

In the Matter Of:
RESTORATION ADVISORY BOARD

MEETING

May 20, 2026



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FORMER WURTSMITH AIR FORCE BASE
RESTORATION ADVISORY BOARD MEETING

May 20, 2026

5:00 p.m.

Oscoda United Methodist Church
120 West Dwight Street
Oscoda, Michigan 48750

RECORDED BY: JESSICA SHEPARD, CER 16369
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11 Board Members:

12 Tim Sueltenfuss, Board President
13 Denise Bryan
14 Michael Munson
15 Eric Strayer
16 Kyle Jones
17 Bill Gaines
18 Dave Carmona
19 Mark Henry
20 Dave Lacovone
21 Scott Lingo
22 Bill Palmer
23 Greg Schulz
24 Josh Sutton
25 Cathy Wusterbarth
Staci Bator
Kyle Jump
Arnie Leriche

Department of the Air Force:

Kate Need
Tammy O'Neill
Sylvia Crowell
Jenni Dorsey-Spitz
Chris King
Rachelle Collingham

Legislative Staff:

Kelly Lively
Tom Bratton
Brady Schulz
Peter Butkovich
Josh Shapiro

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APPEARANCES (CONT.)

Public Speakers:

Tony Spaniola
Diane Banks
Craig Perry
Beth _____

Also Present:

Stella Fuentes

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TABLE OF CONTENTS

	PAGE
Proceedings	5

LINK

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Websites/mdhhs/Safety-and-Injury-Prevention/
Environmental-Health/Health-Assessments/Documents
/Oscoda_Map_Rd6Hex9_ApprovedTemplate.pdf](https://www.michigan.gov/mdhhs/-/media/Project/Websites/mdhhs/Safety-and-Injury-Prevention/Environmental-Health/Health-Assessments/Documents/Oscoda_Map_Rd6Hex9_ApprovedTemplate.pdf)

1 Oscoda, Michigan

2 Wednesday, May 20, 2026 - 5:00 p.m.

3 MR. SUELTFUSS: All right. Welcome,
4 everyone. Welcome to the Former Wurtsmith Air
5 Force Base Restoration Advisory Board meeting. We
6 appreciate your presence tonight. Let me begin
7 with opening remarks from our co-chairs. I'll turn
8 first to Dave Lacovone.

9 Oh. Mark, go ahead.

10 MR. HENRY: As Tim said, thank you very
11 much for attending. We're making some progress and
12 I'm glad to see that. This is a long venture that
13 we're engaged in here, and I'm glad that the
14 Technical Work Group has been constructed to look
15 at a lot of the influences on the PFAS at Wurtsmith
16 that need to be accounted for when looking for
17 remedies. And so we're fully engaged in that right
18 now, and I think we're making good progress, and
19 I'm hoping that the end result will benefit us all
20 in the understanding of what's going on.

21 MR. SUELTFUSS: Thank you very much.
22 Dave Lacovone.

23 MR. LACOVONE: Good evening, everybody.
24 I'll just say I'm happy to be here in -- up here in
25 Oscoda again to discuss a lot of things with regard

1 to how operations are going at Wurtsmith. I'm glad
2 we have much better weather than we did back in
3 February. And hopefully everybody who has come
4 here tonight seeking information finds the
5 information that, you know, they're seeking. So I
6 appreciate your time.

7 MR. SUELTFUSS: Thank you, Dave.

8 We also want to welcome some really
9 important guests. First and foremost, our members
10 of the public. Is there anyone here who is a
11 member of the public who lives in the local area
12 and is here for some information tonight? Okay.
13 All right. Thank you very much, sir. And I -- and
14 I know we have some others as well who are deeply
15 interested in this topic, so thank you for your
16 participation. This meeting really is to inform
17 the community, and so your presence really is
18 important. Thank you.

19 I would also like to -- like to welcome
20 the staff from our elected officials as well. We
21 have Kelly Lively from Senator Gary Peters' office.
22 We have Tom Bratton from Senator Elissa Slotkin's
23 office. We have Brady Schulz from Representative
24 Jack Bergman's office. I believe online we may
25 have Peter Butkovich from Representative Kristen

1 McDonald Rivet's office, and Josh Shapiro from
2 Representative Debbie Dingell as well.

3 We're also joined by several Department
4 of the Air Force leaders, Ms. Tammy O'Neill here
5 with the Air Force Civil Engineer Center. We have
6 Ms. Sylvia Crowell, also with the Air Force Civil
7 Engineer Center as well. Thank you. We have Ms.
8 Jenni Dorsey-Spitz with the Secretary of the Air
9 Force for Infrastructure, Energy, and Environment
10 as well.

11 Let's see. Are there other distinguished
12 guests who are here in person or also any who are
13 connected remotely? If you are connected remotely,
14 a leader of an organization joining us, please drop
15 that into the chat. We would very much like to
16 recognize you as well. So I'll just look to our
17 support staff in the back. If there's anyone who
18 does indicate their presence on the chat, then just
19 please let me know.

20 Okay. Now that we've introduced the
21 important people, I'll introduce the other side,
22 myself. My name is Tim Sueltenfuss. I'm with
23 Galen Driscoll. I'm happy to be facilitator for the
24 Wurtsmith Restoration Advisory Board and the
25 Technical Working Group as well. I'm happy to be

1 here with you tonight. Let's go ahead and begin
2 with introductions from each of our Restoration
3 Advisory Board members.

4 And, Arnie, I'll start with you down at
5 the end. We'll just kind of go along the line
6 here.

7 MR. LERICHE: Arnie Leriche, Oscoda
8 resident.

9 MR. JUMP: Kyle Jump with EGLE. I'm the
10 super fund project manager.

11 MS. BATOR: Staci Bator with MDHHS.

12 MS. WUSTERBARTH: Cathy Wusterbarth,
13 community RAB member and leader of the Need Our
14 Water Community Action Group.

15 MR. STRAYER: Eric Strayer,
16 superintendent for Seville Township.

17 MR. G. SCHULZ: Greg Schulz. C-RAB.

18 MR. PALMER: Bill Palmer, community RAB
19 member.

20 MR. LINGO: Scott Lingo, community RAB
21 member.

22 MR. LACOVONE: Dave Lacovone with AFCEC.
23 RPM and BRAC environmental coordinator out of
24 Wright-Patterson Air Force Base.

25 MR. HENRY: Mark Henry, community co-

1 chair.

2 MR. JONES: Kyle Jones, community RAB.

3 MR. GAINES: Bill Gaines, community RAB.

4 MR. CARMONA: Dave Carmona, community
5 RAB.

6 MR. SUTTON: Joshua Sutton, community
7 RAB.

8 MR. MUNSON: Mike Munson, Oscoda-
9 Wurtsmith Airport.

10 MS. BRYAN: Denise Bryan, health officer,
11 District Health Department Number 2.

12 MR. SUELTFUSS: Okay. Let me just
13 check to see if we have any RAB members who are
14 connected remotely. Do we have anyone on the line
15 right now? I think we're covered here, I believe.
16 Okay. Kyle Jump gave us a good example. Let's
17 pretend we're at karaoke with these mics and
18 project straight into these mics so that everyone
19 can hear us well.

20 So thanks for the example. You can show
21 your skills later.

22 MR. JUMP: Anytime.

23 MR. SUELTFUSS: Okay. The RAB
24 operating procedures, Section 2.4.8, for those who
25 are tracking, defines a quorum as 51 percent of

1 community RAB members, 51 percent of Government RAB
2 members, plus both a community co-chair and the Air
3 Force co-chair. And we do have a quorum tonight
4 for our meeting. Let's move to Slide 2 if we
5 could. Our meeting tonight is a hybrid meeting, so
6 some of us here in-person, others connected
7 remotely, and we have displayed instructions for
8 those of you who are connected remotely.

9 Okay. Slide 3. Let's review the agenda
10 for this evening if we could. We'll begin with
11 welcoming remarks and introductions, and shift to
12 RAB member and RAB business updates, including an
13 Air Force update. The Air Force update will
14 include discussions and updates of that Technical
15 Working Group, or TWG, as well. We're going to
16 reserve plenty of time for RAB member discussion
17 and public comments before we conclude. The
18 majority of our time tonight is intended for
19 discussion among the RAB members here at these
20 tables. We'll make sure to include that public
21 comment period so that we can hear from members of
22 the public, any questions, any concerns that are on
23 your minds, before we wrap up tonight as well.

24 8:00 p.m. Eastern is our planned
25 conclusion time, but I did confirm we have the

1 meeting all night long. So we want to stay here
2 and just have whatever discussions are needed to
3 address the questions that are on your mind. So
4 that's a planning purpose, but we want to make sure
5 we have full discussion and open conversation
6 tonight. The meeting is being recorded and
7 transcribed by a court reporter, and we have a --
8 an acronym list available as the -- as a backup
9 slide to the PowerPoints that were distributed to
10 the RAB members as well. I'm going to try to make
11 sure that we take breaks about roughly on the hour
12 for ten minutes, but these will be actual ten-
13 minute breaks. So we'll try to make them -- make
14 them real quick.

15 Okay. Slide 4, if we could. I would
16 like to just start by reminding everyone of my role
17 here as well. Again, Tim Sueltenfuss, and what I'm
18 here to do is serve as a neutral intermediary. My
19 focus is on the mutual success of the entire board,
20 the Restoration Advisory Board. I'm here to manage
21 interactions and guide our conversations a bit,
22 ensure everyone's voice is heard, and really,
23 ensure that we conduct our meetings in accordance
24 with 32 Code of Federal Regulations Part 202, the
25 RAB Rule, and the RAB Rule Handbook, and the

1 Wurtsmith RAB Operating Procedures, as well as any
2 more specific meeting standards that might be
3 adopted in the future. I'm here to work on
4 everyone's behalf to make sure we have the right
5 conversations.

6 I'm joined tonight by my colleague,
7 Stella Fuentes (phonetic) here. She's going to
8 help me in capturing action items. Stella and I
9 will remain here after the RAB meeting for about
10 half an hour as well, so that if any RAB members
11 voice a -- an action, we're going to do our best to
12 capture that, but then we'll also stick around so
13 that you can help make sure that we capture
14 precisely what you were trying to get at.

15 Let's see. RAB Operating Procedures
16 Section 2.4.4 lays out some ground rules for our
17 discussions. These should apply in our RAB
18 meetings and then also other interactions that we
19 have. I'll read these off. "Respect one another
20 and maintain an atmosphere of open dialogue and
21 exchange of ideas. Use our time together
22 efficiently, wisely, and respectfully. Listen and
23 remain open to each other's varying points of view.
24 Speak clearly and succinctly, one person at a time.
25 Avoid interrupting others." Think of our court

1 reporter for that reason specifically.

2 "Share information early, openly, and
3 honestly. Maintain our propensity for progress.
4 Prepare, discuss, document, and find ways to move
5 forward. Accurately and objectively relate to
6 others the discussions that occur at these board
7 meetings."

8 RAB members, those are your ground rules,
9 and I'm just here to help enforce them. Do they
10 still work or do they need adjustment? Are we good
11 with those ground rules?

12 MR. HENRY: Yes.

13 MR. SUELTFUSS: All right. Let's see.
14 So again, we have several hours ahead of us. We
15 have the right people here. Let's see how we can
16 move this program forward tonight in small ways,
17 maybe, but meaningful ways and impactful ways. The
18 RAB Rule is that Code of Federal Regulations that
19 provides description of how RABs across the country
20 operate. There's also a RAB Rule Handbook that
21 provides further detail. Wurtsmith RAB has
22 developed operating procedures, kind of the
23 constitution for our group.

24 There's also a document that has been
25 circulating over the last few months, specific RAB

1 meeting standards as well. So those include
2 detailed, additional practices that provide
3 structure and standardization for our RAB meetings.
4 They lay out a sequence of preparatory activities.
5 So from one RAB meeting to the next, what occurs
6 and in what sequence? So when do videos and
7 transcripts get posted? When do the co-chairs have
8 their first meeting? When do the RAB members have
9 a virtual action item review meeting? When does
10 that second co-chair's meeting occur? And then
11 when do public notices and other steps like that
12 occur as well? So some detailed practices.

13 Those have been issued as draft, and I
14 think we are ready to adopt those. So in a moment,
15 I will ask the RAB members if you are ready to
16 adopt those RAB meeting standards, which has been
17 distributed. Even this morning, I sent a clean
18 version of those out. Is there any discussion on
19 the RAB meeting standards before we check to see
20 whether are ready to adopt them?

21 Yes, sir.

22 MR. JONES: Kyle Jones. I have a
23 question on Meeting Standard 10, which is in
24 reference to any community RAB member whose term is
25 ending, they are to inform the Air Force -- well,

1 inform, I guess, the co-chairs whether they're
2 going to continue on with that a new term or not.
3 And I think there's nothing wrong with that, but an
4 upshot of that is it presupposes that the RAB
5 member knows that their term is ending in the first
6 place.

7 And so is there some record of when each
8 community member became a community member of the
9 RAB or was voted in, such that there is some way
10 that they -- or can figure out that their term is
11 ending? Or would the Air Force sort of get ahead
12 of the game and inform that particular RAB member
13 that their term is ending, so that they would be
14 prepared to answer the question about whether they
15 would continue or not?

16 MR. SUELTFUSS: That's an important
17 point.

18 MR. JONES: Yes. So I would like that
19 either to -- I don't care necessarily that it gets
20 written into -- but I would like to have an
21 understanding amongst all of us how this is going
22 to be accomplished. How does the RAB member get
23 the information? Because I don't know, including
24 myself, that I don't even personally remember when
25 I --

1 MR. SUELTFUSS: Sure.

2 MR. JONES: So anyway, I'll stop there.

3 MR. SUELTFUSS: I can -- I'll defer to
4 the co-chairs on this. I'll just make one comment
5 that there is a document that indicates who are the
6 members of the RAB and when does their term
7 conclude. It's a -- the Operating Procedures
8 states it's a two-year term, and that document had
9 kind of gone out of being kept up-to-date. But
10 then in a recent RAB co-chair meeting, we realized
11 that it had fallen out of date, and so we did
12 update that. So I believe that we do have that
13 document that could be shared if the chairs would
14 like to do so.

15 Co-chairs, anything you would like to add
16 in on that point?

17 MR. LACOVONE: No. In fact, I think, if
18 I'm not mistaken, RAB member elections, we were
19 going to be holding them again next May, so I'm
20 thinking those terms must be in tune with that --
21 with the RAB election. Yeah.

22 MR. SUELTFUSS: Yeah. There was some
23 uncertainty. We thought that this May was going to
24 be the time to reappoint community RAB members.
25 Did some research, and then found that it's

1 actually next May.

2 So we do at -- it was at that time, Mr.
3 Jones, then, that we updated that document. So we
4 do have that that could be shared with the RAB
5 members.

6 MR. JONES: So Tim, are you saying, then,
7 that the document that indicates all the RAB
8 members and the dates of their term, all of the RAB
9 members' terms end next May? I mean, I would have
10 thought it would be sort of a staggered thing based
11 on when they came on board.

12 MR. HENRY: Well, like, Bill Palmer is
13 out of sync with that.

14 MR. JONES: Yeah. So --

15 MR. SUELTFUSS: Yeah. I don't remember
16 offhand, sir, if it's all of them at the same time.
17 I don't think it is everyone at the same time. I
18 know that there was some uncertainty on my part. I
19 thought this meeting would be a time to reappoint
20 at least some of the community RAB members and then
21 we realized that a year had been skipped in the
22 past, and so I would have to double check that.

23 MR. JONES: Okay.

24 MR. SUELTFUSS: Yeah.

25 MR. JONES: So if it's the case that the

1 May meeting is designated as the meeting for
2 purposes of a RAB member declaring re-upping or
3 not, maybe we can, in fact, just have that be part
4 of the preparation of the slides for the May
5 meeting and put those meetings right on a slide
6 and, you know, if they're just obviously the slides
7 are distributed prior to the meeting, anyone -- any
8 RAB member can then consult that and say, ah, I'm
9 up.

10 MR. SUELTFUSS: Exactly.

11 MR. JONES: So maybe it -- can we have
12 that understanding, that it would be made part of
13 the slides of that -- of the May RAB meeting?

14 MR. SUELTFUSS: Mr. Chair, what do you
15 think?

16 MR. JONES: Seems like a --

17 MR. CARMONA: Excuse me. I would think,
18 and it designates in here, that you would list that
19 in February. Positions shall be discussed during
20 the February RAB meeting.

21 MR. SUELTFUSS: Oh, that's true.

22 MR. JONES: Exactly. Okay. So I'll
23 revise my request to say, let's do it -- disclose
24 it in the February meeting, and then they would
25 presumably that RAB member would have three months

1 to figure out whether they were going to re-up or
2 not, and the vote would be conducted in the May
3 meeting.

4 MR. SUELTFUSS: In the May meeting.
5 Correct.

6 MR. LACOVONE: Yes. Kyle, that's what
7 Tim addressed that with me, because after the last
8 round, we kind of looked at that, and that's when
9 we realized there had to be if they have them
10 scheduled.

11 MR. JONES: Sure.

12 MR. LACOVONE: And that's when we
13 realized that that whole cycle needed to be redone.

14 MR. JONES: Okay. Yeah. I'm just
15 concerned that someone is going to get surprised
16 and, you know --

17 MR. SUELTFUSS: Understood.

18 MR. JONES: Yeah. That was it. That's
19 all I had in terms of what you had put out.

20 MR. SUELTFUSS: I appreciate that, sir.

21 So I think, Stella, maybe what we can
22 capture as an action item to update that list, the
23 Terms of Service of the community RAB members.
24 Share that now and then as Mr. Jones indicated,
25 have notification in February of each year of

1 anyone whose terms will be expiring in May of that
2 year.

3 I believe is what you were saying, sir;
4 is that right?

5 MR. JONES: Yes.

6 MR. SUELTFUSS: Okay. Great. Okay.
7 Yes, sir. Arnie Leriche?

8 MR. LERICHE: I just found out tonight
9 that the Community -- what's the CIP?

10 MR. SUELTFUSS: Community Involvement
11 Plan.

12 MR. LERICHE: Involvement Plan. I asked
13 yesterday what the status was because it was a year
14 ago that the community members and full RAB,
15 actually, were -- well, I think it was community
16 members were interviewed by your team and -- but we
17 haven't seen the draft of it. And I just found out
18 tonight, I was talking to David, that it was
19 finalized and it's up on the administrative record
20 at this -- or the website or both. I'm not sure.

21 My question is this: I would like to
22 request that there be a presentation and
23 discussion, maybe at the tech session in August, on
24 that so we can understand it. And if there's
25 something in there that would benefit our community

1 engagement with the community in general, they
2 would have an opportunity after that, maybe
3 November or February, if there's something that we
4 want to adjust, add to the meeting standards.

5 MR. SUELTFUSS: Okay. Yes, sir. So
6 again, that Community Involvement Plan just lays
7 out what are the best practices for engaging with
8 the community. I think your request, then, Arnie,
9 is that at the August RAB technical session that
10 that be a topic of discussion, and then if needed,
11 if there are any adjustments that need to be made
12 to the RAB meeting standards, that they be adjusted
13 at that time; is that accurate?

14 MR. LERICHE: Correct.

15 MR. SUELTFUSS: Okay.

16 Dave, I saw you shaking your head. Is
17 that --

18 MR. LACOVONE: Oh, yes. Yeah. And
19 that's something I talked to Arnie about tonight
20 because we had got the CIP back and we had to run
21 it up the fly through public affairs and stuff.
22 And we finally got it up on the administrative
23 record last week. And I had meant to have Tim send
24 out, you know, an announcement to everybody saying
25 that it was on the administrative records so that

1 you knew it was there and you could go look at it
2 if you wish to.

3 So, Tony -- I'm sorry, Arnie and I talked
4 about this before, and I have no objection to that.
5 That's -- it makes a lot of sense.

6 MR. SUELTFUSS: Great. Okay.

7 MR. LERICHE: And the community and
8 engagement or involvement is an EPA CERCLA
9 requirement for sites, and it has never been
10 updated. So there was an oversight on our part on
11 the -- on the RAB, but also that -- it's -- we need
12 a presentation of that to the community probably in
13 that August RAB meeting.

14 MR. SUELTFUSS: Okay. Great. Thanks,
15 Arnie.

16 MR. LERICHE: Thanks.

17 MR. SUELTFUSS: Okay. In a moment,
18 I'll check to see if we're ready to adopt the RAB
19 meeting standards. Is there any other discussion
20 on the RAB meeting standards before we ask for a
21 vote by a show of hands? Okay. By show of hands
22 then, all RAB members, are you ready to adopt the
23 RAB meeting standards that have been issued?

24 ASSEMBLY: Yes.

25 MR. SUELTFUSS: Okay. I'm from Texas,

1 so no good at counting, but I think that's a
2 majority, so thank you very much. So those RAB
3 meeting standards are adopted then.

4 Let's go ahead and move to Slide 5, the
5 RAB member updates. And this section of the agenda
6 allows us to hear updates from our RAB members and
7 stakeholders as well. We always begin with
8 community RAB members, and so we'll just go down
9 the list and see if community RAB members have
10 anything they would like to share, and then we'll
11 move to our Government RAB members as well.

12 Mr. Henry, would you like to start us
13 off?

14 MR. HENRY: Sure.

15 What's new? I've been attending a lot of
16 Technical Working Group meetings we've been having
17 in-person associated with the RAB meetings, but
18 this time or since the last RAB meeting, we've been
19 having meetings pretty much every month. We're
20 trying to get all the details worked out so that
21 the UFP-QAPP, which is what the investigation is
22 done under, is inclusive of all the work that's
23 anticipated. So it's been a lot of work. I've
24 gotten to take a deep dive into the data, which has
25 been very enlightening.

1 MR. SUELTFUSS: All right. Thank you.
2 We'll just go down alphabetically to
3 David Carmona, we have next.

4 MR. PALMER: Nothing at this time.

5 MR. SUELTFUSS: Okay. Thank you, sir.
6 Mr. Gaines?

7 MR. GAINES: Nothing at this time.

8 MR. SUELTFUSS: Thank you, sir.
9 Mr. Jones?

10 MR. JONES: I am Mark Henry's lesser
11 right-hand man when it comes to the community
12 participation in the Technical Working Group. I
13 would add, Mark referenced the -- used the acronym
14 QAPP. That stands for Quality Assurance Project
15 Plan. It is in your handy-dandy acronym slide at
16 the near the end of the -- of your -- of the
17 presentation -- the PowerPoint presentation.

18 As for, you know, my observations on the
19 Technical Working Group, I think it has been
20 exceedingly useful and a very, very good way for
21 all the members of the working group to vet and
22 resolve any -- either misunderstandings or
23 differences of opinion. And in fact, we have made
24 a discipline of our -- of our own to not let open
25 questions or differences of opinion linger. We

1 want to get to a resolution on that, and so we're
2 going to, you know, sort of discipline ourselves to
3 do that.

4 I think that in the past without the
5 Technical Working Group, there's been a lot of,
6 sort of, hue and cry or requests or, you know,
7 recommendations made by the community to the Air
8 Force, and the Air Force receives those, generally
9 at this meeting, and then there wasn't really a
10 good mechanism to try to figure out how to resolve
11 it and it would just linger. And so now we have
12 the forum to, you know, work on these technical
13 issues and the discipline to resolve them. And I
14 guess to that end, to the degree that there are
15 other -- and I know we have the action item list,
16 and many of my colleagues on the community RAB are
17 very good at keeping track of -- or at least paying
18 attention to that.

19 But I guess if there are other issues
20 that come up during the RAB meeting that aren't
21 really appropriate for a Technical Working Group
22 discussion, that there would be some methodology to
23 record that and have a discipline to resolve it if
24 there's an open question.

25 MR. SUELTFUSS: I see. Thank you, sir.

1 MR. JONES: Other than that, I don't have
2 anything else to report.

3 MR. SUELTFUSS: Thank you, sir.

4 Let's go to Arnie Leriche.

5 MR. LERICHE: Just one. You're going to
6 receive a presentation by the Air Force about the
7 whole schedule of the whole project, so one slide.
8 In anticipation of when I saw that this past
9 weekend, I started thinking that hopefully, with
10 resources and everything and thinking ahead, the
11 Air Force, which I think the Air Force had done a
12 little bit of, but maybe we could push or ask them
13 to do it a little bit more quickly than what
14 they're going to present.

15 So I gave them an example of another site
16 that did sampling regarding health effects and
17 effect of eating fish or -- it's a screening level
18 for what's out there in the soil, in the fish, in
19 the water, and so forth, way before they got to the
20 RI phase, which is what started here two years ago.
21 Two-and-a-half years ago, I guess. And so I just
22 presented that to them and gave them a copy of some
23 of it.

24 So when you see that presentation, I just
25 want the public to know that several of us stepped

1 up at the meeting yesterday and shared our view
2 of -- delays are not something that we want to see,
3 but we know that money can't be printed by the Air
4 Force or time to do things. So I'll leave it at
5 that, but I know that -- I just want to make sure
6 that the public knows that there are several of us
7 that are -- identified this issue. So you're being
8 represented by a host of people on that, so --

9 MR. SUELTFUSS: Thank you, Arnie.
10 There's certainly a lot of very engaged folks on
11 the RAB, so we appreciate that involvement.

12 Let's go to Mr. Scott Lingo. Do you have
13 anything that you would like to share?

14 MR. LINGO: At this time, I have no
15 updates. Thank you.

16 MR. SUELTFUSS: Okay. Thank you.
17 How about to Bill Palmer?

18 MR. PALMER: Yeah. I don't have any
19 updates at this time. Thank you.

20 MR. SUELTFUSS: Go down the line.
21 Greg Schulz?

22 MR. G. SCHULZ: No updates.

23 MR. SUELTFUSS: All right.

24 Josh Sutton, anything you would like to
25 share?

1 MR. SUTTON: No updates.

2 MR. SUELTFUSS: Okay. Rex Vaughn
3 unfortunately was not able to join us tonight, I
4 believe. Let me just confirm that Rex is not --
5 Rex Vaughn is not connected remotely. I don't
6 believe he was able to.

7 Okay. Let's see. Cathy Wusterbarth?

8 MS. WUSTERBARTH: Well, you know I do.

9 MR. SUELTFUSS: You're about to clean
10 up, Cathy.

11 MS. WUSTERBARTH: Since our last RAB,
12 unfortunately, our community has experienced a
13 weather event that has affected homeowners who
14 are -- who were already affected by this
15 contamination. And so you -- you'll see -- you'll
16 probably see them focusing on their homes and their
17 properties a little bit in these next few months.
18 Their properties were, you know, just ruined. So
19 we know that their -- the monitoring wells, the
20 sampling wells, those sorts of things, were
21 affected also. So they're in our thoughts. From
22 what I understand, the Van Etten Lake Association
23 had really great communication with the homeowners,
24 and Diane Banks is here.

25 She can be -- you should be proud of what

1 you did.

2 MS. BANKS: Thank you, ma'am.

3 MS. WUSTERBARTH: Yeah. So yeah, they're
4 struggling in Van Etten Lake and some other areas
5 in Oscoda. So it was -- it was devastating. I
6 would like to thank the congressional offices for
7 being here. Their engagement with this RAB, with
8 our -- the Need Our Water Group, with Tony
9 Spaniola, has made all the difference in the world
10 for this community.

11 And I'm really proud of you, Tony. Thank
12 you very much. And the congressionals are -- just
13 have been amazing. So if you find yourself
14 wondering about politicians and what they can do to
15 make a difference, you know that they have done it
16 here on both sides of the aisle. So thank you.

17 MR. SUELTFUSS: Thank you very much.
18 Appreciate that, Cathy.

19 Let's go to our government RAB members.
20 And, Eric Strayer, I wonder if you could start us
21 off with any updates from your standpoint?

22 MR. STRAYER: No updates at this time.

23 MR. SUELTFUSS: Okay. And do we have
24 Rick Freeman joining? I know Tim Cummings was not
25 able to join. Do we have Rick Freeman on the line

1 from Oscoda Township? I think not. Okay. We'll
2 catch him if he joins later. So if Rick Freeman
3 does join, if you could give me the secret signal,
4 please. I would appreciate it.

5 And let's go to Michael Munson, please.

6 MR. MUNSON: Thank you.

7 I've got two bullet points that I'll just
8 go over quickly. At the break, if you want more
9 information, I can share that with you at the end
10 of it. We've had a lot of changes at the airport
11 of late. I say a lot of changes. There's two
12 significant ones. Due to recent retirements and
13 staff changes, we've done some realignment of the
14 staff in that regard.

15 Second point. One of our main concerns
16 at the airport is the environmental safety and
17 proper airport maintenance. To keep the airport
18 runway environment safe during inclement weather,
19 runway surface areas need to be free of any
20 contaminants. So in this case, because we can't
21 use conventional type of snow removal type of
22 chemicals, there are some chemicals we use that are
23 very expensive, but we have to make sure that it's
24 free. We use special equipment brushes and
25 snowplows to mechanically clean the unit. Given

1 the cost of the special equipment, a truck with an
2 industrial broom, for example, that piece of
3 equipment may run as high as \$250,000. Now, the
4 FAA does provide grant monies, its AIP funds to
5 airports to purchase some of this equipment. But
6 as always, the commercial airports and the military
7 airports get the majority of this, and the GA
8 airports are left to divvy up the pennies that are
9 left.

10 The -- let me see here. I lost my place
11 here. So if the GA airports looked to secure used
12 equipment from part -- from commercial airports,
13 those are called Part 139 airports. And Oscoda was
14 able to secure a broom truck from Flint recently.
15 That truck is probably worth -- it's a used truck
16 probably worth close to \$50,000. Now, because
17 Flint used FAA monies, they were able to transfer
18 this truck to Oscoda as a debt transfer. So we
19 didn't have to put out any monies other than the
20 monies needed to bring this equipment up, which, of
21 course, was very expensive. And again, at the end
22 of the -- of the break or the meeting, I can -- I
23 can go in more detail if anybody has got any
24 questions. Thank you.

25 MR. SUELTFUSS: Thank you, sir.

1 Appreciate that.

2 Let's advance to the next slide, if we
3 could. And we'll go to Kyle Jump with Michigan
4 Department of Environment, Great Lakes, and Energy.
5 And actually, if we could go ahead and pull up
6 Kyle's slides as well.

7 MR. JUMP: Okay. Hi, everyone. Can you
8 guys hear me? There we go. My name is Kyle Jump.
9 I am the superfund project manager on behalf of
10 EGLE. So next slide, please.

11 So just some recent updates and recent
12 activities that we've completed. So we attended
13 the April 2nd BCT meetings. So Base Realignment
14 and Closure Team meeting on April 2nd. Those
15 meeting minutes have been posted on the -- our
16 website as well. In addition, we also attended
17 various Technical Working Group meetings, as Mark
18 and Kyle stated, and they are now monthly. So
19 we've attended February, March, and April. And in
20 addition, we recently had an EGLE Need Our Water
21 Group meeting on May 12th, 2026, as well. So some
22 documents that we recently reviewed was the 2024
23 Pump and Treat System Report that was recently
24 finalized. The MMRP work that has been currently
25 going on in regards to the insulation, or the IVS,

1 we call it installation verification strip seating
2 reports. Those have been finalized as well. In
3 addition, we did recently review the Vapor
4 Intrusion Remedial Investigation Addendum 5, and
5 that work is now ongoing. And we've recently
6 completed a review of the final engineering
7 evaluation and cost analysis for the storm sewer
8 area.

9 So next slide, please. So just some
10 upcoming activities that will be going on. So our
11 TWG meetings are ongoing. Right now, the VI work,
12 the vapor intrusion work, it has been started and
13 that will be ongoing for the next couple months.
14 As far as the MMRP work, so the military munitions
15 work, that should -- is anticipated to start in
16 July. And, you know, we're anticipating some other
17 reports regarding some of this upcoming field work,
18 like the DGI QAPP, that addendum that we're going
19 to be expecting, as well as some other additional
20 reports. And like I -- and as shown on the slide
21 here, some upcoming reports are going to be at the
22 five-year review. The IRA performance tech memo,
23 which was discussed yesterday, too, the preliminary
24 site characterization report, various long-term
25 monitoring reports and PTS, so pump and treat

1 system annual reports. Like I said, the data gap
2 investigation, QAPP, and the wastewater treatment
3 plant IRA UFP-QAPP as well after that pre-design
4 investigation is completed. And that is all I
5 have.

6 MR. SUELTFUSS: All right. Well, thank
7 you very much, Kyle. Appreciate that.

8 And I believe those slides, I have not
9 distributed those. So I will send those out
10 tomorrow then --

11 MR. JUMP: Yes, please.

12 MR. SUELTFUSS: -- if that works.

13 MR. JUMP: Please. Thank you.

14 MR. SUELTFUSS: Okay. Great. Thank
15 you.

16 We have Staci Bator with the Department
17 of Health and Human Services. And Staci, was there
18 a map that you wanted to work from? I'm just --

19 MS. BATOR: Yes. I believe Kyle
20 submitted it. Yep.

21 MR. SUELTFUSS: Okay.

22 MS. BATOR: Great. Sure. So I can start
23 with this update. So shown on the screen there is
24 one of what we're calling hexbin maps, or the maps
25 that MDHHS created for -- to depict sampling

1 results for each round of PFAS sampling of
2 residential wells that we've done in the area from
3 2020 through 2025. So those maps are now available
4 on the MDHHS Former Wurtsmith Air Force Base and
5 the Oscoda area website. And like I said, those
6 are showing residential well sampling results in
7 the Oscoda area between 2020 and 2025.

