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Related to the Perry Nuclear Power Plant

License Renewal Application

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## UNITED STATES OF AMERICA NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

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# ENVIRONMENTAL SCOPING MEETING RELATED TO THE PERRY NUCLEAR POWER PLANT LICENSE

RENEWAL APPLICATION

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WEDNESDAY,

OCTOBER 25, 2023

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The meeting convened at the Perry Public Library, 3753 Main Street, Perry, Ohio at 6:30 p.m., Lance Rakovan, Environmental Review Lead, presiding.

### NRC STAFF PRESENT:

VAUGHN THOMAS, NRC Office of Nuclear Reactor
Regulation (NRR), Safety Review Lead

LANCE RAKOVAN, NRC Office of Nuclear Material
Safety and Safeguards (NMSS), Environmental
Review Lead

TED SMITH, Chief, Environmental Review License Renewal Branch, NMSS

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1	PROCEEDINGS
2	6:31 p.m.
3	MR. RAKOVAN: All right. So, I'm
4	not planning to use a microphone tonight given
5	that this is a small space. I'm assuming you
6	can all hear me.
7	Excellent. I will ask though, I'm
8	going to have my other speakers come up here in
9	turn. And then, when we move to the public
10	commenting and questioning portion of the
11	meeting, I will ask that if you speak you do
12	come up here primarily because our court
13	reporter is has a device up here.
14	So, that way, if you're here and
15	you're speaking clearly, she should be able to
16	pick you up.
17	So, with that, for all of you who
18	don't know, I'm Lance Rakovan. I am the Senior
19	Environmental Project Manager for Perry License
20	Renewal.
21	I'd like to welcome you to tonight's
22	public meeting hosted by the USNRC, Nuclear
23	Regulatory Commission. Vaughn Thomas is also
24	here. He is the Safety Project Manager and

25

will be speaking.

And, we also have Ted Smith, who 1 He is the Chief of the Environmental 2 my boss. Review License Renewal Branch. 3 Our goals today, we have two. То 4 provide you with an overview of the license 5 6 renewal process, touching on the safety side, 7 with a focus on the environmental side for the license renewal of Perry. 8 And also, to get your input in terms 9 10 the scope of the environmental issues that the NRC should address of the 11 as part 12 environmental review. A term that I'm going to be using 13 tonight a lot, is scoping. Which means the --14 15 essentially determining the scope of the environmental review in this case again, 16 for 17 Perry License Renewal. Today's meeting is just one way that 18 you can provide your scoping comments. 19 will be going into more detail on other ways 20 that you can provide those comments as well as 21 22 we progress. opening So, after 23 some

process.

will be providing an overview of the

again, we

license renewal

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is

Once the NRC

finished with our presentation, we'll see if any of you in attendance have clarifying questions. We want to make sure that you fully understand the information that we cover. And then, we'll go ahead and open up the floor to scoping comments.

We did have the sign in sheet. And,

I see a few of you did sign up to provide

comments. We can certainly, we'll start with

those and then if anyone else here would like

to provide comments at that time, we'll

certainly open the floor to that.

I believe we have the meeting scheduled to 8:30 tonight. I know we have a drop-dead, lights out time at 9:00 when they shut the library down.

So, we are actively looking for your scoping comments tonight. This is a comment gathering meeting by NRC's definition, which means that we are actively seeking your input.

Please note that we are transcribing our meeting so that we can make sure that we get a full accounting of the comments that you provide once we get to that point in the meeting.

1	Again, as I said earlier, Vaughn
2	Thomas is with us. He is the he's my safety
3	counterpart. And, Ted Smith is here. And, I
4	think this is the time, Ted, if you wanted to
5	give some opening remarks. Why don't you come
6	up here to make sure we get you.
7	No, no, no. Other side. Other
8	side.
9	MR. SMITH: Well, that's good to
10	note.
11	MR. RAKOVAN: I haven't moved that
12	yet.
13	MR. SMITH: All right. So, thanks
14	Lance. Good evening everyone. Thanks for
15	being here. As he said, my name's Ted Smith.
16	I am the Chief of the Environmental License
17	Renewal Branch in the Rulemaking, Environmental
18	and Financial Services Division at the Nuclear
19	Regulatory Commission.
20	I'd like to welcome you to tonight's
21	meeting for the Perry Nuclear Power Plant
22	License Renewal Application.
23	This is the second scoping meeting.
24	The first meeting was a virtual meeting held on
25	October 19.

