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DEPOT ACTIVITY

HERMISTON, OREGON

CHEMICAL DEMILITARIZATION

CITIZENS ADVISORY COMMISSION

November 19, 2009

7:00 P.M.

GOOD SHEPHERD HOSPITAL

HERMISTON, OREGON

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COMMISSION MEMBERS PRESENT:

JEFFREY WENHOLZ  
(CHAIRMAN)

RAY GRACE  
(VICE-CHAIRMAN)

JOHN WENHOLZ

KATHRYN O'MEARA-SHAW

CHRIS BROWN

STEVEN POTTS  
(Sitting in for Rich Duval)

1                   MR. JEFF WENHOLZ: It looks  
2                   like it's 7:00 o'clock, so we'll call the  
3                   meeting of the Citizens Advisory Commission to  
4                   order.  
5                   And to start off with, can I have  
6                   Laura call roll.  
7                   MS. DAY: Commissioner Jeffrey  
8                   Wenholz.  
9                   MR. JEFF WENHOLZ: Here.  
10                  MS. DAY: Commissioner Ray  
11                  Grace.  
12                  MR. GRACE: Here.  
13                  MS. DAY: Commissioner  
14                  O'Meara-Shaw.  
15                  MS. O'MEARA-SHAW: Here.  
16                  MS. DAY: Commissioner John  
17                  Wenholz.  
18                  MR. JOHN WENHOLZ: Here.  
19                  MS. DAY: Commissioner  
20                  Severson, absent. Commissioner Raines, absent.  
21                  Commissioner Brown.  
22                  MR. BROWN: Here.  
23                  MS. DAY: And Commissioner  
24                  Duval.  
25                  MR. POTTS: Steven Potts for

1 Richard Duval.

2 MS. DAY: Thank you.

3 MR. JEFF WENHOLZ: I guess next  
4 we'll do an introduction of the members of the  
5 Commission. We'll start with you, Chris.

6 MR. BROWN: Chris Brown, Oregon  
7 State CSEPP. I manage the office in Pendleton.

8 MR. POTTS: Steven Potts with  
9 the Oregon Department of Environmental Quality  
10 in the Hermiston office.

11 MR. JEFF WENHOLZ: Jeff Wen-  
12 holz, Irrigon resident.

13 MR. GRACE: Ray Grace, Heppner  
14 resident.

15 MR. JOHN WENHOLZ: John Wen-  
16 holz, Irrigon resident.

17 MS. O'MEARA-SHAW: Kathryn  
18 O'Meara-Shaw, Hermiston resident.

19 MR. JEFF WENHOLZ: Next on the  
20 agenda, it would be the minutes of October  
21 2009.

22 MR. GRACE: Move to approve.

23 MR. JOHN WENHOLZ: Second.

24 MR. JEFF WENHOLZ: It's been  
25 moved and seconded that's the minutes of

1 October 2009 be approved. All in favor say I,  
2 opposed say I? The minutes are approved.

3 Next is the clerical and expense  
4 billing.

5 MR. GRACE: Move to pay.

6 MS. O'MEARA-SHAW: Second.

7 MR. JEFF WENHOLZ: It's been  
8 moved and seconded that the clerical and  
9 expense billings be paid. All in favor say I?  
10 Motion carried.

11 Next up would be a briefing by  
12 Lieutenant Colonel Kris Perkins. But I see  
13 that we have Bill Milbrodt standing in for him  
14 tonight.

15 MR. MILBRODT: Bill Milbrodt,  
16 Deputy Commander to the Colonel at the instal-  
17 lation.

18 A couple of updates. A leaker, on  
19 Veterans Day we had a small leaker in a MITEC  
20 HD structure. We did identify that on the  
21 morning of Veterans Day.

22 The next day we went into that  
23 structure, which was 12 November, the day  
24 between the two holidays basically for us.

25 And we went in there and isolated

1 it. It was a leak on a safety cap. Deconned  
2 that, cleaned it up.

3 And the next day, three days, we had  
4 clean reads on that leaker. It's a normal  
5 leaker process. Nothing out of the ordinary.

6 I'm sure you heard of the tractor  
7 incident we had. We had vandals get ahold of a  
8 John Deere tractor on the eastern border of the  
9 Depot.

10 The vandals drove it around in a  
11 couple of circles out there on Madison Farms.  
12 Destroyed a lot of property out there.

13 They basically bailed out of the  
14 tractor. And the tractor impacted our eastern  
15 border fence and then got stuck on a non chem-  
16 ical igloo or an installation igloo.

17 Veterans Day, November 12th, I'm  
18 sorry -- yeah, November 12th, Lieutenant  
19 Colonel Perkins spoke on the behalf of Veterans  
20 throughout the community and also on post.

21 He honored the Veterans that had  
22 served on post between the overseas War on  
23 Terrorism.

24 And he did a nice little ceremony  
25 with a flag there, to honor those people.

1 Very, very nice.

2 The LRA, we're currently working  
3 hand in hand in a partnership with the LRA,  
4 trying to work property issues, how we transfer  
5 real property and personal property from the  
6 Depot to the LRA.

7 We're making progress in regards to  
8 that. We've developed an MOA, and just about  
9 ready to sign that. So we're way on our ways  
10 to developing the transfer.

11 The TARS radio, we had a TARS radio  
12 incident in regards to the Hermiston Safety  
13 Center. The Depot did activate our EOC to a  
14 certain degree.

15 We also received multiple phone  
16 calls in that. Made reports up the chain. And  
17 we believe that it's under control at this  
18 point.

19 Subject to your questions, that's  
20 all I have. I'll have him follow up.

21 MR. JEFF WENHOLZ: All right.  
22 Thank you. Next would be normally Mike Strong,  
23 but it looks like standing in for him tonight  
24 will be Kaylin Burnett.

25 MR. BURNETT: Hello, Chairman

1 and fellow Commissioners. I'm Kaylin Burnett,  
2 Deputy Site Project Manager for the demil site.

3 I'll probably end up tag-teaming  
4 this with Bob Dikeman here from the site. But  
5 I wanted to kind of start off with kind of  
6 going around the complex, like Mike usually  
7 does.

8 And unfortunately, I don't have as  
9 gifted memory as Mike, so I'm going to have to  
10 use a cheat sheet a bit.

11 (Slide presentation).

12 MR. BURNETT: Overall, you can  
13 see there we're at roughly 69 percent complete  
14 mark from CMA perspective.

15 Johnston Atoll, as we mentioned last  
16 time, they finally got their closure. So  
17 they're all done.

18 Newport shipped its last shipment to  
19 the Veolia facility October 22nd, so they're  
20 done with all of their shipping for the 1-X  
21 material.

22 And they're basically starting to  
23 take down the buildings now. And that should  
24 be going pretty smooth. I've heard as early as  
25 the end of the year potential for it.

1                   So as far as the active sites, Pine  
2 Bluff is in their HT campaign, also ton con-  
3 tainers.

4                   They started in December. And  
5 they're just past the 50 percent mark in their  
6 stockpile.

7                   And they actually had a significant  
8 accomplishment on the 13th of November. They  
9 actually managed to execute an entire year  
10 without a recordable injury, it's the first  
11 time ever in CMA. So they're actually running  
12 an RAR of zero currently.

13                   As far as Anniston goes, they're on  
14 their HT/HD mortars, the 4.2s. They did have a  
15 minor incident on the 20th of October, where  
16 they had a small fire in their explosive room  
17 on their PMD.

18                   It was overpacked. There wasn't any  
19 issue there. They're in the middle of con-  
20 ducting kind of a root cause to understand the  
21 full implications of that.

22                   Tooele, on the 14th of October  
23 started using their brand new PFS. They got  
24 that up and going.

