1	UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
2	NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION
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4	ROUNDTABLE PUBLIC MEETING ON THE
5	REVISED REACTOR OVERSIGHT PROCESS
6	
7	NRC Technical Training Center
8	Suite 200
9	5746 Marlin Road
10	Chattanooga, Tennessee
11	Tuesday, January 25, 2000
12	
13	The above entitled meeting commenced, pursuant to notice, at
14	7:00 p.m.
15	PARTICIPANTS:
16	ALAN MADISON
17	SERITA SANDERS, NRR
18	BILL TITTLE, Chief, Emergency Management, Hamilton
19	County, Tennessee
20	WAYNE STUNTZ, Facility Planner, Hamilton County,
21	Tennessee
22	RUSSELL GIBBS, NRC
23	BOB QUIRK, Public
24	PAUL FREDRICKSON, NRC
25	RON HERNON, Project Manager, Sequoyah
	PARTICIPANTS: [Continued]
	MARY BARINSKI, TVA
Al Ri	IN DENNIS COE, TVA, Sequoyah LEY
& A	JIM SMITH, TVA, Sequoyah SOCI
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1		HARRY JOHNSON, Sequoyah	
2		KEN CLARK, NRC	
3		TONYA ANN HARRIS	
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1	PROCEEDINGS
2	[7:00 p.m.]
3	MR. MADISON: On the record.
4	My name is Alan Madison. Please state your name and who
5	you're with, please.
6	MS. SANDERS: Serita Sanders. I'm with NRR Headquarters
7	Office, Inspection Program Branch. I work for Alan Madison.
8	MR. TITTLE: I'm Bill Tittle, Chief of Emergency Management
9	for Hamilton County, Tennessee.
10	MR. STUNTZ: Wayne Stuntz. I'm Facility Planner for
11	Hamilton County, Tennessee.
12	MR. GIBBS: I'm Russell Gibbs. I work with the NRC. I'm a
13	Senior Resident at Sequoyah.
14	MR. QUIRK: I'm Bob Quirk. I'm just a member of the public.
15	MR. FREDRICSON: I'm Paul Fredricson and I work with Nuclear
16	Regulatory Commission in Atlanta.
17	MR. HERNON: I'm Ron Hernon. I'm the Project Manager for
18	Sequoyah. I'm in the Headquarters Office in Rockville, Maryland.
19	MS. BARINSKI: Mary Barinski with TVA.
20	MR. COE: Dennis Coe, Sequoyah, TVA.
21	MR. SMITH: Jim Smith, TVA, Sequoyah.
22	MR. JOHNSON: Harry Johnson, TVA.
23	MR. CLARK: Ken Clark, NRC Information Office in Atlanta.
24	MR. MADISON: Tonya, thank you. The lady who just walked in
25	could you introduce yourself, ma'am?
	MS. HARRIS: My name is Ann Harris.
	MR. MADISON: Ann, I think you're one of the invited
	ANN members. If you would come up to join us up here I'm Alan Madison. RILEY
	& MS. HARRIS: I apologize for being late but I probably drove ASSOCI ATES,

further than all of you all did.

 $$\operatorname{MR}.$$ MADISON: If you will have a seat at the front table, $\operatorname{Ann},$ and if you would --

MS. HARRIS: Here?

MR. MADISON: Yes, ma'am. We're going to get started here. I have a brief overview. Actually, we've made up some real quick slides because -- brought all the handout material or was supposed to bring all the handout material and slides. He didn't make it so they didn't make it either but I'll pass this information out and it may help. It may hurt. We'll see.

We're going to look at a quick fifteen minute 50,000 foot view of the oversight view. Not a lot of details as I said. Part of the price of admission for the folks at the table here was to have an understanding of the oversight cost estimate a macro sense and there was some material that August sent them in advance.

We're also going to then get into the round table discussion and the round table discussion which normally -- would have facilitated I'm going to handle that and that's mainly the dialogue between you and I and the other folks at the table. Around seven questions that we're in the federation of. We'll try to focus on discussions around that, but we'll also take some time and try to collect some input from the other folks in the audience if time permits.

We want to be out of here by 9:00 I think is the time limit.

Who we are. We're the Nuclear Regulatory Commission. I'm from the

Federal Government and I'm here to help. Heard that before. Nuclear

Regulatory Commission is the Federal Agency that has the mission and

responsibility to protect the public health and safety as it relates --

ANN nuclear materials in the United States.

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Specifically, what we're going to talk about - what we're SSOCI TES,

going to deal with here is the operation of commercial nuclear power --.

What we do, how do we do that, some of our primary activities we insure nuclear plants of a design and construct it and operate it in a safe manner. We issues licenses for not only reactors but material licenses as well.

We insure licensees use those nuclear materials and operate the plants safely and prepared to respond to emergencies. We also insure that research provides technical base for sound rules and regulations so that's becoming more and more of a TS factor of the job of the Nuclear Regulatory Commission is the research aspect and what it does.

More specifically though who we are are some of the members you see here at the table and one of the things I want to focus on one reason why I had these certain individuals sit at the table is the Senior Resident Inspector at the site Russell Gibbs. You should know who he is. You should know that he has a staff of inspectors that work for him out at the site.

You should know that you have an individual that's his boss that is responsible in Region 2 and Paul Fredricson is that individual. That's an individual you can contact. These are the people for the NRC that do the job at the site. I'm from Headquarters. I'm the Program Office and they don't think we do anything. They could be right but anyway that's who we are.

Now about the program one of the first things you probably want to know is why we're changing. I think some of this we have already talked about at previous public meetings but let's kindly outline some of the major reasons. We talked about having mature

A N industry. That the industry has improved and we're having fewer and RILEY

fewer problems at the site and that's because of the maturing industry.

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Part of the -- for our change though is our efforts to reinvent Government, to reengineer our processes, and some of the urgings we get from our other State -- are members of Congress to be more effective and efficient in our operation.

What we want to keep an eye on though or what we consider our primary objectives or our key outcome measures and these are the four key outcome measures that we consider primary. How we're going to judge our success of this program or any other program we have.

You notice the first one is the maintenance of safety. That is our primary cause. The second one, one of the reasons why we're here tonight and that's a tough one and we're going to ask you folks to help us figure out how to measure that.

I mentioned already improving the effectiveness and the efficiency and the realism and where we get with the realism that's really that's the aspect I was talking about with research. That's where we really get into how real are we. How about the safety aspects that we're monitoring, we're regulating.

Finally, reduce unnecessary regulatory burden. A lot of people focus on that but what they really should focus on is that word unnecessary. We are a regulatory agency. We will be a burden. That's part of our job, but we can reduce unnecessary regulatory burden and that's what we think we've tried to do with part of this process along with the other outcome measures.

Now our -- program, our current program we call it, the program we're moving from is really not a program - a single program. It's a collection of processes. It's a collection of programs. It's kind of created like a large glacier over time. We've added to it and

ANN we have a body of regulations that we've developed over time. We have a

body of inspection activities, red guides, a whole bunch of things that SOCI ES,

have slowly grown and in some cases overwhelmed our resources. That's again one of the reasons why we want to change.

The current program is based strictly on inspection. That's the only activity that we really do as an input to the assessment of the current program. It's compliance oriented. No matter how small the regulation strict compliance is to the letter of the law is the inspector's activity. That's what they look for. Compliance with all the regulations.

Enforcement became a major input to the assessment process.

The levels of enforcement, the dollar amounts that were associated with a violation and so it became a primary input to the assessment process.

We thought that was a little backwards.

Our new program is unified. We hope easily understood approach. It's a closed - what we call a closed or complete process in that the output may have impact on the input. In other words, if we find problems we will do more inspection which will give more input to the process so it kindly feeds upon itself.

It's based upon performance indicators as well as inspections and we will talk a little bit about performance indicators. The performance indicators and inspection findings provide overall assurance we feel and the cornerstone to our objectives and I'll talk a little bit more about that.

What are the features of the program. Here is the No. 1 feature I guess. Focuses inspection activity on where the potential risks are greater. In other words the focus is on safety in the new program. It's not on enforcement. It's not on the regulations. The focus is on the safety aspect of the operation of the Plants. It

 $\overline{\mathbf{A}}$ N applies greater regulatory tension to the facilities that are having RLEY

performance problems.

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The current program or the old program would spread a lot of our resources across all Plants and provide - in fact when we looked at a lot of the Plants it was very little difference between what was considered in systematic assessment of licensee performance and that -- of itself of -- [Inaudible].

I'm doing this to help out Gary here our Court Reporter as well as anybody else in the audience who doesn't like -- [Inaudible] but the systematic assessment licensee performance there was very little difference between inspection activities in Category 1 or Category 2 Plant. That's going to change with the new program.

It uses objective measures of Plant performance whenever possible and that's where the performance indicators come in as well as some other aspects. We think one of the things it does and goes towards enhancing public confidence it gives the public and the industry a lot more information in a more timely manner.

