

1 SONGS COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT PANEL
2 AND SPENT FUEL SOLUTIONS JOINT MEETING -
3 SOLVING THE U.S. NUCLEAR WASTE CHALLENGE
4 A DIALOGUE ON THE PATH FORWARD

5
6 Via Microsoft Teams and at the Casino
7 San Clemente
8

9 CORRECTED TRANSCRIPT
10 TRANSCRIPT OF MEETING
11 June 4, 2026
12
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14 Reported by:
15 Denise Herft, CSR #12983
16 Assignment #7905871
17 Pages 1 - 154
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1 SAN ONOFRE DECOMMISSIONING
2 COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT PANEL MEETING
3 STATE OF CALIFORNIA, COUNTY OF ORANGE
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9 Transcript of video-recorded meeting via
10 Microsoft Teams and at the Casino San Clemente,
11 commencing at 5:30 p.m., Thursday, June 4, 2026.
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1 COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT MEMBER ATTENDEES:
2 DAN STETSON (CEP CHAIRMAN/TRUSTEE - EXECUTIVE
DIRECTOR, THE NICHOLAS ENDOWMENT)
3
4 MARTHA McNICHOLAS - (CEP SECRETARY)
5
6 HON. VICTOR CABRAL - (CEP VICE CHAIRMAN/SAN
CLEMENTE COUNCIL MEMBER)
7 MICHELLE ANDERSON - (ORANGE COUNTY SHERIFF'S
DEPARTMENT, EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT DIRECTOR)
8
9 MARNI MAGDA - (SIERRA CLUB)
10
11 GARRY BROWN - (ORANGE COUNTY COASTKEEPER)
12
13 MIKE BALSAMO - (SR. VP, GOVERNMENT RELATIONS
RANCHO MISSION VIEJO AND SOUTH ORANGE COUNTY
ECONOMIC COALITION BOARD MEMBER)
14
15 SCOTT KIBBEY - (CALIFORNIA STATE PARKS, SOUTH
SECTOR SUPERINTENDENT)
16 HON. MICHAEL VILLAR - (DANA POINT CITY COUNCIL)
17 HUNTER McDONALD - (Alternate for HON. JIM DESMOND,
SAN DIEGO COUNTY SUPERVISOR, 5th DISTRICT)
18
19 ROB HOWARD - (CITY OF OCEANSIDE REPRESENTATIVE)
20
21 DANIEL WHITLEY (CAMP PENDLETON COMMUNITY PLANS AND
LIAISON OFFICER)
22 TED QUINN - (AMERICAN NUCLEAR SOCIETY)
23 JIM DESMOND - (SAN DIEGO COUNTY SUPERVISOR, 5TH
DISTRICT AND SPENT FUEL SOLUTIONS COALITION
CO-CHAIR)
24 HON. JOHN TAYLOR - (SAN JUAN CAPISTRANO CITY
COUNCIL)
25
CAPTAIN MEL VERNON - (SAN LUIS REY BAND OF MISSION
INDIANS)
KELVIN BARRIOS (Alternate for VAL MACEDO LABORERS'
INTERNATIONAL UNION OF NORTH AMERICA, LOCAL 89)

1 SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA EDISON SCE REPRESENTATIVES:
2 FRED BAILLY - CHIEF NUCLEAR OFFICER AND VICE
PRESIDENT OF DECOMMISSIONING

3
4 MANUEL CAMARGO (SCE PRINCIPAL MANAGER, STRATEGIC
PLANNING AND STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT)

5 GUEST SPEAKERS:

6 REPRESENTATIVE MIKE LEVIN (CALIFORNIA, 49th
7 DISTRICT)

8 ALLISON MACFARLANE, Ph.D. - (PROFESSOR And
DIRECTOR, SCHOOL OF PUBLIC POLICY AND GLOBAL
9 AFFAIRS, UNIVERSITY OF BRITISH COLUMBIA)

10 LAKE BARRETT - (INDEPENDENT CONSULTANT SERVING
GOVERNMENT AND COMMERCIAL NUCLEAR ENERGY AND
11 MATERIALS MANAGEMENT)

12 TOM ISAACS - (INDEPENDENT STRATEGIC ADVISOR TO SCE
FOR NUCLEAR WASTE MANAGEMENT)

13 CHRIS WAHL - (DIRECTOR, SPENT FUEL SOLUTIONS
14 COALITION)

15 SCE TECHNICAL SUPPORT PRESENTERS:

16 ACE JANUARY - Presentation Slides

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Via Microsoft Teams and San Clemente Casino,
Thursday, June 4, 2026

CHAIRMAN DAN STETSON: Good evening.
Welcome everyone, and thank you for joining us
this evening.

Tonight's panel discussion is a Joint
Meeting of the SONGS Community Engagement Panel
and the Spent Fuel Solutions Coalition.

My name is Dan Stetson, and I'm the
volunteer chair of the CEP. As you know, this
last Tuesday was California Primary Day. I want
to send a huge thank you to everyone who stepped
up to run. Win or lose, putting your name out
there these days to serve our community, takes
serious guts and dedication, and I'm sure I join
many of you who deeply appreciate your commitment
to make this country a better place. Thank you.

Please note that tonight's meeting is
being recorded. Our focus topic for this evening
is solving the U.S. Nuclear Waste Challenge, A
Dialogue on the Path Forward. And I'm pleased to
announce that we have four guest speakers who have
joined us here in person this evening to provide

1 their perspectives and expertise regarding the
2 Nuclear Waste Challenge.

3 The panel discussion tonight comes at a
4 most interesting time with respect to spent
5 nuclear fuel. As many of you know, the DOE's RFI
6 (Request for Information) on Nuclear Lifestyle
7 Innovation campus's drew responses from 26 states.
8 Here to help inform a discussion on the state of
9 the play are leading experts Allison Macfarlane,
10 Lake Barrett, and Tom Isaacs.

11 Thank you so much for being here tonight.
12 Over the years, each of you have been a mentor to
13 many and especially to me. To facilitate
14 tonight's discussion, we have Chris Wahl who
15 serves as the executive director of the Spent Fuel
16 Solutions Coalition and will facilitate the
17 dialogue during the meeting. I will ask Chris to
18 more formally introduce our panel in a few
19 moments.

20 I also want to thank our CEP members and
21 SCE leaders who are here with us on the panel and
22 joining us online this evening. Welcome.

23 The draft presentation was posted on the
24 SONGS website a week ago. Before we dive into the
25 main topic, let me make a few brief announcements.

1 First of all, our meeting will include a single
2 focus topic, a one-hour public comment period and
3 read-only updates.

4 Second, we have also changed the public
5 comment format so that for this meeting, as our
6 panelists or guest speakers, they may respond to
7 the questions after each question regarding their
8 area of focus as they are asked. So we'll be
9 doing this instead of collecting questions and
10 then asking them all at the end. We'll be
11 responding to the questions one by one.

12 Questions on other topics will be
13 addressed later in the general public comment
14 period.

15 Third, for people who wish to ask a
16 question or provide a comment using their phone,
17 SCE provided new instructions for public comments
18 via phone under the materials list on today's
19 meeting webpage. Please note, you must still
20 submit the CEP comment form with your name,
21 question, and last four digits of your phone
22 number to be called upon to speak, and we will
23 open the microphone via Microsoft teams.

24 Finally, a reminder that the slides in
25 the read-only appendix at the end of the

1 presentation include many updates on the CEP
2 community updates, the Spent Fuel Solutions
3 Coalitions, SONGS big picture, and many other
4 things.

5 So tritium -- so there's a lot of things
6 back in the appendix. We had them in the general
7 area for tonight's meeting, but we just have so
8 many things that we wanted to cover tonight, we
9 needed to move them back into the appendix.

10 Let me thank Ace January for advancing
11 the slides for us.

12 Next slide, please. Now, it is my honor
13 to introduce representative Mike Levin who
14 represents the congressional district that
15 includes San Onofre. He is joining us from
16 Washington, D.C. The congressman has been a
17 leader in working to safely remove the spent fuel
18 from SONGS. He last participated in a CEP meeting
19 in 2024 when he introduced the Nuclear Waste
20 Amendment Act. Tonight he will deliver opening
21 comments.

22 Congressman, welcome. The floor is
23 yours.

24 Do we have the congressman?

25 MARTHA McNICHOLAS: We're five minutes

1 ahead.

2 MANUEL CAMARGO: Yeah, we're five minutes
3 ahead. We don't see him.

4 CHAIRMAN DAN STETSON: Congressman, are
5 you there?

6 Manuel, are you checking on him?

7 MANUEL CAMARGO: I'm not logged on.

8 CHAIRMAN DAN STETSON: You're not logged
9 on, okay. We'll give it a quick moment.

10 While we're working to get the
11 congressman on, why don't we go ahead and move
12 forward a little bit. We have a quick meeting and
13 if we're able to get him, we'll bring him back on.

14 So let's go ahead and move to the next
15 slide, please. Here you see our agenda and
16 speakers: Fred Bailly, SCE Vice President of
17 Generation and Chief Nuclear Officer will provide
18 introductory remarks.

19 Next Mark Morgan with SCE Nuclear
20 Regulatory Affairs will provide an update stemming
21 from a recent NRC inspection at SONGS. Then we
22 will dive into our focus topic for the evening.

23 For CEP members, we will work in your
24 presentations after each individual presenter. So
25 I was in air when I sent out an earlier e-mail

1 that we would wait until all presenters make their
2 presentation, so you have after -- after, for
3 instance, after Allison's presentation, if you
4 have a question for her, please let us know and
5 then we'll move forward with the next one.

6 Following the presentations, we'll take a
7 short break and dedicate an hour to public
8 comment. Manuel Camargo of SCE will support
9 tonight's Q and A.

10 Next I'm going to turn it over to Fred
11 for his comments regarding the agenda. Fred.

12 FRED BAILEY: Thank you, Dan. Good
13 evening.

14 As a reminder, SCE's decommissioning is
15 guided by safety, stewardship, and engagement with
16 always safety first. On behalf of SCE I want to
17 thank our guest panelists: Lake, Allison, Tom and
18 Chris Wahl, who will be facilitating this
19 discussion tonight, and the panel members. I hope
20 we can get and connect with the congressional --
21 Congressman Mike Levin.

22 I wanted to share that tonight offers a
23 rare opportunity for the panel and the public to
24 engage with nationally-recognized experts in
25 nuclear regulation spent fuel management and

1 policy.

2 Mark Morgan, our manager for Nuclear
3 Regulatory Affair will also review the results of
4 our recent NRC inspection, including a low-level
5 violation. Let me be clear, even though it's the
6 lowest level violation with the NRC, any
7 regulatory noncompliance is unacceptable, and
8 corrective actions are in place to prevent
9 reoccurrence.

10 I'm also pleased to share that we're
11 planning and we're going to be performing
12 improvements to the beach access walkway at
13 San Onofre State Beach this summer to maintain the
14 north to south public access. Additional details,
15 as Dan mentioned, is available in the read-only
16 section of the presentations.

17 We welcome your comments, we welcome your
18 questions during the public comment. And with
19 that, back to you, Dan.

20 CHAIRMAN DAN STETSON: Thank you, Fred.

21 Let's try once again and see if
22 Congressman Levin is here. I think we opened the
23 microphone for Michael.

24 Congressman Levin, are you there?

25 ROGELIO HERNANDEZ: We don't see him on

1 line. He's not on line.

2 MANUEL CAMARGO: If he's not on line, I
3 say that we move on. I placed a couple of calls
4 to see if we can get Representative Levin on the
5 call.

6 I think for now, Dan, I would just
7 proceed with the rest of the meeting, and if we
8 can, plan to interject given the time difference
9 between here and his D.C. office is where he is
10 today.

11 VICTOR CABRAL: He said just move on.

12 CHAIRMAN DAN STETSON: Okay. Let's go
13 ahead and move onto the next slide, then. Thank
14 you.

15 As we all know, there's a lot of things
16 happening in the Washington, D.C. right now.
17 Things probably are changing by the minute. Here
18 you see a list of the volunteers who serve on the
19 CEP. As you can see, the CEP represents a
20 cross-section of local stakeholders, from business
21 and organized labor, to schools, environmental
22 groups, local elected officials and Native
23 Americans. Although our CEP member alternates are
24 not listed here, they also play a vital role and
25 actively stay informed about SONGS activities.

1 Each of you are very important to the fabric of
2 the CEP.

3 I want to say a special thanks to Victor
4 Cabral, our vice chair, and Secretary Martha
5 McNicholas, and also recognize Marni Magda, who is
6 here, and Marni represents the Sierra Club. She's
7 been on the panel for as long as I can remember,
8 and she is retiring after tonight's meeting.

9 So Marni, I think we all owe you a debt
10 of gratitude and thank you for your many years of
11 active participation on the CEP. You will be
12 missed.

13 MARNI MAGDA: Thank you. I will miss all
14 of you. You are hard working.

15 CHAIRMAN DAN STETSON: I know you're
16 going to spend a lot of time with your
17 grandchildren. Can't think of a better thing to
18 do.

19 Okay. So next slide, please. Reminder
20 on our public comment. Here you see the
21 directions for participating in public comment.
22 As always, members of the public had the
23 opportunities to submit comments and questions in
24 advance. Comments may be submitted by e-mail to
25 nuccomm@songs.sce.com, and that address is

1 available on the meeting Web page.

2 During the meeting, folks can also submit
3 written comments or sign up for oral comments
4 using the online CEP form. For members of the
5 public joining us in person, please complete a CEP
6 question comment card available at the entrance,
7 and we will add your question to the list in the
8 order that they are received. If you wish to
9 speak, fill out the same card, and we will add you
10 to the queue for the public comment, and you will
11 be called upon to speak.

