

# WURTSMITH RESTORATION ADVISORY BOARD (RAB) MEETING

May 17, 2023

Prepared by



depos@networkreporting.com  
Phone: 800.632.2720  
Fax: 800.968.8653  
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WURTSMITH RESTORATION  
ADVISORY BOARD (RAB) MEETING

Oscoda United Methodist Church  
120 West Dwight Street, Oscoda, Michigan 48750  
Wednesday, May 17, 2023, 5:00 p.m.

Government Board  
Members Present:

Steven Willis, Air Force (Co-chair)  
Eric Strayer, AuSable Township  
Beth Place, EGLE  
Amy Handley, EGLE  
Denise Bryan, Local Health Department  
Puneet Vij, MDHHS  
Tim Cummings, Oscoda Township  
Michael Munson, OWAA

Community Board  
Members Present:

Mark Henry, (Co-chair)  
William Gaines  
Arnie Leriche  
Scott Lingo  
Greg Schultz  
Rex Vaughn  
David Winn  
Cathy Wusterbarth

Also Present:

Andrea Keatley, MDHHS  
Paula Bond, Aerostar  
Maria Gutierrez  
Laquita Lozano, AFCEC/AGEISS  
Kate Lynnes, SAF/IEE  
Tim Sueltenfuss, Galen Driscoll  
John Bradley, EGLE  
Joshua Sutton  
Tammy Kline, Oscoda Township  
David Carmona  
Robert Tasior  
Jeremy Bennett, CTI  
Bill Palmer, Oscoda Township  
Jenny Haglund, Iosco County News  
Ben Wiese, US Forest Service

1 Leigh-Ann Fabianke, Galen Driscoll  
2 Kyle Jones  
3 Chris Coulon  
4 Nick Shorkey, EGLE  
5 Charlie Bauer, EGLE (virtually)  
6 Megan Berry, EGLE (virtually)  
7 Celeste Holtz, BB&E (virtually)  
8 Tony Spaniola (virtually)

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1                   Oscoda, Michigan

2                   And virtually

3                   Wednesday, May 17, 2023 - 5:01 p.m.

4                   MS. JESSIE HOWARD: All right. Hello, and welcome to  
5                   the May, 2023, Restoration Advisory Board Public Meeting.  
6                   My name is Jessie Howard, and I will be facilitating this  
7                   evening. This meeting will be documented and live-streamed  
8                   by Irving Entertainment Studios, as well as recorded by  
9                   certified court reporter Ms. Suzan Stiles.

10                   Before we would begin I would like to ask if we  
11                   have any State or Local Government officials with us tonight  
12                   that would like to introduce themselves?

13                   MR. STEVE WILLIS: I would just, you know, quickly  
14                   say we do have a team from OSB here (inaudible).

15                   They're just here to observe the RAB tonight.  
16                   They aren't going to be presenting anything or discussing  
17                   any items. It's simply an observation mode. So that's  
18                   pretty much it.

19                   MS. JESSIE HOWARD: Okay.

20                   MS. CATHY WUSTERBARTH: Excuse me. I think we  
21                   have some local officials who might want to introduce  
22                   themselves

23                   MS. JESSIE HOWARD: Sure.

24                   MS. CATHY WUSTERBARTH: Will you introduce  
25                   yourselves?

1                   MR. BILL PALMER: Bill Palmer. Oscoda Township  
2 Supervisor.

3                   MR. ROBERT TASIOR: Robert Tasior. I am a Oscoda  
4 Township Trustee.

5                   MR. JOSHUA SUTTON: Joshua Sutton, Oscoda Township  
6 Clerk.

7                   MS. CATHY WUSTERBARTH: And just online?

8                   MS. JESSIE HOWARD: Amy, did we have anybody  
9 virtually who would like to introduce themselves?

10                   MS. AMY RAUSER: We have Charles Bauer, EGLE;  
11 Megan Berry with EGLE; Celeste Holtz with BB&E, and there  
12 are a number of people just signed in as guests that I can't  
13 see the organization.

14                   MS. JESSIE HOWARD: Okay. Lovely. We do have a  
15 pretty full agenda tonight, so I will ask the Co-Chairs for  
16 their opening remarks. Mr. Willis?

17                   MR. STEVE WILLIS: Thanks everyone for coming this  
18 evening. It's good to see we've got --

19                   REPORTER: I need to stop this for just one  
20 second. I'm not getting anything --

21                   MS. JESSIE HOWARD: So for the RAB Members, just  
22 real quick, these mics are pretty directional, so you will  
23 need to speak right into that end round piece and keep it as  
24 close to your mouth as, as you can, so we can hear you just  
25 in general.

1                   MR. STEVE WILLIS: Again, welcome everyone. I see  
2 we've got a good turnout tonight. It's good to see people  
3 continue to show up for these and there's an interest in the  
4 community and all the environmental work that the Air Force  
5 is doing at Wurtsmith.

6                   We do have -- as Jessie said, we do have a full  
7 agenda tonight. One of the things that will be a little  
8 different is that we are going through the nomination  
9 process for filling three vacant RAB positions. We'll get  
10 to that a little bit later this evening, but that will be  
11 something that will be new -- new kind of in our meeting  
12 agenda.

13                   That's all I've got.

14                   MR. MARK HENRY: Mark Henry, Community Co-Chair.  
15 I would like to welcome you also to this meeting, and I  
16 would encourage everyone to ask questions. If there are  
17 things that you don't understand related to the posters or  
18 the presentation material, by all means speak up and ask  
19 your questions.

20                   MS. JESSIE HOWARD: Okay. I will go ahead and  
21 take attendance now. I'll start with the Community RAB.

22                   Mark Henry, our Community Co-Chair?

23                   MR. MARK HENRY: Here.

24                   MS. JESSIE HOWARD: Arnie Leriche?

25                   MR. ARNIE LERICHE: Present.

1 MS. JESSIE HOWARD: Scott Lingo?  
2 MR. SCOTT LINGO: Present.  
3 MS. JESSIE HOWARD: Rex Vaughn?  
4 MR. REX VAUGHN: Present.  
5 MS. JESSIE HOWARD: Cathy Wusterbarth?  
6 MS. CATHY WUSTERBARTH: Here.  
7 MS. JESSIE HOWARD: Bill Gaines?  
8 MR. GAINES: Present.  
9 MS. JESSIE HOWARD: David Winn?  
10 MR. DAVID WINN: Present.  
11 MS. JESSIE HOWARD: And Greg Schultz?  
12 MR. GREG SCHULTZ: Present.  
13 MS. JESSIE HOWARD: All right. And the Government  
14 RAB Members: Steven Willis of the Air Force Civil Engineer  
15 Center, our Government Co-Chair?  
16 MR. STEVE WILLIS: Present.  
17 MS. JESSIE HOWARD: Tim Cummings, from Oscoda  
18 Township?  
19 MR. TIM CUMMINGS: Present.  
20 MS. JESSIE HOWARD: Eric Strayer, AuSable  
21 Township?  
22 MR. ERIC STRAYER: Present.  
23 MS. JESSIE HOWARD: I have Beth Place and Amy  
24 Hadley, both from EGLE?  
25 MS. BETH PLACE: Present.

1 MS. AMY HADLEY: Present.

2 MS. JESSIE HOWARD: Puneet Vij, from the Michigan  
3 Department of Health & Human Services?

4 MR. PUNEET VIJ: Present.

5 MS. JESSIE HOWARD: Jessie Stuntebeck, of the USDA  
6 Forest Service?

7 MR. ERIC STRAYER: Jessie is not here. (inaudible)

8 MS. JESSIE HOWARD: Okay. Michael Munson, from  
9 OWAA?

10 MR. MICHAEL MUNSON: Here.

11 MS. JESSIE HOWARD: And Denise Bryan, from  
12 District Health Number 2?

13 MS. DENISE BRYAN: Present.

14 MS. JESSIE HOWARD: All right. Next I would like  
15 to review the ground rules for tonight's meeting.

16 Number 1 - Respect one another and maintain an  
17 atmosphere of open dialogue and exchange of ideas.

18 Number 2 - Use our time together efficiently,  
19 wisely, and respectfully.

20 Number 3 - Speak clearly, one person at a time,  
21 avoiding interrupting others.

22 Number 4 - Listen and main -- and remain open to  
23 different points of view.

24 Number 5 - Maintain a propensity for progress;  
25 prepare, discuss, document and move forward.

1                   Number 6 - Share information early, openly, and  
2                   honestly.

3                   And Number 7 - Accurately and objectively relay to  
4                   others the discussions that occur at Board meetings.

5                   And quickly I will review our virtual  
6                   participation checklist.

7                   If you prefer to join by phone, please dial the  
8                   call-in number and enter the access code for the meeting.

9                   Star 5 will raise or lower your hand.

10                  The RAB coordinator will enable your mic.

11                  And Star 6 will unmute you when it's your turn to  
12                  speak.

13                  If we could please have anybody participating  
14                  online mute themselves when they're not speaking.

15                  Use the "Raise Hand" to raise your hand.

16                  The RAB coordinator will enable your mic and you  
17                  can unmute yourself when it's your turn to speak.

18                  To enable closed captions for language support,  
19                  click, "More", "Language and Speech", "Turn on live  
20                  captions."

21                  Please use the "Chat" for any questions.

22                  And contact the RAB coordinator with any  
23                  additional questions that you may have. It is  
24                  amy.rauser@wsp. That is a-m-y-.-r-a-u-s-e-r-@-w-s-p-.com.

25                  And tonight's agenda -- let's see -- we are doing

1 Welcome, Introductions, and Ground Rules now. After will be  
2 the RAB Member Updates, followed by the RAB Business Update.  
3 We'll get the BECOS Update, followed by the RI Update, The  
4 IRA Update. We'll review our Schedule, we'll address any  
5 RAB Member questions, followed by Public Comment, and then  
6 the Conclusion of tonight's meeting.

7 And, lastly, we do request that all Community  
8 Members hold their comments until the end of the meeting and  
9 that portion of the agenda.

10 Mr. Willis, would you please begin with an update  
11 from the Air Force?

12 MR. STEVE WILLIS: Sure. So since our last RAB  
13 meeting, and at the request of the -- during the last RAB  
14 meeting we did have a virtual technical session on April  
15 24th to discuss the PFAS Risk Assessment. There were a few  
16 action items generated from that virtual session, and we are  
17 working on the responses to those.

18 One of those dealt with how we -- what data was  
19 available from previous investigations by EGLE or the Health  
20 Department or the Department of Natural Resources, and so  
21 we're evaluating and compiling all that data, and we'll put  
22 together a table of what -- what data can and can't be used  
23 as part of the RI PFAS RI Risk Assessment. So we'll make  
24 that table available to everyone so they understand what  
25 data is out there and what data we're able to use.

1                   We did host another technical session; an  
2                   in-person technical session; yesterday. I did solicit from  
3                   the Community RAB Members topics that they would like to  
4                   discuss. We got roughly a dozen or so questions and  
5                   comments, and so we prepared a handout for that. We  
6                   unfortunately had a few technical difficulties with the  
7                   handout, and so it wasn't available yesterday, but I will  
8                   make that available and we'll post it on the RAB site --  
9                   website, and we'll also put a copy in the Information  
10                  Repository in the library.

11                  It turns out that, though we had quite a few  
12                  questions, I don't think we got past question 1 or 2. We  
13                  got sidetracked on numerous discussions. They were all very  
14                  productive, but didn't necessarily stick with our agenda,  
15                  but that's okay. We'll make the handout available that will  
16                  address the questions that were submitted, and if there's  
17                  follow-up discussion on those needed, we'll do that.

18                  MR. MARK HENRY: We had talked about, if there is  
19                  follow-up discussion needed, rather than having an in-person  
20                  meeting, we might be able to do that virtually so that we  
21                  can cover all of the issues that were supposed to be  
22                  discussed.

23                  MS. JESSIE HOWARD: Cathy?

24                  MS. CATHY WUSTERBARTH: Can you clarify, when you  
25                  say "handout", which -- it's -- it's -- there was no

1           slideshow; right? What -- when you say "handout", what was  
2           the handout you're referring to?

3                   MR. STEVE WILLIS: That's correct. The handout is  
4           all of the questions that were submitted, along with a  
5           written response; a narrative with the response on it;  
6           whether it was, you know, action that's been done, action  
7           that's going to be done, whether no action is required and  
8           the justification for that, along with supporting maps,  
9           aerial images, there's some blueprints of buildings that  
10          identify where PFAS -- the AFFF storage tanks were located  
11          in a building. Much of the information that was shown  
12          yesterday will be in that handout as well.

13                   MS. CATHY WUSTERBARTH: So, Steve, is there a time  
14          frame in which you would like to see us submit questions  
15          like this in advance of a technical meeting so that we could  
16          get answers before the meeting?

17                   MR. STEVE WILLIS: We'll have to work on that. We  
18          solicited stuff from Mark, and I think it was a little slow  
19          getting input, but we did get input and got responses as  
20          quickly as we could, but we can work on the timing between  
21          Mark and I.

22                   MS. CATHY WUSTERBARTH: Okay. And -- and while  
23          we're talking about the RAB website, in terms of handouts,  
24          for -- for the presentation that you provide for this  
25          meeting, you know, for the RAB website I know that you keep

1           that on there. You know, once the meeting is done you load  
2           the video and the print presentation and all of that.

3                        If you could provide this handout on the RAB  
4           website in advance of the meeting when you release it to all  
5           of us -- like, yesterday you released it -- right? -- if you  
6           could put it on the website, that will help people at home  
7           that are wanting to look at the slides in advance and  
8           looking -- you know, just look at them longer. That would  
9           be appreciated so that the public can have access to these  
10          slides that we are all looking at during the meeting.

11                      MR. STEVE WILLIS: Okay. I'll look into that.  
12          Our Public Affairs Office actually maintains and uploads all  
13          this stuff, so I'll work with them to see --

14                      MS. CATHY WUSTERBARTH: Thank you.

15                      MR. STEVE WILLIS: -- how we can get that  
16          available sooner.

17                      MS. JESSIE HOWARD: All right. Mr. Henry, did you  
18          have an update for us?

19                      MR. MARK HENRY: (indicating)

20                      MS. JESSIE HOWARD: Did you have an update for us?

21                      MR. MARK HENRY: I'm sorry?

22                      MS. JESSIE HOWARD: An update for the RAB?

23                      MR. MARK HENRY: The Community RAB hasn't done a  
24          whole heck of a lot. We've had a couple of internal  
25          meetings, we have had a pretty good turnout at the technical

1 meeting that happened yesterday, and we've had some internal  
2 discussions about topics to raise to the Air Force. But  
3 outside of that, there hasn't been too much going on.

4 MS. JESSIE HOWARD: Okay. Anybody else from the  
5 Community RAB have an update they would like to share with  
6 us?

7 MS. CATHY WUSTERBARTH: (indicating)

8 MS. JESSIE HOWARD: Cathy?

9 MS. CATHY WUSTERBARTH: Yes. All right. So I --  
10 I kind of disagree with Mark that we Community RAB Members  
11 haven't done much, because we have done a lot, I've got to  
12 say. Maybe not all together as one big group, but  
13 individually we are working very hard, so --

14 Regarding the IRA's; the four IRA's; that were  
15 requested actually in -- August 17th of 2022 by RAB Member  
16 Dave Winn, I would like to just give everybody a time line  
17 and how those -- those had worked in terms of our -- our  
18 requests as a RAB for those -- consideration for those  
19 IRA's.

20 So on August 17th of 2022 we requested that these  
21 four IRA's for Landfill 30/31, Three Pipes Drain, Wastewater  
22 Lagoon, and the DRMO area be considered. And then in --  
23 November 16th we had another RAB meeting, and we were  
24 provided slides that said that the -- the Landfill 30/31 and  
25 the DRMO area do not warrant an Interim Remedial Action.

1           So at that point a few of us in the community  
2           created an effort to request support from legislators and  
3           the State in terms of getting the support for these IRA's  
4           which we feel are very, very important for our community to  
5           stop the flow of PFAS off of the Base.

6           This is the point of these Interim Remedial  
7           Actions, to keep the PFAS from flowing off the Base, to  
8           maintain it on -- within the boundaries of the Base and  
9           start -- stop harming humans.

10          So February 9th we -- or in mid February we  
11          submitted some requests, and on February 15th the State of  
12          Michigan; EGLE; said that they -- they also support and  
13          believe that these IRA's are important for the community, to  
14          protect them. Which we really appreciate working with the  
15          State in terms of, you know, knowing what's important in the  
16          community.

17          Then on March 1st we reached out to the County  
18          Commissioners; Iosco County Commissioners; and they sup- --  
19          they issued a letter of support for these actions also.

20          And on March 27th the US Air Force submitted a  
21          letter to EGLE saying that they are basically going to do  
22          more -- trying to collect more data for these Interim  
23          Remedial Actions.

24          We believe; strongly believe; that no more data  
25          needs to be collected, that the data exists, and they should

1 use that data. And then in -- that is what the letter  
2 reflects.

3 And, according to, you know, some representatives  
4 for the Air Force they said that the letter doesn't say,  
5 "No, we aren't going to be conducting those Interim Remedial  
6 Actions, it just says we're going to look at it long --  
7 longer -- excuse me -- continue to look at that."

8 And you'll have to forgive us, but we don't  
9 necessarily trust the Air Force that this is going to be  
10 done in a timely manner if you can't say yes right now.  
11 Because it needs to be done now.

12 And then lastly we received a letter of support  
13 from Oscoda Township on April 24th, again, indicating that  
14 they believe that our community needs to be protected with  
15 these Interim Remedial Actions. And I have those copies for  
16 the Air Force if they have not received those.

17 And, you know, I would really -- I think that we  
18 need to stop the train and look at these immediately. These  
19 need to be done now, and our experts have indicated that,  
20 and the data shows that there is harm to humans and the  
21 environment.

