

RESTORATION ADVISORY BOARD

FORT McCLELLAN, ALABAMA

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Taken before SAMANTHA E. NOBLE, a Court  
Reporter and Commissioner for Alabama at Large, at  
Weaver City Hall, Weaver, Alabama, on the 17th day of  
September, 2001, commencing at approximately 6:30 p.m.

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1                   MAYOR WILLIAM KIMBROUGH: Let me  
2                   call the meeting to order, please. And I'd like to  
3                   welcome the visitors and all the staff on behalf of  
4                   the City of Weaver. We're glad that you could be  
5                   with us tonight. Appreciate the ladies that are  
6                   sitting in the back that have prepared and worked hard  
7                   for this. And I've got the City Councilman, Gerald  
8                   Cobb, is on our City Council and he's in attendance.

9                   At this time, I think it would be  
10                  very appropriate -- we know of the past week and we  
11                  know of the crisis that we've been through and is  
12                  still in existence and we know of decisions that are  
13                  being made, and I think it would be very appropriate  
14                  for us to bow our heads in a moment of silence, at  
15                  this time, please.

16                 (Whereupon, a moment of silence was taken.)

17                  MAYOR WILLIAM KIMBROUGH: For the  
18                  visitors, this is the -- the RAB is Advisory Board  
19                  members, and we will carry the business on. The  
20                  members, as the business goes, will ask questions.  
21                  And then at the conclusion, if anybody that is not on  
22                  the RAB committee, then we will open up for questions  
23                  for those people at the end.

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1 I need to call roll, at this time.  
2 Barry Cox? Glynn Ryan?  
3 MR. GLYNN RYAN: Here.  
4 MAYOR WILLIAM KIMBROUGH: Scott  
5 Beckett? Craig Branchfield? James Buford?  
6 MR. JAMES BUFORD: Present.  
7 MAYOR WILLIAM KIMBROUGH: Monty  
8 Clendenin? Pete Conroy? Donald Cunningham?  
9 MR. DON CUNNINGHAM: Here.  
10 MAYOR WILLIAM KIMBROUGH: Jerome  
11 Elser?  
12 MR. JERRY ELSE: Here.  
13 MAYOR WILLIAM KIMBROUGH: Donna  
14 Fathke.  
15 MS. DONNA FATHKE: Here.  
16 MAYOR WILLIAM KIMBROUGH: Curtis  
17 Franklin?  
18 MR. CURTIS FRANKLIN: Here.  
19 MAYOR WILLIAM KIMBROUGH: Lamar  
20 Freeman? Mary Harrington? Ronald Hood? Jerry  
21 Hopper? William Kimbrough. Gary Stratton? And  
22 Fern Thomassy?  
23 MR. FERN THOMASSY: Here.

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1 MAYOR WILLIAM KIMBROUGH: Let's see,  
2 I don't believe -- one, two, three, four, five, six,  
3 seven. We got our BCT members present, also. We  
4 don't have a quorum, so we can't take any action on  
5 the minutes. We will do that at our next meeting that  
6 we have a quorum.

7 At this time, I call on Ron to get  
8 into the -- well, is there any old business?

9 MR RON LEVY: Yeah, just a couple  
10 of things. We did have a tour, as requested by the  
11 RAB during the last RAB meeting. I think we got a  
12 fairly good showing of RAB members and other  
13 interested folks.

14 You got a good impression from that  
15 tour as to what was done out there. There was some  
16 comments concerning the amount of the trees and  
17 whatnot that were removed, but for the most part, I  
18 think everybody got an understanding.

19 We're still open to additional  
20 tours, if folks want to go out and see the site, we  
21 can still attempt to arrange that. So, if anybody  
22 wants to do that, wants to get with me, personally, we  
23 can also take them, individually, within my office.

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1                   Something else that had come up  
2           during the last RAB meeting that you should have in  
3           front of you, was a request for what's in the  
4           repository. Joan, is --

5                   MS. JOAN MCKINNEY:   Yes, it's in  
6           the hand-out.

7                   MR. RON LEVY:   There is a listing of  
8           all documents that are in the repository, included  
9           preliminary assessments, SIs, RIs, decision documents,  
10          and other type documents that are available for the  
11          public to review.   It also gives on the front cover a  
12          listing of the repository locations, who's the point  
13          of contact and their phone numbers.

14                   Diane Wilkerson from our office --  
15          Diane, where are you at?  Diane's responsible for  
16          putting those documents in there and can also, if  
17          necessary, we can provide copies of specific things,  
18          if really needed.

19                   That's all I've got for old  
20          business.   We do have a presentation tonight under  
21          new business; Ellis Pope from Mobile District Corps of  
22          Engineers.  Ellis, do you want to come on up here?

23                   Ellis is the technical manager for

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1 Mobile. And he's going to talk to you, as we had  
2 discussed in the past, on an update on information  
3 coming out of the investigation associated with the  
4 landfill, landfill three.

5 I want to caution everybody, this is  
6 preliminary data that we had said that we were going  
7 to show folks what the data is, but it's only  
8 preliminary at this point. Ellis.

9 MR. ELLIS POPE: Is it okay if I  
10 sit here to -- I hate to have my back to so many of  
11 you, but facilitate the computer here.

12 As Ron said, this is to provide an  
13 update. Back at the June meeting, we gave you some  
14 information about what we had found to date at  
15 landfill three. And at that time, we had a work plan  
16 in place to install some additional wells.

17 And what we're going to do here  
18 tonight is give you an update of that information that  
19 we found.

20 MR. RON LEVY: Let me point out for  
21 the RAB members, in front of you, also, is a copy of  
22 the slides and the maps. So, if you want to follow  
23 along with those.

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1                   MR. ELLIS POPE:    As part of the  
2                   investigation that we're doing, we've sampled some  
3                   domestic wells.    We sampled the City of Weaver's  
4                   municipal wells.   And then we installed some  
5                   additional wells off-post and one additional well  
6                   on-post and we sampled all of those wells.

7                   I'll call your attention to the map  
8                   back here.   Ron, if you would just point it out.   And  
9                   it is in your handout.   And you can see where the  
10                  Weaver supply wells are to the -- out to the west,  
11                  those two, those are the supply wells for the City of  
12                  Weaver.

13                  And, Ron, point out the landfill on  
14                  post there.   The cross-hatched area, that's landfill  
15                  three.   And then the other two wells, Medders' well  
16                  and Lowery wells, those were the two domestic wells  
17                  that we sampled off-post.   Those wells aren't being  
18                  used for drinking water, but they still are wells that  
19                  they're on the property, but they're not being used  
20                  right now.   But we were able to sample those wells.

21                  To bring you up to speed on where  
22                  we've -- what we've done so far, where we've been in



23       this whole process -- I think this slide was presented

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1       at the June RAB, but for those of you who weren't  
2       here, the landfill is about a twenty-two acre  
3       landfill. It was closed in 1967. In 1986 USATHMA,  
4       which is U. S. Army Toxic and Hazardous Materials  
5       Agency, came on-post and did some sampling.

6                       And in '92 and '94, SAIC did a  
7       remedial investigation of the landfill. And in '94,  
8       they installed some additional wells off-post, in  
9       particular in the median of Highway 21. And then they  
10      sampled those wells in July of '95 and determined that  
11      there was some contamination in well number twelve  
12      off-post.

13                     In '97, we put together a long-term  
14      monitoring plan and we sampled all of the wells at  
15      landfill three, along with all the other landfills  
16      on-post, back in '98 we sampled those wells. And you  
17      can see the results. I'll get into those results in  
18      a couple of slides later.

19                     But, at that time, we knew that  
20      there was contamination off-site, we didn't know  
21      exactly where it was going. We did a structural  
22      geology study where we went in and installed three

23        deep stratographic borings.    And Josh Jenkins with IT

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1        has briefed the RAB on that at a previous meeting.

2                    And then based on that, that geology  
3        study, we placed some additional wells.    We met with  
4        the BCT and we laid out where we thought those wells  
5        should go.    We got approval on our work plan and then  
6        we installed those wells.    And most of you probably  
7        saw, during June and July time frame, when we had one  
8        lane of traffic blocked on 21 when we were installing  
9        the wells in the median.    So, we've got those wells  
10       installed now.

11                   And the map right behind Glynn there  
12       -- Glynn, if you would just point.    If you see -- it's  
13       hard to see maybe from where you're sitting, but the  
14       ones that are in blue, those are the new wells that we  
15       installed.    We installed a total of nine wells.    The  
16       others that are shown on that map were existing wells  
17       from the '94, '95 study.