12 For CEP members here in person, please
13 wait, as I mentioned before, after each guest
14 panelist and have completed their presentation,
15 and then you may ask your questions. Then please
16 turn your tent card up like this and Chris Wahl
17 will be --

18 VICTOR CABRAL: He's on.

19 CHAIRMAN DAN STETSON: Okay. We have the
20 congressman here, so let's go ahead and shift to
21 him.

22 Congressman Levin, I can see you. We're
23 almost there.

24 VICTOR CABRAL: We can see you; we just
25 can't hear you.

1 MANUEL CAMARGO: Make him a presenter.

2 CHAIRMAN DAN STETSON: We can see you,
3 but we just can't quite hear you yet.

4 MANUEL CAMARGO: Have we elevated him to
5 presenter using Microsoft Teams?

6 ROGELIO HERNANDEZ: Yes.

7 MANUEL CAMARGO: Okay. We need to get
8 something on the Congressman's side?

9 ROGELIO HERNANDEZ: That's correct.

10 MANUEL CAMARGO: Mr. Levin, if there's a
11 different way to use your audio? I'm assuming you
12 can hear us?

13 CONGRESSMAN MIKE LEVIN: Hello.

14 CHAIRMAN DAN STETSON: Oh, my goodness.

15 CONGRESSMAN MIKE LEVIN: Did it work?

16 MARTHA McNICHOLAS: Yes.

17 CHAIRMAN DAN STETSON: We can now see and
18 hear you. Thank you for your perseverance.

19 CONGRESSMAN LEVIN: Thank you for your
20 patience. I just got off the floor where we were
21 just voting on some fairly important stuff, and
22 I'm very grateful to be back, and I can jump right
23 in. I promise to be brief.

24 I really want to thank Dan and thank
25 everybody on the CEP for everything you're doing,

1 as well as the Spent Fuel Solutions Coalition.
2 I'm really grateful for all of the engagement and,
3 you know, the work you are doing is just really,
4 really important as we consider spent fuel issues.
5 And I wanted to provide just a brief update on
6 some important spent fuel work that is happening
7 here in Washington, D.C., And I promise not to
8 take too long to do it, but I wanted to update you
9 first on the DOE's Nuclear Lifecycle Innovation
10 Campuses.

11 This is a new effort that began in
12 January of this year when DOE released a request
13 for information inviting different states all
14 across our country to express interest in hosting
15 what they're calling Nuclear Lifecycle Innovation
16 Campuses.

17 And what they're intended to do is to
18 support the full lifecycle of nuclear energy,
19 including enrichment, generation, reprocessing,
20 storage, and disposition at the back end of the
21 fuel cycle. The deadline for RFI responses was
22 April 1st, and DOE hopes to announce candidate
23 sites in July of this year, and potentially break
24 ground on the first facilities in 2027.

25 When I was in the Energy and Water

1 appropriations hearing with the Energy Secretary
2 Chris Wright, I specifically asked him -- this is
3 last month -- about these campuses and about more
4 details with regard to who applied and -- or who
5 responded, I should say, to the RFI. There were
6 28 responses, including 26 states interested in
7 hosting one of these campuses. And it has since
8 been publicly reported that at least four
9 different states are interested in hosting a
10 disposal site as part of being a Nuclear Lifecycle
11 Innovation Campus.

12 I have been pressing the secretary and
13 his team on the need to prioritize permanently
14 shutdown sites for spent fuel removal once those
15 campuses are up and running. And I'm generally
16 encouraged by the steps that DOE is taking here.
17 They are engaging in the states in a collaborative
18 approach. In that regard it is not dissimilar
19 from what the prior administration did with
20 collaborative siting, because ultimately, as we
21 all know from our many years of work and
22 engagement, you cannot have a topdown approach and
23 expect a different outcome from what we've
24 experienced with Yucca Mountain in Nevada.

25 I will say that while the campuses are a

1 very positive development for the spent fuel
2 program, I still do have some concerns about DOE's
3 ability to do this right, and I plan to work with
4 DOE to ensure that the effort is successful in
5 removing waste from our community, from SONGS and
6 to push them -- and push to ensure then that
7 they're engaging in a very robust community
8 building process so that it is not perceived as a
9 topdown effort akin to what didn't work in years
10 past.

11 I am very pleased to see this
12 administration focused on this objective and, you
13 know, I think it's very important that as we move
14 forward, that we do all we can to build mutual
15 trust in this process. I do have concerns about
16 some of the lack of clear details that have been
17 shared with the public, and frankly, have been
18 shared with congress.

19 I will give you anecdotal personal
20 example of this, we had the assistant secretary
21 for nuclear energy, Ted Garrish to my office to
22 discuss the Nuclear Lifecycle Innovation Campus
23 Program, and we discussed what would need to
24 change in federal law in order to effectuate this,
25 what changes would be necessary to the Nuclear

1 Waste Policy Act, and also how could we focus on
2 sites like ours, shutdown plants, and make sure
3 that we're at the top of the list in the waste
4 removal queue, and they hadn't necessarily met
5 with a whole lot of other offices. I think we
6 were the very first one that they had met with.

7 Now, they have some very ambitious
8 targets as it pertains to legislation. We're
9 going to do everything we can to be supportive,
10 and I know my team both in Washington, D.C. and in
11 Southern California will do all they can in this
12 effort to work collaboratively.

13 And the other thing that I think is very
14 important for you all to know is that for a number
15 of years we've been discussing whether the DOE
16 itself is really equipped to handle spent nuclear
17 fuel across the United States, and I've now been
18 working on bipartisan legislation. Many of you
19 have been, you know, instrumental in helping to
20 push that legislation and support that legislation
21 that would create a sole purpose entity to
22 administer spent nuclear fuel, as opposed to DOE.
23 And the idea there is that you need to
24 depoliticize the process to a degree, because as
25 we've seen, you'll have different administrations

1 with different ideas every four years, every eight
2 years, and ultimately this is going to require
3 certainty and stability of policy for a number of
4 decades in order to really be pulled off
5 successfully.

6 So I think you're going to be hearing
7 from Allison and Lake, Allison Macfarlane and Lake
8 Barrett in their Path Forward Report. That group
9 is outstanding. Allison and Lake are two great
10 leaders in spent nuclear fuel in policy for
11 decades, spanning for both republican and
12 democratic administrations, so I'm eager to get
13 your thoughts once you've heard from them.

14 And their Path Forward Report shares many
15 objectives, and also they've reached many of the
16 same conclusions as we have as we've sought a new
17 nuclear waste entity, sole purpose entity, and
18 I'll let them explain their conclusions.

19 I wanted to share two more updates before
20 I turn it back over to Dan. First is our work on
21 house appropriations. As I mentioned, I sit on
22 the Energy and Water subcommittee, and I'm proud
23 to tell you that we advocated for and were
24 successful in securing \$112 million in the Nuclear
25 Waste Management Program as part of the 2027 Bill.

1 That is the most that we've had and a greater
2 number than we had last year. And of course, the
3 bill passed the house of representatives. It
4 became, unfortunately, a more partisan bill than I
5 would have wished. It passed through committee, I
6 should say. We need to pass it through the full
7 house floor and through the senate, and then
8 ultimately have a conference and then finalize the
9 bill just as we did last year. The final product
10 last year wound up with, I think, right around 400
11 votes. Once all is said and done, we were able to
12 secure a lot of money in there for spent nuclear
13 fuel, and we will again.

14 So the last thing I'll mention is I've
15 been working with my friend Mike Lawler of New
16 York on a bipartisan bill called the Radiation
17 Health Research Act that would direct the NIH,
18 National Institute of Health, to design and
19 implement a program to study the health effects on
20 nuclear radiation on women and girls.

21 The legislation requires the NIH to
22 specifically examine the effects of radiation on
23 pregnant women, adolescent girls, and
24 preadolescent girls, while providing for long term
25 monitoring of participants over a period of not

1 less than ten years.

2 We really do need more research to
3 understand better the disproportionate impact that
4 this may have on women's health, and we need to
5 prevent exposure and develop the tools to do that.

6 So it's a bipartisan bill. It invests in
7 important research that will help us understand
8 all of this, and I'm very grateful to my friend
9 Mike Lawler from New York to work with me on this,
10 and hopefully to move this forward through the
11 legislative process in the months ahead.

12 So with that, I'm very grateful again to
13 everybody for their engagement, everybody for
14 their work, and particularly to my friend Dan
15 Stetson, and I'll turn it back to him to introduce
16 two amazing people; Allison and Lake.

17 Dan, back to you, my friend.

18 CHAIRMAN DAN STETSON: Thank you very
19 much, Congressman. We greatly appreciate your
20 leadership and focus in these areas. Have a good
21 evening.

22 CONGRESSMAN MIKE LEVIN: You too.

23 Take care, everyone.

24 CHAIRMAN DAN STETSON: And if we could go
25 back to the -- thank you. Just to review, after

1 each panelist, if a CEP member would like to ask a
2 question, just go ahead and pop your card up like
3 this.

4 And for those CEP members joining us
5 online, if you have a question or comment, use the
6 raised hand icon under reactions at the top of
7 your screen so that we can identify you and make
8 you a presenter. For CEP members who joined us
9 late and may not be able to see their name on the
10 list and change their status from a guest to a
11 presenter, and thereby allow them to open and
12 close their microphone, in that case, CEP members
13 will have to use the raised hand icon for us to
14 see their name and make them a presenter.

15 For CEP members calling in on the phone
16 and audio only, two things to note: First, to
17 raise your hand, use star 5. Second, to open and
18 close your microphone, please use star 6 and keep
19 yourself muted until you wish to speak. You may
20 refer to the new instructions for speaking via
21 phone on the meeting Web page.

22 For general questions on general topics,
23 Manuel Camargo will lead and keep track of those
24 questions and assign them to the appropriate SCE
25 staff member to answer.

1 Next slide, please, Ace. Thank you.

2 Now let's move on to Mark Morgan with the
3 NRC update. Mark, the floor is yours.

4 MARK MORGAN: Thank you very much. Can
5 you hear me?

6 CHAIRMAN DAN STETSON: We can hear you.

7 MARK MORGAN: Outstanding.

8 So I appreciate this opportunity to
9 address the panel. I'm going to talk a little bit
10 about the results of our most recent inspection.
11 The NRC was out here in late March of this year.
12 You can see the dates, you can also see there's a
13 reference there at the bottom of the page to the
14 publicly-available version of the NRC's inspection
15 report. It's within their ADAMS database on their
16 website, NRC.gov.

17 In that inspection report, the NRC did
18 identify a severity level IV non-cited violation.
19 As Fred mentioned, that is the lowest severity
20 level that's documented by the NRC in an
21 inspection report, and it's usually associated
22 with what they describe in their guidance as no or
23 inappreciable actual or potential consequences.

24 But I want to echo what Fred said, we
25 don't consider any violation of regulatory

1 requirements to be acceptable. It's not
2 consistent with our site and our project values.
3 It's not consistent with our corporate values, and
4 as your regulatory affairs manager, of course,
5 this is all near and dear to my heart, so we don't
6 consider this level of performance to be
7 acceptable, and we have entered this issue into
8 our corrective action program. We performed a
9 formal cause evaluation, and we've identified
10 corrective actions that I'll talk about at the end
11 of this slide.

12 So what did happen, though. This
13 involved a low-level shipment of radioactive waste
14 to the low-level disposal facility in Clive, Utah
15 that's run by Energy Solutions. And there were
16 two 55-gallon drums that were characterized as
17 solid waste, and when they were opened by Energy
18 Solutions in Clive, they discovered that there was
19 liquid within the containers that was greater than
20 the 1 percent limit that's outlined in one
21 regulations.

22 So, essentially, what happened is we
23 mischaracterized this waste. We should have
24 shipped it as liquid waste.

25 Now, I imagine the thing that's most

1 important to members of the public who may be
2 listening, is that there were no actual or
3 potential consequences to the public health and
4 safety or the environment. The obvious concern
5 with liquid in a shipment is potential for a
6 leakage during transportation. In this case there
7 was no leakage from the drums. They were intact
8 when they arrived at Clive and when they were
9 opened by Energy Solutions.

10 And in the worst case, you know, if you
11 want to talk about potential consequences, any
12 potential leakage would have been contained by the
13 box that they were in called an intermodal. It's
14 the box that we place these drums in before we
15 place them on a railcar.

16 So I'll repeat it again, there were no
17 actual or potential consequences to public health
18 and safety or the environment.

19 Now, in terms of corrective actions, we
20 did take a look at our procedures. We've
21 strengthened our procedures for the handling of
22 mixed and hazardous waste as we prepared for
23 storage on site. And we focused those changes on
24 positive verification of the contents.

25 Now in addition, there were later points

1 in the process of preparing this waste for
2 shipment where we could have caught the fact that
3 it had been mislabeled in the first place, and we
4 look at those as missed opportunities to identify
5 the problem, and we have provided training to the
6 waste package certifiers on the causes and the
7 corrective actions and the need for procedural
8 compliance, again, to the waste package
9 certifiers.

10 So I will stop there, and I'll take any
11 questions from the panel.

12 CHAIRMAN DAN STETSON: Thank you very
13 much, Mark.

14 Let me look around and see if we have any
15 questions from our CEP members here.

16 I don't see any questions at this time.
17 So thanks once again for your update and report.

18 MARK MORGAN: Thank you.

19 CHAIRMAN DAN STETSON: If I might have
20 the next slide, please.

21 Now I have the pleasure of turning this
22 portion of the meeting over to Chris Wahl,
23 executive director of Spent Fuel Solutions
24 Coalition who will facilitate the focus
25 presentation and dialogue.

1 Chris, the floor is yours.

2 CHRIS WAHL: Thank you, Dan, and good
3 evening everybody that's both here and also
4 online. I'm excited to be here today. I'm
5 excited to speak about spent nuclear fuel and some
6 of the progress that's being made around the
7 country. In fact, Congressman Levin actually
8 stole a little bit of my thunder, so I'll adjust
9 my comments, so please bear with me.

10 I would like to thank Representative
11 Levin for his role, and all of the speakers here
12 today, the Engagement Panel, and of course,
13 members of the public.

