# UNITED STATES ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS PUBLIC COMMENT MEETING FOR THE <br> SHALLOW LAND DISPOSAL AREA PROJECT PARKS TOWNSHIP <br> PARKS TOWNSHIP VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT <br> DALMATIAN DRIVE <br> VANDERGRIFT, PA <br> TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 27, 2012 <br> 7:00 p.m. 

TRANSCRIPT OF PROCEEDINGS


REPORTED BY:
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MR. JONES: Good evening. My name is Dan Jones. I'm from the public affairs office of the Corps of Engineers of Pittsburgh. I would like to welcome everybody and thank you for letting us come out this evening and talk to you.

By a show of hands, how many of you have never been to one of our public meetings before?
(Show of hands.)
MR. JONES: Good. There's a few new faces. Good to see. What we're going to do tonight is we're going to give you an update about where we are with this contract and introduce a couple new team members. Once Colonel Graham is done with his portion of this, we'll open up the questions.

Just to remind everybody, we're going to limit everybody to one question, one follow-up until everybody has had a chance to ask a question. If you have a another question, we could come back to you. If we run out of time, we'll have you stick around afterwards to talk to you, answer some of your questions.

If you have questions about, you know, private questions or questions just about your situation, we can do that afterwards. If that would be okay with everybody.

Also, if you haven't by now had a chance to, go ahead and put your cell phones on vibrate or turn your cell phones off.

Then we are also video taping tonight. The cameras are back there. So if you come up to answer questions, you will be on camera.

Okay. I'll turn it over now to Colonel Graham.

COL. GRAHAM: Again, good evening, and thank you once again for many of the familiar faces out there for coming out tonight and getting an update on where we're at with cleaning up of the nuclear contamination that's in your backyard.

First off, a couple of apologies. The first apology is, we normally would call the folks on the calling tree, we would call you about a week out. Then they would call you the night before and we had a delay. And I know that's caused some angst and some concern amongst members of this community. I
apologize for that.
This meeting is all about communication. And dog gone it, I started it off with poorly communicating. That's my fault and that shouldn't happen. We'll learn from that.

And that happened, we normally, we always call a week in advance and we didn't for a couple reasons. I'm not to going to make excuses, but explaining things to you. The first is the holiday being smack dab in the middle of it. And I've got one of my key individuals, Dan's boss, is deployed out as part of the Corps of Engineers hurricane Sandy response. He's been out there for about a month.

That's not an excuse, folks. We'll do better with that next time. And for those folks who that upset, I sincerely apologize.

The second thing I want to apologize for, particularly to the lady in the front row. No, I need to.

We took down some of the trees around the fence line to make sure that to kind of improve security conditions around the area. Those big weeds growing and small trees up
there, it didn't allow us to the see the fence line. We did that poorly. We did that inconsiderably.

UNIDENTIFIED WOMAN: Thank you.
COL. GRAHAM: We weren't good neighbors. And we should have been.

UNIDENTIFIED WOMAN: I think I deserve a Christmas present.

COL. GRAHAM: Absolutely.
UNIDENTIFIED WOMAN: Thank you.
COL. GRAHAM: We should have done that. We should have been more considerate with our neighbors up there. Because that's the way we treat this project. We're your neighbors. That's the charge I've given both the Corps employees and our contractors, our contractor suppliers.

So tonight, what I would like to, before I give you an update on where we're at with the project, we talked about that we're part of your neighborhood. And it's good to know who your neighbors are. I'm going to introduce you to two new neighbors here tonight. Many of you know, the Army is moving me out and replacing me with a much better
version. And so I would like to bring Colonel Bernie Lindstrom up here. Bernie is a local guy. He's been doing, working in the Army for a long time, knows the Corps of Engineers' business inside and out.

And a lot of you have taken over organizations or things you are passionate about in the past and you've had to turn over those organizations to somebody else when your time stewarding is done.

You always want to turn them over to somebody who is going to take what you've put your heart and soul into and make it better. I couldn't have possibly asked for a better person to turn over the Pittsburgh District to and to steward this project than Bernie.

COL. LINDSTROM: Thanks, Butch. And
it's just a pleasure to be here. I was actually born right down the road in

Monroeville. And grew up in the Laurel Highlands and joined the Army straight out of high school.

And after 20 years, they've seen fit to bring me back here to serve in the Pittsburgh District of the Corps of Engineers.

So just like Butch said, I think that this project should be a good neighbor. And we are going to do the best we can to be responsive and responsible to you in this community.

So I will be here to answer any questions you have afterwards, if you have any for me. But our next public meeting, you probably will not see Colonel Graham, you will see me. And you will see our new project that we...

COL. GRAHAM: Absolutely. So you're trading up. Better looking and smarter.

COL. LINDSTROM: Maybe I won't have to say as many apologies.

COL. GRAHAM: I hope not.

So the other new part of this neighborhood that we'd like to introduce. I would like to bring up Mike Helbling. Mike is our new project manager. So he'll have complete oversight over the entire project. And he's replacing Major Dan Elliot who, unfortunately, is going to be leaving the Army soon and moving on to bigger and better things.

I know we hate to see Dan go because he's stewarded this project magnificently. We are fortunate to have Mike join the team. So let me have Mike introduce himself.

MR. HELBLING: Hi, everybody. It's nice to be here. This is a great project. It's going to go very well. And I'm very excited to be part of it.

It's always interesting to come into a project that is already underway and to try and carry on what people have done before you. And we're going to try, both myself and Colonel Lindstrom, to do just that.

I came, I was originally also born here in Western Pennsylvania, in Wilkinsburg. I now live in Murrysville.

When I took the job with the Navy which was five years ago, I left Murrysville and I left my house. I spent three years trying to sell that house and I never was able to. So when I was -- and I still probably couldn't.

But I left Norfolk and took a job in DC, because I said this will be so much closer. I will be able to go home. But what $I$ found out was it would be almost as long to get to

Washington, DC as it did to get from Norfolk, which was 200 miles farther away.

So I enjoyed working for the Navy. The Navy's engineering corps, like the Army Corps is a great organization. And when I got the opportunity to both come home and stay with a great engineering organization like the Corps, it was a win-win for me.

They had an exciting job for me. I have friends in the community. I live close to the community and I do feel a certain allegiance to this project. And I hope very well that I can help you out and we'll be a success.

COL. GRAHAM: Thanks, Mike. Glad to have you on the team. We truly are.

Before we go into the project update, there are some folks I want to recognize that have joined us. Particularly, representatives whom are your elected officials over here. If I miss anybody in the end of this, I'll pause and see if we could get the other folks to identify themselves.

We've got the representative Kelly's office Ms. Carly Turk. Is she here? In the back. Good deal.

From Senator Tumi's office we've got Katlyn King. Katlyn is in the back as well. They're ganging up back there.

I always botch his name. Representative Evankovich, did I get that right? We've got another Katlyn. Katlyn Summers. They are all in a row.

Now, I know we were talking with Senator Casey's office. Were they able to get here tonight?

Any elected official that I missed that wants to be recognized? Ladies, thank you very much for joining us tonight and being part of this process.

I'm also certainly no stranger to this group from Armstrong County, chief of the emergency management, Randy, and I always botch up your last name, Brozenick.

MR. BROZENICK: Close enough.
COL. GRAHAM: How do you say it?
MR. BROZENICK: Brozenick.
COL. GRAHAM: I probably wouldn't be able to spell that. Thank you again for the Armstrong County team, as always, for joining us and showing that you're prepared for any
contingencies that we might encounter at the project site.

Anybody else that I missed, public officials?

Are the supervisors -- do we have supervisors here? From Parks Township?

MR. SHANNON: Bud Shannon.
COL. GRAHAM: Hi, Bud. Three of you? They are all lined up.

MR. DURIANCIK: Paul Duriancik.
COL. GRAHAM: Hi, sir. Glad you could join us again tonight.

MR. MONHEIM: Bob Monheim.
COL. GRAHAM: You usually sit together. Hi, Bob. Thank you for joining us tonight. Who else did I miss?

Gentlemen, thank you very much again for joining us.

We talked, we've got the new team, new neighbors coming on board. What we all understand is a lot of this project is about trust. And that trust we've got to earn from you every day. That's something we don't take for granted. That's something that we hold dearly.

Tonight is about maintaining that trust and that's a two-way communication. We want to tell you what we're doing with your tax money in your backyard and we want to hear from you what your concerns are. I've got a team of experts over here from the Corps. And if $I$ can't answer one of your questions, I'll ask them to see if they can answer it. If we can't get to it, we'll figure out what the answer is then get back to you.

So what we're going to work through here tonight is get a current project status update. And then we'll segue into what the future of the project is going to be. Since the last time we met back in 26 June, there was a lot of questions. A lot of big decisions that had yet to be made. And a lot of those decisions have been made. So I'm going to go over a little bit of that with you here tonight.

So the first of those big decisions was the government looked around and said is the Corps the best entity, the best agency to handle the cleanup of this site? And we went through a great four-month process which you
were involved in. Absolutely involved in. Your voices were heard, loud and clear. For the young gentleman in the back with the social studies books, this is your government at work. It really is. And it works. It does. It's not perfect. It's got its fits and starts, but it does.

And the decisions were made that the Corps was best suited to continue the cleanup of this project. And that's a great thing. We're proud of that and we're committed to that. Absolutely committed to that.

I've got to read my own notes here. I haven't quite gone to bifocals yet, but my time is near.

So the decision was made that the Corps is going to keep the project and we never really ever stopped. Those decisions were being reviewed currently with us moving forward. We were continuing to finish up work on the site. Demobilize the site. I'll explain what's going on in there in just a second. And all along we had been planning to award the next contract to do the next amount of work.

So I'm going to go over what's going on at the site right now. The contract with Cabrera Services, we've talked before about Cabrera, we've ended that contract. And they'll be, they are in the process of demobilizing. What that means is the equipment that's theirs and their subcontractors, they are pulling out of there. Probably the biggest visible sign of that are all those white tanks that were half way up the hill, that was a water treatment plant that we had used.

