCO
6 initiative. And so in that capacity, I was able to come
7 in May 2023, and conduct a site visit here to Wurtsmith
8 and to Camp Grayling as well.

9 I want to tell everyone, just reintroduce my
10 background. My background is very heavily focused on
11 collaboration and engagement about cleanup of former and
12 current military installations. I served as a artillery
13 officer in the Marine Corps. I have a sociology in
14 conflict resolution degree as well. And in addition to
15 that -- that -- the RAB facilitation that I do, I work
16 with teams around the country, including a number of
17 installation level tier one partnering teams where we
18 focus on environmental cleanup at Eielson Air Force
19 Base, a number of installations that have off base PFAS
20 impacts. So I'm happy to be back here.

21 My role in this RAB is to focus on the mutual
22 success of the RAB. I find myself as an intermediary,
23 literally in the middle right now, and so I'm happy to
24 play that role, that neutral intermediary role. My --
25 my job here is to manage our interactions, kind of guide

1 our conversations, ensure that everyone's voice is
2 heard. I'm also here to make sure that we run these
3 meetings the way they should be run. There's 32 Code of
4 Federal Regulations, Part 202, for those of you who are
5 tracking it. It's the RAB rule. There's the RAB rule
6 handbook. We have that Wurtsmith RAB operating
7 procedures, our constitution. All of those tell us how
8 these meetings, these interactions should run. I'm also
9 here to run the meetings in accordance with any meeting
10 standards that the RAB establishes moving forward as
11 well. I'm here to support the RAB as a whole. I don't
12 advocate or represent any organization or interest.
13 What I'm after is mutual success. And I really do
14 believe that there is no success other than mutual
15 success. So I'm going to -- I'm going to stick to that
16 as long as I can to try to be helpful to the process
17 here. I -- I also want to say with humility that I
18 realize that I'm coming -- I'm stepping into a river
19 that's been flowing for a long time before me, and will
20 flow after me as well. So I just appreciate all the
21 work that all of you have done on the RAB, but then the
22 entire community as well as all of those who are engaged
23 in the process. So thank you very much. Good to be
24 back. Good to see everybody. Okay.

25 So, let's see. Our agenda as you see there,

1 we're going to begin with RAB member and RAB business
2 updates. One of those elements will be to discuss and
3 vote on the technical working group or TWG. We're going
4 to then reserve plenty of time for RAB member questions
5 and public comment before we conclude somewhere around
6 8:00 o'clock eastern tonight. The majority of our time
7 is intended for discussion among the RAB members. But
8 then in that public comment period that you see, that's
9 where members of the public will have an opportunity to
10 make -- make their comments as well.

11 Let's see. The meeting is going to be
12 recorded. It's being transcribed by a court reporter as
13 well. An acronym list is provided in hard copy right
14 over here. Please do sign in, if you have not yet signed
15 in. That, I believe, is right over here near the
16 entrance. There's also an acronym list in the backup
17 slides of the PowerPoint presentation that we
18 distributed to RAB members. Okay.

19 So in your agenda, RAB members, the printed
20 agenda that you have in front of you, it has a number of
21 ground rules. I'm not going to take the time to read
22 those seven ground rules. But essentially, what they
23 say is, let's deal respectfully, let's use our time
24 wisely and efficiently, and let's move this process
25 forward. So I'm hoping that those continue to work. I

1 know they've been the ground rules that we've operated
2 under for some time. Let's see. I think that gets us
3 through that slide.

4 So let's go ahead and move to RAB member
5 updates, slide four there. And I'm going to just begin
6 on slide five there with the Community RAB member
7 updates. And, Mark Henry, let me just turn to you first
8 and see what updates you have.

9 (Community RAB Member Update at 5:12 p.m.)

10 MR. MARK HENRY: Sure. Well, there's not much
11 fieldwork going on, but in reviewing the risk assessment
12 work that has been done so far, I could see some
13 problems with that. And so the -- Kyle Jones and myself
14 have been working with EPA, EGLE, and the Air Force to
15 address our concerns about the work supporting the risk
16 assessment that's been done so far. I'm hoping those
17 can be resolved. We've had a meeting with the U.S. EPA
18 region five risk assessors to explain our concerns to
19 them so that they can, in turn, meet with the state and
20 the Air Force and try to make them aware of our concerns
21 so that all of us can get together and try to look at
22 how to make the risk assessment more representative of
23 what's going on.

24 I've also had meetings -- I have had meetings
25 with the Oscoda Township to discuss problems associated

1 with the wastewater treatment plant and the PFOS
2 concentrations that have -- are entering and leaving
3 that wastewater treatment plant going out to Clark's
4 Marsh, that have been problematic over the years and
5 trying to resolve those issues so that the Oscoda
6 Township does not have to bear the burden of legacy PFOS
7 in their system from causing them grief. In addition to
8 that I've been -- Kyle and I have been in discussion
9 with subject matter experts from the Air Force to go
10 over a -- a whole laundry list of concerns regarding the
11 data gaps in the work that has been done so far, and how
12 to incorporate the changes necessary to fix those from
13 moving on. And that's about it.

14 MR. TIM SUELTFENFUSS: Okay. Thank you, Mark.
15 Are there other community members who would like to
16 provide any updates? Yes. Cathy?

17 MS. CATHY WUSTERBARTH: Thanks. I'm Cathy
18 Wusterbarth and I'm with the Need Our Water community
19 action group also, along with being a -- a RAB member.
20 I have quite a few updates, so I will try to go quickly.
21 The first one is actually good news. It's kind of fun.
22 And we held a Pirates and Mermaid Festival in Oscoda in --
23 this month, actually, in August. And we broke a
24 world record, a Guinness World Record, for the largest
25 gathering of merpeople. The record was 457 and we had

1 500 merpeople on Oscoda Beach. And if you'd like to see
2 our official certificate, it's in the back of the room
3 and some images. So that was an effort to raise
4 awareness about PFAS contamination in our area and in
5 the Great Lakes. So we found that the event was very
6 successful and it will be an annual event.

7 Next, we have the 2025 Eat Safe Fish Guide. We
8 are looking at that very closely. And in terms of our
9 community, this you'll see in the back of the -- of the
10 church there you'll find Eat Safe Fish Guide for 2025
11 for Van Etten Lake. And you will notice that there are
12 four do not eat the fish ever -- eat the fish for Van
13 Etten Lake. And we know that that contamination
14 occurred because of the Wurtsmith Air Force Base, so --
15 and this -- this is from the Michigan Department of
16 Health and Human Services. And they actually have
17 the -- a -- a small Eat Safe Fish Guide in the back that
18 you can reference in terms of getting that full guide
19 online.

20 We also got an update for the Oscoda Area
21 Exposure Assessment in terms of how many people have
22 been reported with their blood testing. So the
23 community received that update recently.

24 The NOW group and the Great Lakes PFAS Action
25 Network hosted Senator Elissa Slotkin in our community

1 to discuss PFAS. We had a large turnout for that event
2 and we were very pleased and so was she and her office,
3 and we really appreciate that opportunity to talk to
4 her. She is very interested in what's happening here
5 and assisting with this issue.

6 On that same note we continue to engage with
7 congressional offices on a regular basis, and Tony
8 Spaniola, a NOW member, has definitely continued to
9 engage with DoD leadership which we believe has really
10 advanced the efforts here at Wurtsmith.

11 I'd like to make sure I welcome Kelly and Brady
12 and Tom from the offices and thank Peter for being
13 online. And I'd also lastly like to thank the new AFCEC
14 staff for being here and we're very excited about the
15 new technical workgroup. Thank you.

16 MR. TIM SUELTFUSS: Thank you very much,
17 Cathy. Any other community members who would like to
18 provide an update, Community RAB members? Yes. Please.

19 MR. BILL PALMER: Yeah. My name is Bill Palmer,
20 as many of you know. I've mentioned before in the past
21 that I entered into an agreement with the Air Force to
22 install a -- a -- a monitoring well on my property. I
23 live on F-41, right across from the base, just south of
24 Ratliff Park on Van Etten Lake. And one of the reasons
25 I entered that agreement was they promised to send me

1 results of the test that they did on my property. And a
2 month and a half ago I received the latest results and I
3 thought it might be of interest to the RAB and to the
4 community what those results are.

5 They -- they test for a number of different
6 chemicals in the PFAS chain. I will just read you the
7 results of the PFOA and the PFOS. The PFOA results from
8 the test on August 16th of 2022, the level was 1,280
9 nanograms per liter which is parts per trillion. In
10 November of '22, the amount was 1,400. In May of '23,
11 it was 1,400. In September of '24, it was down to 120
12 nanograms per liter. The latest reading on March 5th of
13 this year, 2025, the level was 83 nanograms per liter.
14 That's for PFOA.

15 PFOS, the reading back in August of 2022, was
16 7,820 nanograms per liter or parts per trillion. In
17 November of that same year the level was 7,000. In May
18 of 2023, the level was 7,500. In September of 2024, the
19 level was 2,000 nanograms per liter. And in the latest
20 reading on March 5th of this year, the level was 1,600
21 nanograms per liter. I guess this is -- I see this as
22 good news/bad news. The numbers are going down. The
23 bad news, it's taken us ten years to get here. But I do
24 see this as sort of light at the end of the tunnel. The
25 problem is it's a very long tunnel. But I'm -- I'm

1 happy to report that the -- it appears the numbers are
2 going down due to the pump and treat process that's
3 going on. So thank you.

4 MR. TIM SUELTFUSS: Thank you very much,
5 Bill. Appreciate that. Are there other Community RAB
6 members who would like to provide an update?

7 MR. ARNIE LERICHE: Tim?

8 MR. TIM SUELTFUSS: Yes. Arnie, go ahead.

9 MR. ARNIE LERICHE: I would suggest that the
10 public get a copy of this flyer. This is our Michigan
11 Health and Human Services Department in the corner back
12 there. It's about foam. And it -- "Do Not Touch or
13 Swallow." It comes -- it has the bullets that talk
14 about what is on the sign at beaches and waterways
15 around here. So I suggest that you pick one of those up
16 tonight.

17 The second thing is our Community RAB has been
18 talking about foam on the surface water of Van Etten
19 Lake since -- with the Air Force -- since August of
20 2016, even before our first RAB meeting. And we were
21 told that an expert -- subject matter expert, would come
22 and talk to us. In September that didn't happen. We
23 didn't get a discussion or presentation about the Air
24 Force's take on surface water foam. Ever since then,
25 we've been told that there is a -- there's no approved

1 methodology for sampling and analysis of foam. Well,
2 half of that is true, but the other half is not. The
3 methodology to -- to analyze the water once the
4 bubbles of the foam and everything break down and it's
5 water now, liquid, that analysis has been upgraded by
6 EPA and it is an approved method and it is the method or
7 version of that method that DoD uses, Air Force uses for
8 all of their PFAS sampling.

9 The question is then how to sample the foam.
10 Has anyone seen foam out there along the beaches? Along
11 your property? If you could raise your hand? Okay. I
12 think we got about 15 roughly. Okay. In the last month
13 I've take -- five weeks, I've taken photos going back to
14 May -- well, May 20th, so it's been almost a month. At
15 least four times that I've noticed significant foam.
16 I've got videos of three of those. I've got photos. If
17 anyone wants to take a look at them at the break, let me
18 know. And let me know as the break starts so I can go
19 back there and set up back there.

20 But they don't need an approved method to
21 sample it. The state sampled it back in 2016 using a
22 very crude method. They took a shovel actually, a snow
23 shovel. The big wide one that we all kind of use once
24 in awhile, especially for farmers. And went there,
25 shoveled it. I mean, they cleaned it and sterilized it

1 of course. And they shoveled it into garbage bags
2 because there were big piles of foam. Okay? That was
3 back in 2017. Since then they've revised. They talked
4 to the research department of EPA down in North Carolina
5 a lot. And they were very energetic to find out what is
6 this foam because it's different than the natural foam.

7 So to close this out, a year after we brought
8 that discussion up at the first meeting of our community
9 group and we didn't get an expert, all of a sudden, DoD,
10 Department of Defense, contractor shows up and samples
11 the foam. Even this -- some -- most of the state, the
12 contact, the main contact at EGLE, DEQ back then, they
13 didn't know they were coming. So they sampled the foam,
14 they've analyzed it, about four, five reports are out
15 and they're showing that the foam is, in my words, a
16 serious problem that needs to be dealt with. Because
17 those numbers that Bill ran out, when it gets into the
18 lake, it's diluted at least three or four to one at
19 minimum. So let's say the numbers in the lake are 100
20 parts per trillion, so quite a few changes. It's --
21 these studies say that multiply it by 4,000 times and
22 that's the concentration in the foam. So that's why you
23 see signs from the Department of Health there saying do
24 not drink it, do not play in it. If you do get it on
25 you when you're swimming, wash it off because pretty

1 much, they say, doesn't go through the skin. Okay? So
2 there are signs there.

3 The big thing is the Air Force, even after
4 yesterday talking, they're not anxious, even though
5 we've had an action item for them to sample it and talk
6 to those contractors back in 2017, '18, '19 that have
7 analyzed and published papers and all that, talk to them
8 and get a sampling method that the Air Force will use
9 over the next five months so that next spring they can
10 sample it and incorporate that data into some
11 information to them, that before they close out the data
12 gap investigation which is going to close out next year.

13 So I just want to throw that out there. Please
14 pick this up and let me know if you want to see those
15 photos. Thank you.

16 MR. TIM SUELTFUSS: Thank you, Arnie.
17 Appreciate that. Any other Community RAB members who
18 would like to provide an update before we move on to
19 Government RAB members? Okay. Well, if we could
20 display slide six and ensure that it's visible to remote
21 attendees as well? And, Amy, we'll turn your way for -- to
22 kick off the Government RAB member updates.

23 (Government RAB Member Update at 5:27 p.m.)

24 MS. AMY HANDLEY: Hi, everyone. Good evening.
25 Thank you for being here. I'm Amy Handley. I am the

1 project manager for the RRD, Superfund Section. We can
2 go ahead and move ahead to slide seven. Thank you.

3 Here we have a list of recent activities that
4 we have been working on within our office. We
5 participated in the July BCT meeting, which is actually
6 the same presentations that were presented yesterday at
7 the technical session on the assessments for Van Etten
8 Lake. The minutes for that meeting are now posted on
9 the MPART website. They were uploaded there today. So
10 if you are curious, you can go there to see the
11 presentations and minutes from that meeting.

12 As Mark had already mentioned, we've been
13 working with EPA region five and the Air Force to talk
14 about risk assessment discussions. We're continuing to
15 work on that going forward. There's been additional
16 upper level management work and discussion on the
17 dispute resolution. That has currently not been
18 resolved, but they are planning to have another meeting
19 in a couple weeks that they will hopefully be able to
20 reach a consensus on that and that resolution hopefully
21 be concluded.

22 Vapor intrusion RI fieldwork was going on a few
23 weeks ago and has since finished up. I was able to come
24 up for a day to oversee some of the groundwater sampling
25 for that, which was always a good thing.

1 The military munitions response program,
2 activities are planning to start hopefully next month as
3 long as everything goes as planned and there's no issues
4 with the schedule. So we're looking ahead at having
5 sort of field oversight and activities for that. And
6 then we do -- or we did have a meeting with NOW on
7 August 13th. And then I just listed out the documents
8 that we've reviewed and finalized since the last meeting
9 in May. Next slide, please.

10 All right. As far as upcoming activities for
11 our office, we've had a lot of or we're going to
12 continue to have collaborations with the Air Force,
13 contractors and now with the community members as part
14 of the technical working group, development of the data
15 gap investigation work plan and activities related to
16 that. I mentioned the dispute resolution. That's going
17 to be a continuing discussion going forward along with
18 the meetings with EPA, Air Force and the community
19 members to discuss the risk assessment questions and
20 topics related to that. And those meetings are
21 happening in September for -- for the risk assessment.
22 And then preparing for that military munitions fieldwork
23 along with additional VI fieldwork later this year. And
24 then we do have another BCT meeting coming in September.
25 And then I listed out planned upcoming documents that

1 we're likely going to be seeing before the end of the
2 calendar year. And then next slide.

3 So this is my thank you to everyone, the RAB
4 members, the community members, and the other
5 governmental officials that have been on the RAB with
6 me. I have taken a different position, a promotion
7 within my unit, and I will be leaving as the project
8 manager for this site, but there will be a new project
9 manager in the very near future. I will still be around
10 as the transition period, so I won't be going too far.
11 You'll still be able to e-mail me, call me. I'm within
12 the same unit, just transitioning to be program
13 management position rather than just project management.
14 So sincerely thank you to everyone. I know this is --
15 there are always challenges for work like this, but I
16 feel like we've made really good progress and I want to
17 continue to see the site move forward. So thank you.

18 MR. TIM SUELTFUSS: Amy, thank you for -- for
19 all your efforts that helped that forward progress on it
20 and congratulations.

21 MS. AMY HANDLEY: Thank you. Mark, did you
22 have a --

23 MR. MARK HENRY: Yeah. Just one question on --
24 on slide seven on the activities. You say that the
25 SS-72 Revised Feasibility Study was finalized. What was

1 the conclusion of that FS? What is the remedy going to
2 be?

