

1 RED HILL TASK FORCE - FCT UPDATED

2 Friday, October 30, 2015

3 9:35 a.m. to 11:15 a.m.

4 919 Ala Moana Boulevard, Fifth Floor

5 Honolulu, Hawaii 96814

6 * * * * *

7 MR. KAWAOKA: Let's call the meeting to
8 order for S.C.R. 57, S.D 1, H.D. 1. Good morning
9 everyone. My name is Keith Kawaoka. I am the deputy
10 director for Environmental Health, Department of Health.
11 And before we go through some logistics, I just want to
12 welcome the task force members that were here for last
13 year's task force. There are some new members. I would
14 just like you to introduce yourselves, starting on this
15 end.

16 MR. LEOTA: Frank Leota, I am the
17 military affairs officer for Councilman Gabbard.

18 MR. ONOUE: I'm Steven Onoue, President
19 for Moanalua Valley Community Association.

20 MR. YOMES: David Yomes, I am with
21 Neighborhood Board 18, Salt Lake, Aliamanu, and Foster
22 Village.

23 CAPTAIN TUFTS: Dean Tufts. I am the
24 commanding officer of Naval Facilities Engineering
25 Command in Hawaii and Navy's Regional Engineering.

1 MR. LAU: Ernie Lau, Board of Water
2 Supply.

3 MR. CASEY: Patrick Casey. Commission on
4 Water Resource Management.

5 MR. YAMAMOTO: Alan Yamamoto. Senator
6 Hirono's office. Keith, can I just also add, I know
7 this is our -- the first time that our office is
8 attending this meeting. Because I believe the
9 delegation was added to S.C.R. 57 during this last
10 session. I had asked -- and this was before Senator
11 Wakai took over jurisdiction of the relevant committee.
12 I had asked both Senator Gabbard and Representative Lee
13 if they can clarify for me what is the specific purpose
14 for adding the delegation as part of this task force.
15 And they stated just because of our roles, at the
16 federal level working with the Navy, DLA and the EPA,
17 they thought that they could be helpful.

18 But I think Keith, you know and
19 others parties, Ernie knows, we've been working with
20 all of the parties throughout, even before. So we
21 are happy to participate and play a role, whatever
22 the legislature feels how we can be productive.

23 MR. KAWAOKA: Appreciate those comments.
24 Thank you.

25 SENATOR WAKAI: Glenn Wakai, state

1 senator. This is my first meeting but for different
2 reasons. I am the brand new chair for the economic
3 development and the environmental committee.

4 MR. KAWAOKA: So for all the task force
5 memberships past and current, welcome. Just introduce
6 everyone in the audience, if we can.

7 MS. REZENENTES: Cynthia Rezentes,
8 Congressman Takai's office.

9 MR. COX: Carroll Cox, citizen.

10 MR. KAWATA: Erwin Kawata, Board of Water
11 Supply.

12 MS. DAWSON: Teresa Dawson, Environment
13 Hawaii.

14 MR. USAGAWA: Barry Usagawa, Board of
15 Water.

16 MS. NAKAMOTO: Shawn Nakamoto. Board of
17 Water Supply.

18 MR. SEKI: Dean Seki, Board of Water
19 Supply.

20 MR. CRISESTOMO: Jeremia Cristestomo,
21 citizen.

22 MS. BERNIER: Jenny Bernier, DOH.

23 MR. CHENET: Robert Chenet, Commission
24 Water Resource Management.

25 MR. HARDY: Roy Hardy, Commission Water

1 Resource Management.

2 MR. NOGA: Joshua Noga, Sierra Club.

3 MR. HENSARLING: Cody Hensarling, manager
4 for Aaron Ling Johanson.

5 MS. DANG: Karen Dang, office of Senator
6 Glenn Wakai.

7 MR. TOWNSEND: Marti Townsend, Sierra
8 Club.

9 MS. ISAKI: Bianca Isaki, Sierra Club.

10 MR. TAKABA: Richard Takaba, DOH.

11 MS. PERRY: Thu Perry with DOH.

12 MR. YAMADA: Stuart Yamada, Environmental
13 Management Division.

14 MS. KWAN: Roxanne Kwan, DOH.

15 MR. POENTIS: Aaron Poentis, representing
16 the Navy.

17 MR. KAWAOKA: And I forgot to mention, we
18 have some people on the telecon. So can you introduce
19 yourself. Bob, you there?

20 MR. PALLARINO: (via telephone) Yes.
21 This is Bob Pallarino. I am with EPA office in San
22 Francisco underground storage, project coordinator for
23 the Red Hill project as part of the administrative
24 order.

25 MR. PETERMAN: (via telephone) And this

1 is Tom Peterman with the US EPA, Region IX. I manage
2 the Red Hill branch, which includes the underground
3 storage tank program.

4 MR. KAWAOKA: Is that it for EPA?

5 MR. PETERMAN: (via telephone) Yes.
6 This is Tom Peterman.

7 MR. KAWAOKA: Okay. I got that. Is
8 there anybody else on the line right now? Could you
9 please identify yourself if you are.

10 Hearing none. And I forget to
11 mention as we went around the room, we do have a
12 court reporter here this morning. So if you can,
13 when you are asked, not the task members per say,
14 but especially in the back of the audience, if you
15 have any comments or questions as we go through the
16 meeting, could you speak loudly and clearly so she
17 can kind of understand who you are and the comments
18 that you make.

19 Just before we go into the agenda, I
20 just want to get some expectations out, it was kind
21 of mentioned about Senator Gabbard's intent because
22 he was the primary, along with Representative Lee
23 who is not here yet. Just to go over what the
24 intent of the resolution is. We will go through it
25 in the agenda.

1 Also from the standpoint of this
2 meeting, we do have an obligation to provide a
3 report to the legislature prior to the session that
4 starts in January. So whatever comments that we
5 gather from this meeting and any additional comments
6 that may come through, as of December 1, 2015, we
7 will gather all those comments and put together into
8 a summary report to the legislature for review.

9 Other than that, rest rooms are
10 located on the outside of the doors on your
11 left-hand side. So with that, let's have an update
12 on the Red Hill administrative order of consent that
13 was signed just about a month ago.

14 MS. PERRY: Good morning, again. My name
15 is Thu Perry. I am the public participation coordinator
16 for the underground storage tank program. And I am
17 going to give some background and an update on the AOC.
18 Now at the time of the previous task force, which was
19 late 2014, DLA, Navy, PA, and DOH were already
20 conferencing and meeting regularly to establish an
21 enforceable agreement that would address the January
22 release. But it also provides a comprehensive approach
23 to preventing future releases at the facility.

24 This summer Navy and DLA signed a
25 draft of that agreement, that draft was presented in

1 a public meeting at Moanalua Middle School on
2 June 18. That night 29 people submitted oral
3 comments and over 300 people attended. That comment
4 period was extended to about a month. And during
5 that period, we received additional 140 written
6 comments.

7 Also during that time Official
8 Responses to Comment document was created and made
9 available and also a FAQ. Both these document are
10 available on our website, which is on your agendas,
11 if you picked one up.

12 After the period ended, DOH and EPA
13 worked to change the AOC and the SOW to address
14 public concerns. The Navy, DLA resigned the final
15 revised version. EPA and DOH signed the AOC, making
16 it effective September 28. Now, as specified in the
17 SOW will be meeting, will commence 30 days upon the
18 effective date of the AOC.