So you might be concerned, my goodness, they took the water treatment plant out of there. What's to protect us now? The water treatment plant that was on site and half way up that hill, all those big white tanks, what that did is that caught any rainwater that would come or any water that we used inside the big white tent that's at the very top of the hill, or any water that fell in the large parking lot that we used to sort material that's right beside the big white tent.

All of those two facilities, there's drains in those, kind of like parking lot
drains, drains inside the building. And all of that was plumbed down into that water treatment plant at the bottom of the hill. So whenever we were working on material up in there, the water that we would use and the rainwater that fell outside, we would push that down to the water treatment plant to make sure that any particles of contaminated material that were coming along in that water, that we removed those.

Now, that all the material is gone from laying outside on those pads or laying, or any water that we might need to use inside the building, all that work is done, the water treatment plant has no use. And but the contractor was charging us for it. So there's no sense for us to pay the contractor to provide us a piece of equipment that isn't connected to anything.

When the new contractor comes onboard, we'll revisit how we're doing water management on the site and learn what we need to learn from our initial contract this year and adjust accordingly. So the big water treatment plant that we moved out wasn't connected to
anything. It wasn't serving any purpose, so there was no sense in paying for it. Okay. We talked, we've been clearing some of the brush around the fence line. That's gone. I'm not sure what the gas company is doing out there, rerouting the gas lines.

Do you know, Dan?
MAJ. ELLIOT: Equitable Gas has been working at the site recently over the past few weeks and what they are doing is they're installing another line to divert around the project site. What that does is add to the safety to the community. And they want to make sure that they can access the lines without having to have escorts onto the site.

So what's taking place right now is strictly that. They are just installing another line to divert the gas line so they can properly serve the public in and around that area.

COL. GRAHAM: Thank you.
As the contractor demobilizes, and we are not digging anything up up there until we bring another contractor on board, you will still see site security out there. It will be
a little different than, perhaps, what you've seen in the past. But you'll still see guards out there. We're not going to pull the guards out of there completely. We will always maintain some presence on there 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. That's kind of the work that's going on right now.

What I would like to turn to now is what's going on in the future, which is near and dear to everybody's heart.

The big decision was made that we're going to continue to keep the project and we've been moving out on that. What we hope to do is to get, obviously, contracting language right now, a request for proposal, draft request for proposal. That's government contracting speak for we go out to the contracting community and say on a tentative basis, this is kind of the broad parameters of the work that we need done.

And we get feedback from the contractors on how many of them, what folks have the skills to do that job, how many are interested in doing that. And that gives us some feedback on what more information they might
need and what skill sets are out there.
Kevin, did I get that about right?
MR. LOGAN: Correct.
COL. GRAHAM: Kevin Logan right here in the blue tie, he's the project manager that's been working this new contract all along. He's in a pretty good spot right now. Kevin's been doing a magnificent job with that. We're in a good spot on that.

Our goal, I'm not going to pretend we're not having hard times here, but our goal is to get that new contract out on the streets this year. And in government time, that's this fiscal year which ends at the end of September. So by the end of September, we plan to have that new contract on the streets or Kevin is in trouble. But we're in a good spot with that.

As we go through letting that contract, one of the key things we're going to do is learn every lesson we can from the work we did this last year.

So we have the Valley News Dispatch reporter here tonight? Right in front of me. Thank you. I misspoke in that article.

That's my fault. I should have told Marianne. What I told her is that we got 20 percent of the material out of there. That's incorrect. I was wrong. We've dug up 10 percent of the material.

When I say 10 percent of the material, we did a volume calculation based on how much contaminated material we think is out there. And to date, we've dug about 10 percent of the material out of there. And I'll let Marianne know that. I just got the fact -- that was not her mistake. That was mine.

So we're going to learn. We've got a better understanding of what was dumped down in those trenches. We've got a better understanding of how to handle what was dumped down in those trenches and we're going to learn from that, so that the new contractor that we bring in and the plans that they follow to ensure that you are protected. We'll learn everything we can on that. Okay.

And we'll have a bunch of meetings and that we like to do and we'll make sure that all of that information is gathered. We're going to do that in conjunction, not just with
the Corps, but the rest of the state and federal planners. What I mean by that, part of that process will be the Nuclear Regulatory Commission. They are on board with us. The Department of Energy is on board with us, as well as EPA and Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection. They are all a part of that process.

When I talked to you before -- so that's how we're going to select a new contractor. We're also changing, as I told you a few times in two public meetings ago, we're changing the contractural vehicle. I use that government contractor speak term. We're going to change that contracting vehicle that we used to hire that contractor. What the heck does that mean?

What that means is, there's a bunch of different ways that we can hire a contractor. We can say how much is it going to cost to do that piece of work and they put in bids for that and we hire them and hold them do that price. That's called a firm fixed price contract. That's how we hired Cabrera.

There's a project that needs done and we
are, we bid that out. Bid -- I think that was the idea, contract right?

And they come back with a fixed price on how much this was going to cost.

Given what we know now, a better understanding of the site, we're going to go to what's called a cost plus contract. So the way that works is, the contractor does the work, figures out how much it cost to do that. We add in reasonable profit to that and that's what we pay.

The key point in all of that contract speak that $I$ just gave you is by switching from the firm fixed price contract to the cost plus contract, you take the incentive away from the contractor to just dig and dig and dig and dig. All right. Because he's only going to get so much money, so the faster he gets the project done, the more profit he makes.

With the cost plus contract, it puts the premium on making sure that we do it safely. And it takes the incentives away from doing it rapidly.

Now, coming along with when we do that,
though, like everything else, there's always the other side of the coin, right? We realize that when we switched to that cost plus type contract, we've got to be good stewards of your taxpayers' dollars. There's potential there that they could keep padding the cost. All right. So our oversight of the contractor has to go up accordingly.

So I've got to bring in more Corps folks to make sure we're looking over the new contractor's shoulders and that we're paying attention to everything they're charging us for.

Did I get that about right?
I'm about done talking and going to start answering your questions here in a second. There's one last piece that I'm going to bring to your attention. And I'm not sure, usually when I stand up in front of you I've done my homework and I know exactly what I'm talking about.

On this piece, the next thing I'm going to talk to you about, it's still evolving on what I've got to do. And I'll explain what that is. So I've got about 70 percent
understanding of what I've got to do next with this topic I'm about to share with you.

So there's some stuff that might change. I just want to be up front with you. But I'm committed to telling you that what we're doing and what we're thinking, we're going to share with you.

So this project is guided by two laws. The first law was written by Congressman Murtha. And it told the Corps to clean up that site. It said to clean up that site in accordance with the second law that is the comprehensive environmental -- CERCLA.

What's it stand for?
MR. LOGAN: Comprehensive environmental response compensation and liability.

COL. GRAHAM: Mere mortals know it as the Superfund Law. And in the Superfund Law, there's some safeguards that protect your tax money. And they protect your tax money from huge cost overruns on these environmental cleanup projects. These are good checks and balances that were written into the law.

One of those checks and balances, one of those checks is if cost goes up by over

50 percent of what you initially said it was going to be, then that triggers a review.

All right. Looking at the various numbers that are out there and what we said back in 2007 this was going to cost and what we think it might cost now, pretty much we've met that trigger. So now what happens? What does having met that trigger mean?

The deciding authority on this, unlike the last time we went through this summer isn't the folks at the higher levels of the federal government. The deciding authority here is the same level of authority that signed the guiding document that goes over how we're supposed to clean up this site. That guiding document is known as the Record of Decision. In shorthand term we call it the R-O-D or the ROD.

That document was signed by who, in essence, would be my boss, which is a general and my division commander. And a fella by the name General Berwick signed that back in 2007. And the Record of Decision is a public document that said, here's the problem and here's how the Corps of Engineers is going to
solve that problem.
The way we decided to solve this problem is pretty much what Congressman Murtha wrote in the law, which is clean it up. Which we've taken to mean dig it up and ship it offsite.

So since the cost increase has triggered a ROD amendment relook, my boss is now a lady by the name of Brigadier General Margaret Burcham. She will take a look and she's got to answer this -- I've got to answer this question for her. Question -- go back to my notes here for a second -- do these increase in cost, do these increases in cost have any great effect on the way we're cleaning up the site? Let me say that again. It's important that I get this right.

Do these increases, basically increases in costs, have any effect on the way we're cleaning up the site?

All right. So some of you have been at this a long time. Who was here when we did all the public meetings during the initial ROD amendment, the initial Record of Decision back in 2007? We had a couple people there. When you testified in public. I hope...
(Show of hands.)
COL. GRAHAM: Okay. That public
involvement is an essential part the initial Record of Decision and it's absolutely an essential part of a ROD amendment process. Okay. What your thoughts are.

So from looking at the entire project and the options to clean it up, if I had to answer this question for you today, do I see a different -- do I see that the increasing costs has any great effect on the way we are choosing to clean up that site? I don't right now. But I've got to answer that question. I've got to present that argument to my boss.

Now, there's a whole lot of public involvement that $I$ just spoke about that's part of this ROD amendment process. It's a good thing, right? We're spending your money, you ought to have a say in how we're doing it.

We're going to roll out in January, once we finish our homework and lay out exactly how the ROD amendment process is going to work, we'll lay that out. And we'll inform you about that. I'm going to guess some time in January or February we're going to meet with
you again and probably start to lay out to you what the exact process is and start soliciting comments from you in probably a formal fashion. But all that we're going to work on and communicate to you. Okay.

So some of you may be scared out there. Right? Good grief, does this mean that the Corps is going to just leave it? From where I sit and everything I see right now, never.