22 Thank you.

23 MS. JESSIE HOWARD: Would any other Community  
24 Members like to give us an update?

25 MR. ARNIE LERICHE: (indicating)

1 MS. JESSIE HOWARD: Yes, sir?

2 MR. ARNIE LERICHE: My name is Arnie Leriche. A  
3 couple things that some of us have been working on, and I'm  
4 just going to give a highlight of it in this update, and  
5 then later on we'll talk about it -- or I'll talk about some  
6 of it, because both of them will, I hope -- and I'm going to  
7 submit as Action Items.

8 One of them is the surface water foam. This was  
9 brought up in August of 2017 in our first orientation  
10 because it was only three months prior that the, DEQ at the  
11 time, with the aid of a STEM high school class, found out  
12 that the foam, once sampled and analyzed, was very high in  
13 PFAS.

14 And then the Air Force took a sample a couple  
15 weeks later and they found 100,000 parts per trillion, and  
16 the State has found upwards of 97,000 parts per trillion in  
17 the foam. And that's mostly on Van Etten Lake.

18 Then we were promised to have an expert; a  
19 subject-matter expert; from the Air Force come and meet with  
20 us at the second orientation meeting, which was in  
21 September; a month later. We did not see that person show  
22 up, and we were told that he was not coming.

23 Since then some studies have been done by the DOD.  
24 However, those -- that information has not been accepted by  
25 the subject-matter experts in the Remedial Investigation

1 Work Plan, and, therefore, I'm going to suggest that those  
2 articles; and the most recent one just was published last  
3 month, two months after -- I mean two years -- three years  
4 actually, since the sampling.

5 The second one relates to the Risk Assessments,  
6 because no one in the Air Force so far, or their  
7 consultants, have recognized the foam as anything to be  
8 done; anything more than what the Health Department or the  
9 State has said. And that is do not touch it, and, if you do  
10 come in contact with the foam on the lake, wash it off. And  
11 that's it. You can read that in the Risk Assessment.  
12 There's no more investigation going to happen. That cannot  
13 stand.

14 The second thing regards the ecological sampling  
15 and analysis of fish, wildlife; deer and so forth. In 2018  
16 I gave a report of another site where the -- the Air Force  
17 sampled for screening purposes, and not wait five years  
18 later to wait for the Remedial Investigation Work Plan.  
19 They did the sampling in 2018, but the team here said, no,  
20 it doesn't happen. They don't do it until -- they don't do  
21 the sampling until the RI, and that's five or six years  
22 afterwards.

23 Well, that's not what other sites do. There's an  
24 old saying that says, "You can't know what you don't know  
25 unless you ask", and the "ask" really is do screening

1 analysis, and that's how you find out if there's anything  
2 possibly out there that you should investigate.

3 And I'll just end with that, and I hope there's  
4 some answers in the discussion later on.

5 MS. JESSIE HOWARD: Anybody else from the  
6 community -- or Community RAB member I mean, with an update?

7 How about any Government RAB Members with an  
8 update for us?

9 MR. TIM CUMMINGS: I do. Tim Cummings, from  
10 Oscoda Township. I just want to make a point here as well  
11 to say that the Oscoda Township Board, of which I'm a  
12 Trustee, did pass a Resolution that Ms. Wusterbarth did  
13 mention, and it does support the need for these four IRA's  
14 to be prioritized by the Air Force.

15 It is important that we -- we can no longer  
16 prevent the flowing of PFAS off of the Base. We now have to  
17 stop what is already flowing.

18 And it harkens me back to a comment that I made at  
19 an Air Force meeting on the Base back at the end of 2016  
20 with predecessors of yours, Steve, when I said that the --  
21 that the imposition of CERCLA may actually serve the Air  
22 Force, but it is moving at such a slow pace that Mother  
23 Nature is going to outpace you. And at that early time we  
24 didn't know that the PFAS had actually exceeded the property  
25 boundaries of the Air Force Base, and I commented, "By the

1 time you get done, it will be off the Base", and within a  
2 year that's what happened.

3 I'm no prophet, but it is a serious problem  
4 that -- it stuns me, with all the experts involved, that we  
5 don't have that insight, and that as a layperson I could  
6 spot that.

7 End of comment.

8 MS. JESSIE HOWARD: I think Beth had an update for  
9 us as well.

10 MS. BETH PLACE: Thank you. So Beth Place for  
11 EGLE. I wanted to introduce Amy Handley. Amy Handley will  
12 be taking over for me as project manager on -- currently on  
13 the PFAS and the long-term monitoring portions of Wurtsmith,  
14 and at the next RAB she'll -- she'll be filling my seat on  
15 the RAB as well.

16 MS. AMY HANDLEY: Good evening, everybody. I'll  
17 just give information background on me. I've spent the last  
18 five years in different areas of the State government doing  
19 public and environmental health, and specifically the last  
20 two years I've been working in the CERCLA process over at  
21 Camp Grayling.

22 So I'm here to help this team move forward in the  
23 process. Thank you.

24 MS. BETH PLACE: Thanks, Amy. Our other updates  
25 for EGLE include -- recently we were able to, with the

1 assistance of DNR, get the data in a shareable format, and  
2 we shared that with Steve Willis and his team earlier this  
3 week. So all the wildlife sample collection data from the  
4 Purdue study was shared with the Air Force team.

5 My understanding from DNR is that likely next week  
6 or the week after there will be a report available on the  
7 MPART website where the public will be able to access this  
8 information as well.

9 Also, we have been coordinating with Air Force and  
10 DNR and our Water Resources Division in order to help  
11 forward as much as we can in advance the pilot study at  
12 Three Pipes Drain. So we're working on issues that would  
13 normally be the requirements of permits, so we're still  
14 working through that with DNR, Water Resources and Air  
15 Force, but we don't see any significant delays; or any  
16 delays.

17 The next item I wanted to talk about was we do  
18 have a few concerns recently with the Air Force work. And  
19 so one of the concerns is with the PFAS RI. We don't -- we  
20 had noticed there was a gap in field work here from April  
21 23rd, and that Air Force is not beginning field work again  
22 until the early part of June. We have concern that will  
23 cause delays in the PFAS RI.

24 And also we have another concern with the Aircraft  
25 Alert Area Interim Remedial Action. Air Force does not want

1 to participate in our substantive requirements process. And  
2 so that's the process that's in place in lieu of the Federal  
3 Government getting a permit within the State. Our Water  
4 Resources Division has a substantive requirements process so  
5 we make sure that we meet all the -- all the reporting  
6 requirements and -- and follow State law through this  
7 process, and Air Force has declined to participate in that.

8 Air Force in the past participated in this with  
9 the FTO2 Interim Remedial Action as well as the Central  
10 Treatment System Interim Remedial Action, and I believe  
11 Mission Street as well is also covered under a Substantive  
12 Requirements Document; an SRD.

13 And so we just wanted to mention that we have  
14 significant concerns with that. One of the conditions  
15 that -- RRD; Remediation Redevelopment Division; and Water  
16 Resources Division at EGLE, we provided concurrence with the  
17 groundwater infiltration gallery for this Interim Remedial  
18 Action based on that a Substantive Requirements Document  
19 would be issued and negotiated. So right now we are  
20 concerned that this will cause a delay in the process.

21 Thank you.

22 MS. JESSIE HOWARD: Sir, did you have an update  
23 for us from the government?

24 MR. MICHAEL MUNSON: Yes, I do. I'm Mike Munson,  
25 from Oscoda Wurtsmith Airport. And I apologize for not

1           being here last month -- or last -- last meeting, but I was  
2           having knee replacement. The name will change in the future  
3           to Steve Austin, the Six Million Dollar Man.

4                       I've got basically seven bullet points that I will  
5           share with you, and after the meeting, if you want more  
6           information, I can -- I can share them with you.

7                       But for 2023 the airport is making substantial  
8           improvements from a visual and a business standpoint. We  
9           are -- we have -- or we have now completed removing some  
10          stored material on the inner ramp, making that ramp  
11          available now for new client expansion.

12                      We're working with Kalitta Air to move their  
13          storage area -- their storage material from the taxiways  
14          they currently have to the Alert area. It will be much  
15          easier for them to work a much larger area, and it will  
16          improve the overall looks of the airport.

17                      We're also going to rehab those existing ramps and  
18          bring them back into taxi service.

19                      We are in the process of reconditioning taxiway  
20          Alpha. That's with FAA funds. That will start in the next  
21          month or so. We're reconditioning the spalling concrete in  
22          the general aviation area. Big improvement in that area.

23                      We are in the process of replacing some of the  
24          deteriorated service gates as well as installing some new  
25          ones where needed.

1                   And, last but not least, we're removing some of  
2                   the natural growth from the fencing area and in the airway  
3                   areas because of -- of obstructions.

4                   Thank you.

5                   MS. JESSIE HOWARD: All right. Did we have any  
6                   additional updates from any of the Government RAB Members?

7                   MR. PUNEET VIJ: Hi. My name is Puneet Vij. I'm  
8                   from MDHHS. So I have a couple of updates.

9                   So MDHHS is planning another round of re-sampling,  
10                  which is going to start in July of this year. And regarding  
11                  exposure assessment, our clinics are going on and  
12                  appointments are being scheduled. All the details are  
13                  available on the website on DEHbio page.

14                  Also, MDHHS had exposure specifi- -- exposure  
15                  assessment specific meetings virtually on May 2nd and in  
16                  person on May 4th.

17                  Thank you.

18                  MS. JESSIE HOWARD: Anybody else from the  
19                  government side of the RAB? Okay.

20                  I think then now we will move on to the RAB  
21                  business portion of tonight's agenda, and Mr. Willis is  
22                  going to help us with the election.

23                  MR. STEVE WILLIS: So, as I mentioned early on in  
24                  the meeting, we do have three vacancies in the Community RAB  
25                  Member portion of the RAB, and so we are going to do a

1 nomination process for -- for filling those vacancies.

2 We do have three candidates that have submitted  
3 applications for that, so each of the candidates will have  
4 three minutes to provide some information on their  
5 background and why they think they would be a good fit for  
6 joining the RAB.

7 So we'll just run down the list. We'll start with  
8 Mr. Kyle Jones. If you want to step up to the microphone,  
9 which disappeared. Here we go.

10 MR. KYLE JONES: My name is Kyle Jones. I am --  
11 have had connections to the community for approximately 55  
12 years, starting as a little boy, and we've been coming up to  
13 Oscoda to vacation throughout the summer. And my parents  
14 had a cabin just a bit north of town here, and now my wife  
15 and I own a larger dwelling also on Lake Huron. Technically  
16 it's in Greenbush. We always say Oscoda anyway.

17 About myself, I am a 1983 graduate of the  
18 University of Michigan with an undergraduate degree in  
19 chemical engineering. I worked as a chemical engineer for  
20 five years, and then entered law school, and in 1990 I  
21 started my legal career, and have been an environmental  
22 lawyer since then.

23 I recently retired after leading the environmental  
24 law section of the Office of the General Counsel at  
25 Chrysler, or Fiat/Chrysler, given the merger between

1 Chrysler and Fiat in 19- -- or sorry -- 2009.

2 So the combination of my connection to the  
3 community, my real love for the area and its environs, and  
4 my specific scientific and legal -- whatever skills I have I  
5 believe would really allow me to be a liaison between the  
6 Air Force and any other environmental professionals that are  
7 working with authority on the -- on the case, and the  
8 community. And, as well, I would be in -- taking on a role  
9 of advocating for the community to get things done in the  
10 right way, pursuant to law.

11 And so I'll stop there and entertain any questions  
12 if anybody has them. Otherwise, I think I've provided,  
13 Steve, what you've asked me to provide, so --

14 MR. STEVE WILLIS: Yeah, thank you.

15 MR. KYLE JONES: Okay. Any questions?

16 MR. STEVE WILLIS: Yeah, at this point we won't go  
17 into question-and-answer with each of the candidates.  
18 You'll have --

19 MR. KYLE JONES: Okay.

20 MR. STEVE WILLIS: -- your three minutes and  
21 then -- and then we'll --

22 MR. KYLE JONES: All right.

23 MR. STEVE WILLIS: -- move to the next person.

24 MR. KYLE JONES: Very well.

25 MR. STEVE WILLIS: So thank you. So next we have

1 Josh Sutton.

2 MR. JOSH SUTTON: All right. Joshua Sutton,  
3 introduced as Oscoda Township Clerk tonight. Interested in  
4 this as a citizen, lifelong part of our community. I'm  
5 raising my children, purchased my home -- first home on the  
6 Air Force Base; which is in that contaminated area; enjoy  
7 taking my kids to Three Pipes, swimming along the river,  
8 canoeing, huge sportsman, so this is a huge concern for me.

9 And I've served with a lot of you in a lot of  
10 other capacities in our community for other purposes, and  
11 look forward to joining you and ensuring that we keep this  
12 pristine place that we have over here that just done compare  
13 to anybody else in Michigan.

14 And that's all I have.

15 MR. STEVE WILLIS: Thank you, Josh. And the last  
16 person is Dave Carmona. I don't see -- oh, there he is.  
17 Okay. Great.

18 REPORTER: Would you spell your name, sir?

19 MR. DAVE CARMONA: C-a-r-m-o-n-a. Dave Carmona,  
20 new resident here. Moved here November of last year, got  
21 involved with the RAB and NOW. I have been coming to this  
22 area since the late 1980's when my in-laws bought property  
23 on the big lake; and they live there now. So I have always  
24 had a love for this area and decided to settle here after my  
25 retirement.

1                   As for myself, I first got interested in the  
2                   environment and how we as humans interact with it on the  
3                   first Earth Day when as a Boy Scout over at Camp Rotary in  
4                   the Fort Scott area we planted, like, 30,000 trees over a  
5                   weekend as part of the first Earth Day. And to go back two  
6                   years ago and see them now 50 to 75 feet tall and ready for  
7                   harvest is a pretty amazing testament to what we as humans  
8                   can do in the environment.

9                   In college, education and music major, but my  
10                  education portion included a minor in natural sciences.  
11                  After that I joined the FAA, where I spent 30 years as an  
12                  air traffic controller, the last 20 in management and upper  
13                  management.

14                  So what I bring from that is a thorough  
15                  understanding of governmental regulations and  
16                  implementation, how these processes and policies are put in  
17                  place and how they work, how to translate them to the  
18                  community.

19                  At two of the airports; Rockford and DuPage; I was  
20                  involved in upgrading the airport to international status.  
21                  I was also part of the safety management team for Chicago  
22                  O'Hare, where we worked with entities everywhere from legal  
23                  counsel, all the way to the DOD, trying to determine how  
24                  these air spaces and runways would be used.

25                  Additionally I served as regional resource

1 management specialist. I worked with the Office of Special  
2 Counsel, the OIG, the FAA, and the DOT, in providing legal  
3 clerk services at that level, and studying legal issues for  
4 them, and presenting the information to the agency and the  
5 union.

6 So through my career I have presented a lot of  
7 technical information, had to boil it down to basic  
8 presentation for the public or several other people who were  
9 not familiar with regulations or processes, and that's the  
10 unique ability that I bring to the RAB here.

11 Because I've noticed in the last two meetings that  
12 there are two languages being spoken; the political language  
13 from the governmental side and the community concern, and  
14 trying to bring those together sometimes is difficult. And  
15 I think that the ability is here to do it, and I think I  
16 could facilitate that.

17 I also have FMCS training as a facilitator; that's  
18 Federal Mediation and Conciliation Services. I served as a  
19 facilitator for 15 years at both the regional and national  
20 level with the FAA.

21 So that's my basic background.

22 We have this huge natural resource here, one of  
23 the largest watersheds in the State, and it's economically  
24 viable, and without the treatment of the PFAS it's going to  
25 present an issue, and perhaps make this no longer

1 economically viable, and people will not want to move here  
2 like they do right now.

3 So that's what I bring. Thank you.

4 MR. STEVE WILLIS: Thank you, Dave. As I said,  
5 I'll pass out ballots now to the Community RAB Members. If  
6 you could fill these out, and then Jessie will collect them,  
7 and Mark and I will tally the results after the meeting.

8 MR. ARNIE LERICHE: For the benefit of the public,  
9 can you just talk for a minute about the process after this  
10 and the approving authority.

11 But what criteria or purpose and roles that are in  
12 the RAB manual and rule that are key in the decision that  
13 the Air Force manager will review?

14 MR. STEVE WILLIS: So -- so I don't have all the  
15 specific criteria, but one of the overarching objectives of  
16 the RAB's -- in both the RAB Handbook and in the RAB Rule;  
17 which is a Code of Federal Regulation that outlines how  
18 RAB's are chartered, set up, and -- and implemented; is that  
19 the -- the RAB's need to be reflective of a good  
20 cross-section of the community. We want diversity, and, as  
21 I said, representation of the full community, not single  
22 groups, you know, not -- not people's best friend, you know,  
23 as a group together, but a good representation of the  
24 community and the community's interests and concerns. So  
25 that's something we'll look at as part of the evaluation

1 process.

2 Our operating instructions say that the candidates  
3 submit applications, the RAB Community Members nominate  
4 candidates for the position, and then the final approval of  
5 those is done by the Branch Chief and AFTAC.

6 MS. CATHY WUSTERBARTH: Steve, I had a question.

7 MR. STEVE WILLIS: Yes; go ahead.

8 MS. CATHY WUSTERBARTH: For the purposes of -- or  
9 for the benefit of the -- the nominees, I would request that  
10 the facilitator at some point this evening tally those and  
11 provide the results by the end of the meeting as opposed to  
12 after the meeting, please.

13 MR. STEVE WILLIS: You good with that, or --

14 MR. MARK HENRY: During the break.

15 MR. STEVE WILLIS: Okay. Yeah, Mark and I will  
16 look at them during the break and have those before the end  
17 of the meeting.

