1	ILLINOIS POLLUTION CONTRO	L BOARD	
2	May 26, 2004		
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5	PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO: REGULATION OF PETROLEUM LEAKING UNDERGROUND STORAGE TANKS (35 ILL. ADM. CODE 732)	) ) R04-22 ) (UST Rulemaking) ) ) )	
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7			
8	IN THE MATTER OF:	)	
9	UNDERGROUND STORAGE TANKS	) ) R04-23 ) (UST Rulemaking) ) Consolidated	
10			
11	(35 ILL. ADM. CODE 734)		
12			
13	The Rulemaking Proceeding, before	re the Illinois	
14	Pollution Control Board, was held May 26, 2004, at the		
15	Lincoln Library, Carnegie North Room, 326 South		
16	Seventh Street, Springfield, Illinois, commencing at		
17	9:30 a.m.		
18			
19			
20	Reported By: Ann Marie Hollo, CSR, I License No.: 084-003476	RMR	
21	License No.: 004-003470		
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4	by. Marie Tipsord,	Esq., hearing Officer		
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1.0		glas W. Clay, P.E.,		
19		P.E., Brian Bauer, racin, and Chris Kohrmann		
20	nernando A. Arbari	raciii, ana ciirib Roimmaiii		
	]	EXHIBITS		
21	Exhibit Number	Marked	Admitted	
	Exhibit Number 24	8	8	
22	Exhibit Number 25	17	17	
	Exhibit Number 26	30	30	
23	Exhibit Number 27	43	43	
0.4	Exhibit Number 28	191	191	
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1 HEARING OFFICER TIPSORD: Good morning.
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- 2 Welcome back. My name is Marie Tipsord, and I've been
- 3 appointed by the Board to serve as hearing officer in
- 4 these combined proceedings entitled, In the Matter of
- 5 Proposed Amendments to Regulations of Petroleum
- 6 Leaking Underground Storage Tanks, 35 ILL. Admin. Code
- 7 732 and 734. Docket number is R04-22 and 23.
- 8 To my right is Dr. Tanner Girard. Presiding
- 9 board member to his right is Board Member Tom
- 10 Johnson. My immediate left is Anand Rao for the
- 11 technical staff, and to his left is Alisa Liu also
- 12 from our technical staff.
- 13 In addition, Erin Conley with our staff is
- 14 here today. She was in Bloomington yesterday. Erin,
- thanks a lot. She is the one who's responsible for
- 16 getting the rooms together and making all the
- 17 arrangements. Good job. Thank you.
- 18 This is a continuation of the second hearing
- in this proceeding. The sole purpose of today's
- 20 hearing is to allow the Illinois Environmental
- 21 Protection Agency to respond to pre-filed questions
- 22 and any follow-up questions. We will not be hearing
- 23 testimony from parties today.
- 24 Yesterday we discussed possible hearing

- dates. And as we discussed off the record, those
- 2 dates are now fluid. Although it looks like we're
- 3 going to go with June 21st continuing through Friday
- 4 if necessary. We will then reconvene on July 6th to
- 5 hear testimony from Dan Goodwin and one of the members
- of PIPE. We will set the pre-filing deadline later
- 7 today after we check a couple of things.
- 8 Anyone may ask a follow-up question.
- 9 However, we're going to do things a little
- 10 differently. I'm going to let Ms. Manning proceed on
- 11 behalf of PIPE. And I will not stop her unless I see
- 12 a hand from the audience. We're not going to stop
- 13 after every question and ask if someone has a
- 14 follow-up. I think that just slows down the
- 15 proceeding. If you have a question, raise your hand.
- 16 After I acknowledge you, please state your name and
- 17 who you represent, and then you may ask your
- 18 question.
- 19 Again, I advise you, I will only allow
- 20 questions. We did veer a little bit late yesterday
- 21 into testimony. If I catch you testifying, I will
- 22 swear you in, but that I also will politely ask you to
- 23 state your question.
- 24 We are only through about 44 -- 33 of these

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1 questions. We have 107 from PIPE, 35 from CW3M and
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- 2 additional from Professional Engineers. The volume of
- 3 questions is such that we need to -- as much as we
- 4 want to develop a complete and full record, we really
- 5 do need to stick with questions and pertinent
- 6 questions. And I thank you in advance, and I thank
- 7 you for yesterday.
- 8 Again, I note that there are pending motions
- 9 before the Board in this proceeding. We will not hear
- 10 any discussion regarding these motions on the record.
- 11 If any of you wish to comment on the pending motion,
- 12 you may do so by filing written response with the
- 13 clerk of the Board and serving response on persons
- 14 listed on the service list.
- 15 Again, we're going to continue as we did
- 16 yesterday. Since we're getting a little late start,
- we're probably going to break at 11:30. At 11:30,
- 18 we'll break for a brief break. We'll break from 1:00
- 19 to 2:00 for lunch. Again, this room is being used
- this evening, so we have to be out of here. So we'll
- 21 adjourn around 4 o'clock again today.
- 22 At this time, I'd like to ask Dr. Girard if
- 23 he has anything to add.
- 24 BOARD MEMBER GIRARD: Well, good morning, and

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1 I thank you for all your efforts. I'd just like to
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- 2 reemphasize what Hearing Officer Tipsord said this
- 3 morning. That we're probably going to be a little
- 4 more hard-nosed about just the questions today. Some
- of you were veering into testimony. I know you're
- 6 itching to testify, but the quickest way to get to
- 7 that is to get through these questions. So many of
- 8 you in the audience are engineers. You can multiply
- 9 the number of questions we got yesterday by how many
- 10 questions are left, and you can see that this process
- 11 will take weeks if we don't get on with it. And we
- 12 would like to hear you testify. The quickest way to
- do it is to get through these questions. Thank you.
- 14 HEARING OFFICER TIPSORD: Mr. Rominger?
- MR. ROMINGER: A couple things from
- 16 yesterday -- we had some information we thought we
- 17 would provide clarification first. I have got
- information regarding personnel numbers.
- 19 HEARING OFFICER TIPSORD: Let me remind
- 20 everyone that all the Agency witnesses were sworn
- 21 yesterday. And since this was a recessed hearing,
- they're still sworn today.
- 23 MR. CLAY: I just want to clarify a response
- 24 to one of the questions regarding -- from yesterday

1 regarding the number of people in the state and

- 2 federal LUST payroll.
- 3 I explained that the head count over the past
- 4 five years has not varied much at all. It's in
- 5 between 73 to 76 people over the last five years. I
- 6 think in summary, Ms. Manning said 50 to 75 people do
- 7 LUST work. And I just wanted to clarify that.
- 8 50 of the 75 would be the LUST technical
- 9 staff and LUST claims staff that review land reports,
- 10 budgets and claims on a daily basis. In addition to
- that, there are three staff in the LUST claims unit
- 12 and four and a half head count in the LUST section
- 13 that are either administrative support, database entry
- 14 people or other support directive to those technical
- 15 staff.
- 16 In addition, we have two attorneys that do a
- 17 hundred percent LUST work. And well over 50 percent
- 18 of the records the bureau of land deals with and well
- over 50 percent of the FOIA requests that the bureau
- of land receives are for LUST, and many of the FOIA
- 21 requests are from consultants.
- 22 So I would characterize the LUST personnel as
- 23 LUST personnel that 65 percent of the 75 percent do
- 24 100 percent LUST work. I'm sorry. 65 head count

- out of the 75 head count do 100 percent LUST work.
- 2 MR. ROMINGER: We also have two additional
- 3 exhibits to submit. One is a revision of Harry
- 4 Chappel's attachment 9. There were questions
- 5 yesterday regarding the locations of the sites. And
- 6 that's been revised to include the city and county for
- 7 each of those incidents, and we have copies of those
- 8 back on the table.
- 9 HEARING OFFICER TIPSORD: We'll mark that as
- 10 Exhibit 24 if there's no objection. Seeing none,
- 11 we'll mark that as Exhibit 24.
- 12 [Exhibit Number 24 was marked for
- identification and admitted into evidence.]
- MR. ROMINGER: And we also have a chart for
- 15 the LUST average date to process claims. We thought
- 16 that would provide some helpful information with
- 17 respect to some questions yesterday. And Bill
- 18 Radlinsky of the Agency can explain that table.
- 19 He needs to be sworn in. He was not sworn in
- 20 yesterday.
- 21 [Witness sworn.]
- MR. RADLINSKI: My name is Bill Radlinski,
- 23 and I work for the Bureau of Land for the Illinois
- 24 EPA.

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1 Yesterday there was some discussions about
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- 2 the timeliness of processing claims. So I thought
- 3 we'd put in some back board from our tracking system.
- 4 And we have a sheet available that's titled, LUST
- 5 Average Days to Process Claims. And I'd like to
- 6 briefly explain that, since it's not exactly intuitive
- 7 as to how it's set up.
- 8 You'll note we have a copy in front of you
- 9 that there are basically -- if you go across the top,
- 10 there are three primary sections. One is entitled
- 11 total time. And then we have another section that
- 12 includes the queue time, incomplete application and
- 13 the application accepted to paid.
- 14 And then we have the third section which
- 15 lists various parts within the Agency. The LCU time,
- 16 technical review time, agency fiscal and word
- 17 processing, all the way to BOL fiscal and
- 18 comptroller.
- 19 So when we set this up, it was more of a
- 20 management tool to see how long it was taking to
- 21 process claims.
- 22 And basically the second section dealt with,
- 23 within the pay per flow itself, how long it was
- 24 taking. And then the third section dealt with, within

1 the operation of BLO how much it was taking. And what

- we have is statistics here that are from January 1,
- 3 2003 through the end of the calendar year, December
- 4 31, 2003.
- Now, if you go down, if you look at the
- 6 left-hand side, you will see that the types of
- 7 requests are divided in three types. Old program,
- 8 early action, budget claims and then total. And
- 9 beneath each of those is a number of claims that we
- 10 process.
- 11 For instance, old program, there was 676
- 12 requests that we actually paid early action to, under
- 13 35, budget claims 1469. So this is the workload that
- 14 you see. And the total amount was 2,380 requests.
- 15 These are requests that we approved. If we look at
- the total time, you'll see that the average total time
- 17 for all of those requests was almost 98 days. You can
- 18 also see that for each type of request, there's a
- 19 different time period. The longest time, the old
- 20 program. The shortest being the budget claims.
- 21 You can also notice that our biggest workload
- 22 is in the budget claim area. If you go to the second
- 23 section beginning with the queue time, the queue time
- is basically from when the application arrives until

- 1 it's picked up by the reviewer. So when the
- 2 application arrived, it doesn't mean we immediately
- 3 start to review it. We don't do that, because we have
- 4 some applications coming in, and we don't have enough
- 5 resources. That is, people to handle all the
- 6 application. So they have to sit in the queue for a
- 7 while. And this is basically the queue time that we
- 8 have that we've experienced prior to picking it up by
- 9 reviewing and starting its review. When a reviewer
- 10 picks it up, that logs it in.
- 11 And then we have a second section here, the
- 12 incomplete application. Oftentimes when you pick up a
- 13 application, we don't have enough information in order
- 14 to deem a complete application. So we continue
- 15 processing. In that case, there are certain -- it
- takes a certain amount of time to get the complete
- 17 information or the missing information from the
- 18 applicant. And that's what the incomplete application
- 19 time period is.
- 20 And then the acceptance. Once we've accepted
- 21 it to when it's actually paid, you can see the amount
- 22 of time it takes there.
- Now, the third section deals with -- well,
- 24 the LCU time in LUST claims unit, within that

1 technical, which would be the LUST section, how much

- time does it stay within the Agency fiscal and word
- 3 processing area and processing of these invoices? And
- 4 then we have a review time. Once that information is
- 5 done before we actually send it down to be signed off
- 6 to fiscal and sent to the comptroller.
- 7 And then the last portion when it returns
- 8 back to the bureau for an official bureau chief's
- 9 signature and routed back to administration for them
- 10 to send it to the comptroller.
- 11 So you can easily see here the different time
- 12 periods that we have experienced through 2003. I
- 13 think that should explain this. And if there's any
- 14 questions, I'll be glad and try to answer those.
- MS. MANNING: Thank you.
- QUESTIONS BY MS. MANNING:
- 17 Q. Mr. Radlinski, I have a couple of questions.
- 18 A. Sure.
- 19 Q. What do old program -- what do you consider
- 20 to be old program, just so that we have an
- 21 understanding?
- 22 A. The old program of claims are before Title
- 23 16, I believe?
- MR. OAKLEY: 731 sites.

- 1 Q. All 731 sites?
- A. (BY MR. OAKLEY) All 731 sites.
- 3 Q. So where are all the 732 sites?
- 4 A. In the early action.
- 5 MR. RADLINSKI: Early action and budget
- 6 claims.
- 7 Q. So budget claims include corrective action
- 8 plans? All of the budget claims include all of the
- 9 corrective action claims?
- 10 A. (BY MR. RADLINSKI) Yes, absolutely.
- 11 Q. The total time, 172.8, is that an average of
- 12 the 676?
- 13 A. That's correct.
- Q. And that's true of all the hours then?
- 15 A. That's correct. I also note that each
- 16 section should total -- for instance, each section
- 17 under the old program should total 172.8. Each
- 18 section under the early action should total 84.6. So
- 19 all of those numbers are basically broken down into
- 20 the various elements.
- Q. In the column marked LCU time, where it has
- in parenthesis -- you have a foot note on the bottom,
- 23 incomplete application, then do I understand that the
- incomplete application is an average of 12 days?

- 1 A. That's correct.
- 2 Q. Anything that was an incomplete application
- 3 is an average of 12 days?
- 4 A. Right.
- Q. And that's true of the columns?
- 6 A. And that is included in the 120. For
- 7 instance, under the LCU time, the old program, we just
- 8 decided to separate it out internally because I was
- 9 concerned about how much time was within their control
- 10 and then how much time of that amount was outside of
- 11 their control, waiting for additional information.
- 12 Q. Do you have a similar data sheet from
- 13 1-1, 2004 through today's date?
- 14 A. We did -- we ran some information for January
- 15 through March, not for this particular purpose. But
- in the past, yes, we have similar information.
- 17 One of the problems that we experienced was
- in April, we had some issues with the comptroller.
- 19 The comptroller decided that LUST claims could
- 20 possibly be tax related. So we could not make
- 21 payments because they had to come up with a decision
- 22 whether or not they were related for tax purposes.
- 23 And until that decision was made, we held payments.
- 24 So we had some things that would skew the data. So we

1 thought for this particular purpose, the best thing to

- 2 do would be to look at a consistent stretch, which was
- 3 2003.
- 4 Q. So basically the numbers would be much larger
- 5 in 2004 for the first six months? For the first few
- 6 months experience of 2004?
- 7 A. Yeah, but they would not be much larger, a
- 8 little. For instance, I think the three months -- I
- 9 think our average was 115 days for the first three
- 10 months.
- 11 Q. In which column?
- 12 A. For the total column.
- MS. MANNING: Okay.
- 14 HEARING OFFICER TIPSORD: Anything further?
- 15 MS. MANNING: I have nothing further. Thank
- 16 you.
- 17 QUESTIONS BY MR. RAO:
- 18 Q. What's the reason for the queue time being so
- 19 high for the old requests, old program requests?
- 20 A. We've split the staff into a certain number
- 21 of handling the old requests and the rest of the staff
- 22 handling early action and the budget claims. Most of
- our requests are in early action and budget claims.
- 24 So there's less staff working on the old. It's

- something that we've considered about adjusting, but
- 2 we're not ready to do that yet until we begin seeing
- 3 how the rest of the current process starts to fall
- 4 out.
- 5 The other thing is, is that the old program
- 6 requests generally have more detail to them, and it
- 7 takes a little longer to review those.
- 8 The other thing I should indicate is that
- 9 we're under a time frame for the budget requests. So
- 10 we want to make sure we -- so we do handle more -- we
- 11 make sure we handle those.
- 12 MS. MANNING: I have one more question.
- 13 QUESTIONS BY MS. MANNING:
- Q. We had some discussion yesterday on the
- 15 record about the complexity of various different sites
- 16 and various different incidents. And I'm wondering
- 17 whether the Agency tracks at all the distinction in
- 18 either time frames or the distinction in numbers of
- 19 different kinds of cases in terms of if they're high
- 20 priority, low priority, whether they're a corrective
- 21 action plan? You know, those kind of things. Or do
- 22 you generally lump them in these categories that we
- 23 see right here?
- 24 A. I'm sorry. What you see is what you get

- 1 here. This is how we track them. This is the
- 2 specificity which we track them as far as the LUST
- 3 claims goes.
- 4 MS. MANNING: Okay. Thank you.
- 5 HEARING OFFICER TIPSORD: If there's no
- 6 objection, we'll admit that as Exhibit 25. Seeing
- 7 none, it's admitted as Exhibit 25.
- 8 [Exhibit Number 25 was marked for identification
- 9 and admitted into evidence.]
- 10 HEARING OFFICER TIPSORD: Anything further?
- 11 Or are we ready to proceed with questions?
- 12 MR. ROMINGER: I believe that's all we have.
- 13 HEARING OFFICER TIPSORD: Again, I'm going to
- 14 remind you that I'm going to let Ms. Manning proceed
- until I see a hand raised, and then I will politely
- interrupt, and we'll go on from there.
- 17 MS. MANNING: Thank you, Madam Hearing
- 18 Officer and members of the Board and technical staff
- of the Board. Again, I thank you all for and on
- 20 behalf of my firm, being able to appear here this
- 21 morning and continue asking questions of the Agency.
- We'll try to be a little bit more diligent this
- 23 morning in trying to get through. We realize we have
- 24 a lot of questions, and we'll get through them as

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1 expeditiously as possible. And I think everybody will
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- 2 be happy to know we're going to start with questions
- 3 in the 40s.
- 4 But before I do that, I just have a couple
- 5 questions from some of the documents that were
- 6 submitted yesterday. This won't take very long, but
- 7 we need some foundation in order to properly prepare
- 8 our testimony.
- 9 First of all, I wanted to thank the Agency
- 10 for presenting to us the information this morning
- 11 about where these sites are in Mr. Chappel's
- 12 document. They're consistent, I think, with the
- information we had figured out last night as well,
- 14 with the exception of incident site number 980162,
- 15 which we would like you to check out at some point in
- 16 time, because our information is that there was never
- 17 a budget submitted, never a reimbursement claim
- 18 submitted or nothing submitted regarding that incident
- 19 site. So you don't need to answer that right now, but
- 20 that's the information we have on that. Otherwise the
- 21 locations are consistent with our information.
- 22 The second -- would you like to respond to
- that now?
- MR. CHAPPEL: No, sir. Or, no, ma'am.

- 1 MS. MANNING: Thank you.
- 2 MR. CHAPPEL: I was making a comment to him.
- 3 MR. KING: What was the number again?
- 4 HEARING OFFICER TIPSORD: It's on Exhibit
- 5 Number 24.
- 6 QUESTIONS BY MS. MANNING:
- 7 Q. Right. 980162, site number 8 on this list.
- 8 And I assume these site numbers, 1 through 25, are
- 9 just for purposes of this particular appendix,
- 10 correct? I mean, they have no other significance,
- other than this is our list of 25. And this is the
- order that we're presenting them in this table?
- 13 A. (BY MR. CHAPPEL) Correct.
- 14 Q. The second question I had about the documents
- 15 you submitted yesterday has to do with Exhibit
- 16 Number 19, the landfills that accept LUST soils. I
- don't think we talked yesterday about how this
- 18 document was prepared. And if someone could explain
- 19 it to me please, for purposes of the record, who
- 20 prepared the document and how it was prepared, because
- 21 we have information that's different on some of these
- 22 landfills.
- 23 A. (BY MR. ALBARRACIN) I'll address that
- 24 question.

1 I talked to someone in our permit section,

- one of the managers in the permit section. And I
- 3 asked him if there was a map available or some
- 4 information available that will show us where the
- 5 landfills are located in Illinois, all the landfills,
- 6 and particularly the ones that accept LUST soils. And
- 7 he actually referred me to a report that the Agency
- 8 puts out every year, the Landfill Capacity Report.
- 9 Q. I'm raising it now, the Nonhazardous Waste
- 10 Landfill Annual Report?
- 11 A. (BY MR. ALBARRACIN) Correct. I believe
- 12 that's the one.
- 13 Q. Okay.
- 14 A. And I also talked to someone in our GIS group
- 15 who said, oh, we have that map. We put it together
- 16 every year. I can generate it for you. So after I
- 17 had a draft copy of the map, I went back to the permit
- 18 section, and I asked him to verify the information.
- 19 So he circulated information through his unit
- 20 to make sure that there weren't any landfills that are
- 21 no longer accepting waste, perhaps closed, or any one
- 22 that may be missing from the map. And that's what we
- 23 have. I mean, that's the information I got from the
- 24 permit section. And I really don't have any

information regarding, you know, any other permits or

- 2 anything like that. This is what I received from
- 3 them.
- 4 Q. Okay. This map looks like the same map
- 5 that's in the nonhazardous waste book, with the
- 6 exception of the reference of landfills receiving LUST
- 7 soils in 2004. It looks like it's different than
- 8 anything that's in this map. So I assume -- and
- 9 correct me if I'm wrong -- that that was added for
- 10 specific purposes of this proceeding?
- 11 A. That's correct.
- 12 MS. MANNING: Okay. And as I said, we'd be
- 13 presenting testimony in terms of -- particularly some
- 14 of the downstate landfills that don't accept the LUST
- 15 waste, but thank you.
- 16 HEARING OFFICER TIPSORD: Actually,
- 17 Ms. Manning, just for clarification, you did give the
- 18 title of the book, but you didn't give the year of
- 19 publication. So just to be --
- 20 MS. MANNING: I'm actually looking at the
- 21 2002 annual report, but I recognize that the Agency
- 22 does it every year. I just happen to have it in my
- office, the 2002 one, which I think may be the most
- 24 recent.

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1 MR. ALBARRACIN: The 2003, I thought that
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- 2 that was also put out -- we're working already on the
- 3 2004, but I think that would be a while. I'm not
- 4 sure, to be honest.
- 5 HEARING OFFICER TIPSORD: Thank you.
- 6 MS. MANNING: Thank you.
- 7 MS. MANNING: Let's skip immediately to
- 8 question number 50.
- 9 Q. The question is, what
- 10 information does the Agency have regarding the number
- of sites successfully remediated in the last five
- 12 years on a yearly basis? Please provide. What have
- 13 been the annual expenditures from the fund directly
- 14 related to those remediations?
- 15 You testified yesterday, Mr. Clay, about that
- 16 information. Does the Agency have any documentation
- of that beyond your testimony yesterday?
- 18 A. (BY MR. CLAY) This information is all in our
- 19 annual reports that's on the Web site.
- 20 Q. And is there any expected date of delivery of
- 21 the most recent annual report? Because we recognize
- that the annual reports kind of aren't going to give
- 23 us any information from this particular year. And
- 24 what's been happening in the last 12 months, for

- 1 example, or even what happened last fiscal year.
- A. No. We compiled the information for 2003,
- 3 which was 640 closed landfills. And we reimbursed
- 4 69.1 million dollars. I don't have a specific date
- 5 when that would be available. 640 closed LUST sites.
- 6 HEARING OFFICER TIPSORD: At this time,
- 7 Mr. Clay, we've talked a lot about those annual
- 8 reports, and I know they're available on the Web page,
- 9 but I am going to ask what annual reports you used,
- 10 you used to compile that information either be
- 11 included in the record either as an exhibit at the
- 12 next hearing or as a pre-filed document later on, but
- 13 that may be an exhibit at the next hearing.
- MR. CLAY: Okay.
- 15 HEARING OFFICER TIPSORD: Thank you.
- MS. MANNING: Does the Hearing Officer's
- 17 request to the Agency also include any data they've
- 18 already prepared that are public documents that are
- 19 going to be put into the most recent annual report
- 20 that's not necessarily published yet?
- 21 HEARING OFFICER TIPSORD: If you would like,
- 22 we can certainly ask for that as well. The annual
- 23 reports I just know we talked about and are already
- 24 available.

1 Do you have any objection to providing that

- 2 information?
- 3 MR. ROMINGER: I'm sorry. I didn't hear that
- 4 last request.
- 5 HEARING OFFICER TIPSORD: Go ahead,
- 6 Ms. Manning.
- 7 MS. MANNING: I was looking for as well, for
- 8 all the documents that you're preparing to put into
- 9 the annual report for, I would assume, fiscal year
- 10 2004, which hadn't been prepared yesterday.
- MR. KING: We do that on a calendar year
- 12 basis. We're only in May. So we would not have
- 13 that. You know, we've got seven months to go before
- 14 we completed the data for here.
- 15 Q. Do you have the data already prepared for the
- 16 year ending 2003? Is that on the Web site?
- 17 A. (BY MR. CLAY) That's the information I just
- 18 gave you.
- 19 Q. But is the background information on the Web
- 20 site in an annual report?
- 21 A. What are you talking about, background
- 22 information? All of this information is gathered from
- 23 the database, our database, LUST database, which is
- 24 also available on the Web. And anyone, you know, in

1 this room could do the same search for how many sites

- were closed in 2003. I mean, that's where that
- 3 information has come from. I'm not sure what you mean
- 4 by background.
- 5 Q. Does the Agency prepare an annual report for
- 6 the LUST unit?
- 7 A. Correct.
- 8 Q. And what's the last annual report the Agency
- 9 prepared that's available on the Web site or that you
- 10 are going to present pursuant to Hearing Officer
- 11 Tipsord's request?
- 12 A. The last one available on the Web site is
- 13 2002. We're currently on the approval process to
- 14 post -- it's in the process of being posted for 2003.
- 15 Q. As that would be the most relevant
- 16 information. And my question is, could we have that
- information as well?
- 18 A. (BY MR. KING) For 2003?
- 19 O. Yes.
- 20 A. Like I said, it's in the process of getting
- 21 finished, and hopefully it will be done by next year.
- 22 I mean, this report has to go through our director,
- and it's just in the approval process right now.
- MS. MANNING: Thank you. Let's move on.

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Q. Question number 51. What
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- 2 information does the Agency have concerning the
- 3 estimated number of LUST sites in Illinois that still
- 4 need to be remediated? Please provide any information
- 5 you have regarding this.
- 6 A. (BY MR. CLAY) There are roughly 10,100 sites
- 7 that still have not received the no further
- 8 remediation list.
- 9 HEARING OFFICER TIPSORD: Could you repeat
- 10 that? I'm sorry. Could you repeat that number?
- 11 MR. CLAY: I'm sorry. 10,100.
- 12 Q. (BY MS. MANNING) That have not received the
- 13 still further no remediation letter?
- 14 A. That's correct.
- 15 Q. How many of those sites, to your knowledge,
- 16 are currently in the pipeline? In other words, have
- some sort of document for review before the Agency?
- 18 A. I don't have the figures as far as review for
- 19 the Agency. I would say that all, nearly all of those
- 20 are what I would consider in the pipeline. I mean,
- 21 they all remove tanks. They've all probably removed
- 22 backfill. They're somewhere in the pipeline. Maybe
- 23 at the very beginning, maybe at the end, but I would
- 24 characterize almost all those in the pipeline.

1 MS. MANNING: Thank you. I have no further

- 2 questions on question number 51.
- 3 Q. Under the proposed
- 4 regulations on number 52 now, does the Agency
- 5 anticipate reimbursing a higher or lower percentage of
- 6 the cost on a single project as compared to the
- 7 reimbursement under the historical LUST fund
- 8 reimbursement guidelines? I'm on 52 now.
- 9 A. We anticipate reimbursing the reasonable
- 10 costs for directive action. I don't know whether
- 11 that's going to a high or lower number.
- MS. MANNING: I have no further questions on
- 13 that.
- 14 Q. 53, what specific projects and
- incident numbers were used to develop the rate
- 16 schedules and in Subpart H and what contaminants were
- 17 present? I believe -- correct me if I'm wrong -- as
- 18 to the first part of the question, number 53, those
- 19 specific projects and incident numbers, are those
- 20 referred to on this appendix? Which I think is --
- 21 HEARING OFFICER TIPSORD: Exhibit 24 now.
- MS. MANNING: Thank you.
- Q. Is that correct?
- A. (BY MR. CHAPPEL) No. My testimony is those

were only used for the specific purposes I stated in

- 2 my testimony. Those weren't used in Subpart H.
- 3 Q. What specific project and incident numbers
- 4 were used to develop the rate schedule in Subpart H?
- 5 A. Which one?
- 6 Q. In all of Subpart H.
- 7 A. (BY MR. CLAY) We don't have a specific
- 8 incident numbers for these.
- 9 Q. Okay.
- 10 QUESTIONS BY HEARING OFFICER TIPSORD:
- 11 Q. Excuse me. Let me ask a clarifying
- 12 question.
- 13 You don't have specific incident numbers for
- 14 the remaining parts of Subpart H other than -- I guess
- my question is, how do you know then where that
- 16 information came from?
- 17 A. (BY MR. KING) I mean, what we were going
- 18 through yesterday is we've got various rate schedules
- 19 in there. I mean, part of the difficulty of the
- 20 question is, is just in a general way asking about the
- 21 rate schedules. And each one was developed in a
- 22 different way, and not all of them were based on
- 23 incidents. I mean, we talk about some of the outside
- 24 sources that the Agency used, and each schedule had

- 1 its own methodology.
- 2 O. So you didn't necessarily use historical data
- 3 within the Agency to develop all of the rate sheets?
- 4 A. Well, we used historical experience. But as
- far as specific sites, I don't know that each one of
- 6 them looked at specific sites.
- 7 MR. CLAY: I mean, when we looked at specific
- 8 sites, we used those to verify or compare the number
- 9 that we were proposing. That is identified in the
- 10 testimony.
- 11 HEARING OFFICER TIPSORD: Okay, thank you.
- MS. MANNING: I have nothing further.
- HEARING OFFICER TIPSORD: Ms. Hesse?
- 14 QUESTIONS BY MS. HESSE:
- 15 Q. Were some of the rates that you used rates
- 16 from the spreadsheet that you had developed over -- I
- 17 don't know exactly which periods of time. Were some
- 18 of those rates, rates that were used in the proposed
- 19 rules?
- 20 A. (BY MR. BAUER) Are you talking about the --
- 21 MR. CHAPPEL: Yeah. Which ones?
- MR. BAUER: The rate sheets that were
- 23 provided in the request?
- 24 Q. Yes.