As Lance and Vaughn will detail later, our review process has always encouraged both public participation and transparency.

Public participation, openness, and transparency are core values of the NRC.

The licensing of a nuclear facility is conducted in an open and transparent manner. The public will be informed and have an opportunity to participate in the regulatory process.

This public scoping meeting today is one way we encourage this participation. looking forward to hearing your feedback from significant participants here on that you feel are important for the staff to consider in our detailed analysis of the environmental issues to be included in our review.

Our goal is to hear from you, collect your comments so we can fully consider them in our review. Thank you in advance for your participation.

I also hope to provide -- we also hope to provide you some information on our process and answer any questions within the

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scope of this meeting that come up. 1 With that, I'll turn it back over to 2 you, Lance. Thank you. 3 Thanks Ted. MR. RAKOVAN: So, Perry 4 Unit One was first licensed in November 1986. 5 6 The current renewed license expires in November 7 If a license renewal is granted, it will be for an additional 20 years. 8 Energy Harbor -- oh. Oh, I'm sorry. 9 10 Energy Harbor Nuclear Corp. filed an application for license renewal in a 11 12 dated July 3 of this year. 13 The license renewal application is certain 14 required to contain sets of 15 information, general information such business 16 applicant's name and such, and administrative information, technical 17 information pertaining to aging 18 management, which is more the focus of the safety review, 19 20 and of course, an environmental report, which Applicant's of the 21 is the assessment environmental impacts of continued operation. 22 information This the 23 serves as

starting point for the NRC staff to review the

environmental aspects of license renewal

24

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for

1	Perry.
2	I'll now ask Vaughn Thomas to come
3	up and talk on a few slides about the safety
4	review.
5	MR. THOMAS: Okay. Thank you,
6	Lance. And, good evening. Once again, my name
7	is Vaughn Thomas and I'm the Safety Project
8	Manager for the Perry License Renewal review.
9	On the I think you went a little
LO	bit too far. But, go back. It's around, but I
L1	can take it from this slide, no problem.
L2	Once again, my name is Vaughn
L3	Thomas. And, I will talk us through the
L4	license renewal, initial license renewal and
L5	review process as shown on this slide.
L6	The slide that I had on there shows
L7	the
L8	MR. RAKOVAN: Hold up. I mean, this
L9	is the same one, isn't it the same one from the
20	it should be the same one from virtual. I
21	apologize if it's wrong.
22	MR. THOMAS: It should be this one.
23	But, that's okay.
24	MR. RAKOVAN: All right. I
25	apologize. Yep, okay. And, you may change
J	' NEAL D. 60000

1	this one, and I just did the other.
2	MR. THOMAS: No.
3	MR. RAKOVAN: Probably my bad.
4	Okay.
5	MR. THOMAS: That's okay. But, the
6	slides are similar. So, we'll talk from there.
7	So, typically, the flow chart
8	highlights the license renewal process, which
9	includes prior reviews, one is a safety review,
10	which is the top. And, the environmental
11	review, which is the second one in the middle.
12	And, typically, during this process,
13	the public has the opportunity to request a
14	hearing.
15	And, what happens during that time
16	frame, the staff presents its safety evaluation
17	report or findings to ACRS, where ACRS then
18	provide their recommendations to the Commission
19	as to whether or not to grant or issue a
20	license.
21	As part of the environmental review,
22	the staff consults with the local, state, and
23	federal and tribal officials. And the staff
24	will hold public meetings to receive comments
25	on the draft environmental impact statement.