18 MS. CATHY WUSTERBARTH: Thank you.

19 MR. STEVE WILLIS: Thank you, Cathy. That's a  
20 good idea.

21 MS. JESSIE HOWARD: All right. So now I will  
22 quickly review the Action Items that we have had changes to  
23 since the last RAB meeting, and then when I'm finished going  
24 down the list Mr. Willis will go over some additional  
25 details on a handful of AI's that are specified by the

1 community as being something they would like to hear more  
2 about.

3 So since the last RAB meeting we have not closed  
4 any of the AI's. We opened AI's number 107 through 120, so  
5 all of those are still active, as well as the ongoing AI's  
6 number 87, 88, 92, 96, 99, 100, 101, 104, 105 and 106.

7 MR. STEVE WILLIS: So what I would like to do is  
8 just run through the Action Items that were identified by  
9 the Community RAB Members for me to provide an update. I'm  
10 just going to provide a quick update.

11 I would ask that we not spend a lot of time  
12 discussing in detail any of the Action Items. Mark and I  
13 have talked, and because of the material we need to cover in  
14 a normal RAB meeting and the number of Action Items, we're  
15 probably going to have a separate Action Item virtual  
16 meeting just to talk through those and give people on the  
17 RAB an opportunity to participate in that discussion before  
18 we take action and close them out.

19 So again, I would ask that you, you know, limit  
20 comments tonight. I'll just provide an update, and then  
21 we'll have a follow-up meeting to get into further details.

22 So the first one is Action Item 99. It says,  
23 "Advise the RAB Members of the Air -- if the Air  
24 Force is seeking to determine the source of PFAS which  
25 is appearing in the Wastewater Treatment Plant

1           effluent."

2                   And so for that -- that is part of the RI scope,  
3           is to do sampling in the area of the Wastewater Treatment  
4           Plant. That is planned for later this year. We've talked  
5           about that in the session yesterday, and we've shown those  
6           sample locations on some of the posters at previous RAB  
7           meetings. So we do have additional soil sampling as well as  
8           groundwater sampling and seep sampling in that area.

9                   The next one is Action Item 100. It's

10                   "Advise the Oscoda Township personnel of the Air  
11           Force's plan to (a) storm sewer usage (b) slip lining  
12           the main line that goes from the Central Treatment  
13           System Plant to Van Etten Creek, (c) is slip lining the  
14           Mission Street line discharging to Consumer's Ditch,  
15           and (d) is paying for storm sewer usage."

16                   So the first one is storm -- storm sewer usage  
17           fee, and the Air Force has agreed that we would pay a  
18           reasonable storm sewer fee. The -- the limitation on that  
19           is the ordinance that has been written by the Township is  
20           currently discriminatory towards the Air Force. We've  
21           identified that concern to the Township, and my  
22           understanding is that they are evaluating that.

23                   I -- I understand that maybe everyone wasn't aware  
24           that all users weren't paying a discharge fee. So that is  
25           under evaluation by the Township. Again, the Air Force has

1           agreed that we would pay a reasonable fee, and so we're  
2           waiting for the ordinance to be changed.

3                         Yes?

4                         MS. CATHY WUSTERBARTH: Can you expand on why it's  
5           discriminatory? You said not all -- not all users pay?

6                         MR. STEVE WILLIS: That's correct.

7                         MS. CATHY WUSTERBARTH: So can you give me an  
8           example, like --

9                         MR. STEVE WILLIS: I mean --

10                        MS. CATHY WUSTERBARTH: When you say "not all  
11           users", like, what users don't?

12                        MR. STEVE WILLIS: Yeah, I mean, it was written  
13           specifically so only the Air Force pays, no one else that  
14           uses the storm sewer pays.

15                        MR. WILLIAM GAINES: Who else uses the storm sewer  
16           to dispose of anything?

17                        MR. STEVE WILLIS: Yeah.

18                        MR. ARNIE LERICHE: Well, one answer of that is  
19           any business on the Base that has a parking lot. Because  
20           it's a parking lot it brings water to a catch basin, and  
21           that goes into the storm sewer. So that's just one example.

22                        MR. STEVE WILLIS: Yeah, again, let's -- let's try  
23           to limit the discussion on these Action Items, or we'll  
24           never get finished with them or the rest of the agenda for  
25           the evening.

1 MS. CATHY WUSTERBARTH: These Action Items have  
2 been delayed quite a bit in our past RAB's, and they do  
3 deserve some attention.

4 MR. STEVE WILLIS: I agree, and I would like to  
5 set up a separate forum to go through those. I think it  
6 warrants a separate discussion dedicated to those.

7 The (b) for that one was slip lining the  
8 Central -- the -- the storm sewer for the Central Treat- --  
9 Central Treatment Plant discharge. At this time the Air  
10 Force is not aware of any problems with that line. We are  
11 not going to preemptively slip line something that there's  
12 nothing wrong with it.

13 We have indicated that, you know, we'll continue  
14 to work with the Township if problems do occur in the future  
15 that look like they're caused by our discharge from the  
16 Treatment Plant, that we'll work with them to help reimburse  
17 for that or pay for that.

18 Just so everyone understands, the -- the discharge  
19 from the Central Treatment System only uses about 10 percent  
20 of the capacity of that sewer line, so it's not like the Air  
21 Force is overloading it. There's considerable capacity  
22 available still.

23 The (c) for that was slip lining the Mission  
24 Street sewer line. We are working with the Township to do  
25 that. My understanding in a meeting with the Township this

1 week is that they have issued a request for bids to  
2 companies, and are trying to get bids for someone to come in  
3 and slip line that and fix the problems.

4 Once they select a winning bid for that they will  
5 provide that to the Air Force, we'll enter into an ESCA;  
6 it's an Environmental Services Cooperative Agreement;  
7 whereby they'll award the contract for the work, the work  
8 will be done, the bill will come in, they'll give it to the  
9 Air Force, and the Air Force will pay that bill.

10 So we have agreed to pay for that. We've been  
11 working with them for -- for several months now to get that  
12 in place and make it happen.

13 And the last one appears to be redundant. I think  
14 the question may be based on the last RAB meeting.

15 "Is the Air Force going to reimburse the Township  
16 for money they expended to expand the -- the drinking  
17 water system."

18 And I spoke with the Township this week, and at  
19 this point there's been no discussion within the  
20 organization to pursue reimbursement from the Air Force for  
21 that expansion of the drinking water system.

22 Next is Action Item 101. It's

23 "Provide a schedule for testing outflows for the  
24 Mission and Central -- Central Treatment System for  
25 PFAS content. Address whether storm water sewer

1 samples are included in the UFP-QAPP for the PFAS RI."

2 And, yes, we do have sampling planned for those  
3 areas. It will occur this year. It hasn't been done yet,  
4 but it -- but it is part of the RI scope.

5 Action Item 104,

6 "Conduct additional IRA's at the DRMO; Defense  
7 Reutilization and Marketing Office; LF30/31, the Three  
8 Pipes Ditch, and the wastewater lagoon and seepage  
9 beds."

10 As -- as Cathy indicated earlier, EGLE did submit  
11 a request for those areas and the Air Force did provide a  
12 response back, so we are -- we are continuing to look at  
13 that. We have not said we are not going to put IRA's, we  
14 have not said we are. We're continuing to evaluate that,  
15 and we'll work with EGLE as we move forward on that.

16 Action Item 105,

17 "Determine whether the storm sewer outfalls  
18 were last -- when the storm sewer outfalls were last  
19 sampled and whether they are routinely sampled in the  
20 future."

21 This Action Item was actually for EGLE. Beth,  
22 have you got an update for us on this one?

23 MS. BETH PLACE: Yeah. We actually sent an email  
24 over to the RAB on this topic, but I got that answer from  
25 Water Resources Division, so I'm going to ask that Charlie

1 Bauer, on the call, answer this.

2 MR. CHARLIE BAUER: Yeah, let me look that up. I  
3 have it in my -- my email, and I will get -- get back with  
4 you on that.

5 MR. STEVE WILLIS: Okay. Thank you, Charlie.

6 MR. ARNIE LERICHE: Steve, you mentioned on the  
7 previous one that there is a plan in the RI for sampling of  
8 the storm sewers, --

9 MR. STEVE WILLIS: The outfalls, yeah.

10 MR. ARNIE LERICHE: -- and you're working with --  
11 it's not the Remediation Division, you're working with the  
12 Water Resources Division; is that correct?

13 MR. STEVE WILLIS: For that it's part of the RI,  
14 and both agencies were -- were involved in review and  
15 comment on the -- on the QAPP, so -- so -- so, yes.

16 MR. ARNIE LERICHE: Okay. So 105, it should be  
17 known that that process with Water Resources Division  
18 there's no public input or RAB input involved in that  
19 process, and I brought this up yesterday.

20 So it's -- I would like to just amend this  
21 before -- and I'll give you some text later.

22 MR. STEVE WILLIS: Okay.

23 MS. BETH PLACE: Can I add something here?

24 MR. STEVE WILLIS: Yeah, go ahead, Beth.

25 MS. BETH PLACE: So, Arnie, are you -- the

1 sampling is being done for the property owner for the storm  
2 sewer system, and Air Force has been collaborating with the  
3 property owner and our Water Resources Division to make that  
4 happen.

5 And then additionally there were comments in the  
6 UFP-QAPP for storm sewer sampling, so are you -- I want to  
7 make sure I understand. I -- I don't know that there will  
8 be an opportunity for the public to weigh in on the sampling  
9 for the property owners permit.

10 Is that what you're asking?

11 MR. ARNIE LERICHE: Well, basically --  
12 basically -- and this is the last thing I'll say. Basically  
13 the Air Force, with pretreatment to any outfall of any  
14 contaminant or anything into a storm sewer or a municipal  
15 sewer system is normally regulated, and the Township has a  
16 draft ordinance to do that.

17 So that's -- that's where the Air Force and the --  
18 the owner of the storm sewer comes into play, and that's  
19 where the public comment and the RAB, because it is  
20 contaminated water; although it's cleaner than it used to  
21 be.

22 MR. CHARLIE BAUER: So -- so let me just give a --  
23 a quick response, just so you know where we're at. So on  
24 December 10th, 2021, we issued a compliance communication to  
25 the Oscoda Wurtsmith Airport Authority to conduct sampling

1 at all discharge points from the site to service water and  
2 municipal storm sewer systems.

3 We approved a sampling plan on February 16th,  
4 2022. Five discharge points were identified to be sampled,  
5 three manholes on the east side of the airport, Outfall  
6 Number 3 associated with the central portion of the  
7 facility, and Outfall Number 1 associated with the western  
8 portion of the facility.

9 We've got the first round of results, and we're  
10 waiting a second round of results and a Final Report. So  
11 that's where we're at right now with this.

12 MR. STEVE WILLIS: Thank you for the update.  
13 Action Item 106,

14 "Advise RAB members why the Air Force is not  
15 analyzing for total organic fluorine."

16 So we've looked at this, and we've talked about  
17 it, and -- and total organic fluorine doesn't really help us  
18 determine the nature and extent of the plumes. There were  
19 regulated values for the five or six -- six compounds that  
20 we've got in the QAPP right now, and so we are using those  
21 values to delineate the contamination.

22 As we implement and we go through the -- finish  
23 the RI, go through the FS and identify alternatives and  
24 design systems we may go back and take another look at  
25 total -- total organic fluorine, but for -- for the purposes

1 of the RI for determining nature and extent, we do not need  
2 that information.

3 Action Item 107,

4 "Conduct soil profile sampling for PFAS at the  
5 former lagoon area associated with Building 5001, the  
6 jet engine test cells."

7 We talked about this one yesterday, and it will be  
8 in the handout; an update on that. But we have collected  
9 one sample in that area, and we'll collect another one.

10 Action Item 108,

11 "The Air Force should characterize and evaluate  
12 the Wastewater Treatment Plant sludge disposal trenches  
13 near LF30/31 for their PFAS content and then determine  
14 the results with EGLE -- or discuss results with EGLE  
15 and the RAB."

16 That's something that we're planning to do this  
17 field season as -- as part of the RI.

18 Action Item 111,

19 "Sample individual extraction wells at LF30/31 for  
20 PFAS in addition to testing influent and effluent to  
21 determine which of these wells are extracting PFAS."

22 That is something we are -- we are looking at and  
23 planning to do.

24 Action Item 112,

25 "Results that the Air -- oh. Request that the Air

1 Force add signage to the system buildings to more  
2 easily identify them to the public."

3 I've talked with our -- with our management, and  
4 as a general policy for the BRAC program we don't label our  
5 buildings. We don't want -- we don't want to draw attention  
6 to Air Force facilities -- Air Force buildings on non Air  
7 Force facilities just for security reasons, so we don't have  
8 any plans to identify these buildings with anything other  
9 than a street address.

10 Action Item 113,

11 "Provide the RAB with a schedule, detailed work  
12 plan, and/or a technical meeting for the biota sampling  
13 associated with the ecological Risk Assessment."

14 And so, as I mentioned earlier, we did have that  
15 tech session on April 24th to discuss that.

16 Action Item 114,

17 "Support" -- or "Suggest that EGLE split fish  
18 sampling with the Air Force so that samples can be  
19 processed in the same way that the State has been  
20 processing samples to compare their historical --  
21 excuse me -- historically collected samples."

22 I have talked with our risk assessors about that,  
23 and split sampling for soil samples or water samples;  
24 groundwater or surface water; is easy to do. It's not so  
25 easy with a fish sample.

1                   For the -- for the fish, when they're collected  
2                   the individual organisms are removed and analyzed separately  
3                   and then the rest of the fish is ground up and analyzed.  
4                   They're looking for bioaccumulation of PFAS in the different  
5                   individual organisms as well as the overall tissue of the  
6                   fish, so it -- it's not really suitable for split sampling.

7                   But what we can do is we'll use -- I think the --  
8                   the plan now is to use a shock -- shock prob; electric prob  
9                   to shock the fish. And so if we get multiple fish of the  
10                  same species, we'll be happy to provide those for analysis  
11                  by EGLE.

12                  So we will have two fish that will be analyzed  
13                  from the same area at the same time. They won't be  
14                  necessarily a hundred percent correlation, but splitting the  
15                  samples is just not going to be practical.

16                  MR. MARK HENRY: And my understanding of the way  
17                  the State processed the fish in the past is they did not do  
18                  the internal organs, it was the flesh of the fish. And if  
19                  you're going to be putting that in a blender and  
20                  homogenizing it for analysis, half of that slurry could go  
21                  to the State. They don't need a large amount to do the  
22                  analysis.

23                  MR. STEVE WILLIS: Okay. We'll go back and look  
24                  at it. Thank you, Mark.

25                  Action -- excuse me. Action Item 114, --

1 MS. BETH PLACE: Steve --

2 MR. STEVE WILLIS: I'm sorry.

3 MS. BETH PLACE: Sorry. Beth with -- Beth Place  
4 with EGLE.

5 Yeah, we would just want to make sure that we're  
6 documenting how we're going to go about those -- you know,  
7 conducting those samples so both agencies are on the same  
8 page, that I'm checking in with our Water Resources Division  
9 on -- on the process and perhaps documenting that in the  
10 QAPP.

11 MR. STEVE WILLIS: Action Item 115,

12 "Provide the RAB with more information regarding  
13 the Remedial Investigation Exposure Assessment,  
14 including how -- how we are targeting participants, the  
15 percentage of population participating, and complete  
16 the project time line."

17 So this was another topic that was discussed  
18 during the 24, April, Risk Assessment tech session. At this  
19 point the Air Force is not planning a survey of -- of the  
20 community for the Risk Assessment.

21 Action Item 119,

22 "Determine if the water at the Small Arms Range  
23 that is used by the Iosco Sportsmen's Club is safe to  
24 consume."

25 I think I mentioned in the last meeting that a

1 drinking water well was approved by the Air Force and put in  
2 about 2010. At the time they weren't aware of the PFAS  
3 concerns. They based the decision strictly on the old  
4 legacy VOC plumes.

5 But we are going to go back as part of the RI and  
6 sample that well just to confirm that there isn't an impact,  
7 but all of the data we have now indicates that there  
8 shouldn't be any concerns there, but we'll verify that.

9 And the last one is Action Item 120,

10 "What steps can be taken for the Risk Assessment's  
11 exclusion of PFAS foam testing to be reconsidered to  
12 include testing of the foam."

13 And so for -- for foam testing there is no  
14 approved method for that.

15 Let me make sure I've got my notes here.

16 So there is -- there is no established approved  
17 EPA method for foam analysis. The foam is a very  
18 intermittent occurrence, and so there is not a consistent  
19 exposure pathway that could be evaluated in either the human  
20 health or ecological Risk Assessment. And -- I guess that  
21 was it.

22 So that's -- that's the update on the Action  
23 Items. Again, we can have a follow-up call and discuss  
24 these in greater detail. I'd like to plan on -- on calls to  
25 go through Action Items in the future. We've got about 25

1 open Action Items, and I would like to get that list  
2 whittled down to a very short list as we continue to move  
3 forward, and then, depending on what it looks like, we can  
4 either address them in RAB meetings or continue to have  
5 separate meetings.

6 MR. DAVID WINN: Steve, I have a question.

7 MR. STEVE WILLIS: Go ahead, Dave.

8 MR. DAVID WINN: For any of these Action Items  
9 can -- I mean, right now there's -- you have  
10 approximately -- it looks like about 20 Action Items. I see  
11 two of them that have due dates on them. Some of these are  
12 almost over a year old.

13 Is there any way that we can put due dates on some  
14 of this stuff and not just leave them open? Can -- because  
15 all of them say they're open, but there's no due date as to  
16 when they need to be completed.