18                   And what did we find?    We sampled  
19       the City of Weaver's wells and we didn't find any  
20       contamination in those wells.    Those two water -- the  
21       well supply wells, those are clean.

22                               The two wells that I mentioned, the  
23       domestic wells off-post, those are clean.     We did

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1       find contamination both on-post and off-post in the  
2       monitoring wells associated with landfill three.   In  
3       particular, we found contamination in on-post wells  
4       G0-3, G0-4, G0-7, and G-20.

5                               You have a map there and you can see  
6       it behind Doyle and Philip here.   You see the shadow  
7       boxes on these wells.   This shows the wells  
8       where we did find contamination.

9                               I'm sorry, that's the historical  
10       contamination from the '98 sampling.

11                              The map over here shows this round  
12       in June and July.   And that should be the last map in  
13       your handout.

14                              And what we found in those wells was  
15       chlorinated solvents that exceeded our site-specific  
16       screening levels.   And those screening levels were  
17       developed -- those were risk-based screening levels  
18       that were developed in conjunction with our  
19       contractor, the Army, with EPA, and ADEM.   And these  
20       were agreed to when we first started doing work out

21 here at Fort McClellan.

22 Philip, you can -- well number

23 twelve, this is the one that had the -- I guess the

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1 most significant contamination in it in the median.

2 And you can see from this slide, this is historical

3 data. The first round of sampling was in April of

4 '95. You can see the results there. And in February

5 '98, the concentrations had increased.

6 And then in May -- we sampled that well

7 again this past May, and the concentration's still

8 increased a little bit, although not as significantly

9 as the increase was from '95 to '98.

10 MAYOR WILLIAM KIMBROUGH: Does that

11 signify that it is moving? Could we assume from that

12 that the contaminants are moving?

13 MR. ELLIS POPE: Well, it's a

14 possibility, because as you'll see from the next slide

15 as we get in -- we do see contamination in the wells

16 further down that we've installed further down.

17 This is well seven. This is

18 on-post. This is between the post boundary and the

19 landfill boundary. This is historical data here, too.

20 The first sample in that well was

21 collected in June of '92. And then we see the  
22 subsequent years in which it was sampled. It has  
23 increased. This well is closest to what we believe

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1 the source is, which is close to landfill three.  
2 It's between the highway and the landfill.

3 Well twenty-seven, which is one of  
4 the wells at Blarney Drive. And, Doyle, would you  
5 point out on that -- Blarney Drive is up to -- way to  
6 the northwest there. These were two wells that we  
7 put in that we called sentinel wells I believe is the  
8 term that Doyle has used in the past. These are in  
9 between Weaver's well field and landfill three.

10 We got a hit of carbon tetrachloride  
11 in well twenty-seven, but it was at about a half a  
12 part per billion. And it puzzled us, because we  
13 hadn't found carbon tetrachloride in any other well  
14 that we had sampled associated with landfill three.

15 We went back -- this was in June --  
16 we went back just week before last and we resampled  
17 that well and carbon tetrachloride came back  
18 non-detect. Now, what that means, I really don't  
19 know. I know that it was at an extremely low level

20       when it was sampled before, order of magnitude below  
21       the drinking water standard.

22                       But that's just a piece of data  
23       we've still got to examine, although it did come back

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1       as non-detect this last time. And like I said, it's  
2       not something we have seen in any of our analytical  
3       results from the landfill.

4                       So, what's our next step? We  
5       haven't yet determined the extent of the  
6       contamination. We need to know what distance the  
7       contamination has traveled, how deep is it. The  
8       contaminants that we're finding, these are sinkers,  
9       so, it is moving deep. We need to know how deep it  
10      is and in what direction it's moving.

11                      In order to do that, we've got to  
12      better define the ground water flow direction. We  
13      have a pretty good handle coming off-post the  
14      direction of ground water flow, but we don't have  
15      enough well data off-post to fully define that.

16                      And we will get together with the  
17      BRAC cleanup team and with our contractor and come up  
18      with what we think the best course of action for our  
19      next set of wells. And then the next step would be to

20 install these, to sample these, the new wells, and to  
21 resample existing wells.

22 And we currently have the fill area  
23 EE/CA that's ongoing. And we have a meeting with our

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1 BRAC cleanup team. We have a draft that we're  
2 looking at for remedy selection for the landfill  
3 three. And that's not to address the ground water,  
4 just to address the source, itself.

5 And then for the ground water, once  
6 we determine the extent of the plume, we may get it  
7 with our next set of wells or we may have to step back  
8 and put another -- even another set of wells in. We  
9 just don't know, at this point.

10 But then once we get that  
11 characterized, then we will complete the feasibility  
12 study and come up with a remedy selection for the  
13 ground water.

14 So, to summarize, there is certain  
15 things that we do know. We know we have  
16 contamination off-post. We know that it hasn't made  
17 it and is not in the domestic wells across the road  
18 from 21. We know that it's not in the Weaver supply

19 wells.

20 There is certain things that we  
21 don't know. We don't know completely where the  
22 extent of the plume is. We don't know how deep it's  
23 gone, yet. And that will be our next step, is to try

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1 to determine that.

2 But the bottom line is that even  
3 though we do have contaminants in the ground water,  
4 there is no threat to human health or the environment  
5 as a result of the contaminants that are there.

6 MR. PHILIP STROUD: On this, we're  
7 going to continue to investigate ground water flow  
8 direction. And the way I understand it, is at  
9 Mrs. Brown's property, we're trying to get that well  
10 --

11 MR. ELLIS POPE: Mr. Brown, uh-huh.  
12 And we have had discussions with his daughter last  
13 week and we feel pretty good now about being able to  
14 get on that property.

15 MR. PHILIP STROUD: How many wells?

16 MR. ELLIS POPE: We'll just have to  
17 sit down with you and decide that.



18 MR. PHILIP STROUD: The point is:  
19 That's real critical. It is a critical in every way,  
20 and now that it -- for shallow and deep. And it will  
21 give us a good idea whether that fault, the way it's  
22 trending or going through it. So, it's -- I think  
23 it's so -- so, if we've already got an okay to go

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1 ahead and do that, we'll get the number of wells down.

2 MS. DONNA FATHKE: Philip, can you  
3 show us on the map where this piece of property is?

4 MR. PHILIP STROUD: I don't know  
5 the exact map. I think they have a better graph of  
6 it, exactly where it is on this.

7 MR. ELLIS POPE: It's pretty much  
8 all of this area back here, there is a huge pasture  
9 back in here, farm. And it's -- so, it covers a  
10 pretty big area in here. So, you know, we're not  
11 sure, yet, exactly where we need to put the wells.  
12 But we know that some of them need to go on their  
13 property. And we were hitting a dead end previously,  
14 but we think we're making some headway now about being  
15 able to get wells in.

16 And we have seen contamination.  
17 This was the one that was installed back in '95. We

18 had contamination there. And in '98.  
19 We've installed a shallow well and a  
20 deep well here. The shallow well had no  
21 contamination in it, the deep well does. So, we know  
22 that it has moved to the north along the median of the  
23 highway, we just don't know, you know, how much

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1 further it has moved.

2 MAYOR WILLIAM KIMBROUGH: On well  
3 twenty-seven, which is on Blarney, since -- will you  
4 continue to monitor that and will you continue to  
5 monitor our domestic -- or our wells?

6 MR. ELLIS POPE: Yes. I'm not sure  
7 what type of frequency that would be, but that  
8 certainly will be something we'll be looking at.

9 Any other questions, at this time?

10 MAYOR WILLIAM KIMBROUGH: If we'll  
11 hold them to the end. Let the Advisory Committee ask  
12 questions. And then at the end we'll ask the audience  
13 for any questions that they would like for them to  
14 respond to.

15 MR. RON LEVY: I want to point out  
16 that as Ellis said, we haven't established exactly

17       where the wells are going to go in, these additional  
18       wells.   There is another step out as we talked about  
19       and we've got more work to do.   And we will come back  
20       and present this additional data as it comes to us, to  
21       the RAB.

22                       So, we're surely not complete in  
23       terms of trying to quantify what we're up against

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1       here.   So, just understand that we're still moving  
2       through this and we still need to establish, you know,  
3       what's what.

4                       MAYOR WILLIAM KIMBROUGH:   Just a  
5       statement of clarification for any citizens that might  
6       be here.   Of course, we are connected to Anniston  
7       Water System, and so, if anything were to happen to  
8       our two wells, then we do have access to their water  
9       and that we can get all that we need, as far as the  
10      supply.   So, if anybody were concerned about that, we  
11      have that taken care of that.

