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UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

PUBLIC MEETING

PROPOSED CLEANUP PLAN

US SMELTER AND LEAD SUPERFUND SITE

Report of proceedings had at the public meeting of the Proposed Cleanup Plan, US Smelter and Lead Superfund Site, held at East Chicago Public Library, East Chicago, Indiana, on Wednesday, July 25, 2012, commencing at the hour of 6:00 p.m.

PRESENT:

MR. MICHAEL BERKOFF - EPA Project Manager

MS. JANET POPE - EPA Community Involvement Coordinator

MR. STEVEN KAISER - EPA Site Attorney

MR. RICH BALDINO - EPA Contractor Chemist and Assistant Site Manager (SulTRAC)

MS. CHERYL VACCARELLO - EPA Contractor Community Relations (SulTRAC)

MR. DOUG PETROFF - Indiana Department of Environmental Management Project Manager

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1 MR. BERKOFF: Well, first and foremost, I want to
2 thank all of you for joining us this evening and coming
3 to hear EPA's presentation of its proposed plan, this
4 proposed cleanup for the residential area of the US
5 Smelter and Lead Superfund Site.
6 MS. POPE: At this point I'd like to welcome you
7 too. My name is Janet Pope, and I'm the community
8 involvement coordinator for the USS Lead site. We also
9 have ...
10 MR. BERKOFF: Myself, I'm Michael Berkoff. I'm
11 the project manager, the remedial project manager for
12 the USS Lead Superfund Site for EPA.
13 MS. POPE: And we also have our state rep.
14 MR. PETROFF: Doug Petroff with IDEM. I'm the
15 project manager for this site.
16 MS. POPE: And we also have Ms. Burns from the
17 Health Department in the back.
18 MS. BURNS: Diana Burns with the East Chicago
19 Health Department.
20 MS. POPE: Okay. A few things I would like to
21 remind you. If you did not get the fact sheet in the
22 mail, the gray sheet -- if you did not get that in the
23 mail, please, please could you let Cheryl Vaccarello,
24 in the back, know. Because then you'll get -- You're

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1 not on our mailing list. So please let her know before
2 you leave tonight that you didn't get it so we can put
3 you on our mailing list. And then you'll get
4 everything in the future from now on.
5 Another thing is that we have a court
6 reporter with us tonight. And we would like to ask
7 you, if you're going to make any comment, when we get
8 to that portion of the program, to stand and speak
9 loudly so she can get your comments or your -- whatever
10 you say on tape. Okay?
11 Another thing, this is for the USS Lead site.
12 So I got a lot of calls asking me if it was for any
13 other site. This public meeting is for the USS Lead
14 site.
15 Another thing that I would like to mention.
16 Our public comment period is starting July 11th. It
17 ends -- I mean, it started July 12th. It ends
18 August 11. So if you have any comments about the
19 proposed plan that we're proposing, please make those
20 comments no later than August 11th. Now, you can do
21 those by mail, E-mail, fax. We have some blank forms
22 in the back. You can make your comments tonight. So
23 please send your comments by August 11th.
24 Another thing. We have an informational

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1 repository that's in this library here. So you can
2 come here and read things about the site. We will also
3 be setting up another one at 1008 on Chicago Avenue, at
4 that library. So you'll have two.
5 So just remember, not only -- There are
6 things on the website. But also, in the libraries, we
7 have stuff about it.
8 I think we introduced ourselves.
9 Do we have any city, local officials here
10 today?
11 MR. BERKOFF: We do.
12 MR. COPELAND: Mayor Anthony Copeland.
13 MR. BATTLE: Councilman Battle, Robert Battle.
14 MS. POPE: Anybody else? Well, welcome.
15 At this point what I will do is I will turn
16 it over to Michael Berkoff so he can start to go
17 through the presentation. Thank you for coming.
18 MR. BERKOFF: Thank you, Janet.
19 Thank you, everyone.
20 Janet has covered some of the introductions.
21 After the brief introductions, I will be discussing our
22 proposed plan. Following my presentation of our
23 proposed plan, there is going to be an informal
24 question-and-answer session. That question-and-answer

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1 session will be for clarification. If you have any
2 questions about what I've said tonight, there will be
3 an opportunity for you to ask me some questions. I can
4 clarify the proposed plan.
5 After that will be public comments. This is
6 really a public hearing. We have a stenographer here
7 to record your comments. These comments, EPA will be
8 responding to as part of our -- as we finalize our
9 decision-making for the cleanup plan for the
10 residential portion of the US Smelter and Lead site.
11 Janet had given some of the who's who.
12 Myself, Janet. Steve Kaiser, who some of you might
13 have seen at previous public meetings, he's our site
14 attorney. Rik Lantz is unfortunately not able to join
15 us tonight, is EPA's contractor. He's the site manager
16 that I work with. Rich Baldino, here manning the
17 slides, is the assistant site manager for EPA's
18 contractor and he's also our chemist for the site.
19 Cheryl Vaccarello, who welcomed you as you came in, is
20 our community involvement contractor. And Doug Petroff
21 has already stood up before, and he's in the back of
22 the room here. And he's with the State of Indiana.
23 Now, moving through the proposed plan. The
24 things I'm going to cover as I do so is talk a little

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1 bit about the site history and the background including
2 EPA's previous work in the area.
3 Description of our different cleanup
4 alternatives, I'm going to go through some of those in
5 depth, then describe our cleanup criteria. This is the
6 criteria that we use to compare the different cleanup
7 alternatives against each other and select our proposed
8 cleanup plan. Then I'm going to talk a bit more in
9 depth about our proposed cleanup alternatives and then
10 our next steps.
11 Again, we're in public comment period, so
12 this is an opportunity at the close of this meeting to
13 be able to provide some comments.
14 And then our resources, as Janet had
15 mentioned, we have our informational repository here in
16 this building. That information includes some of our
17 investigations and other documents that we looked at as
18 we came about our cleanup proposal.
19 And, last, we're going to be sharing our
20 contact information where you can either -- if you have
21 questions, you can contact us. Or if you want to make
22 some -- make a comment on the cleanup alternative, you
23 can do so that way too.
24 So here we are in East Chicago. And this is

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1 the USS Lead site, the residential portion of it here
2 and then the former facility there. We're going to
3 take a look at that in a little bit more detail.
4 So here's the residential portion and then
5 the former facility itself. In going about the work on
6 this -- on the USS Lead site, we've split it into two,
7 what we would call, operable units or areas. One
8 operable unit or area is the residential portion, and
9 the other is the facility. We're working on them
10 separately. So each of these areas will have its own
11 investigation, own kind of array of cleanup
12 alternatives that we're going to evaluate, and own
13 cleanup -- Ultimately each one will have its own
14 cleanup plan. Looking at the residential area, which
15 is -- The focus of this presentation is on the
16 residential area itself. We're going to be looking at
17 the facility in the future, and we'll have a separate
18 cleanup plan and presentation in public meeting on that
19 later.
20 The residential area is bound by Chicago
21 Avenue to the north; 151st and 150th to the south;
22 Parrish on the east; and then the canal on the west.
23 Some of the features I want to point out, I've already
24 pointed out the USS Lead site over here. South of

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1 150th we have the former DuPont facility. And in this
2 public housing area over here, this is the former
3 operations area for the Anaconda Lead and International
4 Lead Refining companies.
5 So as I mentioned, we're splitting these
6 things into two operable units. The residential area,
7 which I described its boundaries which does include the
8 Anaconda Lead/International Refining former operations
9 area. And then the facility itself -- USS Lead
10 facility itself, I mean, that's going to be the second
11 operable unit. And that study will also include
12 site-wide groundwater looking at both operable units.
13 The DuPont facility which I had pointed out
14 in the previous slide, there is an ongoing
15 investigation. There will be eventually a cleanup
16 there, and that's being conducted by another part of
17 EPA, a part of the EPA that oversees cleanups of active
18 facilities.
19 So historically, you know, I pointed out
20 these three industries or these three companies, three
21 areas because, based upon our investigations, these
22 appear to be the three primary sources of contamination
23 in the area. All three of them dealt with -- handled
24 lead or processed lead in their operations. USS Lead

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1 and then Anaconda Lead and International were lead --
2 did lead refining work where they brought in lead ore.
3 And in the case of USS Lead -- Well, initially they
4 brought in lead ore and they refined it in blast
5 furnaces and came up with a more pure form of lead that
6 could be used by other entities.
7 In that process with these furnaces, they
8 also had these stacks where there was some lead
9 particles that made its way up into the area and then
10 deposited down into the residential area.
11 Anaconda Lead/International Lead Refining
12 processed lead and created a lead-based powder used as
13 a pigment to be in paints. And we also believe that
14 they had some stacks, and some of the contamination
15 went into the -- onto their facility itself and the
16 surrounding area.
17 DuPont made a lead arsenate pesticide; and as
18 a byproduct of it, they had made a lead arsenate filter
19 cake which they disposed of on site. And that's one of
20 the subjects of their ongoing investigation at their
21 property. And that's being overseen -- I said already
22 it's being overseen by a different part of the EPA.
23 That group is called RCRA. They deal with the active
24 facilities, and so they're overseeing the project

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1 there.

2 So you can see a little bit of this

3 historically. This photo is from 1939, the residential

4 area. And here's the former USS Lead facility

5 landfill -- where there's the landfill now. You can

6 see some of the active buildings. Same thing for

7 Anaconda Lead and International Refining. You can see

8 some of the buildings there. And then for DuPont, you

9 can see the industrial activity at DuPont too.

10 So since EPA has been involved in the site --

11 Initially what EPA worked on was the facility itself,

12 conducting a cleanup through that RCRA program through

13 that part of EPA that deals with active facilities.

14 That cleanup or corrective action addressed

15 contamination at the facility and a little bit of the

16 contamination in properties right around the facility.