8 So it is -- just to give a little bit of
9 an overview of how these maps work. Each of those
10 little hexagons are showing whichever homes were
11 sampled in that -- within that area. It may be
12 several homes, you know, where, you know, as not to
13 divulge private information, it's showing whether
14 there was a detection or an exceedance in those
15 small hexagon areas. So you can see on the side
16 there, there's a little key that shows green being
17 non-detect, so no PFAS detected -- detections of
18 PFAS or exceedances of our comparison values that
19 are shown over there on the right. And yeah, those
20 are up on our website.

21 I have a reminder that with the
22 recreational season coming up, MDHHS recommends
23 avoiding all foam on Michigan Lakes, rivers,
24 streams, and other water bodies, as the foam may
25 contain PFAS or other things that could be harmful

1 to human health. If you do come into contact with
2 foam, rinse it off and bathe or shower after the
3 day's outdoor activities.

4 And then just as a follow-up to the
5 question we got in February, the Eat Safe Wild Game
6 guidelines were evaluated based on updates made to
7 Eat Safe Fish PFOS consumption screening values.
8 Based on the current PFOS consumption screening
9 values used for both Eat Safe Fish and Eat Safe
10 Wild Game, no changes were needed as the guidelines
11 are still protective of human health.

12 That's all I have today. If anyone has
13 any follow-up questions on the maps or on my
14 updates, please let me know at a break or after
15 meeting.

16 Yeah, Mark.

17 MR. HENRY: I'm Mark Henry. I have a
18 question. There's been a lot of homes that have
19 been connected to municipal water --

20 MS. BATOR: Yes.

21 MR. HENRY: -- that had previously had
22 contaminated wells. Approximately how many of the
23 homes that you have been monitoring are you no
24 longer monitoring because they have safe water?

25 MS. BATOR: I can't give you a figure

1 right now. I can -- I can come up with that number
2 for you. An approximate number of homes that were
3 on our previous sampling list that are no longer
4 going to be sampled due to those connections.

5 MR. HENRY: Thank you.

6 MS. BATOR: Yeah. I can follow up with
7 you, Mark.

8 MR. MUNSON: Excuse me, Tim.

9 MR. SUELTFUSS: I'm sorry. One second.
10 I think that was an action item there to capture.
11 So let's try to make sure we capture that.

12 But, Staci, we may connect with you after
13 the RAB meeting concludes --

14 MS. BATOR: Sure.

15 MR. SUELTFUSS: -- to make sure we got
16 it right.

17 Mr. Munson?

18 MR. MUNSON: Yeah. I didn't see her -- I
19 didn't see MDS's (sic) slides in the packet. If
20 you want to include EGLE's slide, could it possibly
21 include those also? That'll save the RAB folks and
22 the community folks trying to figure out the
23 internet to find your website. If you could send
24 them out, that would be -- that would be
25 appreciated.

1 MS. BATOR: Sure. Yep. I can send my
2 updates to you and then also send a link to our
3 website where the maps are located as well, if that
4 would be helpful.

5 MR. MUNSON: And you read a prepared
6 statement, it sounded like --

7 MS. BATOR: Yes. I --

8 MR. MUNSON: -- as far as agreements.
9 That would be helpful to, I'm sure, the community
10 also.

11 MS. BATOR: Oh, you mean my updates here,
12 right?

13 MR. MUNSON: Yeah.

14 MS. BATOR: Yeah. Yes. I can send those
15 to Tim as well.

16 MR. SUELTFUSS: Yeah. Thank you. If
17 you send those my way, then I'll send them out to
18 the -- to the RAB. Yeah. Thank you.

19 MS. BATOR: Got it.

20 MR. SUELTFUSS: Appreciate it.

21 Okay. Denise Bryan is way down at the
22 other end of the table, so over to you.

23 MS. BRYAN: Local public health does not
24 have any new update. I would like to thank our
25 residents, neighbors, veterans, that have come to

1 the meeting tonight. Your time is valuable. We
2 appreciate your participation and for those online
3 following along. And I would like to thank our
4 legislators. It's nice to know that we have
5 support on these critical issues affecting the
6 health of our residents and veterans and the
7 environment here. And as you can see, we can have
8 other public health threats layered on top and
9 environmental issues on top of the burden of PFAS
10 contamination. So we are looking for expeditious
11 movement, and we appreciate the participation
12 because it will take all of us to find the
13 remedies. Thank you.

14 MR. SUELTFUSS: Thank you very much.

15 I don't believe that we have Ben Wiese
16 with USDA Forest Service here in the room. Do we
17 have Ben Wiese on the -- on the line? No? Okay.

18 Well, so that takes us through our brief
19 updates with the exception of the Department of the
20 Air Force. And so we will take a break in about 15
21 minutes or so, but Dave, I wonder if we might be
22 able to begin the Air Force update. We'll just
23 have to pause there for a quick break. I know one
24 of our RAB members will need to depart at 7:00.
25 Dave Lacovone will run through the briefing, but we

1 also have with us Department of Air Force
2 leadership as well. And so there may be
3 opportunities for them to add some additional
4 commentary on someone of the presentation.

5 Dave, over to you.

6 MR. LACOVONE: Okay. All right.

7 Okay. For our data, one of the things
8 we're going to talk about is the Technical Working
9 Group, and what we decided to do for this
10 particular RAB is Kate acts as our chairperson for
11 that TWG, and she's going to give an update on, you
12 know, what the TWG has been up to. Then we're
13 going to talk about some of the PFAS early actions,
14 the remedial investigation -- remedial
15 investigation, the QAPP investigation, or DGI.
16 We're also going to talk about MMRP, which was
17 briefly touched on earlier. We'll talk about
18 what's going on there. Last but not least, our
19 legacy comments and also questions, which I'm
20 pretty sure there's going to be questions.

21 So I'm very certain. So with regard to
22 the Technical Working Group, at this point, I'm
23 going to go ahead and turn it over to Kate.

24 MR. SUELTFUSS: And actually, if we
25 could -- yeah. Do we have a handheld mic?

1 MR. LACOVONE: Let me -- let me just --

2 MS. NEED: Want me to hand (inaudible)?

3 MR. SUELTFUSS: They're bringing a
4 handheld to you.

5 MS. NEED: Okay.

6 MR. SUELTFUSS: Yeah. Yeah. The
7 handheld mic helps those who are connected remotely
8 to hear us. So I appreciate everyone's patience
9 and waiting until the mic is in hand.

10 So, Kate, over to you.

11 MS. NEED: Mic check. Hear me? Okay.

12 Kate Need. As Dave said, I am the Technical
13 Working Group chair person. So if we can go to the
14 next slide. This is kind of our overview slide of
15 the purpose of the TWG. You've heard both Mark and
16 Kyle kind of talk about it already, but we are to
17 provide, as a group, our best scientific inputs to
18 how the work should proceed in a -- I'm not going
19 to say dispassionate manner, but science-based
20 manner.

21 So our core members are me, the chair;
22 Mark Henry and Kyle Jones from the community; EGLE
23 is Kyle Jones and Matt Baltusis; then we have Mr.
24 Sameer Chandra and Dave Lacovone from AFCEC as a
25 chemist and a hydrogeologist; and then Rick Freeman

1 from the Township. And if there's other people as
2 topics provide their -- that need -- we need their
3 expertise on.

4 So then over the last couple of months,
5 Kyle kind of covered it, we've been meeting monthly
6 since the last RAB. In March, we covered
7 groundwater flow pathways on the southeast side of
8 the Van Etten Lake, as they relate to continuing
9 beefing up the scope of work for the RI data gap
10 investigation. In April, we had a discussion about
11 the TWG business rules. We are still working
12 through those, so that item is not closed yet. And
13 then we talked about existing groundwater wells
14 that could be sampled as part of the DGI also. We
15 still have to finish that action out of a -- also.

16 We had an intermediate -- a biweekly TWG
17 there to continue to talk about the wells. We're
18 going to hopefully finish those up tomorrow at the
19 meeting. And then tomorrow, we're going to talk
20 about the results of the DRMO and LF 3031 pre-
21 design investigation for the IRAs out there. That
22 was -- that data was collected last summer, so
23 we're going to present it in the TWG and discuss.
24 And then we're also going to finish that -- the
25 existing wells discussion. So over on TWG for now.

1 Questions? Can't see over there.

2 MR. SUELTFUSS: Thanks, Kate. That
3 explains why I'm knee-deep in TWG meeting minutes.

4 MS. NEED: Yes. That explains why.
5 Because we had a few extras there.

6 MR. SUELTFUSS: A bonus, huh? Well,
7 thank you, Kate. Appreciate that.

8 Dave?

9 MR. LACOVONE: Okay. Let's go over to
10 the next slide, please. And the next slide. This
11 chart represents our PFAS early actions. As you
12 can tell, we've got quite a few IRAs in place, one
13 NTCRA, which will move soil, and then, you know,
14 the five IRAs, you know, treating water. If you
15 look at that banner down at the bottom, it's
16 roughly about 3.8 billion gallons worth of water
17 that's been treated, pulling out 157 pounds of PFAS
18 materials. Now, I know a lot of people are going
19 to say, 157, it doesn't sound like a whole lot, but
20 when you look at pulling things out at the nanogram
21 per liter level, you know, it starts to make a lot
22 more sense.

23 With regard to -- we also gave you
24 general costs of what that's cost us to date.
25 Just -- this is just for these IRAs and the NTCRA.

1 It's roughly about \$88.9 million, and that's how
2 much we've invested so far with markdown. Now, I
3 know in some other documents, it lists other
4 numbers. This is just these IRAs. It doesn't
5 include, you know, investigation costs. Those are
6 added in. I think we're looking at a sum of
7 roughly -- I think it's 118 million now. Go to the
8 next slide, please.

9 Anybody got a question? Well, I think
10 we'll save questions for the end, which is always
11 interesting.

12 MR. SUELTFUSS: Yeah. I would say if
13 there's a question that can't -- RAB members, if
14 there's a question that can be held to our RAB
15 member discussion time, I would suggest that. If
16 there's one that you feel is a burning priority, we
17 can address that. But if you can jot it down,
18 we'll have some time and it -- maybe the later
19 portions of the presentation might address that
20 question.

21 MR. LACOVONE: Okay. With regard to
22 FT002 in Van Etten Lake and Ken Ratliff Park, still
23 continue to operate as designed. Average uptime,
24 still up over 99 percent. With regard to the
25 performance monitoring, the draft fall performance

1 monitoring tech memorandum was received in April.
2 Under review, the 2026 spring performance
3 monitoring was performed just this past March after
4 our last RAB. The Spring Performance Monitoring
5 Technical Memorandum, we expect to receive that
6 around August of 2026. And in September of 2026,
7 they'll begin the fall monitoring.

8 There was a hydraulic assessment also
9 done. We recently received that document. I think
10 it was just last week, and unfortunately, we kind
11 of prepared these slides in advance like we
12 normally do, so it's kind of hard to predict
13 sometimes. It was delayed just a little bit
14 because they had to do some remodeling, and we'll
15 be going through that report, reviewing that
16 report, and eventually we'll be moving it forward.

17 Go to the next slide, please. We also
18 have what we call CTS1 for the Central Treatment
19 System 1 TCRA and the mission pump and treat
20 system. No significant changes, continues to
21 operate as designed. Once again, that's
22 combination of GAC and ion exchange resin replaced
23 as we determined by the results that we get when we
24 do our monitor. Go to the next slide, please.

25 MR. SUELTFUSS: And, actually, we have

1 a question there from Kyle Jump here. Very
2 quickly, because you used the acronym TCRA, and I
3 don't even know that I'm familiar with that.

4 MR. LACOVONE: TCRA is Time-Critical
5 Removal Action, I believe.

6 MR. SUELTFUSS: Okay.

7 MR. LACOVONE: And NTCRA is the Non-Time-
8 Critical Removal Action.

9 MR. SUELTFUSS: Thank you.

10 MR. LACOVONE: No problem. You know,
11 it's not like the Air Force and the Military use
12 acronyms, right? I think sometimes that's all we
13 talk in is acronyms.

14 We also got the alert aircraft area in
15 that slide. Oh, I'm sorry. You're on the right
16 slide. Never mind. My bad. Continues to operate.
17 We did finish up our fourth quarter of sampling.
18 The contractor is currently working on their
19 construction completion report, which will include
20 a valuation of that system, but we're still going
21 to continue monitoring on a quarterly basis.
22 Typically, what happens with a system like this is
23 it goes to semi-annual, but we want to make sure
24 everything is still functioning properly while
25 we're continuing to work on that report under the

1 assumption that, you know, we want to make sure
2 it's still progressing and only when we're feeling
3 comfortable with what the results look like in that
4 report will we move to semiannual monitoring as
5 opposed to a quarterly monitoring. And that's why
6 you'll see it says year 2, quarter 1 was going to
7 be in May of, you know, this month.

8 Like I said, the IRA construction
9 completion report, we expect a draft fairly soon.
10 May, probably within the next week or so. I
11 imagine once that document has gone through review
12 by whichever entities, you know, are going to be
13 reviewing it, my guess is it's going to be -- not
14 only include EGLE, but also the -- you know, the
15 TWG members. We hope to get that finalized by
16 August.

17 The next slide, please. With regard to
18 the DRMO and LF 3031 IRAs, we were going to be
19 discussing that tomorrow during the TWG. There was
20 a lot of pre-design collection and we also have
21 that green sand pilot study. For those of you who
22 are unfamiliar with what the green sand is all
23 about, the green sand is designed to filter out
24 iron and manganese, which can be an issue with
25 regard to extraction wells and something called

1 biofouling. So we have those documents. And like
2 I said, we will be talking about the IRAs at the
3 TWG tomorrow. So --

4 MR. SUELTFUSS: That TWG being that
5 Technical Working Group?

6 MR. LACOVONE: Technical Working Group,
7 yes. Sorry. Another acronym. I apologize.

8 MR. SUELTFUSS: And, Dave, I'll kind of
9 defer to you to find a natural break point for a --
10 for a break here. We're about five minutes until
11 the hour, but I don't want to stop things
12 prematurely. So when you feel like we're at a good
13 break point, then we can --

14 MR. LACOVONE: Okay. Let's go to the
15 data gap investigation and then, you know, we can
16 break before that.

17 We also have the Three Pipes Ditch source
18 area and wastewater treatment plant IRAs. Now, we
19 had some presentations on those yesterday, which
20 everybody got a chance to see them in the tech
21 session. It was very informative. Those are in
22 progress. We're looking at developing timelines
23 for those that are realistic as to when we're going
24 to get those into operation. There's a lot of
25 things to consider. A lot of work that has to be

1 done before those systems go in so we get optimum
2 performance from those systems.

3 Go for the next slide. Now we have a
4 draft QAPP. It's still under review. I know this
5 document has been under review for quite some time.
6 The problem is it's a very complex document. I
7 actually brought it to the technical session
8 meeting yesterday but never got a chance to
9 actually show anybody. It was that big 4-inch
10 binder that was sitting on my table that was pretty
11 much full. So there are -- there's a lot of things
12 that we have to look at with regard to those IRAs
13 to make sure that we can get optimum performance
14 out of those IRAs.

15 All right. Next slide, please. The
16 Three Pipes stormwater NTCRA, a lot of you are very
17 familiar with this. This is for the ESA with the
18 Township, Environmental Services Agreement. We
19 wrote and developed an EE/CA that we put on the
20 administrative record on, I believe it was April
21 15th. It has 30 days in which people have a chance
22 to comment on that. That 30 days ended last
23 Friday. I will let everybody know we only got
24 electronic comments from EGLE, which we will be
25 addressing. We are going to wait at least, I would

1 say, until next Tuesday to see if we get any -- to
2 see if I get any registered mail at my office in
3 Wright-Patterson Air Force Base. The reason I'm
4 adding a couple days into that is because they just
5 moved us at the base, and when they move you at the
6 base, a lot of times, they have a hard time finding
7 you at the base. So I've had trouble over the last
8 year since we moved getting my mail to come to the
9 right place, so -- but I will be checking both at
10 the old building and my building to ensure that,
11 you know, comments that are significant are
12 addressed.

13 We also have an action memorandum that
14 has already been drafted, and we are going to be
15 making some changes in that action memorandum, but
16 it will also include a table of the comments and
17 how we're addressing those comments. So far we
18 haven't seen anything in the comments from EGLE
19 that would stand in the way of us moving forward
20 with what we call the ceiling of the storm sewer
21 system, which everybody, especially the airport, is
22 really interested in, and we're going to try to
23 diminish -- make sure that PFAS coming out of that
24 storm pipe is diminished. Once we get the action
25 memorandum finalized, we're going to -- I'm going

1 to give it to Ms. O'Neill, send it to Ms. O'Neill,
2 and she's going to take it directly to Brigadier
3 General Miller so that he can sign off on the
4 Environmental Services Agreement. Once that's
5 signed off, I was told by Rick Freeman in that
6 meeting today, they would move forward with putting
7 out an RFP.

8 They expect to have that RFP out for
9 about four weeks to make sure they capture any
10 contractor, you know, that may want to bid on that
11 project or work on that project. We suspect that
12 that project work will take at least eight weeks.
13 Reason being is they have to dewater the system
14 first. It has to be dry before they can go in
15 there and seal. So does anybody have a question on
16 that whole process?

17 MR. SUELTFUSS: Go ahead.

18 MR. JUMP: And I just want to state that
19 we do support moving forward with that EE/CA as
20 well.

21 MR. SUELTFUSS: Thank you very much,
22 Kyle.

23 MR. CARMONA: Okay. Yep. I did have a
24 question.

25 MR. SUELTFUSS: Yes.

1 MR. LACOVONE: Yes, sir.

2 MR. CARMONA: In any of the projects
3 here, has there been, for an RFP, any contesting of
4 the RFP as far as once you led the project, has
5 that ever occurred here?

6 MR. LACOVONE: For the Air Force, I'm not
7 sure, but this RFP will be put out by the Township.
8 And in fact, I think they've engaged in an
9 engineering firm to develop the RFP. And Rick
10 knows more about that process right now than I do,
11 Dave, so it -- that's always a possibility. We'll
12 see -- we'll see how it goes. With the Air Force,
13 I think a lot of times we get things that are
14 contested, but that's on a different level.

15 MR. CARMONA: Do you ever share that
16 information with us? Because that delays letting
17 contracts and pushes the timeline.

18 MR. LACOVONE: We can let you know that,
19 if necessary, for us. I'm hoping the Township will
20 at least let us know if they have any issues with
21 regard to that RFP.

22 MR. CARMONA: Thank you.

23 MR. LACOVONE: You're welcome.

24 MR. SUELTFUSS: And, Dave, it sounds
25 like you have interest in, if there is the delay to

1 that RFP, that you would like to hear about that, I
2 believe.

3 MR. CARMONA: Of any RFP. Yeah. Just
4 because it pushes our timeline further. I mean,
5 when I first joined this, 2027 was our first shot
6 at the ROD. Now we're all the way up to 2035, so
7 slippage, slippage, slippage. It's been our
8 primary issue here and it continues to be, and this
9 is another point of slippage of 60 to 180 days on a
10 contract.

11 MR. SUELTENFUSS: Okay. Thank you.

12 Mr. Gaines, did you have a comment?

13 MR. GAINES: Yeah.

14 You talked earlier about how many pounds
15 of PFAS you have removed. Now, I don't have the
16 foggiest idea how many pounds of PFAS chemical
17 would be in a drum of AFFF. Is there any idea of
18 how many pounds of PFAS chemical are actually --
19 were actually placed into the environment here?

20 MR. LACOVONE: We can go back and look
21 into the records, but that -- that's something we
22 can look into if you wish us to do so. It's going
23 to take a lot of research, more than likely.

24 MR. GAINES: Well, I mean, I wouldn't
25 really be interested in more than an approximation,

1 but I think it would be a thing of knowledge to the
2 community to know how much we've got to go compared
3 to how much we've removed. I guess the hard part
4 about that, and the reason I'm not jumping up and
5 down about it, is probably more of that chemical
6 has left the base than remains. But even so, kind
7 of a -- of a scope of where we are compared with
8 where we have to go, if you could have any
9 information about that, I think that would be a
10 useful thing for the community to at least
11 understand and appreciate the magnitude of the
12 problem.

13 MR. SUELTFUSS: And, Mr. Gaines, it
14 sounds like you're looking back to the comment that
15 there were 157 pounds of PFAS removed, and your
16 question is 157 pounds out of how many pounds?

17 MR. GAINES: Exactly.

18 MR. SUELTFUSS: Thank you. Okay.

19 MR. HENRY: I can -- I can give some
20 input here. There was a document that was
21 generated when the base closed in 1993. And in
22 that document, the -- I think it's the baseline
23 environmental survey or something like that. It's
24 in the administrative record. They go through all
25 of the places on base where chemicals, including

1 AFFF, the film-fighting foam or firefighting foam,
2 used on a yearly basis. And so it's actually a
3 staggering amount when you add it all up.

4 MR. SUELTFUSS: I thought it might be.

5 MR. HENRY: It is.

6 MR. LACOVONE: Just bear in mind that
7 with regard to something like the aqueous film
8 forming foam, it's just a little bit goes a long
9 way. You know, when they -- when they spray the
10 foam, it's at a height. The mixture ratio is
11 fairly hot, you know, with regard to foam to water.
12 So just bear that along. So, you know, a drum
13 isn't necessarily used in one instance. They may
14 only use a small portion of that, their own AFFF,
15 you know, materials.

16 MR. GAINES: Yeah. Well, and that part
17 of that was the reason that I wanted to know how
18 much of that drum is AFFF. I mean, that is
19 actually PFAS, PFOA, et cetera, and how much it is
20 carrier. And then, you know, some idea of how
21 much -- how much of the actual stuff that you care
22 about might be there.

23 MR. LACOVONE: Thank you, sir.

24 Mark Henry?

25 MR. HENRY: A little bit of technical

1 information to answer Bill's question. From what I
2 have heard, the concentrated AFFF solution that
3 shipped and ultimately diluted down for the fire
4 trucks was about 35 percent PFOS, and the rest of
5 it was other surfactants and carriers.

6 MR. SUELTFUSS: Okay. Thank you.

7 Mr. Gaines, I appreciate that question
8 there.

9 I wonder if this might be a good time to
10 take a 15-minute break. Let's advance to the next
11 slide. We will pick up after a break on PFAS RI
12 data gaps investigation. It is now 6:05. We will
13 begin at 6:15, so it's ten-minute break.

14 (A recess was taken.)

15 MR. SUELTFUSS: Please come on in and
16 have a seat.

17 And Mr. Leriche, if you don't mind coming
18 in. Okay. Thank you very much. The discussion
19 going on -- that discussion is now going to come on
20 in and have a seat. We'll get started again.

21 Now, just as a reminder, we are in the
22 Department of the Air Force presentation portion of
23 our agenda. Pause that for a moment. In a moment,
24 we'll begin again. Dave Lacovone will talk us
25 through that. There may be others from the

1 Department of the Air Force who will add in some
2 commentary as well.

3 Mr. Jones, do you have that?

4 MR. JONES: Dave, I -- getting back to
5 Mr. Gaines' question, I wonder if, really, the
6 question ought to be how much PFAS is remained
7 at -- you know, at the base that is still migrating
8 away. Is that -- is that a metrics that is -- that
9 the Air Force will determine based on the -- its
10 nature and extent of contamination study in the RI?

11 MR. LACOVONE: With an absolute degree of
12 certainty, I would say no.

13 MR. JONES: Well, I -- okay. But a rough
14 estimate or whatever. You have to sort of know
15 what's there in order to know how to clean up
16 what's there, right?

17 MR. LACOVONE: Correct. It's what they
18 do when they talk about doing like mass flux, you
19 know, especially in the soil.

20 MR. JONES: Yes. Okay.

21 MR. LACOVONE: So, you know, when you
22 look at the AFFF, you know -- I know because of
23 some of the bases I have had to deal with. And for
24 those of you unfamiliar with that, I have worked
25 some active installations as of RPM. So I actually

1 have two active installations. I know some of
2 them, a lot of PFAS or AFFF mixer, was actually
3 sent back, you know, or sent for destruction. It
4 had been stored over the years. So, you know, just
5 finding those records -- if we can find the
6 records, we could probably, you know, at least come
7 up with an estimate.

8 MR. JONES: Sure. But there's still PFAS
9 in the environment at the base now in the soil and
10 in the groundwater. And I think what's relevant
11 for us going forward is how much is there now.

12 MR. LACOVONE: Yeah.

13 MR. JONES: And so, again, with --
14 without getting down to the -- to the pound or the
15 half-a-pound determination, as things go forward, I
16 think it would be useful for the Air Force to
17 report back to the RAB and the community how much
18 is there so that you will say it will -- in the
19 context of saying that's what we have to clean up.

20 MR. SUELTFUSS: And so, sir, it sounds
21 like you're interested in what is that metric of
22 cleanup? How can we know the progression of the
23 cleanup? How much is being addressed, essentially?

24 MR. JONES: More like how much needs to
25 be addressed.

1 MR. SUELTFUSS: Oh, okay.

2 MR. JONES: I mean, some are being
3 addressed now, as Dave already reported in that IRA
4 table, but there is a lot that hasn't been
5 addressed and continues to migrate away. And I
6 just think that the metric -- a lot has already
7 gone out beyond the base, beyond Van Etten Lake
8 and, you know, into the Au Sable or into Lake
9 Huron.

10 But the -- you know, the CERCLA process
11 calls for a remedial investigation that, in the
12 end, the Air Force is responsible for determining
13 the nature, what's there, and the extent, how far
14 and how much -- nature and extent of the
15 contamination. And so I would presume that -- as
16 part of that responsibility under CERCLA, that they
17 would be able to report at some future point how
18 much is still -- remains to be remediated. And
19 that would be a useful number or metric to know for
20 the TWG, but more importantly for the community.

21 MR. SUELTFUSS: Okay. Okay. Thank you
22 very much.

23 Mr. Lacovone, does that sound -- or raise
24 any questions, and then we'll go --

25 MR. LACOVONE: I mean, there are a lot --

1 there are a lot of variables that we would have to
2 consider. We would have to also sit down and
3 determine if that's -- if that's even possible,
4 considering you can't really account for that which
5 is already gone. So it's going to be -- it's going
6 to be -- it would be very complex.

7 MR. JONES: Well, I'm not asking for
8 what's already gone.

9 MR. LACOVONE: Well, if you tried to look
10 at how much you started with, I mean, you've got
11 something that's already gone. You know, can we
12 look at what's still currently there? We can
13 probably try to come up with an estimate of that,
14 but it won't account for what's already gone.

15 MR. JONES: Yeah. I -- and I know that
16 that's sort of literal water under the bridge. So
17 what needs to -- you know, the protection of the --
18 of human health in the environment that is the goal
19 of CERCLA -- there is still a threat to human
20 health in the environment due to the contamination
21 that's there now. At some point we're going to end
22 the remedial investigation and move on to the
23 feasibility study, a nature and extent of
24 contamination, which is the result of the remedial
25 investigation under CERCLA.

1 I would think that there would be an
2 ability for the Air Force to determine how much
3 PFAS needs to be cleaned out at that time, at least
4 in an order of magnitude kind of a -- of an
5 understanding. We understand that it would be only
6 an approximation, but it would help us to
7 understand how far it is to go if we knew what the
8 problem really was, in some court, sort of
9 quantitative analysis that we could comprehend.

10 MR. SUELTFUSS: Interesting. Thank you
11 very much, sir.

12 Let me turn to Scott Lingo and then to
13 Michael Munson. Scott?

14 MR. LINGO: I think Bill and I are along
15 the same lines, you know. We talked about removing
16 157 pounds, but how much of that would be in one
17 55-gallon drum, you know, for the AFFF? So if I've
18 got -- 5,000 drums were shipped to Wurtsmith and
19 utilized over the time, you know -- if we could say
20 there might be 27 grams in one 55-gallon drum, then
21 we can start to kind of get an idea from a layman's
22 standpoint as to, okay, 157 pounds. We've got
23 5,000 55-gallon drums. We've taken this, then we
24 can -- a normal person can start putting a figure
25 on it and try to get an idea of the success that we

1 have had at Wurtsmith.

2 Because I'm just a layman. These guys
3 are throwing the acronyms out. They're throwing,
4 you know, types of measurement that most people
5 aren't familiar with. So I think what Bill is
6 saying, and I agree wholeheartedly with, is if we
7 had a rough idea that we had 5,000 drums. We had
8 27 grams in each drum. We can start doing some
9 simple math to just get an idea. Oh, geez, there's
10 still 500 pounds of the stuff there, you know, that
11 maybe we could get 350 pounds of it. So we're just
12 trying to make it relative, I think, to the normal
13 community.

14 MR. SUELTFUSS: Yeah. And I hear that
15 from both of you. And, you know, it really is
16 important. The role of the community RAB members
17 is to represent the community and to serve as kind
18 of an intermediary between the -- those who are
19 really involved in the cleanup and the average
20 members of the community who may not know as much
21 detail about the technical aspects. So I think
22 what I'm hearing from both of you is, help me
23 understand and help me convey to others a layman's
24 understanding of how are we progressing. Is
25 that --

1 MR. LINGO: Right. Right. And I
2 understand from Dave's standpoint, you know, it's
3 hard. They're going to have to do some digging.
4 And I appreciate that digging, and I appreciate the
5 efforts that they're making. But in order for me,
6 as a realtor, to talk to someone, and they ask me,
7 well, what's going on at the base? How are they
8 doing with the cleanup?

9 If I start talking in technical terms, I
10 lost them in the first sentence. I've got to be
11 able to break it down into baby steps so that they
12 might still want to come to Oscoda.

13 MR. SUELTFUSS: Thank you. Thank you.
14 Mr. Munson?

15 MR. MUNSON: Yeah. I -- this is
16 Dave's -- and I am going to use the term or say Air
17 Force's second approach to tell how much have we
18 removed. Remember, some of us old folks have been
19 here a long time. Dr. Varley took a whole bunch of
20 sand out of here, out of the -- out of the fire
21 test area. And in that particular report, I
22 remember it's been probably four or five years ago,
23 there was an estimate of the amount of PFAS that
24 they removed with all that sand.

25 So along with this 157 pounds, we should

1 probably go back and look at the records and see
2 how much that was PFOS was in that sand that went
3 down to the landfill in Detroit. So that would be
4 a positive record. This -- you know, you had
5 the -- you had the first removal taking the sand
6 out. Now this is -- this is the activity done by
7 the -- by the charcoal plant. So it may show a lot
8 more turnaround.

9 MR. SUELTFUSS: I'm sorry. Kate, did
10 you have a comment you were going to make?

11 MS. NEED: Did you look at the table in
12 the slides?

13 MR. SUELTFUSS: And I -- if we could
14 get a mic to Kate, please.

15 MS. NEED: If you look at the table in
16 the slide, it has the amount from that dig that was
17 done when Dr. Varley was the BRAC. And it -- I
18 think. I can't read it from back here. And that
19 is calculated into that 157,000 pounds of PFAS
20 removed.

21 MR. MUNSON: Oh, was it included? That's
22 included?

23 MS. NEED: Yes.

24 MR. SUELTFUSS: Okay. Thank you for
25 that addition.

1 MS. NEED: I'm sorry. I know I was
2 raising my hand back here.

3 MR. SUELTFUSS: Yeah. I appreciate it.

4 MR. GAINES: 72 1/2 pounds, Mike, went
5 out in the sand. That's what the table says. The
6 second line down. Far right.

7 MR. MUNSON: Oh, okay.

8 MR. SUELTFUSS: And I -- in just a
9 moment, I will pull us back to continue the
10 presentation. Is there any other critical
11 conversation we need to have right now? We will
12 have a time for RAB member questions here after the
13 presentation ends.

14 Arnie?

15 MR. LERICHE: I -- I've got a question
16 regarding the previous presentation that he gave on
17 the Three Pipes. And I don't know how many people
18 know what that whole thing was about because it's
19 the storm sewer -- it's the storm sewer that comes
20 from the hangar area and half of the runway, and it
21 comes almost south, and it ends up at Three Pipes
22 into the Au Sable River. And the -- over the
23 decades, that conduit pipe -- in '93 to 2000, the
24 Township took ownership of that from the Air Force,
25 in addition to all of the loss of buildings and

1 properties, and that was a good thing.

2 But, unfortunately, it found a lot of
3 PFAS. Around 1,500 parts per trillion was coming
4 out of Three Pipes into the Au Sable River. So
5 half of it, the last 1,800 feet, was the project
6 that is discussed there in the ESA, the service
7 agreement the Air Force made with the Township. So
8 that agreement, I don't think, has ever come before
9 our board.

10 And I don't know if the Township and the
11 town -- we don't have a -- do we have a Township
12 rep here?

13 MR. SUELTFUSS: Tim Cummings mentioned
14 that he was not available today, that Rick Freeman
15 would cover for him. But it looks like Rick was
16 unable to join, so we do not currently have an
17 Oscoda Township representative.

18 MR. LERICHE: Okay. Okay. I think Bill
19 will correct me if I say something totally wrong.
20 Thank you.

21 And so the last 1,800 feet of concrete
22 pipe was found to either have been crushed -- or
23 not crushed, but sunk down because the soil eroded
24 away or the seals were leaking between each piece,
25 and that's going to be fixed in the contract that

1 the Air Force is paying for.

