

U.S. ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
PUBLIC HEARING
CHEVRON CINCINNATI FACILITY
PROPOSED PLAN FOR CONTAMINATED GROUND WATER

TRANSCRIPT OF PROCEEDINGS

Date: May 9th, 2006
Time: Commencing at 6:34 p.m.
Place: Whitewater Township Senior
Center and Township Hall
6125 Dry Fork Road
Cleves, Ohio 45002
Before: Jennifer Coats
Notary Public - State of Ohio

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P R O C E E D I N G S

BRI BILL: Good evening. We're going to start the meeting now. Can everybody hear me in the back? Can you hear? Yes. Okay, my name is Bri Bill. I'm with the Office of Public Affairs with the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency out of Chicago. With me tonight is: Chris Black, directly to my left, who's our project manager; Gary Cygan, who is our geologist; Bhooma Sundar, who's our toxicologist. Somewhere in the back is our attorney, Jerry Jujawa. We also have George Hamper, who is with our Resource Conservation and Recovery Program. That's the federal law that -- dealing with this site. I also see staff here from Ohio Department of Public Health, and a number of people from Chevron and the Community Advisory Group.

We're here tonight to present a proposed plan, to manage and clean up contaminated groundwater under the Chevron site, and under the village of Hooven, and a portion of the commercial area. I say "proposed" because EPA has not made a final decision on the cleanup technique that we wanted to use. And we are

1 not going to make it until we have considered
2 everybody's comments. We very much value
3 everybody's input. And we plan to carefully
4 consider each and every comment that you make,
5 either tonight verbally or that you send to us
6 in writing.

7 There's several options for submitting
8 comments to us in writing. They're all noted
9 on the fax sheet in the back of -- in the
10 hallway there. Our comment period ends on May
11 30th. So we would need your comments by then.
12 I want to mention, too, that our meeting is
13 being transcribed tonight by a court reporter
14 to my left. And we want to accurately capture
15 your comments. Later in the meeting when we
16 take public comment, it will be important that
17 any time that you speak, to state your name and
18 to spell your name so that we get it
19 accurately. The meeting transcript, the
20 written transcript will be available in the
21 library, probably in about a month. And we'll
22 also put it on our website. If you'd like your
23 own copy, we can arrange to do that, too.

24 I think everybody -- it looks like people
25 picked up handouts in the back. The agenda is

1 the pink one. On the back -- there's the
2 agenda on one side. On the back, it's just
3 kind of a cheat sheet about some of the
4 alternatives that we have been looking at,
5 including our preferred alternative. There's
6 also a copy of the March 2000 -- just a summary
7 table of the March 2005 results from a soil
8 vapor study that Chevron did, that we held a
9 public meeting about in November, as well as
10 some commonly asked questions, along with some
11 answers. So make sure to pick that up.

12 There's also a copy of the detailed
13 proposed cleanup plan. It's called a Statement
14 of Basis. It's the thick document. Some of
15 you may have it. But if you don't, feel free
16 to pick it up. It's in the box. And finally,
17 there's a fact sheet back there. It's gray.

18 I want to mention, too, we did have a
19 mix-up with the fact sheet. There were two
20 boxes that were going to this area a month or
21 so -- three weeks ago, I guess. One was going
22 to the township here, the other was going to
23 the post office. And the boxes got sent --
24 each one got sent to the other one's address.
25 So I don't know what happened. It got

1 mislabeled somehow. And I apologize for that.
2 I want to thank Marcus Greer -- I think that's
3 him in the back, for calling that to our
4 attention, and taking the boxes that were
5 supposed to go to the post office, to the post
6 office, so that it could be put in the post
7 office boxes for people who live in Hooven.

8 Okay. So enough of that. We're going to
9 talk -- we're going to have a short
10 presentation by Chris Black, our project
11 manager. And he's going to talk about 30, 35
12 minutes on our preferred cleanup plan. He will
13 also cover, briefly, some of the options that
14 we are not recommending tonight, along with the
15 criteria that we use to evaluate cleanup
16 alternatives. Just want to mention, too, if
17 you would allow Chris to finish his
18 presentation, we're going to devote the rest of
19 the meeting to questions and comments. Okay.

20 CHRIS BLACK: Can you hear me? Is that
21 pretty clear? Okay, thanks. Thanks for
22 coming. We put up a Statement of Basis. As we
23 explained, this is our proposed remedy for the
24 groundwater. So that's the detailed document.
25 We just want to give a summary, and this short

1 presentation of the main points in that
2 document. So this is kind of the summary, sort
3 of presentation.

4 All right. Like Bri said, she did the
5 introduction. We're going to do the
6 presentation. In the presentation I will talk
7 about what the next steps are going to be. And
8 then after that, we'll have our question and
9 answer opportunity. So really it's -- we're
10 here to listen. This is your opportunity to
11 give comments on this proposed remedy. This is
12 the Statement of Basis. Just put the slide in
13 here to say, here it comes. This is our
14 document and summary. The recommended
15 alternative is alternative two. And we laid
16 out some bullet points for that alternative.
17 One major component is called high grade
18 pumping. And that's taking out -- the
19 petroleum out of the ground at times of a low
20 water table. And the high grade pumping would
21 be done at very high volumes, something along
22 the lines of about 3,300 gallons per minute.
23 Much of the current pumping that takes place
24 has been more in the range of 1,000 gallons per
25 minute. So it would be very high pumping

1 rates. And we're going to rely on the natural
2 attenuation that's taking place in the ground
3 as a part of our remedy.

4 The existing pump wells that are here now
5 will be phased out over approximately a year,
6 maybe a little bit longer, and then we're going
7 to rely on the high grade pump. And we'll get
8 to why we think this is a good option, some of
9 the supporting information, around a few slides
10 later. The contingency action is to look at
11 this in a five-year time frame. Say, have this
12 process take place and then do a five-year
13 review. And say, well, is it working? And if
14 not, let's go back and look at other remedy
15 options.

16 Our goal is to reach federal drinking
17 water guidelines in a 30-year time. Some other
18 parts of this alternative two are engineering
19 controls along the riverbank, to stabilize the
20 riverbank. There's an up bank along the Miami
21 River. We saw some erosion in some of the
22 impacted soil from that riverbank, has gotten
23 into the river. We want to cut that off and
24 fill -- stabilize a structure there. Right now
25 there's temporary things in place to stabilize

1 the riverbank.

2 Next bullet, there is institutional
3 controls. They are legal documents on
4 groundwater at the site. No use of ground
5 water and no basements at the facility
6 property. We're going to continue to operate
7 what's been operating since 2000, that's the
8 soil vapor extraction system that operates
9 underneath Hooven.

10 Lastly, continue monitoring of the
11 groundwater and the Hooven vapor wells. So the
12 vapor wells on the site will continued to be
13 monitored.

14 Other alternatives that were considered
15 are listed up here, one, three, four, five.
16 The first is no action. Alternative three is
17 everything listed on alternative two plus site
18 wide soil vapor extraction. And the site wide
19 means on the facility property. Alternative
20 four is alternative three and In-situ Air
21 Sparging, which is sort of pumping air into the
22 ground and bubbling up -- mostly with the soil
23 vapor extraction. Alternative five is
24 alternative three plus what's called SEAR,
25 which is Surfactant Enhanced Aquifer

1 Remediation. We'll talk about what that is in
2 the upcoming slides.

3 I just had a few definitions before we go
4 forward. And it's pretty simple, some of you
5 might already know this. But just in terms of
6 groundwater, what is groundwater? So it's the
7 reservoir of fresh water underneath the ground
8 in the porous rocks. It's the water between
9 the little particles in the ground. And in
10 Hooven, those are mostly sands and gravels.

11 The plume is the area of contaminated
12 groundwater. So if you had a map view and
13 you're up in a helicopter looking down, the
14 plume is all the area where the groundwater is
15 impacted. And here the plume is where we find
16 gasoline, so it tends to sit towards the top of
17 the groundwater table.

18 And the smear zone, because the
19 groundwater table fluctuates, the Great Miami
20 River goes up and down, the groundwater flows
21 up and down. And when it does, the petroleum
22 is spread out in a smear zone in a pretty wide
23 range, 10 to 15 feet thick.

24 Basically a brief summary of the site, in
25 '31 to '85, Gulf operated the refinery. So in

1 '85 Chevron acquired and operated the refinery.
2 In '86 it was shut down. In '85 there was a
3 oily sheen that was seen on the Great Miami
4 River, and that suggested groundwater
5 contamination by petroleum hydrocarbons. At
6 that point, pump wells were installed. Many of
7 those same pump wells continue to operate. In
8 '93, U.S. EPA got involved. And we had a legal
9 agreement that's called a consent order, to
10 clean up the whole site. So since '93, we've
11 been -- we had this consent order between U.S.
12 EPA and Chevron. And this cleanup has been
13 going on since that time. From 1993 to the
14 present, in terms of groundwater, what's been
15 taking place at the site is a lot of wells on
16 the site pumping. Some of them are used to
17 keep the groundwater pointing towards the site,
18 the hydraulic control, and some are used for
19 extraction of gasoline contaminates on the
20 site. So there's a couple different kinds that
21 are there.

22 In 2001, there was a Corrective Measure
23 Study that was conducted. And this Corrective
24 Measure Study pretty much laid out those
25 alternatives we saw previous, the remedy

1 options for groundwater. After that in 2003,
2 there was a conceptual groundwater remedy
3 report. And this was a follow-up to the CMS,
4 Corrective Measure Study, and gave us more
5 updated information on the remedy options.
6 Since then, about 2004 to 2006, there's been
7 continued studies that have been conducted, to
8 try to figure out what's the best way to clean
9 up the groundwater.

10 There was a high grade pump test that
11 happened last fall, and that was in one of the
12 existing wells near 129, close to Hooven. And
13 that was to see if we run -- if it's run at
14 very high rates, then what's going to happen?
15 And the information that was taken from there,
16 was that it works pretty well. 13,000 gallons
17 of petroleum were recovered during that test.
18 And the test showed that the influence of that
19 well goes under Hooven, and can draw out
20 petroleum from underneath Hooven. That was
21 good for us to know that information.

22 There was a shutdown test that was
23 conducted previous to that, or after that from
24 December into January. So there was careful
25 monitoring around the edge of the plume to

1 ensure stability. And that shutdown test
2 showed us, at least for that short time frame,
3 that the plume doesn't move. It's pretty
4 stable. None of the wells showed up with any
5 results that showed us that there was any
6 movement.

7 There's also monitoring of the river and
8 groundwater near the river. It's kind of a
9 complex system. How does the groundwater
10 interact with the river? And we did studies
11 concerning that area. There's also studying
12 and monitoring of the groundwater, and the
13 smear zone near the southwest quadrant. And
14 we'll show a map of that. That's basically a
15 developed area where the Kroger is down that
16 way. And see, if that's the leading edge of
17 the plume, what's going on down there? Those
18 are some of the recent studies to help us
19 understand the groundwater.

20 Okay. This is an aerial photo, just
21 showing -- from 1975, showing the site. You
22 can see here. Here is US Route 50. Here is
23 State Route 128. Here is the old gravel quarry
24 down here. Here is the refinery property.
25 Here is the town of Hooven. Put a big arrow on

1 here, just indicating general direction of
2 groundwater flow. So it parallels the river,
3 and down there and south, kind of southwest
4 direction. So I think it's a good idea --
5 gives you a general impression of the location
6 and the general groundwater flow.

7 Here's a map that shows us a couple of
8 things. First you see the area -- kind of in
9 the tan colored areas, the refinery property.
10 Slightly different shade of blue up here is
11 what's called the southwest quadrant. And over
12 here is the town of Hooven. The other
13 information that's valuable on this map is all
14 of these little round circles here with the
15 crosses, are monitoring wells, the black ones.
16 And the pump wells are these blue crosses of
17 circles. Over here -- there's a number right
18 here along 128, down in this area.

19 AUDIENCE MEMBER: Do you have the
20 abandoned wells on there?

21 CHRIS BLACK: We'd like to finish the
22 presentation. If you have questions after
23 that, we can address those.

24 Right here at the edge, you see where the
25 edge of the south plume is at. And this inside

1 of that doesn't show up so well. Here's the
2 other line that shows us the edge of the smear
3 zone. So we know the groundwater direction is
4 this way. And here is where we have our edge
5 of the plume.

6 This map pretty much shows the same
7 orientation. What I wanted to say, that
8 compared to the aerial photo, we flip things
9 around. North is up this way. There's 50.
10 Here is 128 again. And these red Os here show
11 us the high grade pump area. So high grade
12 pump areas are going to be in places where the
13 worst contamination is, and those are the
14 places we want to focus on. So these two areas
15 are the high grade areas. This area here is
16 where the test was conducted.

17 AUDIENCE MEMBER: What's the name of that
18 map?

19 CHRIS BLACK: Excuse me?

20 AUDIENCE MEMBER: What's the name of that
21 map? What did you call it again?

22 CHRIS BLACK: This shows us the high grade
23 pump area.

24 AUDIENCE MEMBER: Okay.

25 CHRIS BLACK: So it's kind of two little

1 circles, or ovals, that show us the base areas
2 where the worst contamination is, and the high
3 grade pumping areas. So to summarize, some
4 potential risk to the people and the
5 environment, currently no one is drinking the
6 contaminated groundwater. People are on a
7 clean water system. There's restrictions on
8 future groundwater use on the facility that's
9 in the proposal -- and in terms of people in
10 Hooven and off site, outside of the
11 restrictions from OEPA, in terms of putting in
12 groundwater wells near plumes. The vapor from
13 a plume does not reach the surface. I mean, we
14 talked about it extensively last November. And
15 the data that we have shows us that there's no
16 connection between the plume.

17 In terms of the river, there's erosion
18 control barriers -- erosion control in place
19 and barrier plans. So this is the more
20 detailed -- the next few slides, that talk
21 about what we listed out earlier, those
22 alternatives. And we'll describe alternative
23 three, four and five. Alternative three is two
24 plus SVE, so that's extract the soil vapor and
25 treat it. That remedy had 17 horizontal wells

1 under the Chevron property. It's estimated
2 about 12 years for effectiveness. But the
3 remainder of that time, monitored natural
4 attenuation would be in place to clean up the
5 rest of that contamination.

6 Alternative four is alternative three plus
7 in-situ air sparging. So that injects air into
8 groundwater and helps degrade the petroleum.
9 When they put the air into it, bubble up the
10 water, the vapors will be released and then the
11 soil vapor extraction will capture those
12 vapors. It would require a dense grid of 3,500
13 wells in 50 foot centers across the facility.
14 Estimated, that would be about 10 years of
15 effectiveness. And then the MNA, the Monitored
16 Natural Attenuation, would still be the remedy
17 for the remainder of the contamination.

18 Alternative five is alternative three plus
19 this Surfactant Enhanced Aquifer Remediation.
20 And that would be an injection of a surfactant,
21 or kind of a detergent, that would be injected
22 into the ground and would strip the petroleum
23 from the rocks. And it would be pumped out
24 down flow in the ground water. Soil vapor
25 would be present, to get whatever comes off

1 that process in terms of vapor. And it's
2 estimated at about an eight-year time frame for
3 effective life. And again, Monitor Natural
4 Attenuation would still be the remedy for the
5 remaining.

6 So all of the alternatives, two, three,
7 four and five, pass the EPA screening criteria;
8 that is, they're protective of the human health
9 on the environment. They attain cleanup
10 standards. They control the source. And they
11 comply with standards for waste management. So
12 all of them pass our screening criteria. But
13 of the ones that passed, that is two, three,
14 four and five, we used an evaluation criteria
15 to look at those. So we listed out here what
16 criteria are you used in evaluating. And that
17 is, long-term reliability, reduction of
18 toxicity, mobility or volume of waste, short
19 term effectiveness, implementability and cost.
20 So all five of those things were considered
21 when evaluating those alternatives.

22 When you look at the alternatives most
23 reliable in the long term, the pump and treat
24 system in alternative two has measurable proven
25 results over the last 20 years. So we know

1 that it's reliable. In terms of reduction in
2 toxicity, mobility or volume, three, four and
3 five provide more reduction of volume in a
4 shorter time frame, but all of the alternatives
5 reduce toxicity. That is, they all get the
6 petroleum out of the ground. Alternative five
7 may increase mobility. When tests were done --
8 lab tests were done, you saw that when you put
9 that surfactant in, it's kind of hard to
10 capture, and some of it might spread.

11 In terms of short-term effectiveness, the
12 ones that are more engineering oriented are
13 alternative three, four and five -- are more
14 effective in the short term. In terms of
15 implementability, alternative two is readily
16 implementable, because there's the water
17 treatment system that's on site. There's a
18 system of wells that exist there already. And
19 the tests conducted show high grade pumping is
20 effective. And the plume is stable from our
21 tests that were conducted.

22 Cost is the last factor. EPA has to
23 consider that along with all factors. And
24 alternative two has the lowest cost. So the
25 next steps, we want to collect all comments.

1 We're here to hear what you have to say about
2 this -- questions, comments, everything. So
3 we're here to listen to what you have to say.
4 And it's your public chance to participate. So
5 we will reply to all relevant comments, like
6 Bri was saying. And eventually we will issue a
7 final decision, response to comments. When we
8 get back our comments, take a look at those and
9 provide a written response. After that, we
10 will negotiate an administrative order and
11 consent, that's a legal agreement with Chevron,
12 put it in place. Then Chevron will implement
13 the remedy with EPA providing oversight. So
14 those are kind of the next steps. So that's
15 all I have. Thank you.

16 BRI BILL: Thank you. Those of you who
17 are standing in the back, would you like
18 chairs? If you would like a chair, raise your
19 hand. Okay, so we've got more chairs. Can
20 everyone hear me? Can you hear me in the back?
21 Yes. Okay, we're going to go ahead and open
22 the floor to questions and comments. Could I
23 see a quick show of hands of how many people
24 think they want to make remarks tonight?

25 Okay, thanks. I want to mention again,

1 that this is an official opportunity for people
2 to comment. But we will be responding to your
3 questions and comments in writing. We will --
4 and the written responses will be included in
5 our final decision document. We will be
6 putting that document in the library and
7 posting it on our website. And we could
8 certainly get you your own copy if you like.
9 Again, that's one of the reasons we're
10 transcribing the meeting, we want to make sure
11 we get all of your comments.

12 Our intention tonight is, if you need some
13 clarification on anything you have heard here
14 or anything about the site, we'll do our best
15 to answer that question tonight. If you are
16 simply stating your opinion about particular
17 things, we won't be responding tonight. And
18 again, we'll be doing that later in writing.
19 We're going to ask that you try to keep your
20 comments to about 3 minutes, so that we can get
21 to everybody before the end of the meeting.
22 You know, certainly we'll go back if you have
23 more to say. We'll give you another
24 opportunity, assuming that there's time. And I
25 think there will be.

1 Again, what I'll do is, I will try to call
2 on four people at a time. And once we've been
3 through, we'll start again. And again, when
4 you stand up, we ask you to speak as loudly as
5 you can. And state your name, and spell your
6 name so that the court reporter gets it
7 accurately. And we've asked her, if she can't
8 hear you, to wave or do whatever you need to,
9 so that we can make sure we've got that.

10 Just to begin the question and answer, if
11 you will -- ask that you just raise your hand.
12 And I'll call on you. Because of our -- we
13 don't have a lot of mics up here in the front
14 of the room. So we're just -- our various
15 panelists are going to have to come to the mic
16 and answer your questions. I ask that you be
17 patient with that.

18 I'd first like to, before we actually
19 start the question and comment, introduce
20 constituent liaison Stephen Hill with
21 Congressman Chabot's office. And here he is.
22 He's got cards, if anyone wants to talk to him
23 after the meeting. Or would you like to say
24 anything now?

25 MR. HILL: I just want to say if you have

1 any questions about the proceedings, we're
2 here. We were invited here, and glad to be
3 here -- about to find out more about what's
4 going on. If you have any questions, comments
5 that you'd like to direct to the congressman,
6 by all means feel free to call, send a letter.
7 And here is -- the address and phone number's
8 on the card, and certainly would like to get
9 back in touch with you. I have cards. And if
10 you want to flag me down after the meeting,
11 feel free to do so.

12 BRI BILL: Okay. And we'll go with you
13 first in the back.

14 TARA LANE: My name is Tara Lane, T-a-r-a,
15 L-a-n-e. I live in Cleves. Do you need an
16 address as well?

17 BRI BILL: No.

18 TARA LANE: I live in the Cleves area.
19 And I guess first of all, I'd just like to say
20 that some of the things that you were
21 saying was, there's five alternatives. Okay,
22 the first one is no action, and then you went
23 on to explain a lot of these other ones. But
24 you never went over the first one. You said,
25 no action. And, you know, my question is, this

1 is what you've been doing, is nothing. So with
2 that, why are you doing something now if
3 there's no harm from this plume? Why aren't
4 you telling us there's no harm, we're not going
5 to do nothing because we don't need to?

6 You're bringing on a lot of other options
7 and telling us what we can do, how we can save
8 everybody, no -- you know, why did you move the
9 water thing? Why are you coming up with all of
10 these alternatives that's going to cost Chevron
11 millions of dollars if it's not harmful? You
12 know, you've been doing nothing, so why are you
13 doing something now? That's one of my biggest
14 questions.

15 You know, the next one is, you're saying
16 that it's going to take 30 years to do the --
17 you said number two was what you guys really
18 wanted to do -- number two. So if it's going
19 to take 30 years, why haven't you started that
20 in 1985 when this first thing started? Why --
21 I mean, that could have been 20 years gone.
22 Now we're at this point, and we've still got to
23 wait another 30 years, to wonder and worry if
24 what's going on with a lot of us in this town
25 has anything to do with this. And you're

1 saying, no, it doesn't. Well, why are you
2 doing anything now, because we're all saying
3 it?

4 BRI BILL: Okay. I'll just mention
5 briefly that no action alternative literally
6 means nothing more is done. No more
7 monitoring, no more testing, no more pumping,
8 literally nothing more from this point out --
9 from the time we actually issue our cleanup
10 decision. Chris, do you want to --

11 CHRIS BLACK: Yeah. I can address it.
12 First, you talked about the no action and some
13 questions about that. The no action
14 alternative didn't pass our screening criteria.
15 Put those up there in terms of, you know, are
16 they protective of human health and the
17 environment? And the answer was no. So we
18 didn't take those any further. It was screened
19 out.

20 TARA LANE: So why isn't it an
21 alternative?

22 CHRIS BLACK: Why is it an alternative to
23 start with?

24 TARA LANE: Yes.

25 CHRIS BLACK: That's a good question. But

1 I think what gets to your question is that when
2 we look at contrasting alternatives, one would
3 be, what if we do nothing? Well, as it turns
4 out, it's not protecting the human health and
5 the environment. I think maybe sometimes in
6 some situations, perhaps no action would be
7 protective. But in this case, it's not.