25                   They did have kind of a similar

1 incident to us as far as bypass damper. So  
2 they had to evaluate that.

3 But in comparison to our PFS units,  
4 we've got multiple. They've got one very large  
5 one. The one that they have is roughly 60 feet  
6 long.

7 And it's actually approaching 35  
8 tons, compared to one of our units, it's prob-  
9 ably about a third that size.

10 As far as Bluegrass and Pueblo, the  
11 start ups and the ACWA sites, Bluegrass is  
12 approaching the 96 percent complete mark. And  
13 it's looking at about a May 2010 start up date.

14 And they actually got their first  
15 structural steel member up on the 17th of  
16 September.

17 And they're actually, as I mentioned  
18 before, their neutralization site on the ACWA  
19 program.

20 The Pueblo plant has its design  
21 complete. It's in construction. They've got  
22 quite a few of the walls up.

23 And they're actually targeting a  
24 start up of January 2015, hoping to complete in  
25 December of 2017.

1                   That's kind of everybody else around  
2                   the complex. And we'll let Bob make sure he  
3                   covers our site. I won't steal his thunder.

4                   Why don't we go to the next slide.  
5                   And I'll just kind of refresh everybody. Our  
6                   planning boundaries, a couple of months back at  
7                   the forum here we presented kind of our updated  
8                   forecast.

9                   We're still on that forecast with  
10                  basically a first quarter '11 anticipated  
11                  campaign completion.

12                  Although as we progress in through  
13                  trial burns and get a little bit more knowledge  
14                  on where we're going and that, we'll reevaluate  
15                  and kind of solidify that.

16                  But that's where we're at. And I  
17                  just wanted to make sure that that was kind of  
18                  still out there. We hadn't adjusted that one  
19                  yet.

20                  And I'll turn it over to Bob, unless  
21                  you want to start with questions on me or you  
22                  can roll them together, I don't have a pre-  
23                  ference. Yes, Chris.

24                  MR. BROWN: Kaylin, this is  
25                  probably more for Bruce here. But I want to

1 see how good he is here tonight.

2 I think that I see a change in word-  
3 ing underneath the early planning guide and  
4 also the current working forecast.

5 "Assume success in avoiding almost  
6 all," I don't recall seeing almost all and most  
7 before. Have those been on the previous  
8 slides?

9 MR. MILBRODT: Yes.

10 MR. HENRICKSON: Yeah, always  
11 look down the top line, through the last couple  
12 of years. And most in the middle, yeah.

13 MR. BROWN: Okay. Thank you.

14 MR. HENRICKSON: And almost  
15 always, is near perfection. And as I said  
16 yesterday, the CSEPP continues -- it's been  
17 going a bit slow.

18 MR. MILBRODT: And that's the  
19 near perfect world.

20 MR. BROWN: Thank you very  
21 much. I appreciate that.

22 MR. GRACE: Yeah. And you guys  
23 can tag team me, I don't care. In looking at  
24 this, and I'm glad you brought this up to our  
25 attention because I had a question written out

1 here. It's in multiple parts.

2 MR. MILBRODT: Okay.

3 MR. GRACE: What have we learn-  
4 ed during this shakedown and the extra time  
5 about the boilers, boilovers and the smokers  
6 and various things that have created this  
7 little gap for learning, for further learning?

8 What have we learned with it, that's  
9 going to allow us to come up with a better  
10 schedule or to know that this one is right?

11 Have we come to a point where we  
12 have learned what we think we're going to need  
13 to know to say the schedule's going to work  
14 this way or are we still going to be learning  
15 during the process?

16 MR. DIKEMAN: You know, Ray,  
17 good question. This will really kind of form-  
18 alize once we complete the trial burns and  
19 resolve the actual processing rates so we'll be  
20 able to use the remainder --

21 MR. GRACE: That's the reason  
22 for my question.

23 MR. DIKEMAN: This is still our  
24 best guess based on information we have and the  
25 forecast, including the maintenance outages,

1 that sort of thing, that will drive us a little  
2 further out.

3 But I'll tell you, I do plan from a  
4 working schedule perspective, to redo the work-  
5 ing schedule once I've completed trial burns  
6 and I've locked in the processing rates for the  
7 trial burn.

8 And I'll be able at that point to  
9 forecast much better exactly how long it's  
10 going to take.

11 MR. MILBRODT: And I think  
12 you'll see in a little bit, we have actually  
13 made some significant progress in the month of  
14 October towards some of our learning curve.

15 Bob's going to be talking about a  
16 new quench system that we put in and some of  
17 that. So we are making progress, but we don't  
18 have that answer yet.

19 MR. GRACE: And that was -- I  
20 just wanted to know, I know you guys have been  
21 learning things.

22 And I just wanted to know, have you  
23 learned, have you pretty much learned at this  
24 point what you think you need to know to see  
25 where you're going or is this going to continue

1 for awhile yet?

2 MR. MILBRODT: We're probably  
3 going to be continuing for awhile from the  
4 permitting type aspect.

5 MR. GRACE: Life's always a  
6 learning curve. But I mean, do you think  
7 you're getting there at this point?

8 MR. DIKEMAN: I think so. I'll  
9 cover both the trial burn perspective, where we  
10 are on that, and I'll cover the changes we made  
11 for the quench system we installed. I'll catch  
12 both of those. Those are the major things that  
13 we've done recently.

14 MR. GRACE: As I've said  
15 before, a schedule is just something you're  
16 going to deviate from, but at least it's a  
17 plan.

18 And you know, I've worked too much  
19 project work not to know that things come up.  
20 But it's nice to know when you've got to a  
21 point where you've got enough information now  
22 at least to make an educated guess.

23 MR. MILBRODT: It's starting to  
24 get more solid.

25 MR. GRACE: Thank you.

1                   MR. MILBRODT: Anything else  
2                   from my side? If not, I'll turn it over to Bob  
3                   Dikeman and let him continue on with the Uma-  
4                   tilla plant.

5                   MR. DIKEMAN: I did want to  
6                   kick off, actually Kaylin touched on Pine  
7                   Bluff's amazing safety accomplishment, a year  
8                   without a recordable injury is pretty phenom-  
9                   enal.

10                  I've never seen it before. It's the  
11                  first time at a chem demil to run a 0.0 recor-  
12                  dable injury rate. It's pretty incredible. So  
13                  congratulations to them.

14                  And we do continue to watch that  
15                  very closely on our site. No recordables last  
16                  month.

17                  We are at .57 recordable injury  
18                  rate. So the guys are still doing a great job,  
19                  keeping track of things and being safe out  
20                  there at the plant. So we have another goal to  
21                  shoot for now with that 0.0.

22                  I want to kick off with the GASP  
23                  update. Very, very critical accomplishment  
24                  since our last CAC meeting.

25                  We did go through the Court hearing.

1 The file order was issued on 5 November.  
2 Interesting, and Bruce just pointed that out,  
3 that's the actual year anniversary from when we  
4 completed our VX campaign.

5 So it's been a year since we fini-  
6 shed that up, 5 November. The final order was  
7 issued.

8 What came out of that Court case is  
9 the Judge actually denied four of the five  
10 motions that were there.

11 The one that he did uphold was for  
12 our Title V permit. That has been issued since  
13 then. And we are in the implementation process  
14 right now.

15 A pretty significant change, I put  
16 mostly automatic waste feed cut offs. That's  
17 really a lot of the changes that we put in  
18 there.

19 And those require a lot of code  
20 changes, a lot of changes to the operating  
21 systems for the plant.

22 So they are taking a significant  
23 amount of time. And we're making sure that  
24 they're installed, and installed correctly,  
25 before we proceed on.