17 What happened during that cleanup was some of

18 the contaminated material was shipped off site and some

19 of it was consolidated into the landfill that we see

20 there today. That work was largely done by the end --

21 by 2004. EPA moved responsibility for managing that

22 site over into Superfund after that. Superfund deals

23 with abandoned facilities and deals with -- abandoned

24 facilities or abandoned sites as a part of what we do.

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1 And we looked at the residential area. In the
2 residential area, in 2008 and 2011, we conducted some
3 removal actions. We looked at 29 total properties.
4 And we targeted those properties that we knew of that
5 had the highest level of contamination. What that
6 means is that we saw properties with over 1,200 parts
7 per million of lead in the top six inches of soil. So
8 these were properties that had the highest
9 contaminations and also where that contamination posed
10 a real threat to the residents who lived at those
11 properties. When I say about "parts per million," one
12 part per million is one drop of water in a large barrel
13 of water, just to give you a sense of what that means.
14 So as a part of -- So we've done these -- We
15 starting working on these removal actions. And at the
16 same point in time, after inheriting the site from the
17 other part of EPA, we looked to see if we were able to
18 get responsible parties to pay for the investigation
19 and the cleanup of the residential area. That -- After
20 extensive work on that, we had -- we were unable to get
21 a responsible party to pay for the investigation. So
22 we moved forward.
23 As a part of moving forward, we had to put
24 the site -- get the site onto the national priorities

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1 list. That list is EPA's nationwide list of the most
2 contaminated sites in the country. When it's on that
3 list -- This is why it was key to get it on that list,
4 is that it's then eligible for federal dollars for
5 investigations and cleanup. So we were successful, and
6 we did use federal dollars for the investigation of the
7 residential portion of USS Lead.
8 So after we had it on the -- got on the
9 national priorities list, we began our investigation
10 into the nature and the extent of contamination.
11 That's our remedial investigation. And then since
12 then, we've also gone into our feasibility study. We
13 figured out the nature and extent of the contamination.
14 The next step is, What do we do about it?
15 And in the feasibility study, we developed a bunch of
16 different cleanup alternatives, different plans that
17 address the contamination, and evaluate them and
18 compare them against each other.
19 So in the remedial investigation, because the
20 site is a residential lead site -- And EPA has a lot of
21 experience dealing with residential lead sites -- we
22 use what has been developed in 2003 -- it's our
23 Superfund Lead Contaminated Residential Sites Handbook.
24 It's a -- something we use nationwide and brings a lot

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1 of commonality or some standards of practice and --
2 looking at these types of sites. It gives us guidance
3 on our sampling techniques, how we evaluate the risk
4 posed by the soil at these sites and helps us -- gives
5 us guidance in our development of our different cleanup
6 alternatives.
7 So in our sampling activities, it's our goal
8 to develop an understanding of the nature and the
9 extent of contamination. We want to get a geographic
10 range, see how widespread this contamination is
11 laterally, not just within the yard but within the
12 area. And we also want to see how far down it goes.
13 So for the geographic range, we developed
14 a -- kind of a coarse grid over the entire residential
15 area, sampling of a number of properties to be able to
16 get an idea of how widespread this contamination is.
17 And the individual properties, we sampled down to two
18 feet. The reason why we go down to two feet has
19 entirely to do with how we understand people use their
20 yards.
21 We expect that people will use up to the top
22 two feet of soil in their yards particularly when they
23 are planting gardens or in play areas. But people
24 really get exposed to that top two feet. So therefore

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1 we look at -- We say, These top two feet are what pose
2 a risk also to the residents at individual properties.
3 In doing this work, we collected some samples in late
4 2009 and then we collected more samples in the summer
5 of 2010.
6 Now, this is an approximation of our sampling
7 grid. These are not actual locations where we actually
8 collected samples. Give you an approximation, want to
9 show you what our idealized pattern was, and also an
10 approximation because I don't want to be showing --
11 violating people's privacy and showing exact residences
12 where we collected samples.
13 What -- Our goal was to get about three
14 samples per block, and accomplished that, and to have
15 our sampling be widespread over the entire residential
16 area. And we got that too. So within then -- That was
17 kind of our geographic spread.
18 At each individual property, what did we do
19 for our sampling? We collected composite samples. And
20 I'll explain a little bit more what composite samples
21 are on the next slide. We did that in the front yard
22 and the backyard. We also did it in the drip lines.
23 And at some of these properties, we collected, not just
24 samples for the different metals -- because we knew

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1 lead was our primary contaminant concern -- we looked
2 at other contaminants and see what else was in the
3 soil. Now, because some of these properties had play
4 areas or gardens, we also collected individual samples
5 of that location. I'll explain a little bit more about
6 that in the next slide too.
7 So a composite sample, what that means is
8 that we picked five points in the yard, tried to space
9 them out evenly. And we collected the sample at all
10 five of those points and combined all of those samples
11 into one sample and then tested that sample. The
12 reason why we do this composite sampling is because, in
13 a front yard or backyard, we expect people to use all
14 the different parts of their yard equally. So we call
15 that, that yards and exposure unit. It's also going to
16 be a decision unit. It's going to be a decision unit
17 because we're going to look at the front yard and
18 backyard separately and it may not always be that if
19 the front yard is contaminated, the backyard is
20 contaminated, or vice versa.
21 Again, where we had -- where we actually had
22 existing gardens or play areas, we collected discreet
23 samples at those. And for all these different samples,
24 we went down two feet. We selected one sample in the

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1 zero-to-six horizon, 6 to 12 inches down, 12 to 18, 18
2 to 24.
3 And here's some examples of that work being
4 done. These guys are bundled up. I think this is --
5 This is 2009. By the stamp, you can see they were out
6 there in December, a little bit challenging with the
7 ground that way.
8 So what did we conclude? We do believe we
9 have aerial deposition of lead in the area for the most
10 part. And what do we see that supports that?
11 Generally you see the higher concentrations of lead in
12 the shallower soil. As you get deeper down, the
13 concentrations of lead go down a little bit.
14 Other contaminants of concern. We did
15 identify that arsenic was another contaminant concern.
16 What we saw is that typically in a yard if you had
17 arsenic contamination, you also had lead contamination.
18 So they were largely co-located.
19 PAHs: PAHs are polyaromatic hydrocarbons.
20 It's another contaminant that -- What we found here is
21 that they're not site related. The levels that we saw
22 in the area were on par with what we normally see in
23 other urban residential areas. And they were -- didn't
24 appear to be co-located with the lead, so we don't

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1 believe that the PAHs are related to the site activity
2 that caused the lead contamination.
3 We also, in our investigations of depth, saw
4 that contamination is isolated to the upper two feet,
5 give or take two feet. That's our soil and fill area.
6 Beneath that, we have a native sand layer. And what we
7 found consistently is that the native sand layer
8 beneath that upper two feet is clean.
9 So in looking at our concentrations of lead
10 and arsenic in our soil, we use standard national
11 models for evaluating risk, stuff that we -- what we
12 use at other residential sites around the country. And
13 what we came up with for our cleanup levels, the levels
14 that we were going to be targeting to get during our
15 cleanups is arsenic at 26 parts per million, or
16 milligrams per kilogram; and lead at residential
17 properties at 400, or industrial/commercial properties
18 at 800 parts per million. So that was all part of our
19 remedial investigation.
20 The next step is the feasibility study. What
21 we do in the feasibility study is we develop a bunch of
22 different cleanup alternatives and different -- come up
23 with different ways, how can we address this
24 contamination and prevent exposure.

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1 Before we even get to the -- you know, array
2 of alternatives that we'll be presenting today, we
3 actually screened some alternatives out. If these
4 ideas are not protective, then they don't get carried
5 forward and they don't get presented today. For
6 example, we actually came up with five different
7 alternatives. Numbers 2 and 5 didn't make it to the
8 final cut, so I'm not going to be talking about them
9 any further.
10 What we have here also is kind of a
11 conceptualized idea of a hypothetical property in the
12 area. What you can see is you have contaminated soil
13 in this case, in this particular yard, going down about
14 18 inches; and then we have uncontaminated soil beneath
15 that. Beneath the uncontaminated soil is the native
16 sand, and that's in the front yard and the backyard.
17 In this hypothetical property, we have contaminated
18 soil in the top six inches. I'm going to be using this
19 hypothetical property as I run through the different
20 cleanup alternatives so you can see how the different
21 alternatives would address this kind of contamination.
22 Well, we have to include -- required in the
23 Superfund regulations that we include a no-action
24 alternative. It means that nothing gets done with the

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1 property. And we do that just as a baseline comparison
2 to see -- you know, to compare the other -- for
3 comparison purposes. So in looking at that
4 alternative -- the next slide -- you can see that the
5 end result would be no change.
6 Alternative 3. We're skipping to Alternative
7 3 because Alternative 2 was screened out earlier in the
8 process. What the idea for Alternative 3 is to cap the
9 contaminated material in place. What it will be is a
10 one-foot cover over contaminated soil, raised flower
11 boxes and gardens. Now, we raise the flower boxes and
12 the gardens because we expect that people will be using
13 two feet in those areas. So we would have these raised
14 boxes so you have two feet of clean material as opposed
15 to one foot over the other parts of the yard. And
16 there would be 30 years of maintenance of these caps on
17 these individuals properties. Because we have this
18 capped -- these caps on the properties, we would also
19 have to have deed restrictions. And those deed
20 restrictions would require that the caps be maintained
21 and the gardens couldn't be -- those little flower
22 boxes couldn't be shifted around.
23 I can see some people shaking their heads
24 about it. I'm not, you know, kind of letting the cat

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1 out of the bag or anything like that because some of
2 you have already read our proposed plan. This is not
3 the remedy that we're proposing. But it's important to
4 look at it because we need to really do a fair
5 evaluation of all the different possibilities out there
6 to see which ones are viable and which ones have a good
7 worthwhile comparison against the other alternatives.
8 So the estimated construction time and cost
9 is it would cost 18.2 million dollars, and it would
10 take about 15 months to execute. At each individual
11 property, though, it would be about three days of
12 actual work and then a couple more days of restoration
13 for any of these cleanup alternatives I'm going to show
14 tonight.
15 So what does that look like? You have your
16 contaminated soil, the uncontaminated soil, and the
17 sand. And then after you install Alternative 3, you
18 can see these bump-ups and the caps over the
19 contaminated material and the raised flower boxes.
20 Now, we actually have two Alternative 4s. We
21 split it into two because they're both excavation,
22 off-site disposal alternatives but a little bit
23 different. I'm going to get into the differences as I
24 go through it.