1	MR. RAKOVAN: I think you're going
2	backwards.
3	MR. THOMAS: Sorry. Okay. That
4	slide was just up earlier. So, I apologize for
5	that. I need the next slide. So, this is
6	correct.
7	So, this, the Atomic Energy Act
8	authorizes the NRC to issue licenses for
9	commercial nuclear power plants for up to 40
10	years. And the licensees can then renew for an
11	additional 20 years at a time.
12	This period following the initial
13	license, the licensing term is also known as
14	the extended period of operation.
15	The purpose of the safety review is
16	to one, identify aging effects that can impair
17	the ability of systems, structures, and
18	components within the scope of license renewal
19	to perform their intended functions.
20	And, to demonstrate that these aging
21	effects will be adequately managed during the
22	period of extended operation. This scope has
23	not changed for initial license renewal or to
24	subsequent license renewal.
25	As previously mentioned, on July 3,

Perry submitted the subsequent 1 license application. receiving 2 renewal After the application, the NRC conducted an acceptance 3 review. 4 The NRC then determined that Energy 5 6 Harbor's application was sufficient. The 7 application accepted for docketing was on September 29, 2023. 8 onto our technical 9 we move 10 review, which includes the aging management The aging management audit consists of 11 12 three parts. One, the in-office technical review 13 audit that's currently taking place. 14 15 just had the onsite audit today. And, we'll have one later on next month. 16 And then, also, next month, we'll also have the breakout audit. 17 During all phases of the audit, the 18 NRC staff reviews the application documents and 19 20 references in greater detail. As part of the safety review, the staff also reviews the 21 operating 22 Applicant's experience for information applicable to aging management. 23 24 Following the audit, an audit report

At the very end, the staff will

is

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issued.

conduct its review on the safety evaluation or 1 SER. 2 The NRC ensures the adequate 3 protection of public health and safety and the 4 environment through a regulatory process, which 5 6 is shown on this slide here. The regulatory 7 process consists of five major components. One will be to develop regulations 8 guidance for applications and licensees. 9 and 10 The license or certify applicants to either these materials, nuclear materials, 11 operating 12 nuclear facilities, or decommission. license 13 Wе also oversee the facilities that 14 operations in to ensure 15 licensees comply with safety requirements. we also evaluate operational experience at 16 17 licensed facility involving license or activities. 18 19 in support of our regulatory 20 decisions, we conduct research, hold hearings to address the concerns of parties affected by 21 the agency decisions, and obtain independent 22 reviews. 23

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renewals,

considers

1	management, as shown on the red block and
2	arrow.
3	Now, I will turn the meeting back to
4	Lance who will discuss the environmental
5	review. Lance?
6	MR. RAKOVAN: Sorry about that
7	slide.
8	MR. THOMAS: No problem.
9	MR. RAKOVAN: All right. So,
LO	focusing on the environmental review, the
L1	National Environmental Policy Act, or NEPA
L2	obligates federal agencies to consider
L3	environmental impacts in federal actions.
L4	The NRC's specific environmental
L5	regulations can be found in 10 CFR, our code of
L6	Federal Regulations, Part 51.
L7	The objective of our environmental
L8	review is to determine if the environmental
L9	impacts of license renewal are so great that
20	license renewal would not be a reasonable
21	option. Or, more plainly, if license renewal
22	is unacceptable from an environmental
23	standpoint.
24	Our environmental review consists
25	considers the impacts of continuing to operate

the plant for an additional 20 years and any proposed mitigation to those impacts as warranted.

We also consider the impacts of reasonable alternatives to the proposed action of license renewal, including the impacts of not issuing a renewed license.

The staff documents its environmental review in an environmental impact statement or EIS. The staff has developed a generic environmental impact statement or GEIS, that addressed a number of issues common to all nuclear power plants.

The staff is supplementing that generic EIS, or GEIS, with a site-specific EIS, in which we will address issues that are specific to Perry Nuclear Power Plant.

The staff also reexamines the conclusions reached in that GEIS to determine if there is any new and significant information that would change those conclusions.

For license renewal review, the NRC looks at a wide range of environmental impacts as part of preparing the environmental impact statement. This is kind of a list of those, or

at least a sampling of those.

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And then, my next slide is more of a graphical way of looking at those. Again, this is not a comprehensive list. It's just some of the main categories of things that we look at in terms of our environmental review.

In conducting our environmental review, we coordinate and consult with various local, state, federal, and tribal officials and gather pertinent information from these sources to ensure it is considered in our analysis.