1                   So that work should be finishing up  
2 here in the next couple of days. So good work  
3 there.

4                   Out of the five motions, four were  
5 denied by the Judge. And we have completed or  
6 just about completed implementing that Title V  
7 permit. So great news from the GASP perspec-  
8 tive.

9                   The next slide, we brought up, we  
10 touched on it just briefly. But the agent  
11 trial burn preparations, we are in a pause  
12 situation right now.

13                   First, to implement those Title V  
14 changes, but also we had a boilover, another  
15 boilover, Ray touched on a little bit.

16                   We've been looking very closely at  
17 the data we have from the boilovers. We've  
18 plotted everything, and tried to figure out  
19 really what our goal is, to find an operating  
20 location, both mainly from an agent heel weight  
21 perspective where we can operate where we think  
22 is going to be the best chance of not having  
23 one of those boilovers.

24                   And we showed you a picture of what  
25 happens on those, I think last month when we

1       came in. But really what our goal is, define a  
2       location where we haven't seen those before.

3               We're using our data. We're using  
4       the data from Tooele. They have an awful lot  
5       more of the boilovers and a lot of the data to  
6       look at.

7               So we're being very careful. And  
8       that's really the question you were getting at  
9       before.

10              We've gone from certain heel wei-  
11       ghts, where we started based on what we knew  
12       the equipment could manage, down to a level  
13       where we had data from Tooele.

14              And now we're down a little bit  
15       lower, because we want to make sure we're  
16       sitting in the best location we can to guar-  
17       antee or at least mitigate any of the boilover  
18       events that we have.

19              So we've reduced that agent heel  
20       weight. And it does impact obviously the  
21       schedule and our processing rates.

22              We won't be able to lock that in  
23       until we've completed our agent trial burn  
24       though, so it's pretty critical as we get  
25       through the trial burn and understand what

1 those rates would be.

2 MR. GRACE: So you're reducing  
3 it by diluting it or --

4 MR. DIKEMAN: We're actually  
5 using our heel transfer system that we instal-  
6 led.

7 So we'll pump down, as we have done  
8 before, pump down the agent and then use our  
9 heel transfer system, which uses pressurized  
10 heated water to remove some of the harder  
11 material, pump that out, put it into another  
12 ton container. Until we get it down.

13 Right now we're looking at a heel  
14 weight of about 435 pounds, is what our oper-  
15 ating range is going to be, to be able to  
16 process those out. That's at a hundred per-  
17 cent.

18 MR. GRACE: So you're cutting  
19 down the amount of heel that goes into the  
20 system and that's helping you cut down on the  
21 boilover and the upset?

22 MR. DIKEMAN: Absolutely. What  
23 our data shows is within that range, we've seen  
24 no boilovers in that range, either at Tooele or  
25 at Umatilla.

1                   And so we're trying to operate where  
2 we haven't seen it before.

3                   MR. GRACE: And even though  
4 you're ending up with a little more stuff to go  
5 through, at least you don't have to stop the  
6 whole assembly like you do when you have a  
7 boilover?

8                   MR. DIKEMAN: And that's what's  
9 key. Absolutely. That's key.

10                  MR. GRACE: It kills your  
11 schedule.

12                  MR. DIKEMAN: We're in that  
13 mode now, where we have them, we stop and  
14 research and inspect.

15                  And when we can get a mode where  
16 we're operating where it doesn't happen is our  
17 best case.

18                  MR. JEFF WENHOLZ: For a com-  
19 parison, what were you first trying to feed?

20                  MR. DIKEMAN: 760 pounds is  
21 what we started at. And the basis for that was  
22 an engineering study that said the MPF, the  
23 metal parts furnace, could handle that much  
24 material.

25                  What we found with the boilovers was

1 it didn't matter if it could handle that. The  
2 boilovers weren't going to be something we  
3 could sustain.

4 We reduced that to 630 pounds, be-  
5 cause that's what Tooele ended up doing a trial  
6 burn at. So we went to 630 pounds.

7 The last testing we did, we had a  
8 boilover at approximately that weight. We  
9 reduced it again, based on the data we gathered  
10 from both sides. And said, "Let's pick a spot  
11 where we haven't seen a boilover before."

12 And that took us to about 435  
13 pounds. So we've dropped significantly.

14 MR. JEFF WENHOLZ: About 60  
15 percent.

16 MR. DIKEMAN: If I can find a  
17 spot where I don't have to keep stopping to  
18 address boilovers, that's the best situation.

19 MR. GRACE: And it cost you  
20 about how many hours when you have shut down  
21 the line for one of them?

22 MR. DIKEMAN: We've been imple-  
23 menting -- just for an example, implementing  
24 Title V permit changes, as well as researching  
25 this last boilover, we've been down about three

1 weeks now. A long time.

2 MR. GRACE: Yeah. But what I  
3 mean though is it takes you -- when you're  
4 processing and you get a boilover and it upsets  
5 the system, you lose, what, 12 hours --

6 MR. DIKEMAN: Well, about 12  
7 hours. We've had them a little bit longer.  
8 But about 12 hours.

9 Because you go into an automatic  
10 waste feed cut off and stop everything. You  
11 have to bring the ton containers out and moni-  
12 tor it and everything else.

13 MR. GRACE: Yeah. And then you  
14 don't just turn those things on and off either  
15 like a light switch. They start up slow,  
16 because you've got to bring them up to heat and  
17 bring everything --

18 MR. DIKEMAN: It takes awhile.  
19 Well, the furnace will stay at temperature.  
20 It's just getting all the stuff through.

21 MR. GRACE: You maintain it,  
22 but you still have to clean out the upset and  
23 get the airflow and balance.

24 MR. DIKEMAN: Get everything  
25 set up, ready for the next one that's coming

1 in.

2 MR. JOHN WENHOLZ: Now, do have  
3 a projection with what you know right today for  
4 your trial burn, how many containers you're  
5 hoping to burn a day?

6 MR. DIKEMAN: We're looking at  
7 about -- I think our forecast is about seven  
8 ton containers a day.

9 MR. JOHN WENHOLZ: And what are  
10 they doing in Alabama, seven?

11 MR. DIKEMAN: Actually Pine is  
12 where they're doing it right now. They are  
13 doing HT, which is a little bit different.

14 MR. JOHN WENHOLZ: How many?

15 MR. DIKEMAN: They're doing a  
16 different type of material right now. HT ver-  
17 sus our HD.

18 MR. JOHN WENHOLZ: Right.

19 MR. DIKEMAN: A little easier  
20 to process, because the heel sizes are a lot  
21 smaller.

22 They're getting between 10 and 11 a  
23 day. The heel size is really what's driving  
24 that processing rate.

25 MR. JOHN WENHOLZ: So if every-

1 thing goes right and the trial burn -- you may  
2 be looking at maybe doing seven a day, is that  
3 a projection?

4 MR. DIKEMAN: That's what we're  
5 using to project that. About seven a day, is  
6 what our schedule is.

7 Tooele, which is a good reference  
8 because they have a similar stockpile, they're  
9 running about eight, nine a day. A little  
10 different set up. But they're somewhere right  
11 around there.

12 But we continue to work. We're  
13 actually closing out comments right now with  
14 both EPA Region X and the DEQ office.

15 Resolving some of the comments  
16 there, determining where our best operating  
17 location is and going through that process  
18 right now. We spent several hours today, going  
19 through a lot of comments.

20 And the feed rate, we talked about  
21 reducing the boilovers. Pretty key again to  
22 our operating parameters.

23 Re-start of HD ton containers,  
24 shakedown Ops will really key on that Title V  
25 permit implementation, which is coming to a

1 close pretty quick.