1 A. (BY MR. BAUER) Yes. I said they are used in

- 2 the hollow-stem auger rates.
- 3 MS. HESSE: There is a copy attached to
- 4 CW3M's pre-filed testimony. I actually brought those
- 5 for a copy of an exhibit.
- 6 HEARING OFFICER TIPSORD: Actually, yeah,
- 7 let's do, since it keeps coming up. It will be a good
- 8 idea. Thank you.
- 9 MS. HESSE: And I'll give one of those to
- 10 you.
- 11 HEARING OFFICER TIPSORD: Pre-filed testimony
- 12 or questions?
- MS. HESSE: Pre-filed testimony.
- 14 HEARING OFFICER TIPSORD: If there's no
- objection, we'll enter this as Exhibit 26. Seeing
- 16 none it's entered as Exhibit 26.
- 17 [Exhibit Number 26 was marked for
- 18 identification and admitted into evidence.]
- 19 Q. (BY MS. HESSE) Could you identify them from
- 20 Exhibit 26 which of the rates you would have used in
- 21 developing proposed Subpart H?
- 22 A. (BY MR. BAUER) Like I said before, we
- 23 used -- I think we used the soil boring per foot
- 24 rate. I think we used the mobilization rate. We used

1 a lot of the monitoring well rate with all the

- 2 components of the monitoring well. And on the
- 3 corrective action site, the 55 and 20 are pretty
- 4 similar to our rates proposed, even though they
- 5 weren't developed with the spreadsheet.
- 6 Q. 55 and 20 referring to what?
- 7 A. On the corrective action; excavation,
- 8 transportation, disposal and backfilling.
- 9 Q. 55 being excavation and transportation and
- 10 disposal?
- 11 A. Yes.
- 12 Q. And then 20 being the cost for backfill?
- 13 A. Yes. We might have used some of the lab
- 14 stuff. I'm not sure. We used the lab data that we
- 15 used for generating our costs, which was taken right
- 16 from the laboratory group themselves, but we might
- 17 have used some of this.
- 18 Q. And then was this spreadsheet that's been
- 19 marked as Exhibit 26, was that information that was
- 20 derived from the number of LUST sites with the LUST
- 21 incident number being provided?
- A. Mm-hmm.
- 23 Q. That's "yes"?
- 24 A. Yes. I'm sorry. I had my mouth full.

1 Q. Now, when I look at the costs for disposal,

- there's a per gallon cost listed here. If I look on
- 3 the first page, there's two numbers listed.
- 4 A. Yeah.
- 5 Q. Actually, there's three columns, and in two
- 6 columns, there is a number of \$3.
- 7 A. Yes.
- Q. And then there's a number that says \$5.
- 9 A. Yeah.
- 10 Q. What's the difference? I mean, could you
- 11 explain why there's the two different numbers, what
- 12 those represent?
- 13 A. Well, I know that the second column is the
- 14 new number, and the third column is an old number from
- 15 an old spreadsheet. It was just done -- not an old
- 16 spreadsheet. An old rate sheet that the Agency had
- 17 used.
- Q. And what does "new" mean here?
- 19 A. It was the new number based on the date that
- 20 we generated in this spreadsheet.
- Q. So does the new number reflect the average?
- 22 A. Actually, those numbers are the average on
- 23 the standard remediation.
- Q. So the \$3 is an average, and then the \$5 is

- 1 an average among standard deviation?
- 2 A. No.
- 3 Q. No?
- 4 A. The new number is an average of the standard
- 5 deviation. The old number is the old number from a
- 6 previous rate sheet that was calculated through a
- 7 different spreadsheet.
- 8 Q. And yesterday we were talking about the rate
- 9 for disposing of a gallon of contaminated water, and I
- 10 believe that was -- what was that? 68 cents a gallon?
- 11 A. That's correct.
- 12 Q. And yesterday you mentioned the 68 cents a
- 13 gallon was right -- what was the source of the
- 14 68 cents a gallon if the average number is \$3?
- 15 A. Well, this rate was generated from the
- 16 disposal of groundwater or collected during drilling
- 17 operations, and that average was at \$3 per gallon, and
- 18 that would be disposed of by the drum. The 68 cents
- 19 that we're talking about was data collected from -- I
- 20 believe it was collected from -- I don't recall where
- 21 it was collected from. But it was for groundwater
- that was disposed via a separate method.
- Q. And yesterday we were trying to figure out
- 24 how you got the information, and I thought you

1 mentioned that there was another spreadsheet that that

- 2 information was on.
- 3 A. I believe that came from -- I'm not sure, but
- 4 I am pretty sure it came from Doug Oakley's
- 5 spreadsheet, that historical data.
- 6 Q. Do you have a spreadsheet?
- 7 A. (BY MR. OAKLEY) Our data was gathered from
- 8 actual claims that was submitted throughout the
- 9 program. We fed them into a computer, calculated the
- 10 average and standard deviation. So we came up with a
- 11 range. And then we let the market set the rate. That
- 12 was our theory.
- 13 As I said before prior to this, that's how we
- 14 came up with our rates. We had a range. We didn't
- 15 have one specific number. We had a range. Now, if he
- 16 used our rate plus the standard deviation, I presume
- 17 that's what he used. If he used a high rate, or the
- low rate, frankly, I don't know.
- 19 Q. When you say "he used," that would be?
- 20 A. Brian.
- 21 Q. Brian?
- 22 A. Brian. If he used some of our data -- I
- 23 presume he's testified that he has -- which particular
- data he used, frankly I'm unsure of.

- 1 Q. But you would have had some kind of
- 2 spreadsheet or some documents on the computer that he
- 3 could have relied on? Is that what I'm understanding?
- 4 A. Previously, yes.
- 5 MS. HESSE: Okay. Thank you.
- 6 HEARING OFFICER TIPSORD: Anything further?
- 7 MS. MANNING: No. I have nothing further on
- 8 that. And in fact, we'll avoid question 57 now, too,
- 9 because that's kind of in the context of the question
- 10 that was asked by Ms. Hesse.
- 11 HEARING OFFICER TIPSORD: Okay.
- 12 QUESTIONS BY MS. MANNING:
- Q. 55, though, I'm going to ask it in a little
- 14 different way than here on this sheet, on the
- 15 document.
- 16 But is it the Agency's position that any
- 17 costs associated with amended plans or budgets are not
- 18 reasonable and therefore are not reimbursable?
- 19 A. (BY MR. CLAY) I would say that generally
- that is the case, I mean, if a plan is approved and
- 21 conditions change and there's an extraordinary
- 22 condition that happens at the site.
- For example, if you're doing a corrective
- 24 action, and you come across additional tanks that you

- 1 didn't know were there, that may warrant an
- 2 amendment. If it's amendments responding to a denial
- 3 or modification by the Agency, that is intended to be
- 4 in the lump sum.
- 5 Q. Would you explain that further? Intended to
- 6 be in the lump sum?
- 7 A. The lump sum established for that plan is a
- 8 lump sum for an approvable plan. And so if it wasn't
- 9 an approvable plan the first time, I don't think the
- 10 Agency should be paying for an amendment to be -- for
- an additional cost for an amendment to get it to the
- 12 approvable stage.
- Q. Has that historically been the Agency's
- 14 position? Or is that a new position as a result of
- 15 these proposed regulations?
- 16 A. That is a new position.
- Q. So historically then, the Agency from your
- 18 perspective has been paying for any cost associated
- 19 with an amended plan that was requested? That the
- 20 plan has been amended at the request of the Agency?
- 21 A. Let me answer the first -- the last part of
- 22 that first.
- The request of the Agency, because it didn't
- 24 meet the requirements of the rules and statute, and,

- 1 yes, it had been the case, and we have paid for three,
- 2 four, five amendments to plans that did not meet the
- 3 regulations.
- 4 Q. From the Agency's perspective?
- 5 A. They did not meet the regulations from the
- 6 Agency's perspective, that's correct.
- 7 Q. Thank you. Would you agree, Mr. Clay, that
- 8 sometimes amendments are necessitated as well from a
- 9 distinction or a difference in judgment, if you will,
- 10 on the part of your project managers and the LPE or
- 11 LPGs or consultants who are presenting the claim?
- 12 A. I think if it's a misunderstanding or a
- distinction, I think it would be a very minimal cost
- 14 to correct that. So there could be those judgment
- 15 issues, but I think it would be very minimal. But I
- think in most of our denials, it's because it clearly
- 17 did not meet the regulations.
- MS. MANNING: We'll have testimony on that.
- 19 We're not going to argue with you, and we're going to
- 20 proceed and go to the next question. I don't have any
- 21 further questions. Does anyone else?
- Q. On Number 56, just as a point of
- 23 clarification, I think we went through this yesterday,
- 24 but in regard to the tasks and group of tasks proposed

in Subpart H to be reimbursed on a unit basis, is it

- 2 the Agency's expectation that those will be viewed as
- 3 flat rates, and that will be the rate that will be
- 4 charged, and that there should be no rate in excess of
- 5 that and no rate below that?
- 6 A. (BY MR. CLAY) I think it's the Agency's
- 7 expectation that the large majority of the rates will
- 8 fall within at or below those rates. If there are
- 9 rates below that, we would expect that those are the
- 10 rates that are billed, and those are the rates that
- 11 would be reimbursed.
- 12 Q. And, conversely, if the actual rates are more
- than that, the Agency will not pay them?
- 14 A. Unless there is justification through the
- 15 extraordinary situation, that's correct.
- Q. And could you cite to me what regulation
- 17 you're referring to then? What proposed regulation in
- 18 terms of the extraordinary circumstances?
- 19 A. Sure.
- BOARD MEMBER JOHNSON: 734.855.
- 21 MS. MANNING: Thank you.
- Q. And it's actually only in
- 23 734? Not in 732?
- 24 A. No.

1 Q. There's a comparable one in 732? Thank you.

- 2 And it's also 732.855? Thank you.
- I have no further questions on 56.
- 4 HEARING OFFICER TIPSORD: Go right ahead, but
- 5 I'll ask again, if anybody has any questions, I'll
- 6 recognize you.
- 7 MS. MANNING: Thank you. 57 we're going to
- 8 avoid -- not necessarily avoid it. The fact of the
- 9 matter is, we've answered it from the rest.
- 10 Q. 58. Subpart H, Section 734.810,
- this area is addressed on page 2 of Mr. Bauer's
- 12 testimony. Do the proposed rates include the costs
- for slurry?
- 14 A. (BY MR. BAUER) Yes.
- 15 Q. 59.
- 16 HEARING OFFICER TIPSORD: We have a
- 17 question.
- 18 MR. GOODIEL: Russ Goodiel.
- 19 QUESTIONS BY MR. GOODIEL:
- Q. Are you aware of the costs of slurry to
- 21 abandon an underground tank? Do you know how much
- 22 slurry actually costs to do that? Have you checked
- 23 into that?
- A. (BY MR. BAUER) To the actual rate of

- 1 itself or --
- 2 Q. The material to go into the tank to abandon
- 3 the tank properly.
- 4 A. I did not look at the individual material,
- 5 no.
- 6 Q. It could be as much as \$57 or \$65.
- 7 HEARING OFFICER TIPSORD: Mr. Goodiel --
- 8 MR. GOODIEL: I'm sorry.
- 9 HEARING OFFICER TIPSORD: Thank you.
- 10 Ms. Manning?
- 11 QUESTIONS BY MS. MANNING:
- 12 Q. 59, we've asked a bit of this yesterday in
- 13 follow-up to other questions. So I'm going to
- 14 simplify question 59.
- The 20 LUST sites that were evaluated, I
- 16 think these are on page 2 of your testimony. Are
- 17 these the same sites that are also included then on
- 18 the errata sheet, the appendix of the errata sheet?
- 19 You testified at the first hearing that 20 LUST sites
- 20 were evaluated and 9 were used for tank removal or
- 21 abandonment.
- 22 A. (BY MR. BAUER) Yes.
- Q. Mr. Bauer, correct?
- 24 A. Yes.

- 1 Q. Now, what were those sites?
- 2 A. I believe they were the same sites that was
- 3 on attachment B of the errata, too.
- Q. And do you know how many of these sites were
- 5 in early action at the time you looked at them?
- 6 A. They were all early action, I believe.
- 7 Q. Okay. And how did you choose these sites?
- 8 A. I just went to the file cabinet and started
- 9 pulling files.
- 10 Q. Of the nine that you -- okay.
- 11 HEARING OFFICER TIPSORD: Ms. Hesse has a
- 12 follow-up.
- MS. MANNING: Go ahead.
- 14 QUESTIONS BY MS. HESSE:
- 15 Q. When you pulled the files from the file
- 16 cabinet, was there any particular basis for pulling
- 17 the files? The jacket, the thickness of the file, any
- 18 particular criteria you used?
- 19 A. No. I just pulled them until I got what I
- 20 thought was enough.
- 21 Q. So you took all of the first nine you came to
- in the file cabinet?
- A. Well, actually, I took 20.
- 24 Q. 20?

1 A. I might have opened a different drawer at one

- 2 point in time or something like that. It wasn't based
- on any reason whatsoever. I just opened a drawer.
- 4 Q. And then how were they placed in the file
- 5 cabinet to begin with? Alphabetical order, incident
- 6 number order?
- 7 A. I believe they're by incident number.
- 8 QUESTIONS BY MS. MANNING:
- 9 Q. And how many different contractors do these
- 10 represent?
- 11 A. (BY MR. BAUER) I don't know.
- 12 MS. MANNING: Thank you. I have no further
- 13 questions of him.
- MR. ROMINGER: Claire, on that, since we've
- 15 covered that appendix, we have since the beginning of
- 16 the hearing, we have a sheet showing the locations of
- 17 those sites on that attachment. So we could enter
- 18 that as an exhibit.
- 19 MS. MANNING: You haven't entered that as an
- 20 exhibit yet, have you?
- 21 MR. ROMINGER: No, but we could enter that as
- 22 an exhibit as far as the locations.
- MS. MANNING: And, yes, the majority of
- 24 them -- I think 13 are in Cook County, 3 are in DuPage

- 1 County, if I'm not mistaken, and the rest are in
- downstate, but the great majority of them are in Cook
- 3 and DuPage County for purposes of the record. Pardon?
- 4 MR. ROMINGER: I thought we were talking
- 5 about attachment B.
- 6 HEARING OFFICER TIPSORD: Right. You're
- 7 talking about what was admitted as Exhibit 24, which
- 8 is attachment A on errata 2.
- 9 MS. MANNING: Right.
- 10 HEARING OFFICER TIPSORD: He's talking about
- 11 Exhibit B to errata 2.
- 12 MS. MANNING: I'm not sure I've seen that
- 13 then.
- MR. ROMINGER: Why don't we go ahead and
- 15 enter this as an exhibit.
- 16 HEARING OFFICER TIPSORD: We will admit that
- 17 as Exhibit 27.
- 18 [Exhibit Number 27 was marked for
- identification and admitted into evidence.]
- 20 MR. ROMINGER: It's got both attachment A and
- 21 в.
- MS. MANNING: Right. I need to see this.
- 23 Thank you. Is that over on the public table over
- 24 there?

- 1 HEARING OFFICER TIPSORD: Yes.
- 2 Seeing none, we'll admit that as Exhibit 27.
- 3 MR. ROMINGER: Again, we didn't have that at
- 4 the beginning. We received that since the beginning
- 5 of the hearing.
- 6 QUESTIONS BY MS. MANNING:
- 7 Q. Mr. Bauer, I would just ask in pulling these
- 8 files -- and hopefully this will get to the bottom of
- 9 it in this line of questioning -- it was the Agency's
- 10 perspective in pulling these files in using them to
- 11 develop attachment A and attachment B, that these were
- 12 a representative sample of LUST sites that the Agency
- 13 sees?
- 14 A. (BY MR. BAUER) Yes.
- 15 MS. MANNING: Thank you. I'm ready to move
- 16 on to 60.
- Q. Mr. Bauer, on page 4 of your
- 18 testimony, you state that rates include all costs for
- 19 mobilization and demobilization to and from the site,
- 20 labor, decontamination, drilling, etcetera. Were you
- 21 aware of how far any of the sites that you looked at
- 22 were from the contractor?
- A. (BY MR. BAUER) No.
- Q. We'll move on to C then. Did you look at the

1 RS Means Guide for Environmental Work when you

- 2 compiled any of these rates?
- 3 A. No.
- 4 Q. And number D --
- 5 HEARING OFFICER TIPSORD: Excuse me.
- 6 Ms. Manning, you identified that as RS?
- 7 MS. MANNING: It is RS Means. I'm sorry. In
- 8 the question itself, it says Means Guide for
- 9 Environmental Work. It's more further developed in
- 10 some of the filings that we have presented to the
- 11 Board. It's actually a documented entitled, RS Means.
- 12 HEARING OFFICER TIPSORD: Thank you.
- 13 Q. (BY MS. MANNING) And letter D, does the IEPA
- 14 define travel costs differently from mobilizing and
- demobilizing? If so, how?
- 16 A. (BY MR. BAUER) Yeah.
- 17 Mobilization/demobilization in the instance that we're
- 18 talking about is for the drill rig to and from the
- 19 site. Travel time is for the consultant to get to and
- 20 from the site.
- MS. MANNING: Thank you.
- 22 HEARING OFFICER TIPSORD: Go ahead.
- MR. DOTY: Good morning. Duane Doty, Applied
- 24 Science Industries.

- 1 QUESTIONS BY MR. DOTY:
- 2 Q. In the past, you've felt comfortable
- 3 reimbursing these charges identified such as
- 4 mobilization charges, travel expenses? You've
- 5 reimbursed those in the past, correct?
- 6 A. Correct.
- 7 Q. So up until now, they've been deemed
- 8 reasonable charges. So can you kind of explain why
- 9 now you feel that those particular charges would be
- 10 unreasonable?
- 11 A. We have included those into our rates.
- 12 Q. Which? The per foot rate?
- 13 A. The per foot rate.
- Q. Has it changed to recognize that these costs
- 15 are now included in that rate?
- 16 A. Yeah. Our per foot rate includes a certain
- 17 amount for mobilization.
- 18 Q. And was there some type of average travel
- 19 time? 30 minutes? Like the half day maybe?
- 20 A. Well, we used a lump sum. We don't -- again,
- 21 mobilization of a drill rig and mobilization,
- 22 typically how the Agency sees it in budgets and in
- 23 bills is in a lump sum. They just say it costs me
- \$250 to get the drill rig out at the site, whether

1 it's five blocks or five miles. So regardless, that's

- 2 what they're billing us, and that's how we did it. I
- 3 think the average that I used, and it was like \$320,
- 4 something like that. And we just figured that into
- 5 the rate. It was in the testimony.
- 6 Q. So that is now a dollar per foot to be
- 7 inclusive in that, right?
- 8 A. Yeah. If they billed it separately, it still
- 9 would be -- I mean, that's not an issue. That's fine.
- MR. DOTY: Okay, thanks.
- 11 QUESTIONS BY MS. MANNING:
- 12 Q. Has there been a time, Mr. Bauer -- to follow
- 13 up on that line of questioning -- the Agency changed
- 14 the reasonable reimbursement determination from travel
- time to actually a lump sum of \$250?
- 16 A. (BY MR. BAUER) I don't understand the
- 17 question.
- 18 Q. Did the Agency ever just as a rate determine
- 19 that \$250 was the maximum that it would ever pay for
- 20 mobilization?
- 21 A. I believe so, yes. I think that was on the
- 22 rate sheet -- or not the rate sheet. The spreadsheet.
- Q. And at what point in time did it make that
- 24 determination?

- 1 A. How long had we had it as a lump sum?
- 2 Q. Yes.
- 3 A. I think we've always used it that way.
- 4 MS. MANNING: Thank you.
- 5 HEARING OFFICER TIPSORD: Ms. Hesse?
- 6 QUESTIONS BY MS. HESSE:
- 7 Q. Mr. Bauer, in the proposed rules, you're
- 8 using a number of -- correct me if I'm wrong -- \$23
- 9 per foot for drilling and monitoring a well?
- 10 A. (BY MR. BAUER) Yeah, I believe so.
- 11 Q. And in Exhibit 26, I believe on the first
- line, you have listed soil boring per foot at \$24?
- 13 A. (BY MR. CLAY) What exhibit are you referring
- 14 to?
- 15 Q. Exhibit 26. That's the spreadsheet.
- 16 HEARING OFFICER TIPSORD: Exhibit 26, it was
- 17 the one that you entered?
- MS. HESSE: Yes, the spreadsheet.
- 19 MR. BAUER: All right. I got the exhibit.
- Now, which one?
- Q. (BY MS. HESSE) On the very first row, very
- 22 first line, it says soil boring per foot.
- 23 A. Yes.
- Q. And that's at \$24 a foot; is that correct?

- 1 A. That's correct.
- 2 Q. And yet there's additional costs here related
- 3 to soil boring, and you're now saying those additional
- 4 costs were included in the per foot rate; is that
- 5 correct? That additional activities are now included
- in the per foot rate of \$23 that were not included in
- 7 the \$24 per foot rate?
- 8 A. In the development of our numbers, the \$23 is
- 9 all that we can support in our proposal, and that did
- 10 include the breakout costs for mobilization. And we
- 11 also include a certain rate for decont. that was
- 12 broken out.
- 13 Q. But on Exhibit 26, the spreadsheet, you have
- 14 a separate charge for mobilization?
- 15 A. Right. We included that. We took that into
- 16 our factoring. This spreadsheet is an average of
- 17 standard deviation. The number that you're referring
- 18 to, the Agency used an average to calculate what we
- 19 proposed in Subpart H.
- 20 Q. So in the proposed rules, you're saying that
- 21 unless -- just to let me summarize. When you're
- 22 coming up with your numbers in the proposed rules,
- 23 unless it's the average cost or below the average
- 24 cost, the cost is not reasonable? Is that what it

- 1 boils down to?
- 2 A. (BY MR. CLAY) I think that we're saying the
- 3 figure that we can support is \$23 a foot, and we were
- 4 paying \$24 on a previous rate sheet. That may have
- 5 been too high.
- 6 Q. So you're saying what you would pay before
- 7 you're not going to consider reasonable anymore?
- 8 A. I think what we're proposing is the
- 9 reasonable -- these numbers are what we're going to
- 10 consider reasonable that we currently have before the
- 11 Board in this rule-making.
- 12 QUESTIONS BY MS. MANNING:
- 13 Q. So, Mr. Clay, would you deny that the
- 14 Agency's numbers, that the Agency's proposed numbers
- 15 actually reflect in this particular instance that
- 16 we're talking about a lesser reimbursement than the
- 17 Agency has historically paid?
- 18 A. (BY MR. CLAY) I think that would be true.
- 19 Q. It's not that you're denying it? And it's
- true that it is the lesser reimbursement?
- 21 A. It's true that it is lesser, a lesser amount,
- 22 right.
- BOARD MEMBER GIRARD: I have a question.
- 24 QUESTIONS BY BOARD MEMBER GIRARD:

1 Q. Then so essentially what you're saying is, is

- 2 that the average cost for these activities is the
- 3 reasonable cost? Is that what you're saying?
- 4 A. (BY MR. CLAY) Well, let me make a statement
- 5 on that.
- 6 And maybe, Brian, if you want to add to it.
- 7 I think some of these numbers were developed
- 8 with averages and some are above averages. But I
- 9 think that generally when we're talking about
- 10 reimbursement with public funds, I don't think it's
- 11 unreasonable to use the average number as a reasonable
- 12 number. That's correct.
- Q. And so if someone came in with a proposal for
- 14 a higher estimate for performing a particular task at
- 15 a site, they would have to justify it under either
- 16 Section 734.855 or 732.855, the unusual or
- 17 extraordinary expense category?
- 18 A. That's correct.
- 19 Q. In the language there, you have if an owner
- or operator incurs unusual and extraordinary expenses,
- 21 the cost eligible for payment to substantially exceed
- the amount is set forth in Subpart H.
- Now, it sounds to me like you put the word
- 24 "substantially" in there, but it sounds to me like

- 1 you really don't need that word in there. You're
- 2 saying that any cost you see coming in above your
- 3 Subpart H needs to be justified.
- 4 A. I think any cost needs to be justified. I
- 5 think the reason we put "substantially" in there is
- 6 that in this example, if something was coming in at
- 7 \$23.10, we would hope that, you know, that wouldn't be
- 8 something the person would try to make -- spend the
- 9 time to make that justification. They certainly
- 10 could.
- But the reason we put "substantial" is
- 12 because this is a process to streamline the entire
- 13 reimbursement process, the entire LUST program. And
- 14 if we have, you know, half the sites go in through
- 15 this extraordinary demonstration, I don't think it's
- going to serve to streamline the program.
- 17 Q. However, if we have a moving point there, if
- 18 Subpart H in every case is not the upper limit, the
- 19 maximum amount, how will the parties applying know
- 20 whether 10 cents is the cutoff for that particular
- 21 cost? Or maybe it's 50 cents, or maybe it's a dollar
- 22 more? How will those decisions be made?
- 23 A. Well, I think those are maximum amounts. And
- 24 so if someone comes in and says it was \$23.10 for this

1 contractor that I hired, I don't think that the Agency

- 2 is going to consider that adequate justification. If
- 3 the justification is that here are the conditions at
- 4 the site, and this is why \$23 a foot is not
- 5 appropriate, and it's something over \$23 a foot,
- 6 that's what we would consider.
- 7 But the fact that this is what the
- 8 consult -- or this is what the driller/subcontractor
- 9 is charging, I don't think the Agency would consider
- 10 that adequate justification.
- 11 Q. But essentially it still goes back to the
- 12 amounts in Subpart H being maximum, and anything that
- 13 comes in over that for any particular expense
- 14 category, they're going to have to justify and show
- 15 that the assumptions you made in coming up with
- 16 Subpart H are not met by their particular site?
- 17 A. Right, and those are maximums. And as I had
- 18 it in my original testimony, we expect that the large
- 19 majority, over 90 percent of all the costs will be
- 20 within the Subpart H rates.
- 21 BOARD MEMBER GIRARD: Thank you.
- QUESTIONS BY MS. MANNING:
- Q. To follow up with that then, Mr. Clay.
- 24 You expect very little activity under Section

- 1 732.855; is that correct?
- 2 A. (BY MR. CLAY) I would hope so, yes.
- 3 HEARING OFFICER TIPSORD: Ms. Hesse?
- 4 QUESTIONS BY MS. HESSE:
- 5 Q. Thank you. Given what the Agency used to
- 6 consider reasonable the standard deviation, would you
- 7 please explain to us why the Agency is now taking the
- 8 position that only the average or below is reasonable?
- 9 A. (BY MR. BAUER) I think one aspect of it
- 10 is -- and I could testify to this in reviewing budgets
- 11 that are submitted -- is that, well, we used those
- 12 rate sheets. We used the average and standard
- deviation. And when we were reviewing a budget, we
- 14 might have only maybe one, two, three costs that were
- 15 over that, those line items or something like that, or
- 16 if at all.
- 17 If you look at the whole picture of a plan, I
- 18 think the average is a more reasonable figure across
- 19 the board. You have to look at it as -- I don't think
- 20 you can look at the proposal in one rate. You have to
- 21 look at the whole thing, what the whole stage one site
- 22 investigation reimbursement is. And those are pretty
- 23 comparable to what people are submitting today.
- 24 MR. CLAY: I think that's demonstrated in our

- 1 example that we provided at the last hearing, the
- 2 hearing in Chicago, where it went through and showed
- 3 one example what would be reimbursed. So I think you
- 4 need to look, as Brian said, at the entire amount we
- 5 reimbursed instead of focussing on one rate.
- 6 MR. BAUER: We were combining stuff just to
- 7 simplify the process.
- 8 Q. Could I go back to something Mr. Clay said,
- 9 where he thought that using the average rate would
- 10 cover 90 percent of the costs? And I believe --
- 11 A. (BY MR. CLAY) I didn't say that.
- 12 Q. And what did you say?
- 13 A. I said that I felt like the average
- 14 cost -- it was reasonable when we're talking about
- 15 just, you know, reimbursement of public funds, I said
- 16 that I said we hope that over 90 percent would fall
- 17 under the Subpart H rates and that less than 10
- 18 percent would go to the demonstration of extraordinary
- 19 circumstances.
- 20 Q. Have you done any statistical analyses to see
- 21 if a population -- you only use the average
- 22 number -- whether 90 percent of that would fall within
- the average?
- 24 A. No.