2 What I don't know in the agreement is
3 since the Township maintains ownership still of
4 that concrete, that storm sewer, are there any
5 other requirements in maintaining that new piece
6 that has been repaired by the Air Force, paid for
7 it? Did the Air Force put requirements on
8 maintaining that concrete so that it doesn't -- you
9 know, there's monitoring of it, there's a lot of
10 trees that get in there, which has happened in
11 other storm sewers, or the seals start to erode
12 again and leak. Are there any requirements?

13 And the reason I ask it, and then I'll
14 let you answer, is because last year I asked, as an
15 action item -- I asked the Air Force to please
16 share with us, including the Township, the active
17 Air Force operations of their own storm sewers at
18 their sites were best practices for monitoring and
19 evaluating so that they don't have as whoops in the
20 night like we have reached here on our storm sewer
21 because it's -- has not been an issue for
22 maintaining it in the past. They just thought,
23 well, gravity carries water out, and it's still
24 coming out somewhere else.

25 MR. SUELTFUSS: Yeah. Dave, did you

1 have any response there?

2 MR. LACOVONE: I think -- I think that
3 the question was, really, you have this
4 Environmental Services Agreement for Three Pipes
5 Ditch. Will there be anything about maintenance of
6 that to prevent future problems?

7 MR. LERICHE: Right. In other words, how
8 long are you going to because you're creating a
9 pre-treatment to that conduit because of the --
10 another IRA at the 5093 buildings and so forth.

11 MR. LACOVONE: Are you talking about the
12 Three Pipes, the source area IRAs?

13 MR. LERICHE: Right.

14 MR. LACOVONE: Okay.

15 MR. LERICHE: Source area that some of it
16 goes into that conduit that you are now fixing so
17 that the groundwater, if it does get to the
18 conduit, is not going to leak into it.

19 MR. LACOVONE: Right. We're looking to
20 prevent the infiltration of that groundwater into
21 that pipe system. Right. Or, I'm sorry, the
22 Township will be. We are just providing the
23 funding.

24 MR. LERICHE: Right. But do you -- in
25 this agreement that you signed, did you put any

1 requirements on how -- what kind of maintenance and
2 monitoring of the viability of the conduit to stay
3 sealed on the Township?

4 MR. LACOVONE: Oh, I'll have to get back
5 to you that, Arnie. It's been a long time since I
6 have looked at the actual ESA.

7 MR. LERICHE: Okay. Okay. But that's
8 important because they have got to have a budget to
9 do it. And so it's transferred 40 years ago, 30
10 years ago, 40, and that liability and
11 responsibility to maintain it now has to be looked
12 at by the Township.

13 MR. SUELTFUSS: Right. Thank you,
14 Arnie. Yeah, I appreciate that. And it's really
15 helpful to provide that context to what that Three
16 Pipes Ditch is, a reminder of what that -- what
17 that effort is to line that as well. It sounds
18 like there is some questions about what will be the
19 maintenance of that moving forward.

20 And I think, Dave, you were saying that
21 you'll need to do a little bit of research and work
22 with the Township to be able to respond to that.

23 MR. LACOVONE: I believe the maintenance
24 of it afterwards is pretty much going to be up to
25 the Township, I would imagine.

1 MR. SUELTFUSS: Yeah. And, again,
2 typically -- I'm going to jump in. I'm going to
3 jump in real quick, if I could. Typically, Oscoda
4 Township is represented here. Unfortunately, Mr.
5 Cummings was unable to attend tonight, so we'll
6 make sure that we have the opportunity in future
7 meetings for them to be able to address it as well.

8 MR. LERICHE: I just wanted to -- that
9 the Township receives your experience over decades
10 of how to design, maintain, and operate that storm
11 sewer system throughout the base -- not just this
12 one, but this one is critical right now.

13 MR. LACOVONE: Understood. I know
14 Rick -- we talked to Rick earlier today on a -- on
15 a conference call because Rick was actually out of
16 town. And he thought he'd be able to make it back
17 to this meeting in time because he was going to be
18 attending it in lieu of Mr. Cummings. And,
19 unfortunately, it looks like he couldn't make it,
20 but, you know, we have discussed a lot of things
21 with regard to that.

22 MR. LERICHE: Okay.

23 MS. BRYAN: Adam Kline will be actually
24 showing up in for the Township here shortly -- very
25 shortly.

1 MR. SUELTFUSS: Okay. Sounds good. So
2 let's put a pin in that one if we could. We are --
3 again, let's talk about where we are in this
4 process. We are in the Department of the Air Force
5 presentation. After that presentation, we'll move
6 into RAB member questions and discussion. After
7 some discussion among the RAB members who are here,
8 then we will open up the option for public comment.
9 So that's our path forward.

10 Let's move to Slide 21, if we could, and
11 to Dave Lacovone, then, to take us through it.

12 MR. LACOVONE: We'll move forward to the
13 next slide with regard to the data gap
14 investigation, which that contract, of course, was
15 awarded last September. As Kate has alluded to,
16 and also Kyle remarked, the TWG has been working on
17 making recommendations with regard to that data gap
18 investigation. And there is a lot of information
19 that we looked at. We're still waiting on a few
20 critical items before the addendum to the Uniform
21 Federal Policy Quality Assurance Project Plan.
22 It's -- bear in mind, it's going to be an addendum
23 to the original, what we call a UFP-QAPP.

24 And at this point, if you go to the next
25 slide, this is our progress with regards to that.

1 And Kate Need is, once again, going to take over at
2 this point and talk about this timeline.

3 MS. NEED: And I get the honor of talking
4 about -- I'm coming up here, so I'm going to have
5 to turn around. I'll stand in the middle, in the
6 hot seat. So I get the honor of talking about it
7 because I made this schedule with inputs from, you
8 know, contractors, personal experience, et cetera.
9 So I am going to face the slide so I can read it.
10 So if there's people waving their hands behind me,
11 let me know. So there's a lot on this slide. So
12 I'm going to talk, and then you can throw tomatoes
13 at me later. So I'll give a little slide
14 orientation, and then I'll start getting into the
15 nitty-gritty.

16 So along the top, there is little yellow
17 flags with letters. There is corresponding what
18 the letters mean in the middle section below the
19 chart. On the chart itself, each box has a number,
20 and the square boxes mean it's complete or
21 underway, and the hexagons are future phases.
22 Again, I know you can read a legend, but I'm -- I
23 want us all be on the same page. And the
24 description of each phase, the name, is on, again,
25 below the chart on the very left side. And then on

1 the very right bottom is a very high-level
2 rationale for why this has changed so much since
3 you last saw it last August. And that's where
4 we're going to spend most of our time talking about
5 it because at the high level there is a lot more to
6 talk about it.

7 So where we are now is we're in that big
8 number 3 bar, which is our RI. And it extended out
9 for multiple reasons. And I'm going to say right
10 now we're not stopping work. We have been in the
11 TWG monthly, except during the furlough, talking
12 about the scope and what we need to do to make that
13 more robust to meet all of the criteria. And we
14 have not stopped work. We're not stopping and
15 pushing the brakes. The intent is still to get out
16 in the field this calendar year to do some work.
17 As Mr. Henry said earlier, that UFP-QAPP update is
18 coming as soon as the TWG wraps up our discussions.

19 And then the contractor can get out and
20 take samples. It won't be done this field season.
21 It will definitely go into the next one, and maybe
22 at that point we stop because we have enough data.
23 But maybe we don't because we might have to do
24 additional step outs to hit those levels. So, yes,
25 five years is like, oh my gosh, why five years?

1 It's a -- depending on how much additional -- how
2 many additional step outs we have to do, and it
3 does have a relatively short field season here.
4 Like you -- I have not been up here in January, but
5 I hear it's fairly terrible, and I wouldn't want to
6 be out there behind a drill ring when it's ice
7 storming on me. So, like, there are some logistics
8 of why.

9 So -- and I know that's -- oh, you can't
10 do anything, but we are trying to do it between
11 like April and October-ish, and then spend the
12 winter reviewing all the data, planning the next
13 step outs, and then so we can hit the next field
14 season. So overall -- oh, I should explain the
15 green and the blue. The teal-y green color, that's
16 what you were shown last August. The blue is the
17 new shift. It is conservative but realistic, not
18 overly conservative, not underly conservative.
19 What was shown prior to now was the absolute best
20 case scenario, as in, we have no problems. We hit
21 every field season. The screening values don't
22 change every six months.

23 So you previously had been presented the
24 best case scenario. We're still going to try to
25 accelerate. This is not, oh, nope, it's definitely

1 going to take two years between the FS and the PP.
2 No, if it can get done in nine months, it'll get
3 done in nine months. It's not -- but instead of
4 every time we have a RAB, they -- oh, you missed
5 your date again. Oh, why'd you miss your date
6 again? Realistic. Semi-conservative. We will
7 still accelerate.

8 Okay. So why the shift? So, again, the
9 little flags at the top mark the major -- and I
10 only did the Federal ones. I know the EGLE numbers
11 have also changed along the way, but I only did the
12 Federal ones. So back in 2019 were the first
13 published EPA RSLs for PFAS, PFOA, and PFBS, three
14 constituents. I don't remember the numbers. If
15 someone wants to know, we can dig that data up
16 later. That's what really kicked most of the Air
17 Force off into doing investigation, digging holes
18 in the ground, not just the paperwork exercise of a
19 preliminary assessment.

20 So then, a couple of years later, in
21 2021, the PFBS screen level changed. It went down,
22 I think, in order of magnitude. That was not --
23 it's impactful, but, okay, we can recover from
24 that, right? It's one constituent. We're already
25 sampling for it. That one, we can -- you can roll

1 with those punches.

2 Then 2022 comes along. Not only do the
3 PFAS and PFOA screening levels go down in order of
4 magnitude, but also they add three new
5 constituents. So we have to go back and look
6 through all of the data we have already collected,
7 see if we have been even collecting the data for
8 those constituents because the early methods for
9 analyzing PFAS only have 12 or 14 constituents and
10 not the -- not all of the ones that are in there
11 now. And if the lab could give us, you know, if
12 they had their chromatograms and they could give us
13 the numbers, we got those numbers. If they
14 couldn't, then we have to go back to the drawing
15 board and say, okay, how do we go collect this
16 data? Where do we have to step up? Do we really
17 need to resample in areas because it's a new
18 constituent?

19 So then that happened again in 2023. Two
20 more constituents were added. No level changes,
21 just additional. And then, again, in 2024, it
22 happened. So it's happened -- it was happening
23 every six to 12 months, four years in a row. So
24 not only does that mean we have to keep stepping
25 out or in or doing some resampling to figure out

1 where we are with the original three we were
2 looking for, PFOS, PFOA, PFBS, but also the two,
3 four, six new ones. I can't count. I'm an
4 engineer. Sorry. And then each of those leads to
5 a contractual action also.

6 So giving money for Wurtsmith is
7 typically not a huge issue. It's the time it takes
8 to -- okay, the numbers changed. Do we have the
9 data? If we don't have the data, is it within the
10 scope of our current contract to go out and get
11 that? If it's not, then we have to modify the
12 contract, and that takes a whole another group of
13 people to make that happen. So that's why it has
14 lagged as much as it has.

15 I'm really hoping the ever-changing RSLs
16 have slowed down so we can really just get out
17 there and get it done. We're going to accelerate
18 every chance we can, but also keep quality. We
19 don't want to do it fast just to do it fast. We
20 want it done right and of high quality, which is
21 why we have been taking a very thorough -- very,
22 very thorough, like down to the grains of sand,
23 look at it in the TWG.

24 So I'm going to stop there. I'm sure
25 there's, like, a bazillion questions. And do you

1 want me to still sit here? Do you want me to move
2 to the side?

3 MR. SUELTFUSS: Stay there if you would
4 like.

5 MS. NEED: Okay.

6 MR. SUELTFUSS: I do want to just point
7 out, Kate, that, like, you really camped out on
8 this slide, and I appreciate that. This takes me
9 back to our discussion on February 18th, the RAB
10 technical session where some of the commentary was,
11 if there are changes to schedules, then I want you
12 to be explicit about those changes and that we're
13 interested in realistic pragmatic schedules. So
14 thank you for, like, just diving into this to
15 explain that slide.

16 Mr. Gaines?

17 MR. GAINES: The thing I see on here is I
18 see DOW, Department --

19 MS. NEED: Department of War.

20 MR. GAINES: -- of Defense is still what
21 I would think of it as, but then I'm an old,
22 traditional guy. But I asked you earlier in our
23 technical meeting, what about the ARARs? As far
24 back as 2017 and 2018, Michigan had the requirement
25 for 12 parts per trillion in the ground-to-surface

1 interface. And I don't see anything in here about
2 the State of Michigan standards, and I haven't
3 really had an understanding that you've accepted
4 those ARARs, except I know that I personally said
5 that you ought to get stepped up to that and accept
6 the fact you were going to have to comply with it,
7 make the schedule agree with it. And this schedule
8 isn't real either until you put those ARARs in it.

9 MR. SUELTFUSS: Mr. Gaines, thank you
10 very much.

11 Kate, did you have a response?

12 MS. NEED: Yes. We have accepted those
13 ARARs. It is 100 percent on me that I didn't
14 include them because we were working so hard to get
15 this done. I -- and I will make that update for
16 the next one. I will. It -- we have accepted
17 them. We are tracking them. It will get updated
18 to show that also.

19 MR. SUELTFUSS: Okay.

20 Mr. Carmona?

21 MR. CARMONA: So Dave Carmona, community
22 RAB. You made a statement, screening values
23 changing every six months. EPA, two days ago,
24 issued a memo saying they're going to withdraw RSLs
25 for four compounds that are part of what you're

1 doing right now. So if they withdraw them, we
2 change administrations, they reinstate them.
3 You're saying that we're going to possibly
4 encounter additional years of delay while you
5 recapture or look for that data, or will DAF
6 continue looking for those compounds, even though
7 it's not mandated by the EPA?

8 MR. SUELTFUSS: And I believe we have a
9 comment here. If we could --

10 MS. DORSEY-SPITZ: I was going to --
11 yeah. Sorry, guys. (inaudible).

12 MR. SUELTFUSS: Yeah. We'll turn to
13 Ms. Jenni Dorsey-Spitz, the Secretary --

14 MS. DORSEY-SPITZ: Good afternoon. Jenni
15 Dorsey-Spitz, assistant secretary of the Air Force.
16 I -- one of my hats is on policy and guidance. So
17 we are tracking what was published at the Federal
18 Register. We as the Department of Air Force do not
19 change until things are in law. So until things
20 are in law, then we, as the Department of Air
21 Force, will work up through the Office of Secretary
22 of War to see what, by policy, are the next steps.
23 So to answer your question, it is yet to
24 be seen. Once we see the changes in law, then
25 that's a policy decision. But if things are

1 rescinded, I don't see -- I'll look to the
2 technical folks. I don't see that driving to go
3 back and do new samples because we will already
4 have that data. Does that answer --

5 MR. CARMONA: I'm referring to if they're
6 reinstated with administration changes, that
7 potential. So we are potentially looking at a
8 reevaluation of policy again, which as we know from
9 experience, has taken up to a year for DAF to
10 accomplish. And I understand the Federal Register
11 is a process. It takes up to a half a year. I get
12 that. So I appreciate your answer. Thank you very
13 much.

14 MS. DORSEY-SPITZ: Yeah. Yeah. And we
15 watch it very closely on our end. We track it and
16 then we can keep an eye, but until things are in
17 law, then we can't really take an action. But we
18 are very mindful of the (inaudible).

19 MR. CARMONA: Okay. Thank you.

20 MR. SUELTFUSS: Thank you, ma'am. And
21 I appreciate that.

22 Yes.

23 MR. CARMONA: So to Kyle, for EGLE,
24 knowing this may happen to the Federal Register,
25 where is EGLE at regarding those four compounds?

1 MR. JUMP: We're still in the midst of
2 reviewing that right now. So I can get back to you
3 once I consult with my team, unless, Beth, if you
4 have anything to add.

5 BETH: I guess because the changes are so
6 recent, we don't have an official stance on those
7 changes yet, but at the same time, as was mentioned
8 earlier, we do have State requirements for both
9 groundwater and surface water, and those still
10 remain. So when we get to the point of the circle
11 of process or where ARARs are considered in
12 removals or interim remedial actions, then we still
13 have our state ARARs.

14 MR. CARMONA: Are these four particular
15 compounds part of any of the ARARs that have been
16 issued so far and agreed to by DAF?

17 BETH: I'm not sure I understand the
18 question. Could you --

19 MR. CARMONA: The -- there are four
20 specific compounds that are being potentially
21 withdrawn. We know that there are ARARs out there
22 regarding RSLs, reference compounds. Are these
23 four compounds that were added in 2022, I believe
24 it was, are they in any of the ARARs?

25 BETH: So we do have state ARARs for

1 groundwater and surface water for the four
2 compounds. They're not the same values as the RSLs
3 were, but we still do have them.

4 MR. CARMONA: So you're saying the Air
5 Force has agreed to those?

6 BETH: It really comes down to the
7 remedial action objective of what's either in the
8 ROD when we get to that point for a final cleanup
9 or the interim remedial actions, the remedial
10 action objective. So for instance, if you had --
11 if you were cleaning up -- like, maybe you just
12 have a hydrogeologic barrier, it might only apply
13 to the discharge of that place, or it really comes
14 down to that remedial action objective. Are you
15 capturing the hole flow? Are you discharging?
16 Those types of things. And then we determine --
17 then we recommend as the state what we believe are
18 applicable state laws and those values and then we
19 discuss that with Air Force. But if we're in a
20 right situation, our understanding is that Air
21 Force has accepted those values as promulgated and
22 they will accept them.

23 MR. SUELTFUSS: And, Kate, I see you --

24 MS. NEED: Oh, sorry. I'm shaking my
25 head along. So what that said of -- and I don't --

1 I don't know, once we get to ROD and final remedy,
2 how exactly, necessarily, RSLs play in. But as far
3 as nature and extent delineation to date right now,
4 we are delineating to whichever is the lower of the
5 DOW or the state number.

6 MR. SUELTFUSS: Okay. Thank you. We
7 have a couple more questions. Come on back in a --

8 MS. NEED: Yeah, I'll come back up here.

9 MR. SUELTFUSS: And let's go to Kyle --
10 let's go to Kyle Jones real quick, and then we'll
11 go to Scott.

12 MR. JONES: I just want to -- I just -- I
13 guess I'm -- my microphone is not working. Now it
14 is. I just want to make sure that everybody is on
15 the same page here. Whatever applicable values are
16 in state law, which are -- which constitute an
17 ARAR, but I think it would be easier if everybody
18 just said, look, Michigan law requires this. That
19 is not -- it is entirely relevant for the remedial
20 investigation because you have -- the responsible
21 party has to know what needs to be cleaned up.
22 Therefore, in a nature and extent of contamination
23 study, you need to know the extent of the
24 contamination that is what that cleanup value is.
25 You can't stop ahead of time and then guess about

1 whether there's additional contamination to clean
2 up, nor are you going to go and investigate beyond
3 the concentrations that need to be cleaned up
4 because that's a waste of time and money.

5 So back to Dave's question, that's why
6 we've got all this purple here is because the Air
7 Force is saying it's going to take this long to
8 come up to speed, if you will, on all the new
9 compounds that have been given a particular cleanup
10 requirement. Now, it's of course relevant that the
11 State has its laws that the -- we've just heard the
12 Air Force say that they agree are applicable, but
13 it is not the case that, as was just said, that
14 these state values are only relevant at the record
15 of decision or the -- or the remedial design stage.
16 It's entirely relevant at the remedial
17 investigation stage.

18 MS. NEED: 100 percent with you. It's to
19 define that nature and extent. Right now we're
20 committed to the lower of the --

21 MR. JONES: Yeah.

22 MS. NEED: -- DOW. Yep, or the -- or
23 EGLE number. And if that changes, you all will be
24 the first ones to know. We'll give a presentation
25 on the hows and whys.

1 MR. SUELTFUSS: Okay. Thank you, Kate.
2 Scott, did you have a comment?

3 MR. LINGO: Yes, sir.

4 I have a question, Kate. We're talking
5 about four compounds that are going to be removed.
6 Am I correct in that from --

7 MS. NEED: I just read the email this
8 morning, so I know --

9 Do you want to talk about it?

10 MR. LINGO: Is there anyone that can shed
11 light on what these four compounds are?

12 MR. SUELTFUSS: Yep.

13 MR. JUMP: Yep.

14 MR. SUELTFUSS: Is there any
15 commentary -- and let's go ahead and turn, if you
16 could, to Ms. Tammy O'Neill to respond.

17 MS. O'NEILL: Good afternoon, everyone.
18 So yes, we just heard about it this morning, and it
19 was actually the changes were posted to the Federal
20 Register. So there's time for comment, okay? I
21 want to say maybe 40 days. I can't remember if
22 it -- I believe that's what it -- oh, 60? Okay.
23 Thank you, 60. That was this morning. I've been
24 around a lot today on our tour of Wurtsmith. So --
25 yeah. So there will be time for comment on that.

1 And I think they were looking by the end of 2026
2 to, you know, make whatever changes, is what I saw
3 from the -- from the email this morning. So yes,
4 there are four compounds on there and that was an
5 EPA. That's EPA wanting to roll back on those.

6 MR. SUELTFUSS: So ma'am, for clarity,
7 so that was an EPA --

8 MS. O'NEILL: Yes.

9 MR. SUELTFUSS: -- request to pull
10 those back?

11 MS. O'NEILL: Yes. That was EPA. Yes.

12 MR. SUELTFUSS: Okay.

13 MS. O'NEILL: That's correct.

14 MR. SUELTFUSS: Okay.

15 Scott, does that help?

16 MR. LINGO: Well, I was wondering, is it
17 PFOS? Is it PFNA? What are the chemicals?

18 MS. O'NEILL: Okay. Sameer, somebody has
19 got to help me because I -- they're -- yeah. Come
20 on.

21 MR. KING: I was going to read it once.

22 MS. O'NEILL: Okay. Read it. Perfect.
23 Because I'll tell you, I don't know it from memory.

24 MR. KING: Just for clarification, what
25 was being proposed for rescinding our MCLs was our

1 drinking waters then. So those particular
2 chemicals are PFHxS, PFNA, HFPO-DA, or the next-gen
3 chemical and a mixture thereof. And so remind you
4 again, these are drinking water standards, so that
5 will not affect this nature and extent
6 investigation whatsoever.

7 MR. SUELTENFUSS: Okay. Thank you.

8 And --

9 MR. LINGO: But if it comes from a
10 private well, it would, right?

11 MR. SUELTENFUSS: -- if I could real
12 quick, let me just point out that was Chris King
13 with the Air Force Civil Engineer Center.

14 Scott, then go back to you.

15 MR. LINGO: But if that comes from a
16 private well, then that's considered drinking water
17 or no?

18 MR. KING: That applies to municipal
19 water supplies.

20 MR. LINGO: Only municipal water. Okay.
21 Well, what if you pull that out of your private
22 well to sample, or it comes up in your Michigan
23 assessment in your blood test? Just another --

24 MR. KING: I don't have the answer to
25 that.

1 MR. SUELTFUSS: Okay.

2 Yes. Kyle Jones, go ahead.

3 MS. NEED: I think it needs to be tipped
4 up just a little bit.

5 MR. JONES: Scott, the Clean Water Act
6 and the Safe Water Drinking Act -- Safe Drinking
7 Water Act are clearly applied solely to municipal
8 water. There are other provisions in the Clean
9 Water Act that -- and CERCLA that can be used in a
10 prudent way to enforce cleanup where well water --
11 well drinking water is effective. So it's just
12 bottom line. There are other ways to get it -- to
13 skin the cat.

14 MR. LINGO: Okay.

15 MR. JONES: Okay?

16 MR. LINGO: Yeah. And my concern is just
17 all the people on private wells.

18 MR. JONES: Of course.

19 MR. LINGO: They're consuming water over
20 the years.

21 MR. SUELTFUSS: Thank you, sir. I
22 appreciate that.

23 Kate, what else would you like to share?

24 MS. NEED: Well, the next slide is mine,
25 too, if we're -- if we're kind of done beating this

1 one. I mean, I'll take more questions later if you
2 want.

3 But Josh?

4 MR. SUELTFUSS: Go ahead.

5 MR. SUTTON: Just one question because
6 I'm just trying to keep up with everybody. What
7 I'm understanding is the State has those levels in
8 there. The Air Force has agreed to that. So even
9 in the current state that our country is in, as we
10 change directions every four years, it sounds like
11 between the State and the Air Force, we will
12 continue to work on those irregardless of that EPA
13 rollback because the State will still have those?

14 MS. NEED: That is my understanding.
15 Yes.

16 MR. SUTTON: Okay.

17 MS. NEED: And if it changes, you will
18 all know. You will be -- we will have a
19 presentation about it.

20 MR. SUTTON: And one more. Could we add
21 that link for public comment and information into
22 the RAB and to the RAB members? Because I know I
23 would like to put some comments on there. I'm sure
24 a lot of the other members here who have been
25 working on it would like to --

1 MS. NEED: Absolutely. That can be put
2 in the minutes or something.

3 MR. SUELTFUSS: And, Josh, I think what
4 we can do is I can send that out to all the RAB
5 members. I might get with Mr. King to make sure
6 that I have the proper link for that EPA action on
7 those four PFAS analytes and I'll shoot that out to
8 the RAB members. Does that work?

9 MR. SUTTON: Yes. Could we also -- I
10 know we don't have the Oscoda Township
11 representative here tonight. I know Adam was
12 coming in. I would like to -- if we could get
13 something over to them with that information for --
14 because we have a lot of our seasonal people coming
15 back, a lot of people who aren't here or don't see
16 this information, but just time to make sure that
17 we do get in and comment about how serious this is
18 for our area.

19 MR. SUELTFUSS: Okay. And I will make
20 sure -- I'll issue that to all the RAB members.
21 That will include Mr. Cummings. And so, sir, if
22 you would like to just coordinate with Tim Cummings
23 and make sure that you receive that as well.

24 MR. SUTTON: Okay. I will.

25 MR. SUELTFUSS: Great. Thank you.

1 Appreciate it. Okay.

2 Yes. Arnie Leriche.

3 MR. LERICHE: Could that link in -- it
4 should be picked up by the recorder, but if you
5 could share that link so that it's part of
6 tonight's record.

7 MR. SUELTENFUSS: Okay.

8 MS. NEED: I don't know --

9 MR. LERICHE: You've already said it, so
10 it's too late to --

11 MS. NEED: Wait, no, I don't know what
12 the link is. I -- yeah. There is a link. We will
13 get it shared. Yes. I don't know off the top of
14 my head what it is.

15 MR. SUELTENFUSS: And I understand,
16 Arnie, that your interest is to make sure that that
17 link is also included in the transcript --

18 MR. LERICHE: The transcript.

19 MR. SUELTENFUSS: -- of tonight's
20 meeting, and we'll work to try to make that happen.
21 Yes. All right.

22 MS. NEED: Maybe at the next break,
23 we'll -- maybe at the next break, we'll look it up.

24 MR. SUELTENFUSS: Our court reporter is
25 nodding our head that that is doable. Two thumbs

1 up. All right.

2 Any other questions on this slide before
3 Kate moves to the next one?

4 Mr. Jones?

5 MR. JONES: Kate, if I understand
6 correctly, looking at the slide, the August 2025
7 original dates, the end of the teal color ended in
8 the middle of 2025. Does -- did -- does that mean
9 that you intended to portray on this chart that the
10 remedial investigation would be done by the middle
11 of 2025?

12 MS. NEED: That was the original shown
13 last August.

14 MR. JONES: I'm sorry, the original what?

15 MS. NEED: Oh, date. The date. And if I
16 messed up the date, I'm sorry.

17 MR. JONES: No.

18 MS. NEED: As far as I know, that one, I
19 copied what was from last August. So yes, that was
20 the original portrayal of when the RI would be
21 done.

22 MR. JONES: But the -- so that means that
23 last summer, you would've said the RI is done
24 because --

25 MS. NEED: If it had been done, yes, we

1 would've said -- that's when we started talking
2 about data gaps, right? I think. Again, remember.
3 I didn't come until August, so if anyone --

4 MR. JONES: Okay. All right.

5 MS. NEED: That's when we started talking
6 about data gaps.

7 MR. JONES: All right. All right. So I
8 guess what --

9 MR. SUELTFUSS: What I'm -- what I'm
10 going to do is -- let me just jump in real quick.

11 Ms. O'Neill, was there anything you
12 wanted to comment?

13 MS. O'NEILL: No, I don't know the dates
14 either. I don't know if we have anybody here that
15 has the history of that because I came along after.

16 MR. SUELTFUSS: Sure.

17 MS. O'NEILL: So I'm not sure if
18 discussions had started before we were approaching
19 with that August date.

20 MS. NEED: And why I make the assumption
21 that it started before is because we got it on
22 contract --

23 MS. O'NEILL: Yes.

24 MS. NEED: -- before the end of FY, so by
25 30 September of 2025. So someone at least had the

1 thought that there would be more work to do.

2 MR. SUELTFUSS: Okay.

3 So, Mr. Jones, let me come back to you,
4 sir.

5 MR. JONES: All right. So I mean, I --
6 we can talk a lot about this in tomorrow's
7 Technical Working Group meeting, but I really think
8 it's a bit disingenuous of the Air Force to portray
9 here that the only reason that the remedial
10 investigation may, under, I guess, a realistic
11 worst case scenario, go all the way out to the
12 middle of 2030. The -- I think that it needs to be
13 recognized that the remedial investigation that's
14 been conducted so far has been so inefficient that
15 we had to have a -- you know, nine or ten months'
16 worth of discussion to -- on a data gap
17 investigation that would not have been necessary if
18 the remedial investigation had been done correctly
19 in the first place.

20 So I really think that relying solely on
21 changing standards as necessitating an extension of
22 your remedial investigation is only partially true.
23 And I -- I'll not belabor the point here, but I
24 want everybody in the community to know that this
25 is incomplete and that the reason that a data gap

1 investigation became necessary in the first place
2 is the community and perhaps EGLE's realization
3 that their -- the work that had been done up until
4 then was wholly inadequate. So we'll stop there
5 and we'll talk about it in a technical manner at
6 the technical meeting.

7 MS. NEED: And I'm just -- I'm not going
8 to -- again, not -- also going to not get too deep
9 into it, but I can talk about why I made the purple
10 bar five years, because again, I was the spearhead
11 on timing. So I assumed -- I kind of assumed,
12 actually, we would be done at the last TWG talking
13 about DGI stuff, and that by June, we would get
14 that updated QAPP, and then by August, we would do
15 field work to still get field in the season. Over
16 the winter, we would review next field season, we
17 would have a full field season, and then we would
18 have time to assess and review, and hopefully at
19 that point, we would be done. But if we weren't
20 done, then we would have to do another quick QAPP
21 agenda, say, okay, here are the next 47 places we
22 have to step out, because the data says we have to
23 step out all these places, everyone has to review
24 that, then get back out in the field.

25 So it's -- and if you want to go to the

1 next slide, we can -- it kind of illustrates what
2 I'm saying. So I'm not going to read every little
3 piece there, but I knew this was going to be a hot
4 topic. So I tried to put in a pictorial form
5 because I'm a visual learner, maybe some of you
6 are, too, to put a picture of all the steps that
7 happen to get a fully complete RI. And the big
8 empty donuts are the major steps, and the little
9 donuts are all the things to fill in to get to the
10 next step, and the big -- we'll get to -- the
11 arrows backwards. So we have our work plan, which
12 that's the first step. And then we have to do all
13 these things to get to a complete work plan. Then
14 we get to go out into the field. We get to do our
15 work. We get to play in the dirt and water and
16 collect samples. Then we send them off to the lab.
17 Takes two to six weeks depending on, you know,
18 analyses and stuff, to get lab results back and
19 they have to be validated. Then we have we finally
20 have that piece of paper in our hand that says,
21 these are the numbers. We have to review them,
22 look at them in comparison. Okay. Did we hit all
23 those goals?

24 If not, if we didn't -- but it's still
25 within the scope of everything we already put in

1 our work plan. Little green arrow. We do another
2 field mob sample lab analysis, look at them again.
3 However, in the case of the big RSL changes, which
4 is why I made the arrow the same color, that was a
5 whole bigger issue that we hadn't foreseen coming
6 in the scope that it did. Everyone knew they were
7 going to change. Nobody really knew to what or
8 which constituents would be added. So we had to go
9 back to say what I talked about earlier. Can -- do
10 we already have the data? We just have to look at
11 it, and we can move forward. If that was the case,
12 little green arrow. Okay, we don't have the data.
13 Big arrow, back to -- we have to update the work
14 plan to now include those and new locations and
15 what are our data quality objectives, and is it
16 within the current method? Do we have to switch
17 analytical methods? Because that happened in the
18 middle of all this, too, right?

19 So once we can complete the circular
20 nature of the step out following the data until we
21 get to those numbers, fours and sixes and whatever
22 they are, then we can move on into the reporting
23 part, which then still takes six months to a year
24 because this is a hefty thing. This is -- it's
25 nature and extent. That's what we've been focused

1 on. But then once you can say, yeah, I've mapped
2 the problem, okay, then we also have fate and
3 transport. Are the chemicals breaking down? Are
4 they -- how, you know, moving? I know they don't,
5 but that was the first example off the top of my
6 head. You know, how are they getting to where
7 they're going? And then there's the risk
8 assessments, which I know is one of the major
9 things everyone is really interested in, both the
10 human health and the ecological. So it takes time
11 to get through, not only to draft all that, then
12 all the reviews, because no one wants to do it fast
13 just to do it fast. We want a quality job in an
14 efficient manner, so --

15 MR. SUELTENFUSS: Thank you.

16 MS. NEED: I'm not saying that RSL
17 changes were the only issue. I -- if you -- if we
18 want to talk about it, I can give you anecdotal
19 evidence. I also work active bases all through the
20 center of the country up to Fairchild, where none
21 of them have a complete RI. We all stalled out in
22 this same time frame because we couldn't keep
23 contracting caught up to all the changes and a lot
24 of the -- I don't want to get too deep into the
25 contracting process, but at some point you can't

1 just keep adding money to a contract because then
2 it's unfair to anyone who originally would have bid
3 on that contract to say, hey, what the heck? Like,
4 why can't I get in on this?