14 I'd also like to acknowledge
15 Supervisor -- San Diego County Supervisor, Jim
16 Desmond who is here with us tonight, as well as
17 Orange County Supervisor Katrina Foley. They
18 serve as co-chairs of our coalition for Spent Fuel
19 Solutions.

20 As Dan said, my name is Chris Wahl. I'm
21 the executive director of the Spent Fuel Solutions
22 Coalition, and we have more than 300 local
23 governments, elected officials, utilities,
24 environmental groups, labor leaders, Native
25 American leaders, business organizations, and

1 other community members in 18 different states
2 around the country. We've grown significantly
3 since we were formed in 2021, and we're proud of
4 what we've accomplished to advocate for a
5 permanent repository for spent fuel.

6 And today's speakers bring considerable
7 insight into the potential solutions that we're
8 considering, many of which were outlined in the
9 landmark title report, the Path Forward for
10 Nuclear Waste in the United States. The report,
11 which was released by a group of nuclear experts
12 in January, outlines recommendations to break the
13 current stalemate and address spent nuclear fuel
14 and high level waste management and disposition.

15 The report could not have come out at a
16 better time given the momentum that we're seeing
17 in the country.

18 As Representative Levin mentioned, the
19 Nuclear Lifecycle Innovation Campus initiative is
20 getting a lot of traction and interest. Excited
21 to hear that more than half of the states in the
22 United States garnered responses, as I
23 mentioned -- as he mentioned, 26 states that are
24 potentially interested in hosting a Nuclear Life
25 Cycle Innovation Campus.

1 The response to the RFI is encouraging,
2 yet the path forward is not entirely clear, as we
3 know. There are many alternatives that merit a
4 national discussion as recommended in the Path
5 Forward Report. Today's discussion is a part of
6 that conversation.

7 We're going to hear different
8 perspectives from three leading experts with
9 extensive experience in the policy considerations
10 around used fuel storage and disposition.

11 Dr. Allison Macfarlane, one of the Path
12 Forward's report's lead authors, will provide
13 background information about the report and its
14 recommendation. Dr. Macfarlane currently directs
15 the School of Public Policy in Global Affairs at
16 the University of British Columbia. She is the
17 former chair of the United States Nuclear
18 Regulatory Commission and served on the Blue
19 Ribbon Commission on America's Nuclear Future.

20 Lake Barrett, the other lead co-author of
21 the report, will discuss the broader landscape
22 including where we've been in our efforts to
23 dispose of used fuel and where we seem to be
24 headed during this window of opportunity. An
25 independent consultant in the energy field,

1 Mr. Barrett previously served as the deputy and
2 acting director of the Office of Civilian Nuclear
3 Waste Management and have multiple roles at the
4 Nuclear Regulatory Commission.

5 Finally, Tom Isaacs will share his
6 perspective on legislations, what are the
7 must-haves, the nice-to-haves and the deal
8 breakers. Tom serves as an independent advisor to
9 Southern California Edison for nuclear waste. He
10 has been the senior executive in the Department of
11 Energy, was the lead advisor to the Blue Ribbon
12 Commission on America's Nuclear Future, and for
13 over 20 years helped guide the Canadian Nuclear
14 Waste Management Organization, including as chair
15 of the site selection review group that oversaw
16 the process leading to the successful siting of
17 Canada's repository. He also serves as a member
18 of the Spent Fuel Solutions policy committee.

19 Okay. As Dan said, each of our speakers
20 will make a ten-minute presentation, and then
21 we'll pause to take questions from the CEP members
22 at the end of each presentation. I'm going to try
23 my best to keep us on track. We have a tight
24 agenda today, so hopefully we'll limit it to two
25 questions after each of the presenter's

1 presentations, but we'll do our best to
2 accommodate everyone's thoughts. We will then
3 have a facilitated discussion, and I've got some
4 prepared questions that I'll ask the panelists
5 that I think are right on point based upon the
6 Path Forward plan.

7 So with that, I'm going to turn it over
8 to Dr. Macfarlane to kick us off with her
9 presentation.

10 ALLISON MACFARLANE: Great, thank you.
11 Thank you, everyone. Waiting for the slides to
12 come up.

13 But in the meantime it's been a minute, I
14 think, since I've been here in front of the CEP,
15 like maybe 11 years or something. But it's
16 fantastic to be back in San Clemente and to see
17 what's going on, and to catch up what's going on
18 with SONGS.

19 So two years ago, Lake, two years ago or
20 so Lake contacted me and said, Look, we've got to
21 do something about nuclear waste. We're not
22 making any progress in the U.S. It's time, you
23 know, there was a report out in 2018, but nothing
24 has happened since then. We need to do something,
25 and in Lake's estimation this is a good moment.

1 So, of course, I listened to, Lake, and so we
2 worked hard and pulled together a report.

3 What we did -- next slide -- is we pulled
4 together a bipartisan group, a small group, but
5 with hundreds of years collectively of experience
6 on nuclear waste issues. And it was a very broad
7 group in terms of representation and political
8 representation. We had all the way from the left
9 to the right, so we felt that it was balanced, and
10 we were putting forward our best efforts at what
11 we thought would help to move the U.S. forward in
12 actually really grappling with this problem now.

13 And so what I'm going to talk about
14 tonight, briefly, are our top two recommendations,
15 and I'm happy to answer questions from the CEP and
16 Spent Fuel Solutions, and also from the general
17 public in the room and online, of course.

18 So with no further adieu, let's take the
19 next slide. And our top two most important
20 factors to make progress is the United States
21 needs a new organization to implement a new
22 implementer, the nuclear waste process. Okay,
23 that means both the transportation and the final
24 disposal of the waste, and I'll talk about that
25 more in a second.

1 And we also need to fix the funding, and
2 I'll first explain how the funding situation is
3 completely broken, and our advice on how to fix it
4 working with our new implementer.

5 So first, turning to the new
6 implementer -- the next slide -- all right. So
7 what we don't have right now in the United States
8 is a trusted, funded, single-focused organization
9 to manage the nation's spent nuclear fuel and
10 high-level nuclear waste. The Department of
11 Energy, which was designated by law as the
12 implementer, lacks public trust and is constrained
13 by political processes. In other words, it is run
14 by a political appointee who is often changed out
15 every few years. Each new Secretary of Energy has
16 a different set of visions and foci, and the
17 Department of Energy doesn't just handle nuclear
18 waste, of course. It is the Department of Energy,
19 it handles energy programs for the nation, but it
20 also handles the nuclear weapons complex, so it is
21 pulled in many directions.

22 When Tom and I were on the Blue Ribbon
23 Commission everybody we heard from, everybody we
24 heard from, pronuclear/antinuclear said to the
25 Department of Energy, and so we believe that we

1 need a new organization.

2 On our Path Forward group we looked at
3 what other countries had been doing, because
4 actually a number of other countries are much
5 further ahead now than the United States. Finland
6 will open their deep geological repository before
7 2030, okay. They are deeply -- no pun intended --
8 into the construction of it. Sweden is starting
9 to construct their repository. Canada selected a
10 repository in 2024. They are already into their
11 licensing process. France is in the licensing
12 process. Switzerland has selected a repository
13 and will finalize that selection by 2031, et
14 cetera.

15 And what most of these countries had in
16 common was their implementer was an independent
17 corporation established by nuclear reactor owners.
18 And in the case of Switzerland, also the
19 government.

20 So that led to our suggestion of a
21 NuCorp, a nuclear reactor owner-led corporation.
22 So let me explain a little more about what we mean
23 by that.

24 Next slide. So we envisioned that, and
25 this would be we imagined put into law, that the

1 NuCorp would manage, transport, store, and dispose
2 of commercial spent nuclear fuel. This is all the
3 fuel that is covered under the current contract
4 that exists in the Nuclear Waste Policy Act.
5 They, of course, could, if they wanted to,
6 contract with any new reactors that are actually
7 developed in the United States for disposal of
8 their waste, but their waste is not covered by the
9 contract in the existing legislation. They would
10 be obligated to dispose of Department of Energy
11 owned high-level waste and spent nuclear fuel,
12 subject, of course, to a mutually acceptable
13 contract.

14 And by law, the NuCorp would be required
15 to use a collaborative consent-based siting
16 process and enter into a hosting agreement with
17 the state and affected local government or Indian
18 tribe if a Indian tribe is, in fact, going to be
19 one of the hosts.

20 We imagine that the NuCorp would be run
21 by a board of directors, similar to how any
22 corporation operates, and the board of directors
23 would be selected by members of both operating and
24 decommissioned nuclear power plants, and the board
25 would basically have fiduciary responsibility,

1 they would determine if there were any future
2 disposal fees needed, et cetera, that kind of
3 thing.

4 Now, you're all saying, well, wait a
5 minute who's going to be over them? And we
6 imagine, in law, an established oversight process.

7 Next slide. Next slide. Right. Thank
8 you, we are there. So we imagine an advisory
9 committee that would be established in law, okay.
10 The advisory committee would oversee NuCorp's
11 activities, it would have regular meetings, it
12 would be required to report regularly to congress
13 and to the public, and it would have a diverse
14 membership. It would have technical expertise,
15 social science expertise, expertise in siting
16 facilities, it would have representatives from
17 affected states or local communities or tribal
18 communities as needed. And we didn't limit that
19 membership. It could expand beyond that.

20 And, of course, the NuCorp would, of
21 course, for any facility that it sited, if it were
22 going to recite a repository or some kind of
23 storage facility, that it would be required to get
24 a license from the nuclear regulator, the Nuclear
25 Regulatory Commission, okay. And so that's how we

1 imagined the oversight would work.

2 Next slide. So I also mentioned fixing
3 the funding, because the funding is broken. Let
4 me explain how it's broken: You may be aware the
5 Nuclear Waste Fund, which was established by the
6 Nuclear Waste Policy Act is now at \$50 billion.
7 This was money paid by electricity customers, paid
8 by ratepayers at a cost of 1/10th of a sent per
9 kilowatt hour, so you folks here paid into that.
10 But congress has, unfortunately, treated this
11 money as if it were tax dollars, and so it
12 subjects any appropriations of this money to
13 archaic rules like the Graham-Rudman-Hollings Act,
14 and so it made -- congress has made it so it is
15 almost impossible to actually appropriate money
16 from this fund. That is not taxpayer money. And
17 so as a result, money from this fund has not been
18 allocated to nuclear waste disposal since 2010, so
19 16 years. And currently this money is being used
20 by congress to offset the federal debt, really not
21 what it was intended, okay.

22 There's also a breach of contract. So in
23 the Nuclear Waste Policy Act, the government, the
24 Department of Energy established a contract with
25 all the reactor owners that said that they would

1 begin to take nuclear waste away by 1998. Of
2 course that never happened, and so all the nuclear
3 reactor owners sued the federal government for
4 partial breach of contract, and they won, and so
5 money is being paid out of the judgment fund, the
6 same fund that you've been hearing about for other
7 reasons lately, and to date -- and that's taxpayer
8 money, by the way -- and so to date \$12 billion of
9 taxpayer money has been paid to reactor owners to
10 help manage their spent fuel, and we're on the
11 hook for \$40 billion or more of taxpayer money.
12 So this is a broken financial system.

13 And so what we suggest the solution is --
14 next slide -- is that, of course, NuCorp needs
15 funding when it needs it. So we suggest that we
16 start with the interest from the existing
17 \$50 billion Nuclear Waste Fund, that should go to
18 NuCorp on an annual basis. Annually that would be
19 almost \$2 billion. If NuCorp doesn't use it, they
20 will put it into an escrow account, a real escrow
21 account, which they can draw from if needed.
22 Eventually, all the monies from the waste fund
23 would have to be transferred, but this gives time
24 to figure that out. And we also felt, all of us,
25 felt that it was essential that money from the

1 Nuclear Waste Fund be used solely for the purpose
2 of waste disposal and preparation for disposal,
3 okay, not for reprocessing or recycling. I'll
4 make that clear right now.

5 Next slide. We also addressed a
6 potential linkage between any kind of temporary
7 storage and a permanent repository. So we said
8 that because there are so many sites that are like
9 San Onofre, like SONGS that are shut down,
10 permanently shut down in the country, there are
11 actually 17, that NuCorp should be allowed to
12 operate, if they feel they have enough money to do
13 so, a temporary storage facility. And that
14 temporary storage facility would only be able to
15 accept a limited amount of waste so that it
16 doesn't become a de facto permanent repository.
17 And so that's how we've dealt with any kind of
18 linkage between temporary and permanent storage.

19 Next slide.

20 CHRIS WAHL: Ms. Macfarlane --

21 ALLISON MACFARLANE: Last slide.

22 CHRIS WAHL: Oh, last slide, okay,
23 perfect.

24 ALLISON MACFARLANE: So we feel we've all
25 benefitted from electricity produced by nuclear

1 power. We really have to act, as you all know, to
2 make progress on moving the spent fuel to a safe
3 and permanent deep geologic repository. I think
4 we've proven over the last 44 years that the old
5 method is not working, and we need a new one. And
6 so we feel that those that already managed the
7 waste be the ones who continue to align financial
8 and other incentives to dispose of spent fuel. So
9 we suggest a NuCorp and we suggest new legislation
10 is needed to establish this in law. Okay.

11 CHRIS WAHL: All right. Thank you very
12 much. That was super informative.

13 Are there, or is there a question or two
14 I should say? Yes, sir, Victor.

15 VICTOR CABRAL: My question. I'll
16 reserve my judgment about NuCorp, but the last
17 administration --

18 CHRIS WAHL: Closer, please, closer to
19 the mic, please.

20 VICTOR CABRAL: I'm looking out into
21 space. That's all right.

22 The last administration had a policy
23 called consent-based siting, and that
24 consent-based siting, they decided to spend 23 to
25 \$26 million, not ask the industry, but to ask

1 professors, community, minority groups what the
2 best solution is for this, and that was their
3 strategy, and I understand that. I still haven't
4 seen a report on that, maybe there is one. But I
5 never saw the results, even though we spent
6 \$26 million on it. It's quite significant sum of
7 money. We probably will never hear back on that
8 report. That was the strategy of the Biden
9 administration. We have a new administration now
10 that has a philosophy that we're going to get into
11 these lifecycle campuses, and they've already
12 studied many of them, as you saw, there's one in
13 Clive, Utah, and others, that they're saying we're
14 going to work with the partnership, with states,
15 and counties and figure this out, which is the
16 really the way it should be done.