- 1 MS. HESSE: Thank you.
- 2 HEARING OFFICER TIPSORD: Ms. Manning?
- 3 QUESTIONS BY MS. MANNING:
- 4 Q. As a follow-up to that, Mr. Clay. You
- 5 mentioned you referred to the underground storage tank
- 6 as the disbursement of public funds. Just to clarify,
- 7 does the Agency not use the underground storage tank
- 8 fund as sort of a self-insurance fund?
- 9 A. The underground storage tank fund was set up
- 10 originally to meet the federal financial assurance
- 11 requirements. At that time, one million dollars, or
- 12 still one million dollars. As we had testified to
- 13 yesterday, there's a number of states that have set up
- 14 those funds to meet that requirement.
- 15 Q. Right. We're just talking Illinois right
- 16 now.
- 17 A. Right. And so that's the reason it was set
- 18 up; to meet that requirement and to reimburse owners
- 19 and operators for reasonable corrective action cost.
- Q. And the specific money from the fund comes
- 21 directly from a tax on the gasoline; is that correct?
- 22 A. It's a tax and a environmental fee, correct.
- Q. The owners and operators pay directly into
- 24 the fund from the tax, the monies they received and

- 1 collect from the tax on gasoline; is that correct?
- 2 A. Yeah. Owners and operators usually pay that
- 3 tax as a percentage of, you know, as a fee per gallon
- 4 on what they sell.
- 5 Q. So it's a fund with a specific use?
- 6 A. Correct.
- 7 Q. Thank you. An environmental use?
- 8 A. That's correct.
- 9 Q. Thank you. For the specific purpose of
- 10 remediating underground storage tank sites that have
- 11 been contaminated by gasoline in the State of
- 12 Illinois; is that correct?
- 13 A. Well, the fund was set up as a financial
- 14 assurance mechanism to meet the financial assurance
- 15 requirements.
- 16 Q. To remediate properties that have been
- 17 contaminated in the State of Illinois by virtue of
- 18 underground storage tanks, correct?
- 19 A. Correct.
- 20 MS. MANNING: Thank you. Just a second
- 21 please. I'm seeing if we can dispense with some
- 22 questions.
- 23 HEARING OFFICER TIPSORD: Take all the time
- 24 you need.

1 MR. KELLY: Joe Kelly with United Science

- 2 Industries.
- 3 QUESTIONS BY MR. KELLY:
- 4 Q. Just for some clarification questions in
- 5 regard to the exhibit that was presented.
- 6 With additional information from the sites we
- 7 had using your data set, why in preparing Subpart H in
- 8 the proposed rules, why is data collected from
- 9 historical sites in regard to like, say, field work,
- 10 monitoring, well installation, dollar per yard for
- 11 soil removal, and yet in terms of professional work,
- in terms of reports and plans and budget preparation,
- 13 the Agency sought a particular group of consultants or
- 14 other people to get their information as far as the
- 15 number of hours it would take, and didn't use
- 16 historical data for the number of hours it would take
- to provide plans and budgets?
- 18 A. (BY MR. CLAY) I'll respond to that. The
- 19 hours for the plans and budgets -- when we went to the
- 20 Consulting Engineers Council of Illinois, they felt
- 21 and we felt it would be a good source to look at what
- 22 hours went into these plans and reports. Consulting
- 23 Engineers Council of Illinois from the very beginning
- 24 said we can't comment on rates. You know, that's an

1 antitrust issue. We just can't do that. So they, you

- 2 know, did not provide any of that, which we understood
- 3 the reason.
- 4 So in those situations, we relied on
- 5 historical numbers. As when we -- Harry and Brian
- 6 both testified to, you know, we did contact some of
- 7 the people who supplied -- you know, the drillers and
- 8 tank removal contractors, you know, to see if their
- 9 numbers are reasonable. And trucking associations.
- 10 But primarily we used the historical numbers, other
- 11 than the time to put in the plans and reports.
- 12 Q. Mr. Bauer has already described his method
- 13 for selecting the sites. And just for clarification,
- is it safe to say that in selecting these sites, there
- was no consideration taken into who the consultants
- 16 were or the contractors?
- 17 A. (BY MR. BAUER) No.
- 18 Q. Also there was no consideration taken into
- 19 what regions of the state this work was performed?
- 20 A. No.
- 21 Q. Another question I have. We've been talking
- 22 about this rate sheet, spreadsheet and all these other
- 23 sheets that were used to determine reasonableness in
- 24 the past and perhaps in the future.

1 Approved budgets -- when the Agency approved

- 2 a budget, and let's assume they used these rate
- 3 sheets, or whatever sheet, they're only going to
- 4 approve a certain amount for hours or rates or unit
- 5 rate, correct? I mean, you have to get an approved
- 6 budget?
- 7 A. (BY MR. CLAY) Yes. There has to be an
- 8 approved budget before payment can be made.
- 9 Q. And what is only going to be reimbursed is
- only going to be a part of the approved budget? I
- 11 think you've provided that testimony before. You have
- 12 to have an approved budget and has been reviewed and
- 13 compared to something to determine what is being
- 14 reasonable? And then it's reimbursed, right?
- 15 A. (BY MR. OAKLEY) If the type of amounts are
- 16 equal to or less than those line items, it will be
- 17 paid.
- 18 Q. And I believe the testimony has already been
- 19 provided previously that the Agency feels that the
- 20 proposed rules will be in line with 90 percent, or
- 21 whatever within these sites will be in line with what
- 22 has already been reimbursed? The rates that you felt
- were reasonable, being reimbursed, approved by the
- 24 budget and so forth?

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1 A. (BY MR. CLAY) I said 90 percent or more
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- 2 would be in line with the proposal in Subpart H.
- 3 O. And that's based on information from the
- 4 information we've already collected -- you've already
- 5 collected from historical data, or whatever, or rates
- 6 or volumes or whatever, hours that you deemed as
- 7 reasonable previously?
- 8 A. That is based on our testimony. Much of
- 9 which we relied on is historical data, correct.
- 10 MR. KING: I'd just like to follow up on one
- 11 thing on Doug's testimony.
- 12 I mean, there was almost to me an inference
- 13 that somehow it was inappropriate for us to be talking
- 14 with the Consulting Engineers Council, and hopefully
- 15 that was not an inference.
- 16 But I just want to clarify on the record that
- we have consulted with Consulting Engineers Council
- 18 many times over the last 15 years with regards to our
- 19 cleanup programs, including the LUST program. And so
- 20 it's just been a long, long-term relationship in terms
- 21 of us getting advice from them as to things that we're
- 22 about to work on. So I just wanted to clarify that.
- 23 MS. MANNING: And just so -- I have to
- 24 clarify that as well to Mr. King's comment.

1 There was no inference on the part of PIPE or

- anybody on our side of the table at all that there's
- 3 anything inappropriate about consulting with the
- 4 Engineers Council of Illinois. We would expect that
- 5 the Agency would do that.
- 6 If we have any concerns at all in some of the
- questions we're asking, it's just in terms of we have
- 8 a dispute as to whether you actually took some of the
- 9 information that the work group presented to you, and
- 10 we'll present that in our own testimony.
- 11 But certainly such consultations are not
- inappropriate. We would expect that you would work
- 13 with all of the public interest groups who are
- 14 supporting professional engineers and geologists in
- 15 the State of Illinois in the remediation of
- 16 underground storage tank sites and all of the other
- 17 engineering that's done in terms of protecting the
- 18 environment.
- 19 HEARING OFFICER TIPSORD: Go ahead.
- 20 MR. RENGUSO: Bob Renguso.
- 21 QUESTIONS BY MR. RENGUSO:
- Q. Brian, I was just curious. You said you had
- one file cabinet to draw most --
- A. I might have used more than one.

- 1 Q. I'm just curious. How many file cabinets
- does the Agency have that contains that? And are they
- 3 all in one particular file bank of cabinets?
- 4 A. Probably. I have no clue.
- 5 MR. OAKLEY: We've got close to 70 cabinets.
- 6 Q. 70? And they're all basically in one bank,
- 7 and you just picked one at random?
- 8 A. Yeah.
- 9 Q. It wasn't the one closest to your office or
- 10 anything like that?
- 11 A. Actually, it's in another building, yeah.
- 12 MR. CHAPPEL: You had to walk over there.
- MR. BAUER: I mean, I went towards the -- at
- 14 the time I collected the data, I went towards the
- 15 newer data.
- 16 Q. The newer data?
- Okay, thank you.
- 18 QUESTIONS BY MS. MANNING:
- 19 Q. Mr. Bauer, just to clarify, you're a reviewer
- 20 of the Agency, a project manager? And you review
- 21 underground storage tank sites?
- 22 A. (BY MR. BAUER) That's correct.
- Q. And how many underground storage tank
- 24 sites would you personally have reviewed? A

1 percentage, if you will, of all of the underground

- 2 storage tank sites that the Agency sees?
- 3 A. I've never done the math.
- 4 Q. Pardon?
- 5 A. I've never done the math to see what
- 6 percentage of the sites I've reviewed.
- 7 Q. Well, you have the same case load or review
- 8 load as every other project manager?
- 9 A. (BY MR. CLAY) I'm going to say generally
- 10 3 to 4 percent if you figure 34 project managers with
- 11 the same case load, so.
- 12 Q. Thank you. Thank you, Doug.
- 13 A. Brian may do a few more because he's, you
- 14 know, got more than 10 years' experience, you know,
- 15 than somebody new off the street. So that's why I
- 16 said 3 or 4 percent.
- 17 Q. Thank you. And the sites that you collected,
- 18 were they from your group of your review group or just
- 19 generally sites that the Agency looked at?
- 20 A. (BY MR. BAUER) Just generally sites that the
- 21 Agency looked at, nothing that -- I might have. I
- 22 don't know.
- 23 HEARING OFFICER TIPSORD: Just a point of
- 24 clarification, Mr. Clay. When you said 3 to 4

- 1 percent, you mean that was 3 or 4 percent of the case
- load per year? Not that he's reviewed 3 to 4 percent
- 3 of the entire underground storage tank sites?
- 4 MR. CLAY: That's correct, per year.
- 5 HEARING OFFICER TIPSORD: Mr. Goodiel?
- 6 QUESTIONS BY MR. GOODIEL:
- 7 Q. Just to clarify, Mr. Bauer.
- 8 Of those sites that you reviewed, how many
- 9 exactly were your specific sites that you were the
- 10 project manager?
- 11 A. I didn't record that data. I just went to
- the file cabinet and pulled stuff. I didn't pull ones
- 13 that were mine or anything like that. I don't know.
- Q. Well, by looking at these sites that are
- 15 referenced, can you guesstimate how many of those
- 16 sites you were project manager on?
- 17 A. No. I was, I think, assigned over 400 sites.
- 18 HEARING OFFICER TIPSORD: Ms. Manning?
- 19 QUESTIONS BY MS. MANNING:
- 20 Q. Just to clarify. I think we had asked this
- 21 yesterday, but the first two numbers of an incident
- 22 site are the years that that incident was reported; is
- 23 that correct?
- A. (BY MR. CLAY) Well, if it's prior to 2000,

1 it would be 98 with four digits. If it's a 2000 or

- 2 later, it would be 2000 and then four digits. And
- 3 then 2001 and then four digits.
- 4 Q. But my question is, several of these sites
- 5 are early '90s. In fact, one of them is in '89.
- 6 HEARING OFFICER TIPSORD: Which exhibit are
- 7 you looking at?
- 8 MS. MANNING: I'm looking at their Exhibit
- 9 Number 27.
- 10 MR. CHAPPEL: That's the date the incident
- 11 was reported. They could have done early action in
- 12 2003.
- 13 Q. Well, did that --
- 14 A. (BY MR. CHAPPEL) Well, we don't know that.
- 15 Q. So you don't know when the work was performed
- 16 that you're using to evaluate and to use as the
- 17 Agency's standard, if you will, in terms of putting
- 18 these things into the appendixes, the averages?
- 19 A. (BY MR. BAUER) Which appendix are you
- 20 looking at?
- Q. It's regarding the testimony that the first
- 22 set of incident numbers goes to attachment A and the
- 23 second set of incident numbers go to attachment B.
- 24 The first set of incident numbers are very old.

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1 HEARING OFFICER TIPSORD: For the record,
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- 2 attachment B to errata sheet 2 is the average dollar
- 3 per hour cost of personnel.
- 4 MR. BAUER: Right, right.
- 5 MS. MANNING: Actually, I'm referring to
- 6 Exhibit Number 27.
- 7 HEARING OFFICER TIPSORD: Right.
- 8 MS. MANNING: That Mr. Rominger put into
- 9 evidence this morning.
- 10 HEARING OFFICER TIPSORD: This is actually
- 11 attachment A, which was Mr. Chappel's original Exhibit
- 12 9 to his testimony.
- MR. CLAY: I would just like to say that the
- 14 incident number has no bearing whatsoever on when work
- was performed.
- 16 And, Brian, do you want to comment on the
- 17 numbers?
- 18 And we try to use the work performed within a
- 19 year or two of when you collected that data.
- 20 MR. BAUER: Yeah. It was within a period of
- 21 time. And they were -- I'm assuming they were all
- 22 high priority corrective action. And it takes a
- 23 number of years sometimes to get that far in the
- 24 process.

1 Q. (BY MS. MANNING) Well, as far excavation

- 2 costs, though, excavation costs are generally related
- 3 to the removal of the tank, correct?
- 4 A. No.
- 5 Q. I mean, isn't that fairly early in the
- 6 process as a general perspective?
- 7 A. No. The tank has probably been gone
- 8 since -- these numbers are not taken from early
- 9 action. It's more for high priority corrective
- 10 action.
- 11 MR. CLAY: The excavation was part of the
- 12 corrective action.
- MR. BAUER: That's correct.
- MR. CLAY: Which was towards the end of the
- 15 process.
- And I'd like to remind the Board these 25
- 17 sites that you're referring to in attachment A of our
- 18 errata were used to compare it to the rate that we're
- 19 proposing. It was not used to develop that rate.
- QUESTIONS BY MR. DOTY:
- 21 Q. The sites that were used to come up with the
- 22 excavation, transportation and disposal rates that you
- 23 brought in this morning, do you have any idea of what
- 24 the average volume was that was moved on each of these

- jobs? I'm just curious. Do you know?
- 2 A. (BY MR. CLAY) No.
- 3 Q. But they would be used, same numbers, on
- 4 early action during the removal of backfill material,
- 5 which is probably quite a bit smaller volume than this
- 6 list here? Is that fair to say?
- 7 A. (BY MR. CHAPPEL) I don't know.
- 8 MR. BAUER: We don't know
- 9 OUESTIONS BY MS. MANNING:
- 10 Q. Just to clarify on this discussion, which by
- 11 the way, Mr. Clay, I appreciate you alerting the Board
- that, but, you know, from our perspective, that's a
- 13 distinction without a difference as well, whether they
- 14 were used to develop the rate or compare it to the
- rate that's been developed. It's a distinction
- 16 without a difference.
- 17 But in any event, just so that we have this
- 18 clarified for the record, the Agency is not able to
- 19 testify as to any of the work was performed that led
- 20 to the comparison of the rate or the actual rate
- itself based on these sites; is that correct?
- 22 A. (BY MR. CLAY) I don't think we have that
- information right now, no.
- MS. MANNING: Thank you.

- 1 Let's move on then.
- Q. Let's go to 63. As it
- 3 pertains to Section 734.820, drilling, well
- 4 installation and well abandonment, Mr. Bauer stated
- 5 that the Agency evaluated seven LUST sites and
- 6 extrapolated the data for 2-inch monitoring wells.
- 7 Could you explain how you extrapolate 2-inch
- 8 wells to larger wells?
- 9 A. (BY MR. BAUER) The extrapolation was done
- 10 just for like concrete and bentonite and sand, and how
- 11 much was needed additionally. For a 4-inch well, you
- 12 would need twice as much as a 2-inch well.
- 13 Q. The Agency, as a matter of course,
- 14 particularly hasn't been involved in installing any
- 15 large wells, have you?
- 16 A. No.
- Q. Did you collect any data for the larger wells
- 18 installation?
- 19 A. I think we did collect some data, yes. It
- 20 wasn't an overabundance.
- 21 Q. Would you provide that to us please? Or tell
- 22 us at least what kind of data you collected.
- 23 A. I'd have to look into that. I don't seem to
- 24 have that here. I thought I may.

- 1 MR. CLAY: We can look into providing that.
- Q. Question 69. Referring to your testimony on
- 3 page 15, Mr. Bauer, under the professional consulting
- 4 service, free product removal, you state that the
- 5 number of half days shall be determined by the Agency
- on a site-specific basis. How will the Agency make
- 7 this determination?
- 8 A. (BY MR. CLAY) I'll respond to that.
- 9 Q. Thank you.
- 10 A. It would be based on the demonstration
- 11 provided by the consultant or experience, and reviewed
- on a case-by-case basis.
- 13 Q. And when would the consultant make that
- 14 demonstration?
- 15 A. They should make that on their initial
- 16 submittal justifying how many half days are required.
- 17 Q. How many half days are required?
- 18 A. Yes.
- 19 Q. So the original budget is to amend --
- 20 A. Part of the plan and budgets submittal. I
- 21 assume those would come in at the same time.
- Q. Let's move to question 70.
- 23 HEARING OFFICER TIPSORD: Before we do that,
- Ms. Manning, let's go off the record.

- 1 [Off-the-record discussion.]
- 2 HEARING OFFICER TIPSORD: Back on the record
- 3 then.
- 4 Q. (BY MS. MANNING) Going back to the question
- 5 Mr. Clay just answered. Based on the submittal, this
- 6 submittal would contain, would it not, an LPE or an
- 7 LPG certification in that it's a budget?
- 8 A. (BY MR. CLAY) Yes, that's correct.
- 9 Q. And given that certification will be
- 10 contained, what reliance does the Agency expect to
- 11 have on the certification of the engineer and or the
- 12 geologist that that amount of time is necessary to
- 13 adequately perform the job?
- 14 A. That would certainly be considered.
- 15 I might add, too, though, that that is free
- 16 product. So for the first 45 days, there will not be
- 17 a budget, and it would just be based on the work that
- 18 was done and demonstration
- 19 QUESTIONS BY MR. DOTY:
- Q. In the first 45 days, the half days would
- 21 still have to be demonstrated, even though the work
- has already been performed, right?
- 23 A. It would be demonstrated in the bill package.
- MR. DOTY: Right, thanks.

- 1 QUESTIONS BY MS. MANNING:
- 2 Q. If the Agency reviewer, who may or may not be
- an engineer or geologist, disagrees with the LPE or
- 4 LPG certification as to what was reasonable, the
- 5 Agency will reject that claim; is that correct?
- 6 A. (BY MR. CLAY) We would either reject a claim
- 7 or ask for further justification prior to taking
- 8 action, one of the two.
- 9 Q. And just so I understand the process, asking
- 10 for further justification really is a denial. How
- 11 does that work? When you ask for further
- 12 justification in terms of your reimbursement process,
- do you do that by letter?
- 14 A. I'll respond to that, and Doug Oakley will
- 15 also respond.
- 16 From a LUST section standpoint on the plan
- 17 and anything involving the budget, it could be either
- 18 through the project manager communicating with the
- 19 consultant via telephone, asking for that information,
- or it could be written through a denial. I think
- 21 that's simpler to what Mr. Oakley -- how he would
- 22 handle it.
- But, Doug, do you want to comment on that?
- 24 MR. OAKLEY: I process it very similar. For

- 1 instance, if a claim -- if we're waiting on a site
- 2 classification completion report to be submitted so we
- 3 can pay a site classification claim, it's not unusual
- 4 to call a consultant and say could you fax us a copy
- of that as soon as you receive it? -- rather than send
- 6 a final decision later denying it. We simply hold
- 7 it. We can't hold it obviously 120 days.
- 8 MR. DOTY: I have a question.
- 9 OUESTIONS BY MR. DOTY:
- 10 Q. I assume you mean the reviewer may pick up
- 11 the phone or draft a letter, whatever, to try to get
- 12 some additional information? That their means of
- 13 communication, is that kind of left up to them? Is
- 14 there a preference that you offer? That first try
- 15 this, then try this? Or is it just kind of left up to
- 16 the reviewer themselves?
- 17 A. (BY MR. CLAY) It's pretty much up to the
- 18 reviewer. But what I have said to staff in the past
- 19 is that, you know, if we can get this information via
- 20 a phone call, it's saving us a lot of time and effort.
- Q. And they recognize that?
- 22 A. And they recognize that. And I mention it
- 23 all the time. So I mean, that would certainly be our
- 24 preference.

- 1 Now, you know, if there's 30 deficiencies,
- we're probably not going to make a phone call. If
- 3 we're looking for one or two things, then my
- 4 preference would be to make that phone call.
- 5 And, you know, the other thing, it depends on
- 6 the workload of the individual. I mean, there may not
- 7 be time for that. If we're at the 30th day in the
- 8 process, then it only makes sense to make that phone
- 9 call.
- 10 OUESTIONS BY MS. MANNING:
- 11 Q. As a follow-up, we recognize, Mr. Clay, that
- there might be various different reasons why a permit
- 13 reviewer would call or might not call the particular
- 14 consultant that is requesting the claim.
- 15 My question, though, is, is there any
- 16 regulatory obligation that is present in these
- 17 proposed rules that would require the Agency to give a
- 18 heads-up, if you will, to an applicant for
- 19 reimbursement and or corrective action and or a plan
- 20 when the Agency intends a denial or intends a
- 21 modification prior to making that decision final?
- 22 A. (BY MR. CLAY) No, there is not.
- Q. Thank you. Is it the Agency's intention with
- these proposed rules, Mr. Clay, to really prescribe in

- 1 the first instance and at the front end, the amount of
- work, the number of hours that are necessary or that
- 3 the Agency determines reasonable related to the
- 4 specific tasks associated with underground storage
- 5 tank removal and abatement and remediation regardless
- of the LPE/LPG certification?
- 7 A. It's not a matter of prescribing it. It's a
- 8 matter of identifying what the Agency wants, and I
- 9 guess the State, because these are rules that we're
- 10 asking, but feel reasonable for the task to be
- 11 performed.
- 12 Q. Thank you. Let's move to Question 72. This
- 13 relates to Mr. Chappel's testimony on the
- 14 reasonableness of the \$57 per yard rate for
- 15 excavation, transportation and disposal.
- In developing this \$57 amount, what
- 17 consideration was given to owners and operators
- 18 located in remote areas of the state? And what
- 19 consideration was given to owners and operators
- 20 located in the Chicago area who have higher landfill
- 21 rates and longer truck times?
- 22 A. (BY MR. CHAPPEL) Well, I don't know.
- Q. Actually, go ahead. Go ahead.
- 24 A. The second part, I don't know if I

1 necessarily agree that Chicago has higher landfill

- 2 rates and longer trucking times due to traffic. I
- 3 have no evidence of that.
- 4 Q. Okay.
- 5 A. Remote areas of the state, the information
- 6 that we reviewed in developing all these rates, we did
- 7 not take references to where they may or may not have
- 8 been located or how far they had to go necessarily to
- 9 a landfill. The numbers that we developed were based
- 10 on our historical rates, what we were seeing in terms
- of budgets and reimbursement packages.
- 12 And when we developed our comparison table to
- 13 see if we were in the right ballpark, the numbers that
- 14 we have there we provided today. Where those are
- located in what city and what county, so.
- And we provided the map that shows where we
- 17 think the landfills are that can receive this type of
- 18 waste in the State of Illinois.
- 19 HEARING OFFICER TIPSORD: Ms. Hesse?
- QUESTIONS BY MS. HESSE:
- Q. Mr. Chappel, when you said that the number
- 22 was based on your historical information, did you have
- 23 any charts or documents to back up that historical
- 24 information? For example, can you find that on the

- 1 spreadsheet that we've marked as Exhibit 26?
- 2 A. (BY MR. CHAPPEL) The spreadsheet that I'm
- 3 looking at that I believe you referred to, Exhibit 26,
- 4 the numbers listed on there are the Agency's
- 5 acceptable reasonable amounts for those two
- 6 activities. It doesn't have anything listed, as far
- 7 as I know, as to any kind of data accumulated or
- 8 prepared from actual submittals.
- 9 O. So there is no incidents that we can track
- 10 back to, to come up with that number? Is that what
- 11 you said?
- 12 A. Correct.
- 13 Q. It's a little hard to follow this document
- 14 because of it being printed out on multiple pages.
- When did you first start using the \$55 per
- 16 cubic yard?
- 17 A. (BY MR. OAKLEY) Probably around 1995 maybe.
- 18 That was, as I testified yesterday, a benchmark. If
- 19 you could show us excavation, transportation, disposal
- 20 for 55 or less, we considered it reasonable. If it
- 21 was higher, we would ask for a detailed breakdown of
- 22 excavation costs, transportation costs and disposal
- 23 costs, all those invoices associated with all that.
- 24 If you can justify a higher rate, then we consider

- 1 it. That's been my testimony all along.
- 2 Q. Excuse me a second.
- 3 MS. MANNING: While she's thinking, I'll ask
- 4 a follow-up.
- 5 QUESTIONS BY MS. MANNING:
- 6 Q. It's your intention that this number is no
- 7 longer a benchmark? But this number is the Agency's
- 8 determination of what the maximum amount that it will
- 9 consider reasonable, unless and until the applicant
- 10 can make a showing under the extraordinary
- 11 circumstances provision; is that correct?
- 12 A. (BY MR. CLAY) That's correct.
- 13 QUESTIONS BY MS. HESSE:
- 14 Q. Okay. You had mentioned that the \$55 number
- went back to about 1995. Has the Agency collected any
- 16 additional data since then, other than what you
- 17 testified to as the one exhibit you prepared for these
- 18 hearings, as to try to document whether that was still
- 19 an accurate number?
- 20 A. (BY MR. OAKLEY) Not that I'm aware of.
- 21 Q. And that's even though that sometimes people
- 22 would come in and justify that perhaps they had a
- 23 truck longer or something, and so they had reasonably
- 24 higher costs?

1 A. That's correct. By the same token, we see it

- lower in certain cases. So, yes, that's correct.
- 3 HEARING OFFICER TIPSORD: Ms. Manning?
- 4 MS. MANNING: Number 77.
- 5 QUESTIONS BY BOARD MEMBER JOHNSON:
- 6 Q. Just to reiterate something we talked about
- 7 in Chicago.
- 8 If someone -- obviously we keep referring to
- 9 these figures as the maximum amount. And as we said
- 10 before, someone is going to have to submit a billing
- 11 statement to justify that. If they submit a billing
- 12 statement that has a figure 20 percent lower than the
- maximum amount, that's what you're going to reimburse,
- 14 correct?
- 15 A. (BY MR. CLAY) That's correct.
- 16 BOARD MEMBER JOHNSON: Okay.
- 17 QUESTIONS BY MS. MANNING:
- 18 Q. But if there's any amount above any of the
- 19 amounts the Agency is determining to be reasonable in
- 20 its proposed rules, that will be automatically
- 21 rejected unless the applicant makes a demonstration
- 22 under the extraordinary circumstances; is that
- 23 correct?
- A. (BY MR. CLAY) That would be correct.

- 1 Q. Thank you.
- Number 77. Mr. Chappel, on page 7 of your
- 3 testimony, you use a half-day rate to allow for the
- 4 project planning/oversight, travel, per diem, mileage
- 5 transportation, lodging and equipment, as well as
- 6 plans, reports, applications for payment and
- 7 documentation. And there is no provision for
- 8 additional submittals. And I would assume if there is
- 9 an additional submittal, the Agency would consider
- 10 that not reasonable because it's all part of a lump
- 11 sum.
- 12 Why was the data that you collected -- was
- 13 the data you collected based on actual consultant
- 14 information? Or was it based on certain assumptions
- of what would be reasonable? And if so, what are
- those assumptions?
- 17 A. (BY MR. CHAPPEL) The half-day rate, I'll let
- 18 Brian respond to. I don't think I testified of any
- 19 half-day rates in mine. Which part are you talking
- 20 about?
- 21 MR. CLAY: This needs to be clarified because
- there are half-day rates which would include on site,
- oversight, travel, per diem, mileage, and then you've
- 24 got plans, reports. None of that -- no plans or

- 1 reports are billed on a half-day rate.
- 2 Q. Where the Agency proposes half-day rates, on
- 3 what basis did the Agency determine that a half day
- 4 would be reasonable, a reasonable cutoff for the work
- 5 performed that is signed off by an LPE or LPG that is
- 6 determined to be reasonable?
- 7 A. (BY MR. CLAY) The half day is just a unit,
- 8 okay? And the unit, I think, was actually suggested,
- 9 as we said before, in our conversations with CECI. We
- 10 have talked about a day or an hour. I mean, that's
- 11 the unit. The rate itself, I think, we testified to
- 12 yesterday as to how that was developed.
- But is there concern that a half day is an
- inappropriate unit and should be a quarter of a day or
- 15 an hour? I mean --
- 16 Q. Well, certainly we wouldn't want it less than
- 17 a half a day. But we'll get into that with our
- 18 testimony.
- 19 I don't think we have any further questions.
- 20 Let's go to 78.
- 21 HEARING OFFICER TIPSORD: Excuse me. Just
- 22 for point of clarification.
- 23 QUESTIONS BY HEARING OFFICER TIPSORD:
- Q. We keep talking about half a day, and I think

1 you said yesterday -- how many hours is a half a day?