17 Can we put due dates on this stuff?

18 MR. STEVE WILLIS: Sure, we can work on that.

19 MS. CATHY WUSTERBARTH: And I have another  
20 request.

21 So this Action Item list is something that  
22 we're -- as RAB members we're looking at. None of you have  
23 seen this; right? You don't have access to it; right? It's  
24 not online?

25 I'd -- I would like to request that the -- these

1 Action Items be put on the RAB website, and that a  
2 version -- you know, last -- last modified, or --

3 MR. STEVE WILLIS: A date? Yes, put --

4 MS. CATHY WUSTERBARTH: -- you know, a revised  
5 date --

6 MR. STEVE WILLIS: -- a date on it? Yeah.

7 MS. CATHY WUSTERBARTH: -- be included on these,  
8 please.

9 MR. STEVE WILLIS: Okay. Thank you, Cathy. We'll  
10 do that.

11 MS. JESSIE HOWARD: Okay. I think that completed  
12 our Action Item list. Correct, Mr. Willis?

13 MR. STEVE WILLIS: Yes.

14 MS. JESSIE HOWARD: Okay. Perfect. So before we  
15 begin tonight's presentations I would like to please remind  
16 all the RAB members that, for the sake of time, please hold  
17 your questions until the end of each presentation. We will  
18 have time at the end to ask the presenter some questions,  
19 but please wait until the end.

20 And we will begin with the BECOS update from Jim  
21 Hunt with WSP. Jim is joining us virtually tonight. So,  
22 Jim, if you could please unmute your mic and address the  
23 RAB?

24 MR. JIM HUNT: Okay. Great. I'm Jim Hunt. I'm  
25 with WSP, and I'm going to actually give you a UXO brief.

1                   Next slide, please.

2                   So why are we doing this? To inform personnel who  
3                   are engaged in construction or other intrusive activities;  
4                   digging in the dirt, if you will; as well as stakeholders on  
5                   or around the former Wurtsmith Air Force Base, about  
6                   restrictions and deed notices in effect and on adjacent --  
7                   an on or near the former Base required in decision documents  
8                   that are issued by the Air Force, and because of munition  
9                   awareness training required by notices that have been placed  
10                  on specified areas and that are officially recorded with the  
11                  County. So that's why we're doing this today.

12                  Next slide, please.

13                  So there's restricted areas here. The ones in  
14                  particular that we're going to pay attention to are  
15                  highlighted -- it looks like yellow on my screen, or at the  
16                  top on the legend color there. That's where known  
17                  unexploded ordnance --

18                  Not that yellow (indicating). It's more like the  
19                  gold yellow bar below that where the circle is. Yup; all  
20                  those areas that are in there.

21                  Those are known areas where they've found UXO and  
22                  MEC in -- in the -- on the Base here for some time. I don't  
23                  know how -- how long ago they started to collect them, but  
24                  we'll show you what they've collected and what they are.

25                  Next slide, please.

- 1                   Typical restrictions here are:
- 2                   \* Groundwater Restrictions
- 3                   \* Land use restrictions for industrial
- 4                   \* Use of land limited to those allowed under industrial
- 5                   uses as defined in the Oscoda --

6                   Oscola (pronouncing)? I'm sorry. I'm messing

7                   that up.

8                   -- Township and OWAA zoning ordinance

- 9                   \* No land use change allowed without prior written
- 10                  consent of the Air Force.

- 11                  \* Excavation restriction below 15 feet

12                  That's what they call the SMEAR ZONE.

- 13                  \* Health & Safety Plan for excavations above 15 feet

- 14                  \* Contaminated Soil Management or Soil Management
- 15                  Restriction -- or Soil Movement Restriction

16                  Sorry.

- 17                  \* Maintain Soil Cover

- 18                  \* Excavation Restriction where it's prohibited

- 19                  \* Slab Restrictions, and

- 20                  \* Munitions and Explosives of Concern; otherwise known
- 21                  as MEC; there's a Notice for that.

22                  Next slide, please.

23                  So the UXO-MEC Briefing Objectives we're going to

24                  go over today. We want to

- 25                  \* Learn identification features of MEC potentially

1 encountered at Wurtsmith

2 \* Learn that not every bomb looks like a bomb

3 \* Understand that "practice" or "training" does not  
4 mean safe

5 And really what we want to enforce here is the  
6 Three R's:

7 \* Recognize - when you may have encountered a munition  
8 and that munitions are dangerous

9 \* Retreat - do not approach, touch, move, or disturb  
10 it, but carefully leave the area, and

11 \* Report - call 911 and advise the police of what you  
12 saw and where you saw it

13 And then how we're going to put this into  
14 practice.

15 Next slide, please.

16 So these are some of the examples of items, not  
17 from former Wurtsmith, but items that may be found there.

18 On the left -- we'll go left to right -- there's a  
19 Mark II Bomb, different sized bombs there. Those are for  
20 training. The white with the blue colored band on it is for  
21 training. We'll discuss why training things, although they  
22 seem safe, may not be if you're too close to them.

23 There's a small Practice Bomb there at the bottom.  
24 There's a Mark 13 Signal Flare. It really doesn't look like  
25 any military ordnance, but it is a military flare.

1                   There's a practice 40 millimeter projectile; an  
2                   M781, and then that 20 millimeter Projectile.

3                   And if you look at the last one we looked at and  
4                   compare it to a pen, some of these are really small items;  
5                   three or four inches. They may be sitting on the ground.  
6                   And this is a great example. It doesn't look like the nice  
7                   pictures of it, so you need to be careful if you find  
8                   something metal in the ground.

9                   And then the Practice 40 millimeter grenade, you  
10                  can see that looks like it's been laying around, and it's  
11                  probably been shot through, so it was on a range somewhere.  
12                  It may be discolored like that. If it has the -- the base  
13                  on it and it's a -- a whole piece of ordnance, there could  
14                  be a projectile charge in it, so be careful if you find it  
15                  attached to the casing.

16                  Next slide, please.

17                  So what do you do? You Retreat and you Report.

18                  \* Don't disturb it. Some of those items are actually  
19                  able to hurt you. They're designed to be Practice or  
20                  Training rounds, but they may contain a small spotter  
21                  charge, the flare might have illumination in it, or a  
22                  smoke side in it.

23                  \* You will call 911. This should put you in touch with  
24                  the Oscoda Township Police Department (OTPD)

25                  \* And Describe what you found and where it is. The

1           OTPD will notify the Air Force.

2           And my understand is maybe a year ago someone  
3 found something out there and reported it, and it took a  
4 little bit of time. They were -- according to the person we  
5 talked to earlier today, today they were very surprised that  
6 they found anything, which is probably great news for  
7 everybody that's out there on the -- the old Air Force Base,  
8 that it's rare that they find stuff.

9           Next slide, please.

10          \* Do not pick them up

11          \* Don't put them in your vehicle. Sometimes bouncing  
12 them around will help set them off if it doesn't happen  
13 when you pick it up.

14          \* Don't stick anything into them to see if they are  
15 empty, or

16          \* Disturb them at all.

17                 What you're supposed to do is recognize that  
18 you've found a piece of ordnance, retreat, and then report.

19           Next slide, please.

20          \* Be alert for munitions during ground-disturbing  
21 activity. So if you're going out there doing  
22 construction, if you're out there and they need to put  
23 a trench in or a water line, something along those  
24 lines. Mainly plowing, digging or trenching, that's  
25 when you may unearth these items out of the ground.

1           \* On-site Explosive Ordnance Disposal support is  
2           required for some ground-disturbing activities in the  
3           former weapon storage area. On our chart it was next  
4           to the circle, so it was up in the -- on that picture  
5           at the top portion of the picture there.

6           So there are things there. If you're going to be  
7           doing construction, they're probably going to assign you  
8           a -- either an EOD person or a UXO; Unexploded Ordnance;  
9           worker to be out there to help you spot things that don't  
10          belong.

11          \* And if the owner or user suspects a munition,  
12          remember those 3 R's. Recognize it, retreat, and  
13          report.

14          Next slide, please.

15          I've got a -- when you -- when you get these  
16          slides there's a link here, and this -- I guess it's a  
17          military slide that someone put together. It has some great  
18          materials. So if you want to look into further these three  
19          R's, the Explosive Safety Education site is what I'm talking  
20          about. They have resources identified that you can print  
21          them off, and

22          \* Resources and information for

23                  \* Kids and Families

24                  \* Military personnel

25                  \* Communities and

1                   \* Workers

2                   You can see an example here of some of the kids'  
3 information. You see that "Recognize, Retreat, and Report".  
4 You see the dog with the Sergeant collar, and maybe a -- a  
5 young pup there. Maybe they're in Hawaii here.

6                   But they -- they show that not every bomb looks  
7 like a bomb. If you see something, call 911. They're got  
8 bookmarks, and posters, and all kinds of great things you  
9 can print off for your community or for yourselves if you  
10 want to help educate anybody in your family, workers,  
11 anybody in the community. It's a great site to get  
12 resources from.

13                   Next slide, please.

14                   Okay. So for further information you can contact  
15 CTI or WSP. The address is on the screen there, and the  
16 number you'll need to contact us at is (989) 305-1111.

17                   I think that's the last slide, Amy, so I should  
18 be -- there may be one more after this. I'm not sure.

19                   Yes, that's my last slide. So, if there's any  
20 questions, I'd be glad to take them now.

21                   MR. MICHAEL MUNSON: Steve, I had a comment.

22                   MR. STEVE WILLIS: Go ahead.

23                   MR. MICHAEL MUNSON: Okay. This is Mike Munson,  
24 from the Airport Authority. We rehabbed Pride Roo- -- Pride  
25 Road about two years ago, and this was a good review,

1           because we went through that -- this whole packet or a  
2           similar packet. We needed to get Explosive Ordnance  
3           personnel up here for the reconstruction of the road.

4                        So the airport staff is the same staff that we  
5           have now that we had back then. They are basically  
6           well-aware of the potential here. So, again, thank you for  
7           this, but our -- our folks that would be doing any kind of  
8           maintenance, if you will, around the area is well-aware of  
9           these potential dangers.

10                      Thank you.

11                      MR. JIM HUNT: Fantastic. Thank you, sir.

12                      MR. MARK HENRY: Mark Henry. I have a question  
13           also, please.

14                      The upcoming MMRP work is the third time that this  
15           has been done at Wurtsmith in my tenure with the site. I  
16           was wondering if you're planning on doing some geophysics,  
17           such as magnetometry or EM to enhance your survey of  
18           munitions?

19                      MR. STEVE WILLIS: So he's actually not -- hello?  
20           Yeah, he's actually not involved with that project. As --  
21           as --

22                      MR. MARK HENRY: Oh.

23                      MR. STEVE WILLIS: Yeah. As we briefed at the  
24           last RAB meeting, yes, we are going to be doing geophysics  
25           on the site.

1                   So -- and the reason -- you say, you know, we've  
2                   done this before, and you're actually right. For some of  
3                   these sites military EOD units did come in in the past and  
4                   do some cleanup of these sites, but the cleanup was not well  
5                   documented, there were no reports written. They were done  
6                   with handheld instruments only. There was no geophysics at  
7                   the time, so there is no electronic record of any -- any of  
8                   the findings and that kind of thing. It was very generic,  
9                   very generalized.

10                   So, because the MMRP is being done under CERCLA as  
11                   well, we need to go do a Remedial Investigation to either  
12                   determine that it's all been cleaned up, or, if it has not  
13                   been, determine the extent of what may still be left out  
14                   there that presents an explosive hazard, and then go through  
15                   the cleanup process.

16                   MR. MARK HENRY: Back in -- let me guess -- 2006  
17                   the State of Michigan came in and did an EM and magnetometry  
18                   survey of the northern landfill area and also the eastern  
19                   end of the runway. If the Air Force doesn't have that data  
20                   already, I would recommend that you get with the State and  
21                   get that for additional documentation.

22                   MR. STEVE WILLIS: Okay. Thank you, Mark.

23                   MS. JESSIE HOWARD: Does anybody else have any  
24                   additional questions before we move on? No? Okay.

25                   Next we have Paula Bond, with Aerostar, to give us

1 an RI and an IRA update.

2 MS. PAULA BOND: All right. Thanks everybody for  
3 joining us tonight. We'll go ahead and get started, if you  
4 want to just move to the next slide, please.

5 So we're going to start like we always do when we  
6 look at the RI Investigation, is the CERCLA Overview slide.

7 And if you just click and just keep doing that,  
8 then the slides will show up.

9 We talk about the CERCLA process as Preliminary  
10 Assessment and the Site Inspection, which are those stages  
11 where we look at Site Identification and Historical  
12 Sampling, and we do administrative research. You know, for  
13 Wurtsmith that's already been done.

14 The next step, the RI/FS; Remedial Investigation  
15 and Feasibility Study; that's the phase that we're currently  
16 in; the Remedial Investigation. And those stages are  
17 followed by site cleanup, planning your -- your remedy, and  
18 then actually implementing the remedy, and then followed by  
19 monitoring the progress and then eventually long-term  
20 monitoring or management and site closeout.

21 Next slide, please.

22 So for the PFAS RI this is our progress slide that  
23 we do show every time just so -- to kind of give everybody  
24 an idea of where we are in the process. The RI Scoping was  
25 completed some time ago. The final UFP- -- UFP-QAPP;

1 Uniform Federal Policy - Quality Assurance Project Plan; was  
2 completed also.

3 The Risk Assessment Work Plan and Biota Sampling  
4 Plan, those documents are complete, and currently we are in  
5 the Field Data Collection Stage. And then eventually, once  
6 we collect all the data, we will move into the actual -- the  
7 RI Report.

8 Next slide, please. Sorry. Next slide.

9 So real quickly for the update, we've had some  
10 conversations about developing a supplemental PFAS RI  
11 UFP-QAPP addendum. That document will be issued the first  
12 week of June. It's in the final Air Force review phase  
13 right now, so we'll be able to get that out.

14 That document addresses additional investigation  
15 that we're going to be doing this summer that wasn't  
16 included in the original UFP-QAPP. So some investigation  
17 items that came out of one of our previous technical  
18 sessions we've added some work in here. That will all be  
19 documented in this addendum.

20 The fieldwork resumed on April 3. We started back  
21 this spring with doing hydraulic profiling of the subsurface  
22 where we're looking to determine the depth to clay for our  
23 Vertical Aquifer Sampling locations. So we completed that  
24 toward the end of April. And, as Beth had mentioned a  
25 little -- awhile earlier, we're going to start back up with

1           that VAS sampling; Vertical Aquifer Sampling; followed by  
2           monitoring well installation and sampling that will go on  
3           through the end of the field season.

4                   And then -- sorry -- we'll just continue with our  
5           nature-and-extent investigation, like I said, continuing  
6           through the summer and fall.

7                   Next slide.

8                   This is a slide that kind of lays out the phases  
9           of fieldwork that were initially put into our UFP-QAPP.  
10          We've had some questions -- some inquiries from the RAB  
11          about our -- our field sampling process and how that  
12          fieldwork is going to go, so I just wanted to real quickly  
13          kind of lay out for everyone how we are moving through the  
14          RI field data collection process.

15                   And we have it divided up into three different  
16          phases. So the first phase of the work, which was initial  
17          soil sampling and sampling all the existing monitoring wells  
18          out there that we felt we could sample before we moved into  
19          additional data collection. That was phase 1.

20                   And the little green diamonds that you see on this  
21          graphic -- I know it's hard to read; the text is a little  
22          bit small -- those are decision points. So once we collect  
23          the data in phase 1 we have a meeting with EGLE to go over  
24          the data, and if there's decisions that need to be made on  
25          next steps, we have those meetings, and then we move to the

1 next phase.

2 So I'm not going to go over, you know, everything  
3 on this slide. There's a lot of information here. But  
4 phase 1 -- we are still partially in phase 1 because  
5 we're -- the soil sampling was completed, but we've had  
6 additional guidance, and our screening levels have been  
7 lowered, so we're going back to do some additional soil  
8 delineation.

9 Once we wrap that up we'll have a meeting with  
10 EGLE to go over the data and we'll move into phase 2, and  
11 then complete our VAS groundwater sampling program. We've  
12 already started that. We're not complete, so that is  
13 ongoing. And then -- but once we collect the VAS data and  
14 the soil data we will have another meeting with the  
15 regulatory agencies to go over the data, present the data,  
16 and evaluate our next steps and what those might be.

17 And then we'll move into phase 3, where we'll  
18 collect surface water, sediment, porewater data samples, and  
19 install new monitoring wells or any other data gaps that we  
20 have found in phase 1 and phase 2.

21 So hopefully that -- that gives you just a brief  
22 overview of kind of how we move through the data collection  
23 process for the RI.

24 Next slide, please.

25 So there's a couple of areas that we're going to

1 accelerate the fieldwork in the RI. Area number one is at  
2 the Wastewater Treatment Plant. And Steve mentioned that a  
3 little bit earlier too in some of the Action Items. So we  
4 are going to collect some data from the Wastewater Treatment  
5 Plant infiltration beds.

6 And I know this Figure is a little bit hard to see  
7 with the shading, but we're going to collect some soil and  
8 sediment samples from those infiltration beds to advance our  
9 knowledge of the concentrations in this area. Seep samples  
10 we're going to collect, soil borings.

11 The second area that we're going to accelerate for  
12 the RI's, data collection around the Aircraft Alert Area,  
13 which will help support the IRA in that area and help with  
14 the design as we go through that.

15 So that data collection is going to be first up.

16 Next slide, please.

17 Oh, yes, Mark?

18 MR. MARK HENRY: Is the same group that is doing  
19 the RI work out there -- and I don't know who you have  
20 contracted; CTI, among other people; but are they going to  
21 be not doing the RI Investigation in other parts of the  
22 Base, and concentrating on the Wastewater Treatment Plant,  
23 or are there two different groups?

