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Fort McClellan
Restoration Advisory Board

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Taken before Donna D. Gallahar, Court
Reporter and Commissioner for the State of
Alabama at Large on ____ day of October, 1997.

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1 (Whereupon Mr. Thomassey had roll call.)

2 MR. THOMASSEY: Did I miss anybody?

3 Good. Okay, I did that in reverse
4 order. Let's call it to order.

5 Approval of the minutes. Has
6 everybody had a chance to take a
7 look at the minutes that Lisa sent
8 to you? Any comments?

9 MR. TURNER: Move to approve the
10 minutes.

11 MR. THOMASSEY: I had one comment. I
12 think we're talking about under new
13 business that should be in October Chris
14 Johnson speaking on risk assessment.
15 We'll change that. Any other comments?
16 Okay, I heard a motion.

17 MAYOR KIMBROUGH: Second.

18 MR. THOMASSEY: Now there's a
19 second. All in favor say aye. Opposed.
20 Thank you, the minutes are approved.
21 Now, Chris, you are our speaker tonight
22 for risk assessment.

23 MR. JOHNSON: Okay. Good evening, I

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1 think you all know who I am. So we'll
2 make this as painless, as informal as
3 possible. When asked to talk about risk
4 assessment I thought it's kind of a broad
5 area, so what I wanted to do was really
6 touch on kind of give you the big picture
7 on risk assessment and risk management.
8 Why it is we're even here, why I even
9 have my job, and why we're meeting at the
10 RAB is because to me it all boils down to
11 risk and how we deal with risk, assess
12 risk and manage risk. So, I'm going to
13 be looking at it in more the overall and
14 not really getting into the specifics of
15 say the risk assessment, baseline risk
16 assessment and superfund. I can't
17 remember who was here, that we had the
18 training on, you remember that, and you
19 can really get into a lot of technical
20 stuff. But I didn't want to overwhelm
21 you with all of that tonight, so.

22 To start out with just some basic
23 definitions and kind of contrast between

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1 risk management and risk assessment. As
2 you can see, risk management is the
3 overall way in which we evaluate,
4 identify and deal and address the cause
5 and effect of risk and uncertainty.
6 Whereas risk assessment is basically a
7 tool or component of the risk management
8 process, one of many tools and activities
9 that we use at risk management to make
10 decisions on whether or not we need to do
11 something. Whether or not we need to
12 clean a site up or put deed restrictions
13 on it, or continue to monitor it for a
14 little longer. So there's definitely a
15 distinct difference between the two.
16 And, but I just wanted to make sure that
17 we realize that risk assessment is a
18 component of risk management, so.

19 Now under what is a risk. Well,
20 it's basically just probability of a
21 situation, event, happening or a loss
22 occurring. And uncertainty is the doubt
23 that we all, it kind of comes to the

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1 surface, we're evaluating the risk, the
2 uncertain factor is always there. For
3 example, as simply as a game of chance,
4 rolling of dice, you know, we can
5 evaluate the probabilities of flipping a
6 coin but there's always going to be the
7 uncertainty of whether or not you're
8 going to have heads or tails on the
9 second roll or the third roll. So,
10 uncertainty has to be a part of what we
11 look at. Because the greater uncertainty
12 we have in our calculation, the more
13 conservative we have to be; whether in
14 the number of samples we take, the level
15 of clean up we take, so it has to be
16 weighed in. So, you can't have risk
17 without uncertainty. And Ron, Bart,
18 anybody, y'all can just chime in
19 whenever. If y'all have got a question,
20 just stop me and I'll try to answer it.

21 Sources of risk. It's hard to
22 really categorize it sometimes, but this
23 is what I've kind of come up with.

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1 Physical risks: you know, natural
2 disasters, pollution, floods, and our
3 case here which would be hazardous
4 substances potentially being released or
5 known to have been released in the
6 environment. Economic risks: Inflation,
7 recession, profit loss, uncertainty of
8 the markets. Social risks: Changing
9 morales in our morals and values. Civil
10 unrest, wars. There's basically risk in
11 everything we do on a daily basis. Of
12 course, political risks, regulations,
13 change in regulations that change every
14 day, cuts in funding, of course, the
15 beloved taxes. And then the legal, which
16 really kind of speak for themselves, but
17 of course there's always the change in
18 liability, whose responsible within the
19 codes of conduct within our society.

20 Defining what is acceptable. Some
21 major factors that we deal with are, of
22 course, the risk of communication, which
23 is a major component, there's the actual

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1 versus perceived risk. What might be a
2 risk to me, it might not be a risk to
3 you. Or just communicating an actual
4 versus a perceived risk. It's a
5 situation we get into a lot in our public
6 meetings. A classic example is the
7 incinerator. We, the department feels
8 comfortable with issuing the permit. We
9 wouldn't do so if we didn't feel it was a
10 safe and protective of human health and
11 the environment. But communicating that
12 to the public is a very, it's hard to
13 deal with because people have perceived
14 risk when they hear of nuclear weapons
15 being destroyed -- excuse me, chemical
16 weapons being destroyed. It causes
17 instant fear and uncertainty and doubt.
18 And it should if people aren't familiar
19 with what goes on in that type of
20 situation. So, risk tolerance factor is
21 basically people's tolerance factor for
22 risk changes. You know, I might be
23 comfortable putting five hundred dollars

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1 on the Auburn Tigers whereas Ron might
2 feel more comfortable with twenty-five.
3 It's all relevant, we all have different
4 factors of risk tolerance. Voluntary
5 versus involuntary. Of course, we know
6 that you know you have a choice whether
7 or not you want to smoke cigarettes or if
8 you want to fly, if you want to drive a
9 car. Whereas the situation we get into
10 here at Fort McClellan is really an
11 involuntary risk. You didn't put the
12 contamination here, you didn't ask for it
13 to be here and you didn't ask for it to
14 be in your community. So, you have to
15 weigh those factors out with the public
16 on what is voluntary versus involuntary.
17 Background versus site specific. What we
18 mean by that is that, site specific would
19 be, for instance, an underground storage
20 tank leaking petroleum into the soil.
21 But we get into some background risks
22 where the metals in the soils could be
23 naturally occurring. Those metals could

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1 have constituents in them that are a
2 risk, they pose a risk even though they
3 are natural. Radon is a good example of
4 naturally occurring risk. It's not
5 something that was manmade or
6 deliberately put somewhere. So, that's a
7 sticky issue we have to deal with in
8 being able to determine what is site
9 specific or site related versus what was
10 already there or beforehand. Of course,
11 limited resources will always play a
12 factor in everything we do. I mean, you
13 can't, our goal of having zero risk would
14 be, it would be a lofty goal. There's no
15 way that we could ever afford or fund to
16 have zero risk on earth. Our cars would
17 be way overpriced. You have to decide
18 what can we accept, and that is a big
19 factor of the resources and the amount of
20 money we have to weigh that out.

21 And, of course, the uncertainty
22 factors I talked about earlier about the
23 more uncertainty you have the more

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1 conservative you are going to tend to be.
2 So, touched on the zero risk. Is it
3 unrealistic. Yes, I definitely feel it
4 is unrealistic. That's why I'll tell you
5 in a minute how we established our risk
6 levels. What is acceptable versus what's
7 not. And, zero risk, it could certainly
8 be a goal, but I don't know if it would
9 be a goal worthwhile.

10 What level of risk is acceptable?
11 We'll get to that shortly. Who decides
12 what is acceptable? Is it government, is
13 it the community, or is it everybody. We
14 like to feel it is everybody, all
15 stakeholders. We at ADEM and EPA and, of
16 course, Army, we all, in a sense, work
17 for the public. I mean, if we can't, if
18 the public is not happy with the risk
19 that we've decided or chosen or tried and
20 established as being safe, then we've got
21 a problem.