2 Then gaining approval of the ATB  
3 plan. And the performance test, because that's  
4 the terminology of the Title V, the Air World,  
5 they are pretty much the same thing in this  
6 case as to how much monitoring you do and what  
7 you test for.

8 We'll kick that off as soon as we  
9 get permission for the ATB plan and continue  
10 operations there.

11 But our ultimate goal again, approve  
12 the ATB plan and get through those trial burns  
13 to set up our processing rates and go from  
14 there.

15 Questions on the ATB, the agent  
16 trial burn?

17 MR. GRACE: Okay. We've pretty  
18 well covered the boilovers. What about smoke?

19 MR. DIKEMAN: Next slide  
20 please. Thank you. Metal parts furnace,  
21 discharge airlock quench system, and again, I  
22 wanted to talk briefly about this, because this  
23 was a pretty significant, positive change that  
24 we made since the last CAC.

25 Implemented the quench system. And

1 really what this is, is literally two lances.  
2 We put holes into the top of the discharge  
3 airlock which is a separate part of the metal  
4 parts furnace.

5                   It's where the ton containers cool.  
6 And we sample them for agent to make sure that  
7 there's nothing there before we bring them out.

8                   So the door closes and it keeps the  
9 heat inside the furnace. And this is really a  
10 separate area. It is closed off. It's a box  
11 on the end of the furnace.

12                   We installed lances on top. And  
13 they align, so that if they're on a gimbal, so  
14 then we put them -- insert them right into the  
15 holes of the ton container that have been pun-  
16 ched.

17                   The issue was, with the smoking ton  
18 containers and the emissions in the cool down  
19 area, we're trying to prevent the emissions  
20 really.

21                   Cool everything off, cool the sul-  
22 phur oxides that were in the ton container and  
23 minimize that smoking, those emissions that we  
24 demonstrated we had the videos on last time.

25                   It worked out great. We put act-

1 ually two lances on top. The operators come  
2 out.

3 Once the ton container's situated in  
4 the discharge airlock, and situated the gimbals  
5 on top, insert them into the ton container.

6 And what we found was we'll run  
7 water through those. And it's just a little  
8 spray nozzle on top of them.

9 They come out of the metal parts  
10 furnace and are about a thousand degrees or so,  
11 1,500 degrees when they come out.

12 We'll turn on the water and cool  
13 them down at 600 degrees. And it's been taking  
14 about 85 minutes, I think, is about what it  
15 takes to cool them off down to about 600 de-  
16 grees.

17 And then we let it come down at  
18 temperature from there. We want to make sure  
19 we don't leave too much water on. We don't  
20 want fill up the ton containers with water.

21 So about 600 degrees I think is  
22 where we cool them to. We allow them to cool  
23 down a little bit further. And then we bring  
24 them out about 300 degrees, is where we act-  
25 ually bring them out.

1                   It's eliminated the smoke. There's  
2 no more smoke on the test that we did. So  
3 really successful, it actually works, pretty  
4 simple, but it works very well.

5                   MR. GRACE: So it's just  
6 literally it's a water injection lance?

7                   MR. DIKEMAN: Yes.

8                   MR. GRACE: And the steam, the  
9 water then is going out the stack as it cools?

10                  MR. DIKEMAN: Exactly.  
11 Actually it's brought up. That discharge  
12 airlock is bent into the after burner, the  
13 furnace.

14                  It goes right up through the fur-  
15 nace. It's burned in the after burner of the  
16 furnace. And it's monitored out the stack,  
17 exactly.

18                  So there's no question about are  
19 there any emissions coming out in the cooled  
20 containers. It's actually stock right there.

21                  So it worked very well. When we did  
22 that test though, the last line there, the last  
23 ton containers, we tested ten ton containers,  
24 actual tons through.

25                  Stepped it up, so we actually fine-

1 tuned what the best amount of water coming  
2 through was and made sure everything was mon-  
3 itoring correctly.

4 The last one we bought through did  
5 boil over. It was about 644 pounds. It boiled  
6 over. And that was when we went to our next  
7 review.

8 We discussed the trial burn, where  
9 we plotted everything and looked where the best  
10 location was. And we reduced that to about 435  
11 tons.

12 So that's our quench system. So  
13 it's really the major, biggest thing that we  
14 implemented since the last CAC.

15 And that's about it as far as new  
16 stuff going on out there. Again, our focus  
17 right now is to have a complete review of the  
18 comments that have been provided on the trial  
19 burn plan.

20 Get everything through there and  
21 work at getting approval on the plant, is  
22 really what's key right now.

23 MR. GRACE: So we've got this  
24 Title V operating permit and you're in essence  
25 just putting it into effect?

1 MR. DIKEMAN: (Nods head  
2 affirmatively). Getting all the waste feed cut  
3 offs in place.

4 MR. GRACE: Right. Imple-  
5 menting it, I think is the word you used.

6 MR. DIKEMAN: Implementing it.

7 MR. GRACE: Thank you.

8 MR. JOHN WENHOLZ: When do you  
9 feel that the trial burn will be complete?

10 MR. DIKEMAN: Right now, we  
11 don't have a good -- we feel probably about two  
12 weeks.

13 The week after Thanksgiving, we'll  
14 have all the comments resolved and be able to  
15 prove it back to the DEQ for review with sup-  
16 plemental information that's required.

17 At that point, it will be reviewed  
18 and decided whether or not it has to go out for  
19 additional comment or whether it meets the  
20 requirement that we can get approval at that  
21 point.

22 If it can get approved, it will turn  
23 around pretty quick and we can start into a  
24 trial burn.

25 Where we are on rates right now,

1 we've already demonstrated that we can do those  
2 pretty quickly.

3 So we'll actually be able to proceed  
4 for the trial burn I think at a pretty good  
5 pace after that.

6 If it has to go out for any period  
7 of time for any reviews, we'll just follow  
8 through that and we'll go from there.

9 So my best guess is two weeks before  
10 we turn it in. And then we'll see how it goes  
11 through the system. And we'll follow the pro-  
12 cess from there. Questions?

13 MR. GRACE: In the meantime, we  
14 are destroying some agent even though it's at a  
15 light rate, for now, why, we're --

16 MR. DIKEMAN: No, actually  
17 we're stopped right now.

18 MR. GRACE: Well, not right  
19 this minute. But I mean over the period of  
20 this time.

21 MR. DIKEMAN: We have. We have  
22 processed 159 ton containers of the original  
23 2,635. So yes, we've made some progress.

24 Learned a lot. We've learned an  
25 awful lot about the stockpile and the heel

1 sizes that we're looking at. Thank you.

2 MR. JEFF WENHOLZ: Thank you.

3 Okay. Next up we have Bruce Henrickson, public  
4 information officer.

5 MR. HENRICKSON: Good evening.

6 As always, the Outreach and Media Activities  
7 sheet is self-explanatory.

8 I'll just point out that there was a  
9 fair amount of media inquiries about the trac-  
10 tor coming through the fence line, which is  
11 certainly understandable. That is news. And  
12 is certainly news to us when it came through.

13 And also on the TAR radios also, I'm  
14 sure Chris will get into that.

15 What I wanted to do with the balance  
16 of my time here is actually address a --  
17 there's an e-mail that's in your packet, an  
18 original article that was in The Oregonian on  
19 October 31, written by Richard Cockle,  
20 C-o-c-k-l-e. Again, it's in your packet.

21 Apparently he used to cover the  
22 Depot a long time ago. And then basically  
23 wrote this one article recently.

24 I responded to him specifically.  
25 There's an e-mail that's in you packet. And

1 I'd to read for the record some excerpts out of  
2 that, because I would like to make it clear  
3 that we disagreed with the mischaracterizations  
4 and inaccuracies in that article.