12                      We have one problem in that we can't  
13      get our water up to the water tank at this time --  
14      which the high elevation people would be without water  
15      -- but we're working on that.   And hopefully, we'll  
16      have that cleared up before the summer.

17 Next item, agency reports. ADEM.

18 MR. PHILIP STROUD: I'm not going  
19 to give you all another handout this week, because the  
20 last one last week will suffice. You noticed last  
21 time that we had a lot pending. I've been working on  
22 a number of those this last month.

23 We're going through a reiteration

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1 after reiteration at the state. We have a few issues  
2 we've got to take care of because we're starting  
3 hitting these contaminated sites.

4 But you can take that last one and  
5 we should have some completed by next month. But I  
6 can tell you there are still dozens of reports that  
7 were under review. A lot of them are looking really  
8 good. Really encouraged by some of them.

9 I don't have much more to add than  
10 that, except for I did go along with this tour also,  
11 as he said earlier. And I enjoyed going out with the  
12 public to see this, myself. So, if you still have  
13 any further questions from me, still get back with me.  
14 I didn't have a chance to talk to all of y'all that  
15 I'd gone out there with.

16 But that's all I have to add right  
17 now. We're moving well ahead on the reports.

18 MAYOR WILLIAM KIMBROUGH: EPA.

19 MR. DOYLE BRITTAIN: Like to start  
20 out by saying I know now why Mayor Kimbrough is so  
21 proud of Weaver; it's a beautiful town. Not had a  
22 complete tour of it, but I look forward to that one  
23 day. Just a brief drive-through. You've got a nice

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1 town here and I'm real impressed with that.

2 But as far as tonight, I just  
3 appreciate the opportunity to come over here and to  
4 visit some of the people locally here and to see  
5 Weaver. I've heard the Mayor brag about the town a  
6 lot.

7 With respect to my work, I have been  
8 reviewing some small reports, but I guess the biggest  
9 effort I've done this last month is that we're dealing  
10 with these documents on the landfills. I think there  
11 are five documents on that. There are four ring -- I  
12 mean, three-ring loose leaf notebooks. They're each  
13 one about four inches thick. We've got five of  
14 those.

15                   So, you can imagine, that is a lot  
16           of information to try to wade through.   But that's  
17           what we've been doing this last month.   And I have  
18           some comments on that.   We'll be working with the  
19           State and the Army to try to go ahead and move forward  
20           with those documents.

21                   That's kind of where we are, what  
22           we've been doing this last month.

23                   MAYOR WILLIAM KIMBROUGH:   Thank

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1           you.   JPA, nobody is present.   I didn't  
2           intentionally ignore Commissioner Wood.   Commissioner  
3           Randy Wood is a representative of this district and he  
4           is on the JPA.   Commissioner Wood, I like to catch  
5           people off guard but --

6                   COMMISSIONER RANDY WOOD:   You did a  
7           good job of it.

8                   MAYOR WILLIAM KIMBROUGH:   Would you  
9           like to make any comment as far as the cleanup or  
10          anything that's going on with the JPA?

11                   COMMISSIONER RANDY WOOD:   No.  
12          We're having the JPA meeting in the morning and we're  
13          going to be addressing -- I think that's part of the  
14          agenda we're going to be talking about.

15 MAYOR WILLIAM KIMBROUGH: And it's  
16 open to the public?

17 COMMISSIONER RANDY WOOD:  
18 Absolutely. Anybody that would like to attend, the  
19 meeting starts at 7:30 in the morning at our  
20 headquarters out there on Fort McClellan.

21 MAYOR WILLIAM KIMBROUGH: Thank you.

22 MR. PHILIP STROUD: What will some  
23 of the agenda items be?

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1 COMMISSIONER RANDY WOOD: I don't  
2 have it in front of me. We've got several of them  
3 that's coming up: A contract on a five thousand acre  
4 plot is coming up, a contract on our attorney. Two  
5 or three -- two or three real interesting things are  
6 coming up.

7 MAYOR WILLIAM KIMBROUGH: Is that  
8 five thousand the Paul Thomas property?

9 COMMISSIONER RANDY WOOD: Right.

10 MR. PHILIP STROUD: Right.

11 COMMISSIONER RANDY WOOD: If I'd  
12 known that that was going to come up, I would have  
13 been better prepared. But the Mayor is good at

14 getting me off guard.

15 MAYOR WILLIAM KIMBROUGH: Well, I  
16 didn't know you weren't going to have anybody here,  
17 Randy.

18 Ron, on the action summary sheet.

19 MR. RON LEVY: I want to go over  
20 the action summary sheet. For those of you who are in  
21 the audience who don't know what the action summary  
22 sheet is, we at the Fort, in the Transition Force, put  
23 together a listing of events, actions that go on

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1 during the month, that have gone on during the month  
2 from the previous RAB meeting.

3 We send that sheet out to the RAB  
4 members. It kind of gives them a snapshot of what's  
5 occurred over the month from the environmental work.

6 So, if you would, what this month's  
7 action summary sheet went into was the status of the  
8 landfill three. And really, basically, what we said  
9 was we were going to do it at this RAB meeting, so  
10 that's really what it talks about, the well sampling  
11 and the well installation.

12 Two items under the ordnance and  
13 explosive EE/CAs investigation. That's the work



14       that's ongoing for looking at ordnance.

15                       As most of you know, there is two  
16       particular areas on main post that are being  
17       investigated at this moment.   One is the Alpha area,  
18       which is in the north central part of the  
19       installation, and one is the Bravo area, which is in  
20       the southern westerly part of the installation.  
21       That's part of that five thousand acres that you've  
22       just mentioned.       Both of those investigations are  
23       ongoing.

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1                       We had completed the field work in  
2       the Alpha area.   Again, that's in the north central  
3       part of the installation.   And based on some of the  
4       field work, we had found that there is some area --  
5       there is an area up there where we discovered ordnance  
6       where we hadn't expected to see ordnance, so we're  
7       doing additional work up there.   That field work is  
8       currently ongoing.

9                       Some of the items that we've found  
10       to date include 50 caliber rounds, mortar rounds, 60  
11       mm and 4.2 inch rifle grenades, slap flares, artillery  
12       shells, primarily the 75 mm and the three inch, and

13 some 2.36 inch rockets and other pieces of land mines  
14 that had been expended.

15 And again, we're still ongoing with  
16 that work. We expect to complete that some time in  
17 October.

18 In the Bravo area, again, that's in  
19 the south westerly part of the installation, we're in  
20 the process of doing brush clearing for grids so that  
21 we can -- and delineation of the grids. We're also  
22 doing transects down there.

23 This is part of the field work

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1 that's necessary to establish if we have ordnance  
2 there or if we don't have ordnance there. So, we're  
3 characterizing the property down there, even as we  
4 speak. A lot of history in the Bravo area from an  
5 ordnance standpoint.

6 Items found to date is an assortment  
7 of expended and partially expended 2.36 inch rockets,  
8 Some 3.5 inch rockets, three inch stokes mortar  
9 rounds.

10 This field work is going to take a  
11 bit longer. We expect to complete that in December,

12 possibly later, depending on how the clearing goes.

13 We're still reviewing the work plan  
14 for the Charlie area. The Charlie area, for those of  
15 you who don't know that, is the area that's been  
16 designated for the refuge, Fish & Wildlife. There is  
17 still comments that need to be addressed in that  
18 particular EE/CA coming from the regulatory agencies,  
19 even from Fish & Wildlife Service, that we've been  
20 looking at.

21 There is about seventy-seven  
22 contractors on site to support the OE effort, in terms  
23 of personnel. Has that changed Jack or Art, where

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1 are you at?

2 UNIDENTIFIED MALE: No, that's about  
3 right.

4 MR. RON LEVY: That doesn't include  
5 what's going on with the HTRW, the hazardous toxic and  
6 radiological site, which is IT Corporation's. Ellis,  
7 do we know how many people are associated with --

8 MR. ELLIS POPE: About thirty-five,  
9 I believe, Ron.

10 MR. RON LEVY: Thirty-five contract

11 folks working that, and then the subs, which are not  
12 included, which --

13 MR. ELLIS POPE: No, that includes  
14 subs.

15 MR. RON LEVY: That does include  
16 subs.

17 As we have briefed in previous RAB  
18 meetings, we did complete a chemical warfare material  
19 investigation we call an EE/CA, engineering evaluation  
20 cost analysis. As was briefed, we did not discover  
21 any CWMs, chemical warfare material items in the  
22 investigation.

