

1 WURTSMITH RESTORATION ADVISORY BOARD (RAB)
2 WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 1, 2021
3 5:00 P.M.

4 Transcript of the proceedings
5 regarding the former Wurtsmith Air Force Base
6 being held via video teleconference technology
7 and in-person at 6000 N. Skeel Road, Oscoda,
8 Michigan.

9 APPEARANCES:

10 TIM SUELTFENFUSS, GALEN DRISCOL
11 SARAH RIFFE, AEROSTAR
12 PAULA BOND, AEROSTAR
13 JIM ROMER, AEROSTAR

14 COMMUNITY RAB:
15 MARK HENRY, CO-CHAIR
16 BILL GAINES
17 JOE MAXWELL
18 DANIEL STOCK
19 DAVID WINN
20 CATHY WUSTERBARTH
21 ARNIE LERICHE

22 GOVERNMENT RAB:
23 CATHARINE VARLEY, CO-CHAIR
24 PUNEET VIJ
25 BETH PLACE
MICHAEL MUNSON
JESSIE STUNTEBECK (VIA TELECONFERENCE)
BEN WEISS
DENISE BRYAN

REPORTED BY:
Quentina R. Snowden, (CSR-5519)
Certified Shorthand Reporter & Notary Public

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MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC ADDRESSING THE BOARD:

- REX VAUGHN
- ANTHONY SPANIOLA
- SHARON VRIESENKA
- REX VAUGHN
- GREGORY COLE
- CAROL COLE
- JENNIFER HILL (VIA LETTER)
- CHRIS KOLANT (PH)

1 (CALL TO ORDER AT 5:00 p.m.)

2 MR. SUELTFUSS: Let's begin. So, I
3 wanted to welcome everyone to the Wurtsmith
4 Restoration Advisory Board meeting tonight. My name
5 is Tim Sueltenfuss, again. I'll be serving as the
6 facilitator for our meeting this evening. The Court
7 Reporter is here to capture a verbatim transcript of
8 tonight's meeting, and this online meeting is also
9 being recorded. We're doing something a little bit
10 more challenging than we've done in the past, we're
11 doing a hybrid meeting with some folks in person and
12 some online, so I appreciate your patience in
13 advance with the extra steps that are needed to make
14 this a success.

15 Before I review the agenda, let me
16 turn to our co-chairs for welcoming remarks. So Dr.
17 Varley, would you like to say any opening remarks?

18 DR. VARLEY: Yeah. I'd just like to
19 thank everybody for showing up, and being available,
20 and for all of the good work that we're all doing
21 together, and hopefully we'll continue to keep
22 making good strides toward progress. Mark?

23 MR. HENRY: I'm looking forward to
24 moving forward as well. It's been a long time
25 coming. I'm glad that things are finally starting

1 to happen and that we're actually moving forward
2 towards some remedial actions.

3 MR. SUELTFUSS: All right. Well,
4 thank you very much to our co-chairs, Dr. Catharine
5 Varley and Mr. Mark Henry.

6 Let's go ahead and move to slide
7 three, if we could. We have a full agenda tonight,
8 and we'll begin with updates from our RAB members,
9 and then review RAB business items including the
10 continuation of community RAB member and community
11 co-chair terms and action items. After that, we'll
12 move into remedial investigation and interim
13 remedial action update. We reserved a significant
14 portion of the time towards the end of our meeting
15 to address RAB members' questions, and also portions
16 of -- those portions of the agenda will be for RAB
17 members for discussions, and you'll see the RAB
18 members, we'll introduce them one by one here in
19 just a moment. Let's see.

20 Towards the end of our discussion
21 tonight, we will have a public comment period or
22 we'll hear from members of the public, and have the
23 opportunity for three-minute verbal comments to the
24 RAB.

25 During the technical presentation,

1 please do hold your questions until the end of the
2 presentation. It's a relatively brief presentation,
3 we'll address those questions at the end as well as
4 in the RAB member questions portion of the agenda.
5 So, for the RAB members who are here in person, if
6 you have a comment that you'd like to make, please
7 raise your hand so that I can see it, I'm over here
8 to your right and somewhat behind you.

9 For those who are -- RAB members who
10 are participating virtually, please raise your hand
11 electronically and I'll be monitoring that as well
12 as the support staff from Aerostar Sarah Riffe and
13 her colleagues. Let's see.

14 For those of you who have joined
15 remotely, we do ask that you mute your microphones
16 so that we won't have any distractions or background
17 noise. That will also be very important because
18 there are some members who are -- or some
19 participants who are participating virtually, and
20 without display as well, to please, each time you
21 speak, please state your name, and please make sure
22 that we have only one person speaking at a time. I
23 know that can be challenging, but please try your
24 best to do that. That's going to make life much
25 easier on our Court Reporter as well. And,

1 Quentina, our Court Reporter, if you need us to stop
2 and pause and restate anything, just let me know.

3 Okay. So, now let's move to slide
4 four, if we could, and I wanted to review the ground
5 rules for our meeting tonight. After I read these,
6 I'll ask the RAB members to please continue to work,
7 and if you continue to support these ground rules.
8 So, I'll read these off. Respect one another and
9 maintain an atmosphere of open dialogue and exchange
10 of ideas. Use our time together efficiently, wisely
11 and respectfully. Listen and remain open to each
12 other's varying points of view. Speak clearly and
13 succinctly, one person at a time, avoid interrupting
14 others. Share information early, openly and
15 honestly. Maintain a propensity for progress.
16 Prepare to discuss document and move forward.
17 Accurately and objectively relay to others the
18 discussions that occur at board meetings.

19 So, RAB members, do those ground rules
20 continue to work for you?

21 (MULTIPLE SPEAKERS): Yes.

22 MR. SUELTFUSS: Any changes to
23 those? All right. Thank you very much. So, I'm
24 going to do my job, so either you hug me or you hate
25 me, and try to keep us on track and on the agenda

1 while also providing time for just good dialogue
2 from all of the RAB members, and then soliciting
3 public comments towards the end of the meeting as
4 well.

5 So, let's now just confirm that all of
6 our RAB members are present and ensure we have a
7 quorum. The operating procedure and the
8 constitution of this RAB meeting dictate what a
9 quorum is, and so let me just go through name by
10 name, and if you're here, please just say you're
11 here. Bill Gaines?

12 MR. GAINES: Here.

13 MR. SUELTENFUSS: Thank you, sir.
14 Mark Henry?

15 MR. HENRY: Here.

16 MR. SUELTENFUSS: Thank you. Arnie
17 Leriche?

18 MR. LERICHE: Here.

19 MR. SUELTENFUSS: Thank you. Joe
20 Maxwell.

21 MR. MAXWELL: Here.

22 MR. SUELTENFUSS: Do we have Ryan
23 Mertz? And let me just look to make sure to see
24 whether Ryan Mertz has joined us virtually. I'm not
25 seeing Ryan Mertz.

1 Do we have Jerry Schmidt? I'm not
2 seeing Jerry Schmidt virtually. As we'll indicate
3 here briefly, Jerry Schmidt will be continuing his
4 term, which ends September 11th, but not continuing
5 beyond that point.

6 Do we have Daniel Stock?

7 MR. STOCK: Here.

8 MR. SUELTENFUSS: Thank you, Mr.
9 Stock. David Winn?

10 MR. WINN: Here.

11 MR. SUELTENFUSS: Thank you, David.
12 Cathy Wusterbarth?

13 MS. WUSTERBARTH: Here.

14 MR. SUELTENFUSS: Thank you. Let's
15 see. From the Air Force, we have Dr. Catharine
16 Varley.

17 DR. VARLEY: Here.

18 MR. SUELTENFUSS: Thank you. And do
19 we have our representation from Au Sable Township?
20 And if you are representing Au Sable Township
21 virtually, please raise your hand electronically.
22 I'm not seeing anyone. Let's see.

23 I know that we have Denise Bryan with
24 District Health Department 2 on the line. So,
25 Denise, are you with us?

1 MS. BRYAN: Yes. Good evening. I'm
2 here.

3 MR. SUELTFUSS: Great. Thank you.
4 Denise is joining virtually. Do we have Puneet Vij?

5 MR. VIJ: Here.

6 MR. SUELTFUSS: Thank you. And we
7 have Beth Place with Environment Great Lakes and
8 Energy.

9 MS. PLACE: Here.

10 MR. SUELTFUSS: Let's see. Do we
11 have representation from Oscoda Township? And if
12 you are representing Oscoda Township via virtual
13 means, please raise your hand electronically. Okay.
14 Mr. Michael Munson?

15 MR. MUNSON: Here.

16 MR. SUELTFUSS: Thank you. And USDA
17 Forest Service, Mr. Ben Weiss is with us, correct?

18 MR. WEISS: Yes, I'm here.

19 MR. SUELTFUSS: Great. Thank you.
20 That was a rhetorical question, I can see you right
21 in front of me. And I believe Jesse Stuntebeck was
22 also going to join virtually. Let me just see if we
23 have Jesse on the line. I see Jesse has raised her
24 hand electronically. So, we have both Jesse and Ben
25 representing the Forest Service.

1 Okay. We also have both our
2 co-chairs. So, we do have a quorum per our
3 operating procedures, Section 3.10.

4 Okay. Well, I think that takes us
5 through the administrativia. Thank you for your
6 patience with that. Let's move to slide five, if we
7 could. Actually, on this slide here, just a
8 reminder that we will have the public comment here
9 towards the end of the evening, and you can e-mail
10 me or you can use the -- you can simply come up to
11 the microphone when we get to that point. I'll also
12 be asking those who are joining us virtually to
13 raise their hand electronically if they would like
14 to make a comment. Let's see.

15 Again -- all right. Let's move to the
16 next slide and we'll move to stakeholder updates,
17 please. Thank you.

18 And so we are now entering the portion
19 of the agenda for the RAB members to provide any
20 updates about any activities since our last meeting
21 and so on.

22 Let's move to slide seven, please.
23 We'll start off with the Air Force update.

24 DR. VARLEY: All right. Catharine
25 Varley, Wurtsmith (indecipherable.) So, right now,

1 we've been doing a lot of fieldwork out there, and
2 Ms. Paula Bond is going to help us with explaining
3 where we are with each of our projects here in a
4 little bit.

5 We have made it through step one of
6 pledging ground water samples.

7 Step two, we are well underway of
8 collecting soil samples.

9 And step three, VAS samples is
10 starting soon.

11 Along with that, we also are planning
12 on moving forward as far as the IRAs go. We
13 appreciate everybody that came out last night and
14 look forward to seeing your comments if you haven't
15 submitted them already.

16 Tim, back to you.

17 MR. SUELTENFUSS: All right. Thank
18 you very much. Okay. Next slide, if we could. And
19 so let's start off with any updates from our
20 community RAB members, I'll go one-by-one.

21 Mr. Mark Henry, our community
22 co-chair, any updates you'd like to share?

23 MR. HENRY: One point of
24 clarification. After these comments, VAS sampling
25 is vertical aquifer sampling, for those of you who

1 are not into acronyms.

2 From the community co-chair's point of
3 view, the community RAB has been working with
4 reviewing the interim remedial action proposed plan
5 for Ratliff Park. We've had both internal meetings
6 and many of us have attended the informal technical
7 reviews that were provided by the Air Force so that
8 we can get some clarification on those.

9 Beyond that, there has not been much
10 activity other than many of the people in the RAB
11 and the NOW group attended a tour that I provided
12 working with the National Wildlife Federation to
13 bring people around to make them familiar where some
14 of the contaminated sites are.

15 MR. SUELTFUSS: All right. Thank
16 you, Mark.

17 Okay. Dan Stock, any updates that
18 you'd like to share.

19 MR. STOCK: No comment.

20 MR. SUELTFUSS: Thank you. How
21 about Mr. Maxwell, do you have anything you'd like
22 to share?

23 MR. MAXWELL: Not at this time.

24 MR. SUELTFUSS: Okay. And to Bill
25 Gaines?

1 MR. GAINES: Not at this time.

2 MR. SUELTFUSS: Thank you, sir. And
3 Cathy Wusterbarth?

4 MS. WUSTERBARTH: Well, I think I'm
5 going to take all of their time, if that's okay.

6 All right. We have -- as Mark has
7 mentioned, we've been busy in terms of the community
8 members that are participating in -- for instance,
9 the webinar that we held last week regarding the
10 interim remedial action. We made sure that we
11 provided the community an opportunity to hear some
12 of input and technical review that the NOW members
13 had regarding the interim remedial action. So, we
14 had some good participation with that.

15 We also highlighted the newly released
16 movie called No Defense, which it shows the
17 experiences of the Veterans and the civilians on
18 this base related to their contamination. And, as
19 Mark said, there was a tour that was -- participated
20 well with that. And it actually happened in this
21 room here.

22 Also, last week, we released a report
23 in conjunction with the National Wildlife Federation
24 that summarizes the events of the -- of this site
25 itself. I'm going to take the time, actually, to

1 read a little bit of that report, if that's okay
2 with you.

3 It is PFAS Contamination At the Former
4 Wurtsmith Air Force Base, The True Story, and it was
5 produced by Need Our Water and the National Wildlife
6 Federation, and released last week in conjunction
7 with the Great Lakes PFAS Action Network, which is a
8 network of impacted communities fighting for better
9 policies and PFAS cleanup. The report is a hard
10 look at the actions taken or not taken by the
11 Federal government and the State of Michigan to
12 mitigate harm to the community and clean up PFAS
13 pollution. The report highlights what must change
14 in order to rebuild trust with the Oscoda community
15 and see meaningful action on PFAS cleanup.

16 The recent Department of Defense
17 inspector general report evaluation of the
18 Department of Defense's action to control
19 contaminated effects from PFAS at Department of
20 Defense installations released on July 22nd, 2021
21 found that the DoD officials are not applying an
22 enterprise-wide approach to mitigate PFAS
23 contamination at military sites, and that people and
24 the environment may continue to be exposed to PFAS
25 contamination unnecessarily as a result. This

1 report that was treated here for Wurtsmith
2 illustrates how the inactions outlined in the DoD
3 report have materialized in realtime. It is a
4 testament of what needs to change. The Federal and
5 State governments must do more and do better to
6 protect people and wildlife, and we need stronger
7 policies at the State and Federal levels to hold
8 polluters and regulators responsible for timely
9 cleanup.

10 The report is sectioned out into
11 actions that occurred with the U.S. Air Force and
12 the State of Michigan. It describes the issue or
13 the need that occurred at the site, what should have
14 happened, and then what really happened. The
15 sections include actions that are inconsistent with
16 the known severity of the problem, and there are 14
17 listed of those related to the Air Force's action.
18 False promises, there are two of those. Endless
19 delays, there are four listed of those. And for the
20 State of Michigan, the inability or unwillingness to
21 protect people and natural resources in Oscoda, and
22 there are 12 of those instances listed.

23 The document was thoroughly
24 researched, as you can see by the 86 references that
25 were listed.

1 And I would like to thank all of the
2 environmental partners that we have related to the
3 NOW group and helping the RAB, and also a special
4 thank you to RAB members and non-members that are
5 doing an enormous amount of work related to this
6 site. Thank you.

7 MR. SUELTFUSS: All right. Thank
8 you very much, Cathy. We appreciate that. Ryan
9 Mertz and Jerry Schmidt are not with us, so we'll go
10 to Arnie Leriche. Arnie?

11 MR. LERICHE: The Department of
12 Defense IG report that Cathy just mentioned is huge.
13 And we've have known -- many of us have known that
14 the Federal government, EPA, Department of Defense,
15 management of budget has not taken action and asked
16 for the budget to do what's right and required under
17 the Department of Defense policies and CERCLA, the
18 Superfund law, and -- at this site specifically. I
19 beg the public to talk to your congressionals and
20 ask them if they have read it, if they understand
21 it, what they're going to do about it, because if
22 the Department of Defense is not pushed to follow
23 their policies after this report, then we're going
24 to lose the momentum, they will not ask for the
25 money, because this -- they need money for other

1 things. And we've seen that happen at this site.
2 We don't get our fair share.