24 MS. PAULA BOND: It's all going to be going on  
25 concurrently. So we're going to be -- yeah, we're going to

1 be collecting data all over the Base concurrently. So --

2 MR. MARK HENRY: Thank you.

3 MS. PAULA BOND: But those are areas we want to  
4 make sure we -- we get out there first to get that data  
5 first to support these other activities going on.

6 MR. STEVE WILLIS: Yeah, we'll -- we'll have  
7 multiple drill rigs out, so --

8 MS. PAULA BOND: Yeah. All right. So that was it  
9 for the RI. I'm going to give you a quick update on the  
10 PFAS Al- -- Aircraft Alert Area IRA. That is hard to say.

11 So this is just the progress chart. The Interim  
12 Remedial Action scoping, that -- that portion of the project  
13 is complete. Currently we're in the Proposed Plan and  
14 developing the ROD and the Remedial Design. All of those  
15 things are going on right now concurrently.

16 The next document that -- that you guys will see  
17 is going to be the Proposed Plan coming out, but we're in  
18 those stages, and then of course eventually we'll get to  
19 the -- actually implementing the IRA.

20 Next slide.

21 So just an update real -- there's a little bit  
22 more detail on the schedule. The design drawings; the 60  
23 percent design drawings; are complete. We're working on the  
24 90 percent, which are going to be done by the end of this  
25 month.

1                   We did have a technical meeting with EGLE and  
2                   Water Resources Division to talk about the groundwater  
3                   infiltration component of this IRA, and there is support for  
4                   that, so we are moving forward with that as part of the  
5                   design.

6                   Next slide.

7                   So the -- the Three Pipes Ditch Pilot Study, we've  
8                   had a lot of conversation about that over the last couple of  
9                   days, we are working on Access Agreements with the Forest  
10                  Service to implement the pilot study. We're going to be  
11                  gathering some flow data. We're installing equipment  
12                  actually next week to monitor -- a rain gauge monitor and  
13                  flow meters for data to -- data collection over the summer,  
14                  and then we're actually going to put the mats in later this  
15                  fall.

16                  But here's a picture -- I think at the last RAB  
17                  someone asked a question kind of what these are going to  
18                  look like. So there's two different components; the mat  
19                  that will go down in the Three Pipes Ditch bottom is just a  
20                  mat with some Fluoro-Sorb organic clay material mixed in  
21                  with gravel, and you can kind of see the picture there of  
22                  how that's going to lay.

23                  And then there's also some filtration tubes that  
24                  will be going in, and those are also filled with the  
25                  organoclay material mixture with gravel, and those will also

1 be placed horizontally across -- across Three Pipes Ditch.

2 MS. CATHY WUSTERBARTH: (indicating)

3 MS. PAULA BOND: Yes, Cathy?

4 MS. CATHY WUSTERBARTH: Sure. So in our -- our  
5 technical meeting yesterday we -- we discussed this, as you  
6 said.

7 MS. PAULA BOND: Yeah.

8 MS. CATHY WUSTERBARTH: Some of the concerns that  
9 we had were that the -- the mats actually freezing through  
10 our Michigan's cold winters --

11 MS. PAULA BOND: Right.

12 MS. CATHY WUSTERBARTH: -- so which would, I  
13 assume, take -- deem them ineffective during that time.

14 And -- and I have -- I personally have an  
15 objection to having a pilot study in this train-wreck of a  
16 toxic, you know, mess at Wurtsmith, and I think that we  
17 should have not even considered a pilot study for this site.

18 So I just wanted to put that on the record.

19 MS. PAULA BOND: All right. Mark?

20 MR. MARK HENRY: My question -- you said you were  
21 going to be measuring some flows?

22 MS. PAULA BOND: Uh-huh (affirmative).

23 MR. MARK HENRY: Are you going to be measuring the  
24 flow that comes out of the 5-foot storm sewer pipe  
25 separately from the flow in the ditch?

1 MS. PAULA BOND: We are going to be actually  
2 collecting data in two locations. One is at the old water  
3 separator where the flow comes out there, and then we're  
4 also going to be measuring down at the discharge into the  
5 AuSable River. So --

6 MR. MARK HENRY: Thank you.

7 MS. PAULA BOND: All right.

8 Next slide, please.

9 This is just a Figure kind of depicting the  
10 location of where the actual pilot study is going to take  
11 place, where the mats and the tubes are going to be placed.

12 Again, I know the -- I'm sorry for the -- the  
13 difficulty in -- in seeing some of these Figures. There's a  
14 lot of detailed information on here and it's pretty small.

15 There is a -- a blowup in the upper right-hand  
16 corner which is just a larger version of kind of what you  
17 see on the left. But this just kind of shows you where  
18 we're actually going to install the pilot study.

19 MR. MARK HENRY: (indicating)

20 MS. PAULA BOND: Yes, Mark?

21 MR. MARK HENRY: Are the white bars on there where  
22 you're --

23 MS. PAULA BOND: Those are the --

24 MR. MARK HENRY: -- the mats themselves?

25 MS. PAULA BOND: Those are the tubes. The mat

1 will be -- will be placed along the ditch all the way in the  
2 bottom, and then the tubes for surface -- surface water  
3 treatment will be across; horizontal.

4 Next slide, please.

5 So I'll give you a quick look at the schedule. So  
6 this is the one-year outlook of the activities that are  
7 going to be taking place related to the Remedial  
8 Investigation, the Aircraft Alert Area IRA, and the Pilot  
9 Study.

10 So we've got these broken up into a couple of  
11 different colors. The RI is on the top and it's blue. In  
12 the middle you see the Aircraft Alert Area IRA schedule in  
13 the yellow. And then the Pilot Study in the green.

14 We've got a couple of meetings highlighted on  
15 here, but this is just to give you an idea of what's going  
16 to be going on over the next year and where the -- the Pilot  
17 Study implementation and monitoring, this is just 2023.  
18 That's going to roll into 2024.

19 And I'll show that on the next slide, please.

20 MR. DAVID WINN: Paula, can I stop you for a  
21 minute?

22 MS. PAULA BOND: You sure can.

23 MR. DAVID WINN: Back up. A couple of questions.

24 MS. PAULA BOND: Okay.

25 MR. DAVID WINN: And I'm going to -- I'm going to

1 refer to -- we -- in the RAB meeting in February of this  
2 year, --

3 MS. PAULA BOND: Uh-huh (affirmative).

4 MR. DAVID WINN: -- we were told then that the RI  
5 Work Plan addendum was going to be ready by the end of March  
6 and we were going to have an opportunity to review and  
7 comment. I don't see any review and comment on there, and I  
8 see now it's going to be released June 5th.

9 So -- and it's for the public review, so the  
10 public.

11 MS. PAULA BOND: Yes.

12 MR. DAVID WINN: So who -- somebody changed their  
13 mind as far as us having com- -- the community having an  
14 opportunity to review and comment.

15 Steve, is that true?

16 MR. STEVE WILLIS: That is -- that is not true.  
17 If you look at the slide 27, it's going to be issued that  
18 first week of June for concurrent EGLE and public review.

19 MR. DAVID WINN: Okay. So --

20 MR. STEVE WILLIS: We -- yes, we -- yes, we are a  
21 little behind schedule, but we have every intention of  
22 providing you the opportunity to review and comment on it.

23 MR. DAVID WINN: Okay. I don't -- I don't --  
24 okay. I didn't see that on there.

25 MS. PAULA BOND: Yeah.

1 MR. DAVID WINN: That's why I asked. All right.  
2 Number two, the QAPP addendum has included part of  
3 the east side of Van Etten Lake.

4 MS. PAULA BOND: Correct.

5 MR. DAVID WINN: Is the RI work going to be  
6 completed for the east side of Van Etten Lake by November?

7 MS. PAULA BOND: This year; yes.

8 MR. DAVID WINN: I mean, the fact that we haven't  
9 even seen the RI addendum, we don't even know what work is  
10 going on over there. So is that going to be completed as  
11 part of that, or is that going to feed over into the -- into  
12 the Feasibility Study?

13 MS. PAULA BOND: No; that work will be completed  
14 this year. So all of the work that we have outlined in the  
15 QAPP and the QAPP addendum will be completed this year.

16 MR. DAVID WINN: Okay. So in five months you're  
17 going to have all of the east side of Van Etten Lake  
18 evaluated --

19 MS. PAULA BOND: This --

20 MR. DAVID WINN: -- and -- and -- okay.

21 MS. PAULA BOND: This field season, yeah,  
22 everything will -- will be completed this year.

23 MR. MARK HENRY: (indicating)

24 MS. PAULA BOND: Yes, Mark?

25 MR. MARK HENRY: Since you probably already know

1           what's in my QAPP addendum, is there going to be any soil  
2           sampling on the east side of Van Etten Lake, --

3                   MS. PAULA BOND: We don't have any soil--

4                   MR. MARK HENRY: -- or is it all going to be VAS?

5                   MS. PAULA BOND: We don't have any soil samplings  
6           on the east side of the lake.

7                   MR. MARK HENRY: Okay. Thank you.

8                   MR. DAVID WINN: So, again, I guess we'll -- we'll  
9           figure it out in August when -- when the next RAB meeting is  
10          as to what's going to -- what's in it so we can comment on  
11          it?

12                   MS. PAULA BOND: Yeah, so you guys will -- like we  
13          said, you guys will -- will get the QAPP addendum the first  
14          week of June and have the opportunity to review that and --  
15          and comment on that.

16                   MR. DAVID WINN: But by then it's going to be too  
17          late. You guys will have half the work already done.

18                   MS. PAULA BOND: No; no. We're not going -- we're  
19          not going to do the work that's in the addendum until the --  
20          the RI Work Plan is final. So we are still working on the  
21          work that is covered under the original QAPP. So we -- we  
22          still have work to do there, so it's not going to hold us  
23          up.

24                   MR. DAVID WINN: You just said the RI addendum  
25          would be done by June, and you just said a few seconds ago

1           that you're not even starting on the RI addendum work part  
2           on the east side of Van Etten Lake until the comments come  
3           back; right?

4                       MS. PAULA BOND: Right.

5                       MR. DAVID WINN: So that gives you even less time.  
6           So it sounds to me like we're not doing a heck of a lot of  
7           work over on the east side of Van Etten Lake.

8                       MS. PAULA BOND: There is -- the work that we're  
9           going to be doing over there; installing the piezometers,  
10          sampling that data, collecting the data over there; all of  
11          that data will be collected this year.

12                      We are doing a transducer study over there. The  
13          transducers will be placed, but we are going to monitor  
14          those transducers for a year. So that's the only data  
15          collection that will extend beyond 2023.

16                      MR. DAVID WINN: And it will go into the  
17          Feasibility Study?

18                      MS. PAULA BOND: No. It was be done. It will be  
19          part of the RI Report. That will be the last bit of data  
20          that gets into the RI Report.

21                      MR. DAVID WINN: Okay.

22                      MS. PAULA BOND: Yes, Mark?

23                      MR. MARK HENRY: With the work proposed for the  
24          east side of Van Etten Lake, the way that I've seen things  
25          going you're collecting samples, you send them off to a lab.

1           It takes them a good chunk of time --

2                   MS. PAULA BOND: Right.

3                   MR. MARK HENRY: -- to get through those and the  
4           QAQC and all that.

5                   MS. PAULA BOND: Right.

6                   MR. MARK HENRY: And so if there are stepouts,  
7           you're either going to be working in the winter or you're  
8           going to be working in the spring; is that correct?

9                   MS. PAULA BOND: We are going to -- the goal right  
10          now is to get all of the fieldwork done by the end of this  
11          year.

12                  MR. MARK HENRY: So are you going to get  
13          accelerated analysis of your samples --

14                  MS. PAULA BOND: We are going to --

15                  MR. MARK HENRY: -- so that you know where you  
16          are?

17                  MS. PAULA BOND: -- have all of the -- I will say  
18          the drilling resources that we can get to be working out  
19          there on site this summer. So we're going to have multiple  
20          drill rigs doing the vertical aquifer sampling, we're going  
21          to have multiple drill rigs doing the soil sampling,  
22          multiple drilling rigs doing the monitoring well piezometer  
23          installation. All of this is going to be going on  
24          concurrently out there.

25                  So following our -- our steps, the soil and VAS

1 can happen at the same time, and then once we're done with  
2 the VAS the monitoring well installation program will begin.  
3 But we will have multiple drill rigs going on out there to  
4 minimize the schedule so that we can get all the data that  
5 we need, get the data in from the laboratories. Because  
6 there are -- the laboratories are backed up right now with  
7 PFAS analysis, so we want to make sure that we get all the  
8 data in so that we can have it and make sure we're done by  
9 the end of this year.

10 That's not to say if there's something that --  
11 that comes up that we find that we weren't expecting, that  
12 may lead into something else. But the plan currently is to  
13 be done with data collection; other than the transducer  
14 study, which we're going to do extended; all of the field  
15 data collection will be done this year.

16 MR. DAVID WINN: Paula, do you guys have all the  
17 property --

18 MR. MARK HENRY: Okay. Thank you.

19 MR. DAVID WINN: -- property owner approvals and  
20 everything also?

21 MS. PAULA BOND: We are working on Access  
22 Agreements, yes, for -- because a lot of this new  
23 information, a lot of this new data, will be collected  
24 offsite, so we are working right now on Access Agreements  
25 for -- for those offsite properties.

1 MS. BETH PLACE: Can you describe some of the --  
2 you mentioned the groundwater work, but I think folks are  
3 concerned why it's going to take such a short period on the  
4 east side of Van Etten Lake. So I know you talked about the  
5 piezometers and you talked about the transducers, but could  
6 you talk a little bit more about what you have planned for  
7 the groundwater?

8 MS. PAULA BOND: Yeah. So we are going to be  
9 doing a source discrimination study on the east side of Van  
10 Etten Lake looking at water collected from either  
11 residential wells or monitoring wells on that side of the  
12 lake trying to determine if the -- the PFAS that is detected  
13 on the east side of the lake is consistent with AFFF, or is  
14 it consistent -- more consistent with maybe a septic  
15 release.

16 So that is one of the things that we're trying to  
17 do on the east side of the lake. We're collecting that  
18 data, and then that will lead to additional data collection,  
19 if needed, based on the results of those studies.

20 MR. ERIC STRAYER: (indicating)

21 MS. PAULA BOND: Yes?

22 MR. ERIC STRAYER: Eric, from AuSable Township. I  
23 know EGLE had some concerns about delays in -- in testing, I  
24 believe?

25 MS. BETH PLACE: Correct. We were concerned about

1 the -- the break in -- from April to June in the field  
2 sampling.

3 MR. ERIC STRAYER: Why is that break happening?  
4 Is there a reasoning for that?

5 MR. STEVE WILLIS: There is. We're in the process  
6 of modifying their contract to add an additional three years  
7 to the period of performance, and we're adding another 5  
8 million dollars to the contract.

9 MR. ERIC STRAYER: Yeah, I -- I think the timing  
10 is critical --

11 MR. STEVE WILLIS: I agree.

12 MR. ERIC STRAYER: -- and the testing needs to be  
13 done --

14 MR. STEVE WILLIS: I agree.

15 MR. ERIC STRAYER: -- as soon as possible, so --

16 MS. PAULA BOND: Right. And that's why we're  
17 bringing in all the additional drill rigs to make up for the  
18 schedule. So it's not going to impact the ultimate --  
19 ultimate schedule and ultimate end goal of having all of the  
20 data collected by the end of this year.

21 MS. BETH PLACE: (indicating)

22 MS. PAULA BOND: Yes?

23 MS. BETH PLACE: One of the items you had in your  
24 presentation was that Water Resources Division agreed with  
25 the Aircraft Alert Area IRA.

1 MS. PAULA BOND: Yes.

2 MS. BETH PLACE: So I just want to mention here  
3 again that that was contingent upon Air Force entering into  
4 that Substantive Requirements Document.

5 MR. STEVE WILLIS: Yeah, we'll -- we'll continue  
6 discussions with EGLE on that.

7 MS. BETH PLACE: Okay. Thank you.

8 MS. PAULA BOND: I think that's the last slide I  
9 have.

10 MR. SCOTT LINGO: (indicating)

11 MS. PAULA BOND: Oh. Yes?

12 MR. SCOTT LINGO: I have one question. As it  
13 relates to the Three Pipes area, with the Air Force and the  
14 Forest Service, them granting permission to go onto that,  
15 how long will that process take?

16 Every day there's more water flowing into the  
17 river, and it just seems like to get permission just takes  
18 more and more time, and more and more water is flowing into  
19 the river.

20 Hasn't there been agreements prior to this point  
21 of working together for the betterment of our community and  
22 our natural resources in the area?

23 MR. STEVE WILLIS: Yeah, let me address that. We  
24 do have an agreement with the Forest Service for all of the  
25 PFAS RI work, particularly in the Clark's Marsh area. The

1 scope of this project is a little different, so we're in --  
2 we're working on a separate agreement. It shouldn't take us  
3 but about 30 to 45 days to get that finalized. Because we  
4 already have an established agreement with them, we have a  
5 process to get that in place.

6 And I don't think Paula mentioned this time, but I  
7 know in the last RAB meeting, our plan is to install all the  
8 matting and the tubes across the -- the ditch there in the  
9 low flow season, which is in the fall. So this Access  
10 Agreement won't have any impact on us getting the work done.  
11 We'll have it in place by -- well-before that.

12 MR. WILLIAM GAINES: Also, Scott, it would be  
13 worthwhile to mention that this pilot study really doesn't  
14 have any bearing on or relationship to cleanup on Wurtsmith.  
15 It's simply testing this method, and it doesn't have any  
16 effect on the cleanup of the Three Pipes area, or any other  
17 flows that are going into the -- into the AuSable. That's  
18 well down the line.

19 MR. STEVE WILLIS: The pilot study will provide  
20 removal of PFAS. That's -- that's -- the material has been  
21 proven to do that. We're looking at the effectiveness of  
22 that material in this environment. So it will provide  
23 removal of PFAS. We're looking at the efficiency of that.