Okay. But, again, I've got to prove that to my boss. Okay. And you're going to be part of that process. All right. So that probably is going to raise a lot of questions here tonight. I'll do my best to answer them. But I want to be honest with you, that's where this project, as I look across my desk, I want to make sure that I'm sharing that with you. I want to make sure I'm sharing that with your elected representatives back here. Okay.

Let me see if I missed anything. I think that's it.

Dan, did I miss anything?
MAJ. ELLIOT: No, sir.
COL. GRAHAM: Major Elliot, did I miss anything? David?

MR. FROTHINGHAM: No, sir.
COL. GRAHAM: What we're going to do now is turn this over to questions and I'll do my best to answer your questions. Dan is going to go over what the rules are. I would just ask you to respect everybody else here. There's a large group here tonight and we want to make sure everybody's voices are respectfully heard.

Dan, do you want to go over the rules?
MR. JONES: Before we go on, that was my fault on the notification list. I'll make sure I do that better. I don't want the Colonel to take the heat on that one.

As far as the 10 percent of the material, that was again my fault. I will do better and make sure that doesn't happen again.

Before we get to the questions and answers, everybody, did everybody get a chance to sign in? If you weren't on the list make, sure you sign in. We're going to make sure we add your phone number to that phone list.

What that phone list is, is we will use that to notify you if there is a training
exercise or something, you know, going on at the site. So you don't see first responders and think something bad happened. We'll notify you beforehand, letting you know if there's something going on at the site that you need to be aware of. Okay. So if you haven't signed up, make sure we have your phone number.

And also verify your e-mail list, your e-mail so we could add you to the list. So I can make sure we get our news release sent out to you.

Okay. There's two podiums up here. We're going to ask that you come up to ask your question. We'll answer to the best of our ability. If we don't have the answer, we will get it for you.

If you don't feel comfortable coming up to the mic, we could get a mic and bring it down to you. Also, if you don't want to ask your question in public, we have comment cards. Or you can approach us after the meeting and we'll be more than happy to speak with you.

Okay. We'll open up for questions.

Patty?
MS. AMENO: First and foremost, I hope everybody had a wonderful Thanksgiving. I would like to thank Colonel Graham, Major Dan Elliot. And I look forward to working with Colonel Lindstrom. And Mike, I'll get your last name correct.

I would like to thank the elected officials from all levels, local and state and federal, for being here so close after Thanksgiving.

I have a couple questions, so I would like to get them in. Number one, I know that the Corps always, for the most part, video tapes. But this is only been the second instance where I've seen the court stenographer. Is this a hearing or a meeting?

COL. GRAHAM: It's a meeting.
MR. JONES: Just a meeting, ma'am. The main reason we have her here is just to make sure if someone would like to ask what was said during the meeting, we could provide that to them.

MS. AMENO: I just wanted to specify.
MR. JONES: Before you speak, please
state your name and speak slowly and clearly so she can get that.

MS. AMENO: Patty Ameno, A-M-E-N-O.
With respect to the Record of Decision, okay, and the amendment, this has been discussed. Will you try to go in to see if there is a possibility for a waiver versus an amendment? The amendment could actually cause longer delays. So what I'm trying to get at is a commitment to seek a waiver. If it's possible to even get that.

And coming under CERCLA, which is Superfund, it is my understanding that under Superfund, under CERCLA there are technical assistance grants that are available for the local community, which would be Parks Township, in helping to educate, trying to get some things out for the local government and for the local residents to assist them.

Could somebody at the Corps possibly look into that and assist with bringing that to for Parks township?

MAJ. ELLIOT: Yes, ma'am.
MS. AMENO: Other than that, when do you think we would know about this amendment and
how that would go?
And then my last question, Colonel
Graham, you estimated that the amount of waste that's been brought up so far is 10 percent. How do we know that and how can we rest on that when there's been huge data gaps in the amount of documentation from the companies to where they never documented with any type of certainty of what they buried? As a matter of fact, we have more information that it goes beyond.

COL. GRAHAM: I'll do my best to answer those, Patty. On terms of -- if some -- we don't have to do the ROD amendment and we don't have to go through that additional step, we can figure out a way not to do that, then, yeah, you bet.

Right now, my best understanding that that's what the law says. But you bet, we're going to go back and, hope and pride, and say isn't all that stuff that we went through maybe last summer, doesn't that count? We kind of reviewed this whole project soup to nuts and see if this is the best way to do it. We'll see.

But what I do like about the ROD amendment, though, is it gets you all involved. I know you're all involved here tonight. But it's another formal process to get you back involved on your thoughts on this project. And that's always a good thing, right? That's always a good thing.

On the technical service grants, yeah, we'll certainly take a look at. If there's funds available that we might be able to assist the local folks with some of the work that they've got to do. Because this thing's in their backyard, and we'll certainly take a look at that.

The volume is an estimation. And it is our best estimate of what we had expected to find on the site in terms of total volume and materials. Is it a hundred percent foolproof? Absolutely not. We haven't even, we kind of started on those two trenches. We got about half way down on both of them and we didn't get to the bottom. So we kind of see when we get to the bottom the next construction season on how far, how deep they go. So that 10 percent is just an estimation.

Next question, please?
MR. JONES: This gentleman here.

MR. NUGENT: My name is -- I have a loud
voice. My name is John Nugent. I recently moved to this area. I'm running for president of the United States in 2016.

The reason why I chose this specific area was my family is from Pennsylvania, Western Pennsylvania, Greensburg, is because the NUMEC issue. The issue of cancer epidemic is a horrific issue. I meet 19-year-olds getting testicular cancer -- the sound seems to be better at some point.

I meet 19-year-old boys getting testicular cancer. Twenty-four-year-old mothers, two with thyroid cancer. I appreciate the Colonel, you've stayed out of politics as a military officer. And Dan also a former Marine. This is not an area to discuss politics.

However, I do need to touch on some things. One, I think there's a big coverup going on here. The Wikipedia article on Salmon Shapiro --

MS. AMENO: I'm going to object to this
gentleman being here. I really do. This is the community. This gentleman is not here -bear with me -- this gentleman has an agenda and he is not from this area.

MR. NUGENT: Yes, I'm against cancer, ma'am.

MS. AMENO: -- you're from Saxonburg.
MR. NUGENT: I'm not from Saxonburg, I'm from Apollo, Pennsylvania.

MS. AMENO: No, you're not. You're from Saxonburg, John. Tell the truth.

MR. NUGENT: 681 Canal Road, Apollo, Pennsylvania.

MR. JONES: We're not here to talk about where people live. What we want to do is if you have a question, sir, please ask your question. If you have a follow-up, so we answer your question. I'm sure the residents here are pretty familiar with the details that you're talking about. But please, if you have a question, speak to your question, sir.

MR. NUGENT: Okay. I think there's a lot of fear suddenly in this room about what I just said. Read it, Wikipedia, Salmon

Shapiro --
MS. AMENO: I object. I object to you bringing this up at this meeting.

MR. JONES: Sir, Ms. Ameno, like I spoke to you earlier on the phone, what we're here to talk about today is how helping to clean up this site, sir. We want to stick to that topic --

MR. NUGENT: I will get to my questions. I was merely introducing openly my agenda. I believe that the Israeli government is killing people out there.

MS. AMENO: This is not the forum for this, John. I'm asking you to stand down from this type of rhetoric at this meeting. This meeting is for the people of this area on a cleanup that the Corps is conducting. This is not for you to panhandle your agenda of hate.

MR. NUGENT: Okay.
MS. AMENO: Sit down. Is there anybody that wants to hear him, speak up.

MR. NUGENT: You asked several questions. I'm about to get to my questions. I could have gotten to them five minutes earlier, Ms. Ameno.

All right. The first question is --
MR. JONES: One question and one follow-up, sir.

MR. NUGENT: She had more than one.
MR. JONES: We could come to back to you, sir.

MR. NUGENT: Well, short questions.
COL. GRAHAM: How about I give you two. Fair enough?

MR. NUGENT: Then I could come back?
COL. GRAHAM: Sure can.
MR. NUGENT: I'll ask this one question.
There were three possible perpetrators involved, NUMEC, Atlantic Richfield and Babcock \& Wilcox. Who was doing the dumping which has been causing this disaster for our area?

COL. GRAHAM: Is that your first question?

What is your second question, sir? I'll answer that together. Will you please ask your second question?

MR. NUGENT: My second question is, not long ago the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania and the federal government had a program to pass
out potassium iodine pills to people who merely lived near a nuclear power plant. Now, we've had a nuclear disaster already. We have a 20 percent higher cancer rate than Westmoreland County and Allegheny County, which have far more industry. It's a rural county.

What do you know about potassium iodine pills and shouldn't the people around here have been taking them because they help stop thyroid cancer and 24-year-olds who were born after NUMEC shut down are getting thyroid cancer in Apollo and I know them personally.

COL. GRAHAM: Thank you. I'll address your question. To the gentleman's questions on who's responsible. As part of the law, we told you that the Corps' involvement in this cleanup project is guided by two laws. One, the law that Congressman Murtha wrote and it referenced you got to follow the CERCLA rules.

In the Congressman Murtha Law it said and you've got to seek, and I'll use a lawyerly term here, cost recovery from the responsible parties. That's in the law. And I'll tell you is that Department of Justice
is, my lawyers don't go after corporations. We turn that over to the people's lawyer which is the Department of Justice and they go after the corporations and seek what the law says they ought to seek.

And so in this case, the landowner is BWXT. And I'm not a lawyer, sir, but some of the environmental liability is also held by the folks that BWXT bought the site from which is Atlantic Richfield. So the principal responsible party right now is Babcock \& Wilcox Technology, BWXT; Atlantic Richfield, which is now Atlantic Richfield British Petroleum, is part of, had part of the environmental liability. And that's probably as far as my lawyerly dissection of that can go.

The Department of Justice has a person assigned to this. They have all of the necessary access credentials to the information to make sure that they will seek recovery from to the maximum extent possible by the law from the people who put that material there. Okay.