22 So, role of the risk assessments.
23 This is a very, very general schematic

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1 here, it's not, certainly there's a lot
2 of steps in between. But, overall you
3 assess the site, you get your data, you
4 get your data back and you make a risk
5 management decision. Do I need to go on?
6 Do I need more data? You know, and then
7 you do the risk assessment. It tells you
8 where are we right now. Do we need to go
9 ahead and do a removal? Is there
10 emergency risk right now? Do we need to
11 take action? Eventually you work down to
12 no further action. That's our goal,
13 we're trying to get to a no further
14 action response. If we do have a
15 response action it would, again, it could
16 be a removal, it could be deed
17 restrictions, it could be a pump and
18 treat system like for a landfill, or it
19 could be dig an ordinance. It's a number
20 of things can be a response action. And
21 then eventually we get down to our goal
22 no further action.

23 The actual risk assessment process

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1 is basically four major steps, and this
2 is for really any risk assessment,
3 whether it's superfund or dealing with
4 resource conservation recovery act. You
5 really go through the same steps of
6 calculating the risks. So, again, you
7 gather your data, you evaluate your data,
8 you do an exposure assessment, which is
9 basically, you know, Barry would be in
10 his front yard so many days a year eating
11 so much soil per day at certain levels of
12 soil or certain levels of contamination
13 in the soil. It's human health,
14 receptors and, or either animal exposure,
15 and there's several parameters in the
16 exposure assessment that you go through.
17 Toxicity assessment is basically where a
18 lot of your toxicology and your
19 epidemiology studies come in. Lab rat
20 studies, study the effects of chemicals
21 to animals and then EPA puts together
22 data bases. For instance, one is I.R.A.,
23 it's information, risk information

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1 system. It basically tells us what a
2 reference station should be, what our
3 slope factors for risk are. Those are
4 all pretty much given data there. So,
5 it's kind of plug and chug on the
6 toxicity. And then eventually you
7 characterize your risk, you know, what
8 are our risk levels? And again, it's
9 measured as a probability for the
10 carcinogens. Carcinogens, or I'll get to
11 it in a minute are a hazard index for
12 your noncarcinogens. Acceptable risk
13 level standards. This is coming from
14 superfund, federal program, CERCLA.
15 Basically it's divided into two
16 categories. You're looking at either
17 something that causes cancer or something
18 that does not. So, an acceptable range
19 for carcinogenic risk is one in ten
20 thousand to one in a million. Excess
21 cancer risk. So, I'm going to break it
22 down a little further. That is the
23 probability of potentially getting cancer

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1 over and above whatever the cancer level
2 is in the community. It's not stating
3 that one in ten thousand people at Fort
4 McClellan will get cancer from chemicals
5 at Fort McClellan. It's a probability
6 that it may occur if something is not
7 taken care of out here.

8 So, the goal there though, even
9 though the range is one in ten thousand
10 to one in a million, one in a million is
11 walk away. It means we've cleaned it, it
12 meets that risk level, and we walk away,
13 there's no further action. When you
14 typically clean, and that's usually the
15 target goal, but, when you clean anything
16 less in that range, say one in ten
17 thousand or one in a hundred thousand, it
18 basically means we've cleaned to a level
19 that we can achieve. However, we will
20 place deed restrictions on the property.
21 We may put deed notification because we
22 know we can't meet the level we need.
23 But it's acceptable and remains in

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1 control. So -- come on in. Is that
2 clear? I don't know, sometimes it's hard
3 to understand the risk level stuff. But
4 it basically means that, you know, if
5 we're less than one in a million, we're
6 going to put deed restrictions, or we're
7 going to look at it and watch it. We
8 don't just turn our backs on it and walk
9 away.

10 Noncarcinogens, they deal with a
11 hazard index, a hazard quotient. A
12 hazard quotient really is a single
13 chemical, for example, benzene. So, the
14 level that we like to meet is a hazard
15 quotient of one percent of chemicals.
16 With multiple chemicals we look at the
17 hazard index. Which all that is is a lot
18 of hazard quotients added together to
19 achieve a hazard index. So, the goal is
20 again one, I will add on that that we do
21 look at a range from a risk management
22 decision. We might look at from a point
23 one up to a ten, or even a thirty just to

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1 see what the clean-up levels would be
2 within that range. Noncarcinogenic
3 risks, an example would be how chemicals
4 effect target organs. Necessarily
5 wouldn't cause cancer, but it could cause
6 abnormalities with the heart, with the
7 lungs, and so forth. So, it's not,
8 you've got to look at the activities of
9 risk from multiple chemicals, that's why
10 you have a hazard index in there.

11 MR. THOMASSEY: One question before
12 you go to the conclusion, Chris, do you
13 have available to you or maybe Bart does,
14 some examples that lay risks out in terms
15 that are more palatable for the average
16 citizen? You look at one to ten thousand
17 or one to a million, and many people
18 don't have a good feel to what that means
19 in terms of normal things that we
20 experience in day-to-day activity. Such
21 as, what's the likelihood of being
22 involved in a fatal automobile accident
23 in Alabama or the likelihood of being

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1 involved in a tornado fatality.

2 MR. JOHNSON: I do have those
3 probabilities, I don't with me. But
4 again, we've got some sheets that talk
5 about your probability of getting struck
6 by lightening or dying in an airplane
7 crash. Yes, we have those. I agree with
8 you, it is a good thing to show.
9 Sometimes we get in situations though,
10 where we show those, and because it's a
11 voluntary risk versus an involuntary
12 risk, sometimes it can backfire on you.

13 MR. THOMASSEY: Tolerance then
14 becomes the issue.

15 MR. JOHNSON: And really, normally,
16 we always talk ten to the negative four
17 or ten to the negative six. That's the,
18 ten to the negative four, all it is is
19 one in ten thousand. There's a one in
20 ten thousand chance that somebody might
21 get cancer is all that's saying. We tend
22 to say that a lot, ten to the negative
23 four and ten to the negative six, and

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1 it's really --

2 MR. MILLER: Is that an acceptable
3 risk?

4 MR. REEDY: Those two levels that
5 Chris is talking about on the slide here,
6 Superfund, which is the federal mandate
7 is where Chris and I operate. Congress
8 said, and Congress approved all of that,
9 we are to clean sites up to a range
10 between ten to the negative four, one in
11 ten thousand, to ten to the negative
12 sixth, one in a million. Anywhere in
13 that window is acceptable. Acceptable
14 however, there's a little caveat to the
15 word acceptable. Ten to the fourth, if
16 we clean something up, we've got a
17 chemical at a known concentration or a
18 suite of chemicals at a known
19 concentration, we have, back in Atlanta,
20 you can pull up all the data bases of
21 people that work in those data bases
22 every day. Add all of it up, see what
23 your total carcinogenic risk is, and it

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1 has to fall legally between ten to the
2 fourth and ten to the sixth.

3 MR. JOHNSON: Or greater than one in
4 a million. You can obviously clean to a
5 greater standard than one in a million.

6 MR. REEDY: Right.

7 MR. JOHNSON: But you can't be
8 below--

9 MR. REEDY: Now, for property
10 transfer it falls between those two, or,
11 you know, pre-human being clean would be
12 real good. But, you know, we can't do
13 that. We couldn't do that anyway. But,
14 between those two numbers is where we've
15 got to go. But, as we all know,
16 sometimes you can't make everything
17 perfect again. So, when we go to
18 transfer property, if there's a piece of
19 property that we've looked at, we've,
20 let's say we've taken a removal action,
21 taken dirt out and cleaned it, by
22 whatever means, put a pump and treat
23 system in in the ground water. We can

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1 calculate, I've got a group of folks in
2 Atlanta that can generate a number. And
3 that number will be somewhere between ten
4 to the fourth and ten to the sixth. And
5 those, before that property is
6 transferred, if it is less, if the
7 property is still dirty, meaning that
8 it's not one in a million, then there has
9 to be some sort of a flag, some sort of
10 an indicator that says the property is
11 not quite as clean as it ought to be. We

12 have cleaned it up, not to one in a
13 million, which is what residential
14 standard is. Which means you can go out
15 there on that property and do anything.
16 Ten to the fourth, one in ten thousand,
17 is a lower limit for industrial use, a
18 machine shop something along those lines.
19 Those are the two end points.