17 So my concern is about legislation. I
18 work 25 years in D.C., I did the crime bill, six
19 major pieces of legislation. This legislation is
20 at least five years in the making, in my view,
21 maybe longer, so why would we spend our time and
22 effort on pursuing that avenue instead of just
23 saying, let's get behind this administration and
24 figure out how we find the right place right now?

25 ALLISON MACFARLANE: Well, I think in

1 some ways you've already answered the question
2 because you pointed out that the Department of
3 Energy under the Biden administration was doing
4 one thing, and now the Department of Energy under
5 the Trump administration is doing another thing,
6 and so in 2028 if we have a new president and new
7 leadership in the Department of Energy, we may be
8 doing something even different. So that's why --
9 and this is something that the Blue Ribbon
10 Commission said -- you need continuity. This is a
11 long term project siting a repository, okay. And
12 so you need an organization that can exist for
13 many, many decades, okay, and has leadership that
14 is going to last a long time, not change every two
15 years or every four years, and so I think we've
16 proven that if we keep going with this government
17 agency model, especially Department of Energy
18 model, we're going to be having this conversation
19 in another 20 years, the same conversation.

20 CHRIS WAHL: Dr. Macfarlane, thank you.
21 That is a great answer. I'm going to move it on
22 to Lake, so he can jump into his presentation.

23 ROGELIO HERNANDEZ: I think there's
24 another question.

25 CHRIS WAHL: Oh, there's another

1 question. Oh, I'm sorry. Okay. I don't want to
2 be the bad guy here but we're already behind our
3 pace.

4 HON. JOHN TAYLOR: Just a quick one. I
5 just -- question the -- how do you overcome the
6 distrust the public has for the nuclear generator
7 folks by allowing them to be now the trusted
8 entity that will take care of the waste? I'm
9 curious. It seems like this is a for profit --
10 how do you deal with that?

11 ALLISON MACFARLANE: It's a great
12 question, because it's true. I mean, there are
13 many places in the country there is a lot of
14 distrust in the nuclear industry, but there are
15 also other places in the country where there is a
16 lot of trust, and those folks are where we can
17 learn, okay. Those folks have a lot to offer in
18 terms of leadership and how you generate trust
19 with your local community.

20 And so, you know, I'm not going to
21 characterize the situation here, but the -- in
22 the -- there are plenty of places where that trust
23 exists, and I think you can draw from that.

24 CHRIS WAHL: Thank you.

25 Lake, we are going to turn it to you.

1 LAKE BARRETT: Okay. If we could start
2 the slide deck, then I'll try to address some of
3 those questions as I go through this. Allison
4 described our report, and it is heavy-lift
5 legislation, as your point it is. There's
6 opportunities coming working with the states and
7 with private industry where it he can fit
8 together.

9 So next slide, please. These are going
10 to be rather busy, but I'm not going to go through
11 them, but we can come back if people wish to.
12 Basically back from 1983 to 2010, we thought we
13 were going to have a geological repository in this
14 country. That failed from the top down, as
15 Congressman Levin said. Basically -- next
16 slide -- that didn't work, so the fuel sits where
17 it was made, and SONGS is the prime example of
18 that. This is not an acceptable situation. This
19 has been what's going on from 2010 until now.
20 Now, maybe it's going to continue, but this is
21 what we've had.

22 So now this administration -- next slide,
23 please -- has come in and changed quite a bit,
24 okay. Their nuclear lifecycle innovation
25 campuses, it is a completely cultural change.

1 It's now the shift from a government having a job
2 to the private industry and the states and the
3 locals are together with the elitists. So it's
4 business-driven. We all know about AI centers,
5 the need for electricity. Things have changed,
6 drastically changed in the last -- just a few
7 years.

8 This is driving a new need for
9 electricity. Nuclear electricity is now really
10 what's going to carry a lot of that. Yes, wind
11 and solar and others will play a role, but as far
12 as heavy duty lifting for these 24/7 AI centers,
13 you'll need nuclear.

14 Anyway, this needs a fuel cycle to
15 support the nuclear energy, and that includes the
16 back-end and being responsible in our generation
17 to dispose of our own waste, okay. As the states
18 now have an interest in the nuclear energy world
19 and these campuses, and that is put together in a
20 total package, which includes the back end of a
21 disposition and geological disposal.

22 Now, also, these 26 states came back,
23 they are very interested in recycling, okay.
24 Recycling may assist in this waste disposal, but
25 recycling is an independent issue from waste

1 disposal, but it's an important part of finding a
2 bottom's up, state community-driven, hosting
3 arrangement, which is critical.

4 Next slide, please. This is what it
5 looks like if we go into this type of an approach.
6 Fuel goes from reactors into receiving facility,
7 and it goes into some direct disposal, some may go
8 to be reprocessed, some of these new advanced
9 reactors require reprocessing, because there are
10 special different types of technical fuel,
11 different from the old LWR fuel. We can go into
12 this, if you wish later, but this is the concept
13 that is being looked at by the DOE at this time.

14 Next slide. Exactly which is going to be
15 where, they're talking about maybe three or four
16 campuses. It's going to be split up. It will be
17 very dynamic, and it really is driven by the
18 states and the communities on what they're willing
19 to do, and also the private industry. Will the
20 money flow from the private industry to support
21 the fuel cycles that's needed to produce the
22 electricity? As we all know, there's billions of
23 dollars being invested by private corporations to
24 drive the AI world, and we think of some of that
25 needs to go with responsibility for dealing with

1 the waste that we currently have, like at SONGS,
2 and the waste that they're going to produce in the
3 future.

4 Next slide, please. So a little bit
5 about what's likely to happen in the future, along
6 what Congressman Levin talked about earlier.
7 First, DOE is engaging with states and communities
8 and private companies, and all the government
9 agencies to put together the general agreement.
10 Their goal is to come out with memorandums of
11 understanding in July. That's their target. Will
12 they make it or not? I don't know. They're
13 working hard to do that, and states have responded
14 promptly in a short period of time, and so they're
15 working on it.

16 Now, how these are going to work out, we
17 don't know yet. But these are complex, social,
18 political, legal, economic, financial amongst
19 these parties, and it depends on all the parties,
20 the three -- the government, the DOE, the private
21 industry, and the host state and communities --
22 they have to trust each other, and they have to
23 perform, not on promises like some of these
24 private industry things. They've got to actually
25 perform.

1 Next slide, please. The second step will
2 be once there's this general understanding about
3 who's going to do what, where, then you have to
4 come up with the actual hosting agreements,
5 performance agreements, they have to be legally
6 sustainable, they have to withstand many
7 administrations. Can't be the next president
8 changing his mind or the next governor changing
9 his mind or her mind.

10 So these are going to be complex,
11 sustainable, multi-organizational partnerships
12 that have to be put together that mutually works
13 for everybody. It needs to maintain a passive
14 geological disposal capability at the very end
15 point, but there's a lot of flexibility in how you
16 put all these pieces together. They can meet the
17 needs of a host state, so this is not another
18 top-down failure.

19 Next slide, please. The third step is
20 really where Congressman Levin is the leader is
21 when this comes forward to congress, congress
22 needs to act on it. So congress, I don't think,
23 is going to take our report and go work that and
24 make that happen in absence of real progress or
25 real state in a real situation, so it has to get

1 real.

2 So when the proposal comes forward that's
3 agreed upon by the governor, the community, the
4 private industry is going to put the money into
5 it, and the DOE, then you start to put together
6 the sustainable, legal things, which will likely
7 change, require changes to the legislation, such
8 as the Nuclear Waste Policy Act. These have to be
9 sustainable, durable agreements that have to be
10 bipartisan. We're not going to do with this just
11 one party or another, not when this country is
12 like it is.

13 Next slide, please. The final policy
14 step where congress is going to work this and have
15 contracts and legal settlements and figure out to
16 fix the funding, this is where I feel our Path
17 Forward report will have a lot of impact to that.
18 Because one of the things that all parties are
19 going to say, I need to have trust from you other
20 two that you're going to do what you say you're
21 going to do.

22 And I think from the federal government's
23 side where DOE is constantly bombarded by the two,
24 four, and six year federal election cycle, there's
25 always election two years away, and it's always

1 critical my party has to maintain whatever. Okay.
2 And every electoral vote is fought over tooth and
3 nail. Every senatorial seat is fought over tooth
4 and nail. We have got to minimize that negative
5 impact that has hurt us historically for decades
6 and will continue to hurt us, and I think if you
7 have a real agreement, partnership agreement, the
8 party is going to demand that it have stability to
9 it, it's sustainable, and that's where I think our
10 report will come in and will actually take place.
11 When will this happen? We don't know.

12 I will tell you that nuclear waste policy
13 amendments happen during lame duck sessions; they
14 always have. The original '82 act was lame duck,
15 '87 amendment was lame duck. We have a lame duck
16 coming up in January -- Christmas, December of
17 '26, and there will be one in '28. Some people
18 think this can be done this lame duck, this coming
19 fall -- coming Christmas. I will be amazed if
20 that can happen. It can happen. I say go for it.
21 Let's get it on the table, let's have a dialogue,
22 let's look at the actual proposals, the actual
23 contracts, and make some real progress. Even if
24 some parts of it you don't like or do like, let's
25 get it on the table and let's work as a nation and

1 solve our problem.

2 Next slide, please. So this is the
3 dialogue that's going to be going on. Your
4 Congressman Levin I think is a leader with this.
5 I loved his interaction with Secretary Wright here
6 in the hearing a few weeks ago. It was very
7 positive. Here you have a democrat and a
8 republican working for the nation. This
9 administration is very aggressive on this. I hope
10 they have disposal at the right balance, we will
11 see.

12 We have many new private industry
13 players. These are big players with big money and
14 big needs. So can they do half of the things some
15 of them claim to do, I don't think so, but I want
16 to be open. I would have never thought Elon Musk
17 could do the things he did. Maybe these people
18 can. They're going to have to prove it and do it
19 if they ever want to get paid for something.
20 We're not going to use the Nuclear Waste Fund for
21 our indeed purposes and great ideas, okay.

22 If we have a good start, 26 states have
23 responded, wide variation -- some of them I don't
24 think are very critical -- but if we can get
25 three, four, five, six that are serious, I think

1 that's great progress, more than we've had in
2 16 years for sure.

3 So I think we have promising
4 opportunities. I think SONGS can be a big part of
5 that going into the staging facility initially.
6 It may not be the first ones to recycle or
7 anything like, but I think they can be great value
8 here, and it's going to take everybody pulling
9 together to make this happen.

10 And I think the Spent Fuel Solutions
11 group here and SONGS and Congressman Levin, being
12 a leader, I think we're going to be a big part of
13 us making this work and not be five more years of
14 nothing. Thank you.

15 CHRIS WAHL: Thank you very much. Very
16 interesting. Who has questions?

17 Okay. Victor has got one.

18 VICTOR CABRAL: It's a question about
19 what you said. I agree with everything you said.
20 Do you see any problem or issue with a dual track,
21 though, that is pursuing this NuCorp and
22 simultaneously looking at what this administration
23 is doing and saying there's a window of
24 opportunity here that exists, that we need to, as
25 an organization get behind that, see if we could

1 push that -- push them both along simultaneously?
2 What's your reaction to that?

3 LAKE BARRETT: I think they're going to
4 merge. I think the Path Forward report is a way
5 to have the DOE, the implementer, be a better
6 implementer that can fit into a successful
7 community state-driven solution. I see them
8 merging. I don't see them as a dependant. I
9 don't think our Path Forward alone could sustain
10 congressional action.

11 VICTOR CABRAL: Okay.

12 LAKE BARRETT: Okay.

13 CHRIS WAHL: Any other questions?

14 MANUEL CAMARGO: Chris, there's one on
15 line.

16 CHRIS WAHL: One on line, okay. Oh, Jim
17 Desmond. Sorry, Supervisor.

18 JIM DESMOND: Ready? Okay. You almost
19 skipped me, Chris.

20 Okay. The -- hey, I hope this is a great
21 presentation and I'm really -- this is
22 forward-thinking, and I appreciate you bringing
23 this forward. As Mayor Taylor had mentioned
24 earlier, I was still stuck on this \$26 million
25 thing we were going out and we're getting -- going

1 to get some sort of input from communities about
2 their willingness to at least look into it. When
3 did this go out? When did this go out to -- maybe
4 you said it.

5 LAKE BARRETT: Well, the Biden
6 administration had the \$26 million thing you're
7 talking about. I think that had value in getting
8 communities to understand it better. It was an
9 educational process. Yes, it was at the lower
10 levels. It was at the local communities,
11 different groups, constituencies, but there were
12 business people involved, and it did help develop
13 states understand nuclear waste and their role.

14 Because they became -- they're part of
15 the solution. They're not just being --
16 Washington is just not doing it to them, okay.

17 JIM DESMOND: When did this RFP or
18 whatever go out from, I guess, the current
19 administration?

20 LAKE BARRETT: Current -- they put this
21 out in January.

22 JIM DESMOND: Of this year?

23 LAKE BARRETT: Of this year, yeah. And
24 it took them a little while to put it together.
25 They had to get their people in place. Yes, this

1 is a strong initiative by them, and also the AI
2 world has changed. I mean, things change. The
3 stars are aligning to an opportunity we have, and
4 I think the administration is seeing that.

5 I think some of it may be overdone, and
6 some of the vendors are pumping up their stock in
7 this kind of thing, but you know, there are
8 safeguards for that, and they have to perform. So
9 a lot of these are going to drop off, and I think
10 the real ones, I think, can survive.