3 So, ask us if you have questions, ask
4 the NOW group, there's lots of people here that you
5 can ask, and I'm speaking to the public right now.
6 Thank you.

7 MR. SUELTFUSS: All right. Thank
8 you, sir. And David Winn?

9 MR. WINN: Nothing at this time.

10 MR. SUELTFUSS: Okay. Thank you,
11 David. So, we now heard from all the community RAB
12 members, and there are also members of the RAB who
13 represent governmental organizations, Dr. Varley
14 started off by providing the update for the Air
15 Force, but let's go through the others as well. So,
16 we'll start with the USDA Forest Service, and let's
17 turn first to Jesse Stuntebeck and then I'll turn to
18 see if you have anything additionally.

19 But Sarah, if you could please take
20 Jesse off mute. And Jesse, we should be able to
21 hear you. Any updates that you'd like to share?

22 MS. STUNTEBECK: Hi, this is Jesse.
23 No, I don't have anything. I'll leave it to Ben if
24 he has anything.

25 MR. SUELTFUSS: Okay. Thank you,

1 Jesse. We appreciate that. And over to Ben Weiss
2 then.

3 MR. WEISS: In the last -- since we
4 last met, we've have had continued good
5 communication with the Air Force, but that's about
6 all I can add. No new actions at this time.

7 MR. SUELTFUSS: All right. Thank
8 you. Let's then turn to Michigan Department of
9 Environment Great Lakes and Energy, and to Beth
10 Place.

11 MS. PLACE: Hi. Thank you. And so,
12 we would just like to update on some of EGLE's
13 responses to Air Force actions out there. And
14 Catharine mentioned earlier, the RI is happening in
15 a step-wise approach and they've already completed a
16 few steps, so sampling existing groundwater
17 monitoring wells, soil sampling, and pretty soon
18 they will be doing the vertical aquifer sampling.

19 And so for the two events that have
20 already begun, EGLE has been on site, or a
21 representative for us has been on site to perform
22 oversight and collect select quality assurance
23 samples.

24 So, basically a duplicate of Air Force
25 samples that we're having analyzed in a separate lab

1 just to really have a peace of mind or, you know,
2 insurance on the analytical results.

3 We also wanted to mention that this
4 week we have been participating in discussions on
5 the vertical aquifer sampling locations, and that
6 that has been going well.

7 EGLE has completed their review of the
8 monthly BCT minutes that are in our possession,
9 comparing those to those recordings online the Air
10 Force provided to us. And so by the end of the
11 week, all the BCT minutes that we have from the
12 monthly meetings will be sent back to Air Force, and
13 then the plan is that they will review that and then
14 Air Force will let us know when we can make those
15 available on the MPART website. I believe they also
16 put those in the library, but Catharine can comment
17 on that.

18 We've been reviewing an explanation of
19 significant differences for remedy enhancement for a
20 (indecipherable) plume at LS 3031. We'll be
21 providing our comments to that ESD, or explanation
22 of significant differences, on -- by the end of the
23 week.

24 We also wanted to mention that Air
25 Force had previously provided us the four quarters

1 of data for their vapor intrusion investigation.
2 EGLE has indicated to Air Force that at the
3 locations where outdoor soil gas samples were above
4 the non-residential site-specific values established
5 and agreed to with EGLE and the Air Force, that we
6 would like Air Force to complete indoor sub-slab
7 samples as a next step. And that is to have a
8 better idea if there are any potential health
9 concerns within those buildings.

10 I also know that, Cathy, we always
11 appreciate the commitment and all the time that they
12 put in here on this. And we just want to, you
13 know -- I have a statement that we have regarding
14 the NOW and the -- the NOW paper -- I can't remember
15 the name that you were just discussing. Okay.

16 And so, just a few highlights out of
17 that. Michigan just wants to let folks know that on
18 the Wurtsmith website, there is a complete timeline,
19 so there are a few more steps in that timeline than
20 what was provided, understandably. And so we do
21 have that online on the MPART site.

22 And then, just that Michigan has had a
23 proactive and transparent approach to PFAS
24 contamination, and it's been widely recognized as a
25 national model for addressing what was once

1 considered an emerging class of contaminant when
2 Michigan created the PFAS Action Response Team in
3 November of 2017. And since that time, in our
4 opinion, no State or Federal agency has done more to
5 address PFAS contamination to hold responsible
6 parties accountable and educate the public about
7 this class of contaminants.

8 And so we agree with many of the
9 findings made by the National Wildlife Federation
10 and NOW regarding Air Force's response to
11 contamination at the former Wurtsmith Air Force
12 Base. However, having said that, the report fails
13 to provide a complete timeline of the State's work
14 that's available on the MPART website.

15 And so EGLE agrees that the lack of
16 Federal action on PFAS and DoD's reliance on the
17 slow-moving CERCLA process has certainly complicated
18 Michigan's efforts to accelerate the U.S. Air Force
19 cleanup on the former Wurtsmith Air Force Base, but
20 MPART will continue to advocate for the public and
21 do everything within the State's power to see that
22 this former Federal facility is cleaned up to State
23 standards, and the public's drinking water and
24 environment is protected.

25 And I can definitely see that the pace

1 recently on Wurtsmith, although we strive to have a
2 faster pace, that we do agree that we are seeing
3 actions happening out there, the IRAs as well as we
4 are very glad that the Air Force is in the field
5 performing the remedial investigation. Thank you.

6 MR. SUELTFUSS: Okay. Thank you
7 very much, Ms. Place.

8 And let's move to slide nine, if we
9 could. And to Oscoda-Wurtsmith Airport Authority,
10 Mr. Michael Munson.

11 MR. MUNSON: Thank you, Tim. Yes,
12 this is Mike Munson with the Oscoda-Wurtsmith
13 Airport Authority with a quick 12-point summary of
14 airport activities.

15 The airport business has been very
16 active as of late. Our on-site clients new hangar
17 build is progressing. The Air Force was on site
18 this summer with an exercise. MDOT AERO last week
19 and through September is working with the airport
20 maintenance staff at sealing and repainting runways
21 and taxiway markings.

22 Long-term activity, there will be some
23 taxiway rebuild and all of the taxiways will be
24 rebuilt. And that's it. Thank you.

25 MR. SUELTFUSS: All right. Thank

1 you, sir.

2 Let's see. Leisa Sutton with Au Sable
3 Township is not with us. Let's turn to Michigan
4 Department of Health and Human Services, Mr. Puneet
5 Vij.

6 MR. VIJ: So, I have two updates.
7 Regarding the residential well sampling, round two;
8 total of round two 80 residential wells is the
9 sample. And around 215 results letters were mailed
10 last week. Also deer (indecipherable) will be out
11 tomorrow, and MPART web page will be updated for
12 deer and wildlife and you will be able to access a
13 revised map that is for three miles published area,
14 and along with a final deer report. And also, the
15 revised deer, fish and fawn signs will be posted
16 soon.

17 MR. SUELTFUSS: Okay. All right.
18 Thank you for that update, Mr. Vij. Appreciate it.

19 Okay. Bill Palmer with Oscoda
20 Township is not with us tonight.

21 Let's move onto Department of Health
22 District 2. Sarah, if you don't mind, un-mute
23 Denise Bryan, who is joining us virtually.

24 Denise, any updates you'd like to
25 share.

1 MS. BRYAN: The local public health
2 does not have any new updates at this time, but
3 thank you.

4 MR. SUELTFUSS: Okay. Great. Well,
5 thank you for joining. We appreciate that.

6 Okay. Let's move to that next slide
7 then. And we'll move into the RAB business portion
8 of the agenda.

9 And actually the next slide, just for
10 your awareness, the community RAB members' terms
11 expire on the 11th of September of this year. And
12 the community co-chair's term as co-chair expires
13 this month as well.

14 Of the primary community RAB members,
15 Dan Stock, Mark Henry, Joe Maxwell, Bill Gaines,
16 Cathy Wusterbarth, Arnie Leriche, Ryan Mertz and
17 David Winn do wish to continue serving as primary
18 community RAB members. Jerry Schmidt does not wish
19 to continue as a primary community RAB member. He
20 wanted to thank the RAB for the opportunity and just
21 appreciates the work that you all are doing. He
22 mentioned that his law practice is getting a bit
23 busier than it had been, and so he's unable to
24 devote the time needed to, what he mentioned to me,
25 was a very important cause and focus area. So as

1 such, Dan Stock, Mark Henry, Joe Maxwell, William
2 Gaines, Cathy Wusterbarth, Arnie Leriche, Ryan Mertz
3 and David Winn will begin another two-year term as
4 primary community RAB members on September 11th,
5 2021. So, congratulations to you all and thank you
6 for your service to the RAB.

7 Now, for the community co-chair, Mark
8 Henry is our current community co-chair and he is
9 the only one who has expressed interest in serving
10 that role. So, Mark, if it works for you, you'll
11 begin tonight your one-year term as community
12 co-chair.

13 MR. HENRY: Works for me.

14 MR. SUELTFUSS: All right. Well,
15 thank you very much for agreeing to play that
16 leadership role.

17 MR. HENRY: No problem.

18 MR. SUELTFUSS: Okay. Now -- so
19 there are some alternate community RAB members as
20 well. This ties into discussion of the RAB
21 operating procedures. And so the RAB operating
22 procedures are under review, and I'll turn to the
23 co-chairs for an update on this in just a moment,
24 but I believe there had been some changes suggested,
25 some additional discussion that is ongoing between

1 the co-chairs on this matter, and Mark, I think your
2 suggestion was to hold off on renewing any alternate
3 community RAB member's terms until the RAB operating
4 procedures are adjusted, as that may impact it.

5 MR. HENRY: I anticipate that the
6 operating procedures will be changed following many
7 of the amendments that have been suggested, and the
8 new operating procedures, I'm anticipating, will not
9 have alternate and primary numbers. Everybody
10 involved will be a primary member.

11 MR. SUELTFUSS: Okay. Thank you.
12 All right. And Dr. Varley, anything you'd like to
13 share on that?

14 DR. VARLEY: We're working together on
15 this and hopefully we can deal with our team here.
16 Thank you.

17 MR. SUELTFUSS: Okay. Also, the
18 co-chairs have a standard practice to meet following
19 each RAB, and I participate in those meetings with
20 them to take notes and so on. They did meet on
21 August 12th, I believe it was, and there are
22 currently 12 open action items, and plan to meet
23 again following this RAB meeting to go through open
24 action items with the agenda topics and so on. Is
25 that --

1 DR. VARLEY: Absolutely.

2 MR. SUELTFUSS: Okay. Great. Okay.
3 Well, co-chairs, anything else you'd like to address
4 on RAB business topics?

5 MR. HENRY: I don't have anything.

6 DR. VARLEY: Me neither.

7 MR. SUELTFUSS: Okay. All right.
8 Well -- so, thank you for all of that -- that long
9 intro, but it's important, I think, just to manage
10 the mechanics of this body, especially when you have
11 a cleanup that does take an extended period of time
12 to keep this body functioning and active throughout
13 what can be a very long process. So, I appreciate
14 all of the work that has been put into that.

15 Let's now move into slide 12, if we
16 could, and shift to our remedial investigation and
17 interim medial action update, and we'll turn to
18 Paula Bound with Aerostar. So, Paula, over to you.

19 MS. BOND: Can you guys hear me okay?
20 All right. Well, I want to thank everybody for
21 coming out, members of the RAB tonight gathering in
22 person, members of the public, and for those folks
23 who are online. So, this is two presentations for
24 me in a row, two nights in a row, so you guys are
25 the luckiest people. So, I'm going to give an

1 update on the remedial investigation work and the
2 interim remedial action work that we are doing at
3 Wurtsmith to keep the project moving. And with
4 that, I'll just kick off and just say next slide
5 please.

6 So, the first slide that we're looking
7 at is just a summary of the CERCLA process that's
8 already been mentioned here tonight, and the IRA
9 CERCLA process. So, we're doing two different
10 things as part of this work, as everybody knows, the
11 remedial investigation. So, the first component to
12 that is RI scoping, which we have met with EGLE on
13 several occasions and had multiple scoping meetings
14 to discuss our approach and our path forward, where
15 we're going to sample, how we're going to sample,
16 things like that.

17 Once that scoping process was
18 complete, we moved into developing our work plan or
19 our UFP-QAPP to address everything that we're going
20 to do, our procedures, our methods of accomplishment
21 for the work. That also includes a risk assessment
22 work plan. And then we move into the field data
23 collection portion and the RI report.

24 The IRA CERCLA process, which was
25 something that we also talked a little bit about

1 last night, begins the same way with IRA scoping.
2 We had several meetings with EGLE discussing the
3 initial approach for the IRAs, how we were going to
4 implement those methods of accomplishment. So, that
5 scoping process is complete. When we moved into the
6 next phase, which is developing the proposed plans
7 for both FT002 at Clark's Marsh and Van Etten Lake
8 at Ken Ratliff Memorial Park. So, currently, the
9 Clark's Marsh proposed plan has been finalized. We
10 had the public meeting earlier this year. The
11 proposed plan for Van Etten Lake at Ken Ratliff
12 Memorial Park is currently in the 30-day public
13 comment period, which ends on Friday, actually, and
14 that was the meeting that we had last night, it was
15 a public meeting for that proposed plan.

16 The next step, after the proposed
17 plans are complete, is the interim record of
18 decision. For Clark's Marsh, that is currently well
19 underway and hopefully that will be ready to be sent
20 to EGLE for review pretty soon. We can't start the
21 ROD for Van Etten Lake until, of course, the
22 proposed plans is done and, like I said, hopefully
23 that will be done in the next few weeks.

24 After that is the remedial design.
25 Once everyone agrees on the proposed plan for the

1 ROD, we move to the design, which actually lays out
2 the engineered drawings for the design of the IRAs,
3 and those will be included in an interim remedial
4 action work plan, which will outline our methods and
5 procedures of accomplishment for the IRAs. And,
6 finally, the interim remedial action itself.

7 So, the interim remedial action work
8 plan for Clark's Marsh is under EGLE review
9 currently. So, once that is done, the Air Force
10 gets that back, reduce comments, respond to those,
11 we'll finish that document out, and when the ROD
12 gets signed, we'll be ready to start the IRA for
13 Clark's Marsh, and I'll talk a little bit more about
14 that as we go through the slides.

15 Next slide, please.

16 So, we'll start off with going over
17 the remedial investigation. So, as Catharine
18 mentioned earlier, we are going in a step-wise
19 process to accomplish the fieldwork under the RI.
20 And step one was collecting groundwater samples from
21 monitoring wells -- existing wells that had never
22 been sampled for PFAS on base. So, we wanted to
23 collect that additional data to help support our
24 approach for the RI so that we can collect better
25 samples, pick better locations for the later stages

1 of fieldwork. That began on July 19th and that
2 project is -- that task is complete with the
3 exception of a few wells that we still have to get
4 access to.

5 Next slide, please.

6 So, this is a figure showing the PFAS
7 data. And these are the same figures that are out
8 in the lobby. This just shows the revised plume
9 based on that new data that we collected. It's just
10 been tweaked in several places based on the new data
11 that we collected, but it's very similar to the
12 existing plume map that we had before. And we've
13 broken them out into PFAS and PFOA just to give you
14 a better idea of where those plumes are for each one
15 of those individual compounds.