We hope it avoids the unnecessary regulatory burden, and we believe it responds to violations and issues of the Plant in a -- manner. Not only do we provide our inspectors and our Management Staff with a kind of guidance in how they should react you should - you as a member of the public or a member of industry should also be able to follow the process and predict our outcomes based upon our inputs.

Continued emphasis as I said earlier is still on safety. Strict compliance. Strict standards. Daily monitoring will continue. There is nothing in the program that relieves the licensee of the responsibility from following regulations. They're still required to obey the regulations.

The clear consistent objectives focus again on safety. You ANN notice I keep going back to that. That is the biggest --, biggest RILEY & change in this process is the move from compliance to regulations to a

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focus on safety.

We think again the monitoring results are easier for the public to understand. There is more information more often and more readily available. Again, enforcement is no longer an input.

Enforcement is where it belongs. It's an output of the process.

Enforcement still happens but it is no longer an input to the process.

Inspections are going to continue. We've defined a baseline inspection program. The minimum inspection at any facility. There are additional inspection activities and these come as performance as been shown to the -- or the performance problems identified at the Plant. Supplemental inspections to diagnose these concerns. Special inspection teams may still be necessary depending upon events at the Plant or generic issues nationwide.

Inspection reports and all the activities associated with this are going to be available on the Web and that's kind of a change. I want to put this up right now so anybody that wants to take that down. That's our web site. That's where you can go and get the information and track what we're doing at any of the sites. I'll go - a little bit later on in the presentation I'll show you kind of an example of what you'll see on the web site.

Again, this is just kind of a repetition but the public is going to see these kind of public meetings. More output from the NRC or dialogue with the NRC to the public. You're going to see more activity, more of our activity, more of our information, periodic reports and performance indicator information on the Web.

Okay, here we go. Here is the program. This has the basis for the program. This is called the cornerstones of safety. There is a ANN cornerstone diagram. Some of you may have seen this already. Anybody RILEY

familiar with this? Wayne, Bill, familiar with this? SOCI

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VOICE: I'm not sure.

2 MR. MADISON: Ann?

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MS. HARRIS: Never seen it before.

MR. MADISON: Never seen it before. Did you come to the last public meeting? I know it was shown at the last public meeting.

MS. HARRIS: Yes, I was here.

 $$\operatorname{MR}.$$ MADISON: Okay. Well it was shown at the last public meeting.

MS. HARRIS: Well I assume it was the last one.

MR. MADISON: This was inside the package I gave away. Let me describe where we got this. The idea as I mentioned before what's our job, the NRC's job, that's it right up there. Protecting public health and safety our No. 1 job. In that to assure ourselves that we protect the public health and safety we establish three teaching performance areas where we establish some goals. Reactor safety, radiation safety both to the workers at the site and the public, and the safeguards area or security, physical protection at the Plant.

We had some goals previously established in all of those areas. We then looked and say what are we - how are - what information do we need to know. What things do we need to have knowledge of to assure ourselves that we meet those goals. We can achieve those goals and that's where we came up with the cornerstone. This diagram down here then establishes the cornerstones that we call the cornerstones of safety.

Initiating events, mitigation systems, -- and -[Inaudible]. The concept being if we don't have initiating events or if
we minimize initiating events in that area we don't have problems at the

AN site. We're not going to have any events that impact the public.

If we do have events and the systems are available and

capable and reliable and can mitigate the events we're not going to have any impact on the public. If they fail as long as the barriers remain intent, --, the fuel and the -- system remain intact nothing is going to get out to affect the public, but even if that happens as long as the Plant is prepared to respond to evaluate the public, protect the public the public is still protected. We still meet the goals. We have some other goals but our overall goal is still met. Protecting the public health and safety.

We have assumed more philosophy in the other cornerstone. Then from there what we did is we defined - all right, underneath this in what areas were important things that we need to measure and look at to assure ourselves we can meet the objectives of each of these cornerstones, meet the goals of the strategic performance area, and our overall goal of protecting the public health and safety and that's how we developed the inspection program and the performance indicators.

The performance indicators and the inspection activities will not stand alone. They work together. They're complimentary and supplementary to each other. To assure ourselves of safety we used performance indicators. Performance indicators don't give us information. We inspect.

Now there is some -- in here where we also - where we have information from the performance indicators and we verify it through inspection. That's a key concept to remember. The performance indicators will not stand alone. They're indicators of performance. They're not measured.

Performance indicators are used objective -- to monitor performance in each of the cornerstone areas and if you look at

ANN materials -- sent you it listed the performance indicators and each of

the cornerstones has between two and three performance indicators. You

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measure various aspects of performance.

Again, they're indicators of performance. They're not necessarily measures so we're not striving for a perfect measure of safety in that area. We're striving for a good indicator of safety in that area. We rated and you can't see it on this diagram but we rate - what that indicator means in safety significance -- by the color associated with it. Green for low risk significance and getting worse all the way down to red where we have what we consider a significant -- of performance.

As I mentioned this already the minimum level of inspection supplement, compliment the performance indicators. That's called the base line inspection. It falls into basically three parts. Inspection in areas where performance indicators are not identified, or do not fully cover a cornerstone. We do inspection.

We also do what we call a performance indicator verification inspection. That means it's kind of a trust but verify. The licensee as you know reports the performance indicator data to us. To the NRC, so they provide us the data. We do the calculation for the performance indicator but they provide us the data so we need to verify the accuracy of that data. Periodically, we will - as part of the base line inspection program we verify the accuracy of the data.

The licensee problem identification resolution program because we consider that almost a foundation of the cornerstone program we do separate inspections. In fact, ten to fifteen percent of all inspection activity at the site will be looking at the corrective action program. Problem identification resolution.

As I mentioned earlier there will be additional inspection,

 $\overline{\mathbf{A}}$ $\overline{\mathbf{N}}$ reactive inspections for events when there is areas of concern as $\overline{\mathbf{R}}$ $\overline{\mathbf{L}}$

ordered by the Region. Inspections when needed for resolution of ASSOCI ATES, generic issues. Nationwide issues that we identify either through our vendor type inspection or through notification of other licensees, and depending upon the issues and problems identified either through the performance indicator or through inspection findings we will do additional inspections that fully characterize and insure ourselves of safe performance at the Plant. We call those supplemental inspections.

Color codes what do they mean. Well the first thing folks want to know or so we've been told by other members of the public is if the Plant is safe. Let me point out to you first of all where safety falls on this diagram. Down there. In other words, our thresholds are set such that we never allow unsafe operation in the Plant.

The red threshold is considered unacceptable. Not necessarily unsafe but unacceptable performance and that's where we ask the licensee to not - stop working until the problem is corrected so the unsafe performance is not achieved.

The green what we call in the licensee response then once -objectives of -- that by the program based upon the measures of the
program the licensee problem identification resolution system is
functioning adequately so that we have assurance that they can identify
and correct their own problems in a timely manner.

White the indication of white inspection findings may be an indication of problems in the problem identification resolution system.

We need additional assurance and we call that the NRC response - increased response --. My old slides aren't here so it's kind - I remind myself what I'm talking about.

The increased regulatory response that's right. That's where we need to have additional assurance that the licensee's

A N corrective action program is functioning adequately and we'll do

supplemental inspection to assure ourselves of that.

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Yellow we think at that point the performance indication or an inspection finding that that is evidence of problems in the licensee's problem identification resolution system. We're not going to just verify that the licensee's corrective action program is functioning adequately because we think that shows it's not.

We're going to do a kind of side by side validation of the corrective action program and the actions that are taken with that issue and issues like it so we do a similar - we do a -- like they do and we verify that the actions that they're taking are the actions we think are appropriate.

Red as said earlier is more on the order of stop, fix it before you move on. That's kind of a simple -- but we can talk a little more detail as we answer questions. The concept here though is to try to make performance indications and the inspection findings kind of have an equal footing so that all we have to do and all you have to do when you look at them as -- in that process it says okay, as performance indications and inspection finds we turn that into what we call the action maker. The outcomes are impact. That's our action. That's what we're going to do as an Agency and it's kindly almost -- of what we're going to do as an Agency based upon these inputs.

Out of those inspection findings will come enforcement. You notice it doesn't have -- any questions on what I've said so far? Real simple. I know it's real high level. Ann.

MS. HARRIS: When are you going to deal with the old problems from the Plant?

 $$\operatorname{MR.}$$ MADISON: I'll talk about that. Not right now but I will talk about that. I know you had that question.

AMN MS. HARRIS: Well I thought from the last meeting that I was ELEY

going to get an answer or somebody was going to talk more to me about it ASSOCI

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and I never have received any input back.

MR. MADISON: All right. Well we'll talk about that as we go along. Let me just wrap this up here and we'll get into that kind of conversations. All public benefits I mentioned this already. More information, more often, more readily available. We think it's more predictable. It's consistency of action. Consistency from Region to Region to Region and if you have a white inspection finding in Region 3 you're going to see similar actions to a white inspection finding in Region 2. It's not going to be different across the country.