On your second question, sir, I have
absolutely no knowledge on iodine pills or thyroid cancer. I can't speak intelligently to that at all.

So do we have another question out there?

MR. JONES: Right here with Mr. Hayley.
MR. HAYLEY: My name is Tom Hayley. And
I was an employee of West -- of NUMEC from 1970 -- 1960 to 1971 all during the time that the waste was buried. And I was an engineer there, deeply involved in the developing the process that lead to waste. So I have a intimate knowledge of the waste there in the trenches.

I want to make a comment about the ROD amendment process. But before I do, I want to point out that I hate to see something like this show up in the newspapers for someone to come to a meeting like this and attempt to get his agenda which has nothing to do with our process.

MR. JONES: Mr. Hayley, if you have a question, please state your question.

MR. HAYLEY: Thank you.
With regard to the ROD amendment
process, in the ROD amendment that I reviewed very, very carefully five years ago after the decision was made, I know a decision was made to remove all the materials because it was in the category of very low level category of waste. It was considered to be low level category of waste. So the decision was made based on that being a very low level category of waste.

Now, there was a Figure 1-1 called waste characterization in the ROD. That figure was based on a study done by $A R C O$ and $B \& W$ I believe in 1996. The study was flawed. Very deeply flawed. I have read this study. I know it. And but because of that study, the Corps of Engineers did their jobs, they reviewed that study. It was supposed to be a compilation of all of the types of wastes, all they knew about the wastes and all they knew about the waste that were in the trenches.

Now that we have more knowledge now based on the work that you've done as to what's in the trenches. Now, you don't change RODs, but what I'm thinking of, is there a possibility that since you've discovered more
information with regard to the level of waste we have there, the amount, the level and complexity of that waste, my question is, is there any possibility that when you revisit the ROD amendment, revisit the ROD and the amendment process, could the decision be changed to encapsulate it and leave it there? Or, could that -- that ROD was a Record of Decision, based on removing it all, could an amendment, the process cause it to, perhaps, be considered to be left in situ is my question.

COL. GRAHAM: Mr. Hayley, let's make sure I paraphrase that for the group. So it's I believe the point was, and sir, stop me if I get this wrong, if the cost went up, perhaps, the complexity of the task at hand also increased, would that change, again, a lawyerly term here, the remedy, how we're going to clean this piece up?

And the answer to that is, it has that potential. Do I see that as being a likely outcome of this? Everything I know right now, Tom, no. I don't. I really don't. We looked at this back in 2007 at great length and we
revisited those discussions at the senior levels of government all of this summer. And when those discussions were going on, germane to those discussions were the increase, perhaps, of the scope of the project and the level of stuff, the complexity of the material we were excavating and the increased cost.

Those were known to the group who were making those decisions. And a lot of this, how this is going to play out, we'll finish our homework on that and lay that out to you in great detail in the coming new year. But from everything that I know right now, and that could change, everything $I$ know right now, I don't see the fact that the remedy would change. The fact that the remedy being we dig it up out of your field and we ship it out of this community.

Please.
MR. HAYLEY: A short follow-up. Do you see and anticipate amending Figure 1-1 to incorporate characterization of waste that's more up-to-date based on what you've found so far?

COL. GRAHAM: And the answer to that,

Tom, is right now I don't know. I've got my teeth into this thing about last week. But I wanted to share what we're thinking right now with you so that in the upcoming new year, particularly, when Colonel Lindstrom and Mike Helbling take over, you just don't see something brand new and out of the blue. So I don't have all my homework done on this yet. And I know that. I just want to introduce to you that this could be coming down the road in the coming year.

And I'm not overly concerned about it changing drastically. What we're executing here is that potential there. Certainly, because that's what the law says. You need to go back and relook, and things changed and does that change your decision on how you're going to solve the problem. I'm not going to --

My boss has to independently make that decision. And she's a good boss.

MR. HAYLEY: Thank you.
MR. JONES: Before we get the next question, I would just like to remind everybody, please be respectful of each other.

When you come up, please ask your question and a follow-up if you have one. That way, we could move along, make sure everybody gets an opportunity to come up here and ask a question.

Okay, next question.
COL. GRAHAM: This fella is going to get out of here without asking any questions.

MR. JONES: Does anybody else have a question? This gentleman right here.

MR. ORSON: My question is -- Roy Orson, Kiski Township.

My question to you, that 10 percent of the material removed, are you judging, basing that on mapping of the site through ground penetrating radar, sonar? Or are you just relying on the corporate records which we know are inadequate at this time?

COL. GRAHAM: At this point I'm going to phone a friend. So David, come on up here.

MR. FROTHINGHAM: I'm David Frothingham from the Buffalo District. I was the project engineer during the investigation phases and I'm still involved now.

The answer to your question is yes. We
took all the investigative data. We poked holes in the trenches, around the trenches. We did geophysical surveys with electromagnetic technology that saw in the ground. And using all of our historical data, plus the data we collected, plus that, plus the survey data, we came to a volume estimate. An estimate of the volume of the material in the ground. So that's what we're basing that 10 percent on.

MR. ORSON: Second question, not a follow-up question. You cited the atomic materials for sure. Have you identified all the chemicals involved, some used to clean the equipment, some to used as a catalyst in a process, material some of the devices were made of and so forth. Have those all been identified for sampling or are you just soil sampling on the surface?

MR. FROTHINGHAM: We certainly have an idea of the chemicals based on the historical record and based on our sampling. We have to characterize anything that comes out of those trenches very carefully for disposal to meet the criteria that's required by the disposal
facility.
So certainly, we have the results from our investigation, chemical as well as radiological. But, again, there's a lot of uncertainty because of the historical record and because of the limitations in our samples.

COL. GRAHAM: The gentleman's point was, we're very, very cognizant of making sure that we keep you all safe. We're also very, very cognizant and we want to make sure we keep our workers safe.

And understanding within the broad parameters what the industry used, what potentially we might find down there. And we want to keep that potential as broad as we prudently should make it, so we're prepared for the worst case contingency. That's the way we approached this.

To revisit the nuclear waste and the chemical waste. What $I$ can do with your money, I can only do what you and your elected officials have given me authorization to do. And then what you've given me funds to do and appropriations to do. So if we need to do anything in your name, I need your authority
and I need appropriations from you.
So for this cleanup project, you've given me the authority to clean up nuclear waste and you've given me the authority to clean up chemical waste with nuclear waste mixed in with it. You have not given me the authority to clean up chemical-only waste. The landowner is still responsible for that.

And we have processes in place to handle that and those are primarily overseen by the state Environmental Protection Agency, PADEP. I know you've got some thoughts on that. But that's pretty much the way that law kind of lays itself out.

For the most part, and David, stop me if I get this wrong, everything we've excavated to date has been mixed waste. Is that accurate?

MR. FROTHINGHAM: Yes.
COL. GRAHAM: Okay. Did that answer your question to your satisfaction, sir?

MR. ORSON: Yes.
COL. GRAHAM: For tonight at least.
MR. JONES: Next question? We have this gentleman.

MR. LINDQUIST: My name is John
Lindquist and I'm with the Kiskiminitas Watershed Association. I'm here with some of my board members. And we have a concern. A couple years ago we worked with the office of the surface mining. And we put in a passive treatment system to address abandoned mine drainage on the Booker property. And the drainage enters, eventually enters into Carnahan Run. And we sample that quarterly for abandon mine parameters of iron conductivity and so forth. What we want to know is, should we be -- are we at risk in sampling that because of the proximity to the site?

And also, are you sampling, doing any sampling on that discharge? And there's also another discharge halfway down from that discharge to the -- on Carnahan Run to the Kiski River.

Now, for the past 11 years, we have been stocking trout in the Kiski River and a lot of fishermen fish right at the confluence of Carnahan Run where it enters the Kiski.

And also, more people are using the

Kiskiminitas for recreational purposes. Are you doing any sampling for your parameters at that spot?

And also the Kiskiminitas River is the largest tributary to the Allegheny River, which flows in to Pittsburgh. And should we -- we have to be concerned about that, too.

COL. GRAHAM: I'm not sure I can adequately answer anything right now because I'm not even sure where Carnahan Run is.

Dan, do you know specifically?
MAJ. ELLIOT: Sir, my suggestion is because it's a very important issue, it's a very detailed question, sir, if you would please get with me after this meeting and I'll detail your concerns and I will get back to you and your committee. Because I think this is something we definitely need to answer for you. And without the illustrations and without the water sampling in front of us right now, I think it's best if we could answer the question. So if you will allow me that afterwards, would that be okay?

COL. GRAHAM: That's probably the best.
I can't answer right now with those detailed
specifics. I would like to sit down with you with our folks and get out a map and see exactly what you're talking about.

But I can answer your question, at least address pieces of it in a very broad sense, if you'll allow me. The Corps, with the other jobs that we do here in this watershed are very, very involved, as you're well aware of in the Kiski Valley. We've got, just upstream here in Saltsburg we've got two magnificent reservoirs on the Connemaugh and on the Loyalhanna Rivers. And they serve you magnificently. And I'll just put that in the context for you, hurricane Sandy just rolled through and dumped a tremendous amount of rain in the Connemaugh River basin. About five inches of rain, if I remember. Which is a tremendous amount of rain in a very small period.

When my engineers ran the numbers, if Connemaugh reservoir and the Loyalhanna weren't there, I think the water in the Kiski River here at Vandergrift would have gone up 17 feet. So those two reservoirs sit up protecting you day in and day out.

In the summertime, we see the canoers there at Saltsburg, which I know you're a big part of, sir. A lot of the reason that that's there is because they continue to have a good flow of water coming out of Connemaugh and Loyalhanna reservoirs. That continues to do what those upland of the structures we talked about, continue to help dilute the acid mine drainage the non-point source solution exactly hits.

Just as a reminder to everybody, the states have primacy, Pennsylvania has primacy on the water quality. But you can't separate water quality from water quantity. The old saying: The solution to pollution is dilution.