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1 For Alternative 4A, what we're going to do is
2 we're going to excavate contaminated soil from
3 properties. So that's soil that's above 400 milligrams
4 -- 400 parts per million for lead at a residence or 26
5 parts per million for arsenic. We're going to ship
6 that material off site for disposal and we're going to
7 go down to a maximum depth of two feet as we do this.
8 Afterwards we're going to be bringing in clean soil and
9 clean topsoil and restoring the properties. That, we
10 estimate, will cost about 28.9 million dollars and take
11 about 21 months to execute, again, at each individual
12 property, about three days of construction, at the
13 most, plus some restoration afterwards.
14 So what does that look like? Front yard goes
15 down to 18 inches, uncontaminated below it, sand; six
16 inches in the back and then uncontaminated. So this --
17 For 4A, that contaminated soil in the front yard, you
18 can see that that will be replaced with clean fill and
19 the clean topsoil on top of it. In the backyard, we're
20 only grabbing the top six inches that's contaminated,
21 and we're leaving the uncontaminated beneath it.
22 I want to point out the sidewalk here. We do
23 consider the sidewalks to be fairly good covers and
24 engineered barriers. So at this point in time we don't

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1 have plans to come in underneath the sidewalk and dig
2 out a sidewalk and replace them.
3 RESIDENT: You don't have plans to?
4 MR. BERKOFF: Do not at this point in time.
5 So for 4B, how is 4B different? 4B, we
6 identify properties that have contamination at them,
7 and we just automatically dig down to the sand layer
8 irregardless of where that contamination stops. And
9 then there's off-site disposal of that contaminated
10 material, clean backfill comes in, and restoration.
11 The estimated time for that is -- estimated
12 cost for that is going to be 43.8 million dollars to do
13 that remedy. And it would take about 33 months to
14 execute; again, each individual property, about three
15 days of construction and then followed by restoration.
16 So what would that look like? You have the
17 contaminated soil and the uncontaminated soil, front
18 yard, backyard. When you do the remedy, you just take
19 out all the soil irregardless of whether or not it is
20 above or below the level once you have a yard that has
21 any contamination above that level and you backfill it.
22 So here you can take a look at some of the
23 alternatives, kind of compare it against each other at
24 kind of a gross level right now, looking at their

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1 costs, their duration, and basically what the
2 alternative is.
3 Now, when we go through the process of
4 evaluating and comparing these alternatives against
5 each other, we use these nine criteria to do so. We
6 have these two threshold criteria. And in order for a
7 remedy to make that final cut, the ones I just showed
8 you, they have to meet these threshold criteria. It's
9 mandatory. That means it has to be overall protective
10 to human health and the environment and meet these
11 things we call ARARs, applicable or relevant and
12 appropriate requirements. These are federal laws and
13 state laws that would be relevant or applicable to this
14 kind of cleanup.
15 So once they meet this threshold, we can take
16 it further and we compare them against each other using
17 balancing criteria: the long-term effectiveness and
18 permanence, or whether or not the thing will stand the
19 test of time; whether or not it reduces the toxicity,
20 mobility, or volume through treatment.
21 EPA has a preference for treatment. We don't
22 want to simply be moving waste from one place to
23 another. If at some point along the way we can
24 actually reduce the toxicity or reduce mobility, make

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1 things -- make that material less of a problem for the
2 environment, we will do so. So it becomes something
3 that we evaluate in our criteria.
4 The short-term effectiveness, what that means
5 is that's talking about, when you're executing the
6 cleanup itself, does it pose a threat to the residents?
7 Does it increase -- Does it increase the spread of
8 contamination at all? Does it pose a threat to the
9 construction workers, impact traffic patterns, what
10 have you?
11 And then implementability. And what we mean
12 by "implementability" is we're talking about whether or
13 not it is -- whether or not we can do it from a
14 logistics standpoint or even from an administrative
15 standpoint.
16 And, lastly, cost. When we talk about cost,
17 we're not talking about the absolute cost of a remedy.
18 We're talking about the relative cost of a remedy,
19 comparing it against each other. How much bang for the
20 buck do we get in these different alternatives?
21 And then, lastly, after our proposed plan --
22 I'll try to come out and speak with you tonight --
23 we'll be evaluating our modifying criteria. That's the
24 State acceptance, and the community acceptance. And

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1 we're going to be hearing from you guys in your
2 comments and what your thoughts are on our proposed
3 remedy. You have an opportunity, like Janet said, to
4 give some of those comments tonight. You also have an
5 opportunity, if you want to do so, in writing. We have
6 the written form. We have forms that you can fill out
7 and submit those here this evening or send those to our
8 office. We also have ways -- You can do it
9 electronically through our website too. Or you can
10 E-mail me. And I'll have my E-mail address up at the
11 end of the thing for -- It's also on the fact sheet.
12 And you can E-mail Janet too.
13 And so we use the State acceptance and the
14 community acceptance in that final part of our
15 decision-making process as we select a remedy.
16 So we did this comparison and this is what we
17 came up with: We include Alternative 1 in there, but
18 it doesn't really fulfill any of our -- any of the
19 criteria. As far as the overall protectiveness to
20 human health and as it complies with the State and
21 federal regulations, 3, 4A, and 4B only. That should
22 be no surprise. The only reason why they're evaluated
23 this far in the process is because they met that
24 threshold criteria.

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1 The long-term effectiveness and permanence.
2 Will it stand the test of time? We believe that all
3 three remedies can stand the test of time.
4 Now, for reduction of toxicity or mobility
5 through treatment, Alternatives 4A and 4B would
6 somewhat fulfill that requirement. Some of the
7 contamination here is at higher levels that we would
8 consider hazardous waste. That material, we would
9 actually be treating to reduce its mobility so it would
10 be less able to leech out into groundwater wherever we
11 dispose of it. So for some of that more hazardous
12 material, we'll dig it up. We'll be treating it before
13 we send it off site to a landfill. So we'll reduce the
14 mobility of some of that contamination. And that would
15 happen in 4A and 4B. It would not happen in 3 because
16 the contamination would be left in place.
17 Short-term effectiveness, these are all
18 construction kind of activities. So they'll all be
19 facing somewhat similar issues as far as the road
20 traffic, construction workers, impact of residents. We
21 do believe that all of them could be mitigated through
22 proper health and safety plans, coordination for the
23 traffic, and good practices for wetting down soil and
24 making sure we don't have any dust getting out into the

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1 area. We would be monitoring dust for any of these
2 different cleanup alternatives. And then the different
3 costs. You can see again 18.2 for Alternative 3, 28.9,
4 and then 43.8.
5 So the alternative the EPA is proposing that
6 we recommend for the residential portion of the USS
7 Lead site is 4A. 4A is where we're cleaning up
8 contaminated material that's above -- cleaning up
9 material that's above those levels of 400 parts per
10 million at a residence for lead and 26 parts per
11 million for arsenic.
12 We believe it's protective to human health
13 and the environment. It meets our State and federal
14 regulations, our ARARs. It's implementable. We've
15 done remedies like this all over the country. It would
16 reduce the contaminant mobility because, for some of
17 that stuff that we dig up, we're going to treat before
18 we dispose of it off site. And it's effective in the
19 short-term and the long-term. As soon as we implement
20 the remedy, it's effective and protective and will be
21 protective in the long-term too.
22 And it's cost effective. It's cost effective
23 when you compare it to Alternative 4B where we would be
24 paying for cleaning up -- or excavating and disposing

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1 of soil that's not -- that doesn't pose a threat to
2 human health and the environment. And, very
3 importantly, what it does is it maintains the current
4 residential use in the area now and in the future. So
5 we feel that 4A represents -- is the best
6 representative of the balance.
7 So our next steps, here we are. We've done
8 some removal actions. We have a remedial
9 investigation, and the feasible studies -- they're both
10 complete -- and here we are in the proposed plan
11 meeting in this public comment period right now.
12 We're going to gather the public comments.
13 And as a part of our record of decision where we
14 finalize our decision, we're going to be evaluating
15 those public comments and responding to them in our
16 responsiveness summary, which is part of our record of
17 decision.
18 From there, we move into a remedial design
19 and a remedial action. I'm pointing out 2014 for the
20 remedial design. After we have a record decision,
21 we're going to go back to the enforcement phase, as EPA
22 has the belief the polluter pays, enforcement first,
23 however you want to state it. We're going to be trying
24 to get responsible parties to pay for the cleanups in

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1 the area. So conservatively we're saying 2014 as when
2 we're going to start the design and hopefully shortly
3 there afterwards starting the remedial action. That
4 said, that's a conservative number, conservative
5 estimate. And if there's any way possible to be out
6 there earlier, we will be.
7 So after we have the remedial action and the
8 long-term operation and maintenance, maintaining some
9 of these -- maintaining some of these -- maintaining
10 some of the construction -- because some contamination
11 will be left on site -- we're going to be having these
12 five-year reviews. This is to make sure -- The
13 five-year review process is to make sure that the
14 cleanups are still protective. And that five-year
15 review process continues on in perpetuity. So EPA
16 doesn't go away after its remedies.
17 So public comment period. As we stated
18 before, we're in the middle of it right now. It goes
19 to August 11th. You can review documents here at the
20 library. They have it available on disk at the
21 Chicago Avenue library. You can come by the Region 5
22 offices and review documents there too. And then we
23 have some of the documents on our website too, and you
24 can get them that way. You can also -- If you have

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1 comments, you can make them tonight. You can also take
2 some of the fact sheets we have which have a section
3 for you to write, and you can mail those to us. Or you
4 can also E-mail myself or Janet at EPA. And our E-mail
5 address is here. Our E-mail addresses are also on the
6 fact sheets too. So you can get that information that
7 way too.
8 At this point in time, we're going to go into
9 the question-and-answer session. This is not the
10 public comment -- the formal public comment section of
11 the evening right now. This is an opportunity -- If
12 you have some questions, you want clarification prior
13 to making your comments, I can answer them then --
14 answer them now. When we get to the public comments or
15 the formal comments, I won't actually be responding to
16 anyone's questions.
17 And Janet is going to facilitate this part of
18 the -- Do you want to do this?
19 MS. POPE: Sure.
20 Questions? We'll start with the mayor.
21 And then we'll come to you.
22 MR. COPELAND: I would like to thank you for
23 coming tonight, hearing the residents' concern, along
24 with the administrative -- administration's concern.