3 MS. AMY HANDLEY: Steve, did you hear that?

4 MR. STEVEN WILLIS: I did and I don't remember.
5 It's been so long since I've looked at that document I
6 don't remember off the top of my head.

7 MR. MARK HENRY: Okay.

8 MR. STEVEN WILLIS: And I -- I can -- the
9 document should be final and if it's not on the AR, it
10 will be soon.

11 MR. MARK HENRY: Okay. I can look it up on the
12 AR if it's there.

13 MS. AMY HANDLEY: Yeah. That was one that we
14 had gone back and forth with, but it was over a lengthy
15 amount of time. So I'm just not recalling at the moment
16 what the -- the final solution was for that one.

17 MR. MARK HENRY: Because I don't think the RAB
18 was included in that feasibility study analysis.

19 MR. TIM CUMMINGS: Uh-huh.

20 MR. MARK HENRY: We were?

21 MR. TIM CUMMINGS: Right. We were not.

22 MR. MARK HENRY: I didn't think so.

23 MR. TIM CUMMINGS: That's correct.

24 MS. AMY HANDLEY: So this one was just a -- a
25 revised one. It wasn't the -- the original one if I'm

1 remembering correctly. We just had to do an addition to
2 it. So I think it may have already been through review
3 in the past, but I -- that's just -- I'm -- I'm making
4 an assumption there, so maybe that's the wrong thing to
5 say. But this was just a revised version of it. To
6 make a -- an inclusion for potential future residents
7 in the area.

8 MR. MARK HENRY: Right.

9 MR. STEVEN WILLIS: We -- we updated both the
10 risk assessment and the feasibility study for -- for
11 that site to consider the hypothetical future
12 residential scenario, even though most of the site --
13 the site is on the flight line, not likely anybody is
14 going to build a house. But for Air Force in order to
15 close out a site we've got to have UUUE, and that means
16 we have to consider a residential scenario and we didn't
17 know the original risk assessment or feasibility study,
18 so we went back and did that and updated those documents
19 to include that scenario.

20 MR. MARK HENRY: I was just -- I'm sorry.

21 MR. STEVEN WILLIS: And I -- yeah, I don't
22 recall if it was a change to remedy or recommendations
23 or what.

24 MR. MARK HENRY: That was my question is if
25 there's a change in remedy.

1 MR. STEVEN WILLIS: Yeah; yeah. That I don't
2 remember.

3 MR. MARK HENRY: Thank you.

4 MR. TIM SUELTFUSS: And for those playing RAB
5 bingo, unrestricted use unlimited exposure, UUUE.

6 MR. STEVEN WILLIS: Yeah. Sorry. Thank you,
7 Tim.

8 MR. TIM SUELTFUSS: All right. Okay. Well,
9 thank you again.

10 MR. KYLE JONES: Tim?

11 MR. TIM SUELTFUSS: Yes. Go ahead, Kyle.

12 MR. KYLE JONES: I -- I wonder if Amy or -- or
13 Steve could just explain to everyone what SS-72 is? Why
14 is there a feasibility study solely for that thing and
15 what is that thing?

16 MR. STEVEN WILLIS: So I'll -- I'll take that
17 one. SS-72 was a plume that ran north/south. It
18 started on the north side of the runway at -- when the
19 Air Force operated the installation, it was the small
20 arms range for the installation. They used solvent to
21 clean guns. They had a spill there which created this
22 long skinny plume that ran from the north side of the
23 runway at what is now the Iosco County Sportsmens Club,
24 and runs all the way across the runway and down south
25 towards Clark's Marsh. So it's a long skinny plume for

1 solvent TC- -- TCE or TC -- I think it was TCE. So
2 that -- that's what the release was. Had nothing to do
3 with PFAS. It was a -- a solvent for cleaning weapons.

4 MR. TIM SUELTFUSS: Okay. Any other
5 questions for the update that Amy provided? Okay. All
6 right. If we could, let's display slide 10 for both in
7 person and remote attendees. And we have a number of
8 slides that -- that Steven will go through for the
9 Department of Air Force update here in a moment. But
10 let me just open it up to our other Government
11 Restoration Advisory Board members to see if you have
12 updates. So any updates from Au Sable Township, Oscoda
13 Township, Forest Service, Oscoda -- Oscoda Wurtsmith
14 Airport Association, MDHHS? Let's just start with Eric
15 Strayer. Anything that you would like to share?

16 MR. ERIC STRAYER: Our big push this summer has
17 been water main extension and the well abandonment that
18 goes along with it, hooking up more people to municipal
19 water. That's been one of our biggest pushes this
20 summer, so that's the only update I have.

21 MR. TIM SUELTFUSS: Okay. Thank you.
22 Appreciate it. Let's go to USDA Forest Service and Ben
23 Wiese.

24 MR. BEN WIESE: Yeah. Good afternoon. So
25 Forest Service is a -- we're a federal partner with the

1 Air Force and we -- I don't have any new updates, but I
2 just wanted to express that it has been very good
3 working with the staff we've had. I feel like
4 we've had good, transparent conversations as needed and
5 I look forward to that in the future.

6 MR. TIM SUELTFUSS: Okay. All right.
7 Thanks, Ben. Mr. Munson, anything from Oscoda
8 Wurtsmith?

9 MR. MICHAEL MUNSON: Yeah. I have a couple
10 quick bullet points. Again, Mike Manson, Oscoda
11 Wurtsmith Airport Authority. We had a very busy summer
12 this year. As you probably are well aware, we had
13 Northern Strike up here during the week of August 4th
14 through the August 15th, talking to the Air National
15 Guard folks that were the key players there as long
16 as -- as -- as well as other -- other military branches.
17 It was very successful.

18 The Sports Car Club of America has been up a
19 number of weekends using what we call the Oscoda apron
20 for their sports car club activity.

21 We had to buy a new piece of runway evaluation
22 equipment this year to address the new FAA friction
23 number system. Because as you well are aware, we've got
24 a fairly long runway and we bring in fairly large
25 airplanes that it's important that the pilots understand

1 what they're landing on. So the FAA, they're treating
2 us almost like a Part 139, i.e., a commercial airport in
3 regards to providing these numbers.

4 We've updated our snow removal -- I shouldn't
5 say updated. We've serviced those for our busy winter
6 year. We had a really tough one last year. So there's
7 a lot of activity to bring those up to speed. We have
8 that. We have finished the -- the completion of Oscoda
9 apron updates and bringing that up to speed. We have a
10 project that we're starting to look at, the south
11 central airport grass area, to bring in water and sewer
12 for new hangars. We're trying to expand the
13 operation -- the aviation operation of the airport.

14 And finally, I'm glad to see later in the
15 packet, I think we're going to talk about the project
16 that is going to address resealing of the storm sewer
17 joints. This is a storm sewer that's the responsibility
18 of the township as they -- as they handle all of that
19 storm sewer activity, but it's being contaminated with
20 Air Force contaminated groundwater. So I'm -- I'm very
21 positive to see that project is moving along. It seemed
22 to be at a snail's pace at -- as well as everything else
23 that we're -- we're addressing. But hopefully, we can
24 get that addressed to address EGLE's concern of this
25 storm sewer taking on contaminated groundwater and it --

1 it ends up in --

2 MR. MARK HENRY: Three Pipes.

3 MR. MICHAEL MUNSON: -- yes, Three Pipes.

4 That's it. Thank you.

5 MR. TIM SUELTFUSS: Okay. Well, it sounds
6 like it has been a busy summer.

7 MR. MICHAEL MUNSON: Yes.

8 MR. TIM SUELTFUSS: Thank you. Appreciate
9 that. Okay. Let's turn to Michigan Department of
10 Health and Human Services please.

11 MS. STACI BATOR: Hi, everybody. Staci Bator.
12 I'm with MDHHS. And I do have a handful of updates for
13 you all. A few of them have been touched upon, so
14 excuse me if there are some repeats. But MDHHS's annual
15 residential well sampling for PFAS is currently in
16 process. Recruitment letters are going out this week
17 and appointments for water sample collection will be
18 made in the coming weeks.

19 As a follow up to previous attempts, another
20 call was made to contact the Oscoda Sportsmens Club to
21 offer water sampling for metals and POC's. However, the
22 call was unanswered. We left a voicemail for them.
23 Hopefully they'll return our call on that.

24 Several homes in the area have been offered
25 municipal water connection by Oscoda Township. And for

1 those homes that are eligible to connect, the deadline
2 for accepting the offer is August 31st. We have sent
3 letters to residents letting them know that if they are
4 eligible for free connection to municipal water, we will
5 no longer be able to provide free filters once
6 connections are complete.

7 Replacement signs for the requested recreation
8 areas are taking a little longer than we had hoped, but
9 they are -- they have now been ordered and we will
10 provide an update once they are in place. As Cathy
11 mentioned, the updated Eat -- Michigan Eat Safe Fish
12 Guidelines are -- were released earlier this summer and
13 they can be found on the MDHHS website for your
14 reference.

15 And then I have an update on the Oscoda Area
16 Exposure assessment. So as of August 25th, that's where
17 these numbers -- when these numbers were last updated.
18 We're continuing to send results packets to participants
19 as we receive them from the lab. But so far we have
20 sent 926 PFAS results letters, 122 metals results
21 letters, 744 PCBs or polychlorinated biphenyls; OCPs,
22 organochlorine pesticides; PBBs, polybrominated
23 biphenyls; and PBDEs, polybrominated diphenyl ether
24 result letters. There is a By The Numbers info graphic
25 that provides more detail about the OAEA data collection,

1 and that can be found on the OAEA website. The numbers
2 provided here today are the most up-to-date. The OAEA
3 website is periodically updated, but the -- the numbers
4 that I -- I mentioned tonight were, are most recent.
5 And that's all I had tonight.

6 MR. TIM SUELTFUSS: Thank you very much.
7 Appreciate that. Let's go to Oscoda Township. Mr.
8 Cummings?

9 MR. TIM CUMMINGS: Sure. Tim Cummings. And
10 the -- really, the only update that I wanted to mention
11 here is what we'll already talked about later today and
12 that is the addition of the Oscoda Township engineer to
13 the technical working group. We've talked about this,
14 Mr. Willis, and I've been in touch with our
15 superintendent. We thought it was a good idea. So the
16 board of trustees officially appointed Mr. Rick Freeman,
17 our township engineer, to attend or be involved to
18 whatever maximum capacity the Air Force is willing to
19 let our engineer participate. And I understand he did
20 receive an invitation for the meeting tomorrow. So we
21 know that's kicking off. And we're hoping to discuss
22 the charter to include him in a more official capacity,
23 encompassing capacity. That's it. Thank you.

24 MR. TIM SUELTFUSS: All right. Thank you.
25 We are all literally arm in arm here. I don't think

1 Denise Bryan is down there. Do we have Denise Bryan? I
2 don't think so.

3 MR. MARK HENRY: She's on vacation.

4 MR. TIM SUELTFUSS: Yeah. Gotcha. Okay.
5 Okay. Well, so let's go ahead and -- and move then to
6 slide 11. And for tech support, if you all don't mind
7 ensuring that this is visible as well to the remote
8 attendees? It looks like it's bouncing on and off to
9 me.

10 So let's turn now for the DAF update. You may
11 have heard this -- this acronym, Department of the Air
12 Force. So we'll turn to Steven Willis.

13 MR. STEVEN WILLIS: All right. Thanks, Tim.
14 One thing before I jump into what's on the slides. I
15 talked to a couple folks before the meeting tonight. I
16 think two -- two or three RAB meetings ago I provided
17 information for those that paid out of pocket to connect
18 to municipal water. Contact information for -- for the
19 office at Wright-Patterson Air Force Base in Ohio for
20 them to reach out -- reach out to that group to seek
21 reimbursement. And I talked to one gentleman tonight
22 that submitted his forms he's indicating six months ago
23 and has gotten zero feedback from them. So I took down
24 his contact information. I'll follow up with that
25 office and see what the issue is.

1 But if there's others in the community that
2 submitted a request, and have gotten no feedback in --
3 in several months, feel free to reach out to me and
4 provide me with your contact information, and I'll
5 follow up with that office and try and get you some
6 feedback on where your request stands. I personally
7 have no involvement in that process. It's handled by
8 the legal community at Wright-Patterson. And so I --
9 I -- I don't have the visibility into the -- in the
10 process of where they are. But if you give me your
11 contact information, I'll be happy to contact them and
12 see what I can find out and provide that back to you.
13 So either at the break or after the meeting, if you
14 could follow up with me and get your information,
15 I'll -- I'll see what I can find out on it.

16 Back to the slides now. We did have our tech
17 session yesterday afternoon in the Holiday Inn Express
18 conference room. We did -- as was mentioned by a couple
19 folks, we did go through an evaluation of the conceptual
20 site models that both the Air Force's contractor,
21 Noblis, as well as EGLE's contractor GeoSyntec went
22 through an assessment. And the indication for the RAB
23 members, we talked about this yesterday, the -- the
24 results today indicate that groundwater is not
25 flowing under Van Etten Lake to the other side, but the

1 Noblis assessment did identify some data gaps that we'll
2 work to address. For the RAB members at the table, your
3 handout says it concluded. But as we talked yesterday,
4 there are some data gaps. And so at this point, we'll
5 say that the data indicates that it does not flow under,
6 but we have not closed the door on that topic yet. And
7 we will talk about that further in as an item for
8 the technical working group as we continue to move
9 forward with that group. And we do have the kickoff
10 meeting for the technical working group tomorrow
11 morning. Later tonight, Community RAB members will
12 elect two representatives for that technical working
13 group.

14 MR. MARK HENRY: (Indiscernible).

15 MR. STEVEN WILLIS: Tonight, yeah. And we're
16 doing that before the break; right?

17 MR. TIM SUELTFUSS: Yes.

18 MR. STEVEN WILLIS: Okay. So the -- the hope
19 is to get that done before the break and let the two
20 individuals that are elected know who they are, although
21 I think we all have a pretty good idea who that's going
22 to be. Next slide.

23 We had our -- as Amy indicated we had our BCT
24 meeting in July. The minutes for that I did e-mail to
25 all the RAB members yesterday. It included the slide

1 packages that were provided during the tech session
2 yesterday, so you do have all that information. Those
3 will also be added to the admin record and a copy will
4 be put in the library. During that BCT meeting we did
5 also talk with EGLE about some of their comments on the
6 Draft Final 2024 Long Term Monitoring Report, as well as
7 we had some discussion on the -- their initial comments
8 on the 2023 Pump and Treat System Report. And as I just
9 indicated, the minutes for that meeting are going to be
10 in the library, or they are.

11 This slide, the next one, and this is some of
12 the successes for FY -- just a reminder, the government
13 works on a fiscal year, which is different from the
14 calendar year. It's beginning of October through
15 September of the following year. And so for FY25,
16 that's a fiscal year '25, some successes. We did get
17 the Alert Aircraft IRA up and running in late January.
18 We do plan to do a performance assessment of that system
19 after we've collected 12 months of data. That's the way
20 we've done -- it's been done. The other treatment
21 systems at Wurtsmith is we try and collect a full year
22 of data before we start doing an assessment of it. And
23 the doing tweaks on pumping rates, changing extraction
24 well locations or whatever is appropriate based on the
25 year's data.

1 Now, Tony, you had some interest in seeing
2 the -- the data that's been collected to date. And we
3 can share the effluent results for that system. It'll
4 show you that the system is consistently discharging at
5 non-detect. But in terms of a -- a system performance
6 evaluation, we'll do that at the end of the year. So
7 good -- we --

8 MR. TONY SPANIOLA: But you -- excuse me -- but
9 you have data now --

10 MR. TIM SUELTFUSS: If I could get a
11 microphone real quick? Sorry, sir. Thanks for your
12 patience.

13 MR. TONY SPANIOLA: Thank you. No. Thank you.
14 Tony Spaniola. I guess you have -- you already have
15 data that exists. The Air Force already has data that
16 exists for -- for monitoring that's been done. And --
17 and understanding that -- that the Air Force is looking
18 to do a full 12 months, I don't understand why the Air
19 Force is refusing to release the data that currently
20 exists. We were promised -- we were promised -- we were
21 promised transparency. We were promised collaboration.
22 That was done here by Air Force leadership. And we're
23 smart enough to be able to review documents and
24 understand that they're -- that they are interim. But
25 to withhold data, I think, is in violation of that

1 spirit. The spirit of that commitment that was made to
2 this group by Air Force leadership in November. So I am
3 beyond disappointed to hear that.

4 MR. STEVEN WILLIS: So, again, we don't have
5 system performance data. We are not doing a system
6 assessment to look at the -- the draw down on the water
7 to see how it's performing. Let the system run for a
8 year before we start collecting and looking at that
9 data. We do have sampling results and I'll be happy to
10 share those with you.