16 Next slide, please.

17 This is the PFOA map. And you can see
18 the difference between the two. Just as a general
19 concept, the PFAS map shows a smaller plume, the
20 concentrations are higher, but it's not as
21 widespread. The PFOA plume has lower concentrations
22 generally, but it's more widespread, and that's the
23 difference for the two plumes that you see out
24 there.

25 Next slide, please.

1 So the RI work plan, or the Uniform
2 Federal Policy Quality Assurance Project Plan that
3 we prepared, that was submitted to EGLE earlier in
4 the spring. They have reviewed that, provided the
5 Air Force comments. We are responding to those
6 comments and we're working together to -- to respond
7 to comments so that we can go to the field in these
8 different stages that we're working on now so that
9 we can get to the field earlier, because we're
10 trying to get as much work as we can done as quickly
11 as we can.

12 So step two, which is the phase that
13 we're currently in, is soil sampling and field soil
14 sampling, and we initiated that on August the 16th.
15 We're still doing that currently and we'll be doing
16 that for a couple more weeks. We sampled over 80
17 samples since we started, and that number is well
18 over 100 at this point. And we'll give another
19 update next time on the additional data that we
20 collect between now and the next RAB.

21 Next slide, please.

22 This is just a figure. We started our
23 soil sampling program at the fire training area, and
24 this is a figure showing the locations that we have
25 sampled in the fire training area so far.

1 Next slide, please.

2 We also completed the sampling at the
3 VRMO, which is in the northern portion of the former
4 base. This is just a map showing the sampling
5 locations in that area.

6 Next slide.

7 So, currently, we are working on soil
8 sampling in the base -- or the base operations
9 apron. This is a figure showing where we have
10 sampled so far, and there are several more samples
11 that we're going to have to collect in that area, so
12 that is where we're currently working and will
13 continuing working over there for another week or
14 so, and then we'll move onto the other areas that we
15 had planned for soil sampling.

16 Next slide.

17 So, step three of our initial
18 investigation process is vertical aquifer sampling,
19 or VAS. You're going to hear that acronym "VAS" a
20 lot as we move forward. And that is planned to
21 start on the 16th, I think -- or the 13th, sorry.
22 So, in two weeks we're going to start that. We may
23 start a little bit early next week if we can get
24 everything in line with our drillers and get
25 everything lined up. So, that is the -- that is

1 happening very soon.

2 Next slide, please.

3 So, we'll move into talking just a
4 little bit about the IRA. The proposed plan for Van
5 Etten Lake, like I mentioned, that is out right now
6 for public comment. The public comment period
7 closes on Friday, so comments need to be postmarked
8 by Friday.

9 The interim record of decision for
10 Clark's Marsh is under Air Force review. And then
11 the remedial action work plan for Clark's Marsh is
12 under EGLE review.

13 Next slide, please.

14 So, this is a graphic of the RI and
15 IRA fieldwork timeline. So, I have all of our major
16 milestones on here just to give everyone an idea of
17 what we're planning and where we are. The RI
18 fieldwork began back in July, and if we're -- as we
19 move down the timeline, the next thing that we have
20 on here is the FT002 Clark's Marsh IRA construction,
21 which we have right now toward the end of October.
22 So, hopefully all of our documentation can be
23 completed, the ROD and the work plan, and then we
24 can move forward with that.

25 I will let everybody know, because

1 we're trying to get to the field as quickly as we
2 can, there's a lot of work that's been going on in
3 the background. We have been working feverishly on
4 procurement of the materials and supplies for that
5 IRA, because a lot of the materials that we need
6 have really long lead times, a lot of our process
7 tasks, because these systems are specialized for our
8 needs. A lot of our materials are special order
9 equipment designed especially for our project. So,
10 many of the materials are long lead times, and if
11 you guys know, if you're doing any construction work
12 at all, it's hard to get anything right now. So --
13 but we are working really hard to have -- we are
14 having materials delivered. Just yesterday, we had
15 a large shipment of materials.

16 So, we are getting ready. As soon as
17 our documentation is signed and sealed, we are ready
18 to start hopefully grading out there and pouring
19 concrete on Clark's Marsh IRA.

20 So, the next thing that we have on the
21 schedule is the Van Etten Lake at Ken Ratliff
22 Memorial Park IRA. That one is a little further
23 out, because we all know that the proposed plan is
24 still out for public comment. So, we still have to
25 get that documentation process done for the ROD and

1 the work plan before we start out there. So, it's
2 pushed out a little bit farther.

3 And then as we move through the winter
4 and the summer continuing, we'll continue working on
5 the RI as we go through the winter, as we can work,
6 as the weather lets us, so we'll do as much as we
7 can and then we'll finish up next year. And
8 hopefully by that time, the IRAs will also be up and
9 running by that time.

10 So, that's kind of the schedule that
11 we have right now laid out. Everything is subject
12 to change based on weather delays, schedule
13 procurement and things like that, but this is what
14 we're looking at right now, so --

15 Next slide, please.

16 All right. That's really all I have
17 for an update on the RI and IRAs. If anybody has
18 any questions on anything, I'll be more than happy
19 to take your questions.

20 MR. SUELTENFUSS: Let's go ahead and
21 go, Mark, to you first.

22 MS. BOND: I went through that really
23 fast, sorry.

24 MR. SUELTENFUSS: As a reminder, if
25 you could please state your name for the Court

1 Reporter. Go ahead.

2 MR. HENRY: Mark Henry. I actually
3 have two questions.

4 MS. BOND: Okay.

5 MR. HENRY: The soil sampling that has
6 been completed, was that done down through the water
7 table or below the water table?

8 MS. BOND: That was -- we aren't
9 collecting any samples below the water table, so
10 that's all (indecipherable) or non-saturated soil
11 samples.

12 MR. HENRY: For the purposes of
13 remediation, you may want to collect a few samples
14 below the water table to find out how much is
15 absorbed to the aquifer material that's not
16 dissolved.

17 MS. BOND: And that is -- that's a
18 great question, or great comment, and we are -- in
19 the RI, we are looking at saturated materials for
20 (indecipherable) transport components. That's not
21 part of this step in the process, that's going to
22 happen a little bit later, but we are going to be
23 looking at those properties in the subsurface as we
24 move forward with the RI.

25 MR. HENRY: The other question that I

1 had was of the 80-some or 90-some wells that have
2 been sampled that had not previously been sampled
3 for PFAS, how many wells are on the base that have
4 not been sampled for PFAS?

5 MS. BOND: That's a great question,
6 and I don't have an exact number for you. There are
7 a lot of monitoring wells. There are hundreds of
8 monitoring wells on Wurtsmith.

9 Most of the wells, as we know, were
10 installed for other projects to look at other plumes
11 all over the base.

12 So, the wells that we chose to select
13 for this phase were wells that were down-gradient,
14 or near the PFAS plumes that we already know if they
15 were in a good position, if they were at a depth
16 that we thought would give us some good data.

17 So, we didn't go sampling everything
18 that had never been sampled if they weren't in the
19 right location, he we just selected a subset of
20 those.

21 MR. HENRY: Just for clarification,
22 were most of those wells around the perimeter? Or
23 were they all over?

24 MS. BOND: They're really -- they're
25 really all over.

1 MR. HENRY: Okay. Thank you.

2 MS. BOND: You're welcome.

3 MR. SUELTFUSS: Thank you very much.

4 And other questions about this presentation from the
5 RAB members? Go ahead, sir.

6 MR. GAINES: First, I'd like to say
7 that there is an ongoing action item, something in
8 the administrative things that you wrote that calls
9 for the slides to be legible.

10 MR. SUELTFUSS: Correct.

11 MR. GAINES: They are not. Okay?
12 That's been a continuing problem, a continuing
13 frustration. I find that just -- these slides are
14 reviewed.

15 Why can they not be reviewed for
16 compliance with our procedures? I've spent some
17 time looking at the conceptual site model out there
18 and I do not know where the deficiency is. I know
19 that we've seen a lot of PFAS and plume evidence in
20 State data, but I do not, out there, see any
21 evidence of sampling in the area west of FT002 as
22 far as water sampling. I know that there has to be
23 PFAS/PFOA moving off of the north end of the base.

24 There are biota samples that -- maybe
25 a do not eat fish advisory now on Allen Lake, on

1 Forest Service land. That, I don't think there were
2 industry out in the Forest Service land. It has to
3 have come from this base, yet there's nothing in the
4 conceptual site model for the testing that I see
5 that leads to that.

6 I know that there was a significant
7 PFAS (inaudible) in the DRMO area. I know that
8 settling beds would vary between the runway and Camp
9 Nissokone. I haven't seen any evidence in what I
10 see as far as the conceptual site model, or the
11 sampling there, of how that is represented, and I'd
12 like to know where your plan is and what data you
13 have to represent that data, and whether or not you
14 plan to replicate the State data, which shows a
15 significantly broader spectrum of PFAS across the
16 base than anything I've seen in the -- in the Air
17 Force data.

18 So, do you plan to incorporate that
19 data as you promised long ago, or do you plan to, at
20 some point before we're presented a fait accompli
21 with the RI, complete an investigation that's, in
22 fact, all the way around regardless of assumptions
23 that you make about specific area water flow. Thank
24 you.

25 MR. SUELTFUSS: Just for clarity --

1 I'm sorry, just for clarify, that was Bill Gaines,
2 community RAB member. Go ahead, Dr. Varley.

3 DR. VARLEY: Catharine Varley. So, we
4 are using all data available. We are not using just
5 Air Force data. When EGLE provides us data, we use
6 their data. When Mark provides me data, we use the
7 data. We are driving forward together. We are
8 working this as a team. Forest Service is working
9 with us. OWA, airport is working with us.
10 Everybody is working together. We are sharing data.
11 We are actively updating our CSM as we get data.
12 EGLE is working with us. They provided a lot of
13 data.

14 So, I don't quite understand your
15 comment about the RAB slides not being legible,
16 because, in my mind, they are very legible, so maybe
17 we can talk afterwards and you can clarify what you
18 had meant, because then we can work towards
19 something that we can all agree will work.

20 MR. GAINES: Well, I have a relatively
21 small screen and my eyesight has glaucoma. I'm
22 sorry, that's -- that's the way it is. It happens
23 when you get to be an elderly person. I recognize
24 that.

25 The other thing is, I don't know when

1 the conceptual site model will be updated. What I
2 looked at out there did not represent what you just
3 said, in my understanding.

4 DR. VARLEY: Sir, the construction --
5 it is -- we are updating it every time we get data.
6 It is a continuous model. Paula can speak to it.
7 Paula has got the online virtual tool, and if you'd
8 like to see our data, it's open. You guys can sit
9 down, one-on-one or whoever, and go through the
10 data.

11 MR. GAINES: Well, I specifically
12 asked Paula about it this afternoon.

13 DR. VARLEY: Good.

14 MR. GAINES: And I was not satisfied
15 with the answer. Thank you.

16 DR. VARLEY: You're welcome to sit
17 with him and go through the data, if that's what you
18 prefer.

19 MR. SUELTFUSS: And Arnie, I see you
20 have a question, but before that, let me just see,
21 Dr. Varley, anything else that you'd like to share,
22 or Paula, in response to Mr. Gaines' question?

23 DR. VARLEY: I would like to work with
24 Mr. Gaines. Paula, go ahead.

25 MS. BOND: Yeah, I would just add that

1 for several of your questions, sampling west of the
2 fire training area, we do have groundwater sampling
3 planned west of the fire training area. And we can
4 look at the plume maps out here whenever we're done
5 here with the RAB, if you'd like, and we can go over
6 those and I can show you where we're planning to
7 sample west of the fire training area. There were a
8 lot of other questions in there that have -- I
9 don't -- I can't recall, but I'll be more than happy
10 to go over that with you on the maps and show you
11 where we're planning the same thing.

12 MR. SUELTENFUSS: Mr. Gaines, does
13 that sound like a path forward for you?

14 MR. GAINES: Yeah, as long as the data
15 is -- gets incorporated. That's my concern. I
16 just -- I have not, to date, seen it in the data.
17 And we are years into this. And so I would have
18 expected that we'd have a more comprehensive picture
19 on the table at this point in time.

20 MR. SUELTENFUSS: All right. Well,
21 thank you. And Mr. Arnie Leriche?

22 MR. LERICHE: Just a quick followup on
23 that. This has been an --

24 MR. SUELTENFUSS: If you could focus
25 towards the mic.

1 MR. LERICHE: Okay. This has been an
2 action item that Bill started two and a half years
3 ago. And Catharine, you did a great first step
4 about six months ago, you produced a very detailed
5 map, which is a good start, but it needs to be
6 bigger and it needs to be updated and shared with
7 the RAB on a quarterly basis if there are changes,
8 which a CSM would be a major change.

9 In addition to that, the map has to
10 have a list of the site names and so forth so that
11 we can look for those in the more detailed reports
12 if there's something that we have a question about,
13 or the public has a question about, of how your
14 recommendations fit with the reality of what's on
15 the ground. And so I just throw that out. You're
16 taking some good first steps, but I think that if we
17 could follow up and work with you on that, and maybe
18 a technical review on this topic meeting with the
19 RAB, I think would go a long way in accomplishing
20 this. So --

21 MR. SUELTENFUSS: Any -- let me just
22 check in before going to you, David Winn.

23 Dr. Varley, any response that you'd
24 like to share on that point?

25 DR. VARLEY: I look forward to

1 continuing to advance what we're doing. So, I'm
2 writing down notes right now that I need to get a
3 new updated IRP, AFFF out to everybody, and look at
4 those plumes to see if there's a good way to present
5 it for you, Arnie and Bill.

6 MR. SUELTFUSS: Okay.

7 MR. LERICHE: It crosses into the
8 training responsibility of the Air Force and the
9 other agencies to the public and the community RAB.
10 It crosses into that. I'll just leave it at that.

11 MR. SUELTFUSS: All right. Thank
12 you. David Winn? Yes, sir.

13 MR. WINN: Okay. I have a couple of
14 questions. First thing is the -- on the RI, you
15 stated earlier in your presentation that you've done
16 testing soil samplings in different areas and
17 groundwater testing. What about the testing for the
18 area north of where you plan on putting the IRA for
19 Van Etten Lake? Has that even been tested yet, or
20 is that part of the test?

21 MS. BOND: That's a great question.
22 That is part of where we're going to go when we
23 start our vertical aquifer sampling, the groundwater
24 sampling. We all recognize that there's a data gap
25 north of the IRA that we're planning at Van Etten

1 Lake Ken Ratliff Memorial Park, so that's going to
2 be a priority for us when we start the VAS, or the
3 vertical aquifer sampling, so that we can fill those
4 groundwater data gaps there and see what we may need
5 to do in that area. But that is a focus for us and
6 that is part of the work that we're going to be
7 doing in the next few weeks.

8 MR. WINN: Will that affect anything
9 relative to the current designs that you have?

10 MS. BOND: It will not affect anything
11 relative to the current designs that we have.

12 MR. WINN: Okay. All right. Second
13 question I have. The Clark's Marsh and RI comments
14 that were made between EGLE and Air Force, when will
15 those become public record?

16 DR. VARLEY: They're all published on
17 the record. I sent you guys an update, we said
18 that.

19 MR. WINN: So, the RI is out there as
20 well?

21 DR. VARLEY: The comments -- well, not
22 on the RI, because the RI hasn't been finalized.

23 MR. WINN: Okay. That's my question.

24 DR. VARLEY: Yeah, sorry. The --

25 MS. BOND: I think he's -- Catharine,

1 I think he's talking about the comments on the
2 proposed plan.

3 DR. VARLEY: Yeah, the proposed plan.

4 MR. WINN: Yeah, I have the ones that
5 you sent out for the proposed plan, I have those.
6 What I'm asking for is Clark's Marsh and the RI.

7 DR. VARLEY: Those have not been
8 finalized.

9 MR. SUELTFUSS: And let's try to
10 make sure that we're speaking one at a time for
11 Quentina's benefit and her poor fingers.