5 Very Kate fashion, right? So there's
6 other factors in there, too. And yes, there also
7 may -- everybody makes mistakes. There's always
8 some field errors. I can tell you about some
9 doozies I did in my previous life, so, like, I'm
10 just a tank in a phase 1.

11 MR. SUELTFUSS: So, Kate, let me -- let
12 me just pause real quick and see if there are
13 questions based on --

14 MS. NEED: Okay. Sorry.

15 MR. SUELTFUSS: -- what you've
16 presented so far. Any questions come to mind from
17 our RAB members?

18 Yes. Arnie Leriche.

19 MR. LERICHE: There's one big part of the
20 remedial investigation that has -- and it's an
21 elephant in the room and has not been discussed,
22 and that is the risk assessments, correct? It's
23 part of the RI.

24 MS. NEED: It -- and I will have to go
25 review all the previously written --

1 MR. LERICHE: Is it a yes or no?

2 MS. NEED: -- but it should be in the
3 work plan. But yeah. We don't get to doing the
4 risk assessments --

5 MR. SUELTFUSS: So let me just jump in
6 real quick to let Arnie finish his question here.

7 MR. LERICHE: So the question is: All
8 we've seen on human health and risk to fish and so
9 forth and deer and all that and the sampling, all
10 we've seen in the posters and discussed since
11 '22 -- the summer of '22 when the risk -- the
12 contractor came and talked to us about what they
13 were going to do and they showed us a plan. All
14 we've seen since then is a list of samples on the
15 posters that have been collected. Not location --
16 well, they did go -- give us locations. We have
17 not seen, to my knowledge, any analysis of the fish
18 samples and a comparison for the -- and EGLE to
19 compare against the Safe Fish Program that they
20 maintain. We have not even heard boo about that.
21 So I hope that by August there could be some
22 discussion of the results of the sampling of the
23 ecological samples that have been taken, and also
24 what they've accepted of state data or whatever.
25 That's the -- going to support the Draft Risk

1 Assessment for human health and for ecological
2 risk.

3 MS. NEED: Hold on one second. Okay. I
4 was going to say, could you put it down as a
5 topic -- potential topic for August, and then I
6 will get back to you on --

7 MR. LERICHE: Yeah.

8 MS. NEED: -- how?

9 MR. SUELTFUSS: So I began to capture
10 that.

11 Mark, I think you have a comment.

12 Arnie, I'll probably get with you after
13 the meeting to make sure I captured it accurately.

14 MR. LERICHE: And part of that is that
15 some of that will fall on -- onto the TWG for
16 discussion, too, because it's part of the RI, but
17 it's not a technical list of what has been
18 discussed so far by the TWG.

19 MR. SUELTFUSS: Okay. Yeah. Thank
20 you.

21 Mark Henry, do you have comment?

22 MR. HENRY: Yes. Aerostar gave us a data
23 dump of the soil sampling, groundwater sampling,
24 VAS, sediment sampling, and fish sampling that they
25 performed. And the data that you're talking about,

1 about fish concentrations is in one of those
2 documents.

3 MR. LERICHE: I understand that, Mark,
4 and I understand. I appreciate you letting
5 everyone know that, but I'm talking about a
6 presentation to the public because they're out
7 there fishing, okay? I stopped two guys in
8 February heading out on Van Etten Lake to fish, and
9 they had family, and they got out there, and I
10 said, do you know about the Eat Safe Fish Program?

11 And they didn't. And I said, well,
12 there's signs here. I went -- and -- but they
13 continued on and I advised them, you got to go to
14 their website. And I tried to give them
15 information. There are no signs out on Ratliff
16 Park.

17 MR. HENRY: Yes.

18 MR. LERICHE: So the point is that we
19 need a presentation to the public and to the RAB in
20 total to see where we are in the whole issue of
21 what the public needs to know, what they can do,
22 and what's the plan ahead when the RI is drafted
23 and shared.

24 MR. SUELTFUSS: If I could. So, you
25 know, one of the key reasons we form these

1 Restoration Advisory Boards is to bring in multiple
2 agencies as well. We do have MDHHS and I saw -- I
3 think there may be some good conversations, Staci,
4 with Arnie, and then maybe you -- but two of you
5 all and I can get together here after we conclude
6 to see what action, maybe, MDHHS or other agencies
7 might need.

8 But Arnie, I hear your interest in --
9 you're interested in information about the risk to
10 humans from those sources.

11 MR. LERICHE: Okay. But I don't want to
12 go to the level of the State. This is on the Air
13 Force.

14 MR. SUELTFUSS: Okay.

15 MR. LERICHE: This is on the Air Force.
16 And I --

17 MR. SUELTFUSS: Just help me -- help me
18 understand, if you would, what specifically would
19 be the discussion in August?

20 MR. LERICHE: To give a presentation of
21 the status of the results that have been --

22 MS. NEED: What's been collected to date?

23 MR. LERICHE: -- collected and analyzed
24 and --

25 MS. NEED: We --

1 MR. LERICHE: -- and -- but the results
2 in a way that the public can understand how many,
3 what types of fish have shown high and comparison
4 with the State Eat Safe Fish Program. At least
5 have that level for all of the samples that are
6 part of and will be part of the Draft Risk
7 Assessment, health and ecological.

8 MS. NEED: And I will have talks with
9 Staci and Kyle. As far as I know, and I might be
10 lying, but as far as I personally know, we haven't
11 done the comparison yet, but I'll work with these
12 guys and we'll see what we can come up with for
13 presentations.

14 MR. SUELTFUSS: Okay. Thank you.

15 MR. LERICHE: Well, the other part that
16 we've requested is that we need an update of the
17 Draft Risk Assessment that was presented to be part
18 of the RI because it's been four years now, and I
19 don't think that contractor is under contract with
20 you.

21 But I've asked for the -- your
22 directorate, Tammy, in AFCEC to share your
23 expert -- subject matter expert to give us an
24 evaluation of that draft document. And part of
25 that would be the data analysis of the results from

1 the samples taken.

2 MS. NEED: I would have to go there for
3 that document and talk to Dr. Garcia and see if he
4 has seen it.

5 MR. LERICHE: Okay. But -- thank you.

6 MR. SUELTFUSS: Yeah, I appreciate
7 that.

8 MR. LERICHE: That's it. That's
9 basically --

10 MR. SUELTFUSS: Yeah. Thanks, Arnie.

11 MR. LERICHE: -- the request.

12 MR. SUELTFUSS: I appreciate that --
13 for keeping it on our radar.

14 I know Scott had a comment to make.
15 Scott Lingo.

16 MR. LINGO: I think, if I remember
17 correctly, Mark, when we had the data done, it
18 didn't have, like, walleye. They didn't test any
19 walleye out of Van Etten Lake. And that's probably
20 the biggest table fare, that and perch. And perch,
21 unfortunately, we found that six per year out of
22 Van Etten Lake. So when everyone was taking all
23 their fish down to Wellman's and showing pictures
24 on Facebook of the big perch they caught, I got to
25 believe they were unaware that, you know, they

1 should only eat six of those fish a year. So
2 that's what we're trying to get out because that
3 lake is not being --

4 MS. NEED: I totally understand what
5 you're trying to get to.

6 MR. LINGO: Yeah, because that lake is
7 not being fished as much, fish are getting big.
8 People are hearing about it. They're going after
9 big fish, big walleye, big perch. And I think the
10 time that we need to test these walleye is, like,
11 now and later in the summer.

12 MS. NEED: Right.

13 MR. LINGO: And my understanding was no
14 one can catch them. And I've got a man that will
15 come --

16 MS. NEED: You know a guy?

17 MR. SUELTFUSS: You know a guy? All
18 right. (inaudible).

19 MR. LINGO: I know a walleye fisherman
20 that him and his son go catch one in an afternoon.
21 Here I am. Come with us. But no, we need to get
22 those walleye tested that our residents of Van
23 Etten Lake. Now, they've already fished
24 (inaudible).

25 MR. SUELTFUSS: I'm going to reel this

1 conversation back in, if I could. So let me just
2 jump in the middle here real quick. I want to make
3 sure everyone can hear me real quick. I'm going to
4 pull us back to the presentation we have. I know
5 we may have some questions for Kate on the
6 presentation here. Not sure if you all can hear
7 right now. And I know we have a comment here from
8 Denise.

9 So, Denise, over to you.

10 MS. BRYAN: Not to belabor the point, but
11 this is a public health story with health
12 implications and long-term environmental health
13 consequences. And I -- I'm a visual learner and I
14 am a strong advocate of quality, data, and
15 methodology, but I can't lose sight of some of the
16 concerns with how slow the delays and the honest
17 mistakes that have happened throughout my tenure
18 serving on the RAB all the way back to 2014 and '15
19 when I first learned about these chemicals.

20 But I was at a RAB meeting where Tony
21 stood up and said, ticktock, time up. Time is up
22 and the action should happen now.

23 And that was way too many years ago. So
24 I just want to point out, I was there. I listened
25 and I heard that. And the reason he was so

1 exasperated and wanted to talk about that is
2 because we have had more health advisories on the
3 back of our neighbors here than any place else in
4 Michigan. And that's because we're trying to get
5 out messaging to prevent health consequences.

6 The data is important in methodology, but
7 we can't lose sight of the people and the public
8 health problem. I've been at a RAB where now was
9 picketing for action and I was at the RAB when
10 Scott shared his results, and it's heartbreaking to
11 hear the human impact. And so I appreciate the
12 science, but this is no personal attack. It's --
13 the honest message is move it forward as high
14 quality and protective as you can because we're
15 counting on you, and we have no other places to go.
16 We have our partners here and we have turned over
17 these partners so many times. I hear even tonight,
18 people have hope still today. Well, God bless them
19 because sometimes I sit here a little concerned as
20 a health officer whether I was able to do enough.

21 And so I just wanted to pause and make
22 sure that became part of the record. I can put a
23 public health story up there from the things I've
24 heard and witnessed and people would say, this
25 should never have happened. We shouldn't still be

1 here, but carry on. We want to keep moving
2 forward. I just want to make a record of what our
3 neighbors have endured and the veterans that were,
4 you know, stationed here at that time. So yes, we
5 want quality, but we want movement and we --
6 we're -- the excuses fall short. Thank you.

7 MS. NEED: Thank you.

8 MR. SUELTFUSS: Yeah. Thank you. Ms.
9 Bryan, thank you for those comments and for all the
10 years that you've sat here on this board helping to
11 try to make those advances. We hear the
12 frustration that you have that things are not
13 moving as fast as you want them to and the real
14 importance you describe to why we need to care
15 about this. So thank you. Thank you.

16 Are there other questions for Kate on
17 this slide and this topic? Okay.

18 Kate, don't get too comfortable, but
19 we're going to move on here.

20 MS. NEED: Right. I'm going to go sit
21 back there. You'll get this microphone back, but
22 I'm still here. I'm here.

23 MR. SUELTFUSS: Exactly. We got --
24 yes. Actually, yeah. Let's go ahead and do a
25 break. Thank you. I appreciate that. So we're

1 going to go ahead -- and it's 7:22. We're going to
2 take a ten-minute break. We'll come back at 7:32.
3 So on break for ten minutes.

4 (A recess was taken.)

5 MR. SUELTFUSS: Okay. If we could,
6 let's go ahead and begin again. I'm going to ask
7 all of our RAB members to have a seat, please. All
8 righty. Let's go ahead and start back up again.
9 Welcome, everyone. I know ten-minute breaks are
10 tough, so I appreciate your patience with that.
11 Let's go ahead and continue with our presentation.
12 I believe the next portion of the Department of Air
13 Force presentation is about the Military Munitions
14 Response Program.

15 Okay. Dave, over to you.

16 MR. LACOVONE: Correct. Yes. Now we're
17 getting into what we call our legacy programs
18 (inaudible). Our Military Munitions Response
19 Program, as everybody knows, we have two sites on
20 the northwest side of the air base, the former
21 airbase. It's a small circular area and another
22 very long rectangular area right near the ranges.
23 Our MMRP contractor notified me yesterday that they
24 would be remobilizing in July. As most of you
25 know, they were out here before winter set in and

1 did a lot of work out here, especially scanning.
2 When they go out the next time around, it will be
3 the removal of artifacts. What they've decided to
4 do is clear the small area first and then work on
5 the larger area. With regard to that contract,
6 that contracting included the removal of up to, I
7 think it was 5,500 items. We've found out through
8 the scanning that they're well above 7,000 now, and
9 they still got roughly about two areas to scan.

10 So probably going to have to do a slight
11 mod to the contract to get the other items out and
12 that way we can reach UU/UE. But like I said, we
13 expect that work to begin, I think they said July
14 7th. There was a question that came up with regard
15 to, and I think this was been brought up before,
16 there were tires located at that site. We've been
17 told by having taught the Army Corps of Engineers
18 and the contractor that nothing can be done with
19 those tires until they're cleared by the UXO people
20 in the event that they may have existed out there
21 when the range was in use and they may have UXO
22 items in there. So in other words, we were working
23 on getting rid of those tires, but we're told we
24 still can't just yet simply because they may have
25 something in them.

1 All right. Next page. I'm sorry. This
2 is where we actually get into legacy contaminants.
3 And --

4 MR. SUELTFUSS: And if we could advance
5 to Slide 29 of (crosstalk), please?

6 MR. LACOVONE: Correct. All right. Our
7 vapor intrusion, I've got some notifications today
8 from our contractor that they're going to be out in
9 the field in June and July. I think June, they're
10 doing the regular sites and then July, they're
11 doing what they call their mod sites. And, you
12 know, for those of you who are unfamiliar with
13 vapor intrusion, it's when there's contaminants in
14 the ground that, you know, vaporize and then
15 actually enter the building through the flooring.
16 So they've done a lot of placement of equipment
17 over the last, I think, week or so, and they're
18 getting ready to mow, like I said, in June and
19 July. All right. Next page, please.

20 We also have an extraction well
21 maintenance program, which is rather robust.
22 They're trying to keep these extraction wells
23 functioning to peak efficiency. With regard to --
24 we also have some long-term remedial action
25 operation reports. Includes groundwater sampling,

1 extractions of 11 IRP sites. We're expecting a
2 report that I believe may be on my desk, but I'll
3 have to check my email when I get back with regard
4 to May 2026. Our next groundwater and sampling
5 engaging event is scheduled for September of this
6 year. And then we have our annual land use -- I'm
7 sorry, land use control inspection, or what we call
8 LUCs. Those are the restrictions that are placed
9 on land as to what you can actually do with that
10 land or on that property, you know, in terms of
11 digging, accessing certain things. The annual
12 report was in May of 2026. It's currently under
13 review. The next one is scheduled for December of
14 2026.

15 Now, not quite certain why anybody in
16 their right mind would want to do land use control
17 inspections in December. Here in Michigan, I was a
18 resident for about three-and-a-half years in Ann
19 Arbor and I know -- yeah, I wouldn't want to be
20 doing it myself. So that -- that's up for somebody
21 else. So does anybody got questions on those
22 programs?

23 MR. SUELTFUSS: Yeah. And this is a
24 good segue, I think, into the portion of our agenda
25 where we have discussion among the RAB members

1 first and the discussion prompted maybe by the
2 briefing that you've just heard. After we have
3 some discussion on the RAB members, then we'll open
4 up for our public comment period. So RAB members,
5 any discussion, any questions on what Dave has
6 presented?

7 Dave Carmona.

8 MR. CARMONA: Dave Carmona. So earlier,
9 risk assessment was mentioned. So as Cathy pointed
10 out, we had a catastrophic flood this year.
11 Several homes and properties inundated, including
12 some that belonged to the Township. So my question
13 is: Will the Air Force, EGLE, and MDHHS get
14 together and test these homes? We have PFAS-ridden
15 water. We have homes with water-soluble materials
16 and then drywall. We have cellular structured
17 materials in the form of wood that will readily
18 absorb this. Part of the risk assessment is
19 determining whether exposure through the air or
20 through contact is part of that risk assessment,
21 particularly concerning the beaches. But now we've
22 had it move into homes, carpets, walls, drywalls,
23 substructures. Should these be tested and looked
24 at? And that's something that I think those three
25 primary groups, DAF, MDHHS, and EGLE need to get

1 together and discuss because this is a new area of
2 risk assessment that should be considered that
3 nobody thought of before, is catastrophic flood of
4 contaminated water inundating homes, let alone the
5 properties.

6 The amount of foam that was on the shores
7 along Van Etten as the wind blew up after this
8 flood was unbelievable. So you have additional
9 ground contamination as far as 150 to 200 feet away
10 from the lake that's going to get reabsorbed
11 through the sand now. Phelan Creek overran its
12 banks severely. Sand has been moved on both the Au
13 Sable River and Van Etten Creek and redirected the
14 banks in many areas. These are all things that
15 need to be looked at. How much contamination was
16 moved and brought to the surface by this flood? So
17 I challenge these three organizations to get
18 together. The TWG may consider addressing it, but
19 I believe there's a potential health risk here that
20 needs to be seriously considered that was not on
21 the table before. So that's my comment regarding
22 that.

23 MR. SUELTENFUSS: Okay.

24 MR. CARMONA: My --

25 MR. SUELTENFUSS: I'm sorry. Go ahead,

1 sir. And then we'll come to Mark and then Josh
2 will come down here.

3 MR. CARMONA: Oh. Because I had several
4 questions.

5 MR. SUELTFUSS: Oh, sorry.

6 MR. CARMONA: Did you want me to unload
7 or just wait?

8 MR. SUELTFUSS: Let's do them one at a
9 time. Does that work? And we'll --

10 MR. CARMONA: Works for me.

11 MR. SUELTFUSS: Yeah. We'll just
12 bounce through. So let's go to Mark Henry. Josh
13 will go next, and then whoever else next, and then
14 we'll come back your way.

15 MR. HENRY: I just have a little bit of
16 input. In households, there's PFAS. Most -- or
17 seems most carpeting and vinyl flooring these days
18 has PFAS in it as well as furniture. It's all been
19 Scotchgarded to be semi-resistant. So consider
20 that there may be sources native to the homes if
21 the agency has decided to do some sort of
22 assessment of exposure.

23 MR. SUELTFUSS: Thank you. Appreciate
24 that, Mark.

25 Josh Sutton.

1 MR. SUTTON: I would just like to add on
2 to what Dave was saying. Also to think about the
3 wells and the septic tanks that were submerged and
4 with that increased water going up on a lot of the
5 banks along those creeks and everything, a lot of
6 those homes weren't initially tested when we were
7 doing well testing just to check for people. So I
8 don't -- I don't remember if that was the health
9 department who worked on that, but just something
10 to think about. I do insurance, and we had a lot
11 of homes that were flooded. And in that, a lot of
12 them were in areas that still have their wells.
13 They probably might have had them tested before and
14 they were good. But by having that much water
15 shift up, it was flooding basements 200 feet above
16 that level. So I have to believe that their septic
17 tanks, any wells that were underwater for that
18 prolonged period of time while we were dealing with
19 that, we want to just reach out to those citizens
20 if possible and have them maybe look at getting
21 those tested just to make sure that nothing has
22 changed with that much water in them.

23 MR. SUELTFUSS: Okay. Thank you very
24 much, sir. I appreciate that.

25 Yes, go ahead.

1 MR. LINGO: Well, and the thing about the
2 flood, too, is we had one in 2011 that was very
3 similar but not quite as extreme. You know, that
4 whole point there where the channel goes into Van
5 Etten Dam, that was all flooded. There were
6 probably eight to ten houses that were flooded
7 then. We didn't have it migrate Loud Drive like it
8 did this event. But this isn't the first time that
9 we've seen catastrophic flooding along Loud Drive
10 where it's come up into the front yards and then
11 it's receded.

12 And, you know, as Mark has -- we've
13 talked about this before where the effects of the
14 foam blow into the front yard and then it just
15 evaporates into the ground, you know? So then
16 you've got the soil contamination possibly there,
17 too. So we might find with this last flood, it
18 might have doubled the amount that could be in the
19 wood, the carpet, the drywall and stuff like that.
20 So this is just kind of another spraying of it with
21 the AFFF.

22 MR. SUELTFUSS: Okay. Thank you.
23 Appreciate that.

24 Let me come back to Dave Carmona for
25 another comment or question.

1 MR. CARMONA: This is a budgetary
2 question. I ask this every year and I get -- so
3 will there be discretionary fund letdown this year
4 in the fourth quarter, which is traditional
5 throughout the Federal Government, and could those
6 funds be directed towards contract changes to
7 update as requirements change in the fourth
8 quarter?

9 MS. NEED: I can take this unless you
10 want to.

11 MS. O'NEILL: All right. So yes, every
12 year -- you're right. In the fourth quarter, there
13 is perhaps fallout money that we call it, right?
14 That fallout money, of course, goes to our highest
15 priorities, you know, that we have already
16 identified. If there's additional things that we
17 need to do, absolutely. We could use that money if
18 those requirements are identified within the --
19 that quarter, right, to be able to get after that.
20 I always have my handout, okay, all the time, for
21 money. This year, I will tell you that we have
22 seen a lot of our funds be redirected from Air
23 Force, especially in our facility, restoration,
24 sustainment, and modernization accounts, which are
25 to upgrade our facilities, fix our facilities to

1 the current efforts that are going on in the Middle
2 East. And so we have had -- they directed that
3 money to go there. So I'm not really optimistic
4 this year that we're going to see as many of those
5 fallout funds, but I will tell you what I have --
6 we have been very, very thankful for are the
7 congressional plus-ups that we have seen over the
8 years.

9 And thanks a lot to our -- the folks that
10 are working that on the congressional side of
11 things. We've really been relying on that across
12 the board, not only for Wurtsmith, but for some of
13 our other sites as well and our active duty sites
14 across the board. So there's always a potential
15 for those funds to come. We -- we're always trying
16 to be postured to execute, right? If you have your
17 handout, we have to have that execution method to
18 be able to do that. So I'm hopeful every year.
19 Hopefully that helps answer it a little bit.

20 MR. CARMONA: Yeah.

21 MS. O'NEILL: I can't give you any
22 quantities, but I can just kind of tell you
23 currently what that environment is for us
24 that'll -- we've seen a lot of changes with regards
25 to the moving of money due to the current

1 operations that are going on, okay?

2 MR. CARMONA: Don't put the mic away yet.
3 I've got a follow-up question.

4 MS. O'NEILL: I'll wait. I'll wait.

5 MR. CARMONA: So the budget cycle is
6 coming up, your submissions are due in July for
7 DAF, and October, hopefully, appropriation by
8 Congress.

9 MS. O'NEILL: Yes.

10 MR. CARMONA: With the need for arms
11 replenishment, how might this impact the budget
12 outlay for our remediation, and should sequestering
13 occur because of no budget, how is that going to
14 impact contract flooding --

15 MS. O'NEILL: Okay.

16 MR. CARMONA: -- in the fourth quarter?

17 MS. O'NEILL: Yeah. Absolutely. Okay.
18 So to address your first question there, we've been
19 very lucky on the environmental side that we've not
20 seen any of our funds be redirected, okay? It's
21 been from other accounts. So they -- hopefully,
22 they're going to continue to do that, right, and
23 not touch us on the environmental side. When it
24 comes to actual cleanup funds that we have, those
25 are -- cannot be used for other requirements,

1 right? Unless it is completely reprogrammed way on
2 high, and Jenni might want to add a little bit to
3 that. So I don't anticipate there being those
4 changes to our funding, okay, profiles. Okay. And
5 then your second question. Tell me --

6 MR. CARMONA: Sequestration.

7 MS. O'NEILL: Oh, sequestration.

8 MR. CARMONA: How would that impact
9 contracting?

10 MS. O'NEILL: Right. It depends. The
11 good thing about some of our -- when it comes to
12 BRAC funding for us, it's know your money, okay?
13 So we have other funds over time, and maybe even
14 Ms. Sylvia wants to talk a little bit about that
15 from a BRAC perspective, but we have a little bit
16 of a pot, right, to continue our operations on.
17 And typically, what always happens with
18 sequestration or anything else, there is some money
19 that comes down and they tell us, spend. Just
20 start spending. We'll find the money for you and
21 we'll pay back those accounts. So I'm not
22 anticipating anything to change or slow down or to
23 stop the operations that are going on.

24 MR. CARMONA: Thank you, Tammy.

25 MS. O'NEILL: Okay. You're welcome. You

1 want me to stay?

2 MR. CARMONA: That was it.

3 MS. O'NEILL: Okay. As long as I don't
4 stay as long as Kate did up here.

5 MS. NEED: I don't think I'm off the hook
6 yet either, so we'll see.

7 MR. SUELTFUSS: Okay. Who has
8 additional questions for Kate --

9 MS. O'NEILL: Hey.

10 MR. SUELTFUSS: Oh, I'm sorry.

11 MS. O'NEILL: Whatever my name is. Does
12 anybody have any additional questions? All right.

13 MR. SUELTFUSS: I was just trying to
14 get Kate up here again.

15 MS. O'NEILL: Oh, yeah.

16 MS. NEED: Call Kate back. I will come.

17 MR. SUELTFUSS: What other RAB number
18 questions are there at the moment?

19 Mark?

20 MR. HENRY: I have a question for Dave.

21 MR. LACOVONE: Yes, sir.

22 MR. HENRY: Earlier in your presentation,
23 you put out two dollar amounts. One was, I think,
24 88.9 million invested in the infrastructure for
25 IRAs?

1 MR. LACOVONE: Correct.

2 MR. HENRY: And then there was 118
3 million. What did that cover?

4 MR. LACOVONE: That's a rough estimate of
5 overall. That includes the 88.9 million for the
6 IRAs.

7 MR. HENRY: Got you.

8 MR. LACOVONE: That's investigatory work.

9 MR. HENRY: Okay. Thank you.

10 MR. LACOVONE: The sum total was 188,
11 though.

12 MR. HENRY: Awesome. Thanks.

13 MR. LACOVONE: Yeah. Sorry if I confused
14 anybody on that. I'm a chemist guy. Sorry. I'm
15 not really good with money or so my girlfriend
16 tells me.

17 MR. SUELTFUSS: So -- okay. What other
18 questions did the RAB members have?

19 Yes?

20 MR. LINGO: This is for Dave. The --
21 that 88.9 million invested, is that nationally or
22 is that here at Wurtsmith?

23 MR. LACOVONE: That's here at Wurtsmith.

24 MR. LINGO: Okay.

25 MR. SUELTFUSS: Arnie, did you have --

1 MR. LERICHE: Well, one thing I think the
2 public should hear, which hopefully adds some hope
3 to it, is that the last report that the Department
4 of Defense sent to Congress was for '25 -- '24.
5 FY24, so that's almost two years ago. But the
6 funding for Wurtsmith was ranked fifth highest
7 across all DOD sites, which around 400, I think,
8 are PFAS related, roughly, plus or minus. And the
9 Air Force has about 160 of those.

10 MS. O'NEILL: There's about 723
11 Department of War sites that are -- that there's
12 AFFF investigations looked at. Of those, Air
13 Force, we have 202 that we looked at for the PASI.
14 Of those, 192, we proceeded forward with a remedial
15 investigation.

16 MR. LERICHE: Right. Right. But
17 Wurtsmith's future costs on -- according to that
18 last report made to Congress last year, was \$411
19 million future costs to Wurtsmith. Reese in Texas
20 was 640, something like that. Then Peterson was up
21 there. Pease in New Hampshire was also high, but
22 we're up there on projections. However, budgets
23 can be cut. Last year, you lost money, I think
24 about 30 percent over the summer when they
25 reallocated last spring to summer, March to August,

1 there was a major change in the FY25 budget, wasn't
2 there?

3 MS. O'NEILL: I'm not -- no.

4 MR. LERICHE: No?

5 MS. O'NEILL: I'm not tracking that, sir.

6 MR. LERICHE: Okay. I'm wrong then, but
7 I thought there was.

8 But anyways, so there is -- there -- but
9 the point is -- I'll end with this, is we got to
10 work the politics. We've got primary coming up.
11 We need the flow of money, and the track record
12 over the last year is not good at the congressional
13 level for keeping budgets toward this kind of a
14 project. And it's a fear that I have. So we need
15 the public to know about what's going on, connect
16 it to what is happening, and promise at this site,
17 they cannot print the money, so we've got to make
18 sure our congressionals are budgeting it so that
19 they can do the work that they want to do, the Air
20 Force and the -- at this site.

21 MR. SUELTFUSS: Thank you, Arnie. I
22 appreciate that.

23 In a moment, I'll turn to the members of
24 the public who might want to make a public comment,
25 but let me see if there are any RAB member

1 questions or discussions before we do that.

2 Yes. Cathy?

3 MS. WUSTERBARTH: I have a little good
4 news I would like to deliver. The technical
5 session that is open to the public is done
6 primarily the day before the RAB, so yesterday
7 between 1:00 and 4:00 historically, we've done
8 that. It's a really great opportunity for the
9 community to ask questions of the agencies and of
10 the personnel that are -- most of them are in this
11 room right now. And so there's a free-flowing
12 discussion about technical issues where we delve
13 into things. So yesterday, we were presented
14 information on the Landfill 3031 Interim Remedial
15 Action and the Three Pipes. I think that's what it
16 was. Yeah, the Three Pipes and the wastewater
17 treatment plant.

18 So the pre-design personnel that did the
19 project, or Kendra, presented, right? And Craig.
20 And we learned that they will be -- the design is
21 intended to capture the entire plume of those
22 areas. The Need Our Water Group has a priority to
23 stop the flow of contaminations off -- the flow of
24 contamination off of the base. This is one of our
25 priorities. Unfortunately, that hasn't been done

1 in prior IRAs, and so we're very, very pleased that
2 that is the future plan for those two community-
3 driven IRAs that are being planned. So just wanted
4 to make sure everybody was aware that happened
5 yesterday and we presented that. And thank you for
6 sending the presentation to us.

7 MR. SUELTFUSS: Of course.

8 MS. WUSTERBARTH: Okay.

9 MR. SUELTFUSS: Thank you very much.

10 MS. WUSTERBARTH: Uh-huh.

11 MR. SUELTFUSS: Yeah.

12 Okay. Other comments or questions from
13 the RAB members?

14 MR. CARMONA: No. I just -- a couple
15 things that were still on the slide. The next --
16 there were still a few slides left. The next round
17 is scheduled for August 26th. That actually was
18 moved from August 19th due to a scheduling
19 conflict. Also, there's a resource page in there
20 that actually gives, you know, and -- for those of
21 you unfamiliar with the enforcement -- AFCEC
22 administrative record, there is the website -- a
23 link that you can use to get to that. And also --
24 there's also a link to the policy with regard to
25 what ASD, or Assistant Secretary of Defense's

1 Office, the memo that they put out on, you know,
2 regional screening levels and MCLs and what we're
3 evaluating, too. And last but not least, the link
4 for the Restoration Advisory Board. So I just
5 wanted to point those out in case people were
6 unfamiliar with those.

7 MR. SUELTFUSS: Thank you, Dave.
8 Appreciate that.

9 Mark?

10 MR. HENRY: Adding on to what Cathy was
11 saying, my understanding is that if going forward
12 after this RAB meeting, the order of the things
13 that happen around the RAB is likely to change.
14 The Technical Working Group will be on the day
15 before the RAB, and the technical session will be
16 after the RAB. So just keep that in mind.

17 MR. SUELTFUSS: Okay. Appreciate that.

18 And now that we do have those RAB meeting
19 standards documented and adopted, I think one
20 action I can take is to work with the co-chairs and
21 then lay out for all the RAB members what is that
22 sequence of meetings that will occur between now
23 and our next Restoration Advisory Board meeting.
24 We'll have a RAB co-chair meeting. We'll have the
25 RAB action item review virtual meeting. We'll have

1 another RAB co-chair meeting. We'll have the RAB
2 technical session. We'll have the RAB meeting in
3 August, and we'll have the RAB Technical Working --
4 or the Technical Working Group meetings as well.
5 So I'll push that out. It can be hard to wrap your
6 mind around. There's a lot of stuff going on, but
7 we'll make sure and convey that to everyone.

8 We are at the portion of our agenda, a
9 really important portion of our agenda. In fact,
10 if you read the RAB Rule, as most of us do, the
11 only -- the only agenda topic that's listed that
12 must occur in RAB meetings is public comment. And
13 so we're entering into that public comment portion
14 of our agenda. You've heard a lot of discussion
15 among the RAB members themselves. This is the
16 opportunity for members of the public to please
17 just come up and share your comments.

18 We'll start with those who are here in-
19 person, and I see a couple hands up already. We'll
20 begin with those who are here in person first, and
21 then we'll see if there are any folks who are
22 connected online who would also like to make a
23 comment. If you are online and you would like to
24 make a comment, please just raise your hand. But
25 again, we'll start first with those who are here

1 in-person and move from there. We'll do about a
2 three-minute comment period or so for folks. If
3 you have additional comments, feel free to just
4 raise your hand again and we'll come right back to
5 your way.