11 MR. TONY SPANIOLA: Okay. But just to be
12 clear, when we met in May I specifically asked -- and I
13 read the transcript yesterday. I specifically asked
14 if -- if you had data to show whether or not you were
15 pumping clean or contaminated water up into those
16 extraction wells. I was told you did. Either you do or
17 you don't. If you do, again, I'm going to request that
18 it be shared now.

19 MR. STEVEN WILLIS: Okay.

20 MR. TONY SPANIOLA: Do you have it?

21 MR. STEVEN WILLIS: I'll go back and look at
22 what we've got and we can share that.

23 MR. TONY SPANIOLA: Thank you.

24 MR. STEVEN WILLIS: So moving on. We are as I
25 think -- I think Mike Munson mentioned, we are working

1 with the township to seal the stormwater pipe joints
2 for the system that discharges to the Three Pipes Ditch.
3 We are doing that as a CERCLA non-time critical removal
4 action. And so we have submitted a draft environmental
5 services agreement to the township for their review. We
6 received feedback from them, and we're working through
7 their comments to try and get that finalized and back to
8 them for signature and the Air Force will sign that. So
9 we're continue to move that process. And I have a slide
10 later that kind of outlines the timeline for that non-time
11 critical removal action.

12 MR. MICHAEL MUNSON: And, Steve, thank you for
13 taking the bull by the horns. And, Dave, I look to you
14 to make sure we don't drop this. When things get
15 moved -- and I'm not -- and I'm not saying you will, but
16 when things get moved from one controlling operation to
17 another, things tend to fall by the wayside. This is
18 very important because the air -- the airport is
19 being tagged with this contamination. And we're --
20 we're being held under the thumb by EGLE right now. So
21 by all means, please make that one of your top
22 priorities.

23 MR. STEVEN WILLIS: We will.

24 MR. MICHAEL MUNSON: Thank you.

25 MR. STEVEN WILLIS: Over the last few years

1 it's been requested from the community as well as EGLE
2 for additional IRAs. The -- the Air Force did a
3 critical process analysis, it's been almost two years
4 ago now, did recommend IRAs for both the wastewater
5 treatment plant as well as the Three Pipes. The
6 non-time critical removal to seal the pipe is phase one
7 associated with the discharge at Three Pipes. The
8 second phase to it is a source area treatment which,
9 again, was recommended by the critical process
10 analysis team. We are working, as I speak, to get a
11 contract awarded for both of those R- -- IRAs. And our
12 plan is to have that contract awarded by the end of
13 September, which is the end of the government fiscal
14 year. And so far, everything is on track to get that
15 done.

16 And then we're also working to get the data gap
17 investigation contract awarded by the end of September.
18 That one is actually a little further along than the two
19 IRAs and I'm -- I'm confident that that's to be awarded
20 soon. Next slide.

21 This is some of the FY26, fiscal year '26,
22 Planned Activities. We will be doing a QAPP addendum
23 for the PFAS data gap investigation to finish that work.
24 We already have a PFAS QAPP and addendum one, which the
25 QAPP -- which the RAB did review and comment on.

1 Because we're having some additional work that's not
2 covered under the current QAPP, we will do another
3 addendum under that. We will share it with EGLE and the
4 RAB and we'll get that finalized before we start
5 fieldwork next summer or late spring, early summer. As
6 soon as we get in the field.

7 We are in the process of completing the
8 predesign investigation for the DRMO and LF030/031 IRAs.
9 The contractor has been able to collect most of that
10 work. They've got one more round of predesign critical
11 aquifer sampling data collection to finish that
12 up. We'll roll all that information into the design.
13 As we get that information compiled, we can share that
14 with the RAB on what the findings and what impact, if
15 any, that has on the design of the system based on what
16 the critical process analysis team recommended.

17 As I said earlier, we're working on that
18 non-time critical removal action to seal the -- the
19 stormwater pipe joints. It's an 1800 foot section. So
20 we're -- we're planning to finish that as I'll show on
21 the schedule later, finish the actual fieldwork for that
22 early next year -- or early next summer.

23 As I said, we're planning to award the contract
24 for the design and implementation of the Three Pipe
25 source area IRA. And so the expectation is we'll do

1 that predesign investigation next year and roll that
2 into the final design. And the same for the wastewater
3 treatment plant. Next slide.

4 All right. Now, we'll talk a little more
5 detail on several of those projects. We've got a
6 timeline as well as any updates. This is for the PFAS
7 RI through the final remedial actions shown on the
8 timeline. We are a little bit behind on getting the --
9 the Preliminary Characterization Summary Report. And
10 this is sort of a precursor to an RI Report. It only
11 really covers the first four chapters of what is in a
12 traditional RI. It does not include risk assessment.
13 It doesn't include recommendations. It's basically a
14 compilation of all the information that's been collected
15 to date and the Air Force is still reviewing and
16 resolving comments on that document. We'll share it
17 with EGLE and then we will make it available to the RAB,
18 but that is continuing to move forward.

19 MR. MARK HENRY: Steve, before you leave that
20 slide?

21 MR. STEVEN WILLIS: Uh-huh.

22 MR. MARK HENRY: Mark Henry. We were told that
23 we would have the opportunity to review and comment on
24 the QAPP addendum for the data gap investigation, but
25 there does not seem to be a star here in January for

1 public review and comment on that document.

2 MR. STEVEN WILLIS: Sure. I can add a star.
3 That -- that is not -- actually, unlike some of the
4 other documents which is a separate special public
5 comment period, the RAB's review is concurrent with
6 EGLE's for that.

7 MR. MARK HENRY: Okay.

8 MR. STEVEN WILLIS: But I can put a star on top
9 of that timeline just so you -- for planning purposes.

10 MR. MARK HENRY: Appreciate that. Thank you.

11 MR. STEVEN WILLIS: Okay. Let's see. Next
12 slide.

13 This is the long range schedule for the DRMO
14 and LF030/031 IRA. So far we're on schedule. As I just
15 mentioned earlier, the pre-design fieldwork is nearly
16 complete. We've got one -- one last mobilization,
17 working through some -- working through access with the
18 YMCA, as well as some additional properties in that
19 area, but expect to finish that soon.

20 MR. MARK HENRY: Excuse me. Steve?

21 MR. STEVEN WILLIS: Yeah.

22 MR. MARK HENRY: Is there -- is the work plan
23 for that work in the administrative record?

24 MR. STEVEN WILLIS: I -- off the top of my head
25 I don't know. If it's not, I'll add it there.

1 MR. TIM SUELTFUSS: Thank you.

2 MR. STEVEN WILLIS: It should be, but I'm --
3 I'm not going to guarantee it.

4 MR. MARK HENRY: I'd like to see, and the rest
5 of the RAB would like to see what has been planned for
6 that pre-design investigation.

7 MR. STEVEN WILLIS: All right. Next slide is
8 slide 17. This one -- this is the non-time critical
9 removal action I mentioned earlier for the Three Pipes
10 stormwater system. This give you a figure. It shows the
11 1800 foot stretch of the pipe that we are
12 planning to work with the township to seal. Because the
13 Air Force doesn't own that infrastructure, it was
14 transferred to the township actually many decades ago,
15 we are working with them to have them contract for the
16 work -- design and contract for the work, and we'll pay
17 the bill. So it won't cost the township anything, but
18 we are going to work together with them to make sure
19 that the -- the -- the work gets spec'd and the contract
20 gets awarded and that we all get the product that we
21 want in the end. So we have been in discussions with
22 their engineer on that and are continuing to move
23 forward.

24 Because we are doing it as a -- as a non-time
25 critical removal action, we do have to do an EE/CA, or

1 an engineering evaluation and cost analysis, as well as
2 hold a public comment period and prepare an action
3 memorandum. So the next slide --

4 MR. ARNIE LERICHE: Steve? Before you go past
5 this slide?

6 MR. STEVEN WILLIS: Go ahead, Arnie.

7 MR. ARNIE LERICHE: Just a quick question.

8 MR. TIM SUELTFUSS: And, Arnie, if you could
9 just get right up to the microphone?

10 MR. ARNIE LERICHE: Sure. This is Arnie -- Arnie
11 Leriche. Since the Air Force is paying the money to
12 have this upgrade because the system is not stopping the
13 groundwater plume, groundwater, and you're jointly, the
14 two, the township and the Air Force I -- I understand is
15 jointly going to make sure the contractor does it to the
16 specs of the contract as a joint. I got that from what
17 you just said; right? Is that correct?

18 MR. STEVEN WILLIS: Correct. Right. We'll
19 work together.

20 MR. ARNIE LERICHE: Okay. I would guess that
21 all the other storm sewers on the base are over 30 years
22 old, and we know that the township doesn't have a real
23 updated maintenance plan for the system. So is it
24 possible that your team, that it's going to make sure it
25 meets specs when they install it?

1 MR. STEVEN WILLIS: So before --

2 MR. ARNIE LERICHE: Or it could share -- or it
3 could share an active base that has a maintenance plan
4 for their storm sewers that you could share with them to
5 get them started on what the issues are before this
6 happens so at least they know and the public knows that
7 it's going to last or main -- maintained?

8 MR. STEVEN WILLIS: So we are not -- we are not
9 paying for repairs or maintenance to the stormwater.

10 MR. ARNIE LERICHE: No.

11 MR. STEVEN WILLIS: We are specifically
12 addressing a CERCLA release of PFAS getting into a storm
13 water system that was never designed as a sealed system.
14 The system in this particular section, and we believe at
15 least one other portion of the system was actual -- is
16 actually sitting in the groundwater. And so anyone
17 that's familiar with the area knows that water flows
18 24/7, 365 days a year. Normal stormwater system only
19 has water in it when it rains. That's -- it's designed
20 for that. And it's never designed as a sealed system.
21 This particular one sits in groundwater, and it --
22 it creates a conduit for the Air Force's PFAS in
23 groundwater to flow directly through the pipe, down the
24 ditch and into the Au Sable River. So we are addressing
25 that release under this non-time critical removal. It's

1 not a maintenance program or anything like that.

2 MR. ARNIE LERICHE: No; no, it's not.

3 MR. STEVEN WILLIS: And so I just want -- want
4 to make sure that people understand that we're not
5 maintaining the system. We're not helping them.

6 MR. ARNIE LERICHE: I'm not asking you to
7 maintain it after you --

8 MR. TIM SUELTFUSS: Let me -- let me jump in
9 real quick. Steve, why don't you finish and then,
10 Arnie, we're going to go right back to you.

11 MR. ARNIE LERICHE: Okay.

12 MR. TIM SUELTFUSS: Steve?

13 MR. STEVEN WILLIS: I would assume that as a
14 township, they've got plenty of other stormwater
15 systems, you know, in -- in the township that -- that
16 they would have a plan for maintaining them. I -- I can
17 reach out, see if I can find some kind of a stormwater
18 maintenance program in an active installation, see if I
19 can get that and then I can share it. You know, I
20 can't --

21 MR. ARNIE LERICHE: That's basically what --

22 MR. STEVEN WILLIS: -- I can't make any
23 promises on what I can get or anything, but I'll look
24 into it. There -- as I indicated earlier, there is at
25 least one other section upgradient of -- of this

1 location we would believe is sitting in groundwater as
2 well. And so as part of the data gap investigation, we
3 are going to evaluate that. And if we have the same
4 situation, we'll address that as well.

5 MR. ARNIE LERICHE: Thank you.

6 MR. TIM SUELTFUSS: Great. Thank you.

7 MR. KYLE JONES: Steve?

8 MR. TIM SUELTFUSS: Yes, Kyle?

9 MR. KYLE JONES: Steve, regarding this slide
10 and the -- the -- the NTCRA for the stormwater line
11 that discharges to the Three Pipes Ditch, because the
12 Air Force is not doing the design work nor the
13 implementation of the sealing of the pipe, but had it --
14 were the Air Force to be doing that work, you would have
15 certain specifications and, you know, design --
16 engineering design requirements and implementation work
17 requirements to ensure that the work is done properly
18 and that it, as you said a minute ago, it -- it -- it is
19 doing what it was intended to do. What kind of
20 oversight or is the Air Force overseeing or been
21 working -- I know you said you're working with them, but
22 I want -- I just want to understand from a true
23 engineering oversight for making sure the thing is doing
24 what the Air Force wants it to do because after all if
25 it doesn't, you're still liable.

1 MR. STEVEN WILLIS: Right.

2 MR. KYLE JONES: What -- what is the Air Force
3 going to do about ensuring that the design looks right
4 and that the installation of the actual fix is -- is
5 done properly?

6 MR. STEVEN WILLIS: So we're still working
7 through the details of the actual execution of that, but
8 the expectation is that we will review the design.
9 Township will contract for that design, the Air Force
10 will review it, provide inputs, design needs to set --
11 meet our satisfaction. And then the actual
12 implementation, we're still working through how the
13 final inspection would be documented and confirm that it
14 meets both our requirements and theirs. But we -- we
15 have every intention of ensuring that we get what we
16 paid for and, you know, obviously, the township wants
17 the same thing because it's they're going to own the
18 system going forward, and continue to be responsible for
19 it. So we want -- you know, we -- we both want to walk
20 away from this as a win-win. But the specific details
21 have not been worked out yet on who's going to do what,
22 when, where, how. That's what we're working through
23 now.

24 MR. KYLE JONES: Okay. Thank you for that.
25 I -- and I'm going to ask a -- a question both to you

1 and to Tim Cummings. What -- how are you deciding whom
2 to bid out the -- the engineering or what firm to hire
3 to do this work that you're going to pay for -- that the
4 Air Force is going to pay for?

5 MR. TIM CUMMINGS: I don't know I can answer
6 that. I haven't seen it. We haven't done it yet.
7 We -- we -- we haven't -- we don't have what we need to
8 be able to answer that question.

9 MR. KYLE JONES: Do you --

10 MR. TIM CUMMINGS: I don't know.

11 MR. KYLE JONES: Okay. So I guess the question
12 is how do you even know whom to go to?

13 MR. TIM CUMMINGS: Correct. We have -- we
14 literally have to work through our township engineer and
15 try to see who's in the network to be able to provide
16 that service.

17 MR. KYLE JONES: Okay. Can the Air Force help
18 them in that regard?

19 MR. STEVEN WILLIS: And -- yes. We have -- we
20 are aware of two companies with the -- with the
21 capability to do this type of work. We'll provide
22 contact information for both of those firms. The
23 township is free to bring in other vendors as well. You
24 know, we're not limiting that, but we are aware of two
25 and so we want to at least get those out there as

1 candidates.

2 MR. KYLE JONES: Is the Air Force going to
3 participate in the selection process?

4 MR. STEVEN WILLIS: I would expect not. But,
5 again, we have not worked through all those details.

6 MR. KYLE JONES: Okay.

7 MR. TIM SUELTFUSS: So I -- I do realize
8 there are a lot of questions out there. We do have a --
9 quite a bit of time reserved for RAB member questions
10 toward the end of our discussion. Let me suggest we go
11 ahead and proceed through the remaining slides you have
12 here, Steve, see if there are any critical questions we
13 want to address right now. But if something's in your
14 mind that you want to address, you may also note it down
15 and -- and address it during the RAB member questions.
16 Steve?

17 MR. STEVEN WILLIS: Okay. So slide 18.
18 This -- this maps out the timeline for the -- the EE/CA
19 as I mentioned, as well as the public comment period and
20 the action memorandum concurrent with this. We're
21 working with the township on the Environmental Services
22 Agreement. The township will do the design, award the
23 contract, and then the joint sealing will be
24 implemented. We had hoped to get it done before the
25 winter, but based on -- on the activities that need to

1 be done and part of this process is going to require us
2 to install an additional manhole in the pipe section for
3 safety reasons, otherwise we've got people entering a
4 confined space. I don't know how many are familiar with
5 that, but it's basically a space that was not intended
6 to be occupied. This is a six-foot diameter pipe and
7 it's 1800 feet long. So if somebody gets in it and gets
8 1800 feet from the entrance and has an incident, heart
9 attack, whatever the case, rescue operations are pretty
10 challenging. So we're going to put a manhole midway
11 through that to improve access. But one of the things
12 we have to do -- because as I said, the pipe sits in the
13 groundwater, so we're going to have to de-water that.
14 The last thing we want to do is pump all that water out
15 and put it in tanks and then it freezes. So we don't
16 want to do this anywhere close to the winter, so -- so
17 for -- for -- really for efficiency and getting it done,
18 I think the fieldwork will probably start, like,
19 April/May of next year. We anticipate two to three
20 months to finish it. That's based on conversations with
21 vendors as well as the township.

22 This slide is the -- kind of the long range
23 forecast for the Three Pipes source area. The other was
24 the what's coming out of the outlet. This is to address
25 the source area for that. Again, as I mentioned

1 earlier, the critical process analysis team recommended
2 an -- an IRA. They gave us a conceptual design. That
3 conceptual design did include foam fractionation. This
4 was all briefed to the RAB I want to say a year ago this
5 past January. So I guess it's been over a year and a
6 half now. But this is -- this is moving on schedule.
7 We'll get that award -- contractor awarded by the end of
8 the next month. Next slide.