23 However, we're still working on the

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1 report for that. We expect that to become available  
2 for public review in October. Excuse me, in  
3 November. The report should be due in October and we  
4 should be able to go for public review in November.

5 At some point after that, we'd like  
6 to do a press release. We do consider that a  
7 success, because it did look at numerous sites across  
8 main post that were historically used for agent  
9 training. And then some time in January, expect to  
10 sign an action memorandum to conclude that.

11                   The eastern bypass, and those of you  
12     who have been out there, have toured it or seen the  
13     work that's been ongoing out there.     There was an  
14     action memorandum signed on the eastern bypass, that  
15     was the authority for us to go forward on the  
16     clearance.     That occurred in August.

17                   And then along with it, because we  
18     have another regulatory agency that oversees us  
19     besides EPA and ADEM, there is an explosive safety  
20     submission that essentially it tells -- explains how  
21     we're going to operate to clear the property.     This  
22     explosive safety submission has to be approved at the  
23     Department of Defense level by the Department of

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1     Defense Explosive Safety Board, which oversees all  
2     explosives across the country.

3                   And that's still being worked.  
4     It'S being reviewed by the Army's technical center  
5     explosive safety right now.     It's up in McCallister,  
6     Oklahoma.     So, that's winding its way through.

7                   We are doing some -- we're still  
8     doing work out there, geophysical work, but we won't  
9     be able to do any actual removal until such time as

10       that explosive safety submission is approved. So,  
11       geophysically, finding the ordnance that's below the  
12       one-foot level is what we're doing now. We're  
13       identifying that through the grids that have been set  
14       up.

15                       And as you know, we've already  
16       transferred a part of the eastern bypass that's known  
17       as tract one. It was transferred because there was  
18       no history of ordnance out there. There wasn't a  
19       need for us to investigate. And that part has  
20       already been transferred.

21                       And if you've been out on the tour,  
22       you've probably seen that they had placed a fence --  
23       had already placed a fence, Alabama Department of

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1       Transportation has already placed a fence around that.  
2       And they've been doing extensive grading work down  
3       there.

4                       That's the extent of the action  
5       summary sheet. That's all I've got.

6                       MAYOR WILLIAM KIMBROUGH: Does any  
7       of the RAB members have any questions, at this time?

8                       MR. JERRY ELSER: Can we back this

9 up to the OLF-12 well? I've got a question on that,  
10 the numbers there.

11 MR. ELLIS POPE: Yes.

12 MR. JERRY ELSE: On the first item,  
13 that Tetrachloroethane, in '95 we had twenty-nine  
14 parts per billion; is that right?

15 MR. ELLIS POPE: Yes, twenty-nine

16 --

17 MR. JERRY ELSE: And then in May  
18 of this year, we had five hundred and twenty.

19 MR. ELLIS POPE: That's correct.

20 MR. JERRY ELSE: That's like --

21 MR. ELLIS POPE: February of '98 we  
22 had four hundred and then May of this year five twenty

23 --

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1 MR. JERRY ELSE: It looks like  
2 it's going up real fast. So, five years from now, is  
3 it going to be like a thousand, instead of five  
4 hundred? It just looks like the numbers are going way  
5 up. And on that fourth item, the Trichloroethene,  
6 went from a hundred to two hundred and thirty in two  
7 years -- three years. Just seems like a large  
8 increase.

9 MR. ELLIS POPE: It's probably --  
10 well, that -- you can look at that and say it doubled,  
11 but it's -- it's not that significant an increase, I  
12 don't believe. However, it is increasing, so, that  
13 means possibly that the plume is moving through there  
14 and we're seeing -- you know, we're picking up a  
15 bigger part of the plume, you know, as it's moving  
16 through.

17 MR. JERRY ELSE: Those numbers  
18 just look big.

19 MAYOR WILLIAM KIMBROUGH: I guess  
20 I'm supposed to know, but what are these, in common  
21 man's language?

22 MR. ELLIS POPE: They're basically  
23 degreasers. They're used for degreasing operations.

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1 They're solvents.

2 MR. RON LEVY: Could have been used  
3 in dry cleaning, operations, too. The installation  
4 had a history of dry cleaning operations. We also  
5 cleaned weapons out there, so, it could have been  
6 associated with that.

7 There was a standard landfill built



8 to landfill specifications at the time. Of course,  
9 we all know that the laws have changed considerably  
10 since then. Now landfills -- sanitary landfills  
11 require liners and leachate collection systems. But  
12 this landfill is not unlike landfills across the  
13 country, in terms of using leaching -- contaminants  
14 that are coming out of it.

15 MAYOR WILLIAM KIMBROUGH: In water,  
16 what is the acceptable level in drinking water?

17 MR. ELLIS POPE: Well, for instance  
18 the -- there is not a drinking water standard for the  
19 1,1,2,2, Tetrachloroethane. This is an EPA health  
20 advisory of .05 parts per billion. But there are  
21 drinking water standards for the 1,1, 2  
22 Trichloroethene and the Tetrachloroethene and it's  
23 five parts per billion. So, we've -- on those two

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1 compounds, we're just at or above the drinking water  
2 standard. The 1,1,2,2 Tetrachloroethane, we're way  
3 above the health advisory.

4 And on the Trichloroethene, it has a  
5 drinking water standard of five parts per billion.  
6 In May, we had two hundred and thirty parts per

7 billion. That's way over the drinking water standard.  
8 However, you know, this -- no one's drinking this  
9 water here. This is no receptor here. So, I mean,  
10 that's why we say that there's no threat to human  
11 health and the environment, because no one's drinking  
12 this water.

13 MR. RON LEVY: MCL stands for  
14 maximum --

15 MR. ELLIS POPE: Maximum contaminant  
16 level.

17 MS. DONNA FATHKE: Why is there no  
18 MCL for 1,1,2,2?

19 MR. ELLIS POPE: I don't really  
20 know. There is some compounds that EPA hasn't  
21 established drinking water standards for. And maybe  
22 Doyle could answer that better than me.

23 MR. DOYLE BRITTAIN: Don't have any

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1 idea.

2 MR. ELLIS POPE: But there are just  
3 some compounds there is no -- I guess the scientists  
4 just couldn't agree on what a regulatory standard  
5 should be, so they put out an advisory.

6 MAYOR WILLIAM KIMBROUGH: What  
7 would be -- has there been any correlation to any type  
8 of sickness or illness between these compounds, such  
9 as -- has there been any studies that said cancer or  
10 --

11 MR. ELLIS POPE: Well, they are  
12 carcinogens, these compounds are carcinogens.

13 MR. RON LEVY: MCLs are based upon  
14 those studies, even the drinking -- even the advisory,  
15 they're all based upon studies that have been done to  
16 this date on the effects, human effects.

17 MR. JOSH JENKINS: I don't know if  
18 the 1,1,2,2 has been established as a carcinogen,  
19 according to the EPA documentation. But the other  
20 ones up there --

21 MR. ELLIS POPE: Yeah, the  
22 Tetrachloroethane and the Trichloroethene, definitely.

23 MR. JOSH JENKINS: That may be why

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1 there is only a health advisory instead of an MCL.

2 MAYOR WILLIAM KIMBROUGH: Any other  
3 questions from the RAB members on anything that we've  
4 covered? If not then, we'll open the floor to

5 questions.

6 MR. KEITH HOWLAND: I wanted to ask,  
7 to clarify on the City of Weaver's water usage now,  
8 not -- it's coming from the City of Anniston then?

9 MAYOR WILLIAM KIMBROUGH: No.

10 MR. KEITH HOWLAND: You're pumping  
11 it from your wells?

12 MAYOR WILLIAM KIMBROUGH: Yes.

13 MR. KEITH HOWLAND: Like you have a  
14 backup then from the city?

15 MAYOR WILLIAM KIMBROUGH: Yes.

16 MR. KEITH HOWLAND: Then my next  
17 question is: There is a TCE problem at the Depot,  
18 which one of these items is TCEs?

19 MR. ELLIS POPE: The  
20 Trichloroethene --

21 MR. KEITH HOWLAND: There is so many  
22 tri's up there, I got lost.

23 MR. ELLIS POPE: No, the next one to

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1 the bottom there, that's --

2 MR. KEITH HOWLAND: The City of  
3 Anniston has a level of five parts per billion in its  
4 drinking water, coming from Coldwater Creek because of

5 the contamination there. And there has been some  
6 discussion and debate over whether five parts per  
7 billion is adequate protection to public health, as  
8 arsenic is being actively debated as to what levels  
9 those should be tolerated for human consumption.