6 Mr. Spaniola, would you like to go ahead
7 and start?

8 MR. SPANIOLA: Thank you, Tim.

9 Tony Spaniola. Need Our Water, Great
10 Lakes PFAS Action Network and impacted homeowner.
11 First of all, I would like to, as somebody who was
12 impacted by the flooding -- as somebody who was
13 impacted by the flooding, I want to thank Diane
14 Banks of the Van Etten Lake Association for the
15 yeoman's work that she did to help those of us who
16 live on the lake and to help neighbors to help one
17 other. That's what this is all about. Thank you
18 very much for that.

19 I also want to thank for Denise Bryan for
20 her comments earlier this evening and for reminding
21 us why we all should be here. I think that over
22 the years, you know, I -- I'll say positive things
23 when positive things happen and negative things
24 when negative things happen. And for too long here
25 and too often, and it still happens from time to

1 time, the lack of concern focus on public health,
2 individual health, and the environment has been
3 palpable here. No other way to say it. No other
4 way to say it. And, Denise, I think you expressed
5 that very, very well. Thank you for your concern
6 for all of us, for our family members, for people
7 who are here and for looking out for us over all
8 this time.

9 Also, I want to say thank you to Jenni
10 Dorsey-Spitz and Tammy O'Neill from Air Force
11 leadership for coming here tonight. But being here
12 yesterday, we had some really good meetings with
13 the community that both of you engaged in, and for
14 your ongoing engagement and attention to this
15 project. I know that you both have many, many,
16 many responsibilities and your presence here,
17 but -- and your active engagement is something that
18 is praiseworthy, and it's part of the hope that we
19 have here moving forward. So thank you very much
20 for that.

21 And I think that the presentation from
22 Arcadis yesterday that Cathy referred to was also,
23 you know, very positive and hopeful -- a hopeful
24 thing.

25 One thing that I want to do, and I don't

1 know if I'm going to run out of time, so Tim, just
2 stop me, but yesterday I made a request and I
3 believe it was captured, but I want it to be on the
4 record. For the performance data for each of the
5 existing interim remedial actions, I believe this
6 is the fourth or fifth time that I've asked for
7 this information, spanning numerous RAB meetings.
8 And I understand that with regard to the AAA IRA,
9 that there's a 12-month period. Well, we're --
10 well, we're there. But the other IRAs have been in
11 effect for a long, long, long time and the
12 community has been left in the dark on those.

13 So hopefully this is the last time that I
14 have to ask. I know others have had to ask as
15 well. That's been a pretty serious frustration
16 that I hope can be addressed. I want to talk about
17 the timeline. And if this is a -- if this is a
18 break point and I should come back --

19 MR. SUELTFUSS: You're good, sir.

20 MR. SPANIOLA: I understand the
21 difficulty in putting together a timeline, and I
22 understand trying to forecast out into the future
23 can be a very difficult challenge.

24 And, Kate, I appreciate that time that
25 you had to put in to do this because it's

1 difficult.

2 From where we sit and the information
3 that we have right now, I don't believe that the
4 existing timeline is a credible one. That's me,
5 personally, for a number of reasons. I think that
6 if it had been reviewed and vetted by the Technical
7 Work Group before being presented here, I think it
8 would have a lot more credibility and grounding in
9 reality. And I don't -- I think it's very
10 difficult to look at that and to figure out what's
11 going to happen when, because it's so vague and
12 broad. But I'm also most concerned -- Kyle Jones
13 raised the comment about the -- it -- it's not an
14 accurate portrayal of why this is all going on.
15 And I think honesty and clear communication is
16 really important.

17 Historically, I remember in 2024 being at
18 this RAB meeting, or one of these RAB meetings, at
19 which we were going to get the final RI report. Do
20 you guys remember that, right? And the community
21 said, holy smokes, wait a minute, we're in nowhere
22 near a position to issue a final report.

23 And we were looked at like, oh my
24 goodness, that's going to push timelines.

25 Remember? It's going to push timelines

1 out. And we said, do it right, okay?

2 So the reason for the delays here, we all
3 know it, is because of the inadequacy of the
4 original remedial investigation. Got you with
5 regard to regional screening levels, I hear you, or
6 whatever those things are, but I'm going to tell
7 you something. We could be on a hamster wheel
8 forever and ever and ever if we're going to sit
9 here and stop every time there's going to be a
10 change. Because look, we're learning more and more
11 and more about these PFAS chemicals. So this is
12 going to keep coming. And if we're going to sit
13 here saying, well, we got to bring this thing to a
14 screeching halt, and I know that's probably an
15 exaggeration a little bit, but then -- and to
16 suggest that the -- we're now delaying another five
17 years because two years ago, two years ago, there
18 was a screening level increase, doesn't make sense.
19 And it's not a way to manage this project.

20 And to get back to Denise's comment, good
21 Lord in Heaven, we have people here who need help.
22 And so I'm hopeful that this particular draft, I'm
23 going to call it that, gets submitted to the
24 Technical Work Group and that we are able to work
25 through something that I think is a -- will be a

1 little more workable and understandable for us
2 going forward. That -- that's all I ask.

3 And I guess one other thing. The interim
4 remedial actions are super critical here,
5 particularly as we're pushing timelines out, and I
6 will give you that we probably need more time than
7 was budgeted last time in August. I -- I'll agree
8 with that, but the interim remedial actions, the
9 delays in those are particularly alarming because
10 those are supposed to be dealing with imminent and
11 substantial threats to health and the environment.

12 And again, we're here because of the
13 health and environmental risks. And these things
14 were announced in 2023 after we had to fight for
15 months and months and months and months because the
16 Air Force refused to even look at them in any
17 meaningful way. So there's delay -- it's delay on
18 top of delay. Delay even to review it. We had to
19 engage in a very massive way with the congressional
20 offices, even to move it forward. And we had to
21 engage with the White House and with the Under
22 Secretary of Defense to make these things even a
23 possibility.

24 So now that we're looking at -- I'm glad
25 to see that we have some timing coming up on the

1 Arcadis wastewater treatment plant and Three Pipes.
2 DRMO and Landfill 3031 are up in the air, and I
3 understand those are going to be discussed
4 tomorrow, but I think it's incumbent upon the Air
5 Force to be looking for other interim actions that
6 it can take to stop the bleeding here at our base.
7 And that's really what I think we're here to do.

8 So -- but those are my comments. Thank
9 you all. Thank you to the RAB members for all your
10 time, right? And to the Technical Working Group
11 members, Mark and Kyle. And I've said this before,
12 they're the only people on that body who don't get
13 paid for what they do, and the community owes you a
14 huge debt. So thank you all.

15 MR. SUELTFUSS: Thank you very much,
16 sir. I appreciate that.

17 We have a public comment here and let me
18 just check to see. We have one back there.

19 Ma'am, if you don't mind, maybe --
20 actually, if you don't mind, go ahead and come on
21 up and make your comment.

22 And then sir, we'll come your way here in
23 just a moment.

24 MS. BANKS: Diane Banks. I am the
25 president of the Van Etten Lake Association and a

1 victim of the flood. 4 foot of the lake came into
2 our home. Of the nearly 300 members that we have,
3 the concern that I'm hearing now is exactly what
4 Mr. Carmona was talking about. People concerned
5 about their wells, they're concerned about their
6 homes, and they would like to know if there could
7 be testing. So I would just like to say, I hope
8 that will come to take place.

9 MR. SUELTFUSS: Thank you very much,
10 ma'am. I appreciate your comment.

11 Sir.

12 MR. B. SCHULZ: Hi, everyone. I'm Brady.
13 I don't have a lot to say personally, but the
14 congressman has a message that he wants you guys to
15 hear and I'll be reading it. I brought you guys
16 copies, and about 30 minutes ago, I sent the
17 updated one that was actually sent. So I have to
18 read it off my phone. Sorry if it takes me a
19 second. But this is what he says.

20 This is to Troy Meink, the Secretary, and
21 it says, "Dear Secretary Meink, I am writing to you
22 in my capacity as chairman of the House Armed
23 Services Subcommittee on Readiness, the
24 subcommittee responsible for authorizing funding
25 for every Air Force installation around the world,

1 regarding the ongoing PFAS contamination crisis as
2 the Former Wurtsmith Air Force Base in Oscoda,
3 Michigan. I'll be direct. The community of Oscoda
4 has endured more than a decade of contamination,
5 broken promises, and installation whiplash from the
6 Air Force, and I'm running out of a ways to explain
7 to my constituents why the services they trusted
8 with the community continues to treat them this
9 way.

10 "They deserve a clear, unambiguous
11 commitment in writing that remediation at Wurtsmith
12 will meet or exceed the EPA standards. At the same
13 time, I have reviewed the Air Force Installation
14 and Mission Support Center's May of 2026 briefing
15 on the pre-design investigation for the DRMO and
16 Field 3031 Interim Remedial Action areas. The
17 briefing acknowledges the PFAS removal actions from
18 those areas were publicly committed to, and that in
19 2023 by the Under Secretary of Defense, by
20 acquisition, it now characterizes the data
21 underlining the commitments and" -- I can't even
22 read that. Sorry about that.

23 "As collected from the temporary sampling
24 point using an outdated analytical method and
25 unable to be replicated. The Air Force is now

1 representing new data suggesting that contamination
2 is shallower and narrower than previously
3 understood and implying that the scope of design of
4 the promised remediation may change substantially.
5 From my vantage point and from the vantage point
6 about the people of Oscoda, the Air Force made a
7 public promise and is now constructing a scientific
8 rationale to walk it back.

9 "I am not pre-judging the new data. Good
10 signs should be -- should drive good remediation
11 decisions, and I understand that the pre-design
12 investigations exist precisely to refine prior
13 understandings, but the Air Force has an
14 installation credibility problem in Oscoda that
15 is -- that has earned over many years and presented
16 new findings that conveniently reduce the scope of
17 promised cleanup without robust, transparent,
18 independent validation and not going to be accepted
19 by the community and it will not be accepted by the
20 subcommittee."

21 There is five questions that the
22 Congressman is asking the secretary. It's just
23 about what he wants in writing in the next 30 days,
24 and he is trying to get a promise for that to get
25 that in writing in all those five questions. And

1 then after that, it says, "The American people have
2 entrusted Congress and subcommittee specifically
3 with oversight and how the Department of Air Force
4 fulfills the obligations to communities. It has
5 impacted the men and women who served at Wurtsmith
6 and the families who have lived in its shadows."

7 It says, "I want to be able to tell the
8 people of Oscoda the Air Force is doing the right
9 thing right now, but you are making it
10 extraordinarily difficult. I look forward to your
11 prompt response, Jack Bergman."

12 Thank you guys.

13 Thank you, Denise, for talking, by the
14 way.

15 MR. SUELTFUSS: Thank you, sir. I
16 appreciate you sharing that with us.

17 Ma'am.

18 MS. LIVELY: Kelly Lively, Senator
19 Peters' office. And first, thanks to all of you
20 for enduring this for all these years. For -- I
21 mean, not thanks, but, I mean, like, sorrows for
22 it. And thanks for sticking with it.

23 Thanks to Tony for being a great partner
24 to me to help me learn what I need to know to be
25 helpful to all of you.

1 And I have a couple things. So I wanted
2 to express my appreciation from our office to the
3 Air Force for the meeting that we had a couple of
4 weeks ago and your commitment to fully release to
5 us the Noblis report with the data and all of it,
6 and some of the contracting that we had asked for,
7 and the Performance Review Analysis. And so we
8 look forward -- we look forward to receiving that.
9 I just want to make sure that you have our
10 appreciation for helping us with that. I know that
11 we've been asking for a couple of years, so this
12 will -- this will move us forward.

13 So the other thing on the timeline, the
14 people of this community deserve a better
15 explanation for this delay and the lengthy
16 extension. The MCL rollback doesn't seem like that
17 would be justification on its own. And maybe some
18 of these things that we've -- this information that
19 we ask for will help us understand better why those
20 decisions are being made.

21 And so I also wanted to just say that
22 with this timeline extension, what are you doing to
23 assure this community that you will continue to
24 meet deadlines? Because it seems to me that when I
25 look at the timeline and do the math, in talking to

1 Sameer earlier today -- we talked about the data at
2 the DRMO and the landfill, and the 16-year-old data
3 was taken incorrectly and it was -- it was old, and
4 he said that the water is moving quickly. So when
5 I see -- we're going to -- if we're going to take
6 samples in 2026 and we're going to come to final
7 construction in 2035, I have a hard time believing
8 that -- is that data going to be accurate for that?
9 So I think we need to have real assurance as to how
10 this goes because we can't -- it's like chasing our
11 tail. You know, it's always moving, so we really
12 need to get a hold of it, so -- and that -- that's
13 all I have.

14 MR. SUELTFUSS: Thank you, Ms. Lively.
15 I appreciate the comment.

16 Are there other comments from those who
17 are here in-person?

18 Yes, sir.

19 MR. PERRY: I'll just -- I'll just stay
20 right here and not stand up. My name is Craig
21 Perry. I'm from Oscoda. I -- listening to NPR
22 yesterday, I heard that in -- the State Senate has
23 passed a bill and it's going to the governor's desk
24 today or last night, and Wurtsmith and PFAS were
25 the keywords in that report on NPR. Do you guys

1 know what's going on? Is there additional money,
2 or what's happening?

3 MR. B. SCHULZ: That's the State level.

4 MR. PERRY: Yes.

5 MR. B. SCHULZ: Yeah. We tried to have a
6 representative here today that works at the State
7 level. I -- oh, sorry. But we're both Federal
8 employees.

9 MR. PERRY: Yeah.

10 MR. B. SCHULZ: And so we try to keep up
11 with what's going on in the State Government. We
12 can't do it all the time. Sorry about that.

13 MR. PERRY: Yeah. Okay. But -- yeah.

14 MR. B. SCHULZ: But -- I did not know
15 about this. I don't think there's further funding
16 at the State level at all. I would have heard of
17 that through Senator Damoose's office or ordinance,
18 but I don't think there's funding. I don't know
19 what they would've passed. Maybe it's an update on
20 the parts per trillion for chemicals. If that, I
21 have no clue.

22 Do you know?

23 MR. SPANIOLA: No. Tony Spaniola here.
24 I'm going to take a guess. The thing that I know
25 that's been working its way through the legislature

1 has been several million dollars, 150 million or
2 something like that, for Selfridge for the fighter
3 mission there. That might have been what you
4 heard, but I --

5 MR. PERRY: But Wurtsmith --

6 MR. SPANIOLA: Okay. Yeah. I don't
7 know.

8 MR. PERRY: -- was the -- really was the
9 main --

10 MR. SPANIOLA: We'll have to check.

11 MR. PERRY: -- subject of this.

12 MR. SUELTFUSS: Okay. So, sir, it
13 sounds like maybe some good conversation to have
14 just after we break here to get a little bit more
15 information. Is there anything else that you would
16 like to share as a comment at all? Okay. Well,
17 thank you for that.

18 Are there other public comments to make
19 from those who are here in-person tonight? Okay.
20 Let me just check to see with our staff at the back
21 if we have anyone who is connected remotely who
22 would like to make a comment. If so, if you're
23 connected remotely, you can raise your hand
24 electronically. If you've dialed in by phone, you
25 can press star 5 to raise your hand. Okay. We'll

1 continue looking at that. Again, star 5 to raise
2 your hand if you've dialed in. Let me do one last
3 call here for those who are in-person.

4 Anyone who would like to make another
5 public comment, additional comment? Okay.

6 And anybody raising their hand
7 electronically? No.

8 Okay. Well, so that moves us through the
9 public comment portion of our discussion tonight.
10 I appreciate your comments. You know, one thing
11 that strikes me in the discussion we've had all
12 throughout the meeting is that this is not just a
13 scientific and technical challenge. It is a
14 scientific and technical challenge, but it's a
15 scientific and technical challenge that occurs and
16 impacts lives and livelihoods. And so I really
17 appreciate the comments that are made that
18 reinforce that to us. I appreciate your comments
19 tonight and not only occasional comments, but years
20 and years of dedication to try to move things
21 forward. So thank you for that.

22 We're going to go ahead and move into our
23 conclusion. Let's go ahead and display, if we
24 could, our next RAB meeting date. That will be
25 Wednesday evening, the 26th of August, 2026. That

1 is one week later than we had previously planned
2 due to a schedule change. Future meetings after
3 August will continue to occur on our standard
4 meeting cadence. That's the second month of each
5 quarter, the third week of each month, and the
6 Wednesday of that week, so same sequence as we
7 always do.

8 Stella Fuentes and I will stay here for
9 the next half hour or so. So RAB members, if you
10 did have an action item -- possible action item,
11 maybe some discussion topic for the future, we
12 would like to just touch base with you real quick,
13 make sure we captured that accurately. We don't
14 want to go two weeks down the road and find that we
15 did not originally understand the action correctly.

16 I think that brings us towards the end of
17 our discussion. I want to thank everyone for their
18 participation, and I'll turn to our co-chairs for
19 closing remarks.

20 Mark Henry?

21 MR. HENRY: I would like to thank
22 everybody who have attended in-person or virtually.
23 I urge you, to those in the local community, to
24 talk with your neighbors and try to get them
25 engaged in this process and be knowledgeable about

1 what's going on. I'm hoping that from here on out,
2 things are going to be moving along steadily and
3 that we're going to be doing good work, or the Air
4 Force is going to be doing good work, and that
5 these RAB meetings continue to be able to provide a
6 mechanism for asking questions and challenging the
7 Air Force to do the right thing.

8 MR. SUELTFUSS: Thank you, sir.
9 Dave Lacovone.

10 MR. LACOVONE: I would like to mirror
11 Mark's comments and I appreciate, you know,
12 everybody's input. I do have a quick announcement.
13 About three months ago, I kind of requested a
14 replacement as BEC for Wurtsmith. This had more to
15 do with workload than anything else. I still have
16 five installations on the active side. Three of
17 them actually have active PFAS RIs.

18 So I asked Ms. Crowell if she would be
19 willing to find somebody to be my replacement, and
20 she did locate someone. Her name is Rachelle
21 Collingham (phonetic). It's our hope that she will
22 be assuming RAB responsibilities in August, but
23 over the next three months, we will be
24 transitioning. I'll be helping her as much as
25 possible. Kate and I aren't going anywhere. We

1 still have our offices at Wright-Patt and she still
2 has her office at Offutt, and we will be providing
3 support. And when Rachelle feels comfortable,
4 she's going to take over completely.

5 Also, what this means is she will be 100
6 percent dedicated to Wurtsmith. I haven't been
7 able to do that. I have been only simply because
8 we're in the midst of finalizing some of the RI
9 reports, and so we really didn't have a lot of
10 field work going on at the three installations that
11 I had. And I also kind of realized at the time,
12 Wurtsmith was more of a load than I thought it was
13 going to be. When I volunteered to take over last
14 year, I was kind of shocked when I first got here
15 as to -- as to everything that's going on. And
16 it's been interesting. I've learned a lot and I've
17 seen what you guys are having to go through. I
18 think Rachelle is going to do very, very well.
19 She's a little different than I am. I'm -- my
20 problem has always been I'm a very unilateral
21 action type person, having been a Marine, and that
22 hasn't really worked out too -- you know, for me
23 too well up here.

24 I -- my management style is more or less
25 like Chesty Puller and George Patton rather than,

1 you know, Eisenhower and (inaudible), okay? So I
2 think things are going to do a lot better with her
3 at the helm. So I appreciate everybody's, you
4 know, input and I appreciate how everybody made me
5 feel welcome, but we'll see how things go.

6 MR. SUELTFUSS: Thank you. I
7 appreciate it.

8 MS. O'NEILL: And she is here, if
9 anybody -- yes.

10 MR. SUELTFUSS: Yes.

11 MS. O'NEILL: Okay.

12 MR. SUELTFUSS: She is here.

13 MS. O'NEILL: Here you are. Okay. If
14 you would like to be able to stand up here, so if
15 anybody has a chance to -- just to introduce
16 themselves after the meeting.

17 MR. SUELTFUSS: Okay. Well, welcome,
18 Rachelle.

19 And, Dave, thank you for all your hard
20 work. You are a hard worker. I have gotten --
21 I've gotten a lot of 06 emails from Dave.

22 MR. LACOVONE: Oh, yeah.

23 MR. SUELTFUSS: Working hard and early.

24 MR. LACOVONE: I -- even my
25 contractors -- and that's another thing I'd like to

1 say. Without some of the contractors that have
2 been working with me, I never would've been able to
3 do this. You know, Ryan and Andrea and Mark and
4 Lee, they do a fantastic job, Wendi and her group.
5 Without Kate and without Chris King, who I've
6 learned so much from, you know, from a BRAC
7 standpoint.

8 You know, there's sort of a rivalry
9 between Active and BRAC. I have a whole new
10 understanding of what they have to go through. I
11 thought I understood it because one of my other
12 bases is Grissom, and Grissom has a BRAC component.
13 I do the active side and I work side by side with
14 the BRAC people. So it -- it's really been --
15 like, I really did not know all that they have to
16 go through and it's a lot. It really is. I don't
17 know how BECs do it. You know, I look at Wright-
18 Patt. We have three RPMs right on Wright-Patt.
19 Three. So it -- it's a lot of work. You know, a
20 major base is a lot of work, and this was a major
21 base.

22 MR. SUELTFUSS: Well, thank you, Dave.

23 And I'm happy to see that Rachelle is
24 still in the room. So -- okay. Well, I think we
25 have reached the end of our time together. You

1 know, advancing this cleanup happens in these
2 meetings and it happens outside of these meetings.
3 So I would just encourage all of us to find ways to
4 keep on working together in any venue and
5 interaction we have to move things forward.

6 We're adjourned for tonight. Thanks.

7 (Meeting adjourned at 8:40 p.m.)

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CERTIFICATE

I, JESSICA SHEPARD, a Certified Electronic Recorder and Notary Public within and for the State of Michigan do hereby certify:

That this transcript consisting of 155 pages, is a complete, true, and correct record of the testimony given in this case on May 20, 2026.

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

IN WITNESS THEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand this 29th day of May, 2026.



JESSICA SHEPARD CER 16369
Notary Public, State of Michigan
County of Crawford
My commission expires: August 10, 2030

MEETING
RESTORATION ADVISORY BOARD

May 20, 2026
Index: \$250,000..4

	12	1993	75:21	147:25
<u> </u>	76:9,23	54:21		
\$	78:25	19th	2022	27
		129:18	76:2	61:20
\$250,000	12-month		82:23	62:8
31:3	134:9	1:00	2023	29
\$411	12th	128:7	76:19	113:5
126:18	32:21		137:14	
\$50,000	139	<u> </u>	140:19	2nd
31:16	31:13	2		32:13,14
\$88.9	14	2	2024	
44:1	76:9	9:11 10:4	32:22	
		47:6	76:21	<u> </u>
<u> </u>	15	2.4.4	135:17	3
0	39:20	12:16	2025	10:9 73:8
	108:18	2.4.8	35:3,7	3.8
06	15-minute	9:24	93:6,8,11	43:16
151:21	56:10	20	94:25	30
	150	5:2	2026	49:21,22
<u> </u>	116:9	200	5:2 32:21	69:9
1	146:1	116:9	45:2,6	94:25
	157	118:15	87:1	126:24
1	43:17,19	2000	114:4,12,	139:16
45:19	54:15,16	65:23	14 140:14	141:23
47:6	61:16,22	2011	144:6	300
100:10	63:25	119:2	147:25	139:2
1,500	157,000	2014	2027	3031
66:3	64:19	108:18	53:5	42:20
1,800	15th	2017	2030	47:18
66:5,21	49:21	78:24	95:12	128:14
1/2	16-year-old	2018	2035	138:2
65:4	144:2	78:24	53:6	140:16
10	160	2019	144:7	32
14:23	126:9	75:12	21	11:24
100	180	202	71:10	35
79:13	53:9	11:24	22	56:4
85:18	188	126:13	101:11	350
150:5	125:10	2020	24	62:11
11	18th	35:3,7	126:4	
114:1	78:9	2021	25	<u> </u>
118	192		126:4	4
44:7	126:14		26th	
125:2			129:17	4

11:15	53:9	65:23	account	77:5
139:1	86:22,23	99	60:4,14	81:17
4-inch	640	44:24	accounted	83:7,10,
49:9	126:20	_____	5:16	14 91:6
40	6:05	A	accounts	104:6
69:9,10	56:12	_____	120:24	108:22
86:21	6:15	AAA	122:21	109:9
400	56:13	134:8	123:21	113:24
126:7	_____	ability	accurate	128:15
47	7	61:2	21:13	130:20,25
96:21	_____	absolute	135:14	132:10
4:00	7,000	57:11	144:8	140:16
128:7	112:8	74:19	accurately	148:10,15
_____	72	absolutely	13:5	150:21
5	65:4	91:1	102:13	actions
_____	723	120:17	148:13	40:13
5	126:10	122:17	acknowledge	43:11
23:4 33:4	7:00	absorb	s	82:12
146:25	39:24	115:18	140:17	83:9
147:1	7:22	accelerate	acquisition	134:5
5,000	111:1	74:25	140:20	137:4,8
61:18,23	7:32	75:7	acronym	138:5
62:7	111:2	77:17	11:8	140:17
5,500	7th	accept	24:13,15	active
112:7	112:14	79:5	46:2 48:7	57:25
500	_____	83:22	acronyms	58:1
62:10	8	accepted	46:12,13	67:16
5093	_____	79:3,12,	62:3	99:19
68:10	88.9	16 83:21	Act	121:13
51	124:24	101:24	89:5,6,7,	133:17
9:25 10:1	125:5,21	141:18,19	9	149:16,17
55-gallon	8:00	accessing	action	152:9,13
61:17,20,	10:24	114:11	8:14	activities
23	8:40	accomplish	12:8,11	14:4
5:00	153:7	81:10	14:9	32:12
5:2	_____	accomplishe	19:22	33:10
_____	9	d	25:15	36:3
6	_____	15:22	37:10	activity
_____	93	accordance	42:15	64:6
60	_____	11:23	46:5,8	acts
			50:13,15,	40:10
			24 67:15	actual
				11:12
				55:21

MEETING
RESTORATION ADVISORY BOARD

May 20, 2026
Index: Adam..air

69:6	145:1	129:22	28:13,14,	agreements
122:24	147:5	adopt	21	38:8
Adam	address	14:14,16,	affecting	ahead
70:23	11:3	20 22:18,	39:5	5:9 8:1
91:11	44:17,19	22	AFFF	13:14
add	70:7	adopted	53:17	15:11
16:15	122:18	12:3 23:3	55:1,14,	23:4
21:4	addressed	130:19	18 56:2	26:10
24:13	19:7	advance	57:22	32:5
40:3 55:3	50:12	32:2	58:2	40:23
57:1 76:4	58:23,25	45:11	61:17	51:17
82:4	59:3,5	56:10	119:21	84:25
90:20	134:16	113:4	126:12	86:15
118:1	addressing	advances	afternoon	89:2 90:4
123:2	49:25	110:11	80:14	103:22
added	50:17	advancing	86:17	110:24
44:6	116:18	153:1	107:20	111:1,6,
76:20	adds	advised	agencies	8,11
82:23	126:2	103:13	104:2,6	116:25
98:8	adjourned	advisories	128:9	118:25
addendum	153:6,7	109:2	agency	132:6
33:4,18	adjust	Advisory	117:21	138:20
71:20,22	21:4	5:5 7:24	agenda	147:22,23
adding	adjusted	8:3 11:20	10:9 23:5	AIP
50:4	21:12	104:1	56:23	31:4
100:1	adjustment	130:4,23	96:21	air
130:10	13:10	advocate	114:24	5:4 7:4,
addition	adjustments	108:14	131:8,9,	5,6,8
32:16,20	21:11	Aerostar	11,14	8:24
33:3	administrat	102:22	agree	10:2,13
64:25	ion	AFCEC	62:6 79:7	14:25
65:25	81:6	8:22	85:12	15:11
additional	administrat	41:24	137:7	25:7,8
14:2	ions	105:22	agreed	26:6,11
33:19	80:2	129:21	82:16	27:3 35:4
40:3	administrat	affairs	83:5 90:8	39:20,22
73:24	ive	21:21	agreement	40:1
74:1,2	20:19	affect	49:18	46:11
76:21	21:22,25	88:5	51:4	50:3
80:4 85:1	49:20	affected	55:1,14,	52:6,12
116:8	54:24		18 56:2	56:22
120:16			57:22	57:1,9
124:8,12			58:2	58:16
132:3			61:17	59:12
			119:21	61:2
			126:12	

63:16	alarming	anecdotal	appreciated	138:1
65:24	137:9	99:18	37:25	area
66:7	alert	Ann	appreciatio	6:11 33:8
67:1,6,7, 15,17	46:14	114:18	n	35:2,5,7, 11 46:14
71:4	alluded	announced	143:2,10	48:18
75:16	71:15	137:14	approach	63:21
80:15,18, 20 83:4, 19,20	alphabetica	announcemen	63:17	65:20
85:6,12	lly	t	approaching	68:12,15
88:13	24:2	21:24	94:18	91:18
90:8,11	amazing	149:12	appropriati	111:21,22
95:8	29:13	annual	on	112:4,5
104:12,15	American	34:1	122:7	116:1
111:12,20	142:1	114:6,11	approximate	areas
115:13,19	amount	anticipate	37:2	29:4
120:22	55:3	123:3	Approximate	30:19
126:9,12	63:23	anticipated	ly	35:15
127:19	64:16	23:23	36:22	76:17
133:10	116:6	33:15	approximati	112:9
137:16	119:18	anticipatin	on	116:14
138:2,4	amounts	g	53:25	118:12
139:25	124:23	33:16	61:6	128:22
140:2,6, 13,25	analyses	123:22	April	140:16,18
141:6,13	97:18	anticipatio	32:13,14, 19 42:10	Armed
142:3,8	analysis	n	45:1	139:22
143:3	33:7 61:9	26:8	49:20	arms
149:3,7	98:2	Anytime	74:11	122:10
airbase	101:17	9:22	aqueous	Army
111:21	105:25	apologize	55:7	112:17
aircraft	143:7	48:7	ARAR	Arnie
46:14	analytes	applicable	84:17	8:4,7
airport	91:7	83:18	ARARS	20:7
9:9	analytical	84:15	78:23	21:8,19
30:10,16, 17 50:21	98:17	85:12	79:4,8,13	22:3,15
airports	140:24	applied	82:11,13, 15,21,24,	26:4 27:9
31:5,6,7, 8,11,12, 13	analyzed	89:7	25	65:14
aisle	104:23	applies	Arbor	69:5,14
29:16	analyzing	88:18	114:19	92:2,16
	Andrea	apply	Arcadis	100:18
	152:3	12:17	133:22	101:6
		83:12		102:12
				104:4,8
				106:10
				125:25

MEETING
RESTORATION ADVISORY BOARD

May 20, 2026
Index: arrow..Bator

127:21	assumption	102:5	78:9,24	bar
arrow	47:1	104:19	81:3 82:2	73:8
98:1,4,	94:20	126:25	84:7,8	96:10
12,13	assurance	129:17,18	85:5	barrier
arrows	24:14	131:3	87:5,10	83:12
97:11	71:21	137:7	88:14	base
artifacts	144:9	147:25	91:15	5:5 8:24
112:3	assure	148:3	95:3	32:13
ASD	143:23	149:22	96:24	35:4
129:25	atmosphere	authorizing	97:18	50:3,5,6,
aspects	12:20	139:24	98:9,13	7 54:6,
62:21	attack	average	102:6	21,25
ASSEMBLY	109:12	44:23	108:1,4,	57:7 58:9
22:24	attend	62:19	18 109:3	59:7 63:7
assess	70:5	Avoid	110:21	70:11
96:18	attended	12:25	111:2,8	111:20
assessment	32:12,16,	avoiding	114:3	128:24
45:8	19 148:22	35:23	117:14	138:6
75:19	attending	awarded	119:24	140:2
88:23	5:11	71:15	123:21	148:12
102:1	23:15	aware	124:16	152:20,21
105:7,17	70:18	129:4	132:4	based
115:9,18,	attention	Awesome	134:18	17:10
20 116:2	25:18	125:12	136:20	36:6,8
117:22	133:14	<hr/>	138:18	57:9
assessments	Au	B	141:8	100:13
99:8	59:8	<hr/>	146:20	backup
100:22	65:22	baby	backup	11:8
101:4	66:4	63:11	11:8	baseline
assistant	116:12	back	backwards	54:22
80:15	August	6:2 7:17	97:11	basements
129:25	20:23	21:20	bad	118:15
Association	21:9	53:20	46:16	bases
28:22	22:13	54:14	Baltusis	57:23
132:14	45:6	57:4	41:23	99:19
138:25	47:16	58:3,17	banks	152:12
assumed	73:3	64:1,18	28:24	basically
96:11	74:16	65:2,9	29:2	106:9
assuming	93:6,13,	69:4	116:12,14	basis
149:22	19 94:3,	70:16	118:5	46:21
	19 96:14	75:12	132:14	55:2
	101:21	76:5,14	138:24	bathe
			banner	36:2
			43:15	Bator