20 MR. MILLER: What's the range in
21 Anniston or the ratio in Anniston, the
22 carcinogenic ratio of how many people in
23 Anniston come down with cancer per ten

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1 thousand population.

2 MR. JOHNSON: Just in general, I can
3 get that for you from Doctor Hughes from
4 the Department of Public Health.

5 MR. MILLER: This is just over and
6 above the normal.

7 MR. JOHNSON: Exactly.

8 MR. REEDY: This is excess,
9 somewhere --

10 MR. TURNER: It's actually based on
11 studies in the past that people being
12 exposed to whatever it is, one per ten
13 thousand will get cancer.

14 MR. JOHNSON: No.

15 MR. REEDY: Negative, no, sir, that
16 is a very important distinction. When we
17 say, when you look at that number one in
18 ten thousand, that's the same, of course,
19 as you understand as ten to the negative
20 fourth. We use those terms
21 interchangeably. What that number is
22 trying to state is, that it's the, it is
23 a probability, a likelihood only. It

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1 does that say that one, that it will
2 happen.

3 MR. TURNER: That's not what I said
4 either, Bart. What I said is that's
5 based on some kind of information that
6 suggests those numbers. It's not saying
7 that, stating a prediction that one in
8 ten thousand will get it. That
9 historically one in ten thousand got
10 cancer by being exposed to it.

11 MR. REEDY: No, sir. No, sir. It
12 is not a compilation of data from human,
13 necessarily from human health, from
14 exposure, like Chris said to benzene.
15 Benzene is a bad choice. Heptane. It's
16 not, you didn't come up with a parts per
17 million in the soil of heptane that
18 relates to ten to the negative fourth.
19 That number was not generated by studying
20 society being exposed to heptane in a
21 quantity. That number is generated by--

22 MR. JOHNSON: Toxicity testing of say
23 lab rats.

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1 MR. REEDY: An extrapolating count.

2 MR. TURNER: I mean, it comes from
3 data. I mean, some pointy-headed guys in
4 a lab just didn't say, "Well, that's what
5 I think it is. Let's call it ten to the
6 negative fourth." It came from data
7 somewhere.

8 MR. REEDY: If you could take that
9 pointy-headed part away from it, yeah.
10 There's a distinction there. It is not
11 statistical data from society. That is,
12 that's included in it, but it's not that
13 alone. It is, what you are doing is you
14 take a lab rat and you expose it to
15 benzene. What does it take to kill it?
16 And you take those numbers, the weight of
17 the lab rat, do it a bazillion times.
18 Some person at Southern California,
19 Berkeley, University of Georgia,
20 University of Alabama, you take all of
21 those numbers, EPA has done this. And
22 the ATSDR has done it as well. You take
23 all of those sets of data and what does

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1 it take to kill a lab rat. A lab rat
2 weighs two pounds, I weigh one
3 thirty-five, and so then I could probably
4 take more of the contaminant in question
5 than the lab rat. That's where that
6 exposure comes from.

7 MR. TURNER: I think that what my
8 point was that it's not abstract. That
9 it's based on a lab rat, it's intended to
10 be based on practical numbers that are
11 extrapolated somehow to come up with
12 that. It's not an imaginary number.

13 MR. REEDY: No, sir, it's not
14 imaginary.

15 MR. CUNNINGHAM: What is the
16 relationship of the credibility or
17 validity of that number to the human
18 population?

19 MR. REEDY: Ask me again, because I
20 had something going in one ear.

21 MR. CUNNINGHAM: What is the
22 relationship of one in ten thousand of
23 getting cancer in a lab rat relative to

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1 that of the population of human beings?
2 Because, after all, that's what we're
3 concerned about.

4 MR. JOHNSON: The one in ten
5 thousand is stating that that's a risk
6 acceptable for the public to receive. An
7 acceptable level of risk potential excess
8 risk. That one in ten thousand, that
9 range does not correlate to lab rats and
10 so forth. Basically, they do a dose
11 response. Let's take a rat. They'll
12 give him a certain dose of chemical and
13 they will study the effects, and they
14 keep increasing doses until they get a
15 dose response, a dose response curve to
16 that lab rat. That's where they generate
17 these numbers called the slope factor.
18 And from that slope factor is what they
19 use to extrapolate from over to human
20 beings. I mean, we've even got chemicals
21 that are, they even categorize chemicals
22 as known carcinogens, probable
23 carcinogens, not sure if we know it's a

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1 carcinogen or not. There are so many
2 uncertain factors even in that realm, --
3 (inaudible) Where the uncertainty comes
4 in, that's where conservatism comes in.

5 MR. HOOD: (Inaudible.)

6 MR. JOHNSON: Right, exactly. In
7 fact, there's some reference doses that,
8 I mean, really they are so -- if you look
9 at them you'd think there's just no way,
10 they're not right. And they do that
11 because they just don't have the data to
12 feel comfortable with putting it out
13 there for the public use.

14 MR. HOOD: (Inaudible) -- if you
15 don't know you reduce it by a factor of
16 ten. If you don't know, you reduce it by
17 another factor of ten.

18 MR. JOHNSON: Right.

19 MAYOR KIMBROUGH: About this other
20 system then, when we determine the land
21 use at Fort McClellan, then how to
22 determine let's say the risk factor, if I
23 remember right, there are different

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1 levels for clean up and all like that.

2 Is that correct?

3 MR. JOHNSON: Yes.

4 MAYOR KIMBROUGH: Now, my
5 understanding was when we had the group
6 in from, the national group, when they
7 determine the land use and they clean it
8 up to that level and that property is
9 transferred, then I understood them to
10 say that that met the obligations of the
11 federal government, their obligation as
12 far as clean up. Is that correct?

13 MR. REEDY: That is correct. Let me
14 give this back to you to make sure that I
15 understood what you said. We've got a
16 parcel of property out here and ADEM, EPA
17 and the Army, we've all looked at it and
18 we have all said we have performed
19 whatever clean up we're going to do on it
20 and we transfer it to Mr. Miller.

21 MR. JOHNSON: For his machine shop,
22 for example.

23 MR. REEDY: For his machine shop.

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1 The federal government, at that point,
2 the Army at that point, has met its
3 obligation and has done all it's going to
4 do to clean that property up for Mr.
5 Miller's intended use. And we would put
6 a flag on the deed, it will be on the
7 deed.

8 MR. MILLER: If it meets one in ten
9 thousand.

10 MAYOR KIMBROUGH: But if Mr. Miller
11 wants to sell that property and it calls
12 for a higher degree of clean up.

13 MR. REEDY: Say he wants to sell it
14 to Don and Don wants to put a day care
15 center on it.

16 MAYOR KIMBROUGH: Then the federal
17 government has no obligation?

18 MR. REEDY: That's where the deed
19 restriction comes in. Because it will
20 say that it's got to be industrial use
21 deed. Mr. Miller cannot sell it to Mr.
22 Cunningham for that. There have been
23 cases where that's slipped through the

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1 cracks, but we are extremely diligent in
2 trying to watch that.

3 MR. LEVY: That's the current
4 policy of the Army. The Army's current
5 policy is that they will transfer land
6 based on its current use and will clean
7 up to its current use. But it will not
8 come back --

9 MR. REEDY: Intended use, Ron.

10 MR. LEVY: Excuse me. Intended use.
11 But will not come back and do clean up
12 for a level that's beyond that. As Bart
13 said, there will be some restrictions
14 associated with the land use.

15 MAYOR KIMBROUGH: I understand
16 that's regulations and that's law. What
17 bothers me is when they put something and
18 if it does change over the years, which
19 it could change in development, that
20 there's no obligation there from the
21 federal government or the Army or whoever
22 put the contaminant in there, and I don't
23 see how they can ever be relieved from

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1 the responsibility of cleaning that up.