9 And the other part of that contract in the IRA
10 recommendation was a -- a IRA at the wastewater
11 treatment plant to address PFAS down in Clark's Marsh.
12 Recommendation for the conceptual design was a
13 horizontal reactive treatment well. This is a new
14 technology as well as the foam fractionation we have not
15 used at Wurtsmith in the past, but we are moving forward
16 with awarding that contract. It will be in the same
17 contract as the Three Pipe source area.

18 MR. MARK HENRY: Excuse me.

19 MR. STEVEN WILLIS: Yeah. Go ahead.

20 MR. MARK HENRY: Are those two contracts then
21 going to be going to the same contractor?

22 MR. STEVEN WILLIS: It will be -- be one
23 contract, both projects, one contractor, yep.

24 MR. MARK HENRY: Thank you.

25 MR. TIM SUELTFUSS: All right. Anything else

1 that you would like to share, Steve?

2 MR. STEVEN WILLIS: No. I'm -- I think we're
3 good.

4 MR. TIM SUELTFUSS: All right.

5 MR. ARNIE LERICHE: Tim?

6 MR. TIM SUELTFUSS: Yes? Arnie?

7 MR. ARNIE LERICHE: Just there are two
8 wastewater treatment plant titles that include those
9 words in the briefing here. The township has one and
10 the workgroup is going to be -- or Mark definitely is
11 helping them understand things. But you just mentioned
12 a key word. This treatment plant on page 20 design is
13 Clark's Marsh. It's the Air Force hold on Clark's
14 Marsh. So in future presentations or discussions, we
15 got to make sure the public knows the title is not just
16 wastewater treatment plant. Yours is separate than
17 theirs.

18 MR. STEVEN WILLIS: Okay. I understand what
19 you're saying.

20 MR. TIM SUELTFUSS: Great. Thanks, Arnie.
21 Mark Henry?

22 MR. MARK HENRY: I had one question regarding
23 the Three Pipes -- not the IRA, but the time --
24 non-time critical action. Is the Air Force and the
25 town- -- and/or the township going to require a

1 guarantee from the contractor about the longevity of the
2 fix?

3 MR. STEVEN WILLIS: We will require a warranty.
4 We included that in the environmental services
5 agreement. What exactly that warranty will be, I
6 don't -- we haven't worked out that detail.

7 MR. MARK HENRY: Okay. Thank you.

8 MR. STEVEN WILLIS: But -- but, yeah. We
9 absolutely want some type of a warranty.

10 MR. MARK HENRY: Uh-huh.

11 MR. TIM SUELTFUSS: Okay. All right. So
12 let's go ahead and display slide 21 and actually we can
13 move to slide 22.

14 (RAB Business at 6:12 p.m.)

15 MR. TIM SUELTFUSS: We're now in the RAB
16 Business portion of our agenda tonight. I'm going to
17 address the first bullet here. We'll go to the next
18 slide and talk about action items, and then we'll come
19 back to the technical working group bullet discussion
20 because that's where we'll have our vote as well.

21 The first one indicates a need to schedule a
22 separate discussion about meeting standards before those
23 are adopted during the November RAB meeting. Again, we
24 have our constitution, the RAB operating procedures,
25 that says what agencies are represented on the RAB, how

1 many community RAB member positions are there, how many
2 government RAB member positions are there. It says how
3 frequently -- frequently should we meet, how do you
4 select co-chairs and so on.

5 There is also a document that we developed
6 years ago called the "Meeting Standards," and that just
7 provides a little bit more detail. So how often or how
8 early in advance of meetings should the RAB presentation
9 be issued? It even, I think, indicated what's the best
10 seating arrangement to have. How do we work with
11 virtual attendees and remote attendees, in person
12 attendees, and so on. So that's what that meeting
13 standards is about. I know you've had some discussion
14 here, but let me just turn to Steve and Mark to see if
15 there's anything you'd like to hit on the meeting
16 standards discussion.

17 MR. MARK HENRY: Nothing from me. I --

18 MR. STEVEN WILLIS: Yeah. I think there's just
19 still some unresolved comments that we need to work
20 through before we can bring those for a vote.

21 MR. MARK HENRY: And I think those can be
22 handled pretty readily, so I'm hoping that between now
23 and then we can get this hammered out.

24 MR. TIM SUELTFUSS: Okay. Well, good. If we
25 could, let's go ahead and -- and jump to slide 23.

1 We'll come back to slide 22. In the RAB Business
2 portion, we want to talk about action items. We have,
3 as a standard practice, a virtual action item review
4 meeting that's typically conducted 30 days after each
5 RAB meeting. One occurred on the 9th of July, and
6 another one is scheduled for 24 September at 6:00 p.m.,
7 about an hour and a half virtual meeting. So you'll be
8 receiving information about that soon, RAB members. I
9 will -- I am in the process of capturing what I hear as
10 maybe potential action items. I'll be sharing that with
11 the co-chairs after this meeting and then we'll have
12 some discussion on the 24th of September about that.

13 In relation to kind of an action item status
14 update since our May meeting, one action item was
15 opened, 13 action items were closed, and 26 of those
16 action items are ongoing. Lots of work going on. So
17 we'll -- we'll be trying to track those well. I will
18 take over version control to keep a running list of
19 those action items and -- and we go from there.

20 Any discussion on what I've covered so far on
21 action items or meeting standards before we talk
22 technical working group? Yes, ma'am.

23 MS. CATHY WUSTERBARTH: I -- I just have a
24 comment. Cathy Wusterbarth. It looks like the comments
25 and resolution section of the action item list now

1 has -- have -- have dates on status updates. And I just
2 want to thank you for including those. It's very
3 helpful.

4 MR. STEVEN WILLIS: Okay. Yeah, I started
5 adding those because it -- it -- it does get confusing
6 when some of these drags out --

7 MS. CATHY WUSTERBARTH: It sure does.

8 MR. STEVEN WILLIS: -- and are updated two or
9 three times, and figuring out what -- what was said when
10 and what the plan was.

11 MS. CATHY WUSTERBARTH: Thanks.

12 MR. TIM SUELTFUSS: Thanks. Okay. Yes.
13 Arnie Leriche?

14 MR. ARNIE LERICHE: I want to thank Steven.
15 He's -- he's implemented a suggestion that a couple of
16 us, Cathy and myself, have -- have asked for and it is
17 on the first page of the action item list. He's now
18 highlighting and separating the updated comments so that
19 the most recent one is first, but it's highlighted. It
20 separates. Before it was just open text, connected, you
21 never knew when one quarter was being updated. So I
22 appreciate that, Steven.

23 The thing is that I want to open an action item
24 regarding how the action items are developed from the
25 meeting to the action item follow-up meeting with the

1 Air Force because -- and I'm not complaining, but things
2 happen, but vacations and out-of-state by some members,
3 contractor and the Air Force is -- is not a fault thing,
4 but it just happened. But only one action item was
5 captured by the facilitator for that May meeting. On
6 average there is five to six. So I'd like to think
7 about -- have the Air Force think and see if there's
8 some way that we can augment that sometime before the
9 next action item meeting.

10 The other thing that happened was the
11 transcript of the meeting minutes were not available to
12 the public for two months after the meeting. And that
13 we couldn't even -- we didn't have anything, any basis
14 to help us know what we said and what should have been
15 captured as an AI. And the video didn't happen until
16 the week before today. So things happen and that type
17 stuff, but if we could work on those, I'd appreciate it.

18 MR. STEVEN WILLIS: Yeah. And we -- we did
19 have problems getting stuff uploaded to the RAB website.
20 As you indicated, the RAB -- video from the last RAB
21 meeting didn't finally get uploaded until last week. It
22 did take longer to get the transcript up there. We've
23 made some changes to the process and personnel, and so
24 we had to work through that. But I think we've got
25 it -- got it worked out and I think we should see stuff

1 up there faster now.

2 MR. ARNIE LERICHE: Okay. Another action item
3 is we need to come up with a schedule in the meeting
4 minutes of the meeting, the RAB meeting, and then the
5 RAB has the availability of those two documents, the
6 minutes and the video, before the co-chair meeting if
7 possible, but definitely before the AI meeting.
8 Because otherwise, you know, that's going to be set.

9 MR. TIM SUELTFUSS: So, Arnie, it sounds like
10 it's -- it's helpful to you as you prepare for that
11 action item review meeting to go back through the
12 transcript, maybe look at the video, refresh your memory
13 of what was discussed?

14 MR. ARNIE LERICHE: It should be available to
15 the community, to the RAB --

16 MR. TIM SUELTFUSS: Yeah.

17 MR. ARNIE LERICHE: -- for at least two weeks
18 before any further action or at least a week, but not
19 afterwards.

20 MR. TIM SUELTFUSS: Yeah. Okay.

21 MR. ARNIE LERICHE: Okay? And then the very
22 last thing is on the page 23, the -- the status, closed,
23 open, ongoing. I'd like to request an amendment to 123
24 is still open, ongoing, but a couple meetings ago, 120,
25 which regards foam -- surface water foam, on a health

1 impact basis because it was a toxicologist who is --
2 been working with our community group for years, and she
3 made a comment. She developed that 120. It's now in
4 the data gap investigation list for discussion. So I'd
5 like to change that from closed to open.

6 MR. TIM SUELTFUSS: Okay. And, I'm sorry,
7 you're saying 1- -- 120 --

8 MR. ARNIE LERICHE: Action item 120 on the
9 closed should show as closed, but it's not, but on the
10 list it is. Is, I guess, is an error now that I notice
11 it.

12 MR. STEVEN WILLIS: So likely was closed prior
13 to this list. This -- in this quarter.

14 MR. ARNIE LERICHE: Yeah; yeah. It probably
15 was.

16 MR. TIM SUELTFUSS: And so, Arnie, what I'm
17 hearing is a -- a request to confirm the status of
18 action item 120?

19 MR. ARNIE LERICHE: Right. Because that action
20 item is -- should be reopened because it's now a data
21 gap investigation item.

22 MR. TIM SUELTFUSS: Gotcha.

23 MR. ARNIE LERICHE: But the topic is very valid
24 to people.

25 MR. TIM SUELTFUSS: I'll capture that. Thank

1 you very much.

2 MR. ARNIE LERICHE: Thanks.

3 MR. TIM SUELTFUSS: And, you know, one of the
4 things I'll do in -- in my role here also is to try to
5 take some lessons learned from other forums like this,
6 how action items are managed, to make sure that it's a
7 helpful process, that it's not overly cumbersome as
8 well. So as I get back engaged on this, I'll -- I'll
9 try to do what I can to be helpful in that respect.
10 Yeah. Okay. Well, good. Let me see if we can move
11 back to slide 22.

12 (Technical Working Group Discussion and Vote at
13 6:21 p.m.)

14 MR. TIM SUELTFUSS: We're now going to talk
15 about the technical working group. So, RAB members, on
16 your agenda we have the technical working group, a
17 discussion about that, and then the vote.

18 What I'd like to do is turn first to our two
19 co-chairs, Steven first, to kind provide some context.
20 We'll have a bit of discussion among the RAB members
21 about this technical working group concept, and then we
22 will move to a vote before we take a break.

23 So, Steve, anything you'd like to share about
24 the technical working group?

25 MR. STEVEN WILLIS: Yeah. So I did share a

1 draft charter for the technical working group. It's
2 very much a -- a document influx. We're looking for
3 additional input. The township was not identified as a
4 member. We are going to add them as a member to the
5 technical working group. If there's additional
6 feedback, additional changes that -- that are
7 appropriate, by all means let us -- let us know your
8 feedback. But really the intent of the technical
9 working group is to provide a -- a means for an
10 independent and collaborative evaluation of the PFAS
11 investigation and cleanup work here at Wurtsmith.

12 We have -- we have been for, I guess, a year, a
13 little over year and a half now been having tech
14 sessions on the Tuesday before the RAB. Those are --
15 have been very free forum, open to whatever topics
16 the -- the community is interested in discussing related
17 to -- to the investigation. It's not necessarily
18 limited to PFAS, but any -- any topics related to
19 environmental cleanup the Air Force is doing. A lot of
20 folks that come to that do not have a strong technical
21 background, so we spend a lot of time providing --
22 trying to provide background for those folks to try and
23 get them, you know, a good understanding of what we're
24 doing. But for the handful of people in the community
25 that do have a strong background, it wasn't really

1 meeting their needs. And so we sort of spun in a
2 different direction, and we're going to do a much more
3 focused, technical discussion. It's going to be a much
4 smaller group. And hopefully we can address a lot of
5 those really technical concerns that have been voiced by
6 the RAB.

7 And membership, as you saw in the charter, it
8 was EGLE, the Air Force, and Community RAB numbers. And
9 we've also expanded that to include the township. And,
10 really, the outcome of that is for this technical team
11 to provide technical recommendations to the Air Force to
12 continue moving forward with PFAS investigation and
13 cleanup of Wurtsmith.

14 MR. TIM SUELTFUSS: Okay. Okay. Thank you.
15 So we did have the opportunity to discuss this during
16 the technical session yesterday at -- at some length as
17 well. Before we move to a vote in a bit, let me just
18 open the floor for any RAB member discussion on this --
19 this topic. Mark, is there anything that you'd like to
20 share first and then I'll -- I'll turn to anyone else.

21 MR. MARK HENRY: I'm looking forward to the
22 technical workgroup and hopefully we can better
23 communicate with the subject matter experts from the
24 agencies on the concerns we have and the reasoning
25 behind them. Looking forward to it.

1 MR. TIM SUELTFUSS: Thank you. Any other
2 discussion among the RAB members? We were at it for
3 four hours yesterday, so we've covered a lot of ground.
4 Cathy, over to you.

5 MS. CATHY WUSTERBARTH: Sure. I know that two
6 of our RAB members have expressed interest in this, and
7 I just wanted to communicate to the Community RAB
8 members that are going to vote, and that is Kyle Jones
9 and Mark Henry. And I support their inclusion in that
10 group.

11 MR. TIM SUELTFUSS: Great. Okay. Yes.
12 Arnie?

13 MR. ARNIE LERICHE: I'm very much in support
14 of -- of this type of a -- a super technical capability
15 to cross into the -- the Community RAB members that are
16 on this, assigned to this group, just those two because
17 it's focused as Steven said. The only concern that I've
18 got is a communication -- an engagement and a
19 communication from our two RAB members in some summary,
20 non-detail, but keeping us up to speed, the Community
21 RAB group, and at least knowledgeable of what topics are
22 being handled at that time in the quarterly schedule and
23 what kind of timing of things and maybe sharing agendas
24 and things like that ahead of time so at least we can
25 just see it and keep up to speed without adding any real

1 burden to those members because I don't want to do that.
2 But I think that some summary type or sharing some
3 documents that are not so sensitive or not super draft
4 could be. Just think about it. Thanks.

5 MR. STEVEN WILLIS: And one thing -- one thing
6 I did forget to mention is that we will at every RAB
7 meeting provide an update on what the technical working
8 group has worked on since the previous RAB. So we will
9 provide formal feedback to not only to the RAB, but the
10 rest of the community members and attendees on what the
11 technical working group has been working on as well as,
12 you know, upcoming meetings and topics, so...

13 MR. ARNIE LERICHE: Steve? Okay. Maybe I
14 should just clarify. I'm talking about --

15 MR. STEVEN WILLIS: Yeah. I -- I understand.
16 We've -- that's -- you're -- you're talking specifically
17 Community RAB --

18 MR. ARNIE LERICHE: We -- we want to have an
19 opportunity to be --

20 MR. TIM SUELTFUSS: I'm sorry. Let's go to
21 Arnie real quick and we'll come back to Steve. Arnie?

22 MR. ARNIE LERICHE: My main point is that all
23 11 of the Community RAB members know what is going to be
24 talked about so that we have an opportunity if we have
25 been studying a particular aspect, we can give some

1 input to our -- to members to bring into the focus
2 group, the workgroup. That's the pre-quarterly meeting
3 that I'm talking about. Thanks.

4 MR. TIM SUELTFUSS: And, Arnie, if I could?
5 Let me -- let me pause us for just one second. I'm
6 seeing some notes that -- that folks who are connected
7 remotely are not hearing us. Let me turn to our staff
8 in back and see if there's anything we need to be doing.

9 MR. MITCHEL DYKLA: We just had a technical
10 difficulty. It booted us off Teams. We're getting back
11 on right now.

12 MR. TIM SUELTFUSS: Okay. You just give me
13 the thumbs up when we're ready to go. Yeah, thumbs up.
14 All right. Thank you.

15 MR. MITCHEL DYKLA: We should be good to go.

16 MR. TIM SUELTFUSS: Good to go. Okay. So
17 for those who are connected remotely, sorry for that.
18 There was a little bit of a snafu. Arnie, let me come
19 back to you. Sorry about that.

20 MR. ARNIE LERICHE: No. I'm -- I'm finished.
21 I just wanted to make that clarification. It's a timing
22 thing and our ability to keep our co-chair and our other
23 workgroup member updated if there's something that we
24 found and heard so that they have that information to
25 bring to your next meeting. That's it.