11 JIM DESMOND: I like your presentation so
12 much. This is the second time I've seen it. You
13 didn't put up your generic conceptual plan.

14 LAKE BARRETT: The one that was here was
15 the last version, wasn't the most current version.
16 There was a picture I had of the parts.

17 JIM DESMOND: Yeah, I got it here.

18 LAKE BARRETT: Oh, you have it there, but
19 this one is not the right one.

20 JIM DESMOND: You didn't include it in
21 this one.

22 LAKE BARRETT: I meant to, but it wasn't
23 there. I'm sorry.

24 JIM DESMOND: Well, I think that
25 conceptual plan -- it's not there -- you had all

1 the energy producing and recycling and even a data
2 center located on the same site, which is kind of
3 like one of the challenges we have with these data
4 centers coming in and eating up a lot of energy
5 and electricity, it would be nice if they were
6 co-located.

7 So I'm already encouraged -- this is kind
8 of a 30,000 foot level, still at this point in
9 time there's a lot of things to work out.

10 But I guess for Allison, since Chris Wahl
11 was in a hurry, I didn't get my question in.

12 CHRIS WAHL: Sorry. We're still in a
13 hurry, Supervisor.

14 JIM DESMOND: Okay. The -- one of the
15 things that you said is that there are guardrails
16 on the \$50 billion for disposal, and that's all
17 it's ever going to be, it's not going to be used
18 for repurposing or recycling, and to me, I kind of
19 question that to say, well, if repurposing and
20 recycling is getting rid of the spent nuclear
21 fuel --

22 ALLISON MACFARLANE: No.

23 JIM DESMOND: -- or using some of that
24 spent nuclear fuel, then there's a possibility
25 that that would be just as good as disposing it

1 somewhere or someplace else.

2 ALLISON MACFARLANE: But it's not.

3 JIM DESMOND: But it's not. I think you
4 got -- anyway, I think we need to be open.

5 ALLISON MACFARLANE: Reprocessing, the
6 industry calls it recycling, but it's just
7 reprocessing. You just take your spent fuel, you
8 dissolve it, you extract your uranium and
9 plutonium, you never reuse your uranium, because
10 it's contaminated with isotopes that make it
11 difficult to reuse.

12 JIM DESMOND: Okay.

13 ALLISON MACFARLANE: So you only would
14 reuse the plutonium that you extract, and that's
15 1 percent by weight of the spent fuel, okay. And
16 then you would potentially, in theory, use that in
17 for light water reactors in a mixed oxide fuel,
18 but no light water reactors in the U.S. use mixed
19 oxide fuel, and it would cost money to --

20 JIM DESMOND: How about the uranium part?
21 You can't reuse that?

22 ALLISON MACFARLANE: Yeah, you can't --
23 you won't reuse the uranium. So you still end up
24 with high-level nuclear waste, which say France
25 does this, they turn that high-level waste into a

1 glass, but they still need a repository. That's
2 why France is developing --

3 JIM DESMOND: Does it reduce the
4 amount of --

5 ALLISON MACFARLANE: It reduces the
6 volume but volume is not the relevant unit of
7 measure for geologic repository size. It is heat
8 production and composition of the waste, depending
9 on the geology --

10 JIM DESMOND: For recycling and reusing,
11 to me, I'm not -- you're much more technical than
12 I am at this, but it seems like if we are
13 repurposing or recycling what we've got, that is a
14 potential, you know, not a disposal but reusing
15 that, to me, that might be a potential for using
16 some of those dollars. I guess, I'd like to see
17 an open mind --

18 ALLISON MACFARLANE: Unfortunately --

19 JIM DESMOND: I'd like to finish.

20 ALLISON MACFARLANE: Sorry.

21 JIM DESMOND: And I'd like to see an open
22 mind on those particular -- potentially using
23 maybe some of those dollars for the repurposing
24 and/or the recycling. I see you are shaking your
25 head, but probably 50 years ago they would say

1 we'd never be at this point today. I would like
2 to at least have open mind on the technology is
3 going to advance, and hopefully we have that
4 potential.

5 I agree we need to get rid of it, but if
6 we can repurpose it and recycle it and reuse it
7 and technology advances, as it has, I mean, in the
8 last 50 years San Onofre was, like, '70s
9 technology.

10 I would like to think that we would have
11 open minds and not just say, no, this is the way
12 it's always going to be moving forward.

13 ALLISON MACFARLANE: I have an open mind,
14 but I also know quite a bit about the technology.

15 JIM DESMOND: You do.

16 ALLISON MACFARLANE: Okay.

17 JIM DESMOND: I appreciate that.

18 ALLISON MACFARLANE: I can tell you that
19 countries that have reprocessed have stopped it
20 because it's so expensive, and uranium is
21 plentiful. I'm a geologist. I've written
22 peer-reviewed papers on uranium resources.
23 Uranium is plentiful, and so it will be cheaper
24 for at least 100 years. So there will not be any
25 financial reason to do this.

1 The United States did go down the
2 reprocessing road in the 1960s and '70s, and they
3 stopped because it was too expensive. It also
4 creates vast quantities of low-level nuclear waste
5 and intermediate nuclear waste that you, then,
6 have to dispose of and find a place to dispose of,
7 all right. And you still need your deep geologic
8 repository.

9 JIM DESMOND: I'm not saying you wouldn't
10 need it.

11 CHRIS WAHL: Okay. Can I just interject?
12 I think you've made your point.

13 LAKE BARRETT: Can I add a little bit?
14 Allison and I don't agree a hundred percent on
15 this. We agree we need disposal, and we agree you
16 shouldn't take the waste fund to go do recycling,
17 but I believe there are advantages of the recycle
18 concept, especially in getting the governor to
19 agree to have the facility, including disposal, in
20 this state.

21 It's -- the governor is an elected
22 official and has to deal with social opinion, and
23 recycling is lot easier than saying it's a waste
24 facility.

25 CHRIS WAHL: Supervisor Desmond, do you

1 have any other questions, or did you get those
2 addressed?

3 JIM DESMOND: Done. I'm good. Thank
4 you, though, thank you.

5 CHRIS WAHL: Good discussion. That's why
6 we're here.

7 HON. JOHN TAYLOR: Just a quick --

8 CHRIS WAHL: I think John, Mayor was
9 next. Do you have a quick comment, Fred, that you
10 want to make?

11 FRED BAILLY: Yes.

12 CHRIS WAHL: I'll let Fred go, and we'll
13 come back to you, and there was also someone on
14 line too.

15 FRED BAILLY: Just a quick comment. I
16 appreciate the input, but with my background
17 having spent 25 years in a company that does
18 recycling and reprocessing, the French have been
19 doing it for decades. Yes, the Brits have
20 started, the Japanese are still going after to do
21 it on a commercial scale, and the French are
22 investing in the next generation of reprocessing
23 plant. They are committed to it for a fleet of 56
24 reactors. They are using reprocessed uranium in a
25 couple of reactors, not all of them, but basically

1 10 percent of the electricity is coming from
2 recycled fuel. I want to mention that.

3 CHRIS WAHL: That's great. Good
4 perspective.

5 HON. JOHN TAYLOR: Just a quick question?

6 CHRIS WAHL: Yes.

7 HON. JOHN TAYLOR: What is the benefit of
8 AI in all of this dialogue?

9 LAKE BARRETT: AI needs tremendous
10 amounts of electricity that we don't have. That
11 basically is driving the electricity needs. China
12 puts out, you know, twice as much electricity as
13 we do. They're going to become the leaders, and
14 we are going to be following. We have got to get
15 electricity from whatever source to support that,
16 and that's what's driving nuclear growth right
17 now.

18 HON. JOHN TAYLOR: I see. I was thinking
19 AI was part of the solution to all this.

20 ALLISON MACFARLANE: No. But there is a
21 mismatch between how soon the electricity could be
22 delivered from nuclear versus how soon it's
23 actually needed for data centers, and I think it's
24 kind of a massive mismatch.

25 CHRIS WAHL: I think it is a good

1 comment, though. I mean, I just know my own
2 reading, and I'm not a nuclear scientist, but we
3 do need some way to generate more electricity to
4 meet that power. We're in a national -- we're in
5 an international competition with countries around
6 the world and whoever wins this -- there are some
7 people that think whoever wins this AI race,
8 they're going to be leading the world. It's
9 definitely a relevant issue and topic.

10 I do think we have someone online, right,
11 Manuel?

12 MANUEL CAMARGO: Ted Quinn.

13 CHRIS WAHL: Ted, please. Thank you for
14 your patience, Ted.

15 MANUEL CAMARGO: Yes. Can we open his
16 mic?

17 TED QUINN: Okay. Can you hear me okay?

18 MANUEL CAMARGO: Yes.

19 TED QUINN: Good. I wanted to thank Lake
20 and Dr. Macfarlane for their leadership in this.

21 Two points I wanted to make is precedent
22 in crafting legislation. Lake, do you see any
23 precedent from the organization that you ran, The
24 Office of Civilian Radioactive Waste Management or
25 from, say, the Institute of Nuclear Power

1 Operations from a business perspective, are there
2 lessons learned that we could take advantage of,
3 and can it help us with, perhaps, crafting a
4 legislation that we need for Congressman Levin and
5 others to actually writing the legislation to
6 incorporate those lessons learned?

7 LAKE BARRETT: Yes, I do. I think
8 there's a lot we can learn from all the parties.
9 You know, focusing in on the congressional
10 approach to change the legislation, yes, I do.

11 CHRIS WAHL: Was there a second question?

12 TED QUINN: No, thank you.

13 CHRIS WAHL: Okay. Thank you for that.

14 Okay. I see we have one other comment or
15 one more question on line, if I'm not mistaken,
16 we'll let them go first, and we're going to make
17 sure we have enough time for Tom Isaacs as well.
18 We're running a little behind, but I think
19 everyone is engaged, so we're going to keep going
20 here.

21 MANUEL CAMARGO: As long as it's from a
22 CEP.

23 CHRIS WAHL: Oh, from the CEP.

24 MANUEL CAMARGO: If it's from a CEP
25 member on line, yeah.

1 CHRIS WAHL: Is it not?
2 MANUEL CAMARGO: I don't know.
3 CHRIS WAHL: How do we know? I see it's
4 green. Do you want to wait? Is that person --
5 MANUEL CAMARGO: What's the name?
6 CHRIS WAHL: What's the name of the
7 person that's got the question?
8 MANUEL CAMARGO: Alice somebody.
9 CHRIS WAHL: Okay. I think maybe,
10 Manuel, keep going?
11 MANUEL CAMARGO: We do have an hour
12 reserved for later in this meeting for questions,
13 and that should be adequate for all members of the
14 public to engage at that time.
15 CHRIS WAHL: That's right after our
16 break. Right?
17 Great. I apologize for making you wait
18 on line. There will be ample time to do that if
19 you can just be patient. Thank you.
20 Tom, you're up.
21 TOM ISAACS: Thank you, and hello
22 everybody.
23 I'm biting my tongue because I have a
24 strong views about this reprocessing question, but
25 I'm not going to use my ten minutes on it. I will

1 tell you that when the Blue Ribbon Commission,
2 which was a robust group of commissioners,
3 discussed all the issues that were in that report.
4 The most contentious issue by far was coming up to
5 a single point of view on how to talk about
6 reprocessing and recycling. It is not an easy
7 issue, but I don't want to talk about that right
8 now. If you want to ask me a question, I have
9 lots of thoughts.

10 I want to start by saying that I think
11 Allison and Lake and their colleagues have done a
12 great job by putting forward this report.
13 Bringing light once again to the fact that we need
14 action if we're going to solve this problem and if
15 we're ultimately going to get the spent fuel off
16 of the site at San Onofre and other plants around
17 the country.

18 I will tell you that by my count it is
19 at least the fifth report starting with the Blue
20 Ribbon Commission report, which started when they
21 stopped the program, at least the fifth report to
22 look at what we need to do. All five of which
23 have come to basically the same conclusion, which
24 is that you need to take this out of the
25 Department of Energy, and you need to give the new

1 entity access to the funds it needs in order to do
2 that job.

3 What we need, and we should be clear-eyed
4 about this, is legislation in order to get this
5 program back on track. We need to articulate the
6 need for this program. It is too easy and has
7 been too easy for people to do nothing, to just
8 push this down the road, but eventually doing
9 nothing has consequences, and we will wind up
10 paying for it. We need to effect the sense of
11 urgency behind this program.

12 What I want to do, I just want to quickly
13 talk about three things: The first thing I want
14 to talk about some of the qualities that need to
15 be there in order for this program to be
16 successful. It's not enough to have legislation.

17 The second thing I want to do is talk
18 about the legislation itself and how we might
19 think about it, and then third, and last, I just
20 want to talk a little bit about this issue about
21 whether we should have a storage facility and a
22 repository storage being temporary in place of
23 ultimate disposal, and then have a disposal
24 facility and whether there needs to be some
25 linkage. Right now in law there is. We need to

1 talk about how to fix that if we're going to be
2 successful.

3 What are some -- you know how I am. Some
4 of the key qualities that are important here and
5 that have been discussed, the more independent
6 this new entity is, the better. The most rare
7 sentence that you will hear in Washington, D.C. is
8 "my predecessor did everything right, I'm just
9 going to continue to do what they do." That never
10 happens in Washington. Doesn't matter if it's the
11 same party or another party, people need to feel
12 that they are putting their imprint on things.
13 Yet as you've heard, this is a program that will
14 last generations.

15 I've been working closely -- I'll reflect
16 a little more on this -- with the Canadian
17 program. They were able to come up from a
18 standing start to a site that's approved, and it
19 took them 20 years, and that was really quick.
20 They did a really good job.

21 If we're going to be successful, the
22 program like this has got to be buffered from
23 elections, buffered from administrative changes,
24 buffered from elections and those kinds of things.