8 TARA LANE: And that kind of goes back to
9 the question I just asked. If there is no -- I
10 mean, you're saying if it's not in human
11 protective, whatever, to do no action at all,
12 then we should be worried. We should be
13 concerned about what's going on, as far as our
14 health. You're saying it's not getting up
15 there. It's not coming through the vapor
16 barriers.

17 CHRIS BLACK: I think one of the things
18 we're looking at -- yes, from what we see from
19 the data, we don't think there's any risks to
20 human health. But we also want to get the
21 aquifer back and restored to some useful
22 purpose. So in terms of getting the
23 groundwater back to a useful state, that's
24 another one of our goals.

25 TARA LANE: Okay. My next question is, I

1 live in Cleves --

2 BRI BILL: We're going to move on to --

3 TARA LANE: I thought you said three
4 minutes.

5 BRI BILL: Three minutes. I think they're
6 probably about up.

7 CHRIS BLACK: What else -- does that
8 address your original two questions? No
9 action --

10 TARA LANE: Well, I live in Cleves. And
11 one of the things that I wanted to know is, a
12 lot of things have been done in the Hooven area
13 and there has been nothing done in the Cleves
14 area, so how do you know if we're affected at
15 all by this? How do you know if there's plumes
16 underneath there? How do you determine that?

17 CHRIS BLACK: Well, is there any reason to
18 think that there will be a source of
19 contamination in Cleves? I mean, I'm not aware
20 of any.

21 TARA LANE: Well, if the plume is large
22 and it has moved or settled, or anything like
23 that -- I mean, how do you know that?

24 CHRIS BLACK: Well, the information we
25 have is -- we define the plume as we define --

1 went around and determined the edges of the
2 plume. And, you know, none of that extends as
3 far as Cleves, from the information we have.
4 Have you seen the general groundwater, flow of
5 direction?

6 TARA LANE: Yeah. I seen all that. But
7 have you tested to make sure -- have you went
8 across the river?

9 CHRIS BLACK: Well, there's a public water
10 well system in Cleves, then that's something
11 that the Ohio EPA would look at in terms of, is
12 that a well that's put in? Is it clean? Is
13 there a problem? If you have some evidence or
14 some information that says, boy, you know,
15 there's some manufacturing site, there's some
16 other problem in Cleves, you know, please bring
17 that to our attention. State or federal EPA
18 can check into that.

19 TARA LANE: I guess my last comment is, is
20 that the only time you're going to do
21 something, is if somebody tells you.

22 CHRIS BLACK: Yes. I'm not sure how to
23 answer that question. But, you know --

24 TARA LANE: That's my comment.

25 CHRIS BLACK: That's a comment. Fair

1 enough.

2 BRI BILL: Just to modify this a little
3 bit. If you're going to actually just comment,
4 and not be asking questions, feel free to talk
5 for three minutes or so. But I think in terms
6 of questions, try to keep it to two or three,
7 at least, until everybody's had a chance to ask
8 a question, and then we'll get back to you.

9 JOE BROCKMAN: I'm Jo Brockman,
10 B-r-o-c-k-m-a-n. And I was raised in North
11 Bend most of my life. And I invested in
12 property in Hooven in the beginning of 2003.
13 And I can't believe -- I think it's kind of
14 strange that I'm just finding out in 2003 that
15 this is under there, or else I wouldn't have
16 bought the property. So my property value goes
17 straight down, right? Okay, my property value
18 goes down, of course. My taxes won't, my
19 property value goes down. And I'm wondering if
20 somebody's going to reimburse me what value
21 I've lost on my property. Because I can't sell
22 it for what I bought it for. Nobody wants to
23 buy it.

24 BRI BILL: You're wondering about property
25 value and reimbursement?

1 JO BROCKMAN: Yes. Is anybody going to
2 reimburse me what the value was and what it is
3 now -- from what it was, or what I could sell
4 it for? Nobody's every mentioned that. I bet
5 I could write down -- put a sign on it and sell
6 it for about 20,000.

7 BRI BILL: Sure. Okay, our role at the
8 agency is to oversee a cleanup from this point
9 forward, from the time that we got involved.
10 As far as reimbursement, that's an issue that
11 you need to deal with with private counsel.
12 It's not something that we can get involved in.

13 JOE BROCKMAN: I'm just finding out about
14 a lot of stuff. I heard somebody got private
15 counsel. I didn't know about it. I don't live
16 there. I live in North Bend. So --

17 BRI BILL: Sure.

18 JO BROCKMAN: I missed out on a lot of
19 stuff by living somewhere else. I still go to
20 Hooven. I go to King's Inn. And I'm involved
21 over there. But I'm worried about my aunt and
22 uncle who's living over there. And I'm going
23 to feel guilty if they have to move out -- very
24 guilty. Thank you.

25 BRI BILL: Sure. I understand. Can I see

1 a show of hands of who would like to speak next
2 here? And was there somebody over on this
3 side? Okay, go ahead, sir.

4 CLIFF FENNEL: I just have a couple of
5 questions. Cliff Fennell, F-e-n-n-e-l-l. I'm
6 a property owner in Hooven, have been for 25
7 years. On your presentation, you've got high
8 grade pumping. And in five years, you're going
9 to check to see if it works. I don't
10 understand. If you're going to put high grade
11 pumping in, why can't you test that in six
12 months to a year, and find out whether it's
13 working or not? Why does it take five years?

14 CHRIS BLACK: Yes. So what you're asking
15 about is a five-year review of high grade
16 pumping.

17 CLIFF FENNEL: Yes. That's what you
18 said.

19 CHRIS BLACK: Maybe it was unclear on the
20 slides. But we did a pump test for the high
21 grade pumping and we're confident that that
22 works well. The five-year review is to look at
23 the Monitoring Natural Attenuation, and to look
24 at whatever else might be on site. So we
25 anticipate that the high grade pump will work

1 well.

2 But in terms of a five-year review, it's
3 not checking in five years to see if it works.
4 We're still going -- the EPA is still going to
5 look at the results that are done by Chevron
6 and say, are they effective? And we're going
7 to see them as they happen. So five years away
8 is a way to take a comprehensive look at it and
9 say, well is the Monitored Natural Attenuation
10 working? How is that affecting the high grade
11 pumping? And if it's not working well, then
12 take another look at it.

13 CLIFF FENNEL: Okay. The other question
14 I have is, you stated that the vapors under
15 Hooven have not reached the surface.

16 CHRIS BLACK: Correct.

17 CLIFF FENNEL: Now with all of the
18 digging and construction that went on in Hooven
19 over the past year, are you still making that
20 statement?

21 CHRIS BLACK: Yes. Last November, we came
22 here and gave the results of the test that took
23 place last spring. And there is a plume. But
24 when you look at the data and EPA looks at the
25 data, and there's vapor wells 60, 50, 30, 40

1 feet up, we see that it diminishes to almost
2 nothing. And we see some stuff at the surface.
3 From that data, from that information we made a
4 conclusion that there was no impact from the
5 plume depth to the surface.

6 CLIFF FENNELL: And my comment is, on your
7 statement here you've got, Chevron will
8 implement remedy with EPA oversight. Has EPA
9 ever done any studies in Hooven or on the site,
10 other than the ones that were taken from
11 Chevron? It seems like everything that EPA
12 bases their facts on is things that Chevron has
13 given them.

14 CHRIS BLACK: Yes. Our role is oversight.
15 Chevron collects the data. But we look at
16 their quality assurance plan; that is, how they
17 take the samples, what lab they send it to.
18 And all of those are reviewed and approved by
19 us.

20 CLIFF FENNELL: Are you on site when the
21 samples are taken?

22 CHRIS BLACK: We have done site visits
23 during the sampling. We're not there 24/7.

24 CLIFF FENNELL: Okay.

25 BRI BILL: Okay.

1 HELEN SLUSHER: My name is Helen Slusher,
2 S-l-u-s-h-e-r. I came in tonight, and I was
3 very open to hearing what everyone had to
4 present. And I have to tell you, I feel very
5 nauseous right now. And I would like to
6 address everyone up there. Not just you,
7 Chris. I know you spoke. I know you said your
8 exception level for water was a 30-year plan.
9 I'm 31 years old. And let me tell you what's
10 happened. I grew up off of 128 in Hooven. I
11 was 21 years old and I found a lump in my
12 breast. I went five years not knowing what was
13 wrong with me. It was about the size of a
14 dime.

15 In five years, I have aggressive
16 tumors overcome both of my breasts -- I lost
17 when I was 26. And now I'm going to a doctor.
18 They don't know what's wrong with me now. I
19 might have to have a hysterectomy at 31. I ask
20 you, if I was your daughter, if I was your
21 wife, if I was your grandchild and you had to
22 sit next to me and go to doctors with me, would
23 you move your family to Hooven during this
24 30-year period? To make it acceptable for
25 them -- this is acceptable for my family to

1 live here while this was going on, while this
2 integration took place, to make it into a
3 environment to live? And how do you equate
4 cost with human life? I don't get how that's a
5 criteria on your evaluation whatsoever. How
6 can you equate that with human life? That's my
7 comment.

8 BRI BILL: Thank you. We have all been
9 touched by cancer. And there are many, many
10 unknowns as to what causes it. And in some
11 cases we know -- in some cases, we know it's
12 environmental contamination, in other cases
13 it's genetics. There's a lot of questions
14 about that. We feel, based on all of the
15 studies that have been done to date, that there
16 currently is not a pathway from the
17 contamination to the people in the Hooven, with
18 the exception of some of the -- not from the
19 plume. Now, what we're trying to do is to
20 clean up that plume, so that we can be sure
21 that it's safe in the future.

22 HELEN SLUSHER: I did not have cancer. I
23 had rapid tissue growth. And I'm still having,
24 along with that, recurrent migraines. And they
25 don't know what's going on, why I have it. I

1 don't know. And I'm just asking you, if this
2 was your family, would you live there during
3 the cleanup process? If this was your
4 backyard, how would you treat this? Say if you
5 don't treat this appropriately -- what if it
6 happened in your town next? How would you
7 treat it? Would you be aggressive if it
8 happened in your backyard, and not someone
9 elses? Just put yourself in our shoes.

10 BRI BILL: Sure. I mean, I can tell you
11 what I would do. And in your situation is, I
12 would just become very knowledgeable. And I
13 would try to do the studies as best as I could.
14 But I would be comfortable, based on what our
15 scientists have told me. I would be
16 comfortable.

17 AUDIENCE MEMBER: You'd be comfortable
18 drinking the contaminated drinking water?

19 BRI BILL: I wouldn't drink the
20 contaminated water.

21 AUDIENCE MEMBER: We've been drinking it
22 for 30 years.

23 BRI BILL: I can only respond to one
24 question at a time, unless there's somebody
25 else on the panel who would like to make a few

1 comments.

2 AUDIENCE MEMBER: Nobody has nothing to
3 say. Why don't you guys come and stay at our
4 house for a while?

5 BRI BILL: Lady in pink. I know you had
6 your hand up before.

7 ALABAM SMITH: It's Alabam, A-l-a-b-a-m,
8 Smith. A few things, first of all, I didn't
9 see my house on the map, like, directly. It's
10 not on there. Actually on one of them, it cuts
11 off right at the property line. Like, I can
12 spit on Chevron, literally. Like from my yard
13 to theres, I can spit on it, that's how close
14 we are.

15 And you, sir, I'm not sure of your name,
16 but you said -- when this young lady was
17 talking about living in Cleves, you said, did
18 you see the direction of the groundwater flow?
19 Obviously she did because she knew what you
20 were talking about on there. However, it's
21 flowing away from my house. So does that mean
22 I'm not affected? Because I can spit on it.
23 I'm that close. But the water is going away
24 from my house, so am I like in the clear? I'm
25 not going to die of anything any time soon?

1 BRI BILL: So --

2 ALABAM SMITH: Are you really confused by
3 what I just said?

4 BRI BILL: A little bit. Are you
5 following the question?

6 ALABAM SMITH: Here is the groundwater.
7 It goes this way. It goes away from my house.
8 Now, is that affecting me or no, because it's
9 not going near my house?

10 CHRIS BLACK: If you -- are you north of
11 the facility?

12 ALABAM SMITH: I'm directly --

13 CHRIS BLACK: North of the facility,
14 right. Well, right, if you're upgrading up
15 river, up flow of the groundwater, yeah,
16 there's no -- there's no petroleum near you.
17 In terms of -- we can respond to that comment
18 in more detail. But if you look at the plume
19 maps, you can see that they don't go right up
20 to the edge of the boundary of the north
21 section. If you're upgrading, you're in a
22 better place than if you're downgrading.

23 ALABAM SMITH: Oh, really. Thank God. Do
24 you guys want to come stay at my house? And
25 the other question is --

1 BRI BILL: Excuse me.

2 ALABAM SMITH: The other question that I
3 have is, how many times have you personally
4 visited Hooven? Have you? Have you?

5 CHRIS BLACK: Who are you asking, me?

6 ALABAM SMITH: Any of you. You, you, you,
7 you, the guy up here taking notes, the camera
8 man, anybody, I don't care.

9 AUDIENCE MEMBER: Your creek runs right
10 under my property.

11 BRI BILL: Excuse me, we can only have one
12 person talking at a time.

13 ALABAM SMITH: I understand.

14 CHRIS BLACK: If you have a direct
15 question -- I can estimate I've been there
16 about 10 times.

17 ALABAM SMITH: That's what I wanted to
18 know. On the other hand, you've said -- be
19 quiet. You said that you would make the
20 aquifer useful. How so?

21 CHRIS BLACK: If we're getting back to the
22 drinking water standards, it would be
23 acceptable. It would be acceptable to drink,
24 that's the goal.

25 ALABAM SMITH: So here is my final

1 question, and this is for everybody in this
2 room that does not live here. If you grew a
3 tumor on your face the size of a softball, or a
4 football, would you think that God hates you,
5 or would you think that maybe you got it from
6 being here? What would you think? If all of
7 you walked around with a tumor on your face,
8 what would you think? Would you really think
9 that God was just really super pissed at you.

10 I mean, I want to know. These people who
11 walk around with cancer eating their bodies --
12 she lost her breasts. What would you do if you
13 lost yours? My sister was born with cancer. I
14 was premature. I mean, my mom had a
15 hysterectomy. My mom had a stroke over -- just
16 a little over a month ago. I mean, the list
17 just goes on and on. If you woke up that way,
18 what would you think? I mean, my God, wouldn't
19 you want something done? Do you really feel
20 like, you know, no action -- I heard you talk
21 about that, and I understand. But everything
22 in the world should be done to protect these
23 people, the people around you. This gentlemen
24 over here asked about digging in the ground,
25 what will make those vapors come up? That is

1 what I want to know, what will? You said that
2 we're not being affected by it right now.
3 Which I understand why you're saying that
4 because, hell, nobody wants to be told they're
5 dying because some asshole down the street is
6 making money and digging into the ground. How
7 is it not affecting you? You can't dig a hole
8 in the ground and not find something.

9 BRI BILL: Well, you know, we are not
10 doing nothing. We have been overseeing --

11 ALABAM SMITH: But you said --

12 BRI BILL: We have been overseeing
13 Chevron's pumping and studies for years. And
14 We're proposing that they do more.

15 ALABAM SMITH: Why are you saying --
16 you're saying that if you dig in the ground,
17 that nothing comes up. So we're not being
18 affected by the vapors. You're saying that --
19 you're saying that we're not being affected by
20 the vapors. You're saying that we're not
21 affected by the groundwater, that some day
22 hopefully the aquifer will just be so beautiful
23 that we can drink from this. But why do you
24 care if it's not hurting anyone? If all of
25 these people are just crazy and there's nothing

1 wrong with any of you, don't you want to know
2 it, you know what I mean? Do you understand
3 what I'm trying to say? You're saying there's
4 nothing wrong, no bad drinking water, none of
5 this. You repeated it. But you have a plan to
6 do something about nothing?

7 BRI BILL: It isn't nothing. It isn't
8 nothing at all. And Chris is going to respond
9 to that.

10 CHRIS BLACK: I understand your concerns.
11 And what we looked at is the data information.
12 And that information led us to the conclusion,
13 that there is no exposure to human health. And
14 we looked at all of the pathways. So that's
15 what we have to do, is to take a rational look
16 at it. But while there's no exposure, we want
17 to get the groundwater back to a useful state.

18 ALABAM SMITH: Okay. And you also did say
19 that during 10/04 to 11/05 13,000 gallons of
20 petroleum were recovered. What happened to
21 that? Where did it go?

22 CHRIS BLACK: That petroleum was treated.
23 In terms of what was pumped out, I think it's
24 put through a oil, water separator. I think
25 they take a portion of it. And it has some PTU

1 value; that is, they can burn it. And I think
2 they took it to -- some of that petroleum goes
3 to the cement kiln.

4 ALABAM SMITH: Because I live on 128, and
5 I stood on my front porch and watched what goes
6 on on Silly Road. You know, the winding little
7 road --

8 CHRIS BLACK: Yes. I know what it is.

9 ALABAM SMITH: I don't understand what all
10 of those trucks are doing while they're at
11 Chevron and making their way up the hill and
12 stopping. There's a little gate right there on
13 the left hand side, what do they do there?

14 CHRIS BLACK: Are you talking about the
15 trucks that are on site with the soil
16 excavation?

17 ALABAM SMITH: Any truck.

18 CHRIS BLACK: Currently there's a lot of
19 trucks. They're moving quite a bit of soil off
20 site.

21 ALABAM SMITH: Are they going into, like,
22 something with the line --

23 CHRIS BLACK: The soil's going to a
24 landfill in Indiana, and that's a part of a
25 soil cleanup which we proposed a few years ago.

1 And we had a comment period in August of 2003,
2 the same sort of meeting. We got a lot of
3 comments about it. And we heard something --
4 some information about what public health risk
5 might be there. And we responded to people's
6 comments. And currently, there's quite a bit
7 of soil that's been moved off site.

8 ALABAM SMITH: Okay. But what are the
9 trucks doing there? Are they removing soil off
10 the Chevron site to --

11 CHRIS BLACK: Right. There's different --
12 what they call solid waste management units on
13 site that are being excavated. And they're
14 being taken to a landfill in Roachdale,
15 Indiana.

16 ALABAM SMITH: But what is on Silly? Did
17 you notice how he has not --

18 CHRIS BLACK: What are you asking?

19 ALABAM SMITH: On Silly. We're driving
20 down 128, you take a left onto Silly. You go
21 up Silly and there is a lane right there on the
22 left. What are the trucks that are from
23 Chevron doing on Silly? Are they dumping
24 materials, are they getting gas? Are they
25 washing their vehicles, what are they doing?

1 Are they getting something to eat? Is there
2 something up there I don't know about?

3 CHRIS BLACK: I can't really answer that
4 question. What I can say is that if you're
5 talking about the landfill area --

6 ALABAM SMITH: Yes.

7 CHRIS BLACK: -- that's right there, that
8 currently is operated. And the lead agency of
9 that is Ohio EPA. And that's all of the
10 information I've seen, that throughout all of
11 that groundwater, the soil samples taken there,
12 they're all meeting EPA guidelines. And
13 currently, that's under Ohio EPA.

14 ALABAM SMITH: Is there someone here from
15 Ohio EPA?

16 CHRIS BLACK: Is Harold here?

17 ALABAM SMITH: Can you answer that? The
18 truck --

19 BRI BILL: Excuse me, ma'am. He's also
20 from U.S. EPA.

21 CHRIS BLACK. I don't think Harold's here.
22 We can promptly respond to the written comment
23 and send you documents.

24 ALABAM SMITH: Yeah. I would love that.
25 That would be great.

1 CHRIS BLACK: If it's a thing where you've
2 seen trucks in the area of the land farm and
3 have concerns --

4 ALABAM SMITH: I have concerns. What the
5 hell are they putting up there that's running
6 down? When it rains, soil runs. The water
7 comes down. And I live right there. You're
8 telling me that -- you know what I mean, you're
9 not telling me anything, actually.

10 CHRIS BLACK: I'm saying that all of the
11 data, all of the information says it's clean on
12 the land farm. And the Ohio EPA is basically
13 the lead agency. And that information, we can
14 respond to you in a written fashion. And we
15 can go back to the office and get some of that
16 information.

17 ALABAM SMITH: That would be good.

18 BRI BILL: And we'll have to go back and
19 research that, especially because that's not
20 our agency.

21 ALABAM SMITH: Yes. That's a huge issue.
22 I'm sure everybody here would like to know.

23 BRI BILL: We're going to go with you, and
24 then you. You've had your hand up, and then
25 we'll do you.

1 PHYLLIS HAFLEY: My name is Phyllis Hafley
2 H-a-f-l-e-y. I've lived in Hooven now for two
3 years. I've lived in Cleves for seven years.
4 My daughter was born in '99. When I moved her
5 here, four months old, she started having
6 seizures, nosebleeds, all kinds of problems.
7 My question to you up here, which is kind of
8 like the lady that just left, how many of you
9 have children? Do any of you have children?
10 Anybody else? Do you have children? No. How
11 if -- if I would -- and I've planted vegetables
12 in my yard. How about if at the next meeting,
13 I'll make sure I plant tomato plants. Would
14 you eat them --

15 CHRIS BLACK: Sure.

16 PHYLLIS HAFLEY: -- out of my ground, and
17 drink the water?

18 CHRIS BLACK: If I'm in Cleves? Yeah, no
19 problem.

20 PHYLLIS HAFLEY: Now my next question is,
21 why didn't we get the paperwork? Don't tell me
22 you people are too big of an organization, just
23 like where I work at is too big, to have a
24 major screwup, to deliberately mail two
25 different boxes to the wrong place. And it

1 gets shoved under a desk and hid. You did not
2 want this out.

3 BRI BILL: Well, I think I've already
4 explained that.

5 PHYLLIS HAFLEY: No. You said it was a
6 mixup. And there's 10 million people that work
7 for Chevron. I'd be firing the manager. And
8 I'd be firing the person that mailed that stuff
9 out. Next question, why are you telling us the
10 plume didn't move when we have documentation
11 that it moves all the time?

12 BRI BILL: Would you like a response to
13 the fact sheet issue, or would you just like us
14 to respond to --

15 PHYLLIS HAFLEY: I would like answers to
16 each question.

17 BRI BILL: The answer to the fact sheet, I
18 will say it one more time. We had two
19 identical boxes with very similar materials.

20 PHYLLIS HAFLEY: Does that person still
21 work for you?

22 BRI BILL: Somewhere in the process,
23 between me and the mail room, the wrong label
24 got put on.

25 PHYLLIS HAFLEY: And you still work for

1 the company, and we deliberately did this?