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1 I would like to go on record as saying that,
2 as a newly elected mayor, one of the first tasks that
3 came upon me was to prioritize what was important, what
4 was extremely important. And this was one of the
5 issues that came up first. I received the letter from
6 the EPA, read the letter, looked at it, and said this
7 is of the utmost importance.
8 And let the record show that as for meeting
9 with the EPA about four, five months ago --
10 Would you say, Mr. Berkoff, that we came to
11 your office?
12 MR. BERKOFF: Yes.
13 MR. COPELAND: And at that time when we came to
14 your office --
15 I would like Mr. Fernando Trevino to stand
16 up. He's our expert dealing in the field of
17 environmental concerns. At that time we also took
18 Ms. Kathy Brown with Economic Development.
19 Kathy, please stand up.
20 We also took legal counsel, Ms. Carla Morgan,
21 who is here also tonight. At that time we took the
22 health director Diana Burns. We also took Winna
23 Guzman, who is the building director. We also took a
24 representative from the redevelopment department,

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1 [redacted], who has recently retired. We have a
2 representative here tonight, Maria Becerra, from
3 Redevelopment.
4 We took a team to the EPA's office to talk
5 about this because we felt the level of concern and how
6 we would address this issue had to be a wholistic
7 approach. We looked at this and we said once the EPA
8 walk away, then what would be the cost to the citizens
9 of East Chicago from this point and forever? And I
10 think at that point that we offered alternatives.
11 Mr. Berkoff, I think at that time when we
12 offered those alternatives, I did look for a response
13 to come back from EPA. To this date, I haven't had a
14 response. But we are here at this point in time.
15 That's spilled milk; it's been dried. We will deal
16 with it at this time.
17 Let me go on record as saying that the City
18 of East Chicago recommends 4B because, at the point
19 when you guys finish what you doing and you leave, our
20 pockets wouldn't be deep enough to clean this. And I
21 think this was the concern that I addressed that -- At
22 the same time when you look at this area affected,
23 someone may drive through there and someone may say --
24 well, they see the abandoned homes, they see the vacant

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1 lots and -- But when I drive through there, I see the
2 potential. I see the potential. And I think at the
3 time that I told you that if we marry our ideas with
4 yours that when we cleaned up that site that site would
5 be prime for development. That's why I brought
6 Economic Development because we were looking for the
7 future. That's why I brought Redevelopment, because we
8 were looking at how do we refine this area. That's why
9 we took legal, in case if we tripped over some tripping
10 points along the way. That's why I took someone who
11 knew more about the environmental concerns over the
12 duration of time that we've been dealing with this with
13 me.
14 I tried to say if the City of East Chicago
15 would err, we would err on the side of safety. My
16 greatest fear is that, once the EPA walk away, that now
17 when we go to redevelop that area, then our dollars
18 would not be vast enough to even put a dent in the
19 problem and then we would eventually have a wasteland.
20 So the City of East Chicago goes on record as saying 4B
21 is the best alternative for the future and not only for
22 today but for generations to generations to
23 generations.
24 And I plead with you again today that at that

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1 point we -- when you look -- You expressed that the
2 dollar amount could be 45 million and even higher. You
3 even said even into the 50 million range.
4 And I looked and said if we leverage our
5 dollars and our concerns and that if we did blocks that
6 only had two, three abandoned homes and if we cleared
7 the abandoned homes and everything and, when we left,
8 that block was now pristine -- Because when you leave,
9 Mr. Berkhoff, and someone comes and wants to develop,
10 then you going to put markers on there where you can't
11 get a permit unless you do this. And how do you get
12 rid of the soil or you go deeper than this?
13 And I'm telling you that I feel that if you
14 reach your hand out and I grab your hand that, with
15 your ideas, our ideas, both governmental entities, that
16 we could best serve the people if we do a thorough
17 cleanup of that area. So that's what I want to go on
18 record.
19 The environmental expert that we have will
20 speak on it. He will tell you in detail why we feel 4B
21 is greater. But I don't want my words or the way the
22 City feel to get caught up in how emotions sometimes
23 run rapid in this. And I'm not belittling the emotions
24 of the people because these are some people who are --

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1 who have resided in this area a generation upon a
2 generation. So they may leave with their heart. The
3 City of East Chicago has taken it from dollars and
4 cents, and we just think we can take a wholistic
5 approach to something that at one point a business
6 thrive there, people work there. And now we have the
7 remnants of the aftermath.
8 Now, I just think that if we come together,
9 we can clean it up, and the future generations will
10 look back on this collaboration between the EPA and
11 local government and say, This is good. So I would
12 like the record to show that.
13 MR. BERKOFF: Thank you very much, Mr. Mayor.
14 MS. POPE: Next question.
15 RESIDENT: I wondered what's the population of
16 this area now, how many people live there, and also
17 wondered whether there were any public health studies
18 associated with your investigation to determine whether
19 consequences of the contamination that is there can be
20 identified.
21 MR. BERKOFF: Thank you. Those are two good
22 questions. And the answer to those questions -- For
23 the first one as to what the population is in the area,
24 I don't actually know the entire population count in

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1 the area. And I'll get to the reason why.
2 What we do know is number of properties in
3 the area. It's roughly about 1,200 properties in the
4 area. And as far -- And the reason why we don't know
5 the number of residents in the area is actually kind of
6 tied to that second question too, whether or not we did
7 health studies.
8 We didn't conduct any health studies as a
9 part of it. We did talk to the City of East Chicago
10 Public Health Department, found out information about
11 blood lead levels in children at the public schools in
12 the area. But we don't conduct health studies in the
13 areas like this because we don't wait for actual
14 contamination or actual exposure to occur. We act on
15 the threat or the potential for exposure.
16 So if there's contamination in the soil, we
17 don't wait -- we're not waiting for that contamination
18 to get actually into the residents, so we don't conduct
19 a health study. If it's in the soil, we're going to
20 assume that over time it could get into the residents.
21 And for that reason alone, we're going to take action
22 in this area. We don't wait for the actual exposure
23 before we take an action. If we did so, then we might
24 be waiting a lot more time.

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1 RESIDENT: Thank you.
2 MS. POPE: Question?
3 RESIDENT: I want to piggy-back on her question.
4 Why you doing EPA cleanup if you don't -- what good is
5 it for?
6 MR. BERKOFF: Because there is contamination in
7 the soil --
8 RESIDENT: Who told you?
9 MR. BERKOFF: What?
10 RESIDENT: Who told you?
11 MR. BERKOFF: We investigate it. We --
12 RESIDENT: Let me ask you something. Have there
13 been deaths noted for arsenic and this lead poisoning?
14 Is there any records showing that people just died of a
15 heart attack, with no breast cancer, no -- What do you
16 call that? -- pancreas cancer?
17 MR. BERKOFF: Pancreatic cancer.
18 You know --
19 RESIDENT: This is what concerns me. It's been
20 going on for years and years before you were born.
21 Okay. And you come here -- I mean, it's great. We
22 glad you're here. Don't let me offend you. What I
23 want to know is why do a half job? If you take two
24 inches off the front yard -- no -- off the backyard and

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1 then two feet in the front -- The backyard is where the
2 kids play.
3 MR. BERKOFF: I was trying to give an example of a
4 hypothetical yard. If I can take an opportunity to
5 clarify. There might be some misunderstanding here
6 based on some of the comments.
7 RESIDENT: I have that.
8 MR. BERKOFF: We're addressing all the
9 contaminated soil that we believe poses a risk, the
10 stuff that's in the top two feet that has lead
11 contamination, that poses an arsenic contamination and
12 pose a risk. So we're going to be addressing that.
13 That showing the six inches, that was just a
14 hypothetical for a hypothetical yard.
15 RESIDENT: Okay. That was -- confused me.
16 MR. BERKOFF: That was not -- We're not trying to
17 say that every yard is going to be six inches. It's
18 simply -- That was trying to show an example that --
19 RESIDENT: What I heard is you going to make the
20 front look clean and pretty; and the backyard, don't go
21 back there.
22 MR. BERKOFF: No. We're going to be addressing --
23 If either yard is contaminated, we're going to be
24 addressing the yard. And we'll be going down as far