24 It is not, and we are not characterizing it as, an  
25 IRA or a substitute for an IRA. It is strictly a pilot

1 study to evaluate this technology to see if it's suitable  
2 for other applications out here.

3 In the meantime, concurrent with that, we will  
4 look at the additional data we need to determine whether an  
5 IRA is required and what that IRA would be to address the --  
6 the plume that's going into the Three Pipes Ditch.

7 So they are -- they are very separate and distinct  
8 activities.

9 MS. BETH PLACE: So, Steve, will that pilot study  
10 then -- that helps you when you're moving into the  
11 Feasibility Study to determine if that type of technology  
12 would work out here on a larger scale? Is that -- is that  
13 what you're --

14 MR. STEVE WILLIS: That's absolutely correct.

15 MR. DAVID WINN: Paula, I've got another question.

16 MS. PAULA BOND: Okay. Sure.

17 MR. DAVID WINN: Can we go back to the one-year  
18 slide? Go back one slide.

19 The proposed plan public meeting, what is that?

20 MS. PAULA BOND: When?

21 MR. DAVID WINN: "What."

22 MS. PAULA BOND: That is the proposed plan for the  
23 Alert Aircraft Area IRA.

24 MR. DAVID WINN: And how is that going to be done?  
25 Virtually? In person?

1 MS. PAULA BOND: That will be in person; right.

2 So you -- yeah.

3 MR. DAVID WINN: So this is a one-day meeting, --

4 MS. PAULA BOND: Uh-huh (affirmative).

5 MR. DAVID WINN: -- we're going to have basically  
6 one day to look at the plan and respond back with comments.  
7 Is that what I'm seeing here?

8 MS. PAULA BOND: No.

9 MR. STEVE WILLIS: No; no. You'll have -- you'll  
10 have at least 30 days to review the document. During that  
11 30-day period -- typically we try and do it about the third  
12 week -- we'll have a meeting to talk about it, still leave  
13 some additional time for -- for the community, once we've  
14 had the meeting and discussed it, to submit additional  
15 comments if there are any.

16 MR. DAVID WINN: Okay.

17 MR. MARK HENRY: A question about that: Will the  
18 public get a copy of that plan before that meeting so that  
19 we can ask --

20 MR. STEVE WILLIS: Yes. The -- the --

21 MR. MARK HENRY: -- questions during the meeting?

22 MR. STEVE WILLIS: -- intent is for you to have  
23 that about three weeks before the meeting, and then a week  
24 following the meeting to have an opportunity to review and  
25 submit comments.

1 MR. MARK HENRY: Thank you.

2 MS. PAULA BOND: Any other questions? Okay.

3 Great. Thank you.

4 MS. JESSIE HOWARD: All right. Thank you, Paula.  
5 At this time I would like to take a ten-minute break before  
6 we proceed with the remainder of tonight's meeting.

7 (Off the record)

8 MS. JESSIE HOWARD: All right. I think we have  
9 everybody back with us. So just one more reminder, if you  
10 have not signed in with us for this evening, the sign-in  
11 sheet is right over here by me. Please do that before you  
12 leave.

13 And at this time I would like to open the floor  
14 for any RAB Member questions or comments.

15 MR. REX VAUGHN: (indicating)

16 MS. JESSIE HOWARD: Yes, Rex?

17 MR. REX VAUGHN: Rex Vaughn, Community RAB. This  
18 question I think is going to be directed to Beth and to  
19 Steve, and it's a topic I've talked about before, which is  
20 the SRD's. I am extremely puzzled why there is any  
21 stalemate between EGLE and the Air Force over the SRD for  
22 the Aircraft Alert Area IRA.

23 I mean, SRD's have been around for a long time.  
24 The Air Force has -- has always negotiated with the State to  
25 put one in place.

1                   Why is it different this time that you can't come  
2                   to terms?

3                   MR. STEVE WILLIS: So under CERCLA we are exempt  
4                   from permitting. We -- we have to comply with the  
5                   substantive requirements of a permit, but we are not  
6                   required to get a permit. The Air Force has agreed to SRD's  
7                   in the past, but our attorneys have said we are not going to  
8                   continue to do that with the exemption, but we will work  
9                   with EGLE to identify the substantive requirements and work  
10                  to meet those.

11                  So we won't have an SRD, but we will meet the  
12                  general intent of an SRD. And we fully expect that the  
13                  discharge requirements for this treatment system are going  
14                  to be much lower than what they are for the existing  
15                  systems.

16                  MR. REX VAUGHN: Because the existing SRD's give  
17                  you guys a lot of leeway as to how poorly you can operate  
18                  and still be in compliance.

19                  MR. STEVE WILLIS: That's not the words I would  
20                  use, but, yes.

21                  MR. REX VAUGHN: Yes.

22                  MR. STEVE WILLIS: Yeah, the levels -- the  
23                  discharge levels are fairly high, yeah.

24                  MR. REX VAUGHN: Yes. Okay.

25                  MR. WILLIAM GAINES: Would you help me to

1 understand -- Bill Gaines. Would you help me to understand  
2 why SRD's are different than ARAR's?

3 Perhaps there's a difference legally, but  
4 ethically they certainly are not. And my expectation as an  
5 ex-Air Force officer, and one that believes in the Air Force  
6 Honor Code, that the Air Force will behave honorably.

7 I must confess that I've been terribly  
8 disappointed, but -- but my expectation is that the Air  
9 Force will comply with the spirit as well as the letters of  
10 the regulation.

11 Is -- is that an unreasonable expectation?

12 MR. STEVE WILLIS: As far as your question on SRD  
13 versus an ARAR, I -- I don't want to get in trouble with my  
14 attorneys, so I will get you a distinction between the two.  
15 But, you know, we intend to comply with the -- with the  
16 general requirements, which typically are identified in  
17 ARAR's, but we -- we do not intend to actually sign up for a  
18 permit; which, an SRD is a permit.

19 MR. WILLIAM GAINES: Well, I still maintain that  
20 the -- the legality of it is one thing, the ethics of it are  
21 another thing, and we really shouldn't have to beg to get  
22 you to comply with the ethical way of doing business.

23 MR. REX VAUGHN: I would like to hear from Beth on  
24 my question, because it got to Steve real quick, and I  
25 haven't heard your side of the story.

1 MS. BETH PLACE: Well, if Charlie Bauer is still  
2 on the line, I would -- if it's okay with you, I would like  
3 him, since he's from Water Resources, to go ahead and state  
4 their position on that. Is that okay?

5 MR. REX VAUGHN: Yeah, that's fine.

6 MS. AMY RAUSER: Charlie actually is struggling  
7 with hearing, so we're working on it. I think he's going to  
8 log off and back in.

9 MS. BETH PLACE: Okay. So, in the meantime, I can  
10 just say for -- from Water Resources' perspective; and  
11 obviously our RD supports this perspective as well; in the  
12 past, like, if you -- if you think back to the F202, you  
13 think back to the CTS, that discharge, what we actually used  
14 for ARAR's in those Interim Remedial Actions was the SRD.  
15 And so that also included reporting requirements on  
16 MIWATERS, where Air Force would have to make that  
17 information publically available; the -- the discharge.

18 We haven't worked through what exactly the -- what  
19 exactly it means not to have an SRD, so I'm not sure if that  
20 reporting would still happen, Steve.

21 MR. STEVE WILLIS: We've -- in -- in the Work Plan  
22 for the Alert Area IRA we have identified our goals for  
23 discharge, and I think we've outlined a sampling program as  
24 well -- Paula? --

25 MS. PAULA BOND: Uh-huh (affirmative).

1                   MR. STEVE WILLIS: -- so it will mirror a lot of  
2                   the requirements in the SRD.

3                   MR. CHARLIE BAUER: And we just want a reporting  
4                   framework so that we have an idea of how that system is  
5                   functioning on an ongoing basis. It's -- it's not  
6                   unreasonable to have that. And I think we have it fairly  
7                   well set up with the other treatment systems, and I think it  
8                   would be appropriate for this one as well.

9                   MR. REX VAUGHN: We missed the front half of your  
10                  comments. Could you basically start over for us?

11                  MR. CHARLIE BAUER: When you say "start over",  
12                  start over from where?

13                  MR. REX VAUGHN: The beginning.

14                  MR. CHARLIE BAUER: So we have -- essentially  
15                  SRD's are permits, and they outline what the parameters are  
16                  that can be discharged and the reporting requirements to the  
17                  State so that we can track and make sure that those systems  
18                  are working properly and that the -- what is being  
19                  discharged is meeting standards.

20                  It's pretty typical, it's a good framework, and we  
21                  think it's applicable to this IRA and this treatment system,  
22                  as it is to FTO2 and the Central Treatment System.

23                  MR. REX VAUGHN: Well, it sounds like you're  
24                  stalemated. How are you going to resolve this?

25                  MR. CHARLIE BAUER: Well, like we resolve

1 everything else. We'll talk. That was what I understood  
2 the Air Force saying, that they would -- they're willing to  
3 talk to us, so we will work through it.

4 MR. STEVE WILLIS: Correct.

5 MR. REX VAUGHN: Could this impact the  
6 implementation schedule of the IRA at the AAA site?

7 MR. STEVE WILLIS: From our perspective, we  
8 continue -- we plan to continue moving forward. I would  
9 assume in the end it could -- well, I would -- I would -- I  
10 would say that it's not going to stop us from implementing  
11 this system.

12 The details for monitoring and discharge are  
13 something we can continue to monitor -- or talk with EGLE  
14 about, but, from my perspective, I don't think this will  
15 stop of from building the system. I think we all agree that  
16 the system is needed.

17 MR. REX VAUGHN: Will the lack of an SRD be -- be  
18 an issue on any other proposed IRA's or final solutions?

19 Is it the intent of the Air Force to completely  
20 ignore them on everything you're going to do in the next 20  
21 years?

22 MR. STEVE WILLIS: The Air Force's position is  
23 that we are not required to get permits, and so we do not  
24 intend to enter into a permit agreement, whether it's a  
25 true-called permit or an SRD. They're equivalent, so --

1 MS. BETH PLACE: So from EGLE's --

2 MR. STEVE WILLIS: We actually --

3 MS. BETH PLACE: Go ahead.

4 MR. STEVE WILLIS: We actually haven't done that  
5 at any other installations.

6 MS. BETH PLACE: But here at Wurtsmith and in the  
7 State of Michigan it's done on a routine basis. It's also  
8 done on Superfund sites outside of DOD's program. So, from  
9 our perspective, it's not just being put on DOD, it's  
10 something that happens within the State.

11 Our -- our attorneys are probably going to have to  
12 get together and discuss this, as well as project staff.

13 And then Charlie can speak for Water Resources,  
14 but my understanding is that without this SRD we will not  
15 approve a groundwater discharge with the infiltration  
16 gallery.

17 MR. REX VAUGHN: So that puts a big lock on the  
18 "On" switch?

19 MS. BETH PLACE: Correct. But, again, we are  
20 hoping that we will be able to work it out, because I don't  
21 think either agency wants to see delays.

22 MR. STEVE WILLIS: Correct.

23 MR. REX VAUGHN: Keep us informed, please.

24 MR. MARK HENRY: I have a question related to  
25 that.

1                   If the Air Force is not intending to enter into an  
2                   SRD, what will compel them to do a reporting of their  
3                   discharge on a regular basis?

4                   MR. STEVE WILLIS: I guess the -- the ROD for that  
5                   hasn't been written yet. That could be a place we could  
6                   document our sampling and reporting plan.

7                   MR. DAVID WINN: I have a question. I would like  
8                   a -- and I'm going to go back to our technical meeting real  
9                   quick yesterday -- and it's in respect to the IRA's that are  
10                  being requested by the community.

11                  And during the break Paula and I had a bit of a  
12                  conversation, and I'd like maybe to get a little  
13                  clarification. Is -- I was -- I was under the impression  
14                  that in the -- according to the letter that was given back  
15                  to the State of Michigan the Air Force is not saying they  
16                  won't them, but they're saying that the data -- that more  
17                  data needs to be collected. Okay?

18                  When we talked yesterday I was under the  
19                  assumption that the data will be collected as part of the  
20                  RI, and any additional data will be collected during the FS  
21                  period -- FS phase of the period -- of the study.

22                  In order to have enough data -- and, Paula,  
23                  correct me if I'm wrong -- but under -- if -- in order to  
24                  have enough data to either confirm or deny the IRA's, at the  
25                  end of the RI you will have enough data. Is that correct,

1 or not?

2 MS. PAULA BOND: Correct.

3 MR. DAVID WINN: So -- so that data won't  
4 necessarily go into the FS portion of the phase of the  
5 program, so at the end of November you guys should be able  
6 to say, "Yes, you know, we confer with the State and the  
7 community that we need these IRA's."

8 Is that true, or not?

9 MS. PAULA BOND: We will have the data so that the  
10 Air Force can make that decision.

11 MR. DAVID WINN: Okay. Thank you for that  
12 clarification.

13 MR. TIM CUMMINGS: And I have a question. So I'm  
14 Tim Cummings, Oscoda Township.

15 Steve, so you mentioned a few times during your  
16 presentation that you had met with Oscoda Township earlier  
17 this week.

18 MR. STEVE WILLIS: Uh-huh (affirmative).

19 MR. TIM CUMMINGS: Can you tell me when and with  
20 whom you met?

21 MR. STEVE WILLIS: Yesterday morning; Tuesday  
22 morning; with Josh and Tammy.

23 MR. TIM CUMMINGS: Okay. Very good. Thank you  
24 very much.

25 MR. ARNIE LERICHE: (indicating)

1 MS. JESSIE HOWARD: Yes, sir. Arnie?

2 MR. ARNIE LERICHE: I'd like to come back to what  
3 I was talking about earlier, and I'm going to request that  
4 they are two AI -- Action Items.

5 This is Arnie Leriche, for the virtual people.

6 The first one is the -- the foam issue. And I'd  
7 like to just read a couple of findings from the first  
8 article of information put out by a DOD-grant-hired; Oregon  
9 State University; to sample Van Etten Lake and Clark's Marsh  
10 for the foam and try to identify how high it was, what kind  
11 of methodology could be used to sample it to address the  
12 issue of -- and then also identify what possibly was causing  
13 it.

14 And so one of the findings was,

15 "The high concentration of the foam, especially  
16 for a longer chain PFAS, is our concern, because foam  
17 may serve as a direct route of exposure to humans  
18 through ingestion or to organisms that live in it in  
19 the lake's surface where the foam forms."

20 That is a significant finding and statement. This  
21 was in 2020, the year -- a little over a year after they  
22 came here in 2019 to sample.

23 Another one,

24 "Preliminary estimates indicate PFAS-enriched  
25 surface water foam can be an important expose- --

1 exposure route that poses potential risk for children  
2 and adults playing and swimming in the lake."

3 Now, this is a DOD contractor of sorts with a  
4 grant to do this, and they made that finding.

5 They also said that they wanted to statistically  
6 analyze their data to try to come up with a stronger way of  
7 explaining the foam. So in March; just two months ago;  
8 their second article came out, and it said,

9 "The surface microlayers enriched in PFAS are  
10 likely present on any freshwater body impacted by PFAS,  
11 and, as such, represent routes of exposure to humans  
12 during recreation, and to wildlife."

13 The second one following that is, "Enrichment";  
14 which means a multiplying effect of concentration from the  
15 groundwater to the body of water to the body of water, 50  
16 feet of lake, so forth; is another concentration.

17 And then there's the foam that we see. Right in  
18 the top of the water before the foam forms is what they call  
19 a surface microlayer. It could be less than a millimeter  
20 thick. And that's where the PFAS sort of meets the air, and  
21 they -- and one tail of it likes the air.

22 So enrichment in this surface microlayer could  
23 impact; bias on the high side; the measurement of  
24 concentration in samples collected for routine monitoring  
25 studies. And that is a concern of the people who -- that

1 Air Force that take samples, or the State.

2 It could, because you don't want a sample that,  
3 because it's only a millimeter thick. You want to sample  
4 the body of water. So you don't want to mix the two  
5 together if you were biased on high.

6 So these two reports came out, but we've been  
7 talking, Cathy, I think for -- well, since 2017 when we  
8 brought it up to the Air Force; the foam; and their expert  
9 did not show up to talk to us about it to kind of explain.  
10 But they did -- somehow they got the message the DOD; the  
11 SERDP; the Strategic Environmental Project, you know, think  
12 tank, and they got Oregon State University to do this.

13 So it's intermittent because the foam that's  
14 visible only happens on an intermittent basis when the  
15 conditions are right, but their statement in the report says  
16 you don't see it before the foam is visible, but it is  
17 there. It affects sampling, because it's 20 to 30, 40 times  
18 more higher PFAS concentration than four -- or four or five  
19 inches below the surface. Okay? So --

20 MR. MARK HENRY: Arnie?

21 MR. ARNIE LERICHE: Yeah?

22 MR. MARK HENRY: Correction; it's about 500,000  
23 times the concentration in the water beneath it.

24 MR. ARNIE LERICHE: Well, your studies. We'll add  
25 your report to this.

1           But it is significant, and it -- and the foam is  
2           up to 197,000 parts per trillion; 4,000 times more than  
3           the -- the body of water for 20 feet down.

4           So the State has issued this "Do not touch", and  
5           "Wash it off", but people are only going to do that when  
6           they see it. So the surface microlayer has to be studied.

7           And we're talking about a potential -- I'm not a  
8           toxicologist -- a potential imminent and substantial  
9           endangerment classification under CERCLA. That's point  
10          number one.

11          Point number two, the comment period to EPA on  
12          hazardous substance designation under CERCLA is only two  
13          weeks away; the comment period; but EPA is going to make  
14          those too a hazardous substance, and we're talking about the  
15          State says "Don't touch it". And so that's Action Item  
16          number one.