- 2 A. (BY MR. BAUER) Five.
- 3 HEARING OFFICER TIPSORD: Thank you.
- 4 QUESTIONS BY MR. DOTY:
- 5 Q. I have a question about the half day. It
- 6 probably doesn't happen very often, but occasionally a
- 7 day can go beyond the 10th hour. Is there going to be
- 8 a third half day or a maximum of two half days?
- 9 A. I guess it would depend on the
- 10 circumstances. They're based on other tasks.
- 11 Q. Supervising the dig and haul, that was a
- 12 half-day example, right?
- 13 A. Right.
- 14 Q. If you're trying to beat the weather, like
- for right now, or taking advantage of extended
- 16 daylight hours or whatever, if you can stretch your
- 17 project on for any reason to maintain productivity
- 18 beyond a 10th hour, can you expect to be reimbursed
- 19 for that?
- 20 A. No. If you look at the definition of half
- 21 days, it says it shall not exceed two per calendar
- 22 day.
- Q. So just go home?
- 24 A. Well, it's an extenuating circumstance. If

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1 you demonstrated -- but you wouldn't bill it as
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- 2 another half day. You would make a demonstration that
- 3 this is why it took me 12 hours.
- 4 Q. So demonstrate on the time and material basis
- 5 through the historical circumstance, not the half day
- 6 then?
- 7 A. Right.
- 8 MR. DOTY: Okay, thanks.
- 9 QUESTIONS BY HEARING OFFICER TIPSORD:
- 10 Q. Just on this half-day rate, I have another
- 11 question.
- 12 Yesterday when we were asking questions of
- 13 Mr. Bauer, he testified that he looked at the
- 14 Department of Labor's overtime regulations, and it
- 15 causes me to ask this next question.
- 16 Certainly the Agency doesn't presume that
- 17 somebody's half-day rate or somebody's half day might
- 18 be within a 9:30 to 5:00 work day. I mean, they could
- 19 be doing that in the evening, at which point in time
- the consultant may have to be paying overtime for that
- 21 expenditure. You wouldn't have any knowledge one way
- or another whether they would or wouldn't; is that
- 23 correct?
- 24 A. (BY MR. BAUER) Right.

1	HEARING	OFFICER	TIPSORD:	Thank '	you.
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## 3 QUESTIONS BY MS. MANNING:

- 4 Q. 78. According to the Agency, a proposed
- 5 alternative technology cannot exceed costs for
- 6 conventional technology or other available alternative
- 7 technologies. Mr. Chappel then explained that all
- 8 plans and budgets will be reviewed for
- 9 reasonableness.
- 10 Regarding the alternative technology -- and I
- 11 assume this will be something that the Agency already
- 12 has a sign-off on by an LPE or LPG
- 13 certification -- what criteria will be used to
- 14 determine whether the alternative technology is
- reasonable and who would make those determinations?
- 16 A. (BY MR. CHAPPEL) It will be made by the
- 17 reviewer.
- 18 Q. The project manager?
- 19 A. Based on the regulations, which state that a
- 20 conventional technology is \$77 in cubic yard cost. So
- 21 the cost of the alternative technology would be
- 22 compared to that.
- Q. So it's the Agency's intention that if
- 24 alternative technology is necessary for a particular

1 site or is justified for any reason for any technical

- 2 and engineering reason, the applicant would -- the
- 3 rate that would apply would be the conventional
- 4 technology, unless or until a demonstration was made
- 5 again under that particular provision, 730 -- what is
- 6 it?
- 7 A. (BY MR. CLAY) The regulation stated that
- 8 alternative technology -- and I'm referring to
- 9 regulations that have been in existence, I believe,
- 10 since '93. That the alternative technology cannot
- 11 exceed -- I think it's exceed or exceed 5 percent over
- 12 the conventional technology, okay? So that would be
- 13 the first cut.
- I mean, if you come in and the alternative
- 15 technology is a hundred dollars a cubic yard as far as
- the area of contamination, and that could have been
- 17 removed at \$77 a cubic yard, that would be denied,
- 18 okay?
- 19 O. A hundred dollars would be denied because the
- 20 expectation is the only reasonable cost would have
- 21 been 77?
- 22 A. No. It's because if it could have been
- 23 removed under conventional technology, why would the
- 24 Agency be expected to pay \$23 a cubic yard more for an

- 1 alternative technology?
- Now, the alternative technology, the criteria
- 3 for what's reasonable is not \$77 a cubic yard or
- 4 less. It is based on the demonstration of what the
- 5 consultant makes on time and materials. It's based as
- 6 to what is reasonable.
- 7 And in most cases, we see alternative
- 8 technologies significantly less than conventional
- 9 technologies. So it's not anything less than 77 is
- 10 going to be approved or considered reasonable. That
- 11 would not be the case.
- 12 Q. The Agency would be making a determination,
- 13 however, as to the reasonableness of the use of the
- 14 alternative technology if that use exceeds a
- 15 conventional cost; is that correct?
- 16 A. We would be making a determination whether
- there's a reasonable expectation that the technology
- 18 would be successful in remediating the contamination
- 19 to do appropriate cleanup objectives, yes.
- 20 Q. And is it correct that your project reviewer
- 21 would make that determination?
- 22 A. What we would -- the project manager/reviewer
- 23 would do the initial review. And in most cases, they
- 24 would consult with their unit manager.

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1 And we may even have a group of -- in the
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- 2 past, we had a group set up that would review these
- 3 alternative technologies. There was a group of
- 4 managers, a group of senior project managers that
- 5 would look at these from consistency reasons, and make
- 6 comments to the project manager that they could take
- 7 back and relate to the consultant. It was not just
- 8 one person in a cubicle making that determination.
- 9 They're going to see input through guidance
- 10 documents, which we talked about at the last hearing,
- 11 that PIPE had requested that the Agency put together.
- 12 They're going to consult management and other
- 13 expertise that's available to us.
- 14 MR. DOTY: May I ask a question?
- 15 QUESTIONS BY MR. DOTY:
- 16 Q. If the cost comparison of the alternative
- 17 technology to the conventional dig and haul, in a
- 18 situation where a tank owner may be considering
- 19 alternative technologies because the conventional
- 20 cannot or for whatever reason not hit the 77 -- maybe
- 21 it's too small of volume, too far to truck, whatever
- 22 the reason is -- not extenuating. Or, I guess, would
- that be an extenuating circumstance? Is the dig and
- 24 haul, the conventional technology, no longer the

option for him based on the volume or distance? Would

- 2 that be an extraordinary circumstance?
- 3 A. (BY MR. CLAY) Yes.
- 4 Q. Yes, it would be? So in that situation, is
- 5 he comparing, the owner/operator, the demonstration of
- 6 the cost of the alternative technology -- is it to be
- 7 compared to the cost of conventional technology at
- 8 that particular site, even if that turns out to be \$87
- 9 a cubic yard? What's the alternative technology cost
- 10 trying to beat? Conventional side by side? Or do
- 11 they have the \$77 cap, too?
- 12 A. What is it you're trying to compare? Are you
- 13 trying to make a demonstration that you need more
- dollars per cubic yard to haul to the landfill?
- 15 Q. If the owner is wanting to propose or is more
- 16 comfortable with an alternative technology than a
- 17 conventional technology, for whatever reason, side by
- 18 side comparison, at that particular site, is he
- 19 comparing it to the actual cost, estimated cost, to
- 20 dig and haul? Or is he comparing it to the \$77?
- 21 A. Initially it would be to the 57 and 20.
- Q. And demonstration of the extraordinary
- 23 circumstance, but doesn't want to use that particular
- 24 technology, would prefer a send-to approach, for

1 example, what is he comparing his cost analysis to?

- 2 A. I think in that case, it would be to this
- 3 extraordinary demonstration. Let me give you an
- 4 example. We used this in the past.
- If you have to excavate in downtown Chicago,
- 6 you might because of the skyscrapers and everything,
- 7 you may have to do additional shoring, take other
- 8 precautions. It may cost more than \$77 for
- 9 excavation, transportation and backfill.
- 10 Q. But some owners would prefer maybe an in situ
- 11 approach? That's not so disruptive to a business, for
- 12 example? For whatever reason, they would just prefer
- an in situ approach?
- 14 A. Right. That would have to be compared to
- 15 whatever the cost of conventional technology for that
- 16 site was determined to be, whether it be 77 or a
- 17 higher demonstration is approved.
- MR. DOTY: Okay, thanks.
- 19 MS. MANNING: We're moving to question 84.
- 20 I'm sorry. Ms. Hesse doesn't want to move on.
- MS. HESSE: I'm sorry.
- QUESTIONS BY MS. HESSE:
- Q. Before we move to 84, one of the additional
- 24 things in the proposed rules is, it appears to require

a comparison of one alternative technology to another;

- 2 is that correct?
- 3 A. (BY MR. CLAY) That's correct.
- 4 Q. And what about the alternative technologies?
- 5 Are you going to require -- first of all, does that
- 6 require triple work in developing cost estimates if
- 7 someone has to cost out the various types of
- 8 alternative technologies?
- 9 A. We're not expecting, you know, you to look at
- 10 12 alternative technologies or 6 alternative
- 11 technologies and provide cost estimates. It's more of
- 12 a cursory review.
- You know, we've got a new technology here, or
- 14 I could use injection of an oxygen release compound at
- 15 half the cost. You know, I mean, I think it's going
- to be obvious. We're not going to get down to, well,
- 17 you know, this is \$5,000 more, and therefore it's not
- 18 approvable. I mean, we understand there's
- 19 variations.
- 20 And so we're not expecting that you come in
- 21 with every time the cost of other technologies -- any
- 22 alternative technology submittal. However, the Agency
- 23 may require that if we see a technology that is
- 24 significantly higher than something similar that has

- 1 been used in the past by other consultants.
- 2 Q. What if, for example, one consulting firm has
- a technology they use, and it's a certain cost, but
- 4 it's a patented type of technology. So that if
- 5 anybody else wanted to use that technology, they would
- 6 have to obtain a license. Did you take anything like
- 7 that into consideration?
- 8 A. In terms of what?
- 9 Q. In terms of cost comparison or who would be
- 10 able to use what technology without violating a
- 11 patent, infringing on someone else's patent?
- 12 A. We didn't take that into account. I mean, if
- 13 there's a cost for getting a license for that
- 14 technology, that would be part of the cost estimate,
- 15 the overall cost as to the alternative technology.
- 16 Q. So if someone, company wide, wanted to
- 17 compare the cost of their Y alternative technology to
- 18 company Xs, and Xs had it patented, so company Y would
- include any licensing cost in the cost comparison?
- 20 A. Yeah. I think we're looking at total cost.
- 21 We would expect the total cost that you're asking for
- reimbursement to be compared.
- 23 QUESTIONS BY MR. GOODIEL:
- Q. I have a follow-up on that.

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1 If you submitted a corrective action plan
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- 2 justifying \$85 a cubic yard, you submit that plan with
- 3 all the justifications, is the Agency then going to
- 4 come back and say, no, you've got to look at
- 5 alternative remediation? And if that is the case, how
- 6 would that additional corrective action plan be paid?
- 7 A. (BY MR. CLAY) It comes in, and it's \$85 a
- 8 cubic yard, for whatever reason, for removal. And
- 9 then we approve that, and then you would move on.
- 10 Q. What's to keep you from saying 85 is too
- 11 high, even though there's justification of we want you
- 12 to look at alternative remediation? I mean that
- option is available to you? And just to -- I guess to
- 14 plan for. That is my question.
- 15 A. Well, I don't think it's an option available
- 16 to us. I mean, the consultant -- or I shouldn't say
- 17 consultant. Or the owner/operator always has the
- 18 option of doing conventional technology. So I mean,
- if there's an alternative technology half the cost,
- 20 and they want to dig it up, they can do that. And the
- 21 regulations support that.
- 22 HEARING OFFICER TIPSORD: Go ahead.
- QUESTIONS BY MR. DOTY:
- Q. I think I've come across in the past

- 1 some, "Are you sure you've considered other
- 2 alternative technologies?" Or the Agency would prefer
- 3 that you consider different technology or a different
- 4 cleanup objective. That's been a denial in the past.
- 5 And I think where I may be going with the
- 6 question is, if I get a response, an owner gets a
- 7 response like that forcing him to submit another or
- 8 even pretty much the same corrective action plan,
- 9 whether he elects to be pushed in that direction or
- 10 not, is he going to be expected to be reimbursed for
- 11 one plan?
- 12 A. (BY MR. CLAY) Well, I think part of that is
- looking at it on a case-by-case basis. There's a
- 14 difference between changing your mind and doing, for
- 15 example, a pilot study to find out this isn't going to
- 16 work. So we would expect --
- 17 Q. That's not what I'm asking.
- 18 A. Well, I know. Okay. But the situation that
- 19 I'm familiar with, and I think you're talking about,
- Duane, is you've got groundwater contamination, and
- 21 there's an ordinance. We may have said have you
- 22 considered using an ordinance? Or the contamination
- is so slightly above the tier 1 remediation objective
- and the proposal is to dig under 8,000 cubic yards.

1 And we said, well, have you considered anything else

- 2 here? I mean, it would be orders of magnitude
- 3 cheaper. I mean, I don't think we're saying you must
- 4 do this.
- 5 But you know, I think, you know, we need to
- 6 go on record by saying to the owner and operator, and
- 7 the consultant, have you even considered this? As
- 8 opposed to just blanketly approving it. So I mean, I
- 9 don't think we've required that, but my knowledge
- 10 is -- I mean, I don't think it's inappropriate for a
- 11 project manager saying have you considered this?
- 12 Q. I wasn't -- I had no particular site in
- 13 mind. I've just seen several letters over the last
- 14 several months or years, or whatever, where they have
- 15 asked to consider different objectives. I didn't have
- 16 any particular site in mind.
- 17 A. Nor did I.
- 18 Q. Well, you mentioned -- I think I know the
- ones you're talking about. I wasn't talking about any
- 20 particular site.
- 21 A. I wasn't talking about any either. I threw
- 22 out those numbers.
- Q. And I don't necessarily disagree that you
- 24 probably do want some assurances that other options

- 1 have been considered, but does it have to be a
- 2 rejection point forcing the owner/operator to submit a
- 3 second plan?
- 4 A. Well, again, in my experience -- and you
- 5 might have a specific example you're talking
- 6 about -- that was not the only rejection point, I
- 7 don't believe. Now, if that was the situation, I can
- 8 review that.
- 9 Q. And in a hypothetical situation, does it have
- 10 to be a rejection point? Can't the question just be
- 11 asked instead of the plan rejected?
- 12 A. That's what I would prefer it to be asked in
- 13 a phone conversation.
- 14 MR. DOTY: Good. I appreciate it.
- 15 QUESTIONS BY MS. MANNING:
- 16 Q. I'll ask a follow-up to a question to that as
- well.
- 18 Is it the Agency's expectation that that
- 19 review and that question of that judgment would be a
- 20 technical issue that somebody at the Agency's level
- 21 who is an engineer or a geologist is actually asking
- the question in terms of whether they've considered
- 23 something else? Or is it the Agency's expectation
- 24 that reviewers who do not have any technical expertise

- 1 should be asking that question of the permit
- 2 applicant, of the applicant?
- 3 A. (BY MR. CLAY) Well, I do think that's a
- 4 technical issue, but I think every one of our project
- 5 engineers have technical expertise. I don't think you
- 6 have to have an engineering or geology degree or be a
- 7 PE or professional geologist to have technical
- 8 expertise. I would expect that question could be
- 9 asked to any of my project managers.
- 10 Q. And you would then likewise expect that any
- of your project managers could deny it because they do
- 12 not agree with the judgment of the licensed
- 13 professional engineer or geologist who signed off on
- 14 that technology being the most adequate and most
- 15 reasonable?
- 16 A. Well, as I said, if that question comes up, I
- 17 wouldn't expect that to be the only denial point or
- 18 denial point. I would hope that there would be that
- 19 conversation with the consultant and potentially owner
- 20 and operator, you know, regarding have you considered
- 21 these other options? So I don't see that as being the
- 22 only denial point.
- In all cases, the project manager is not
- 24 signing that letter. Just the unit manager that is

1 reviewing that is signing that letter. So if they had

- 2 any questions or concerns about the denial point, they
- 3 would bring that up to the project manager.
- Q. Again, there's no requirement in these rules
- 5 for the Agency to again give a notice of potential
- 6 denial or a conversation or have any kind of
- 7 conversation between the permit manager or anybody
- 8 above them with the person requesting the decision
- 9 from the Agency; is that correct?
- 10 A. There is no requirement, no.
- MS. MANNING: Thank you. 84.
- 12 HEARING OFFICER TIPSORD: Mr. Goodiel?
- 13 QUESTIONS BY MR. GOODIEL:
- Q. If in hindsight that project manager suggests
- an alternative remediation, and the consultant and
- owner sees that, well, maybe this is more economical,
- 17 the development of that second corrective action plan,
- 18 what's the status on the reimbursement, on the
- 19 development of that?
- 20 A. (BY MR. CLAY) We would look at that on a
- 21 case-by-case basis. I can't say that in all cases it
- 22 would be, you know, reimbursed. I think we'd have to
- look at that on a case-by-case basis.
- 24 HEARING OFFICER TIPSORD: Ms. Manning?

MS. MANNING: One second.

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3	QUESTIONS BY MS. MANNING:
4	Q. Question 84. At the March 15th hearing, the
5	Agency was asked about remotely monitoring sites.
6	Does the Agency expect the owner/operator first of
7	all, does the Agency expect that they're going to be
8	monitoring sites or expect the owner/operator to pay
9	for remote station monitor sites? I mean, I guess
10	this is just some follow-up that we want in terms of
11	what your point was at that March 15th hearing about
12	the remote monitoring.
13	A. (BY MR. CLAY) If the Agency requires a
14	remote monitoring, it would be to replace frequent
15	trips to the remediation site to monitor whether the
16	treatment unit was still operating or operating
17	effectively. And it would be more the purpose of
18	saving corrective action costs. You know, if we did
19	require this monitoring, the Agency would reimburse
20	for that remote monitoring at a reasonable cost.
21	MS. MANNING: Thank you.
22	HEARING OFFICER TIPSORD: All right. With
23	that, I think the 30 minutes arrived. I want to thank

you all for keeping focussed and sticking with

1 questions. We're moving right along. Let's take an

- 2 hour lunch break. We'll come back at 12:30. And
- 3 hopefully we'll have some more details on the
- 4 hearing. Thank you.
- 5 [Lunch break.]
- 6 HEARING OFFICER TIPSORD: We're back on the
- 7 record. And we'll go zipping right along.
- 8 QUESTIONS BY MS. MANNING:
- 9 Q. Number 86. If I'm skipping any of these, I'm
- 10 doing it intentionally.
- 11 HEARING OFFICER TIPSORD: Okay.
- Q. 86, this is a short question.
- On page 23 of the hearing transcript,
- 14 Mr. Oakley referred to discussing and consulting with
- owners and operators. Did you really mean that you
- 16 talked to specific owners and operators in development
- of these rules? And if so, which ones?
- 18 A. (BY MR. OAKLEY) During the course of my
- 19 everyday activity, I speak with lots of consultants
- 20 and owners/operators. It's just a general part of my
- 21 duties. I have probably spoken to most people in this
- 22 room at one point or another. I don't keep specific
- 23 phone logs. So the answer to the question is, I can't
- 24 specify which owner/operator.

1 Q. Thank you. I'm informed that we want to go

- 2 back to 85, too. So I'll take you back.
- 3 The Agency stated on the record, I believe,
- 4 at the last hearing, that no permits were allowed
- 5 primarily because of the incident with the escalated
- 6 NPDES permit rates. Has the Agency considered
- 7 allowing an exception for LUST sites with the Bureau
- 8 of Water? And what is the Agency's position with
- 9 permits of vis-a-vis the underground storage tank
- 10 sites?
- 11 A. (BY MR. CLAY) I'll answer the first part of
- 12 that, and Gary can answer the second part.
- 13 The first part is, it's not a matter of
- 14 having an agreement with the Bureau of Water. I mean,
- that would be a statutory change. So we couldn't just
- 16 have an agreement with them to implement that.
- 17 Q. Thank you.
- 18 MR. KING: I mean, the way you phrased the
- 19 question, are you talking about why has the Agency
- 20 seen fit to disadvantage owners and operators? Is
- 21 that it?
- MS. MANNING: I'm going to defer to Joe
- 23 Kelly.
- Joe, would you like to ask this question?

- 1 QUESTIONS BY MR. KELLY:
- Q. Well, the reason it is phrased that way is,
- 3 it is my understanding from the hearing we had in
- 4 Chicago was that the NPDES permit increase kind of
- 5 prompted this. And therefore as a result of that, the
- 6 Agency basically just said, well, from now on, there
- 7 won't be any permits granted.
- 8 Well, there's a number of permits that have
- 9 to be sought in the course of site investigation or
- 10 corrective action. So to say that, well, from now on
- 11 we're not going to have removal permits, we're not
- 12 going to do IDOT overload permits or other permits
- 13 that have been reimbursed in the past, all of a sudden
- 14 those are deemed as unreasonable, only because of this
- one instance with the NPDES permit.
- 16 HEARING OFFICER TIPSORD: A point of
- 17 clarification. I believe what you're talking is not
- 18 that they won't allow permits, that they won't allow
- 19 reimbursement for the permits.
- 20 MR. KELLY: Correct.
- 21 HEARING OFFICER TIPSORD: Thank you.
- 22 MR. KING: Well, as we -- I think perhaps the
- 23 discussion relative to the fees put in place for the
- 24 NPDES permits really allows us to think further about

1 whether, in essence, the UST fund was supplementing a

- 2 number of other Agency and non-Agency activities
- 3 through permit fees. And the more we thought about
- 4 it, we really didn't think that that was appropriate
- 5 for the UST fund to be supporting those other
- 6 programs.
- 7 Q. (BY MR. KELLY) But wasn't that an act of the
- 8 governor? I mean, if I'm the owner/operator, it's not
- 9 my fault that all of a sudden they decided to go from
- 10 zero dollars for an NPDES permit when we
- 11 had -- there's owner/operators who have gotten bills
- for \$10,000 that didn't cost them anything.
- I agree with transferring more money from one
- 14 department to the other. But if I'm the
- owner/operator, and all of a sudden I'm faced with a
- 16 \$10,000 NPDES permit bill -- and I agree. I can see
- 17 the logic of why should I transfer state money from
- 18 the LUST fund over here to the Bureau of Water? How
- is that my fault as the owner/operator?
- 20 A. (BY MR. KING) Is that a rhetorical question?
- 21 Q. Yes.
- 22 A. Well, I guess it's a statement.
- 23 BOARD MEMBER GIRARD: Can I ask him a
- 24 follow-up question?

- 1 QUESTIONS BY BOARD MEMBER GIRARD:
- 2 Q. Do you think there's a statutory problem with
- 3 paying for these permits out of the UST fund?
- 4 A. (BY MR. KING) I don't think it's a statutory
- 5 problem. As we've seen the situation develop over the
- 6 last year with regards to the various funds that are
- 7 in place and functions that the Agency and other
- 8 agencies have, it just didn't seem to us to be logical
- 9 for the UST fund to be supporting those programs
- 10 through payment of reimbursement fees.
- I mean, we had an example. To give you an
- 12 example, what we had happen this year is there was a
- 13 transfer of money, a conscious transfer of money out
- of the UST fund to the Agency's Bureau of Air program,
- okay? That was 30 million dollars that was
- 16 transferred. But at the same time, the Agency was
- given authority to reimburse owners and operators
- 18 30 million dollars out of the antipollution bond
- 19 fund.
- 20 I think if there's going to be a decision to
- 21 use the UST fund to buttress other programs, I think
- 22 it needs to be a conscious decision made by those who
- 23 are responsible for determining how programs within
- 24 the state are funded, rather than just kind of the

1 Agency making a de facto funding of other programs

- 2 through the reimbursement of calling other fees
- 3 reimbursable.
- 4 The other factor was just -- was the lack of
- 5 control on some of these things. What if, for
- 6 instance, some local government decides to impose a
- 7 very, very substantial fee relative to tank sites? I
- 8 mean, is it then going to be the state UST fund now
- 9 supporting the local government's efforts because they
- 10 see that as an opportunity to get money from the
- 11 state? I mean, it just seemed to us the more we
- 12 thought about it, that having a de facto support of
- 13 other programs and other funds from the UST fund just
- 14 didn't seem to be appropriate.
- 15 Q. But the bottom line is, you cannot carry on
- these activities without a permit, can you?
- 17 A. Right. That would be the responsibility of
- 18 the owner/operator to pay those fees to get the
- 19 permits.
- Q. But won't that then skew the, you know, the
- 21 types of treatment they will be looking at if --
- 22 A. Well, it could make a difference.
- 23 And, for instance, one of the things that we
- 24 had discussed relative to the NPDES fee on long-term

1 pump and treatment systems, we have been concerned

- over a number of years, because we've had pump and
- 3 treat systems that have been in place, for sometimes a
- 4 decade, that have not finished the job. And, you
- 5 know, we continue to reimburse those and reimburse
- 6 those.
- 7 And if all of a sudden now an owner/operator
- 8 is going to be responsible for paying an NPDES fee
- 9 relative to that system, they may actively decide to
- 10 choose a different mediation and finish up the
- 11 project. So it could have some impact on the nature
- of the technology chosen, but I don't know that that's
- 13 necessarily wrong or bad public policy.
- 14 Q. When the plan was approved for a treatment
- 15 system like the example you used, you would have had
- those costs in that plan on a per year basis?
- 17 A. Not necessarily, because we're talking about
- 18 projects that -- we have projects that are still
- ongoing that were put in place in the early '90s
- 20 before we even had a budget review system, and there
- 21 was no NPDES fee at that time.
- BOARD MEMBER GIRARD: Thank you.
- QUESTIONS BY MS. MANNING:
- Q. As a follow-up to that.

1 And leaving aside NPDES permit fees, because

- 2 historically nobody paid an NPDES permit fee. It's
- 3 correct, is it not, that the Agency historically,
- 4 pursuant to the UST fund, has paid OSFM removal fees,
- 5 IDOT oversize load permit fees and various land bureau
- 6 permit fees, and in these proposed rules is asking the
- 7 Board to discontinue that practice?
- 8 A. (BY MR. KING) Yes, we have paid those. And,
- 9 yes, we are asking the Board to adopt a different
- 10 regulation from the way we have operated.
- 11 MS. MANNING: Thank you.
- 12 HEARING OFFICER TIPSORD: Ms. Hesse?
- 13 QUESTIONS BY MS. HESSE:
- Q. Just as an additional follow-up.
- 15 Now, to do this work if a permit is required,
- 16 for example, an air permit, that would also be part of
- 17 the overall plan for doing remediation, right?
- 18 A. (BY MR. KING) A permit is required based on
- 19 the technology that's being used, yes.
- 20 Q. And so that they would have to obtain a
- 21 permit, right?
- 22 A. Yes.
- Q. And under the Act, isn't the Agency required
- 24 to reimburse reasonable costs?

- 1 A. That's true, yes.
- 2 Q. And if getting a fee of complying with what's
- 3 required under the Act to do the work, isn't that
- 4 something the Agency would consider reasonable?
- 5 A. We have considered that to be a reasonable
- 6 cost in the past. We are proposing that we're
- 7 adopting a rule that says that's no longer an eligible
- 8 cost. I mean, we have various categories of items
- 9 within the rules that the Agency had paid on over the
- 10 years.
- 11 And we came to the Board and requested that
- 12 the Board adopt a different rule from the way things
- 13 have been administered. So the decision on matters of
- 14 public policy and in this kind of issue as to what is
- 15 a reasonable cost and what is an eligible cost,
- 16 ultimately lies with the Board in their rule-making
- 17 function.
- MS. HESSE: Okay.
- 19 HEARING OFFICER TIPSORD: Ms. Manning?
- MS. MANNING: Thank you.
- 21 QUESTIONS BY MS. MANNING:
- Q. Just to follow-up, too. On the Clean Air Act
- 23 transfer of 30 million dollars, Gary, Mr. King, that
- 24 money is available to be used for the UST fund and has

1 been used, however, through the bonding authority; is

- 2 that correct?
- 3 A. (BY MR. KING) Yes.
- 4 Q. Okay. So an additional bond was sought for
- 5 that 30 million dollars?
- 6 A. I don't know the mechanics of -- I don't know
- 7 the mechanics of when bonds were issued and what
- 8 exactly was done. However, it's very clear in looking
- 9 at the comptroller site, you know, we paid out
- 10 \$29,997,634, or whatever it is, from the antipollution
- 11 bond fund to go to for reimbursement of underground
- 12 storage tank sites.
- Q. But you don't have an end date? Do you know
- 14 whether that ends at the same time? I think you
- 15 testified that the bonding authority ends in 2013 or
- 16 2014?
- 17 A. That's a different issue. The money, it's
- 18 money coming out of the UST fund on a monthly basis to
- 19 pay debt service on bonds that were issued back in the
- 20 early '90s. The 30 million dollars that we were
- 21 provided in bond -- from bonds this time, there was no
- 22 additional debt service on that.
- QUESTIONS BY BOARD MEMBER RAO:
- Q. I have a follow-up.