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1 as -- We'll be addressing all the contamination of all
2 the 400 or 26, lead or arsenic, and going down to a
3 maximum of two feet.
4 RESIDENT: Okay.
5 MR. BERKOFF: And what we see in the area -- I
6 just want to clarify too -- is that, typically, at two
7 feet down, we have the sand layer. And that sand layer
8 is clean. So we really believe we'll be addressing
9 contamination -- all the contamination that poses a
10 risk to residents at these properties.
11 MS. POPE: Let me go over here, and then I'll come
12 back to you.
13 RESIDENT: Hi, [redacted] My
14 question goes to the health concerns. I know you're
15 saying you're assuming -- hopefully you're attacking it
16 on time. But what's to question how long that lead and
17 arsenic contamination has been in the ground? And if
18 individuals and the residents like myself -- I've been
19 living there in that same area since one month old. I
20 was born in Chicago. My parents moved here.
21 And the blood -- That blood work that --
22 You're showing to get blood work done for children, but
23 you're not talking about some of us adults, of us who
24 have been born there, raised there, have played at

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1 Riley Park, in our backyards when they were tearing up
2 the sidewalks, when they were redoing the streets and
3 everything else in the dirt. None of us was there, but
4 yet the companies were there doing all this
5 contamination.
6 What's to question that us adults are not
7 acutely contaminated or affected? Because one of the
8 affects -- and I'm -- I will say right now my doctors
9 are checking into it -- is nerve, tingling in your
10 limbs if you're acutely affected. Guess what they're
11 treating me for for a while and they don't know what it
12 came from: neuropathy.
13 But now they're questioning. The blood work
14 only goes short-term to three months. My question is,
15 is there any way we could get a partnership with EPA,
16 the local hospital, or even the health department to do
17 the bone striations or the bone marrow testing for
18 especially the elders if there's sicknesses that are
19 affected on this? Because we need to know. I think --
20 That's my concern, the health issues, because we really
21 honestly don't know how long this contamination has
22 been in the ground. We know it's there. You're
23 talking to remove it for the future. But you can't
24 say -- You don't know if those of us who have been born

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1 and raised there -- if it has already affected us. So
2 I would like that to be a major consideration, some
3 type of fellowship that you have the medical studies to
4 determine what health risks are there because you're
5 talking short-term. Blood work is short-term, three
6 months.
7 MR. BERKOFF: I absolutely appreciate everyone's
8 concerns about the impacts for the lead and arsenic on
9 people's health. That's why we're out here proposing
10 to do this cleanup as soon as we can.
11 MS. POPE: Gentleman in the back.
12 RESIDENT: I would like to preface my question
13 with this comment: I was born here. I was here when
14 these places were humming. Nobody bitched about a
15 thing because everybody had a job. You failed to
16 mentioned US Reduction north of Chicago Avenue. They
17 used to spew stuff out. A guy by the name of Tank
18 owned a tavern over there, he fought city hall for I
19 don't know how many years. But it was too much money
20 involved, never got off the ground.
21 Now answer me this: You guys are going to
22 move this volume of soil and you're going to place it
23 where? And where are you going to get the soil to
24 replace it? Where are you going to get it from? Are

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1 you going to re-sod these lawns? Are you going to dump
2 the stuff in there and the hell with it?
3 MR. BERKOFF: These are good questions, and it's
4 an opportunity to answer these in a little bit more
5 detail.
6 As far as where we're going to be getting
7 some of the -- Well, first of all, US Reduction -- I
8 didn't mention it -- but we're aware of US Reduction.
9 And as far as where we would be taking
10 material, we would be taking materials to licensed
11 landfills. And that's part of what the assumptions are
12 in our cost estimates, the distance of the licensed
13 landfills from the area here. And for the material we
14 bring in, we bring stuff in that would be clean,
15 tested, tested to be clean.
16 And as far as how we go about that
17 restoration process, we would be bringing in the clean
18 fill. But the top six inches would be clean topsoil.
19 There's a difference between those types of materials.
20 And then after that, we would be restoring properties
21 to how they were before the cleanup. That means there
22 would be a whole lot of photo documentation of the
23 properties prior to the cleanup and making sure -- say
24 if we had to dig up a shrub -- that we're replacing

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1 shrubs.

2 And as far as the -- getting the surfaces of

3 the yards, we'll be putting down seed mixture very

4 likely instead of a sod because we think seed mixture

5 will actually take and live longer than if we put down

6 sod. And so putting down seed mixture, and EPA would

7 then be maintaining that. If EPA is doing the cleanup,

8 EPA would be then be maintaining that for 30 days,

9 making sure that seed mixture takes. And then after

10 that, it would be the resident's responsibility to then

11 maintain that grass cover after EPA has given -- gotten

12 them started. So, yeah, as far as the restoration

13 goes, we would be -- it would be an involved process

14 making sure they're restoring these yards back to their

15 original condition.

16 MS. POPE: Yes, sir.

17 MR. TREVINO: Yeah. I've got a couple questions.

18 The mayor mentioned I have a statement during comments

19 to summarize the -- But before that, I have a couple

20 questions.

21 There has been some concerns with the

22 community regarding Carrie Gosch Elementary School.

23 You mentioned earlier that there was two early-action

24 activities that were done because of the high levels.

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1 But nothing was done at the elementary school. Is that
2 because of the health risks and the levels were low?
3 Or can you explain that.
4 MR. BERKOFF: The levels were -- There was one
5 area where we have exceeded it. Other levels were low.
6 And it was not in the top six inches, so we don't think
7 that posed an actual threat right now.
8 MR. TREVINO: The other question -- And I think we
9 mentioned this when the mayor took his team downtown.
10 Is the EPA doing any testing on the homes themselves?
11 I mean, if the stuff blew and it's in the ground, then
12 it's possible it's on the roof, along houses. Have
13 they -- Has that ever been talked about to expand the
14 testing of the lead? For instance, if the City does
15 embark on demolition of many houses over there, we may
16 be recontaminating everything in the future if the EPA
17 doesn't make that part of their scope of work.
18 MR. BERKOFF: You know, our experience is that the
19 lead contamination doesn't typically adhere to the
20 houses. Also when start to talk about houses, you get
21 to lead-based paint issues. And as to confounding
22 information, often we find that the lead-based paints
23 is a big factor as what the lead levels on -- in
24 residences.

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1 MR. TREVINO: Page 6 of your -- where you compare
2 the alternatives, you have Alternative 4B and 4A having
3 the same amount of effectiveness on reduction of
4 toxicity and mobility or volume for treatment.
5 MR. BERKOFF: Yes.
6 MR. TREVINO: Wouldn't 4B offer more
7 effectiveness?
8 MR. BERKOFF: Not for treatment of mobility.
9 Basically what it is, it -- What we're talking about
10 for treatment mobility is that for some of the stuff
11 that has the highest levels, we would consider that to
12 pose a threat for leaching into groundwater. So it
13 means that when we excavate it, we'll identify that
14 material that has the highest concentration. And
15 before we dispose of it in a landfill, before we take
16 it off site, before we even put it in the landfill,
17 we'll be treating it to make sure we're reducing its
18 mobility. So, that material, even though it's of a
19 high concentration, would no longer be able to leach
20 into the groundwater once we dispose of it.
21 So they both would be doing that. And both
22 of these remedies would be excavating and disposing of
23 high concentrations of lead. They would both be
24 treating the lead -- applying treatment to the lead

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1 equally.

2 MR. TREVINO: And one last question. I mean --

3 And per your document here, I mean, EPA acknowledges

4 that 4B offers the more effective remediation. So what

5 was EPA's deciding factor to go with 4A versus 4B if 4B

6 is more effective? Yes, it's more costly. But it also

7 offers a lot more protection and the ability for the

8 City to have a restricted -- a nonrestrictive use of

9 the properties. So what was EPA's --

10 MR. BERKOFF: We don't think that 4B is actually

11 much more effective. We think that the -- both 4A and

12 4B, because they will address -- they will both address

13 contamination in the upper two feet, that they will

14 both address the contamination that poses a threat to

15 the residents and the properties.

16 And as far as the big difference between the

17 two, is that 4B then becomes more expensive because, in

18 4B, we would also be excavating and disposing of

19 material that we do not believe that is above levels

20 that pose a threat to human health or the environment.

21 So we would be kind of blanketly applying excavation to

22 soil that is not above the threat levels.

23 MR. TREVINO: If I just may challenge that. Your

24 EPA sampling results indicate that the native sand is

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1 two feet deep. So 4A is saying you're going to go two
2 feet. So there really shouldn't be any difference
3 in -- in cost if native sand is two feet and you're
4 going two feet.
5 MR. BERKOFF: No. I said 4A is -- We're going to
6 a maximum of two feet.
7 MR. TREVINO: Right.
8 MR. BERKOFF: So we're going down --
9 MR. TREVINO: But it also says here that the
10 native sand is two feet deep.
11 MR. BERKOFF: It does.
12 MR. TREVINO: So if 4B is to excavate to native
13 sand, you're going to two feet.
14 MR. BERKOFF: 4B is to excavate to native sand.
15 MR. TREVINO: Which is two feet.
16 MR. BERKOFF: But 4A is not necessarily going down
17 to the native sand or not necessarily going down to
18 the -- If we have contaminated material that poses a
19 threat to human health, for lead, if it's above 400,
20 we'll follow that down to a maximum of two feet.
21 I'm going to actually show a slide to try and
22 illustrate. There seems to be a confusion as to what
23 we mean by 4A and 4B.
24 MR. TREVINO: Yeah. Because the way you have