As illustrated on this slide about consulting agencies, examples include the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, the Environmental Protection Agency, State Historical Preservation Officer, and so on.

As part of the environmental review, the NRC staff may hold public meetings such as this one, to receive comments such as scoping comments. Or, also to receive comments on the draft environmental impact statement once it is issued.

The environmental review begins with the scoping process that we're currently conducting. The purpose of the process is to identify significant issues that should be considered in the environmental review.

We are gathering information that we will use to prepare the environmental impact statement for license renewal. And, as part of that process, we're here today to collect your input, that is, the environmental impacts that the staff should consider.

The scoping period started on October 10th when a Notice of Intent to Prepare an Environmental Impact Statement and conduct scoping was published in the Federal Register. The NRC will be accepting comments on the scope of the environmental review until November 9th.

Any comments that we receive after that time, we will attempt to incorporate as part of our processes, but we cannot guarantee we will be able to do so.

In general, we are looking for information about environmental impacts from the continued operation of Perry during the period of extended operation.

You can assist us in that process by telling us for example, what aspects of your local community we should focus on, what local

environmental, social, and economic issues 1 NRC staff should examine during 2 the environmental review, and what reasonable 3 alternatives appropriate for this 4 are most local region. 5 6 These are just some of the examples 7 of the input that we are looking for. they represent the kinds of information we are 8 seeking through the environmental scoping 9 10 period. Your comments today would be helpful 11 12 in providing insights of this nature for the 13 environmental analysis. few of 14 Here are а the important 15 milestones for the environmental review And, environmental 16 process. if you have scoping comments would like submit 17 you to outside of today's meeting, again, you have 18 until November 9th to do so if at all possible. 19 20 Please note that we plan to issue a draft supplemental environmental 21 impact statement for public comment in August of next 22

have

of the public can be involved in our processes.

This is another way again, that members

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opportunity to

the draft environmental provide comments on While this slide lists impact statement. milestones for the environmental review and opportunities for public involvement, the safety review will be performed in accordance with a separate schedule.

again, our primary points of So, for Perry relicensing at the NRC Vauqhn the Safety PM, myself the as as Environmental PM, and then, Scott Wall is the Operating Reactor Project NRC Manager Headquarters. And, our contact information is provided on this slide.

The Perry Public Library has agreed to make license renewal materials available. We will be providing them with a copy of the application.

And then, we will also be providing them with a copy of the draft environmental impact statement once that is available next year. So, that if you do wish to come look at a hard copy of the document, you will be able to see that here.

Also, the website listed here is a great place to keep track of a lot of things

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1 going on involving Perry license that are You can find links there to all sorts 2 renewal. of documents and letters. You can find 3 timelines and contact information, et cetera. 4 So again, we're looking for scoping 5 6 comments here tonight. But, here are other 7 you can provide them. You ways that provide them in written form to our Office of 8 Administration, that's Washington, D.C. 20555. 9 10 You to their website, can go Regulations.gov search for NRC-2023-0136. 11 and 12 Or, send email you can an to 13 PerryEnvironmental@NRC.gov. We do have some cards over here on 14 15 the table that have those links and QR codes, at least to the Regulations.gov and to a few of 16 17 the other materials. That's an easy way that you can pick this up. 18 19 aqain, you can find a link to 20 slides on the public meeting schedule page for this meeting. 21 Again, I'll stress that we hope to 22 receive your scoping comments by November 9th. 23 24 If we get them a little late, we hopefully will

able to incorporate them

still

be

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into our

1	processes. But, the later you go from that
2	date, the more the quicker that drops off.
3	So, that is the end of my
4	presentation. I just want to give a quick look
5	to see if anyone has any clarifying questions
6	about our presentation?
7	If you do, I would ask that you come
8	and go ahead and use the podium, just to make
9	sure that we get a clear recording of your
10	comments or your questions. Any clarifying
11	questions on our presentation tonight?
12	Please, Ms. Davis.
13	MS. DAVIS: I had heard that there
14	was a November 28th deadline for scoping
15	comments. Where did that come from?
16	MR. RAKOVAN: I don't know. I have
17	not heard of that. I apologize.
18	MS. DAVIS: It was written.
19	MR. RAKOVAN: It was? Do you know
20	where?
21	MS. DAVIS: I can't remember right
22	now.
23	MR. RAKOVAN: Okay.
24	MS. DAVIS: I probably have it in my
25	file at home.