MEETING
RESTORATION ADVISORY BOARD

May 20, 2026
Index: bazillion..brought

8:11	believing	billion	110:10	39:20,23
34:16,19,	144:7	43:16	121:12,14	48:9,10,
22 36:20,	belonged	binder	130:4,23	13,16
25 37:6,	115:12	49:10	Boards	56:10,11,
14 38:1,	Ben	biofouling	104:1	13 63:11
7,11,14,	39:15,17	48:1	bodies	92:22,23
19	benefit	bit	35:24	110:25
bazillion	5:19	11:21	body	111:2,3
77:25	20:25	26:12,13	138:12	134:18
BCT	Bergman	28:17	bonus	146:14
32:13	142:11	35:8	43:6	breaking
beaches	Bergman's	45:13	boo	99:3
115:21	6:24	55:8,25	101:20	breaks
bear	Beth	69:21	bottom	11:11,13
55:6,12	82:3,5,	89:4 95:8	43:15	111:9
71:22	17,25	117:15	73:1	bridge
beating	83:6	121:19	89:12	60:16
89:25	bid	123:2,14,	bounce	briefing
BEC	51:10	15 136:15	117:12	39:25
149:14	100:2	146:14	box	115:2
BECS	big	biweekly	72:19	140:14,17
152:17	49:9 73:7	42:16	boxes	briefly
beefing	97:7,10	bleeding	72:20	40:17
42:9	98:3,13	138:6	BRAC	Brigadier
began	100:19	bless	8:23	51:2
102:9	106:24	109:18	64:17	bring
begin	107:7,9	blew	123:12,15	31:20
5:6 8:1	bigger	116:7	152:6,9,	104:1
10:10	98:5	blood	12,14	136:13
23:7	biggest	88:23	Brady	bringing
39:22	106:20	blow	6:23	41:3
45:7	bill	119:14	139:12	brings
56:13,24	8:18 9:3	blue	brakes	148:16
111:6	17:12	74:15,16	73:15	broad
112:13	27:17	board	Bratton	135:12
131:20	61:14	5:5 7:24	6:22	broken
behalf	62:5	8:3	break	140:5
12:4 32:9	66:18	11:19,20	30:8	broom
belabor	144:23	13:6	31:22	31:2,14
95:23	Bill's	17:11	36:14	brought
108:10	56:1	66:9		49:7
		76:15		

MEETING
RESTORATION ADVISORY BOARD

May 20, 2026
Index: brushes..Chandra

112:15	10:12	19:22	carrier	center
116:16	42:11	37:10,11	55:20	7:5,7
139:15	Butkovich	51:9	carriers	88:13
brushes	6:25	102:9	56:5	99:20
30:24	_____	128:21	carries	Center's
Bryan	C	captured	67:23	140:14
9:10	_____	102:13	carry	Central
38:21,23	C-RAB	134:3	110:1	45:18
70:23	8:17	148:13	case	CERCLA
108:10	cadence	capturing	17:25	22:8
110:9	148:4	12:8	30:20	59:10,16
132:19	calculated	83:15	74:20,24	60:19,25
budget	64:19	care	85:13	89:9
69:8	calendar	15:19	95:11	certainty
122:5,11,	73:16	55:21	98:3,11	57:12
13 127:1	call	110:14	130:5	cetera
budgetary	33:1	Carmona	cat	55:19
120:1	45:18	9:4 18:17	89:13	72:8
budgeted	50:20	24:3	catastroph	chair
137:7	70:15	51:23	c	9:1 18:14
budgeting	71:23	52:2,15,	115:10	41:13,21
127:18	111:17	22 53:3	116:3	chairman
budgets	113:11	79:20,21	119:9	139:22
126:22	114:7	81:5,19,	catch	chairperson
127:13	120:13	23 82:14,	30:2	40:10
building	124:16	19 83:4	107:14,20	chairs
50:10	136:23	115:7,8	Cathy	16:13
113:15	147:3	116:24	8:12	challenge
buildings	called	117:3,6,	28:7,10	116:17
65:25	31:13	10 119:24	29:18	134:23
68:10	47:25	120:1	115:9	147:13,
bullet	calling	121:20	128:2	14,15
30:7	34:24	122:2,5,	130:10	challenging
bunch	calls	10,16	133:22	149:6
63:19	59:11	123:6,8,	caught	chance
burden	camped	24 124:2	99:23	48:20
39:9	78:7	129:14	106:24	49:8,21
burning	capacity	139:4	ceiling	77:18
44:16	139:22	carpet	50:20	151:15
business	capture	119:19	cellular	Chandra
	12:12,13	carpeting	115:16	41:24
		117:17		
		carpets		
		115:22		

change	22:18	118:19	closed	140:23
74:22	41:11	Civil	42:12	collecting
80:2,19	114:3	7:5,6	54:21	76:7
90:10	118:7	88:13	closely	collection
98:7	138:18	clarificati	81:15	47:20
120:7	146:10,20	on	closing	Collingham
123:22	checking	87:24	148:19	149:21
127:1	50:9	clarity	Closure	color
130:13	chemical	87:6	32:14	74:15
136:10	53:16,18	clean	clue	93:7 98:4
141:4	54:5 88:3	14:17	145:21	combination
148:2	chemicals	28:9	co-	45:22
changed	30:22	30:25	8:25	comfortable
73:2	54:25	57:15	co-chair	47:3
75:11,21	87:17	58:19	10:2,3	110:18
77:8	88:2 99:3	85:1	16:10	150:3
118:22	108:19	89:5,8	130:24	comment
changing	136:11	cleaned	131:1	10:21
79:23	145:20	61:3	co-chair's	16:4
95:21	chemist	84:21	14:10	49:22
channel	41:25	85:3	co-chairs	53:12
119:4	125:14	cleaning	5:7 14:7	54:14
characteriz	Chesty	83:11	15:1	64:10
ation	150:25	cleanup	16:4,15	71:8 80:9
33:24	Chris	58:22,23	130:20	86:2,20,
characteriz	88:12	62:19	148:18	25 90:21
es	152:5	63:8 83:8	Code	91:17
140:20	chromatogra	84:24	11:24	94:12
charcoal	ms	85:9	13:18	102:11,21
64:7	76:12	89:10	colleague	106:14
chart	CIP	122:24	12:6	108:7
43:11	20:9	141:17	colleagues	115:4
72:19,25	21:20	153:1	25:16	116:21
93:9	circle	clear	collect	119:25
chasing	82:10	112:4	76:15	127:24
144:10	circular	135:15	97:16	131:12,
chat	98:19	140:10	collected	13,23,24
7:15,18	111:21	cleared	42:22	132:2
check	circulating	112:19	76:6	135:13
9:13	13:25	close	101:15	136:20
14:19	citizens	31:16	104:22,23	138:17,21
17:22				139:10
				144:15
				146:16,22

147:5,9	10:1,2	105:3,11	133:1,5	Congress
commentary	14:24	complete	139:3	122:8
40:4 57:2	15:8	72:20	concerned	126:4,18
78:10	16:24	97:7,13	19:15	142:2
86:15	17:20	98:19	109:19	congression
comments	19:23	99:21	135:12	al
10:17	20:9,10,	completed	139:4,5	29:6
40:19	14,15,25	32:12	concerns	121:7,10
49:24	21:1,6,8	33:6 34:4	10:22	127:12
50:11,16,	22:7,12	completely	30:15	137:19
17,18	23:8,9	123:1	108:16	congression
90:23	24:11	150:4	conclude	als
110:9	25:7,16	completion	10:17	29:12
129:12	28:12	46:19	16:7	127:18
131:17	29:10	47:9	104:5	congressman
132:3,20	37:22	complex	concludes	139:14
138:8	38:9	49:6 60:6	37:13	141:22
144:16	41:22	comply	conclusion	connect
146:18	54:2,10	79:6	10:25	37:12
147:10,	58:17	component	147:23	127:15
17,18,19	59:20	152:12	concrete	connected
149:11	62:13,16,	compounds	66:21	7:13 9:14
commercial	17,20	79:25	67:4,8	10:6,8
31:6,12	79:21	80:6	conduct	28:5
commitment	95:24	81:25	11:23	36:19
140:11	96:2	82:15,20,	conducted	41:7
143:4	128:9	22,23	19:2	131:22
commitments	133:13	83:2 85:9	95:14	146:21,23
140:21	134:12	86:5,11	conduit	connections
committed	135:20	87:4	65:23	37:4
85:20	138:13	comprehend	68:9,16,	consequence
140:18	140:3,8	61:9	18 69:2	s
communicati	141:19	concentrate	conference	108:13
on	143:14,23	d	70:15	109:5
28:23	148:23	56:2	confirm	conservativ
135:15	community-	concentrati	10:25	e
communities	129:2	ons	28:4	74:17,18
142:4	compare	85:3	conflict	considered
community	101:19	103:1	129:19	82:11
6:17	compared	concern	confused	88:16
8:13,14,	54:2,7	89:16	125:13	116:2,20
18,20,25	comparison			constituent
9:2,3,4,6	35:18			
	97:22			
	101:18			

75:24	contaminati	140:8	conventiona	correctly
76:18	on	continuing	l	93:6
constituent	28:15	42:8	30:21	95:18
s	39:10	46:25	conversatio	106:17
75:14	57:10	contract	n	148:15
76:5,8,9,	59:15	53:10	11:5	cost
20 98:8	60:20,24	66:25	65:11	31:1 33:7
140:7	84:22,24	71:14	108:1	43:24
constitute	85:1	77:10,12	146:13	costs
84:16	116:9,15	94:22	conversatio	43:24
constitutio	119:16	100:1,3	ns	44:5
n	128:24	105:19	11:21	126:17,19
13:23	140:1,4	112:5,11	12:5	count
constructed	141:1	120:6	104:3	77:3
5:14	contaminati	122:14	convey	counting
constructin	ons	contracting	62:23	23:1
g	128:23	99:23,25	131:7	109:15
141:7	contested	112:6	coordinate	country
constructio	52:14	123:9	91:22	13:19
n	contesting	143:6	coordinator	90:9
46:19	52:3	contractor	8:23	99:20
47:8	context	46:18	copied	couple
144:7	58:19	51:10	93:19	33:13
consult	69:15	73:19	copies	42:4 50:4
18:8 82:3	continue	101:12	139:16	75:20
consuming	15:2,15	105:19	copy	84:7
89:19	42:17	111:23	26:22	129:14
consumption	44:23	112:18	core	131:19
36:7,8	46:21	113:8	41:21	143:1,3,
contact	65:9 80:6	contractors	Corps	11
36:1	90:12	72:8	112:17	court
115:20	111:11	151:25	correct	11:7
contaminant	122:22	152:1	19:5	12:25
s	123:16	contracts	21:14	61:8
30:20	143:23	52:17	57:17	92:24
113:2,13	147:1	contractual	66:19	cover
contaminate	148:3	77:5	86:6	66:15
d	149:5	control	87:13	125:3
36:22	continued	114:7,16	100:22	covered
116:4	103:13	convenientl	111:16	9:15
	continues	y	113:6	42:5,6
	45:20	141:16	125:1	Craig
	46:16			
	53:8 59:5			

MEETING
RESTORATION ADVISORY BOARD

May 20, 2026
Index: created..degree

128:19	91:21,22	15,20	149:9	December
144:20	current	101:24	151:19,21	114:13,17
created	36:8	102:22,25	152:22	decided
34:25	77:10	105:25	Dave's	40:9
creating	90:9	106:17	63:2,16	112:3
68:8	98:16	108:14	85:5	117:21
credibility	121:1,25	109:6	David	decision
135:8	cut	134:4	20:18	80:25
141:14	126:23	140:20	24:3	85:15
credible	cycle	141:1,9	day	decisions
135:4	19:13	143:5	128:6	141:11
Creek	122:5	144:1,2,8	130:14	143:20
116:11,13	<hr/>	date	day's	declaring
creeks	D	16:11	36:3	18:2
118:5	<hr/>	43:24	days	dedicated
crisis	DAF	75:5 84:3	49:21,22	150:6
140:1	80:5 81:9	93:15,16	50:4 53:9	dedication
criteria	82:16	94:19	79:23	147:20
73:13	115:25	104:22	86:21	deep
critical	122:7	dates	117:17	23:24
39:5 46:8	Dam	17:8 93:7	141:23	96:8
65:10	119:5	94:13	deadlines	99:24
70:12	Damoose's	Dave	143:24	deeply
71:20	145:17	5:8,22	deal	6:14
137:4	dark	6:7 8:22	57:23	deer
crosstalk	134:12	9:4 21:16	dealing	101:9
113:5	data	39:21,25	118:18	Defense
Crowell	23:24	40:5	137:10	78:20
7:6	34:1 40:7	41:12,24	Dear	126:4
149:18	42:9,22	43:8 48:8	139:21	137:22
crushed	48:15	52:11,24	Debbie	140:19
66:22,23	56:12	56:24	7:2	Defense's
cry	71:13,17	57:4 59:3	debt	129:25
25:6	73:22	67:25	31:18	defer
CTS1	74:12	69:20	138:14	16:3 48:9
45:18	75:15	71:11	decade	define
Cummings	76:6,7,16	79:21	140:4	85:19
29:24	77:9 80:5	111:15	decades	defines
66:13	81:4	115:5,7,8	65:23	9:25
70:5,18	94:2,6	118:2	70:9	degree
	95:16,25	119:24		
	96:22	124:20		
	98:10,12,	125:20		
		130:7		

25:14	40:1	destruction	dewater	7:2
57:11	56:22	58:3	51:13	direct
delay	57:1 71:4	detail	DGI	140:3
52:25	78:18,19	13:21	33:18	directed
80:4	80:18,20	31:23	40:15	120:6
137:17,18	111:12	62:21	42:14	121:2
143:15	118:9	detailed	96:13	directions
delayed	126:3,11	14:2,12	dialed	90:10
45:13	142:3	details	146:24	directly
delaying	depending	23:20	147:2	51:2
136:16	74:1	detected	dialogue	director
delays	97:17	35:17	12:20	105:22
27:2	depends	detection	Diane	dirt
52:16	123:10	35:14	28:24	97:15
108:16	depict	detections	132:13	discharge
136:2	34:25	35:17	138:24	83:13
137:9	describe	determinati	difference	discharging
delineating	110:14	on	29:9,15	83:15
84:4	description	58:15	differences	discipline
delineation	13:19	determine	24:23,25	24:24
84:3	72:24	57:9 60:3	difficult	25:2,13,
deliver	deserve	61:2	134:23	23
128:4	140:10	83:16	135:1,10	disclose
delve	143:14	determined	142:10	18:23
128:12	design	45:23	difficulty	discretionary
Denise	42:21	determining	134:21	120:3
9:10	70:10	59:12	dig	discuss
38:21	85:15	115:19	64:16	5:25 13:4
108:8,9	128:20	Detroit	75:15	42:23
132:19	141:3	64:3	digging	83:19
133:4	designated	devastating	63:3,4	116:1
142:13	18:1	29:5	75:17	discussed
Denise's	designates	develop	114:11	18:19
136:20	18:18	52:9	diluted	33:23
depart	designed	developed	56:3	66:6
39:24	44:23	13:22	diminish	70:20
department	45:21	49:19	50:23	100:21
7:3 9:11	47:23	developing	diminished	101:10
32:4	desk	48:22	50:24	102:18
34:16	114:2	Dingell	Dingell	138:3
39:19	144:23			

discussing 47:19	distinguish ed 7:11	dollar 124:23	89:6,11	dump 102:23
discussion 10:16,19 11:5 14:18 20:23 21:10 22:19 25:22 42:10,25 44:15 56:18,19 71:6,7 78:9 95:16 101:22 102:16 104:19 114:25 115:1,3,5 128:12 131:14 147:9,11 148:11,17	distributed 11:9 14:17 18:7 34:9 District 9:11 Ditch 48:17 68:5 69:16 dive 23:24 diving 78:14 divulge 35:13 divvy 31:8 doable 92:25 document 13:4,24 16:5,8,13 17:3,7 45:9 47:11 49:5,6 54:20,22 105:24 106:3 documented 130:19 documents 32:22 44:3 48:1 103:2 DOD 126:7	dollars 146:1 donuts 97:8,9 doozies 100:9 Dorsey- spitz 7:8 80:10,13, 14,15 81:14 133:10 double 17:22 doubled 119:18 DOW 78:18 84:5 85:22 draft 14:13 20:17 44:25 47:9 49:4 99:11 101:25 105:6,17, 24 136:22 drafted 50:14 103:22 drawing 76:14 drill 74:6 drinking 88:1,4,16	Driscol 7:23 drive 119:7,9 141:10 driven 129:3 driving 81:2 DRMO 42:20 47:18 138:2 140:15 144:2 drop 7:14 drum 53:17 55:12,18 61:17,20 62:8 drums 61:18,23 62:7 dry 51:14 drywall 115:16 119:19 drywalls 115:22 due 30:12 37:4 60:20 121:25 122:6 129:18 148:2	duty 121:13 <hr/> E <hr/> earlier 40:17 53:14 70:14 73:17 78:22 82:8 98:9 115:8 124:22 132:20 144:1 early 13:2 40:13 43:11 76:8 151:23 earned 141:15 easier 84:17 East 121:2 Eastern 10:24 eat 36:5,7,9 103:10 105:4 107:1 eating 26:17 ecological 99:10 101:23
discussions 10:14 11:2 12:17 13:6 73:18 94:18 128:1				
disingenuou s 95:8				
dispassiona te 41:19				
display 147:23				
displayed 10:7				

102:1	elected	87:1 93:7	engineer	68:4
105:7	6:20	94:24	7:5,7	108:12
EE/CA	election	127:9	77:4	122:19,23
49:19	16:21	148:16	88:13	137:13
51:19	elections	152:25	engineering	EPA
effect	16:18	ended	33:6 52:9	22:8
26:17	electronic	49:22	Engineers	75:13
134:11	49:24	93:7	112:17	79:23
effective	electronica	ending	enlightenin	80:7
89:11	lly	14:25	g	87:5,7,11
effects	146:24	15:5,11,	23:25	90:12
26:16	147:7	13	ensure	91:6
119:13	elephant	ends	11:22,23	140:12
efficiency	100:21	65:13,21	50:10	equipment
113:23	Elissa	endured	enter	30:24
efficient	6:22	110:3	113:15	31:1,3,5,
99:14	email	140:4	entering	12,20
efficiently	86:7 87:3	enduring	131:13	113:16
12:22	114:3	142:20	entire	Eric
effort	emails	Energy	11:19	8:15
69:17	151:21	7:9 32:4	128:21	29:20
efforts	employees	enforce	entities	erode
63:5	145:8	13:9	47:12	67:11
121:1	empty	89:10	entrusted	eroded
EGLE	97:8	enforcement	142:2	66:23
8:9	encounter	129:21	environment	errors
32:10,20	80:4	engage	7:9 30:18	100:8
41:22	encourage	137:19,21	32:4 39:7	ESA
47:14	153:3	engaged	53:19	49:17
49:24	end	5:13,17	58:9	66:6 69:6
50:18	5:19 8:5	27:10	60:18,20	essentially
75:10	17:9	52:8	121:23	58:23
81:23,25	24:16	133:13	133:2	estimate
85:23	25:14	148:25	137:11	57:14
101:18	30:9	engagement	environment	58:7
115:13,25	31:21	21:1 22:8	al	60:13
EGLE's	38:22	29:7	8:23	63:23
37:20	44:10	133:14,17	30:16	125:4
96:2	59:12	engaging	39:9	Etten
Eisenhower	60:21	21:7	49:18	28:22
151:1	81:15	114:5	51:4	29:4 42:8
			54:23	44:22

59:7	exaggeratio	112:13	extension	fact
103:8	n		95:21	16:17
106:19,22	136:15	expecting	143:16,22	18:3
107:23		33:19		24:23
116:7,13	exasperated	114:1	extent	52:8 79:6
119:5	109:1	expeditious	57:10	131:9
132:14	exceed	39:10	59:13,14	
138:25	140:12	expensive	60:23	factors
evaluated	exceedance	30:23	84:3,22,	100:6
36:6	35:14	31:21	23 85:19	Fairchild
			88:5	99:20
evaluating	exceedances	experience	98:25	
67:19	35:18	70:9 72:8	extraction	fairly
130:3	exceedingly	81:9	47:25	47:9
evaluation	24:20	experienced	113:20,22	55:11
33:7		28:12	extractions	74:5
105:24	exception	expert	114:1	fall
	39:19	105:23	extraordina	44:25
evaporates	exchange	expertise	rily	45:7
119:15	12:21	42:3	142:10	102:15
evening	45:22	expiring	extras	110:6
5:23	Excuse	20:1	43:5	fallen
10:10	18:17	explain	extreme	16:11
132:20	37:8	74:14	119:3	fallout
147:25	excuses	78:15	eye	120:13,14
event	110:6	140:6	81:16	121:5
28:13	execute	explains		familiar
112:20	121:16	43:3,4		46:3
114:5	execution	explanation	F	49:17
119:8	121:17	143:15		62:5
eventually	exercise	explicit	FAA	families
45:16	75:18	78:12	31:4,17	142:6
ever-	exist	exposure	face	family
changing	141:12	115:19	72:9	103:9
77:15	existed	117:22	Facebook	133:6
everybody's	112:20	express	106:24	fantastic
149:12	existing	143:2	facilitator	152:4
151:3	42:13,25	expressed	7:23	fare
everyone's	134:5	133:4	facilities	106:20
11:22	135:4	extended	120:25	fashion
12:4 41:8	expect	73:8	facility	100:5
evidence	45:5 47:9		120:23	fast
99:19	51:8			77:19

MEETING
RESTORATION ADVISORY BOARD

May 20, 2026
Index: fate..Force

99:12,13	74:3,13,	finalizing	107:1,7,9	128:23
110:13	21 96:15,	150:8	fished	flux
fate	16,17,24	finally	107:7,23	57:18
99:2	97:14	21:22	fisherman	fly
fear	98:2	97:19	107:19	21:21
127:14	100:8	find	fishing	foam
feasibility	113:9	13:4	103:7	35:23,24
60:23	140:16	29:13	five-year	36:2
February	150:10	37:23	33:22	55:1,8,
6:3	fight	39:12	fix	10,11
18:19,20,	137:14	48:9 58:5	120:25	116:6
24 19:25	fighter	119:17	fixed	119:14
21:3	146:2	123:20	fixing	focus
32:19	figure	148:14	66:25	11:19
36:5 78:9	15:10	149:19	fixing	133:1
103:8	19:1	153:3	68:16	focused
Federal	25:10	finding	flags	98:25
11:24	36:25	50:6 58:5	72:17	focusing
13:18	37:22	findings	75:9	28:16
71:21	61:24	141:16	Flint	foggiest
75:10,12	76:25	finds	31:14,17	53:16
80:17	135:10	6:4	flood	folks
81:10,24	fill	finish	115:10	27:10
86:19	97:9	42:15,18,	116:3,8,	37:21,22
120:5	film	24 46:17	16 119:2,	63:18
145:7	55:7	101:6	17 139:1	81:2
feel	film-	fire	flooded	121:9
44:16	fighting	56:3	118:11	131:21
48:12	55:1	63:20	119:5,6	132:2
132:3	filter	firefightin	flooding	follow
151:5	47:23	g	118:15	37:6
feeling	final	55:1	119:9	follow-up
47:2	33:6 83:8	firm	122:14	36:4,13
feels	84:1	52:9	132:12,13	122:3
150:3	135:19,22	fish	flooring	foot
feet	144:6	26:17,18	113:15	139:1
66:5,21	finalized	36:7,9	117:17	Force
116:9	20:19	101:8,17,	flow	5:5 7:4,
118:15	32:24	19 102:24	42:7	5,6,9
field	33:2	103:1,8,	83:15	8:24
33:17	47:15	10 105:3,	127:11	10:3,13
73:16,20	50:25	4 106:23		

MEETING
RESTORATION ADVISORY BOARD

May 20, 2026
Index: Force's..gave

14:25	forecast	fours	96:17	
15:11	134:22	98:21	fully	G
25:8	foremost	fourth	5:17 97:7	
26:6,11	6:9	46:17	143:4	GA
27:4 35:4	foreseen	120:4,7,	functioning	31:7,11
39:20,22	98:5	12 122:16	46:24	GAC
40:1	Forest	134:6	113:23	45:22
46:11	39:16	frame	fund	Gaines
50:3	forever	99:22	8:10	9:3 24:6,
52:6,12	136:8	free	120:3	7 53:12,
56:22	form	30:19,24	funding	13,24
57:1,9	97:4	132:3	68:23	54:13,17
58:16	forming	free-	123:4,12	55:16
59:12	55:8	flowing	126:6	56:7 65:4
61:2	forum	128:11	139:24	78:16,17,
65:24	25:12	Freeman	145:15,18	20 79:9
66:7	forward	29:24,25	funds	Gaines '
67:1,6,7,	13:5,16	30:2	31:4	57:5
15,17	45:16	41:25	120:6,22	Galen
71:4	50:19	51:5	121:5,15	7:23
75:17	51:6,19	66:14	122:20,24	gallons
80:15,18,	58:11,15	Friday	123:13	43:16
21 83:5,	69:19	49:23	furlough	game
19,21	71:9,12	front	73:11	15:12
85:7,12	98:11	119:10,14	furniture	36:5,10
88:13	109:13	frustration	117:18	gap
90:8,11	110:2	110:12	future	34:1 42:9
95:8	126:14	134:15	12:3	48:15
104:13,15	130:11	FS	59:17	71:13,17
111:13	133:19	75:1	68:6 70:6	95:16,25
115:13	137:2,20	FT002	72:21	gaps
120:23	142:10	44:22	126:17,19	56:12
126:9,13	143:8,12	Fuentes	129:2	94:2,6
127:20	147:21	12:7	134:22	Garcia
133:10	153:5	148:8	148:2,11	106:3
137:16	found	fulfills	FY	Gary
138:5	16:25	142:4	94:24	6:21
139:25	20:8,17	full	FY24	gave
140:2,6,	66:2,22	11:5	126:5	9:16
13,25	106:21	20:14	FY25	26:15,22
141:6,13	112:7	49:11	127:1	43:23
142:3,8				
143:3				
149:4,7				
Force's				
63:17				

MEETING
RESTORATION ADVISORY BOARD

May 20, 2026
Index: geez..hand

65:16	goals	grams	68:17,20	guide
102:22	97:23	61:20	82:9 83:1	11:21
geez	God	62:8	102:23	guidelines
62:9	109:18	grant	113:25	36:6,10
general	good	31:4	114:4	guy
21:1	5:18,23	gravity	group	78:22
43:24	9:16	67:23	5:14 7:25	107:16,17
51:3	13:10	great	8:14	125:14
generally	23:1	20:6	10:15	guys
25:8	24:20	22:6,14	13:23	32:8 62:2
generated	25:10,17	28:23	23:16	80:11
54:21	48:12	32:4	24:12,19,	103:7
George	56:9 66:1	34:14,22	21 25:5,	105:12
150:25	71:1	91:25	21 29:8	135:20
get all	80:14	128:8	32:17,21	139:14,15
23:20	86:17	132:9	40:9,22	142:12
girlfriend	104:3	142:23	41:13,17	144:25
125:15	114:24	green	48:5,6	150:17
give	118:14	35:16	77:12	
30:3 35:8	123:11	47:21,22,	95:7	
36:25	125:15	23 74:15	128:22	<hr/> H <hr/>
40:11	127:12	98:1,12	130:14	
51:1	128:3	Greg	131:4	half
54:19	133:12	8:17	135:7	12:10
72:13	134:19	27:21	136:24	65:20
76:11,12	136:20	Grissom	138:10	66:5
85:24	141:9,10	152:12	152:4	81:11
99:18	146:13	ground	groups	148:9
101:16	149:3,4	12:16	115:25	half-a-
103:14	goodness	13:8,11	guess	pound
104:20	135:24	75:18	15:1	58:15
105:23	gosh	113:14	25:14,19	halt
121:21	73:25	116:9	26:21	136:14
137:6	government	119:15	47:13	Hampshire
giving	10:1	ground-to-	54:3 82:5	126:21
77:6	23:11	surface	84:13,25	hamster
glad	29:19	78:25	94:8	136:7
5:12,13	120:5	grounding	95:10	hand
6:1	145:11	135:8	137:3	41:2,9
137:24	governor's	groundwater	145:24	65:2
goal	144:23	42:7,13	guests	97:20
60:18	grains	58:10	6:9 7:12	131:24
	77:22		guidance	132:4
			80:16	

146:23,25	152:23	41:8,11	helm	124:9
147:2,6	hard	53:1	151:3	HFPO-DA
Handbook	45:12	62:14	helpful	88:2
11:25	50:6 54:3	74:5	38:4,9	high
13:20	63:3	104:8	69:15	31:3 73:5
handheld	79:14	108:3,6	142:25	77:20
40:25	131:5	109:11,17	helping	105:3
41:4,7	144:7	110:11	110:10	109:13
handout	151:19,	126:2	143:10	123:2
120:20	20,23	136:5	149:24	126:21
121:17	harmful	139:15	helps	high-level
hands	35:25	heard	41:7	73:1
22:21	hats	11:22	121:19	highest
72:10	80:16	41:15	Henry	120:14
131:19	head	56:2	5:10 8:25	126:6
handy-dandy	21:16	85:11	13:12	historically
24:15	83:25	86:18	17:12	y
hangar	92:14,25	101:20	23:12,14	128:7
65:20	99:6	108:25	36:17,21	135:17
happen	heading	109:24	37:5	history
77:13	103:8	115:2	41:22	94:15
81:24	health	131:14	54:19	hit
92:20	9:10,11	144:22	55:5,24,	73:24
97:7	26:16	145:16	25 73:17	74:13,20
108:22	34:17	146:4	102:21,22	97:22
130:13	36:1,11	hearing	103:17	hold
132:23,24	38:23	62:22	117:12,15	102:3
135:11	39:6,8	107:8	124:20,22	144:12
happened	60:18,20	139:3	125:2,7,	holding
67:10	99:10	heartbreaki	9,12	16:19
76:19,22	101:8	ng	130:10	hole
98:17	102:1	109:10	148:20,21	83:15
108:17	105:7	Heaven	Henry's	holes
109:25	108:11,12	136:21	24:10	75:17
129:4	109:2,5,	heck	hexagon	holy
happening	8,20,23	100:3	35:15	135:21
76:22	116:19	hefty	hexagons	home
127:16	118:8	98:24	35:10	139:2
145:2	133:1,2	height	72:21	homeowner
happy	137:11,13	55:10	hexbin	132:10
5:24	hear	held	34:24	hey
7:23,25	9:19	44:14	100:3	
	10:21			
	23:6 32:8			

homeowners 28:13,23	host 27:8	hydraulic 45:8	impacts 147:16	inclement 30:18
homes 28:16 35:10,12 36:18,23 37:2 115:11, 14,15,22 116:4 117:20 118:6,11 139:6	hot 55:11 72:6 97:3	hydrogeolog ic 83:12	implication s 108:12	include 10:14,20 14:1 37:20,21 44:5 46:19 47:14 50:16 79:14 91:21 98:14
honest 108:16 109:13	hour 11:11 12:10 48:11 148:9	hydrogeolog ist 41:25	implying 141:3	
honestly 13:3	hours 13:14	<hr/> I <hr/>	importance 110:14	
honesty 135:15	House 137:21 139:22	ice 74:6	important 6:9,18 7:21 15:16 62:16 69:8 109:6 131:9 135:16	included 64:21,22 92:17 112:6
honor 72:3,6	households 117:16	idea 53:16,17 55:20 61:21,25 62:7,9	importantly 59:20	includes 113:25 125:5
hook 124:5	houses 119:6	ideas 12:21	in- 131:18	including 10:12 15:23 54:25 67:16 115:11
hope 47:15 101:21 109:18 126:2 133:18 134:16 139:7 149:21	hows 85:25	identified 27:7 120:16,18	in-person 10:6 23:17 132:1 144:17 146:19 147:3 148:22	inclusive 23:22
hopeful 121:18 133:23 136:22	hue 25:6	illustrates 97:1	inadequacy 136:3	incomplete 95:25
hoping 5:19 52:19 77:15 149:1	huge 77:7 138:14	imagine 47:11 69:25	inadequate 96:4	incorrectly 144:3
	human 34:17 36:1,11 60:18,19 99:10 101:8 102:1 109:11	imminent 137:10	inaudible 41:2 80:11 81:18 107:18,24 111:18 151:1	increase 136:18
	humans 104:10	impact 109:11 122:11,14 123:8	inadequacy 136:3	increased 118:4
	Huron 59:9	impacted 132:10, 12,13 142:5	independent 141:18	incumbent 138:4
	hybrid 10:5	impactful 13:17 75:23		individual