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1 described it and the way I read it, the only difference
2 is one is going to native and the other one is going to
3 a maximum depth of two feet. The native sand is at two
4 feet.
5 MR. BERKOFF: So here's our hypothetical property
6 showing conditions before any kind of excavation. At
7 this hypothetical -- Let's go back one more. So at the
8 hypothetical property, we have contaminated material
9 down to 18 inches, not two feet. And then we have
10 material that's below our cleanup levels at 18 inches
11 down to 24 inches. And that's in the front yard. And
12 then hypothetically we have another backyard where the
13 material above 400 is only in the top six inches. We
14 have identified properties that are kind of like this
15 one.
16 And so, for 4A, what we would be doing is we
17 would be digging up the contaminated material that's at
18 the top six inches here or 18 here. And this is --
19 This is a hypothetical situation where we simply
20 decided that we're going to hall the top 18 inches of
21 contamination just to illustrate the alternative here.
22 So if we're executing Alternative 4A, we're
23 going to be only addressing the contaminated material.
24 So what that would mean is, as we go to the next slide,

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1 we would excavate down to 18 inches, take out that
2 material above that poses a threat, and leave behind
3 the material that we don't believe poses a threat. So
4 it's material in that top two feet that's below our
5 cleanup levels.
6 Now, for 4B, here we are again. We have
7 material that poses a threat, material that we don't
8 believe poses a threat in the front yard, and material
9 that we believe poses a threat, and material that we
10 believe is below our cleanup levels in the backyard.
11 Now, for 4B, we would be excavating all the
12 material irregardless if it's above or below our
13 cleanup levels. So that's the big difference. We
14 would be going down two feet automatically. We're down
15 to the sand layer automatically in 4B. In 4A, we would
16 be addressing that material that we believe poses a
17 threat and going down to a maximum of two feet as we do
18 so.
19 MR. TREVINO: And I guess -- And the mayor did
20 mention it. 4A still stifles any development in the
21 area. If there is a bunch of orange fence markings,
22 the difference between what you leave behind and what
23 you've taken out, if someone wants to build in that
24 area -- I mean, the frost level in our area is

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1 obviously deeper than two feet. Anyone that wants to
2 construct in that area is going to have to go through
3 some costly, burdensome procedures to build. And we're
4 already challenged in that area as far as development,
5 and this will certainly destroy any future hope to
6 develop that area.
7 MR. BERKOFF: I appreciate your concerns.
8 MS. POPE: Young lady there.
9 RESIDENT: My first question is, was
10 phytoremediation considered? Is that a viable
11 alternative?
12 MR. BERKOFF: Phytoremediation wasn't considered,
13 but we did look at some other kind of treatment
14 options. That was Alternative 5, which was screened
15 out.
16 Rich, you can actually speak to that a little
17 bit more than I can.
18 Rich is one of my contractors.
19 MR. BALDINO: Phytoremediation is generally more
20 effective for organic contaminants. These are
21 inorganic metals, and phytoremediation doesn't really
22 address those contaminants. They may take them out,
23 but they're still there. They're still available. So
24 those alternatives were screened out.

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1 RESIDENT: So if they're screening the lead out,
2 couldn't you dispose of the plant materials?
3 MR. BALDINO: You would, in essence, be doing an
4 excavation just like we're proposing here. You've got
5 to wait for the plants to uptake those metals, and then
6 you got to go and dig them all out and dispose of them
7 just like if we're just removing the soil.
8 RESIDENT: How does that break down the cost
9 price?
10 MR. BALDINO: Well, the cost would be the cost
11 that we showed in these alternatives, 4A and 4B, plus
12 the cost of planting all those plants in addition to
13 the excavation.
14 MR. BERKOFF: So it would simply add cost to the
15 4A and 4B.
16 RESIDENT: But it would absorb the lead?
17 MR. BALDINO: Slowly.
18 RESIDENT: My second question is, were there
19 atmospheric tests run and is there contamination of the
20 air with arsenic and lead?
21 MR. BERKOFF: We did do air samples as a part of
22 the process. And I don't believe we found anything in
23 the air at this point in time. A lot of this
24 contamination is historic. None of these facilities

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1 were functional or are still operating and producing
2 lead the way they were.
3 RESIDENT: One more question. You mentioned that
4 as part of your plan you will remediate, you will
5 reduce the toxicity of that soil before you dispose of
6 it somewhere?
7 MR. BERKOFF: Yes.
8 RESIDENT: Could you describe that process a
9 little and then tell me how you dispose of that more
10 toxic -- whatever it is. If you concentrated the lead
11 in the soil, what are you going to do with that
12 super-contaminated soil?
13 MR. BERKOFF: Actually, I'm going to have Rich --
14 Because it's a bit more technical than simply we're
15 going to treat it to reduce it from being mobile, I
16 think we can --
17 Rich, if you want to answer her very briefly.
18 But afterwards, you know, maybe if it's not --
19 If you want some more detail, you can have
20 Rich -- you and Rich talk a little bit later.
21 RESIDENT: No. We want to hear this --
22 RESIDENT: (Inaudible) -- of a landfill someplace?
23 MR. BALDINO: Right. So basically we would not be
24 concentrating any contaminants. What would happen is

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1 we would take the soil out and mix it with concrete,
2 basically, okay, turn it into big concrete blocks so
3 that anything that's incased in that concrete can't get
4 out and then you put that in the landfill.
5 RESIDENT: Away from here?
6 MR. BALDINO: Yes, away from here.
7 RESIDENT: Away from the water?
8 MR. BALDINO: Yes.
9 MR. BERKOFF: Yes. It would be going to a
10 licensed landfill, one that's designed to accept this
11 kind of material.
12 RESIDENT: So, you know, I drive by and I saw you
13 walking around, decontaminating the soil, and scooping
14 it up -- This is what --
15 MR. BERKOFF: No. We would be scooping it up
16 first, getting it out of yards, and then treating it
17 prior to taking it to a licensed landfill.
18 MS. POPE: Gentleman here in the red.
19 RESIDENT: I might have a two- or three-part
20 question.
21 MR. BERKOFF: Sure.
22 RESIDENT: I know when you don't know about
23 something, that's fine. But once you do find out about
24 something, then you need to do something about it. And

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1 I would like to know if anybody from the EPA would let
2 their kids go in the backyard, from now until we do
3 something, and play? And my other part question is, we
4 know sand is a natural filter element; it's going to
5 filter and clean. What happens on a big rain? How
6 much lead is raised back up and would be in -- put back
7 in the soil in the big rain? It would be like
8 backflushing the sand.
9 MR. BERKOFF: I'll answer -- The first question
10 was about, you know, basically having kids play in
11 soil. You know, certainly our guidance to the
12 residents in the area, if you have a yard in this area,
13 it's important that you have some kind of cover in
14 between the soil and yourselves. That could be a grass
15 layer. It could be wood chips, gravel. All of these
16 act as good kind of barriers. On top of that --
17 RESIDENT: Right now?
18 MR. BERKOFF: Right now.
19 What we recommend also right now is manage
20 your dust properly. So if you have kids, or yourself,
21 if you're working in the garden, make sure you brush
22 off the dust before you leave the garden, washing your
23 hands, keeping boots or any kind of work clothes
24 outside if you're doing that, and handling things that

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1 way. So if you -- Also if you want some more further
2 guidance on how to handle the dust in your area or the
3 soil in your area, we'll be happy to talk to you more
4 at length about that.
5 And then the second question was more about
6 the water, the sand. We believe that in the -- in this
7 area, if there's rain, the water's going down, that it
8 wouldn't be coming back up through the soil and sand
9 layer.
10 On top of that what we're kind of getting
11 into is the groundwater, what's the situation with the
12 groundwater here. We will be investigating the
13 groundwater in the area. What -- We're going to be
14 doing that as part of the second operable unit as a
15 part of looking at the USS Lead facility itself. Our
16 initial understanding, though, of the groundwater in
17 the area is that the lead doesn't very easily leave the
18 soil to get into the ground water.
19 MS. POPE: The gentleman here, and then it was
20 somebody behind him.
21 RESIDENT: Quick question I have is, while you're
22 doing all this moving and stuff, where do we be at? Do
23 we have to stay at our house? Do we have to vacate?
24 You know what I mean?

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1 MR. BERKOFF: You'll be able to stay in your
2 homes. We'll be coordinating with the different owners
3 and different residents in the area making sure that we
4 try not to inconvenience them, give them access
5 agreements, and then letting them know ahead of time
6 when we'd be active at their properties. I think
7 that's a very helpful question.
8 RESIDENT: I just had a quick question. How often
9 do you meet with the residents in that area, and when
10 was the last time that you met with them?
11 MR. BERKOFF: We meet with the residents
12 periodically. It's something that we've done a bit
13 more intensely early on, something that we haven't done
14 as much recently. One of the things that we've
15 discussed and thought about is that, you know, if we're
16 really coming out to the community and saying nothing
17 very much different from what we had in the previous
18 meeting, we don't want to really -- didn't want to eat
19 up too many people's time, something we gave great
20 consideration to as we saw everyone come out. We're
21 out here now because it's a very significant landmark
22 in our work here. And we expect to be meeting with the
23 community more in the future, too, as we move forward
24 in the process.

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1 RESIDENT: And I'm just posing those questions
2 because there's people -- there may be peopling coming
3 in and out of that area. You may have renters. You
4 may have people going in renting, leaving, coming in,
5 coming out. So in educating the people that are coming
6 in, you know, how do you do that, you know, if you're
7 not meeting with them monthly or, you know, as often as
8 you should? What kind of education are they getting
9 to, you know, with the newcomers?
10 MR. BERKOFF: That's a good question. We try to
11 provide materials and information to the different --
12 in East Chicago to some of the different facilities
13 around the area like Martin Luther King Center. We
14 left fact sheets there too, try to leave information in
15 the area.
16 RESIDENT: Even in our department, I've asked for
17 this information prior. They've given us that -- The
18 Building Department, we have a lot of people coming in
19 and out. You know, we have a lot of traffic. We have
20 people coming in, you know, asking for medical releases
21 in that area for the renters. So we may be able to
22 help you in a sense, you know, to provide that
23 information, to provide education to those individuals,
24 have that available within our office.