2 Okay, that answers my question.

3 ALABAM SMITH: I would fire you.

4 PHYLLIS HAFLEY: Also, on your map that
5 you showed on the thing -- like this gentlemen
6 over here asked a nice question and you
7 wouldn't answer it. Were the abandoned wells
8 on there, also? He wanted to know about the
9 abandoned wells. Are they marked on those
10 maps, also?

11 CHRIS BLACK: On the current slide?

12 AUDIENCE MEMBER: The one you just showed
13 us, jeez louise.

14 PHYILLIS HAFLEY: He asked a nice
15 question --

16 CHRIS BLACK: I mean, some of the wells on
17 site have outlived their purpose in terms of
18 finding the plume, or they're structurally
19 unsound.

20 AUDIENCE MEMBER: Answer the question.

21 CHRIS BLACK: And yes, those are
22 abandoned. Whether they were exhibited on the
23 slide -- I think it's a little bit older slide.
24 It shows all of the wells, some of them may not
25 still be in use.

1 PHYLLIS HAFLEY: Okay, next question.
2 Like Alabam said here, we do see trucks go up.
3 They go up uncovered. They're not registered
4 trucks. They pull out of the Chevron facility.
5 They go up. They only go up an eighth of a
6 mile, quarter of a mile, and they come right
7 back down, same license plate number, empty.
8 They're dumping crap out of Chevron on top of
9 that hill. That crap, when it rains, runs down
10 into our new water well, back into Hooven, down
11 into them, but we're not affected. And you're
12 going to tell me you had no clue about that?

13 CHRIS BLACK: Is that a comment?

14 PHYLLIS HAFLEY: That's a question. How
15 can you stand there --

16 BRI BILL: If this pertains to the land
17 farm, we just simply cannot respond to it.
18 Because it is not within our jurisdiction.

19 PHYLLIS HAFLEY: This has been happening
20 for the last week.

21 BRI BILL: It's not an U.S. EPA matter.
22 We're going to move onto the next question. In
23 the back.

24 MARY SWEENEY: I'm Mary Sweeney. I am not
25 in Hooven. I don't live in Cleves. I live in

1 Ohio. And I represent some of the people in
2 the room. And I, you know, applaud you coming
3 here, and in the sense that you are committed
4 to at least trying to inform them, and
5 acknowledging that actually you have been
6 negligent in informing this community in
7 various ways as to -- like even tonight's
8 meeting. You know, whatever excuse it is, it
9 doesn't matter, because it has happened.

10 Last night I presented to your foreman --
11 I only gave half of it because I didn't know it
12 was double sided. Things happen, I accept that
13 fact. What I'm interested in is, you have
14 chosen alternative two for this community.
15 Alternative two is what you've been doing for
16 30 years, pretty much, correct? No, don't say
17 nothing. What they've been doing for 30 years
18 since 1985?

19 CHRIS BLACK: It's a different sort of
20 pump and treating system.

21 MARY SWEENEY: But it's also dependant
22 upon -- for this community, upon weather
23 conditions, correct?

24 CHRIS BLACK: Yeah. We need below water
25 table conditions for the pump and treatment --

1 MARY SWEENEY: Right, and so ineffective
2 originally the first two years -- first two
3 years. You could have gotten a lot out,
4 couldn't you? But since then you have a lot of
5 contaminants -- we'll call it that, and the
6 plume. You got a lot out. Maybe I'll even
7 give you to the first five years, since 1985.
8 But you really haven't consistently removed
9 products from their water table, correct --
10 consistently?

11 CHRIS BLACK: What's the question?

12 MARY SWEENEY: It's a comment from a Ohio
13 citizen, from the U.S.A.

14 CHRIS BLACK: We'll consider it a comment.

15 MARY SWEENEY: And you can consider the
16 comment. And then your second alternative --
17 this alternative is cost effective to the Ohio
18 EPA or to Chevron?

19 BRI BILL: U.S. EPA is who we are. Ohio
20 EPA is not involved in this, except for the
21 land farm.

22 MARY SWEENEY: I apologize. Because you
23 brought it up, it was in my head. U.S. EPA --
24 is cost effective for not the U.S. EPA, it's
25 cost effective for Chevron. All right, so if

1 you're going to evaluate the thing, evaluate if
2 it's cost effective -- is it cost effective for
3 the residents? I don't know.

4 The other thing you discounted is this
5 young lady. And I've got to tell you, I
6 haven't stood up in a lot of cabinet meetings.
7 But I've been to the CAT meetings. And I don't
8 stand up because I'm an attorney, and I don't
9 live in this town. But when you do that to
10 somebody who's suffering and you say to her,
11 well, there's a lot of us who have cancer,
12 that's insulting. And as a person, I'm going
13 to tell you that that really bothers me.

14 And second thing to say, that there's no
15 pathway. When your agency said to the
16 Simpsons -- homes -- that there are high levels
17 of benzene in her home -- and she's got four
18 children, and that she knows that there's a
19 pathway for high levels of benzene by Chevron's
20 results -- there is a pathway for some of the
21 people in the community to be exposed to
22 benzene. Your recommendations, when called to
23 a low income -- and I'm sorry, this is the
24 truth. It's not the same -- it's not my
25 income, but her income -- is to seal up your

1 basement with cement. I don't think a family
2 of four, living in Hooven could afford that.
3 So I do think that there are some pathways to
4 be exposed, to be concerned for small children
5 in this community. And your agency knows that.
6 And you just tell us there's no problem with
7 it.

8 BRI BILL: The reason we sent those
9 letters is because we felt there were some
10 homes where there was concerns. We don't
11 believe they are the result of the Chevron
12 plume.

13 MARY SWEENEY: Whether or not you believe
14 it or not -- I'm just going to take my time. I
15 don't want to take up this whole meeting. You
16 don't believe the results because Chevron gave
17 you the results. Chevron took the pictures and
18 evaluated the site. That's fine, I accept the
19 fact that these are Chevron results. But be
20 aware as well, that this group of community
21 people asked for split samples and were denied
22 by the U.S. EPA, denied the right to take split
23 samples of those tests.

24 In doing that, then, you've got to
25 question whether or not you were ever really

1 fair in your test results, to say that they're
2 not skewered towards Chevron.

3 BRI BILL: Well, that's definitely
4 something.

5 MARY SWEENEY: It didn't cost you a dime
6 more, to give a split sample to the community.

7 BRI BILL: That's something we can look
8 at.

9 MARY SWEENEY: Well, it's already done.
10 That's the point. Chevron says --

11 BRI BILL: Excuse me, our court reporter
12 is not going to be able to get all of this.

13 MARY SWEENEY: It's just a comment. And
14 I've got to tell you one other thing, I applaud
15 the congressman for coming here. And I really
16 do think you need to tell the congressman he
17 needs to look into this. Because this
18 community needs someone like this.

19 BRI BILL: And we appreciate your comment.
20 That is why we're here tonight, we want to get
21 your opinions on the remedies, and anything
22 else that you'd like to comment on. It sounds
23 like Bhooma may have something she would like
24 to say to that --

25 BHOOMA SUNDAR: The most compounding

1 questions in most people's minds is if there's
2 no risk at all, why even bother cleaning it up?
3 We work under the program name, which is
4 Results Conservation and Recording Act, which
5 the groundwater is your natural resource. And
6 it is contaminated right underneath the
7 facility, and it has migrated to Hooven as
8 well. And it is our responsibility to see that
9 your health is protected. And we have taken
10 every measure to do that. And we have taken
11 the soil vapor samples. And this is exactly
12 how it is done with this program. If it was
13 the simple fact, then the facts would have told
14 me differently.

15 The approach that we take is the facility
16 is contaminated, so this is the facility's
17 responsibility to address the problem. And
18 beyond the process of overseeing this for about
19 25 years -- and we know exactly -- where
20 exactly we can put some check marks. And I can
21 go back to the facility any time and get all of
22 the results. I can go back to the lab and
23 check. Because we certify the lab. And only
24 with our approval, the sample is sent to the
25 lab.

1 MARY SWEENEY: But you and I both know
2 that different ways of testing -- or actually
3 setting up the tests, putting it here, putting
4 it there, makes a difference. But you as the
5 EPA weren't there when they did that, and those
6 can affect the test. And they send it off to a
7 lab, yes. The other thing is, yes, you have
8 been on site. But one of the most amazing
9 things about all of this, is that you have been
10 worried about a site that there's no people
11 there anymore.

12 From 1985 until about a year-and-a-half
13 ago, to two years ago, nobody even talked to
14 these people, as to whether or not they had
15 health results. So you're worried about
16 nonoccupied land and cleaning up the aquifer.
17 I applaud you on that. But you also have a
18 duty to occupied land, to clean up that as
19 well, as aggressively as you say you're going
20 to clean up their facility. And I don't see
21 that. I see what you're doing, is what you did
22 the next 30 years. You want them to do another
23 30 years of that. And what has it done for
24 them? They get a letter that says, I'm sorry,
25 you've been exposed for another 30 years, Mrs.

1 Simpson. And those poor children living in
2 your basement, we're sorry.

3 BHOOMA SUNDAV: We mentioned that those
4 vaporants (sic) is an evolving science. And
5 there are studies which show that these
6 hydrocarbons are heavily chewed upon by the
7 bacteria. There is extensive deterioration.
8 And there is a number of lines of evidence.
9 EPA doesn't go by one line of evidence. We
10 have at least four lines of evidence which
11 shows conclusively that this is not the case.
12 The vapors are not hitting the surface. And I
13 personally looked at the data for more than two
14 months. I know exactly what it means to you.
15 I have a daughter and a son. I'm concerned
16 about the children's health, too.

17 So I personally looked at the numbers for
18 more than two months, made sure that everything
19 was done right. I was personally here to
20 oversee the sampling. And I had talked with
21 many experts in the field and got all of their
22 inputs, and only then did I come to the
23 conclusion. Yes, this is what is happening.
24 And just before coming here, I talked to the
25 U.S. -- because they had collected like 3,500

1 groundwater samples over 17 years, from 1985 to
2 2001. That is 3,500 groundwater samples. And
3 they have shown a combination remained of
4 chlorination byproducts that is used, the water
5 treatment chemicals, and the water treatment
6 chemicals at the septic tanks, and the presence
7 of all of those chemicals that were detected
8 underneath the houses. So there is a very
9 clear association between the water treatment
10 chemicals and the septic tanks, that's what we
11 wanted to tell you.

12 When we said that there was a risk, we
13 were not quite certain. Because the risk was
14 based on four factors. What is the air
15 exchange rate and what exactly is the moisture
16 of contents underneath the houses? It was
17 dependant on so many factors. That was the
18 main reason why we sent those letters out. We
19 wanted the residents to contact us, so that we
20 had a clear understanding of what exactly their
21 basement conditions are. So when you say that
22 that is an unacceptable risk --

23 AUDIENCE MEMBER: None of the letters
24 attributed causation to the plume.

25 BHOOMA SUNDAV: Yes. That is the case,

1 yes. The lines of evidence --

2 AUDIENCE MEMBER: Thank you.

3 BRI BILL: We're going to take -- I think
4 there was a person, a hand over -- yes, sir.

5 AUDIENCE MEMBER: I've got a lot of
6 questions to ask. I'm going to tell you, I'm
7 here for my wife who has cancer, who has had a
8 miscarriage, who has lungs of an 80-year-old
9 woman. Because why? She's been in Hooven
10 since she was old enough to be there. She's
11 been drinking the water. Can you tell me how
12 many gallons of diesel fuel added -- any of the
13 ground contamination out of what you pulled in
14 the first five years?

15 CHRIS BLACK: Can you repeat the question?

16 AUDIENCE MEMBER: How many gallons of
17 garbage have you pulled off the water table in
18 the first five years?

19 CHRIS BLACK: I can't give you the exact
20 number right now. The first five years since
21 they started pumping?

22 AUDIENCE MEMBER: Yes.

23 CHRIS BLACK: I don't know, but I can look
24 up that information. I know basically, it
25 comes out very readily when they first started

1 pumping, and then diminished in returns.

2 AUDIENCE MEMBER: Do you know if the Ohio
3 EPA puts on U.S. standards? When they say the
4 U.S. standards, can you tell me how much
5 drinking water is contaminated by a drop of
6 oil?

7 CHRIS BLACK: I could not tell you.

8 AUDIENCE MEMBER: 50,000 gallons of
9 drinking water is contaminated by one drop of
10 oil by their standards alone. It's advertised
11 on national television.

12 AUDIENCE MEMBER: My husband works for --

13 CHRIS BLACK: Let's stick with this
14 gentleman's question.

15 AUDIENCE MEMBER: L-e-h-m-a-n, my wife is
16 Jessica Kates. We're the Kates family, who has
17 been in Hooven -- the majority of the Kates
18 family is sick with all kinds of problems.
19 Okay, so you know the biggest problem we have
20 is? You guys don't want to help any of these
21 families really do anything. You want to talk
22 about a 30-year plan. When is the last time
23 you went to look at a house and bought a
24 basement full of concrete? You're going to go
25 buy a house where somebody filled their

1 basement with concrete? Are you going to go
2 buy a house that's in a contaminated landfill
3 area? No, you're not going to buy anything.

4 You know what, I see them buying and
5 selling property all over the place. Are they
6 giving disclosures? Because if I sell you a
7 piece of property that's down there and I don't
8 disclose it, I'm going to be the one sued. How
9 many people in this town are going to lose
10 their families, are going to be sick -- like my
11 wife has been through surgery already, and has
12 to go back in three weeks for another test?
13 Whose lost a kid five weeks in the pregnancy
14 out of no reason? Who has hyperthyroid
15 problems? That is a form of cancer, that is in
16 your own statements. How many times is this
17 going to continue to happen with these people
18 before somebody either says, we buy this town
19 and seal it and fix the problems until it's
20 done, or you just completely eradicate and just
21 acknowledge that it doesn't exist anymore?
22 This is getting old.

23 CHRIS BLACK: Well, if there's a concern
24 about real estate value --

25 AUDIENCE MEMBER: You can't move and get

1 away from it. You can't get away from what you
2 have. There's nothing to do to -- you can't
3 sell what you can't give away.

4 CHRIS BLACK: What I'm trying to say is,
5 anyone involved in the process can call me.
6 Our feeling is from the data present, that
7 there is no risks. So if someone's a mortgage
8 broker, if someone's a potential buyer or
9 someone's a bank who wants to lend, then they
10 can call us and talk to me regarding the risk
11 present.

12 AUDIENCE MEMBER: I'd love to have about
13 three hours of conversation -- I could have
14 with you.

15 CHRIS BLACK: I'm just offering you an
16 opportunity. If someone with a specific
17 question about your property, they can speak to
18 me. And I can tell the information that we
19 have.

20 AUDIENCE MEMBER: How about the people
21 that work for your own company, that went on
22 your tour. You guys gave us a tour of the
23 facility. Come on, ride with us. And you guys
24 all called -- you had a big open house. Come
25 down, have a couple of hot dogs, drink some

1 bottled water. Let me tell you --

2 CHRIS BLACK: We work for the federal
3 government.

4 AUDIENCE MEMBER: We had three guys that
5 worked down there, and guess what they told us?
6 Pump well three -- which is over by their
7 house -- pump well three didn't have a lining
8 in the bottom of it. It was eroded so bad --
9 pump well three had leaky valves that leaked
10 into the ground so much that they didn't know
11 how to fix them. For like five years they
12 leaked.

13 Pump well seven had continuing flow from
14 the pump head, that they couldn't fix. They
15 just let it flow because it was cheaper to let
16 it flow than it was to fix it. And then when
17 they did wash it down, it went straight into
18 the ground. It didn't even have a base in
19 there. Your guy told us, well, it's just dirty
20 dirt and we're cleaning it up. It is getting
21 removed. That's why they're going through tire
22 baths, because it's just dirty dirt.

23 CHRIS BLACK: That stuff we can go back
24 and look into. We can respond to that in
25 written form.

1 AUDIENCE MEMBER: These are guys that
2 worked for this facility for 30 years. And
3 guess what he told me? He's dying of cancer.
4 He doesn't have anything to hide.

5 BRI BILL: I don't think that we're going
6 to respond to that tonight. What would you
7 specifically like to see done from this point
8 out?

9 AUDIENCE MEMBER: I'd like to see it
10 cleaned up with stage three, at least a 15-year
11 plan. At least get these people some clean
12 drinking water, so they can have something
13 descent to live in. Maybe buy their houses and
14 start giving them a way out. Because my son is
15 19-months-old. I was looking at a house down
16 there until I found out about all of this. Do
17 you know what the property values will be on a
18 house from a \$98,000 house, down to about
19 30,000? And you know what, if you're willing
20 to subject your family to that, would you live
21 in that house? I highly doubt you would put
22 your family at risk. You can sit there and say
23 all you want. You work for the company, you
24 get all of the checks. Why is --

25 CHRIS BLACK: We work for the federal

1 government.

2 AUDIENCE MEMBER: Why hasn't split samples
3 been given? I mean, there's no way that you
4 can monitor and justly protect people from a
5 company that just made six point four billion
6 in the first quarter, over and above their
7 normal standards. Six point four billion
8 dollars was generated in earned income for this
9 year, first quarter. How are you going to
10 defend these people? You're not going to
11 defend these people because they have way more
12 money than we do. And they're willing to do
13 whatever it takes to keep these people stuck
14 where they are. And as they die off, it
15 doesn't really matter.

16 BRI BILL: Well thank you for your time.

17 AUDIENCE MEMBER: It was a statement.

18 BRI BILL: And we'll look at it when we
19 get back to the office, and try to provide some
20 answers.

21 AUDIENCE MEMBER: I hope so.

22 THERESA SMITH: It's my turn to go
23 because --

24 BRI BILL: No. There was a person that
25 had her hand -- and was calling her before. Do

1 you still want to talk?

2 AUDIENCE MEMBER: My name is Carolyn
3 Roessler, R-o-e-s-s-l-e-r. I was raised in
4 Hooven. I've lived there many years. And it's
5 getting back to the comment that you made
6 before this young lady was talking here. You
7 said that the dirt was clean coming out of
8 there. Why take it out? The dirt they're
9 taking out from where the Chevron was, taking
10 it on the top of the hill, that's running back
11 down. Why are they taking that out? You said
12 that's clean dirt. Why are they taking it out
13 and then move it over here? If it's clean
14 dirt, why remove it?

15 CHRIS BLACK: Currently they're taking
16 waste off site, hazardous and nonhazardous
17 soil. So those are taken to Roachdale,
18 Indiana, to the landfill.

19 CAROLYN ROESSLER: Excuse me? They're
20 taking -- up on Silly Road. I don't know how
21 many -- it's an old lake that used to be up
22 there. They took and put -- they put plastic
23 down in and lined this to move that dirt --
24 I've been out --

25 CHRIS BLACK: There is a land farm with a

1 retention pond that's monitored by Ohio EPA.
2 That's there lead agency on that unit. All of
3 the trucks that are coming off the site with
4 those on-site wastes are going to a landfill in
5 Indiana.

6 CAROLYN ROESSLER: I don't know about all
7 of them. But, you know, it's all too evident
8 that these people have seen it. They have
9 documents --

10 CHRIS BLACK: If there's some documents
11 concerning -- you know, that somehow these
12 wastes on site are going to the old land farm
13 that's closed, we welcome that information.

14 CAROLYN ROESSLER: Okay. Then how do the
15 people in this town in Indiana, how are they
16 going to feel if they find out about this?

17 CHRIS BLACK: It's a licensed, regulated
18 hazardous waste landfill. And there was a
19 permit process in Indiana when this waste was
20 taken there. So they're aware of it, and
21 there's a public process in that.

22 CAROLYN ROESSLER: And what was the name
23 of that town again?

24 CHRIS BLACK: It's in Roachdale. I
25 believe Heritage runs it.

1 CAROLYN ROESSLER: Because I've moved to
2 Indiana now, and I sure hate to think that you
3 were bringing that dirt from there out to
4 Indiana now, really. Because, you know,
5 maybe --

6 CHRIS BLACK: And that EPA proposed remedy
7 that went final, Chevron's paying about 23
8 million dollars to excavate contaminated soil
9 and take it off site. So that's a part of our
10 consent order, and that's a part of the
11 cleanup. And if there is -- you know, I'm not
12 aware of any of that soil going through this
13 land farm. My understanding is the land farm
14 is closed, and there is no soil going there.
15 If there is some evidence to the contrary, we'd
16 sure like to hear about it.

17 AUDIENCE MEMBER: Do you person -- any of
18 you personally come out to that area and ever
19 look at it? Who -- are you just --

20 CHRIS BLACK: I've been to the land farm
21 before. I know about it. I've spoken with
22 Harold O'Connell and Tim from OEPA who --
23 product managers for the land farm. So I'm
24 aware of it. And I've been through it.

25 BRI BILL: About the land farm, we just

1 can't answer any questions about that. Because
2 it's not our agency. You know, we'll forward
3 the concerns that we've heard about the land
4 farm to them. And perhaps they'd like to
5 respond to those for us. We are the U.S. EPA.

6 AUDIENCE MEMBER: Don't you comment or
7 talk --

8 BRI BILL: On some things we do, some
9 things we don't. Like I said, we can forward
10 your comments to them. And I think that's all
11 we can really say about the land farm today.
12 Can I take your question, and then yours, and
13 yours in the back?

14 THERESA SMITH: My name is Theresa Smith.
15 And I live at 5182 State Route 128, Cleves,
16 Ohio 45002, which is 50 feet from the north end
17 of the refinery. And now my three minutes can
18 start. I guess you don't recall our
19 conversation, which was practically an hour and
20 40 minutes. When I did inform you that they
21 were opening them up over there, right next to
22 the wells, shooting it into the river -- and
23 what was your comment to me? You told me that
24 you already knew that, but you would look into
25 it, to see if they were still continuing to do

1 it. The next night, then went over there and
2 they shut them off. I called you back. And
3 you proceeded to tell me that you called them
4 and told them that I busted on them -- that's
5 what you told me.

6 Then you tell me, there's not a creek that
7 runs between my house and the refinery, 50
8 foot. Anybody who lives around here knows that
9 it's there. We've been there 78 years. I told
10 you -- I told you everything. I told you about
11 everybody being sick. I told you about people
12 living behind me, them being sick. The vapor's
13 so bad that we had scientists and attorneys
14 walk out of my house, they couldn't even stay
15 in the house because of the gas in there.
16 People come to our house and find us passed out
17 in bed and have to literally grab us and drag
18 us out of the house to wake us up, because the
19 smell was so bad.