1 MR. STEVEN WILLIS: Yeah. And I --

2 MR. ARNIE LERICHE: And handle the details in
3 another conversation.

4 MR. STEVEN WILLIS: Yeah. And I understand
5 and -- and appreciate that. My comment was directed to
6 the broader RAB.

7 MR. ARNIE LERICHE: Yes.

8 MR. STEVEN WILLIS: You know, you're talking
9 about specifically the 11 Community RAB members, but for
10 the broader RAB as well as the community, we will
11 provide updates to them as well, so --

12 MR. TIM SUELTFUSS: Great. Okay. Thank you.
13 What -- yes. Tim?

14 MR. TIM CUMMINGS: I do have a question. And
15 is -- given the initial e-mail that I saw on August 13th
16 from you, Mr. Willis, regarding the continuing the
17 charter and the -- the confidentiality agreement that
18 we're no longer going to use, what was -- what's the
19 vision now? The charter, it obviously stands as it --
20 as it is with the modification you made, and the
21 confidentiality doesn't exist. But what is -- is the
22 only readout from the technical working group going to
23 be at another quarterly meeting of the RAB, or is there
24 anything else that we're going to be seeing or getting
25 or -- I just want to know what's supposed to be

1 legitimately communicated. Despite the lack of a
2 confidentiality agreement, we're still not talking about
3 making this public, so -- so what are we actually doing
4 and how are you managing that?

5 MR. STEVEN WILLIS: I think that's something
6 that's going to evolve over time. At a minimum we'll do
7 quarterly updates.

8 MR. TIM CUMMINGS: Okay.

9 MR. STEVEN WILLIS: It'll depend on -- on the
10 frequency of meetings. We absolutely want to take
11 advantage of the face to face opportunity when we're
12 here in town and have a meeting. We expect that,
13 depending on the topic, we'll have virtual meetings that
14 could be monthly, so updates. We still as a -- as a
15 technical working group need to work through capturing
16 meeting minutes and distribution of those. So those are
17 still some details that -- that we need to work out.
18 But, yeah, we'll strive to keep -- keep everyone updated
19 on -- on where we're working on and where we're going
20 with it. Recognizing that some of is pre-decisional
21 until we really reach the conclusion and --
22 and, you know, start moving forward. You know,
23 we don't want to share half an answer. And then we've
24 got preliminary data that hasn't been validated that the
25 team will probably look at, but we'd prefer not to share

1 and make final decisions on until the data has been
2 validated, so...

3 MR. TIM SUELTFUSS: What other RAB member
4 discussion do we have about the technical working group
5 concept? Okay. We are moving to a vote soon. I want
6 to provide the opportunity for folks who are interested
7 in being selected from among the Community RAB to serve
8 as the two community representatives on the technical
9 working group to throw their hat into the ring. It
10 sounds like Kyle and Mark, I believe, are interested.
11 Do we have any other Community RAB members who are
12 interested in doing so? Okay. All right.

13 Well, so I have as -- as Steve and -- and Mark
14 were saying, I've had a multi-step process for -- for
15 this vote. We are about to move into the vote and let
16 me just walk us through this. So we're going to conduct
17 a vote. We're going to select two Community RAB
18 members, not Government RAB members, but Community RAB
19 members, to serve as community representatives on the
20 technical working group. Only Community RAB members are
21 eligible to vote in this vote. Government RAB members,
22 that is, those of who you who represent an agency, are
23 not invited to vote. There are 11 Community RAB
24 members, so six votes are required to select each of
25 these community representatives on the technical working

1 group.

2 And let me just move to the specific
3 instructions. So Community RAB members, now I'm -- I'm
4 giving you your instructions. You have a -- please find
5 the ballot that you have in your packet in front of you.
6 You have a hard copy ballot. Does everybody have that?

7 MR. REX VAUGHN: Yes. And there -- there is
8 three ballots in each packet. So are we voting three
9 times?

10 MR. TIM SUELTFUSS: Yep. So -- so I thought
11 through the -- the option if there were a three-way tie,
12 for example, if someone did not receive the six votes
13 needed, to indicate a majority of those 11 Community RAB
14 members. I think we're only going to need that first
15 one. So I would like to invite you all, Community RAB
16 members, to place two X's, one by the name of one person
17 you want to serve as a community representative, one by
18 the name of the other. So go ahead and do that. I'm
19 going to come through and collect those. And if I can
20 do math quickly, then --

21 MR. STEVEN WILLIS: Spoiler alert. We know
22 who's going to win.

23 MR. TIM SUELTFUSS: I will do public math
24 here momentarily. When you have those ready, just hand
25 them my way. Thank you very much. Okay. So thank you

1 for your patience there. I do want to announce that we
2 do have two appointed community representatives, Mark
3 Henry and Kyle Jones. Congratulations.

4 (Applause)

5 MR. TIM SUELTFUSS: That is the -- that is
6 the good news. The bad news is you have a meeting
7 tomorrow morning at 8:30.

8 Okay. Let's go ahead and advance the next
9 slide if we could, and actually one slide thereafter.
10 Slide 24. RAB Member Questions is what we will dive
11 into next. But one question I often get is how come you
12 don't give us a break? So let's take a 10-minute break
13 now. It's 6:35. We will come back at 6:45 and continue
14 our discussions. We're on break. Thanks.

15 (A recess was taken.)

16 MR. TIM SUELTFUSS: Okay. Thank you very
17 much. We are -- we are in the process now of coming
18 back from our break. Thank you. Again, we are in the
19 RAB Member Questions portion of the agenda.

20 (RAB Member Questions at 6:45 p.m.)

21 MR. TIM SUELTFUSS: And so this portion of
22 the meeting is really dedicated to discussion among the
23 RAB members. We will have a segment for public comment
24 in our next agenda topic, but we want to spend a lot of
25 time just having conversation and having discussion,

1 sharing our perspectives, and recognizing that our
2 perspectives are -- are different. It is by design to
3 do that because that iron shepherds the other iron and
4 we get the better outcome. So let me just open the
5 floor up to our RAB members and see what -- what
6 discussion they want to have.

7 MR. MARK HENRY: I have a question on that.
8 Sorry.

9 MR. TIM SUELTFENFUSS: Closer to the mic.

10 MR. MARK HENRY: Sure. I have a question that
11 was passed on to me by Dave Carmona, a RAB member that
12 could not -- a Community RAB member who could not be
13 here this evening. So hang on just a second.

14 MR. TIM SUELTFENFUSS: Sure.

15 MR. MARK HENRY: If we could have slide 12,
16 please? All right. I'm just going to read this out.

17 "Since I won't be there, I have the
18 following concerns and questions I'd like you
19 to raise. Slide 12. The conclusion" -- now
20 it's been changed to -- what is it?

21 MR. STEVEN WILLIS: Indication.

22 MR. MARK HENRY: "Indication that water is not
23 flowing beneath Van Etten Lake. What empirical data do
24 they have to validate this claim and where is the
25 transducer data? As a side note, last Wednesday I was

1 on Cedar Lake and the foam was piled high along the west
2 shore in a seven mile an hour wind. Have we seen the
3 2024 pump and treat report? Eight months after the end
4 of the year we should have that data. We need to
5 improve how fast this data is released to us. Slow
6 walking the data will cause items which need to be
7 looked at to be lost in the data flow as the data gap
8 investigation data begins to come in."

9 MR. TIM SUELTFUSS: And, Mark, you mentioned
10 that was from Dave Carmona, Community RAB member?

11 MR. MARK HENRY: Dave Carmona, yes.

12 MR. TIM SUELTFUSS: Gotcha. Okay. Thank
13 you. Any initial thoughts in response to that -- that
14 question?

15 MR. STEVEN WILLIS: That had a lot of parts to
16 it.

17 MR. MARK HENRY: I know.

18 MR. STEVEN WILLIS: Help me out as we go
19 through this, so --

20 MR. MARK HENRY: That's all right. He was
21 asking about what data there is, empirical data, to
22 demonstrate that there is not flow or that would lead
23 the agencies to believe that there is not flow under Van
24 Etten Lake.

25 MR. STEVEN WILLIS: But I know that we shared

1 all of the data associated with the current RI fieldwork
2 which included the analytical sampling results as well
3 as the transducer data. The previous study was in 2020
4 by EGLE. I would -- I'll confirm with EGLE, but I would
5 assume we can share that data. The USGS, that report is
6 publicly available. I -- I can find a link to that and
7 make sure that you've got access to it. But I know a
8 part of it's been shared and we can, I think, share the
9 rest, so...

10 MR. MARK HENRY: Okay. The other parts of this
11 question. Have we seen the 2024 pump and treat report?
12 Has that been released to the administrative record yet?

13 MR. STEVEN WILLIS: Off the top of my head I
14 don't know.

15 MR. MARK HENRY: Okay.

16 MR. STEVEN WILLIS: But, yes, we did --
17 absolutely I agree with him. We -- we did get a slow
18 start when we changed from the previous contractor to
19 this one on doing the annual reports. We changed them
20 from three reports to two. Changed the format and
21 layout of them. Had a lot of learning curve to work
22 through with the new contractor. So we basically had
23 dominoed. It affected all the reports because you can't
24 start the next one until you finish the first one.
25 Comments on some of the earlier reports affected the

1 later reports they had written, then they had to go back
2 and address those. But we're about caught up and we'll
3 get those out on a much timelier manner.

4 MR. MARK HENRY: I guess that's it. Thank you.

5 MR. STEVEN WILLIS: Okay.

6 MR. TIM SUELTFUSS: Okay. Thanks, Mark.

7 What other questions and discussion among the RAB
8 members? Yes, sir?

9 MR. KYLE JONES: Kyle Jones, here. Steve, I
10 have a few questions based on your run through earlier
11 in the meeting. My first question has to do with the
12 PFAS RI data gap contract to be awarded by September 30.
13 Is there a data gap investigation work plan that's been
14 prepared?

15 MR. STEVEN WILLIS: No. We haven't awarded a
16 contract. So once we award that, then the contractor
17 will prepare that work plan.

18 MR. KYLE JONES: Okay.

19 MR. STEVEN WILLIS: And that -- it's the QAPP
20 addendum that I mentioned earlier. And that draft --
21 draft final version of that will be shared with the
22 Community RAB members as well as EGLE concurrently.

23 MR. KYLE JONES: Okay. So the QAPP addendum
24 and the data gap investigation work plan are one and the
25 same?

1 MR. STEVEN WILLIS: One and the same, correct.

2 MR. KYLE JONES: Okay. And of course then --
3 well, of course we, I guess, we would expect that those
4 kinds of details would be talked about in the technical
5 review?

6 MR. STEVEN WILLIS: That's the plan for
7 tomorrow is to start talking through the data gap
8 investigation, yeah.

9 MR. KYLE JONES: Okay. Okay. So -- sorry. I
10 don't recall -- I don't -- I don't see it here, but my --
11 oh. I -- oh. Here it is on the next bullet.
12 Complete the -- the amended QAPP and start fieldwork
13 in sometime in '26. Is that right?

14 MR. STEVEN WILLIS: Yeah.

15 MR. KYLE JONES: This is on slide 14, field --
16 fiscal year '26 planned activities. Okay.

17 MR. STEVEN WILLIS: That's correct. The --
18 the --

19 MR. KYLE JONES: Do we have -- can you narrow
20 that down on terms of months or quarters or something?

21 MR. STEVEN WILLIS: Well, until I have a
22 contract awarded and work with the contractor, but the
23 expectation is that during the winter months we'll do
24 that QAPP addendum, get it reviewed by everyone and
25 finalized and start fieldwork probably in May.

1 MR. KYLE JONES: Okay. Does -- does the
2 fieldwork have to wait until all the signatures from DoD
3 and Air Force are on the particular forms that are
4 necessary to adopt the QAPP addendum?

5 MR. STEVEN WILLIS: No, not necessarily.

6 MR. KYLE JONES: Okay.

7 MR. STEVEN WILLIS: We'll be able to use the
8 original QAPP and the QAPP addendum that have been
9 finalized. The new QAPP will only include new work
10 that's not already covered by that --

11 MR. KYLE JONES: Right.

12 MR. STEVEN WILLIS: -- such as the foam
13 analysis, foam sample collection and analysis.

14 MR. KYLE JONES: Okay. So there's still work
15 to be done --

16 MR. STEVEN WILLIS: So there's work -- there's
17 work that could be done --

18 MR. KYLE JONES: -- on the original RI and the
19 written and the first QAPP addendum?

20 MR. STEVEN WILLIS: Right; right.

21 MR. KYLE JONES: Okay.

22 MR. STEVEN WILLIS: But generally starting
23 fieldwork before May is -- is pretty risky just because
24 of weather.

25 MR. KYLE JONES: Yep. Understood. And this is

1 just a curiosity thing because I haven't been with the
2 group as long as many others. Your long range forecast,
3 the PFAS RI through RA meeting where you meet on
4 investigations for remedial action, this is a soup to
5 nuts CERCLA data -- or dates, rather, that you
6 anticipate. There -- you -- you told us that the
7 preliminary characterization summary report is still
8 unfinished. And my question is when was the preliminary
9 characterization completed? The CERCLA preliminary
10 characterization work.

11 MR. STEVEN WILLIS: So CERCLA doesn't
12 necessarily define EPA guidance. It does not define
13 when that work is finished. It's an interim deliverable
14 as you're working through the RI. And so it -- the
15 report captures all the fieldwork that's been done to
16 date. And we haven't done any this year. So it's
17 basically everything through last year.

18 MR. KYLE JONES: Well, my understanding of
19 preliminary characterization, it's sort of, okay, we
20 have a new site and we have to do a CERCLA remedial
21 investigation and then a feasibility study and then have
22 a record decision adopting the -- the remedy and then do
23 remedial design and remedial action.

24 MR. STEVEN WILLIS: Right.

25 MR. TIM SUELTFUSS: May I ask, Kyle, you're

1 referring to slide 15 I believe?

2 MR. KYLE JONES: Yes, I am. The very first
3 item.

4 MR. TIM SUELTFUSS: Okay. Let's display
5 slide 15, please. Thank you. Go ahead, Steve.

6 MR. KYLE JONES: So my understanding of a
7 preliminary characterization is a -- a sort of
8 pre-process for a remedial investigation in which you --
9 the -- the contractor doing the work goes out to the
10 field and checks out the site, what's there, what are
11 the geographic conditions. And much like a phase one
12 environmental assessment, you start to look at public
13 records that are available already, et cetera. To me
14 that's what I understand of preliminary
15 characterization. And then once you do that and you've
16 got this sort of base knowledge, you start to plan a --
17 a remedial action work plan. How does that fit with
18 your understanding?

19 MR. STEVEN WILLIS: That's -- that's not my
20 understanding. The preliminary characterization summary
21 report is an interim RI deliverable. It's not the final
22 RI report because you haven't finished all the
23 investigation. It's sort of a -- an interim deliverable
24 to compile everything you've got now to get an
25 understanding of data gaps, work that still needs to be

1 done to finish that RI.

2 MR. KYLE JONES: Okay. And so the longer it
3 takes a preliminary characterization summary report to
4 be written, additional work is going on and you've just
5 added to your own summary report?

6 MR. STEVEN WILLIS: So -- yes; yeah. The
7 report will be planned before we start collecting
8 additional data.

9 MR. KYLE JONES: Okay. Okay.

10 MR. STEVEN WILLIS: Yeah.

11 MR. KYLE JONES: I asked about the oversight on
12 the Three Pipes sealing. Okay. I think that's it in
13 terms of my questions on your -- your report out on
14 these various slides.

15 The second thing I wanted to -- to just comment
16 on for the entire RAB, community and government
17 representatives, as well as the communities here and any
18 of those who are on virtually, is that a -- a couple of
19 references have been made already to a charter that is
20 going to be sort of a governing document on
21 the purpose and the objectives and the goings on and
22 quite frankly the -- the end result of work that the
23 technical working group is going to be doing.

24 And, Tim Cummings, you mentioned that you've
25 seen that charter and it is what it is. I want to let

1 everybody know that it shouldn't be an "is what it is"
2 because -- excuse me -- when Steve, you know, shared it,
3 he shared the draft document with the RAB, several of us
4 went over that document and -- and noted things that we
5 don't think are either in the spirit of what, you know,
6 we're all talking about in terms of transparency and,
7 you know, other sort of, you know, changes that we would
8 like to be -- to be made to the charter.

9 MR. TIM CUMMINGS: Right.

10 MR. KYLE JONES: And so I -- I want everybody
11 to understand that this is not a data complete right
12 now. And there will be, I'm sure, some kind of a back
13 and forth as there is, you know, in all of the work
14 about documents that govern human activity. You have to
15 get to a negotiated final document. So that is --
16 that's under way. And for -- you might then be
17 thinking, well, gee, you're supposed to be meeting
18 tomorrow at 8:30 in the morning and you don't have a
19 charter. And those of us who are now elected by the
20 Community RAB and those members from the two agencies
21 and the -- and the township have all agreed that it's
22 okay to get going without the charter in place. And I
23 personally think that's great. You know, it could have
24 been a -- a -- a -- an opinion or -- or a position by
25 one of the government entities to say "no; no. We've

1 got to have this thing in place before we have our first
2 meeting." And that, to me, is not in the spirit of this
3 new effort to be transparent and to be cooperative.