We think - what we've tried to do is focus the actions on the safety significance of the issues rather than enforcement activity. What you'll see when you go on the Web page is something that looks like this. For each Plant under the cornerstones you mark up kindly this says that's the strategic performance area with the cornerstone.

Under each cornerstone will be identified performance indicators associated with that cornerstone. Below that on another - you could actually -- on another page but it's just below there will be the inspection findings. A similar type of color identification. These will be in color.

You can't see it on this slide because it's not my color slide but that would be a green color right there. That would indicate that that performance indicator is in the licensee response bin so the risk associated, the safety associated with that is minimal. It's in an acceptable zone.

That would indicate a white performance indicator in the increased regulator response bin. One of the things you can do on this web page with this as well as the inspection findings is click on that

ANN with your mouse and it will take you directly to the chart that shows RILEY

what that performance indicator looks like.

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On inspection finding it will take you to what we call Plant issues matrix. It will describe what that inspection finding is. You can go further from the inspection finding Plant issues matrix. You can go right to the report that that inspection finding is in and read the report.

From this performance indicator to the chart you can go right to the raw data associated with that if you choose to. You can calculate the performance indicator yourself and make sure it's right. You will also see on that report on that web page links to other things such as the annual report associated with the program, the generic reports. There is a lot more information on there. You will see - one of the documents that you will hopefully sent is what we - the number title is new reg 1649. I notice you have it, Wayne. The title on that is --

MR. STUNTZ: This here?

MR. MADISON: Un-hum.

MR. STUNTZ: 1649.

MR. MADISON: Yeah.

MR. STUNTZ: New NRC reactor inspection and oversight program.

MR. MADISON: You will see that on the web site as well. That is what we call the plain English version of the program. Kind of a description for the public. That - the one that's on the website right now we're in the process of revising that. It will be helpful for the Region 3 OPA folks, Office of Public Affairs, and we will have the new revision up on the website prior to April.

We just came out of a pilot program where we piloted the new

AND process. We had two sites in each Region. There are nine Plants.

Salem, Old Creek up in Region 1 consider themselves one site. The ASSOCI ATES,

licensee does and NRC treats it pretty much as one site so even though there are two licensees - well actually they're the same licensee but there are two licenses is held there.

We established some success criteria for that. We've looked at that. We've reviewed the success criteria. We had a group called the program pilot - pilot program evaluation --. It included members of industry, members of the NRC, members of the public. David Lockbalm sat on that from -- [Inaudible] sat on that panel.

We had Gary Wright from the State of Illinois on the panel, and those folks did an independent review of the program and the numbers, the information that we provided, the data we provided them on the program and they had provided a report on their feelings of the success of the program.

We held public meetings throughout. We held one at the front end. We were holding these public meetings at the back end of the pilot program kindly soliciting additional information from the public.

We had -- notice that we actually extended the date on that. We originally were going to close that out in November. We extended the date to the end of December to collect public information.

We just held a public meeting in DC with about three hundred and fifty participates from the states, members of the public, a lot of licensee folks, members of industry and NRC to look back at the pilot program and review the pilot program and do what we call lessons learned and recommended resolutions to some of the issues associated with the program so we're still doing that.

We have a document called a Commission paper, second document that we'll be issuing in the very near future. We'll meet with

 $[\]overline{\mathbf{A}}$ N the Commission on March 1st to describe the outcomes of the pilot $\overline{\mathbf{R}}$ LEY

 $[\]hat{k}$ program and the changes that we're going to make to the process before ASSOCI ATES,

initial implementation April 2nd of this year, and that's the kind of data information there.

Now your question, Ann, was on what are we going to do with the old issues out at the site. As we've done with the pilot issues we asked the Regions to review the - and I may not answer your question.

I'll check with you in a second but what I think your question dealt with I'll try to answer it.

We asked the Regions to take a look historically at the site. See what information, what issues were on the books. Try to put them in the context of the new program to see where the new program would take them.

For example, the licensee event reports at the site. We asked them to review those ones that had not been closed out. Put them in context with the program. If there were anything that showed up that was of significance they were treated with the new program, but if not they were treated again with the new program but would be what we call a green finding or an item of low risk and put in the licensee's corrective action program and dealt with it in that manner.

The same with other outstanding issues out at the site. Did that answer your question, or is there another area that you want to go into?

MS. HARRIS: You're talking about sites specific issues.

I'm talking about those things that are like programmatic. I don't see anywhere in this process dealing with old programmatic issues.

MR. MADISON: Generic.

MS. HARRIS: Well generic is still different from programmatic.

ANN MR. MADISON: Well I guess - maybe you could give us an RILEY & example. ASSOCI ATES,

1 MS. HARRIS: Okay. Corrective action programs. MR. MADISON: We inspect directly the corrective action 3 program out on the site. Ten to fifteen percent of every inspection 4 activity at the site is dealt - deals with the corrective action program. MS. HARRIS: But those would be selective. 6 MR. MADISON: And we have an annual - no, we have an annual 7 8 team inspection that looks at the overall corrective action programs. 9 MS. HARRIS: And how long does it take to bring that around? 10 You're looking at what once a year? 11 MR. MADISON: To do the annual. There is continuous 12 monitoring in the corrective action programs out at the site. 13 MS. HARRIS: But the public doesn't know and it has no way 14 of judging how you're going to bring these programmatic issues back in 15 under the umbrella. When you're talking about a generic issue you're 16 talking about the steam generator leaks. Okay. 17 When you're talking about programmatic issues you're 18 talking about corrective action programs that as a whole the site has 19 continually dealt and given you bad information or in some cases just 20 out and out lied to you and it keeps coming up over and over again. 21 Another programmatic issue is work documents. 22 MR. MADISON: I'm not sure you --23 MS. HARRIS: And then whenever --24 MR. MADISON: I'm really not sure you heard me because we 25 look at the - we look annually to do a team inspection at the corrective action programs. We report out on them on at least an annual basis. As I said each inspection is done at the site. Ten to fifteen percent of AND the inspection is to focus in the corrective action program. LEY If there are problems they are to be identified and ASSOCI ES,

documented in the inspection report. How is that not getting that information --

MS. HARRIS: Well why is that we see the repetition of certain issues and certain types of behavior from the projects or from the job site that continue over and over and over again with specific utilities?

MR. MADISON: I guess you know depending upon the issue we as an Agency may not - we may not have been as prompt in the past to address some of these concerns. Part of this program is to force the Agency to take the actions specified by the -- because they're out in the open. It says in the matrix that if problems of this safety significance are identified these are the actions we are going to take. If we don't take them we have to justify why we're not taking them.

Now the old program didn't do that admittedly. The old program could have been called the black box of regulation. We had a lot of information come in and we went into a closed door meeting and discussed all this information and thought we came to very good decisions but then when we made the decision and told everybody about it on the other end you know we got a lot of -- [Inaudible] because we didn't explain ourselves. We didn't show how we were going to go about it.

This new program does that. This new program - if the issue and if it's a programmatic issue and it comes out as a green issue that's of low safety significance. That defines the safety significance of that issue for the Agency, for the licensee, the utility, and the public.

MS. HARRIS: Are you not relying upon the utility to

A N determine the significance of what they supply to you? R LEY

MR. MADISON: No. We have our own processes. We have what

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is called the significance -- process that we've designed. We validated it and verified with the licensees that we have the correct information from their risk assessment but we have the program. We developed the process and we make the determination on what the safety significance of that issue is.

MS. HARRIS: You're not still permitting the utility to determine if it's reportable or not?

MR. MADISON: Oh, we verify that. If there is something that they haven't reported that is required by regulations to report we still write a violation against them. We've always done that. We as a - you know we're not a big Agency. We're one of the smaller agencies in the Federal Government. We don't run the facility. We don't have the manpower to run the facility. We don't want to run the facility.

We monitor. We spot check. If we find a problem and we have a lot of ways of doing that besides the inspection program. You know everybody out at the facility - every individual out at the facility knows who to contact. The Resident Inspector, Senior Resident Inspector's numbers are up there.

I don't know how many allegations we get from members of the public and we review all those allegations. The allegation program still exist and will exist to collect that feedback from the folks out at the site. It's pretty hard with I don't know how many folks you've got out at the site - 800 out at Sequoyah. Individuals on site. It's pretty hard with 800 people to hide something. It can be done but it takes a lot of work and eventually it's going to come out.

MS. HARRIS: Are you reducing then the level - the percentage of inspection that you're going to be doing then? Is that

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MR. MADISON: No, we're focusing the inspection and safety

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-- and more risk significant - areas that should be of more concern to the public. Is there more - there is more safety significance with the issues that we're now inspecting. Instead of inspecting, looking at areas and I'll give a real -- example.

We had inspectors and I've been inspecting a long time. We had inspectors that used to just look at how many -- points were missing. Quality control. Quality control inspector didn't show up or he didn't sign off. He might have been there but he just didn't sign the piece of paper. We had a lot of people spending a lot of time looking just at that.

Well that's not a safety significance as having a pump out of service for a long time. That's where we want to focus our inspectors' activity with things that are more - have more impact on the safety of that Plant. That's where we want them to focus their --.