20 You said there was no creek. You said
21 there was no contamination. Well, you lied,
22 just like you're sitting there lying now, just
23 like you've been lying. You've been involved
24 in this since the getgo. You know what they
25 were doing in '85. You knew they were dumping.

1 I've got pictures of tanks next to my house
2 with the gas shooting out of them into my yard.
3 Don't tell me lead gasoline was not harming us.
4 I told you about the mercury. I found out
5 they're testing -- Chevron's testing for the
6 mercury was 1.51, ungodly amount. You didn't
7 even acknowledge that. You acted like it was
8 no big deal.

9 I told you to come down, I'd push you in
10 the creek. I told you to just dig it up out of
11 the creek, and take it and put it in your
12 bathtub, and put your kids in it. You didn't
13 want to do that. Now why -- if none of this is
14 hurting us, why don't you want to do this.

15 And you, ma'am, you've been on this for
16 two months. How in the world you ever got your
17 job, I don't know. But I think all of us would
18 step up to the plate and get what you're
19 getting paid, because I'm sure it's good. I've
20 been on this for a lot longer than that. And I
21 can tell you, you know nothing. I have
22 Chevron's reports. So you need to go back to
23 your office, sit at your desk and either do
24 nothing like you've been doing, or dig up them
25 reports and find their tests that I have that

1 says our ground is contaminated. There's
2 almost, what, three plumes, really, is actually
3 sitting under there. Our house does sit on a
4 plume. You know it. You know there's
5 something bad in the field next to us. It is
6 marked by Chevron the worst hazardous site on
7 the whole place.

8 And then you're going to tell me that none
9 of us are in harm. You're liars. Come to our
10 house. Come to our house. I invited you, you
11 wouldn't come. I invited you to a meeting, you
12 wouldn't come. If there's no problem down here
13 and we're all nuts, and none of us are sick,
14 and our fingernails don't fall out, and we
15 don't pee blood 24/7, and our nose don't shoot
16 blood all over, and our eyes don't bleed, and
17 we don't get migraine headaches, and nobody has
18 cancer, then move in with us. We're all
19 horseshit. We can use your income. It would
20 help every one of us. Come on and help us out.
21 That's what you're saying, we want to try to
22 help this community, then come on. You can
23 stay at my house. We have 10 people staying
24 there right now, because we're all too sick to
25 do anything else but to stay there. But you

1 know what, you won't come. You don't care.
2 And you don't care. And you don't know
3 anything. When you get educated about what's
4 happening to us, then come back and you talk to
5 us. Until -- I'd rather not hear anything you
6 have to say.

7 BRI BILL: We're going to take a question
8 over here. We're going to respond to your
9 comments. Thank you for your comments. We
10 covered a lot of ground. And it will be
11 transcribed afterward. And you're next.

12 THERESA HANNAH: My name is Theresa
13 Hannah. I moved into Hooven in 2003, not
14 knowing the problems -- moved out last
15 September. From the time I moved into the
16 house, I've been sick. I had issues. My
17 doctor can't tell me what's wrong. I never had
18 a problem in my life until I moved to Hooven.
19 Just thought I'd like everyone to know.

20 I have a couple of questions. You talked
21 about the different alternatives of cleanup.
22 You said alternative two, because it's the
23 lowest cost. You put a price on everybody's
24 health and everyone's family in this room.
25 Does that mean it's a low cost because we're

1 poor income people, we're low income people,
2 and basically the hell with us?

3 CHRIS BLACK: Cost is only one of the
4 evaluation criteria. It's not the sole
5 criteria.

6 THERESA HANNAH: The cost isn't anything
7 you're paying, so why does the cost matter to
8 you? Chevron made this mistake. Chevron needs
9 to pay for this.

10 CHRIS BLACK: I absolutely agree.

11 THERESA HANNAH: It doesn't matter if it's
12 five hundred billion dollars to clean it up.

13 CHRIS BLACK: Absolutely. And if they
14 caused the problem, they need to clean it up.

15 THERESA HANNAH: And you're going to base
16 your alternative on the cost to Chevron?

17 CHRIS BLACK: No. It's not the sole
18 basis.

19 THERESA HANNAH: But in your paper, in
20 your packet it says right here, EPA alternative
21 two, which is your preferred alternative, is
22 the lowest cost. Why? It's going to take 30
23 years. You know, like I said, you can't put a
24 price on people's health in this room, or their
25 families.

1 BRI BILL: All of the alternatives that
2 Chris spoke about tonight was to protect human
3 health and the environment. That is our main
4 criteria. We do have these other five
5 criteria. And yes, the cost is one of them.
6 We are required to look at cost. It doesn't
7 matter who's paying, we're required to look at
8 it.

9 THERESA HANNAH: So basically you're
10 putting a price on people's lives and their
11 health, and their families in this room.
12 That's all there is to it. That's the bottom
13 line, you're putting a price on it.

14 BRI BILL: I just finished telling you,
15 that all of those protect human health and the
16 environment. The ones that didn't, didn't make
17 it to this phase.

18 THERESA HANNAH: Alternative one did.

19 BRI BILL: No. You can throw that out as
20 a basis of comparison in this particular site.
21 It was not relevant.

22 THERESA HANNAH: If you take alternative
23 five into consideration to do, how many
24 different wells would you have to drill? How
25 many more vapors can be reached because of more

1 drilling -- more holes and not even vapor -- I
2 live there, like I said, not even two years,
3 and have been sick to where I can't get up out
4 of bed, where I can't get up and move and walk,
5 and go to work like you guys do every day -- in
6 two years, after the problem with the water was
7 supposedly gone. Don't tell me there's nothing
8 wrong down there. My doctors can't tell me
9 what's wrong with me. Do you think yours can?

10 BRI BILL: Can tell you what's wrong with
11 you?

12 THERESA HANNAH: Do you think if I seen
13 your doctor, that he could tell me what's wrong
14 with me?

15 BRI BILL: I don't know. Is there --

16 THERESA HANNAH: I've been to 10 different
17 doctors. I have another question. Tara spoke
18 about the water in Cleves. And it's not been
19 tested or -- you know, how do you know there's
20 not an issue there? If there is not an issue,
21 why did Chevron pay so much money to have the
22 water wells moved from Cleves to Kilby Road?
23 If there's not a problem with the water in
24 Cleves's well, why was it moved?

25 CHRIS BLACK: Well, you're speaking about

1 the old Cleves well field.

2 THERESA HANNAH: Why did Chevron pay so
3 much money to have that shut down and moved to
4 Kilby Road, if there's no problem with Cleves?

5 CHRIS BLACK: I can't speak for Chevron.
6 I can just tell you what I know about that
7 particular area. There was really one well
8 that was in between the plume, that previously
9 was near the island and the actual Cleves
10 wells, where the softball field is there. And
11 we never saw any impact from that plume towards
12 the well fields. Eventually, those well fields
13 were closed and moved. And there was --

14 THERESA HANNAH: Were they contaminated?
15 If there was no problem, why were they closed?

16 CHRIS BLACK: I'll have to repeat, that
17 there was no impact from the plume to the well
18 fields.

19 THERESA HANNAH: So then we could open a
20 Cleves water well back up tomorrow, and you all
21 would drink that water?

22 CHRIS BLACK: The information that we had,
23 was that there was no impact from the plume to
24 those well fields.

25 THERESA HANNAH: My question was, would

1 you drink the water?

2 CHRIS BLACK: Yes. I would.

3 THERESA HANNAH: So then open it back up.
4 And you guys can come down and drink it all.
5 And wasn't the old water station at the end of
6 the flow from the contamination?

7 CHRIS BLACK: The what?

8 THERESA HANNAH: The old water station in
9 Cleves, was that not at the end of the flow
10 from all of the contamination?

11 CHRIS BLACK: I'm not familiar with the --

12 THERESA HANNAH: Down on 50. Wasn't it
13 down on 50?

14 CHRIS BLACK: That's something we can
15 check on. I'm not familiar with that.

16 THERESA HANNAH: So I can get a written
17 response on all of that?

18 BRI BILL: Yes.

19 CHRIS BLACK: Correct.

20 BRI BILL: Go ahead.

21 RICK KLOSDERMAN: Rick Klosderman,
22 K-l-o-s-d-e-r-m-a-n. One question I have on
23 your pumping, to get rid of contaminates in the
24 ground, the high grade pumps, how much soil
25 erosion is going to be caused by that, that

1 will create other problems down the road,
2 especially if you're talking about putting in
3 100 of these pumps.

4 Two, what type of studies have been done
5 on people's plants -- you know, tomato plants,
6 corn plants? Have they been tested to see if
7 there's lead, mercury, benzene that's getting
8 into any of this stuff? I know I believe there
9 used to be corn fields down on 128, down on 50,
10 Kilby Road. Has any of that stuff been tested?
11 Has the birds in the area been tested? Have
12 the fish in the area been tested?

13 GARY CYGAN: I can answer the question,
14 about the pumping wells and the effects on the
15 soil, or the geology underground where the
16 wells are located. There would be hardly any
17 effects, no effects at all with respect to the
18 geology underground. When they pump water like
19 that, what it's doing is just extracting the
20 water from in between all of the sands and
21 gravels that exist down there.

22 RICK KLOSDERMAN: I understand that. They
23 do the same thing down in Florida to get
24 drinking water, and sinkholes develop. So the
25 sinkholes are developing because they're

1 pumping more, and more, and more water, which
2 is causing erosion.

3 GARY CYGAN: There's -- in this type of
4 geology -- this type of geology is very
5 prevalent. And there have been no cases, that
6 I know of, where there's been any sinkholes, or
7 anything of the like, develop because of this
8 high grade pumping -- high capacity pumping,
9 it's called.

10 RICK KLOSDERMAN: Have they done it on any
11 large scale basis? It's one thing to have one
12 or two pumps, but if you put in 100 of them --

13 GARY CYGAN: There has been instances
14 where there's been much greater capacity pumped
15 out of the ground in other remedies in the
16 midwest, and there's been no problems with
17 that.

18 BRI BILL: Okay.

19 CHRIS BLACK: You were asking about soils.
20 We can look into that question. But some that
21 comes to mind is, there was some studies of
22 soils around the school. People had concerns
23 about moving the school area and the
24 playground. And those studies show that -- I
25 think they are concentrating on metals. And

1 those were all within EPA guidelines. In terms
2 of animals, there was a deer study that was
3 brought up from the concerns, I think, from
4 Alicia, from the August of 2003 meeting about,
5 you know, that contamination might go up the
6 food chain to the deer. And that study had the
7 conclusion that there were no levels in the
8 deer, from the information we had at hand. So
9 that is in the library. That was a part of the
10 statement basis, look in the back under
11 references, there's that study. But we can go
12 back and see, check the record about any other
13 soil.

14 RICK KLOSDERMAN: What I would be really
15 more interested to know whether or not you did
16 the study is, are these chemicals that are in
17 the ground, if they did get into the plants and
18 we ate them, would that transfer? I mean, is
19 it a health concern? And if it is, why aren't
20 we warning people about it?

21 CHRIS BLACK: There was a risk assessment
22 done in 2000. And, you know, that concluded
23 there was very little risk, except to some
24 animals on site. That's a part of why we're
25 doing the soil removal. We don't think that

1 any of the vapors that get into the current
2 plants on site, at least on the Chevron plume.
3 But that's something we can go back and give
4 you a response on.

5 RICK KLOSDERMAN: Well, it's not so much
6 the Chevron spot that I'm concerned about.
7 It's all of the other areas around here where
8 the guy grows zucchini and pumpkin in his
9 backyard, and corn where the ground has been
10 contaminated, where there's high water levels,
11 how much of that is getting into the food?

12 CHRIS BLACK: Well, like I said, the
13 groundwater -- the water table's like 35 to 60
14 feet below the surface, even at a high point
15 under Hooven. So it's not reaching on the
16 surface level. You can direct some of your
17 concerns, or find some information from
18 Hamilton County Health District. And they
19 might be able to help you out.

20 AUDIENCE MEMBER: I didn't know about the
21 plume until we started going to the meetings.

22 BRI BILL: So we'll research your issue,
23 and see if we can come up with some other
24 stuff, and a response.

25 RICK KLOSDERMAN: I've seen construction

1 in Hooven over the years, where somebody has
2 dug a hole out to repair a septic system, and
3 immediately the groundwater starts coming up.
4 And then two or three days, the water would go
5 back down. And in that time frame, a lot of
6 that water was contaminated, so how much of it
7 got into the ground? You know, is anybody
8 taking the time to go collect tomato plants, or
9 zucchini, or whatever, and actually do any
10 testing on them? Because that's just as bad as
11 the drinking water, if it's contaminated.

12 BRI BILL: We'll look into that. Thanks.
13 Red, and there's somebody way in the back. And
14 then --

15 AUDIENCE MEMBER: My name is Mary Brown,
16 B-r-o-w-n. I was a resident of Hooven for
17 quite a few years. I grew up there. And your
18 comment you made before about everyone is
19 affected -- everyone has been affected by
20 cancer or disease, whatever, what basis are you
21 using to say that Hooven has no problems with a
22 higher rate of cancer? Has there been any
23 studies done independent from Chevron? Not of
24 any of Chevron's studies, but has the EPA taken
25 it upon themselves to do any independent,

1 door-to-door studies of people that have lived
2 in Hooven, who have now died, or the people now
3 who are living in Hooven who are sick, or
4 people who grew up in Hooven, now have major
5 medical problems?

6 BRI BILL: That kind of study that you're
7 talking about, is not something that we're --
8 that our agency is authorized to do.

9 MARY BROWN: Well, if your agency is not
10 authorized to do it. The EPA, that has to do
11 with the environment. And I thought that had
12 to do with not only the ground, the air, but
13 also the people that are living in the
14 environment.

15 BRI BILL: Yes. I see your point. What
16 we try to determine, is if there is a
17 potential --

18 MARY BROWN: I understand. But has there
19 been an independent study, door-to-door,
20 throughout Hooven and the surrounding areas, to
21 find out, to document the people that have died
22 of cancer, or other related illnesses? The
23 people that have, over the years, had
24 reoccurring illnesses, has any of that been --
25 any of that study been done?

1 BRI BILL: EPA does not do that. So the
2 answer is, we have not done it.

3 MARY BROWN: So why would the EPA not --
4 why would the EPA not do a study like that, if
5 you have environmental problems?

6 BRI BILL: I'm going to -- Bob, can you
7 say a few words? Introduce yourself, please.

8 BOB FREY: Bob Frey. We have a group at
9 the Ohio Department of Health that looks at
10 cancer incidents and cancer mortality in
11 communities across the state. If the community
12 is interested in getting that kind of
13 information, we would like you to contact
14 Mr. Robert --

15 MARY BROWN: Do you have that information?
16 I have a vision impairment, I can't write it
17 down. Do you have that information?

18 BOB FREY: Yes, ma'am. I can give that to
19 you in writing.

20 MARY BROWN: And can we request a study
21 done?

22 BOB FREY: Yes, ma'am.

23 MARY BROWN: Door-to-door?

24 BOB FREY: It won't be a door-to-door. It
25 will be a review of cancer -- cancer incidents

1 in the community.

2 MARY BROWN: But if it's not a
3 door-to-door, how can you justify your
4 findings?

5 MR. FREY: Because there's a register here
6 in the state that requires that all
7 individuals, all physicians and hospitals who
8 have diagnosed cancer cases, report those cases
9 to the database of the state.

10 MARY BROWN: I understand that. But there
11 are a lot of people, like myself, who have
12 moved out of Hooven and we are now sick. I
13 can't begin to tell you how many problems I've
14 had, beginning with three bouts of cancer. And
15 it's an ongoing problem, it's not something
16 that was just solved with a little pill.

17 BOB FREY: Well, doing a door-to-door
18 health study is beyond the financial capability
19 of --

20 MARY BROWN: How is it beyond financial
21 capabilities if you have people in Hooven who
22 would be willing to help you do that? You
23 could send one or two people out. And we --
24 they would get together and come up with the
25 people who lived there and died of cancer, the

1 people who had cancer and have moved away, but
2 grew up there, so of course they would
3 subjected to this, or the people who are now
4 living there in the area and are fighting
5 cancer.

6 BOB FREY: Again, I would suggest that you
7 contact Robert, and discuss exactly what you
8 told me.

9 MARY BROWN: I will. If you give me that
10 information, I will contact him. Because I
11 think that needs to be done before another
12 person stands up and says, we've all been
13 affected by diseases.

14 BRI BILL: That was Bob Frey, who was
15 speaking. Thank you. Okay, back there. Would
16 you like to come up here and use the
17 microphone? Would you feel comfortable doing
18 that?

19 KRISTEN REEVES: What I was starting to
20 say is, is it always safe to go play at my
21 grandma's house?

22 BRI BILL: You want to know if it's safe
23 to play at your grandma's house? Does your
24 grandma live in Hooven?

25 ELAINE REEVES: Yes. She does. There's

1 obviously a lot of discrepancies, but she wants
2 to know -- we've moved out of Hooven. But she
3 wants to know if she can go home and play at
4 her grandma's house.

5 BRI BILL: Can you state your name?

6 ELAINE REEVES: My name is Elaine Reeves,
7 and this is Kristen Reeves.

8 BRI BILL: Do you want to sit down?

9 ELAINE REEVES: Can you look at her and
10 tell her that it's safe to go play at her
11 grandma's house?

12 BHOOMA SUNDAV: I don't know the physical
13 address that she is referring to.

14 ELAINE REEVES: 101 Jefferson Avenue, it's
15 right by the school.

16 BHOOMA SUNDAV: A sample was taken of
17 the -- from what we have studied so far from
18 the groundwater, there is no problem. There is
19 no risk.

20 THERESA SMITH: Tell her the truth. Tell
21 the little girl the honest to God's truth.
22 That's all we're asking, is the truth. Tell
23 the truth, because -- no, you actually need to
24 sit down. You've only worked there for two
25 months. You don't know anything.

1 BRI BILL: Excuse me, ma'am. We're
2 talking to this woman.

3 AUDIENCE MEMBER: Results from Chevron,
4 that the --

5 BRI BILL: Ma'am, we're going to ask
6 you --

7 AUDIENCE MEMBER: Let her speak.

8 BRI BILL: No. We're addressing this
9 question right now. I'm sorry.

10 THERESA SMITH: Then answer it.

11 BRI BILL: She's trying to answer it.

12 THERESA SMITH: No. She's lying. We want
13 the truth.

14 BHOOMA SUNDAV: I've never even started
15 answering the question. How can you say that
16 I'm lying? And it depends on so many factors.
17 Without knowing everything, how can I say yes
18 or no to this child?

19 AUDIENCE MEMBER: Exactly. That's the
20 truth. You don't know the answer. Just tell
21 her you don't know.

22 BHOOMA SUNDAV: I can't say yes, because I
23 had to go back and check, physically, if that
24 house was sampled. It depends on so many
25 conditions. Even if the house was sampled, if

1 it had the algae formation, there probably is
2 no problem, even with the septic tank
3 situation. That's what we've been trying to
4 tell you.

5 AUDIENCE MEMBER: Probably.

6 BRI BILL: We're through -- we're through
7 with this particular question.

8 AUDIENCE MEMBER: I want to ask a
9 question. They're digging right now in Hooven,
10 putting in sewers, sewer lines. On our way
11 over here, I watched about a 6-year-old boy
12 playing on the mound of dirt in his front yard.
13 So you're telling me he's safe. They just dug
14 15 foot out of the ground. And you know that
15 there's bacteria at the top, and there's oil
16 basin on the top, contamination at the top.
17 And he's over there playing on the mound. What
18 are you going to tell his family when he's
19 sick?

20 BRI BILL: What we're saying is, we're
21 going to have to go back and look at her
22 address, and see what we know about that
23 particular location.

24 AUDIENCE MEMBER: Every house is being
25 dumped on right now. What's going on with that

1 kind of contamination?

2 BRI BILL: That's what we're talking about
3 right now.

4 AUDIENCE MEMBER: I'm asking you a
5 question. Every house is being dumped on right
6 now from sewage. What's up with that? What's
7 up with the contamination and the level that
8 EPA --

9 BRI BILL: We're not going to answer your
10 question right now. We have a couple of people
11 who haven't had a chance to ask a question.

12 AUDIENCE MEMBER: I asked a question. I
13 just would like an answer.

14 BRI BILL: And we're going to talk to
15 people who haven't had a chance to ask a
16 question. And we'll go back to you guys at the
17 end of the meeting. Go on.

18 LUWANDA CORMAN: I'm Luwanda Corman,
19 Co-r-m-a-n. I'd like to thank everybody for
20 coming. And I can answer your question about
21 sewer. The sewer had nothing to do with these
22 folks. It had to do with the health district.
23 They found failed systems, an abundance of
24 them.

25 AUDIENCE MEMBERS: Nine failed systems.

1 LUWANDA CORMAN: That's all I've been
2 told.

3 AUDIENCE MEMBER: Nine failed systems in
4 Hooven.

5 LUWANDA CORMAN: And the sewage -- the
6 systems were failing more than that, Marcus.
7 And so therefore, they insisted that we look at
8 the sewers in Hooven. All of them -- every
9 one. And I have a system up on the hill that
10 worked fine.

11 However, have you ever tested the soot?
12 You have checked the vapors, you have checked
13 the water, have you ever thought to check the
14 soot? The stuff that's left over, have you
15 ever done that? And another question I have
16 is -- is I was just wondering about, everyone's
17 mentioned before about split sampling, why not
18 require that? Just let the people do -- just
19 do it. That would satisfy a lot of questions,
20 reduce making meetings like this. Just require
21 that one time. Let them do split sampling.
22 Let someone else pay for it and be done.

23 CHRIS BLACK: We can answer it a little
24 bit. In terms of split -- we anticipate there
25 would be more sampling of the vapor wells on

1 site. And we'll do split samples on those
2 vapor wells when those are conducted. We did
3 do splits on soils when we did some closure of
4 the soil samples on site. So it has been done,
5 just not in the vapor sample. Well, what split
6 means is taking samples simultaneously.

7 AUDIENCE MEMBER: Who submitted the
8 samples, was it the EPA or Chevron? That's not
9 what she's talking about.

10 AUDIENCE MEMBER: I think that's it,
11 Chris. I think there's a trust thing -- issue
12 here, and that's what the people are wanting.
13 They're wanting something that's not with
14 Chevron -- excuse me, guys. I've come to the
15 CAT meetings for years. I know this is what
16 the people wanted. Why not try to suffice
17 that, and fill that void there? And they --

18 CHRIS BLACK: Yes. We anticipate split
19 samples with the Hooven vapor wells that are
20 coming up, for the proposed remedy. So that's
21 EPA taking a sample, and Chevron taking a
22 sample of the same stuff, and comparing the lab
23 results.