12 DR. VARLEY: Let me clarify. For
13 Clark's Marsh, for both the IRAs, EGLE's comments
14 are on the administrative record.

15 MR. WINN: Okay.

16 DR. VARLEY: If you're having trouble
17 finding them, let me know and I will get them for
18 you.

19 MR. WINN: Clark's Marsh, they're out
20 there?

21 DR. VARLEY: Yes. Both are out there.

22 MR. WINN: Okay. What about the RI?

23 DR. VARLEY: The RI comments have not
24 been finalized, so --

25 MR. WINN: Do you have any idea when

1 that might be?

2 DR. VARLEY: As soon as we can start
3 finalizing. We had 198 comments to go through and
4 we've been going through them in a step-wise
5 fashion. So, every time we make a decision, I go
6 ahead, I put that in the memo of the record, that's
7 going on the AR, and how we're moving forward. And
8 that's based off of comment resolutions that Beth
9 and I are coming to agreement with, with our teams,
10 and that's the step-wise process that we're going
11 down.

12 But I want to continue sharing
13 information, so I shared groundwater data. And Mark
14 and I had good conversations and hopefully that will
15 continue. And if you have a concern, please bring
16 it to my attention and we'll look at it.

17 MR. WINN: Nope. Just curious as to
18 when the comments will be available that we can
19 review, that's all. You've been more than generous
20 in sharing information.

21 For the Van Etten Lake IRA, the
22 preliminary designs, are they complete? Are they in
23 process?

24 DR. VARLEY: I put everything on hold
25 when I came on board, because honestly we need to

1 make sure that we address every single comment and
2 make sure that there's no design changes.

3 So, yes, we have ordered tanks,
4 because we figured that that was not changing,
5 because tank lead time was becoming -- what was it,
6 12 months, Paula? Or 18 months?

7 MS. BOND: Yeah, a lot of our
8 materials and supplies lead times were very long,
9 and things that we knew -- or were confident that
10 wouldn't change, we were looking at ordering those
11 just so we would have them ready to go.

12 DR. VARLEY: So -- but just -- we have
13 the ability to (inaudible), we have the ability to
14 change it.

15 MR. WINN: So, my question for -- my
16 question (sic) for asking that question, is the
17 timeline that you put up there, you just -- if I
18 just heard you correctly, you said the tanks are at
19 18-month lead time?

20 DR. VARLEY: They were. We paid for a
21 rush turnaround.

22 MR. WINN: Okay.

23 DR. VARLEY: And we will get them by
24 October, so --

25 MR. WINN: Okay. All I'm asking is,

1 is this timeline realistic based on where we
2 currently are? If everything goes smooth --

3 DR. VARLEY: If everything goes as
4 planned, if we're able to get EGLE the ROD in the
5 next two weeks, then it's doable. Assuming we're
6 all in lockstep, which means everybody needs to be
7 in lockstep that way we're communicating everything
8 we're doing all the way through.

9 MR. WINN: Okay. Does EGLE agree with
10 that?

11 MS. PLACE: I know there have been
12 some -- this is Beth Place. I know there have been
13 some preliminary discussions with our attorneys on
14 the AORS (ph) for the Clark's Marsh IRA, and so I
15 think that will get easier WHEN we receive the
16 correct documents to review it. So, I know both
17 agencies' priority is to get them interim remedies
18 constructed and operational.

19 MR. WINN: So, it sounds like there
20 could be some issues.

21 MS. PLACE: I don't think so, with the
22 record of decision. We also have a remedial action
23 work plan in house for the Clark's Marsh interim
24 remedial action, and we'll be providing our comments
25 back to Air Force by September 13th.

1 MR. WINN: Okay.

2 MR. SUELTENFUSS: Mr. Winn, does that
3 address the questions that you had or --

4 MR. WINN: Yeah, I mean, it addresses
5 the question, but there's -- I mean, like anything
6 normal, there's -- this is, you know, the best
7 schedule that you have based on the date and time.

8 DR. VARLEY: This is the best we can
9 do and this is best case. This is what I'm leaning
10 for, this is what I want.

11 MR. WINN: And you need to understand
12 why I'm asking this question. In the past -- and
13 this is before you, okay -- community has seen -- I
14 can't count on my fingers and toes how many
15 different timelines that we've seen have come and
16 gone, all right? And if -- if this is realistic, or
17 if it's in the ballpark, and from what I've seen so
18 far from just me personally, I think that you guys
19 are very sincere about getting this thing moving and
20 getting it going.

21 My issue is, like I said, is what
22 we've seen in the past for the last 12 years or
23 whatever, all right, we've seen timelines come and
24 go and nothing get done. And all I'm asking is --
25 from a community standpoint, is to make sure that

1 we're doing the best we can and that if there are
2 any hiccups or issues, that they -- that the group
3 sit down, resolve those issues so that we can move
4 forward.

5 All the community is looking for is
6 these IRAs to move forward and get installed and up
7 and running. That's going to make everybody a heck
8 of a lot happier, and I know it will make a lot of
9 you as well. So, that's the reason for my asking.

10 DR. VARLEY: Absolutely. And I look
11 forward to working it with you.

12 MR. WINN: Okay. Thank you.

13 DR. VARLEY: Thank you, sir.

14 MR. SUELTFUSS: Well, thank you very
15 much, Mr. Winn. We're still in the RAB member
16 questions. We will break -- move to a break in
17 about 20 minutes, just for your awareness. But let
18 me check with the RAB members for other questions.
19 I see Mr. Winn.

20 MR. WINN: I do have one more question
21 and it's not relevant to the IRA. The BCT meeting
22 minutes, okay? Beth mentioned in her presentation
23 that she's in the process of sending those BCT
24 minutes back to the Air Force, okay? The last one
25 that I understand is in the record is February. So,

1 those BCT minutes is what the public looks at to be
2 able to understand what's going on.

3 My question to you is once the Air
4 Force receives those BCT meeting minutes, how long
5 would you anticipate that you are going to need
6 before those can go back to EGLE and those can get
7 on the MPART website for public review?

8 DR. VARLEY: We'll turn those around
9 as fast as possible, so those are two contractors
10 are PDF contractor Bay West is now in the finishing
11 up the documentation stage of their contract and
12 (inaudible) contractor. So, they will actively work
13 those and we'll get those done, I will stay on top
14 of it as fast as possible.

15 MR. WINN: I would just ask that you
16 do that, because again, the last ones that are out
17 there from February, and we're now in August, so
18 again, those are -- that's information the public
19 uses to understand what goes on in the
20 month-to-month meetings and the progress of this
21 project, so --

22 DR. VARLEY: That makes sense. And if
23 you need anything along the way, just ask.

24 MR. WINN: Okay. Thank you.

25 MR. SUELTFUSS: All right. Thank

1 you very much. Other questions from the RAB
2 members? I'm sorry, could you state your name?

3 MR. MAXWELL: Joe Maxwell. On the
4 north side of the base is a place where the old
5 pump, KC135, was stored after it crashed, and
6 there's also settlement basins there -- settlement
7 basin from old septic systems, sewer systems, that
8 have been long buried. Are there soil samples and
9 water samples in both places, typically?

10 MS. BOND: So, if I -- I think I heard
11 you say the KC135 that was stored. Are you talking
12 about the DRMO where it was stored up there?

13 MR. MAXWELL: Yeah.

14 MS. BOND: Yeah, we are -- yeah, we
15 have done soil sampling in the DRMO, yes. Yeah.
16 And the other one?

17 MR. MAXWELL: There is an old
18 settlement basin from an old sewer system on the
19 north side of the base. It's all been buried, it
20 was there years ago, and it's all been buried. It
21 was -- I can point it out when I'm out there, but
22 it's hard to describe. It was there.

23 MS. BOND: Yeah, I'm not sure that I
24 know where you're talking about, and I don't know if
25 Catharine knows --

1 DR. VARLEY: Yeah. So, that's the
2 site up into L3031 that Mark sent us all the data
3 about, and we have been working on scoping that
4 project for L3031. I believe it's falling through
5 the cracks this year, it will be picked up next
6 year, but that's because we prioritized the removal
7 of FT002. And that is my highest priority, I want
8 that to happen this year. We want to remove that
9 source of before it has a chance to impact Clark's
10 Marsh.

11 MR. MAXWELL: Thank you.

12 DR. VARLEY: Yes, sir.

13 MR. SUELTFUSS: And, Mr. Maxwell,
14 does that address the question?

15 MR. MAXWELL: Yeah, but I have one
16 more.

17 MR. SUELTFUSS: All right. Go
18 ahead.

19 MR. MAXWELL: This is for Dr. Varley.
20 Back in July when you gave us a technical meeting,
21 you talked about a -- putting a map in Van Etten
22 Lake. There's been some stuff that has been
23 previously done very successfully in the same kind
24 of thing to reduce pollution. Whatever happened to
25 that idea?

1 DR. VARLEY: That idea is still on the
2 table, sir. So first, we need to get the capture
3 under control so that we don't -- so that we do
4 removal of sand at the lakefront, and go ahead and
5 put down a clay mat and be able to cover it up that
6 we aren't having more flowthrough. If we have
7 capture already then that mat is going to be more of
8 a lid and next take care of the foam issue and treat
9 the lake by more or less just flowthrough. So, that
10 was on the table.

11 (Indecipherable) also came to me with
12 a proposal recently that I think we might try a
13 three-stitch pipe bend, right? So, it's the same
14 thing. Very similar concept. It's a flowthrough
15 mat, and if it works there, that would be the
16 verification we need to be able to put it somewhere
17 else.

18 MR. MAXWELL: Great. Thank you.

19 MR. SUELTFUSS: Other questions from
20 RAB members? Yes, go ahead.

21 MS. WUSTERBARTH: Thank you. So,
22 yesterday was the public comment period for the IRA
23 for Van Etten Lake, and I made some comments that
24 were created by community members in addition to the
25 environmental groups that we partnered with, and I

1 would like to have those comments, for the sake of
2 not reviewing them all tonight, submitted to this
3 meeting, if possible. Is that -- is that possible?
4 As comments from the community as part of the
5 response to the presentation.

6 DR. VARLEY: So, last night's will be
7 posted online. This one will as well. You can
8 always review it if you want to. I don't know if
9 -- I mean, you can attach it to meeting minutes
10 or --

11 MR. SUELTENFUSS: However you would
12 like to proceed. Certainly, if you decided to
13 reread during the public comment period, it will be
14 captured at that time, but Dr. Varley, I defer to
15 you --

16 DR. VARLEY: I'll stick with
17 whatever -- Mark?

18 MR. HENRY: It doesn't matter to me.

19 DR. VARLEY: Cathy, whatever you want
20 to do.

21 MS. WUSTERBARTH: It looks like we
22 have many of the same people that were here last
23 night today, so formerly I'm just not sure, but I
24 would like to have those comments submitted as part
25 of the community speaking on --

1 DR. VARLEY: Why don't you? We've got
2 time. We can read them if you want.

3 MS. WUSTERBARTH: I don't know if you
4 want me to do it now or during public comments.

5 DR. VARLEY: During public comments,
6 right?

7 MR. SUELTFUSS: I would suggest
8 during public comments. And so I'll add you to the
9 list of public comments. And just for awareness,
10 that was Cathy Wusterbarth speaking just there.

11 MS. WUSTERBARTH: Sorry.

12 MR. SUELTFUSS: Does that work,
13 Cathy?

14 MS. WUSTERBARTH: Yes.

15 MR. SUELTFUSS: Okay. Other
16 questions from the RAB members? Mr. Leriche?

17 MR. LERICHE: As part of the
18 presentation that you gave, thank you very much for
19 that, I'd like to ask as an action item that -- in
20 that Air Force presentation part of the future RABs
21 that you talk about the reports that -- and the
22 status of those reports could be just a slide with
23 the detail, not that much talking unless there's
24 some highlight that needs to happen like the BCT
25 minutes, the remedial action, operational reports,

1 some of them are over two years old. And so I think
2 that would be a very important add to the RAB and to
3 the community to see what reports, where they are,
4 how quickly things are moving along. We'll
5 understand what's being discussed here a lot more.
6 So, that's an action item.

7 DR. VARLEY: All right. Hold on.
8 Before we make that an action item, what I'm trying
9 to do is I'm trying to get organized, first of all.
10 I'm still fairly new to this, so give me a second.

11 But one of the first things that we
12 decide to do is start putting together a tracker,
13 and that tracker is being put together now for the
14 beginning of every BCT, so we're going to start
15 sending that out to the RAB members as well, so
16 you'll have that in realtime. You don't have to
17 worry about waiting for a RAB meeting for that,
18 because we're meeting for BCT meetings more often
19 than we are the RAB a lot of times, right? So --

20 MR. LERICHE: The reports are not on
21 the action item tracker.

22 DR. VARLEY: No, but I -- we're
23 working on putting that together, sir. That's what
24 I'm telling you. I'm working on that. So, we're
25 going to have it soon as well as a calendar of what

1 we're doing when. So we're working on getting
2 organized. I just need a little bit more time if
3 you can --

4 MR. LERICHE: I understand. This is
5 not a complaint to you for sure, not to you. This
6 is something that's historical. But the AR, when
7 it's updated, we need to be notified when there is
8 an update, otherwise we don't know to go there.

9 DR. VARLEY: Are you reading the
10 e-mails I'm sending you?

11 MR. LERICHE: Of course I am.

12 DR. VARLEY: They're in there every
13 time, I'm telling you.

14 MR. LERICHE: That's only recently.
15 But in the information repository at the library --

16 MR. SUELTFUSS: Okay. Let's let Mr.
17 Leriche finish up.

18 MR. LERICHE: So, I think we can have
19 a more detailed discussion, but the information
20 repository has fallen down over the last 18 months
21 in being updated, so the public does not have that
22 method of going there and reading if they don't have
23 a computer, or they just want to see the maps and so
24 forth in more detail. So -- but that's a joint
25 effort between the community RAB and the Air Force.

1 I'd like to add to the presentation
2 you gave, a report that has not been discussed in
3 maybe three to six months, and so I'd like to know
4 the status of this, and that's the five year -- the
5 fifth five-year review. And it's my understanding
6 that a five-year review is a look back at five years
7 of the performance of actions, records of decisions,
8 GAC units, other things that have been required to
9 be installed, or tracked, or whatever. And that
10 report is coming up on two years overdue on the 30th
11 of this month.

12 And so the first question is, I'd like
13 to know the status of that and when we're going to
14 actually get it for final or review, whichever the
15 process is.

16 The second part is I asked at the last
17 meeting or the one before that, that it's my
18 understanding that a five-year review includes an
19 evaluation of all of those records of decisions and
20 GAC units like FT002 as an evaluation of the
21 protectiveness to human health, the environment and
22 also in addition to, was it -- is it meeting the
23 purpose of that record of decision for that
24 equipment.

25 And I was told that for PFAS, the

1 five-year review does not include the
2 protectiveness, and I'd like to just add to the
3 record I found just this weekend the Navy says that
4 is on the east coast. Their five-year will also
5 consider -- it's due in November of this year --
6 will have a PFAS protectiveness.

7 So, I don't know how much you want to
8 talk about that now. Will yours include that and
9 what is the status of that?

10 DR. VARLEY: First of all, I'm still
11 fairly new. I prioritize fieldwork. So, we are
12 working on documents, but we are working on the
13 fieldwork and getting into the field faster than
14 anything else, right? We want results. It's time
15 to do work.

16 Once we hit winter, we'll have time to
17 do document reviews, work on additional work plans,
18 move other things forward, so we'll be ready for
19 next year's season, right.