MS. HARRIS: You want to look at hardware then?

MR. MADISON: Well some, yeah, but that's where a lot of your safety significant issues are going to come from.

MS. HARRIS: Well I agree with that.

MR. MADISON: If the human performance aspects - if the humans are missing up they're going to mess up equipment and we're going to find it in the hardware.

MS. HARRIS: Well by the time you find it in the hardware it could be a little too late.

MR. MADISON: That's - no. That's why we have the safety significance of the hardware issues we find and if it's of low safety significance it's still --.

MS. HARRIS: Safety is safety. I mean I have a problem with

A N this. I've never gotten anybody at the NRC to tell me what is your R LEY

determination and what your definition of significant is.

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1 MR. MADISON: Well you've got that now. MS. HARRIS: I've got that one all over the Board. 3 MR. MADISON: No, you've got that now. With the 4 significance of the determination process it says in there. You can read it in the inspection report. You can read it on the web. We 6 published a document on how we determine safety significance of 7 inspection findings. Not just in the reactor area but in -- security 8 area, and the radiation protection area. 9 We described to you in those processes what we think is 10 significant and the assumption because it is a process that you have to 11 make some assumptions about what things are wrong, what things are right 12 the assumptions we made are there and they're open to -- by licensees or 13 the public that we've made the wrong assumptions. 14 MS. HARRIS: Well licensees has a quick and dirty look at 15 what you're assuming. The public has kindly been left out of this 16 process. 17 MR. MADISON: In the past I will agree with you. 18 MS. HARRIS: Well it's still there because you haven't 19 implemented this. 20 MR. MADISON: Well, Ann, we have. 21 MS. HARRIS: Well that's one, but you're taking the position 22 that everything is okay. How many licensed Plants do we have across the 23 nation? 24 VOICE: 103 and we've tested thirteen of them. 25 MS. HARRIS: Okay. VOICE: Ten percent. MS. HARRIS: Okay. MR. MADISON: That's a pretty good test of any systems that test ten percent, and then during our initial implementation we're not SOCI ES,

just going to - it's not like we're throwing it out there to be you know implemented and then we're going to walk away from it.

The process still has a lot of checks and balances and a lot of oversight in there from specialists, myself, and others who are going to watch the process and we have some verification checks that we're going to make to make sure we're still moving the right way. We're still doing the right things and the consistency measures up.

MS. HARRIS: It just appears that we're forgiving everything from the past. Everything and we're going to be born again tomorrow morning whenever we start with the new --

MR. MADISON: I'm sorry you got that impression but that's not the case. That's not the case. The old issues are incorporated into this program.

VOICE: Alan, I don't think you mentioned this position of outstanding [Inaudible].

MR. MADISON: That's the same as with the disposition of outstanding licensee --

VOICE: -- but you didn't mention violations. We're not going to --

MR. MADISON: All old issues will be recharacterized. Now we're not going to go back for five years of inspection findings and try to recast them into this new program because they've already been addressed. They've already been addressed by the corrective actions in the old program, but if there is anything that is open and outstanding that will be recast in this program --

VOICE: Inspection open items which are still --[Inaudible].

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MR. MADISON: Now did that get your question?

MS. HARRIS: No, but I can deal with it.

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MR. MADISON: All right. Let me get to my questions. These are the questions all of you gave me. These are the ones in the -notice. Really we already started some of the conversation but the questions we've asked the public in the Federation Notice and we kindly centered our -- around --.

From what you've been able to see in limited aspects of the pilot program what you can read I'd just kindly like to get your feedback on it --. Do you believe the new oversight process will -- for assurance that the Plants are being operated safely. Bill, any comment on that?

MR. TITTLE: Yes, I do because I think that it focuses on -I was listening to what -- will say and I think that the data gives you more time to focus on these issues that she is talking about that maybe haven't been resolved in her mind or others in the past. Now you have the time to focus on that without spending all of your time -- and inspecting programs that already -- [Inaudible].

MR. MADISON: Wayne.

MR. STUNTZ: Well I think it's more in depth in what I read and everywhere I turn -- the hierarchy of this inspection report that come through. From the NRC I'd like to ask that -- [inaudible] but I think this program really gets down to the nuts and bolts of it not to mean it's all superficial or was.

You mentioned the inspector may come in and say all you did was -- but that's important and it may lead further down to a bigger problem. But getting down into the cornerstone the safety I think that's the greatest issue.

MR. MADISON: Any comment, Ann?

MS. HARRIS: I find that 45 percent of your own Regional

employees with this survey that you ran with them that they didn't

believe that this program would work. Now you're asking me as a member of the public to trust you and your people should know your programs better than I do, and I'm not sure if that's a good -- on a temperature of how things happen but in this overall process I'm not seeing a regulatory participation from the NRC that gives me a warm fuzzy feeling and I'm sorry for that because I'm seeing deregulation and who provided this program or this process.

I thought the only thing - problem that I had with the -report was that there was a -- once a year and everybody within NRC got
together and kindly voted Paul one of the members and kind of voted you
know on it was like a political background you know but this process to
me is I don't find it any different and irregardless of where you go
with it if you don't ever implement it like you say you're going to it's
never going to work. I would like to see the NRC implement a program as
they promise to the public. If you do that --

MR. MADISON: Well I'll take that last as a positive then because that's what we intend to do, and I think by putting it on paper and by putting it out there as the action - you know I mentioned the action matrix. I didn't show it.

We've got a document now that says that if these things happen these are the actions we're going to take. You've got something you can hold our feet to the fire on. That document right there. It says if those bad things happen these are the actions we're going to take, and if we don't I would assume you would be filing a Petition to find out why.

Now as far as the first item you talked about I am sorry that that piece of internal communication has got out because it's

AN incomplete. We had only gotten part of the information from the public

from our internal state -- when that document was released by someone.
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Again, it's an internal piece of communication. 2 We had collected - to get in preparation for lessons learned 3 meeting we held an internal lessons learned meeting and an external lessons learned meeting. We had sent out a survey form to participants 4 5 of the pilot plan and the Regional Offices. 6 We also sent out the same survey form to members of the 7 Headquarters Staff that had participated in the development and in the 8 implementation of the pilot program. We had not gotten all the 9 information back when that document was released. 10 MS. HARRIS: From which group? 11 MR. MADISON: Primarily from Headquarters Office. 12 MS. HARRIS: How many people are there in Headquarters? 13 MR. MADISON: There is 2500 people in the Agency so you only 14 had 94 respondents on that particular document that you saw. There was 15 still quite a few more folks who hadn't responded when that --16 MS. HARRIS: What did the - what was the percentage of 17 change? 18 MR. MADISON: I don't have the figures for you. I'm sorry. 19 I wouldn't be prepared to talk about this because it is - right now 20 it's an internal document although we will be prepared to talk about 21 that at Commission -- on March 1st. 22 Do you believe a new oversight program will provide 23 sufficient regulatory attention to utilities with performance problems. 24 MR. GIBBS: Alan, let me interrupt for a minute. 25 MR. MADISON: Sure. MR. GIBBS: The gentleman to my right he might want to comment on the previous question. MR. MADISON: Sure. I'm sorry, Bob. LEY MR. QUIRK: Thanks Russ. No, thank you.

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1 MR. MADISON: You don't want to comment? 2 MR. QUIRK: No. 3 MR. MADISON: That's all right. We'll let you comment a 4 little bit later on. Do you believe that the new oversight program will 5 provide sufficient regulatory attention to utilities with performance 6 problems. Bob. 7 MR. QUIRK: I'm in an awkward position. I'd rather not 8 comment. I'm just here to -- more than anything else. 9 MR. MADISON: All right. 10 MS. HARRIS: I'm sorry. I don't know who this gentleman is. 11 MR. QUIRK: I'm Bob Quirk. I live in the area and I used to 12 work for TVA. 13 MS. HARRIS: Well welcome to the Club. 14 MR. QUIRK: Well. 15 MR. MADISON: Bob read about the issue on the web site? 16 MR. QUIRK: Right. 17 MR. MADISON: Or about the meeting and decided he wanted to 18 come so we invited him to sit at the table. Anybody want to comment on 19 this one? 20 MS. HARRIS: I'd like to say a couple of things here. When 21 a utility is caught with its so called safety pants down shareholders 22 panic and share price goes out the window and everybody kind of throws 23 up their hands and runs around talking about the bad things that are 24 going to happen. 25 Whenever one of the - whenever a Senior Vice President at TVA's Plant can call up the Administrative - the Regional Administrator down in Atlanta and sway the NRC on how they're going to write up a ANN report to give their specific Plant a good performance on certain issues I'm seeing the ability here of the industry to totally take you over and SOCI ES,

that bothers me because I don't see anything here where - everybody has to work together; and

The trust that you are asking the public to put into you and into your program I would like to see that - those kinds of issues addressed because you're talking to a room and basically a group of engineers who already understand the process, and not everybody out on the street understands what sufficient regulatory attention is and performance problem;

So I'm looking at a regulatory agency that has not adequately defined these kinds of things for the public consumption.