19 Earlier this week on Monday and
20 Tuesday we had scoping meetings that were held to
21 put onto the table the wide range of issues and
22 challenges for each session that will be later
23 addressed in a more in-depth, technical meeting.
24 Also discussed were project framing concerns and
25 decision criteria considerations for each section.

1 These scoping meetings are scheduled to continue
2 throughout the week of November 30th, with more
3 detailed agenda and with involvement from community
4 stakeholders and SMEs, subject matter experts.

5 In addition to the scoping meetings,
6 project management coordinator meetings are held
7 weekly to ensure alignment of expectations,
8 deliverable interim action items to ensure
9 productivity and success of all future meetings.

10 At a minimum, details of these
11 meetings will be shared with the public at annual
12 public meetings and on EPA, DOH websites. This
13 includes the sharing of final documents. Additional
14 outreach activities may be scheduled if deemed
15 necessary.

16 This is a good time to remind you
17 folks if you do want to be in the loop to be
18 included in those updates, please sign in with an
19 e-mail address. That's all I have for right now. I
20 am going to hand it over to our division chief,
21 Stewart Yamata. Thank you.

22 MR. YAMATA: Basically Senate Concurrent
23 Resolution 57, I am not going to read it to you. But it
24 is very simple. Basically extends the task force to
25 address the 26 additional fuel storage tanks that is

1 owned and operated by the military. And as mentioned by
2 Keith and Alan, it added the congressional delegation to
3 be members of this task force. That's it in summary.

4 Aaron?

5 MR. KAWAOKA: Before we move on, is there
6 any questions or comments from the task force members?

7 Okay. Anything from EPA?

8 MR. PALLARINO: (via telephone) Nothing
9 from EPA.

10 MR. KAWAOKA: Thank you. Hearing none,
11 next item. This is the Navy's summary of the field
12 construction tanks in Hawaii.

13 CAPTAIN TUFTS: So, Captain Dean Tufts,
14 again, Navy Regional Engineer. I am going to go over --
15 is that as big as we can get it? I am going to go over
16 where we ended last year's task force. The task force
17 report that was put out by State Department of Health
18 and where we were going with this task force as I
19 understand in S.C.R. 57.

20 And the board members all have this
21 in front of them to read. This is exactly the page
22 that came out of Appendix E of the December, 2014,
23 Senate Task Force Report provided by the State
24 Department of Health. You can see it -- or maybe
25 you can't see. Down at the bottom it listed 31

1 in-use field constructed tanks. It listed 15
2 temporarily out-of-use or permanently out-of-use
3 field constructed tanks for a total of 46.

4 Next slide. These are the map
5 locations of those tanks as per the December, 2014,
6 report. I am going to, in future slides, show you
7 the differences as we went back and we validated
8 some of the DOH information.

9 Of note, the green color in the map
10 here in the middle represents the drinking water
11 aquifers. So as DOH put out last December, some of
12 our tanks are over drinking water like Red Hill and
13 some of our groundwater, like Red Hill, and some of
14 our tanks are not over the drinking water aquifer.

15 Next slide, please. This is Kauai.
16 This is Pacific Missile Range Facility. And those
17 nine tanks are not, as you can see, not over a
18 drinking water aquifer. These are all from the
19 December, 2014, task force report.

20 Next slide, please. So here are the
21 changes that we made, the Navy made. These are Navy
22 edits to the exact pages. And I know you can't see
23 this from the back or even from where I am sitting.

24 MR. KAWAOKA: Aaron, can we make it
25 bigger?

1 CAPTAIN TUFTS: I don't think we can move
2 that back. Still can't read it from here, but I will
3 read it off my page.

4 So, again, this is the sheet from the
5 December, 2014. Anything in red or what the Navy
6 recently changed for this meeting, to make sure that
7 we are all on the same page. So we just added
8 Hickam Air Force Base and Wheeler Air Force Base, to
9 tell everybody where Kapaha was. And I am going to
10 have maps following this slide as well.

11 These four sets of tanks, that is
12 what this task force is all about. That is what
13 this task force got extended to look at. And so we
14 will be talking in depth about these four sets of
15 tanks.

16 This Schofield Barracks tanks that
17 was on the 2014 report is not a field-constructed
18 tank in Schofield. It's an above-ground tank. So
19 that has been pulled. And then this wasn't in here
20 at all, but I want to make sure that the entire task
21 force knew that there are permanently out-of-use
22 tanks -- I'm going to try to get this right,
23 Waikakalaua. This is again, Hickam Air Force Base
24 and Wheeler Air Force Base, former Wheeler Air Force
25 Base. Nine tanks about 1.8 million gallons per

1 tank, permanently out of service.

2 Next slide, please.

3 MR. LAU: Can we ask questions? Or ask
4 questions later at the end?

5 CAPTAIN TUFTS: You can ask questions.

6 MR. LAU: Captain Tufts, can you go back
7 to the slide there. I know it's really hard for folks
8 to see. This is Ernie Lau from Board of Water Supply.
9 You mentioned that the stated items here are the ones
10 being considered by the task force?

11 CAPTAIN TUFTS: The task force expanded
12 to consider those tanks.

13 MR. LAU: Oh, okay. Why is the Kipapa
14 Gulch fuel-storage annex, which looks like it's about
15 10 million gallons or so of field storage, not included
16 under the task force, the mandate for the task force?

17 CAPTAIN TUFTS: That was as per State
18 Department of Health letter this summer. Those are
19 permanently out-of-use tanks.

20 MR. LAU: But the resolution, did the
21 resolution -- actually I have a copy. Did the
22 resolution limit the task force review to in-service
23 only or inactive tanks?

24 CAPTAIN TUFTS: In-service and
25 temporarily out of use is what DOH told us to focus on.

1 MR. LAU: Can somebody check the
2 Resolution, C.S.R. 57, to see if it makes that
3 distinction? I don't have a copy.

4 MS. PERRY: We have copies up front. The
5 ones that are permanently out of use, we will touch on,
6 just to --

7 MR. LAU: Great. I just wanted to make
8 sure that we did have a chance to see what occurred at
9 the Kipapa site, which is over the drinking water.

10 CAPTAIN TUFTS: What actions have put it
11 permanently out of use?

12 MR. LAU: Yeah, even though it is out of
13 use. It looks like according to the table there is some
14 kind of remediation going on there, possibly for fuel
15 release that might have occurred while it was in use.

16 CAPTAIN TUFTS: Okay.

17 MR. LAU: Thank you.

18 CAPTAIN TUFTS: Thanks, Ernie. So here
19 is the graft or the map. And, so, Waikakalaua, I put a
20 line through it, because those are permanently
21 out-of-use tanks. Schofield Barracks, as I said, that
22 is an above-ground tank. So we are not going to talk
23 about that. Kipapa is what Ernie just talked about. We
24 can certainly talk about Kipapa if we deem necessary
25 through the task force.

1 The 20 tanks up at Red Hill for the
2 fuel-storage facility is right here. The Kuahua
3 Peninsula, which is on the former submarine base at
4 Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam is still on Joint
5 Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam. Is right here, not over
6 the aquifer. That is 12 total tanks. It's the four
7 surge tanks that we have for Red Hill and then
8 another eight temporarily out-of-service tanks that
9 we will talk more in depth about in future slides.