5 And so I'll just read through this.  
6 This will take a few minutes, but I think it's  
7 important.

8 "Richard, you'd asked for Ammunition  
9 Demolition Area," and I'll just refer to that  
10 as ADA from here on out. "...ADA numbers."

11 The concern here was that the  
12 article quoted a Morrow County official saying  
13 that an Army source said that, quote: The ADA  
14 contains 600,000 items from unexploded bombs to  
15 tin cans buried to a depth of four feet. And  
16 that is inaccurate.

17 And I asked Richard to name that  
18 Army source, because one of my jobs is to help  
19 my colleagues speak accurately.

20 And I have not heard who would have  
21 said that. And it's simply inaccurate. I  
22 don't believe that actually was said by an Army  
23 spokesperson.

24 And I go on to say, "The Army  
25 previously did surface clearance and soil

1 cleanup at the ADA, removing about 7,500 items  
2 of concern.

3 "We estimate there are about 122,000  
4 subsurface anomalies that require further in-  
5 vestigation and possible removal.

6 "This could include shell fragments  
7 or bullets. It could also include scrap such  
8 as banding material, scrap metal, and, yes, tin  
9 cans.

10 "Most of this is located in the top  
11 two feet." Although there's some open deton-  
12 ation pits where these items are deeper than  
13 two feet.

14 But we have looked at that spe-  
15 cifically and identified it. And our number,  
16 if you add those together, is less than 130,000  
17 as a number, versus 600,000.

18 And we have already done the surface  
19 clearance on that. And that was not clear in  
20 the article.

21 I go on to say, "As you know from  
22 your coverage," in the article he wrote, the --  
23 and I'll just call it the Local Re-Use Author-  
24 ity or LRA "is in the driver's seat on re-use  
25 proposals including eventual re-use of the ADA.

1 "Morrow County and others are well-  
2 represented on the LRA, and we certainly en-  
3 courage them to thoroughly discuss all options  
4 for re-use.

5 "The final ADA cleanup, if any, is  
6 contingent upon what the LRA proposes for re-  
7 use and what Army headquarters subsequently  
8 agrees to."

9 "Currently, the Army's BRAC cleanup  
10 team has identified, tentatively, the ADA for  
11 agricultural re-use."

12 And that simply is cleaned to a  
13 standard down to a four foot depth where you  
14 can plow fields, plant crops. But you can't  
15 dig foundations for residential or other con-  
16 struction.

17 "Cleaning the ADA to that agri-  
18 cultural standard is estimated to cost tax-  
19 payers approximately \$20 million in 2013 and  
20 2014 if that's what's eventually decided to be  
21 done.

22 "However, if the agreed-upon reuse  
23 is determined to be for example National Guard  
24 use as some sort of a training range or test  
25 range, the Army may clean to a less critical

1 level."

2 It just depends on what's decided  
3 based on the LRA proposal and Army head-  
4 quarter's decisions.

5 And I go on to point out, "The  
6 Army's a good environmental steward. Another  
7 portion of the depot known as the 'Test Range'  
8 (for small arms, grenades, and flares) was  
9 cleaned in the past year to an agricultural  
10 standard, down to four feet deep.

11 "Other areas of the depot are being  
12 remediated since we were designated in earlier  
13 BRAC laws for closure.

14 "And we'll also clean, of course,  
15 any chemical munitions storage and disposal  
16 areas after the last chemical weapons are  
17 destroyed." We're required to do so by our  
18 permits under oversight of Oregon DEQ.

19 "The depot has an environmental  
20 staff and a Natural Resources Manager." And we  
21 work extensively with US Fish and Wildlife  
22 Service to increase the Burrowing Owls popu-  
23 lation. "The depot is a nature preserve," as  
24 you know.

25 And, "Our highest priority is safety

1 of workers, community and environment every  
2 day."

3 The concerns I had about your  
4 article were for example, you say, quote, "The  
5 committee," or LRA, "formed at the Army's  
6 behest, is tasked with developing a reuse  
7 plan..," closed quote.

8 But, "The LRA wasn't ordered, de-  
9 manded nor created by the Army." The Army's  
10 following orders that was created by Congress.  
11 That's simply inaccurate and it's spelled out  
12 in the BRAC law. These are not Army orders.

13 "Also, the depot is comprised of  
14 many parts, and broad generalizations such as,  
15 quote, 'contamination at the Umatilla depot and  
16 other issues could bring all plans to a halt'"  
17 end quote, as he said in his article, or "'the  
18 depot electrical system is obsolete,'" end  
19 quote, or quote, "'the site contains badly  
20 deteriorated buildings,' end quote, are vague,  
21 misleading, or mischaracterizations.

22 "...what's true about one part of  
23 the depot doesn't apply for the entire depot.  
24 For example, 'contamination' in the toxic areas  
25 of the disposal plant is significant by design,

1 of course." And we will clean that up.

2 Non agent contamination in other  
3 areas of the depot is a different matter. For  
4 example, on the west end warehouses. Yes, we  
5 have asbestos contamination. And that will be  
6 discussed in LRA framework and discussions with  
7 the Army going forward.

8 Our World War II electrical systems,  
9 some portions of that are obsolete. But the  
10 plant systems are modern, the feeder lands out  
11 of Boardman and McNary and the substation,  
12 that's all modern.

13 "Some, but not all, buildings are  
14 deteriorated." We use many of the buildings on  
15 a daily basis and they can be available for  
16 re-use.

17 He goes on to say, quote, "The Army  
18 need to decide what to do with the igloos,"  
19 closed quote.

20 I differ with that, because really  
21 the LRA needs to propose what to do with the  
22 igloos.

23 And discussions have included  
24 storing potatoes, wine, paper records, auto-  
25 mobiles, other items. Again, that's driven by

1 the LRA.

2 And then the other concern I had, he  
3 made a statement that included our 1944 con-  
4 ventional munitions accident deaths and lumped  
5 it all in with several things.

6 Saying that "Workers have also dealt  
7 with numerous chemical leaks in recent years."  
8 But that his lead-in was, "Letting the Depot  
9 sit isn't a great option, either."

10 And I go on to ask him, "What does a  
11 1944 explosion have to do with letting the  
12 depot sit?"

13 The depot's not going to sit with  
14 aging, leaking chemical munitions. We'll get  
15 rid of those.

16 And it's an unfair juxtaposition and  
17 misleading to quote a Port of Morrow official  
18 saying that you'll have to use it as it is.

19 The Army is not saying that, use it  
20 as it is, especially if there's explosives or  
21 contaminates. We're not going to ask people to  
22 do that.

23 And I go on to correct some other  
24 inaccuracies in his story. I just felt it was  
25 important to read that into the record, because

1 of the quantity of inaccuracies and mischar-  
2 acterizations.

3 And I would close on that point, by  
4 just saying we are good environmental stewards,  
5 we are working with the LRA and there is an  
6 established process, when it was mischaracter-  
7 ized by the provider in that article.

8 The only other thing I have is with  
9 mixed feelings I need to report that about a  
10 month from now, I'll be moving over to the  
11 Walla Walla District Corps of Engineers to  
12 accept a very generous offer there as an Army  
13 public affairs officer.

14 I wasn't planning to do that at this  
15 point initially, but the offer was generous.  
16 And it is permanent.

17 And it's a good opportunity to work  
18 on the dams and the salmon issues over there.  
19 Work with not one, but I believe seven Tribal  
20 Nations.

21 And I just wanted to thank the  
22 Commission. I will be here on December 17th,  
23 the evening of. That's my last day. And I  
24 look forward to that. So I'm not gone yet.