24 AUDIENCE MEMBER: I don't think the people
25 understand it that way.

1 CHRIS BLACK: What's that?

2 AUDIENCE MEMBER: I don't think that the
3 people here understood that you split the
4 samples. You took some and they took some. I
5 don't think they understood that.

6 CHRIS BLACK: Yeah. You take some of the
7 same -- whether it's air, water, soil.

8 AUDIENCE MEMBER: There whole issue is the
9 fact that it was Chevron doing it. So you did
10 it, and they did it. Maybe it would be -- and
11 you gave it back to Chevron. That's what their
12 issue is. That's what their issue is.

13 CHRIS BLACK: Yeah.

14 BRI BILL: Jerry with the EPA, do you want
15 to say something?

16 JEROME KUJAWA: Yes. I would like to say
17 something. This will come out probably sooner
18 or later. I am not -- I'm the attorney for the
19 U.S. EPA. I'm not representing Chevron. But
20 we think that it should go into the record. We
21 probably won't hear from them tonight. This is
22 not a part of the negotiations for the clean up
23 order, it was discussions on the remedy. And
24 if we're -- we have out there a plan that says
25 we think this will take 30 years to achieve the

1 clean up. We have heard orally -- not anything
2 formally in writing, but we've heard it during
3 the comment period, that they think that it
4 will take at least 5 to 12 years of high grade
5 pumping, and then the clock should start
6 ticking on EPA's proposed 30 years, which would
7 mean probably at least 35 to 42 years.

8 And, you know, EPA has not changed its
9 mind. But this is something that's going on,
10 so that you are aware of that. You know,
11 there's one person I heard say it should take
12 15 years. Some people have said that 30 years
13 is too long. Just so you know, it's going to
14 go into the record eventually. And as far as
15 we're concerned, it's not a part of any
16 negotiations. It was a comment about the
17 proposed remedy, was orally made. Just wanted
18 the public to know that now, sooner than later
19 that -- you know, another member of the public,
20 Chevron, thinks it really needs more than 35 to
21 40 years.

22 CHRIS BLACK: That's a public comment.
23 And we will give an appropriate response.

24 BRI BILL: Okay. Lady in the back.

25 MRS. CAMPY: Okay. My name is Mrs. Campy.

1 And I've worked for a few years in the Hooven
2 area. And I know this is a less important
3 question for all of you. This meeting is about
4 the options that you're considering. And under
5 option two, I just wanted you to explain to
6 us -- exactly what do you mean by no basements
7 on site? What do you mean by on site? What is
8 no basements on site mean? What does that mean
9 for existing structures? What does it mean for
10 future structures that are developed?

11 CHRIS BLACK: On site is the Chevron
12 property. That is, if there is redevelopment,
13 the risk analysis that was done showed a high
14 risk. So only slab iron grade buildings will
15 be allowed there. We're going to
16 institutionalize that into some sort of formal
17 legal agreement to say that whoever owns the
18 property, anybody that does develop it, can't
19 dig a basement there.

20 MRS. CAMPY: Only on the Chevron property?

21 CHRIS BLACK: On the Chevron facility.
22 That's who our agreement is with, that's what
23 we have control over.

24 MRS. CAMPY: What about the people that
25 own property in the community?

1 CHRIS BLACK: It doesn't have any effect
2 upon the property.

3 BRI BILL: Our proposal does not suggest
4 that we would prohibit basements. Based on our
5 studies, we don't think that's necessary. If
6 you feel differently, we certainly hope that
7 you comment. Maybe that's what you're saying.

8 MRS. CAMPY: I just want to know what you
9 mean by your proposal.

10 BRI BILL: The proposal is, no basements
11 can be dug on the Chevron property, whoever
12 owns it in the future, whether Chevron or
13 somebody else.

14 CHRIS BLACK: A part of the reasons the
15 risks come up high is that the groundwater
16 table is a lot closer to the surface when
17 you're on the refinery property. So when you
18 do vapor tests there, you can see pretty near
19 the surface, high readings, so that's the
20 reason.

21 This is your opportunity to comment. So
22 we'll take all comments seriously, and will
23 respond in writing. This is the public
24 participation portion.

25 BRI BILL: This is your opportunity to

1 make your comments known --

2 AUDIENCE MEMBER: If it's my vote, I go
3 with five.

4 BRI BILL: -- and we'll put it in writing
5 later. We're going to get to another couple of
6 people who haven't had a chance to ask
7 questions. All right, are you ready to ask a
8 question, ma'am? And then --

9 AUDIENCE MEMBER: You can go to the next
10 person.

11 BRI BILL: And then -- okay.

12 AUDIENCE MEMBER: I want to know, what is
13 your reason for not using alternative three and
14 four? You gave us the reason why you use
15 alternative two, considering the low cost.
16 What is the reason not to use three or four?

17 CHRIS BLACK: Well, all five of the
18 evaluation criteria are considered. In terms
19 of -- look at implementability, two comes up.

20 AUDIENCE MEMBER: So convenience for
21 Chevron?

22 CHRIS BLACK: Well, if you look at all
23 five remedies, and you consider their
24 implementability, number two comes on top.
25 That's EPA's decision. And we're looking for

1 your comments on that. And we appreciate that,
2 in terms of long-term reliability, in terms of
3 cost. In terms of short-term effectiveness,
4 three, four and five definitely work a lot
5 quicker. In terms of reduction of toxicity and
6 mobility, three, four and five are taken into
7 account.

8 AUDIENCE MEMBER: I understand that, sir.
9 What I'm -- tell me if I'm saying this
10 correctly. Really, the decision to go with
11 alternative two is because convenience for
12 Chevron, because it's easier to implement, and
13 lower cost? And the things that make three and
14 four and five better, which would be that it
15 would, you know, be a lot faster, that doesn't
16 matter, because you guys don't live here?

17 CHRIS BLACK: Well, they're all balanced
18 against each other. And two was chosen. So
19 it's not that it didn't matter, it's just
20 balanced against the rest. And that was the
21 five criteria that's dictated in our
22 guidelines, so that's what we have to follow.

23 AUDIENCE MEMBER: I've lived in Hooven for
24 22 years now. I've dealt with this,
25 unknowingly -- been dealing with this. And if

1 I can ask you guys, would you please -- it's
2 already affected my grandparents and now it's
3 affected me and my kids. If you guys go with
4 alternative two, not only is it going to affect
5 my kids, but their kids and my grandkids, and
6 probably their kids. And I just don't think
7 that, you know, you're being fair with us. I
8 mean, got to work with Chevron and, you know,
9 make it convenient for them. Where's the
10 convenience for us?

11 BRI BILL: Sorry. Are you asking -- do
12 you have a preference to one of the
13 alternatives?

14 AUDIENCE MEMBER: I would like to see
15 alternative three or four be implemented, only
16 because it seems that it's a little bit more
17 proactive on our environment, and will clean it
18 up a lot quicker.

19 BRI BILL: Okay. That's good to know.

20 SANDRA DOTSON: I've got a question for
21 you. My name is Sandra Dotson, D-o-t-s-o-n.
22 The little girl that asked you the question
23 about the grandma, if it was safe for her to go
24 to her grandma's house -- I've got a question
25 for you. I have nieces and nephews that live

1 on the other side of that creek, where you all
2 say that nobody lives. Is it safe for them to
3 live there? Is it safe for them when it rains,
4 for them to get out and play in the mudholes,
5 safe for them to go play in the dirt? Or have
6 you all bothered to check, that it's all safe
7 there?

8 CHRIS BLACK: Are you referring to --

9 SANDRA DOTSON: There are kids that live
10 right down there. Chevron's here. There's a
11 creek. And they live over right there. Are
12 they safe there?

13 AUDIENCE MEMBER: We are on the property
14 there.

15 CHRIS BLACK: On the sediment, I believe,
16 in front of the land farm, there's a pipe that
17 comes off the retention pond. Right?

18 AUDIENCE MEMBER: Right.

19 CHRIS BLACK: And there's a discharge. So
20 all of that has been sampled. And Ohio EPA has
21 done the sample.

22 AUDIENCE MEMBER: I've growed up down
23 there. When it rains, the mudholes down there
24 gets as black as those seats that are behind
25 you. Is them safe for them kids to play in?

1 Are you going to move down there and tell them,
2 don't let their kids go play there, or let them
3 find out on their own?

4 CHRIS BLACK: What we've got to do is
5 stick to our consent order, that's defining the
6 plumes and how to clean it up. And as we
7 define the plume, you still don't see it going
8 north of the property line, towards where I
9 believe we're talking about.

10 AUDIENCE MEMBER: I know. But you're
11 sitting here and telling all of these people
12 it's going to take you 30 years to clean this
13 up. What about us and our children? I've got
14 a 26-year-old daughter that had to have a lump
15 removed last year. What about all of these
16 little kids down here now? Are you telling me
17 that you're not going to warn their parents and
18 say, hey, they shouldn't be playing in this
19 water, and they shouldn't be playing here.
20 You're going to let those kids find out the
21 hard way?

22 You could at least warn these people, that
23 their kids are in danger. If somebody would
24 have warned me when my daughter was a baby,
25 that years later she would have to pay for

1 living down here, believe me, I would have
2 moved her out of there. But I didn't have no
3 warning.

4 You said that there weren't no fumes
5 coming from that. That is a lie. It was. It
6 would stink so bad, there were times down there
7 you couldn't breathe. You're saying there was
8 no fire down there, that's a lie. And in 1980,
9 yes, it did catch on fire. Because my mom was
10 in a body cast and they evacuated people.

11 CHRIS BLACK: Where do you live, ma'am?

12 AUDIENCE MEMBER: I live right across from
13 the creek, that you're saying isn't there.

14 CHRIS BLACK: Can you give the address for
15 the stenographer, so we can answer the
16 question?

17 BRI BILL: Or you can come up after the
18 meeting, so we can research it a little bit
19 further.

20 AUDIENCE MEMBER: You're saying that
21 there's nobody that lives down there. I know
22 better. I grew up down there. The refinery is
23 here. You've got a creek here. And we live on
24 here -- over here on the other side of the
25 creek. Because we played in that creek. We

1 swam in that river when we was young.

2 Are you going to let these other little
3 kids growing up down there now, do the same
4 thing, and end up with health problems that we
5 can't even understand? Wake up in the middle
6 of the night, nose is pouring blood for no
7 reason. Are you going to make these little
8 kids be like we are now, or are you going to
9 warn these people?

10 BRI BILL: All right. We'll look into
11 your situation. At least after the meeting,
12 just write your address down, and give it to
13 one of us. And it will be helpful.

14 AUDIENCE MEMBER: Other side of the
15 magical fence you guys have got.

16 BRI BILL: Do you know where she's talking
17 about?

18 CHRIS BLACK: I believe your fence is
19 north of the refinery.

20 BRI BILL: Excuse me, we need to kind of
21 keep some of the din down a little bit. If you
22 want to have a sidebar conversation, we ask
23 that you just go out in the hall, so that she
24 can hear very clearly.

25 BETTY SUE WALTERS: I would like to ask a

1 question.

2 BRI BILL: Could you state your name?

3 BETTY SUE WALTERS: Betty Sue Walters.
4 And all of the women that had miscarriages
5 because of this -- I mean, I had five
6 miscarriages. And I know of another girl that
7 told me that she had seven. And I understand
8 this has been going on since the '60s -- that
9 government problem since the '60s. And I'd
10 like to know -- I had five miscarriages. It
11 destroyed my family. I had to get a divorce
12 over it. I tried to adopt a baby. And I don't
13 understand, why? You need to fix this. How
14 many more women is going to have to go through
15 this?

16 BRI BILL: That's what we're here for. Is
17 there a particular plan that you would like to
18 see, of any of the ones that we suggested, or
19 any other ones?

20 AUDIENCE MEMBER: Shut down. Move
21 everybody out.

22 BETTY SUE WALTERS: Are you talking to me?

23 BRI BILL: Yes.

24 BETTY SUE WALTERS: Yes. I would like to
25 see if you can solve this problem. I mean,

1 it's got to be solved. Women can't go through
2 this. Families can't go through this. People
3 are dying. I mean, I had five babies that are
4 gone, I didn't get to know.

5 BRI BILL: Okay. All right. Thank you.
6 Go ahead.

7 AUDIENCE MEMBER: My question is -- as far
8 as the little girl's question, about if it was
9 safe to play in her grandma's yard and you
10 said, you have to check the information. Are
11 you saying that there are yards in Hooven that
12 are not safe to play in?

13 CHRIS BLACK: Well water.

14 BHOOMA SUNDAV: I'm glad that we talk
15 about the current conditions. If we say
16 "current conditions," obviously we are talking
17 about what's happening currently with the
18 groundwater contamination. So the groundwater
19 contamination -- you're not drinking the
20 water -- the contaminated drinking water. The
21 studies show that the vapor from the
22 groundwater is not hitting the surface.

23 AUDIENCE MEMBER: According to Chevron,
24 now. No other samples have been done to --
25 Chevron's the only one that's done the testing,

1 correct?

2 BHOOMA SUNDAV: Like I've explained, we've
3 been doing this for the past 24 years. We know
4 exactly how to check for the data validation.
5 We have checked it currently. And if you want,
6 we can, again, do the 10 percent data
7 evaluation. And I can assure, that that's
8 going to be fine, too. Because I have checked
9 this personally.

10 I have been doing this for about three
11 years. And it usually takes about one month,
12 to look at the information. Because of the
13 concern in the community about the vapors
14 coming into the residences, I took much longer
15 time to do a careful analysis. And then the
16 numbers one by one -- there are about 43 houses
17 sampled. And I based my conclusion through
18 number of evidences.

19 Whatever is found in the groundwater is
20 not from on top, it's more to do with
21 chloroform. That is what is a problematic
22 situation here. That is coming through the --

23 AUDIENCE MEMBER: You haven't answered my
24 question. I'm going to ask it, is it not safe
25 in some yards for kids to play?

1 BHOOMA SUNDAV: If you're talking about
2 the yards, yes, it is safe. If you're talking
3 about the child living in grandma's house and
4 playing in the basement, there are many factors
5 that play a role, depending on what we have
6 seen. We don't know whether it's coming from
7 the --

8 AUDIENCE MEMBER: Basically you don't know
9 if it's safe or not, if they can play at any of
10 the residences, because there's so many
11 factors.

12 BHOOMA SUNDAV: Any time -- right. Any
13 time we don't know fully about the situation,
14 we lean towards the precaution. We say we
15 don't know. But we have to look at all of the
16 information, so that we can provide you a
17 concrete -- a conclusive information about
18 whatever is present.

19 Since we don't have, we obviously lean
20 towards the precautionary side. And that's why
21 we say, houses with the ground spaces may be a
22 problem because we see vapors. And houses with
23 the ground space, or the dirt floor, has a
24 possibility of those vapors entering inside.
25 And it may not be safe for the kids.

1 AUDIENCE MEMBER: And then my comment,
2 kind of question is, we have been working on
3 this now for two years, since the summer of two
4 years ago, at least. And we were asking for a
5 house study to be done. And two years ago,
6 there was no way you guys would do that. It
7 had to be done by Chevron. And now all of a
8 sudden this guy is saying, pull up this
9 information. Why couldn't he do that two years
10 ago when we asked for that?

11 We went door-to-door, asking for
12 information. It's not only cancer problems
13 that are occurring. I mean, we had a map of
14 one road, the main street. And we had push
15 pins for every different health problem. And
16 there were so many push pins on both sides of
17 the street, we couldn't even put them on there,
18 there was so many health problems.

19 We showed that to the health department.
20 I guess for Cincinnati -- Tim -- we showed them
21 to Tim and had a meeting. Nothing was done
22 about it. I don't understand. Why now, all of
23 a sudden? It took years later. Why didn't you
24 do this two years ago? Wouldn't we be ahead
25 two more years with the health problems? Could

1 you have prevented some of the problems from
2 occurring in some of the new people that are
3 moving in there? And I mean, yes, we are
4 talking current, but we are also talking the
5 past. If this would have been 30 years ago,
6 maybe none of these health problems would be
7 sitting here right now.

8 BRI BILL: I think, you know, we
9 understand your question and your concern. And
10 our agency doesn't do the health studies. So I
11 don't have a response to that.

12 CHRIS BLACK: There was a health
13 consultation published. I think Tim of ODH was
14 involved in that. That document came out a
15 couple of years -- maybe Bob's more familiar
16 with it. But basically there was a certain
17 kind of study where they do a -- one study goes
18 over a threshold, and they do another type of
19 study. It's a consultation, and then an
20 analysis, or something. But there was a study
21 taken from --

22 BOB FRY: The Ohio Department of Health
23 did a health consultation in 2004. And we
24 recommended that the data that we reviewed from
25 Chevron, the main concern we identified was in

1 the soil gas, and the potential for it to
2 vaporize through the soils into the people's
3 basements.

4 And so our recommendation from that health
5 consultation was to do a more extensive
6 sampling of the soils, and the soil gas in
7 those soils. And that's what Chevron did this
8 past spring or --

9 AUDIENCE MEMBER: What Chevron did.

10 KENNETH SMITH: Do you know how much sense
11 that makes? Honestly, you're a smart,
12 apparently intelligent, man. You have a Ph.D.
13 You're just a chicken under the hen closet -- I
14 can't speak.

15 AUDIENCE MEMBER: Fox in the hen house.

16 BRI BILL: Excuse me, sir.

17 KENNETH SMITH: Exactly. I'm confused
18 right now. I'm sorry.

19 AUDIENCE MEMBER: State your name.

20 KENNETH SMITH: Kenneth Smith. I am the
21 closest neighbor to Chevron. But I'm sorry,
22 are you working for Chevron or the EPA?
23 Because I can't tell.

24 BRI BILL: We all work for the EPA.

25 KENNETH SMITH: Damn, I can't tell. I

1 work for Fernald. I see this stuff. I know
2 what's going on. I ain't no dummy. I see the
3 stuff that the EPA lets go on out there, that
4 shouldn't go on. We just had a big meeting to
5 shut down. Half a million dollar a day
6 shutdown. Regardless of that, you know, I just
7 don't get it. You know they're lying. It's
8 obvious. And you know there's health effects.
9 Groundwater -- now, five years ago, they were
10 responsible for it. You should have stepped
11 in. You were not doing your job. Should we
12 be filing a lawsuit against you for not doing
13 your job? Do we need to file a lawsuit against
14 the water company? They've made 2 1/2 half
15 million dollars to move the water, because it
16 was contaminated. And I didn't know nothing
17 about it. Maybe at the time I wasn't actually
18 living at my residence. No, I've lived other
19 places. I'm a young kid -- moved out. I
20 didn't know nothing about that. Nobody came
21 and knocked on my door. That was your
22 responsibility. You getting paid to do it. I
23 get paid to go clean up something for Fernald.
24 If I see something, it gets hauled out of
25 there. It's my job to stand up and say, hey,

1 that ain't right. It's called compliant. You
2 get paid to comply. It's that simple. You're
3 not complying. They're not complying.

4 It took Fernald -- we basically started
5 '80 -- I think in '89 started remediation of
6 hazardous material. We're talking uranium,
7 thorium --

8 THERESA SMITH: Which some of it they said
9 was brought on from the Chevron site. So
10 now --

11 BRI BILL: Sir, we're not going to get
12 into a discussion about -- we're not going to
13 talk about Fernald. We can't speak to that.

14 ALABAM SMITH: She doesn't want to talk
15 about anything.

16 KENNETH SMITH: No. They don't.

17 THERESA SMITH: They want 40 years to do
18 nothing, like they've been doing.

19 BRI BILL: Ma'am, I'm sorry. We're going
20 to have to --

21 ALBAM SMITH: Are you sorry for the
22 comment that you made to this young lady? You
23 should be sorry -- no, actually you should be
24 thankful that there's an officer standing right
25 there. And that's the honest God's truth.

1 Because you as a human being are sick. And I
2 don't even know why you have a job. You have
3 fucked up big time.

4 AUDIENCE MEMBER: Hey, that's enough.

5 BRI BILL: Ma'am --

6 AUDIENCE MEMBER: Big time.

7 THERESA SMITH: You don't speak to my
8 daughter --

9 BRI BILL: Ma'am.

10 AUDIENCE MEMBERS: (inaudible).

11 ALABAM SMITH: Do you see what this has
12 done to our community? Do you see what you
13 have done?

14 BRI BILL: We're trying to do our best to
15 answer questions.

16 ALABAM SMITH: You're lucky. You are
17 lucky.

18 BRI BILL: We're going to have to ask you
19 to leave.

20 THERESA SMITH: What goes around, comes
21 around.

22 AUDIENCE MEMBER: All we're trying to say
23 is 30 to 40 years --

24 BRI BILL: Sir --

25 AUDIENCE MEMBER: Wait a minute, you've

1 said your thing. And now I'm asking these
2 people, make a vote. Make a vote tonight. 15
3 years for this cleanup is more than enough. If
4 they can't do it in 15 years, there's something
5 wrong. 30 to 42 years is ridiculous. Stand up
6 and put it on the record tonight. 15 years
7 needs to be the time to clean this up. If you
8 don't do it, you're going to lose it -- or
9 less.

10 Our kids are going to be sick. What do we
11 need? You people are the only ones to stand
12 here and make the vote tonight. This is going
13 on the record. If you don't make the statement
14 tonight, it won't get made. Put your names on
15 the thing. Stand up and tell them you have 15
16 years to clean this up, or else. That's all
17 we've got.

18 BRI BILL: I'd like to respond. He's
19 right. If you think this cleanup should be
20 done faster, tell us. If you think we should
21 use another alternative, tell us. That's why
22 we're here.

23 AUDIENCE MEMBER: You should be telling
24 them.

25 BRI BILL: We have proposed the remedy

1 that we feel will work at this site. If you
2 don't agree, we want to hear your comments.

3 AUDIENCE MEMBER: What if it was Blue Ash?

4 AUDIENCE MEMBER: Yes.

5 AUDIENCE MEMBER: Indian Hill.

6 AUDIENCE MEMBER: I have been patiently
7 raising my hand. May I please talk?

8 BRI BILL: Okay. She's going to go first.

9 MARY GREER: My name is Mary Greer, 301
10 Ohio Avenue in Hooven. I am Marcus Greer's
11 spouse. I was in denial when all of this
12 started. I have heard Marcus talk, and talk,
13 and everybody else talk about it. You know, to
14 sit here and hear about how many tumors and
15 illnesses -- I have had one tumor removed off
16 of me. I have two growing right now, one the
17 size of a golf ball, in my neck. Okay, I have
18 three children, two biological. And my
19 daughter, that just left here, was placed on
20 Prevacid at eight years old.