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1 MR. BERKOFF: Sure. And we appreciate that. One
2 thing that we spoke about at our meeting at the EPA
3 offices is definitely EPA is committed to work with the
4 City of East Chicago and to have good communication
5 with them on some of these subjects, and it's something
6 that we intend to do and look forward to absolutely.
7 MS. POPE: Here.
8 RESIDENT: Hi, good afternoon. Mike, Janet, good
9 to see you again.
10 I've been working with them since 2006. We
11 had meetings here in the City of East Chicago. And the
12 third district is where the effect and the
13 contamination lived. This is not a new thing. This is
14 not a surprise to us. I -- During the time in which I
15 was councilmanic, I attempted to get council members as
16 well as the mayor involved in how important it was to
17 take care of the contamination here in the third
18 district with -- US Reduction, DuPont, and USS Lead are
19 those culprits who have brought this into us.
20 It is in our soil. Should you have kids
21 playing in your yard? No. But can you keep your kids
22 out of your yard? No. So what you going to do? Let
23 your kids play. You haven't changed anything now since
24 2006. We've been trying to get our -- Mayor Copeland

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1 was part of the council team at that time. I worked
2 with him. I worked with him trying to get a him a part
3 of this since 2006 as well too. This is not new. This
4 is not a stranger to us. They came out every three
5 months for a meeting. We did 151 three or four times
6 at Carrie Gosch Elementary School. We done Riley Park.
7 They're not the culprits on this one. We need to make
8 sure we're informed, and we need to take some of the
9 responsibility of not taking the time out to get the
10 information and make sure we avail ourselves to the
11 information. They have been in our area, 2009. We
12 were a part of the -- finally got a part of Superfund.
13 When they started out, we had no money. They
14 were just talking to us like sheets in the wind.
15 Superfund money was drained. I went to Washington DC.
16 The National Black Caucus allowed me to speak there,
17 and they helped us get into the Superfund. That's how
18 that began.
19 Now we have some money. Now it's time. What
20 the EPA -- we need from the EPA, though, is we need all
21 residential property cleaned up, not selective, because
22 we know when the wind kicks up, it contaminates
23 whatever was just cleaned; we know that.
24 What we also need to do, though, as far as

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1 our administration is concerned -- We're building like
2 crazy. We're still kicking up sand. We're kicking up
3 dirt. I asked the question a long time ago in public
4 conferences about this new car wash we're doing on
5 Parrish Street. They're kicking up so much lead. It
6 doesn't make any sense. And they're hitting my house
7 first, so I'm real concerned because they're moving it
8 like crazy and they don't know what they're moving. We
9 just have -- I just happened to know. If you touching
10 anything around there, you're moving lead in our
11 community.
12 Yes, we are, right now, being surveyed for
13 being a cancer cluster. I don't have to tell you no
14 tricks because I don't owe nobody nothing. We are in
15 the process of being labeled as a cancer cluster. It's
16 not official yet, but it's been -- but they have been
17 diagnosing it and taking surveys of the house. When
18 you get that letter at your house, fill it out.
19 They're asking you what to what generation have you had
20 contamination or what form of cancer has hit your
21 household, what form of neuropathy. They're asking all
22 of those questions. They've been to your house before,
23 you guys. You throwing them away like you're throwing
24 your gray envelopes away.

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1 RESIDENT: They ain't been to my house.
2 RESIDENT: Okay. Those gray envelopes been coming
3 down since 2006, I promise you that.
4 RESIDENT: No, no, no, no. This came, and I
5 didn't get it. This was at my daddy's house.
6 RESIDENT: Really? Okay. 2006.
7 RESIDENT: I'm not going to lie to you either.
8 RESIDENT: Okay. 2006, we've been doing this. So
9 then it's so important that now we pay attention and
10 know that we need to clean our areas up; we need to
11 have Superfund monies to be used to the maximum ability
12 in the third district area because that's where it
13 is -- it's not anywhere else; it's in our third
14 district area -- and that we do all the yard, not just
15 the abandoned buildings. Abandoned buildings don't
16 mean nothing if, after we clean that up, my house is
17 still stinking. I'm going to mess up those abandoned
18 buildings just to plant flowers. I'm going to mess up
19 the lot.
20 RESIDENT: That's right.
21 RESIDENT: Let's not fool each other. It's going
22 to mess it all up. So you got to do every residence.
23 Even -- They did come out in 2010 and they had some on
24 151st Street that was so bad, they had to do it without

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1 Superfund money right there in Calumet.
2 Okay. So now it's time that we have to hold
3 them accountable to getting this done. Let's make this
4 process go faster. 2014 is a long time away still.
5 But, you know what, it's like yesterday because -- it's
6 like tomorrow for me since you've been dealing with it
7 since 2006. It's like tomorrow. Okay. So whatever
8 support, whatever they need to get from us --
9 Whatever information you need, I'll be glad
10 to help. I knocked on the doors before. I'll knock on
11 them again.
12 Let's get the information. Let's have access
13 to the property. You cannot tell them, when they knock
14 on your door to excavate your property, that you got
15 flowers and worry about who going to put the grass
16 back. I mean, this is a big problem. I planted all
17 them flowers; I got perennials. No, no, it's not
18 important anymore.
19 RESIDENT: Right.
20 RESIDENT: Okay? That can come back again. What
21 we need to do is get rid of the soil so that we don't
22 leave some more mess to our children and our children's
23 children. All right?
24 MS. POPE: Let's get this gentleman here.

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1 RESIDENT: Yeah. Looking at the scope of the work
2 between 4A and 4B, you know, 4B being the preferred
3 method, as the mayor had mentioned, and the scope of
4 the work that would be done between the two of them and
5 the cost of the two of them, I can't see what the
6 problem is with going with 4B because, from what I can
7 see here, the difference is, what, 14-point-some
8 million-dollars. Yeah, that's a lot for a city this
9 size here. But as far as -- I would think the
10 Superfund size shouldn't have a problem coming up with
11 another -- Why can't they come up with another
12 14-point- or 15-point-million dollars and do the whole
13 thing, just get it all done and not have to worry about
14 putting us on maybe some kind of restrictions down the
15 road and -- to try to redevelop it. Why can't they
16 come up with the other -- I know it's more cost
17 effective. But I just can't see why they would do that
18 for a site that's so -- you know, not that big, big
19 enough for this city.
20 MR. BERKOFF: I definitely appreciate your
21 thoughts on the subject matter. One thing I would like
22 to clarify, the difference in the cost in terms of what
23 makes 4A more cost effective, is we wouldn't be paying
24 money for the excavation and disposal of material

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1 that's below the cleanup levels. But also as far as
2 the cost and in terms of available money, I think that
3 -- I would hope that most people are aware that, you
4 know, we have limited budgets. It's a reality here.
5 And so we're -- After this process, whether we're
6 working with the responsible party or we're seeking
7 federal dollars, we're going to have to seek this
8 money. And as far as -- And Superfund's budget most
9 certainly is not limitless. If we're having federal
10 dollars to pay for it, it's not a limitless amount of
11 money.
12 MS. POPE: The lady in the back.
13 [redacted]. I just have a
14 question. Once the work starts and the contractor is
15 on board, is there -- from your department, are you
16 going to have somebody as far as quality control, you
17 know, residents calling to complain, the contractor --
18 are you going to have somebody here on site that would
19 be, you know, overseeing the work, making sure that the
20 residents aren't inconvenienced? What -- Locally, what
21 kind of staff person will be here, one, to oversee the
22 contractor and making sure that the residents aren't
23 inconvenienced? And if there are complaints, who would
24 we be directing those calls to versus city hall and

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1 these departments? Is somebody going to be here on
2 site?
3 MR. BERKOFF: As far as the directing the calls or
4 concerns, at this point in time that would be me. It
5 would be the remedial project manager for whoever is
6 the -- for the site. At this point in time, it's me.
7 So I would be fielding that.
8 It would mean also that I would be
9 periodically out here overseeing it. What I would
10 expect out of a construction crew would be that there
11 would be, you know, individuals who would be operating
12 the backhoes, the different excavation materials. We
13 would also have people in the field who's sole
14 responsibility is to oversee, to make sure the work is
15 done properly. That work would be done under quality
16 assurance project plans, what we call QAP, basically to
17 make sure -- lays out the procedures that would be
18 subject to EPA approval. And then I would be out here
19 periodically, too, quality check, making sure that the
20 oversight -- that my team leader is doing like -- much
21 like a foreman, making sure that that is going as it
22 should. So it would be something that -- Whether it be
23 EPA and its contractors doing the work or contractors
24 for other parties, that would be something that we

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1 oversee quite strongly.

2 MS. POPE: At this time we have to start the

3 public comment period. So if there is anybody who

4 would like to stand up and put a comment on record, you

5 can do so at this time.

6 MR. BERKOFF: We apologize for cutting it off, but

7 we are out of the library at 8:00. They told us that

8 they're going to take the extension cord away from us

9 at 8:00. So we want to make sure there's time for --

10 MS. POPE: And if there's any -- And, again, in

11 this portion of it, we won't be responding to your

12 comments. They will be responded to in what we call a

13 responsive summary. So Mike won't be responding to you

14 at this time. You can get up and give your comment.

15 We will not respond.

16 First -- We'll take the mayor first. We'll

17 take it quick. We'll go like this. Okay?

18 MR. COPELAND: Mr. Berkoff, are you asking that I

19 go and ask the library to give us extended hours, or

20 are you saying the limitation of time is on your side?