10 But the recent studies indicate that  
  
11 one part per billion -- per million should be the  
12 maximum amount allowed. At which case the entire  
13 Anniston City water drinking system is producing three  
14 parts per million now, which would be three hundred  
15 percent of that allowable.

16 I would wonder whether some of these  
17 contaminants would move with increased pumping. You  
18 know, for the Weaver City well, if you do plan on  
19 expanding your capability, how much is that going to  
20 draw those -- that bleed through the system?

21 MAYOR WILLIAM KIMBROUGH: Well,  
22 they know -- from the explanation that's been given to  
23 us, the fault that we're drawing water from is not the

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1 fault that goes through this area. They've had an  
  
2 extensive -- I'm a geologist now or whatever -- but

3 we've had extensive programs on the fault. We're  
4 drawing water from what fault?

5 MR. JOSH JENKINS: Well, you all  
6 are drawing water from the Conasauga formation. Here  
7 at the Conasauga formation, we're actually a good two  
8 miles, three miles, maybe, almost four miles from the  
9 Jacksonville fault. The Jacksonville fault is the  
10 fault that's associated with Coldwater Spring. That  
11 is the fault where they think that the spring is  
12 actually emanating from.

13 So, the City of Weaver's wells,  
14 they're well west of that particular fault. They may  
15 be in a different aquifer than Coldwater Spring. And  
16 I don't think that there has been enough study to  
17 actually determine if that is actually the case. But  
18 they are in an actual different geologic formation.

19 MR. PHILIP STROUD: Can I clarify  
20 something. You said three parts per million?

21 MR. KEITH HOWLAND: Yes.

22 MR. PHILIP STROUD: Per million.  
23 I want to clarify that just to make sure, that's a big

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1 number.

2 MR. KEITH HOWLAND: Okay. But the  
3 contaminants in the ground water on-site at the Depot  
4 are nearly a thousand parts per billion.

5 MR. PHILIP STROUD: Per billion.

6 MR. KEITH HOWLAND: But if you were  
7 to add these contaminants up, they're all coming from  
8 the same number of parts of water and cumulatively,  
9 they do nearly add up to a thousand parts. So, my  
10 question is: How does -- is that an unfair  
11 comparison? There is a thousand parts of contaminant  
12 per billion parts of water on that chart there as of  
13 May first of -- May of this year. Does the ground  
14 water contamination bleed in the median of our Highway  
15 21 any way comparable to that ground water right on  
16 the industrial site at the Depot?

17 Is that a fair comparison or is it  
18 disproportionate or do we have a problem that's  
19 comparable to what's going on out there? And should  
20 we expect to have to go through similar cleanup costs,  
21 in terms of filtering and other techniques being used  
22 to reclaim that ground water?

23 MR. ELLIS POPE: I'm not sure -- I

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1 don't -- we're not there, yet, as far as concerning

2        what type of cleanup will be required.    But as far as  
3        when you say bleeding, you mean the contaminants  
4        leaching through, moving through the ground water?

5                        MR. KEITH HOWLAND:    Yeah.

6                        MR. ELLIS POPE:    Probably have two  
7        different types of geological systems than what we  
8        have here and what they have over at the Depot, so I  
9        --

10                      MR. JOSH JENKINS:    Again, the Depot,  
11        you're near, very near the fault there, the  
12        Jacksonville fault, it runs very nearby.    And then  
13        you've got Coldwater Spring discharging at that  
14        location.

15                      Over here, the Jacksonville fault is  
16        lying, like he said, about three miles to the east of  
17        us.    I'm not familiar with the total amount of  
18        contaminants associated with what's going on over at  
19        the Depot.    Here, you -- in May of this year, we had  
20        a little bit less than one part per million total  
21        chlorinated VOCs.    But we only had two hundred and  
22        thirty parts per billion of TCE.    It was a major  
23        constitual (phonetic), but it was much less than a

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1 part per million. And I don't know if you're asking,  
2 you know, is this contributing --

3 MR. KEITH HOWLAND: Well, no, I'm  
4 not asking if it's -- how does it compare? If the  
5 City of Weaver's water source is on one fault line,  
6 which is the same as the one at the Fort, then is it  
7 conceivable that these contaminants are going to come  
8 into the Weaver drinking water system in essence?

9 And if not, how does it compare to  
10 the problem that we have at the Depot? Which here we  
11 have two hundred and thirty parts per million count  
12 that's off of the military property. At the Depot, we  
13 have no contamination off military land that compares  
14 with that in any way. I mean, that's much higher than  
15 anything there off-site.

16 I mean, they've detected -- you  
17 know, we have a ten, fifteen parts per billion in  
18 Cooper Lake, but nothing over -- anywhere approaching  
19 a hundred parts per billion off of, you know, federal  
20 land.

21 MR. RON LEVY: Well, actually --

22 MR. KEITH HOWLAND: How else does it  
23 come in?

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1                   MR. RON LEVY:   Well, actually, let  
2     me just make a statement about that.  We own the  
3     property that's in the median of Highway 21.  There  
4     is a right-of-way through -- when they built the  
5     highway, they had an easement through there.  That's  
6     actually federal property.  And based on its  
7     periphery, because it's right up against that  
8     landfill.  It's --

9                   MR. KEITH HOWLAND:  It's right --  
10    oh, I see --

11                  MR. RON LEVY:    It's right there.  
12    I mean, that's where that landfill is.  It's really  
13    not that significant, in terms of distance from the  
14    landfill, from the actual source of the contamination.

15                  MR. ELLIS POPE:   Yeah, it's within  
16    a couple hundred feet or so of the landfill.

17                  MR. KEITH HOWLAND:  I was just  
18    wondering what similarities and what comparisons there  
19    are, because not much further down the road are the  
20    diagnosis of those problems and treatment at the  
21    Depot.

22                  MR. RON LEVY:    I think you've got  
23    some good questions.  And some of the things that

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1        we've got to get to may help to answer some of that,  
2        because we don't have all the answers, honestly, we do  
3        not. I mean, in getting to the feasibility study and  
4        these additional wells that we need to put in, we may  
5        be able to answer some of your questions, because we  
6        really don't know at this point, you know, what we've  
7        got from a contamination standpoint, where there  
8        really is migration and where it's going.

9                                We can see levels going up in that  
10       well. I mean, and some of that, Josh, help me out  
11       here -- is some of that -- could some of that also be  
12       associated with the time of the year that you actually  
13       take --

14                              MR. JOSH JENKINS:    It may be.  
15       We've been under a three-year drought, and water  
16       levels are down historically compared to what they've  
17       been before, so, we do know, not particularly from  
18       this site, but from other -- you know, other  
19       environmental studies all around the country, that  
20       when water levels move up and down, they tend to flush  
21       things into the system. So, we could be seeing it.  
22       This could be something that's a trend or it could be  
23       something that's just a temporary blip.

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1                   MR. KEITH HOWLAND: Is it  
2       conceivable that the Weaver City well is pulling that  
3       water towards it, that contaminant towards it?

4                   MR. JOSH JENKINS: We don't know,  
5       don't know. We just know that the Weaver City wells  
6       are not contaminated and additional wells will be  
7       needed to answer some more of these questions.

8                   MR. PHILIP STROUD: And those wells  
9       -- we're going to try to strategically put them  
10      between those and also to get the grasp of the ground  
11      water flow.

12                  MR. RON LEVY: One of the things  
13      that got pointed out was Mr. Brown's property. We  
14      had hoped a long time ago to have access to that  
15      property and put wells out there, but we ran into some  
16      problems -- I don't recall -- a misunderstanding, a  
17      concern about putting wells in there. But we think  
18      we've got Mr. Brown's daughter to agree to allow us to  
19      put some wells in.

20                  It's on the other side of the  
21      highway and in an area that's, you know, between city  
22      wells, you know, really, up in here, so that we can  
23      look at whether or not we're migrating. Because, you

1 know, as we've taken from these domestic wells, the  
2 wells that are one household, we haven't found  
3 anything.

4 But really does that tell us all we  
5 need to know? We don't believe that, so, we're after  
6 some additional wells. And we think we've got that  
7 ability to do that now, right, Ellis?

8 MR. ELLIS POPE: I think so.

9 MR. RON LEVY: People get concerned  
10 about putting wells in on their property and we're up  
11 against that, as well.

12 MAYOR WILLIAM KIMBROUGH: Any other  
13 questions from the --

14 MR. MEDDERS: Was there any of the  
15 results from testing the private wells given at this  
16 meeting in the 1995 testing in the one just across the  
17 highway from Fort McClellan?