1 Mr. King, you mentioned that in the past, the

- 2 Agency was reimbursing for these permit fees or any
- 3 associated fees. Do you have any information as to
- 4 what percentage of the overall, you know,
- 5 reimbursement that, you know, the permit fees and such
- 6 were considered on an annual basis?
- 7 A. (BY MR. CLAY) The air fees, I think, were a
- few hundred dollars. I'm not real sure, but I mean,
- 9 probably some of the consultants could speak to that
- 10 better.
- 11 And you said reimburse all fees. We've never
- 12 reimbursed all fees, because there's examples where
- 13 someone has come to us and said this off-site person,
- 14 you know, wants a fee for off-site access, and we said
- that's not a reimbursable cost.
- And, again, it goes to where is the limit?
- 17 How do you limit that? You know, if the person says
- 18 they want a million dollars to come on site, is that
- 19 something that's going to be expected to be
- 20 reimbursed?
- 21 QUESTIONS BY BOARD MEMBER JOHNSON:
- Q. Is your proposal then to disallow these
- 23 permit fees that you previously allowed, is that based
- 24 upon a policy decision in order to make that

- 1 consistent because of the NPDES?
- 2 A. (BY MR. KING) I think that's true. I don't
- 3 know exactly what's up with the NPDES issue relative
- 4 to the legislation. But we just thought from -- as we
- 5 thought about it in the public policy issue, we were
- 6 led into that thought process by the NPDES issue, but
- 7 I don't think it's dependent upon that issue.
- 8 MR. CLAY: And I might add, in the past,
- 9 there were a few fees, and now there's soon to be more
- 10 fees, and was a extremely small percentage, probably
- 11 less than a percent.
- 12 And now, you know, if you're talking about
- 13 these 10-year pump and treat systems, you're talking a
- 14 hundred thousand dollars, which has now become a
- 15 significant portion, you know, of the cost. And that
- 16 needs to be taken into consideration and taken into
- 17 consideration when the owner chooses that remediation
- if they're going to be asked to pay that fee.
- 19 MR. RAO: Thank you.
- QUESTIONS BY MR. DOTY:
- 21 Q. I have a couple questions.
- 22 I understand the concern with the NPDES fee.
- 23 They went from next to nothing or nothing to a whole
- lot of money. And did you not consider that as just

- 1 the cost of remediation compared to other
- 2 alternatives? I mean, can that kind of take care of
- 3 itself that way, now that particular methodology has
- 4 become \$10,000 a year more expensive compared to a
- 5 different technology? I mean, you can address that
- 6 situation.
- 7 But I think I'm probably a little bit more
- 8 concerned with the owner/operator doesn't always have
- 9 a choice when addressing leaving an underground
- 10 storage tank system to avoid a permit situation,
- 11 whether they're removing, abandoning --
- 12 HEARING OFFICER TIPSORD: Could you get to
- 13 your question please?
- 14 Q. Yeah. I mean, that was taken into
- 15 consideration in this decision-making process that
- some of these permits are not exactly avoidable?
- 17 A. (BY MR. KING) I really don't have anything
- 18 further to add in response to that, to what I said
- 19 before.
- 20 MR. DOTY: Okay. That was it.
- 21 HEARING OFFICER TIPSORD: Ms. Manning?
- 22 QUESTIONS BY MS. MANNING:
- Q. Number 87. Mr. Bauer, you
- 24 testified -- and it's found on page 26 of your hearing

1 transcript. When you were discussing, I believe,

- 2 appendix E, that the reimbursed personnel rate was
- 3 based on the task performed, not necessarily the title
- 4 of the person performing the tasks. Since tasks are
- 5 delineated in the table, how do you expect that the
- 6 owner/operator will be able to know what's allowed?
- 7 What particular title the Agency determines is
- 8 reasonable to be doing what specific task?
- 9 A. (BY MR. BAUER) We did provide a document
- 10 called personnel title descriptions and duties
- 11 summary, and that was located on page 34 of the draft
- 12 budget billing forms. That was submitted in the first
- 13 hearing as an exhibit, I believe.
- 14 HEARING OFFICER TIPSORD: I'm sorry. We're
- 15 losing you. Could you speak up?
- MR. BAUER: It was part of the draft budget
- 17 billing forms that was submitted at the first hearing
- 18 as an exhibit. I don't know which number.
- 19 MS. MANNING: I don't believe it's been put
- into evidence.
- 21 MR. BAUER: Oh, maybe it hasn't then.
- 22 MR. ROMINGER: I believe we did at the first
- 23 hearing.
- 24 HEARING OFFICER TIPSORD: As an exhibit?

1 MR. ROMINGER: Yes. If not, we can do a new

- 2 one.
- 3 HEARING OFFICER TIPSORD: Let me check the
- 4 list. I seem to have misplaced the exhibit that had
- 5 the first 15 exhibits on it. We'll check. If not, we
- 6 can get that at the next hearing.
- 7 MS. MANNING: We'll move on to another
- 8 thing. 91.
- 9 Of course, if anybody else feels free to
- 10 answer any of these questions, if you're dying to hear
- 11 the answers of them, feel free to go ahead and do it
- 12 yourself.
- 13 QUESTIONS BY MS. MANNING.
- Q. 91. A LUST site has been classified as a
- 15 high priority site. However, additional plume
- 16 identification work is required to define the degree
- 17 and extent of the contamination before a corrective
- 18 action plan can be developed.
- These are a series of questions, by the way,
- that we would refer to as "real world" examples
- 21 similar to those that were talked about yesterday by
- 22 Jay Cook.
- 23 Part A. Will the work be required -- will
- 24 the work required to develop the plume identification

- 1 corrective action plan be reimbursed?
- 2 Part B. How will the drilling of boreholes
- and installation of monitoring wells be reimbursed?
- 4 And part C. After completion of the plume
- 5 identification work, how will development of the
- 6 remediation CAP be reimbursed?
- 7 And part D. Does the Agency expect that the
- 8 plume identification corrective action plan will be a
- 9 non-reversible expense for the owner/operator or that
- 10 the remediation corrective action plan will be a
- 11 nonreimbursable expense for the owner and operator?
- 12 A. (BY MR. BAUER) For 91, a), sites classified
- 13 pursuant to method one or two would require additional
- 14 work to define the extent of contamination, and these
- 15 costs will be considered reimbursable.
- 16 Q. What additional work? So if the licensed
- 17 professional engineer, licensed professional geologist
- 18 determines that a certain amount of work is necessary
- in order to meet, a), the Agency will consider that
- 20 reasonable in terms of time and material?
- 21 A. (BY MR. CLAY) What we would do is look at
- 22 how it compares to the stage one and stage two and
- 23 stage three. For example, if the work required after
- 24 the site classification was just off-site delineation,

1 then we would compare that to stage three. If it was

- on site and off site, then it would be, you know,
- 3 conceivably stage one, stage two and stage three. So
- 4 it depends on where it fits in. If it was
- 5 classification under method, 732.312 should have
- 6 defined the full extent as part of the classification.
- 7 MR. WIENHOFF: Jeff Wienhoff for CW3M.
- 8 QUESTIONS BY MR. WIENHOFF:
- 9 Q. If I understand, that's the intent, but could
- 10 you cite where the half day for the drilling and those
- 11 kind of numbers are actually in 732?
- 12 HEARING OFFICER TIPSORD: Could you repeat
- 13 your name?
- MR. WIENHOFF: Jeff Wienhoff, CW3M Company.
- MR. CLAY: All of the half-day rates and all
- of that is in Subpart H.
- 17 Q. (BY MR. WIENHOFF) Right. I understand
- 18 that. But I don't believe that the half days for the
- 19 drilling is anywhere in 732 Subpart H. I may be
- incorrect, but it's only 734 Subpart H.
- 21 A. (BY MR. BAUER) The way we have always did
- that would be a site-specific review.
- 23 QUESTIONS BY MS. MANNING:
- Q. Mr. Bauer, what is a site-specific review?

1 Would you explain this and go through that for us?

- A. (By Mr. Bauer) What we're considering a
- 3 site-specific review, I guess, would be where it --
- 4 MR. CHAPPEL: A site-specific review is very
- 5 similar to the question under 91. It applies to one
- 6 site has one question and has one answer. It can't be
- 7 applied to the other 10,000 LUST sites. Let me finish
- 8 my answer.
- 9 Q. Mr. Chappel --
- 10 A. It's one site, one question and one answer.
- 11 It cannot be applied to the other 10,000 sites in the
- 12 state.
- 13 Q. You'll have to excuse me. I don't understand
- 14 how that applies from a procedure and process point of
- 15 view, and the Board is here to develop rules asked for
- 16 by the Agency.
- 17 And I think that all we're doing is asking to
- 18 have an answer in terms of when the Agency does a
- 19 site-specific review, what's the expectation on the
- 20 part of the Agency vis-a-vis the consultant filing
- 21 either the corrective action plan or the budget report
- 22 in terms of designated as something site specific that
- 23 gets it into a different process than just an
- 24 automatic denial because it doesn't fit the program.

1 A. (BY MR. CLAY) I think what we're looking at

- 2 right now, I think what the idea was, depending on
- 3 where you are at in the classification process, you
- 4 would opt into or you would follow 734 to complete
- 5 that site classification.
- 6 And, again, it would be where are you in the
- 7 process? I mean, you may have already done some site
- 8 investigation beyond classification when these rules
- 9 become effective, but you may not have fully did it.
- 10 So we would look at where you are in the process and
- 11 what plans, reports would apply.
- 12 And the half day, I mean the half day, I
- think, you know, for borings in a half day is going to
- 14 apply. I don't think -- you know, unless you can
- 15 justify it otherwise, that two borings is all I can do
- in a half a day in the classification, but in site
- 17 investigation, I can do four. I mean, unless you can
- 18 justify that, you know, it would apply to the four,
- 19 the half-day rating.
- 20 QUESTIONS BY MR. WIENHOFF:
- Q. I understand what you're saying, but for
- 22 simplification, wouldn't be easier if you just simply
- inserted that paragraph into 732? So instead of just
- 24 assuming that that's what's going to happen? Couldn't

1 you just have added those Subpart H paragraphs into

- 2 732?
- 3 A. (BY MR. CLAY) We will take that under
- 4 advisement and consider recommending to the Board that
- 5 they add the half-day rate to 732.
- 6 MR. WIENHOFF: Thank you.
- 7 BOARD MEMBER JOHNSON: Consider what, Doug?
- 8 I'm sorry.
- 9 MR. CLAY: Recommending to the Board that
- 10 they add the half-day rate to 732 Subpart H.
- 11 HEARING OFFICER TIPSORD: Go ahead.
- 12 QUESTIONS BY MR. KELLY:
- 13 Q. I have one follow-up question with regards to
- 14 that.
- 15 732, under these regulations of 732
- 16 corrective action plan and 734 equivalent action plan
- would be reimbursed the same amount for conventional
- 18 technology, correct?
- 19 A. (BY MR. CLAY) That's correct.
- Q. However, if you're doing all this drilling
- 21 and plume remediation, which needs to be included in
- the 732 CAP, but not in the 734 CAP, wouldn't the cost
- 23 be higher to prepare that 732 CAP because you have to
- 24 report all this half day of drilling and stuff that

1 you're doing in order to prepare your 732 CAP?

- 2 MR. CLAY: Brian?
- 3 MR. BAUER: The half days are not part of
- 4 that.
- 5 Q. No, no. I understand that.
- 6 But there's \$5,120 for a CAP in both sites in
- 7 734. You've got \$9,600 and defined your plume for all
- 8 your reporting for however many, 20 wells. But in
- 9 732, if you do site in stage one, you've done four
- 10 wells, and then you have to go back and do the other
- 11 16, and also report that as part of your CAP.
- So that \$9,600 of reporting, or say, stage
- one of the \$4,800 of reporting that you get in 734 is
- 14 not allowed for that plume delineation in 732, because
- 15 it has to be reported there. But yet the cost of the
- 16 CAP are the same.
- 17 A. (BY MR. CLAY) I guess I'm not understanding
- 18 the question. I think the plume delineation is once
- 19 you -- aside from method one and method two, the plume
- delineation in 732 and 734 is exactly the same.
- 21 Q. Right. However, you have to -- in a CAP in
- 22 734, you don't have to report that plume delineation,
- and a CAP in 732, you do have to issue the report, the
- 24 analytical and the boring logs and all those things in

the 732 CAP, high priority CAP, that you don't have to

- 2 report in your 734 high priority CAP because you
- 3 already submitted it.
- 4 A. I mean, we would consider if you're
- 5 doing -- I mean, I've done method one and method two.
- 6 So you've still got to do your high priority CAP to
- 7 define the extent. That's where we would be looking
- 8 at how this fits into a stage one, stage two and stage
- 9 three report preparation.
- 10 So I mean, we would reimburse those costs in
- 11 accordance with those plans. So we just need to see
- 12 where it fits in. That's where -- you know, we can't
- 13 very well say, you know, you'll get stage one, stage
- 14 two, stage three if what all you need to do is what's
- 15 equivalent to stage three.
- Q. But there is nowhere in 7 -- is there
- anywhere in 732 which provides for that payment?
- 18 A. I thought there was, but we will review that.
- MR. KELLY: Thank you.
- QUESTIONS BY MR. DOTY:
- Q. I think that's pretty much where I was
- 22 going.
- The reimbursement as far as allowable costs,
- the reporting of, do you need to pick up a stage two,

1 the reimbursement process, and the ceiling, the cost

- 2 containment of ceilings would also apply? So would
- 3 the 732 be eligible for reimbursement after approval
- 4 of the stage three CAP, similar to what you're
- 5 proposing?
- 6 A. I mean, I think we intended that to be paid
- 7 consistent with 734. So we'll review that. I mean,
- 8 if it's not clear or we think we need to make changes,
- 9 that's fine. Or at least we'll identify how we see
- 10 that working based on current wording.
- 11 Q. It's just a substitution for what's commonly
- 12 called like a pre CAP is what I've seen referred to
- 13 it. It's called a different report, but parallels the
- 14 stage one, two and three process?
- 15 A. Right, right.
- MR. DOTY: Thanks.
- 17 HEARING OFFICER TIPSORD: Ms. Manning?
- 18 OUESTIONS BY MS. MANNING:
- 19 Q. 92. A LUST site is very small and requires
- 20 only one round of drilling on site. Stage 1 site
- 21 investigation as defined in sections 734.315, stage 1
- 22 investigation. The stage 2 site investigation is not
- 23 needed because the stage 1 investigation extended to
- the property boundaries. The state 3 investigation

1 involves up to three rounds of drilling with off-site

- 2 access required for two highway authorities and four
- 3 different off-site property owners. Two of the
- 4 off-site properties are owned by corporations with
- 5 several tiers of management and multiple application
- 6 forms necessary to authorize access. The cost to
- 7 identify and secure the multiple off-site access
- 8 agreements exceed the maximum payment amount as
- 9 provided in Subpart H, Section 734.845, professional
- 10 consulting services. The owner/operator is notified
- and billed for the work necessary to advance the stage
- 12 3 investigation.
- 13 Part A. Will the work required to obtain the
- 14 multiple off-site access agreements be reimbursed?
- 15 And Part B. Does the Agency expect that the
- site-specific cost to obtain multiple off-site access
- 17 agreements will be a nonreimbursable expense for the
- 18 owner/operator based upon the maximum payment amounts?
- 19 A. (BY MR. CLAY) If it's determined reasonable
- 20 based on the consultant's demonstration, and in our
- view, then it would be reimbursable.
- But I mean, you know, that's where you need
- 23 to -- the consultant needs to justify, you know, that
- 24 time to get any off-site access. I mean, there is a

- limit. We've had companies work on off-site access
- 2 for several years. They're doing that for liability
- 3 purposes, but I don't think that we would consider
- 4 that reasonable for reimbursement.
- 5 Q. And how is that justification made? Largely
- 6 on paper?
- 7 A. Yes. I mean, I would expect that I call this
- 8 person, I call these people asking for off-site access
- 9 or send them a letter. This is how much time it took
- 10 for each one, and you know, we met with these people,
- or I met with their attorneys, and this is how much
- 12 time it took. I mean, I would expect, you know, that
- 13 kind of documentation.
- Q. And if the reviewer who is reviewing it and
- 15 reading that piece of paper decides that in that
- person's opinion, that's not a reasonable expenditure,
- it will be denied? And the course of action would
- 18 either be an appeal to the Board or give up on that
- 19 expenditure; is that correct?
- 20 A. I think if there's any budget issues that
- 21 fall under this extraordinary -- or don't fall under
- 22 the Subpart H lump sum ratings, it would go to this
- 23 rule, what we talked about yesterday. So it would not
- 24 be that one person making that decision. It would be

- 1 a group of Agency managers making that decision.
- 2 HEARING OFFICER TIPSORD: Ms. Hesse?
- 3 QUESTIONS BY MS. HESSE:
- 4 Q. You had mentioned this group. Is that the
- 5 PHE group?
- 6 A. (BY MR. CLAY) This is a new group.
- 7 Q. Is it going to have a function similar to the
- 8 existing BAG?
- 9 A. It would be similar. It would be looking at
- 10 anything that falls outside of the realm of Subpart H.
- 11 Q. In your experience, how often has BAG
- 12 overridden a project manager's recommendation and
- 13 allowed for higher reimbursement than the project
- manager is going to allow?
- 15 A. I wouldn't have that information.
- 16 Q. Has it happened ever?
- 17 A. It has happened, but I couldn't tell you how
- 18 many times.
- 19 Q. Once, twice?
- 20 A. I don't know. I really don't.
- Q. Do you keep records of that?
- 22 A. Records of -- I don't think so. I don't
- 23 think we have records of the project manager
- 24 recommendations, I don't believe.

- 1 QUESTIONS BY MS. MANNING:
- Q. Mr. Clay, on this management group, will you
- 3 be proposing or will the Agency be putting a manager
- 4 group into place formally, procedurally through, for
- 5 example, an EPS rule making?
- 6 A. No.
- 7 Q. So you could have it today and not have it
- 8 tomorrow if the Agency found that it wasn't serving
- 9 its purpose; is that correct?
- 10 A. That's correct.
- MS. MANNING: Okay.
- 12 QUESTIONS BY BOARD MEMBER JOHNSON:
- Q. And it's specifically a group that you intend
- 14 to put together to review these, what, 855 situations?
- 15 A. (BY MR. CLAY) Yes, that's correct. And the
- 16 reason for that would be for consistency of our
- 17 conversations with regard to 855.
- 18 Q. You're going to be busy.
- 19 QUESTIONS BY MS. MANNING:
- 20 Q. And just to follow up with that as well.
- 21 Since there's no formal opportunity for the
- owner/operator to factor in, other than the papers
- 23 that are presented to the Agency, I assume this review
- 24 would be an internal management discussion of what's

- 1 on paper?
- 2 A. (BY MR. CLAY) That's true.
- 3 MS. MANNING: Thank you.
- 4 MR. ALBARRACIN: I would like to correct
- 5 that. The BAG group no longer exists. I just wanted
- 6 to say that.
- 7 Q. (BY MS. MANNING) What's the distinction
- 8 between the BAG group and this new group that's going
- 9 to be formed?
- 10 A. (BY MR. ALBARRACIN) The BAG group reviewed
- 11 all budget decisions that came before it, only budget
- 12 decisions.
- 13 MR. CLAY: There's not that much distinction
- 14 between it. It was a group that we used prior to not
- using the rates. It's been disbanded. I don't know
- 16 what we call this new group.
- 17 Q. BAG. I'm just kidding.
- 18 A. (BY MR. CLAY) Let me add one more thing,
- 19 though.
- 20 That, you know, you talked about these
- 21 decisions being made in writing. I don't think that's
- 22 inconsistent with any decision that the Agency may
- 23 make, or for that matter, a lot of other agencies
- 24 make. I mean, they make it based on the written

- 1 documentation they give.
- We have meetings, you know, usually upon the
- 3 consultant's request, face-to-face meetings on issues
- 4 just like every other group in the Agency. Some
- 5 groups do have draft permits, but I think they take
- 6 response to those in writing. I don't think it's a
- 7 group that sits down to make that decision. I think
- 8 it may be a draft permit, but they don't have the
- 9 volume by any means that the LUST section has.
- 10 So, yes, it's generally expecting that an
- 11 argument or an argument to defend an application or a
- 12 request for plan approval or corrective action
- 13 approval or a NFR letter is documented in writing and
- 14 presented in writing.
- 15 Q. You're aware, though, are you not, Mr. Clay,
- that there's Board case law dealing with a permit
- 17 review process that before any permit denial is
- 18 formalized by the Agency, there's an expectation that
- 19 the permit applicant will be given what's referred to
- 20 as a wells (phonetic) letter, which is a notification
- of the expected denial, and opportunity to present
- 22 information in order to get that permit heard that
- would be then part of the permit record?
- A. (BY MR. CLAY) I am aware of that. And I

1 believe that that document, that presentation would be

- 2 expected to be made in writing.
- And, again, the permit, those permits are
- 4 usually pretty significant permits, you know, volume
- wise or size wise, but they don't have the number of
- 6 sites, the volume that we have. And so I'm not sure.
- 7 I don't think that is an option for us to issue a
- 8 draft every time we're getting ready to make a
- 9 decision.
- 10 Q. Some of these reimbursement sites, though,
- 11 are upwards of the request -- for the whole site is
- 12 upwards of \$300,000? Is that not --
- 13 A. In upwards of a million dollars.
- 14 Q. Yes.
- 15 A. That's correct.
- 16 Q. And there are permit decisions that the
- 17 Agency makes that are much lesser in terms of the
- 18 cost?
- 19 A. I don't think permits require any cost
- analysis.
- MS. MANNING: Thank you.
- 22 MR. KING: I'm getting a little confused
- 23 here. I mean, the permit programs, I mean, that I'm
- thinking about, they have to do a public action with

1 regards to whether they're going to approve or deny a

- 2 permit. I mean, are you suggesting that we somehow
- 3 have a process that we ahead of time are notifying
- 4 everybody of every decision we make in a public form?
- 5 Q. (BY MS. MANNING) Well, let me suggest to you
- 6 that my question is geared actually toward the idea
- 7 that an Agency decision at any point in the process in
- 8 the underground storage tank program is considered a
- 9 permit decision and the permit appeal is attached to
- 10 go to the Board, and it's treated as a permit
- 11 decision, and that's how your process treats it.
- 12 That's how the Board process treats it. And that's
- 13 the focus of my question.
- 14 A. (BY MR. KING) Well, I think if you want to
- propose a procedure that's similar to what the
- 16 permitting process is in terms of providing public
- 17 notice relative to the actions being taken, you know,
- 18 I think you certainly in your testimony can present
- 19 that, but I think you need to think very carefully
- 20 what the consequences of what that would be in terms
- 21 of the overall delay on our action to be able to take
- 22 action on sites.
- You know, as Doug was saying, we take
- 24 literally thousands of actions yearly. And if you're

1 going to include additional process, required process

- on top of that, that significantly delays those
- 3 activities. I mean, that would be something, you
- 4 know, obviously if the Board would adopt that kind of
- 5 approach, we would follow it, but it would certainly
- 6 slow things down considerably.
- 7 MR. ALBARRACIN: I would just say on a
- 8 monthly basis easily, we are sending out 320 to 350
- 9 decisions easily. I would say that's an average,
- 10 since we seem to be talking about averages a lot. But
- 11 easily we send 320 to 350 a month.
- 12 Q. And how long would you estimate that the
- 13 Agency would be sending that many letters out?
- 14 A. (BY MR. ALBARRACIN) The LUST section?
- 15 Q. Yes.
- 16 A. I will speak personally. I've been with the
- 17 LUST section since '96. So that's eight years.
- 18 Probably during that time period, it's been going on
- 19 at that rate.
- 20 Q. Now, you all would admit, would you not,
- 21 that -- and I'm not going to testify here. But at the
- 22 risk of testifying, correct me if I'm wrong, but the
- 23 Board's case load, and one could -- I'm sure that you
- 24 all are aware of it and certainly by going on the

1 Board's Web site, you can be aware of it. That in the

- 2 last two years, the Board's appeal rate on underground
- 3 storage tank cases, reimbursement cases, in
- 4 particular, has risen substantially.
- If you take those eight years, and say,
- 6 you've been sending that many letters out that year
- 7 for every month for the last eight years -- for the
- 8 last two years there's been a huge expansion of the
- 9 number of cases being appealed to the Board -- to what
- 10 factors would the Agency attribute that expansion? We
- 11 obviously will testify on our side. But I would like
- 12 to hear from the Agency as to why they think there's
- so many appeals to the Board on these reimbursement
- 14 questions.
- 15 A. (BY MR. KING) I mean, partly you have to
- 16 look at -- if you look at the number of companies that
- 17 are filing appeals, half of the appeals come from two
- 18 firms. One half of the appeals pending before the
- 19 Board come from two firms. Let me --
- Q. One of those firms that --
- 21 HEARING OFFICER TIPSORD: Let him finish.
- MR. KING: If you compare the number of
- 23 appeals that are occurring now with the number of
- 24 appeals that occurred in the early '90s, it's much

- 1 lower.
- In the early '90s, we had a very significant
- 3 problem with the number of appeals that were
- 4 occurring, and that didn't get resolved until the
- 5 Board adopted a set of regulations in 1994 and
- 6 established a procedure for the Agency to follow.
- 7 That reduced the number of appeals significantly to
- 8 the last couple of years.
- 9 We think having the set of rules that we have
- 10 in Subpart H, we think that will also combat the
- 11 number of appeals that are occurring. It will make
- things more regimented for people to follow, and there
- will be less appeals.
- 14 Q. (BY MS. MANNING) Just as a point of
- 15 clarification. The petitioner in all of those matters
- 16 that we talked about are different petitioners than
- their owners and operators. They're not environmental
- 18 remediation businesses; is that correct?
- 19 A. That's true.
- Q. I mean, we're talking various owners and
- 21 operators who have hired --
- 22 A. There are various owner and operators, but if
- 23 you look at the consultants who are involved in those
- 24 appeals from owners and operators, two of them

- 1 represent half of the appeals.
- 2 O. And we'll have testimony in terms of the
- 3 larger volume of business of those companies as well.
- 4 A. Okay.
- 5 HEARING OFFICER TIPSORD: Mr. Goodiel?
- 6 QUESTIONS BY MR. GOODIEL:
- 7 Q. Do you not think that there would be more
- 8 appeals from other consultants if it wasn't so
- 9 expensive to do that process? There are consultants
- 10 out there who simply cannot afford to, you know, hire
- 11 a lawyer and go to the Pollution Control Board. If
- that wasn't such an expensive time-consuming process,
- would you not see potential increase?
- 14 A. (BY MR. CLAY) Well, as Ms. Manning pointed
- out, the owner and operator is the one who appeals
- 16 that. So I don't know.
- 17 QUESTIONS BY MS. MANNING:
- 18 Q. But when the matter in dispute is \$5,000, and
- 19 the bill is going to be \$30,000 to recoup \$5,000, it's
- 20 not a very good business judgment, is it, to appeal
- 21 it?
- 22 A. (BY MR. KING) But, again, if you're talking
- about a budget, if you're talking about appealing a
- 24 budget, that's not money that's been expended, okay?

- 1 So it's different if there's been a cut relative to
- 2 costs that have been incurred. But if an appeal is
- filed based on a budget review, those are not dollars
- 4 that have been expended yet. That's a decision that
- 5 somebody is appealing because they want to spend those
- 6 extra dollars, even though the Agency has said we
- 7 don't think they need to in order to move forward on
- 8 the project.
- 9 Q. And let's not forget -- and correct me if I'm
- 10 wrong -- but that budget would have been signed by a
- 11 licensed professional engineer or licensed
- 12 professional geologist as required by law?
- 13 A. (BY MR. CLAY) Correct.
- 14 Q. Thank you.
- 93. An owner and operator has proposed a
- 16 corrective action plan to remediate soil contamination
- 17 by the conventional technology of excavation and
- 18 disposal and to remediate the groundwater by the
- 19 alternative technology of applying oxygen release
- 20 compound to the floor of the excavation in order to
- 21 promote bioremediation. The Agency has modified the
- 22 CAP to approve the disposal. However, the alternative
- 23 technology was designed and the CAP was modified to
- include only the monitoring of the groundwater after

- 1 the excavation to determine the effectiveness of the
- 2 soil remediation upon the groundwater. Depending upon
- 3 the post soil remediation groundwater contamination
- 4 result, an amended CAP must be submitted to complete
- 5 the groundwater contamination.
- 6 a) How will the work required to develop and
- 7 write the post remediation soil groundwater amended
- 8 CAP be reimbursed to the owner/operator when the
- 9 original CAP was modified by the Agency?
- 10 And b) Does the Agency expect that the
- 11 amended CAP for groundwater will be a nonreimbursable
- 12 expense to the owner/operator based upon the maximum
- payment amounts?
- 14 A. (BY MR. CLAY) The CAP is reimbursed in a
- 15 lump sum. So it would be that amount, unless
- 16 demonstrated additional costs are warranted for
- 17 reimbursement.
- 18 Keep in mind that the lump sum amounts are
- 19 for conventional technology. So if a submittal of a
- amended CAP to address the groundwater, which would be
- 21 an alternative technology, additional CAP costs, CAP
- 22 preparation costs would be considered on a time and
- 23 materials basis.
- Q. Thank you.