2 MR. REEDY: There is a, let me turn
3 that. Your point has absolute merit.
4 And I understand where you're coming
5 from. Let's turn the coin over. We have
6 seen this happen years ago in the very
7 first bunch of BRAC. Let's say Mr.
8 Miller owns the property, say he's the
9 Army. I come to you and go, "I'd like to
10 buy this piece of property over here."
11 Mr. Miller, "Well, that's fine. Be
12 advised that we have cleaned it up and
13 had some oil and solvents out there and
14 we've cleaned it up and you can only use
15 it for industrial." "That's all right.
16 I'm going to build, I'm building ball
17 bearings out there." So, I buy it from
18 him for an amount to clean up ball
19 bearings. I get the deed, then I'll
20 subdivide it and I'll sell it to Don,
21 Charles and you and build a subdivision
22 on it. Should Ron then, should the Army
23 have to go back and pick up the bill?

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1 That's the question that we have to ask
2 as taxpayers, should the Army have to
3 come back once they have met their
4 obligation under the law, should they
5 come back and have to clean it up so that
6 I can profit, an individual can profit
7 from the land speculation which is what
8 that would be? And Congress saw through
9 and said, "No, no, we'll sell it at fair
10 market value but you can only, if you
11 want it for ball bearings, we'll sell it
12 to you for ball bearings. If you want it
13 for day care, you may have to take
14 another piece of property."

15 MAYOR KIMBROUGH: I've expressed how
16 I feel. You haven't changed my opinion.

17 MR. REEDY: Like I said, all I'm
18 doing, not to change your opinion, I'm
19 just explaining --

20 MAYOR KIMBROUGH: Technology has
21 changed. We've seen, you know, from the
22 1930's industrial revolution, technology
23 has changed and we've had to tear down

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1 and convert it. And what we're saying,
2 if you don't use it for that specific
3 purpose, then that land cannot develop or
4 you can't do anything because of
5 restrictions on the deed. And I
6 understand the restrictions and I
7 understand what you are saying, but I
8 still --

9 MR. TURNER: Restrictions can be
10 limited and they expire over time.

11 MR. MILLER: Two hundred years from
12 now there might not be any machine shops
13 in Anniston or Fort McClellan.

14 MR. JOHNSON: We could make a day
15 care out of the entire main post --

16 MR. LEVY: If the reuse authority
17 came back and said, "Well, by god, this
18 whole place is going to be related to
19 child care." If they came back and said
20 that, we'd be stuck trying to hit those
21 reuse levels. We really would.

22 MR. TURNER: But the opposite, what
23 keeps us from doing that is if the

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1 property does not get back on the tax
2 roles, there's no economic development
3 until it's that clean. So that's why
4 we've come up with a preferred map. It

5 shows the areas we want that clean and
6 those areas that will still be mine
7 fields long after you and I are dead.

8 MAYOR KIMBROUGH: The point of it
9 all is that a risk factor, and that has
10 been determined and drawn on the maps and
11 everything, and then as we look at the
12 contamination and everything, then this
13 risk factor will be used to see what
14 level that property needs to be cleaned
15 up to meet what the reuse authority has
16 designated in the different areas. And
17 from that standpoint, when federal
18 government cleans it up, then if it meets
19 the level of machine shop and it's got to
20 stay at that level and cannot ever be
21 used for anything else unless the
22 property owner chooses to clean it
23 himself if he wants to transfer that

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1 property.

2 MR. REEDY: And actually that does
3 happen in the private sector.

4 MR. JOHNSON: I was going to say one
5 thing we've done though, in fact we did
6 it recently, I did it at a superfund site
7 in Florence. It was an industrial
8 cleanup. We cleaned up, it was lead.
9 And we had industrial levels, but after
10 we cleaned it up, we were going to put
11 deed restrictions on the property, but we
12 went back and did a post-risk assessment
13 and realized, well, you know, we met the
14 residential standard here. Because when
15 you are out there with a backhoe, you
16 know, sometimes it's hard to know if you
17 are getting, you know, dirty stuff or
18 clean. In this particular situation, we
19 met residential. So, took the deed
20 restrictions off. Even though it's
21 currently in an industrial park, you can
22 go out there and build a playground on
23 it. So, that post-risk assessment is

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1 something that I'm sure we'll try to take
2 advantage of when we can.

3 MR. LEVY: I think as a taxpayer
4 another question that you have to ask
5 yourself too, what is the value of that
6 piece of property? If you are buying on
7 acre's worth of land which would normally
8 cost you, I don't know, what does an
9 acre's worth of land go for?

10 MR. TURNER: Say three thousand
11 dollars.

12 MR. LEVY: Three thousand dollars
13 and it's going to cost you, you know,
14 forty million dollars to clean it up.
15 What is the value of that piece of
16 property? Is it worth the forty million
17 dollars?

18 MR. TURNER: It has what the reuse
19 authority says, the whole post has, and
20 that is a negative value. That is the
21 government is going to have to pay us to
22 take it. I'd appreciate you going ahead
23 and tell them next time you talk to them.

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1 MR. JOHNSON: It is tax dollars we
2 are talking about.

3 MR. LEVY: Yes, that's a
4 consideration we need to think about when
5 we go into cleanup phases. Is the value
6 of that land worth the forty million to
7 clean it up or whatever it costs to clean
8 it up. Is it better to clean it up to a
9 certain level and accept a certain risk
10 to that level and have the cost less.

11 MR. JOHNSON: Any other questions?

12 MR. THOMASSEY: Yeah, one other sort
13 of twist on what we're talking about.
14 And that is, if we determine a piece of
15 land in the feasibility study is going to
16 be cleaned up to say the one in ten
17 thousand level to be turned over for a
18 machine shop. Then later on, that
19 particular chemical or suite of chemicals
20 is later found to be more toxic than it
21 was at the time a determination was made
22 and now you're down to the one to five
23 thousand or the one to one thousand

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1 level. Is the government going to take
2 and carry the liability to bring it back
3 to that new level?

4 MR. JOHNSON: Yes.

5 MR. THOMASSEY: So even in the
6 future, the U.S. government will be
7 liable to keep it to the proper level if
8 new information comes along?

9 MR. LEVY: Yes. In fact under
10 CERFA, in 128 in CERFA, we have a
11 liability to come back and clean up
12 property where, what's the word, new
13 discovery, I don't know what the
14 terminology is. Assuming you occupy the
15 land, all of sudden you go out in your
16 backyard and you dug up twenty drums of
17 some sort of solvent that had been
18 contaminated that we didn't know about,
19 then the government would be liable and
20 we'd have to come in and do that clean
21 up.

22 MR. TURNER: Subsequently discovered.

23 MR. LEVY: And that's by law, right.

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1 But, you know, change in, I don't know
2 how change in standards affects that.

3 MR. THOMASSEY: Or toxicity.

4 MR. LEVY: Or toxicity. But if we
5 went back and said we believe that the
6 carcinogen levels for this particular
7 thing are actually not there and they are
8 some here, I don't know how --

9 MR. JOHNSON: That changes because
10 in fact the reference doses and toxicity
11 change a lot. Just like PCP's did
12 recently. We changed the, I believe the
13 reference dose for it actually was a
14 little bit less stringent than it was
15 before. But, that's kind of general
16 wording and all of our no further action,
17 regulations change, or if the risk
18 changes or so forth, we'll come back to
19 see. Any other questions?

20 The last slide basically I'm just talking
21 about, really our mission. Actually it's
22 our mission statement that we adopted not
23 long ago, we've been working on this. I

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1 mean, it, of course, protecting human
2 health and the environment while
3 maintaining stewardship of our resources.
4 And in doing so, we're going to use risk
5 management and risk assessment and use
6 these tools to make decisions to get this
7 base cleaned up.