17          And I'd like to propose that we do a virtual, we  
18          ask these authors to join us, let them tell us what they  
19          wrote and what they think, and then the RAB and the Air  
20          Force and -- can -- can look and -- and see if there's  
21          anything that really should be done, thinking outside the  
22          box, to at least, as part of the RI in the middle or toward  
23          the end, do something. So that's number one.

24          The second one is the screening of wildlife and --  
25          and swimming locations.

1                   In 2017 EPA and Region 1 Boston gave Pease Air  
2 Force Base screening levels criteria for children, for PFAS  
3 and PFOA, 2,000 parts per trillion for children recreating  
4 in the water. The Air Force immediately started a screening  
5 study and sampling.

6                   There was also one for fish consumption, 7 parts  
7 per billion; because that's how it's measured in the flesh  
8 of the fish. The State's start of concern is at 9 parts per  
9 billion. At 300 parts per billion it's "Do not eat", so  
10 there's a range. Okay?

11                   But that Air Force site did sampling immediately,  
12 and they -- they looked at shellfish, consumption of fish,  
13 plants, and the swimming and recreation.

14                   I gave you a copy of that?

15                   MR. STEVE WILLIS: Right.

16                   MR. ARNIE LERICHE: I gave it to the Air Force  
17 November 1st of 2018. We were going to get briefed on it,  
18 but then it was dropped from the agenda at the following  
19 RAB, and I can give you -- share a contact with you that may  
20 be able to verify that.

21                   So that's Action Item number two.

22                   MR. STEVE WILLIS: Okay.

23                   MR. ARNIE LERICHE: Thank you.

24                   MS. JESSIE HOWARD: Any other questions or  
25 comments from the RAB Members?

1 MS. CATHY WUSTERBARTH: (indicating)

2 MS. JESSIE HOWARD: Cathy?

3 MS. CATHY WUSTERBARTH: All right. I want to go  
4 back to the Action Item list. That is a running list of  
5 comments from stakeholders, and it is basically our map of  
6 engagement that I think that we, you know -- you know, can  
7 keep track of.

8 So I am going to request that we spend more time  
9 on Action Items in the meetings, and that we not skip over  
10 them, because each of them are on that list for a reason, so  
11 we need to talk about each one and not just handpick which  
12 ones we're going to talk about. So I am making that  
13 request.

14 And in terms of the Action Item that -- one of the  
15 Action Items that I had put on the list was the signs on our  
16 treatment buildings. You know, the Air Force should be very  
17 proud of those buildings, I think, and when community  
18 members want to show off what the Air Force has done, it  
19 should be easy for us to do that.

20 And I can understand you might not want to say it  
21 is a PFAS treatment system on a big huge sign, but I would  
22 even at this point accept an acronym for a sign. "CT1", you  
23 know, "FTO2", anything. Something that is on these  
24 buildings so that we can show people where they are and --  
25 and know, you know, what's in the building.

1           So I'm going to request that that Action Item not  
2           be closed, and that you look at that again, please.

3           The next thing is you had said that there was some  
4           issues about the storm water usage fee; that it was  
5           discriminatory. Well, I believe that it should be  
6           discriminatory to the Air Force because they will be using  
7           it more than any other user; thousands of times more than  
8           any other user on this Base. So I want to just make sure  
9           that that's clear, that you should be discriminated against  
10          regarding that use.

11          And I feel like we have -- our community, the --  
12          the people that work on this site -- well, maybe not, you  
13          know, the Paula's and, you know, everybody that's digging  
14          holes -- but some of the community members and maybe some  
15          people from the Air Force are desensitized to the severity  
16          of this site. It is a toxic waste area.

17          And if you look at the budget for the Department  
18          of Defense on cleanup for PFAS, Wurtsmith is in the top  
19          five. We are one of the worst sites in all of the US for  
20          Department of Defense. This is a horrible site, and we are  
21          trying to rush through these RAB meetings, and getting  
22          rushed through our Action Items, and we need to dedicate  
23          more time on this site.

24          The fact that we are 13 years into it and we don't  
25          have a finished plan, and we have to beg and plead for

1 Interim Remedial Actions to keep these flow -- these flows  
2 of PFAS coming into our community is utterly ridiculous.  
3 Which leads me to the east side of Van Etten Lake; plans for  
4 that.

5 What I heard said tonight was that -- that we're  
6 not going to be doing any soil sampling. Now, I wonder, is  
7 there anybody in this room that -- that lives on Van Etten  
8 Lake; on the east side of Van Etten Lake?

9 Yeah, so -- right. So if you live on the east  
10 side of Van Etten Lake, what happens during a windy day?

11 UNIDENTIFIED FEMALE: Foam.

12 UNIDENTIFIED MALE: The waves go --

13 UNIDENTIFIED FEMALE: Foam.

14 MS. CATHY WUSTERBARTH: Foam piling, blowing onto  
15 your grass. Where does that foam go? It doesn't jump back  
16 into the lake. No. It seeps right into that ground, and  
17 that soil needs to be sampled. And to imply that the source  
18 of the PFAS on the east side of Van Etten Lake is from a  
19 septic is insulting to our intelligence and insulting to all  
20 of the homeowners that live on the east side of Van Etten  
21 Lake.

22 So that needs to be a serious effort to get all of  
23 that -- you know, all of that defined and -- and determined  
24 that we know who the polluter is of the east side of Van  
25 Etten Lake. So let's get that done thoroughly and

1 completely.

2 And those are my comments. Thank you.

3 MS. JESSIE HOWARD: Thank you, Cathy. Anybody  
4 else? Mark?.

5 MR. MARK HENRY: Mark -- excuse me. Mark Henry  
6 here. I would like to make a request of the Air Force to --  
7 let's see -- draw their maps kind of like they used to with  
8 aerial photos behind them and/or roadways, et cetera,  
9 defined on the maps so that when you're looking at the maps  
10 you have features and building locations so that you can  
11 identify precisely where those plumes are.

12 I take exception to the maps as they've been  
13 presented for the last couple meetings as kind of plumes  
14 floating within the boundary of the Base with very few  
15 identifying features to really explain or identify where  
16 those are.

17 And I would hope that the Air Force would be more  
18 transparent in this. I think that they should make every  
19 effort to provide the data in a format that is easily  
20 understood and doesn't need you -- and doesn't require a  
21 person to take that map home, put it into a GIS system,  
22 overlay an aerial -- or underlay an aerial photograph so  
23 that you can actually figure out where these plumes are.

24 Thank you.

25 MS. JESSIE HOWARD: All right. Anybody else on

1 the RAB? Okay.

2 I will quickly review the Public Comment  
3 Guidelines before we get started on that.

4 Number one, please raise your hand to indicate  
5 that you would like to make a comment.

6 Number two, when you are acknowledged please  
7 approach the mic in the middle there, say and spell your  
8 full name for the record prior to beginning your comment.

9 Number three, keep your comment to three minutes  
10 or less.

11 And number four, RAB Members will determine if  
12 follow-up is needed.

13 Do we have anyone present tonight that would like  
14 to give a public comment first?

15 MR. STEVE WILLIS: I have one -- one quick  
16 addition to that. If we do have someone that submits a  
17 comment that they believe should be an RAB Action Item and  
18 they would like feedback on that, we would ask that they  
19 also provide their contact information so that when the  
20 Action Item is addressed that we have an opportunity to  
21 bring them into the discussion and provide feedback to them.

22 MS. JESSIE HOWARD: Okay. I do have Tony Spaniola  
23 on -- virtually with us. Tony, if you would like to unmute  
24 your mic and address the RAB?

25 MR. TONY SPANIOLA: (No verbal response)

1 MS. JESSIE HOWARD: Do we have anybody here in  
2 person that would like to make a comment? David?

3 MR. DAVID CARMONA: Dave Carmona, prospective RAB  
4 Member.

5 Tonight Beth and Steve gave a prime example of why  
6 people are distrustful in this community. The State has a  
7 requirement that's normally permitting. They will reduce  
8 that down to what they call an SRD. Significant  
9 Requirements Document, I believe is what that is.

10 MR. MARK HENRY: "Substantive."

11 MR. DAVID CARMONA: "Substantive." Okay. And the  
12 Air Force says under CERCLA that they're not permitting.  
13 There are other intergovernmental agreement devices that you  
14 can use to accomplish this and memorialize the requirements  
15 without a permit and without having an SRD.

16 Why don't you use those other types of instruments  
17 that are available?

18 The Air Force uses them every day interfacing with  
19 the State governments for aviation. What is prohibiting you  
20 from using those same devices since they're available Air  
21 Force-wide?

22 Memorandums of Agreement, Letters of  
23 Understanding, those types of documents, they create the  
24 same requirements without the permitting and without the  
25 SRD.

1                   That's my input. Thank you.

2                   MS. JESSIE HOWARD: Thank you. You, sir  
3                   (indicating).

4                   MR. KYLE JONES: Hi. It's Kyle Jones, also a  
5                   prospective RAB Member.

6                   I would want first of all to echo what Dave just  
7                   said. It's exceedingly common for any governmental agency  
8                   to enter into Memorandums of Understanding with State  
9                   agencies or the Attorney General -- Office of Attorney  
10                  General of a particular State.

11                  To the degree that the Office of the General  
12                  Counsel of the Department of Defense or the Air Force has  
13                  made an interpretation that an SRD is -- is a permit, then  
14                  as a -- as a responsible party the Air Force is responsible  
15                  for, you know, all of the requirements under any law that  
16                  applies to the site. That includes the Water Resources  
17                  Division's requirements pursuant to Michigan law.

18                  So if the OGC is going to say that an SRD is a  
19                  permit -- and it is true that CERCLA does not require a  
20                  responsible party to enter into a permit, as Steve said --  
21                  but they must comply -- that responsible party must comply  
22                  with the substantive requirements of law that would  
23                  otherwise be embodied into a permit, then it seems to me  
24                  that the very simply solution to this is to enter into an  
25                  MOU; Memorandum of Understanding; with -- with the Water

1 Resources Division of EGLE so that it's not a permit, it's  
2 a -- so there's no inference; if I could get into the mind  
3 of lawyers at the OGC of the DOD; that an SRD -- the  
4 inference that an SRD is a permit. The real simple way to  
5 do it is an MOU.

6 So sorry for taking a long time to concur with  
7 Dave, but I wanted to give some of the legal -- input into  
8 some of the legal context to that.

9 My -- I have a couple questions about the -- the  
10 four IRA's that have been proposed by -- legally by EGLE and  
11 supported by many governmental and com- -- the community  
12 group here.

13 We understand that additional data is -- are going  
14 to be taken at each of the four areas throughout this year.  
15 I think we heard -- Steve, is it correct? -- that all of the  
16 data that you feel you need to make a decision about the  
17 implementation or non-implementation of an IRA will be  
18 collected by the end of 2023? Is that right?

19 MR. STEVE WILLIS: Right.

20 MR. KYLE JONES: Okay. Has the -- a Work Plan, or  
21 some version of a plan, for what that additional data  
22 collection is going to be constituted, has that been  
23 written?

24 MR. STEVE WILLIS: I think it's all encompassed in  
25 our current Work Plan.

1                   MR. KYLE JONES: And when was -- okay. So could I  
2 ask then when that current Work Plan was amended to include  
3 this additional data?

4                   MR. STEVE WILLIS: This data still falls within  
5 the realm of the current Work Plan. It's continued to  
6 stepout to define the extent, and finish collecting the  
7 information that's covered by the Work Plan. So it's not  
8 new work, it's not different work, it's covered within the  
9 realm of the Work Plan.

10                  MR. KYLE JONES: Okay. But what -- all right.  
11 But there must be plans -- if the stepouts are going to  
12 occur -- or pursuant to the current Work Plan, there then  
13 would be technical decision-making that would take place in  
14 order to figure out where the stepouts will be done, how  
15 deep and how -- you know, what -- what constituents are  
16 going to be analyzed for.

17                  So, Steve, is it possible for you to, either  
18 now -- and maybe this requires another virtual meeting, but  
19 I think the Air Force is pretty well-aware that the  
20 community here thinks there's plenty; and more than enough;  
21 evidence and data to support the IRA's now.

22                  And so if the Air Force's position now is that the  
23 additional data that needs to be taken is consistent with  
24 the current Remedial Investigation Work Plan, we would like  
25 to understand very specifically what additional data are

1 going to be taken, and is it possible to have a virtual  
2 meeting so that we can be informed of that?

3 MR. STEVE WILLIS: We can do that. I think most  
4 of those sampling locations are on the maps that have been  
5 provided. In fact, I think the posters in the back probably  
6 identify most of those locations.

7 MR. KYLE JONES: Okay.

8 MS. JESSIE HOWARD: Kyle, I think need to move on.

9 MR. KYLE JONES: Oh. Yeah, I've probably taken  
10 more than three minutes. Okay. I'll sit.

11 MS. JESSIE HOWARD: Sorry.

12 MR. WILLIAM GAINES: Bill Gains, from the RAB.  
13 Could I add on to that?

14 What I hear is that there's additional data  
15 required and that it's already included in the Plan. I also  
16 heard earlier that we have accelerated investigation going  
17 on the east side of Van Etten Lake.

18 Why in an area that's been identified publicly  
19 don't we have accelerated investigation in the areas where  
20 you need data relative to these IRA's?

21 If we simply continue taking data at the speed we  
22 are, then an IRA is meaningless because it will eventually  
23 be included in the Record of Decision and the Final  
24 Resolution. IRA's are things that are important to be done  
25 early, and you should really identify how you're going to --

1 and speed up your investigation to -- to get these questions  
2 answered.

3 MR. STEVE WILLIS: As -- as Paula indicated in her  
4 presentation, the IRA areas are some of the initial areas  
5 that we're going to focus our sampling efforts on this field  
6 season, for that very reason.

7 MR. WILLIAM GAINES: Okay.

8 MS. JESSIE HOWARD: And we have -- Tony is going  
9 to give Cathy a call and put that up. Or if you want to  
10 call him, Cathy?

11 MS. CATHY WUSTERBARTH: Yes.

12 MS. JESSIE HOWARD: Thank you. Yes, Mark?

13 MR. MARK HENRY: I have an additional question.  
14 Oh, is Tony getting on?

15 MS. CATHY WUSTERBARTH: Yeah.

16 MR. MARK HENRY: Okay.

17 MS. CATHY WUSTERBARTH: Okay. Go ahead; go ahead.

18 MR. TONY SPANIOLA: Okay. Yes. Can you hear me  
19 okay? I'm going to mute my -- my speaker here so I don't  
20 get feedback.

21 MS. JESSIE HOWARD: We hear you well, yes.

22 MR. TONY SPANIOLA: Thank -- thank -- thank you  
23 very much.

24 I'd like to start my comment this evening by  
25 thanking each of the citizen and local government

1           representatives on the Restoration Advisory Board. Your  
2           work has been outstanding and you have done it under  
3           conditions that are far from ideal. I thank you -- thank  
4           you all for the work that you have done, the questions that  
5           you have raised this evening.

6                        You know, I -- I just -- I think it's unfortunate  
7           that you have had to go to the lengths and the time that  
8           you've had to put in to work on this. I think the Air Force  
9           has made this unduly difficult, but I think you have done an  
10          excellent job, and I thank you for your work on this.

11                      And I -- and in listening to the comments that  
12          were made tonight, I would just echo those that were made by  
13          Cathy Wusterbarth regarding the Interim Remedial Actions.  
14          They should have been done years ago; no -- no question  
15          about it. Our experts -- and we're not a bunch of people  
16          with pitchforks, you know, running around like crazies. Our  
17          experts are telling us this.

18                      It should have been done before, and every day  
19          that we delay is a denial. So, yes, maybe there's some  
20          hope, but it should -- should have been done, it should be  
21          being done now. And I think that's come across pretty  
22          clearly from members of the community, and I think it's  
23          incredibly unfortunate that we have had to go to these  
24          lengths, that we have had to bring in local governments  
25          like -- like -- local governments like Iosco County, Oscoda

1 Township, members of congress, just to get the Air Force to  
2 look at something it should have done years ago. And I  
3 thank the members of the Board for bringing this up.

4 Mr. Leriche's comments regarding the foam, I would  
5 note that when we brought this up initially the Air Force  
6 told us it was washing machine detergent. Mr. Gaines has  
7 talked about the dishonorability of the -- of the conduct  
8 that has occurred here. I concur completely.

9 And Mr. Cummings, who talked about the fact that  
10 the approach that has been taken by the Air Force, what it  
11 has done is ended up costing -- in the name of saving money  
12 it has ended up costing the Federal government more money  
13 because the contamination has spread. And in the meantime  
14 it has exposed people in this community many times over to  
15 exposures we know are dangerous, including the foam, for  
16 which there's a study that's been done by the Michigan  
17 Department of Health & Human Services that seems to have  
18 been ignored by the Air Force.

19 And so I think that -- I guess I also want to say  
20 thank you -- we have -- I know we have representatives  
21 from the Deputy Assistant Secretary of Defense's Office and  
22 from the Air Force Assistant Secretary's Office. I thank  
23 them for their involvement, I thank them for being here.

24 I will say this: That I know that the Deputy  
25 Assistant Secretary of Defense's Office is here to do a

1 study. I'm glad to have you here. The study, however, is a  
2 study. What we heard about in Oscoda is study after study  
3 after study after study after study, and no action. This is  
4 study -- this is a communication study.

5 We were -- we were here -- we were -- we were  
6 promised urgent action by the Department of Defense last  
7 year. We welcome your involvement here, and we -- and we  
8 welcome you back. The next time you come back bring actions  
9 with you.

10 And I would say if you're going to study  
11 something, study the way this site has been managed over the  
12 last 13 years, because there are -- there are a lot of  
13 lessons here in how not to do things. Use it as an  
14 opportunity for improvement.