18 MAYOR WILLIAM KIMBROUGH: The  
19 Medders' place?

20 MR. MEDDERS: Yes, sir.

21 MAYOR WILLIAM KIMBROUGH: These  
22 two?

23 MR. MEDDERS: Yes, sir, Medders, is

1       there any results --

2                       MR. RON LEVY:     Yes.

3                       MR. MEDDERS:    Do you have the  
4       results from that testing in 1995 --

5                       MR. RON LEVY:     Well, from '95,  
6       Ellis.

7                       MR. JOSH JENKINS:   Yes, we do.

8                       MR. ELLIS POPE:   We don't have them  
9       with us here.

10                      MR. JOSH JENKINS:   Medders' well was  
11       sampled in '95 and there was no detection of any  
12       volatile organic compounds in the well at that time.

13                      MR. MEDDERS:    I have the results  
14       right here, and according to the information that I  
15       got from -- received from the Army in November of '95,  
16       there was four different contaminants was found in  
17       that well.   And every one of them exceeded the EPA  
18       standards of parts per billion.   One of them was  
19       nearly five times the EPA standard.

20                      MR. JOSH JENKINS:   I believe those  
21       were metals.

22                      MR. MEDDERS:    Yes, sir, that's  
23       right.

1                   MR. JOSH JENKINS:    Okay.    And I  
2   believe at the time what they attributed it to was the  
3   silt, and there may have been some silt in some of  
4   your water samples when they collected that, they  
5   collected that sample.   And when we came back out to  
6   resample, we made sure or we used what's called a low  
7   flow sampling procedure, which we pumped the water  
8   very slowly so that we could make sure that we didn't  
9   stir up a lot of things in that well.   Because we  
10   didn't want to get something that was -- you know,  
11   something clinging to a piece of dirt.   We want to  
12   get something that's actually in the water, itself.

13                  MR. MEDDERS:    Would it be -- I mean,  
14   it seemed that they implied that it was natural for it  
15   to --

16                  MR. JOSH JENKINS:   That's correct --

17                  MR. MEDDERS:    -- be there.

18                  MR. JOSH JENKINS:   That's correct.

19                  MR. MEDDERS:    How could it be  
20   natural for it to be there and it be -- it's -- one of  
21   them was nearly about five times more than EPA  
22   standard.

23                  MR. JOSH JENKINS:   Oftentimes --

1 and, Doyle, you can back me up or shoot me down -- but  
2 oftentimes EPA's standards are more stringent than  
3 what people will actually see in their water in  
4 certain parts of the country. And if the water has --  
5 is very silty, has a lot of turbit in it, there is a  
6 lot of stuff stirred up in it, then oftentimes things  
7 like metals, like iron, lead, other types of metals,  
8 you're going to get something that's higher than what  
9 you would see if it was a clear filtered water sample.

10 MS. DONNA FATHKE: But you're  
11 saying these are naturally occurring metals --

12 MR. JOSH JENKINS: Those are  
13 naturally occurring. They're in the dirt that the  
14 water flows through.

15 MR. ELLIS POPE: We didn't find any  
16 of the chlorinated solvent, it was just the metals  
17 that was --

18 MR. JOSH JENKINS: The things that  
19 we would associate with contamination from the  
20 landfill we did not find.

21 MAYOR WILLIAM KIMBROUGH: Can we  
22 ask --

23 MR. MEDDERS: There was three of the



1 wells -- there was three of the wells over there that  
2 was the closest to the highway right-of-way, the  
3 Fort McClellan boundary line, that had the same  
4 contaminants as our well did. And then there was  
5 another one that was a little further away from the  
6 highway, the Fort boundary, it had -- it had the other  
7 -- the other one. Three of them was in the wells  
8 that was closest to the highway and one of them,  
9 Thallium, was in a well that was further away. Is  
10 Thallium, is that considered a metal?

11 MR. JOSH JENKINS: Yes, it is.

12 MR. MEDDERS: I didn't really --  
13 didn't know exactly what it was. I looked it up in  
14 the dictionary. And according to the dictionary, the  
15 salts that are in Thallium, it goes into the  
16 ingredients of rat poison and insecticides. That's  
17 according to the Funk & Wagner --

18 MR. JOSH JENKINS: It's also  
19 naturally occurring in the environment. And we have  
20 actually seen it quite a bit in soil and ground water  
21 all over, in the background, in areas where there has  
22 been no -- we don't expect any type of activity from  
23 the Army on the post. We've seen it -- we've seen it

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1 quite extensively all over the main post.

2 MR. MEDDERS: It seemed like to me  
3 it would be reasonable to think that the -- a very  
4 small amount would be natural in the water -- I mean,  
5 in the ground, but --

6 MR. JOSH JENKINS: That's true.

7 MR. MEDDERS: But something that's  
8 nearly five times above the EPA standard, that just  
9 don't sound reasonable to me, that that would be  
10 natural for it to be that high.

11 MR. JOSH JENKINS: It can occur.  
12 I don't know what the EPA standard is.

13 MR. MEDDERS: The EPA standard, in  
14 the Thallium, is 2.0. And the Thallium in our well  
15 checked 9.66.

16 MR. JOSH JENKINS: That was in  
17 1995.

18 MR. MEDDERS: That was in 1995.

19 MR. ELLIS POPE: Okay.

20 MR. MEDDERS: Do you have any  
21 information from the last testing in that same well?

22 MR. JOSH JENKINS: Yes, we do. In  
23 the last go round, we don't have Thallium listed as

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1 any --

2 MR. RON LEVY: I'm sorry --

3 MR. JOSH JENKINS: We didn't see it  
4 in your well.

5 MR. RON LEVY: I'm sorry, are you  
6 Mr. Medders?

7 MR. MEDDERS: That's right.

8 MR. RON LEVY: Mr. Medders, what  
9 we're trying to tell you is that there is a couple of  
10 things: One is the way we sample can cause our  
11 samples to show up high concentrations of metals.  
12 And what Josh had told you -- Josh is from IT  
13 Corporation. That is the company that's doing our  
14 sampling out here -- is that I think when the initial  
15 sampling was done, they didn't use low flow methods,  
16 so, they got -- they got high metal concentrations  
17 conceivably from the fact the way they sampled.

18 Does that mean that that's something  
19 that you're drinking? No, it doesn't mean that. It  
20 just means that they sampled it a different way. The  
21 way they sample now is an approved way, is the way  
22 that EPA and the State wanted us to sample.

23 And going back to your point on the

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1 metals is true, that they're high, the samples that we  
2 took were -- the first time around showed high metals,  
3 but if you look at what we're looking at, that's  
4 coming from the landfill, we're really looking at  
5 these VOCs or these organic compounds that we're  
6 seeing in high concentrations.

7 The other thought that came from the  
8 well -- because I understand your well had collapsed  
9 on top of itself and that even the pump had fallen  
10 down in there. And some of those metals could have  
11 been associated with the fact that the metals from the  
12 material in the well had also collapsed in in there  
13 and may have been disintegrating inside of the well,  
14 itself.

15 That was a known fact and it was  
16 documented when they came in to look at your well.  
17 It's part of the reason why we didn't sample another  
18 well, domestic well we found out there for the same  
19 reason, because sometimes it throws it off. We get  
20 data that shows that there is contaminants in there,  
21 but it wasn't caused from the ground water, it was  
22 caused from the well, itself, and what had happened to  
23 the well over the years.

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1 MS. DONNA FATHKE: Could I say  
2 something? I think we're missing a very obvious fact  
3 here, because EPA sets a level does not mean that  
4 mother nature follows that level.

5 MR. RON LEVY: This is true, too.

6 MS. DONNA FATHKE: I mean, you can  
7 have greater amounts naturally occurring. I mean,  
8 that's what mines are all about. An iron ore mine,  
9 we certainly don't want to drink the water that would  
10 exist in that area.

11 MR. RON LEVY: And what he was  
12 trying to point out, too, is that particularly in this  
13 area, metal concentrations, Thallium we've seen is  
14 one, tend to be higher. You go to another county  
15 maybe in the state and see it lower or go across the  
16 country and not see any Thallium, at all. It just  
17 depends on where you are.