21 MS. POPE: No, no. When we called, actually,

22 Mayor -- When we called in this area, we really had a

23 hard time getting a place. The first place we tried to

24 do it was schools because it's a little bigger. Nobody

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1 ever responds to us or gets back to us. The main
2 places that respond most of the time are the libraries,
3 but they have a time limit. They have a time limit.
4 So we have to go within those time limits. If you
5 could get us some more time, we appreciate it because
6 this meeting is for you guys. It's not for us. So
7 we're here as long as we need to be.
8 MR. COPELAND: Okay. I wanted to see which one
9 was the limitation because I don't want to get my
10 feelings hurt.
11 MS. POPE: Yeah. And we tried -- It's just so
12 hard to --
13 MR. BERKOFF: It's not our side. And we try to be
14 respectful of the people who are working here.
15 MS. POPE: Right.
16 MR. BERKOFF: This means that they have to stay
17 here longer and they're away from their homes and their
18 families, and we try not to inconvenience them.
19 MS. POPE: So the first comment -- We can start
20 the public comment period.
21 Mayor, did you want to start the public
22 comment period? Or are the first comments you made
23 earlier, that's it?
24 MR. COPELAND: No. Mine would have been more --

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1 No. I'm going to concede my time to Mr. Trevino --
2 MS. POPE: Okay.
3 MR. COPELAND: -- because he has a written
4 statement that can flow smoother.
5 MS. POPE: Okay. Could you read that loud enough
6 for our court reporter.
7 MR. TREVINO: You want me to start?
8 MS. POPE: Yes.
9 MR. BERKOFF: And you could also submit it to us
10 afterwards too.
11 MR. TREVINO: Sure. I just want to preface
12 because my comment is based on -- that you're
13 requesting public comments on the remediation
14 alternatives being recommended by EPA, not the scope of
15 work. In other words, whether you're doing 47 percent
16 of the homes or a hundred percent of the homes, that's
17 something -- that's not part of what you're requesting
18 today, right? I just wanted to make sure.
19 All right. Fernando Trevino with FMT
20 Consulting representing the City of East Chicago. I've
21 reviewed EPA's recommendation for the remediation of
22 USS Lead Superfund Site with the City of East Chicago.
23 EPA Has recommended Alternative 4A, excavation of soil
24 exceeding RALs and off-site disposal plus ex-situ

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1 treatment option. And the City disagrees with the
2 EPA's recommendation.
3 The City of East Chicago recommends EPA
4 remediate the site via Alternative 4B, excavate to
5 native sand, off-site disposal, and ex-situ treatment
6 for the following reasons: Alternative 4A, which is
7 EPA's choice, leaves contamination behind which exists
8 below two feet. Alternative 4B, which is the City's
9 recommendation, provides the highest degree of
10 long-term effectiveness and performance because all
11 highly contaminated soil would be removed.
12 Removal of all highly contaminated soil is
13 recommended because it provides the highest degree of
14 protection of human health and environment. It would
15 reduce or avoid the cost of maintaining the soil cover.
16 It would reduce or avoid the placement of subsurface
17 barriers or markers. It would reduce or avoid the need
18 to obtain environmental easements. It would reduce or
19 avoid the restrictions of digging in the area. It
20 would reduce or avoid notifications tied to building
21 permit applications. It would reduce or avoid
22 notifications tied to property title transfers. And
23 it's consistent with the EPA's preferences per EPA
24 Superfund Lead Contaminated Residential Sites Handbook,

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1 page 37, which, quote, full removal of contaminated
2 soil satisfies EPA's preference for permanent remedies
3 and normally allows the remediated yard to return to
4 unrestricted use.
5 The City also faces challenging development
6 opportunities in the area. And establishment of
7 institutional controls on properties will certainly
8 destroy any hope of future development whether
9 residential or commercial because of the costly and
10 burdensome task of excavating beyond two feet.
11 It may also complicate City utility public
12 works projects in the area because of the costly and
13 burdensome task of excavating beyond two feet.
14 The City has identified plans for this area
15 that have a high probability of excavation activities
16 going beyond two feet. In the City's five-year
17 strategic plan, a copy which was provided to the EPA in
18 our March meeting, these potential activities include
19 community gardens, demolition, new construction, and
20 mixed-use development through the area.
21 The major difference between the two
22 alternatives 4A and 4B is the excavation depth of the
23 topsoil to be removed. 4A states a maximum of two feet
24 of soil will be removed, and option 4B states topsoil

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1 will be removed to native sand. Per EPA, soil samples
2 indicate native sand is at two feet; therefore the
3 depth of excavation in many cases may be the same under
4 both alternatives.
5 Finally, Alternative 4B is consistent with
6 EPA's Environmental Justice 2014 point. Specifically
7 to reference a couple of its initiatives, Alternative
8 4B assures the development of remedies and enforcement
9 actions to benefit overburdened communities and will
10 maximize benefits and minimize adverse impacts for land
11 use.
12 The City's goal is to remediate the site as
13 quickly, safely, and cost effectively as possible and
14 employ as many East Chicago residents and businesses as
15 possible with the added goal that the final remediated
16 site will meet the City's objectives to optimize the
17 land use for the City's future. So that point, the
18 City would like to remind the EPA that the City has
19 asked the EPA to pursue a bidding strategy that may
20 include the demolition of dilapidated, abandoned homes
21 when remediating the site.
22 Anybody else want to comment?
23 RESIDENT: [redacted]
24 [redacted] went from

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1 [redacted].

2 My comment is, number one, if you're going to
3 do this, do it for every property there, every
4 resident, everybody. I, as a constituent, and with all
5 due respect to our mayor -- I love him dearly; he got
6 my vote --

7 But I will say this, Mayor: You wouldn't be
8 in position if it wasn't for my vote and everybody. So
9 as a resident, I enforce that and I want to be
10 considered, first of all, outside of -- And I applaud
11 you for going to meet -- you and your administrators
12 with the EPA. But I think it's first taking us as a
13 constituent and the residents -- taking us first
14 instead of further development. Take care of the issue
15 and problem right now, which is -- And also, I really
16 sincerely want you to look into the acuteness of the
17 health effects of this.

18 Because, really, bottom line, you stated it,
19 Mr. Berkoff -- you stated this was historical. So how
20 far back do we go? That's the question mark you left
21 me. How far back do we go with this contamination? If
22 there is major health issues going on there that we do
23 not know, we need to be informed. And this testing
24 should be covered. Because right now there's several

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1 testing that I have to have done that my insurance
2 won't cover; they're questioning. So at least work
3 with the hospital or with the health department. Maybe
4 there could be a collaboration that additional testing
5 could be done because -- Like myself, I've lost my
6 siblings and my parents unexpectedly. It wasn't
7 planned. Who is to say it wasn't an effect of this?
8 I'm just leaving that question.
9 MS. POPE: Thank you.
10 Anybody else?
11 MR. TREVINO: Let me just say this: We may have
12 been talking about development. But the first bullet
13 that I read, why 4B was -- it's the highest degree of
14 protection of human health and environment. So that is
15 the number one --
16 MR. BERKOFF: Can I ask you guys to have this
17 conversation afterwards. I want to make sure there's
18 time for everyone to make their comments here.
19 MR. COPELAND: Then let me make a final comment.
20 MR. BERKOFF: Sure.
21 MR. COPELAND: My final comment is this, that I
22 have taken a wholistic approach to this. And that's
23 why it has been about cleaning up of all of the areas.
24 And one must have a purpose at the end of this journey,

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1 and it must be restoration. That's what makes
2 something whole. When something is damaged, you must
3 restore it. And that's where the wholeness come in.
4 But in this whole process, we have given the
5 EPA data showing lead statistics over years and years
6 of exposure to the most vulnerable, meaning the
7 children. But in the end, we have asked the EPA to not
8 only partner with us with the cleanup, the best
9 cleanup -- and that's why we are going on record saying
10 4B -- we also told them that the lasting effect and
11 what would make this looked at upon later generations
12 as something that was truly worthy is how we reuse the
13 land. So we had to incorporate how this community
14 could be restored. And that's where our reconciliation
15 comes in. And whenever someone is damaged, there must
16 be reconciliation. And that's why we had to point to
17 the future and say how will this be intended for
18 development.
19 MS. POPE: Thank you.
20 One last comment in the back. Sir.
21 RESIDENT: [redacted]. I'm a resident
22 of the city. And with all due respect to the lady who
23 just spoke and asked that all properties be treated, I
24 tell you, there was new soil overlay on mine in --

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1969, new soil overlay, and in '75 a building torn down, and obviously abatement got done and soil put in.

In my heart I do not believe that that corner poses a threat. Frankly, it's still maintained. And I don't believe -- I don't believe -- When I got your survey and it asked do you want to opt in or opt out, I opted out of getting a sample -- and I saw you across the alley doing it -- I maintained my wish that that not be disturbed. However, if you want to come and take a sample of that just to prove me right or prove me wrong, you're welcome to do it. But I wanted to make that point. Thank you.

MS. POPE: Just a final comment. If you did not get the fact sheet, please notify Cheryl. She'll put you on the mailing list. The public comment period ends August 11. And also we have access agreements here if you would like to sign up tonight. So just remember those three things. Thank you for coming.

MR. BERKOFF: Thank you all very much for coming out. We really appreciate you taking your time.

(Which were all the proceedings had in the above-entitled cause on this date.)

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1 STATE OF ILLINOIS)
) SS.
2 COUNTY OF COOK)
3
4 Teresa Resendez, being first duly sworn, on
5 oath says that she is a Certified Shorthand Reporter
6 doing business in the City of Chicago, County of Cook
7 and the State of Illinois;
8 That she reported in shorthand the
9 proceedings had at the foregoing public meeting;
10 And that the foregoing is a true and correct
11 transcript of her shorthand notes so taken as aforesaid
12 and contains all the proceedings had at the said public
13 meeting.
14
15
16 _____
TERESA RESENDEZ, CSR
17 CSR No. 084-003418
18
SUBSCRIBED AND SWORN TO
19 before me this_____day of
_____, A.D., 2012.
20
21
22 _____
NOTARY PUBLIC
23
24

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