MR. MADISON: I think that's good criticism. This is part of the reason why we're doing these public meetings. The aspect of communicating what we do and how we work as an Agency. I'm not talking about what the - how nuclear power works or you know how you should be happy with the -- as your friend. I'm talking about what the NRC does to protect the public health and safety and that's one of the reasons why we're out here.

We recognize this is the beginning of the dialogue. This is not the end, and I think - personally I think we need to do more so I'll take that as a legitimate criticism. I do question and maybe - I'm sorry but I do question the assumption and I hope it's an assumption that we're somehow being captured by the licensee.

I mean if you have any proof of that please I'll give you the number of the Inspector General and you can turn us in.

MS. HARRIS: Well you don't have to.

MR. MADISON: The program is out in the open. Our communications, the sunshine act are out in the open. All the meetings

AIN that we've had to develop this process and talk about this process have RILEY

been public meetings. We're shared draft material with the public.

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Something we've never done in the past to make sure the public can get involved in the development of the process along with the utilities and other folks within the Agency.

We have tried maybe not successfully but we have tried to involve all members of the public in the process, in the development, in the oversight, and in the final end of the process. That's going to be - that should continue with the inspection activities.

That's why we think by putting a significance determination process it may take a little work. In fact it does take a little work.

A lot of work to understand some of the assessment, the risk numbers.

We're not asking folks to be risk experts but if we can explain ourselves to you in plain English in the reports and that's the goal of the program is to explain - because we have another program going on in the whole Government in plain English. If we can explain in plain English in the reports the assumptions we've made and why that's a safety significant issue so that you can understand where we're coming from that's part of the goal of the program.

Now we may have to check our assumptions with the licensee.

In some cases they have more current information on some of the systems and equipment at their Plant than we do.

MS. HARRIS: I heard a comment back in your earlier presentation about the NRC's objective. This is the first time that I have heard in layman's terms an open understandable - what's a good word - a way that the NRC knows what its objectives are. That's the first time I've ever heard it laid out and not covered up with all these other things where the issue of safety was set over in the corner somewhere and we go by and -- it off whenever it's convenient. It looks good. If

IN the public comes by and says what is that and oh, that's our safety

program and I didn't see that here tonight and I'm pleased to see that. ASSOCI

MR. MADISON: Thank you.

MS. HARRIS: I want you to know that.

MR. MADISON: We're making progress then.

MS. HARRIS: Well I'd hope so.

MR. MADISON: Is the information provided by the NRC appropriate to keep the public informed of Agency activities related to the plants. I told you may not have had a lot of time to look at the web site for this. I've described it to you as maybe some of the information you received from Dr. Spector. I guess I'd ask you, Wayne, your feelings on that issue?

MR. STUNTZ: I think so. I deal mainly with the public on Sequoyah. For example, I get these special needs cards and I ask the public or them when I talk to these people are you aware of what is going on. If it's not the first Wednesday of the month and the sirens are going off at noon do you know what to do, and I think the public from what I gather know about the NRC's - the purpose of what is being done here. The safety issues. I think they do know.

MR. MADISON: Bill, would you like to comment?

MR. TITTLE: I think one of our problems in getting people to prepare and to understand is indifference. I mean you understand and you read but so many people don't as you know and the general population in particular that ten mile zone but we cannot get them to read the calendars that are set out to understand any of that.

These cards that he talks about we have trouble getting people to send those back in. I think there is an indifference out there that probably is brought about by a degree of --. I mean nothing has happened in the years that Sequoyah Plant has been there that has

AIN caused any concern or raised any eyebrows and I think people are RILEY

© comfortable.

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You need to drive in the area and see all the new homes going up and there is no resistance by the public to live in the area. I happen to live four miles from there and I'm not sure if twenty years ago I would have done that, but I think there is a comfort level and an indifference there.

I think more people need to look at that information and perhaps we in emergency management can do more to heighten awareness that --

MR. MADISON: Do you have a web site?

MR. TITTLE: We do have and I was just thinking we could put a button on there to go over to yours and we'll have our folks work on that. I'll do that.

MR. MADISON: Do you get a lot of participation from local members of the public from your web site?

MR. TITTLE: No, we really don't. There is apathy there also, but we certainly could do that and maybe there are some other things that we could do to heighten awareness. Perhaps you could get the press involved and help them understand that if they see all green things are okay, and if they don't then they could raise concerns and issues but I think indifference is a problem that we face.

MS. HARRIS: Why wouldn't --

MR. QUIRK: I just have a couple of comments on this issue.

You said something everything is green there is no - there should not
be any concern. Green does not necessarily mean good.

MR. TITTLE: Thank you.

MR. QUIRK: Bottom line green does not mean good. The column is there but they're not - at this point they're not considered

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MR. MADISON: Yeah, I --

MR. QUIRK: They're not unmanageable.

MR. MADISON: There is a --. White is not all bad. Green is not necessarily good and white is not all bad. We set the threshold for green and white at kind of a nominal performance threshold so that we know that there is going to be some white performance indicators routinely show up.

There are some Plants that operate outside the nominal performance bin. It's part of their even their licensing basis they're close, so we expect some white performance indicators during normal operation. We expect that there would be white inspection findings even in an operated facility that is performing fairly well.

The purpose - try to get back to the purpose of that. The green says there are problems but the risk associated with those, the safety associated with that is acceptable such that the licensee's corrective action program is adequate enough to take the action. We as an Agency don't need to get people involved.

White we need to verify that their correction action program is functioning before we walk away from it, but the licensee still has got the responsibility to correct the problem. We're still not going to get deeply involved in it.

We're not going to look at the root cause and do you know a team inspection on site just to look at that one issue. It has to be more significant issues, more significant findings before we do that. I just wanted - there is a mispreception that you know they fall off a cliff if they get a white finding. That's not the case. Ann.

MS. HARRIS: I want to make a suggestion about how you deal

with these isolated rural communities. I live in a community where my
ANN driveway is a mile long off of the pavement and there is five families
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& lives back in there, and we've got - every mailbox got a calendar from
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TVA. It hangs in the appropriate place in my house.

MR. MADISON: And I won't ask where that is.

MS. HARRIS: But --

MR. TITTLE: Where do you live at?

MS. HARRIS: I live up at Ten Mile up at Watts Bar, and my mother recently fell and broke her ribs. It took us sixteen hours to find her which that's still another problem but in like a forty-eight hour period my mother became an invalid that we would have to deal with in the case of an accident.

I - my mother-in-law became an invalid like a year and a half ago but she was at my house. I had care for her there, but during that period I got the calendar. I returned it back to TVA to say that there is more families here than you're taking into consideration, and that if the accident happens in the night time hours when I'm there that's fine.

If I'm awake you need to send help for these two women, and it took almost five and a half months for me to get a telephone call back from a TVA person asking me what did I want and I marked the survey appropriately but I dealt with that because I know how.

I would think that the NRC somehow or another that you would provide to TVA a postcard with some sort of survey on it that they could mail back to you if they're not happy or if they have an issue and then you forward it to the utility so that the utility knows that you know because I'm in and out.

It's like a high from like early March up until October. We're looking at an area on the weekends ungodly amounts of people pour into that area to go fishing from out of state and they don't even know

A N that a nuclear plant - right now most of the evacuation signs on Watts

Bar they don't exist, so we're looking at a way that somehow or another ASSOCI ATES,

1 the evacuation issue whose in these rural communities that are isolated. Particularly here we're looking at Southern Appalachia. I 3 mean you look at it on TV every night I'm sure so I'm not telling you anything that you don't know, but I think that just this idea of send 4 5 around a calendar is not sufficient whenever there is women that have 6 moved in for the summer they don't even know. They don't get a calendar 7 because they're not there to pick one up and they don't know what the 8 process or the procedure is. 9 MR. MADISON: This isn't the only location that has an issue 10 of --. I'm sure you folks have dealt with this also in your aspect too. 11 I note Russell and Paul are taking notes on it. We're not going to try 12 to resolve any site specific issues. 13 MS. HARRIS: Well I don't - that was not the issue. 14 MR. MADISON: We're really trying to talk about the overall 15 oversight program and focus on the questions associated with that. I 16 understand your specific concerns and I'm not going to walk away from it 17 because they made some notes so it's not forgotten. 18 MS. HARRIS: But what I want you to address not - that was 19 just an example. Some type of a problem. The NRC being way out here 20 somewhere and then the utilities here close by and locals are not seeing 21 or hearing from you. 22 MR. MADISON: Well that's part of why we're coming out. Now 23 we --24 MS. HARRIS: And --25 MR. MADISON: Are you done? MS. HARRIS: No. MR. MADISON: No. MS. HARRIS: I'm sorry. What I wanted you to do is take these public document rooms because you're putting this Adams Program SOCI ES,

1 that is like the Adams Family. I'm sorry but it's a nightmare.

[Laughter.]