So the Corps has 16 reservoirs that we operate in your name around the upper Ohio River basin. We operate that in conjunction with the states to meet a lot of the water quality targets.

Everybody is familiar with the Kinzua reservoir. That big, giant reservoir we've got up there on the Allegheny River near the New York border. A lot of the water we dump
out of that reservoir is to meet water quality targets that we monitor with the states, right downstream of where the Kiski dumps in. Kiski has been one of the more polluted rivers, although it's taken more magnificent strides here in the recent history. And, sir, your group certainly can take great credit for a lot of that.

And a lot of the reason for that is being Pittsburgh municipal water intakes are just downstream from that. So it is a very integrated system and those reservoirs protect you not just from the big springtime floods when the snow melt hits or when a hurricane rolls through here, we also provide a source of continuous water during the dry periods like we've experienced in the summer.

That was a very broad answer to your question. And we are very, very involved in the Kiski Valley. It's tremendously important to us. The specifics of your question, again, see Major Elliot after this. We'll see if we could answer your concern.

See if anybody has a first question.
MR. JONES: Does anybody else have a
question who hasn't asked one already?
COL. GRAHAM: The three fellas are back. Did they come up with some better questions?

MR. JONES: This gentleman right back here.

MR. CARSON: Yes. I'm new here and I've just got simple questions. A couple.

MR. JONES: Can you state your name, sir?

MR. CARSON: Yes. I'm Jim Carson. I live in Parks Township.

And your estimate is you've removed 10 percent of offending material. Does that mean that you will have to remove nine times as much material as you've taken out already? And will it take, if it took five years to get the first 10 percent, will it take five years to get the next 10 percent and five years after that? Is it linear? Is there a baseline and then a sharp upturn? Can you describe that overall?

COL. GRAHAM: The 10 percent is by volume. Contaminated volume. We hope that it's not linear. But what we want to get to is, you know when you start out something that
there's things you need to learn. Despite everything they've talked about, surveys, the surface we dug down where we could, we looked at the historical records as we completed some of this, what we believe it to be.

But we know we really aren't going to know what's there until we very carefully dig it up.

What we want to get to is a new contractor. In particular, looking forward, is to get a contractor that is prepared for a whole range of contingencies of contaminated junk that they dig up. And that they can handle excavating contaminated soil and junk as routinely.

There's an old saying that some of you veterans back there may know, slow is smooth and smooth is fast. Our goal is to get to smooth. We want the contractor to get into that spot where we know how to process the material we're digging up out of here. When they learn what contaminations are there and figuring how to safely handle that material and then moving it out of this community. And we're committed to get to that smooth stage.

When we get there, I don't expect this thing to putz along in a linear fashion. We'll get to I think the pace of removal will then pick up at that time. That's my best understanding. That's our goal. That's what we're shooting for to get to that smooth stage.

Did that scratch your itch, sir? Did that somewhat answer your question?

MR. CARSON: Very vaguely.
COL. GRAHAM: Okay. That's about the best -- that's our goal, absolutely.

MR. CARSON: So you really don't have a handle on the baseline yet?

COL. GRAHAM: We have our best estimate, now that we have a better understanding of the 10 percent of the stuff we dug up that will inform our estimate revisions moving forward. That's kind of what Tom, Mr. Hayley out there was alluding to, was that going to influence how we clean it up.

And from what I'm seeing right now, if we leave it there and try some other scheme, what I'm seeing right now, since it's my boss' decision, $I$ don't see that changing what we're
going to do which is dig it up and get it the heck out of here. But that's her decision to make.

We struggle daily with trying to get to a good baseline. Because that baseline drives the cost estimate and the time estimate, that is what we are paying the bills, which is you are.

MR. JONES: Next question? Someone who hasn't asked one yet.

The lady back there.
MS. MORROW: Anita Morrow. With that being said -- Anita Morrow. My father actually worked up there. He was a guard at the facility for 32 years, as well as her husband here.

My question is, that concerns me, what you just said. Because if it is, if there's dangers up there, we all know it's guarded, the whole nine yards. I mean, to me, as citizens of this area, now you're saying we don't know. It's up to so and so, whatever. That to me is disconcerting and alarming. I mean, I know you can't tell us something you don't know. But I think it's almost like you
already got things rolling. Things have to be taken care of. It can't be stopped now sort of midstream.

COL. GRAHAM: And your question is, the fact that we don't -- there is some ambiguity in what type of material might be down there and the fact that we might change what our method cleaning it up is. Both of those questions concern you?

MS. MORROW: Yes. Are you going to -just cap it off and say C'est la vie? I mean that's a concern when we live around this vicinity.

COL. GRAHAM: Absolutely. And that's kind of the root issue $I$ think that Tom was bringing up and Patty alluded to earlier. And when we, when it was brought to my attention that we might have to revisit the ROD and do an amendment process, well, I gathered the community is going to be very concerned about this. We're very concerned. We're very concerned about it.

The guiding laws, primarily the law that Congressman Murtha wrote was the Corps has got to clean it up. To the best of our knowledge
right now, none of my smart people have come up to me and said there's any other way to achieve that other than to dig it up and move it off site. That's my best understanding of what I know right here.

Now, again, my boss has to look at that and see if anything, since the cost changed, does that change tremendously those decisions.

MS. MORROW: I was just going to say to him, what he's saying though, we're going to look at the costs. And but the company wasn't forthcoming. They don't even know what's there. Now that they are finding there's more there, are they just going to put a lid on it or are they going to thoroughly remove it? I mean that's the bottom line. Are you going to do it or aren't you going to do it?

COL. GRAHAM: They is us, right? From everything I know right now is we're not going to change how we're going to clean up the site. That was written into the law.

Now, I've got to lay that out for my boss and she's got to make that judgment on her own. And that's good.

MS. MORROW: You have to show the
evidence, in other words, and then make decision.

COL. GRAHAM: That's right. So I can't promise you 100 percent and put a period behind that. But from my analysis, what all my smart people are telling me, that's where I think we are. And if I didn't think that was the case, boy, I would let you know. I would let you know. General Burcham will make up her own mind.

On the exact characterization of the material and we tried to worst case this and are prepared to, when we start digging, make sure that were prepared for a wide range of material that we expect to be down there. And that wide range of material is listed in that public document that helps her make that decision. Okay. It is scary stuff.

MS. MORROW: Yeah.
MR. SECREDO: My name is Bill Secredo.
Colonel Graham, what if your boss says no? Is that a possibility?

COL. GRAHAM: Sir, it could always be a possibility. She's going to make her
independent assessment. That's what the law
says she has to do. She's going to stick to that, if we've got to go through this ROD amendment process. And then she'll explain why she made the decision she made. We're accountable to you for that decision. Okay. That's the way the process, the way the laws are written.

MR. SECREDO: What happens to the project if your answer is it's too expensive, we don't have the funds?

COL. GRAHAM: Then, sir, we've got to explain that to you. Stand up in front of you --

MR. SECREDO: What happens? What happens? I mean you could explain that the answer is no, but what happens?

COL. GRAHAM: As part of that, there has to be another solution. The law says and, Dan -- it says clean up the field. Is that about right? Did -- I think that's almost the exact language in accordance with CERCLA.

And we looked at it and it's a decision to get to that, how do you clean up the field, the only way we know how to do that is dig it up and get it out of there.

So if my boss comes back and says no, then we've got to come up with another remedy that cleans up that field. I don't know what that would be, to answer your question.

MR. SECREDO: So there's no answer as of now?

COL. GRAHAM: Any alternatives past that, I don't know of any. My smart team doesn't know of any.

Will my boss ask me that question? More than likely. And I'll probably answer exactly as I have to you, sir. So I don't know of another way to do this and meet what the law says I'm supposed to do.

You asked another wonderful question. I can segue on your question, which is funding. Right? I explained that. I need appropriately your authority, your permission and your elected officials, and I need access to your tax dollars. Appropriations.

And right now, I've got sufficient funding to handle this. We budget things year to year. And so looking out at, kind of look two or three years out in advance, we're sitting okay in terms of funding to meet our
needs for what we have projected.
I think I talked to Marianne Thomas of the Valley News Dispatch that we were in a good spot and I still think that's the case. That's my honest assessment of where we're at tonight.

MR. JONES: Next question. This gentleman back here.

MR. MCMASTER: My name is Michael
McMaster. I've been a citizen of Apollo/Vandergrift area for a couple years now off and on. I went to Kiski Middle School and high school.

My two questions are going to be really quick and simple. I'm just down in the area. But you say you guys dug up 10 percent in volume of the contaminated material and it took five years to do so. If that's the case, just simple math, 90 other percent of the volume is still out there. If it takes five years to do 10 percent, that's 45 years. I'll be well into my 50s. And I hate to say it, but half these guys will be gone. If that's the case, why would it take that long?

And you're saying two to three years you
guys are sitting pretty, still on taxpayer dollars. My question is, is it going to take 45 years? Do we have a definite time zone of how long it's going to take.

And the second question is, you guys that are cleaning it up and transporting it out of here, while you're transferring it out of here, how can you ensure us citizens that it's being sealed up properly and no contamination while the drivers of the trucks are transporting this?

COL. GRAHAM: Where did you say you went to high school at? They taught you well up there.

MR. MCMASTER: Kiski High School graduated -- I went -- I actually --

I didn't have a very good childhood. I was in foster care while $I$ was at Kiski. But I graduated from an old hick town school called McGuffey High School out in Claysville. My graduating class was 43 and I graduated with a 3.8, so...

And I service military.
COL. GRAHAM: Those are truly wonderful questions. So five-year piece to dig up 10
percent. We were only truly doing the excavation work before our contractor made the mistake, which I briefed you on before, we were only digging for about a little over a month.

And so the other gentleman's question, once we get to smooth, and we can readily handle the material that's brought up, it won't take 90 percent longer. Public math. I'm glad you're doing that for me. That's what we don't expect.