20 We are working on the five-year
21 review. It has gone back and forth with legal. The
22 protectiveness statement is something that has to be
23 approved by our -- approved by the Air Force, right,
24 before it can actually go forward. So, it is taking
25 longer, but it also is not the highest priority at

1 this point in time, and the reason being is
2 fieldwork is important. If we don't have fieldwork,
3 we don't have data to analyze over the winter. If
4 we don't have data over the winter, we are not ready
5 for next year.

6 So, I'm trying to be results-driven
7 and that's my goal. But we will get to it, Arnie, I
8 promise. We're just not there yet.

9 MR. LERICHE: So, EGLE has not seen it
10 yet and still hasn't?

11 DR. VARLEY: I believe so.

12 MR. LERICHE: Okay. Thanks.

13 MR. SUELTENFUSS: Okay. Thank you for
14 the question, sir. Other questions from the RAB
15 members? Yes, sir.

16 MR. HENRY: Just a followup. Mark
17 Henry. Will that upcoming five-year review, when
18 it's done, have a protectiveness statement?

19 DR. VARLEY: That all --

20 MR. HENRY: Do you anticipate it?

21 MS. VRIESENKA: This is Sharon
22 Vriesenga -- this is Sharon Vriesenga from the Air
23 Force. Can I take that one, please?

24 MR. SUELTENFUSS: Go ahead, Sharon.

25 MS. VRIESENKA: Five-year reviews talk

1 to RODs that are already in place, remedies that are
2 in place. We make protectiveness determinations
3 based on remedies that are in place. So, all of the
4 remedies that are in place and have decision
5 documents at Wurtsmith will be evaluated in the
6 five-year review. That includes interim ROD if we
7 have interim ROD from the five-year review or done
8 -- is done. If we have a site where there's a final
9 record of -- record of decision, but maybe there's
10 PFAS on there. If we know there's PFAS on there,
11 but we don't have a record of decision for that, we
12 will evaluate whether the remedy is protective in
13 the short-term versus in the long term, because we
14 won't have a PFAS remedy in place. That's how
15 that's being handled with PFAS on Air Force
16 installations across the country.

17 MR. SUELTFUSS: Thank you, Sharon.

18 MR. LERICHE: Just a quick followup.
19 Is that across the country for the Air Force?

20 MR. SUELTFUSS: Just a moment. Real
21 quick. And let me just make sure, Mark, that that
22 addresses your question.

23 MR. HENRY: Yes.

24 MR. SUELTFUSS: Okay. Great. Thank
25 you. Arnie, go ahead.

1 MR. LERICHE: To Sharon, across the
2 country for the Air Force, I'm sure that was part of
3 the answer you gave, is it also across DoD branches,
4 DoD-wide, enterprise-wide? The way the five-year
5 review for PFAS protecting this in this five-year
6 review is going to be done?

7 MS. VRIESENKA: I don't advise the
8 Navy and the Army, so I can't give you a definitive
9 answer on that. I can tell you how it's being
10 handled across the Air Force and that's what I
11 stated previously. I think we're being consistent
12 with the other services, so again, I do not advise
13 them, so I cannot speak for them.

14 MR. LERICHE: So, is this the first
15 one for PFAS for the Air Force because of the --

16 MS. VRIESENKA: No. We have been
17 handling PFAS across the United States at other
18 bases and former bases, so it's coming up in the
19 five-year review.

20 MR. LERICHE: But this is the only one
21 that's overdue, isn't it?

22 MS. VRIESENKA: No, sir, it's not.

23 MR. LERICHE: Okay. Thank you.

24 MR. SUELTENFUSS: Great. Sharon,
25 thank you for your comments. Anything else you'd

1 like to add on that point?

2 All right. We have about seven
3 minutes or so until our scheduled break. Any other
4 RAB member questions at the moment? Yes, go ahead,
5 Beth Place.

6 MS. PLACE: Beth Place of EGLE. I
7 just wanted to follow up on Mr. Gaines's question
8 about potential site model and I wondered if
9 something EGLE has asked for along the way, I know
10 (inaudible) shows you the map of the locations and
11 plumes, it's easy to understand, but would it be
12 helpful to the RAB to have figures in place that
13 have the older locations as points along with the
14 plume maps, something like that that you guys could
15 refer to? I don't know if that's something
16 Catharine can provide to you.

17 DR. VARLEY: That's what's attached.

18 MS. PLACE: Okay. Good.

19 MR. SUELTFUSS: Okay? All right.

20 Other questions from the RAB members? Yes?

21 MS. PLACE: Okay. Beth Place again.
22 I have one more. I thought what Sharon said on the
23 call, but I wasn't quite sure if I caught it right,
24 was that PFAS is on one of the IRP sites with the
25 remedy that is being reviewed with the five-year

1 review, that there will be short-term and long-term
2 protectiveness statements for PFAS; is that correct?

3 DR. VARLEY: Sharon, can you answer?

4 MS. PLACE: Just confirming.

5 MS. VRIESENKA: I had to un-mute
6 myself. It's a little unwieldy with the telephone.

7 What I was saying, and this gets
8 convoluted, but with the remedy that's in place,
9 let's say is for PCE, but we have data on PFAS, and
10 we know that we have exceedances, we've got RI data,
11 or we've got ESI data or whatever, we look at
12 whether the remedy that's already in place is
13 protective in the short-term also for PFAS. For
14 example, often there are land use controls on a site
15 that prohibit groundwater use. If the PFAS is in
16 the groundwater, even though we don't have a
17 long-term remedy in place for PFAS yet, we can say
18 that the remedy is protected in the short-term if
19 there's a land use control that prohibits
20 groundwater use because of the PCE contamination.
21 Those are the sorts of things we're looking at.

22 MS. PLACE: Thank you, Sharon.

23 MR. SUELTFUSS: Any other RAB member
24 questions at the moment?

25 MS. WUSTERBARTH: I have another

1 procedural question.

2 MR. SUELTFUSS: Cathy Wusterbarth.

3 MS. WUSTERBARTH: The report that I
4 referenced in the short summary that I gave, I'd
5 like to plan to be submitted as part of the RAB. I
6 did provide that to Dr. Varley via e-mail about a
7 week ago. So, I'd like to have that included.

8 MR. SUELTFUSS: And sorry, for
9 clarity, you mean included in the transcript of
10 tonight's --

11 MS. WUSTERBARTH: Whether it's an
12 attachment or however you would like to do that. I
13 mean, it's a -- you know, it's a 15-page report
14 so --

15 MR. SUELTFUSS: Right. Right.
16 Co-chair, any ideas on how you'd like to address
17 that?

18 DR. VARLEY: Any ideas?

19 MR. HENRY: Well, it hasn't really
20 been read at a meeting, so -- at any formal meeting.
21 And so putting it as an attachment to the -- to RAB
22 meeting may not be appropriate. Reading it during
23 the meeting -- during -- towards the end of the
24 meeting, at least a summary of it, may be within
25 reference to the document or where that document

1 could be found, might be more in line.

2 DR. VARLEY: I agree. I haven't read
3 it yet, I apologize. I'm still catching up on my
4 reading list, but I'm getting there. So, hopefully
5 over the next week or two I can read it, but if
6 you'd like to read portions of it and then tell us
7 where to find it, that would be awesome.

8 MS. WUSTERBARTH: I can do that. And
9 I'd also ask the Air Force to make a response to
10 that report since (inaudible) summarize to find out
11 all information, we'd like to have a response
12 similar to how the State responded in terms of just
13 formally letting us know what's in the report.

14 DR. VARLEY: Okay.

15 MS. WUSTERBARTH: Thank you.

16 MS. VRIESENKA: I'm sorry, this is
17 Sharon Vriesenga. Ms. Wusterbarth, why are you
18 asking the Air Force to make a formal response to a
19 public report?

20 MS. WUSTERBARTH: Because, as Dr.
21 Varley had mentioned, we're partners in this
22 process, and so we would like to have some feedback
23 on what they think the direction that we're going
24 with all of the work that we're doing, and if
25 there's any feedback that we need to consider, you

1 know, change in directions.

2 DR. VARLEY: So, I'll give you my two
3 cents without physically going through it yet, so I
4 might have more to add later.

5 So right now, I have been focused on
6 the here and now and then moving us into the future.
7 What is our long-term game plan? How do we actually
8 make things happen now, quickly, and keep that
9 momentum up? And I do need everybody in this room,
10 as well as everybody online, to help us with that
11 process.

12 History is good, because it teaches us
13 where we came from, but with that in mind, we also
14 don't want to dwell on the history too much, because
15 that might actually hold us back from moving
16 forward. So, it's everything in perspective.

17 If we do this as a team and we move
18 forward in the right direction, then there's no
19 reason why we can't clean up these base sites.
20 There's no reason that we can't complete the RI in
21 two years. There's no reason that we can't move on
22 to the FS and start putting, you know, long-term
23 remedies in place.

24 So, I'm trying to take a big vision to
25 it. I know that there's been a lot of piecemeal

1 throughout the years. I like to start with right
2 here. Where are we right now? How do we speed
3 things up? And then how do we keep that going? So,
4 hopefully we can all do that together. And I will
5 read it, trust me. We'll get there. Thank you.

6 MR. SUELTFUSS: And Cathy, for your
7 awareness, just -- I've been keeping track of those
8 who would like to make a comment during public
9 comment, and you are on that list. I also have,
10 first off, Anthony Spaniola, he indicated via the
11 chat function of the online meeting that he would
12 like to make a comment, so when we start public
13 comment, Tony, I'll turn to you first, then to Cathy
14 Wusterbarth.

15 I'll then read -- there's a statement
16 that Jennifer Hill had asked to be read during the
17 public comment period, so I'll check with the
18 co-chairs about how they would like to proceed on
19 that during the break.

20 We are at 6:20 Eastern and so
21 scheduled for a ten-minute break. Does that work to
22 go ahead and proceed for the agenda, a ten-minute
23 break? Okay. So, again, thank you for your
24 patience. Let's go into a ten-minute break. Please
25 go ahead and stop the microphones during this

1 ten-minute break. 6:21 now, we'll come back at 6:31
2 Eastern. Thank you.

3 (Off the record at 6:21 p.m.)

4 (Back on the record at 6:31 p.m.)

5 MR. SUELTFUSS: Let's go ahead and
6 get started again. Welcome back, everyone. This is
7 Tim Sueltenfuss and we are going to continue the
8 Restoration Board meeting for the former Wurtsmith
9 base.

10 We will turn in just a moment to
11 clarification of the comment of Sharon Vriesenga,
12 Air Force attorney, but just a reminder to the RAB
13 members, please do -- we are getting a bit of
14 feedback on the mics maybe by rustling papers near
15 them or having phones on vibrate nearby, so please
16 just try to avoid impacting those mics, and thank
17 you very much for your patience with this setup.

18 Let's first turn to Sharon Vriesenga
19 for comment and then we'll go to RAB member
20 questions. So, Sharon.

21 MS. VRIESENKA: Hi. Thanks, Tim.
22 This is Sharon. I just wanted to clarify how I
23 answered the question a minute ago, because I wanted
24 to make sure I didn't mishear it.

25 We will be looking at short-term

1 protectiveness regarding PFAS in the upcoming
2 five-year review for sites that already have
3 remedies in place. So, if there is a site that has
4 PFAS contamination that we're investigating in the
5 RI, that there is not a remedy already in place for
6 other contaminants on that site, it will not be
7 evaluated in the five-year review.

8 So Beth, I just wanted to follow up to
9 make sure I hadn't said something to mislead you on
10 that score. Thank you, Tim.

11 MR. SUELTENFUSS: Thank you very much.
12 And, Beth Place, does that address the questions
13 that you have?

14 MS. PLACE: Yes. Thank you, Sharon.

15 MR. SUELTENFUSS: All right. Thank
16 you very much. We appreciate that.

17 Let's see. Mr. Bill Gaines had a
18 question. So Sarah, if you could, let's move back
19 to one of the first map slides in the presentation
20 that we just viewed. Mr. Gaines, does that one work
21 for you?

22 MR. GAINES: That one works just fine.
23 I challenge anyone here to read anything in any
24 legend on that slide.

25 MR. SUELTENFUSS: And I realize there

1 are some folks on the phone that are having a bit of
2 difficulty hearing for a variety of reasons. And
3 so, Mr. Gaines, you made the point that you made
4 before, which is just the importance of having
5 legible graphics and documents for RAB meetings,
6 correct?

7 MR. GAINES: Yes. If you're going to
8 talk about something, I'd like to be able to discern
9 what it is you're presenting.

10 MR. SUELTFUSS: All right. Well,
11 thank you very much. And I see Cathy Wusterbarth
12 has a question.

13 MS. WUSTERBARTH: I do. I have a
14 comment just related to maps. There's a really
15 great new map out there. It's beautiful. It
16 doesn't have a date on it though, so dates are
17 really helpful for us when we are trying to track
18 when things are happening. So, in the future
19 consider maps that are dated.

20 MR. SUELTFUSS: Thank you. And
21 we're still in the RAB member questions. Let's go
22 to that slide. Mr. Arnie Leriche with a question.

23 MR. LERICHE: Just a quick followup to
24 Sharon's clarification on her response. For a
25 layperson, the FT002 is -- had an interim ROD. And

1 therefore -- and it was in this period that's
2 covered by the five-year review, and it was for PFOA
3 and PFAS, so for that one instance, how is this
4 five-year review going to reflect the protectiveness
5 for PFAS -- or PFOA/PFAS? I guess --

6 MS. VRIESENKA: This is Sharon
7 Vriesenga. I'm not --

8 MR. SUELTFUSS: Go ahead, Sharon.

9 MS. VRIESENKA: Arnie, I'm not sure
10 I'm understanding your question correctly. But if
11 there is an IROD in place when we do the five-year
12 review, the IROD will meet the remedy and the IROD
13 will be evaluated for protectiveness in the
14 five-year review.

15 MR. LERICHE: Does that, in any --
16 someone -- experts around me here, give me a nod,
17 because I don't understand it. Maybe later we can
18 talk about it.

19 MS. PLACE: This is Beth Place. So,
20 are you asking if -- in the five-year review, if
21 FT002 will have a PFAS protectiveness statement?

22 MR. LERICHE: It will.

23 MS. PLACE: I'm asking if that's what
24 you're asking, Sharon.

25 MR. LERICHE: That's what my question

1 is to her.

2 MS. PLACE: To Sharon, okay. And
3 outside of the IRA, correct? So the --

4 MR. LERICHE: Right. Well, no. It
5 was an IRA in 2014/'15. The new one -- right. That
6 one was different. It's outside the five-year
7 review.

8 MR. SUELTFUSS: So, Dr. Varley, any
9 further clarification needed on that?

10 DR. VARLEY: Okay. So, I don't know
11 how to answer this, so Sharon, if you could answer,
12 will FT002 have a PFAS determination?

13 MR. LERICHE: Based on the first
14 interim action ROD that was issued in 2014 and
15 operational in '15, just that interim action. Not
16 the one that's being reviewed now.

17 DR. VARLEY: Based on the 2014 interim
18 action. Sharon?

19 MS. VRIESENKA: So, Mr. Leriche, to be
20 honest with you, I don't know hardly anything about
21 that interim action from 2014. If there is an IROD
22 in place for it, though, we'll be evaluating that.
23 And it will follow up with what I said. And also,
24 quite frankly, by the time we get a five-year
25 review, you're going to have a Clark's Marsh IROD

1 for this action. So, we'd be evaluating that.

2 But you're going to be evaluating
3 whether the interim remedy is protected until you
4 get the final remedy, is how you're going to be
5 doing it.

6 DR. VARLEY: All right. I've got
7 additional information from another one of our team
8 members. There was no IROD for FT002. FT002 was a
9 particular action, it was a removal action. It's
10 time critical. Okay? We can talk more about it.