25 The second thing is the fewer demands on

1 the program, the better. I used to tell the
2 Canadians, when I spoke to them, that you should
3 go slow to go fast. They translated that into
4 Canadian, so they say go slow to go far. What it
5 basically means is, if you're going to be
6 successful in this program, you need to take the
7 time to do the thing right. You need to engage
8 with all the political entities, with the
9 communities that are going to be involved, with
10 the transportation quarters, and build and earn a
11 sense of trust and partnership for this kind of
12 thing to work.

13 I managed the international program for
14 ten years in the Department of Energy in this
15 area. I've been to all the places that are there.
16 The places that are successful all do this. They
17 all are committed, and they all have the right
18 kinds of people to do this. Not everyone can do
19 this kind of a job. There are certain very
20 special techniques and capabilities that it takes
21 for people to be able to go into a community, to
22 go into a political circumstance, to deal with all
23 of the many things that will adjust over time, and
24 keep your eye on the ball, but be adaptable enough
25 to meet the changes that will occur inevitably

1 over time that Lake reflected on a bit earlier.

2 Economics will change, values will
3 change, political circumstances will change. All
4 of that requires you to keep your focus on the
5 bottom line, which is getting the spent fuel off
6 of these sites into temporary storage and
7 ultimately disposed of, and at the same time doing
8 it in a way that builds trust and partnership so
9 that these communities are going to be willing to
10 go deal with it.

11 The first time I went to Finland and
12 visited their program -- Allison talked about
13 Finland -- I came back and I walked into the
14 senior management meeting in the Department of
15 Energy, I said, you know something, they are
16 smarter than we are. And then I wrote a paper
17 about it, because -- and everybody was very
18 unhappy to hear that. They thought the United
19 States was the best in everything and, of course,
20 from science and technological point of view, we
21 are as good as anybody on the planet, but they
22 understood the job. They understood what it took
23 to be successful here, whether they were the
24 technical leaders or the institutional leaders in
25 that program or dealing with society, they knew

1 how to engage people and engage communities in a
2 way that built trust over time.

3 They demonstrated that they were
4 competent, they demonstrated that they were
5 well-intentioned, they listened to people's
6 concerns and didn't say, "We're the government or
7 we're the scientists, trust us."

8 They said, "If you're concerned, we're
9 concerned," and they dealt with it. And they
10 dealt with it over and over again. They made
11 promises, and they delivered. They made promises,
12 and they delivered. That's how you build trust,
13 and it takes time, and it takes energy. And if
14 you think that's taking away from your schedule,
15 you're going to fail. And that's why the idea
16 that somehow we have these demands for progress in
17 sort of a fast way, undermines the ability to be
18 successful.

19 So what are some of the key features that
20 are going to be required for this organization?
21 You heard a bit of this already. They need to be
22 stable over long periods of time. I once did a
23 calculation looking at the leaders of the waste
24 program in the Department of Energy. At that
25 point in time the average tenure of the leader --

1 half of the time it was Lake Barrett in an acting
2 capacity -- the average tenure was 19 months.
3 Every year and a half we had a change in
4 leadership.

5 I've been dealing with the Canadian
6 Nuclear Waste Management organization. They're
7 now 23 years old. They're still on their third
8 president in 23 years, and she's still in the job,
9 and I imagine will be in the job for some period
10 of time. The stability, the ability -- and by the
11 way, the people that they pick change their
12 characteristics with time. When you're in the
13 siting mode, which we were for much of those
14 20 years, the kind of person you need leading that
15 organization, the first one was a totally
16 nontechnical person. She walked on water, as far
17 as I was concerned. She was originally a school
18 teacher from Saskatchewan, but she had the magic.
19 She understood how to deal with the social and the
20 political as well as the technical issues.

21 So it's very important that we get to the
22 place where this program is able to be stable. As
23 I already mentioned, you have to be able to
24 recruit and pay the right people if you're going
25 to be successful. The people, again, in Canada

1 and also in Finland and Sweden that we've heard
2 about, those people are true professionals. When
3 it comes to the director of communications, the
4 manager of communications, these people are
5 seasoned, outstanding people for leading
6 communications.

7 When they come to the manager of
8 engagement, these people have extreme expertise
9 and experience in how to engage with these kind of
10 difficult controversial facilities and so forth.

11 We already talked about the fact that you
12 need to keep your eye on the mission, but you need
13 to be adaptable. Things change with time. We see
14 it in programs in The United States, and we see it
15 in programs overseas. Sometimes what a community
16 wants is not what you think they want. You think
17 they want money and what they want is something
18 else.

19 And I don't have time right now, but some
20 of the examples that made a difference in places
21 like Finland and Sweden were amazing. One of the
22 things that happened in Sweden -- sorry -- in
23 Finland was they built a home for the senior
24 citizens in the middle of city. That's what the
25 community wanted. The program didn't say, Well,

1 that's not our problem, that's your problem. They
2 said if that's the compelling problem in the city,
3 let's work together to make it happen. And then
4 what did they do for the old facility for the
5 seniors? They turned it into their office in the
6 town. That's the kind of creative thinking that's
7 required. They must be unambiguously motivated
8 and incentivized to do the job, and that's where I
9 think there's a question about how to formulate
10 this new organization.

11 My own view is that it -- and the Blue
12 Ribbon Commission had a slightly different
13 recommendation than the one that the Path Forward
14 Report did -- it's a question as to whether or not
15 the utilities are the right entity to solely
16 manage this program.

17 The utilities in this country there are
18 far more and -- there are far and they are far
19 more diverse than they are in countries like
20 Finland and Sweden and Canada, which only have one
21 or two utilities to deal with, and they're very
22 homogenous in their dealing. In this country
23 they're very diverse. So they have different
24 objectives and different priorities in those
25 utilities, and some of them are in the money

1 making business.

2 This is a program for the public good.
3 It's got to be done cost effectively, but its
4 reason for being is to solve the national problem.
5 And not only does whoever runs this program have
6 to be credible and focused on doing the right
7 thing, they have to be seen as credible and doing
8 the right thing, and there may be some issues
9 there.

10 The money that you put into this program
11 came from the utilities. They're no longer
12 putting money into that program. They're getting
13 money from the taxpayer, from us, to manage the
14 spent fuel because the Department of Energy didn't
15 meet its obligation. So there may be some
16 perception that the utilities are perfectly happy
17 with the things going on just the way they are.
18 They're no longer putting money into pay. They're
19 getting money from us to manage. That's an issue.

20 A second issue is some utilities didn't
21 put money in at the beginning to pay for the waste
22 that was created before the law was passed. They
23 were given an option to pay up front or to pay
24 later. There are certain utilities right now who
25 have not paid, who if the program gets back on

1 track, will owe a lot of money back into the
2 federal government. These are perception issues
3 that I think need to be fully complicated out in
4 the open so that people can discuss what's the
5 right way to formulate this.

6 With regard to siting, it's true that the
7 utilities are the experts on the nuclear activity,
8 but with regard to siting, the nuclear is
9 important, but it's not the most important part of
10 siting. The most important part of siting is what
11 I call the "ologies": geology, hydrology,
12 climatology, volcanology to make sure that when
13 you pick a place and put the waste in the ground,
14 it stays there.

15 And so that's a very different set of
16 skills than the nuclear community has. And the
17 second thing, in addition to the ologies, is the
18 sociopolitical engagement aspects, and there are
19 lots of folks out there who are experts in this.
20 I'm not so sure that the nuclear community alone
21 is the best to do this.

22 I don't say this because I think the Path
23 Forward Report is recommending is wrong, I say it
24 because I think we need a robust discussion on how
25 to formulate this entity, because you're going to

1 get one bite at the apple, and that apple needs to
2 be done in a way that is going to last for
3 generations.

4 So my last comment on that is that when
5 legislation comes, like Lake Barrett says, it
6 comes in a session that's very condensed and very
7 quick, and you need to be prepared, and so I
8 recommended that we have three buckets of things
9 to prepare: One, what do we need to have,
10 essentially, a new legislation when the debate
11 comes? And the things that need to be there are
12 the things that Lake, Allison, and their committee
13 have recommended.

14 The second thing is what are things that
15 are desirable but you're not going to fall on your
16 sword over? But things that you very much would
17 like to have in the legislation so that when the
18 dialogue and the debate comes, you've got that
19 there.

20 And the third one, what things can you
21 absolutely not have in there that are,
22 essentially, poison pills that will keep you from
23 being successful? The linkage that's in law
24 between building a temporary storage facility and
25 building a repository, makes the temporary storage

1 facility, essentially, not useful. That one
2 sentence in there was put in there without
3 understanding, I believe, fully the implications
4 of what they did. So it made for the last
5 decades, 20 years, 30 years, the idea of building
6 a storage facility with the current legislation
7 and the current law, not useful. We need to be
8 prepared to make sure that none of those things
9 creep in.

10 I think I will stop there, Chris. I know
11 we've been going over and take any questions.

12 CHRIS WAHL: Thank you, Tom. You know,
13 it's so unfortunate that you're not passionate
14 about this issue.

15 I've had the benefit of working with Tom
16 for five years now, and I see it all the time. So
17 we're very fortunate to have Tom here as a part of
18 this and have his expertise.

19 Did anyone have questions on the panel
20 for, Tom? Yes, sir.

21 HON. JOHN TAYLOR: Does Canada and
22 Finland have the same type of independent
23 corporation? I assume they're doing that too.

24 ALLISON MACFARLANE: Yeah, Canada, Sweden
25 Switzerland.

1 TOM ISAACS: Yeah, but they also have one
2 utility or two utilities, and those utilities are
3 all alike. And frankly, the culture in those
4 countries is that they feel an obligation to solve
5 this problem, and they feel that nobody in those
6 communities would ever threaten the health and
7 welfare of the people in that community, because
8 they're raising their families in those
9 communities, and they're also very proud of their
10 science and technological progress.

11 So when you look at the circumstance, you
12 have to understand the broader contempt of those
13 things. Those people are running wonderful
14 programs. They're very successful. We need to
15 learn from those programs. We need to adapt them
16 in a method that will be successful, I think, in
17 this country, and we need to have a discussion
18 about how to best do that.

19 HON. JOHN TAYLOR: Thank you.

20 LAKE BARRETT: Our country is much more
21 complicated. We can still do it, but Canada, you
22 know, all the fuel is in a -- 90 percent of it is
23 in Ontario, and its Ontario hydro is a government
24 utility, but it's still the same type of thing,
25 but Finland is two; we have 30. Ours is more

1 complicated, but we can do the same kind of thing,
2 and we can learn from them on all the points that
3 Tom and Allison made.

4 HON. JOHN TAYLOR: Thank you.

5 CHRIS WAHL: Martha, I think you have the
6 next question.

7 MARTHA McNICHOLAS: I mean, I think I
8 agree with trying to pull it out of the DOE, but
9 has this country ever successfully done that,
10 taken an operation that's under the federal
11 department and try to, basically, privatize it?
12 And I don't think the post office is a good
13 example. Has that ever been done?

14 ALLISON MACFARLANE: We have. We have.
15 The first thing that comes to mind, something else
16 hopefully will come to your mind. USUEC, United
17 States --

18 LAKE BARRETT: Uranium Enrichment
19 Corporation.

20 ALLISON MACFARLANE: -- Uranium Enrichment
21 Corporation was government-run, and then it was
22 turned private into the Centrus Corporation.

23 MARTHA McNICHOLAS: Okay.

24 ALLISON MACFARLANE: Maybe that was 10,
25 15 years ago.

1 LAKE BARRETT: At least or more.

2 ALLISON MACFARLANE: Or more, okay, 20.

3 LAKE BARRETT: It's not common, but yes,
4 it's been done. It's not easy.

5 MARTHA McNICHOLAS: I have one more
6 question while I have the microphone: I
7 understand the idea of the innovation campuses.
8 My -- and the push with the current
9 administration. My worry is there's a lot of
10 maybe focus on reprocessing, recycling, because
11 that's the new and shiny, and people want to do
12 it, but are we going to lose in that? Kind of
13 goes back to the 28 states or 26 states that are
14 interested in it, but only four interested in
15 being a repository.

16 Okay, that narrows the -- I'm worried
17 that the disposal and repository is going to get
18 lost in some of the new and shiny.

19 ALLISON MACFARLANE: I personally think
20 that that is a completely legitimate concern,
21 especially the way that the RFI was worded. It
22 was not clear in the wording of the RFI, that this
23 came with an obligation to dispose of spent fuel.
24 You know, there was some vague language. You
25 probably know what it is, Lake.

1 LAKE BARRETT: Disposition. A new word.

2 ALLISON MACFARLANE: I think it's a
3 legitimate concern.

4 LAKE BARRETT: You're correct.

5 MARTHA McNICHOLAS: One more question.
6 And I know you both talked about a deep geological
7 repository and bore holes, or whatever we do, is
8 it okay to bring up he who should not be named and
9 Yucca Mountain? Is there a chance -- that's
10 already half done already. Is that a possibility?

11 LAKE BARRETT: It's a possibility. If
12 the state is willing, sure, it's on the table. If
13 the state is not willing, it's not the table.

14 MARTHA McNICHOLAS: Okay.

15 LAKE BARRETT: If the State of Nevada who
16 is not one of the 26 states, wants to come
17 forward, I'm sure the federal government would
18 love to talk to them, but at this stage, they're
19 not.

20 MARTHA McNICHOLAS: Okay.

21 LAKE BARRETT: So what can happen in the
22 future, we don't know.

23 MARTHA McNICHOLAS: Thank you.

24 CHRIS WAHL: Okay. Any other questions
25 from the panel from the CEP?

1 MICHAEL BALSAMO: Thank you for the
2 presentation. You were all kind of on the similar
3 theme.

4 I'm trying to understand, you talked
5 about a steady stream of funding and using some of
6 the money that's already there. I need to
7 understand more clearly what the incentive is for
8 the corporation to execute it if there isn't a
9 business element? How is it any different than
10 government? How is it going to be more efficient,
11 effective? I understand the changing political
12 tides, but it just -- anyway, that's my question.