25 And we do have depth on the bench.

1 On my team is Steve Meyers in the Outreach  
2 Office, and Hal McCune in the plant protocol  
3 communications office. And Jim Hackett, CSEPP  
4 PAO.

5 So there's still a whole team work-  
6 ing here. And I would be available to support  
7 whoever replaces me certainly. I'm just a  
8 phone call away or next door in Walla Walla.

9 And again, I'd like to just thank  
10 the Commission for all the great work that you  
11 do. And I certainly encourage you to keep  
12 doing that. And I'll be watching.

13 Maybe I sit in the back row like  
14 Doug Hamrick did after he left. So, and I'll  
15 be happy to answer any questions.

16 MS. O'MEARA-SHAW: Well, con-  
17 gratulations.

18 MR. HENRICKSON: Thank you. I  
19 will be following the project. I'm proud of  
20 what we've all collectively accomplished here.  
21 We've come a long ways. We've got a ways to  
22 go.

23 But this is, I think if anybody  
24 steps back and looks at this project, it's  
25 pretty amazing what has been accomplished over

1 many years. Including long before I got here  
2 about four years ago.

3 So again, thank you. And keep up  
4 the good work.

5 MR. JEFF WENHOLZ: Thank you,  
6 Bruce.

7 Next up, we have Chris Brown with  
8 Oregon Emergency Management.

9 MR. BROWN: Thank you, Mr.  
10 Chair. First off, I'd like to introduce some  
11 guests that are here tonight. We've got three  
12 of them back here that have been working with  
13 me this week.

14 In the front row on this end down  
15 here would be Mr. Don Cobb from IEM, is our  
16 support contractor.

17 Behind him would be Dr. Michael  
18 Holcomb, known to this Commission. He is the  
19 Oregon Health Division State Toxicologist.

20 And then finally in the back right,  
21 to my right, we have Jean Gallagher. Our CMA  
22 headquarters site representative who's been out  
23 here for our meeting. And I appreciate you all  
24 coming here tonight.

25 I've got just three things here. On

1 the CSEPP closeout is one topic, the first  
2 topics.

3 Since we've met, we did some juris-  
4 dictional meetings with the County and Tribes  
5 and the States the week of October 19th.

6 I showed you at the last meeting a  
7 Gantt chart, a management tool, project manage-  
8 ment tool that we're using to put down our  
9 individual tasks, our time lines.

10 I know Bob pointed out the Depot is  
11 using one too, and similar to this. And ours  
12 is in the development stage right now.

13 But next up we'll do a series. I  
14 have an on site visit the week of January 11th  
15 to the 15th coming up here in 2010.

16 We'll have a series of planning  
17 meetings which are now going to focus on some  
18 technical topics, like communications and  
19 automations.

20 We'll take a look at some of the  
21 work that public affairs teams are doing in  
22 support of our CSEPP closeout process.

23 We've discovered, and I'm sure you  
24 did too, that these technical meetings can  
25 become pretty intense in terms of the amount of

1 tasks identified, the relationship between  
2 those tasks.

3 And we really have multi juris-  
4 dictional folks involved in communications and  
5 automations.

6 So we're going to bring all of those  
7 people together with a facilitator and try to  
8 get us a better list in terms of identification  
9 of the task and then the technical aspect of  
10 how they relate to each other and which ones do  
11 we need to do first, what's the sequence, how  
12 long is the duration.

13 And then who does it impact, if you  
14 disconnect the communication site. Do you  
15 impact the City of Hermiston or the Counties  
16 and/or the State. And the answer to that is  
17 yes, if you're not doing it right.

18 So those are the designed outcome of  
19 those meetings, is to do it in a more coor-  
20 dinated fashion, to do it on time and within  
21 the budget. That's the first item.

22 The second item we heard yesterday  
23 from the 450 special district board repre-  
24 sentative that talked to us.

25 That they are continuing to move

1 forward with a plan to create the special  
2 district, which was of course as we mentioned  
3 here before, designed to provide the source of  
4 funding to continue to support it post CSEPP,  
5 our operational communication system.

6 We heard that both Morrow and  
7 Umatilla County Commissioners have in the case  
8 of Morrow County, Umatilla County, is going  
9 to -- planning to meet within the public hear-  
10 ing requirements to discuss the details and the  
11 formulation of a Governance Board.

12 They're saying it would be a five  
13 member Governance Board to represent both coun-  
14 ties.

15 And they are going to again putting  
16 a funding proposal on the actual ballot this  
17 coming May. So that's the second item.

18 The third one has been mentioned by  
19 Bill and also by Bruce, it's confession time  
20 now for CSEPP.

21 And this is the November 12th tone  
22 alert radio activation that occurred here in  
23 Hermiston.

24 Most of you know, that live within  
25 the immediate response zone here, that the

1 actual message went out over the tone alert  
2 radio. Some of you -- and some of you in the  
3 audience may have heard that.

4 In short, here's what happened: we  
5 activate the tone alert radio signal from  
6 different county EOCs. In this case, it hap-  
7 pened to be Hermiston.

8 The staff member who did it has done  
9 it before. It wasn't his first time to do it.  
10 They have a procedures book, which they open up  
11 and then read the procedures.

12 What basically happened is he opened  
13 up the procedures book, failed to look at the  
14 page that he was reading from. And they are  
15 very similar in terms of the activation pro-  
16 cess.

17 And he read the page which was the  
18 actual alert message that went out. So he read  
19 that, pushed that sequence. And that's what  
20 happened.

21 He realized it when he did shortly  
22 after that, very quickly, that he had made a  
23 mistake. But the message had already gone out.

24 And the Public Affairs team, I know  
25 Bruce was called, I got called by the Outreach

1 Office and several other people, that you all  
2 were taking your calls here in the middle of  
3 Veterans Day, about noon, when this occurred,  
4 that there had been an accidental activation.

5 The news release, Public Affairs  
6 Office again put it out to the public. They  
7 called the radios.

8 And actually the next day I think  
9 one of the public affairs officers in Morrow  
10 County, Maureen Roxbury and another person that  
11 works with her, went on the KOHU radio station  
12 here in town.

13 Basically with the message, "We're  
14 sorry that it happened. It was a human error.  
15 Procedures have been corrected in manual at the  
16 Emergency Operation Centers. And there will be  
17 some refresher training conducted at the other  
18 EOCs to do this."

19 And the final part of this was, that  
20 what we do with the alert notification system  
21 is kind of a five-part system.

22 And the tone alert radios is just  
23 one that those. We've got outdoor sirens, the  
24 emergency alert radio system that comes on the  
25 highways, that are on the radios.

1                   And then we've got these highway  
2                   advisory radios located along the freeway. And  
3                   then of course you have your local radio and TV  
4                   coverage.

5                   So the fact that this occurred  
6                   though, there was some impact. It was a holi-  
7                   day, so all the schools, most all the schools  
8                   were out of session, except for Hermiston  
9                   Junior Academy here. And I think there was one  
10                  or two more. But they followed the shelter-in-  
11                  place procedure.

12                  Interesting though, they called the  
13                  Umatilla County EOC and there was no one there  
14                  because it was a holiday. So there's something  
15                  we need to look at.

16                  The test activation procedures  
17                  themselves, and I heard from Chief Pat Hart  
18                  yesterday in a meeting, he completely re-  
19                  organized the procedure book in which they  
20                  follow.

21                  So the test procedure has been moved  
22                  to the front. The real procedure moved in  
23                  another tab, with a big red border around it.

24                  And he said he's instituted an  
25                  option to where there will be a second staff

1 member present when they actually activate it.