11 MS. VRIESENKA: Well, we're talking
12 about when -- oh, okay. Yeah, the time for removal
13 actions don't have to be covered in records of -- in
14 five-year reviews, and I don't remember off the top
15 of my head if they usually are or not. But the
16 final decision document, like records of decision,
17 that are evaluated in five-year reviews.

18 MR. SUELTENFUSS: All right. Well,
19 thank you, Sharon. We appreciate that.

20 Mark Henry had a comment.

21 MR. HENRY: What is surrounding this
22 ROD review thing? It would seem that the interim
23 remedial action that we just commented on is about
24 to be implemented that the ROD from before that
25 would supersede the previous ROD. And it would be

1 starting with this five-year cycle all over again
2 when that ROD is issued. That's just how I envision
3 it.

4 MR. SUELTFUSS: Okay. Thank you.
5 And David Winn?

6 MR. WINN: Yeah, I have a question.

7 MS. VRIESENKA: This is Sharon. Just
8 to clarify that, five-year review clocks don't
9 reset. So, it's a five-year review by statute. You
10 go five years from when the first remedial action
11 was taken on base, or former base. And you trigger
12 five years off of that every time. We don't reset
13 the clock when the action restarts. I can think of
14 one very odd scenario where a clock got reset. But
15 usually, they stay, almost without fail, they don't
16 get reset.

17 So, whatever timeline we've been on,
18 which we may very well be late, I don't remember for
19 this base, we're still on that timeline even though
20 we're late meeting it.

21 MR. SUELTFUSS: Thank you for that,
22 Sharon. And I see David Winn has a question.

23 MR. WINN: Yeah, I have a question.
24 Paula, I think this one will probably be directed
25 towards you.

1 On both of the Clark's Marsh IRA, as
2 well as Van Etten Lake IRA, how are the performance
3 objectives established as part of the design? Or is
4 that something that you guys wait until you
5 basically -- and I'm going to put a dart in the wall
6 and say okay, this is our linear objective, and then
7 once the system is started up, then you try to
8 improve the performance; or do you guys establish
9 those performance objectives up front?

10 MS. BOND: No, that's a great
11 question. The way that we look at the IRAs and the
12 performance monitoring, I know we have received
13 several comments on performance monitoring on the
14 Clark's Marsh proposed plan. So, we know that's
15 important. We have to do performance monitoring so
16 that we can ensure that the hydraulic control system
17 that we have just installed is actually controlling
18 the migration of groundwater.

19 So -- and I think in the proposed plan
20 -- I know in the proposed plan for both it says that
21 we're going to monitor up-gradient and down-gradient
22 monitoring wells to evaluate the performance or the
23 efficiency of that hydraulic control system.

24 So, when we actually select where
25 we're going to put those performance monitoring

1 wells up- and down-gradient once all of the comments
2 have been received on the proposed planned, and
3 those have been evaluated by the Air Force and any
4 changes or updates are made, once that is final,
5 then we can finalize or move into finalizing the
6 work plan or the final designs for the treatment
7 system, because the Air Force does evaluate all
8 comments that they receive on the proposed plans.
9 So, those designs aren't finalized until that
10 process is over and any changes made.

11 So, once the designs are then
12 finalized, then we can look at the performance
13 monitoring. Where are we going to go? Up-gradient,
14 down-gradient, all along the hydraulic control line,
15 and the best locations that we think we need to get
16 to monitor that. So, those -- those details really
17 aren't finalized until after everything else is done
18 and we're ready to go. And we'll use those
19 monitoring wells to enhance the performance of the
20 treatment system.

21 Like Jim mentioned last night, and
22 posters are out in the lobby, we use all of that
23 data to continuously tweak and make sure that the
24 system is running as efficient as possible, and
25 that's why we have to have some engineering safety

1 factors in there. We talked about our flow rates
2 last night so that we can -- we have the ability to
3 change that as we need to. And the performance
4 monitoring will help us decide if this well needs to
5 be pumped faster, this one needs to be pumped
6 slower, and tweak that and so that we are really
7 operating efficiently in the system, and to ensure
8 that we are, in fact, capturing -- hydraulically
9 controlling that portion of the plume that needs to
10 be controlled.

11 MR. WINN: Did I hear you correctly?
12 So at the -- after the designs are -- at the end of
13 the design time you will have established the
14 performance objectives so that --

15 MS. BOND: Yes, I'm sorry.

16 MR. WINN: -- when the system is
17 installed and up and running, you compare those
18 performance objectives as a design as to what you
19 actually have, and tweak them accordingly?

20 MS. BOND: Right. Yes, and I'm sorry.
21 I didn't answer your question. I realized that when
22 you said that. Yeah, but the performance objectives
23 are actually established during the design and then
24 finalized in the work plan, so that's where they are
25 actually documented as what we'll be measuring

1 ourselves against. And obviously for the hydraulic
2 control, are we controlling the flow? And that will
3 be realized by contaminant trends and down-gradient
4 wells. Are they going down? Are they staying the
5 same? Are they going up? And we need multiple
6 wells to check those trends at different places to
7 make sure that we really have a handle on that. And
8 then we can evaluate the system treatment
9 efficiently, like I said, tweak high or low,
10 whatever, but -- yeah. But that will be in the work
11 plan, the actual performance objectives.

12 MR. WINN: Is EGLE in agreement with
13 that?

14 MS. PLACE: Yes. We're in agreement
15 that we'll be discussing performance monitoring and
16 the remedial action work plan.

17 MR. WINN: Okay. Thank you.

18 MR. SUELTENFUSS: Thank you, David, we
19 appreciate your question. Any other RAB member
20 questions? Anything else from the RAB members?
21 Okay. Well, let's move to the next slide then, if
22 we could. And Paula, thank you very much.

23 MS. BOND: Thank you.

24 MR. SUELTENFUSS: Great. So, now
25 we're in the public comment portion of the meeting

1 and the RAB members so far in the meeting had the
2 opportunity to meet, to address questions, have some
3 discussion, and we're now opening the floor to
4 members of the public who are not RAB members, but
5 who would like to make a comment to the RAB. For
6 those who are here in person, if you would like to
7 make a comment, I'll ask you in a moment to come up
8 to the microphone stand that we have to your left.
9 And for those who are participating remotely, I will
10 ask you to raise your hand electronically, and then
11 I'll call on you, un-mute you, you may have to
12 un-mute yourself, and then you can make a comment.
13 When I do call on your name, Sarah will make sure
14 that you're not muted, then you have three minutes
15 to make your comments. I do have a list of those
16 who have signed up first, but first is Anthony
17 Spaniola.

18 And so let's make sure Anthony
19 Spaniola is un-muted, if we could. And I see you
20 un-muted yourself as well. So, Mr. Spaniola, we'll
21 turn to you. Three minutes.

22 MR. SPANIOLA: Thank you, Tim. Can
23 you hear me okay?

24 MR. SUELTENFUSS: Yes, sir, we can.

25 MR. SPANIOLA: Thank you. I would

1 just like to -- first of all, there was a discussion
2 about the history and action moving forward, and Dr.
3 Varley, I want to thank you for your focus on action
4 and your efforts to, I think, bring a new approach
5 here. It's welcome. I do think, however, that the
6 history is very important, because it shows a
7 mindset, a mindset not just of the various project
8 managers and predecessors to you, Dr. Varley, but of
9 the entire Air Force and those that have been in
10 charge at the highest levels of this cleanup over
11 the last -- over a decade period. And from those of
12 us who have been involved for a lengthy period of
13 time, that that mindset isn't going to -- we're not
14 going to be convinced that that mindset has changed
15 until we see real and meaningful action. And as we
16 sit in the tail end here of the public comment for
17 Van Etten Lake IRA, there is a real perception and
18 concern that whoever is making these decisions is
19 not going into this with an open mind when it comes
20 to the Van Etten Lake IRA and the comment that has
21 been out there from the community and from Need Our
22 Water and others, including our U.S. senator, for
23 the need to extend the extraction field to the
24 north. We've been told that there are data gaps.
25 And we have experts on our team who are telling us

1 that that is not in fact the case. And we also have
2 history that tells us that in April of 2020, we were
3 told by the Air Force that they didn't have enough
4 data to even do an IRA at Clark's Marsh or to do an
5 IRA at Van Etten Lake, and suddenly when Congressman
6 Kildee went to the Pentagon, suddenly we had enough
7 data.

8 And so the concern that we have is
9 that this project, over and over and over again,
10 corners have been cut, and efforts have not been
11 taken to properly manage and deal with the full
12 extent of contamination when we know we have a
13 problem. We know we have maps not only from you,
14 but also from the Air Force. And so my concern, and
15 I think many others share this, is that we're here
16 in the end of the public comment period, this has
17 been going on for more than a year, the Air Force
18 has not explained adequately why it's not addressing
19 the additional contaminant plumes, and now is the
20 time to do it. We were told money wasn't going to
21 be an issue, but my suspicion -- my strong suspicion
22 is that money is driving this, and that the Air
23 Force really just doesn't want to do it. So, I'm
24 asking for action. I'm asking for action to make
25 that happen. Thank you.

1 DR. VARLEY: Hey, Tony. So, right now
2 we're in the middle of doing the RI, right? We've
3 already started, we got the gears rolling, and we
4 are collecting data. We are closing those data gaps
5 as fast as we can, and as we close those data gaps,
6 we will be programming to take care of any human
7 health concerns or any ecological concerns.

8 Paula, would you like to add to this
9 comment?

10 MS. BOND: Yes, I would. Thank you.

11 DR. VARLEY: Thank you.

12 MS. BOND: Yeah. I would like to say
13 this has come up in conversations that I've with a
14 few folks over the last couple of days, you know,
15 while we're not going further north with the IRA and
16 Van Etten Lake, and data gaps is one of the reasons
17 that we're not moving the line further north.

18 We are in the process, like Dr. Varley
19 mentioned, of looking at that in the IRA or the RI
20 to fill those data gaps.

21 There's also a couple other things,
22 and I'll kind of quickly elaborate on those. When
23 we began this project, when the Air Force came to us
24 and said we want to do an IRA here, let's look at
25 what we have, what is the best option to cut off the

1 higher concentrations of PFAS and PFOA that are
2 moving into Van Etten Lake and Ken Ratliff Memorial
3 Park, and we've all seen the figures, and we have
4 them here, and you can clearly see where that area
5 is, where those highest concentrations are.

6 So, that is what the Air Force wanted
7 to focus on, was cutting off those higher
8 concentrations that -- that higher risk area. So,
9 that's what we tried to focus on.

10 When we built the central treatment
11 system in 2018, as most of you know, that treatment
12 system was built to house a second treatment train
13 on the other side, and that was already in place.

14 So, when the Air Force asked us
15 how -- what's the fastest way that we can do this to
16 get some action to mitigate the issues there at Van
17 Etten Lake at Ken Ratliff Memorial Park, we already
18 have the central treatment in place, it was built to
19 expand. Let's take advantage of that and use that
20 to wrap into the IRA. So, when we looked at that,
21 the sizing of the central treatment system that's
22 already there, the treatment capacity that we have
23 in the existing train is 500 gallons a minute, then
24 we're talking about capacity here -- I'm sorry, I
25 hope you guys can hear me -- talking about capacity.

1 And then it was designed to handle another 500
2 gallons on the other side.

3 So, with the 500 gallon a minute
4 capacity that we have, and the IRA that we're
5 looking at, the 12 wells that we're proposing in the
6 proposed plan will use the capacity of the central
7 treatment system. So, if we -- the data gaps is one
8 and the capacity that we have in central was the
9 other reason for not moving that forward. And it's
10 not that -- we were looking for the quickest way to
11 mitigate that issue of those higher concentrations
12 of PFAS and PFOA and this is the quickest way to get
13 action, is to use the existing infrastructure that
14 was already there for the purpose that it was meant
15 for.

16 So, that's kind of -- in a nutshell,
17 that's kind of how we're now moving forward with
18 advancing that further to the north.

19 One of the discussions that we had
20 last night, Jim Romer who is the design engineer for
21 both of the IRAs, had mentioned that as part of the
22 design, we are adding in one additional blank so
23 that if -- based on operational data, if we can add
24 another well, that might be possible depending on
25 how our system operates as we get it up and running.

1 Depending on our optimizations that we do, maybe we
2 can add another well, and that additional capacity
3 will not overwhelm what we already have going into
4 the CTS.

5 So, we do have some capacity from the
6 original train, because we're not actually pumping
7 it at 500 gallons a minute right now, so we could
8 use that, but we need to get the system up and
9 running to see what we could do if we need to add
10 another well. But again, that will not be -- we
11 won't be able to determine that until the system is
12 actually operational.

13 So hopefully that answers the
14 question.

15 DR. VARLEY: What he's saying is the
16 purpose, right, of the IRA. The purpose of the IRA
17 is to protect human health and to address hydraulic
18 control, hydraulic capture at the most severe areas.
19 And that beach is a serious issue. I've seen people
20 out there. You know, we do want to take care of
21 that as fast as possible. This is what we can get
22 done as soon as possible this year. That's my goal,
23 this year. Now, that requires a lot of things to
24 fall into place and that requires us all to work
25 together. But that is the goal.

1 MR. SUELTFUSS: Okay. Well, thank
2 you very much. Paula, anything else you wanted to
3 add?

4 MS. BOND: No thanks.

5 MR. SUELTFUSS: All right. And Mr.
6 Spaniola, thank you for your comment. We'll now
7 turn -- next on my list is Cathy Wusterbarth.
8 Cathy, would you like to make a comment?

9 MS. WUSTERBARTH: Yes. So, what it
10 sounded like you had asked me during public comment
11 was to both summarize the public comments of the
12 IRA, the Van Etten Lake IRA like I did last night so
13 that they can get into public record here in the
14 meeting, and then also looking forward to NOW and
15 Natural Wildlife Federation comments last week. So,
16 I'll start with the IRA comments from the public,
17 the NOW group and its experts.

18 "The proposed plan describes the
19 actions planned by the Air Force's Base Realignment
20 and Closure Program Office at the Air Force to
21 remediate to a limited degree the contamination in
22 and around Van Etten Lake. The proposed plan
23 describes interim actions as defined under the
24 Comprehensive Environmental Response Compensation
25 and Liability Act of 1980 CERCLA. Interim actions

1 at a CERCLA site, such the former base, are intended
2 to rapidly address situations where an imminent and
3 substantial endangerment of the human health or the
4 environment from contaminants, pollutants or
5 hazardous chemicals is occurring.

6 In the case of Van Etten Lake, PFAS
7 substance contamination emanating from the base and
8 discharging through groundwater into Van Etten Lake
9 has contaminated waters of the lake, the biota, and
10 created PFAS-contaminated foam. This contamination
11 of biota has resulted in State-issued health
12 advisories limiting consumption of fish from the
13 lake, the do not ingest the foam advisory. As the
14 advisories are not enforceable and are impossible to
15 monitor for compliance, the level of contamination
16 in the animals is resulting in unacceptable human
17 exposure to the PFAS and possibly other PFAS found
18 in biota. Also, foam contact and ingestion by
19 citizens is not preventable by the authorities.

20 The PFAS foam also contains a sweep of
21 PFAS chemicals that fit the CERCLA definition of
22 contaminant or pollutant.

23 Additionally, the extent of
24 groundwater contamination and potential human
25 exposure from the plumes impacting the Ken Ratliff

1 Memorial Park area may extend into the other side of
2 Van Etten Lake where very similar PFAS contamination
3 is impacting drinking water wells around the lake.