15 Here in Oscoda we have -- as you can see, we have  
16 a Board that is very active, very involved and very  
17 knowledgeable. Heaven forbid to those communities who  
18 don't. And I think there are many, many, many, many across  
19 the Country, and I -- and I am very worried about them,  
20 because they don't have the kind of people that we have  
21 here. We're fortunate.

22 But study that and learn how to improve not  
23 communications; this is not a public relations issue. The  
24 problem here is substance, and so I invite you to take a  
25 look at that.

1                   And I want to say to you that I believe that this  
2                   community is willing to work constructively wish you -- with  
3                   you. We need honest, collaborative responses. We haven't  
4                   seen that. We're starting to see a little bit, but it's not  
5                   enough.

6                   So, again, my thanks to you for being here, my  
7                   thanks to the members of the Board. I know that this  
8                   community is not going to go away. We're going to continue  
9                   to be actively involved, and we're going to make things  
10                  happen here, but we would really like the Air Force and the  
11                  Department of Defense to engage and to commit to urgent  
12                  action. We're in year 14. That's way too long.

13                  Thank you.

14                  MS. JESSIE HOWARD: Okay. Did we have anybody  
15                  else, either virtually or with us; public; that would like  
16                  to make a comment? And then we'll get to yours, Mark.

17                  Yes, sir; in the camo.

18                  MR. ROBERT TASIOR: Robert Tasior, former RAB  
19                  Member, citizen of Oscoda.

20                  I would just like to say six years ago when I was  
21                  sitting on that very panel we talked about CERCLA, and I  
22                  never wanted to hear CERCLA again. I -- it just -- I --  
23                  it's just one of those words that keeps going round and  
24                  round and round. I understand processes. I work in  
25                  processes every day.

1           One thing that -- one thing that I would like to  
2           point out here that I think our citizens of our community  
3           would like to know is progress. We -- again, my big  
4           argument back in the day was study, study, study; which is  
5           extremely important for a process; but once you have some  
6           documentation of things it comes to a point for remediation,  
7           and we still talk about processes. You can still be  
8           remediating while those processes are going on. And we  
9           have.

10           There's -- there's -- how many plants are out  
11           there now treating those plumes? Eight? Is -- is that our  
12           number? How many are out there?

13           MR. TIM CUMMINGS: Three.

14           MR. ROBERT TASIOR: I remember the first year I  
15           was on the RAB it came back that we needed -- what? -- 16?  
16           We have three. That was six years ago. CERCLA is not  
17           helping us here. Those plants may be helping, but I'm going  
18           to tell you something: I can't even tell you if those  
19           plants are helping. You know why? I haven't seen up a map  
20           on that very screen that shows those plumes that are being  
21           treated by those three plants.

22           Has it done anything? Have they done anything?  
23           Are they shrinking? Are they growing? Is the -- is the  
24           PFAS just getting deeper into the ground? I don't know.  
25           Can anybody tell me that? The -- the town would like to

1 know.

2 All I'm hearing now; just like Mr. Cummings said;  
3 13 years ago he said this is going to get off the Base. I  
4 don't know; it might have been off the Base back then. I  
5 don't know. Those plumes, he -- he said "containing on the  
6 Base." Well, here we are, we know it's off the Base. So  
7 we -- we got treatment plants there. Are they doing  
8 anything? Are they working?

9 I wish you would just focus a little bit more on  
10 the remediation end and communicating to the public that,  
11 yes, these are working, give us some better time lines on  
12 when you'll get more of these plants in there. Because, if  
13 they are working, that's your documentation. "It works".

14 How many of those plumes aren't being treated?

15 So the real discussion here is -- is -- the  
16 sampling is very important, the process is very important,  
17 but if we know things are working, then we need to be  
18 implementing in remediation like we did with three plants.  
19 Can we get eight plants? Can we get 16 plants?

20 The only thing that's really happening here -- the  
21 argument is the time line and the cost. Well, the longer  
22 you wait the more it's going to cost you anyways. So that's  
23 one point. It never -- it never gets cheaper -- okay? -- as  
24 you go on. The problem gets bigger and bigger and bigger.

25 So please concentrate a little bit more about

1 giving to the public are these plants working. Show us  
2 the -- you're testing, you're -- you've got samples going,  
3 you know where the plumes are, you know what they looked  
4 like six years ago. What do they look like now? Show that  
5 to the public.

6 And -- and it's fine to put it on little charts  
7 back here for the amount of people that are in this room.  
8 What about the 7,000 people that aren't in this room? They  
9 don't get to see those little charts back there.

10 So that's my comment. Thank you.

11 MS. JESSIE HOWARD: Tim?

12 MR. TIM CUMMINGS: Yes, thank you. I just wanted  
13 to comment that it wasn't 13 years ago. I made the  
14 observation in 2016, and it was about six and a half years  
15 ago. Thanks.

16 MS. JESSIE HOWARD: Do we have anybody else that  
17 would like to make a public comment?

18 Yes, sir; in the yellow.

19 MR. BILL PALMER: Yeah, good evening. Bill  
20 Palmer, Oscoda Township Supervisor.

21 First of all, I would like to thank the Air Force  
22 and Aerostar. At the -- at the last meeting I mentioned  
23 that I had signed a contract with the Air Force to put a  
24 testing well on my property. I live on Van Etten Lake. And  
25 part of that agreement was that I would get test results,

1 and I bought up at the last meeting that I hadn't received  
2 any test results in over two years.

3 I mentioned it, and some of the people from  
4 Aerostar went to work, and I got results within -- I don't  
5 know -- a week or ten days.

6 Two weeks after the meeting the crew came out and  
7 took another sample, so I'll be looking for -- I'm hoping  
8 that the Air Force will live up to their contract with me to  
9 provide those results.

10 The other thing I would like to talk about is as  
11 a -- as the Township Supervisor and a Township Board Member  
12 our primary concern has to be with the health, welfare, and  
13 safety of the residents of our -- of Oscoda Township. And  
14 not only the health -- physical health, but also the  
15 financial health of Oscoda Township.

16 And we have tried to maintain a -- a good working  
17 relationship with the Air Force. They -- they meet with us  
18 on a -- on a periodic basis. I was told they were here  
19 yesterday. I came into the office at 10:00. Apparently  
20 they were in early. I -- I'm retired so I don't work early  
21 in the morning anymore, but I would like to be part of  
22 those.

23 But my point is that back when this first started  
24 13 years ago the Air Force indicated to us that any wells  
25 that were tested that were over 70 parts per trillion they

1           would fund hooking up municipal water to those residents. I  
2           believe, if I'm correct, there was only one resident that  
3           was hooked up, and that was someone who was already on a  
4           municipal water main, they just hadn't hooked up to it yet.  
5           So the Air Force did pay their -- their test was over 70  
6           parts per trillion.

7                         In our subsequent testing of wells; drinking water  
8           wells; in various areas of the Township we didn't find any  
9           that were over the 70 parts per trillion. However, we did  
10          find wells that were 10 parts per trillion, 20 parts per  
11          trillion, 25 parts per trillion, which obviously at that  
12          time did not meet the requirement of the Air Force at 70.

13                        Well, our residents were concerned that -- even  
14          though they weren't over the 70 they were concerned with the  
15          limits that they had. And so the Township made a concerted  
16          effort to extend water mains into the areas of concern of  
17          all these areas in Oscoda Township to make sure our  
18          residents had clean drinking water.

19                        Now, since that time we've learned through the EPA  
20          and their new guidelines that our residents were correct  
21          back then; that those readings of 10, 15, 20, 25 parts per  
22          trillion were not good. Those were dangerous levels.

23                        So what the Township did, we were able to secure a  
24          couple of grants for the first two phases, but subsequent to  
25          that the Township had to go into debt. We took on debt

1 through the DWRP system. They're low -- low interest rate  
2 loans, but they're loans nonetheless that the Township has  
3 to pay off over the next 20 years.

4 Now, in our workings with the Air Force we've  
5 tried to maintain a good working relationship because we  
6 felt that they wanted to do what was right. Now, we have  
7 had run-ins with their legal department in the past, but we  
8 still maintained that the Air Force was looking to do the  
9 right thing by Oscoda Township. It's obviously taking  
10 longer than we had ever hoped, but they are consistently  
11 working on it.

12 But tonight I hear with the -- ideas that they're  
13 trying to throw legal questions at us and loopholes in terms  
14 of using our infrastructure for free. They've agreed to pay  
15 for the slip lining of the Mission Street Plant. That's  
16 great. I -- that -- our engineers tell us that will solve  
17 that problem.

18 The Central Treatment Plant, however, is -- is  
19 a -- is a storm sewer line that was put in by the Air Force,  
20 it's been in the ground close to 100 years, and my concern  
21 is at some point that's going to fail or there's going to be  
22 a problem, and the Township is going to be on the hook  
23 financially to repair that.

24 Now, they're -- they're talking about no other  
25 customers are being charged. Well, I would submit there are

1 no other customers. In the last two weeks roughly, since we  
2 haven't had any rain, not one drop of water has gone into  
3 that storm sewer other than the 1.4 million gallons of water  
4 a day that the Air Force is pumping into that Central  
5 Treatment line.

6 And we -- we paid our engineers to come up with a  
7 reasonable -- reasonable cost for the Air Force to use that  
8 system, we submitted that to them in 2018 when they wanted  
9 to start the Central Treatment Plant, and they began making  
10 those payments for several months.

11 And then when the Mission Street Plant went online  
12 we -- we came up with another cost for that, the Air Force  
13 decided they weren't going to pay anything anymore, and they  
14 just stopped paying.

15 So my -- my point is that, you know, if -- we want  
16 to -- we want to believe that the Air Force wants to do the  
17 right thing. The right thing would be that Oscoda Township  
18 does not suffer a financial loss here because of the  
19 contamination on the Base, and that loss is to the tune of  
20 about 1.- -- nearly 2 million dollars that we've had to take  
21 out a loan, with interest, to do that.

22 MS. JESSIE HOWARD: I apologize, but we do have to  
23 move on.

24 MR. JIM PALMER: Thank you.

25 MS. JESSIE HOWARD: Thank you very much. Do we

1 have anybody else to make public comment this evening?

2 Yes. We do really need to keep it to three  
3 minutes. We are already over. So go right ahead. Thank  
4 you.

5 MS. CHRIS COULAN: It will be short, maybe not  
6 sweet.

7 My name is Chris Coulan. I am a resident here in  
8 Oscoda and I'm a member of NOW. And we've put together this  
9 little show-and-tell thing for you to see why all of this  
10 matters.

11 And I know the RAB is supposed to be doing the  
12 environmental remediation and all of that, but why do we do  
13 that? We do that because there's people. Right?

14 In Oscoda in the summertime we have a lot of  
15 people here. On AuSable River -- has anybody been on the  
16 AuSable River on the 4th of July in this room? Raise your  
17 hand. Anybody?

18 Okay. We have a picture right here. There are  
19 more people than you can imagine. They certainly don't all  
20 fit on the bank, and they're running all over this thing,  
21 and right next to that is Three Pipes. Three Pipes  
22 discharges right onto all of these people in this river who  
23 come here year after year after year.

24 On Van Etten Lake we have our YMCA Camp. Children  
25 from Detroit come to the YMCA Camp. I'm not going to make a

1 blanket statement about children in Detroit, but I'm going  
2 to tell you a lot of children in Detroit are from  
3 impoverished minority socially-disadvantaged households, and  
4 they are able to come up to here in Michigan and enjoy  
5 themselves for a week in our beautiful environment which is  
6 Van Etten Lake.

7 And anybody who has ever been around there when  
8 those kids are there sees that foam. We see it every single  
9 day. Those kids swim in that lake; they boat that lake.  
10 They are exposed to a toxin when they come from Detroit to  
11 enjoy their summer. This is why it matters.

12 These are the four sites for the IRA's. You  
13 already have talked about all these things, but I want  
14 everybody to see and everybody to know that this is the  
15 reason we're here. The children that are here today, the  
16 children that we hope are going to be here in the future,  
17 and the people who are here in this room.

18 And one more thing about data. There is one set  
19 of data that people need to be looking at, and I don't think  
20 they are yet. That is the morbidity and mortality tables.  
21 People are dying now every single day. There is so much  
22 disease, cancer, all kinds of different things, that a  
23 doctor in Tawas Hospital told me, "Well, I've never seen  
24 this anywhere else, but I'm not surprised that it's from  
25 Oscoda."

1 Thank you.

2 MS. JESSIE HOWARD: Do we have any other comments  
3 from anybody? Okay.

4 Then I would like to invite our Co-Chairs to  
5 please give us their closing remarks.

6 MR. ARNIE LERICHE: Could I ask a quick question  
7 before that?

8 MS. JESSIE HOWARD: Sure.

9 MR. ARNIE LERICHE: And that is, I know you asked  
10 if there was any congressionals on the Internet. Are there  
11 any Air Force personnel that we have not heard from that  
12 have been part of this linked in; managers especially?

13 MR. STEVE WILLIS: I don't -- I'm not aware of who  
14 is online.

15 MR. ARNIE LERICHE: Okay. In the future I would  
16 hope that managers would let us know that they are listening  
17 in; managers, attorneys, and so forth.

18 This group -- we're being as honest as we can, and  
19 we're trying to be respectful in getting the message across.  
20 Part of respect is letting us know who's listening.

21 Thank you.

22 MS. KATE LYNNES: And I -- I -- I know some of you  
23 know that I'm here, and I'm not obviously virtual, I'm here  
24 in person, but --

25 I was here in October. My name is Kate Lynnes.

1 I'm the senior technical advisor for Ms. Nancy Balkus, who  
2 is the Deputy Assistant Secretary for Infrastructure, Energy  
3 & Environment at the Air Force. My role is over cleanup in  
4 general, and PFAS in particular, so I have been here -- I'll  
5 be here next week as well, and I hope to come to all the  
6 future RAB's.

7 I missed the last one because I had just gotten  
8 off of medical leave, and I apologize for that. But I am  
9 here and I am listening, so I didn't want you to think I was  
10 in stealth mode, for those of you I hadn't met. And thank  
11 you for allowing me to -- to listen.

12 MS. JESSIE HOWARD: Thank you. Mark; yes.

13 MR. MARK HENRY: Two things.

14 MS. JESSIE HOWARD: I'm sorry. I forgot.

15 MR. MARK HENRY: That's okay. I have a question  
16 about the potential IRA's at the Landfill 30/31 and DRMO  
17 area. And I understand that there's more data needed in  
18 order to characterize those plumes as they've moved off Base  
19 and they're not quite sure where they're all going yet, but  
20 I'm wondering what additional data would be needed to put in  
21 just the pump-and-treat system as the IRA at the DRMO Area  
22 while you're doing your plume delineation?

23 Why should you let more contamination leave the  
24 Base when you have the area on Base where the extraction  
25 wells would be placed characterized already?

1                   The second point -- and I would like to make this  
2                   an AI. The Air Force has installed three IRA's, but there  
3                   is no performance data on those at all. Essentially the  
4                   IRA's were -- as they were described to us, were to capture  
5                   some of the contamination and reduce the mass that is  
6                   leaving the Base.

7                   I would like that quantified. In those IRA's I  
8                   would like started right now an estimation on the flux of  
9                   contamination that is making it through that line of wells  
10                  so that they can improve upon that and get that number down  
11                  to zero, which is what they need to do to stop the  
12                  contamination from moving off Base.

13                  There's no reason why it needs to be done in the  
14                  future. The systems are in place. They can be evaluated  
15                  now, and they should be evaluated now to get an idea of what  
16                  they're doing as far as remediation goes and to find out  
17                  where the weak areas are within those systems so that they  
18                  can be improved on as the Final Remedial Action.

19                  MS. JESSIE HOWARD: Okay. Steve, did you have any  
20                  closing remarks for us?

21                  MR. STEVE WILLIS: Yeah. I want to thank everyone  
22                  for coming out tonight. I think we've had some good  
23                  discussions. We've still got plenty of work to do. It  
24                  sounds like in addition our tech sessions prior --  
25                  immediately prior to the RAB and the RAB meetings we may

1 need to have additional more frequent virtual meetings to  
2 work through some of these issues. But we'll continue to  
3 reach out and -- and work with the community.

4 MR. MARK HENRY: I would like to thank everybody  
5 that attended. I appreciate your questions and concerns,  
6 and I'm looking forward to additional technical discussions  
7 to get the questions that the public has raised answered.

8 Thank you.

9 UNIDENTIFIED MALE: Do you have results of the  
10 vote?

11 MR. MARK HENRY: Oh, yeah, results of the vote.

12 MR. STEVE WILLIS: I think until we get them  
13 approved it's premature.

14 MR. MARK HENRY: Oh.

15 MS. CATHY WUSTERBARTH: I -- I disagree. You can  
16 report. They were nominations. It's not -- and was no

17 MR. STEVE WILLIS: That's true.

18 MS. CATHY WUSTERBARTH: -- definition of, like,  
19 percentage of --

20 MR. ARNIE LERICHE: That's how it's always been  
21 done, whether right or wrong.

22 MR. STEVE WILLIS: Yeah. Okay. Sure. Okay.  
23 So -- I don't know. How do we -- how do we --

24 UNIDENTIFIED MALE: Will the nominations be  
25 forwarded to your command, or not?

1 MR. STEVE WILLIS: Yes.

2 UNIDENTIFIED MALE: There you go. They're in, as  
3 far as we're concerned.

4 MR. STEVE WILLIS: So I guess all three  
5 candidates --

6 MR. MARK HENRY: Got a majority of votes?

7 MR. STEVE WILLIS: -- yeah, got a majority of  
8 votes; yeah.

9 MS. JESSIE HOWARD: All right. Thank you to  
10 everybody so much for coming this evening, and your input  
11 was greatly appreciated.

12 (Meeting concluded at 8:12 p.m.)

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