18 And as Donna points out, the levels  
19 that are set by EPA don't necessarily reflect, you  
20 know, the background conditions in one particular  
21 area. I mean, that's just --

22 MR. MEDDERS: If you can't go by the  
23 EPA standard, what standard do you go by?

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1 MR. RON LEVY: The EPA--  
2 MR. ELLIS POPE: Typically --  
3 MR. MEDDERS: I'm listening.  
4 MR. ELLIS POPE: -- if you're  
5 looking at some sort of cleanup standard, the first  
6 thing you do is you look at your background levels and  
7 you just discount your background. You don't look at  
8 cleaning up something cleaner than what a background  
9 condition would be, even those there is an EPA  
10 standard that may be lower than that, you don't clean  
11 something up below a background level. And I think  
12 that's what her point was, too, is the fact that, you  
13 know, background in one part of the country could far  
14 exceed EPA standard. And it may be extremely low in  
15 another part of the country for those same metals. It  
16 just depends on where you are and what's in the soils.  
17 MR. MEDDERS: The agreement was with  
18 the Army, that they would furnish me a copy of the  
19 results from the last -- or actually, I've got a paper  
20 here that gives the Army the right of entry to test  
21 that well the last -- this last time, the first of May  
22 of 2001. And the agreement was that I was to get a

23       copy of the results from that test and also a

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1       comparison between the first testing and the last one.  
2       I never have got them.

3                   MR. ELLIS POPE:   And you will be  
4       getting that, though, Mr. Medders. Like I said, when  
5       we started the briefing at the beginning, this is  
6       preliminary data; it hasn't gone through complete  
7       validation. Once IT validates the data, then we will  
8       be sending you a letter with the results and a  
9       comparison to the last time.

10                  MR. RON LEVY:   Mr. Medders, I just  
11       want to point out, we're not trying to hide anything  
12       from you. We showed you those results. We even  
13       gave you what the EPA limits were. And we're trying  
14       to explain why they're like they are. And  
15       everything's out front. I mean, honestly, what  
16       you've got in front of you is what we found and we  
17       will show you those results. As I mentioned that  
18       these were preliminary. And if we promised you that  
19       we would give you a comparison, we will do that. We  
20       just have not gotten to that point.

21                  Again, the reports have not been  
22       done. They have just finished coming up with the

23 results. We did tell the RAB that we would present

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1 the preliminary results and that's in fact what we're  
2 doing.

3 And we intend to follow through on  
4 what we told you we would do.

5 MR. PETE CONROY: Mr. Medders,  
6 would it be of any use to you to have these folks from  
7 EPA and ADEM sit down with you to go through that  
8 documentation that you have?

9 MR. MEDDERS: Well --

10 MR. PETE CONROY: Some of that  
11 stuff to me is pretty confusing. But to have these  
12 folks actually sit down with you and go kind of line  
13 by line through it with you and might be of use.

14 MR. MEDDERS: Well, it's --

15 MR. RON LEVY: We could even, you  
16 know, have the Army --

17 MR. MEDDERS: The information that  
18 I've got is pretty well self-explanatory, I mean,  
19 comparing the results from the test of the well to the  
20 EPA standard. But according to the way I understand  
21 what some of y'all have said, you can't go by EPA



22 standards. It seems that way.

23 And I just wondered what kind of

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1 standard do you go by? I mean, if you can't go by  
2 EPA standard, what standard -- what is the standard?

3 MR. PETE CONROY: That is the  
4 correct standard. But I'm just thinking it might be  
5 of use to have these guys sit down with you and kind  
6 of go through that and -- I'm sure you understand it.  
7 But it might be of use to have these guys sit down  
8 with you and just kind of go through it. If y'all  
9 would be willing to do it.

10 MR. PHILIP STROUD: Oh, yeah,  
11 absolutely.

12 MR. RON LEVY: Yeah.

13 MR. DOYLE BRITTAIN: If you would  
14 like to hang around for just a few minutes after the  
15 meeting is over, we'll be glad to sit down and talk  
16 with you about it, take a look at it. I've not seen  
17 the data. That's the reason that I feel kind of in  
18 the dark. These data were collected in '95. I  
19 didn't even start working here until last December.  
20 So, I'm caught by surprise, too. But anyhow, I'll be  
21 glad to speak with you on it.

22 Now, I'd like to pick up on a couple  
23 of points; and that is, that you do not have the same

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1 amount of -- and I don't want to use the word  
2 contaminants. I don't -- let's use the word  
3 chemicals in all of the soil all over the world.  
4 Some of these chemicals occur naturally in the  
5 environment in higher concentrations in some places  
6 than they do in others.

7 The EPA standard applies. But when  
8 we start requiring that a facility clean up, the first  
9 thing that we do is what we call a background study;  
10 and that is, we find out what is naturally occurring  
11 in the area. What are they -- those concentrations  
12 of each of these chemicals that are present.

13 And then, where the facility puts  
14 something into the environment above that, we require  
15 the facility to clean up to something close to that  
16 level or an EPA level or some other acceptable level  
17 there. But we can't require them to clean up cleaner  
18 than the background.

19 The other thing is that a couple of  
20 times tonight, I think it's been mentioned that the

21 sampling technique that they used was faulty. And  
22 that is that basically what it did was: It stirred  
23 up a lot of the dirt that was -- that the water was

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1 in, and when the chemical analysis was done, it was  
2 looking at not only the water, but the dirt that was  
3 in the water. And that's why sometimes these  
4 concentrations appear high.

5 This is an issue that was wrestled  
6 with with Chris Johnson before Phil came here and Bart  
7 Reedy wrestled with before I came here, and Ron  
8 wrestled with the whole time, is, you know, how do we  
9 resolve this. And basically, we've had to go back and  
10 to use an improved sampling technique that does not  
11 stir the dirt up and get all of the dirt into the  
12 water so that we're sampling just the water and doing  
13 the chemical analysis on that.

And one of the big problems that we've had is trying to make decisions on some of these data that simply it's faulty technique in collecting the sample. But as Pete said, if you'll hang around for just a few minutes, we'll be glad to talk with you about this after the RAB meeting's over.

20 MR. MEDDERS: I really don't need to

21 stay very long, because my wife's not well.

22 MR. DOYLE BRITTAIN: We'll take as  
23 long as you want or as little a time as you want.

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1 MR. PETE CONROY: You might even  
2 want to set up a special occasion when it's more  
3 appropriate.

4 MR. RON HOOD: There is one point  
5 that hasn't been brought out, though, is metals are  
6 naturally occurring in many places, however, none of  
7 those five chemicals up there are naturally occurring,  
8 they're only man-made.

9 MR. RON LEVY: Yeah. And we're not  
10 arguing that, we're talking about the well --

11 MR. ELLIS POPE: These were found --

12 MR. RON HOOD: Yes. But that's the  
13 reason we're concentrating on these, because they are  
14 man-made and they're not naturally occurring.

15 MR. DOYLE BRITTAIN: That's right.  
16 But I think what he was talking about was the metals.

17 MR. RON HOOD: Yes, sir, I'm aware  
18 of that.

19 MR. PHILIP STROUD: Yeah,

20 Mr. Medders -- and again, when I first came here, too,  
21 a year and a half ago, I realized the same issue.  
22 And when I was looking at all this data, I had made a  
23 decision to go, too, along with EPA, I said, you know,

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1 we've got to go back and resample some of these wells  
2 because back then they were probably sampled by  
3 Baylor, you know, they're run down -- could have been  
4 that or a high velocity pump. And you can just  
5 imagine the turbidity going way up, versus what was  
6 sampled in your well was a prude, very slow flow.

7 And I just reiterate what we're trying  
8 to say. Since then, we've actually performed that  
9 and we've gone back and taken several wells and they  
10 had the same results yours did, very similar  
11 chemicals, and they all dropped off below the  
12 screening levels you see here and the MCLs. And I'm  
13 thinking that that's exactly what's happened to your  
14 well.

15 MR. RON LEVY: Mr. Medders, I just  
16 want to make one more point. I want you to be -- I  
17 want you to fully understand the information you've  
18 got in front of you. If you want a separate meeting  
19 with us because you can't do it tonight, then I'll

20 make arrangements to do that and spend some time with  
21 you and go through it and try to answer all your  
22 questions. The questions I can't, I'll take back and  
23 go to the experts on. But I want to make sure that I

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1 answer all of your concerns. So, just understand  
2 that. We'll do what we need to do to answer all of  
3 your questions.

4 MAYOR WILLIAM KIMBROUGH: Do we  
5 have any other questions?

6 MS. WANDA CHAMPION: I've got one.

7 MAYOR WILLIAM KIMBROUGH: Ms.  
8 Champion.

9 MS. WANDA CHAMPION: I want to call  
10 these off and whoever are the appropriate ones that  
11 can address these questions. And they all deal with  
12 the water issue.