4 The proposed plan is to double the
5 treatment capacity of the central treatment system,
6 the CTS, plant currently treating plumes along Arrow
7 Street and in the area of the former fuel storage
8 tank system. The plan includes a new groundwater
9 extraction field paralleling F41. The new well
10 field extraction system will capture 503 gallons per
11 minute of PFAS-contaminated groundwater that will be
12 directed to the central treatment plant. The
13 treatment water will be discharged to Van Etten
14 Creek. The discharge is controlled by substantial
15 requirement document (SRD) created by EGLE that
16 limits the discharge of PFAS to 12 parts per
17 trillion as a monthly average, with a 15 parts per
18 trillion daily maximum discharge. Other than PFAS
19 and PFOA, no other PFAS discharge are regulated by
20 the SRD. The remedy described in the proposed plan
21 does not provide a rationale for the width of the
22 groundwater collection and groundwater extraction
23 system. The extraction system does not cover the
24 known part of the PFAS plumes entering Van Etten
25 Lake at the Ratliff Park beach, but does not extend

1 to the known width of PFAS plume that exceeds part
2 201 groundwater/surface water interface criteria of
3 12 parts per trillion.

4 Also, the Air Force does not document
5 the extent of other PFAS contaminants in the plumes
6 that are also discharged into the lake that are
7 known to biomagnify in fish and preferentially
8 partition to foam on the lake. The Air Force's
9 proposed plan would increase the amount of
10 groundwater captured and treated from 320 gallons
11 per minute to 823 gallons per minute. The total
12 treatment capacity will be 1,000 gallons per minute
13 when the expansion of the system is complete.
14 Treatment of the additional captured plumes would be
15 either by activating carbon or by ion exchange
16 resin. Either technology will treat the PFAS
17 contamination in the groundwater to below the SRD
18 requirements. The preferred alternative presented
19 in the plan is to use activated carbon."

20 And we include 12 technical comments
21 with slides and images. And so I will move to the
22 summary.

23 "In summary, NOW's comments are,
24 number one: Activated carbon as a treatment
25 technology appears to be the correct choice of

1 treatment using the nine CERCLA treatment balancing
2 criteria for choosing a remedy.

3 Number two: The Air Force should
4 present and explain to the public and elected
5 officials the plan for future monitoring of the
6 remedy described in the proposed plan. Also, the
7 Air Force does not present the other PFAS chemicals
8 and plumes, and likely the central treatment plant
9 influence will be a mix of these PFAS chemicals. Is
10 carbon treatment able to remove all of the PFAS
11 contaminants and pollutants that will be entering
12 the system? Will there be illegal discharges of
13 other PFAS than PFAS and PFOA in the treatment
14 effluent?

15 Under the National Pollution Discharge
16 Elimination System, the discharges of effluent must
17 disclose all chemicals that may enter the surface
18 waters and they must disclose the expected
19 concentration and volume of such discharges. Is the
20 Air Force making such disclosures when submitting
21 the request for an SRD for this new discharge?

22 NOW is not confident that the Air
23 Force's remedial site team accurately understands
24 the site contamination. This conceptual site model
25 that the Air Force presents to the public clearly

1 lacks a great deal of information that is known to
2 EGLE.

3 NOW is not certain that the Air Force
4 team understands the site, or if this seemingly lack
5 of understanding is just the legacy of previous Air
6 Force site teams and lack of institutional
7 knowledge.

8 The current team should not repeat the
9 same mistakes and should present a coherent
10 conceptual site model for the Ratliff area plume.

11 Number three: The Air Force needs to
12 present all of the data and the full extent of
13 contamination to the public and elected officials in
14 understandable ways. There is no law that prevents
15 the Air Force from informing the public and elected
16 officials of data gathered by others, nor is the Air
17 Force prevented (sic) from presenting all the
18 technical data, not just PFOA and PFAS, as the other
19 chemicals meet the definition of contaminants or
20 plumes, or may so designated in the near future.

21 The Air Force needs to present all of
22 the information that points to substantial
23 contamination of humans, from base contamination, to
24 the Health Department's, the Veteran's
25 Administration and the ATSDR.

1 Number four: The Air Force should
2 expand the proposed plan footprint to the north of
3 the current proposed extraction well field along
4 F41. Waiting years to act while more study of the
5 problem is undertaken is unnecessary. This is a
6 situation where there is a clear imminent and
7 substantial endangerment of the public and the
8 environment. More study is not going to make the
9 known plume stop discharging into Van Etten Lake.

10 NOW affirms its concurrence with
11 EGLE's request for additional interim actions at the
12 entire site.

13 NOW cannot affirm the locations
14 discussed in the March 23rd, 2021 letter to the Air
15 Force Remediation and Redevelopment Division
16 Director Neller, as the reference map is not
17 included in the copy of the letter provided to the
18 public. But now that there are multiple areas
19 around the base that pose imminent and substantial
20 endangerment to the public, the Air Force has been
21 entrusted with the responsibility that human health
22 and the environment, CERCLA provides the Air Force
23 with the tools to carry out that responsibility.

24 CERCLA is not designed to prevent
25 responsible behavior as the Air Force seems to

1 believe by its actions and statements.

2 The Air Force can address any
3 contaminant or plume released at the site and can do
4 so at any time that the contamination presents an
5 imminent and substantial endangerment.

6 The Air Force response is not limited
7 by CERCLA to address only PFAS and PFOA with interim
8 actions or CERCLA removal actions."

9 The last point. "The Air Force needs
10 to start monitoring the impacts of PFAS on the biota
11 and the ecosystem in Van Etten Lake. Monitoring of
12 biota will document the effects of the Air Force
13 remedial actions over time and inform decisions made
14 at Wurtsmith and other sites across the nation. It
15 should be understood by everyone that this interim
16 action, while helpful toward the final cleanup of
17 Van Etten Lake, is incomplete as even a short-term
18 solution, adding that much more effort is needed to
19 reduce the impacts on the lake and citizens.

20 However, overall, NOW is now pleased
21 that the Air Force has doubled the treatment
22 capacity of the central treatment system plant and
23 is cutting off much of the plumes that discharge at
24 Ken Ratliff Memorial Park."

25 MR. SUELTFUSS: Thank you very much.

1 DR. VARLEY: Where can we find that?

2 MS. WUSTERBARTH: Well, this is the
3 public comment letter for the public comment period
4 for the IRA. Now, that was sent to Dr. Varley and
5 to the State, and of course will be submitted
6 formally. Excuse me. This has not been sent to
7 you, so -- sorry. This will be sent by the
8 deadline, okay, via e-mail and through mail, and of
9 course, we could provide that to anyone that
10 requests it after that, and I'll probably post it
11 online or on our Facebook page.

12 Now, the report that, you know, we
13 also are going to be having available online, the
14 title of that report is PFAS Contamination of the
15 Former Wurtsmith Air Force Base: The True Story.
16 It's setting the record straight about what the Air
17 Force, and the Department of Defense, and the State
18 of Michigan have actually done, or not done, to
19 protect people and natural resources in Oscoda 1974
20 through 2021. I'll just read off the -- I'm going
21 to summarize the introduction.

22 The U.S. military's heavy and
23 longstanding use of aqueous film forming foam has
24 contributed to one of the worst environmental crises
25 of our time. For over 50 years, the U.S. military

1 has used AFFF containing high concentrations of
2 toxic chemicals called PFAS. PFAS are a family of
3 chemicals that are extraordinarily toxic and
4 persistent in the environment. They have been
5 linked to cancer, kidney disease and numerous birth
6 and developmental disorders. Also known as forever
7 chemicals, PFAS, a widespread in the environment
8 because they take decades to break down and many
9 tend to bioaccumulate in people, fish and wildlife.
10 Moreover, PFAS are exceptionally numerous. There
11 are thousands of individual PFAS compounds and their
12 durability and resistance to water, oils make them
13 ubiquitous in both commercial and industrial
14 settings.

15 And then it goes on to talk about when
16 PFAS were first discovered at the former Wurtsmith
17 Air Force Base over two decades ago, and from the
18 1970s until at least the base closure in 1993, the
19 Air Force sprayed PFAS laden with AFFF at Wurtsmith
20 during training exercises to extinguish fires and
21 regularly disposed of spent AFFF in grassy areas of
22 the base. It should come to no surprise that these
23 activities caused massive groundwater contamination,
24 and contamination is running largely unchecked
25 through the Oscoda area due to the Air Force's

1 failure to control and clean up the PFAS plumes from
2 the base.

3 The Air Force has known about the
4 toxic nature of PFAS since the early 1970s. Despite
5 this knowledge, the Air Force has been extremely
6 slow to address the devastating effects of its
7 historic discharges of AFFF at Wurtsmith.

8 When it has responded, the Air Force
9 has taken inadequate actions that have only worsened
10 the public crisis in Oscoda. Adding insult to
11 injury, the Air Force has repeatedly attempted to
12 assure Wurtsmith veterans and Oscoda residents that
13 it takes their health and its own cleanup
14 responsibility seriously. In doing so, the Air
15 Force has hidden behind tax -- excuse me -- lacks
16 Federal guidelines and deny its need to comply with
17 Michigan stricter standards.

18 The State of Michigan actions have
19 also been deficient. Although the State has played
20 a significant role in uncovering the extent of PFAS
21 contamination at Wurtsmith, it has frequently been
22 slow, opaque and ineffective in warning Michiganders
23 of the dangers of exposure to PFAS contamination
24 from Wurtsmith.

25 Furthermore, because of its attempt to

1 pushback on the Air Force, positions have been
2 incomplete or unavailing, and the statement
3 generally failed to use the strict PFAS cleanup
4 standards that it developed over the past few years
5 to its advantage. Despite their dubious track
6 records protecting public health in Oscoda, both the
7 Air Force and the State of Michigan have often
8 defended and even praised their own actions, even
9 when those actions resulted in delays and mishaps.
10 This document aims to set the record straight
11 regarding what the Air Force and the State of
12 Michigan have actually done and failed to do about
13 the random PFAS contamination in Oscoda.

14 And this 13-page report, again, has 86
15 references and you can find the report at the Great
16 Lakes PFAS Action Network website, which is
17 GLPAN.org. Again, that's GLPAN.org.

18 MR. SUELTFUSS: All right. Thank
19 you, Ms. Wusterbarth.

20 MS. WUSTERBARTH: Thank you for your
21 time.

22 MR. SUELTFUSS: Okay. So, we also
23 have a comment that was submitted as a question in
24 the virtual meeting from Jennifer Hill. Just wanted
25 to check with her, shall I read that off? It's

1 about two sentences -- two or three sentences. All
2 right.

3 So this is, again, a comment from
4 Jennifer Hill and it reads as follows: "Hi, this is
5 Jennifer Hill with National Wildlife Federation.
6 I'm not able to stay on for the whole meeting, but
7 would like it read into the record that the National
8 Wildlife Federation stands behind the report
9 released last week of NOW. We have shown that the
10 Air Force and the State of Michigan can and should
11 be doing more to address PFAS cleanup at this site,
12 and we look forward to working with both entities to
13 get to meaningful cleanup as quickly as possible."

14 So, there is the comment from Jennifer
15 Hill. Let me just ask if there are any members of
16 the public in person who would like to make a
17 comment to the RAB? Okay. Yes. Please come on
18 over to the microphone standing right here, and if
19 there are others in person who would like to make a
20 comment, please do line up behind as well.

21 And if you could, if you would like
22 to, please state your name first and then go ahead
23 with your three-minute comment.

24 MS. KOLANT: Okay. My name is Chris
25 Kolant (ph), and could you read where you stopped

1 with that comment there?

2 MR. SUELTFUSS: The last words were,
3 "To get to meaningful cleanup as quickly as
4 possible."

5 MS. KOLANT: Okay. All right.

6 MR. SUELTFUSS: And if you could get
7 real close to that mic, please. Thank you.

8 MS. KOLANT: I'll get as close as I
9 can. How is that? I feel like I'm screaming if I
10 get closer. I have a comment about some of the
11 discussion here tonight. And the Air Force, and the
12 State, and the community of Oscoda has been at this
13 for many years now. We've been through many
14 different people with lots of personalities, but I
15 thought that things were coming around so that they
16 were being civil, and cordial, and cooperative, and
17 welcoming, and it seems from one of the comments
18 tonight who was the attorney, whoever was online,
19 was talking to Cathy when she asked for the Air
20 Force to comment on the report, was dismissive and
21 was insensitive, and the tone of voice was very
22 non-partner-like. So, I was very, very disappointed
23 to hear that.

24 When anybody comes to Oscoda who has
25 not lived here, you have to understand who you're

1 talking to. We are people who have been poisoned.
2 We have been poisoned while defending our country.
3 And the Air Force -- it's not the people maybe who
4 are sitting in front of us today, but the Air Force
5 as a whole is responsible for that. They did not --
6 they have not been transparent, so now it's a new
7 day and we need to pick up and move on from that.
8 But when we talk about the Air Force, I know it's
9 hard not to take it personal, but it's not personal,
10 it's the Air Force as an institution, but when
11 you're talking to us, it is very personal, because
12 it is our lives, and our families, and our
13 environment, and our properties, and our future, and
14 our children.

15 So, please, please, I beg you, keep
16 that in mind when you come to Oscoda, because we
17 will call you out every single time. Thank you.

18 MR. SUELTENFUSS: Thank you very much.

19 DR. VARLEY: Ma'am, could I -- can I
20 just reply, please? I'm not trying to be
21 dismissive. I'm trying to --

22 MS. KOLANT: Not -- it wasn't you.

23 DR. VARLEY: It wasn't me?

24 MR. SUELTENFUSS: Her comment was
25 that -- yes.

1 DR. VARLEY: Sorry.

2 MR. SUELTENFUSS: Dr. Varley, any
3 response to that?

4 DR. VARLEY: All I know is that we are
5 forming a team, we have formed a team, where we are
6 trying to do our best for you. The time I spent
7 here is time I spend away from my family, my kids.
8 I want my kids to grow up knowing that we're doing
9 something that's meaningful. Everywhere I've been,
10 I've had meaningful projects, and I want that here
11 too. And I want people to come and visit. I want
12 to be able to bring my family here, you know, I want
13 to be able to make things good, make things right.
14 So, you have a commitment from me, I will share what
15 I can. I will be transparent, I will, you know,
16 work with the team. And we are all one big team
17 working together. So --

18 MR. SUELTENFUSS: All right. Thank
19 you. And Ms. Kolant, thank you for your comment.
20 Are there others in person who would like to make a
21 comment to the RAB? Yes, sir. Mr. Gaines?

22 MR. GAINES: I would like to make a
23 comment. You know, I noticed last night that the O
24 and M costs, the operation and maintenance costs for
25 this central treatment plant facility was split --

1 spread over 30 years. And then I thought about the
2 fact that the Arrow Street plant has been pumping
3 PFAS-polluted water since the mid-1980s, and it's
4 still pumping water that needs to be treated.

5 I just wonder what is the true
6 effectiveness, long-term, of these plans. I wonder
7 if the pollution here will be cleaned up for my
8 grandchild when he is my age. It's a scary thought,
9 but I -- I --

10 DR. VARLEY: So, Bill, can I take a
11 stab at answering that?

12 MR. GAINES: Yeah.

13 DR. VARLEY: So, I don't think pump
14 and treat is going to solve everything. I don't
15 think it's our end all. So, part of what I've done
16 in other bases and other installations and we've
17 employed innovative approaches to move progress
18 forward, and that's what we're doing here. We got
19 CERCLA projects coming less and looking at trying
20 foam fractionation trenches. We are talking about
21 doing that at DRML. We've got the map project that
22 we're talking about doing again at three pipes right
23 now. We've got other ones that come to us, and
24 talking about microbial (indecipherable) project
25 coming to us about a microbial solution,

1 potentially.

2 So, there's a lot going on. And as we
3 evaluate and see different ways to move forward,
4 we'll move forward. And I'm sharing a lot of this
5 information with Mark, and he can share it with you,
6 and there's got to be better ways. There's got to
7 be better technologies. And I think we can get
8 there as long as we continue talking and working
9 together, and not being afraid of trying something
10 new. We need to be able to try something new.