21 It doesn't take a genius to see what's
22 going on here, guys, really. You've got a
23 room, and then some, that are sick. You know
24 what, if this was Blue Ash or Indian Hill,
25 would it take this long? It would not. Do

1 something for us. We've got so much invested
2 into our home, that we just can't get up and
3 leave. I told Marcus, let's put up a for sale
4 sign and get the heck out of here. We cannot.
5 We feel trapped. You know, help us. That's
6 all we're asking. Get us out of there and do
7 something. Because I am 30 years old, just
8 like her. I'll be 31 in October. I don't want
9 to be one big tumor and lump in five more
10 years. Just help. You know, I know it's --
11 you guys are defending -- it's natural for one
12 to defend itself. Just please, you know --

13 MARCUS GREER: I'd like to go next. You
14 don't need to answer. You can answer later,
15 even. My name is Marcus Greer. I've been
16 really sick about this the last few months. I
17 started looking up stuff in the Amazon. And
18 that's where Chevron and Texaco has already got
19 a bunch of results on what these chemicals are
20 actually causing. Because out of the country,
21 people in medical institutions like Harvard and
22 different institutes are doing studies for
23 people in Ecuador. And out of the country
24 they're finding out things that we can't even
25 find out here. And that as a U.S. citizen --

1 I'm in disgrace as a U.S. Citizen. You guys
2 are on the U.S. government.

3 I ask you, who do we go to? I asked you,
4 who do we go to? You told me, you need to go
5 to your government. You are our government.
6 You are the people that we put our trust into.
7 Why would you go every day and not worry about
8 what was going on? When nobody knew for 10
9 years our mail -- we have P.O. boxes. Our zip
10 is 45033, same as the Gulf. We couldn't do a
11 map quest. You couldn't come in or out of
12 Hooven if you wanted to, by computer. Nobody
13 knew where we was. How many refineries and
14 sites did Chevron merge with -- not recovered,
15 merged with, that are in the same situation
16 that the Hooven facility is in? And how many
17 people in this country are in the same
18 situation we're in and don't even know it?

19 Because in the Amazon, the chemicals that
20 they're showing is the same chemicals that we
21 have. And they're saying there's more wrong
22 with people over there than there is here.
23 Because they're doing studies. We're not doing
24 studies. You guys should be going
25 door-to-door. You're getting paid to protect

1 the people, not the corporation.

2 BRI BILL: Who are doing the studies
3 there?

4 MARCUS GREER: Harvard Medical Institute.
5 And I'll tell you what else they're finding.
6 They're finding that Chevron is doing falsified
7 reports on their tests. They're drilling in 20
8 places with nothing, and two places that are
9 high, and mix them all together. And they're
10 coming up with samples for all of them at a
11 point 3, which is below the -- out of the
12 country. So that's what they're doing here.
13 You guys have no idea. You are the scapegoats
14 for the Chevron. And we are looking at you.

15 AUDIENCE MEMBER: For help.

16 BRI BILL: Well, there is something
17 that -- do you have enough information --

18 MARCUS GREER: Last meeting we was here,
19 you told us that our school was high levels,
20 but since our kids only went there for 5 1/2
21 hours, that they were okay. Do you know how
22 sick that makes me feel, to send my kid out the
23 door to go to a school -- even if he comes back
24 home, he lives in the same town, goes to the
25 basement, goes to the school yard.

1 I want to say something else. The limit
2 between there, that you're saying we have no
3 contamination, your HVSC systems have sucked
4 out the hydrocarbons where they're testing. So
5 there's nothing in the middle. That's where
6 they're getting results. Saying that the
7 contamination is on us, that's what they told
8 everybody, from dumping gas in their sinks.
9 Nobody has seven million dollars, or seven
10 million gallons. It has been said. I've been
11 asked that question right in this room by
12 several people.

13 The wind don't blow in Hooven. Do you
14 want to know why I'm fueled over this? Because
15 you all lied to me in the beginning meetings.
16 The wind don't blow in Hooven. In the spring,
17 you don't do no tests. You can go to Hooven
18 right now, and tell me the wind's not blowing
19 directly in Hooven. They're over there digging
20 right now. The hoes and the trucks, the wind's
21 bringing the metals into Hooven right now. You
22 don't test in the spring. You said you had a
23 spring result earlier. You don't have spring
24 results, because you don't test in the spring.

25 MARY GREER: Instead of spending 117,

1 whatever -- I don't know the figures. He's got
2 it all down. Instead of spending it to test
3 and do this, get us the heck out of there.

4 AUDIENCE MEMBER: Get us out of there.

5 MARCUS GREER: Everybody in this room, go
6 to Amazon, Chevron. You will see Chevron,
7 Texaco, exactly what's going on. But whatever
8 your name is, you all know what is going on.
9 You know -- scientifically, you know what's
10 going on. And you've got to keep it hush,
11 hush, because you have to keep your job. When
12 you keep your job, you get to keep testing, and
13 get to keep going. We want out.

14 MARY GREER: You know what --

15 BRI BILL: Excuse me. I'm sorry, we don't
16 have the ability to buy you out, period.

17 AUDIENCE MEMBER: They have the ability.
18 Their quarterly profits could buy us out --

19 BRI BILL: We don't.

20 MARY GREER: Then you need to go back to
21 them on behalf of us.

22 BRI BILL: We're telling you what we can
23 do.

24 MARY GREER: I'm not looking to get rich.
25 I get up and go to work every day. But in the

1 same breath, I want my kids to be safe.

2 BRI BILL: I understand that. Next
3 question, comment.

4 AUDIENCE MEMBER: I'm here to ask a
5 question for all of us. How much more evidence
6 do you need? How long is it going to take to
7 shut this down, clean it up, do whatever you
8 have to? It's been too long. 30 years is too
9 long. 15 years is too long. I know the United
10 States, Chevron, or any other company can come
11 in here and do something to correct this
12 problem immediately, not wait another 15 years,
13 not wait another 30 years, not wait until half
14 of us -- we will be dead. Do you understand
15 that we will -- we are dying today.

16 There is nothing we can do, there's
17 nothing you can do to help with the property,
18 to help Hooven and Cleves. Tell us people
19 what -- give us answers. We all need answers.
20 We want answers. Get us out of here. Help us.
21 I know if you was in this situation, we, the
22 people, would be helping you, and on your side.
23 That's all we ask for. We, the people, will
24 win. I guarantee that.

25 CHRIS BLACK: Thanks for your comment. I

1 heard you say that you prefer 15 years, or
2 shorter of a time frame for the remedy.

3 AUDIENCE MEMBER: Tomorrow is too late.

4 CHRIS BLACK: And we appreciate that. So
5 this is our proposed remedy, and --

6 AUDIENCE MEMBER: Because there's nothing
7 Chevron can do about us. My daughter's health,
8 my grandchildren's health, that's done. We are
9 dying because of Chevron. So all we need to do
10 is for Chevron to stand up, take the
11 responsibility, clean the mess up and help us
12 as much as you can possibly -- can, and as
13 quickly as possible.

14 CHRIS BLACK: A part of our responsibility
15 is to have that consent order in place, that
16 agreement. And we're going through that
17 process. And in that process, we're looking at
18 information data. And we're looking at risk
19 assessments.

20 AUDIENCE MEMBER: Same answer. If you
21 have the same answer, just say same answer.

22 AUDIENCE MEMBER: Have we not done this
23 since '85? I mean, when is it going to stop?
24 Seriously, when is it going to stop? Are you
25 going to comment, and continue having meetings

1 every year, two years, five years down the
2 road? The meetings is not helping us. We need
3 a solution, a situation to the solution to stop
4 this, and to clean it up, and to help the
5 people and our offsprings. That's all we're
6 asking. Damage is already done. You can't
7 correct the damage, but you can go forward.

8 BRI BILL: And that's what we're trying to
9 do. That's what we're trying to do. Could I
10 see a show of hands, of who hasn't asked a
11 question, that would still like to? These two,
12 okay. Go ahead, and then you, sir, next.

13 CHRISSY MOSES: Chrissy Moses,
14 C-h-r-i-s-s-y, M-o-s-e-s. You all like the
15 30-year plan. The 15-year plan is more
16 attractive. I'd like the record to say, if
17 anyone else that feels the same way, that 30
18 years -- everybody, stand up. This is what the
19 meeting is for. Everybody is to go on public
20 record and say 42 years is way too long. 15,
21 22 years or 27 years, way too long -- way too
22 long. 50 years, way too long. You guys need
23 to come up with something better. I'm going on
24 the record right now and saying, I don't agree
25 with that. Stand up and say your name.

1 THERESA SMITH: Get us all out of there,
2 and then let them take 100 years. Who cares?
3 Get us all out of there, you know what I mean?

4 (Off the record.)

5 CHRISSY MOSES: Chrissy Moses,
6 C-h-r-i-s-s-y, M-o-s-e-s. I'm against the
7 30-year plan. I'm even against the 15-year
8 plan. Two weeks is too long.

9 BILL BARE: Bill Bare, B-a-r-e. I know
10 the solution to everybody's problem. Chevron
11 is making record profits. They can take what
12 the CEO makes, buy the whole town, and solve
13 everybody's problem.

14 BRI BILL: Chevron is here. And I'm sure
15 they've heard your comments. Is there anyone
16 else who has not spoken, who would like to
17 speak? All right. Marcus, go ahead.

18 MARCUS GREER: I'd just like to bring up
19 the mail issue. I know you don't want to hear
20 this. I go to get your package from the Hooven
21 post office, because none of them was sending
22 nobody's mail. The reason was, two boxes got
23 shipped down there. Bri actually signed the
24 boxes herself, and sent them down here. They
25 got confused. But our postmaster called you

1 and said, you needed to pay postage on every
2 one of the ones that's received at the post
3 office.

4 BRI BILL: Right.

5 MARCUS GREER: And you asked her to please
6 put them up there. Take one. Right?

7 BRI BILL: No. No, that's not right.

8 MARCUS GREER: You talked to Barb. And
9 she told you that you needed to pay postage on
10 every one down there.

11 BRI BILL: Yes. That's correct.

12 MARCUS GREER: But you already knew you
13 put the postage on everybody else's. So why
14 didn't you mention it to Barb, that I already
15 paid postage on them? Because you knew you
16 sent them to the wrong place. That's why they
17 got put in a little box, and shoved underneath
18 the desk. And I came looking for a one-inch
19 packet. The lady said, we don't have nothing
20 here. I said, are you sure? There's a meeting
21 coming up and there's a one-inch package. She
22 said, let's take a look. She reached down,
23 opened it up, no, that's not them. Went out
24 and said, they must be out here.

25 They was back behind this counter, in a

1 box, not getting passed out to the public.
2 Well, we're just going to pass them out as
3 people walked in?

4 BRI BILL: All I can tell you myself --

5 MARCUS GREES: So I come back and I find
6 them. I said, no, these are postmarked, they
7 need to go to people's mailboxes. They were
8 sent overnight, April 11th.

9 BRI BILL: Right.

10 MARCUS GREER: I find them April 25th.
11 The lady here that opened the box, opened them,
12 seen our mail. Hooven postal customer, and
13 took them and separated the mail, and took the
14 other box and put it in here. So somebody knew
15 that had to be getting to the customers.
16 That's tampering, that's federal fraud. Okay,
17 so then the packets make it there. You called
18 Barb at the post office and you say, there's
19 been a misunderstanding. And you covered your
20 butt, just like you covered your butt now.

21 BRI BILL: Are you through?

22 MARCUS GREER: Yeah. I'm done.

23 BRI BILL: Okay. There was -- we --
24 George and I packed a box -- two boxes. One
25 was set out on the table here, another one

1 metered, to go into the individual post office
2 boxes at the post office.

3 MARCUS GREER: All you had to do was drop
4 them in the mail. They was stamped.

5 BRI BILL: But they weren't numbered.

6 MARCUS GREER: Everybody else had gotten
7 one from the news. Or whoever made it to the
8 last appointment, had their name on a list, and
9 they got their's mailed to them from Chicago,
10 Illinois, to their house.

11 BRI BILL: People who did not have a
12 Hooven residence, we did mail directly. The
13 ones -- we wanted everybody --

14 MARCUS GREER: You already paid postage.
15 You didn't have to FedEx them.

16 BRI BILL: We had them. Yes, we had
17 postage on them. But we did not have the
18 actual -- this is what I worked out with the
19 postmaster. And you know what, this is what
20 she suggested we do, and that's what we did.
21 And if you --

22 MARCUS GREER: That's when you knew that
23 she got the wrong one, right then and there.

24 BRI BILL: I did not.

25 MARCUS GREER: You had to have. You put

1 postage on the ones. And she called and said,
2 you need to pay postage on these, or they're
3 not going in the boxes.

4 BRI BILL: Those weren't supposed to be
5 there. Those were supposed to be here.

6 MARCUS GREER: Exactly. So you knew when
7 you talked to her, that them came here.

8 BRI BILL: At that point I did, sure.
9 Because she --

10 MARCUS GREER: It was April 13th.

11 BRI BILL: At that point, I didn't know.
12 You know what, I'm not going to say anymore.
13 This room is packed. So lots of people knew
14 about the meeting. And I owe much of this
15 thanks to you.

16 AUDIENCE MEMBERS: (inaudible).

17 BRI BILL: If you've been living in Hooven
18 and you're not on a mailing list, we would
19 suggest you see --

20 AUDIENCE MEMBER: (inaudible)

21 BRI BILL: I don't know how that worked.
22 Just make sure that you've got your address.
23 Go ahead, sir, and then you can.

24 AUDIENCE MEMBER: First of all, I don't
25 think 30 years is fair. I probably won't live

1 to see that. And second of all, Marcus says
2 that you say the kids can be on the school
3 grounds for up to five hours and be safe? We
4 live five blocks from the school grounds. You
5 know, they found contaminates in the school and
6 school grounds, but it's safe for five hours.
7 And they have the kids there up to five hours.
8 Then they're going to go two to three blocks in
9 their house.

10 And I have a basement. In 1986, I built a
11 new house on its natural foundation -- built a
12 brand new house in Hooven in '85. I would
13 never have built 2,400 square feet with high
14 foot ceilings in Hooven. Overbuilt the
15 neighborhood, because it was our zoning. I
16 have a business. All right, I would have never
17 done that. And I feel like I'm a hostage
18 because there's no way I can sell my house,
19 with it being in the news, and this and that.

20 And I have to disclose -- I know there's
21 millions of gallons of gasoline and diesel
22 underneath. And then I'll say, well, I'll call
23 this one guy, he'll tell you it's safe. But
24 you spend five hours down at the school -- and
25 like he said, if this was Indian Hill, do you

1 think their school -- their kids will play --
2 some of them would be there for five hours --
3 only in school for six or eight hours. And now
4 that's all I can say.

5 BRI BILL: Would you clarify for us,
6 Bhooma?

7 AUDIENCE MEMBER: One last thing, please.
8 And then, say, down in front of us, across the
9 street in the basement -- and if you guys would
10 have told me that, I would have never built. I
11 would have never built \$100,000 in Hooven in
12 contaminated dirt. And I moved there right out
13 of high school, 20-years-old. And I've got
14 knots all over me. And I don't go to the
15 doctor because I don't have health care,
16 because I'm a truck driver. I've got knots all
17 over me. And then have had a daughter there
18 when I was 20.

19 AUDIENCE MEMBER: Lots of people have
20 knots.

21 BHOOMA SUNDAV: The risk assessment was
22 done for the year 2005. At that point in time,
23 we had certain numbers. If the school
24 children, they could spend six hours for
25 about -- since this is an elementary school,

1 but about six years, starting from kindergarten
2 to fifth grade, what exactly would be the risk?
3 That was one area. The other one was for the
4 caretaker who was going to be spending a lot of
5 time in the school, at least for 30 years, what
6 would be the risk?

7 The outcome of the calculation was, it is
8 safe, to the extent that even if the kid stays
9 there 24 hours, 7 days a week, the kid would
10 still be fine in the school.

11 AUDIENCE MEMBER: Then there wouldn't be a
12 risk at all.

13 BRI BILL: Excuse me, we're not going to
14 argue about this.

15 BHOOMA SUNDAV: The school made this
16 request specifically to us, to calculate --
17 this was not associated with the contaminated
18 groundwater. It was more to do with whatever
19 was seen underneath the basement, or in the
20 soil vapor. This was nothing to do with
21 groundwater contamination.

22 At the request of the principal, we did
23 that. And this calculation came out fine. It
24 was perfectly safe for the caretaker, as was
25 for the kids, regardless of the time that they

1 spent in the school.

2 AUDIENCE MEMBER: Was that vapor study in
3 the school?

4 BHOOMA SUNDAV: Right.

5 AUDIENCE MEMBER: That Chevron did.

6 AUDIENCE MEMBER: See, we've got a problem
7 with that.

8 BRI BILL: Let me try to respond. And
9 we'll try to respond more fully in writing.
10 We're going to go to the next question. Is
11 there anyone else that has not asked a question
12 tonight, that would like to, or make a comment?

13 BEILYA SMITH: My name is Beilya Smith,
14 B-e-i-l-y-a. We live right next to Chevron.
15 And we did not receive a packet, I guess,
16 because our family moved there before Chevron
17 was ever even built, and it was considered
18 Cleves. So we have a Cleves address, but we
19 actually live in Hooven. And we've been on the
20 mailing address for other things. But we did
21 not receive any packet for tonight. And my
22 question was, why has it taken you so long to
23 notice the problems here with Chevron? You've
24 had the paperwork. Why -- if you had been
25 doing research, and testings, and all of this

1 stuff since 1985, why is it now in 2005, you
2 say there's an issue, and you want to see the
3 results from the testings of Chevron?

4 BRI BILL: Well, we've been building up to
5 this point.

6 BEILYA SMITH: And it's taken you that
7 many years?

8 BRI BILL: It sometimes does, yes. Do
9 either of you want to respond?

10 CHRIS BLACK: Well, in general, Cincinnati
11 has done a lot. There's been excavations taken
12 place before we did the final remedy, what they
13 call intermittent. The pump wells have been
14 treated, and Chevron's paid for all of that.
15 In terms of studies, we've been trying to see
16 where the plume is, and what the concentrations
17 are. And then we've looked at how we're going
18 to clean it up, and that's the corrective
19 measure.

20 So you have one for the soil, and now
21 we're coming off with one for the groundwater.
22 So in the interim, when we're doing the
23 studies, we address some of the worst areas.
24 So yeah -- and like we said, we were looking at
25 some of the vapors closely. And the results

1 indicate, we don't see a pathway from the plume
2 to the surface. So we have to rely on the data
3 that we have, and take a look at it and be
4 objective. Look at it with sound signings, and
5 come up with conclusions that those --

6 BEILYA SMITH: So why are you now cleaning
7 it up? Why? Why do you now want it to be
8 clean, when all of these years before no one
9 cared? Like you said, yeah, you had done some
10 stuff, but my brother works for Fernald, and
11 they've cleaned that place in 10 years. And
12 it's taken you guys since 1985, since this
13 closed, to even try and start cleaning it up.
14 Because obviously, you haven't done nothing, or
15 there still wouldn't be an issue with
16 contamination there.

17 CHRIS BLACK: It's been discovered -- U.S.
18 EPA, like I showed on the slide, got involved
19 in '83. And that was -- it's a beautiful law.
20 We get a chance to put Chevron on the hook and
21 say, you know what, let's clean up this
22 contamination. And the worst part of it, a lot
23 of it was the groundwater, and those pump wells
24 had been running.

25 BEILYA SMITH: So why in '93, didn't you

1 tell the whole -- I don't care if you told the
2 whole state of Ohio, why didn't you tell us?
3 We did not know why. Can you explain why you
4 didn't tell?

5 CHRIS BLACK: In the original order, there
6 was a community involvement plan, which Chevron
7 complied with.

8 BEILYA SMITH: I don't even care of your
9 excuse. We live next to it. Whether you think
10 it was contaminated then or not, I think we, as
11 the people, have a right to know that it could
12 be contaminated, and that maybe we wouldn't
13 want to live there. That's your
14 responsibility. If you knew that it could
15 be -- could be, should be, whatever, there
16 shouldn't be words. Like I said, but we should
17 have known. It's our right. It's your job to
18 notify us. So now, you know, we're at the
19 point where we don't care of the bullcrap that
20 you guys tell us.

21 You need to get us out of there. You need
22 to clean it up for future residents, future
23 people that may want to live near there, or
24 around there, or in the same area. Because
25 there's too many people that are sick. I just

1 found a lump under my arm yesterday. And I was
2 born with cancer. Who gets struck with two
3 different types of cancer twice in their life?
4 I don't know what it is. I'm 21 years old. I
5 don't know what this is. I don't know if it's
6 cancer. It could be something else. But guess
7 what, I don't even have medical insurance to go
8 and find out if it is. So you need to do
9 something. You need to get up, and do
10 something.

11 CHRIS BLACK: I feel like we have been
12 doing something. I've been involved in the
13 project for seven years, as a project manager.
14 There's been ongoing activities addressing the
15 soil and the groundwater contamination. And we
16 looked at risks and the pathways to humans, and
17 that's been assessed, too. So I appreciate
18 your concerns. And --

19 BEILYA SMITH: Right. But you haven't
20 checked the people, though. You've checked
21 what -- if there is pathways. You know what I
22 mean, there could have been pathways 40 years
23 ago, that got into my mom and dad. My dad grew
24 up there, his whole family did. He had a
25 brother that died over there in a fire. You

1 know, what's to say that those chemicals didn't
2 get into their bodies and then caused me to
3 have cancer, that's what I want to know.

4 CHRIS BLACK: We're looking at current --

5 BEILYA SMITH: You guys are talking about
6 the future, future, future, future. Well,
7 okay, yes, go ahead. I don't want anyone else
8 to be sick. I don't want to get sick again.
9 But you need to do something about it.

10 CHRIS BLACK: Well, like I said --

11 BEILYA SMITH: For us people, it ain't
12 about the land. No one cares. The land means
13 nothing to anyone.

14 CHRIS BLACK: The current, future risk and
15 the past risk, your prerogative is to take some
16 sort of legal action against who you think
17 caused some past exposure, and that's your
18 right. And your right is to disagree with how
19 we're handling it. And we appreciate your
20 comment.

21 BRI BILL: We've got one, two, three.

22 MARCUS GREER: My name is Marcus Greer,
23 again. How many other sites are the U.S. EPA
24 in Chicago overseeing? We're region five. How
25 many other sites are you overseeing right now?

1 BRI BILL: George Hamper from EPA handles
2 this.

3 GEORGE HAMPER: We have about 300 sites in
4 six states, including Illinois, Indiana, Ohio,
5 Minnesota, Wisconsin and Michigan. And about
6 half of those sites are led by the state
7 agencies, and about half by the federal
8 agencies. And our federal EPA is divided into
9 two sections. And the section that Chris and
10 I, and Bhooma, and Gary are in, we manage about
11 70 sites.