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1 94. The owner/operator desires to remediate
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- 2 a LUST site to a TACO tier 1, class 1 residential
- 3 objectives, and a CAP was approved by the Agency for
- 4 conventional technology. The conventional technology
- 5 was completed. However, closure indicate that
- 6 residual contamination remains along the property
- 7 boundary and underneath the structure located on the
- 8 site. The situation was not anticipated based upon
- 9 the analytical results available at the time the CAP
- 10 was written, or the budget was written in that matter
- 11 Mr. King talked about earlier. The owner and operator
- 12 has decided to propose an engineered barrier and a
- 13 highway authority agreement to deal with the less
- 14 residual contamination. And an amended CAP and budget
- 15 is necessary to propose the institutional controls and
- 16 engineer barriers. Reimbursement has already been
- 17 received for the cost of the original CAP.
- 18 a) How will the work required to develop and
- write the amended CAP be reimbursed?
- 20 b) Does the agency expect that the amended
- 21 CAP to utilize the tools of TACO will be a
- 22 nonreimbursable expense to the owner and operator
- 23 based upon the maximum payment?
- 24 And c) Modeling of the residual

- 1 contamination was not anticipated; however, not
- 2 required by TACO. How does Subpart H address the cost
- 3 to the owner and operator necessary to model the
- 4 residual contamination?
- 5 And d) Does the Agency expect that the plume
- 6 identification CAP will be a nonreimbursable expense
- 7 for the owner or operator or that the remediation CAP
- 8 will be a nonreimbursable expense for the
- 9 owner/operator based upon the maximum -- I'm sorry.
- 10 I'm sorry. I went to the -- I'm sorry.
- 11 We're going to go back, and ask how does
- 12 Subpart H, okay, address the cost to the
- owner/operator necessary to deal with this typical
- 14 situation where a small amount of residual
- 15 contamination must be addressed based upon closure
- 16 sample analytical results? Does the Agency consider
- 17 the cost nonreimbursable?
- 18 A. (BY MR. CLAY) I guess my first question
- 19 would be why the site investigation did not accurately
- 20 identify this contamination when the CAP was
- 21 developed.
- 22 But having said that, Subpart H does include
- 23 costs for development of highway authority agreement.
- 24 The CAP itself is a lump sum, and that's what the

- 1 Agency would anticipate reimbursing, unless its
- 2 extenuating circumstances were identified. And in
- 3 addition, there is a cost in Subpart H for doing a
- 4 TACO evaluation.
- 5 And I think I might add that if you're simply
- 6 doing, you know, a highway authority agreement and
- 7 TACO modeling, maybe of an engineered barrier, and I
- 8 think it's pretty straightforward and would be
- 9 something that could be submitted in a corrective
- 10 action completion report and wouldn't necessarily
- 11 require a change or an amended CAP.
- 12 QUESTIONS BY MR. DOTY:
- Q. Would it require an amendment to the budget?
- 14 A. (BY MR. CLAY) Yes, it would.
- MR. DOTY: Okay, thanks.
- 16 QUESTIONS BY MS. MANNING:
- 17 Q. 95. The owner/operator proposes conventional
- 18 technology to address the on-site soil contamination
- 19 and a groundwater deed restriction to deal with the
- 20 on-site groundwater contamination. The closure
- 21 samples from the floor of the excavation reveal an
- 22 unanticipated exceedance of the Csat limit. An
- amended CAP and budget must be written to investigate
- 24 the vertical extent. After the vertical extent of the

1 Csat limit exceedance is investigated, another amended

- 2 CAP must be written and approved to remediate the Csat
- 3 limit exceedance.
- 4 a) How does Subpart H address the cost to
- 5 the owner/operator necessary to write the amended CAP
- 6 to investigate the vertical extent of the Csat limit
- 7 exceedance?
- b) How does Subpart H address the cost to
- 9 the owner/operator necessary to write the second
- 10 amended CAP to propose a remediation method for the
- 11 Csat limited exceedance?
- 12 And c) Does the Agency consider the cost of
- 13 the Csat limit amended CAP to be nonreimbursable based
- 14 upon the maximum payment amounts?
- 15 A. (BY MR. CLAY) Well, this seemed like an odd
- one as well. I'm wondering why a site investigation
- did not identify such high levels of contamination
- 18 exceeding Csat as an extremely high level. And I
- 19 don't understand why that was not identified in the
- 20 investigation.
- 21 So, you know, this would have to be reviewed
- on a case-by-case basis as far as any additional cost,
- 23 but I'd have real concerns about the certification on
- 24 that site investigation.

- 1 HEARING OFFICER TIPSORD: Mr. Kelly?
- 2 MR. KELLY: Can I give a clarification on the
- 3 question?
- 4 HEARING OFFICER TIPSORD: As long as it's in
- 5 the form of a question. If you're going to answer the
- 6 question, then I'll have to swear you in, and I need
- 7 you to wait.
- 8 QUESTIONS BY MR. KELLY:
- 9 Q. Assuming the site investigation is done on
- 10 some type of grid, is it not possible that that
- 11 particular area cannot be missed and therefore would
- 12 not be in the CAP? Because do you not do an
- investigation on a 5 by 5 grid?
- 14 A. (BY MR. CLAY) So you're saying there's a
- 15 possibility that exceeds Csat?
- 16 Q. It might be one sample.
- 17 A. I think we would look at that on a
- 18 case-by-case basis. If that were the case, then
- 19 additional CAP costs may be considered. But generally
- 20 we would not. I mean, we don't normally see that.
- 21 HEARING OFFICER TIPSORD: Thank you,
- 22 Mr. Kelly.
- QUESTIONS BY MS. MANNING:
- Q. 96. An owner/operator proposes an

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1 alternative technology for the remediation of soil and
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- 2 groundwater at a site. The site is rural with ample
- 3 space available for land farming. The alternative
- 4 technology of land farming is presented in a CAP and
- 5 rejected by the Agency based upon lack of supporting
- 6 documentation. And the need to collect additional
- 7 information to validate the alternative technology.
- 8 The Agency did not perform a 45-day completeness
- 9 review to allow the owner/operator time to provide the
- information needed by the Agency. The owner/operator
- 11 has already written one CAP and now is faced with the
- 12 additional expense of obtaining the information
- 13 requested by the Agency and revising a CAP.
- 14 Question a) utilizing the maximum payment
- 15 amounts of Subpart H, how will the cost of obtaining
- 16 the additional information and writing the revised CAP
- 17 be reimbursed?
- 18 And b) Could a proper 45-day completeness
- 19 review by the Agency as provided in 732.505 prevent
- the rejection of such alternative technology CAPs?
- 21 And c) Could the Agency offer any guidance
- 22 documents or other information designed to standardize
- 23 the required supporting document for an alternative
- 24 technology CAP and prevent potential for out-of-pocket

1 expenses to the owner/operator that the maximum

- payment amounts of Subpart H will create?
- 3 A. (BY MR. CLAY) I would not consider what
- 4 you've described to be a completeness review issue,
- 5 more of a technical issue as far as technical
- 6 deficiencies. This would be an alternative technology
- 7 and should be budgeted and billed on a time and
- 8 materials basis.
- 9 The Agency would have already approved the
- 10 payment for the CAP, one which would be expected, one
- 11 which we would have expected the consultant to have
- 12 submitted in an approvable -- as an approvable CAP.
- 13 We would have to look carefully at the request for
- 14 additional costs for the amendment. In other words,
- this is something that would be reasonably expected,
- in what we had approved in a budget for a CAP. And if
- it wasn't submitted, we'd have to look at whether
- 18 additional costs were warranted.
- 19 As far as the completeness of review, it's
- 20 doubtful that the Agency would have cut this on a
- 21 complete review. This sounds like technical issues in
- 22 the way I read the question.
- 23 And, yes, we will try to provide
- 24 documentation or guidance documents to help

1 standardize what we're looking for in alternative

- technologies. We've nearly completed one for
- 3 bioremediation that will be available soon. We've
- 4 sent it out in a draft already, so.
- 5 Q. 97. The owner/operator has proposed to
- 6 utilize a groundwater ordinance to exclude the
- 7 groundwater ingestion migratory pathway. However, a
- 8 certain amount of work must be performed by the
- 9 owner/operator in order to educate the municipality
- 10 concerning the function and advantages of a
- 11 groundwater ordinance. Does the Agency expect that
- 12 the cost of dealing with the municipality to obtain a
- groundwater ordinance will be a nonreimbursable
- 14 expense to the owner/operator?
- 15 b) Once the groundwater ordinance is in
- 16 place, the owner/operator must model the groundwater
- 17 contamination to predict the migration of
- 18 contamination. And in accordance with TACO, letters
- 19 must then be sent to off-site property owners.
- 20 Depending on site-specific conditions, as many as 10
- or 12 property owners may be needed to be contacted.
- 22 Based upon the maximum payment amounts, how does
- 23 Subpart H address the cost to the owner/operator
- 24 necessary to model the contamination for groundwater

- ordinance? Identify the many off-site property
- owners, and write the off-site property owner
- 3 notifications?
- 4 c) Does the Agency expect that the cost of
- 5 modeling, identifying off-site property owners and
- 6 writing the off-site property owner notifications to
- 7 be a nonreimbursable expense when utilizing a
- 8 groundwater ordinance to exclude the groundwater
- 9 ingestion pathway?
- 10 A. (By Mr. Clay) We do have an amount in
- 11 Subpart H for developing an ordinance. TACO costs an
- 12 additional -- TACO costs are also in Subpart H. If
- there are an extraordinary number of off-site
- 14 properties or extraordinary amount of time for
- developing that ordinance, we would reconsider that
- 16 under extraordinary situations.
- 17 But I want to emphasize that we have
- developed the letter that can be sent and all the
- 19 regulatory requirements to offer site property
- 20 owners. It's a fill-in-the-blank type of letter. So
- 21 that letter has been developed.
- 22 Model ordinances have been developed on our
- 23 Web site that would meet all the regulatory
- 24 requirements and have routinely been adopted by

1 municipalities. So a lot of this work has been done

- 2 and is available on the Web site. I understand that
- 3 people want to put their own mark on it, but we've
- 4 developed documents, and we have requirements to meet
- 5 the regulations and will facilitate much quicker
- 6 reviews by the Agency if those documents are used.
- 7 Q. As a follow-up to that question, just because
- 8 it relates to TACO. Just for purposes of the record,
- 9 when the underground storage tank program first came
- into effect, obviously it was pre TACO, correct?
- 11 A. That's correct.
- 12 Q. And even when the TACO program came into
- 13 place, underground storage tank remediation was not
- originally subject to TACO; is that correct? Were you
- 15 doing underground storage tank remediations -- I guess
- 16 when did underground storage tank remediations start
- 17 utilizing the TACO regulations? At what point in
- 18 time?
- 19 A. In 1996, I and members of the LUST program
- 20 were at the very beginning of the development stage of
- 21 TACO. In fact, TACO is based on a risk based
- 22 corrective action referred to with the acronym, RBCA,
- 23 developed by USEPA. And that is, is used as a frame
- 24 work for -- it was developed for LUST sites. The

- 1 Agency decided to utilize this across all remediation
- 2 programs, but it was actually developed for LUST sites
- 3 nationally. Most states that adopted some form of
- 4 this RBCA. Illinois is very -- it's called TACO. So
- 5 we were involved from the very beginning of TACO, the
- 6 LUST program as well as the Agency.
- 7 Q. Thank you.
- 8 98. The owner/operator's LUST site has been
- 9 inactive because a previous consultant has gone out of
- 10 business. The LUST site is in the corrective action
- 11 phase. Soil remediation or an alternative technology
- 12 was previously approved in a CAP, and the remediation
- 13 was performed by the previous consultant. However,
- 14 closure samples revealed that residual contamination
- 15 remains. The site has been inactive for several
- 16 years. The owner/operator contracts a consultant to
- 17 complete the remediation process and obtain closure of
- 18 a LUST site. The new consultant must FOIA all
- 19 information and write an amended CAP to deal with the
- 20 residual contamination. The amended CAP will propose
- 21 to utilize tools of TACO to obtain closure. Assume
- 22 that an ELUC and a highway authority agreement are
- 23 possibly remediation methods. The cost of the
- 24 original CAP prepared by the previous consultant has

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1 been reimbursed several years ago.
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- 2 a) Does the Agency expect that the cost of
- 3 the amended CAP written by a new consultant will be a
- 4 nonreimbursable expense to the owner and operator?
- 5 b) The new consultant identified in 98, in
- 6 the question above, informs the owner and operator
- 7 that the cost of professional services to write the
- 8 TACO CAP will exceed the maximum payment in Subpart H
- 9 as approved by the Agency. The cost to reviewing FOIA
- 10 information, developing an amended CAP, dealing with
- off-site property owners to obtain an ELUC and dealing
- 12 with highway authority will be significantly higher
- 13 than the maximum payment amounts resulting in an
- out-of-pocket expense to the owner/operator. However,
- 15 since alternative technologies are reimbursed on a
- 16 time and material basis within Subpart H, a more
- 17 costly alternative technology CAP would be fully
- 18 reimbursable by the Agency and would result in no
- out-of-pocket expense to the owner and operator.
- I guess that's the question.
- 21 And c) Does the Agency expect that the
- 22 maximum payment amounts of Subpart H will force an
- owner/operator to bypass the far less costly TACO
- 24 remediation method in favor of an alternative

- 1 technology remediation method because the
- 2 out-of-pocket expense to the owner/operator is
- 3 significantly less than the alternative technology?
- 4 A. (BY MR. CLAY) This is site specific and very
- 5 variable. I mean, we would consider when a new
- 6 consultant takes over a project, we would consider
- 7 reasonable costs for that new consultant. I mean,
- 8 there is a -- you know, reasonable cost would be
- 9 considered for reviewing the file.
- 10 I guess in B, I don't understand why the
- 11 maximum payment amounts are exceeded and so much
- 12 higher than what we've got in Subpart H. That's
- 13 something that could be identified. That's something
- that would have to be identified. I don't know why
- 15 it's so much higher to develop these documents. The
- 16 type of remediation chosen is really up to the owner
- 17 and operator.
- 18 MR. KING: If I could just add to that. One
- of the things that we have struggled with over the
- years, and we've tried to get additional statutory
- 21 authority, and part of our regulation addresses in
- 22 here is that we want to encourage people to use TACO.
- 23 The more that we can encourage that to happen, we
- think the overall project costs will be lower. And,

- 1 you know, we do not have anything in our proposal that
- 2 would mandate somebody to use the TACO tier 2 as
- 3 opposed to a conventional technology if they wanted
- 4 to. But I mean, I think we would certainly like to
- 5 hear suggestions and proposals which would increase
- 6 the use of TACO versus more expensive alternatives.
- 7 HEARING OFFICER TIPSORD: Okay.
- QUESTIONS BY MR. DOTY:
- 9 Q. Would you consider allowing an owner/operator
- 10 to regain access to the LUST fund after an NFR letter
- 11 if he chose to use TACO, instead of actively remediate
- 12 his site at a later date if he needed to remediate
- 13 because of a problem? Right now he can't get back
- 14 into the fund, I mean. Would you consider -- I think
- 15 this might be an encouragement to the owner/operator
- 16 if you consider making that change.
- 17 A. (BY MR. CLAY) For someone to come back in
- 18 after an NFR letter is issued and if he used the TACO
- 19 approach instead of actively remediating his site?
- 20 MR. KING: But the NFR --
- Q. Vapors show up for whatever reason. There
- 22 needs to be something -- an environmental situation
- 23 needs to be addressed that's linked back to a site
- 24 that was TACO'd out instead of remediated. Right now

- that owner/operator, he would be forced to address the
- 2 problem certainly, but he's not allowed back in the
- fund because he elected to TACO out to get his NFR.
- 4 Would you consider changing that?
- 5 A. (BY MR. CLAY) There hasn't been a new
- 6 release, right.
- 7 Q. No.
- 8 A. Well, I don't -- I mean, everything has been
- 9 signed off and certified by a PE or PG who said
- 10 everything was fine and met the regulations.
- 11 Q. Oh, now you recognize the certifications?
- 12 Okay.
- 13 A. Well, no. I mean, why wasn't this identified
- 14 previously?
- 15 Q. Just unforeseen. I'm just asking.
- 16 The Agency sees the same materials that -- I
- mean, you've reviewed it when you approved closure.
- 18 You've seen the same information as the consultant,
- 19 and you agreed with the closure.
- 20 So I mean, for whatever reason, the
- 21 owner/operator has to address that release at a later
- 22 point, an unforeseen condition, to the consultant or
- owner/operator and to the Agency, reviewing the same
- 24 information, and he's not allowed back in the fund to

1 address that particular situation. And I think that

- it's a common concern with the owner/operator.
- 3 A. (BY MR. CLAY) Is this a common occurrence?
- 4 Q. No. I said it's a common concern that may
- 5 deter the owner/operator from trying to use TACO. I
- 6 mean, I'm just bringing this up because you want to
- 7 encourage the owner --
- 8 HEARING OFFICER TIPSORD: I need to cut you
- 9 off, because I think they got your question and we'll
- 10 let them answer, and then we will move on.
- 11 MR. KING: The suggestion we have a very
- 12 limited -- but relative to NFR letters related to
- off-site contamination, I don't know if what you're
- 14 suggesting would work, but we certainly could take
- 15 that under advisement.
- MR. DOTY: I mean, it would still be a rare
- 17 occasion.
- 18 HEARING OFFICER TIPSORD: Ms. Hesse?
- 19 OUESTIONS BY MS. HESSE:
- 20 Q. Related to this question, I think kind of the
- 21 question in point is what if the NFR letter becomes
- void for a technical reason? For example, if a
- 23 property was an industrial property, something that is
- 24 starting to crop up more and more.

1 For example, in the City of Chicago where

- 2 someone obtained an NFR letter assuming an engineered
- 3 barrier, assuming institutional controls, because the
- 4 anticipation was that it was main industrial, but
- 5 justification moves in. So the change in the property
- 6 is going to be residential, but it was TACO'd out
- 7 under a commercial or industrial cleanup standard. Is
- 8 there an opportunity for someone to have access to the
- 9 fund when the NFR letter -- after an NFR letter would
- 10 become void?
- 11 A. (BY MR. KING) If the situation would be
- 12 posed, I would be absolutely against allowing somebody
- 13 to come back into the fund under that circumstance.
- 14 That is clearly a business decision that was made. If
- there's been a change of use, then there's an
- opportunity for a new owner to put his own money into
- 17 the project, clean it up to either standard, and then
- 18 be able to move on. That is not something that should
- 19 be paid for with UST fund.
- MS. MANNING: We're going to skip to 103.
- 21 QUESTIONS BY MS. MANNING:
- 22 Q. The Agency has provided copies of DRAFT
- 23 budget and billing forms along with some examples.
- However, no example was provided for an alternative

- 1 technology CAP budget. Can the Agency provide an
- 2 example of an alternative technology CAP budget?
- 3 A. (BY MR. CLAY) These are case by case.
- 4 There's not materials. So I guess the answer is no.
- 5 Q. 104. Concerning Subpart C: In 734.505,
- 6 review of plans, (b), the Agency has 120 days in which
- 7 to review a plan, budget or report. However, in
- 8 Section 734.335, the owner and operator only has 30
- 9 days after approval of a site investigation completion
- 10 report to submit a corrective action plan to the
- 11 Agency. The same 30 days is also required for the
- 12 presentation of a corrective action completion report
- in Section 735.345 corrective action completion
- 14 reports paragraph (a). The same 30 days is required
- in 734.330 site investigation report.
- 16 a) Why is the Agency given 120 days for each
- 17 review of each report while the owner/operator is only
- 18 allowed 30 days to execute the approved plan and to
- 19 prepare and submit a report?
- b) Why not allow the owner and operator a
- 21 more realistic 120 days for report preparation and
- 22 submittal?
- 23 And I would add to that, c) Why does the
- 24 Agency consider that it has 120 days for each and

- 1 every decision it makes under the rules?
- 2 A. (BY MR. CLAY) First, I'll just say I think
- 3 it's a different function of Agency review, the
- 4 hundreds or even thousands of sites that we're dealing
- 5 with, for one thing, than, you know, implementing a
- 6 plan, which has already been prepared and wants to be
- 7 approved by the Agency.
- 8 And secondly and most importantly, it's a
- 9 statutory frame work. 120 days is in the statute and
- 10 30 days is in the statute.
- 11 Q. Okay. We'll debate that, but --
- 12 A. Well, it is. I think, isn't it? I mean,
- 13 I'll look.
- 14 Q. I don't believe there's 120 days for each and
- every decision that the Agency makes. There's
- 16 probably a 120-day reference in the statute to some of
- 17 those decisions.
- 18 And correct me if I'm wrong, there's been a
- 19 recent statutory change that unlike the permit
- 20 program, if an Agency doesn't make its decision at 120
- 21 days, the repercussion is not an approved decision of
- 22 the Agency, but a denied decision of the Agency. So
- 23 it's denied, and an appeal is necessitated as a result
- of the Agency making a determination in 120 days; is

- 1 that correct?
- 2 HEARING OFFICER TIPSORD: Excuse me. Before
- 3 you answer that, Ms. Manning, too far. I'm going to
- 4 have to ask you to be sworn in.
- 5 [Ms. Manning was sworn.]
- 6 HEARING OFFICER TIPSORD: Thank you.
- 7 MS. MANNING: Thank you.
- Q. Go ahead.
- 9 A. (BY MR. CLAY) The 120 days is in the
- 10 statute, and it identifies in the statute and in the
- 11 regulations where it applies. And, you know, if you
- 12 want to debate what constitutes a plan or report or
- 13 budget, then, you know, we can do that.
- But a 120-day denial after 120 days being
- denied, by operation of law, does not apply to
- 16 applications for payment when there's been an approved
- 17 budget. That would be approvable by the operation of
- 18 law. The 30 days for implementation of a site
- 19 investigation plan or corrective action plan is within
- 20 the statute. And, you know, I'm not sure what you're
- 21 suggesting, but if you're suggesting 120 days be taken
- out, I don't think the Agency would be opposed to
- 23 that.
- MR. KING: The denial, by operation of law,

1 that's a requirement in order to make sure that the

- 2 UST fund is recognized as a financial assurance
- 3 mechanism.
- 4 MR. CLAY: That was the issue with the USEPA
- 5 back in '95, I believe it was, when they actually
- 6 withdrew approval of the UST fund as a financial
- 7 assurance mechanism. That was a big issue with them.
- 8 Q. I assume you have a letter to that effect or
- 9 something from USEPA?
- 10 A. (BY MR. KING) I'm sure we do.
- 11 Q. Okay, thank you. Just to clarify something
- 12 else on the record.
- 13 You were talking the hundreds of thousands of
- 14 reviews you do each and every day. And just so that I
- 15 have a point of clarification about the workload in
- 16 terms of the review, it's my understanding you said
- 17 that about 320 letters a month; is that correct?
- 18 A. (BY MR. ALBARRACIN) 320 to 350.
- 19 Q. 320 to 350 a month? And you've been doing it
- 20 for eight years maybe?
- 21 A. Maybe.
- 22 Q. And you have 65 or 75 -- you have 65
- 23 full-time personnel devoted to the function of
- 24 reviewing LUST sites pursuant to the LUST -- you have

1 65 people contributing to those 320 letters a month,

- 2 correct?
- 3 A. (BY MR. CLAY) Yeah. Let's back up here. I
- 4 understand there's a LUST section and there's a LUST
- 5 claims unit. What Hernando is speaking to is a LUST
- 6 section, which is 34 project managers, 5 managers,
- 7 unit managers and myself. And then there's the
- 8 support staff with that, the administrative support
- 9 that actually mail the letters out and copy the
- 10 letters. We've got the file room people and the FOIA
- 11 people. So that's one group. Mr. Oakley in the LUST
- 12 claims unit is 10 technical staff, as well as support
- 13 staff to mail the things, letters out to enter them
- 14 into a database. He sends out an additional 150 --
- MR. OAKLEY: 200 letters a month.
- MR. CLAY: -- letters a month from the LUST
- 17 claims unit.
- 18 Q. Those are decision letters as well?
- 19 A. (BY MR. OAKLEY) That's correct.
- 20 Q. So all those letters that we're talking
- about, your 320 to 350 a month, and your 250 a month?
- 22 A. (BY MR. CLAY) 150 to 200.
- Q. Are appeal decisions? Are final decisions of
- the Agency?

1 A. Yes. They are final decisions of the

- 2 Agency.
- 3 Q. Just so that I understand then. Of your 250?
- 4 A. (BY MR. OAKLEY) 200 to 250 on an average.
- 5 Q. What letters does your group send out?
- 6 A. Final decision letters regarding claims,
- 7 claims decisions.
- Q. Okay. On budgets, on corrective budget
- 9 action plans?
- 10 A. Budgets, early actions, 731s. Every single
- 11 decision we make regarding a claim, we send a letter.
- 12 O. Okay. All reimbursement claims?
- 13 A. Correct.
- MR. CLAY: Reimbursement, not budgets. He's
- 15 talking about claims with approved budgets are already
- 16 done.
- 17 MR. OAKLEY: All claims. 731 claims don't
- 18 have an approved budget.
- 19 Q. And your 350 letters or 320 to 350 letters
- 20 are?
- 21 A. (BY MR. ALBARRACIN) Final decisions on plans
- 22 and budgets and completion reports and site
- 23 investigation -- let's put it that way. Plans,
- 24 budgets and reports.

1 Q. So if you've already approved a budget and

- 2 those claims are included within that budget from
- 3 Mr. Oakley's unit, there's very little review
- 4 necessary if it's already been approved in the budget;
- 5 is that correct?
- 6 A. (BY MR. OAKLEY) We're still obligated to
- 7 send out final decision letter when we make a decision
- 8 upon a claim, even though it's already been approved
- 9 in the budget.
- 10 MR. CLAY: And I think Mr. Oakley testified
- 11 earlier that yesterday that that is a streamline
- 12 process when there is an approved budget.
- MR. OAKLEY: The review process.
- 14 Q. Okay. I understand.
- 15 A. Okay.
- MS. MANNING: We're on our last question
- 17 also.
- 18 Q. If you look at the language in
- 732.503 (f), the question would be whether the IEPA
- 20 intended from this section that an owner or operator
- 21 will not be able to submit an amended plan if the IEPA
- 22 rejects the work plan or approves a work plan with
- 23 modifications.
- A. (BY MR. CLAY) The owner/operator can submit

an amended plan, but the plan and report will be paid

- 2 at the lump sum rate unless demonstrated as an unusual
- 3 or extraordinary circumstance.
- 4 HEARING OFFICER TIPSORD: Mr. Doty?
- 5 QUESTIONS BY MR. DOTY:
- 6 Q. The modifications to that plan, those
- 7 modifications were accepted. But in executing that
- 8 plan, it's deemed that maybe the first estimate as to
- 9 what work was performed, it doesn't meet those
- 10 activities performed? Do you want to just approach
- 11 that like an extraordinary circumstance to avoid -- if
- 12 the plan proposes so much work, so many cubic yards,
- 13 the Agency reduces the yardage, but in executing the
- 14 plan, you've underestimated -- the Agency has
- 15 underestimated it maybe. How does that get worked out
- 16 without disadvantaging the owner's reimbursement? I
- mean, he would have to at least submit an amended
- 18 budget, right? An expense to that?
- 19 A. (BY MR. CLAY) The expense to that would be
- 20 in the lump sum rates.
- 21 Q. Which would already have been reimbursed? So
- 22 he wouldn't get --
- 23 A. It may have been reimbursed. It was already
- in the budget. But, again, when we set these lump

1 sums out, our anticipation or expectation was that

- 2 that was a lump sum from an approvable plan and
- 3 budgeting. So, you know, that's what we anticipated.
- 4 So an amendment needs to fall in that lump sum.
- 5 Q. You recognize that straps you with being
- 6 right a hundred percent of the time?
- 7 A. Well, the reason we modify plans and budgets
- 8 is an attempt to expedite the remediation process. So
- 9 we're not denying something because everything isn't
- 10 perfect. And then you have to come in and potentially
- 11 wait up to another 120 days. So the idea is that you
- 12 modify that plan or budget.
- 13 Q. Right. But if you modify an error -- as it
- 14 turns out an error, which is going to happen. I mean,
- 15 it's a human error. But how does the owner/operator
- 16 not add to the out-of-pocket expense because of that
- 17 decision?
- 18 A. Well, I think if it's our error, then I think
- 19 we would consider additional costs.
- 20 Q. And that's the scenario I was trying to
- 21 describe.
- 22 A. Okay.
- 23 HEARING OFFICER TIPSORD: Thank you. All
- 24 right. Thank you, Ms. Manning. I think we'll take a

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1 break.
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- 2 Dr. Girard?
- 3 BOARD MEMBER GIRARD: I'd just like to make
- 4 one comment.
- 5 I think this morning everybody did a great
- 6 job of sticking to questions, and we were very
- 7 efficient. We've begun to slip a bit after lunch.
- 8 So while you're on break, think about ways
- 9 that we can get the rest of these 42 pre-filed
- 10 questions answered today with the time allotted,
- 11 because I think the next set of hearings will be much
- 12 smoother. I know you're chomping at the bit to
- 13 testify, but if we have all the Agency's answers in
- 14 the transcript, then your testimony is going to be
- that much more valuable in the next round. So let's
- 16 think about how we can get through these questions and
- 17 get them done today and on the record.
- 18 HEARING OFFICER TIPSORD: Let's take a
- 19 10-minute break.
- 20 [Brief break.]
- 21 HEARING OFFICER TIPSORD: As we go back on
- the record, I think I already told everyone the
- 23 transcript will be expedited. So it will be done and
- 24 should be posted by June 2nd. The hearing officer

will go out today scheduling the new hearings in the

- 2 matter. And if you have any questions about
- 3 pre-filing testimony, you should contact Cathleen
- 4 Crowley (sp) at area code (312) 814-6929, as I will be
- 5 unavailable tomorrow.
- 6 BOARD MEMBER JOHNSON: I object.
- 7 HEARING OFFICER TIPSORD: And I think we're
- 8 ready now to begin with pre-filed questions by CW3M.
- 9 MS. HESSE: Thank you. During the break and
- 10 during the course of Ms. Manning's questions, we were
- able to get a lot of our questions answered. So we
- 12 will skip over a number of those, but we still do have
- 13 a few questions we would like to ask.
- 14 QUESTIONS BY MS. HESSE:
- 15 Q. I'll start with question number 2 regarding
- 16 the increase in maximum payment amounts. And this
- 17 goes primarily to the inflation allowed for increases
- in payment amounts.
- 19 The question is, from what time period was
- 20 data which was evaluated when creating rates
- 21 obtained? And I think we discussed that. So the
- 22 question is, why does the Agency propose waiting two
- 23 and a half years to begin raising the rates for
- 24 inflation?