10 Kuahua Peninsula, these are the Red
11 Hill surge tanks I just mentioned. There is four
12 tanks; 425,000 gallons each. They are used as an
13 intermediate transfer point from the supply, whether
14 it's a ship or the pipeline onto the base and before
15 we sling that fuel up, by pump, up to the Red Hill
16 site, the 20 tanks up at Red Hill.

17 This allows us to moderate the flow
18 of incoming and outgoing fuel and measure the flow
19 of incoming, outgoing fuel. The other thing this
20 does for us, is normally when we are not moving
21 fuel, these four tanks remain empty and are there
22 for emergency storage. We used these tanks once
23 during the Tank 5 release. To get the fuel out the
24 Tank 5 in January of 2014 quickly, we moved it both
25 to Tank 4 and to the surge tanks to just get it out

1 of Tank 5 as quickly as possible. So four tanks,
2 425 each. You are talking almost 2 million gallons
3 worth of storage capacity, if we needed it in an
4 emergency.

5 I won't go over each of these line
6 items. These were talked about in the last Red Hill
7 task force. I will talk about modified API 653
8 Inspections. These are the same exact inspections
9 that we do at the Red Hill tanks, the 20 Red Hill
10 tanks. It's modified because API 653 is an
11 above-ground storage tank, American Petroleum
12 Institute inspection. And so you can't get to the
13 outside, for instance, of the Red Hill tanks. So we
14 do everything they tell us to do, the API tells us
15 to do, on the inside of the tanks, the piping, the
16 valves, everything else.

17 It was last done -- these four tanks
18 were last done between 2004, 2006. It was a 20-year
19 suitability. So the inspector verifies and
20 validates that for the next 20 years, these tanks
21 will be good. So our next inspection is at 20
22 years, 2024 to 2026.

23 Our leak detection in these tanks,
24 our inventory management similar to the Red Hill
25 tanks. And we do tank tightness testing annually on

1 these tanks. The last ones were done in February
2 and May of this year. There has been no reported
3 releases out of these tanks. And as I said earlier,
4 these tanks are not over drinking water aquifer.

5 Kuahua Peninsula, same area. But
6 different tanks. These tanks are temporarily out of
7 service or out of use. This is the former diesel
8 purification plant. Eight total tanks, 3 of 25,000
9 gallons, 5 of 100,000 gallons each. Tanks are
10 empty. They are concrete tanks. Not steel tanks.

11 They are temporarily out of use and
12 last used in 1990. These tanks were included in the
13 1997 navel base subsurface oil radiation
14 investigation. There was evidence of fuel release
15 out of these tanks. All the recoverable free
16 product was removed at that time. And we continued
17 to monitor, and the plume is stable.

18 Actually, are we continuing to
19 monitor? We are continuing to monitor, and the
20 plume is stable. And State DOH approved all the
21 actions we have done back in 2010. We are planning
22 to demolish and remove these tanks, starting in July
23 of 2016. And these are also not over a drinking
24 water aquifer.

25 This is on Kauai. These are the nine

1 tanks in Pacific Missile Range Facility. Next
2 slide. Nine active tanks, 50,000 gallons each.
3 These store Jet A fuel, which is a little different
4 than JP-5 or JP-8. Again, the modified 653
5 inspections were last done in 2011, 2012. These
6 were ten-year suitability inspections. So the
7 inspector verified and validated tank integrity for
8 the next 10 years. So we need to inspect them again
9 in 2021, 2022.

10 The leak detection we use here is a
11 monthly status leak testing. Again, there has been
12 no report of releases at these tanks and these tanks
13 are not over a drinking water aquifer.

14 And my experts and I will take
15 questions, if there are any.

16 MR. KAWAOKA: Any questions from the task
17 force managers? Seeing none, any questions from the
18 audience?

19 MR. COX: Carroll Cox.

20 CAPTAIN TUFTS: Yes, sir.

21 MR. COX: If you were to sign an
22 importance to each one of these tanks, which one would
23 Red Hill be assigned?

24 CAPTAIN TUFTS: Importance to what?

25 MR. COX: Yeah, which one you would be

1 focusing on to clean up first?

2 CAPTAIN TUFTS: For environmental
3 purposes?

4 MR. COX: For period. Just cleaning it
5 up. Assigning a ranking of which is high ranking, which
6 one is more important because it sits over an aquifer or
7 something like that.

8 CAPTAIN TUFTS: Carroll, it's a little
9 bit of a difficult question to answer.

10 MR. COX: Well, let me ask you then,
11 which one threatens the aquifers?

12 CAPTAIN TUFTS: That's a little bit of a
13 pointed question. I think any tank, any underground
14 storage tank that is over an aquifer, as opposed to not
15 over an aquifer, would be of more concern to the Navy,
16 EPA, and DOH. There's no doubt about that.

17 I think because we have closed tanks
18 at the former diesel purification plant, that we
19 don't think has fuel in it, but we have had releases
20 there. And we have tested releases there. I am
21 anxious to get those cleaned and removed
22 immediately. That is why we are going to do it in
23 July.

24 MR. COX: I understand that. So the Red
25 Hill, you assign a degree of importance -- I get the

1 feeling that we have lumped all of these together when
2 Red Hill was actually the thing that really showed up
3 and raised concern, immediate concerns. I get this
4 feeling that they are grouped together. Now how long
5 will that take? Will you have to seek funding before
6 all of them -- before you take any real action on Red
7 Hill?

8 CAPTAIN TUFTS: We are talking about the
9 Red Hill 20 tanks at Red Hill Proffer?

10 MR. COX: Yes.

11 CAPTAIN TUFTS: We are working through
12 the AOC/SOW requirements right now. We are going
13 through the scoping meetings that we talked about
14 earlier. After we go through the scoping meetings and
15 decide on what technology for each of the section of the
16 AOC/SOW we are going to pursue. The Navy puts that
17 forth to DOH and EPA. And DOH and EPA approves it.

18 Once that is approved, the Navy goes
19 back and finds money through the Defense Logistics
20 Agency to do those upgrades or improvements. So I
21 wouldn't say we are only doing one thing here.
22 Because as I showed in the diesel plan, we are going
23 to start removal of those things and clean up of
24 anything that needs to be cleaned up there. And we
25 have done clean up there starting in July. I want

1 to get those tanks out of the ground starting in
2 July. We have money to do it. And we are going to
3 do it.

4 Red Hill is also important. And
5 strategically important but also important to the
6 community and over an aquifer. There is no doubt
7 about it. We want to make sure that we are doing
8 the best possible thing at Red Hill, as well, to
9 ensure safety of the community's drinking water.

10 MR. KAWAOKA: Any other questions? EPA,
11 do you have any comments or questions on the last items?

12 MR. PALLARINO: (via telephone) Nothing
13 at this time. Thank you.

14 MR. KAWAOKA: Sierra Club.

15 MS. TOWNSEND: On slide 5, I was
16 wondering if you can help describe or help me understand
17 the information that was added there.

18 For example, I don't know what -- for
19 the temporarily out-of-use, the last row,
20 temporarily out-of-use tanks at Hickam. And you are
21 describing how DOH is overseeing their mediation,
22 which includes bioventing, if I can read that.

23 Could you talk about that a little
24 bit and explain that a little more?

25 CAPTAIN TUFTS: Thanks, Marti. So I am

1 going to have Aaron talk about this. I just want to
2 make sure everybody understands, those are permanently
3 out of use, not temporarily out of use. Go right ahead,
4 Aaron.