But here's the deal. We're going to go through this, an evaluation process. We're bringing on a new contractor, how they plan to do this. I want to make sure that whatever I'm promising to you is at the high end of how long this thing's going to take. Okay. It's the under promise/over deliver. All right. Because that comes with a cost. And you got to know kind of what the high end of that cost is going to be. And the high end of how long is this going to take.

The number one priority is to do this safely and on an efficient basis. Get contamination out of your neighborhood as
readily as possible. Paramount, though, is that we do it safely.

The transportation of the material on the highways is in conjunction with all of the applicable highway transportation laws. That's what keeps you safe. The contractor that we hire is, this is where I'm going to be in ground here to make sure you guys keep me straight, they are an accredited contractor to move that material. And they do this all the time. Nuclear waste like this moves on your highways quite regularly. Probably more regularly than you and I envision. And there's rules and procedures set in place for that. And those rules and procedures are what we ensure our contractor follows.

David, do you want to add anything to that?

MR. FROTHINGHAM: No.
COL. GRAHAM: Okay. So this isn't unique in terms of the fact of putting this waste on the highways. That is a fairly, that happens fairly regularly throughout the country.

MR. JONES: We have another question
here.
MS. WILHELM: My name is Brenda Wilhelm. I guess my concern is, is most of the meeting, correct me if I'm wrong, but most of the meeting so far has been kind of centered around 10 percent, five years; 9 percent 45 years. It doesn't matter to me how long it takes as long as it's done correctly, safely, with the citizens of the area in hand.

My question is, and I'm looking at your little sheet that you handed out. Having been in the emergency field for 30 years and emergency medicine, I know living up there, one of the bigger concerns of the residents is an emergency evacuation plan. I understand things have stopped right now. But emergencies happen when we all least expect them. We still have nothing.

I'm looking at this document here and it says we'll call 911. Okay. And then they'll call the fire department and they'll call the police department and they'll call the ambulance service. But yet, we still have 55 residents of homes sitting up there with no such notification. There's many of us with
small children. Those with grandchildren that are very concerned with them. And we're stuck on a hill with one exit. Unfortunately, it comes right down past where you folks are at.

I guess my big thing is, I want to see my fellow neighbors protected in some way. More than a sheet of paper that says I'm going to call 911. Okay. You can call 911 all you want, and these guys do a great job, don't get me wrong, I'm friends with all of them, but that doesn't get me, my family, my friends and the rest of the neighbors off of that hill safely.

COL. GRAHAM: Mr. Director, could I get you to address that and we'll follow behind you with additional questions.

MR. BROZENICK: We've looked at some of those issues. We've worked on some notification systems. We don't have it yet. We're close to having it now. Which that notification is kind of what we call reverse 911. So that we could send that out and it will call that number until somebody answers.

MS. WILHELM: We've been working on this for a while now and if it happened
yesterday -- $I$ was just making a smart medical comment about I understand they are working on their project. And I appreciate that. And I know that it takes time because I had previously been emergency management coordinator. So I can appreciate what they are doing. But this has been ongoing now for five years, something like that. And we have nothing.

So if it happened yesterday, my smart comment was I didn't have enough toilet paper and tennis shoes in my house to get me off that hill safely. That's my concern.

I mean this is something that $I$ think needs to take priority over -- and don't get me wrong, guys, $I$ know there's many things out there that are important in many people's eyes, but unfortunately, this is important in my eyes and many of us that are here. How do we get off that hill safely with one exit?

MR. BROZENICK: Through the planning process, one of the things we have set up is the notification to us well ahead of time that we can get the information out to you folks to get you out of there before this is a major
incident.
MS. WILHELM: I guess I misunderstood what you said. They are going to call you yesterday and tell you it's going to happen tomorrow?

MR. BROZENICK: No. We're in direct contact with them all the time. If they see something that's happening, they are going to call us early enough that we can try to get everybody out. If something happens, no matter what system you have out there, there's going to be a period of time there that if you got to get out, you got to get out. I mean, we can't control if that incident happens.

What we're trying to do is set this up so there's early enough detection that we can make that call and start evacuating before it becomes an incident. That's what we're trying to do. We're trying to build that rapport with these guys so we can actually do that and get you guys out as soon as we can.

MAJ. ELLIOT: This is one of the major reasons we're working to develop the phone calling system. And one of the major reasons why we asked you folks please share your
contact information when they come in. That helps me with the identification process.

COL. GRAHAM: Ma'am, let me just, we'll bring up my emergency management folks who are working closely with Armstrong County and kind of set the stage on what we have been working on. But the notification pieces are a lot of the challenges in making sure the local officials that you go to for any emergency, that's still the central point of contact.

And we've been working with the folks you've got there at the township level and county level to make sure they know what we're doing. But you can always get better at that. You've got some of the first responders onto the sites so they can see what work is going on there. We've given them some training on what some of the hazards are on that site.

I think, ma'am, if I heard your question correctly, a lot of it is how is the notification going to work. Mr. Director talked about the reverse 911 is one of the tools that we have in the tool box.

Jim, do you want to come on up here and take that microphone over there and I'll let
you and the director add on to other pieces of that?

But before $I$ come off of that reverse 911, one of those tools in the toolbox, we expect that the earliest would be early -it's going to take me a few months if we get everything done right. And that's more than six before I'm ever going to start digging again.

Do we think we would have just at least one of those tools, the reverse 911, would that be completed before six months is up?

MR. BROZENICK: We've got the data to look it up now.

COL. GRAHAM: Jim, do you want to add anything to that?

MR. CHRIST: Just as a comment. If you look around at the meetings, Chief Chiuca has been here, Randy Brozenick, Vince Cappo from the county have been here at all of our meetings. And we've always worked to get to, one, safety first, and a clear, cohesive and seamless response capability as it flows from inside the gate to our first responders.

We have police, fire, EMS and the hazmat
folks have been on site prior to our breaking ground in 2011. As we move forward and looking into the future, we know things we've done already that have been successful. The road master improvement, as far as all the fire departments in the area, the reverse 911 system and the county chooses to implement.

In an emergency, you never have enough time. You always want to buy every single minute that you can to posture yourself for a response. We're working with the township on an evacuation plan. But everything needs to be improved.

When we get a contractor on site and we start the mobilization process, exercises in proficiencies will be built and things we've learned from the past. We will revisit and we will find out where our gaps are and fill those gaps in response, working with our local and county responders.

COL. GRAHAM: You brought this tremendously important question. So I'll break it down into kind of two pieces in my mind. One, it's, the plan is continuously worked on. The plan from the first
responders, the plan with what we're doing on the site, the plan with the rest of the local officials.

The second piece, though, is connection with the people that could be affected. How that works. And that's continuously changing. You people are coming in, other folks move away. So that process on making sure you're stitched in, how you could be notified, that has to be ongoing as well.

In fact, it puts you on the spot a little bit. Recommendations to improve that process going forward, yet we would be interested in hearing your feedback, ma'am, on how can we improve what we have right now. Obviously, there's some communication shortfalls there.

MS. WILHELM: I don't think right now is the time to discuss. I would be glad to at any point in time. I don't think right now is the time to take up everyone's time. I'm sure they have other important questions.

But, you know, like I said, you can't -I understand emergencies happen at the least wanted time. But I also know that if the

Allegheny or Kiski River were to flood, there's a contingency plan for those people who live along those riverbeds as to what to do, where to go and how to get the hell out. We have nothing. From day one we have nothing. Which concerns me.

And I've been up there for 15 years. I knew Parks Township had a nuclear site in it when I moved here. And I moved here. So I mean, yeah, that was my problem. And I'm here to deal with that. But the fact that my family and my friends and my neighbors' security is now the utmost, I think we need to work on getting something to these before an emergency happens.

I mean when an emergency happens, you guys are going to be running around doing your thing. Everybody else is going to be running around doing their thing. And the people who live up there are going to be sitting in their houses and saying what the hell do I do?

COL. GRAHAM: Director, do you want to address that at all? And then I'll make some comments here.

MR. BROZENICK: That is actually, this
afternoon we were sitting down and we were discussing those issues. What we want to do and I'll just throw it out there now and we just talked about it today. We want to try and develop this. We realize that it's not up there right now. We want to develop it and get those out so you have them.

There is, your local emergency manager has a plan. And there is some things in there for evacuations. I think what we're looking at is, one of the issues that we're looking at is the emergency management has a plan. But you folks don't know it. So we need to do something to get something to you folks so that you know what to do when that happens.

We know as emergency managers what we want to happen. And maybe we haven't put that out enough to you folks so you folks don't --

MS. WILHELM: I guess, how I'm looking at it is, if you're the coach of a football team, you know what plays you are going to run but the people standing in the field or sitting in the seats have no idea until that play is run what's going to happen. You guys can draw up a ton of pictures, you know, as to
if this happens we will do this and if this happens, we could do this.

But these people out here don't know anything. They just need a little bit of direction as to what to put in their pockets to take down off that hill. We all set the case by the front door with clothes in it and a roll of toilet paper and medicines, that if this happens, do we grab that and go? Or do we just lock our windows and say it's been nice, here we are. See ya.

COL. GRAHAM: So what I'm going to take out of that, ma'am, is that's certainly one of our do outs the next time we meet is, how we stitch into the plan we've got and how we're working to improve that plan. How we can make that that we collectively are communicating that to the folks involved. Is that fair enough?

MS. WILHELM: Thank you.
MR. JONES: Sir, I have a gentleman back here that has a question along the same lines.

UNIDENTIFIED MAN: My question is
defending her is, you say you're using
taxpayer dollars, correct, our funding. You
have our authority to do this. Why can't there be an evacuation road built? Why can't there be another way off that hill?

I mean, so you say there's one way off that hill. What if there's a spill right near that hill? There's got to be another way off that hill.

Unless they build another road to get off that hill. If you're using our taxpayer dollars already, why not use it put it to an exceptional use and build a road off the hill?