2 So two people.

3 And there's a little cue that now  
4 will come up and say, "Do you really want to do  
5 this?"

6 So they have taken some steps. And  
7 this will be followed at some other EOCs. And  
8 again, then we will do some staff refresher  
9 training, working with the counties to do that.

10 Now, several residents here heard  
11 it. There were a lot of calls, I think Steve  
12 over a couple hundred. And you guys took a  
13 lot. The Depot got some. The CSEPP staff got  
14 some.

15 There were some people that actually  
16 pulled out their shelter-in-place kits and did  
17 what the message said there.

18 And one thing as the Chief pointed  
19 out to me the next day when I was talking to  
20 him, that Les Schwab here in Hermiston actually  
21 took a lot of calls.

22 So if people don't think that Les  
23 Schwab's a credible source, he was quick to  
24 point out they took quite a few calls about,  
25 "Do you know what's going on?" I found that

1       rather interesting.

2                       So basically on behalf of the  
3       community, we apologize for the mistake. I  
4       think we appreciate the support and under-  
5       standing.

6                       It was certainly not picked up on  
7       the front page of the media. Like I recall a  
8       few years ago, there was an accidental siren  
9       activation which was major news out here. I  
10      was involved in that.

11                      But it didn't make the front page of  
12      the local media. And I think again it's prob-  
13      ably because of workers, people like Bruce and  
14      the public information officers, several people  
15      that got involved here.

16                      So that's really what I can tell you  
17      about what occurred. It was an unfortunate  
18      incident, but it was human error. I think that  
19      was pretty much understood.

20                      There was pick up on a couple of the  
21      radio stations in Pendleton. I received a  
22      rather irate call from a fellow that said,  
23      "Well, you know, all the money you spent in  
24      CSEPP."

25                      And what he did is he couldn't

1 understand the -- he heard the initial thing  
2 that went out over the radio station in Pendle-  
3 ton, but he couldn't pick up the message after-  
4 wards through the -- we've determined now that  
5 we've got some repeater issues, where that  
6 didn't come out very clear or very loud.

7 So as a result of that, his frus-  
8 tration meter was up pretty high. And we're  
9 working through those issues.

10 So that's really my report tonight.  
11 And I'll take any questions or comments if  
12 anybody has them.

13 MR. JOHN WENHOLZ: I'll make a  
14 comment. And I've already talked to Chris  
15 about this.

16 But I've had several people call me,  
17 knowing that I've been involved in this program  
18 for a long time, then I had somebody in emer-  
19 gency management.

20 So I think we did very well, because  
21 it was on a holiday. There is no damn holiday  
22 when we start talking about public safety. And  
23 that's what I told that person.

24 I believe what needed to be done, I  
25 think that in 17 minutes, when they came back

1 and said that there wasn't an incident at the  
2 Depot, I think it should have continued on per-  
3 haps every five minutes for an hour or so,  
4 saying there was not an incident, just instead  
5 of doing it once or twice and then everything's  
6 fine.

7 I mean, I noticed traffic still  
8 going by my business. And people were going  
9 on, just like it was a normal day. And that is  
10 a good thing.

11 And most of us, or not most of us,  
12 those of us that understand this program,  
13 understand mustard, what mustard is.

14 It's an agent where it's not an  
15 airborne agent. And so the chances of mustard  
16 getting off the Depot is very unlikely. I'm  
17 not saying that it couldn't, but it's very  
18 unlikely.

19 So I think we understand this better  
20 than the average person on the street. And  
21 that's why I think it would be important if  
22 there was ever an incident again like that,  
23 that the message on the tone alert radio  
24 continues going on, that "There is no emergency  
25 at the Depot. Everything's fine." Instead of

1 just once or twice. And I think everybody got  
2 the message.

3 I think there's been a lot of people  
4 that are confused and they're nervous, maybe  
5 even scared. But, you know, a holiday,  
6 that's -- a holiday is just another day.

7 MS. O'MEARA-SHAW: I have to  
8 say too, I was at home. And my daughter was at  
9 one end of the house and I was at the other  
10 end.

11 We both came to where the radio was.  
12 And I thought it was actually quite fast. You  
13 say it was 17 minutes before they said it  
14 was --

15 MR. BROWN: No. It was 17  
16 minutes before they put a press release out.  
17 They hit the button within -- and actually  
18 Morrow County initiated that, and that was very  
19 quick. It wasn't 17 minutes.

20 17 minutes was by the time the  
21 press -- Jodi was on her way to Portland,  
22 stopped and put out a notice to all the media  
23 within 17 minutes.

24 No. The button was rehit almost  
25 within a couple of minutes or so after that.

1                   MR. JOHN WENHOLZ: Probably  
2                   about five minutes.

3                   MR. BROWN: It came back.

4                   MS. O'MEARA-SHAW: Yeah.  
5                   Because I was pleased. I thought with the  
6                   time, that oh, no, wait a minute, we --

7                   MR. BROWN: And by then, the  
8                   local radio station here and Pat Hart told me  
9                   had called and said, "We don't really bel-  
10                  ieve this is" -- I mean, they were going out  
11                  over the radio, if you were listening to the  
12                  radio.

13                  Now, Chief Hart told me that he had  
14                  a Hispanic family showed up in their van. He  
15                  went to the station when he heard it. Showed  
16                  up at the station. And was pretty emotional,  
17                  upset, had his family in the car.

18                  And Pat asked him about the radio,  
19                  had he heard it. And he heard the tone alert  
20                  radio in his house, but he said the radio in  
21                  his van didn't work.

22                  So he didn't hear the follow-on  
23                  message. So he got him under control, calmed  
24                  down. And everything was okay.

25                  But I think, again, this is a

1 reality of more than several people, as I know  
2 Steve can attest to and maybe others, that  
3 there were phone calls in there, paid attention  
4 to what it was it said.

5           Although as John just pointed out,  
6 logic would tell you that maybe they're -- it's  
7 a stretch when there wasn't any work going on  
8 out there, number one.

9           And the fact that you didn't hear  
10 four other systems going off, saying that there  
11 had been an accident, in combination with this,  
12 that is another clue.

13           But again, the general public was  
14 reacting to what they heard. It is an indoor  
15 warning system. And maybe you weren't outside  
16 to hear the siren or TV on or whatever.

17           So it left an impact on quite a few  
18 people. And I think there was a bigger re-  
19 action in terms of the number of calls, because  
20 when Kathy called me, there was -- and I never  
21 got a chance to call her back, Steve, because  
22 my phone was -- I was at a Veterans Day deal  
23 myself.

24           And I'll tell you, for about 30 or  
25 45 minutes, it was fairly active in terms of

1 the calls that came in. Bruce.

2 MR. HENRICKSON: Yeah. Just to  
3 add to that. I think it was a good idea, John,  
4 I'll leave it up to CSEPP to decide what to do.

5 MR. JOHN WENHOLZ: Oh, this is  
6 a CSEPP issue.

7 MR. HENRICKSON: Yeah. On the  
8 public information end, of which I'm a part, I  
9 was getting calls too, I would want to point  
10 out that compared to the false siren alarm a  
11 couple of years ago, we thoroughly reviewed our  
12 public communications component there and  
13 beefed it up. And it did work quite well.

14 Jodi Florence in Umatilla County,  
15 picked up the news release in a record breaking  
16 17 minutes. And she was on the road, but she  
17 had pre-staged that. And that helped.

18 I was getting called, the Outreach  
19 Office was getting calls. Our Ops Center got a  
20 couple hundred calls.

21 I know the Outreach Office and my-  
22 self, the calls just stopped about 90 minutes  
23 after the original event.

24 And we believe that means that the  
25 public communications through the media worked

1 and settled things back down within 90 minutes,  
2 which ain't bad, considering a mistake was  
3 made.