133:2	117:16	interaction	interviewed	96:1
industrial	149:12	s	20:16	100:20
31:2	151:4	11:21	introduce	126:15
inefficient	inputs	12:18	7:21	136:4
95:14	41:17	interest	151:15	140:15
infiltratio	72:7	52:25	introduced	investigati
n	inspection	92:16	7:20	ons
68:20	114:7	104:8	introductio	126:12
influences	inspections	interested	ns	141:12
5:15	114:17	6:15	8:2 10:11	investigato
inform	installatio	50:22	intrusion	ry
6:16	n	53:25	33:4,12	125:8
14:25	33:1	58:21	113:7,13	involved
15:1,12	139:25	78:13	inundated	62:19
information	140:5,13	99:9	115:11	involvement
6:4,5,12	141:14	104:9	inundating	20:10,12
13:2	installatio	interesting	116:4	21:6 22:8
15:23	ns	44:11	invested	27:11
30:9	57:25	61:10	44:2	ion
35:13	58:1	150:16	124:24	45:22
52:16	149:16	interface	125:21	IRA
54:9 56:1	150:10	79:1	investigate	33:22
71:18	instance	interim	85:2	34:3 47:8
90:21	55:13	82:12	investigati	59:3
91:13,16	83:10	83:9	on	68:10
103:15	instruction	128:14	23:21	134:8
104:9	s	134:5	33:4	IRAS
128:14	10:7	137:3,8	34:2,4	42:21
134:7	insulation	138:5	40:14,15	43:12,14,
135:2	32:25	140:16	42:10,21	25 44:4
143:18	insurance	intermediar	44:5	47:18
146:15	118:10	y	48:15	48:2,18
informative	intended	11:18	56:12	49:12,14
48:21	10:18	62:18	59:11	68:12
infrastruct	93:9	intermediat	60:22,25	124:25
ure	128:21	e	71:14,18	125:6
7:9	intent	42:16	75:17	129:1,3
124:24	73:15	internet	84:20	134:10
initially	interaction	37:23	85:17	iron
118:6	153:5	interruptin	88:6	47:24
input		g	93:10	IRP
54:20		12:25	95:10,13,	114:1
			17,18,22	

irregardless	6:24	84:10,12	justificati	keywords
s	142:11	85:21	on	144:25
90:12	January	89:2,5,	143:17	kicked
issue	74:4	15,18	_____	75:16
27:7	Jenni	93:4,5,	K	kind
47:24	7:8	14,17,22	_____	8:5 13:22
53:8	80:13,14	94:4,7	karaoke	16:9 19:8
67:21	123:2	95:3,5	9:17	41:14,16
77:7	133:9	135:12	Kate	42:5
91:20	job	Josh	Kate	45:10,12
98:5	99:13	7:1 27:24	40:10,23	48:8 54:6
99:17	152:4	90:3 91:3	41:10,12	61:4,21
103:20	join	117:1,12,	43:2,7	62:17
135:22	28:3	25	64:9,14	69:1
issued	29:25	Joshua	71:15	89:25
14:13	30:3	9:6	72:1 78:7	96:11
22:23	66:16	jot	79:11	97:1
79:24	joined	44:17	83:23	119:20
82:16	7:3 12:6	July	86:1,4	121:22
issues	53:5	33:16	89:23	127:13
25:13,19	joining	111:24	93:3,5	149:13
39:5,9	7:14	112:13	100:5,11	150:11,14
52:20	29:24	113:9,10,	108:5	King
128:12	joins	19 122:6	110:16,18	87:21,24
item	30:2	jump	124:4,8,	88:12,18,
14:9	Jones	8:9 9:16,	14,16	24 91:5
19:22	9:2 14:22	22 32:3,	134:24	152:5
25:15	15:18	7,8	149:25	Kline
37:10	16:2	34:11,13	152:5	70:23
42:12	17:3,6,	46:1	keeping	knee-deep
67:15	14,23,25	51:18	25:17	43:3
130:25	18:11,16,	70:2,3	106:13	knew
148:10	22 19:11,	82:1	127:13	22:1 61:7
items	14,18,24	86:13	Kelly	97:3
12:8	20:5	94:10	6:21	98:6,7
71:20	24:9,10	101:5	142:18	knowing
112:7,11,	26:1	108:2	Ken	81:24
22	41:22,23	jumping	44:22	knowledge
IVS	57:3,4,	54:4	Kendra	54:1
32:25	13,20	June	128:19	101:17
_____	58:8,13,	96:13	key	knowledgeab
J	24 59:2	113:9,18	35:16	le
_____	60:7,15		103:25	148:25
Jack				

MEETING
RESTORATION ADVISORY BOARD

May 20, 2026
Index: Kristen..level

Kristen	18,23	128:14	leaking	8,12
6:25	53:20	138:2	66:24	21:14
	55:6,23	144:2	learn	22:7,16
Kyle	56:24	larger	142:24	26:4,5
8:9 9:2,	57:11,17,	112:5	learned	56:17
16 14:22	21 58:12	late	108:19	65:15
19:6	59:23,25	30:11	128:20	66:18
32:3,8,18	60:9	92:10	150:16	68:7,13,
34:7,19	68:2,11,	law	152:6	15,24
41:16,22,	14,19	80:19,20,	learner	69:7
23 42:5	69:4,23	24 81:17	97:5	70:8,22
46:1	70:13	84:16,18	108:13	92:2,3,9,
51:22	71:11,12	laws	learning	18
71:16	111:16	83:18	136:10	100:18,19
81:23	113:6	85:11	leave	101:1,7
84:9,10	124:21	lay	27:4	102:7,14
89:2	125:1,4,	14:4	led	103:3,18
105:9	8,10,13,	130:21	52:4	104:11,
135:12	23 149:9,	layered	Lee	15,20,23
138:11	10	39:8	152:4	105:1,15
Kyle's	151:22,24	layman	left	106:5,8,
32:6	lagged	62:2	31:8,9	11 126:1,
	77:14	layman's	54:6	16 127:4,
	lake	61:21	72:25	6
L	28:22	62:23	129:16	lesser
	29:4 42:8	lays	134:12	24:10
lab	44:22	12:16	legacy	let alone
76:11	59:7,8	21:6	40:19	116:4
97:16,18	103:8	leader	111:17	letdown
98:2	106:19,22	7:14 8:13	113:2	120:3
lack	107:3,6,	leaders	legend	letters
133:1	23 116:10	7:4	72:22	72:17,18
Lacovone	132:14,16	leadership	legislators	letting
5:8,22,23	138:25	40:2	39:4	52:16
8:22	139:1	133:11	legislature	103:4
16:17	Lakes	leads	145:25	level
19:6,12	32:4	77:4	lengthy	26:17
21:18	35:23	leak	143:15	43:21
39:25	132:10	67:12	Leriche	52:14
40:6	land	68:18	8:7 20:7,	73:5
41:1,24	114:6,7,	leaking		75:21
43:9	9,10,16	learn		76:20
44:21	landfill	learned		104:12
46:4,7,10	64:3	larger		105:5
48:6,14		late		
52:1,6,		law		

MEETING
RESTORATION ADVISORY BOARD

May 20, 2026
Index: levels..magnitude

118:16	90:21	147:16	116:15	118:4,5,
127:13	91:6	load	126:12,13	10,11
136:18	92:3,5,	150:12	135:23	120:22
145:3,7,	12,17	local	Lord	121:9,24
16	129:23,24	6:11	136:21	131:6,14
levels	130:3	38:23	lose	135:8
73:24	list	148:23	108:15	139:13
76:3 90:7	11:8	locate	109:7	150:9,16
130:2	18:18	149:20	loss	151:2,21
136:5	19:22	located	65:25	152:16,
LF	23:9	38:3	lost	19,20
42:20	25:15	112:16	31:10	Loud
47:18	37:3	location	63:10	119:7,9
liability	101:14	101:15	126:23	lower
69:10	102:17	locations	lot	84:4
lieu	listed	98:14	5:15,25	85:20
70:18	131:11	101:16	22:5	lucky
life	Listen	logistics	23:15,23	122:19
100:9	12:22	74:7	25:5	LUCS
light	listened	long	27:10	114:8
86:11	108:24	5:12 11:1	30:10,11	lying
lines	listening	55:8	36:18	105:10
61:15	144:21	63:19	43:18,19,	
linger	lists	68:8 69:5	21 47:20	<hr/> M <hr/>
24:25	44:3	85:7	48:24,25	
25:11	liter	111:22	49:11,16	made
Lingo	43:21	124:3,4	50:6	18:12
8:20	literal	132:24	52:13	21:11
27:12,14	60:16	134:11	53:23	24:23
61:12,14	live	long-term	58:2	25:7 29:9
63:1	132:16	33:24	59:4,6,25	36:6 66:7
86:3,10	lived	108:12	60:1 64:7	72:7
87:16	142:6	113:24	66:2 67:9	79:22
88:9,15,	livelihoods	longer	70:20	96:9 98:4
20 89:14,	147:16	36:24	71:18	126:18
16,19	Lively	37:3	72:11	134:2
106:15,16	6:21	looked	73:5	141:6
107:6,13,	142:18	19:8	86:24	143:20
19 119:1	144:14	31:11	90:24	147:17
125:20,24	lives	69:6,11	91:14,15	151:4
link	6:11	71:19	95:6	magnitude
38:2		115:23	99:23	54:11
			112:1	61:4
			113:16	

MEETING
RESTORATION ADVISORY BOARD

May 20, 2026
Index: mail..meeting

75:22	50:23	management	130:9	137:17
76:4	51:9	150:24	138:11	means
mail	62:12	manager	148:20	93:22
50:2,8	64:10	8:10 32:9	152:3	150:5
main	70:6,16,	mandated	Mark's	meant
30:15	19 73:12	80:7	149:11	21:23
146:9	77:13	manganese	markdown	measurement
maintain	79:7,15	47:24	44:2	62:4
12:20	84:14	manner	mass	mechanicall
13:3	87:2	41:19,20	57:18	y
69:11	91:5,16,	96:5	massive	30:25
70:10	19,23	99:14	137:19	mechanism
101:20	92:16,20	map	materials	25:10
maintaining	94:20	34:18	43:18	149:6
67:5,8,22	102:13	mapped	55:15	meet
maintains	106:14	99:1	115:15,17	140:12
67:3	108:2	maps	math	143:24
maintenance	109:21	34:24	62:9	meet all
30:17	110:2,11	35:3,9	143:25	73:13
68:5	118:21	36:13	Matt	meeting
69:1,19,	127:17,24	38:3	41:23	5:5 6:16
23 113:21	129:4	March	matter	10:4,5
major	131:7,22,	32:19	105:23	11:1,6
75:9 97:8	24 136:18	42:6 45:3	Mcdonald	12:2,9
99:8	137:22	126:25	7:1	14:1,5,8,
127:1	138:21	Marine	MCL	9,10,16,
152:20	143:9	150:21	143:16	19,23
majority	146:18,22	mark	MCLS	16:10
10:18	147:4	5:9 8:25	87:25	17:19
23:2 31:7	148:13	24:10,13	130:2	18:1,5,7,
make	makes	32:17	MDHHS	13,20,24
10:20	22:5	36:16,17	8:11	19:3,4
11:4,10,	100:7	37:7	34:25	21:4,12
13 12:4,	making	41:15,22	35:4,22	22:13,19,
13 16:4	5:11,18	55:24	104:2,6	20,23
27:5	50:15	75:9	115:13,25	23:3,18
29:15	63:5	102:11,21	MDS's	25:9,20
30:23	71:17	103:3	37:19	27:1
37:11,15	142:9	106:17	meaningful	31:22
43:21	man	117:1,12,	13:17	32:14,15,
46:23	24:11	24 119:12		21 36:15
47:1	107:14	124:19		37:13
49:13	manage			39:1
	11:20			
	136:19			

MEETING
RESTORATION ADVISORY BOARD

May 20, 2026
Index: meetings..mirror

42:5,19	18:2,8,25	memo	41:7,9,11	111:13,18
43:3 49:8	23:5	33:22	64:14	Miller
51:6	44:15	79:24	122:2	51:3
70:17	65:12	130:1	Michael	million
78:23	71:6	memorandum	30:5	44:1,7
92:20	127:25	45:1,5	61:13	124:24
95:7 96:6	members	50:13,15,	Michigan	125:3,5,
102:13	6:9 8:3	25	5:1 32:3	21 126:19
108:20	9:13	memory	35:23	146:1
130:12,	10:1,2,	87:23	78:24	mind
18,23,24,	19,21	men	79:2	11:3
25 131:1,	11:10	142:5	84:18	46:16
2 135:18	12:10	mentioned	88:22	55:6
143:3	13:8	66:13	109:4	56:17
147:12,24	14:8,15	82:7	114:17	71:22
148:4	16:6,24	115:9	140:3	100:16
151:16	17:5,8,20	message	microphone	114:16
153:7	19:23	109:13	84:13	130:16
meetings	20:14,16	139:14	110:21	131:6
11:23	22:22	messaging	mics	138:19,20
12:18	23:6,8,9,	109:5	9:17,18	mindful
13:7 14:3	11 24:21	messed	middle	81:18
18:5	29:19	93:16	72:5,18	minds
23:16,17,	39:24	method	93:8,10	10:23
19 32:13,	41:21	98:16	95:12	mine
17 33:11	44:13	121:17	98:18	89:24
70:7	47:15	140:24	108:2	minus
130:22	62:16,20	methodology	121:1	126:8
131:4,12	71:7	25:22	midst	minute
133:12	90:22,24	108:15	82:1	11:13
134:7	91:5,8,20	109:6	150:8	135:21
135:18	100:17	methods	migrate	minutes
148:2	111:7	76:8	59:5	11:12
149:5	114:25	98:17	119:7	32:15
153:2	115:3,4	metric	migrating	39:21
Meink	125:18	58:21	57:7	43:3
139:20,21	127:23	59:6,19	Mike	48:10
member	129:13	metrics	9:8 65:4	91:2
6:11	130:21	57:8	military	111:3
8:13,19,	131:15,16	mic	31:6	139:16
21 10:12,	133:6	40:25	33:14	mirror
16 14:24	138:9,11	members'	46:11	149:10
15:5,8,	139:2	17:9		
12,22	148:9			
16:18				

MEETING
RESTORATION ADVISORY BOARD

May 20, 2026
Index: missed..nice

missed	138:23	75:2,3	51:19	natural
75:4		76:23	69:19	48:9
	money	79:23	99:4	
mission	27:3 77:6	98:23	110:1,13	nature
45:19	85:4	137:15	121:25	57:10
140:14	100:1	149:13,23	133:19	59:13,14
146:3	120:13,		144:4,11	60:23
	14,17,21	months'	149:2	84:3,22
mistaken	121:3,25	95:15		85:19
16:18	123:12,	morning	mow	88:5
	18,20	14:17	113:18	98:20,25
mistakes	125:15	86:8,18,	multiple	necessarily
100:7	126:23	23 87:3	73:9	15:19
108:17	127:11,17		104:1	55:13
misundersta	145:1	move		84:2
ndings		10:4	municipal	necessitati
24:22	monies	13:4,16	36:19	ng
mixer	31:4,17,	23:4,11	88:18,20	95:21
58:2	19,20	43:13	89:7	
	monitor	47:4 50:5	munitions	needed
mixture	45:24	51:6	33:14	11:2
55:10	monitoring	60:22	111:13,18	19:13
88:3	28:19	71:5,10,		21:10
MMRP	33:25	12 78:1	Munson	31:20
32:24	36:23,24	98:11,22	9:8 30:5,	36:10
33:14	44:25	109:13	6 37:8,	
40:16	45:1,3,4,	110:19	17,18	negative
111:23	7 46:21	115:22	38:5,8,13	132:23,24
	47:4,5	132:1	61:13	neighbors
mob	67:9,18	137:20	63:14,15	38:25
98:2	69:2	143:12	64:21	109:3
	month	147:20,22	65:7	110:3
mod	23:19	153:5	mutual	132:16
112:11	47:7	moved	11:19	148:24
113:11	148:4,5	50:5,8		Network
modernizati	monthly	116:12,16	N	132:10
on	32:18	129:18		neutral
120:24	42:5	movement	nanogram	11:18
	73:11	39:11	43:20	news
modify		110:5	narrower	128:4
77:11	months	moves	141:2	next-gen
	13:25	93:3	nationally	88:2
moment	18:25	147:8	125:21	nice
14:14	28:17	moving	native	39:4
22:17	33:13	45:16	117:20	
56:23	42:4	50:19		
65:9	74:22			
124:18				
127:23				

night	37:1,2	objectively	109:20	operation
11:1	59:19	13:5	offices	48:24
67:20	72:19	objectives	29:6	113:25
144:24	73:8 84:5	98:15	137:20	operations
nitty-gritty	85:23	obligations	150:1	6:1 67:17
72:15	124:17	142:4	official	122:1
Noblis	numbers	observation	82:6	123:16,23
143:5	44:4	s	officials	opinion
nodding	75:10,14	24:18	6:20	24:23,25
92:25	76:13	occasional	Offutt	opportuniti
non-detect	77:8	147:19	150:2	es
35:17	97:21	occur	ongoing	40:3
Non-time-	98:21	13:6	33:5,11,	opportunity
46:7	numerous	14:10,12	13 133:14	21:2 70:6
normal	134:7	122:13	140:1	128:8
61:24	<hr/>	130:22	online	131:16
62:12	O	131:12	6:24 39:2	opposed
northwest	O'NEILL	148:3	131:22,23	47:5
111:20	7:4 51:1	occurred	open	optimistic
notices	86:16,17	52:5	11:5	121:3
14:11	87:8,11,	occurs	12:20,23	optimum
notificatio	13,18,22	14:5	24:24	49:1,13
n	94:11,13,	147:15	25:24	option
19:25	17,23	October	71:8	71:8
notificatio	120:11	122:7	115:3	order
ns	121:21	October-ish	128:5	57:15
113:7	122:4,9,	74:11	opening	61:4 63:5
notified	15,17	offhand	5:7	75:22
111:23	123:7,10,	17:16	openly	76:3
November	25 124:3,	office	13:2	130:12
21:3	9,11,15	6:21,23,	operate	ordinance
NPR	126:10	24 7:1	13:20	145:17
144:21,25	127:3,5	50:2	44:23	organizatio
NTCRA	133:10	80:21	45:21	n
43:13,25	151:8,11,	130:1	46:16	7:14
46:7	13	142:19	70:10	organizatio
49:16	objection	143:2	operating	ns
number	22:4	145:17	9:24	116:17
9:11	objective	150:2	12:1,15	orientation
	83:7,10,	officer	13:22	72:14
	14	9:10	16:7	

original	142:3	54:3	path	118:7
71:23		55:16	71:9	130:5
77:1	overview	59:16		133:6
93:7,12,	35:9	79:25	pathways	136:21
14,20	41:14	82:15	42:7	138:12
136:4	owes	92:5	patience	139:4
	138:13	98:23	41:8	141:6
originally		100:19,23	111:10	142:1,8
100:2	ownership	102:14,16	Patt	143:14
148:15	65:24	105:6,15,	152:18	152:14
	67:3	17,24		
Oscoda		109:22	Patton	percent
5:1,25		115:18,20	150:25	9:25 10:1
8:7 29:5	P	133:18		44:24
30:1			pause	56:4
31:13,18	p.m.	partially	39:23	79:13
35:5,7	5:2 10:24	95:22	56:23	85:18
63:12	153:7	participati	100:12	126:24
66:17		on	109:21	150:6
70:3	packet	6:16	pay	perch
91:10	37:19	24:12	123:21	106:20,24
140:2,3	paid	39:2,11	paying	107:9
141:6,14	67:6	148:18	25:17	Perfect
142:8	138:13	partner	67:1	87:22
144:21	Palmer	142:23	peak	performance
Oscoda-	8:18	partners	113:23	33:22
9:8	17:12	109:16,17	Pease	44:25
other's	24:4	parts	126:21	45:2,4
12:23	27:17,18	66:3	pennies	49:2,13
outdated	palpable	78:25	31:8	134:4
140:24	133:3	145:20	people	143:7
outdoor	paper	party	7:21	performed
36:3	97:20	84:21	13:15	45:3
outlay	paperwork	PASI	27:8 42:1	102:25
122:12	75:18	126:13	43:18	period
outs	Park	passed	49:21	10:21
73:24	44:22	144:23	62:4	115:4
74:2,13	103:16	145:19	65:17	118:18
overly	part	past	72:10	132:2
74:18	11:24	17:22	77:13	134:9
	17:18	25:4 26:8	89:17	Perry
overran	18:3,12	45:3	91:14,15	144:19,21
116:11	22:10	67:22	107:8	145:4,9,
oversight	31:12,13		109:7,18,	13 146:5,
22:10	42:14		24 112:19	8,11

MEETING
RESTORATION ADVISORY BOARD

May 20, 2026
Index: person..politicians

person	64:19	phonetic	43:12	plume
7:12	66:3	12:7	50:9	128:21
12:24	75:13	149:21	83:13	plus-ups
41:13	76:3,9	pick	95:19	121:7
61:24	91:7	56:11	96:1	point
131:19,20	117:16,18	picked	109:3	15:17
150:21	126:8	92:4	139:8	16:16
personal	132:10	picketing	placement	30:15
72:8	136:11	109:9	113:16	40:22
109:12	140:1,17	pictorial	places	48:9,13
personally	144:24	97:4	54:25	53:9
15:24	149:17	picture	96:21,23	59:17
79:4	PFAS-RIDDEN	97:6	109:15	60:21
105:10	115:14	pictures	plan	71:24
135:5	PFBS	106:23	20:11,12	72:2
139:13	75:13,21	piece	21:6	73:22
personnel	77:2	31:2	24:15	78:6
128:10,18	PFHXS	66:24	71:21	82:10
perspective	88:2	67:5	97:11,13	83:8
123:15	PFNA	97:3,20	98:1,14	88:12
Peter	87:17	pilot	101:3,13	95:23
6:25	88:2	47:21	103:22	96:19
Peters'	PFOA	pin	129:2	99:25
6:21	55:19	71:2	planned	103:18
142:19	75:13	pipe	10:24	108:10,24
Peterson	76:3 77:2	50:24	129:3	119:4
126:20	PFOS	65:23	148:1	127:9
PFAS	36:7,8	66:22	planning	130:5
5:15	56:4 64:2	68:21	11:4	134:18
35:1,17,	77:2	Pipes	74:12	140:24
18,25	87:17	48:17	plant	141:5
39:9	phase	49:16	34:3	pointed
40:13	26:20	65:17,21	48:18	115:9
43:11,17	72:24	66:4	64:7	points
50:23	100:10	68:4,12	128:17	12:23
53:15,16,	phases	69:16	138:1	30:7
18 54:15	72:21	128:15,16	play	policy
55:19	Phelan	138:1	84:2	71:21
56:11	116:11	place	97:15	80:16,22,
57:6	phone	15:6	pleased	25 81:8
58:2,8	139:18	31:10	129:1	129:24
61:3	146:24	plenty	politicians	29:14
63:23		10:16		

politics 127:10	potential 81:7 102:5	pre-judging 141:9	65:10,13, 16 71:5 85:24	109:5 previous 37:3
portion 55:14 56:22 111:12 114:24 131:8,9, 13 147:9	116:19 121:14 potentially 81:7 82:20	pre-treatment 68:9	90:19 103:6,19 104:20 108:4,6 111:11,13 124:22 129:6 133:21	65:16 100:9 previously 36:21 74:23 100:25 141:2 148:1
portions 44:19	pound 58:14	predict 45:12	presentatio ns 48:19 105:13	primarily 128:6
portray 93:9 95:8	pounds 43:17 53:14,16, 18 54:15, 16 61:16, 22 62:10, 11 63:25	preliminary 33:23 75:19	presented 26:22 74:23 100:16 105:17 115:6 128:13,19 129:5 135:7 141:15	primary 53:8 115:25 127:10
portrayal 93:20 135:14	64:19 65:4	prematurely 48:12	preparation 18:4	print 127:17
position 135:22	Powerpoint 24:17	preparatory 14:4	preparatory 14:4	printed 27:3
Positions 18:19	Powerpoints 11:9	Prepare 13:4	prepared 15:14 38:5 45:11	prior 18:7 74:19 129:1 141:12
positive 64:4 132:22,23 133:23	PP 75:1	presence 5:6 6:17 7:18 133:16	press 146:25	priorities 120:15 128:25
possibility 52:11 137:23	practices 14:2,12 21:7 67:18	present 26:14 42:23	presume 59:15	priority 44:16 128:22
possibly 37:20 80:3 119:16	pragmatic 78:13	presentatio n 20:22 22:12 24:17 26:6,24 40:4 44:19 56:22	presupposes 15:4	private 35:13 88:10,16, 21 89:17
posted 14:7 32:15 86:19	praiseworth y 133:18	pre- 42:20	pretend 9:17	problem 46:10 49:6 54:12 61:8 99:2 109:8
posters 101:10,15	pre-design 34:3 47:20 128:18 140:15 141:11		pretty 23:19 40:20 49:10 69:24 134:15	
postured 121:16			prevent 68:6,20	
pot 123:16				

MEETING
RESTORATION ADVISORY BOARD

May 20, 2026
Index: problems..QAPP

141:14	62:24	properties	103:6,19,	purposes
150:20		28:17,18	21 105:2	18:2
problems	progression	66:1	108:11	push
68:6	58:22	115:11	109:7,23	26:12
74:20	project	116:5	115:4	131:5
	8:10 9:18	property	126:2	135:24,25
procedures	24:14	114:10	127:15,24	pushes
9:24	26:7 32:9	proposed	128:5	52:17
12:1,15	51:11,12	87:25	131:12,	53:4
13:22	52:4 66:5	protection	13,16	pushing
16:7	71:21	60:17	133:1	73:15
proceed	127:14	protective	138:17	137:5
41:18	128:19	36:11	141:7	put
proceeded	133:15	109:14	146:18	18:5
126:14	136:19	proud	147:5,9	19:19
process	projections	28:25	publicly	31:19
51:16	126:22	29:11	140:18	49:19
52:10	projects	provide	published	52:7 67:7
59:10	52:2	14:2 31:4	75:13	68:25
71:4	prolonged	41:17	80:17	71:2 79:8
81:11	118:18	42:2	pull	90:23
82:11	promise	69:15	32:5 65:9	91:1
99:25	127:16	149:5	87:9	97:4,6,25
148:25	141:7,24	providing	88:21	102:4
profiles	promised	68:22	108:4	109:22
123:4	141:4,17	150:2	Puller	122:2
program	promises	provisions	150:25	124:23
13:16	140:5	89:8	pulling	130:1
101:19	prompt	prudent	43:17,20	134:25
103:10	142:11	89:10	pump	putting
105:4	prompted	PTS	32:23	51:6
111:14,19	115:1	33:25	33:25	61:24
113:21	promulgated	public	45:19	134:21
programs	83:21	6:10,11	punches	
111:17	propensity	10:17,20,	76:1	Q
114:22	13:3	22 14:11	purchase	QAPP
progress	proper	21:21	31:5	24:14
5:11,18	30:17	26:25	purple	33:18
13:3	91:6	27:6	85:6 96:9	34:2
48:22	properly	38:23	purpose	40:15
71:25	46:24	39:8 71:8	11:4	49:4
progressing		90:21	41:15	96:14,20
47:2				

MEETING
RESTORATION ADVISORY BOARD

May 20, 2026
Index: quality..read

quality	112:14	148:12	39:24	106:13
24:14	115:12	149:12	40:10	raise
71:21	119:25	quickly	42:6	59:23
77:18,20	120:2	26:13	44:13,14	131:24
98:15	122:3,18	30:8 46:2	45:4	132:4
99:13	123:5	144:4	58:17	146:23,25
108:14	124:20	quorum	62:16	147:1
109:14	questions	9:25 10:3	65:12	raised
110:5	10:22		71:6,7	135:13
quantitativ	11:3		75:4 78:9	raising
e	24:25	R	79:22	65:2
61:9	31:24		90:22	147:6
quantities	36:13	RAB	91:4,8,20	range
121:22	40:19,20	8:13,18,	100:17	112:21
quarter	43:1	20 9:2,3,	103:19	ranges
46:17	44:10	5,7,13,23	108:18,20	111:22
47:6	59:24	10:1,12,	109:8,9	ranked
120:4,8,	65:12	16,19	111:7	126:6
12,19	69:18	11:10,25	114:25	ratio
122:16	71:6	12:1,9,	115:3,4	55:10
148:5	77:25	10,15,17	124:17	rational
quarterly	84:7 90:1	13:8,18,	125:18	73:2
46:21	93:2	20,21,25	127:25	141:8
47:5	100:13,16	14:3,5,8,	128:6	Ratliff
question	108:5	15,16,19,	129:13	44:22
14:23	110:16	24 15:4,	130:12,	103:15
15:14	114:21	9,12,22	13,15,16,	re-up
20:21	115:5	16:6,10,	18,21,24,	19:1
25:24	117:4	18,21,24	25 131:1,	re-upping
36:5,18	124:8,12,	17:4,7,8,	2,3,10,	18:2
44:9,13,	18 125:18	20 18:2,	12,15	reabsorbed
14,20	128:1,9	8,13,20,	134:7	116:10
46:1	129:12	25 19:23	135:18	reach
51:15,24	141:21,25	20:14	138:9	112:12
54:16	149:6	21:9,12	147:24	118:19
56:1,7	quick	22:11,13,	148:9	reached
57:5,6	11:14	18,20,22,	149:5,22	67:20
65:15	39:23	23 23:2,	RABS	152:25
68:3	70:3	5,6,8,9,	13:19	read
80:23	84:10	11,17,18	Rachelle	12:19
82:18	88:12	25:16,20	149:20	
85:5 86:4	94:10	27:11	150:3,18	
90:5	96:20	28:11	151:18	
101:6,7	100:12	29:7,19	152:23	
	101:6	37:13,21	radar	
	108:2,3	38:18		

38:5	realization	16:10	92:4	30:14
64:18	96:2	30:12	records	40:21
72:9,22	realized	32:11	21:25	43:23
86:7	16:10	82:6	53:21	44:21,24
87:21,22	17:21	recently	58:5,6	47:17,25
97:2	19:9,13	31:14	64:1	49:12
131:10	150:11	32:20,22,	recover	52:21
139:18	reallocated	23 33:3,5	75:23	55:7,11
140:22	126:25	45:9	recreationa	70:21
readily	realtor	recess	l	71:13,17
115:17	63:6	56:14	35:22	112:5,14
Readiness	reappoint	111:4	rectangular	113:23
139:23	16:24	recognize	111:22	114:3
reading	17:19	7:16	redirected	129:24
139:15	reason	recognized	116:13	134:8
ready	13:1 50:3	95:13	120:22	136:5
14:14,15,	51:13	recommend	122:20	regional
20 22:18,	54:4	83:17	redone	130:2
22 113:18	55:17	recommenda	19:13	136:5
real	67:13	tions	reduce	Register
11:14	95:9,25	25:7	141:16	80:18
70:3 79:8	108:25	71:17	reel	81:10,24
84:10	136:2	recommends	107:25	86:20
88:11	reasons	35:22	Reese	registered
94:10	73:9	record	126:19	50:2
100:12	103:25	15:7	reference	regular
101:6	135:5	20:19	14:24	113:10
108:2,3	recapture	21:23	82:22	Regulations
110:13	80:5	25:23	referenced	11:24
144:9	receded	49:20	24:13	13:18
148:12	119:11	54:24	referred	reinforce
realignment	receive	64:4	133:22	147:18
30:13	26:6 45:5	85:14	referring	reinstate
32:13	91:23	92:6	81:5	80:2
realistic	received	109:22	refine	reinstated
48:23	45:1,9	110:2	141:12	81:6
74:17	receives	127:11	refused	relate
75:6	25:8 70:9	129:22	137:16	13:5 42:8
78:13	receiving	134:4	regard	related
95:10	143:8	recorded	5:25	126:8
reality	recent	11:6	recorder	relative
135:9		recorder		62:12

MEETING
RESTORATION ADVISORY BOARD

May 20, 2026
Index: release..resin

release 143:4	remediated 59:18	removal 30:21 46:5,8 64:5 112:3,6 140:17	143:5 144:25	149:13
relevant 58:10 84:19 85:10,14, 16	remediation 122:12 140:11 141:4,10	removals 82:12	reported 59:3	requests 25:6
relying 95:20 121:11	remedies 5:17 39:13	removed 53:15 54:3,15 63:18,24	reporter 11:7 13:1 92:24	requirement 22:9 78:24 85:10
remain 12:9,23 82:10	remedy 84:1	removing 61:15	reporting 98:22	requirement s 67:5,7,12 69:1 82:8 120:7,18 122:25
remained 57:6	remember 15:24 17:15 63:18,22 75:14	rep 66:12	reports 33:2,17, 20,21,25 34:1 113:25 150:9	requires 84:18
remains 54:6 59:18	remind 106:16 118:8 135:17, 20,25	repaired 67:6	represent 62:17	resample 76:17
remarked 71:16	reminder 35:21 56:21 69:16	replaced 45:22	representat ive 6:23,25 7:2 66:17 91:11 145:6	resampling 76:25
remarks 5:7 10:11 148:19	reminding 11:16 132:20	replacement 149:14,19	representing 27:8 70:4	rescinded 81:1
remedial 33:4 40:14 59:11 60:22,24 82:12 83:7,9,14 84:19 85:15,16 93:10 95:9,13, 18,22 100:20 113:24 126:14 128:14 134:5 136:4 137:4,8 140:16	remobilizin g 111:24	replenishme nt 122:11	represented 141:1	rescinding 87:25
	remodeling 45:14	replicated 140:25	represents 43:11	research 16:25 53:23 69:21
	remotely 7:13 9:14 10:7,8 28:5 41:7 146:21,23	report 26:2 32:23 33:24 45:15,16 46:19,25 47:4,9 58:17 59:17 63:21 114:2,12 126:3,18 135:19,22	reprogramme d 123:1	reserve 10:16
			request 18:23 20:22 21:8 87:9 106:11 134:2	resident 8:8 114:18
			requested 105:16	residential 35:2,6
				residents 38:25 39:6 107:22
				resin 45:22