5 MR. POENTIS: So you are speaking about
6 the Waikakalaua tanks. And those were former Air Force
7 fuel tanks used to support largely the Hickam Air Force
8 Base and similarly to support the Wheeler Air Force
9 Base, which is now known as Wheeler Army Air Field.

10 They were taken out of service, and
11 it was originally investigated and cleaned up as
12 part of -- when it was part of the Air Force. The
13 Navy took over it when we had joint base in the late
14 2000s. And, in essence, those tanks have been
15 cleaned out, removed.

16 Apparently there was evidence of
17 leaks from the operation of those tanks. And so it
18 went through this prescribed process under the Super
19 Fund Program, that the Air Force operated and the
20 Navy took over, where we actually did the clean up
21 and the active bioremediation.

22 So we are working in conjunction with
23 the State Department of Health. They have approval
24 or what they call a remedy in place. That means the
25 regulatory agency approval of our actions, which is

1 largely bioventing. And we conduct a long-term
2 monitoring of that site.

3 CAPTAIN TUFTS: Can you tell her what
4 bioventing means.

5 MR. POENTIS: It is forced induction of
6 air to enhance the active biological degradation of fuel
7 that maybe exist in that, which is largely the soil.

8 CAPTAIN TUFTS: So there are microbes in
9 the ground in the salt, rock, or soil that feed on fuel.
10 So they feed on fuel, and they breathe air. And so when
11 you have a lot of air, you can have more microbes to eat
12 more fuel. And so bioventing is giving microbes more
13 air to be able to eat more fuel.

14 MR. KAWAOKA: And, Marti, that's the --
15 the office said I formally oversaw that has an
16 evaluation in emergency response office. I apologize
17 that the remedial project manager wasn't available to be
18 here today. But there are various reports of various
19 phases of the investigation in the clean up and the
20 monitoring phase. So if you would like to see those
21 reports, those are available. We would include that
22 information in the final report as well.

23 MR. POENTIS: I want to make -- I would
24 like to indicate, and I had to take a quick look at my
25 notes. But we actually did get regulatory approval,

1 what they call no further action. Meaning that after
2 the investigation and efforts, there is nothing
3 necessary for that site. So that record of what they
4 call the record of decision, or the final government
5 approved of regulatory approval of our actions, was
6 obtained in 2009.

7 MR. KAWAOKA: Any other questions?

8 MS. ISAKI: Bianca Isaki, Sierra Club. I
9 just have a quick question about the information you may
10 have about how the plume might move. I know you mention
11 a lot of the tanks are not over drinking aquifers. Do
12 you just use monitoring wells? Do you have any
13 information on how the plume leaks might move?

14 MR. POENTIS: Are you speaking in general
15 about any release, or is there a particular one that you
16 are speaking about?

17 MS. ISAKI: I guess all the ones that say
18 they are not over drinking water aquifers, or even the
19 ones that are that say that there were releases. But no
20 particular ones.

21 MR. POENTIS: Sure. There is generally a
22 prescribed process that we follow. And grant it, when
23 you speak of the clean-up program under what the common
24 term of Super Fund, we have to develop an inventory
25 based on past use of property. This is across the

1 nation for every aspect in the industry, including the
2 Department of Defense.

3 I guess a general evaluation of what
4 operations may have occurred in the past, that
5 potentially could cause contamination. And that is
6 generally what we do under the Super Fund Program.
7 So we have this sort of inventory. When we
8 categorize where we possibly could have
9 contamination, we actually do what we call a site
10 investigation, an active site investigation. And
11 that is generally an intrusive type of effort where
12 we collect samples and analyze, and based on our
13 criteria, make determinations on whether or not a
14 clean-up activity must occur.

15 So when you speak of a plume for
16 these former sites, we actually do take monitoring
17 samples to measure free product, if it is present.
18 And we attempt to recover what is recoverable or
19 extract what is recoverable. All of this
20 information is provided to the regulatory agency,
21 and we continue this active recovery process until
22 it comes a de minimis amount where we are no longer
23 able to recover recoverable product. We seek
24 regulatory approval. And generally what happens is
25 the plume is deemed to be stable. We continue

1 long-term monitoring of that site to ensure that it
2 doesn't move, and that information is provided to
3 the regulatory agency.

4 So the process is basically to clean
5 up where practicable. And there is a prescribed
6 process in how to do that. And if there is a little
7 bit of residual product that is not recoverable, we
8 certainly do long-term monitoring to ensure that it
9 doesn't go beyond where we are anticipating it to
10 be. And so a lot of these sites have numerous
11 monitoring wells just to determine the movement.

12 MR. KAWAOKA: Mr. Lau, you have a
13 comment?

14 MR. LAU: Thank you, Chair. Ernie Lau
15 from Board of Water Supply. I know I asked the question
16 earlier of Captain Tufts regarding the Kipapa tank site,
17 which I was a little discouraged that it was not maybe
18 going to be covered by the task force, but I think it
19 should be.

20 And also the Waikakalaua site, we are
21 aware that -- and we get periodically a disk from
22 NAFAC because it's a Super Fund site for a pipeline
23 leak. Now seeing the tank locations, I can
24 understand now that to get the fuel from Pearl
25 Harbor, and I want to make it clear, this is

1 probably Army and Air Force thing originally and not
2 Navy.

3 CAPTAIN TUFTS: Up at Schofield, right.

4 MR. LAU: Up at Schofield and Wheeler.

5 CAPTAIN TUFTS: Yes.

6 MR. LAU: So I am not putting
7 responsibility -- the original owner was Army and
8 probably Air Force, as owner of those field facilities.

9 I was a little curious why we are
10 getting this disk, which indicated a Super Fund site
11 along Kam Highway in the Mililani/Waipahu area.
12 Over a pipeline leak. I am trying to go from
13 memory, that was undetected for a couple of years.
14 Now, I understand that the pipeline was probably
15 pumping fuel from near Pearl Harbor all the way up
16 to the bases up there in Wahiawa.

17 So I think it would be very good to
18 learn a little bit more about the experiences and
19 the clean-up operations that are going on for those
20 two facilities. And maybe the associated pipeline
21 that runs directly also over the drinking water
22 aquifer, the Pearl Harbor aquifer.

23 So that would be my request for the
24 Department of Health that we, at least, get a
25 briefing on what are the clean-up activities that

1 are underway or was underway for those facilities.
2 And a little bit more knowledge about the pipeline
3 alignments also.

4 MR. POENTIS: Yeah, Mr. Lau, with regards
5 to that clean-up activity, that work is -- the records
6 are part of the regulatory agency administrative record.

7 And typically for these kinds of
8 projects, especially things that are done under the
9 Super Fund Program or what the Navy calls the
10 Environmental Restoration Program, we conduct
11 regular public meetings as part of the public
12 participation process. And this project has been
13 briefed several times, including prior to what we
14 call the remedy in place for these activities before
15 it actually gets finalized and approved by the
16 regulatory agencies. But certainly either the
17 Department or ourselves can get a briefing on the
18 activities that are done in the past related to this
19 site.

20 MR. LAU: And that's all I am asking, a
21 better understanding. Because it looks like the purpose
22 of the task force was to be able to report back to the
23 legislature about these other facilities. The first
24 task force was focused strictly on Red Hill. But during
25 that part of the discussion came to light the existence

1 of other facilities in the state, mainly on Kauai and
2 Oahu.