8 MR. LEVY: As opposed to the other
9 alternative which is what?

10 MR. JOHNSON: As opposed to the
11 philosophy we're familiar with the old
12 (inaudible) attach approach. Regulations
13 in the past tend to have a number that
14 was pulled out of the air and said "Thou
15 shalt clean to this level. We don't care
16 what it cost. We don't really care what
17 the risks are, that's the number that
18 we've got. And you're going to clean it
19 to that standard. And if you don't,
20 we'll fine you, arrest you, and throw in
21 jail, whatever." With time, and I think
22 with the tools such as this, we realize
23 that now we can calculate risk,

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1 understand risk, we can start to use our
2 money and time more wisely. In fact,
3 we're fixing to get ready to come out in
4 a few months with a risk-based clean up
5 program for our tanks. UST's were a
6 classic example. A hundred TPH's was
7 clean. If the soil was over that level,
8 you clean it up. Was a hundred TPH a
9 risk? No, it wasn't. Where did the
10 number come from? That was the number we
11 were given, so you see.

12 MR. TURNER: That's the imaginary
13 number I was talking about earlier.

14 MR. JOHNSON: That is an example of
15 numbers pulled out of the air. Where did
16 they come from? So, because I've got
17 sites now where we got some oil ponds out
18 here and, you know, we've crunched the
19 numbers, we're like, there are no risks
20 here. It's an esthetic problem, it looks
21 bad, what do we do? Well, we'll go ahead
22 and remove it as an esthetic problem, but
23 as far as risk to human health there were

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1 none. We didn't have to have it at this
2 site. We could have had some ecological
3 risks, but the setting it was in, they
4 just were not there. So, you're able to
5 make more wise decisions now. RIKER is
6 going to the same concept with the risk
7 base clean-ups. I doubt we'll ever see
8 any set limits in stone. Even MCL's,
9 water clean up standards. If the public
10 is not tapped into a drinking water and
11 the contamination is say in the surface
12 but it's not ever leaking into the ground
13 water, it's not ever causing a problem.
14 Then why would you want to go and spend
15 millions of dollars cleaning it up? Is
16 that a wise choice? Well, not really.
17 Now, there's potential there for that to
18 leak or cause problems. I think we need
19 to go ahead and take care of it. So,
20 that's the change the paradigm shield
21 from the old way of environmental
22 regulations to today.
23 And the last, my last note was if we don't get

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1 buy-in from all stakeholders, including
2 the RAB, the IRA, the community,
3 everybody on what we're doing here, then
4 what good is it? If we can't demonstrate
5 that we've done a good job, we've
6 protected human health and environment,
7 then I'm not so sure we've done a good
8 job. So that kind of summarizes or sort
9 of concludes my presentation. Do you
10 want to add anything, Bart?

11 MR. REEDY: I would like to point out
12 that, let's take the one in ten thousand.
13 That usually gets everybody's attention.
14 Again, that's, that is just a probability
15 it's not a prediction. That number is
16 generated on a whole bunch of
17 assumptions, and those assumptions are
18 necessarily, from my point of view, the
19 EPA's point of view, those assumptions
20 are necessarily conservative because of
21 all of the things that we don't know.
22 For example, there's just simply no data
23 on the synergistic effect of chemicals.

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1 What happens when you mix benzene and
2 tolulene and cigarette smoke? What
3 happens when you mix all of that up and a
4 person is in that day after day after
5 day? There's no data for that. There's
6 no information out there. So, we make
7 assumptions when we start generating
8 these numbers to finally get to a level
9 and say, "If you clean it up to fifty
10 parts per million you'll be at ten to the
11 fourth." The assumptions that got us
12 there are extremely conservative. For
13 example, in air, in air emission, it is
14 assumed that the person is naked, on the
15 fence line at the property in question,
16 always down wind for seventy years, eight
17 hours a day.

18 MR. TURNER: Eating eighty pounds
19 of dirt a day.

20 MR. JOHNSON: Breathing one cubic
21 meter of air per second.

22 MR. REEDY: Okay, those are the
23 assumptions that's made. Now, we could

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1 all go back, that's unrealistic. Yes, it
2 is unrealistic. But those unrealistic
3 things, those unrealistic assumptions are
4 built in there because really there's
5 just not a data base available. We just
6 simply don't know. And that's why some
7 of the assumptions you'll see you'll go,
8 that'll never happen.

9 MR. JOHNSON: Now, if the group as a
10 whole or the technical review committee
11 or anybody, I mean, we can sit down and
12 go through specifically how we calculate
13 risk. We can do a scenario where I'm
14 coming to put fifty-five gallons of
15 benzene in your front yard, and I'll
16 calculate a risk for you, and show you
17 the numbers, show you the conservatism,
18 everything. We can do that if you want
19 to see it. Or if, you know, if the
20 technical review committee would like to
21 see that. I mean, if it would help folks
22 understand those uncertainties or the
23 conservative elements that were put into

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1 this assessment

2 MR. THOMASSEY: Chris, you used a
3 term the technical review committee.

4 MR. JOHNSON: I was thinking that
5 y'all had adopted one now, I might be
6 wrong there. Is that true?

7 MR. THOMASSEY: No.

8 MR. LEVY: No, I don't think so. We
9 never had a technical review committee.
10 In fact, a technical review committee
11 were predecessors to RAB's.

12 MR. COX: The depot has one.

13 MR. JOHNSON: I won't even use that
14 as an official name. It was more like
15 the document review committee or
16 something that we talked about in the
17 initial charter.

18 MR. THOMASSEY: So far we're just one
19 big board with the membership charter
20 committee and the community relations
21 committee, as far as I know. Correct me
22 if I'm wrong.

23 MR. TURNER: I think that's right

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1 MR. THOMASSEY: Okay. I think that
2 Chris made an offer that's certainly
3 worth discussion if anybody has any
4 desire or any feel for getting into the
5 risk assessment area in more depth and
6 understanding it in greater detail.

7 MR. CUNNINGHAM: Seems to me somehow
8 there is a tradeoff here that we have to
9 deal with, we the RAB, that you've got to
10 have some more information to be able, I
11 believe, to intelligently deal with that.
12 That is what is the LRA's plan for the
13 different areas in order to somehow
14 arrive at an acceptable risk for specific
15 areas throughout the post. And it will
16 vary depending on the projected use of
17 this

18 MR. TURNER: It gets worse, and that
19 is the projected uses are going to
20 change. We've got a comprehensive reuse
21 plan that is being finished as we speak.
22 The thing is primarily designed not to
23 apply for future use but to get the

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1 property conveyed from the government in
2 terms most favorable to the LRA's or to
3 the community. So those future uses can
4 change. But the reuse plan can be
5 amended.

6 MR. LEVY: The Army will take at the
7 time we generate the risk assessment,
8 which will be for the RAB's review, what
9 is the proposed reuse of that piece of
10 property at the time. We can only do
11 what we know at the time. So the risk
12 assessments will be generated based on
13 what, at that point, we've been told is
14 the intended reuse. And you should see
15 that in the documents that are put
16 together.

17 MR. JOHNSON: One thing I'd like to
18 add, though, see, when we actually
19 calculated the risks, we go ahead and
20 crush the numbers for industrial and
21 residential. That way you've already got
22 the numbers there in the document.
23 Reuse, we haven't gotten to clean up yet,

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1 we can automatically pull that document
2 and say, well, they have got to that,
3 we'll go to the residential clean up
4 instead of industrial. So go ahead and
5 kind of tailor your risk assessment to be
6 used in the reuse plan.

7 MR. LEVY: And we'll be asking for
8 your input at the time we make those
9 decisions. Landfill three for example,
10 and the risk assessment that goes along
11 with that.