12 MARCUS GREER: Wow, so you guys are saying
13 the same old bull every time.

14 BRI BILL: You'd have to go to the other
15 meetings.

16 MARCUS GREER: Please?

17 BRI BILL: Go to the other meetings.

18 MARCUS GREER: What if they're the same
19 thing as we are? For 10 years, we had post
20 office boxes. Our mail went downtown as junk
21 mail. A CAT meeting -- does anybody understand
22 what a CAT meeting is? Because we never knew
23 what a CAT meeting was. They'd say, local
24 Tuesday, we're having our CAT meeting. Nobody
25 knew what a CAT meeting was. It could be

1 crocheting, or whatever you all do over here,
2 or whoever comes over and uses this.

3 I would like to say for the citizens of
4 Hooven, that we will give you what was gave to
5 us, and that would be 3 1/2 acre park that the
6 Gulf gave to the citizens of Hooven. Which I
7 gave bids on, to put in a part of a park. Of
8 course, you're going to give us -- first thing
9 your lawyers ask us, let me ask you, what are
10 they giving you, parks? Are they giving you
11 land to put parks on? Gulf Park, they started
12 getting that in 1980. There's still pipes
13 under the ground. July of '05, there's seepage
14 coming out of that side. You told the lady in
15 Cleves, there's no way that the plume would
16 migrate that way, and there's seepage coming
17 off on the other side of the river. The water
18 flows the other way. Can you show that real
19 fast? I'll show you what we showed you before.

20 CHRIS BLACK: I don't have that up there
21 right now.

22 MARCUS GREER: You said that the water
23 follows the river. If you recognize the way
24 that arrow was going, that tank farm was way up
25 here, and Hooven was right here. You can show

1 it. I said it before --

2 CHRIS BLACK: Sure.

3 MARCUS GREER: It shows the groundwater
4 running directly into Hooven.

5 CHRIS BLACK: South, southwest direction.

6 MARCUS GREER: Here's your tank farm.
7 There's bedrock all up through here. This is
8 all bedrock. This is 100 foot deep of bedrock.
9 All the way down the river, is 100 foot deep of
10 bedrock. Hooven, right here, is 80 foot to
11 bedrock. Right here is a park that they used
12 to give us, there's 3 1/2 acres. Drill there.
13 Because right here at the foot of this hill, it
14 drops back down to 100 feet deep, to bedrock.

15 So that plume never did get pushed up out
16 of there. You abandoned a well back there that
17 was never tested. You need to check right
18 here.

19 CHRIS BLACK: Define the plume --

20 MARCUS GREER: Leave that up there.

21 CHRIS BLACK: Right in this area. We can
22 respond to that.

23 MARCUS GREER: Same thing as other
24 meetings. You have a plume in the island,
25 which you don't see the island. In '78, they

1 didn't have an island? Cleves Commercial Park,
2 you have a plume there. Over here at the ball
3 fields, there's a plume there. 30, 40 years
4 ago, this was probably one big plume, it's
5 probably already made it to the Mississippi
6 River.

7 KENNETH SMITH: Kenneth Smith. I have
8 paperwork at the house. It's kind of hid.
9 Anyway, Chevron's paperwork that shows the
10 plume up here. And this is their highest
11 testing for benzene, everything else. But
12 that's my house right there. You don't have
13 any of that paperwork. That's kind of odd,
14 isn't it?

15 It's amazing, when we first started all of
16 this, we went over to the Cleves Waterworks,
17 right? Went in. Hey, we want to come in and
18 check your paperwork. Go in. And an hour,
19 hour and a half, oh, we're closed up. The next
20 day, you ain't coming in here. They know,
21 that's why they took 2 1/2 million dollars.
22 Let's see, 2 1/2 million dollars in my pocket,
23 a brand new facility, just money in their
24 pocket. It's all about money. That's their
25 way of paying them off. No, they didn't slide

1 them the cash to go buy a new house. They're
2 just making the money off of us. It's the same
3 scenario.

4 Here's another one. The place was
5 demolition in, what -- started and shut down in
6 1984. When they started demolition in '87,
7 what about all of the asbestos pipes? Is there
8 any -- I've never seen anything -- was the
9 asbestos removed correctly? Probably not. I
10 see them drive by over there, knocking shit
11 down. There was no asbestos. There was nobody
12 running around in masks over there. I've got
13 an asbestos license. And I'll tell you what, I
14 wouldn't be over there. What about workers
15 they put in danger over there? Were you
16 staying in there? Did you clean -- that's
17 obvious.

18 CHRIS BLACK: We can look at that. I know
19 when they did the initial current condition
20 report, it was tested. There was grid sampling
21 run of the soil across the site. And I can
22 check on that, to see if there's any
23 sampling --

24 JEROME KUJAWA: I was there one day in
25 '93, before the order was signed in '93. And I

1 saw some stuff that was bagged up, as if it
2 were asbestos. I don't know. I have no idea
3 what they did. But obviously, they had it
4 bagged up in plastic.

5 KENNETH SMITH: Ida Willamaker got
6 asbestos in her lungs, back in the early '80s.
7 And they were compensated for it, before the
8 law went into effect that it had to be cleaned
9 up a certain way. You know, they took on
10 Gulfs -- what do you call it? I don't know
11 what the word is. You know, they inherited
12 their mistakes. They're responsible. They
13 came in and said, you guys screwed this up.
14 We're going to take it over.

15 CHRIS BLACK: They're responsible for
16 hauling it out.

17 KENNETH SMITH: When I was a small child
18 coming out, and there was soot all over
19 everything, I was breathing it. What was it?
20 See, the responsibility and the legalities of
21 it all go back to long before what we're
22 talking about now -- you know, we're talking
23 about now. We're already sick. It's not like
24 we just moved in on it, hey, there's something
25 wrong here. We've been living on this.

1 We've -- you're getting the low levels
2 now. But you're not getting the levels back
3 then. So you're not analyzing -- if I consumed
4 so much lead as a child and -- well, lead
5 depletes out of your system. Let's say it
6 doesn't. Now, I'm getting low levels of lead
7 now, but you were getting -- before you did any
8 good testing beforehand, that's -- you're not
9 neglecting it.

10 We're sick. You can say, yeah, there's no
11 way kids are going to get sick, because we
12 started testing it. And, you know, '85
13 started, but we only get tested until '95, so
14 there's a 10-year space. You know, what about
15 the kids? What about, you know, my parents who
16 went to Hooven elementary, what they were
17 exposed to, and it's in their system? And it's
18 been in their system. There's so many things
19 you're leaving out that's there.

20 BRI BILL: I mean, we definitely see your
21 point, about the tests. I don't know if
22 there's anything that we can --

23 AUDIENCE MEMBER: Chevron merged --

24 KENNETH SMITH: There's a formula for it,
25 there's got to be. You say there's so many

1 gallons of water they sucked out, so many
2 gallons that went through the aquifer. We're
3 getting this amount. So it could have depleted
4 at this rate. You back up. It's gotten you --
5 it maybe a ballpark, but I guarantee it's going
6 to be high enough that it causes cancer,
7 without a shadow of a doubt. There's no other
8 way that otherwise, these people are sick. It
9 just don't happen.

10 BRI BILL: Thanks.

11 TARA LANE: Well, my name is Tara Lane. I
12 spoke earlier. First of all, on alternative
13 five, she asked it earlier, and I didn't hear
14 the answer. I don't know if you didn't answer
15 it, or if I just misplaced it. But on
16 alternative four, you stated -- I was writing
17 down some notes and it said you said something
18 about 30 wells, was that for alternative four,
19 or three, or --

20 CHRIS BLACK: I don't believe so.

21 TARA LANE: You were talking about how
22 many wells would be dug.

23 CHRIS BLACK: I think alternative four --
24 let's go back on the slide. I think we had,
25 like, 3,500 for four.

1 TARA LANE: 3,500 wells?

2 CHRIS BLACK: Four was 3,500 wells. And I
3 think five was 17,000, like, injection points,
4 if you covered the whole former Chevron
5 refinery with a dense grid.

6 TARA LANE: So you're just talking about
7 putting 17,000 wells for number five, right in
8 where Chevron is, or all over?

9 CHRIS BLACK: Yes. For three, four and
10 five, all of the additional work is on the
11 formal refinery facility.

12 AUDIENCE MEMBER: What about Hooven?

13 CHRIS BLACK: That's to control the
14 source. If we get rid of the source --

15 AUDIENCE MEMBER: Underneath?

16 CHRIS BLACK: Underneath.

17 AUDIENCE MEMBER: That's 100 foot deep,
18 right?

19 CHRIS BLACK: Well, that's the beauty of
20 the high grade pumping, is the radius and
21 influence. When you pump out that well, it
22 extends underneath Hooven. You can pump on the
23 facility property, and draw stuff back from
24 underneath Hooven.

25 AUDIENCE MEMBER: So that's what the

1 system's --

2 TARA LANE: 1,700 wells is what it would
3 take to get the contaminants that are
4 underneath there in a lesser time, is that what
5 you mean -- more wells, lesser time?

6 CHRIS BLACK: Well, if you use that
7 technology, that's your fact, then you want to
8 do the whole Chevron refinery property, you
9 would need 17,000 wells, on 10 foot centers.
10 That would cover that whole site with a grid.
11 So, yeah, because you need to capture it. The
12 water flows. It's difficult to put that into
13 effect, and put it out. We want to make
14 sure --

15 TARA LANE: Who's going to do that?

16 CHRIS BLACK: The polluter pays. So
17 Chevron is going to implement, we're going to
18 do oversight.

19 TARA LANE: Haven't you been overseeing
20 since the beginning? And isn't that what the
21 job of the EPA is, is to oversee big companies?

22 CHRIS BLACK: Right. When they did the
23 soil removal, we had our consultants out there
24 four times a year, maybe every three months,
25 for three or four days. Initially, we were

1 there every week when they kicked it off. So
2 we do --

3 TARA LANE: I'm not pointing fingers at
4 any one person. I don't mean to talk over you.
5 I did some rental property for a while. And
6 there was guidelines by Ohio, for some of the
7 rental properties that I was doing. And every
8 now and then, you would get somebody that was
9 really a stickler, and stuck to the guidelines
10 right then and there all the time. And then
11 other times, there's a guy that walks by, yeah,
12 looks good.

13 So, I mean, apparently that's the kind of
14 stuff that's been going on all of these years,
15 to not see what's been going on. I mean,
16 something has to have been overlooked by the
17 EPA, something has. And I think what my point
18 is, in getting to all of that, you know,
19 nothing's been done. You guys don't know what
20 I mean. Maybe there's a lot going on right
21 now. Everybody's saying, nothing's been done.
22 Apparently you guys were doing some work, you
23 know a lot of these facts. But where the
24 distrust comes in is because for all of these
25 years, we've been overlooking it but nobody has

1 had any of this.

2 I mean, we're all dumbfounded. Like for
3 the last couple of years, we know so much more
4 than we ever wanted to know, really. And we
5 were just basically, you know -- yeah, we live
6 in a cute little town, next to the river. And
7 you got these people -- you guys knew all of
8 this information all these years and nobody
9 ever said anything. I mean, a lot of us don't
10 have a whole lot of education. But we're not
11 just dumb hillbillies. We would have known
12 better, to duck and run. Wait a minute,
13 something's going on. When one of you said, I
14 don't see any health problems -- you know, why
15 did they start looking into tobacco smoke? And
16 why did they start looking into that, because
17 of the health problems? It wasn't because they
18 looked through tobacco leaves and where they
19 were growing, it was because of the health
20 problems. Babies being born at low birth
21 weight, there's a ton of things, most of the
22 time it's because a big cluster of people that
23 all have the same kind of health problems, and
24 they do this one thing.

25 Well, that's where we are. We all live in

1 this one area. And we're all suffering from
2 these same problems over and over, and it's
3 like, why don't you see that? Why don't you
4 see that? We don't care that you're saying,
5 oh, it's at this level and that level, and this
6 level. We care that we're sick. We're sick
7 more than most communities. Why is that? You
8 know, and you're saying, well, we haven't done
9 these studies back then. We can't answer that.
10 Well, like he said, there's formulas, there's
11 something to figure out. They can't always
12 look back at the women and low birth weight
13 that smoked years ago. But they can look now
14 and say, well, it's happened all of these
15 years, so something's going on.

16 And that's what we're saying. That's what
17 we're saying, as a community, like, this is
18 getting ridiculous. We want out. We're
19 trapped. When I come to this meeting, I leave
20 here feeling ignorant. You guys roll your eyes
21 while you're sitting up here, on things that
22 we're saying. We can't answer that. We don't
23 know. Well, it depends on what street you live
24 on, depends on what kind of gas you used. I
25 mean, you know, there's a lot of dependants.

1 And we're all made up of different things. But
2 as a whole, there is way too many health
3 problems for one community -- way too many --
4 way too many. Whether -- you know, I got a
5 health problem that nobody in my family has
6 anywhere near to. I've got -- you know, shoot
7 out blood twice a day. I carried a baby, a
8 little bitty tiny casket this big, and put it
9 in the ground. And you know, when you do that,
10 and you look at everybody else -- she had five
11 miscarriages, she had seven, they all got
12 lumps, you know, we're all walking around like
13 we're humanoids or something. Something's
14 wrong, you know. And everyone's like, I'm
15 sorry, you may have that in your family. Maybe
16 your whole family smoked too much, maybe you
17 dumped too much oil in there, maybe all of them
18 paint cans in your basement caused all of that.
19 That's ridiculous. That's everybody in this
20 whole earth, is like that. One family this,
21 one family that, but as a whole -- as a whole,
22 that study should be done. And I think that's
23 what she meant earlier. Why isn't any health
24 studies being done? You know, as soon as they
25 knew that there was some kind of problem with

1 the refinery, they should have started that
2 right away. Because we're the people living
3 there. We're the ones that you guys should be
4 concerned about; not the ground, the people.

5 CHRIS BLACK: Yes. I think when this
6 woman had mentioned it, Bob Fry from OEPA
7 said -- another person that he recommended she
8 contact, maybe you should, too.

9 TARA LANE: I don't want to contact him.
10 You're here at this meeting. You should have
11 them here at this meeting. I want you to
12 contact them. I want you guys to be involved
13 with them. And no, my studies are not just
14 based on what the ground is on. It's based on
15 what the people are doing. What he said about
16 the -- not just the water, not just the ground,
17 what about the people? What about the fruit
18 and vegetables that are grown out here? I
19 mean, all of that is this.

20 CHRIS BLACK: When we first started
21 looking at the plume, at one point we started
22 to realize we had the plumes under Hooven.
23 Then --

24 TARA LANE: At one point we figured, hey,
25 it's under Hooven.

1 CHRIS BLACK: We didn't realize until '89,
2 '98; when we said, samples over there started
3 coming up, tried to understand the nature of
4 the smear zone of the contamination, how it
5 works, how it shows up with low water tables,
6 and where it dissolves from high water tables.
7 And that's when there was a risk assessment
8 done. And EPA knew the risk assessment, that
9 was the 2000 assessment.

10 That's the -- to the extent we said, well,
11 there's a possible pathway. And the study was
12 conducted. And that was our response to that
13 information again.

14 BRI BILL: I think we know what you're
15 asking for. It's just not something that we
16 can deliver. But the health department is
17 here. I don't know what your next steps would
18 be. Sorry to put you on the spot.

19 TARA LANE: The distrust comes in, because
20 all of this should have been done a long time
21 ago.

22 BRI BILL: I do understand that.

23 TARA LANE: When you say, well, we didn't
24 know -- and I appreciate that, you know, you
25 guys are very intelligent people. You wouldn't

1 have jobs without it. I'm not calling any of
2 you guys any kind of names. We just need to
3 know that you're for us. And without you --
4 you sit here like, you know -- I mean, she
5 smirks and you get aggravated that we're -- the
6 aggravation that you feel, you go home to your
7 family at night and lay down. When we leave
8 and our aggravation's there, we go home and
9 wonder, if what kind of air we're breathing --
10 you know, should we put our house up for sale?
11 What should we do? Us not being the
12 scientists, and not being able to know all of
13 these things that you're saying, what did that
14 number mean, what this does and, you know,
15 we're depending on you guys. We're depending
16 on you guys. And you guys are letting us down.
17 You act like we're just attacking you. It's
18 not just you sitting there, personally, you're
19 just the face of it. I mean, we want some
20 answers from years ago, not just today.

21 CHRIS BLACK: We can provide the
22 information. We feel that we're honest brokers
23 between the corporation and the public. And we
24 have the expertise to look at all of this
25 information, and process it and follow the

1 laws. So whatever we can do to build the
2 trust, you know, we try to take those steps.

3 BRI BILL: We've got six questions, and
4 then we're going to end the meeting. We're
5 going to start back here with you, and then
6 you, sir, and you, sir, in the back. And you
7 in the red, and you in the green. Okay, and
8 you're the last.

9 MARY BRIGID SWEENEY: My name is Mary
10 Brigid Sweeney. I spoke before. You know, you
11 came with your answer to the questions to the
12 best of your ability. And your science is
13 wonderful. And actually, I read the study.
14 And, you know, I'm an attorney, I'm not a
15 scientist. First, I think one of the problems
16 is that you came in with the PowerPoint, that
17 nobody has an appreciation of what you're
18 asking them. The best that we can learn, is
19 that one is 30 years, one is 15 years, one is
20 this and one is that. And the attorney stands
21 up and says, well, really it could be 42 years.
22 So it's really -- there's really no
23 appreciation for what you actually are asking
24 them.

25 You're asking them to consent to which

1 process to remove it, but you didn't really
2 show us in any appreciable fashion, what that
3 process really is meaning. That this -- and
4 we've gone to CAT meetings. And Chevron has
5 stood up, and gets the geologist to stand up
6 and says, this is our evaluation, this and
7 this. We've gone and heard a toxicologist
8 basically -- or an evaluation of the chemicals
9 from Chevron's perspective. I've never seen
10 U.S. EPA come and tell that to the group, to
11 the population.

12 So when you come and you give them a study
13 that's this thick, the day of the study, the
14 day that they're supposed to make a public
15 comment about it, is not an appreciative
16 analysis. Because they're not educated.
17 People that come on their behalf are not
18 educated. Because we need a presentation from
19 you to say, you know, here is what we're doing.
20 Here is how it comes out from what we were told
21 by the Chevron vapor study. He comes out
22 here -- we know what number two is, because
23 Chevron told us. But we really don't have an
24 explanation of what really, in depth, fully
25 it -- and what chemicals are going to be

1 removed, for how long, or that there's
2 discussion going on for 42 years. I don't
3 think, other than the timelines, that there's
4 really an informative, and almost consent to
5 what you're asking them.

6 I don't think you explain -- you've got a
7 nice PowerPoint. But I don't think that will
8 explain what the processes are. 17,000 what?
9 You had to look it back up. What does that
10 mean for the town of Hooven? Or show a map
11 where 17,000 wells will go to. It probably
12 will be all black, if you had to view point
13 them. You know, that kind of appreciation of
14 what you're asking, isn't really what we saw.

15 And that's -- I'm just saying, maybe you
16 should come back. Because I don't know if
17 the -- if you can get a town to say, we
18 understand what you're asking here, other than
19 the time limits. And I've got to tell you, if
20 you didn't get the message clearly, 30 years
21 isn't acceptable, and neither is 20 years
22 acceptable. They want it removed from their
23 town. We haven't talked about the river.
24 Because people use the river. I don't hear
25 anything about how you're going to stop them

1 from swimming, or boating, or any of the
2 recreational areas that have problems with
3 them. What are you going to do about that? I
4 really haven't heard that kind of discussion,
5 about how we're going to protect you. I read
6 it in your report, about the groundwater, about
7 when there's -- you know, the soil kind of
8 erodes. But I don't know what you do to stop
9 the soil from eroding. If they understand that
10 they shouldn't be using the river, how far they
11 should be using the river.

12 I know Chevron runs both sides of the
13 river. I know that they own the island. What
14 happens? Should kids be told -- a big sign be
15 put up? That kind of basic stuff that you
16 could tell them that you're doing for them, is
17 what I think. Also, we should be a part of
18 your plan. That's why I don't think -- I think
19 you've been very good about telling us what you
20 did. I think you've been really appreciative.
21 But I don't hear -- when you were talking to
22 the kid, you didn't tell her what the soil was
23 saying. I think you analyzed the vapors. I
24 understand. You know, I think you did probably
25 two months worth of study. But did you analyze

1 the soils or, you know, make an issue of
2 swimming in the Miami River, like some do, off
3 of the boats? So that's my comment.

4 BRI BILL: Okay. Thank you. Thank you
5 very much for that comment.

6 DAVID CATES: My name is David Cates,
7 C-a-t-e-s. I've grown up in Hooven. I've been
8 there all my life. I think the contamination
9 was back years ago, when I was growing up.
10 We'd go out, and you'd see the soot on cars.
11 And it was in the ground. I think the damage
12 we got ain't been lately. It was -- it was
13 years ago. But it was all from Chevron, or
14 Gulf, or whatever you want to say. But that's
15 what I'm saying.

16 You're testing now. I understand you're
17 saying the vapors and everything is real good
18 now, but what about the people that have been
19 there? My kids grew up there. I grew up
20 there. That's the only thing we're worried
21 about.

22 BRI BILL: Sure.

23 DAVID CATES: That's all I've got to say.

24 BRI BILL: You know, I want to ask our
25 panel. I mean, is there a way to kind of

1 backtrack? Since we've been hearing tonight
2 that some of these exposures might have
3 occurred before we were on the scene, while the
4 plant was still operating, is there a way to
5 backtrack, or is it just not really possible at
6 this point?

7 BHOOMA SUNDAV: Typically, the Department
8 of Health does that, if it is tracing back.
9 EPA -- I mean, we've never done this before, to
10 be a part of this. The first time I've ever
11 faced this question, can you trace it back and
12 speculate the risk, exactly how the current
13 affected versus the past.

14 If we had some information that the
15 toxicity was operated in 1935 to 1985 -- and we
16 didn't have any regulation cases in 1935. We
17 just don't have any idea what was happening, if
18 anything, how far it was dispersing, all
19 chemicals or metals into the neighborhood.
20 Extremely impossible to go back to 1935 and
21 1960, and get all of those data. So if you
22 don't have that information yet, you're going
23 to underestimate your risk.

24 DAVID CATES: That's probably '68 and up.
25 I was born in '63, so I had to remember it, you

1 know. I do remember coming out and the soot
2 being on the cars so bad. And I know we got
3 damaged from that.

4 BHOOMA SUNDAV: If you don't have the
5 information, you won't be justifying the result
6 that we need to use. Probably you don't know.
7 But the best way to do is, to try to tie your
8 health defects with vast exposure.