13 ALLISON MACFARLANE: There are a couple
14 motivations. I mean, the nuclear industry, I
15 think, recognizes that they do have to manage this
16 material. They do have to -- you know, SCE
17 realizes you don't want to -- you don't want to be
18 holding the ball forever, for decades, right? I
19 mean, you want this to be managed and disposed of.
20 That's one thing.

21 There is a money-making opportunity in
22 here if you decide that you want this corporation
23 to be a for-profit corporation. When you have,
24 when, if any new facilities are created, new
25 nuclear power plants or your reprocessing

1 facilities, they can contract with the NuCorp to
2 dispose of their waste. Of course, NuCorp is
3 going to charge them. They don't work for free,
4 right. And they -- the NuCorp will also work with
5 the Department of Energy. So they will charge the
6 federal government to manage their waste.

7 So there is a way to turn this into a
8 for-profit entity if you want to.

9 TOM ISAACS: I would say you have a good
10 point. It's been very difficult in this country,
11 and I distinguish from what I told you about my
12 experience in other countries, in other countries
13 they see an obligation here. They see a moral
14 obligation. They created the waste, they
15 benefitted from the power, it's not going away. I
16 don't care what you do, the waste is going to be
17 there, and it has to be handled, and they feel a
18 morale obligation and the country supports that to
19 come up with a solution. It's not easy, it's not
20 quick, it's not cheap. They feel that.

21 This country -- my own personal point of
22 view -- is you are so lucky to have Southern
23 California Edison here at the forefront of this,
24 because as I look around the country, there are
25 very few utilities that have leaned forward in

1 solving this problem. They talk about they would
2 like to have it solved, but they don't to lean
3 forward in this, because it's not something --
4 it's not a popular thing. You're not going to win
5 the Ms. Congeniality contest by being in favor of
6 nuclear waste management.

7 So it's very difficult. We need an
8 organization put together that has that as its
9 responsibility, that has it at its priority, and
10 that feels an obligation to solve it, because
11 they're going to get hit in the face when they try
12 to do this. There's no way around this. It's a
13 social, political challenge in this country.

14 CHRIS WAHL: Okay. Any other questions?
15 Dan does. He's been laying in wait there.

16 CHAIRMAN DAN STETSON: I've been holding
17 my tongue, and I appreciate that we're running
18 over time.

19 Number 1 I'm just so proud, many members
20 of the CEP, in terms of stability, have been on
21 this panel for more than a decade, and I really
22 want to thank them and appreciate their service on
23 it. My question is, as a CEP, as a community,
24 what can we do to try to move a solution forward?

25 ALLISON MACFARLANE: That's a good

1 question. My advice is you really have to keep
2 the political screws on. I mean, it's a lot --
3 it's going to take a lot of political pressure to
4 make progress. You know, and the more that you
5 can do what Spent Fuel Solutions does is work
6 together with other communities. Now there are a
7 lot of shutdown plants. There are a lot of
8 communities that don't want to become the
9 permanent de facto repositories for this material.

10 And so there's, you know, the more
11 political pressure we can build, the better. And
12 there are folks, Congressman Levin is an example
13 of folks who in congress who know this is an issue
14 that they do have to act on. So we just need more
15 pressure, I think. You guys have more ideas.

16 CHRIS WAHL: You need to spread the word.
17 You need more Congressman Levins like that to make
18 something happen. You need to go out and talk
19 with other states, talk with the utilities, and
20 help make it happen. You can. You have
21 influence.

22 TOM ISAACS: So one of the things -- I
23 agree with what Allison and Lake are saying -- one
24 of the things I think we don't do a very good job
25 of is actually describing the fact that for many

1 communities being a host of a facility like this
2 can be a great benefit. We see this around the
3 world. We see it in the United States in a place
4 called Carlsbad, New Mexico, which has had an
5 operating repository for defense radioactive waste
6 I forget how many years, more than --

7 ALLISON MACFARLANE: Since 1998.

8 TOM ISAACS: Yeah, that's a long time.
9 The community there is absolutely happy with that
10 facility being there. They would like to expand
11 the responsibilities there. They benefitted in
12 all kinds of ways. If you go to Utsjoki, Finland,
13 the people there are wildly happy with hosting
14 their repository program there.

15 If you go to Forsmark, Sweden, the people
16 there are wildly happy. They competed against
17 another community. And, I mean, it was a real
18 competition. They both wanted the facility,
19 because they saw all the benefits. It's not just
20 money it's vibrant, makes the community vibrant.
21 Brings the world class scientists and
22 technologists and educators and infrastructure and
23 a future.

24 That's what happened in Canada. The
25 community in Canada that chose this facility

1 called Ignace. It's a little community of a
2 thousand people really in a remote area. Their
3 community, like many of these communities, it was
4 a forestry and mining community and like they do,
5 they went bust. And now you're sitting there, and
6 the young people have no future, and the people
7 see that their kids are going to move away, and
8 here's a facility that has the opportunity to
9 bring a vision of a future that they can all
10 believe in.

11 In fact, the Canadians gave money to
12 these communities to do what they call visioning,
13 which is to figure out themselves what they wanted
14 their future to be. And if it didn't include the
15 nuclear facility, fine, that's fine. But if it
16 helped them achieve their vision, that was
17 something that the community could volunteer to
18 learn more about and get engaged and make a
19 decision.

20 And ultimately Ignace and the First
21 Nation, the Wabigoon Lakes Ojibway Nation --
22 they're both there -- agreed to host this facility
23 and they're very happy.

24 CHRIS WAHL: Thanks, Tom.

25 MANUEL CAMARGO: Chris, there's another

1 CEP member online, Michelle Anderson, that has a
2 question.

3 CHRIS WAHL: Great, Michelle, you're up.

4 MICHELLE ANDERSON: Thank you, everyone.
5 Can you hear me okay?

6 CHRIS WAHL: Yes.

7 MICHELLE ANDERSON: Okay. Perfect. My
8 name is Michelle Anderson. I serve as Orange
9 County emergency manager, and I want to thank the
10 panel for their presentation.

11 My question is really focused on, as
12 we're writing the legislation for this potential
13 corporation, really trying to emphasize the role
14 of local emergency response in the area where this
15 corporation eventually operates. Orange County
16 benefitted over the years, I think San Diego
17 County too, from the previous requirements, when
18 San Onofre was an operating plant, of having FEMA
19 graded exercises that really brought jurisdictions
20 and different first responder disciplines to the
21 table to train, exercise, and really equip for
22 responding to incidents at San Onofre.

23 However, once they began the
24 decommissioning process, we were fortunate that
25 Edison stayed at the table and continued to do

1 training and exercises with us. They didn't have
2 to do that.

3 And in the future, right, if this
4 corporation gets off the ground, one of my
5 concerns is that the future corporation may not be
6 that accepting of local government, local
7 responders. And so I would ask the panel, are you
8 guys putting in the regulations, considerations
9 for local government and local populations to have
10 an active say and an active role in how emergency
11 response surrounds potential sites?

12 LAKE BARRETT: I'll start. I mean, I
13 think you want to spend the money, no matter who
14 it is, proportional to the risk, okay. And you
15 want to have good relations with the community, so
16 there's two factors there.

17 From a community relations point of view,
18 I can see some of it, okay, being done. From a
19 risk point of view, this fuel is old and cold, and
20 it doesn't really go over -- it has nothing to
21 drive it anywhere. As far as emergency response,
22 it's minimal from a risk point of view, and I
23 don't think the Waste Fund should be spending
24 monies where it really isn't needed, but you need
25 to have good community relations. Utilities all

1 do that all the time with their neighbors, and so
2 you want to appropriately support them.

3 As far as putting into a legislation, I
4 personally don't think it belongs there. If you
5 want to have good community relations, that is in
6 there. As far as defining, you have to pay money
7 for emergency response, I personally don't think
8 so.

9 ALLISON MACFARLANE: I guess the way --
10 if I can just add my own view on that -- this is
11 Allison -- I think that emergency response and
12 community needs and state needs can be covered in
13 the agreement, the hosting agreement that would be
14 required in law. So if you really wanted to
15 specify in law, you could say, you know, the
16 NuCorp has to enter a legally binding hosting
17 agreement with the state and the local community
18 or tribe, and that binding agreement should
19 include something about emergency response, et
20 cetera.

21 FRED BAILLY: If I may add just one quick
22 point?

23 MANUEL CAMARGO: Sure.

24 FRED BAILLY: There will be a need for
25 response around the transportation piece of the

1 fuel.

2 ALLISON MACFARLANE: Absolutely.

3 FRED BAILLY: I agree not the same risk
4 in terms of disposing of it, but when it's going
5 to be fuel getting to the location, there's going
6 to be just fine. Today the regulations specifies
7 that the need for some response.

8 LAKE BARRETT: No, that's a great point,
9 Fred. I mean that the regulator would, hopefully,
10 require, you know, emergency response training in
11 the regulations, yeah.

12 CHRIS WAHL: Are there any other
13 questions of the panel?

14 MICHELLE ANDERSON: So if I could, can I
15 just summarize, then, what I heard?

16 CHRIS WAHL: Sure.

17 MICHELLE ANDERSON: And I apologize
18 because I'm going to be very blunt, so what I
19 heard is that we're trying to create a corporation
20 around nuclear waste storage that has little
21 oversight from local communities in order to get
22 away from people during elections being able to
23 voice concern about how administrations are
24 behaving.

25 CHRIS WAHL: I'm not -- I'm just the

1 facilitator here, but I'll comment first. I don't
2 think that's what I heard today. In fact, what I
3 think I heard Lake say was is that the communities
4 need to be on board, and that there needs to be
5 some consent process which is sort of the
6 foundation of all of this discussion. Do someone
7 want to add as well?

8 MICHELLE ANDERSON: That's only at the
9 outset, so there won't be any requirement for
10 training, exercising, inner operable
11 communications, or working with the local
12 community once they've accepted this private
13 entity that may or may not be for profit within
14 their communities.

15 CHRIS WAHL: Yeah, I'm not sure I heard
16 that either, but it's a fair point, and that's why
17 we're here having a robust discussion. I have to
18 think that any kind of long-term process that
19 involves the removal, disposition, and relocation
20 of spent nuclear fuel is going to be a very robust
21 process in community engagement, if what we're
22 doing here today is any indication of that.

23 MANUEL CAMARGO: You know, maybe one of
24 our panelists, Lake or --

25 CHRIS WAHL: Yeah, would anyone like to

1 comment on it?

2 MANUEL CAMARGO: -- the TEP program in
3 particular, the Transportation Emergency
4 Preparedness program.

5 ALLISON MACFARLANE: The which program?

6 CHRIS WAHL: The comment was --

7 MANUEL CAMARGO: The Transportation
8 Emergency Preparedness program that the navy uses
9 for its spent nuclear, I've always envision to be
10 a template for what you might do on the utility
11 side.

12 ALLISON MACFARLANE: So transportation of
13 spent fuel is regulated by a number of different
14 entities. One is the Nuclear Regulatory
15 Commission, one is the Department of
16 Transportation, and states and localities also
17 have a role. It's actually a quite complex
18 situation. And that is, in part, where emergency
19 training comes in.

20 But, again, each organization, whether
21 it's the Nuclear Regulatory Commission or the
22 Department of Transportation will have regulatory
23 requirements for emergency response training and
24 security training, et cetera. And, again, you
25 could also include something like this in your

1 hosting agreement, so I think that this could all
2 be specified.

3 TOM ISAACS: If I could just reenforce
4 what Allison said. I mentioned in some of my
5 remarks about the fact that the organization has
6 to be a trust-building organization. It has to
7 operate in a way that earns trust over time, and
8 when we look at examples of where that's happened,
9 one of the things that happens is the
10 organizations that's responsible for running the
11 program wants to engage with the people, and the
12 communities are going to be affected, and not just
13 tell them what they're going to do, but have a
14 dialogue over time but to understand what the
15 interests and concerns of a community are and do
16 something about it.

17 Now that do something about it, doesn't
18 necessarily translate into, You tell me what you
19 want, and I'll do it every time. It's a dialogue
20 so that the community and the implementer over
21 time learn to trust each other and build in
22 programs that directly respond to the concerns of
23 the community. So I think the commenter, and I'm
24 only getting about 50 percent of what you're
25 saying, I apologize, but I think the commenter has

1 a good point. It's important that if a community
2 is going to host these facilities, they're in it
3 for the long haul, and there has to be
4 relationships for the long haul that stand that
5 test of time whatever changes will occur over the
6 many years that this will occur.

7 CHRIS WAHL: Thank you, Tom.

8 MANUEL CAMARGO: One more on line, Garry
9 Brown online.

10 CHRIS WAHL: Garry.

11 GARRY BROWN: Yes, thank you. I really
12 enjoyed the presentations. I think they are a
13 milestone. I heard a little bit of this more
14 conceptually this last year in Denver at a
15 conference.

16 As much as we used the word "trust," I
17 probably don't think we've used it enough. When
18 you look at Finland and Sweden, one basic thing
19 that hasn't been mentioned is the people there
20 have far more trust in their government and what
21 their government tells them than we have here. If
22 anything, our government in our country we're at
23 an all time low in trust.

24 So with that in mind when you kind of
25 quickly say, and I understand it, we're going to

1 let the -- we're going to privatize this, I can
2 see all the benefits of that, but so many times in
3 this country when we've let industry become its
4 own regulator, things have quickly gone off a
5 cliff.

6 And so I think more attention, and maybe
7 sensitivity, to saying let's just privatize this,
8 and I know you brought up the advisory, but you
9 know, I don't think that has been vetted enough,
10 because trust for what we're trying to do in this
11 country is going to be not only a long time
12 effort, but we're going to have to change so many
13 of things. And the only way we can do this, I
14 think, is to start over with like NuCorp or
15 something like that. Because all we've
16 experienced is 44 years of abject failure with the
17 DOE. And I don't see that really -- maybe the
18 current administration has some new ideas, but
19 another administration will have new ideas, and
20 we'll get nowhere.