12 MR. REEDY: Maybe by way of
13 illustration this will maybe clear it up.
14 Keep in mind, one ten thousand is the
15 risk that we were talking about while
16 ago. Let's just talk about that for a
17 minute, being industrial. It's
18 industrial clean up level that's equal to
19 one times ten to the negative fourth, for
20 a particular chemical. For a particular
21 chemical and, help me out here, for a
22 particular chemical, a chemical of
23 concern for a particular chemical in the

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1 soil. You can, we have, what did you
2 call them pointy heads? We've got a
3 whole pile of pointy head folks that can
4 generate a number that says for chemical
5 A, chemical of concern A, that equals,
6 let pick fifty-five parts per million in
7 the soil. So let's say, are you with me
8 so far? One in ten thousand is
9 industrial, ten to the negative fourth.
10 If we take chemical A, whatever it may
11 be, this would be cleaned to ten to the
12 negative fourth, that's the one in ten
13 thousand at fifty-five parts. So we can
14 literally go out and sample, okay. Just
15 the way you would dig a footing, with
16 lime or flags, however you want to mark
17 it off and have a sampling to know where
18 it's fifty-five -- let's say, I will for
19 illustration purposes only, because it's
20 not reality, fifty-six in here,
21 fifty-five here, and fifty-four at this
22 point. Okay, that means, and we can do
23 that laterally and this way, okay? So

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1 that's where we know how much we want to
2 clean. Now, one of the decisions that
3 we'll be looking at when we get, when we
4 finally get to cleaning up is going to be
5 if this right here, if that much of the
6 property is good at for ten, this right
7 here, this volume right there, let's say
8 that equals, this little wad of dirt
9 right there, let's say that wad of dirt
10 right there is ten thousand cubic yards.
11 Clean up ten thousand cubic yards is
12 going to cost so many dollars. However,
13 if we want to go out here to --
14 fifty-four is obviously not the right
15 number -- but if we go out here just a
16 little bit further, we can get to a ten
17 to the negative sixth. That will be one
18 in a million. And that, we can, we can
19 equate that cost so many more cubic
20 yards, how much extra is it going to
21 cost? Sometimes this difference,
22 sometimes this delta is very small. And
23 actually you'll find most DOD components,

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1 if this difference is not that
2 substantial, let's go ahead and clean it.
3 That way there's no encumbrances on the
4 property. Truth be told, you and I as
5 the taxpayers probably make out a lot
6 better because we've got the attorneys

7 out. There are no deed restrictions to
8 have to check for the next fifty years.

9 MR. THOMASSEY: Another pointy headed
10 group.

11 MR. REEDY: Charles is too close for
12 me to say that. He can reach out and get
13 me. And does that make sense? And
14 that's the realty that we're going to
15 come to right there.

16 MR. THOMASSEY: Bart, would you put
17 some of the terms that we've been using,
18 I think that process of generating those
19 numbers is remedial investigation, and

20 then getting into the risk assessment
21 determining what you are going to do is
22 the feasibility study. Portion of what
23 we are going to be doing and how we are

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1 going to be looking at what happens.

2 MR. REEDY: The risk assessment is
3 actually part of the remedial
4 investigation. The feasibility study,
5 and that's in the risk assessment, the
6 feasibility study says "Well, now, we can
7 clean this up for this many dollars. We
8 can clean this up for this many dollars."
9 And also it looks at nine criteria:
10 What's it cost, what are the benefits,
11 community acceptance. There's nine of
12 them, and I'm just drawing a blank. I
13 wish I could spout them off to you, but I
14 can't. But that's in the feasibility
15 study. The feasibility study is
16 actually, can we really do this or is it
17 a pipe dream.

18 MR. LEVY: And it also looks at
19 capping versus pump and treat.

20 MR. REEDY: Yeah, and that's another
21 thing. We could cover the whole thing up
22 with concrete, that would cost us so
23 much. We could dig all of this up, that

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1 would cost so much.

2 MR. COX: Or you could treat it in
3 place.

4 MR. REEDY: Or you can treat it in
5 place. Or we can leave it alone, put a
6 fence around it and let the bugs eat it
7 if it's something that biodegrades.

8 MR. CONROY: This might take a
9 minute. And actually I'm more interested
10 in getting home than taking up more
11 minutes. But, we understand I think
12 basically how chemicals of concern affect
13 lab rats and how that then relates to the
14 statistical models that we discussed.
15 Poisoning lab rats with chemicals,
16 poisoning lab rats is one thing, but how
17 about blowing lab rats up? And my point
18 then is how do you calculate risk when it
19 comes to unexploded ordinance and that's
20 a bigger subject of course, but is there
21 a quick answer? We discussed that a
22 little bit. I think it's important for
23 this group to get a feel for that.

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1 MR. JOHNSON: I think the problem,
2 the sticky issue right now at the EPA and
3 the DOD and the UXO for that very reason
4 is coming up with the statistical way of
5 modeling risk to people. What's the
6 probability of you walking out there and
7 getting blown up?

8 MR. REEDY: You can literally
9 calculate, the pointy head person
10 calculate what's the chances of blowing
11 up if we take off walking across Pelham
12 Range. And we can generate a number and
13 you could swear that number is good.
14 The problem with it is the end point.
15 Chris mentioned the end point. The end
16 point is where DOD and EPA are at
17 absolute far ends of the spectrum. The
18 end point, which is where the slope
19 intersects is a really dramatic kind of
20 an end point. You blow up. And so DOD
21 and EPA are fighting tooth and nail right
22 now over that.

23 MR. LEVY: You don't blow up slowly,

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1 you just blow up quickly.

2 MR. THOMASSEY: Before everybody
3 blows up, why don't I let everybody take
4 about a five to seven minute break and
5 come back and get this finished.

6 (WHEREUPON A BREAK WAS TAKEN.)

7 MR. THOMASSEY: Two more quick pieces
8 of business. One is the called business,
9 and the first one is the report of the
10 committees. Chartered membership to my
11 knowledge has not had a meeting in some
12 time, nor does it need to. Community
13 relations, I don't think we've done
14 anything specific in that area, mark
15 would have reported on it, except Ron and
16 I gave a presentation to the Oxford
17 Rotary on the 29th of September, Ron?

18 MR. LEVY: Yes, sir

19 MR. THOMASSEY: And I'd say there
20 were fifteen to twenty members there.
21 And generally I gave them an overview of
22 what our mission is, who we are, what
23 they can expect from us, and a little

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1 idea where the baseline survey for Ft.
2 McClellan is, took the maps down, and
3 just talked about where we are going and
4 how I thought we interfaced with the
5 community, and the fact that we need to
6 interface more. There were some people
7 who were interested in what was happening
8 and a couple of questions about things
9 like risk and responsibility of the
10 government. Any other points, Ron, that
11 you would think of that came out of it?

12 MR. LEVY: No, I thought they seemed
13 real interested and there was some good
14 questions. One gentleman kept referring
15 to the situation down in Childersburg and
16 his experiences down there. But we are
17 going to try to do more of that if
18 possible. I know that Charles has
19 suggested that we try to get on the T.V.
20 show that's on Channel 2. I don't
21 remember what the name of that is. And I
22 talked with the public affairs office
23 about doing that, and they said they

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1 would look into it and in fact, they
2 haven't gotten back with me yet. We're
3 attempting to do more. If there are any
4 other groups that you all know of that
5 you think you would like us to address,
6 please let us know. I'd be glad, as far
7 as Fern is willing to do what we did last
8 time.

9 MR. THOMASSEY: I think we need to
10 get more than just me going out and
11 speaking. I think we need to get a group
12 of people who are willing to go out and
13 do that type of thing and interface with
14 the community. I'm certainly willing to
15 do it, but I don't want to hog the show.
16 Secondly, and I think everybody has a
17 different perspective to some extent.
18 Each person ought to go out once in a
19 while to talk to these groups. For
20 instance, and we go back to the Rotary,
21 and I told them that they probably ought
22 to ask for us to come back in nine months
23 to a year so they can give them an

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1 update. I think somebody else ought to
2 go back and talk to them the next time
3 for a fresh view from the board. Any
4 other discussion along that line? From
5 the old business, one of the things we
6 talked about, I'll start it in reverse,
7 future guest speakers. Ron?