9 BRI BILL: Okay. Sir with the cap.

10 CLIFF FENNEL: My name is Cliff Fennell.
11 And I've spoken before. I just have to
12 comment, first of all, on your alternatives.
13 I'd rather see three and four. I mean,
14 regardless of how long it's going to take us,
15 we're looking at 15 years minimum. The other
16 thing is, I'd like to comment on is, I've lived
17 in Hooven for 26 years. There's been a fire
18 down at the Gulf. There's been explosions down
19 there, which they said they did not. I wish I
20 had receipts, because they paid on my car
21 twice. And it covered the entire town. And we
22 were told that it was a catalyst, and that
23 seemed to satisfy everybody. But nobody knew
24 what the hell it was.

25 The other thing we were told by Chevron,

1 is that we were the ones that contaminated our
2 town, because we changed our oil and we changed
3 our antifreeze out in the middle of our yards.
4 Then they tell us that it's our septic tanks,
5 nine of them are bad. And we wind up paying 3
6 to \$5,000 apiece to have sewage put in. The
7 Ohio EPA -- is anybody here from the Ohio EPA?
8 I didn't think so. That's the most useless
9 outfit there ever was. They came in and
10 recommended we put vapor barriers on our
11 houses, you know, another 2 to \$3,000. You
12 people now want us to fill up our basements,
13 another 4 to \$5,000. Everything you people do
14 costs us money. You're the government. We pay
15 your salary.

16 And at that last comment I'd like to say
17 is, evidently nothing is going to be done,
18 period. Because our representatives from
19 Chevron found this to be very humorous.
20 They've set here and giggled back and forth,
21 and commented back and forth. I don't know if
22 you noticed it or not. I sat here right behind
23 them. So I guess we're just a laughingstock.

24 BRI BILL: All right. Thank you. Would
25 you like to speak? I can't remember the order.

1 I just remember the people.

2 AUDIENCE MEMBER: Let her. I've already
3 had a chance.

4 BRI BILL: The lady in the front row.

5 AUDIENCE MEMBER: You're saying there's no
6 way you can go back and check, unless you had
7 the information. I know there's information on
8 the spills, of how much the spills -- you know,
9 that the amount of spills back in '60 -- in the
10 '60s, in the '50s, and in the '70s. I know --
11 for a fact, I know there were spills in the
12 late '60s and '70s, because I worked there. I
13 did paperwork on some of the spills out of the
14 tank farm because, for whatever reason, someone
15 let the tank overflow, or the pipes were
16 corroding, or whatever. Some of those pipes
17 were put in in the '30s. What I want to know
18 is, why can't you use that information to
19 determine what's caused some of our problems?

20 And my other question is, you keep saying
21 you want to know what we want to know, but if
22 you're not willing to take it down in writing,
23 what we want to know, how's it going to do any
24 good? How are we to let you know, other than
25 say, yes, I want, you know, your number two,

1 five? If you're not going to put anything down
2 in writing, you're not going to know what we
3 want.

4 GARY CYGAN: It's all being taken down.

5 BRI BILL: When you say you want something
6 in writing, what do you mean?

7 AUDIENCE MEMBER: Like a vote. You're
8 saying, let us know. Well, everyone here
9 that's speaking this evening has been telling
10 you, you know, we're not happy with what's
11 going on. We're not happy with -- you know,
12 actually, so far, you have been taking care of
13 your first -- I forget what word you used --
14 but your first plan. Nothing's been done. How
15 do you know? You say it's been taken down.
16 There's only been, what, maybe 20, 25 of us who
17 spoke. This room was filled this evening. So
18 you have no idea how many people really wanted
19 to vote on which plans, we feel is in our
20 interest, not Chevron's. And we are tired of
21 your snickers.

22 CHARLES GARNER: We're knowledgeable
23 enough to tell you, you should put something up
24 there. You would be knowledgeable enough, even
25 with your education, to do what you do. You

1 can go to this plant -- how could we tell you
2 what we really want, if you throw something up
3 there and say, well, you're going to want the
4 quickest? But what's the effects of the
5 quickest? Like she said, we're like idiots,
6 really. And I don't think you guys would know.
7 And sometimes, you have problems remembering
8 exactly, because you deal with a bunch of
9 different plants. So there's no way we can
10 make a knowledgeable -- I mean, it's -- the
11 quickest is not the best anyway. We wanted it
12 yesterday. So she's exactly right. And my
13 name's Charles Garner. But I think we need
14 another meeting. And I think we need to be
15 knowledgeably told how it's going to do it, and
16 what's the effects likely?

17 BRI BILL: I see what you're saying.

18 CHRIS BLACK: We want public comment. We
19 want the public to understand. And if the
20 PowerPoint, or the fact sheet wasn't adequate,
21 we want to accommodate you and make you
22 understand.

23 CHARLES GARNER: Sir, if you were sitting
24 here, would you understand? It was quick and
25 just a few slides. Your education allows you

1 to deal with it. Of course we're going to want
2 15 years. And when you say 30, some other
3 gentleman's saying 42, I'm not going to be
4 alive then.

5 MARCUS GREER: You told us in the meetings
6 in the beginning, that it would be 100 years to
7 clean up the site.

8 THERESA SMITH: And then it still would be
9 contaminated.

10 CHRIS BLACK: That was the original CMS.
11 We know enough different information since
12 then, that shows us that the plumes attenuate.
13 And it's not as thick as we thought it was. So
14 those estimates were changed.

15 MARCUS GREER: So since we've started on
16 these meetings, you guys have jumped up 70
17 years ahead of yourself.

18 CHRIS BLACK: No. Between the 2003 CMS --
19 or the 2000 CMS and the 2003 Section
20 Groundwater Remedy Report, there's been more
21 information to analyze, that's shown us -- hey,
22 that's good news. It actually attenuates a lot
23 faster than we thought.

24 AUDIENCE MEMBER: I'd like to know this,
25 or I would have never moved in in '93. I

1 probably would have moved out. But now I feel
2 like I'm stuck there. Because I have to give a
3 disclosure. Everybody knows that that's there,
4 and it might be contaminated. Like when you're
5 saying across the street, that they're not
6 going to be able to put in basements.

7 CHRIS BLACK: But the water table's at a
8 different level.

9 AUDIENCE MEMBER: Anybody that has kids,
10 would you take the chance? Even if you talked
11 to you guys, my house is worth nothing, if you
12 disclose that. I wouldn't take the chance. I
13 wouldn't move in there.

14 MARCUS GREER: I bought my house in '98
15 from the foreman of the Gulf. It was disclosed
16 in '96 that there was a plume. To who? Who
17 disclosed it to who? The land farm is an 80
18 acre piece of property behind my house, that
19 the groundwater runs towards my property, that
20 my whole family hunted on all of their life.

21 My great-grandfather leased Gulf's
22 property for a dollar a year, and raised
23 cattle, and raised vegetables -- and had the
24 whole farm land and all of this extra land for
25 a dollar a year. My family grew up on that,

1 had 10 kids. There's seven left now, two of
2 them -- one died young, and two of them died of
3 melanoma cancer.

4 BRI BILL: Thanks. That was Marcus Greer.
5 We're going to have to end in a few minutes.
6 We'll take comments from the people I
7 originally said, and then we'll stay around.
8 We'll have to end the official meeting, but
9 we'll be around.

10 BEILYA SMITH: My question is really
11 important. And I'll be very, very brief. So
12 you guys don't do the testing. You don't take
13 the samples, we know all of that. Who's your
14 boss? Who's your bosses? Do we need to write
15 our congressman? How do we get you, or an
16 outfit that has nothing to do with Chevron, to
17 take the samples? How do we get the health
18 assessments done? Who do we need to talk to?

19 BRI BILL: If you want the health issues
20 addressed, I would -- yeah, talk to Bob Fry
21 after the meeting. And he can give you the
22 names. If you'd like the name of our bosses,
23 we all -- I guess we all do work for somebody
24 different. But we can give you the regional
25 administrator's name.

1 AUDIENCE MEMBER: You're not allowed to do
2 independent samples. And we all realize you
3 get samples from Chevron. Nobody here believes
4 you, because we don't trust Chevron.

5 BRI BILL: Sure. And you know, to be
6 honest, this is how -- this is how most
7 environmental programs work, where -- and in
8 fact, this is how most government programs
9 work. Even if you're talking about the Food
10 and Drug Administration, it's the drug
11 companies testing the drugs. I mean, it's
12 pretty much government wide. And I understand
13 your concerns.

14 AUDIENCE MEMBER: Well, if we speak good
15 enough, and to the right people, maybe we'll
16 get something done.

17 AUDIENCE MEMBER: Conflict of interest.
18 It would be like me being on the panel for a
19 drug thing, and I'm on the jury. And there's a
20 hundred billion dollars, and I own 100 billion
21 worth of stock. Would I be a part of the jury?
22 No.

23 BRI BILL: I understand that. People have
24 referred to it as the fox guarding the hen
25 house. And our role is to be the gorilla in

1 the closet. That's how these things go. We
2 don't have any control over that. All right,
3 we can -- do you want to ask a question?

4 AUDIENCE MEMBER: I want to know, you
5 asked people -- certain people, what's your
6 address, what's your address? Can you give
7 specific information to people for the address?
8 The house I stayed at, the apartment I lived in
9 was tested. There were wells. Can I have
10 specific information? Nobody's offered me
11 specific information to the house that I lived
12 in.

13 BRI BILL: If there was sampling done at
14 your address, you certainly have access to it.

15 AUDIENCE MEMBER: You talk about
16 basements. I had a basement. I went down
17 there and washed my clothes. I put myself at
18 risk to wash my clothes in the basement?

19 CHRIS BLACK: This is your opportunity. I
20 mean, give us your address. And we'll respond
21 to specific information. There's information
22 back there about the vapor sampling, that we
23 have handouts from.

24 AUDIENCE MEMBER: I was told by Chevron,
25 that they did the testing last spring. I would

1 receive this information. I have not heard
2 from them since they dug the wells.

3 BRI BILL: You had a vapor sample
4 collected from your basement?

5 AUDIENCE MEMBER: This was actually a
6 basement monitor. There were three monitors on
7 our property. I had no say so in it. I was a
8 renter.

9 BRI BILL: You were a renter. Please come
10 up after the meeting.

11 AUDIENCE MEMBER: But I was told --

12 BRI BILL: We are under the impression,
13 you should have gotten the results.

14 AUDIENCE MEMBER: I was told I would get
15 specific information, and have not received
16 that. But maybe my doctor can diagnosis my
17 problem, if they have specific information with
18 my house.

19 BRI BILL: We're going to have to end the
20 meeting now.

21 MARY BROWN: My question was never
22 answered.

23 BRI BILL: Well --

24 BHOOMA SUNDAV: You do have information
25 about the spill. So why can't you --

1 MARY BROWN: Not that question. How are
2 you --

3 BRI BILL: What is your name, again?

4 MARY BROWN: Mary Brown. We want to know,
5 are you telling us tonight, you want to know
6 our -- you know, our input? And, you know,
7 you're recording this. But there's a lot of
8 people that didn't have a say. And we want to
9 know, how do you know what we want done?

10 BRI BILL: Well, if you want -- I mean,
11 one of the pieces of information is out there,
12 fact sheet. We're holding a comment period
13 until May 30th. And you can send us your
14 comments in writing.

15 MARY BROWN: Why did you take until the
16 end of the meeting to tell people this? Most
17 of the people are gone.

18 BRI BILL: We actually said it at the
19 beginning of the meeting. So I'm sorry, we're
20 going to have to end now. We're officially
21 ending the meeting.

22 JEROME KUJAWA: There's one lady sitting
23 down who'se been raising her hand for a while.
24 Just let her speak.

25 (Off the record.)

1 AUDIENCE MEMBER: I just want one of the
2 trustees -- and I just want to say, I live in
3 Hooven. And I just wondered if you'd ever done
4 the testing on the soot? Like he mentioned,
5 has it ever been done? Have you ever
6 considered it? And I would like it to be on
7 the record, that I'm just making that
8 statement.

9 BRI BILL: Testing what?

10 AUDIENCE MEMBER: The soot. The stuff
11 that comes down. And it's raining, and it's
12 coming into everybody's house. Have you ever
13 thought of doing that? Have you ever done it
14 before?

15 BRI BILL: This is coming off the site?

16 AUDIENCE MEMBER: I'm just asking that. I
17 just want it in the record.

18 CHRIS BLACK: Are you saying the route --
19 the exposure would be from the facility,
20 previously, from air deposition into the town,
21 has that been tested? I mean, sort of the
22 answer I gave before, when another gentlemen
23 asked about this. We did testing at the
24 school. I'll have to look in the record, to
25 see whether the tests have been done, in terms

1 of soil -- surface soil. But it's not been the
2 focus of our investigation. So that's the
3 answer. No, there has been no site-wide soil
4 analysis. The answer's no.

5 TARA LANE: My name is Tara Lane. And you
6 commented that the water table affects, like
7 you said -- over there, the water table is 100,
8 and over here it's 80. But then when she was
9 asking the question about contamination going
10 along with the water table and I said, but
11 doesn't the water table rise and fall, and you
12 said, yes, it does. So during the time that it
13 rises and falls, doesn't it make a difference
14 for where the contamination ends?

15 BRI BILL: What is your name?

16 TARA LANE: Tara Lane.

17 CHRIS BLACK: The estimates I gave was for
18 the high water table. So that's 35 to 65 in
19 Hooven. And the facility proper, it's a lot
20 closer to the surface. But it's high. I think
21 around 15 feet or so.

22 TARA LANE: I think what I'm saying is,
23 when it drops or rises, when it's doing that,
24 have you tested it at all, of the levels that
25 it rises or falls?

1 CHRIS BLACK: Tested what, the water?

2 TARA LANE: All of the things that you're
3 testing, everything that you're testing for.

4 CHRIS BLACK: Yeah. We've tested seasonal
5 variations, especially in the water, or
6 dissolved. We're going to keep on doing -- we
7 did the one last -- Chevron did one test last
8 March, which we reviewed and looked at those
9 numbers. And the proposed EPA -- more vapor
10 samples. We'll get vapor testing at different
11 water levels, at different times of the year,
12 and that will give us more information.

13 TARA LANE: Is it true, that you don't
14 test in the spring? I heard somebody say that.

15 CHRIS BLACK: No. No, that's not true.

16 KENNETH SMITH: Here is one. Kenneth
17 Smith. Let's say that we could come up with
18 the information, basically is enough for yous
19 to say, before the health department says it's
20 unsafe for us to live there anymore, without a
21 doubt. Chevron's not going to dish out any
22 money. Once we can get yous to say, no longer.
23 You can't live there anymore, yous all have to
24 get out. Is there a government agency that
25 will help us financially, give us some grants

1 or something to help us move? We want to move.
2 That right now is the biggest consensus of the
3 room. None of us want to live there. I'm in
4 the process of looking for a home. I am
5 moving. I'm out of here. Screw this. This is
6 nuts. My family home, been there most of my
7 life. My grandmother raised 12 kids out of
8 there. I love that place. It's a shithole.
9 I'm sorry, but it is. The thing is, we want
10 out. Can the government help us? Can we go to
11 you, the health department? Let's get an
12 assessment. Get us out of there. It's
13 obvious. We'll turn over -- I've got some
14 paperwork that's going to make you fall out of
15 your seats, you know. See if we can get them
16 arranged, to get to you.

17 CHRIS BLACK: Our address is on the fact
18 sheet, if you want to send information.

19 KENNETH SMITH: Is there a government
20 agency that will help us move? We all want to
21 move. Then the government wants their money
22 back, let them go after Chevron.

23 BRI BILL: I think the way it works --
24 again, this would be if we felt -- if we felt
25 that we needed to buy you out.

1 KENNY SMITH: We? Chevron?

2 BRI BILL: We're talking about the EPA.
3 If we felt the danger was such, then by all
4 means necessary, there are options for it.
5 Generally, it would be the company who's
6 responsible.

7 KENNETH SMITH: But we're not going to
8 know until Chevron tells you to do that,
9 because you answer to Chevron.

10 BRI BILL: We don't answer to Chevron.

11 KENNETH SMITH: Yes. You do. What I'm
12 trying to get across, that they're not totally
13 answering to Chevron. But when you get that
14 information, you're not using your own, you're
15 not getting the correct information. I've got
16 information that says that there was enough
17 contamination -- there's a plume underneath my
18 house that's unsafe.

19 Okay, buy them out. Get them out, the
20 whole consensus, the whole damn town. If we
21 get everybody to sign a big piece of paper, can
22 we go to a judge and he demand that? I don't
23 know the legalities of that. We want out. We
24 want out immediately. They can come tomorrow
25 and say, we'll give everybody \$20,000. You can

1 move. Here you go, that's a starter. Then
2 we'll start buying out properties, yada yada,
3 but you can move. If it's just to put us all
4 in townhouses, let's go. That's what -- I
5 mean, is it or is it not -- is there anybody in
6 the room that doesn't want to move?

7 MARCUS GREER: What did Addyston have to
8 do, to put up an air monitor control from the
9 EPA? What did they have to do, to get that
10 monitor in there? Because I've talked to
11 Hamilton County dot org tonight, before I came
12 here. And we'd like to know, why we haven't
13 had air sampling done on both sides of the
14 refinery, whichever way the wind's blowing,
15 towards the town or towards Hooven, whichever
16 way you want to go. We need air sampling done.

17 CHRIS BLACK: There's sampling that's
18 currently -- if you remember from the issue
19 with the slow remedy, people brought that up.
20 There's air sampling that's been updated. 24
21 hour air samples, in three different spots
22 across the refinery, as the soils --

23 AUDIENCE MEMBER: That's not true.

24 CHRIS BLACK: It is true.

25 AUDIENCE MEMBER: That's not true.

1 AUDIENCE MEMBER: What about the town?
2 Can I say that?

3 CHRIS BLACK: We can go to the data --

4 MARCUS GREER: If you go look up air
5 quality -- they've been in business since '91.
6 You can see Addyston's report. You can see
7 Colerain dump's report. You can see everywhere
8 up in Ohio, but there's no air monitoring where
9 you can go on there and pick up Hooven Chevron
10 facility.

11 CHRIS BLACK: I'm talking about --

12 MARCUS GREER: And there should be.
13 That's huge.

14 CHRIS BLACK: This is the monitor on site.

15 MARCUS GREER: Hell, I'm so sick of
16 hearing about "on site." The whole damn
17 property was Gulf. You merged -- Chevron
18 merged with Gulf. They never did buy them out.
19 Chevron merged with Gulf. Gulf oversaw
20 Chevron. That was the company to come in, and
21 let the superfund -- because this was a
22 superfund site -- they let -- the government
23 came to the people of stockholders, and the
24 government kind of walked away. And you guys
25 are supposed to be overseeing these people.

1 CHRIS BLACK: I can't speak to any other
2 site, Addyston or otherwise. All I know is
3 that while the excavation was taken place, some
4 of this dust was kicking up and going into
5 town. So there's an air sampling in the --
6 there's an air sample station.

7 AUDIENCE MEMBER: Where's them reports at?

8 CHRIS BLACK: We can get them to you.

9 AUDIENCE MEMBER: The one that's on site,
10 and in town.

11 CHRIS BLACK: Excavation site and town,
12 that's -- one that's upwind, and one that's
13 downwind, those three sites.

14 AUDIENCE MEMBER: What are you calling
15 "upwind"? And what are you calling "downwind"?

16 AUDIENCE MEMBER: Are they all on site?

17 AUDIENCE MEMBER: Everything that they do
18 is on site.

19 CHRIS BLACK: Yes. There's one between
20 excavation in town, one up and one down.

21 AUDIENCE MEMBER: We are all on site.
22 Even though we pay payments on our property,
23 pay taxes, we are three blocks from the front
24 gate.

25 BRI BILL: She can't get it all if --

1 CHRIS BLACK: This was a concern before we
2 responded to it. People are aware of it.

3 AUDIENCE MEMBER: The last study you guys
4 made --

5 CHRIS BLACK: We're in the process of --

6 AUDIENCE MEMBER: The last thing you did,
7 you did a test result and compared Hooven to
8 New York City. Is that wrong or right?

9 CHRIS BLACK: We're talking about vapor
10 samples.

11 AUDIENCE MEMBER: The study results. You
12 compared Hooven to New York City. We are eight
13 blocks deep, three blocks wide, and we are
14 nowhere near New York City.

15 CHRIS BLACK: It was a New York state
16 sample. And it was a study that talked about
17 what sort of contamination shows up at the
18 surface of activity. And it was comparison to
19 what was found at the surface in Hooven. So it
20 wasn't city, it was across the city.

21 AUDIENCE MEMBER: I want to ask one more
22 question. Because I asked him earlier. How
23 many sites do you oversee? You said 300 in
24 five states.

25 CHRIS BLACK: That's including a lot of

1 people, in addition to the people that's here.

2 AUDIENCE MEMBER: That's all region five?

3 BRI BILL: No. I mean, that's --

4 AUDIENCE MEMBER: How many in the United
5 States does Chevron have?

6 CHRIS BLACK: I don't know the answer to
7 that question.

8 AUDIENCE MEMBER: You don't know the
9 answer to that question?

10 CHRIS BLACK: How many facilities does
11 Chevron have?

12 AUDIENCE MEMBER: Well, you said 300
13 before.

14 CHRIS BLACK: 300.

15 BRI BILL: That was a guess.

16 AUDIENCE MEMBER: Everything's a guess
17 with you guys -- everything. The amount of
18 plume loss, the amount of fluids loss, you have
19 no idea. You can't sit here and give us an
20 answer saying you know the amount. Because we
21 all know, you don't know the amount. That
22 was --

23 CHRIS BLACK: We can't.

24 AUDIENCE MEMBER: Right. So that's an
25 assumption.

1 CHRIS BLACK: You can estimate how much
2 was released --

3 AUDIENCE MEMBER: You know what you do
4 when you assume? You make an ass out of you
5 and me. That's exactly right.

6 BRI BILL: Well, and then --

7 CHRIS BLACK: I'll look at the data.

8 BRI BILL: Finish answering, if you'd
9 like. But on that note, we are going to end
10 the meeting. You ask the questions. We'll
11 stay around. But we need to let her go.

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PROCEEDINGS CONCLUDED AT 10:13 P.M.

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C E R T I F I C A T E

I, Jennifer Coats, the undersigned, a court reporter for Clermont County, Ohio, do hereby certify that at the time and place stated herein, I recorded in stenotypy and thereafter had transcribed into typewriting under my supervision the foregoing pages, and that the foregoing is a true, complete and accurate report of my said stenotype notes.

Jennifer Coats