3 So I guess the legislature would like
4 us to be able to report back about these facilities,
5 the nature of the facilities, their experiences,
6 what is currently happening with these facilities,
7 active or inactive. That would be my
8 recommendation.

9 MR. KAWAOKA: Thank you. I think those
10 comments can be incorporated into the report in terms of
11 full documentation of the various sites and what
12 remedial action has taken place at the site.

13 Like Aaron said, these areas have
14 been looked at from a public standpoint to the
15 remedial action board. So each of these projects,
16 and not to go over each one, but to have a remedy in
17 place. There is no further action. There is
18 probably some active monitoring going on at these
19 sites. So we can certainly include that
20 documentation in the final report, both in the
21 summary form and in reference to the various reports
22 that are available.

23 MR. LAU: That would be great.
24 Appreciate it.

25 MR. KAWAOKA: Anymore comments or

1 questions? I just want to reiterate, again, as we
2 mentioned before, that the Red Hill Administrative Order
3 of Consent Enforcement Action has begun. There is a lot
4 of work to be done from here on out. We do encourage
5 public engagement and involvement as the work goes on
6 and be as transparent as we possibly can.

7 Engage our subject matter experts,
8 not only for the regulatory Navy and Defense
9 Logistics Agency, but also looking at whatever
10 resources and knowledge and experience that are
11 available in these kinds of situations. It is a
12 very important project that we will be looking on
13 from here on out. Just to give you, again, what we
14 said early again, the comments that we have gotten
15 today, as well as comments we will get until
16 December 1 of this year, will be incorporated into
17 the final report.

18 MR. YOMES: Before you conclude this, I
19 think representing the community of the neighborhood
20 boards, they wanted to hear some transparency as to what
21 is the problem. And I think they have three questions
22 that they wanted to have answered. At the last
23 neighborhood board meeting, that was kind of confusing,
24 what I did hear after hearing other comments.

25 The community is concerned if the

1 water is safe. I was told at a number of these
2 meetings it was. Is the water currently
3 contaminated? No, is what I was told. Is there
4 preventive measures being taken and oversight,
5 current oversight and continuous oversight to make
6 sure, assure the public that there is no future
7 leaks?

8 I heard from the Board of Water
9 Supply says that, currently the water is not
10 contaminated. The water is safe. Go to my
11 neighborhood board meeting, I hear differently from
12 Senator Wakai, saying he had information from Ernie
13 Lau from the Board of Water Supply.

14 The community is getting confused.
15 If the water is safe, let's put out the truth so the
16 community don't have to be afraid. They don't have
17 to be fearful. Don't scare them if it's not
18 necessary. I know everyone is concerned about
19 leakage. But let's get it out there. If the water
20 is safe, let everyone know the water is safe. If
21 there is current contamination, let the community
22 know if there is current contamination.

23 Also just by having this task force,
24 also with EPA, DOH, VWS, Navy, everybody having an
25 oversight, there is preventive measures being done.

1 I am sure the community appreciates that there is
2 oversight. But they need to know the truth. So
3 they don't have to be fearful of all of this.

4 I hear all kind of terms and all of
5 this, I am not really concerned about the terms, I
6 just want, as a community member, what is the truth?
7 So at least the community can feel comfortable with
8 the fact that the water is not contaminated. The
9 water is safe. That's all I have, Mr. Chair.

10 MR. KAWAOKA: Thank you for your comment.
11 Does any of the task force members have any comment?
12 EPA, you have any comment?

13 MR. PALLARINO: (via telephone) No.

14 MR. KAWAOKA: Department of Health, any
15 comment?

16 SENATOR WAKAI: I have a comment, because
17 I was the one that conveyed to the Salt Lake, Aliamanu
18 neighborhood board that there should be some level of
19 concern. And I think there is, perhaps,
20 misunderstanding on my part or Mr. Yomes' part about
21 what Mr. Lau had shared with all of us.

22 And from what I understand, correct
23 me if I am wrong Mr. Lau, is that the drinking water
24 isn't contaminated. But there are trace elements of
25 petroleum in the aquifer that are under the Red Hill

1 tanks. So I think that is, Mr. Yomes, where you and
2 I may have a misunderstanding there.

3 So correct me if I am wrong, there is
4 traces of petroleum in the water. It just hasn't
5 migrated to where the wells are that are going to
6 suck them out for the public to consume?

7 MR. LAU: Not yet.

8 CAPTAIN TUFTS: Sir, I would say there
9 are traces of petroleum constitutes under the tanks in
10 the aquifer, not moving, not persistent and not going in
11 the direction that groundwater flows, which is directly
12 towards the Navy's drinking water shaft at Red Hill,
13 3,000 feet away.

14 And so we have monitoring wells to
15 make sure that those constituents aren't moving in
16 the direction they move with groundwater towards any
17 drinking water source, the closest being ours for
18 the Navy. Twenty percent of our water on the Navy
19 base comes from the Red Hill shaft.

20 MR. LAU: Chair, may I? I want it to be
21 clear, the data on groundwater contamination in and
22 around the facility at Red Hill is Navy information,
23 Navy test results, laboratory results from their task
24 force. I believe you have around seven wells there?

25 CAPTAIN TUFTS: We have ten wells total

1 that we test.

2 MR. LAU: Including the Red Hill shaft,
3 which is being tested?

4 CAPTAIN TUFTS: There is a monitoring
5 well next to the Red Hill shaft, yes. And the Red Hill
6 shaft drinking source is also being tested.

7 MR. LAU: So the data is showing that the
8 groundwater at the facility or near the facility
9 including the Water Commission's state monitor well
10 which is located at the mauka end of the public safety
11 property where the Halawa Correctional Facility, is
12 showing signs of petroleum contamination and chemicals
13 from petroleum. Correct?

14 CAPTAIN TUFTS: Well, there are certain
15 wells that have shown contaminates of petroleum
16 constituents. Monitoring Well 2, which is directly
17 under Tank 5, have shown persistent amounts of petroleum
18 contamination.

19 MR. LAU: Right. That never drops below
20 about 1,000 parts per billion total petroleum -- total
21 petroleum hydrocarbon diesel.

22 CAPTAIN TUFTS: Probably right.

23 MR. LAU: And I want to make sure,
24 Senator Wakai is right, I think I was very clear, the
25 Board of Water Supply's drinking water sources that are

1 nearest to the Red Hill facilities, which we are
2 currently testing on a quarterly basis after we learned
3 about the fuel spill at Tank No. 5, is not showing signs
4 of any petroleum hydrocarbon contamination. And we test
5 for quite a bit of number of chemicals that are related
6 to petroleum hydrocarbons.

7 However, the test stated that we see
8 and obtain from the Department of Health for the
9 monitor wells that the Navy has installed, including
10 the monitoring location, that they are borrowing
11 from the Water Commission at the commission state
12 monitor well is showing signs of hydrocarbon and its
13 constituents, some of its constituents,
14 contamination in the groundwater, dissolved into the
15 groundwater.

16 So just a clarification, Mr. Yomes,
17 is the drinking water that the BWS is providing,
18 yes, indeed, that is safe for people to drink?
19 Because we have not detected it yet. And our
20 concern is at some point in the future, will this
21 migration of fuel that has leaked from the Red Hill
22 facility, and may be leaking, will it be detected in
23 our drinking water wells?