1	MR. RAKOVAN: I apologize. If you
2	do have that, I would love to see where that
3	is.
4	MS. DAVIS: Yeah. Okay. Mm-hmm.
5	MR. RAKOVAN: I believe November 9th
6	has consistently been the date that we have
7	published.
8	MS. DAVIS: Okay.
9	MR. RAKOVAN: If you have something
10	that says November 28th, I would really like to
11	see that.
12	MS. DAVIS: Okay. Thank you.
13	MR. RAKOVAN: Thank you. Hold on.
14	If there's no other questions, I'm happy to
15	turn the podium over to you
16	MS. DAVIS: Oh.
17	MR. RAKOVAN: If you want to.
18	MS. DAVIS: Fine.
19	MR. RAKOVAN: Since you're already
20	up here.
21	MR. DAVIS: That's good.
22	MR. RAKOVAN: Okay.
23	MS. DAVIS: Thank you very much.
24	MR. RAKOVAN: Please.
25	MS. DAVIS: Well, first of all, I
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1 want to say, I have the greatest respect for people who work at the power plant. I know 2 some of them. 3 people worked Ι know who there 4 during construction. One of dearest 5 mУ 6 neighbors was one of those people, a pipe 7 fitter. 8 And, Ι have Ι have concerns though. I have concerns about flooding. 9 10 don't know if there have been studies done recently. 11 12 But, know, because of the you 13 climate change, we've had a lot more rain. And, a lot heavier rain. And, of course, this 14 comes into the circumstance of erosion. 15 the lake. The lake erosion has 16 on been 17 horrible. Just awful. So, I want -- I really hope that in 18 scope you will take those things into 19 consideration. I'm also 20 concerned about. Tritium being released as a hazard for the lake 21 for the people who drink the water, like me and 22 like probably everybody else here. 23 I think that -- I think that this is 24

going to cost a lot more money in terms

I'm worried 1 repairs. And, about the inaccessible parts of the plant that can't be 2 reviewed by modeling or, you know, general data 3 inspections. 4 pretty Those much main 5 are mУ 6 concerns, the flooding. Oh, and then we have 7 earthquakes. Now, when Ι lived in California for 8 six years. Ι know about earthquakes. 9 10 The problem is, when have we an earthquake, and especially ones that are over 11 magnitude, the ground water 12 the 3.5 13 potential for change. And, this 14 is, you know, this is 15 pretty normal. Except that Perry is а And, the location 16 normal plant. is not а 17 normal situation. So, I think those are mу basic 18 And, I'm really concerned for the 19 concerns. 20 people who work there, who have a significant in the safety and the perpetuation of 21 stake jobs 22 their and οf the, you know, general environmental concerns for the entire 23 24 community.

That's about it.

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think of

If I

1	something else, I'll call you.
2	MR. RAKOVAN: Okay. And, if you do
3	find the if it does, again, say that the
4	scoping was November 28th, I believe you said,
5	if you can if you have that source, I would
6	love to see that.
7	MS. DAVIS: Okay. I'm going to try
8	and find it.
9	MR. RAKOVAN: Great. Thank you, Ms.
10	Davis. Okay. As I'll just bring up the
11	slide. And, we have moved onto the scoping
12	comments.
13	We only have one other individual
14	who has signed up to speak tonight. That would
15	be Michael Wyatt.
16	Michael, if you'd like the podium,
17	please?
18	MR. WYATT: Sure. So, I am a
19	citizen. I'm not associated with the plant in
20	any direct way or indirect way.
21	The and, I've lived in this area,
22	not Perry, but I lived in Painesville Township
23	for a number of years. And, I've lived in
24	Perry now since 12 years.
25	And so, I'm concerned about the