4 So I really appreciate that both from EGLE's
5 perspective -- or from EGLE and from the Air Force.

6 The other thing I want to note from our
7 discussion yesterday at the community technical meeting
8 is that the characterization of the work that's being
9 done by the technical working group is a -- is
10 that the technical working group is a decision making
11 body.

12 MR. TIM CUMMINGS: Yeah; right.

13 MR. KYLE JONES: This is not a recommendation
14 subject to some kind of a mysterious decision making
15 back at the Air Force and/or EGLE. It -- we -- you
16 know, it was stated by Air Force and EGLE that, look,
17 there are certain policies and other considerations that
18 management at the Department of Defense and Department
19 of Air Force may have about this, but ideally, once a
20 decision -- once all the "rimble" as we like to say, all
21 that technical, you know, very focused work is done and
22 there's agreement among the members of the technical
23 working group as to what, for any project that we're
24 talking about is going to be done, what's going to be
25 done, that is -- that -- that is the gospel. And

1 ideally, Department of Air Force management will say,
2 "congratulations guys and gals. You've done a great job
3 and we -- we will sign off on that."

4 What we also understand, though, is if there is
5 some carving away or non-approval of what's been decided
6 upon by the group, then the -- the people who are
7 responsible for disagreeing on that at -- at the Air
8 Force management are going to be brought to the
9 technical working group meeting to explain. And
10 presumably those of us -- all members of the group, the
11 technical working group who agreed on this template, if
12 you will, of work to be done on that project, will have
13 the chance to dissuade that other person from
14 disagreeing.

15 This is the kind of sausage making that happens
16 in, you know, all manner of government and quite frankly
17 corporate interactions all the time. So I -- I -- I'm
18 not worried about that. But I will say just publicly
19 here from the Community RAB's perspective, we are very
20 hopeful that there is little to no disagreement with the
21 decisions that are made at the technical working group
22 by management at the DoD or the DFA -- or DAF. Sorry.

23 But I -- I -- I think it's important for the
24 community and everybody on the RAB to understand that
25 this is not just some due process. You know, you get

1 your day, quote/unquote, "day in court" on making
2 opinions about this stuff. This is real work that's
3 going to result in a real agreed document on a work plan
4 or whatever -- whatever the technical working group is
5 being asked to consider and arrive at a decision on.

6 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Tim.

7 MR. KYLE JONES: Yeah. Tim. Sorry. Oh,
8 I'm -- I'm not the one who gets to do that.

9 MR. TIM SUELTFUSS: Was there anything else
10 you wanted to --

11 MR. KYLE JONES: No. I'll stop there.

12 MR. TIM SUELTFUSS: Great. Tim?

13 MR. TIM CUMMINGS: Yep. Thank you. And, Kyle,
14 I appreciate that. By no means was I at all looking at
15 the charter as "it is what it is," which is why I
16 immediately responded with a phone call to Mr. Willis
17 and -- and proposed the township engineer be involved.

18 MR. KYLE JONES: Sure.

19 MR. TIM CUMMINGS: In particular, you know,
20 I -- until it is ever adjudicated that PFAS/PFOA
21 communicates on a binary 01 language, I as a computer
22 science engineer, as an electrical engineer, will not be
23 considered a -- a viable person for this technical
24 working group. However, our township engineer who has
25 been a professional engineer his entire career,

1 certified, you know, et cetera, licensed, that -- that
2 actually was much more applicable.

3 And since he's been involved in the Mission
4 Street project, since he's been involved in the
5 wastewater treatment project and we foresee other
6 projects in the future, you know, he was completely
7 qualified in that respect from our viewpoint and that's --
8 that was the point that -- that Mr. Willis and I
9 discussed and then some back and forth e-mails basically
10 with agreement. And the whole point was that when the
11 Air Force agreed to consider this, it was with the point
12 that the charter would be amended.

13 So that the charter was not ratified this
14 evening, yes or no, whichever, doesn't particularly
15 concern me although this group as a RAB, it was. And we
16 ratified our charter as a RAB in the beginning. We had
17 to. So that was right out the gate. That this is an
18 exception, whether it's positive or negative, is
19 almost -- it doesn't matter. The point is that it is a
20 group. To the point that you make about it being a
21 decision-making group was one of the reasons why I found
22 it a bit concerning because this group was founded under
23 the -- the guise of it being an advisory group. What I
24 was concerned about was a separate group being formed as
25 a subcommittee making decisions without any government

1 input from the local folks. Basically, the guys who own
2 the property which might actually be involved in some of
3 the remediation that you're describing here. So it
4 makes no sense to me how this conversation of this
5 charter got this far down the road to the 13th of August
6 e-mail and then that's when I find out about it. That's
7 the problem I have just as a -- to make a fine point
8 about it. Thank you very much.

9 MR. TIM SUELTFUSS: Thank you very much for
10 sharing that.

11 MR. TIM CUMMINGS: Yep.

12 MR. TIM SUELTFUSS: Okay. Other discussion?
13 Arnie Leriche, over to you, sir.

14 MR. ARNIE LERICHE: Already have my question.
15 I agree with everything that Kyle was saying. Being an
16 attorney, I wouldn't dare but he -- he knows what he's
17 talking about. The thing is that the decision level of
18 this work group -- and correct me if I'm wrong,
19 Steven -- is somewhat equivalent to EGLE as a subject
20 matter expert, and they're part of the decision process
21 that the two agencies comment on each other, and they
22 make a decision. The Air Force comes up with the
23 recommendations and options, let's say, for an
24 intermediate -- I mean, an interim remedial action. Okay?
25 However, that goes to public comment after that

1 decision. The public gets a say on something that was
2 important to them, is important to them, and wants
3 serious consideration before the agencies finalize.
4 Okay? This work group, in my mind, the federal employee
5 for 38 years, cannot override that. Am I right, Steven?

6 MR. STEVEN WILLIS: I'm not sure I followed
7 your question.

8 MR. TIM SUELTFUSS: So, Arnie, if I could
9 just try to restate what I think I heard?

10 MR. ARNIE LERICHE: Yeah.

11 MR. TIM SUELTFUSS: I think I hear you
12 referring to the public comment aspects that are
13 inherent in the CERCLA process. And that --

14 MR. ARNIE LERICHE: Right. What -- which in
15 this case what we're talking about really is the first
16 ones are interim remedial actions.

17 MR. TIM SUELTFUSS: Yeah. And asking --

18 MR. ARNIE LERICHE: And they require a decision
19 document by the Air Force that then goes to public
20 comment.

21 MR. TIM SUELTFUSS: So am I hearing you ask
22 does this technical working group obviate the need for
23 that public comment; is that right?

24 MR. ARNIE LERICHE: Yeah, that's my question.
25 It doesn't, does it?

1 MR. STEVEN WILLIS: No; no. And, in fact, the
2 technical working group gives the public an opportunity
3 to provide input as Kyle said, in the sausage making, as
4 opposed to when the document is final and is posted for
5 a 30-day public comment period. We'll still have to do
6 that. That's a requirement. But the community --

7 MR. ARNIE LERICHE: When you say the -- the
8 community has input, you're talking about our elected
9 two in the workgroup?

10 MR. STEVEN WILLIS: Through -- through the --
11 through the two -- the two elected Community RAB
12 members, community can provide input to the process as
13 it's being done as opposed to at the milestones
14 identified in the CERCLA process.

15 MR. ARNIE LERICHE: And so you're intimating to
16 me right now in your answer basically Tim's concern is
17 that this working group basically eliminates -- I don't
18 see how it can, but community is not two people. It's
19 not the Community RAB people, it's not our RAB. It's
20 the general community. So where is that in the process
21 and cycle of the technical work group?

22 MR. TIM SUELTFUSS: It looks like -- like
23 Kyle Jones may have a -- a comment --

24 MR. KYLE JONES: Arnie, let me -- let me try,
25 if I can, to alleviate your concerns.

1 MR. ARNIE LERICHE: Sure.

2 MR. KYLE JONES: First of all, if there is a
3 legal requirement for a public comment period on any
4 decision document, that will occur whether or not
5 there's a technical working group. And, of course, all
6 along in this -- in this -- at this site and every time
7 there's any -- been any kind of decision that the
8 Department of Defense and Department of Air Force needs
9 to make, based on a however a work plan was constructed
10 and decided that's the work plan to be followed, then
11 there's a public comment period. That will continue.
12 The -- what I was trying to convey to everyone in saying
13 this is a decision-making body was not that there was
14 going to be an exclusion of community understanding of
15 what's been discussed, what the outcome of any project
16 and any "decision" is made is not a final decision.
17 It's a decision that has been agreed to by the members
18 of the -- of the technical working group. And then all
19 of the -- the due process then flows from there. I
20 will -- I -- I can't speak for Mark right now because we
21 haven't had the conversation, but I can tell you that as
22 your representative on this -- this working group, we're
23 going to create a little process to circle back with the
24 RAB and -- and have, you know -- you asked earlier for a
25 document, summary document. That's one way you know

1 what's being punted out. And if there's ever a final
2 decision on project X that is the subject of the focused
3 work and examination being done by the technical working
4 group, if there's a finalization that an agreed scope of
5 what that project will be, it's not final and -- and to
6 be -- to exclude the -- the Government RAB or the
7 Community RAB members from having a say or at least
8 to -- to see what's there and -- and providing input.
9 Ideally -- ideally we set up a process where we're
10 talking, "Hey, we're about to talk about project X. Do
11 you have anything that you'd like us to bring up?" And
12 that we can work on as well, Arnie.

13 So I -- I don't mean to -- to -- I didn't mean
14 to infer that there is some finality to the decision
15 that's being made in cloistered work by the technical
16 working group that somehow bypasses all the
17 communication that we would have with you guys.

18 MR. ARNIE LERICHE: Right.

19 MR. KYLE JONES: We're your representatives.

20 MR. ARNIE LERICHE: Exactly.

21 MR. KYLE JONES: Yes. So I --

22 MR. ARNIE LERICHE: And if it wasn't for the
23 clarity, I would not have voted for both of you if I
24 didn't trust that that's the way you would operate.

25 MR. KYLE JONES: Okay. All right.

1 MR. ARNIE LERICHE: The thing that I did
2 yesterday at our technical session, I wanted to put my
3 chip on the table in front of the Air Force and ask them
4 in -- because I asked them how many other sites, Air
5 Force sites do you know of that have a technical
6 workgroup and they said two, and they told us who they
7 are. They're going -- they promised to send us a copy
8 of those documents. Okay? I don't want to get more
9 confidence in all of us individually so that our reps
10 don't get pushed around by a future Air Force person
11 but -- but that's just being a puppet. That isn't the
12 main point.

13 But the thing is, they've agreed that
14 there's -- they're going to think about some ways that
15 they can allow you guys to be comfortable sharing some
16 information because they thought about it. Like the
17 agendas of your meeting, if you want to redact
18 something, something they don't want you to release to
19 us -- and this non-disclosure thing that kind of started
20 the thought process. It didn't upset -- didn't upset
21 me. I just didn't know how it was going to fit in.

22 MR. KYLE JONES: Yeah. Okay.

23 MR. ARNIE LERICHE: So that's all that I
24 brought it up for, so...

25 MR. TIM SUELTFUSS: Yeah. I appreciate that,

1 Arnie.

2 MR. ARNIE LERICHE: Yeah.

3 MR. TIM SUELTFUSS: Yeah. Sounds like just
4 a -- the desire of communication back to the RAB and
5 back to the community as a whole.

6 MR. ARNIE LERICHE: Their reps back to --

7 MR. TIM SUELTFUSS: Let me -- let me just
8 jump in and see, Steven, if there was anything else that
9 you wanted to add on that topic?

10 MR. STEVEN WILLIS: No. I don't think so.

11 MR. TIM SUELTFUSS: Okay. Okay. What other
12 RAB member questions, discussion do we have? Yes, sir.

13 MR. BILL PALMER: Yeah. A two-part question
14 and a comment. Steve, you mentioned at the beginning of
15 the meeting regarding the reimbursement for people that
16 paid out of pocket connecting to the water mains. I --
17 I was excited when I heard that the Air Force was going
18 to consider doing that. I don't -- I don't think it's a
19 huge amount of money. I don't think there are a lot of
20 people that -- that paid out of pocket. It's a
21 relatively small thing. And I know you're not directly
22 involved with that. It has to go to Wright-Patterson.

23 I guess my question is, does Wright-Patterson
24 know that these are going to be coming to them and
25 what -- what they're for and what -- because my

1 understanding, what I heard was this is a very generic
2 application that has questions on it that doesn't have
3 anything to do with water main connections. So I'm just
4 wondering if -- if Wright-Patterson knows these are
5 coming and -- and what they're supposed to be doing with
6 them?

7 MR. STEVEN WILLIS: Yes. They absolutely know
8 because that's how I found out who to -- for people to
9 contact to provide their information to. And in talking
10 with one of the gentlemen that was here earlier this
11 evening, he's already received feedback. Apparently
12 there were some additional boxes on the form he needed
13 to fill out and resubmit his application. So, yes, they
14 definitely know these things are coming.

15 MR. BILL PALMER: Okay.

16 MR. STEVEN WILLIS: I understand from one other
17 gentleman, he's received zero feedback. So I've got to
18 find out where that process is broken and try and get --
19 get --

20 MR. BILL PALMER: Okay. And my -- and the
21 second part of that question is I understand that some
22 of the applicants were taking the applications to the
23 township. And I'm assuming the --

24 MR. STEVEN WILLIS: That's what I heard as
25 well.

1 MR. BILL PALMER: -- the utility billing. And
2 I'm wondering is the township aware of how to handle
3 that nonsense?

4 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Mr. Cummings --

5 MR. TIM CUMMINGS: Yes, I can. So Mr. Willis
6 provided me the forms for this reimbursement.

7 MR. STEVEN WILLIS: Wasn't me.

8 MR. TIM CUMMINGS: Oh, no, you did. It was in
9 the RAB. We -- we -- we were in a meeting.

10 MR. STEVEN WILLIS: Okay. You downloaded them
11 from the website then. Okay.

12 MR. TIM CUMMINGS: You -- you had given me the
13 paper copy but it was part -- it was part of the
14 package. It was what we discussed if I remember
15 correctly. But we have the forms. The forms are put up
16 on the website for the township the end of March. It
17 was made really clear that we as the township are not
18 involved in this. We can't fill it out for people. We
19 can help the individual fill it out. We have received
20 questions about it. We don't fill it out as I said. We
21 simply provide the form. Rick Freeman, the engineer of
22 our -- for the township that we talked about, he has
23 been asked questions about the form. And, again, he
24 doesn't try to fill it out for the individuals. But the
25 instructions that you've provided, you know, that it

1 needed to be sent to both addresses. Those are all very
2 clearly on the form. Everybody knows what they're
3 supposed to do, but we're not the ones except merely the
4 messenger to hand the form out. That's all our role is.

5 MR. STEVEN WILLIS: So you are not submitting
6 them on behalf of the citizens?

7 MR. TIM CUMMINGS: We do not. We can't.

8 MR. STEVEN WILLIS: Okay. All right.

9 MR. TIM CUMMINGS: It says that very clearly
10 that we can't. That's right.

11 MR. STEVEN WILLIS: Okay. All right. Okay.

12 MR. TIM CUMMINGS: Yep. But the offices of the
13 township do know that they exist and they direct people.
14 I think there's a couple of -- maybe the clerk and the
15 treasurer have some printed copies but that's the end of
16 it.

17 MR. STEVEN WILLIS: Okay. Great.

18 MR. BILL PALMER: And my -- and the comment
19 that I wanted to make is Kyle's question about the Three
20 Pipes slip lining.

21 I was involved with the township when we did
22 the Mission Street storm sewer slip lining with very
23 similar to what is happening, although the Mission
24 Street storm sewer is much smaller than -- than this --
25 this sewer. But the -- the Air Force sent us

1 specifications for this. And then the township has two
2 engineers. Rick Freeman is our engineer that we go to
3 for a lot of incidental things, and then Rowe
4 Engineering is our engineering firm that handles major
5 projects and does the engineering for like our -- our
6 water main projects and that sort of thing. So both of
7 them were involved with the slip lining Michigan --
8 Mission Street and -- and reviewed those specifications
9 to make sure that the contractor knew what they were
10 supposed to do and how they were supposed to do it. And
11 both Rowe and Rick Freeman are familiar with this
12 process. So they were there to oversee the process when
13 the contractor was doing the Mission Street plan. So
14 if -- I hope that answers your question about how this
15 is facilitated.

16 And once -- once a contract is, I mean, you do
17 an RFP, the engineers know the firms that can actually
18 do this work in the area and they send the RFPs out to
19 those different contractors and then they will bid on
20 it. And typically it goes to the lower -- lowest bid,
21 but it still has to get approved by the Air Force to
22 make sure that everything is -- is in compliance with
23 what they want. That's what happened at Mission Street.
24 And then our engineers oversee the -- the application.

25 MR. KYLE JONES: Thanks, Bill. That was very

1 helpful.