13 Is there a possibility that at a  
14 future time and date that there could be a meeting  
15 addressing the water issues and questions both through  
16 the Fort McClellan RAB and the Anniston Army Depot RAB  
17 -- because I understand that this is a separate thing,  
18 Fort McClellan RAB versus Anniston Army Depot RAB --

19 we talk about Fort McClellan RAB stuff here, but the  
20 questions still remains, there is something coming  
21 between the two that is in common, Trichloroethene,  
22 chemicals in our ground water, drinking water. So,  
23 therefore -- plus, water authority officials present

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1 to answer these crucial drinking water questions, also  
2 any other appropriate officials necessary that could  
3 be there to answer the questions of the concerned  
4 citizens of the public, and like a lot of citizens  
5 that come out to these RAB board meetings. Plus, a  
6 possibility of a joint meeting of both RAB groups to  
7 address and compare these concerns.

8 Plus, Mr. Pete Conroy, this one's  
9 specifically for you, with the Governor's office,  
10 should there be a possible water board committee set  
11 up for this area from the Governor's office to address  
12 some of these concerns and issues with our drinking  
13 water?

14 MR. PETE CONROY: I'd say yes and  
15 yes. You know, Wanda, these are two different things  
16 really and folks in Anniston Army Depot, they're kind  
17 of way ahead of where the process is over here. And  
18 there's something that I was going to mention this

19 evening, Wanda, this would fall into the category of  
20 maybe a reason for both Anniston Army Depot folks to  
21 talk with people over here at Fort McClellan. I was  
22 at a conference not too long ago and there was a new  
23 scientist that just moved here from Chicago. He's at

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1 UAB. He's a Ph.D. engineer.

2 And he just came up to me at the  
3 conference and said, I had a great technology for  
4 getting rid of TCEs in a ground water system and it's  
5 better than peroxide injection. And, you know, that  
6 caught my attention. And I'm not qualified to say  
7 whether or not it's good or bad, but I do have his  
8 card here with me. His name is Bob Peters, and he's  
9 at UAB in the civil engineering department. And I  
10 would like to invite him over, when the time would be  
11 appropriate, to talk to both installations to see if  
12 there is any technology that's new, different, or  
13 better.

14 It's sonification. And actually by  
15 using sound waves, he feels as though that he can  
16 break up the composition of a TCE. I don't know,  
17 it's probably -- it sounds too good to be true. But



18        anyway, I'd like to explore the possibility.

19                                MAYOR WILLIAM KIMBROUGH:   Any other  
20        questions?

21                                MR. KEITH HOWLAND:   Would that sound  
22        have to be rap or would contemporary --

23                                MAYOR WILLIAM KIMBROUGH:   If there

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1        are no other questions, since Mr. Conroy did come in,  
2        we do now have a quorum and I need to move to item two  
3        on the agenda for approval of the minutes.   Do I have  
4        a motion?

5                                MR. JAMES BUFORD:   So moved.

6                                MAYOR WILLIAM KIMBROUGH:   Got a  
7        motion.   Do I have a second?

8                                MR. RON HOOD:   Second.

9                                MAYOR WILLIAM KIMBROUGH:   Any  
10       discussion?

11                                MR. PETE CONROY:   I apologize, but  
12        there was something in here -- the essence of what I  
13        was trying to say -- I'm not sure if it was captured  
14        quite the way I would have liked for it to have been  
15        captured in the minutes.   Yeah, Pete Conroy mentioned  
16        that the large amount of information that's presented  
17        at the RAB, expressed a concern that he doesn't

18 understand much of it and he may be missing something.

19 MS. JOAN MCKINNEY: That's probably  
20 verbatim.

21 MR. PETE CONROY: Let me just say,  
22 me and my big mouth. What I meant to say is --

23 MAYOR WILLIAM KIMBROUGH: It's too

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1 late now, Pete.

2 MR. PETE CONROY: And we can approve  
3 the minutes. But I do want to go on the record as  
4 just saying that there is an awful lot of information  
5 coming to this RAB, and I don't want this RAB to be  
6 held responsible for actions that are taken later on  
7 under the perception that we fully understood what was  
8 happening. And I don't think this RAB wants to be  
9 responsible for actions that are taken. As some  
10 people say, RABs in other parts of the country are  
11 kind of a way for the Army to say, hey, we had the  
12 full support of the community and the RAB was there  
13 and they voted for it. And I don't think anyone on  
14 the RAB has had the in-depth discussion relative to  
15 some of the issues that have been presented to us to  
16 give us that comfort level that we are absolutely for

17 or against whatever issues that are mentioned in  
18 passing here at these meetings. And that's a lot of  
19 talk, but I'm not sure --

20 MS. JOAN McKINNEY: We have the  
21 verbatim.

22 MR. PETE CONROY: -- the essence of  
23 it was brought up in that sentence, but we got it this

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1 time. And I move to --

2 MS. JOAN McKINNEY: Now, let me  
3 summarize that.

4 MR. CURTIS FRANKLIN: He still  
5 doesn't understand.

6 MR. PETE CONROY: Calls for the  
7 question.

8 MR. RON LEVY: So, those go on next  
9 month's minutes as Pete is really confused.

10 MS. JOAN McKINNEY: We'll --

11 MAYOR WILLIAM KIMBROUGH: We had a  
12 call for the question. All in favor signify by  
13 saying I. All opposed?

14 Any announcements that -- Joan, do  
15 we have anything? Our next meeting.

16 MS. JOAN McKINNEY: I just wanted

17 to remind the RAB members that next month, of course,  
18 is October, and that's when we change the community  
19 co-chair. Craig Branchfield will ascend, as the term  
20 is, and then we'll have to vote for a vice community  
21 co-chair. And we also will have a vacancy that we  
22 will need to fill. So, Diane will have all of the  
23 applicants for you to review and we'll fill one

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1 vacancy next month, as well.

2 MAYOR WILLIAM KIMBROUGH: We will  
3 meet at the Fort?

4 MS. JOAN McKINNEY: At the Fort.

5 MAYOR WILLIAM KIMBROUGH: At  
6 Fort McClellan

7 MR. GLYNN RYAN: And from the Army's  
8 perspective, I would like to say thank you to Mayor  
9 Kimbrough and the community of Weaver for inviting us  
10 out. Appreciate the hospitality.

11 MAYOR WILLIAM KIMBROUGH: It's that  
12 way all the time. Just come visit us some more.

13 COMMISSIONER RANDY WOOD: Believe  
14 me, it will cost you.

15 MAYOR WILLIAM KIMBROUGH: We

16 appreciate the RAB coming to us, because this is an  
17 issue most of you -- the ones that have been from the  
18 beginning know, I've got -- I should have made a  
19 recording, because this has been an issue that I've  
20 been highly concerned about for our community.  
21 That's one reason that we brought it here. And I am  
22 comfortable, but I'm uncomfortable because of my  
23 limited knowledge on the technology and all. And we

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1 are trying to make provisions in this community so if  
2 anything were to happen. I know I've been told no,  
3 but in life, I found there is no absolutes, and so,  
4 we're going to prepare to the best of our ability, if  
5 something did happen. And we appreciate you coming.  
6 And we've got some goodies. And  
7 I'll have to eat all of them, because -- if you don't.  
8 But, please, stay around and visit with us. And don't  
9 make this the only time you come to our community.  
10 We're having an arts and crafts show the second  
11 Saturday of October and we have antique tractors here.  
12 If you're into that, we'll invite  
13 you to come back. And we'll have a little  
14 entertainment for you. And bring your wives. And we  
15 have all kind of crafts that will be there.

16                               But again, we appreciate you coming.  
17       We appreciate the citizens coming.   And hopefully,  
18       this has answered some questions.   And I am  
19       comfortable, at this time, that our water source is  
20       not in immediate threat.   It doesn't mean that I'm  
21       not comfortable that something could happen in the  
22       future, but right at this point, with the explanation  
23       that -- and we have been over this time and time again

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1       -- I am comfortable with the information that I have  
2       gathered that it is not in immediate threat.   But we  
3       are preparing in case something were to happen.

4                               Any other business?   Do I have a  
5       motion for adjournment?

6                               MR. PETE CONROY:   So moved.

7                               MAYOR WILLIAM KIMBROUGH:   All in  
8       favor?   Thank you.

9       (Whereupon, the meeting was concluded.)

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C E R T I F I C A T E

STATE OF ALABAMA)  
CALHOUN COUNTY )

I, SAMANTHA E. NOBLE, a Court  
Reporter and 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 was 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 and was concluded

15       without adjournment.

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1                   IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto  
2       set my hand and affixed my seal at Anniston, Alabama,  
3       on this the 24th of September, 2001.

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SAMANTHA E. NOBLE

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Notary Public in and for

11

Alabama at Large

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14 MY COMMISSION EXPIRES: 11-14-2001.

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