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But it would seem to me that it would be to everybody's benefit if the NRC and the utilities shared the price of a person to work in these public document rooms to talk about issues or somebody that could talk and direct people into areas that need to be or they want to talk about or find information about because right now I'm - for lack of a better word I'm just really angry that I have to go down here to the public document room and pay twenty-five cents for a page of print that I can't read.

Now don't send me off to the Inspector General because I don't want to talk about that silly audit group. They found that everything was publicly okay.

MR. MADISON: Well I'm going to send you to your Congressman because your Congressman is the person - do you want to address this?

MR. CLARK: Well we're closing our -- [inaudible].

MR. MADISON: Yes.

 $\mbox{MS. HARRIS:}\ \mbox{Well now you have given me to the Adams Family,}$ Ken.

MR. CLARK: I know we are.

MS. HARRIS: Because you're not helping.

MR. CLARK: Believe me I've been given to the Adams Family too. We hope it works.

MS. HARRIS: Don't we want to address the problem or is the idea just to make it worse. Is that the idea here?

MR. CLARK: Well the Agency and I don't mean to interrupt this process - the Agency -- [inaudible]. People will be I guess

A N expected to use their computers. If they don't have a computer -- R LEY

MR. MADISON: Use the public library.

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                   MR. CLARK: Use the public library.
                   MR. MADISON: Unfortunately, and that is why - I'm not being
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       facious then. I'm not being facious at all.
                   MR. CLARK: No.
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                   MR. MADISON: If you have a concern in that area and I don't
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       blame you because probably you're not alone write your Congressman.
                   MS. HARRIS: Well he doesn't want to hear my problems.
                   MR. MADISON: Part of the issue is dollars and that's where
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       it comes with the public document. See we want to spend the money -
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       instead of in a public document room we want to spend the money on Mr.
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       Russell Gibbs here inspecting the site.
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                   MS. HARRIS: Why wouldn't the - I'm not sure who this
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       gentleman is but you work for the NRC?
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                   MR. MADISON: No.
                   MR. QUIRK: No, I don't.
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                   MR. MADISON: No.
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                   MS. HARRIS: Oh, I'm sorry. Somebody in here does because
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       the Inspectors do.
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                   MR. MADISON: Russell.
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                   MS. HARRIS: Russell. I mean it seems to me --
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                   MR. GIBBS: Presently I'm the Project Manager for Sequoyah.
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                   MS. HARRIS: Well I'm sorry. Okay, but it seems to me that
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       for just for the public consumption that you would put that person - I
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       mean you share everything else with the utility. How much would it take
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       to - are we talking $350.00 a week to get a person to put out on the
       streets that if they're not busy in doing public document work or
       showing somebody how to go through the Adams Family House to put them
  ANN out into a school, over on the campus, in a Town Hall meeting what would
       that consume. That would consume the amount of hours that it takes Paul
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38 1 to come up here and ride to Tennessee once a month in travel expenses. 2 MR. MADISON: Okay. Again, like I said we're not going to 3 resolve that here. MS. HARRIS: But I want to know the table --4 5 MR. MADISON: I'm not going to -- the Agency to spend the 6 money to do that. 7 MS. HARRIS: But I want it on the table that --8 MR. MADISON: It is. 9 MS. HARRIS: That with public information because it's not 10 out there. By the way Ken, what are you going to do with these 11 documents that you're going to throw away? 12 MR. CLARK: Well I don't think they're going to really throw 13 them away. The library -- keep them. If they elect not to I don't 14 know. 15 MS. HARRIS: [Inaudible] They throw away their documents. 16 They purge their records like once every three months so I can't get 17 anything out of locals. 18 MR. MADISON: I tell you what. After the meeting why don't 19 you and Ken get together and talk. You can talk a little bit more about 20 that. 21 MS. HARRIS: I'm sorry. 22 MR. MADISON: My next question - that's okay. You got it on 23 the table. Do you believe the NRC is providing the public with timely 24 and understandable information on plant performance with the oversight 25 program we've described. I know your answer is no. Anybody want to comment on that? It's kindly the same question. MR. QUIRK: I guess I don't understand the program AND completely yet. My understanding is there is no issue or finding --

LEY MR. MADISON: Yeah. SOCI ES,

1 MR. QUIRK: Inspectors go through it and then they go 2 through and submit the determination process. 3 MR. MADISON: Un-hum. MR. QUIRK: And determine if it's - if it even goes in the 4 5 report or not based on -- and perhaps it a -- violation. [Inaudible] 6 The public would know. My understanding now that process - that 7 information will not even be in the reports now, and then the 8 determination - okay, that's one issue about how the information gets to 9 the public. 10 MR. MADISON: Okay. 11 12 13 14

MR. QUIRK: The next issue is the coloring of it. The green, white, and so on. If I'm not mistaken that's all based on --. Is that correct? If you have an issue on those you show that the -damage gets graded. The chance of -- damage are greater if it remains green. Is that the way that works or not?

MR. MADISON: Let me answer - there is two questions. Simply, yes and no. First of all the first question as far as whether or not it goes into the report we've established in the documents on Inspection Manual Chapter 0610 and that -- there is a draft document in there.

VOICE: 610 star.

MR. MADISON: Oh, 610 star. It's got an asterisk on it because it's part - it's a draft document and it's only part of the -and it describes process for determining whether an inspection issue is wisest to the level of significance to be called a finding.

We chose for that threshold what we have been calling for years minor violations. We have for the last four or five years told AN inspectors do not document minor violations. They fill up a report with a lot of things that are not of significance and confuse the public. We SOCI

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want to focus on the safety issues not the minor violation issues.

We said that for a number of years. This program says you shall not put in the report minor violations unless there is extenuating circumstances associated with those. Now we've described what some of those extenuating circumstances may be.

With respect to the significance of determination color determination, yes, there is a basis in PRA, probability - probablistic risk analysis, associated with the Plant in the significance of that finding and its effect on -- damage or potential effect on -- damage.

In some cases in some of the non-reactor areas there is no clear -- to -- damage. For example, emergency preparedness. There is no --. You're already in emergency the -- will assume that the -- is damaged during the test and you're testing to see how licensee plans -- affect the public. [Inaudible]

With findings associated with -- we're trying to get a relative risk and we've done all. We've held work shops and a lot of discussions back and forth to kindly get a relative risk associated with that so that a white emergency preparedness finding has the same weight as a white reactor safety finding so that's why I said yes and no. Did that answer your question? Do you have any follow up on that?

MR. QUIRK: Yeah, let's go same engineering inspection and you have to look at a calculation as an inspector and you have some questions about some - perhaps the calculation is not up to date as it should be. And in the past you could have said that hey, you could read an inspection report that says that.

The calculation did not account for these modifications and then unless you actually go through and completely calculation now or in

A N the past you say hey, calculation was not maintained. Did not address R LEY

[&]amp; these modifications. It's going to be in the report. People are going ASSOCI ATES,

to read that. Right now my understanding is you have a calculation that is 3 not up to date unless you can in fact show that it is a real problem it does not go in the report. Is that correct or not? 4 MR. MADISON: Yes. Why would you want something that is not 6 a real problem in the report? MR. QUIRK: Well no, it's a problem that the calculation is 7 8 not up to date. 9 MR. MADISON: Why? 10 MR. QUIRK: That's your proof that your safety systems will 11 work. 12 MR. MADISON: But if you look at the calculation and the 13 error is such that it would not have any impact on the safe operation of 14 the facility why do you want to know about it? 15 MR. QUIRK: Well how do you know if it's not incorporated --16 MR. MADISON: You make conservative assumptions which we 17 challenge and ask the inspectors to do. You make conservative 18 assumptions with that calculation and then you bound your analysis based 19 upon those conservative assumptions so you do a worse case analysis and 20 if it shows up that that would produce a safety impact now you've got 21 something you can write about. Now you've got a concern. 22 MR. HERNAN: As an answer to Bob's question the fact that these details will be on the web site if he wants to get into the 23 24 details of --25 MR. MADISON: No, no, they won't. The answer is no, they won't unless they arise to a level of significance that we've predetermined with our significance determination process. Unless they

ANN write and 0610 star unless they arise to a level of significance no, RILEY

they will not appear in the report without extenuating circumstances,

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and some of those extenuating circumstances may be that we're responding to an allegation by an employee or member of the public.

It may be that there is - there was an event at the site and we're documenting what our findings on the event were, and so even though they may be some minor issues there we're basing our interpretation of what the significance of that event was.

Those extenuating circumstances may - we may still talk about some of the minor - what we would call minor issues but the intent is not to bring - not to put all - not to report it. I used to lead the diagnostic evaluations and one of the things I used to tell inspectors in the -- and the team is do not confuse activity with accomplishment. We shouldn't as an Agency confuse the public with activity with significance.

Because an inspector has been out there looking at a lot of things and wants to document what he has done doesn't mean that he has found anything of significance. We want to report to the public the issues that they should be concerned about because we're concerned about them. We don't want to report to the public the longer list of things that the inspector looked at. That's part of the inspection document. We've told the public these are the things we're going to look at so expect us to look at them.