2 MR. BILL PALMER: Sure.

3 MR. TIM SUELTFUSS: What other RAB member
4 questions and discussion do we have? Ms. Wusterbarth?

5 MS. CATHY WUSTERBARTH: It's really just a
6 comment for maybe our meeting standards, but I wanted to
7 bring it up in this forum. I think the -- there's a
8 slide that says -- or there's a section of the packet
9 that says "backup." Does that mean that these are
10 backup documents for the --

11 MR. STEVEN WILLIS: Just backup slides for the
12 presentation. Specifically related to the presentation.

13 MS. CATHY WUSTERBARTH: Oh. Okay. So like the
14 board rules and the acronyms?

15 MR. STEVEN WILLIS: Right.

16 MS. CATHY WUSTERBARTH: What I wanted to
17 suggest is -- and I may have suggested this in the past,
18 but I don't -- it has not happened. I'd like to see a
19 map of the site included in the -- in each packet so
20 that when we're having a discussion about where
21 something is and it's not necessarily a, you know, a
22 slide that we're referring to, then we can, you know,
23 refer to that image for the sake of the attendees and
24 ourselves.

25 MR. STEVEN WILLIS: So --

1 MR. TIM SUELTFUSS: I'm sorry. Go ahead,
2 Steve.

3 MR. STEVEN WILLIS: So we can put -- I'd say
4 put that in the meeting standards as a -- as part of the
5 standard meeting package.

6 MR. TIM SUELTFUSS: Yeah; yeah. And for
7 clarity, you're interested in seeing that for the
8 packets available to the RAB members, but also to the
9 attendees; is that -- is that right?

10 MS. CATHY WUSTERBARTH: Yes.

11 MR. TIM SUELTFUSS: Yeah. Okay. Great.

12 MS. CATHY WUSTERBARTH: Yeah, I know there's
13 maps, you know, on cardboard all the way back there, but
14 they're not up here for us to be able to reference.

15 MR. TIM SUELTFUSS: Exactly. Okay. So I --
16 I -- I did take a cut on the meeting standards document,
17 attempted to incorporate the comments the RAB members
18 had -- had shared, provided that to the co-chairs for
19 their consideration. But I can make sure that that is
20 added as a potential meeting standard.

21 MS. CATHY WUSTERBARTH: Thank you.

22 MR. TIM SUELTFUSS: Yep. Okay. Mr. Henry?

23 MR. MARK HENRY: The data gap -- the upcoming
24 data gap investigation, a scope of work has been
25 developed for the contract to support getting that work

1 done. The community has provided comments to the
2 spreadsheet that was prepared that was intended to serve
3 as a scope of work, or at least to assist in the
4 development of the scope of work for the contractor who
5 will be handling the data gap investigation. And more
6 recently I've had some discussions along with Kyle with
7 the Department of Air Force and subject matter experts
8 talking about additional tasks that should be included
9 in the data gap. In one of your slides you said that
10 the contract is going to be awarded September 30th I
11 think it is.

12 MR. STEVEN WILLIS: Yeah.

13 MR. MARK HENRY: Something like that. So the
14 scope of work has already been developed. Can you share
15 that scope of work with the RAB so that we can see what
16 tasks are defined in there and see how many of our
17 comments and suggestions were incorporated into that?

18 MR. STEVEN WILLIS: I'll have to check on that.
19 And the reason I'm hesitant is because we are in the
20 contracting phase on -- until we get the contract
21 awarded, I'm not sure if I could share that. I may be
22 able to share excerpts, but I will -- I will ask.

23 MR. MARK HENRY: Okay. If it's not before
24 September 30th, can you make sure that we get it after
25 the contract has been awarded?

1 MR. STEVEN WILLIS: Sure.

2 MR. MARK HENRY: And like the horses are
3 already out of the barn by that point, but at least
4 we'll have some discussion points.

5 MR. STEVEN WILLIS: Yeah.

6 MR. TIM SUELTFUSS: Thank you. In just a
7 moment we'll be able to -- I'm sorry.

8 MS. KATE NEED: Go over the answers. More of
9 these questions. Or I could --

10 MR. TIM SUELTFUSS: Okay. Yeah, go -- all
11 right. Yeah. Let's go ahead and continue with RAB
12 member discussion, and then, Kate, we'll come to you.
13 Maybe you just have to wait until the public comment
14 period, and you can address that.

15 Let me open up for any further RAB member
16 questions and discussion. Kyle Jones?

17 MR. KYLE JONES: So, Steve, I asked earlier
18 about the scope of work and now I'm -- for the data gap
19 investigation. And we came to the conclusion that the
20 QAPP addendum and the data gap investigation work plan
21 were one and the same. But Mark's point just a second
22 ago is you must have had a document that is not what
23 work -- you know, the technical working group is going to
24 work through with Air Force and EGLE to -- to come to
25 some conclusion about what to do for the data gap

1 investigation that will be embodied in the amended QAPP.
2 You have to have had something else presumably less
3 thorough or robust than that in order to -- to -- to
4 give to the -- the -- the contractors that you are
5 asking for a bid and you're expecting to have -- I
6 expect you've already received bids back from those
7 contractors and you're going to -- you're going through
8 the contracting process of evaluating that now and
9 you're going to elect the contract by September 30. Do
10 I have that right?

11 MR. STEVEN WILLIS: Yes.

12 MR. KYLE JONES: Okay. So we are now -- am I
13 right that there is whatever you gave those contractors
14 to in order to bid on the job is not the same as what is
15 going to be decided upon later by the technical working
16 group for the subsequent QAPP addendum; correct?

17 MR. STEVEN WILLIS: Correct. The scope was
18 based on the data gap list that was shared with the RAB
19 several months back. And I fully expect that as we
20 start down the path of the data gap investigation,
21 additional PFAS compounds are going to be added,
22 criteria is going to be changed, we've delineated soil
23 twice. They keep lowering the number. We've got to go
24 delineate again. We need to do it for the data gap and
25 you can't go any lower for soil because it's down to --

1 MR. MARK HENRY: Detection limits.

2 MR. STEVEN WILLIS: -- yeah, it's below the
3 detection limits. So if you detect it, you've exceeded.
4 And so I expect that there will probably be additional
5 work added to the contract as things continue to evolve.

6 So in -- in the discussions of the technical
7 working group, if we decide that the scope originally
8 was 60 monitoring wells and we decide in the next month
9 or two in the technical working group that it should be
10 75, we'll add that to the contract.

11 MR. KYLE JONES: And does the Air Force then
12 have the capability of accommodating that scope increase
13 in -- in the contracting or are you going to have to let
14 a new contract or, you know -- I mean, it -- we talked
15 about it a bit yesterday, you know.

16 MR. STEVEN WILLIS: Yeah. It's a new contract
17 so we'll have the ability to add additional work to it.
18 The -- the -- the challenge we ran into with the last
19 contract is it was a very old contract and contracting
20 would not let us continue to have work because we'd
21 added so many mods to the contract already. This is a
22 brand new contract, so we shouldn't have any
23 restrictions on that.

24 MR. TIM SUELTFUSS: And I believe the data
25 gap investigation is one of the topics that will be

1 addressed tomorrow in -- in the technical working group?

2 MR. STEVEN WILLIS: Correct.

3 MR. TIM SUELTFUSS: Yes; yeah.

4 MR. STEVEN WILLIS: Beginning tomorrow. I
5 think it will be more than one meeting discussion.

6 MR. TIM SUELTFUSS: Okay. I see Mark has a
7 question. Kyle, was there anything further that you
8 wanted to address?

9 MR. KYLE JONES: (Shaking head)

10 MR. TIM SUELTFUSS: Okay. Mark Henry of
11 the --

12 MR. MARK HENRY: I used to deal with contracts
13 with my former life in EGLE. Typically when you change
14 a contract, it seems that the -- through a kind
15 of a change order that the contractor does not
16 necessarily charge for that work at the same rate that
17 the contract was negotiated for. And that they can then
18 through the process get paid what their normal rate
19 would be rather than whatever they bid on the contract.
20 Does that type of consequence happen with the Air Force
21 contractor? So if you do change the contract, is it
22 costing the Air Force much more money than they would
23 have paid had that work been included in the original
24 contract?

25 MR. STEVEN WILLIS: It depends on the type of

1 contract. You've got fixed price contracts, you've got
2 cost reimbursable contracts. Fixed price is it is what
3 you bid. Reimbursable is a much more flexible
4 contracting vehicle where you can make changes to the
5 scope and deal with the costs associated with that. So,
6 yeah, there is the potential for -- for increases in
7 cost that the Air Force would have to pay, but we've got
8 some flexibility in that type of a contract vehicle. If
9 we needed to do 65 -- 75 wells instead of 65, as long as
10 there's funding on the contract, you know, we can make
11 adjustments and move things around so we do more of one
12 and less of another as long as we stay within that
13 contract ceiling.

14 We did a lot of work under the previous RI
15 contract. It wasn't necessarily identified in the
16 original scope in terms of 100 soil samples. We
17 probably did a lot more because of the step outs we had
18 to do, but we had that flexibility. But at some point
19 you reach a limit on how much you can do and you have to
20 start over on a new contract and we hit that limit.

21 MR. MARK HENRY: Thank you.

22 MR. TIM SUELTFUSS: Okay. I do want to move
23 us soon to public comment period. It's a very important
24 part of all of our RAB meetings to ensure that the
25 members of the public have the chance to address the

1 RAB. Having said that little prompt, let me see if
2 there any crucial RAB member discussion items? Kyle?

3 MR. KYLE JONES: What kind of contract did you
4 offer to these contractors that's going to be let on
5 September 30?

6 MR. STEVEN WILLIS: For the -- for the -- well,
7 both of -- both of them. In fact, I'm working on the
8 flexible cost plus fixed fee contract. So it gives us
9 more flexibility. For the data gap investigation we
10 know PFAS continues to evolve. For the other -- other
11 two, they're new technologies that we have not done at
12 Wurtsmith. There's a lot of unknowns associated with
13 the design and implementation. That type of contract
14 gives us more flexibility.

15 MR. KYLE JONES: Are you saying then that the
16 data gap investigation contract is a fixed price
17 contract?

18 MR. STEVEN WILLIS: No.

19 MR. KYLE JONES: Okay.

20 MR. TIM SUELTFUSS: Okay. Mark Henry?

21 MR. MARK HENRY: Will the data gap
22 investigation contract, will it be inclusive of the
23 feasibility study and the rest of the CERCLA process, or
24 will there be a new contract after the data gap
25 investigation has concluded?

1 MR. STEVEN WILLIS: At this point in time the
2 feasibility study proposed plan and ROD is not included
3 in the scope of that. Depending on how long it takes us
4 to collect all this data, we may be able to add it to
5 that, or we may have to award a follow on contract.

6 MR. MARK HENRY: Thank you.

7 MR. TIM SUELTFUSS: All right. Arnie?

8 MR. ARNIE LERICHE: A real -- I saw a smile.
9 Arnie Leriche, Community RAB. This is a new topic.

10 Everyone knows or everyone should know by now
11 that the Eat Safe Fish program by the Michigan Health
12 and Human Services, they lowered the recommended amount
13 of consumption and it significantly affects Van Etten
14 Lake and the river and so forth, and around the state.
15 There are a bunch of other states, other sites in the
16 state that it definitely affects. That was based on new
17 EPA criteria.

18 My question is, the same Health and Human
19 Services Department also has an Eat Safe Game; deer,
20 turkey. It's not very well known. It's not probably
21 very used. But I checked the website. It hasn't been
22 updated for those same criteria that was used for the
23 fish. So my question is an action item, is I talked to
24 the -- the rep -- one of the reps in that department and
25 she's going to check, but I'd like to add it as an

1 action item for Health and Human Services, the DNR and
2 the Air Force to be part of the answer to this question
3 because it definitely would affect the DNR's
4 recommendation that no one eat fish within three mile --
5 not -- deer within a three mile. But it also -- I want
6 to double-check the risk assessment for ecological and
7 human, that it includes the updated criteria and if it's
8 the same, verify it is the same or it's different than
9 what the state used for their change in their Eat Safe
10 program.

11 MR. TIM SUELTFUSS: Okay. Great.

12 MR. ARNIE LERICHE: Thank you.

13 MR. TIM SUELTFUSS: Thanks, Arnie.

14 Appreciate that. Let me just remind you as you no doubt
15 read 32 Code of Federal Regulation Part 202 in the
16 evenings, you've noticed the importance it places on
17 public comment. And so I do want to move us into the
18 public comment period. So slide 26, -- I'm sorry.
19 Yeah, slide 27. No. Slide 25. Yeah, slide 25. Okay.

20 (Public Comment at 7:33 p.m.)

21 So, again, we're now moving to the portion of
22 the meeting where we invite members of the public to
23 make a comment. I see your hand up, sir. We'll --
24 we'll put you right at -- at the front. Each person is
25 going to be allotted three minutes to make their

1 comment. That's done so that we can get a sequence, a
2 flow of folks. If you aren't able to make your full
3 comment in those three minutes, feel free to -- to
4 continue that after the next person has spoken. We're
5 going to start with those who are here in person, and
6 then we'll go to those who are connected remotely. If
7 there is anyone who is here in person and would like to
8 make a public comment, please do raise your hand. A
9 microphone will come your way. Let's bring a mic up
10 here to Mr. Spaniola.

11 MR. MARK HENRY: Tim?

12 MR. TIM SUELTFUSS: Yes.

13 MR. MARK HENRY: People can submit questions in
14 writing also.

15 MR. TIM SUELTFUSS: Okay. Great. Yeah. So
16 if you are connected remotely and you would like to use
17 that chat feature, feel free to use that for a question
18 or a comment that you would like to share. And we'll go
19 ahead and start. Mr. Spaniola, let's go ahead. Over to
20 you, sir.

21 TONY SPANIOLA

22 MR. TONY SPANIOLA: Thank you. I -- I want to
23 start my comments and I do have a more specific one, but
24 with a general statement and -- and to say that the
25 technical workgroup I think is something that holds

1 great potential here. Great potential. We over the
2 years there have been -- there have been a lot of
3 problems here over the years. And we have really -- and
4 the community have felt the only real recourse we have
5 is through our members of congress and that's really the
6 only way. From our perspective, things that haven't
7 gotten done here. That's a very inefficient way to do
8 things. It also creates a lot of animosity. And
9 unfortunately, that's been our only alternative.

10 And what I want to say is that to -- to the
11 community, first of all, thank you for the RAB members,
12 Kyle, Mark, everybody who's put in all the time that
13 they've put in on this so far. And Kyle and Mark, the
14 time that you're going to put in, you know, on this
15 technical workgroup. I -- as I was sitting here think --
16 you're -- you're the only two people who aren't going to
17 be getting paid to show up at those meetings and I think
18 that's very significant.

19 And what I want to say is that this is
20 something that -- that's been in the works for a little
21 bit. It would have been nice if we could have started
22 sooner, but it is what it is. But I want to take a
23 moment, again, to thank the Congressional Senator
24 Slotkin, Senator Peters, Congressman Bergman and
25 Congresswoman McDonald Rivet. What has been amazing in

1 all of this, is that at a time in our nation where
2 democrats and republicans don't even talk to each other,
3 here on this issue everybody's come together. There's
4 been no partisan divide at all. And -- and I also want
5 to send deep thanks to the secretary of the Air Force's
6 office, Assistant Secretary -- Deputy Assistant
7 Secretary Balkus, Director of Environmental Policy
8 Michelle Brown, Kenny Johnson, Jenni Dorsey-Spitz.
9 Many, many others who have been involved in making this
10 happen. It was not a push a button kind of thing.

11 And I think that -- I think it's critical for
12 us in the community to be aware of the fact that in the
13 history of the Air Force's remedial efforts as I
14 understand it, there's really only one other instance
15 where -- where this has been done and that was at the
16 Kirtland Air Force Base. There -- there is one in
17 Tucson, but it's really not completely apples to apples
18 with -- with what we're doing here. So a lot of
19 potential here. There are some serious, serious
20 problems that -- that -- that need to be addressed and
21 there now is a -- a vehicle to do it that I think can be
22 very, very productive and I hope will produce
23 collaborative solutions.

24 Also, the fact that we have subject matter
25 experts like Sameer Chandra, Mark Stapleton, and -- and

1 his team from -- from Noblis involved I think, again, a
2 very -- brings very great potential -- potential to, you
3 know, to -- to do things here.

4 I also want to talk about a couple of more
5 specific issues. One, and this is a --

6 MR. TIM SUELTFUSS: Okay. Mr. Spaniola, I
7 hate to say it, we -- we are at those three minutes.
8 Let me just see if there's anyone else --

9 MR. TONY SPANIOLA: Sure. I'll yield and --
10 and if there's time, I would love to come back. Okay.
11 Sure.

12 MR. TIM SUELTFUSS: -- and -- and I -- I do
13 absolutely invite you to continue your discussions. Let
14 me just see if anyone else would like to make a comment
15 real quick. Hold on to that. Yes, ma'am?