I'm a big fan of nuclear power. 1 Ι believe it's important to us going forward in 2 this country. 3 I'm not anti-nuclear power at all. 4 fully support continuing Ι 5 so, 6 operation of the plant. 7 One of the concerns that Ι have concerns, there's a problem with silt. 8 is some radioactive silt material that's 9 10 storage in the plant. I'd be interested to know how much. 11 12 Ι understand it's in the millions But, 13 pounds. And, as to how it's stored. My understanding is that it's pools, 14 15 open pools within the plant. It's also under the unused cooling tower number two, I believe, 16 17 is the correct terminology for it. And, the silt has been there since 18 the plant started operating and through several 19 20 changes in management of the plant, nothing has done to clean it 21 ever been up because 22 kicking the can down the road so to speak. Because it costs a lot of money, I'm sure, to 23 24 do that.

silt

is exposed

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And, I'm sure that there are liners. 1 ground. I understand some of the liners are rubber or 2 plastic. And, the one under the cooling tower, 3 I understand is concrete. 4 status of that But, the concrete 5 6 after what, 30 years, I'm not sure about that. 7 I don't know if they have a way, if we have a way to correct that. 8 The silt comes from being, coming 9 10 back into the piping that exits to Lake Erie. And, it builds periodically 11 up and 12 understanding is that divers go down and remove it. 13 it's being put in the op 14 And, 15 into these ponds, whatever you would call them, as well as under the cooling tower number two. 16 So, if we continue down this avenue, 17 it seems to me we probably should build another 18 cooling tower to store it under. 19 just Or, 20 build more pools. So, I think those are probably bad 21 My -- what I think should be alternatives. 22 done, is I think that as a condition of the 23 24 renewal and/or the condition of the possible

the plant to another

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it

operator,

should be, that material should be removed. 1 And, a plan should be in place to 2 remove that material going forward as long as 3 plant is operating. Instead 4 of just storing it. 5 6 I want to make sure I cover what. 7 So, I quess we call it contaminated silt, as an issue. Thank you. 8 MR. RAKOVAN: Thank you, sir. 9 Ms. 10 Davis, I just, I had a thought. And, I did a quick check. The Federal Register Notice that 11 12 came out as part of our acceptance, notifying 13 that we had formally accepted the application for Perry License Renewal for docketing, that 14 15 also included a deadline to request for hearing or a petition for leave. 16 And, that's the November 28th date. 17 So, yes, I had a thought and yes, I thought 18 19 that correct. So, that's where the was November 28th date comes from. 20 MS. DAVIS: Thank you. 21 MR. RAKOVAN: 22 Okay. So, just want to do a quick check to see if either of our 23 24 speakers would like another chance at the Or, if microphone. there's else in 25 anyone

attendance who wanted to provide some comments 1 tonight? 2 I did have one more slide. Again, 3 the comment period ends on November 9th. 4 So, please, if you could, get your comments in by 5 6 then. 7 We -- again, we will consider them. They will be analyzed, we have a whole process 8 where we analyze the comments, bin them by 9 10 topic. And then, you know, kind of look at 11 12 each -- each of my subject matter experts will 13 be looking at the comments in their specific, you know, topics. 14 15 So, please send them in. We will If we -- if you have your name 16 analyze them. 17 on the sign in sheet, we'll make sure that you receive a copy of that scoping summary report 18 once we issue it. 19 And, that will be issued and will be 20 referenced as part of the draft environmental 21 impact statement, which again, we are hoping to 22 issue next August. 23 24 Ted, do you want to say some words before we close? 25

1	MR. SMITH: I just wanted
2	MR. RAKOVAN: No, no, no. You've
3	got to come up here. Sorry.
4	MR. SMITH: All right. I want to be
5	very brief. Just so, I just wanted to thank
6	you all for coming. And thank you for your
7	comments.
8	As Lance has iterated, we will take
9	them back to the team. And, we will consider
10	them and include them in our development of our
11	EIS.
12	And, anything safety related will be
13	passed to the safety group for their
14	consideration as well.
15	And, with that, thank you.
16	MR. RAKOVAN: With that, I believe
17	we're closed. Thank you for coming tonight.
18	Drive safely. Thank you.
19	(Whereupon, the above-entitled
20	matter went off the record at 7:01 p.m.)
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