MEETING
RESTORATION ADVISORY BOARD

May 20, 2026
Index: resolution..Rule

resolution	120:23	82:2	rinse	87:5
25:1	130:4,23		36:2	rollback
resolve	restriction	99:12	RIS	90:13
24:22	s		149:17	143:16
25:10,13, 23	114:8	revise		
resource	result	18:23	risk	room
129:19	5:19	Rex	99:7	39:16
	60:24	28:2,4,5	100:22	100:21
resources	results	RFP	101:4,8, 11,25	128:11
26:10	35:1,6	51:7,8	102:2	152:24
Respect	42:20	52:3,4,7, 9,21	104:9	rough
12:19	45:23	53:1,3	105:6,17	57:13
	47:3		115:9,18, 20	62:7
respectfull	97:18	RI	116:2, 19	125:4
y	101:22	26:20		roughly
12:22	104:21	42:9	risks	11:11
respond	105:1,25	56:11	137:13	43:16
69:22	109:10	57:10	rivalry	44:1,7
86:16	retirements	73:8	152:8	112:9
response	30:12	93:20,23	River	126:8
68:1	reevaluation	97:7	65:22	round
79:11	81:8	99:21	66:4	19:8 35:1
111:14,18	review	100:23	116:13	129:16
142:11	10:9 14:9	102:16		row
responsibil	33:3,6,22	103:22	rivers	76:23
ities	45:2	105:18	35:23	RPM
133:16	47:11	135:19	Rivet's	8:23
149:22	49:4,5	150:8	7:1	57:25
responsibil	96:16,18, 23	Rick	road	RPMS
ity	97:21	29:24,25	148:14	152:18
59:16	100:25	30:2	robust	RSL
69:11	114:13	41:25	73:13	98:3
responsible	130:25	51:5 52:9	113:21	99:16
59:12	137:18	66:14,15	141:17	RSLs
84:20	143:7	70:14,15	ROD	75:13
139:24	reviewed		53:6 83:8	77:15
rest	32:22	rid	84:1	79:24
56:4	135:6	112:23	role	82:22
	140:13	right-hand	11:16	83:2 84:2
restoration	reviewing	24:11	62:16	ruined
5:5 7:24	45:15	righty	roll	28:18
8:2 11:20	47:13	111:8	75:25	Rule
104:1	74:12	ring		
		74:6		

MEETING
RESTORATION ADVISORY BOARD

May 20, 2026
Index: rules..Senate

11:25	98:2	scenario	Scott	seating
13:18,20	sampled	74:20,24	8:20	33:1
131:10	35:11	95:11	27:12	secret
rules	37:4	schedule	61:12,13	30:3
12:16	42:14	26:7 72:7	84:11	secretary
13:8,11	samples	79:7	86:2	7:8
42:11	73:20	148:2	87:15	80:13,15,
run	81:3	scheduled	88:14	21 129:25
21:20	97:16	19:10	89:5	137:22
31:3	101:14,	114:5,13	106:14,15	139:20,21
39:25	18,23	129:17	109:10	140:19
134:1	105:5	schedules	screeching	141:22
running	106:1	78:11,13	136:14	section
140:6	144:6	scheduling	screen	9:24
runway	sampling	129:18	34:23	12:16
30:18,19	26:16	Schulz	75:21	23:5
65:20	28:20	6:23 8:17	screening	72:18
Ryan	34:25	27:21,22	26:17	secure
152:3	35:1,6	139:12	36:7,8	31:11,14
	37:3	145:3,5,	74:21	sediment
	46:17	10,14	76:3	102:24
	75:25	science	79:22	seeking
S	101:9,22	109:12	130:2	6:4,5
	102:23,24	science-	136:5,18	seal
Sable	113:25	based	51:15	114:24
59:8	114:4	41:19	sealed	Selfridge
65:22	140:23	scientific	69:3	146:2
66:4	sand	41:17	seals	semi-annual
116:13	47:21,22,	141:7	66:24	46:23
safe	23 63:20,	147:13,	67:11	Semi-
30:18	24 64:2,5	14,15	season	conservativ
36:5,7,9,	65:5	scope	35:22	e
24 89:6	77:22	42:9 54:7	73:20	75:6
101:19	116:11,12	73:12	74:3,14,	semi-
103:10	sat	77:10	21 96:15,	resistant
105:4	110:10	97:25	16,17	117:19
safety	save	98:6	seasonal	semiannual
30:16	37:21	141:3,16	91:14	47:4
Sameer	44:10	Scotchgarde	seat	Senate
41:24	scan	d	56:16,20	144:22
87:18	112:9	117:19	72:6	
144:1	scanning		111:7	
sample	112:1,8			
88:22				

MEETING
RESTORATION ADVISORY BOARD

May 20, 2026
Index: Senator..sir

Senator	served	shallower	short	sides
6:21,22	142:5	141:2	74:3	29:16
142:18			110:6	
145:17	service	Shapiro		sight
	19:23	7:1	shortly	108:15
send	39:16		70:24,25	109:7
21:23	66:6	share		
34:9		13:2	shot	sign
37:23	services	19:24	53:5	51:3
38:1,2,	34:17	23:10		
14,17	49:18	27:13,25	show	signal
51:1 91:4	51:4 68:4	30:9	9:20	30:3
97:16	139:23	52:15	22:21	
	140:7	67:16	49:9 64:7	signed
		89:23	79:18	51:5
sending	serving	92:5		68:25
129:6	108:18	105:22	showed	significant
		131:17	101:13	30:12
sense	session	146:16	shower	45:20
22:5	20:23		36:2	50:11
43:22	21:9			
136:18	48:21	shared	showing	signs
	49:7	16:13	35:6,10,	103:12,15
sentence	78:10	17:4 27:1	13 70:24	141:10
63:10	128:5	92:13	106:23	
	130:15	103:23		similar
September	131:2	109:10	shown	119:3
45:6			33:20	
71:15	set	sharing	34:23	simple
94:25	111:25	142:16	35:19	62:9
114:5			74:16,19	simply
	severely	shed	93:12	112:24
septic	116:12	86:10	105:3	150:7
118:3,16				
	Seville	shift	shows	sir
sequence	8:16	10:11	35:16	6:13
14:4,6		74:17		14:21
130:22	sewer	75:8	sic	17:16
148:6	33:7	118:15	37:19	19:20
	50:20			20:3,7
sequesterin	65:19	shipped	side	21:5
g	67:4,20	56:3	7:21	24:5,8
122:12	70:11	61:18	35:15	25:25
			42:7	26:3
sequestrati	sewers	shocked	72:25	31:25
on	67:11,17	150:14	78:2	52:1
123:6,7,			111:20	55:23
18	shadows	shoot	121:10	58:20
	142:6	91:7	122:19,23	61:11
serve		shores	149:16	86:3
11:18	shaking	116:6	152:13	
62:17	21:16			
	83:24			

MEETING
RESTORATION ADVISORY BOARD

May 20, 2026
Index: sit..staggering

89:21	skipped	108:16	sorts	12:2
91:21	17:21	123:22	28:20	13:25
95:4				82:20
117:1	slide	slowed	sound	
118:24	10:4,9	77:16	43:19	specificall
124:21	11:9,15		59:23	y
127:5	18:5 23:4	small		13:1
134:19	24:15	13:16	sounded	104:18
138:16,22	26:7	35:15	38:6	142:2
139:11	32:2,10	55:14	sounds	
142:15	33:9,20	111:21	52:24	speed
144:18	37:20	112:4	54:14	85:8
146:12	41:14	smokes	58:20	spend
149:8	43:10	135:21	69:17	73:4
	44:8		71:1	74:11
sit	45:17,24	snow	90:10	123:19
60:2 78:1	46:15,16	30:21	146:13	
109:19	47:17	snowplows		spending
110:20	49:3,15	30:25	source	123:20
135:2	56:11		48:17	
136:8,12	64:16	soil	68:12,15	spray
	71:10,13,	26:18		55:9
site	25 72:9,	43:13	sources	spraying
26:15	11,13	57:19	104:10	119:20
33:24	78:8,15	58:9	117:20	
112:16	89:24	66:23	south	spring
127:16,20	93:2,6	102:23	65:21	45:2,4
	97:1	119:16		126:25
sites	110:17		southeast	square
22:9	113:5	solely	42:7	72:20
67:18	129:15	89:7		
111:19		95:20	Spaniola	Staci
113:10,11	slides		29:9	8:11
114:1	18:4,6,13	solution	132:6,8,9	34:16,17
121:13	32:6 34:8	56:2	134:20	37:12
126:7,11	37:19	son	145:23	104:3
	45:11	107:20	146:6,10	105:9
sitting	64:12			
49:10	129:16	sorrows	spanning	staff
		142:21	134:7	6:20 7:17
situation				30:13,14
83:20	slight	sort	Speak	146:20
	112:10	15:11	12:24	
sixes		17:10		
98:21	slippage	25:2,6	spearhead	stage
	53:7,9	57:14	96:10	85:15,17
skills		60:16		
9:21	Slotkin's	61:8	special	staggered
	6:22	117:21	30:24	17:10
skin		152:8	31:1	
89:13	slow		specific	staggering
				55:3

stakeholder	29:20	status	77:24	108:14
s	33:15	20:13	84:25	structure
23:7	34:22	104:21	96:4	14:3
stalled	61:21,24	stay	123:23	structured
99:21	62:8 63:9	11:1 69:2	128:23	115:16
stance	67:11	78:3	134:2	struggling
82:6	72:14	124:1,4	136:9	29:4
stand	111:8	144:19	138:6	study
50:19	123:20	148:8	stopped	47:21
72:5	131:18,25	steadily	73:14	57:10
144:20	132:7	149:2	103:7	60:23
151:14	started	Stella	stopping	84:23
standard	26:9,20	12:7,8	73:10,14	stuff
14:23	33:12	19:21	stored	21:21
148:3	56:20	148:8	58:4	55:21
standardiza	60:10	step	storm	62:10
tion	94:1,5,	73:24	33:7	96:13
14:3	18,21	74:2,13	50:20,24	97:18
standards	starts	76:16	65:19	119:19
12:2	43:21	96:22,23	67:4,11,	131:6
14:1,16,	state	97:10,12	17,20	style
19 21:4,	51:18	98:20	70:10	150:24
12 22:19,	79:2	stepped	storming	subcommitte
20,23	82:8,13,	26:25	74:7	e
23:3 79:2	25 83:17,	79:5	stormwater	139:23,24
88:4	18 84:5,	stepping	49:16	141:20
95:21	16 85:11,	76:24	story	142:2
130:19	14 90:7,	steps	108:11	subject
140:12	9,11,13	14:11	109:23	105:23
standpoint	101:24	63:11	straight	146:11
29:21	104:12	80:22	9:18	submerged
61:22	105:4	97:6,8	Strayer	118:3
63:2	144:22	stick	8:15	submissions
152:7	145:3,6,	12:12	29:20,22	122:6
stands	11,16	sticking	streams	submitted
24:14	stated	142:22	35:24	34:20
star	32:18	stood	strikes	136:23
146:25	statement	108:21	147:11	substantial
147:1	38:6	stop	strip	137:11
start	79:22	16:2	33:1	substantial
8:4 11:16	states	48:11	strong	ly
23:12	16:8	73:22		
	stationed			
	110:4			

141:4	51:17,21,	114:23	superintend	system
substructures	25 52:24	116:23,25	ent	32:23
	53:11	117:5,8,	8:16	34:1
115:23	54:13,18	11,23	supplies	45:19,20
success	55:4	118:23	88:19	46:20,22
11:19	56:6,15	119:22	support	50:21
61:25	58:20	124:7,10,	7:17 39:5	51:13
succinctly	59:1,21	13,17	51:19	68:21
12:24	61:10	125:17,25	101:25	70:11
Sueltenfuss	62:14	127:21	140:14	systems
5:3,21	63:13	129:7,9,	150:3	49:1,2
6:7 7:22	64:9,13,	11 130:7,	supposed	
9:12,23	24 65:3,8	17 134:19	137:10	<hr/>
11:17	66:13	138:15	surface	T
13:13	67:25	139:9	30:19	<hr/>
15:16	69:13	142:15	82:9 83:1	table
16:1,3,22	70:1 71:1	144:14	116:16	38:22
17:15,24	78:3,6	146:12	surfactants	49:10
18:10,14,	79:9,19	149:8	56:5	50:16
21 19:4,	80:8,12	151:6,10,	surprised	59:4
17,20	81:20	12,17,23	19:15	64:11,15
20:6,10	83:23	152:22	survey	65:5
21:5,15	84:6,9	suggest	54:23	106:20
22:6,14,	86:1,12,	44:15	suspect	116:21
17,25	14 87:6,	136:16	51:11	tables
24:1,5,8	9,12,14	suggesting	sustainment	10:20
25:25	88:7,11	141:1	120:24	tail
26:3	89:1,21	sum	Sutton	144:11
27:9,16,	90:4	44:6	9:6 27:24	takes
20,23	91:3,19,	125:10	28:1	39:18
28:2,9	25 92:7,	summer	90:5,16,	77:7,12
29:17,23	15,19,24	42:22	20 91:9,	78:8
31:25	94:9,16	93:23	24 117:25	81:11
34:6,12,	95:2	101:11	118:1	97:17
14,21	99:15	107:11	switch	98:23
37:9,15	100:11,15	126:24,25	98:16	99:10
38:16,20	101:5	sunk	Sylvia	139:18
39:14	102:9,19	66:23	7:6	taking
40:24	103:24	super	123:14	64:5
41:3,6	104:14,17	8:10	sync	77:21
43:2,6	105:14	137:4	17:13	106:22
44:12	106:6,10,	superfund		talk
45:25	12	32:9		40:8,13,
46:6,9	107:17,25			16,17
48:4,8	110:8,23			
	111:5			
	113:4			

MEETING
RESTORATION ADVISORY BOARD

May 20, 2026
Index: talked..thought

41:16	105:22	96:5,6	63:21	5:25 27:4
42:17,19	123:24	102:17	88:23	28:20
46:13	133:10	128:4,12	106:18	35:25
56:24	tank	130:14,15	107:10	40:7
57:18	100:10	131:2,3,4	115:14	43:20
63:6 71:3	tanks	135:6	tested	48:11,25
72:2,12	118:3,17	136:24	107:22	49:11
73:6 86:9	taught	138:10	115:23	52:13
95:6	112:17	147:13,	118:6,13,	58:15
96:5,9	TCRA	14,15	21	70:20
99:18	45:19	tells	testing	80:19,25
106:3	46:2,4	125:16	118:7	81:16
109:1	teal	temporary	139:7	83:16
123:14	93:7	140:23	Texas	97:9,13
134:16	teal-y	ten	22:25	99:9
148:24	74:15	11:12	126:19	109:23
talked	team	95:15	thankful	110:12
21:19	20:16	111:3	121:6	114:11
22:3	32:14	119:6	that'll	116:14
42:13	82:3	ten-	37:21	120:16
53:14	tech	11:12	121:24	121:11
61:15	20:23	ten-minute	thereof	128:13
70:14	33:22	56:13	88:3	129:15
98:9	45:1	111:2,9	thing	130:12
101:12	48:20	tenure	17:10	132:22,
119:13	technical	108:17	54:1,10	23,24
144:1	5:14 7:25	term	65:18	136:6
talking	10:14	14:24	66:1	137:13,22
20:18	21:9	15:2,5,	78:17	143:1,18
48:2 63:9	23:16	10,13	98:24	147:20
68:11	24:12,19	16:6,8	119:1	149:2
72:3,6	25:5,12,	17:8	123:11	151:2,5
73:4,11	21 32:17	63:16	126:1	153:5
86:4	40:8,22	terms	133:24,25	thinking
94:1,5	41:12	16:20	136:13	16:20
96:12	45:5	17:9	137:3	26:9,10
102:25	48:5,6	19:19,23	142:9	thought
103:5	49:7	20:1 63:9	143:13	17:10,19
139:4	55:25	114:10	145:24	55:4
142:13	62:21	terrible	147:10	67:22
143:25	63:9	74:5	149:7	70:16
talks	78:10,23	test	151:25	95:1
105:8	81:2 95:7		things	116:3
Tammy				127:7
7:4 86:16				150:12

MEETING
RESTORATION ADVISORY BOARD

May 20, 2026
Index: thoughts..track

152:11	23:18	timeline	42:18,19	110:17
thoughts	24:4,7	52:17	47:19	131:11
28:21	27:4,14,	53:4 72:2	48:3	148:11
threat	19 29:22	134:17,21	138:4	topics
60:19	39:1	135:4	tomorrow's	42:2
threats	44:15,18	143:13,	95:6	total
39:8	49:5 50:6	22,25	tonight	103:20
137:11	56:9	timelines	5:6 6:4,	125:10
three-and-a-half	61:3,19	48:22	12 8:1	totally
114:18	63:19	135:24,25	10:3,5,	66:19
three-minute	65:12	137:5	18,23	107:4
132:2	69:5	times	11:6 12:6	touch
throw	70:17	50:6	13:16	122:23
72:12	73:4 75:4	52:13	20:8,18	148:12
throwing	77:7 82:7	109:17	21:19	touched
62:3	84:25	timing	28:3 39:1	40:17
thumbs	85:4	96:11	70:5	tough
92:25	86:20,25	137:25	91:11	111:10
ticktock	91:16	tipped	109:17	tour
108:21	96:18	89:3	133:11	86:24
Tim	99:10,22	tires	146:19	town
5:10 7:22	107:10	112:16,	147:9,19	66:11
11:17	108:21	19,23	153:6	70:16
17:6 19:7	110:4	today	tonight's	Township
21:23	112:2	36:12	92:6,19	8:16 30:1
29:24	117:9	51:6	Tony	42:1
37:8	118:18	66:14	22:3	49:18
38:15	119:8	70:14	29:8,11	52:7,19
66:13	120:20	86:24	108:20	65:24
91:22	123:13	109:18	132:9	66:7,10,
132:8	132:25	113:7	142:23	11,17
134:1	133:1,8	144:1,24	145:23	67:3,16
time	134:1,6,	145:6	top	68:22
6:6	11,13,24	told	39:8,9	69:3,12,
10:16,18,	136:9	51:5	72:16	22,25
25 12:21,	137:6,7	112:17,23	75:9	70:4,9,24
24 16:24	138:10	Tom	92:13	91:10
17:2,16,	140:13	6:22	99:5	115:12
17,19	144:7	tomatoes	137:18	track
21:13	145:12	72:12	topic	25:17
Time-critical	150:11	tomorrow	6:15	81:15
46:4	152:25	34:10	21:10	127:11

tracking	trees	42:11,16,	66:16	15:21
9:25	67:10	23,25	70:5	18:12
79:17	trillion	43:3	140:25	61:5
80:17	66:3	47:15,19	unambiguous	62:24
127:5	78:25	48:3,4	140:10	79:3
traditional	145:20	59:20	unaware	83:20
78:22	trouble	71:16	106:25	90:7,14
120:4	50:7	73:11,18	unbelievabl	107:13
transcribed	Troy	77:23	e	130:11
11:7	139:20	96:12	116:8	152:10
transcript	truck	102:15,18	uncertainty	understandi
92:17,18	31:1,14,	116:18	16:23	ngs
transcripts	15,18	Two-and-a-	17:18	141:13
14:7	trucks	half	underlining	understood
transfer	56:4	26:21	140:21	19:17
31:17,18	true	two-year	141:3	70:13
transferred	18:21	16:8	underly	141:3
69:9	95:22	type	74:18	152:11
transitioni	trusted	30:21	understand	underwater
ng	140:7	150:21	20:24	118:17
149:24	Tuesday	types	28:22	underway
transparent	50:1	62:4	54:11	72:21
141:17	tune	83:16	61:5,7	unfair
transport	16:20	105:3	62:23	100:2
99:3	turn	typically	63:2	unfamiliar
treat	5:7 40:23	46:22	81:10	47:22
32:23	61:12	70:2,3	82:17	57:24
33:25	72:5	77:7	92:15	113:12
45:19	80:12	123:17	93:5	129:21
140:8	86:15	<hr/>	103:3,4	130:6
treated	127:23	U	104:18	Uniform
43:17	148:18	<hr/>	105:2	71:20
treating	turnaround	UFP-QAPP	107:4	unilateral
43:14	64:8	23:21	134:8,20,	150:20
treatment	turned	34:3	22 138:3	unit
34:2	109:16	71:23	141:11	30:25
45:18	TWG	73:17	143:19	unload
48:18	10:15	Uh-huh	148:15	117:6
128:17	33:11	129:10	understanda	up-to-date
138:1	40:11,12	ultimately	137:1	16:9
	41:15	56:3	understandi	upcoming
		unable	ng	
			5:20	

MEETING
RESTORATION ADVISORY BOARD

May 20, 2026
Index: update..water

33:10,17, 21	utilized 61:19	vapor 33:3,12 113:7,13	videos 14:6	106:18,19 107:9,10, 19,22
update 10:13 16:12 19:22 34:23 38:24 39:22 40:11 73:17 79:15 98:13 105:16 120:7 145:19	UU/UE 112:12 UXO 112:19,21 <hr/> v <hr/> vague 135:11 validated 97:19 validation 141:18	vaporize 113:14 variables 60:1 Varley 63:19 64:17 varying 12:23 VAS 102:24 Vaughn 28:2,5	view 12:23 27:1 vinyl 117:17 virtual 14:9 130:25 virtually 148:22 visual 97:5 108:13	walls 115:22 wanted 34:18 55:17 70:8 94:12 109:1,21 129:3 130:5 143:1,21 wanting 87:5 War 78:19 80:22 126:11 waste 85:4 wastewater 34:2 48:18 128:16 138:1
updated 17:3 22:10 79:17 96:14 139:17	valuable 39:1 valuation 46:20 values 35:18 36:7,9 74:21 79:22 83:2,18, 21 84:15 85:14	venture 5:12 venue 153:4 verificatio n 33:1 version 14:18 vet 24:21 veterans 38:25 39:6 110:3 vetted 135:6 VI 33:11 viability 69:2 victim 139:1	voice 11:22 12:11 volunteered 150:13 vote 19:2 22:21 voted 15:9 <hr/> W <hr/>	173:1 174:1 175:1 176:1 177:1 178:1 179:1 180:1 181:1 182:1 183:1 184:1 185:1 186:1 187:1 188:1 189:1 190:1 191:1 192:1 193:1 194:1 195:1 196:1 197:1 198:1 199:1 200:1 201:1 202:1 203:1 204:1 205:1 206:1 207:1 208:1 209:1 210:1 211:1 212:1 213:1 214:1 215:1 216:1 217:1 218:1 219:1 220:1 221:1 222:1 223:1 224:1 225:1 226:1 227:1 228:1 229:1 230:1 231:1 232:1 233:1 234:1 235:1 236:1 237:1 238:1 239:1 240:1 241:1 242:1 243:1 244:1 245:1 246:1 247:1 248:1 249:1 250:1 251:1 252:1 253:1 254:1 255:1 256:1 257:1 258:1 259:1 260:1 261:1 262:1 263:1 264:1 265:1 266:1 267:1 268:1 269:1 270:1 271:1 272:1 273:1 274:1 275:1 276:1 277:1 278:1 279:1 280:1 281:1 282:1 283:1 284:1 285:1 286:1 287:1 288:1 289:1 290:1 291:1 292:1 293:1 294:1 295:1 296:1 297:1 298:1 299:1 300:1 301:1 302:1 303:1 304:1 305:1 306:1 307:1 308:1 309:1 310:1 311:1 312:1 313:1 314:1 315:1 316:1 317:1 318:1 319:1 320:1 321:1 322:1 323:1 324:1 325:1 326:1 327:1 328:1 329:1 330:1 331:1 332:1 333:1 334:1 335:1 336:1 337:1 338:1 339:1 340:1 341:1 342:1 343:1 344:1 345:1 346:1 347:1 348:1 349:1 350:1 351:1 352:1 353:1 354:1 355:1 356:1 357:1 358:1 359:1 360:1 361:1 362:1 363:1 364:1 365:1 366:1 367:1 368:1 369:1 370:1 371:1 372:1 373:1 374:1 375:1 376:1 377:1 378:1 379:1 380:1 381:1 382:1 383:1 384:1 385:1 386:1 387:1 388:1 389:1 390:1 391:1 392:1 393:1 394:1 395:1 396:1 397:1 398:1 399:1 400:1 401:1 402:1 403:1 404:1 405:1 406:1 407:1 408:1 409:1 410:1 411:1 412:1 413:1 414:1 415:1 416:1 417:1 418:1 419:1 420:1 421:1 422:1 423:1 424:1 425:1 426:1 427:1 428:1 429:1 430:1 431:1 432:1 433:1 434:1 435:1 436:1 437:1 438:1 439:1 440:1 441:1 442:1 443:1 444:1 445:1 446:1 447:1 448:1 449:1 450:1 451:1 452:1 453:1 454:1 455:1 456:1 457:1 458:1 459:1 460:1 461:1 462:1 463:1 464:1 465:1 466:1 467:1 468:1 469:1 470:1 471:1 472:1 473:1 474:1 475:1 476:1 477:1 478:1 479:1 480:1 481:1 482:1 483:1 484:1 485:1 486:1 487:1 488:1 489:1 490:1 491:1 492:1 493:1 494:1 495:1 496:1 497:1 498:1 499:1 500:1 501:1 502:1 503:1 504:1 505:1 506:1 507:1 508:1 509:1 510:1 511:1 512:1 513:1 514:1 515:1 516:1 517:1 518:1 519:1 520:1 521:1 522:1 523:1 524:1 525:1 526:1 527:1 528:1 529:1 530:1 531:1 532:1 533:1 534:1 535:1 536:1 537:1 538:1 539:1 540:1 541:1 542:1 543:1 544:1 545:1 546:1 547:1 548:1 549:1 550:1 551:1 552:1 553:1 554:1 555:1 556:1 557:1 558:1 559:1 560:1 561:1 562:1 563:1 564:1 565:1 566:1 567:1 568:1 569:1 570:1 571:1 572:1 573:1 574:1 575:1 576:1 577:1 578:1 579:1 580:1 581:1 582:1 583:1 584:1 585:1 586:1 587:1 588:1 589:1 590:1 591:1 592:1 593:1 594:1 595:1 596:1 597:1 598:1 599:1 600:1 601:1 602:1 603:1 604:1 605:1 606:1 607:1 608:1 609:1 610:1 611:1 612:1 613:1 614:1 615:1 616:1 617:1 618:1 619:1 620:1 621:1 622:1 623:1 624:1 625:1 626:1 627:1 628:1 629:1 630:1 631:1 632:1 633:1 634:1 635:1 636:1 637:1 638:1 639:1 640:1 641:1 642:1 643:1 644:1 645:1 646:1 647:1 648:1 649:1 650:1 651:1 652:1 653:1 654:1 655:1 656:1 657:1 658:1 659:1 660:1 661:1 662:1 663:1 664:1 665:1 666:1 667:1 668:1 669:1 670:1 671:1 672:1 673:1 674:1 675:1 676:1 677:1 678:1 679:1 680:1 681:1 682:1 683:1 684:1 685:1 686:1 687:1 688:1 689:1 690:1 691:1 692:1 693:1 694:1 695:1 696:1 697:1 698:1 699:1 700:1 701:1 702:1 703:1 704:1 705:1 706:1 707:1 708:1 709:1 710:1 711:1 712:1 713:1 714:1 715:1 716:1 717:1 718:1 719:1 720:1 721:1 722:1 723:1 724:1 725:1 726:1 727:1 728:1 729:1 730:1 731:1 732:1 733:1 734:1 735:1 736:1 737:1 738:1 739:1 740:1 741:1 742:1 743:1 744:1 745:1 746:1 747:1 748:1 749:1 750:1 751:1 752:1 753:1 754:1 755:1 756:1 757:1 758:1 759:1 760:1 761:1 762:1 763:1 764:1 765:1 766:1 767:1 768:1 769:1 770:1 771:1 772:1 773:1 774:1 775:1 776:1 777:1 778:1 779:1 780:1 781:1 782:1 783:1 784:1 785:1 786:1 787:1 788:1 789:1 790:1 791:1 792:1 793:1 794:1 795:1 796:1 797:1 798:1 799:1 800:1 801:1 802:1 803:1 804:1 805:1 806:1 807:1 808:1 809:1 810:1 811:1 812:1 813:1 814:1 815:1 816:1 817:1 818:1 819:1 820:1 821:1 822:1 823:1 824:1 825:1 826:1 827:1 828:1 829:1 830:1 831:1 832:1 833:1 834:1 835:1 836:1 837:1 838:1 839:1 840:1 841:1 842:1 843:1 844:1 845:1 846:1 847:1 848:1 849:1 850:1 851:1 852:1 853:1 854:1 855:1 856:1 857:1 858:1 859:1 860:1 861:1 862:1 863:1 864:1 865:1 866:1 867:1 868:1 869:1 870:1 871:1 872:1 873:1 874:1 875:1 876:1 877:1 878:1 879:1 880:1 881:1 882:1 883:1 884:1 885:1 886:1 887:1 888:1 889:1 890:1 891:1 892:1 893:1 894:1 895:1 896:1 897:1 898:1 899:1 900:1 901:1 902:1 903:1 904:1 905:1 906:1 907:1 908:1 909:1 910:1 911:1 912:1 913:1 914:1 915:1 916:1 917:1 918:1 919:1 920:1 921:1 922:1 923:1 924:1 925:1 926:1 927:1 928:1 929:1 930:1 931:1 932:1 933:1 934:1 935:1 936:1 937:1 938:1 939:1 940:1 941:1 942:1 943:1 944:1 945:1 946:1 947:1 948:1 949:1 950:1 951:1 952:1 953:1 954:1 955:1 956:1 957:1 958:1 959:1 960:1 961:1 962:1 963:1 964:1 965:1 966:1 967:1 968:1 969:1 970:1 971:1 972:1 973:1 974:1 975:1 976:1 977:1 978:1 979:1 980:1 981:1 982:1 983:1 984:1 985:1 986:1 987:1 988:1 989:1 990:1 991:1 992:1 993:1 994:1 995:1 996:1 997:1 998:1 999:1 1000:1
upgrade 120:25	Van 28:22 29:4 42:8 44:22 59:7 103:8 106:19,22 107:22 116:7,13 119:4 132:14 138:25	veterans 38:25 39:6 110:3 vetted 135:6 VI 33:11 viability 69:2 victim 139:1	wait 49:25 92:11 117:7 122:4 135:21 waiting 41:9 71:19 walk 141:8 walleye	8:14 26:19 29:8 32:20 35:24 36:19,24 43:14,16 55:11 60:16 67:23 82:9 83:1 88:4,16, 19,20
upshot 15:4				
uptime 44:23				
urge 148:23				
USDA 39:16	vantage 141:5			

MEETING
RESTORATION ADVISORY BOARD

May 20, 2026
Index: water-soluble..would've

89:5,6,7, 8,9,10, 11,19 97:15 115:15 116:4 118:4,14, 22 128:22 132:9 144:4	weekend 26:9 weeks 51:9,12 97:17 143:4 148:14 welcoming 10:11 Wellman's 106:23 wells 28:19,20 35:2 36:22 42:13,17, 25 47:25 89:17 113:22 118:3,12, 17 139:5 Wendi 152:4 whatsoever 88:6 wheel 136:7 whichever 35:10 47:12 84:4 whiplash 140:5 White 137:21 wholeheartedly 62:6 wholly 96:4 whoops	67:19 why'd 75:5 whys 85:25 Wiese 39:15,17 Wild 36:5,10 wind 116:7 winter 74:12 96:16 111:25 wisely 12:22 withdraw 79:24 80:1 withdrawn 82:21 witnessed 109:24 women 142:5 wondering 29:14 87:16 wood 115:17 119:19 words 68:7 112:22 work 5:14 12:3 13:10 23:22,23 25:12	32:24 33:5,11, 12,14,15, 17 34:18 35:9 41:18 42:9 46:25 48:25 51:11,12 69:21 73:10,14, 16 80:21 90:12 91:8 92:20 95:1 96:3,15 97:11,13, 15 98:1, 13 99:19 101:3 105:11 112:1,4, 13 117:9 125:8 127:10,19 130:20 132:15 135:7 136:24 149:3,4 150:10 151:20 152:13, 19,20 workable 137:1 worked 23:20 57:24 118:9 150:22 worker 151:20	working 7:25 10:15 23:16 24:12,19, 21 25:5, 21 32:17 40:8,22 41:13 42:11 46:18 48:5,6 71:16 79:14 84:13 90:25 95:7 112:22 121:10 130:14 131:3,4 138:10 145:25 151:23 152:2 153:4 workload 149:15 works 34:12 117:10 145:6 world 29:9 139:25 worst 95:11 worth 31:15,16 43:16 95:16 would've 93:23 94:1
---	--	---	---	--

MEETING
RESTORATION ADVISORY BOARD

May 20, 2026
Index: wrap..yesterday

145:19	144:24	63:22
152:2	146:5	69:9,10
wrap	149:14	73:25
10:23	150:6,12	75:1,20
131:5	Wurtsmith's	76:23
wraps	126:17	80:4
73:18	Wusterbarth	89:20
Wright-	8:12	90:10
152:17	28:7,8,11	96:10
Wright-patt	29:3	105:18
150:1	128:3	108:23
152:18	129:8,10	110:10
Wright-		114:18
patterson	y	121:8
8:24 50:3		126:5
writing	yard	132:22
139:21	119:14	136:17
140:11	yards	141:15
141:23,25	119:10	142:20
written	year	143:11
15:20	17:21	147:19,20
100:25	19:25	yellow
wrong	20:2,13	72:16
15:3	47:6 50:8	yeoman's
66:19	67:14	132:15
127:6	73:16	yesterday
wrote	81:9,11	20:13
49:19	98:23	27:1
Wurtsmith	106:21	33:23
5:4,15	107:1	48:19
6:1 7:24	114:6	49:8
9:9 12:1	115:10	111:23
13:21	120:2,3,	128:6,13
35:4	12,21	129:5
61:18	121:4,18	133:12,22
62:1 77:6	126:18,23	134:2
86:24	127:12	144:22
121:12	150:14	
125:22,23	yearly	
126:6,19	55:2	
140:2,11	years	
142:5	26:20,21	
	58:4	