- 1 A. (BY MR. BAUER) Because the Agency believes
- 2 that the proposed rates are reasonable for the time
- 3 period until the July 1, 2006 adjustment.
- 4 HEARING OFFICER TIPSORD: I'm sorry. I
- 5 didn't get your last word.
- 6 MR. BAUER: The Agency believes that the
- 7 proposed rates are reasonable for the time period
- 8 until the July 1, 2006 adjustment.
- 9 Q. How was the implicit price deflator for gross
- 10 national product selected as the inflation factor over
- other inflation factors such as the consumer price
- 12 index?
- 13 A. The Agency uses the implicit price deflator
- 14 for the gross national product in its contracts with
- 15 environmental consultants. The Agency tracks this
- 16 figure and is familiar with it.
- 17 Q. Why was inflation capped at 5 percent?
- 18 A. (BY MR. CLAY) I don't think we've ever seen
- 19 it over that.
- 20 MR. BAUER: The most that we've ever seen, I
- 21 guess, since we've been tracking is
- 22 2 percent. So that was it.
- Q. If the inflation rate is greater, would the
- 24 Agency consider increasing it by the actual inflation

- 1 rate?
- 2 A. You said if --
- 3 Q. If the inflation rate is greater than 5
- 4 percent, why would the Agency not consider paying the
- 5 actual inflation rate?
- 6 A. (BY MR. CLAY) I mean, we could look at that
- 7 and consider that, but I mean, it would be based on
- 8 what we were proposing, which is the implicit price
- 9 inflator for gross national product and not the other
- 10 reference that you referred to.
- 11 Q. If there is inflation, for example, of
- 12 6 percent inflation, would the Agency still limit the
- 13 change to 5 percent?
- 14 A. (BY MR. CLAY) Yeah. I mean, that's the way
- 15 it reads. It's 5 percent either way. We would
- 16 consider changing it both for inflation and deflation.
- 17 Q. Have you seen any instances of deflation
- during the period of time when you've been tracking
- 19 these rates?
- 20 A. We don't track those. It's a completely
- 21 different group than the Agency. And we can check and
- 22 see if -- I doubt there has been. But I think we can
- check, because is that something you want us to check
- on? If it's important?

1 Q. It's something that would be of interest,

- 2 yes.
- 3 A. Okay. We'll check on that.
- 4 Q. Skip to question number 6.
- 5 Brian Bauer testified in support of 732.820
- 6 (b) that the Agency is assigning directly proportional
- 7 rates to well installation. However, isn't the only
- 8 difference between -- what is the difference between
- 9 the cost of the 15 foot and 20 foot well the amount of
- 10 riser pipe, sand and bentonite?
- 11 A. (BY MR. BAUER) Yes.
- 12 O. Are there other factors? And in fact, aren't
- those 3 factors, of only 3 factors of 11 factors, that
- 14 are used in calculating a well rate?
- 15 A. Yes.
- 16 Q. And are there other factors that are done
- 17 also constant for each well?
- 18 A. Yes.
- 19 Q. So why has the Agency not proposed a formula
- 20 which out of constant for the factors that were
- 21 constant? For example, times the number of wells.
- 22 Plus another factor that would be a constant for those
- factors would be variable?
- A. (BY MR. BAUER) I think our overall approach

- 1 to this is to try to simplify everything to simplify
- 2 the reimbursement process, to simplify on the budget
- forms. And so we used the simplest approach we could
- 4 think of.
- 5 Q. Skipping to number 8.
- 6 Mr. Bauer had testified in support of
- 7 732.485 (a)(2), one-half of the average daily
- 8 expenses. Did the Agency do any calculations which
- 9 leads to those rates? It describes miscellaneous
- 10 supplies, such as gloves, sampling jars, plastic bags
- 11 and all other incidental materials, a PID and vehicle
- 12 are also included in the half-day rate. However, the
- 13 Agency has historically also reimbursed equipment,
- 14 such as survey equipment and water level meter. Under
- 15 which of the proposed mechanisms are these costs to be
- 16 covered?
- 17 A. (BY MR. BAUER) I would say we did not do any
- 18 calculations for gloves, sampling jars and stuff like
- 19 that. We just made an assumption.
- 20 Q. So how could gloves, sampling jars and those
- 21 things be included as a reimbursable expense?
- 22 A. They're included as part of the half-day
- 23 rate. We allowed \$20 per every half day for those
- 24 costs. Again, we are trying to simplify it. We don't

- 1 want to have to say, well, I'm going to use eight
- 2 pairs of gloves in a budget and think we were trying
- 3 to simplify the process and allow that to be billed on
- 4 a half-day rate. So that the consultants would not
- 5 have to justify they used eight pairs of gloves and
- 6 bill on that.
- 7 Q. So how did the Agency determine if the Agency
- 8 created these spreadsheets? Did the Agency go
- 9 through any reports to figure out what it's proposed
- 10 as a reasonable cost for that half-day rate?
- 11 A. (BY MR. BAUER) You don't want to know what's
- in the half-day rate? You want to know where the \$20
- 13 that we got that we used in the half-day rate came
- 14 from for the miscellaneous expenses?
- 15 MR. WIENHOFF: Yes, yes. I'm just looking
- 16 for the \$20.
- 17 QUESTIONS BY MR. WIENHOFF:
- 18 Q. Did it just round up to \$500? Is that why
- 19 \$20 was chosen? Was it because --
- 20 A. We just estimated \$20. I mean, I don't even
- 21 think we see that \$40 in a day miscellaneous
- 22 typically.
- Q. For survey equipment and water levels, are
- 24 those included in those miscellaneous charges? Or are

1 those included elsewhere? Or are they not included at

- 2 all?
- 3 A. We included in the half-day rate \$50 for PID,
- 4 and that's why we used it based on a hundred dollars a
- 5 day. A PID would not typically be needed on other
- 6 days, we don't believe. So that equipment rate, or
- 7 whatever, would include other types of equipment
- 8 besides the PID.
- 9 Q. On a day when a PID would be required, would
- 10 a survey equipment and water level meter also be
- 11 required? For instance, if you're drilling and using
- 12 a PID, you wouldn't also want to have a water level
- 13 meter to test to see what the water level was at while
- 14 you were drilling?
- 15 A. Those are included in our rates.
- 16 Q. Those are included? Okay. And typically
- 17 what has been your historic rate for survey equipment
- 18 and water level meters?
- 19 A. I don't know. I don't know.
- Q. All right. We can move on. We'll provide
- 21 testimony as to what the historic rates are.
- 22 HEARING OFFICER TIPSORD: A point in
- 23 clarification. The citation in the question is to
- 24 732.485 (a)(2). We don't find that.

1 MR. WIENHOFF: I'm not exactly sure. I don't

- 2 have a copy with me. It's his support of the half-day
- 3 rate.
- 4 HEARING OFFICER TIPSORD: Okay.
- 5 MR. WIENHOFF: I can -- if you have a copy, I
- 6 can find it. Do you have his testimony?
- 7 HEARING OFFICER TIPSORD: Do you need 732.485
- 8 consulting services?
- 9 MR. WIENHOFF: That sounds right.
- 10 QUESTIONS BY MS. HESSE:
- 11 Q. Question number 10. Mr. Bauer had testified
- in support of 734.845 (b)(2), that two half days for
- one full day or one full day of drilling. How did the
- 14 Agency come to the conclusion that drilling only
- required one consulting personnel to be on site?
- 16 A. Based on Agency experience in reviewing
- 17 budgets, it is our professional consulting personnel
- 18 in the field during drilling activities that has been
- 19 the norm.
- 20 Q. Did the Agency take into account increased
- 21 sampling requirements of 734?
- 22 A. The increased sampling should not pose any
- 23 additional need for personnel, since the rate is based
- on a number of borings conducted.

1 Q. Is allowing for one consulting personnel to

- 2 be present for drilling activities consistent with the
- 3 number of personnel proposed by CECI?
- 4 A. I do not believe CECI proposed any rates of
- 5 this nature.
- 6 Q. We'll move on to number 11.
- 7 Mr. Bauer, you testified in support of the
- 8 appendix E.
- 9 HEARING OFFICER TIPSORD: Excuse me,
- 10 Ms. Hesse.
- 11 MS. MANNING: I had a follow-up to that last
- 12 question.
- MS. HESSE: Sure.
- 14 QUESTIONS BY MS. MANNING:
- 15 Q. I think the question had to do with the
- 16 number of personnel, not the rate.
- 17 A. (BY MR. CLAY) I don't recall. I mean, I'd
- 18 have to go back and review notes. I'm not sure. I
- 19 don't recall any suggestion one way or another on the
- 20 number of personnel. There may have been. I just
- 21 don't recall it.
- MS. MANNING: Okay. Thank you.
- QUESTIONS BY MS. HESSE:
- Q. Number 11. Mr. Bauer's testimony in support

- 1 of appendix E.
- 2 The reimbursed personnel rate is based on the
- 3 task performed, not necessarily the title of the
- 4 person performing the task. Did the Agency consider
- 5 if this provision discriminates against small
- 6 businesses that have only a few employees? i.e., a
- 7 small firm cannot afford to hire a registered
- 8 professional because they do not have enough, quote,
- 9 registered professional work for them to do full time
- 10 and cannot afford to pay them registered professional
- 11 rates because they would be required to bill them at a
- 12 lower rate for some of the tasks which they will need
- 13 to perform.
- 14 Is that something the Agency considered?
- 15 A. (BY MR. CLAY) We did consider that. And
- 16 from the information we've always heard is that the
- 17 smaller firms have less overhead, and, you know, would
- 18 actually have lower rates than larger firms. So I
- 19 think it doesn't disadvantage the smaller firms at
- 20 all.
- 21 O. From whom did you hear that smaller firms
- 22 have lower overhead?
- 23 A. I just heard that in passing. Is that not
- 24 the case? I won't ask the question. I'm sorry.

- 1 Q. I would have answered that.
- This is just as a follow-up to that. At the
- 3 Agency, if there's, for example, an instance where one
- 4 of your technical staff members needs a report copied
- 5 and can't wait for a secretarial person to do -- a
- 6 clerical person to do it for them, do they go ahead
- 7 and make the copies?
- 8 A. (BY MR. CLAY) Probably.
- 9 Q. And I assume they're still paid at the
- 10 regular salaries, aren't they?
- 11 A. They're paid at the regular salaries.
- 12 They're not paid at \$130 an hour.
- I might add that the idea here is that you've
- 14 got a firm, and you've got two or three people, and
- 15 you've got a professional engineer and you've got a
- 16 geologist and you have a administrative support
- 17 person. You know, it's more likely in those
- 18 situations that that geologist and engineer may be
- 19 making copies or may be taking water samples, which a
- 20 technician would typically do.
- In those cases, we wouldn't expect to see,
- 22 you know, all -- you know, 40, 50, 60 hours a week,
- whatever that professional engineer, for example,
- 24 works, billing at \$130 when they are making copies and

- 1 they're sampling. Or they're checking to see, you
- 2 know, if the equipment is still working at a remote
- 3 site.
- 4 So what we typically see in some of the
- 5 smaller firms, in those cases I mean, we've seen PE
- 6 rates in the \$80 per range. And I assume they're
- 7 taking into account that type of thing. They have
- 8 less overhead, and they may be billing at \$80 an hour
- 9 for all of their activities they do because they're in
- 10 a smaller firm.
- 11 Q. But do you know if that's a fact? Or are you
- 12 just guessing?
- A. What's that?
- 14 Q. Do you know if that is a fact or are you
- 15 speculating?
- 16 A. Do I know what's a fact? I know that people
- 17 are billing -- professional engineers are billing much
- 18 less than \$130 an hour.
- 19 Q. What I'm referring to is your estimate that
- 20 at firms where PEs may be billing at \$85 an hour, that
- 21 they may also be including the time they spend for
- 22 doing things that might not be PE work.
- 23 A. That's an assumption.
- Q. Number 12. In Mr. Bauer's testimony in

- 1 support of 734.840(a), the square foot rates for
- 2 installation of asphalt are from the 2003 National
- 3 Construction Cost Estimator. When you used that
- document, Mr. Bauer, did you review the introduction
- 5 to the National Construction Estimator which explains
- 6 how to use the guide prior to using its numbers?
- 7 A. (BY MR. BAUER) Yes.
- 8 Q. Did you use the required area of modification
- 9 factor?
- 10 A. The area modification factor was not
- 11 utilized. The factor was not utilized because the
- 12 instructions in the portion of the area of
- 13 modification factors states these percentages are
- 14 composites of many costs and will not necessarily be
- 15 accurate when estimating costs of any particular part
- of a building.
- 17 So it was for a -- they were used for the
- 18 lump, like a whole entire building project, and that's
- 19 the way I thought it was to be interpreted is using it
- 20 for this one component. And they were consistent with
- 21 budgets and bills, the costs that we were seeing
- 22 coming in.
- Q. Did you use the overhead and markup factor?
- 24 A. No, I did not. These factors are factors for

- overhead and profit and are for general contractors,
- 2 handling charges and load-up personnel rates should
- 3 cover these factors.
- 4 QUESTIONS BY MR. WIENHOFF:
- 5 Q. Would contractors not perform the asphalting
- 6 work, would they not need overhead profit to do that
- 7 work, the consultant would not be there laying the
- 8 asphalt? A contractor would be.
- 9 A. The overhead and profit markup factor in
- 10 that, in front of that book is for the general
- 11 contractor.
- 12 Q. It's not for the person performing the work?
- 13 A. It's for the general contractor, and we
- 14 provide a handling charge per statute. I believe that
- 15 would cover those costs.
- 16 QUESTIONS BY MS. HESSE:
- Q. Was cost included for supervision such as a
- 18 foreman being present?
- 19 A. (BY MR. BAUER) No. We assumed that handling
- 20 charges would be part of the administration -- it
- 21 would include the administration of that.
- 22 Q. The question was about costs for a
- 23 supervision, such as a foreman being present, not the
- 24 handling charge.

1 A. (BY MR. CLAY) Is that a foreman by the

- 2 subcontractor doing the --
- 3 Q. Yes.
- 4 A. (BY MR. CHAPPEL) What I understand from
- 5 Brian is when I looked at this professional cost
- 6 estimator, those rates that he was testifying to
- 7 included all personnel.
- 8 Q. So it's your belief that the rate included a
- 9 supervisor from the subcontractor who is doing the
- 10 asphalting to be present?
- 11 A. (BY MR. BAUER) Yes.
- 12 Q. And in the asphalt replacement rate was
- 13 subgrade preparation included?
- 14 A. It was not. Subgrade was assumed to be
- 15 covered during the backfill stage, which included the
- 16 backfill rate.
- 17 Q. Did the concrete replacement rate include
- 18 subgrade preparation?
- 19 A. No.
- 20 Q. Skipping down to question number 13.
- 21 QUESTIONS BY MR. DOTY:
- 22 Q. You mentioned that -- this is kind of
- 23 difficult here. I think the question was, did you
- 24 consider subbase preparation? Is that right? And

1 you said that that would be included in the

- 2 backfilling?
- 3 A. Yes.
- 4 Q. There would be a subbase preparation for a
- 5 barrier, too, right? The engineered barrier in an
- 6 area that would not have been excavated, how would
- 7 that be addressed?
- 8 A. (BY MR. CLAY) Well, there may or may not be.
- 9 Q. But a lot of people will use the engineered
- 10 barriers over areas that were not excavated. I mean
- 11 that's why the barrier is there. How do you address
- 12 the subbase preparation for that, that measurement?
- 13 A. (BY MR. CLAY) We didn't consider that.
- Q. Okay. Can we?
- 15 A. Yes. I think so.
- MR. DOTY: Thanks.
- 17 QUESTIONS BY MR. KELLY:
- 18 Q. One question I have. You said that costs for
- 19 preparation in subgrade would be part of backfilling.
- 20 Is it not current Agency policy that they do not pay
- 21 for compaction or compaction testing? Therefore the
- 22 backfill may not be properly compacted to allow for
- 23 the asphalt claim?
- 24 A. (BY MR. BAUER) Compaction is a listed

- 1 ineligible cost in, I think, 732.606 right now.
- Q. So how am I going to prepare the subbase for
- 3 asphalt if compaction is not allowed?
- 4 A. It's not eligible. I didn't say it's not
- 5 allowed. I had no part in that. I don't have an
- 6 answer for it.
- 7 MS. MANNING: Excuse me. I didn't hear that
- 8 last sentence. I didn't do that?
- 9 MR. BAUER: I didn't do the previous
- 10 regulations. I had no part in that.
- 11 QUESTIONS BY MR. DOTY:
- 12 Q. Where in the process of -- you're in the
- 13 process of revising. Can it be revised as parts of
- 14 this ruling and then to allow some compaction? Does
- 15 anybody know originally why the compaction was
- 16 disallowed originally? Maybe?
- 17 HEARING OFFICER TIPSORD: I'm not sure that
- 18 we -- I'm sure that's interesting, but since
- 19 compaction is not, I would prefer that we check back
- 20 through the old rules before we ask them, and the
- 21 Board opinions, and see if there's any discussion,
- 22 unless you have a quick answer you can give us right
- 23 now.
- MR. KING: When the rule -- I just didn't

- 1 think that was appropriate to include because the
- 2 compaction in that context would be related to not a
- 3 remediation aspect, but what would be billed on top of
- 4 that. So it's kind of a builder foundation issue.
- 5 QUESTIONS BY MR. GOODIEL:
- 6 Q. But with the development of engineered
- 7 barriers, compaction does become a necessary evil in
- 8 order to have an effective engineering barrier? Now,
- 9 that law was written before engineering barriers were
- 10 actually put in place.
- 11 A. (BY MR. CLAY) I think it depends on what the
- 12 engineer -- I mean, you're paving an area that's
- 13 already gravel and has no parking lot for a while, and
- 14 you're paving that. I'm not sure that there is much
- 15 preparation that you need to do. I mean, I
- don't -- well, I'm not going to ask the question.
- 17 I'll ask that one later.
- MS. HESSE: Give me a microphone, so maybe
- 19 everybody now can hear me now.
- QUESTIONS BY MS. HESSE:
- Q. To follow-up on that, if you're asking or
- 22 would prefer, as you indicated before, someone to use
- 23 TACO to reduce cleanup costs, would the agent say at a
- 24 minimum in those circumstances, consider preparation

of the base upon which to install an engineered

- 2 barrier be a reimbursable cost?
- 3 A. (BY MR. KING) I mean, when you think about
- 4 it -- but, again, the context that I made that comment
- 5 was in a situation where we would be requiring a
- 6 methodology to require people to go through TACO as
- 7 opposed to going through something that's more
- 8 expensive.
- 9 I mean, if everybody wants to go that route
- 10 where everybody -- if you do a TACO tier 2 or you do a
- 11 TACO tier 3 and comes up with a number, and everybody
- is going to do that, and whenever you get the lowest
- 13 number, that's the way we're going to do it. And
- 14 that's an acceptable way to proceed, you know. I
- think that's a different kind of system.
- MR. CLAY: I think there has to be a minimum
- 17 standard of 4 inches of asphalt identified, too. I
- 18 mean, you know, if you're preparing a surface for a
- 19 transfer station or some other area, that requires a
- 20 handling of a lot higher load, I don't think that's an
- 21 eligible reimbursement cost.
- 22 You know, the other thing is we have
- 23 to -- there has to be a specific specification for
- 24 that, the compaction. And we'd have to -- I mean,

1 we'd have to change it in the regulations. And I'll

- 2 have to check. I don't know if compaction is an
- 3 ineligible item in the statute or not. We'd have to
- 4 check.
- 5 Q. In question number 13, in Mr. Chappel's
- 6 introduction previously, and as we had mentioned
- 7 earlier, discussed earlier today, Mr. Chappel stated
- 8 that he was in private practice as a co-owner in two
- 9 environmental consulting firms. When you were working
- 10 as a registered professional engineer in the private
- 11 sector, did you certify any plans and budgets for
- 12 submittal to the LUST section?
- 13 A. (BY MR. CHAPPEL) I believe so, yes.
- Q. Did you ever certify any budgets that
- 15 exceeded the maximum amounts listed in these proposed
- amendments as being reasonable costs?
- 17 A. I don't recall.
- 18 Q. Skip to number 16. In Mr. Chappel's
- 19 testimony in support of 732.825, the conversion factor
- 20 for tons to cubic yards was specified. The specified
- 21 conversion factor is 1.5 tons per cubic yard. Is this
- 22 conversion factor which -- is this the conversion
- 23 factor which is currently used by IEPA?
- 24 A. In technical review of plans and budgets,

- 1 yes.
- 2 Q. How about --
- 3 A. I'm sorry. The question is, is the 1.5 used?
- 4 Q. Yes.
- 5 A. No, it's not.
- 6 Q. What number is used?
- 7 A. In the submitted testimony or the submitted
- 8 information that's an exhibit this morning? What is
- 9 that? That technical sheet. There's a memorandum
- 10 dated March 3, 1992 from Mr. Tod Rowe to LUST section
- 11 staff, which specifies --
- 12 HEARING OFFICER TIPSORD: Can you identify
- what you're looking at?
- MR. CHAPPEL: This is attachment C to my
- 15 errata, errata 2. Exhibit 15.
- 16 HEARING OFFICER TIPSORD: Thank you.
- 17 MR. CHAPPEL: And the memo is the technical
- 18 staff's review memo that they use for converting tons
- 19 to cubic yards.
- Q. Are these the numbers that are used?
- 21 A. I'm sorry?
- 22 Q. Those are the numbers that are used as
- 23 conversion factors?
- 24 A. For the technical staff reviewing plans and

- 1 budgets, yes.
- Q. Is the Agency aware that in the prior
- 3 revision to 732, the Board specified that the
- 4 conversion rate would be 2 grams per cubic meter? I'm
- 5 sorry. Cubic centimeter. Which was equivalent to
- 6 1.68 cubic tons per yard?
- 7 A. I'm aware that that appendix of the existing
- 8 732 uses that conversion factor, yes.
- 9 Q. Is there a reason the Agency has chosen not
- 10 to use the Board specified conversion rate, which was
- 11 established following public comment in the prior rule
- 12 making?
- 13 A. We believe the 1.5 is a more reasonable
- 14 number for the types of soils in Illinois.
- 15 Q. Skip to number 17. Mr. Chappel testified in
- support of 732.825 that the figure for backfill does
- 17 not include cost for a consultant's oversight. Are
- 18 costs for a consultant's oversight of backfill
- 19 operations included anywhere in Subpart H?
- 20 A. They're included in 732.845 (d)(2) and
- 21 734.825 (c)(2).
- Q. Skipping to number 19. In Mr. Chappel's
- 23 testimony in support of 732.845. The hours estimated
- 24 for the various activities discussed were derived in

1 consultation with the Consulting Engineer's Council of

- 2 Illinois. Were the hours proposed for categories
- 3 provided by the CECI at lump sum values or maximum
- 4 allowable values or an estimated average amount of
- 5 time?
- 6 A. It was estimated hours required to complete
- 7 that activity.
- 8 Q. Was that a maximum estimated number of hours,
- 9 or was that a typical or average number of hours?
- 10 A. It's the ad hoc committee's total office
- 11 labor hour estimate, and it's included with
- 12 Mr. Goodwin's pre-filed testimony if you want to check
- 13 the wording.
- 14 Q. When the Agency used that data -- because I
- 15 believe you testified earlier that you had used that
- 16 information to come up with cost numbers -- did the
- 17 Agency strictly adhere to the same scope of work for
- 18 which CECI had proposed the various values? Or did
- 19 the Agency add tasks to the scope of work without
- increasing the number of hours to do the work?
- 21 A. I don't think we consciously added tasks to
- the list without adding to the scope of hours.
- Q. For the personnel title breakdowns, did the
- 24 Agency adjust the CECI proposal in any way when it

- 1 calculated its dollar amounts to do certain tasks?
- 2 A. (BY MR. CLAY) We looked at -- I mean, some
- 3 of the tasks that you'll see in Mr. Goodwin's
- 4 testimony suggested things such as postage, posting
- 5 the bill separately. And the Agency felt like this
- 6 should be included in the lump sum amount.
- 7 Q. Anything else besides postage?
- 8 A. The items are listed there. We include one
- 9 lump sum amount. So it would be postage and mileage.
- 10 Film and photo finishing, postage, copying charges.
- 11 Q. Those are all included as a lump sum?
- 12 A. That's correct.
- Q. Was reimbursement claim preparation included
- 14 by the CECI in each of its reports? Or was it listed
- as a separate item with its own set of hours?
- 16 A. (BY MR. CHAPPEL) It was listed as a separate
- 17 item.
- 18 Q. And did the Agency consider that as a
- 19 separate item then?
- 20 A. No, we didn't. Based on the overall approach
- 21 we were taking in Subpart H, we were of the opinion
- that the number of hours specified by this specific
- 23 task would cover the hours required to apply for
- 24 reimbursement for each of those tasks.

1 Q. You said for this specific task. Which

- 2 specific task?
- 3 A. 20- and 40-day reports, 60 hours, early
- 4 action tank removal, 12 hours.
- 5 Q. So just let me interrupt here. So you're
- 6 saying for the 12 hours for early action, that would
- 7 also include the time to prepare the reimbursement
- 8 claim?
- 9 A. Correct.
- 10 QUESTIONS BY MR. WIENHOFF:
- 11 Q. So to address the question you answered
- 12 earlier. So the Agency did consciously add
- 13 reimbursement claim to the scope of work without
- increasing the number of hours?
- 15 A. (BY MR. CHAPPEL) No. We did not feel that
- 16 the scope of work for the reimbursement activity would
- involve any amount of hours. It's going to be
- 18 relatively easy.
- 19 Q. So reimbursement just happens? It doesn't
- 20 take any time?
- 21 QUESTIONS BY MS. HESSE:
- Q. Is that your testimony?
- 23 A. (BY MR. CLAY) We didn't increase the number
- of hours. We felt like for the number of hours, we

- 1 could add that task, and we're not saying it doesn't
- 2 take any time. But we added that to the lump sum for
- 3 the different tasks, the 45-day report
- 4 QUESTIONS BY MR. WIENHOFF:
- 5 Q. Just to clarify. You increased the scope of
- 6 work without increasing the number of hours?
- 7 A. (BY MR. CHAPPEL) No. We may have -- well,
- 8 we'll have to think about it. I'm not really sure
- 9 whether we increased the scope of work or we didn't
- increase the scope of work, or whether we increased
- the number of hours or we didn't increase the number
- 12 of hours. We felt that the activities included within
- those 60 hours, for example, for 20- and 45-day report
- 14 was a sufficient number of hours to prepare the 20-,
- 15 45-day report and the reimbursement application.
- 16 That's what I'm saying.
- 17 Q. And what I'm asking then, did CECI consider
- 18 listing the activities for that 60-hour estimate it
- 19 provided? Does it list reimbursement preparation?
- 20 A. No.
- 21 MR. CLAY: Keep in mind, too, that what we're
- 22 proposing is to greatly simplify the reimbursement
- 23 process. And CECI, I believe their estimate was based
- 24 on the old process.

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1 MR. WIENHOFF: Okay.
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3 QUESTIONS BY MS. HESSE:

- 4 Q. Skipping to number 22. There's a series of
- 5 questions that relate back to Exhibit Number 22. Also
- 6 I was reminded that actually the questions relate to
- 7 the prior testimony about other sites and some of the
- 8 attachments to the Agency's pre-filed testimony.
- 9 Question 22, in attachment to Mr. Chappel's
- 10 pre-filed testimony, is the Agency aware that rates
- included in the attachments for Arizona, which was
- 12 labeled quote, "2003 cost ceilings," closed quote, are
- 13 consistently higher than the rates that are listed for
- 14 Arizona in attachment 2?
- 15 A. (BY MR. CHAPPEL) We were not, but we are
- 16 now.
- 17 Q. Is there a reason you wish to share with us
- 18 as to for the discrepancy?
- 19 A. I have no idea how I did that. But did we
- 20 provide new information for Arizona which outlines
- 21 their current rates and what they are? So correct
- 22 information has been submitted for the Arizona
- 23 program.
- Q. 23, is that a similar situation? The

- 1 question reads, are you aware that costs in this
- 2 section haven't been effective since 2001? The
- 3 current costs listed on the Colorado Web site are
- 4 higher.
- 5 A. Again, that is an error that I can't
- 6 explain. Have we submitted Colorado's most up-to-date
- 7 numbers? Yes, we have.
- 8 MS. HESSE: I'd like to ask a follow-up
- 9 question on Indiana's number related to the number for
- 10 excavation, transportation, disposal and backfill that
- 11 was listed in Exhibit 22.
- 12 HEARING OFFICER TIPSORD: Ms. Hesse has just
- 13 handed me a copy of payment corrective action and
- 14 third party liability claims from the access liability
- trust fund, pages 10 and 11. We'll mark that as
- 16 Exhibit 28 if there's no objection. Seeing none,
- 17 we'll mark it.
- 18 [Exhibit Number 28 was marked for identification and
- 19 admitted into evidence.]
- 20 MS. HESSE: I would also like to note at the
- 21 bottom, it does say Indiana Administrative Code. And
- 22 I'll just add as well with that testimony that these
- are documents that CW3M had caused to be pulled off
- 24 Indiana's Web site.