8 MR. LEVY: The last RAB I remember,
9 we not only discussed doing this risk
10 assessment, we discussed doing cultural,
11 historical and I've talked with TRADOC
12 who has got an archeologist up there
13 that's working the programmatic
14 agreement, which may be of some interest
15 to the group. Essentially that's a
16 document that's signed by the State
17 Historic Preservation Office, the
18 advisory council, which is the federal
19 side of that, and the Army, saying --
20 simplistically what can and cannot be
21 done to the historic properties. And it
22 also addresses things like archeological
23 investigations, future ongoing actions

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1 there. So that's something that I had
2 proposed and don't know what the RAB
3 feels about that.

4 MR. THOMASSEY: The one question
5 that comes to mind are there specific
6 areas on Ft. McClellan right now that we
7 should be focusing on from an
8 archeological standpoint, and do they
9 collide or conflict at all with some of
10 the LRA's requirements or desires?

11 MR. LEVY: At this point not that I'm
12 aware of, no. The historical buildings
13 would probably be of the most
14 significant, in terms of what may or may
15 not happen with the LRA. The sites, most
16 of those are out in areas that have not
17 been identified for, other than passive
18 reuse.

19 MR. CONROY: The archeological sites
20 are interesting, I don't think there is
21 any doubt about that. But how do they
22 relate to clean up and the focus of this
23 group?

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1 MR. LEVY: Well, we haven't done any
2 phase two work. Phase one being the
3 shovel test and defining that there is
4 something there, and phase two going in
5 and looking hard at the site to try to
6 pull out whatever artifacts are in the
7 site and then from there move on. Our
8 next step is to do phase two work. And
9 until we are really done with those phase
10 two sites, we really won't know what's
11 truly going to qualify or not qualify
12 from a preservation standpoint. Those
13 are archeological sites now.

14 MR. CONROY: So there are
15 contaminated areas that are of
16 archeological significance?

17 MR. LEVY: No, I didn't say that. I'm
18 not aware of any archeological sites that
19 were identified in phase one that are in
20 areas identified from a clean up
21 standpoint.

22 MR. JOHNSON: Even UXO?

23 MR. LEVY: UXO is a different story.

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1 UXO, yes.

2 MAYOR KIMBROUGH: Ron, where are we
3 on the original time line we were sent as
4 far as the procedure?

5 MR. LEVY: For where?

6 MAYOR KIMBROUGH: In clean up. You
7 know when we went through the date, the
8 time line --

9 MR. LEVY: For unexploded ordinance?

10 MR. TURNER: Just the environmental
11 baseline.

12 MR. LEVY: So you are asking me
13 where we stand on completing?

14 MAYOR KIMBROUGH: Yes, where are we?

15 MR. LEVY: The EBS document, we're
16 still working through. And our best
17 guess is that we can complete it at the
18 end of November. That's our best guess.
19 It could, in fact, take longer. But
20 that's what we are hoping for so we can
21 work through all the issues that are
22 going on right now.

23 MR. TURNER: The last IPR I went to

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1 talked about environmental baseline
2 survey last March and an EIS in August.

3 MR. LEVY: The EIS will be completed
4 in August, the ROD that's expected, the
5 record of decision, is 15 October.

6 MR. TURNER: Last week?

7 MR. LEVY: 15 October 98.

8 MR. JOHNSON: I'd like to add that
9 the EBS is an important document no
10 doubt. But I don't want anybody to think
11 that's throwing a curve in our game plan.
12 We are currently investigating dozens of
13 sites right now on the base. We don't
14 have to have that done to go forward.

15 MR. TURNER: The BCP is the more
16 important document, isn't it?

17 MR. LEVY: It is. And that's not
18 even stopping us from moving forward.
19 We're still working sites, and the BCP
20 again, best case, we're expecting thirty
21 to sixty days after the EBS when we can
22 complete that.

23 MR. TURNER: What's the hold up on

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1 the EBS?

2 MR. LEVY: We've still got issues
3 that we're trying to get through making
4 some more changes to the document. One
5 of the things I think I told you at the
6 last meeting was that we had stop work
7 action because of funding, the funding
8 got back into the project and it's taken
9 us a while to ramp back into it and get
10 the contractor back going and changing
11 the document the way it needs to be
12 changed. So, we've got a meeting we've
13 got a meeting scheduled for the BCP this
14 week, talk to the BCP this week, myself,
15 Chris and Bart and the base clean up team
16 down at ADEM. And I think we've got all
17 the comments in on the EBS and we're
18 working those comments now making changes
19 to the documents. So my best guess again
20 for the EBS would be end of November.
21 And for the BCP we're talking, best case
22 thirty to sixty days after the final EBS.
23 Worst case, at least six months after the

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1 EBS. You guys, Bart, Chris, got any
2 difference of opinion on that?

3 MR. JOHNSON: I think we can step
4 that up. Now that we're getting some of
5 the contractor issues I think resolved.

6 MR. THOMASSEY: Next item from old
7 business, I just wanted to remind
8 everybody that the last meeting the RAB
9 voted to cancel the December meeting and
10 reschedule January and February. And
11 reminding everybody that January the 12th
12 is the meeting in January of '98 and
13 February the 9th of the following month.
14 And then we get back on the schedule of
15 the third Monday in each month.

16 MR. REEDY: Again those dates?

17 MR. THOMASSEY: No meeting in
18 December. In January it is the 12th and
19 in February it is the 9th.

20 MR. REEDY: So then March would be
21 the 16th?

22 MR. THOMASSEY: The third Monday.
23 Any new business?

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1 MR. LEVY: Before we go on. The
2 Restoration Advisory board web site is up
3 and running, and
4 WWW.McClellan.Army.Mil\Rab. If you go in
5 under organizations under Fort
6 McClellan's web site it's there. You've
7 got to go under organizations under the
8 home page.

9 MR. TURNER: Did they register it
10 with Search Engines?

11 MR. LEVY: I know McClellan is with
12 Search Engines. The other thing that's
13 in there that's neat is a membership
14 application which can be electronically
15 submitted where we can now start
16 membership electronically. Somebody can
17 go in there and submit their application
18 right off the web site and we can collect
19 those and hold those for when we need to
20 select members. So that can all be done
21 electronically. Just type in and hit the
22 button and submit it.

23 MR. REEDY: Charles, do you know how

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1 one would go about notifying the people
2 who are in charge of the various search
3 engines of the sites?

4 MR. TURNER: I think there's a
5 service where all you have to do is send
6 it to one place that will register with
7 forty of them at once. I think most
8 people use one of three -- (inaudible)
9 And if you register with those four, you
10 are going to pick up most of the search
11 engine traffic.

12 MR. LEVY: I know McClellan's home
13 page is registered. Does that mean
14 because it's a sub set of it that it
15 would be registered?

16 MR. TURNER: It depends on how they
17 registered --- (inaudible).

18 MR. LEVY: I'll check on that to see
19 how that works because I don't really
20 know

21 MAYOR KIMBROUGH: On the programs,
22 and I don't know if this would be a valid
23 point, could we have a discussion

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1 sometime on the difference between EPA
2 and DOD as far as the clean up of
3 unexploded ordinance and what the issues
4 are on that in the future?

5 MR. TURNER: Just explain the
6 government to us, Bart.

7 MR. LEVY: That's a tough one
8 actually.

9 MR. JOHNSON: Probably the best
10 person though to pull in is the guy AEC
11 heading up the range rule, and he's
12 heading up the risk model, and get that
13 perspective, and pull in somebody from
14 headquarters in EPA possibly.

15 MR. LEVY: And the range rule right
16 now is still out for comment. There's
17 differences but, again, it's not a done
18 deal. When it becomes a done deal,
19 assumably EPA and DOD who have agreed by
20 then.

21 MAYOR KIMBROUGH: I would just like
22 to know the issues.

23 MR. LEVY: Would would all like to

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1 believe that all of our agencies are in
2 total agreement and that there are no
3 issues.