COL. GRAHAM: I pretty much can't get into -- I can't answer specifics of that right now. But as we revisit the entire emergency management scheme, for lack of a better term, that's certainly part of the how does the Kiskimere residents get off that one-way-up one-way-down road.

MR. JONES: Next question. This lady here.

MS. MARKO: I think that --
MR. JONES: What's your name, ma'am.
MS. MARKO: My name is Fran Marko from Parks Township. This girl is my -- I wanted a road out of there for years now. What I want
to know is, when these companies were working, there wasn't even a fence around it. And now, there's walls, fences and guards with rifles. I want to know how dangerous that place is.

COL. GRAHAM: Okay.
Go ahead, let her make a comment and I'll try to get it all at once.

UNIDENTIFIED WOMAN: I appreciate that, because I do live by that fence line and my children play by the fence line. Whenever they do approach the fences, the guards come, running around screaming ten year olds. Why is it protected so heavily if there's really nothing going on? But why are they even like, our kids playing by there. Are our kids safe to be playing by that fence in our front yard or should they not be playing in the front yard?

COL. GRAHAM: What's dangerous, ma'am, that was your question? And are our kids safe?

UNIDENTIFIED WOMAN: How dangerous.
COL. GRAHAM: How dangerous. Okay. If there was any danger coming from that site, we would let you know. My job is to make sure
that there isn't. That is from any nuclear material that might be mishandled, that is from any information that might go out that might put you at risk. And that is certainly from the work we're doing onsite. That's why we built a road down the middle to take heavy truck traffic off of Kiski River Road so they wouldn't be near where your children are playing. And the guard force that we have out there are all well trained. And they've got strict rules on when they are supposed to use force and when not. So are your children safe playing in the yard? Yes.

If you feel they are not, I would be happy to have a long conversation. So the dangers on the site coming off. If we do our job right and our contractor follows the rules right, like they didn't before, which is why they are no longer working for us, then it's safe. And I know that's a scathingly big fence. It's razor wire, it's concrete barriers, there's guards. And all that is to make sure that we stay safe. I don't want any material to leave that site when it ought not to leave that site.

Because that makes us unsafe.

And our folks handling that material, how they go about handling it, I got to make sure they keep themselves safe and I got to make sure they keep you safe.

UNIDENTIFIED WOMAN: Make sure they get a road.

COL. GRAHAM: Can I get other peoples' first questions and we'll come back to you.

MR. JONES: This gentleman right back here has a question.

MR. STEEL: Todd Steel. Do you know the worst case scenario?

COL. GRAHAM: So the question was, do we know the worst case scenario. Here's what I believe the worst case scenario is: The main, and this is why I've got my smart engineers sitting here out there, the main contaminant we're dealing with out there is uranium 235. David, is that correct?

MR. FROTHINGHAM: Yes.

COL. GRAHAM: My layman's understanding, the dangers of uranium 235 are it's a heavy toxic metal the same way as, say, lead or chromium is. If you ingest that, it's toxic
just like any other toxic heavy metal is. I believe uranium attacks your liver, is that correct?

MR. FROTHINGHAM: Yes.
COL. GRAHAM: That's the first danger that uranium poses. If you ingest a bunch of it, it acts like mercury or lead poisoning. It affects your organs.

The second danger with uranium 235 is it decays with alpha particles, which is a low energy particle. As opposed to an, say, like an x-ray. Right. It's a very low energy particle. Your skin stops those particles. So the danger with those alpha particles is if you breathe them in and those alpha particles start attacking the relatively vulnerable and unprotected lung tissue. That's the second danger as I understand it with uranium 235. You don't want to inhale contaminated particles.

And the third big danger, and this is to answer your question directly, which is the worst case scenario, if you get too much of that material, too much of uranium 235 in one spot at one time, the particles that are
coming off of it start knocking particles out of the site off. And then you get what's called a criticality event. Some of us, it's not necessarily a nuclear explosion, but it's akin to that. That's the worst case scenario.

So how do you prevent that? You make sure you measure what you've just found and you make sure that you don't get enough material in one spot at any one time that you could have a criticality event. That's what our contractor violated before. He didn't follow those rules.

We went back and checked the material he put in one spot, there's no danger of anything bad happening. But he didn't follow that safety -- they didn't follow that safety step. And they absolutely have to. And we're going to make sure that the contractor we're bringing on to replace them absolutely is going to follow those safety steps.

And so, making sure that we don't put too much of that material in any one spot at any one time is absolutely paramount to making sure you're safe. The key to that is measuring what it is you just dug up. So
that's the worst case. And it wouldn't be like a Hiroshima bomb going off. It would be a release of radiation. A release of energy.

I don't know how to characterize it better than that. But it wouldn't be kind of what's in your mind's eye of a large nuclear explosion. That contaminated material would be strewn about and that's certainly something we don't want. And my workers who would be right around that would probably be harmed and that's unacceptable.

MR. JONES: The next person who hasn't asked a question yet?

MS. MCGUIRE: My name is Evelyn McGuire. I do live in Parks Township. My husband was a security guard at NUMEC for 32 years. He is deceased now. My question is, will that place ever be cleaned up to have a children's playground or a senior citizen's walkway and a safe place to walk for each and every one of us here today?

COL. GRAHAM: David, the guidance that we're given in terms of the standard we have to clean it up to, we have to meet what standard?

MR. FROTHINGHAM: The land use that we're cleaning this site up to is the most conservative, the most stringent. It's the subsistent farmer. It's basically unrestricted release. That's what the law tells us to clean it up to right now.

COL. GRAHAM: Say that again. And I'm going to do question and answer with him on what he just told you. There's a standard we have to clean that up to. And on cleaning up hazardous waste sites, there's a whole bunch of thresholds. And what's the least conservative?

MR. FROTHINGHAM: If we clean up to something like an industrial standard, a place that's never going to be used for anything but heavy industry. The contamination that's left behind would be at an elevated level because the exposure, people won't get exposed because they are just going there to work a few hours a day at an industrial site.

COL. GRAHAM: You see that along the rivers a lot. Where some of the old steel mills were and whatnot. But our standards that we're cleaning it up to is much more.

We're going to clean it up to a much higher standard. That standard is the top standard that there is. And that's if somebody grew food on it and ate that food, it would be okay. Is that correct?

MR. FROTHINGHAM: Correct.
COL. GRAHAM: That's what we call the subsistent farmer standard. If you live there and you grew a garden and you had to survive off the food in that garden, that's the highest standard there is.

MS. MCGUIRE: How many years is that going to be that we could put a garden there? I'll tell you, I'm not putting no garden there. I guarantee you.

And another thing, you're spending all this money for cleaning up, that's far more than any one of those NUMEC employees ever had. And there's NUMEC employees here. I don't know all their names, but my husband Skip did.

COL. GRAHAM: We have one right here.
MR. HAYLEY: Yes.
COL. GRAHAM: Mr. Hayley in the front
row.

And to answer this gentleman's question with it's written into the law that we will seek, legal term, cost recovery from those corporations that are responsible.

MS. MCGUIRE: You know, this is a very sad situation for this little community. We are all happy, happy people. Then we have to look at something like this? I know you're trying to help. You're doing your darn best. Good luck to you.

COL. GRAHAM: Let's keep going. See who else...

MR. JONES: Has anyone not asked a question who wants to? The gentleman way in the back.

UNIDENTIFIED MAN: I'm a little
dehydrated. Like everyone else, I've been here for a while. I've been in Apollo, basically over the past two years. I'm currently moving to Monongahela. It's pretty far. I had intended because I've been reading up on everything. There a lot of problems I know that are very obvious that maybe some of you are aware and maybe some of you aren't that, you know, when this, everybody is
attacking the locals, they are attacking the government and all that. It's the wrong idea. You're chasing the wrong person.

All the attention that has gone on in this town has been focused on attacking the locals, the local government when the original person is still to be -- is sitting down Squirrel Hill.

MR. JONES: Did you have a question?
UNIDENTIFIED MAN: Yeah. Why isn't anybody involved here actually looking for this person? Why is it being ignored? That's my question. It's very simple.

COL. GRAHAM: Okay. It's kind of a similar question that the gentleman up here asked. Sir, let me answer. And it's a similar answer to the gentleman in the front row, which is the folks that the government is holding responsible right now are the corporations that currently own the site and who owns the environmental liability.

I can't address your question any further than that. There's other forums out there that would be a more appropriate forum to address those. I can't answer those
anymore for you here tonight. Okay.
Do we have anybody else who hasn't asked a question before that would like to and then we'll, and I know it's getting late, we'll go around and ask, see if anybody has a second question. Ma'am?

UNIDENTIFIED WOMAN: I have a question about when you were saying about the 911. My family lived on Kiski River since 1950. And my sister lives up there now. She has MS, plus she's on breast recovery. She's in remission.

I'm asking the question that if something would happen, she lives by herself, and she can hardly get around. She can't walk. She's so bad she can't hear anybody knocking. So do they have something to say that they know that these people like that live at or...

COL. GRAHAM: Mr. Director, do you want to field that one best you can?

MR. BROZENICK: A lot of that happens on a local level. So the local emergency coordinator should know that. Whether he knows or not, I don't know. I know that
that's been a question and we have been asking all the municipalities to reach out to their community to find out where those people are at. Because we are responsible for that. If something happens, we want to make sure the people get out.

We did develop a new program that is just brand new out there. It's called the SPIN program. That's what that program is to do is anybody can go on-line and register and say here's what my disabilities are, here's what my needs are going to be. So that if we do have an emergency that happens, we could go to that site and look at those and see where those people are at.

Because I know we've been trying for a long time to get that information and we still lack some of that information. So we're hoping that once we really get this SPIN program going, that people will go on-line and register for that so we do know where those people are at.

We have concerns with people that are at home with oxygen. You know, what do we do with those people? Do we leave them there?