MR. TITTLE: Is that the same as saying that if an item is not in an inspection report it will not be found on the PIM?

MR. MADISON: Yes. In fact well there are some items that appear in the inspection report the Plant issues matrix - I want to do away with acronyms for our Court Reporter here. Plant issues matrix is PIM. Actually there are some issues that will appear in the report that

ANN won't appear on the PIM.

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Only findings of significance appear in the PIM and those ASSOCI ATES,

1 will be in the front of the report as a summary of findings. There may 2 be additional issues. Some of these minor violations that have some 3 extenuating circumstances that we want to document them. We want the public to be able to read them but we're not 4 5 raising them to a level - we're not bringing them forward as something 6 that the public or the Agency or the utility ought to be concerned 7 about. 8 How often will you permit the utilities to use items about 9 proprietary information that they don't want anybody to know. That they 10 don't want put on the web? 11 MR. MADISON: As long as they meet the test of the law I 12 guess they'll be allowed to use that. 13 MS. HARRIS: Well they could say that. 14 MR. MADISON: We haven't changed the law either. We still 15 have to obey the law too. 16 MS. HARRIS: Well they say that about things that virtually 17 are silly. They use it. They've overused it and you're permitting them 18 to and I'm asking is that the way it's going to be? 19 MR. MADISON: Again, if you have proof where we have 20 violated the law please contact the --21 MS. HARRIS: Oh, that's not what I said. 22 23 24

MR. MADISON: Well that is what you said because you said that we have allowed them to do something in violation of the law. We have an office of General Counsel that reviews all proprietary requests by the licensee and they determine whether or not they meet the tests of the law.

MS. HARRIS: Then how long is it going to be before the

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AND public has knowledge of what is happening with these inspections then and with these - with this new program because the General Counsel has -SOCI ES,

1 they have other work besides proprietary information documents. 2 MR. MADISON: If your question is are we putting the request to the Office of General Counsel that's not the case. Inspection 3 4 reports go through Regional Management --. Now there may be certain 5 parts of that - there are certain drawings. There are certain safeguards information that we ask the 6 7 licensee to make sure that we're not releasing proprietary data but as 8 far as the significance of the inspection findings and what the 9 inspectors have we don't withhold that information from the public and 10 we never have. 11 MR. TITTLE: Ann, are you familiar with the process that the 12 -- team must go through to withhold something as proprietary? 13 MS. HARRIS: Yes. 14 MR. TITTLE: I'm not talking safeguards. I'm talking about 15 -- [inaudible]. 16 MS. HARRIS: Safeguards don't count with this. 17 MR. TITTLE: But it has to be --. I witnessed an Affidavit 18 to the NRC. The NRC has to respond -- [inaudible]. 19 MR. MADISON: I can't remember the last time it happened. 20 MS. HARRIS: Now back to --21 MR. TITTLE: It's almost never. 22 MS. HARRIS: I'll talk to you about that later. 23 MR. MADISON: Again, if you've got something - I'm serious. 24 MS. HARRIS: So am I. 25

MR. MADISON: We need to keep the integrity of the program. If there is something you think that one of us is violating the program you need to --

MS. HARRIS: Because we come back to the same question. How long is it going to be from the time that the utility knows what's in SOCI ES,

the inspection report before it's posted on the web. For my consumption for me to see what is going on in my community --

MR. MADISON: We have some regulations that says as soon as the report is issued to the licensee it has to also be issued currently to the public. That's the rule.

MR. TITTLE: On the web site.

MR. MADISON: On the web site. It's current. You get it at the same time they do. Now we may be discussing issues with them on a day to day basis. Russ out at the site may have some issues and some concerns. He is asking them some questions so they know some of the issues that he may be looking at, but when the determination is made as to the significance and the report is issued you get it at the same time the licensee does. That's the rule.

MR. CLARK: [Inaudible.] Usually right now the way we're working with our inspection reports we issue inspection reports at -- [inaudible].

MR. MADISON: Anybody else in that area?

MR. QUIRK: We still go back to my questions. Take for example say this is not a -- at Sequoyah. I -- think about this but suppose there was a calculation that shows the ability these are generated to support the loads after an accident and if there was some low tech changed on the -- and that calculation was not maintained, the calculation was not updated and the inspector finds this through an inspection although you didn't include this well the inspector is not going to be able to go through this voluminous computer base calculation and say ah, you proved the -- cannot handle the loads. Let's just say initial problem you need to get these loads in the --. I do not know

ANN whether or not the -- can handle the loads at this point. How do you RILEY

handle something like that in the new process? Once I - how do you ASSOCI

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handle it in the final program?

MR. GIBBS: Well the Resident Inspector are more generalis. We have experts in the Region that help us answer very hard questions like you just brought up but we need to be satisfied that what you just described we need to be satisfied that there is not a consequence to the problem, and that's where the new process is different. There needs to be a real consequence to the issues. If there is a consequence then we take action.

MR. MADISON: Now what we've done with the significance of determination process there is a check list and work sheets associated with that such that the Inspector doesn't have to go through a lot of calculation material to come up with at least a ballpark approximation of the safety significance of that issue. So if it comes out and we're conservative with those checks we think. So far the tests have shown that we're still conservative.

In one case where we did find that we feel that we may have been unconservative we made a decade adjustment there so that we're than conservative in those assumptions. The idea being that if it shows up green in that first screen it is really green. There is no worry and he should turn that over. He should identify his concern. Turn it over to licensee. Make sure it's in there corrective action program if they're taking action, but he doesn't need to do a lot of in depth review of that subject.

Now if it turns out to be more than green now he needs to do a little more leg work to get more information to check his assumptions and verify that it does not have safety significance before we make it an issue with the licensee.

AND MR. QUIRK: So how is the process - so basically you RILEY

identify the problem. The licensee makes a condition report or ASSOCI
AND AND ASSOCIANTES,

corrective action document for it and they track it, and the inspectors go away. It's not mentioned in the inspection report.

MR. MADISON: Oh, yes, definitely it's documented in the inspection report. If it rises to the level of green it's documented in the inspection report.

MR. QUIRK: Well you don't know if it rises to the level of green because he don't know if it's any significance -- at it yet.

MR. TITTLE: Well we need to --

MR. QUIRK: To enter the calculation, right.

MR. MADISON: No, no, he can make some conservative assumptions and there are some test questions that are asked in that document that he can make a determination pretty fast whether it rises to the level of significance to be documented. You know I don't want to go into detail.

MR. QUIRK: Right.

MR. MADISON: Right now because we don't have the details here with us, and part of the significance of determination process drives a lot of detailed assumptions and you have to really do the work. You can't shoot from the hip on these things and that's good. We're not making snap judgments. We're making deliberate judgments on the safety significance of issues out at the site.

We don't want to make non-conservative judgments, but we don't want to be - we don't want to be alarmists and raise issues that aren't issues so we have bounds that we need to live within too, and that's what the process does. So if you've got - you know I tell folks if you want me to tell you how long that piece of string is let me see the string and we'll measure it with the process and we'll tell you what

AND it is, but we can't shoot from the hip on generalities on it. Sorry. LEY

MR. QUIRK: Understand.

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MR. MADISON: Anything else? You've got a frown on your face.

MR. TITTLE: I probably understand what he is talking about.

MR. MADISON: Okay.

MR. TITTLE: I really have. It's important for us. I mean we serve folks like that. We answer to them and I was trying to understand, follow what he was saying. It's good for us. It gives us balance in our judgment to hear these things and to hear these questions. I have more confidence in the system apparently than they do, but it's good for us to hear these things too.

Our focus is on preparedness. We have to - our job is to plan for the worst and hope for the best and that's what we do. This program helps us understand what is going on better than the other program did I think so --

MR. MADISON: I'm going to kindly move us along a little bit. One of the last couple of questions we have here is the question of balance and one of the comments and criticisms we've had in the past we struggled with in the old process was to try to present a balanced picture of licensee performance.

One of the questions we've had from the public folks is why don't you put positive findings in the inspection reports. Well we've answered back we don't think we're very good at it. We don't have real good criteria for what is positive, and we're really dealing with a negative kind of process. We're looking for the exceptions. We're looking for the problems. The lack of problems is a positive.

So the question we have is what you see on the web page and I guess I'm not going to find it. What you see on the web page with all

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A N the material present does that in itself present a balanced picture, or RILEY

is there something that we should be adding to it. Wayne?

 $$\operatorname{MR.}$$ STUNTZ: I'm sorry. I have not gone into the web page so I can't provide anything.

MR. MADISON: Okay. Ann, you've looked at the web page.

MS. HARRIS: I check the web page twice a day. I like the web page because I can get information there that it provides me with the type of information. I know that there is a lot of what I call the uneducated general public that doesn't know what to do with it and when you tell them and use a lot of these words they don't know what to look at.

You know where to go with it or what to use it, and I find that I spend a lot of my time explaining you guys so that they can understand because they don't overreact and that makes me maybe feel better that I know that you guys you know are going where you need to.