24 I believe looking at the data from
25 the Navy for the monitoring point that is in the Red

1 Hill shaft, that, yes, at very low levels there are
2 detections of various types of petroleum hydrocarbon
3 constituents there. Like, I think one of it is
4 maybe Naphthalene?

5 Aaron, you want to explain what else
6 is being found in their Red Hill drinking water?

7 MR. POENTIS: There is a number of
8 different kinds of petroleum-related chemical
9 constituents in the groundwater. Naphthalene is one of
10 them. There is many other different kinds.

11 CAPTAIN TUFTS: I want to be clear here.
12 Ernie, you are talking about the drinking water source
13 and the monitoring well right next to the drinking water
14 source for the Navy. And you are stating, to the
15 public, that there is Naphthalene in that well.

16 There was Naphthalene one time in
17 that well in 2013. I don't know if that was from
18 Red Hill or not. We test it quarterly along with
19 all of our monitoring wells. We test the drinking
20 water quarterly. Never has anybody been in any
21 danger of having tainted drinking water. That is
22 the inference that I am hearing, and that is just
23 not a true statement.

24 MR. LAU: Captain Tufts, I am just
25 stating what we are reading in the test results from the

1 laboratories that are testing these wells. I am not
2 passing a judgment whether or not the water in Red Hill
3 shaft is safe to drink or not safe to drink. And I am
4 speaking to our wells. I can only speak to Board of
5 Water Supply wells in terms of the safety of the water,
6 and that is safe to drink.

7 But just looking at test data, which
8 is basically following scientific method, testing it
9 for various chemical constituents and then reporting
10 what they find.

11 MR. LEOTA: Ladies and gentleman, this
12 goes back to what David here says. Now I am confused.
13 Is the drinking water safe; yes or no?

14 MR. LAU: The drink water from the Board
15 of Water Supply, and I can't speak for the Navy,
16 supplied in that area is safe.

17 CAPTAIN TUFTS: And it's safe from the
18 Navy as well.

19 MR. LEOTA: So, David, that answers
20 question No. 1. Question No. 2, is the aquifer
21 contaminated; yes or no?

22 MR. LAU: In my opinion, yes, based on
23 data.

24 MR. LEOTA: Sir, we all have opinions.

25 MR. LAW: Yes.

1 MR. LEOTA: Is it contaminated?

2 MR. LAU: Yes.

3 MR. LEOTA: It is contaminated?

4 MR. POENTIS: In the area of the Red Hill
5 fuel tanks, yes.

6 MR. LEOTA: This is what will bring
7 confusion and misinformation and disinformation to the
8 public. We scare the public, and we confuse the public.
9 So if we can collectively come together and really
10 answer the question for the AMR, answer the question for
11 Moanalua, the public, to let them know whether or not
12 they do have safe drinking water. Not based on opinion,
13 just based on what we have right now collectively, that
14 we have all come to a conclusion and a consensus that
15 the drinking is safe.

16 That in itself will help everyone
17 that is sitting here today. It will help you
18 continue to do what you need to do. Sir, it will
19 help you with the Department of Health. Sir, it is
20 going to help you with the Navy. It definitely will
21 help the public that currently feels affected down
22 at AMR and Moanalua and Salt Lake. Agreed?

23 MR. YOMES: This is kind of -- Mr. Lau,
24 can answer this.

25 MR. LAU: Yes.

1 MR. YOMES: When the Senator mentioned at
2 our meeting he explained the situation. And Mr. Lau
3 chimed in and used terms of "not yet". Then he used "in
4 my opinion". Are we dealing with facts? Like this
5 gentleman said, are we dealing with facts? You are
6 dealing with the community. You getting the community
7 scared. Let's be truthful. If it's contaminated, let's
8 say it's contaminated. None of this, "not yet". You
9 expect it to be contaminated, then let the community
10 know.

11 You use that term "not yet" and "in
12 my opinion". Are you speaking for the Board of
13 Water Supply? And are you saying the Board of Water
14 Supply said the aquifer is contaminated? Is that
15 true? Is that what you are saying, Mr. Lau?

16 MR. LAU: Yes. I am saying that the
17 aquifer in the vicinity of the Red Hill fuel tanks is
18 contaminated with petroleum contaminants. And that is
19 not based on just my opinion. It is based on the review
20 of the actual data being provided by the Health
21 Department from the Navy.

22 MR. YOMES: You have current evidence
23 that, as we speak, that the aquifer is contaminated?

24 MR. LAU: Yes, actually we do. We just
25 recently obtained the April test results for that

1 quarter. I don't believe we have the latest test
2 results which indicates there are still detections in
3 the ten -- now I can't say it's all ten of the
4 monitoring points that you have. But I believe there
5 are detections in the majority of the ten, including
6 Well No. 2, which is the well that was closest -- and we
7 walked in the lower access tunnel. Monitor Well No. 2
8 is right near the bottom of the location of Tank No. 5.

9 CAPTAIN TUFTS: It's right under Tank No.
10 5 and 4, right.

11 MR. LAU: What we saw in the April data,
12 just recently, which is causing us some questions as we
13 saw that peak up to about 5,200 parts per billion total
14 petroleum hydrocarbon diesel, TPH diesel.

15 We notice that after the fuel leak on
16 Tank No. 5 that occurred around January,
17 December/January of last year, that the levels
18 peaked in that well a little after or almost within
19 days after. And so there is now a new peak there
20 that is, I believe -- Aaron, is it higher than the
21 peak that occurred in January of last year?

22 MR. POENTIS: For Monitor Well No. 2, the
23 April result for TPH diesel is higher than the result
24 shown in the sample collected in January of 2015, based
25 on the data that we received.

1 MR. LAU: So for whatever reason, and we
2 don't know the answer and I am not gonna speculate, the
3 level of diesel contamination or fuel contamination in
4 that well has gone back up. So, Mr. Yomes, that is
5 water taken out of the aquifer under the Red Hill
6 facility at that location and that is showing --
7 indicates signs of petroleum contamination that is
8 pretty high.

9 CAPTAIN TUFTS: What does "pretty high
10 mean"?

11 MR. LAU: So we are going to get into the
12 details and this will confuse people.

13 CAPTAIN TUFTS: I just want the public to
14 know what the State Department of Health level of, you
15 know, once you go past that level then we have to start
16 doing things, what is the levels compared to the numbers
17 you are talking about?

18 MR. LAU: So, Captain Tufts, I prefer not
19 to speak on behalf of the Department of Health. Since
20 we have the Department of Health here, maybe they can
21 speak about their environmental action limits and also
22 the site specific limits they have set for the Red Hill
23 facility, as it relates to the Red Hill drinking water
24 source. I turn it back to the Health Department.

25 MR. KAWAOKA: Why don't we have DOH

1 address that.

2 MR. TAKABA: This is Rich Takaba. So
3 your question is the site specific risk base action
4 level that got approved?

5 MR. LAU: Rich, I guess if you can answer
6 Captain Tufts' question, because it's a Health
7 Department related matter.

8 MR. KAWAOKA: Site specific levels.

9 MR. TAKABA: Four thousand five hundred
10 parts per billion.

11 MR. KAWAOKA: And what levels are we
12 approaching?

13 MR. TAKABA: April, and the report got
14 here in September. It was 5,200 and 5,400. I believe
15 it was because of the heavy rains.