Obviously, we've got to take the steps to get somebody out there to make sure that they are taken care of.

UNIDENTIFIED WOMAN: A lot of the older people don't get internet, don't have those kind of accesses. I think there should be something by mail as far as health information and get it done as soon as possible.

MR. BROZENICK: We have been looking and doing that. However, right now what we've been doing is we've been working with agencies that deal with these things. So we do have some of that information from those folks that can't provide us any information. But there's always some of them out there that that may not work with in those instances. We want to make sure we cover all of them. That's why we developed this program. We're going to try to get it out.

MAJ. ELLIOT: Randy, wouldn't it be safe to say that if anyone knows someone like this here this evening, if they could please share that person's contact information and situation with Randy. I think that would be useful. Randy, would you support that this
evening?
MR. BROZENICK: I would support that.
One other step I would like you to do is to find out who your local coordinator is. Notify them so that they can get it into their plan and then through that plan, it will come back to us.

Certainly, if you know of people and you want to get it to us, get it to us and we'll --

UNIDENTIFIED WOMAN: How do I find out who is my coordinator?

MR. BROZENICK: Check with the township.
UNIDENTIFIED MAN: Are you in Parks Township, ma'am?

UNIDENTIFIED WOMAN: Yes. Kiski Manor.
UNIDENTIFIED MAN: Here's your coordinator.

CHIEF CHIUCA: As far as your question about it was, people that couldn't get around, is that what it was? I missed it. Okay.

Several years ago I had the tax collector send out a questionnaire with the taxes. So if you pay taxes, owned property, you should have gotten it. We didn't get any
back. I have those blank forms down at the police station. When you come into the police station, you can pick them up. Okay.

And Randy, I believe, said that the website, you can register on the website. Think of this, people. This isn't the only hazard we could have in this township. It could be a power outage, a blizzard, a tornado. Anything like that where somebody who is an invalid or requires electricity that the fire department, we need to know.

Why didn't I get anything back from whenever they went out with the taxes, I don't know.

MR. JONES: Next question from someone who hasn't asked one yet. Okay. Last call. Okay. I'm going to go over here. Patty and then this gentleman here.

MS. AMENO: I'm only going to make some comments here. First up, we fought vehemently to get the Corps of Engineers here. And Jack Murtha backed that up. Now, and we have to fight again to keep them. I believe in the Corps. I believed in maybe they can be a partnership, too.

Now, one of the things I would like to address, the watershed authority. I am very pleased to see you gentlemen. You were speaking about the three settling ponds, are you not? The three settling ponds that's on Booker's property.

MR. LINDQUIST: It's down closer to Carnahan Run.

MS. AMENO: Okay. That would be the dry run. There was a ditch that was dug from the Mon into those settling ponds.

MR. LINDQUIST: There are three ponds there.

MS. AMENO: I would suggest, because that is offsite, that's out of the jurisdiction, from what $I$ understand from the Corps, that you would contact the EPA. And I'll give you names and phone numbers. They are actually aware of those settling ponds. Okay. I just found that out not too long ago.

For the people in the community, we have to stay vigilant, okay, with this. You have to stay on top of this. Now, for the Corps, they are making some estimates. What we know is that the company, the company's openly
admitted to not documenting what was buried. It was convenient. The Army Corps of Engineers is well aware of that. That was in the characterization reports that were submitted and that the NRC used as the holy grail that we now know is little to nothing. What we would like to see, I'm sure, is the scope expanded for more testing not only on the totality of the site, but even outside of the fenced perimeters to what is the actual original deeded property, before those fences ever went up. Because they didn't go up until between 1990 and '91.

Before I -- to General Bergstrom -- is
it General Bergstrom?
COL. GRAHAM: Burcham.
MS. AMENO: Burcham. I would tell her that there's absolutely no other option but total removal for this community. It has to be total removal.

Cost, we have already paid with this with our health, with our lives as well. We do not want a repeat of the land that is up in Apollo who they are still struggling. And we would hope the government would come in there
and try to help them with that land. But first at hand, this is a very dangerous site and we hope that the scope expands to the original deeded property and to include the mines.

Lastly, to everybody who is a resident of this area to the Kiski Valley, make no mistake, if you see a gentleman who is sitting right up front here with a media pass and it is a U-tube pass, and the amount of hate from this gentleman and --

MR. JONES: Patty, everybody gets their equal time here.

MS. AMENO: All right. Let me just say this last thing. Colonel Graham, I got to tell you, man, we really love you. And we have really appreciated you and we are going to miss you. We are seriously going to miss you. And we just wish you god's speed. I hope we get to see you have another meeting before you finally leave. If not, please return safe to us and thank you. Thank you from our community.
(Applause.)
MS. AMENO: It is because of you that we
have had elevated from the bottom. Literally. With absolutely no trust in government, you have elevated that up. So I want to thank you.

COL. GRAHAM: Thank you.
MR. JONES: Thank you.
The next gentleman.
UNIDENTIFIED MAN: I have another factual question here. I spent 18 years in Washington D.C., part of the Marine Corps. And I know the rules the federals have. You cannot delete information from the government's website.

Now, Colonel Graham, every news release between May 8, 2002 and 11 December 2007, every single link is down. Every news release for five years and seven months. Why are all those links down?

MR. JONES: Okay. Sir, we have all the news releases. Our servers are only so big. So as information ages, we have to replace that with newer information. If you would like, if you need a copy of any of those news releases, please call my office. It's on the back of the status report. I will be more
than happy to send those to you.
UNIDENTIFIED MAN: There's
150-million-dollar project and you can't up your bandwidth on your web site?

MR. JONES: Sir, we want to keep the most relevant information on there. If we would put every piece of information on there, then you're going to be...

COL. GRAHAM: Okay. We're not going to go into the server discussion, sir. If there's information, public information that you require from us, we would be more than happy to provide it to you.

It's getting after 9:00. How about two more questions and we call this a wrap for tonight. Okay. How about Mr. Hayley and the gentleman in the green shirt and then we'll wrap this up.

Mr. Hayley?
MR. HAYLEY: My name is Tom Hayley and I worked in the nuclear industry for 42 years. I was at NUMEC plants and at Westinghouse for an additional 23 years. I'm well versed in what's in those trenches. I know as much of what's in those trenches as anybody because I
created the waste that went in there in various forms.

And I've been working with the Corps here now for the last two and a half, three years and I'm very happy about their concerns with safety. And not only safety, but removing everything completely.

Now, with regard to removing it safely, a measure of that is the fact that they stopped everything when they found something wasn't being done correctly. They stopped. And they took a little bit where they were and then they uncovered something else and they knew it was more complex than anything that they had anticipated. They stopped. They didn't forge ahead. They stopped. They said we got to fix this thing.

When they went about fixing it, they found that the fix of the complex materials was going to cost twice as much, maybe three times as much as what they anticipated it would cost. Now they're looking at what needs to be done to do it safely. They've got all the agencies helping them that need to help them.

The Corps of Engineers don't have a lot of nuclear scientists that they could call upon. It was nuclear scientists from the other agencies who understand the processes that we used back at NUMEC, understand the type of waste we had and understand how dangerous it might be under certain circumstances. The Corps is learning this. The Colonel has been straight forward with us. He said it's got to be done comprehensively and safely.

Now, I stand here as someone who worked for NUMEC for 11 and a half years I'm trying to help you do that. They called upon me when they uncovered the materials and I was able to identify the materials before they had moved it. When they uncovered it, they wanted to find out what it is before they even moved it. That's how careful they have to be.

I'm sure that the NRC and other agencies are going to keep their nose to the grindstone. They'll make sure the Corps removes in force and follows them, follows them. I'm confident of that.

I live here. My aunt lives in Apollo.

I moved back here. So I'm concerned about how safe this is as well, for myself and my family who some of them live here in the valley.

So what I'm saying to you, I endorse what's being done. I know it's going to be done safely so I'm going to be paying attention to it myself. And if something isn't being done correctly, or $I$ won't be in a place to point it out, but I'll make sure that they know what they need to know to be able to best, to do the best job they have to do.

MR. JONES: One last question. This gentleman here.

UNIDENTIFIED MAN: I know Jack Murtha was quite involved in this project. Have you received any personal commitments from Representative Kelly, our representative from Armstrong County, and Congressman Elect Rufus that they will be committed to this project? Either funding the Superfund or if this is a separate allocation project?

COL. GRAHAM: It's unfortunate that the staffers had to leave. I know this went long. I can't speak for them. The congressional representatives from Congressman Critz, both
senators and Congressman Kelly briefed their staffs. I've briefed some on multiple occasions.

With the new congressional team coming aboard that you just elected, we'll ensure that the new congressmen and their staff are up to speed on this project. In terms of their commitments, those are questions best asked of them.

UNIDENTIFIED MAN: Does it help if we lobby them to keep this project funded?

COL. GRAHAM: So the Colonel Graham advocating lobbying on his behalf gets me fired real quick.

But here's the way I would answer your question, sir. Your elected representatives, from all my dealings with all of them, they want to hear what's important to you. They want to hear from you on everything that's important to you.

They, every time I talk to them, they appreciate that. So, sir, let your elected representatives know what's your on your mind, what's important to you and what's important that they do, your authority with your money.

They are very interested in that.
So folks, I think by the chatter around here, we kind of reached a culminating point.

To answer what Tom and Patty talked about, it's been my honor to be the district commander here. Again, I'm going to guess in about three months you're going to say Graham who? When Colonel Lindstrom takes over, he's going to do an absolute magnificent job for you. That's why he agreed to come out and meet with you tonight before I left.

I think this project and this community are in a wonderful, in good spot. And the Corps remains committed to doing this safely and doing this thoroughly.

So folks, safe driving home. All the crazy deer are stirred up by the deer hunters out there. So I noticed on my drive out here tonight. Safe travels and thank you for your attention.
(Meeting concluded at 9:14 p.m.)

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