11 MR. GAINES: Amen.

12 MR. SUELTENFUSS: Are there other
13 comments to be made to the RAB from those in person?
14 Okay. Let me ask for those who are connected
15 virtually if you would just raise your hand
16 electronically, if you would like to make a comment
17 to the RAB. And again, just raise your hand
18 electronically if you would like to make a comment.
19 And I see Rex Vaughn has a hand up. So, let's see.
20 Sarah, if you don't mind un-muting Rex. Rex, sounds
21 like we can probably hear you. Go ahead and say
22 something.

23 MR. VAUGHN: Good evening, this is Rex
24 Vaughn. Can you hear me?

25 MR. SUELTENFUSS: Yes, sir we can. Go

1 ahead, sir.

2 MR. VAUGHN: A question for the
3 engineering design team. Did they ever evaluate
4 what it would take to expand the central treatment
5 plant to allow that pipeline to run farther to the
6 northwest along F41 and pick up some of the
7 additional plumes that have been identified by EGLE?
8 So, was there any engineering analysis done? Are
9 you talking about an additional 3 or 400 gallons a
10 minute, or are you talking about the whole building?
11 What caused the Air Force to say we're going to live
12 within the confines of the existing structure?

13 MS. BOND: Right. Can you hear me?

14 MR. SUELTFUSS: Paula Bond with
15 Aerostar, go ahead.

16 MS. BOND: Sorry. Yeah, we actually
17 did look at that, and again, we were looking at the
18 best way to move forward to address the risk from
19 the PFAS and PFOA concentrations there at Ken
20 Ratliff Memorial Park moving in. So, we are
21 confined by the capacity at the central the way that
22 it's built, but we also looked at building a
23 completely new treatment system. We looked at
24 expansions and different things, and we settled on
25 using the infrastructure that we had, because we

1 knew that where the highest concentrations were, we
2 could capture that and treat that with the existing
3 system that we had, and get to treatment more
4 expeditiously. So, we did look at different things
5 and we settled on this as the best path forward at
6 the current time. So, everything to the north will
7 be addressed once the RI is complete, or if there's
8 something -- and I think Dr. Varley can elaborate on
9 this, if there is something that we find during the
10 RI that leads us to another interim action, or
11 another early action, then the Air Force will look
12 at that and take that on. So -- but everything to
13 the north will be addressed. We're not saying it's
14 never going to be addressed, just for this current
15 interim action, this is the best we've got, the best
16 path forward.

17 DR. VARLEY: So, we are taking care of
18 what is most critical right now as we define, using
19 the RI data, to determine what we need to take care
20 of next. And we will continue taking action where
21 we can take action.

22 MR. VAUGHN: A followup question, if I
23 may, please?

24 DR. VARLEY: Absolutely.

25 MR. VAUGHN: If you want another 1,500

1 feet up F41, how many additional gallons per minute
2 would you have had to accommodate in the design?

3 DR. VARLEY: So, Jim, engineering?

4 MS. BOND: The -- yeah, I'm going to
5 have our design engineer answer that question. And
6 I can tell you that the well spacing, based on the
7 groundwater modeling, is 250 feet apart. So, Jim?

8 MR. ROMER: Well, based on, again, the
9 modeling that was done, as Paula indicated, we're
10 looking at spaces of about 250 feet. As we go
11 north, our projections are that each well, we need
12 to pump about 50 gallons a minute, so here I think
13 your question was 1,500 additional feet?

14 MR. VAUGHN: Or 2,000 or -- at what
15 point did you determine that you blew past any
16 capabilities of the existing structure without a
17 larger facility of central treatment?

18 MR. ROMER: Well, we're pretty much
19 there now. I don't know if you were able to
20 participate in last night's meeting, but one of the
21 things that I discussed was you can't -- when you
22 look at 1,000 gallons a minute, that is the maximum
23 capacity that the pipes, and the pumps, and the
24 tanks can handle. But the analogy would be, you
25 know, again the red line on your car, maybe 6,000

1 RPM --

2 MR. VAUGHN: I heard that. I heard
3 that.

4 MR. ROMER: Okay. Well, so it's still
5 valid. I mean in that, you know -- I also heard,
6 like, when you were reading earlier a comment of --

7 MR. VAUGHN: Use bigger pipes, and
8 bigger pumps, and bigger tanks, because you probably
9 want to stay below ten feet per second and all that
10 kind of hydraulic stuff, that I spent 4 (sic) years
11 in my career dealing with.

12 MR. ROMER: Okay.

13 MR. VAUGHN: So I'm trying to get the
14 economics of a longer run up 41 crossed over point
15 of diminishing returns where you said we've just got
16 to live with what we've got.

17 MR. SUELTENFUSS: Let me jump in real
18 quick and just pull us all into one conversation, if
19 I could. Let me just pull us all into one
20 conversation. Jim, go ahead.

21 MR. ROMER: So, no, those are good
22 questions and good observations. And so there's
23 more than one driver here.

24 So, you know, if the goal -- if we
25 knew the distribution of contamination, if we looked

1 at the current knowledge of the plumes, and we had a
2 very high concentration that extended, you know,
3 2,000 feet, could you go and design something that
4 could accommodate that? The short answer is of
5 course you could. But you would probably, at some
6 point, you know, getting back to the hydraulics, you
7 would end up putting an additional treatment plant
8 further to the north before you continue to go
9 further and further and further. All right.

10 So, these systems, the head, the
11 driving force of these comes from submersible pumps
12 that are in the wells. And so, you know, at some
13 point, you get up to a horsepower size that's
14 bigger, requires a bigger well, and there's just a
15 domino effect. But one of the main elements is we
16 looked at the available data, and that's the first
17 thing I did when I took on this assignment almost a
18 year ago now, was we went to the Wood report and we
19 went and looked at other data that was available,
20 and we used the model that has been developed at the
21 site.

22 So, it was an IRA. The mission was
23 cut off as much flux going into Van Etten Lake as
24 quickly as possible. That was the mission. Still
25 is, in my mind.

1 Now, if you want to change the
2 objectives, you can take it a different approach,
3 okay? But right now, we don't have information that
4 indicates high concentrations, and if you went
5 another 1,000 feet, yes, you would capture some
6 additional stuff, but what I've seen on the data
7 that is all inclusive of EGLE's data, Air Force
8 data, all of the data, I mean, those plume maps
9 represent all of the data that we have to look at.

10 And so, you know, the decision is the
11 RI is going on right now. So, at the same time,
12 we're expediting the IRA, we're expediting the RI
13 and we're going to look at those feasibilities; and
14 there are going to be hotspots to the north, and we
15 are going to have to come up with ways to address
16 those. We just felt like once you got to a certain
17 distance away from the central plant, at that point
18 it would make sense to address those with another
19 facility. And I have to look at it.

20 MR. VAUGHN: I understand that.

21 MR. SUELTENFUSS: And let me just ask,
22 Jim, if we could state your last name as well for
23 the record.

24 MR. ROMER: Oh, Jim Romer.

25 MR. SUELTENFUSS: Great. Over to Dr.

1 Varley.

2 DR. VARLEY: The key thing is we want
3 to cut off where the most risk is to human health
4 and ecological risk. It is important. And the
5 sooner we can get it done, the better off everybody
6 will be, especially with the fact I'm seeing people
7 out at the beach. We need to address that issue
8 now. Not two years from now to build a bigger
9 system so that we can pump up further gradient. If
10 another technology turns out being better, it makes
11 sense to employ another technology too. We do not
12 want to get stuck with pump and treat, because we're
13 investing in (indecipherable) without thinking about
14 the future. So, think about everything
15 holistically.

16 Right now, biggest, hottest part of
17 the plume heading towards where people hang out. We
18 need to take care of that. Up-gradient, we're
19 refining that area, we'll address that next. If
20 there's something going into that lake, we'll go
21 ahead, we'll program a plan and we'll work towards
22 it together to address it. And if that means
23 another pump and treat system up-gradient, that's
24 fine. But if that means that we can do something
25 with foam fractionation, a bio trench through the

1 CERCLA program, if that's successful, that might be
2 a better way, because you're taking care of it in a
3 totally -- in a way that gets rid of PFOA, PFAS.
4 We're not having to use filter media and we're
5 getting rid of it.

6 Another -- I mean, and there's other
7 ways. I mean, even stabilizations or
8 solidification-type methods that we could do
9 transects to keep things from going into the lake.
10 There's multiple solutions. And I mean, to be able
11 to work through it, we need the data, and that's
12 what Aerostar is doing for us right now. They're
13 collecting the data so we can make smart data-driven
14 decisions together.

15 MR. SUELTFUSS: Thank you, Dr.
16 Varley. And Mr. Vaughn, thank you for your comment.

17 MR. VAUGHN: You're welcome.

18 MR. SUELTFUSS: Great. Let me check
19 to see if there are others who have joined virtually
20 who would like to make a comment to the RAB, please
21 just raise your hand electronically, if you would.

22 And I see Carol Cole has a hand up.
23 So, Carol, we'll turn to you. And Carol, go ahead.
24 Carol is un-muted, so we should be able to hear you.
25 Carol, we are not hearing you right now. Can you

1 try saying something? Looks like she may have some
2 connectivity issues. So, we will come back to Carol
3 Cole.

4 Are there others who would like to
5 make a comment? Okay. Just to check again, others
6 here in person who would like to make a comment?
7 Okay. And just to check again, any others who are
8 here in person who would like to make a comment to
9 the RAB?

10 Okay. Let me just check in. I see
11 Gregory Cole has a hand raised. So, Gregory, let's
12 turn to you. And Sarah, let's un-mute Gregory Cole,
13 please.

14 MR. COLE: Can you hear me?

15 MR. SUELTENFUSS: Yes, sir, we can.

16 MR. COLE: Okay. My question is, with
17 the weather season coming up here, what will EGLE
18 and the Air Force be doing to, of course stay busy.
19 I know that you're out collecting data. When will
20 that stop and what will be -- you be doing during
21 the winter season to get this going in 2022 in the
22 spring?

23 DR. VARLEY: So, we will be
24 working --

25 MS. RIFFE: Trying to mute her. He's

1 got two lines active.

2 DR. VARLEY: Greg, can you mute
3 yourself?

4 MS. RIFFE: There you go. Go ahead.

5 DR. VARLEY: All right. So, we will
6 work as much as we can, as far as we can, until the
7 weather makes it so that cannot work any longer.
8 So, our goal is to accomplish as much of the
9 fieldwork as we can, so we have data to look at over
10 the winter so that we can then provide any step outs
11 next field season for the RI. The goal is to get as
12 much as we can as far as the IRA is done this field
13 season, whatever we don't get done, hopefully we'll
14 have buildings up and we can work inside the
15 buildings all winter.

16 I also know that Greg has cabins, and
17 who knows, we might be able to use some of those as
18 we move forward. But there's lots of things going
19 on and lots of moving parts, and we all need to work
20 together to make sure we're making progress.

21 Paula, do you have anything to add?

22 MS. BOND: No. You hit the nail on
23 the head. We are going to do fieldwork for the RI
24 as long as we possibly can, as long as the weather
25 holds out and we can actually see the ground so that

1 we don't misstep. So, we're going to do as much as
2 we can with the IRAs, like you mentioned. We are
3 hoping that Clark's Marsh is -- the building is put
4 up so that we can work inside during the winter and
5 get that thing up and running so that it's ready to
6 go in the spring, so that is our -- our greatest
7 hope, that we're going to do everything we can and
8 work as long as we can.

9 MR. SUELTFUSS: Gregory, thank you
10 for your question. Are you there with -- with Carol
11 as well? Do you know if she has an additional
12 comment that she would like to make?

13 MS. RIFFE: He's self-muted.

14 MR. COLE: Can you hear me?

15 MR. SUELTFUSS: Yes, we can hear
16 you. Okay. So, Greg, if you would go ahead and
17 un-mute Carol -- yeah, thank you. Okay. So Carol,
18 go ahead and un-mute yourself. I heard that you
19 were trying to make a comment. And try that one
20 more time, Carol.

21 MS. COLE: Hello?

22 MR. SUELTFUSS: Yes, we can hear
23 you. Go ahead.

24 MS. COLE: Oh, good. Thank you. My
25 name is Carol Cole and my father owns some property

1 on the lake. I've been following this situation, I
2 have just sort of a simple question, and I don't
3 know if anybody can really answer it, but I'm trying
4 to get a feeling for if I want to keep the property
5 or let it go.

6 What are the prospects for getting the
7 lake cleaned out for PFAS so it would be safe to
8 fish in the lake within the next ten years?

9 MR. SUELTFUSS: Thank you for that
10 question. Is there any response anyone would like
11 to provide for that?

12 DR. VARLEY: I think data is needed to
13 be able to fully answer that question, because
14 you're saying what would it take, right? So, first
15 of all, we need to know where to cut off the plumes.
16 We need to know how our transport is. We need to
17 get full remedies set up. My goal is to move
18 forward as fast as we possibly can and to get things
19 done, and the only way to do that is everybody
20 working together.

21 Paula, do you have any thoughts on
22 this, or anybody else on the team?

23 MS. BOND: My thought would be that
24 it's really -- that's a great question, and it's a
25 hard one to answer, and I don't think we're in a

1 position where we have enough data to even make any
2 kind of prediction on that. I would be -- I would
3 not make any prediction at this point. We're just
4 not there yet. We don't have enough data.

5 MS. COLE: Okay. Thank you. That
6 answers my question. I appreciate it.

7 MR. SUELTFUSS: Thank you very much,
8 Carol. And Gregory, I see that your hand is raised.
9 Do you have an additional comment you'd like to make
10 to the RAB? I see Gregory's hand is raised, you are
11 muted, Gregory, so if you would like to come off
12 mute. Okay. It's possible that -- go ahead, Greg.

13 MR. COLE: No comments right now.
14 Thank you.

15 MR. SUELTFUSS: Okay. Great. Thank
16 you. Thanks for your persistence.

17 Okay. Are there any other comments to
18 be made to the RAB from those who have joined us
19 virtually? Please raise your hand electronically if
20 you would like to make a comment.

21 Okay. I don't see any others. Any
22 comments from those in person? Okay.

23 So, let's move to slide 27. We have
24 reached the end of the agenda tonight. Before
25 turning to our co-chairs for closing remarks, I'd

1 just like to thank all of you all on behalf of
2 myself, Tim Sueltenfuss, my business partners and
3 colleagues at Galen Driscoll. We just appreciate
4 being involved in the process and really applaud the
5 commitment that all of you have, the dedication,
6 Cathy, those thousands of hours that are put in on
7 such an important topic. And so just thank you for
8 all of the work that you're doing.

9 Let me turn first to Mr. Mark Henry
10 and then move to Dr. Catharine Varley for any
11 closing remarks.

12 MR. HENRY: I would just like to thank
13 everybody in attendance tonight virtually and in
14 person. Thanks for all of the questions. The RAB
15 has several comments to make to the proposed plan.
16 I look forward to hearing the responses back from
17 the Air Force. I guess that's about it. Thank you.

18 DR. VARLEY: All right. I'd like to
19 thank everybody for attending tonight both virtually
20 and here in person. I really like seeing everybody
21 face to face, it's really quite nice. So, thank you
22 all for coming out, and thank you all for your
23 questions. And if you ever questions, community RAB
24 chair, Mark Henry, you can get them to him and we'll
25 talk it through, and I'm sure we can get you an

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answer. Thank you all.

MR. SUELTENFUSS: Thank you all very
much. We are adjourned. Have a good evening.

(MEETING CONCLUDED AT 7:35 P.M.)

Minutes certified by:



/s/ Quentina Rochelle Snowden, CSR-5519
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Dated: September 23, 2021

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