16 MR. KAWAOKA: And those wells are which
17 wells?

18 MR. TAKABA: Levels are 5,200 and another
19 sample 5,400 --

20 MR. KAWAOKA: Clarify where those wells
21 are.

22 MR. TAKABA: That's right next to Tank 5,
23 the closest well to Tank 5.

24 MR. KAWAOKA: Aaron.

25 MR. POENTIS: So, that is correct, there

1 were higher detects where we had a spike in April of
2 2015, as Mr. Takaba and Mr. Lau has indicated. And so
3 we have a specific requirement to take action, if these
4 levels are elevated. So we actually resampled just to
5 make sure that they were continuing concerns relating to
6 what had transpired in the Tank 5 release.

7 So we resampled in June of 2015, and
8 we got 3,800. And then, again, we sampled again in
9 July of 2015, which is our regular routine sampling
10 for that well, and we got 3,900 and 3,200, which is
11 below the site specific risk base levels.

12 And so the point being is that as is
13 designed in coordination with the Department of
14 Health, we have this long-term monitoring program.
15 And it's really designed to evaluate the data from a
16 long-term perspective, to see if there are trends
17 related to the ongoing and persistent increases to
18 indicate that there is movement of petroleum
19 constituents that may impact groundwater.

20 And what we are seeing, that while we
21 had this spike in April, it clearly moved back down
22 to the historical ranges. I think what is important
23 to note, as part of the signed agreement. We
24 understand the concern. And we are committed to
25 reevaluating the models and making appropriate

1 determinations with, you know, I understand the EPA
2 and Department of Health are soliciting the
3 Commission of Water and Resource Management and the
4 Board of Water Supply's input into this effort
5 related to the long-term monitoring efforts,
6 monitoring wells, as well as updating the
7 groundwater modeling for that area.

8 MR. LAU: Mr. Chair, if I can suggest,
9 because it's very difficult to just talk numbers without
10 looking at a map, essentially for members of the public
11 to understand what is happening out there in Red Hill.
12 For the Board of Water Supply, we did not wish that this
13 task force discussion really focus on Red Hill as
14 opposed to the other tanks that the task force was
15 created to look at.

16 But we would be glad to provide a map
17 that shows the location of the Red Hill field tanks,
18 location of the monitor wells, and also the latest
19 test results that was taken. We only have April
20 this year, so we can show that, which includes the
21 5,400 parts per billion TPH diesel at monitoring
22 Well No. 2.

23 MR. KAWAOKA: Mr. Lau, can I ask you that
24 the board can include that into the final report?

25 MR. LAU: We can provide a slide. I am

1 sorry I didn't bring copies with me today. I didn't
2 anticipate having this extensive discussion on the test
3 data from the various monitor wells around the Red Hill
4 facility.

5 MS. BERNIER: Can I ask a question? Can
6 someone please specify the difference between
7 groundwater, the monitoring wells, the aquifer, and
8 drinking wells? Can someone describe the differences
9 between all of those things.

10 MR. LAU: I will take a stab at it. I
11 know we have Patrick Casey here from the Water
12 Commission. There is their bread and butter. But let's
13 talk about the differences on the types of wells.

14 A monitoring well, in my mind, is a
15 test well. It's something where you have a hole in
16 the ground that is cased with a steel pipe or other
17 types of pipes. It reaches all the way through the
18 rock until it hits the water table. And it goes
19 into the water table. And it allows easy access to
20 the water in the aquifer. The waters in the
21 aquifer, which is the underground formation, the
22 rock that is saturated. So this test well or
23 monitor well gives you the opportunity to
24 periodically grab a sample directly from the
25 groundwater, which is the top of the water table in

1 this case.

2 Drinking water well is a water that
3 pumps actively to supply water to our community for
4 people to drink. So Board of Water Supply, like our
5 Halawa shaft, Moanalua wells are what we call
6 drinking water wells. The ten test wells, except
7 the one that is located in the Navy's drinking water
8 source, are monitor wells that are not being pumped
9 or supplying people with water.

10 I don't know if that confuses you
11 even more. We do have a cross section that we can
12 provide of the typical cross section of the island.
13 If you were to cut it in half, you could see the
14 fresh water lens underground in the rock floating on
15 the salt water below. And that might help to
16 clarify things.

17 MR. KAWAOKA: Mr. Casey, you want to
18 elaborate?

19 MR. CASEY: Sure. Ernie explained it
20 quite well. I think it might help to --

21 MR. KAWAOKA: By the way, you are a
22 geologist.

23 MR. CASEY: I think it might help to
24 envision the island as a sponge. You have water as rain
25 fall, falling on the upper parts of the island,

1 percolating down into the rock. And because it's very
2 porous, it flows slowly mauka and makai, in general, and
3 then discharges at into the ocean. There is lava tubes.
4 If you look at a cross section, you go through, you can
5 see how many pucas and holes and how porous the lava is
6 generally. So it can hold a lot of water.

7 The monitoring wells are designed
8 just to do that, to be able to take a sample of the
9 water, ideally and especially in the case where you
10 have petroleum hydrocarbons, you like to put the
11 screen section of the well right at the surface,
12 because generally petroleum products are lighter
13 than water, so right at the top of the water. So
14 you want to be able to sample that.

15 The drinking water wells are much
16 bigger and much deeper. Penetrating the lavas to a
17 much greater depth so they can hold more water. As
18 Ernie mentioned, the fresh water floats as a lens
19 over the sea water. And it gets thicker as you go
20 further inland.

21 So that's the general concept of the
22 aquifer, fresh water aquifer, floating on the sea
23 water, if you like. And then you have these
24 different kind of wells that penetrates for whatever
25 purpose. Did that help?

1 MS. BERNIER: Yes.

2 MR. KAWAOKA: Mr. Yomes, I just want to
3 address, personally, your comments. I appreciate those
4 comments. I am sure everybody at this table want to
5 make sure that the water stays safe, now and in the
6 future. That is what we are working on. We want to
7 make sure that we prevent any future releases from the
8 tanks. We want to make sure that we clean up as best we
9 can what has been released into the environment. We
10 want to make sure that from an emergency standpoint, any
11 catastrophic releases are being addressed. And looking
12 at alternatives ways that we can deal with the whole
13 Navy fuel situation. Not just Red Hill but more global.
14 The Navy is committed to do that.

15 We are committed to inform the public
16 of what is happening as we ago along with this
17 effort. Make no mistake, this is a very complex
18 project. That's why we have all these parties
19 involved. We take this really seriously. And we
20 are committed to make sure that the water is and
21 stays safe. That is the bottom line.

22 MR. YOMES: I agree, Mr. Chair. I just
23 feel it needs to be simplified for the public. That's
24 all.

25 MR. KAWAOKA: I think a lot of us at this

1 table deal with this numbers-wise all the time. We
2 think nothing of it. We use acronyms all the time. It
3 is very confusing to the public or the lay public. We
4 sympathize. But sometimes we got to get technical to
5 understand what is the situation going on. But we lose
6 sight of what the public really understands. I
7 appreciate your comments. Thank you.

8 MR. LAU: Mr. Chair, I just want to
9 express my appreciation for Mr. Yomes bringing up this
10 point. That is a challenge. We need to do a better job
11 of conveying it very simply and clearly to the public.
12 Thank you.

13 MR. KAWAOKA: Again, thank you for
14 everybody's participation in this task force.

15 MR. COX: Captain Tufts, thank you. I
16 wouldn't want your job at this point. All of you.
17 Because you are dealing with something that has
18 developed over years, many years. And you are new
19 arrivals.