16 KELLY LIVELY

17 MS. KELLY LIVELY: Okay. Kelly Lively from
18 Senator Peters' office. And I just want to thank
19 members of the RAB, you guys for participating in the
20 technical workgroup, to Cathy for all of the work that
21 she does, and to the -- the transition that we're --
22 we're seeing and we see great potential in this
23 transition.

24 The other thing I just wanted to remark on is
25 that one of the things we're going to need now is

1 funding. So what I would like to do, because we've seen
2 in the past that Congress has allocated more funds than
3 has been asked for, for some of these cleanup efforts.
4 And so as we move forward, we want to be really careful
5 about what -- what we need, how much we need, and we
6 need to ask for enough. And I know that our team is
7 going to work really hard to try to make that a reality
8 in the next budget cycle.

9 MR. TIM SUELTFUSS: Thank you, ma'am.
10 Appreciate that. Are there other public comments for
11 those who are here in person tonight? Mr. Spaniola, I
12 think you had another comment. Go ahead.

13 MR. TONY SPANIOLA: Yep. I do.

14 MR. TIM SUELTFUSS: Yes, go to you, sir.

15 TONY SPANIOLA

16 MR. TONY SPANIOLA: Thank you. This -- this
17 just goes a couple more specific points.

18 One, with regard to the performance data, there
19 was a reference in the slide to the fact that the --
20 the -- for the other IRAs that are ongoing at the site
21 that there's been a 12-month performance review that's
22 been done on those. I would ask that the -- that the --
23 the -- the data and information from those be provided
24 to the community. I don't think anybody here has ever
25 seen those and I think that would be really helpful.

1 And I -- I'm just hoping that on the
2 information sharing side that we see some -- some
3 improvement. I think -- I sense that when -- when
4 information is requested, there's almost a knee jerk
5 reaction within the Air Force to say "no; no; no. We
6 don't want to do that." And I think -- I hope that with
7 this technical workgroup and with the commitment to
8 transparency that we've received from Air Force
9 leadership, that that will start to turn.

10 Finally, I want to turn to a topic that's very
11 near and dear to me because it's where I live and that's
12 the east side of Van Etten Lake. And I just want to say
13 that I -- I -- I have been beyond disappointed with the
14 Air Force's handling of that over the years. Under the
15 law, it -- the Air Force is presumed responsible for
16 that contamination. And from the beginning, the Air
17 Force has approached it as if "no, it's not us and we
18 don't have to do anything."

19 The -- the slide information -- and I do
20 appreciate that it was kind of downgraded, but it's my
21 understanding that the work that has been done that
22 resulted in the discussion that happened yesterday and
23 was -- was briefly summarized today, was essentially a
24 review of studies that have been done and data that has
25 been compiled so far. So -- and -- and it was done, I

1 believe, with the intention of determining what else
2 needs to be done. And I think that the -- the
3 communication in the slide of a conclusion or an
4 indication or otherwise, I think is at best premature.
5 And I think that I would also say that if the work that
6 had been recommended and requested by the community, our
7 experts had been done and included in the review that
8 was done, perhaps the result might have been different.
9 And so -- I see Mark shaking his head yes. So let's be
10 complete about it.

11 And there's nobody -- I don't think there's
12 anybody from the community in this room who thinks that
13 anybody other than the Air Force is responsible for that
14 contamination on that side of the lake. It makes no
15 sense. And the fact that we have been run around in
16 circles for nine years is a real, real problem. And so
17 I would ask that the Air Force be a little more
18 sensitive in its communications on that topic because
19 it's impacted us in a major, major, major way. It's
20 cost us money. It has left the community to have to go
21 out and do all kinds of work. And we've heard from
22 predecessors here, all sorts of incredibly ridiculous
23 excuses as to why they didn't even have to do any work
24 on that side of the lake. So that's a frustration.

25 I am hoping that those frustrations can be

1 directed through this technical workgroup and that the
2 potential that it offers is -- is -- comes out in a
3 solution for that lake that really makes sense. Thank
4 you all.

5 MR. TIM SUELTFUSS: Thank you very much, sir.
6 Appreciate that. Kate Need, did you have a comment that
7 you'd like to --

8 MS. KATE NEED: They answered.

9 MR. TIM SUELTFUSS: Got it. Okay. Perfect.
10 Okay. Are there other public comments that anyone here
11 in person would like to make? Okay. Well, so I'll
12 check again if anything else comes to mind.

13 But let me turn now to those who are not here
14 in person who are connected virtually to see if there
15 are public comments. If you would like to make a public
16 comment, please raise your hand electronically. You can
17 also, if you're connected by phone, dial star 5, that
18 will raise your hand. And I'll turn to our support
19 staff to see if anyone is indicating an interest in
20 making a public comment. Please bear with us. We'll
21 have to go through a process to mute you and you'll
22 unmute yourself and so on. Is there anyone who would
23 like to make a public comment virtually?

24 MR. MITCHEL DYKLA: I don't see anyone.

25 MR. TIM SUELTFUSS: Nobody right now? Okay.

1 All right. Let me -- I know it -- it -- it can be a
2 challenge when you're connected virtually. So let me
3 give a few more moments. I do see, yeah, there's a
4 person with a phone number beginning in three and ending
5 in 00. So let's go ahead -- I'm going to invite you to
6 come off mute and go ahead and make your comments. If
7 you could say your name as well if you would like to,
8 please? Go ahead, please. Okay. And we are not
9 hearing right now. And as a reminder -- yes. Go ahead.
10 So star 6 will unmute yourself. Are you showing -- in
11 the back, support staff, we're showing that they are
12 unmuted?

13 MR. MITCHEL DYKLA: Yeah. They're unmuted on
14 our end.

15 MR. TIM SUELTFUSS: Okay. We're not yet
16 hearing you. Go ahead with your comment, please. Okay.
17 We are still not hearing a comment. If there is anyone
18 who would like to -- to make a comment, please raise
19 your hand electronically. You can do star 5 as well to
20 raise your hand if you're connected on the phone. Okay.
21 I don't think I'm seeing anyone who's making a
22 comment -- desiring to make a comment virtually; is that
23 right?

24 MR. MITCHEL DYKLA: (Nodding head)

25 MR. TIM SUELTFUSS: Okay. Okay. After all

1 of that talk, let me just see if there is anyone else
2 here in the room who would like to make a public
3 comment. Okay? All right. Well, that takes us through
4 the public comment period. You'll see that as a
5 standing agenda item in our Restoration Advisory Board
6 meetings.

7 (Conclusion at 7:44 p.m.)

8 MR. TIM SUELTFUSS: We are moving now to
9 slide 27, if we could. And that indicates our upcoming
10 RAB meetings. We'll have a RAB meeting on Wednesday
11 evening, the 19th of November, and will continue that
12 same sequence, the second month of each quarter, the
13 third week of each month, the Wednesday of that week.
14 That's our -- our plan. Yep. Okay.

15 I will be turning here in a moment to our
16 co-chairs for closing remarks. But first, let me turn
17 to Ms. Michelle Brown with the Office of the Secretary
18 of the Air Force who has an update to share. Ms. Brown,
19 over to you, ma'am. And, Ms. Brown, I'm seeing you as
20 muted. So let's look at Michelle Brown, tech staff,
21 please. Okay. And it looks like Ms. Brown has just
22 departed the virtual meeting. Okay. We will come back.
23 It could be that Ms. Brown is reconnecting like you say.
24 Yes, ma'am.

25 MS. MICHELLE BROWN: Are -- are you able to

1 hear me now?

2 MR. TIM SUELTFUSS: Yes, ma'am. We are.

3 Thank you. Over to you, ma'am.

4 MICHELLE BROWN

5 MS. MICHELLE BROWN: Good evening. Hopefully
6 the reception is -- is clear. Thank you for the
7 opportunity just to make a -- a few remarks.

8 Mr. Spaniola, the Department of the Air Force
9 has heard you. All the community members, we've heard
10 you, you know, through the comments that you made. Air
11 Force is committed to the -- the promises and
12 commitments that it's made in the RAB meeting, and the
13 engagements that we've had with Senator Slotkin and Rep.
14 Bergman.

15 And we are in the process of conducting our --
16 our reorganization as Mr. Johnson has raised in his
17 previous presentation undergoing not only a
18 reorganization, but also a transition right now with
19 Steve. I believe this is his last RAB meeting. And I
20 apologize if I missed the beginning of the RAB. I was
21 unable to get -- to get through.

22 But if he made that announcement, I wanted to
23 thank Steve for -- for his work and commitment and
24 welcome the new team that will be supporting the
25 Wurtsmith RAB, and make the commitment that we will

1 continue to make improvements. We will continue to --
2 to ensure that we are engaging with the community, that
3 we have a commitment to transparency, and a commitment
4 to making the technical workgroup work. And -- and the
5 output from that technical workgroup will then hope --
6 hopefully add to the trust that we are building with
7 each other in this process.

8 Mr. Spaniola, I've heard about the -- the
9 request for additional sensitivity and how we respond to
10 the fate and transport of PFAS at Van Etten Lake. And
11 we have heard you and -- and we will take that under
12 advisement definitely.

13 And then one of the commitments of the
14 Department of the Air Force has made is in developing a
15 comprehensive cleanup strategy. And we are still
16 committing -- committed to doing so and ensuring that
17 not just the PFAS, but all of our legacy contaminants,
18 that we have a clear and comprehensive strategy to
19 ensure that we achieve a cleanup that is right for this
20 committee, that is scientifically based, that is
21 technically satisfying for all the regulatory
22 requirements.

23 And, you know, I -- I -- I think it's lastly
24 important to realize that there are a lot of different
25 going on right now. And while that cleanup strategy has

1 not started yet, it has not yet launched, we don't want
2 to do everything everywhere all at once because we want
3 to make sure that we do it well and that we do it
4 appropriately. But that once we conduct that, we will
5 be utilizing the -- the contract supports available at
6 the headquarters level.

7 So hopefully I've addressed at least all of the
8 things that -- that -- that the secretariat has had
9 oversight and concern of. We continue to be involved
10 and engaged in the cleanup activities at Wurtsmith. We
11 truly appreciate the community's involvement and
12 engagements and your passion to ensure that things are
13 done right, and we are committed to ensuring that we
14 continue engagement with this community, continue
15 building trust, and continue with transparency.

16 So thank you for -- for the time and
17 availability to speak.

18 MR. TIM SUELTFUSS: Okay. Thank you very
19 much, Ms. Brown. We appreciate your comment. I'll turn
20 to the co-chairs for closing comments here in just a
21 moment. Steve, I'll give you the last word so you can
22 have the last comment.

23 But let me run through what I've heard as
24 possible action items. Again, these are just my very
25 rough -- I typically type. I never write. I broke my

1 wrist. So I -- what I have is eight items which sound
2 to me like possible action items. I'll be sharing those
3 with the co-chairs and we'll have some discussion on the
4 24th of September about them.

5 Number one, share data the Air Force possesses
6 related to the 2023 pump and treat systems report; two,
7 place the work plan for defense reutilization marketing
8 office and LF030/031 interim remedial action in the
9 administrative record; three, share examples of active
10 Air Force stormwater management system that pertains to
11 the Three Pipes stormwater non-time critical removal
12 action; four, confirm the status of action item 125,
13 provide data related to the Air Force's perspective.
14 The groundwater appears not to be flowing under Van
15 Etten Lake to the east side of the lake. Six, add to
16 meeting standards that a site map shall be provided in
17 hard copy packets available at RAB meetings; seven,
18 share the statement of work for the data gap
19 investigation with RAB members; eight, determine whether
20 the Eat Safe Game standards will be updated.

21 So if you heard me say one, that you had
22 mentioned and I got it wrong, please catch -- catch me
23 at the end of the meeting. I'll -- I'll capture it
24 accurately.

25 Let me turn now to Mark Henry for closing

1 comments. Sir?

2 MR. MARK HENRY: I'd like to thank you all for
3 attending this meeting. I'm glad we're having more
4 public participation than the lean times that we had
5 perhaps last year.

6 I'm looking forward to working with the
7 technical working group in trying to identify and
8 resolve outstanding issues. And we seem to get along
9 well with the rest of the members of the technical
10 working group, so I am very confident that we're going
11 to make progress there. So I thank you all and have a
12 great evening.

13 MR. TIM SUELTFUSS: Okay. Steven?

14 MR. MARK HENRY: Oh. And I'd like to thank
15 Steve for being the co-chair. I've enjoyed working with
16 him and I have appreciated the way that he's getting
17 things done.

18 MR. TIM SUELTFUSS: Give Steve a hand.

19 (Applause)

20 MR. STEVEN WILLIS: Thank you, everyone. It's
21 good to see we do have some new faces. Anyone that did
22 not get one of the brochures, please see me afterwards
23 and I'll make sure you get a copy. It's kind of a handy
24 reference of -- it's got a map of the installation
25 areas where we're putting in remedial systems either

1 currently operating or stuff that's on the books and
2 we're working on putting in place. So if you didn't get
3 one, let me know and I'll make sure and get you one.

4 As I said, this is my last meeting. It's been
5 an experience. I've had -- I've had numerous
6 opportunities in other jobs to work -- work with RABs
7 and as Cathy said, this one is special. It is
8 definitely different. It's never a dull moment.
9 Wurtsmith is full of challenges. It's been a -- been a
10 real experience. So I turn it over to Dave and know
11 he'll do a fine job. Thanks.

12 MR. DAVE IACOVONE: Yeah. I guess I never
13 really introduced myself. I'm Dave Iacovone. And I am
14 for what is called the active side of Air Force, NCZO
15 and AFCEC. In other words, we have active bases. So I
16 was asked if I would consider coming up and taking over
17 Wurtsmith and I said yes.

18 My background is I have a degree in chemistry.
19 Been in the environmental field for about 37 years.
20 I've worked as an RPM for six years out of
21 Wright-Patterson Air Force Base. That is my home base.
22 That is, you know, where I live and, you know, where I
23 will be coming up from. Before I worked as an RPM I
24 worked another seven years as a support contractor for
25 Air Force at Grissom Air Reserve Base and doing some

1 other air bases. I currently have five other
2 installations I do that are -- that are mostly kind of
3 light handle. So I kind of wanted something with a
4 little bit of a challenge to it and it sounds like I'm
5 going to have one. So I'm kind of looking forward to
6 seeing all of you and working with you in the future.
7 Thank you.

8 MR. TIM SUELTFUSS: Well, thank you all very
9 much. We are adjourned for tonight. Have a good night.
10 Thanks.

11 (Meeting concluded at 7:55 p.m.)
12
13
14
15
16
17
18
19
20
21
22
23
24
25

CERTIFICATE OF RECORDER

I, Marcy A. Klingshirn, a Certified Electronic
Recorder and Notary Public within and for the State of
Michigan do hereby certify:

That this transcript, consisting of 127 pages,
is a complete, true, and correct record of the testimony
given in this meeting on August 27, 2025.

I further certify that I am not related to any
of the parties to this action by blood or marriage and that I
am not interested in the outcome of this matter, financial or
otherwise.

IN WITNESS THEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand
this 11th day of September 2025.

Marcy A. Klingshirn

Marcy A. Klingshirn, CER 6924
Notary Public, State of Michigan
County of Eaton
My Commission Expires: March 30, 2029

Reference No.: 13159226

Case: RAB MEETING

DECLARATION UNDER PENALTY OF PERJURY

I declare under penalty of perjury that I have read the entire transcript of my Deposition taken in the captioned matter or the same has been read to me, and the same is true and accurate, save and except for changes and/or corrections, if any, as indicated by me on the DEPOSITION ERRATA SHEET hereof, with the understanding that I offer these changes as if still under oath.

RAB

NOTARIZATION OF CHANGES

(If Required)

Subscribed and sworn to on the _____ day of

_____, 20____ before me,

(Notary Sign)_____

(Print Name) _____ Notary Public,

in and for the State of _____

Reference No.: 13159226
Case: RAB MEETING

Page No. _____ Line No. _____ Change to: _____

Reason for change: _____

Page No. _____ Line No. _____ Change to: _____

Reason for change: _____

Page No. _____ Line No. _____ Change to: _____

Reason for change: _____

Page No. _____ Line No. _____ Change to: _____

Reason for change: _____

Page No. _____ Line No. _____ Change to: _____

Reason for change: _____

Page No. _____ Line No. _____ Change to: _____

Reason for change: _____

Page No. _____ Line No. _____ Change to: _____

Reason for change: _____

SIGNATURE: _____ DATE: _____

RAB

Reference No.: 13159226
Case: RAB MEETING

Page No. _____ Line No. _____ Change to: _____

Reason for change: _____

Page No. _____ Line No. _____ Change to: _____

Reason for change: _____

Page No. _____ Line No. _____ Change to: _____

Reason for change: _____

Page No. _____ Line No. _____ Change to: _____

Reason for change: _____

Page No. _____ Line No. _____ Change to: _____

Reason for change: _____

Page No. _____ Line No. _____ Change to: _____

Reason for change: _____

Page No. _____ Line No. _____ Change to: _____

Reason for change: _____

SIGNATURE: _____ DATE: _____

RAB