The other thing is and we touched on it a little bit a few minutes ago you're still talking about rural areas. I don't care even out in the Sequoyah area, down at Huntsville, down at Augusta you're still looking at this is not town where everybody has got a computer.

I don't care what the belt line mentality is. These people still don't have this and they still don't have access to it, and it seems to me that you would put Ken Clark on some sort of NRC parade or somebody to send out stuff like my local newspapers.

I have weekly and bi-weekly and just the five day a week newspapers in my community and then there is a little Mom and Pop Radio Stations and the little bitty public TV stations that something could be - like a five minute public information because they're obligated to do the same thing that the City of Chattanooga is and put out that information and describe and talk about some of these words and why you

A N use them and where they're coming from so that people don't panic R LEY

whenever they see this.

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Oh, God, Sequoyah got - they've had another accident down there. They've had another shutdown. They don't understand the difference between a manual scram and an automatic scram. I probably had twenty calls this week over that. They don't understand what that means.

They think something is fixing to blow but it's hard to explain that to them but if it becomes a matter of their verbiage and their daily words so they hear the regular basis then it sure would make my life easier and I'm thinking it would make yours and TVA's easier also.

MR. MADISON: Ken, do you want to comment on that?

MR. CLARK: No. I haven't really given that much thought.

MR. MADISON: Okay.

MR. CLARK: [Inaudible.]

MS. HARRIS: It doesn't necessarily have to be the NRC. It could be the utility.

MR. MADISON: I haven't asked - I'll get right back to you.

I haven't asked anybody from the observers here if they have any
comments on what we've talked about so far. I'd like to take this
opportunity if there are any comments. All right, Bill.

MR. TITTLE: Once Sequoyah shut down at the -- and made some noise I was concerned that the public would start calling and lighting up our switchboard. We didn't get one call. We never got the first call.

MS. HARRIS: They don't want to call you because they assume you don't know.

MR. TITTLE: No, they already know. You know I'm on TV all

AND the time talking about issues, and they know they'll get an answer but

& it goes back to that indifference that we just don't have the concern. ASSOCI

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Whether that's good or bad I'm not sure but we just don't have it. We didn't get one call. Not one phone call.

MR. MADISON: Do you believe the new oversight process improves the effectiveness and efficiency of the NRC regulatory process focusing agency resources on those areas with the most significance.

I'll be honest with you. One comment we got back from the first time we had all these meetings at Auburn, Nebraska was how can you ask us this question when we weren't sure about your old process, or we don't know anything about your old process.

It's kindly hard to compare so you know I'll accept I don't know or a shrug from you because that's a hard question to ask right now. I don't know how familiar you are with the old program, but we hope - this is one of our primary goals because as with all Government Agencies are resources are shrinking and we need to be smart about how we use them.

We want to use them in the right areas so that we still meet our goals and objectives and meet the mission of the Agency. This is criticism and it's legitimate criticism. We have to do what we say we're going to do.

Do you believe the new oversight process reduces unnecessary regulatory burden on licensees and the NRC? You know we have a regulatory burden on ourselves. We're our own worst enemy in some cases in doing our processes. Any comment? Seeing none we'll move on.

Does the new oversight process enhance public confidence.

This is one I'd like to - this is kind of a hard thing to measure.

Public confidence, but what we're trying to do here is improve the --,

the consistency of the process, the clarity by explaining what we're

 \overline{A} N doing and what we mean by risk significance, by safety significance, and RLEY

issues and the goal here is that if the public starts to understand our

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1 processes more and where we're coming from that they may have more 2 confidence in what we're saying and that we're out there actually 3 looking out for the public health and safety. No comment? We'll move 4 on. 5 Are there any other appropriate means by which the Agency 6 could solicit stakeholder feedback. Now this is a question for Bill. 7 MR. TITTLE: I think she makes a good point. I think a lot 8 of people who don't go to web sites a radio show probably the ratings 9 would plummet if they got on there and talked a lot about these 10 technical terms so they're not going to do that, but there should be 11 other way besides the internet to get that - the web site to get 12 information to people. I'm not sure if that's --13 MS. HARRIS: Public service announcements, columns in the 14 local newspapers. 15 MR. TITTLE: That's right. 16 MS. HARRIS: That's not controlled by the utility. That 17 comes out of your mouth. 18 MR. TITTLE: Right. 19 MS. HARRIS: But you don't run by them to see if it's okay. 20 MR. TITTLE: Ma'am, we don't do that. 21 MS. HARRIS: I wasn't talking to you. I was talking to him. 22 MR. TITTLE: Okay. 23 MS. HARRIS: The NRC. 24 MR. TITTLE: Okay.

MR. MADISON: Bob.

MR. QUIRK: No comment.

MR. MADISON: Wayne.

MR. STUNTZ: No.

MR. MADISON: That was the last question believe it or not.

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Any overall comments? Any overall questions?

MR. STUNTZ: Sir, I'd like to ask - I should have asked this when you mentioned it but you mentioned Category 1 and Category 2 and I've forgotten - I think they was mentioned during the last --

MR. MADISON: The systematic assessment -- yeah, and we're doing away with those. I thought I had answered that.

MR. STUNTZ: [Inaudible.]

MR. TITTLE: Yes.

MR. MADISON: The systematic assessment and licensee performance was suspended and we're recommending with the implementation of this new process that it be abandoned so there will no longer be a self-rating 1, 2, or 3. A lot of the criticism with the self was that it was you know it was eighteen to twenty-four months between self reports.

By the time the public ever saw the information it was at least twenty-four months old. Probably older. It was really old news so when you say a lot, Ann, I know with the South a lot of it had to deal with the fact that hey, we already knew there were problems. We were already told about them. You already had fixed them. It's okay.

That was how you were and now you're better so it looked kindly like a love in. Like we were forgiving them for all their mistakes when we weren't. We beat up on them back then but now it wasn't a problem any more so we really were - we try to be good with it but it was not necessarily a timely program.

It was inconsistent with the -- because every Region did it a little bit differently because there was no clear criteria about what - how you would make it a Category 1, Category 2 Plant.

AN This process doesn't attempt to do that. It doesn't attempt RILEY

to roll all these up into one overall number, but what it does try to do ASSOCI
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is produce a total picture of our assessment of the licensee performance in all the areas we consider important. Any other questions, comments? Ann.

MS. HARRIS: I'm extremely pleased. You would be disappointed if I didn't say this. I'm extremely pleased to see these public meetings happen although I drove probably further than most people would want to believe tonight to get here even though I was late but these kinds of meetings you have to make more people aware outside the City.

I talked with about seven people today that had no knowledge that this was going on. That would have come if they had known like yesterday or last week because we have lives and we have to plan our lives around these kinds of things also. It's not a criticism with --

MR. MADISON: Now Ken wants to say something.

MR. CLARK: Ann, last week we did send a news release, a press release to the local newspapers up in your area and also we sent

MS. HARRIS: The -- News said they never had gotten anything.

MR. CLARK: Well we faxed it and the phone rang and the fax took it. You know --

 ${\tt MS.}$ HARRIS: Radio stations they should be -- a public service --

MR. HERNAN: I did in fact hear a radio announcement about this meeting as I was leaving the Plant about 5:30 this afternoon.

MS. HARRIS: What was the --

MR. HERNAN: I don't know. It was a -- station.

MR. MADISON: We struggle with that and I tell you what -and Augie is the one who talked to you Augie spent hours on the phone SOCI ES,

calling people to get them here tonight. We've got four people from the public. He wrote letters. Right? You got a letter in the mail from Augie.

We went out of our way with this meeting to try to get people here to come and talk about this program. Now we've had better success at other facilities. We had a lot of folks show up at Ft. Calhoun public meeting. In fact we were filmed by TBS at that meeting. That was an experience, but you know it varies.

It depends upon the Plant but it has been a struggle, and Augie went to - I mean David Lockbalm at a Commission meeting challenged us to go out and talk to his people so we asked David Lockbalm give us a list of your people. We'll call them and we did. We got the list from David and we called them. They're not here.

MS. HARRIS: From this area also?

MR. MADISON: We are making attempts. They do have a point. There is some apathy. We have to break over that. That's not - I'm not trying to justify it because we have to break through some of that.

MS. HARRIS: Everybody wants to wait and the media talks about let's wait until the accident happens and then we'll talk about it. I don't want to wait until then.

MR. MADISON: We don't either.

MS. HARRIS: I'm not interested. I'll be gone.

MR. MADISON: And we're going - we'll keep looking for other ways to reach out but we accept criticism. There is probably - we could do better.

MS. HARRIS: I know that like in my local paper they accept a guest column that they run it. You just fax them or maybe if they get AND a column from anybody they will run one regardless of -- [inaudible.]

MR. MADISON: All right, Ann, you can have the last word and

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       we're going to close tonight. I thank everybody for their patience and
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       their attendance and with that the meeting is adjourned.
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                     [Whereupon, at 9:10 p.m., the meeting was concluded.]
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