4 Bill, was the Operations Center, did  
5 they taper off maybe within an hour and a half?

6 MR. MILBRODT: About the same  
7 time, yeah.

8 MR. HENRICKSON: And so we know  
9 that the media communications worked. And I  
10 got media calls too, from KONA and others.

11 So that component did work. The  
12 public information function does work well, any  
13 day of the week. And I would just want to  
14 point that out.

15 And then as far as any other mea-  
16 sures, I think that's up to CSEPP.

17 MR. BROWN: And the person  
18 responsible for the tone alert radios in terms  
19 of the project here in Hermiston is here in the  
20 audience with us tonight.

21 So I see she had her hand up. I'm  
22 going to ask B.J. Workman if she had any com-  
23 ments.

24 MS. WORKMAN: Yes. B.J. Work-  
25 man, Umatilla County Emergency Management.

1 Between Thursday morning and today, we have had  
2 a significant increase in people who have come  
3 in who have ignored getting a radio or making  
4 sure that it has worked to this point.

5 So our normal sudden influx is when  
6 the calendar goes out, which should be in  
7 another week or so.

8 But we've actually begun to see a  
9 lot of people coming in, even residents from  
10 Irrigon driving in to get what they need to  
11 make sure that they're safe.

12 So even though it was an accident,  
13 it was probably a more beneficial one from the  
14 people's perspective of, "I didn't realize I  
15 really wasn't ready," because I've had a lot of  
16 people say, "You know, that really was a wake  
17 up call for me."

18 MR. BROWN: And Maureen pointed  
19 out, Maureen Roxbury, public information off-  
20 icer from Morrow County, at the IPT yesterday  
21 pointed out a letter that was written by a  
22 teacher that was put in a -- maybe some of you  
23 read it in the East Oregonian.

24 I know you saw it, Bruce, and  
25 others. It was written by a lady that was

1 saying the same thing.

2 "Just how prepared am I? I realized  
3 at school I was very prepared. But when I  
4 heard this and recognized it, I got concerned  
5 about my family was at home."

6 So she sent a very -- I think  
7 they're using a term, she is their new poster  
8 child because of her personal editorial of the  
9 impact of being truly prepared and ready.

10 So, but I'm glad to hear you say  
11 that. It looks like a reverse effect, was the  
12 fact you've gotten people to call in and sug-  
13 gest that maybe --

14 MS. WORKMAN: And I even have  
15 had several businesses contact me to up their  
16 radio numbers that they have, Pilot Truck Stop.

17 Wal-Mart wants a few more radios so  
18 they can make it a little more evident, when  
19 something goes off in an area that somebody's  
20 actually in, to hear it, so --

21 MR. BROWN: Thank you.

22 MR. GRACE: Chris, when we  
23 spoke earlier tonight, one of my comments was  
24 that, "Well, I'm glad to hear that a bunch of  
25 people called in."

1                   Because as I've said a lot of times  
2 right here, public complacency is the biggest  
3 enemy of public safety.

4                   And while you don't want to scare  
5 people, why, at the same time, sometimes a wake  
6 up call is not all that bad. And at least we  
7 know that somebody was listening.

8                   Now, mistakes get made. But the  
9 people are listening. They're aware out there.  
10 And that is a good sign.

11                   But there's things that we can do  
12 that will make it go away quicker the next time  
13 if it happens.

14                   MS. WORKMAN: And maybe I need  
15 to go train the Les Schwab guys on what to say.  
16 If they're going to get the call, because they  
17 come running.

18                   MR. BROWN: Steve, thank you  
19 very much too, the work that you and Kathy did.  
20 I know there were a lot of calls that came to  
21 the Outreach Office.

22                   I don't know how many you got, maybe  
23 a couple hundred they said. But I know you had  
24 some, as Bill did at the Depot and the EOC and  
25 also at the headquarters.

1                   Pretty much everybody that we talked  
2                   to in CSEPP was, you know, they were calling  
3                   people's cell phone numbers and trying to find  
4                   out what really happened.

5                   So there was a pretty good number of  
6                   people that were concerned enough to call in to  
7                   find out what was going on. That's it.

8                   MR. JEFF WENHOLZ: Okay.  
9                   Thanks, Chris. Next up filling in for Rich  
10                  Duval is Steven Potts with the DEQ.

11                  MR. POTTS: Thank you, Chair-  
12                  man. Pretty much Mr. Dikeman and Kaylin took a  
13                  lot of my thunder tonight, so regarding the  
14                  GASP lawsuit and that kind of thing. I don't  
15                  think I need to reiterate. We feel that was  
16                  kind of a success there.

17                  Some of the permit modifications the  
18                  Department's really focusing on right now, as  
19                  they mentioned, is the agent trial burn plan,  
20                  that's a huge priority right now.

21                  We're trying to work real close with  
22                  the Environmental Protection Agency and the  
23                  facility to get the comments resolved and get  
24                  to the point of approval so we can get moving  
25                  forward.

1                   A couple of others that are worth  
2 mentioning is the Department processed the  
3 permit mod for the deluge system, which Mr.  
4 Dikeman alluded to. Which we believe is a  
5 success.

6                   We processed that in a matter of  
7 just a few days, issuing a temporary author-  
8 ization so they could perform their testing to  
9 demonstrate that it actually is going to be  
10 successful. So we were pretty happy with that  
11 as well.

12                   Another one that is in-house that  
13 we're going to be looking at here shortly,  
14 which has impacts towards moving towards  
15 closure is going to be the agent-free carbon  
16 method, PMR, which the facility has submitted.

17                   And basically they believe that they  
18 have a method in order to determine whether or  
19 not carbon's to be agent free, which is going  
20 to be critical towards the end of closure or  
21 towards moving into closure. So we're going to  
22 be looking at that.

23                   And then they recently submitted  
24 their closure plan to update PMR, which was a  
25 permit requirement that they submitted.

1                   But that's going to help us move  
2                   into some closure activities simultaneously, as  
3                   we process.

4                   I wanted to mention tonight that we  
5                   will continue to support the facility as best  
6                   we can and work through these high priorities,  
7                   PMRs.

8                   And we really appreciate the working  
9                   relationship that we've developed and continue  
10                  to support that.

11                  Worth mentioning also, today we  
12                  issued the carbon BAT, which is the best  
13                  available technology report to the EQC, which  
14                  will be in December. That will be presented to  
15                  the EQC.

16                  And then in February, there will  
17                  actually be a decision or action item by the  
18                  EQC, to determine what the best available tech-  
19                  nology actually is going to be on that. So  
20                  that's about all I have.

21                  MR. JEFF WENHOLZ: Any quest-  
22                  ions from anyone? Okay. Thank you.

23                  Next would be time for anybody in  
24                  the audience that has any comments or quest-  
25                  ions.



1 STATE OF OREGON )

2 )

3 County of Umatilla )

4

5 I, Susanne Starkweather, do hereby  
6 certify that at the time and place heretofore  
7 mentioned in the caption of the foregoing  
8 matter, I was a Professional Shorthand Reporter  
9 and Notary Public for Oregon; that at said time  
10 and place I reported in stenotype all testimony  
11 adduced and proceedings had in the foregoing  
12 matter; that thereafter my notes were reduced  
13 to typewriting and that the foregoing  
14 transcript consisting of 65 pages is a true and  
15 correct transcript of all such testimony  
16 adduced and proceedings had and of the whole  
17 thereof.

18 Witness my hand at Pendleton,  
19 Oregon, on this 24th day of November, 2009.

20

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22

23

24

25

Susanne Starkweather  
Professional Court Reporter  
Notary Public for Oregon  
My commission expires: 12-21-2012