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1 HEARING OFFICER TIPSORD: So ahead.
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- MS. HESSE: Okay.
- Q. Now, in Exhibit 22, the number to
- 4 excavate, transport, dispose and backfill a cubic yard
- 5 is listed as \$43.59. Could you please explain to me
- 6 where on this form or how the Agency came up with a
- 7 number of \$43.59?
- 8 MR. ROMINGER: Which question are we on?
- 9 MS. HESSE: This is not a pre-filed
- 10 question.
- 11 MR. CHAPPEL: Based on what you just handed
- 12 out?
- Q. (BY MS. HESSE) Yes.
- 14 A. (BY MR. CLAY) We could check on that one.
- 15 You've just given this to us. So we can get back to
- 16 you on that and tell you. I mean, I would have to
- 17 assume we have converted it to cubic yards, and we'd
- 18 have to get back to you on that.
- MR. KOHRMANN: Chris Kohrmann.
- MR. CLAY: He was sworn yesterday.
- 21 HEARING OFFICER TIPSORD: You're still sworn
- in today.
- MR. KOHRMANN: I believe in doing that, I
- 24 used the 1.5 conversion factor, and then also I looked

1 at the Indiana. It gives mileage per hauling. So I

- 2 used all the states where they include mileage for
- 3 transportation, I used a round-trip estimate of 200
- 4 miles.
- 5 QUESTIONS BY MR. WIENHOFF:
- 6 Q. 200 miles?
- 7 A. (BY MR. KOHRMANN) Yes.
- 8 Q. And my interpretation of these rules are that
- 9 the landfill fees are billed as the landfill bills?
- 10 There is no maximum rates. What did you use for the
- 11 landfill rate?
- 12 A. I don't know if I added that in or not. I'd
- 13 have to check my notes on that.
- MR. WIENHOFF: All right.
- 15 QUESTIONS BY MS. HESSE:
- 16 Q. Skipping now to number 28. And in
- 17 considering what tasks and what personnel would be
- 18 allowed to be reimbursed for work at the site, did the
- 19 Agency review any of the OSHA regulations for
- 20 construction work in conjunction with effort to
- 21 develop the field oversight rates and number of
- 22 consulting personnel required for certain activities?
- A. (BY MR. BAUER) No.
- Q. Is the Agency aware of whether OSHA has

- 1 specific requirements for competent persons doing
- 2 construction activities and excavation activities?
- 3 A. (BY MR. CHAPPEL) We don't implement OSHA.
- 4 We don't know.
- 5 Q. But the Agency did not take into account
- 6 whether it might be necessary to have people like that
- 7 present in order to do the work?
- 8 A. I don't know how we can take into account
- 9 something we don't know anything about.
- 10 Q. Question number 30. And this goes to
- 11 Subpart H in general. Is the Agency aware that its
- 12 proposed rates for personnel are actually less than
- 13 previously approved rates? For example, the proposed
- 14 rates are 26 percent less, less than the personnel
- 15 rates previously approved by the Agency for site
- 16 classification. \$13,400 previous versus \$9,870
- 17 currently. What new information led the Agency to
- 18 make this adjustment?
- 19 A. (BY MR. BAUER) The one thing I would say,
- 20 again, the rate sheets that we used -- that are used
- 21 was an average on the standard deviation. The rate
- 22 sheets previously were not available to the public.
- 23 The rate sheets were used as a screening tool to
- 24 identify costs or groups of costs that may be

1 excessive, where additional information would be

- 2 needed to approve those costs or rates.
- Q. Do you know if during the last few years,
- 4 personnel rates, salaries, etcetera, have generally
- 5 gone up or down?
- 6 A. (BY MR. CLAY) I don't know if they have or
- 7 not.
- 8 Q. Have salaries at IEPA generally gone up or
- 9 down during the last few years?
- 10 A. Mine has gone down.
- MR. CHAPPEL: Mine has gone down.
- MR. KING: Mine has gone down.
- MR. OAKLEY: Mine has gone down.
- 14 Q. 26 percent?
- 15 A. (BY MR. KING) 4 percent.
- Q. Question 31. Subpart H provides maximum
- 17 costs for writing specific reports, if the Agency
- 18 requests additional information which is already
- 19 present in the report or requires revisions which
- 20 exceed the minimum requirements of the Act, is there
- 21 any mechanism for payments of these costs?
- 22 A. (BY MR. CHAPPEL) The lump sum costs include
- 23 any miscellaneous correspondence, faxes, telephone
- 24 calls. All that is included with the lump sum of

- 1 cost.
- Q. What about the situation where there is a
- 3 one-page letter or numerous phone calls that are
- 4 actually incurred because of an Agency personnel
- 5 error? For example, the Agency reviewer didn't read
- 6 the whole report or misread something in the report.
- 7 A. Well, I assume that if it was due to an
- 8 Agency error, that we would consider those costs.
- 9 Q. Number 32. The Agency has repeatedly stated
- 10 that it cannot complete reviews of costs based on time
- and materials without the assistance of some sort of
- 12 quidance rate. On that basis, what criteria will the
- 13 Agency use to determine reasonableness on a time and
- 14 materials basis for items such as alternative
- technologies and free product removal?
- 16 A. (BY MR. CLAY) We review these on a
- 17 case-by-case basis, and base that determination on the
- demonstration of reasonableness of the costs by the
- 19 consultant and our experience.
- 20 Q. Number 34. Instead of setting lump sum
- 21 rates, did the Agency consider using formulas that
- 22 took into account site-specific factors, such as
- 23 distance from services? Another example, actual
- landfill costs? If so, why was that idea rejected?

- 1 A. (BY MR. CLAY) We looked at a number of
- 2 options to simplify the budget reimbursement process.
- 3 We believe this is the best option. We looked at
- 4 requiring bids. We looked at a number of other
- 5 options.
- 6 But, again, the goal of this rule
- 7 making -- one of the goals of this rule making is to
- 8 simplify and streamline the process, and we felt like
- 9 this was the best option.
- 10 Q. Number 35. The Agency provides costs for
- 11 excavation and disposal and then alternative
- 12 technologies must be budgeted on a time and materials
- 13 basis. The Agency also requires cost comparisons to
- 14 conventional technology for alternative technology
- 15 proposals. What is the Agency considering
- 16 conventional groundwater treatment technology and what
- is its mechanism for payment?
- 18 A. (BY MR. CLAY) Any groundwater treatment
- 19 technology should be based on time and materials. By
- 20 definition, there is no conventional technology for
- 21 groundwater treatment
- QUESTIONS BY MR. WIENHOFF:
- 23 Q. So then why would groundwater remediation be
- 24 required to have a cost comparison since there is no

- 1 conventional technology to compare it to?
- 2 A. The Agency could compare it to other
- 3 groundwater technologies, but there would be no
- 4 conventional technology to compare it to, yes.
- 5 Q. In your initial submittal, you would not
- 6 provide a cost comparison? But if the Agency required
- one, you would be expected to be provided one?
- 8 A. (BY MR. CLAY) That's correct.
- 9 MR. WIENHOFF: Thank you.
- 10 QUESTIONS BY MS. HESSE:
- 11 Q. Number 36. If the fuel tax exemption for
- 12 off-road diesel is lifted, excavation and backfill
- 13 costs will increase. Is there any provision to raise
- 14 rates if this or any other factors outside normal
- inflation occur, which could directly cause an
- 16 increase in costs?
- 17 A. (BY MR. CLAY) The Agency or any party can
- 18 propose change to these regulations at any time.
- 19 OUESTIONS BY MR. WIENHOFF:
- Q. And in your experience, how long does that
- 21 procedure typically take?
- 22 A. (BY MR. CLAY) Well, when do we file those?
- I mean, it is a lengthy process, and everybody
- 24 understands that.

1 But, you know, the gist of the question is,

- if there's a change that affects these rates, we've
- 3 got an inflation factor proposed in there. If there's
- 4 a significant change, I'm not sure how we do that, you
- 5 know, aside from a Board proceeding.
- 6 QUESTIONS BY MS. HESSE:
- 7 O. Number 37. And I do have one after that. So
- 8 I apologize in advance. It's rule number 38 here.
- 9 37. The regulations should include the
- 10 methods and procedures for setting rates, not for
- 11 rates themselves. This way, factors outside the realm
- of normal inflation, such as a fuel tax exemption,
- inflation, such as off-road diesel can be addressed
- 14 more quickly. What is the Agency's reason for
- 15 publishing rates in the regulations as opposed to
- 16 simply calculating a method for determining the rates
- in which the rates can more easily be adjusted for
- 18 changing "real world" situations?
- 19 A. (BY MR. CLAY) As I said previously, we
- 20 looked at other options and felt this was the best
- 21 option. Again, remember one of the goals was to
- 22 simplify the process.
- What you're proposing, or the way I
- understand what you're proposing, I believe it would

1 only complicate the process and make it that much more

- 2 difficult.
- 3 Q. Would it complicate the process? Or would we
- 4 end up with a lot more sites coming in under the
- 5 provision that allows increased costs and the
- 6 extenuating circumstances or the unusual
- 7 circumstances?
- 8 A. I think that we believe these costs are
- 9 reasonable. And like I said, we designed these so
- 10 that a very small percentage could come in under the
- 11 extraordinary circumstances.
- 12 QUESTIONS BY MR. WIENHOFF:
- 13 Q. How do you envision that the process would be
- 14 more complicated if the rates were simply published on
- the Web site as opposed to being published in the
- 16 regulation?
- 17 A. (BY MR. CLAY) Well, the rates
- 18 themselves -- let me go back. Are you talking about
- 19 publishing Subpart H on the Web site? Or just like
- 20 personnel rates without hours attached to them?
- Q. Right. We'll say -- say you have in the
- 22 regulation, there's a half day which you get four
- 23 borings for a half a day. The actual rate for half a
- 24 day is on the Web site, and the regulations allow you

1 to post that on your Web site. And then if something

- 2 occurs, then you can change it more easily.
- 3 And the regulation says you can have an
- 4 excavation, disposal, transportation rate on the Web
- 5 site. And that way if off-road diesel was listed, as
- 6 they've discussed, and that would cause
- 7 trucking -- or would cause excavation equipment to go
- 8 up and backfill costs to go up because of that. Then
- 9 you could adjust it to 58 instead of 57, without
- 10 having to spend nine months in here.
- 11 A. Well, I understand. That sounds good in
- 12 practice, but the reality is there are so many costs
- in here. I mean, what if the costs of road goes up,
- 14 and what if the cost of gas goes down, and the cost of
- 15 diesel goes down? Which I hope it does soon. But I
- 16 mean, there's some costs that you're talking about
- 17 now, getting us away from the inflation factor, that
- have to be monitored almost constantly. And, you
- 19 know, I don't understand how that simplifies the
- 20 process.
- Q. Well, I mean, if those costs adjusted, now
- 22 what you're saying if the cost of road goes up, you'd
- 23 have to go to the Board to get it? So I think
- 24 that -- I'll stop from giving testimony. I would

- 1 think --
- 2 A. (BY MR. KING) To me it sounds like what
- 3 you're suggesting with this is that the Board adopt a
- 4 rule which authorizes the Agency to adopt a rate?
- 5 Q. Right. Yes, adopt a rule.
- 6 A. Outside of rule making?
- 7 Q. No. Adopt a rule that says --
- 8 A. I mean, the Agency, we would publish
- 9 something, and it wouldn't be a rule. We would
- 10 publishing something on our Web site, and that would
- 11 be the number.
- 12 Q. The rule says you calculate your excavation,
- disposal, transportation rate this way. You do that.
- 14 And then it's published on the Web site. So it's
- 15 published within the context of the rule. And it's
- 16 published in a way that's approved by the Board.
- 17 A. (BY MR. CLAY) I guess if you calculate it
- 18 this way and that's a fairly simple way as opposed to,
- 19 you know --
- Q. Just once a year revise those calculations.
- 21 Spend a week and do them, and then you have your new
- 22 rate. It may go up, it may go down. I don't know.
- 23 I'll stop. I don't want to testify.
- 24 A. I think it sounds like maybe something you

1 would want to propose an adjustment on.

- 3 QUESTIONS BY MS. HESSE:
- Q. Earlier this afternoon, Mr. Oakley, you said
- 5 that typically in a typical month you would send out
- 6 150 to 200 review letters. Of those letters, how many
- 7 reimbursed in full the requested costs?
- 8 A. (BY MR. OAKLEY) I would have no way of
- 9 knowing that without checking.
- 10 Q. Do you have a ballpark idea?
- 11 A. I'm hesitant to give you that, you know. I
- 12 really can't say without checking the data.
- 13 Q. As far as the number of letters that go out
- 14 from the LUST unit, the estimate was 320 to 350 a
- 15 month. Of those letters, how many of those are
- 16 approvals or denials of proposed budgets?
- 17 A. (BY MR. CLAY) I don't have that data.
- 18 MR. ALBARRACIN: We wouldn't know. We'd have
- 19 to check. There's no way to tell that right now.
- 20 Q. But that's some information you could provide
- 21 to us?
- 22 A. (BY MR. CLAY) I don't know. It may take a
- 23 significant amount of time to do that.
- Q. Is this information that's on the Agency's

- 1 Web site?
- 2 A. Yes. That's where we would get it from.
- 3 Q. So that we could look up the information if
- 4 it's too much bother for you?
- 5 A. Yes, that's correct.
- 6 HEARING OFFICER TIPSORD: Thank you. That
- 7 leaves us with one set of pre-filed questions from the
- 8 Professional Engineers. And I believe Ms. Manning is
- 9 going to take care of those as well.
- 10 MS. MANNING: Thank you. And Mike Rapps of
- 11 Rapps Engineering, who will be testifying on behalf of
- 12 the Illinois Society of Professional Engineers at our
- 13 hearings coming up on June 21st, he will be filing
- 14 pre-filed testimony, and he has asked me to ask
- 15 questions of the Agency that have been pre-filed.
- 16 These questions were pre-filed by Kim
- 17 Robinson who is the former director of the Capital
- 18 Development Board and the current executive director
- of the Illinois Society of Professional Engineers.
- 20 The Illinois Society of Professional
- 21 Engineers is an association of more than 2,000
- 22 professional engineers, engineers in training and
- 23 engineering students. The Illinois Society of
- 24 Professional Engineers' members have interest in this

- 1 proceeding insofar as the Agency proposal has the
- 2 potential to impact their employment and the manner in
- 3 which they conduct their professional activities. The
- 4 questions herein are directed to the Agency, in
- 5 general, and not any one specific individual.
- 6 QUESTIONS BY MS. MANNING:
- 7 Q. The first question is, that the Agency has
- 8 testified that in the past 15 years, it has approved
- 9 over half a billion dollars of reimbursement. And
- 10 that was Mr. Clay's testimony following the
- 11 transcript?
- 12 A. (BY MR. CLAY) Half a billion.
- 13 Q. Half a billion. Thank you. It says half a
- 14 billion. Sorry if I read that wrong. Half a billion
- 15 dollars in reimbursement.
- And as a means to gauge the significance and
- 17 impact of the Agency's proposal, but recognizing that
- a precise accounting may not exist, can the Agency
- 19 provide at least a rough estimate of how these funds,
- 20 that half billion dollars, have been distributed over
- 21 the course of the last several years, particularly
- 22 what percentage of the funds was dispersed to
- engineers/consultants, to excavation contractors, to
- laboratories, to landfills, to truckers, to cement

- 1 contractors, to pavers, to those various businesses?
- 2 Recognizing there are -- and by determining this, it
- 3 may demonstrate that the portion of reimbursement
- 4 monies being distributed for consulting is, is in many
- 5 cases, a small fraction of the actual project cast?
- 6 A. (BY MR. CLAY) To the first part of the
- question, 100 percent can be distributed to the owners
- 8 and operators. 100 percent has been distributed to
- 9 the owners and operators.
- 10 Q. Because the liability is with the owners and
- 11 operators?
- 12 A. Because it's the statutory and regulatory
- 13 requirement the Agency only reimburse the owners and
- 14 operators. We don't keep track of what percentage of
- 15 that goes to consulting invoices or drilling invoices,
- or you know, those other different types of, you
- 17 know -- what the owner and operator has contracted for
- 18 those services.
- 19 And if I may ask a short question. I'm not
- 20 sure what you would consider a small percentage. I
- 21 don't know what, you know, ISPE is considering
- reasonable or small percentage that would go to
- 23 consultants.
- Q. I think the question simply is, does the

- 1 Agency have any idea or keep any track of how the
- 2 funds are dispersed based on projects? And it sounds
- 3 to me like what your answer is, Doug, is that the
- 4 Agency has no such information. And the half a
- 5 billion dollars in reimbursement that has come out of
- 6 the underground storage tank fund, from your
- 7 perspective, goes to owners and operators in any sort
- 8 of disbursement category? And that simply is an
- 9 assumption on the Agency's part, but there's no
- documentation on how that's dispersed?
- 11 A. (BY MR. CLAY) That's correct.
- 12 Q. Thank you. The second question is, what
- 13 approximate fraction of LUST remediation is
- 14 accomplished by TACOing out versus the conventional
- dig and haul versus the pump and treat or other
- 16 alternative technologies?
- 17 A. (BY MR. CLAY) We really don't track projects
- in that manner. And this is a very simplified, I
- 19 guess, way of stating that. I mean, there's almost
- 20 always soil removed at a site. Nothing else during
- 21 early action.
- We've seen a number of times where there's
- 23 been a pump and trade system going on for years and
- doesn't meet remediation objectives. So they revise

- 1 an ordinance.
- So I don't think it's one category. I think
- 3 you're going to see a number of different technologies
- 4 or techniques or, you know, use of TACOing in one area
- 5 and use -- almost always excavating and removing
- 6 disposal of some soil at every site. But we don't
- 7 track in that manner.
- 8 Q. Thank you. I'm going to just skip over C
- 9 because we've already rehashed that. We've gone
- 10 through that.
- 11 And D, I'm going to take a literary license
- 12 with and ask the question my way. Given that
- 13 engineers and geologists are professionals and are
- 14 licensed as such, much like lawyers and doctors are
- 15 licensed, and given that lawyers aren't regulated in
- 16 how much time they spend in court or in proceedings,
- and given that doctors aren't regulated in terms of
- 18 how much time they spend operating on patients or
- 19 visiting patients or determining what a patient's
- 20 needs are, per this rule making, does the Agency
- 21 propose to limit the amount of reimbursable time that
- 22 a licensed professional engineer may devote to the
- 23 investigation of remedial design of LUST incidents,
- 24 despite the law itself requires the certification of

- 1 an engineering geologist on such incidents?
- 2 A. (BY MR. KING) Well, I'm very disappointed
- 3 that you rephrased the question because it begins with
- 4 discussion of the English Common Law. And I saw that
- 5 as being a first opportunity in 15 years of testifying
- 6 where I could actually talk about the English Common
- 7 Law and take us back to the Magna Carta.
- 8 BOARD MEMBER JOHNSON: Just have at it.
- 9 MR. CLAY: It will be 45 minutes.
- 10 HEARING OFFICER TIPSORD: No, we actually
- 11 don't have that.
- 12 MR. KING: Because I have a nice little
- 13 discourse planned here as to the source of law
- 14 relative to these items, but I'll kind of skip to the
- punch line, much to everybody's delight and my
- 16 chagrin.
- 17 What we are proposing is not a limit on the
- 18 amount of reimbursable time. What we were doing, what
- 19 we were proposing is just an amount of reimbursable
- 20 dollars. I think the source of the authority for
- 21 doing that, it goes back to a long ways for doing
- 22 that.
- 23 But there's certainly many clear examples in
- 24 our current society where there are restrictions

1 similar to this imposed on professionals. I think one

- 2 of the key areas that we've seen grow is in the area
- of the medical field where doctors, as a matter of
- 4 insurance policies, are told how much they're going to
- 5 get paid for a surgical operation. Now, they can do
- it slow or they can do it fast, but that's all they're
- 7 going to get. And that's a concept that has come into
- 8 play in our society now.
- 9 So there are certainly constraints as far as
- 10 minimum to professionals based on unit rates, and what
- 11 we have here is a similar type of situation.
- 12 Q. Just as a quick follow-up to that. You would
- 13 agree, would you not, that the certification of a
- 14 licensed professional engineer and a licensed
- 15 professional geologist is that person's professional
- judgment that the site is going to be remediated in a
- way that is protective of human health and environment
- and meets all the regulations of the State of
- 19 Illinois?
- 20 A. They sign a certification that says that?
- 21 Yes, they do.
- MS. MANNING: Thank you.
- 23 HEARING OFFICER TIPSORD: Ms. Hesse?
- 24 QUESTIONS BY MS. HESSE:

- 1 Q. Mr. King, given all the controversy that
- 2 there is lately about managed care, health care costs
- 3 and all those other issues, you really want this
- 4 program to go there?
- 5 A. (BY MR. KING) Well, you know, do we want it
- 6 to go there? No. But do we want it to continue to be
- 7 paid out almost 65 million dollars a year when we're
- 8 seeing a reduction in the number of NFRs being issued,
- 9 the number of releases being reported and so on? As I
- 10 talked about, and Mr. Clay talked about yesterday,
- 11 that certainly is not a good process.
- 12 We're in a situation now where as I testified
- 13 yesterday, as Board Member Novak pointed out, the fund
- in a matter of weeks is going to be broke. And we
- 15 need to have a system that is different than what we
- 16 have now in order to control costs.
- 17 The system that we are proposing has a great
- deal of similarity to systems that have been
- 19 successfully utilized in many other states. And we
- 20 think it is a worthy system for the Board to put into
- 21 rules.
- We certainly are going to go to, and have,
- 23 and are in the process of scheduling further meetings
- 24 with PIPE in the interim to discuss further

1 refinements. And we certainly are willing to consider

- 2 additional refinement to what we've proposed, but we
- 3 think it is a valid approach as far as the system of
- 4 looking at cost containment.
- 5 QUESTIONS BY MS. MANNING:
- 6 Q. I have a question regarding your point that
- 7 the number of NFR letters are decreasing.
- 8 You would agree, would you not, that NFR
- 9 letters are not in and of themselves the only source
- 10 of reimbursement, or a benchmark for how much money is
- 11 being spent and how much remediation is going on and
- 12 the complexity of sites or anything like that? So
- 13 that if NFR letters are decreasing over the years,
- 14 that doesn't mean less work is being performed? It
- 15 simply means you have lesser NFR letters, but there's
- lots of work still going on?
- 17 A. (BY MR. KING) here's the point that's
- 18 important as far as -- and, again, I'm going to draw
- 19 from my experience from other programs, particularly
- in our site remediation program.
- 21 In that program, an owner/operator wants an
- 22 NFR letter, because the NFR letter means the project
- is completed. And in that program, we are seeing an
- 24 increase in the number of NFR letters that have been

1 issued in the last several years. There's been a

- 2 dramatic increase.
- 3 And yet with the LUST program, it seems like
- 4 there's a lot of money being spent, but the ultimate
- 5 result of the owner and operator getting a letter,
- 6 which is closing out his liability relative to that
- 7 site, closing his need to do further remediation, now
- 8 being able to do whatever transaction he wants to do
- 9 at that property, the number is going down.
- 10 Q. But there's still quite a bit of sites that
- are in the pipeline, so to speak, that you've
- testified to earlier that will be getting NFR letters?
- 13 A. That's true. There are many. There are
- 14 still 10,000 sites in the pipeline. That is
- 15 definitely correct.
- 16 Q. And there aren't any less in the pipeline
- than there ever have been historically?
- 18 A. I'm not sure what that means.
- 19 MR. CLAY: I don't know what that means.
- 20 Q. You don't have any less work than you've had
- 21 five years ago in terms of the amount of sites that
- are being remediated?
- 23 A. (BY MR. KING) That's true. We have lots of
- 24 work to do. There's no question about that.

1 Q. As do the people out there doing the

- 2 remediation.
- 3 Thank you.
- 4 HEARING OFFICER TIPSORD: Ms. Hesse?
- 5 QUESTIONS BY MS. HESSE:
- 6 Q. In around '98, '99, was there a change in
- 7 technical requirements related to underground storage
- 8 tanks?
- 9 A. (BY MR. CLAY) You're referring to the
- 10 upgrade requirements?
- 11 Q. Yes.
- 12 A. That were implemented on a federal level in
- 13 1998? I think the tank owners and operators were
- 14 given 10 years to upgrade their tanks and meet certain
- and higher technical standards, leak detection,
- 16 secondary contaminant, that type of thing. That was
- 17 effected -- I believe it was December of '98.
- 18 There was also a period of time -- let me see
- if I can get this correct. '98 was the deadline.
- 20 They could take the tank out -- they had one year
- 21 after that date to close the tank, I believe. An
- owner/operator to actually take that tank out of
- 23 service for a year. And then at the end of that year,
- 24 take another additional year to close the tank. So we

1 were seeing the effects of that '98 deadline with an

- 2 increased number of releases reported because where
- 3 tanks are being removed between '97 and 2000.
- 4 Q. And along with that, with that increase
- 5 because of all the tanks being removed, isn't it
- 6 possible that initially the Agency saw a number of NFR
- 7 letters go through as the tanks that had the minor
- 8 releases, the easier to clean up releases have been
- 9 completed, so that the Agency could issue NFR letters
- 10 for those tanks?
- 11 A. Some of those would be that situation. Some
- 12 we have released would be that situation as well. I'm
- 13 not sure that -- I wouldn't characterize it as the
- 14 10,000 sites that are left being more complicated
- ones.
- 16 Q. But couldn't there still be some sites that
- are sort of carried over from the '97 through 2000
- 18 upgrade work that are still being remediated and are
- 19 still in the system because they're the more
- 20 complicated, more expensive sites?
- 21 A. They could. There are still some of those in
- 22 the system. I wouldn't say some of them may be in the
- 23 system because they're more complicated. Some of them
- 24 may be in the system because inactivity. We've got

1 complicated. We have got sites from the late '80s

- 2 that are still in the system, and it doesn't
- 3 necessarily mean they're complicated. It just means
- 4 that the applicant has not sought a "no further
- 5 remediation" letter.
- 6 HEARING OFFICER TIPSORD: It looks like that
- 7 must be it for today.
- 8 BOARD MEMBER JOHNSON: Can I -- just let me
- 9 ask this.
- 10 OUESTIONS BY BOARD MEMBER JOHNSON:
- 11 Q. We've got stuck on the specificity and the
- 12 specific points here, and I kind of wanted to ask a
- 13 broad question of you guys. And I think it touches on
- 14 stuff that all of you sitting at the proponent's table
- one way or another have mentioned during the course of
- 16 yesterday and today.
- 17 It seems to me there's a number of reasons
- 18 that you at the Agency have initiated this process,
- 19 that you've talked about streamlining the process.
- 20 You've talked about simplifying the reimbursement
- 21 procedure. You've talked about reducing the number of
- 22 appeals. And I'm certain that part of it is that you
- 23 wanted to properly promulgate this rate schedule rule,
- that for some period of time anyway, used and are no

- 1 longer using.
- 2 As you pointed out, Gary, we started this
- 3 Wednesday morning in Bloomington with two documents,
- 4 one showing the current cash balance on hand in the
- 5 UST fund, and the other having a projected
- 6 carry-forward figure into FY '05 of less than
- 7 \$150,000. And I guess it seems to me that you can
- 8 then infer that at least a portion or at least in the
- 9 back of someone's mind -- and part of the reason for
- 10 the initiation of that particular rule is that you're
- 11 seeking to protect the fund, and you're seeking to
- make sure that what we've got there now doesn't go
- 13 away, and we don't end up broke as Chairman Novak
- 14 pointed out.
- 15 And I guess my question is, A, is that in
- 16 fact an elucidated reason that you're going forward
- 17 with this rule making? And, B, isn't it natural then
- 18 to infer in that, that what you're trying to do is to
- 19 seek to reduce the total overall payments out of the
- 20 fund?
- 21 MR. KING: We certainly -- we want to have a
- 22 UST fund that has long-term integrity. We think that
- 23 is critical to protection of human health of the
- 24 environment in the state. We think it's critical to

- 1 the protection of owners and operators, and we think
- 2 it's critical for the consultants and contractors to
- 3 do work on the underground sites. It's our
- 4 responsibility to reimburse reasonable costs.
- 5 We think that, yes, in the overall scope of
- 6 things, yes, I think this will end up reducing costs
- 7 that are -- that will still be in the range of
- 8 reasonable. I mean, I think we'll end up having costs
- 9 that are somewhat lower, but they are still going to
- 10 be in that reasonable range. So I guess I would say I
- 11 agree with the comments that you stated.
- BOARD MEMBER JOHNSON: Thanks.
- 13 HEARING OFFICER TIPSORD: I want to thank you
- 14 all for your attention. I want to thank you all for
- 15 your hard work in the last two days. We've gotten a
- lot of good information that will help the Board as we
- 17 proceed along in this rule making.
- 18 As you all know, we are far from done now.
- 19 We have currently scheduled a hearing going out today
- 20 or tomorrow scheduling hearings beginning June 21st to
- 21 go day to day through Friday of that week if
- 22 necessary. Pre-filed testimony is due by June 7th,
- 23 and you may file that by fax.
- 24 The transcript should be ready and on the Web

1	hopefully by June 2nd.
2	We will then have a second or another set of
3	hearings starting July 6th to hear the testimony of
4	the two people who can't be there on the June 21st.
5	If you have any questions about the hearing,
6	or about the pre-filed testimony, you can contact
7	Cathleen Crowley. Her phone number is
8	(312) 814-6129. I will be back on June 14th and can
9	be reached at that time. You may also always leave a
10	message on my voice mail, and I'll get back to you
11	when I get back in again. Thank you very much.
12	Do you have anything to add to that,
13	Dr. Girard?
14	BOARD MEMBER GIRARD: No. Thank you for your
15	work, and hopefully we won't take the whole week on
16	June 21st. Don't wait until Friday to come. We'll go
17	Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday until we get done.
18	HEARING OFFICER TIPSORD: Thank you very
19	much, and we're adjourned.
20	[End of proceeding.]
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2	CERTIFICATION
3	I, Ann Marie Hollo, Certified Shorthand Reporter Registered Professional Reporter, Registered Merit Reporter and Notary Public duly and qualified in and
4	for the State of Illinois, do hereby certify that the foregoing rule-making proceeding before the Illinois
5	Pollution Control Board came before me on May 26, 2004, at the Lincoln Library, Carnegie North Room, 326
6	South Seventh Street, Springfield, Illinois.
7	I further certify that the foregoing transcript is a true and correct transcript of my original stenographic notes.
O	stemographic notes.
9	I further certify that I am neither attorney or counsel for, nor related to or employed by any of the parties to the action in which this proceeding is
	taken; and furthermore, that I am not a relative or
11	employee of any attorney or counsel employed by the parties hereto or financially interested in the
12	action.
13	IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and affixed my Notarial Seal this 1st day of June,
14	2004.
15	
16	Ann Marie Hollo, CSR, RMR NOTARY PUBLIC
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