4 MR. REEDY: I might, folks, I'd love
5 to, I'm not going to sit here and lie to
6 you, I'm not sure that I know I could
7 intelligently speak to what all the
8 issues are. I'll see if I can find, I
9 know a couple of people that are working
10 on the range rule. Mayor, you're desire,
11 I'll see what I can do before I make a
12 commitment to you. But it would, let me
13 check into it and then we'll talk.

14 MR. JOHNSON: Bart, I'll add too,
15 Larry could do it, he represents the
16 state on the range rule. Larry Bryant.

17 MR. LEVY: I'd like to see that.
18 Larry would be a good person.

19 MR. REEDY: There is one point to
20 that that we ought to be cognizant of.
21 That is, we live in a political world,
22 and whether we like it or not that's the
23 way it is. And sometimes there are turf

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1 battles that go on, and so things are
2 presented as issues by one entity that
3 really are no more than just kind of a
4 smoke screen for being able to have
5 control over one piece of the range rule.
6 And it's there, there isn't anything much
7 more contentious right now than the range
8 rule. And it's extremely political. But
9 I'll see if I can get a one-pager.

10 MR. TURNER: Something else we might
11 want to be briefed on comprehensively.

12 MR. THOMASSEY: What we're doing is
13 looking for something to hone in on in
14 November or are we still going to go
15 ahead and have the archeological
16 presentation? I took from the
17 discussion that it was probably something
18 we could delay until there was more need
19 for it.

20 MR. LEVY: You know, I'm at your
21 beckon call in terms of what we want
22 here.

23 MR. THOMASSEY: I'm asking the board

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1 to some extent, because we did discuss
2 that archeological proposal that had been
3 the presentation that was in the minutes
4 from the last meeting scheduled for
5 November. Is that what we still want?

6 MR. TURNER: I think that would be
7 good.

8 MR. JOHNSON: I would like to make a
9 suggestion on the presentation, I mean,
10 could we not just have a big rap session?
11 Questions and answers, open up the floor,
12 anything goes to anybody?

13 MR. THOMASSEY: Among ourselves.

14 MR. JOHNSON: Just to kind of give,
15 you know, maybe a break off the formal
16 presentations. That's just a suggestion.

17 MR. TURNER: For my part, I'm
18 finally to the point where I'm
19 understanding the presentation now.
20 There was a long time when, you know, it
21 was just acronym soup.

22 MR. THOMASSEY: I think what we were
23 pointing at, you know, do we want to stay

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1 with the archeological? Charles said
2 yes. What do the rest of you think?

3 MR. THOMASSEY: We had it scheduled.
4 Stay with it. It will give us a good
5 point of reference, and at the same time,
6 I think we ought to look at asking each
7 other questions. We've done pretty good
8 during this session too, with the
9 interchange and the questions and the
10 comments that have come up. So I think
11 everybody is beginning to understand some
12 of the alphabet soup.

13 MR. TURNER: I also notice attendance
14 is up routinely just over the last four
15 or five months. We are routinely getting
16 eleven people here at 6:30. That's good.
17 We went for a stretch there last year
18 where there was five or six.

19 MR. REEDY: When will we get the
20 data back from the background?

21 MS. KINGSBERRY: I don't know. I'll
22 have to give Chris a call and find out
23 for you.

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1 MR. THOMASSEY: I didn't catch it
2 all. What do you mean background?

3 MR. REEDY: One of the components,
4 very briefly, suffer with me, one of the
5 components that Chris touched on in the
6 risk assessment was ambient baseline. We
7 do, there is one thing that we know about
8 Fort McClellan and the surrounding areas,
9 and that is the soil is --

10 MR. LEVY: Highly mineralized?

11 MR. REEDY: No, it's not highly
12 mineralized, it contains a lot of
13 minerals. So, but you know, there are a
14 lot of compounds. One of the compounds
15 that we as clean-up people have seen over
16 the years that can drive a risk
17 assessment and drive it artificially is
18 arsenic. Another one would be lead,
19 another one would be chrome. Those
20 things, we mine those, they come out of
21 the ground. Some places in the world,
22 you know, you dig it up. We have a
23 feeling that might be pretty high here in

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1 some settings. So what we have done is
2 we've spent some of your tax money to go
3 out to clean areas, areas where there is
4 absolutely nothing that indicates
5 anything other than just foot traffic
6 every once in a while over the past two
7 or three thousand years, take a soil
8 sample and water sample and establish
9 what background concentrations of lead,
10 of all the metals, so that we can compare
11 that suite against when we go to T-54 and
12 yank a sample out of site T-54. And we
13 can have the background concentration,
14 what we found here, as opposed to zero or
15 a best guess of what it ought to be. So
16 we're doing this background survey. It's
17 ongoing right now.

18 MR. JOHNSON: Ought to be about
19 wrapped up.

20 MR. REEDY: It ought to be getting
21 real close to getting done. And that
22 will give us an idea of what we can
23 expect and compare all the other sites

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1 to.

2 MR. LEVY: Do you think we'd be
3 ready for January?

4 MS. KINGSBERRY: Oh, I don't know.
5 When they are done with it, I'll let you
6 know and we'll schedule a briefing on it
7 if you want.

8 MR. THOMASSEY: Ron, any additional?

9 MR. LEVY: Just know that next month
10 we're back here again. December we're
11 off, that was voted on the RAB last time.
12 And January we were going to Weaver,
13 correct? That's what we understood in
14 the last meeting. So if anybody sees it
15 any different than that, once a quarter
16 we were going outside of Fort McClellan.
17 And the next time would be Weaver. And
18 Mayor Kimbrough, you mentioned that you
19 thought the meeting center would be ready
20 by January?

21 MR. THOMASSEY: Does somebody have a
22 calendar? What is the third Monday in
23 November?

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1 MR. REEDY: The 17th.

2 MR. THOMASSEY: So the next meeting
3 will be on the 17th right here at 6:30.
4 Anybody else? Ron, do you have any other
5 topics?

6 MR. LEVY: That's it.

7 MR. THOMASSEY: Anybody else have
8 any topics?

9 MR. MILLER: I just wanted to ask a
10 question. I guess several months ago
11 Pete made a presentation and talked about
12 a large block of acreage going to the
13 national park service. Is there any
14 update on that?

15 MR. CONROY: Relates to the National
16 Wildlife Refuge and the US Fish and
17 Wildlife Service, and the negotiations
18 are still ongoing and actually things
19 look good. We are continuing to have
20 monthly meetings with the Fish and
21 Wildlife Service and the Department of
22 Conservation, and a non-profit group, the
23 Nature Conservancy, which is helping to

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1 facilitate. And we'll keep you in touch.

2 MR. MILLER: Do you think it will
3 pass?

4 MR. CONROY: If I were a gambling
5 man, I would put a little money on it.

6 MR. THOMASSEY: Anybody else?

7 MR. TURNER: Move to adjourn.

8 MR. ELSEY: Second.

9 MR. THOMASSEY: Adjourned. Thank
10 you, we'll see you next month.

11 (WHEREUPON THIS MEETING WAS
12 CONCLUDED AT 8:15 P.M.)

13

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STATE OF ALABAMA)

CALHOUN COUNTY)

I, DONNA D. GALLAHAR, a Court
Reporter and a Notary Public in and for
the State of Alabama at Large, duly
commissioned and qualified, hereby
certify that this proceeding was taken
before me, then as by me reduced to
shorthand, afterwards transcribed upon a
computer, and that the foregoing is a
true and correct transcript of the
proceeding to the best of my ability.

I FURTHER CERTIFY this
proceeding was taken at the time and
place above captioned, and was concluded
without adjournment.

I FURTHER CERTIFY that I am
not a relative, counsel, or attorney for
any party, or otherwise interested in the

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1 outcome of this action.

2 IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have
3 hereunto set my hand and affixed my seal
4 at Anniston, Alabama, on this the
5 _____ day of October, 1997.

6
7
8
9 _____
10 DONNA D. GALLAHAR
11 Notary Public in and for
12 Alabama at Large

13 My commission expires May 21, 2001.
14
15
16
17
18 _____
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