20 In answer to your question, Mr.
21 Yomes, I did, in fact, personally go to the State
22 Health Department. And Mr. Takaba and I searched
23 about 3- or 4,000 documents. And in there you will
24 find constituents where it's spelled out in certain
25 wells, "Exceeds EALs" on many occasions.

1 I actually did a show on
2 CarrollCox.com, a radio show that I have, on
3 February 16, 2014. Reading directly from documents
4 that is housed in the house of the Solid Waste
5 Branch, UST office, Mr. Takaba. And it is clear,
6 one of the things that my concern is that it is a
7 self-policing effort. I believe that we should, in
8 fact, the DOH, Board of Water Supply, should be able
9 to monitor your wells, your drinking wells.

10 And the other thing that through all
11 of these documents I found confusing that it would
12 suggest, well, it is not from my drinking water,
13 there is no contaminants. And that may be true.
14 But wells are up stream. It had to migrate down to
15 find it in your wells.

16 I think the documents are there, that
17 you do testing and report. And many of those
18 Naphthalene and Ethyl Naphthalene and many others, I
19 don't know all the constituents right offhand. But
20 I say February 16, 2014 -- I am reading specific
21 documents. And I can't tell you the actual well
22 number. But I did have, and I still have those
23 documents. I would be happy to share with you.

24 But it is there. The water is
25 contaminated by your own testing results. Not in

1 your source drinking well source. And we understand
2 that. And that's a safe statement, right?

3 It's not an outsource that we are
4 drawing from because it hadn't migrated down. But
5 it's up there. And in ten years or fifteen years,
6 it may migrate based on hydrology or whatever.

7 CAPTAIN TUFTS: So I would just like to
8 answer Mr. Cox real quickly. So you talked about
9 environmental action limits, EALs is the term you used.
10 When we surpass EALs that are a standard environmental
11 number for any constituent in groundwater, there is a
12 next step.

13 And the next step is to do a site
14 specific risk base -- that's the SSRBL that we have
15 talked about. The EAL for a constituent such as,
16 let's say, TPHD is 100. The SSRBL after you hit
17 100, you do some more testing site specific to that
18 area. And a site specific level is 4,500.

19 So once you go out there and kind of
20 see the salt rock and see how things move and that
21 kind of stuff, DOH and EPA -- I think it is DOH
22 assigns the number. And it's 4,500 in the Red Hill
23 area, inside the Red Hill shafts. So inside the
24 monitored wells right underneath.

25 MR. COX: I understand.

1 CAPTAIN TUFTS: I believe you are talking
2 about, when you say "over EAL in those monitoring
3 wells", I believe you are talking about Monitoring Well
4 2. And I believe you are talking about the number of
5 100. And I agree with you, our constituents for certain
6 TPHs in Monitoring Well 2 have been over 100. That is
7 not the level of measure anymore.

8 MR. COX: But I was just responding to
9 Mr. Yomes, the question was, what are the constituents
10 there? Period. Not what levels or what have you.

11 CAPTAIN TUFTS: And the Navy --

12 MR. COX: And that was just to confirm
13 that through the document submitted by your agency to
14 the State Health Department that reflects that they are
15 present. Now whether EALs exceeding -- but with your
16 explanation I understand that. But it was in response
17 to the question, were the constituents in the water?

18 CAPTAIN TUFTS: Yes, sir. We have been
19 using the word contaminated up here. There are
20 definitely constituents of petroleum directly under the
21 Red Hill tanks, under Tank 5. There is no doubt about
22 that. They are not persistent over the SSRBL level.
23 And they are not moving, at least over the last -- we
24 have been testing the groundwater since 2005. They are
25 not moving in the direction of groundwater flow towards

1 the Red Hill drinking water shaft. Those studies show
2 that very clearly. And those studies are Navy paid for
3 studies and tests. But EPA certified laboratories that
4 they tell us where to go. That's not us doing that.

5 MR. COX: Thank you. I just offer that
6 because its like the neighborhood board and the Senator
7 are not disagreeing but -- because, and I understand,
8 the documentation sets us up for disagreeing and
9 confusion.

10 MR. KAWAOKA: Okay. Any other comments?

11 MR. TAKABA: I have one comment, please.
12 Carroll, I would just make a statement, I talked to you
13 once in my office for 15 or 20 minutes and another time
14 15 or 20 minutes. So could you please not tell people
15 you are researching stuff with me.

16 MR. COX: No. No. No. Excuse me, I did
17 not say -- and you shouldn't be bothered if I was. But
18 I did not suggest that you were working with me.

19 Mr. Takabe: Oh, I thought --

20 MR. COX: I went to your office and
21 obtained those documents. That, by the way, that he had
22 not processed. And the explanation was, these are the
23 documents that I overlooked for years -- for several
24 months.

25 MR. TAKABA: Excuse me, what are you

1 talking about, these are the documents? I never said
2 that, Carroll. Excuse me. Wait, you said I said I
3 overlooked documents for several months? When was that?
4 I never said that. Keith, I never said that.

5 MR. COX: I stand on my statement.

6 MR. TAKABA: I want that for the record,
7 on the camera. I never said that, Carroll. You are
8 lying.

9 MR. COX: My statement stands.

10 MR. YOMES: Mr. Chair, just real quick.
11 That is what I talk about. Speculation. Speculation.
12 The community needs to get it right.

13 MR. KAWAOKA: I understand. And I agree
14 with you.

15 Again, I hope we learned something
16 today, a little bit on this issue, not just Red Hill
17 but the other fuel constructed tanks. There is work
18 ahead of us. There is a lot of work ahead of us.
19 The community has a big stake in this thing. So we
20 will keep the community involved, legislature
21 involved, or the congressional delegation involved.

22 But I want to close the meeting now.
23 As the public administrative coordinator said, any
24 comments we receive until December 1 will be
25 incorporated in the final report to the legislature.

1 If there is no other comments, we will close the
2 meeting. And we don't anticipate any future
3 meetings for this task force. Thank you.

4 (Meeting adjourned at 11:15 a.m.)
5
6
7
8
9
10
11
12
13
14
15
16
17
18
19
20
21
22
23
24
25

1
2
3
4
5
6
7
8
9
10
11
12
13
14
15
16
17
18
19
20
21
22
23
24
25

C E R T I F I C A T E

STATE OF HAWAII)
) ss.
CITY AND COUNTY OF HONOLULU)

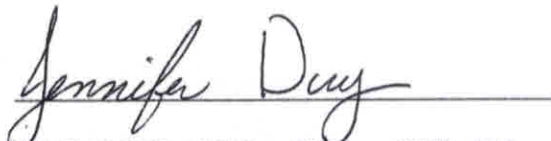
I, JENNIFER DUY, a Certified Shorthand Reporter in and for the State of Hawaii, do hereby certify:

That the foregoing proceedings were taken down by me in machine shorthand at the time and place herein stated, and was thereafter reduced to typewriting under my supervision;

That the foregoing is a full, true and correct transcript of said proceedings;

I further certify that I am not of counsel or attorney for any of the parties to this case, nor in any way interested in the outcome hereof, and that I am not related to any of the parties hereto.

Dated this 13th day of November, 2015, in Honolulu, Hawaii.



JENNIFER DUY, RPR, CSR NO. 507