21 And so I think this is a great concept,
22 but I think the trust has got to be more
23 thoroughly vetted in how we not only develop this,
24 but how we explain it.

25 ALLISON MACFARLANE: That's --

1 GARRY BROWN: Can we comment on that?

2 ALLISON MACFARLANE: Yeah, it's a great
3 point. I think it's an excellent point. Nothing
4 is going to really go forward without trust, and
5 if you all have ideas on how to increase trust
6 with what we've come up with here, I'm -- we're
7 all ears. I mean, we'd love to hear your ideas on
8 how to improve the idea of the advisory committee,
9 for instance. So, yeah, send them along.

10 GARRY BROWN: Thank you.

11 CHRIS WAHL: Okay. I think it's been a
12 great discussion. We're only about 30 minutes
13 behind here, so it's obviously been a robust
14 discussion. I had a few questions, but they've
15 all been addressed. I think I'm going to call the
16 question here and be done, and turn it back to
17 you, Dan.

18 CHAIRMAN DAN STETSON: Thank you. Gosh,
19 what a robust discussion. I think this is exactly
20 what we hoped for for this meeting, so I want to
21 thank the CEP members and the members of our panel
22 for this, and this discussion is going to continue
23 shortly with members of the public being able to
24 make their comments and ask their questions.

25 So if we can move on to the next slide,

1 please. And the next slide after that.

2 So here, again, are the directions for
3 public comment. The CEP comment form link is
4 available to submit a question or sign up to speak
5 online. The names of the individuals who sign up
6 to speak will be displayed on the slide. Manuel
7 will facilitate the Q & A and call your name when
8 it's your turn to speak. Three minutes per
9 person, please. A countdown timer is on the
10 screen. We have one hour dedicated to public
11 comment segment of the meeting.

12 After public comments, Manuel will
13 facilitate the public dialogue, generally
14 addressing questions in the order that they are
15 received. We will first cover questions for the
16 panelists on the topic that we're discussing
17 tonight, then if time is available, we'll address
18 questions related to other general topics,
19 presumably for SCE to answer.

20 And with that, we are going to take a
21 quick and -- ten-minute break, so please return in
22 ten minutes, no later.

23 (Recess taken from 7:25 until 7:37.)

24 CHAIRMAN DAN STETSON: Okay. Thank you
25 so much. As I mentioned, that was a spirited,

1 robust commentary by everyone. I'm sure that it
2 will continue.

3 So now we're set up for public comment.
4 We will now welcome public comments and questions.
5 The CEP form link is on the slide if you wish to
6 sign up and speak or submit a question. Names are
7 listed. I see a number of them on the left side
8 of the speaker queue in the order received.

9 We will begin with members of the public
10 who are with us and are at the casino this
11 evening, and then move to the online questions.
12 Manuel will facilitate the public comment.

13 Manuel, do you want to take it from here?

14 MANUEL CAMARGO: Thank you, Dan. And
15 thanks everybody. Agree, very good discussion
16 this evening. It is a panel discussion, as the
17 title suggests.

18 So first up is George Phillips, George
19 you have -- can you approach the lectern? Do we
20 have George?

21 ROGELIO HERNANDEZ: That's Gerry, Gerry
22 Phillips.

23 MANUEL CAMARGO: Say again.

24 Not seeing Phillips.

25 Next up is Roland Askeland. Can you

1 pronounce your name for me, please. I butchered
2 it, I'm sure.

3
4 PUBLIC COMMENT

5
6 ROLAND ASKELAND: Hi, I'm Dr. Roland
7 Askeland from San Diego.

8 MANUEL CAMARGO: Thank you. You have
9 three minutes. Thank you.

10 ROLAND ASKELAND: So I have a Ph.D. in
11 chemistry and 35 years of industrial experience,
12 and I've done some radioactive tracer studies and
13 neutron activation, so I know a little bit about
14 nuclear chemistry. I had a chance to talk to Lake
15 over the break, God, I wish he can convince me
16 that there's nothing to worry about, but I'm very,
17 very concerned about the deadly nuclear
18 radioactive waste at SONGS. I think it's one of
19 the most important problems we have at Southern
20 California.

21 The contamination, the failure that
22 releases this deadly waste would be catastrophic
23 to our economy, to human health, and the
24 environment. We have 3.6 million pounds of highly
25 reactive spent fuel stored in corroded steel

1 canisters never meant to last beyond 25 years,
2 located 108 feet from the beach in the middle of a
3 Tsunami zone, right next to the Newport/Inglewood
4 earthquake fault in an area that's susceptible to
5 terrorist attack. Action must be taken now to
6 address this threat.

7 Reprocessing San Onofre's nuclear waste
8 is a false solution, it's too expensive and it
9 actually creates larger volume of waste. We can't
10 wait for a long term federal repository for
11 high-level nuclear waste to be established.
12 Immediate action must be taken. We need to
13 relocate the waste to a facility that's
14 federally-designated, geologically stable, away
15 from population centers and coastlines.

16 We need to replace the existing canisters
17 with thicker, more durable alternatives designed
18 for long term resilience, and we need to provide
19 continuous radiation monitoring conducted by
20 independent scientists.

21 The time to act is now. We don't want to
22 be remembered as the generation who allowed
23 Southern California to be turned into a nuclear
24 radioactive wasteland for thousands of years.
25 Thank you.

1 MANUEL CAMARGO: Thank you. And so, Dan
2 I think your intent is to -- is your intent to
3 answer each question as they are posed?

4 CHAIRMAN DAN STETSON: I'm sorry, I can't
5 hear you, Manuel.

6 MANUEL CAMARGO: Is your intent that we
7 answer each question as posed? I think you're
8 looking for a vision as compared to prior -- yeah.

9 So I'll start by answering this
10 particular question, then, on behalf of SCE.

11 CHAIRMAN DAN STETSON: Okay.

12 MANUEL CAMARGO: Thank you, Roland, for
13 your question, multi part question. I'll do my
14 best to cover it.

15 Yes, spent nuclear fuel does need to be
16 isolated from the biosphere, as it is now, in the
17 independent spent fuel storage installation.

18 Just a couple of things that I picked up,
19 maybe as a details but these are -- many of the
20 topics that you covered have been discussed here
21 in prior CEP meetings, all of which are on.

22 Songs community.com and there's a wealth
23 of resources on there. Some things like the
24 lifespan of the canisters. The canisters are
25 actually per the Nuclear Regulatory Commission

1 good for 100 years or more with a sort of a
2 healthcare maintenance program, an aging
3 management program, as it's called by the NRC.
4 And yes, it does need to be relocated. It is
5 designed, by the way, for the current conditions,
6 including the Newport/Inglewood fault, that is the
7 most relevant fault to the site, and the site is
8 designed -- and the ISFSI, the Independent Spent
9 Fuel Storage Installation, is designed to
10 withstand all natural and manmade hazards,
11 including earthquakes and Tsunamis.

12 I appreciate your concern. We are not
13 complacent. We at SCE we are actively working to
14 compel the federal government to provide the
15 facility that customers paid for, and so we remain
16 very active in this space. If you want to help, I
17 advise that you can -- one way that you could help
18 is to join the Spent Fuel Solutions Coalition.
19 There's no cost to join as an associate member, a
20 supporting member it's called. And, you know, we
21 don't need your money, but we really need your
22 voice and need your support in order to forward on
23 offsite storage and disposal

24 Okay. So next up is Rudy, Rudy Salazar
25 with the Randsburg Project.

1 RUDY SALAZAR: Good evening, and thank
2 you to the Community Engagement Panel and Southern
3 California Edison and all its participants and the
4 guests here.

5 Mr. Lake, I saw online in Washington with
6 Dan Stetson 2024, I guess that was, or I thought
7 it was this past year, 2025 but time flies.

8 Anyway, my name is Rudy Salazar and I am
9 the founder of the Randsburg Project. I own
10 58 acres property in Eastern kern County,
11 California that is being evaluated for potential
12 inland site for California's future nuclear fuel
13 management needs, and that's obviously that's
14 being evaluated by me, primarily. This is my
15 initiative, and I'm pushing it and just making
16 noise from the hilltops about this.

17 And the U.S. Department of Energy, as we
18 all know, is doing this NLIC (Nuclear Lifecycle
19 Innovation Campus), and I am proposing to put an
20 NLIC framework together for the governor, and I'm
21 hoping that I could get the utilities, the three
22 utilities here in California to acknowledge it and
23 hopefully get the governor to sign on to get a
24 seat at the table for this discussion before it's
25 too late.

1 So I just wanted to say hi, introduce
2 myself to the public, and it's 58 acres out in
3 Randsburg, and he we can move the 291 spent fuel
4 canisters off the coast and take it up to a more
5 responsible site.

6 My initial initiative was plan A is me
7 doing this and trying to get this off the coast,
8 but now with this Nuclear Lifecycle Innovative
9 Campuses, this is possibly a new avenue that
10 hopefully we get a seat at table, and California
11 gets a part of this whole plan, somehow and some
12 way, and with Mr. Desmond's help, I'm sure we can
13 get this happening.

14 MANUEL CAMARGO: Thank you, Rudy.
15 Appreciate your comments.

16 Any response to more of a comment than a
17 question?

18 LAKE BARRETT: Talk to the governor.
19 You're absolutely right.

20 MANUEL CAMARGO: And we've chatted off
21 line as well about the Nuclear Lifestyle
22 Innovation Campuses with Mr. Salazar.

23 Next we have Bart Ziegler with the Samuel
24 Lawrence foundation.

25 BART ZIEGLER: Thank you, Panel. Nice to

1 meet you. Thank you for your time, service. Nice
2 to meet you professor. I'll read a quick note.
3 I'm with the Samuel Lawrence Foundation. Our
4 focus currently on San Onofre and the spent
5 nuclear fuel sitting in a precarious place. We
6 also work with art science and education, inform
7 communities of concern.

8 Once NuCorp has its advisory board that
9 can veto or shape initiatives, what mechanisms
10 exist so that outside stakeholders, especially
11 those that become at risk later in the process to
12 the transportation or new studies and developments
13 are represented, will they have any meaningful
14 legal recourse if the NRC rubber stamps new
15 Corp.'s initiatives, especially if the site
16 selected for the campus or repository is on DOD
17 (Department of Defense) lands that have fewer
18 civilian oversight avenues?

19 And with that, thank you.

20 ALLISON MACFARLANE: Do you want to
21 start?

22 MANUEL CAMARGO: Thank you, Bart.

23 So the question is about the NuCorp

24 LAKE BARRETT: Yeah, good questions. The
25 NuCorp would be like DOE would be, would go to the

1 NRC, and it would be the NRC processes for
2 approvals. So rights of all that would still be
3 the same if it was NuCorp or if it was DOE. The
4 NuCorp would be implementing the Nuclear Policy
5 Waste Act. The Nuclear Waste Policy Act itself
6 has requirements in it to work with the local
7 people, all right, as well as transportation.
8 There's a section 180C, it says train the local
9 folks on transportation requirements and that sort
10 of thing. Those kind of requirements would still
11 be there no matter who it is.

12 And NuCorp would be, as we said,
13 reactor/owner run, but reactor companies, you
14 know, do have good relationships in most of the --
15 around the United States. Maybe here it's been a
16 little rocky, but I mean, basically, they're
17 well-respected and as they are in Sweden, as
18 you've heard examples there as well.

19 So I think the NuCorp wants to have good
20 relations with its neighbors, wherever it is,
21 okay, and it's going to want to reach out and
22 treat people fairly and be a good neighbor. I
23 think that process is going to be there, and you
24 still have the fall back of the requirements of
25 the NRC and also the advisory committee that

1 Allison went through in some detail, which is an
2 important part of having good relationships and
3 maintaining or hosting agreements. And it would
4 be hosting agreements where the host communities
5 can put in what they want in that, and that would
6 be a legally binding agreement between the NuCorp,
7 you know, and the local people and the state as
8 well.

9 ALLISON MACFARLANE: So. Yeah, I think
10 one way to get stakeholders' voices into the
11 oversight process is through the advisory
12 committee, but I also understand that you can't
13 have everybody and their brother on the advisory
14 committee, right. So I'm going to turn the
15 question back to you. How would you suggest
16 getting stakeholders' voices to NuCorp?

17 BART ZIEGLER: I'm familiar with your
18 work with Rod Ewing, and I guess ten years ago --

19 ALLISON MACFARLANE: Can you talk a
20 little closer to the microphone?

21 BART ZIEGLER: Yeah, what, ten years ago
22 he published that paper, I think 2017.

23 ALLISON MACFARLANE: Right, the Reset
24 Report? Yeah.

25 BART ZIEGLER: Yeah, some people from the

1 corporate interests, some people from political
2 interests, some of the community members, and then
3 include scientists.

4 ALLISON MACFARLANE: Right.

5 BART ZIEGLER: I think that balance would
6 provide --

7 ALLISON MACFARLANE: Right.

8 BART ZIEGLER: -- a good advisory board.
9 It would be an above reproach.

10 ALLISON MACFARLANE: Thank you.

11 BART ZIEGLER: I also want to thank you
12 for the paper with Leslie Crowell.

13 ALLISON MACFARLANE: Of course.

14 MANUEL CAMARGO: Thank you, Bart. Thank
15 you Lake. Thank you, Allison.

16 Next question is from Daryl Gail. Daryl,
17 three minutes.

18 DARYL GAIL: Hello. These remarks are
19 aimed at a lot of anger towards Edison, not the
20 people who work here in the room, but Edison in
21 general.

22 Edison, you made a terrible, deadly
23 mistake in 2019. Our beach is not your waste
24 dump. Did you ask the citizens of Southern
25 California if you could dump it on our beach? Did

1 you ask the indigenous people who have lived here
2 for millennia? No, you just asked the captured,
3 coerced Coastal Commission convincing them that it
4 was all right to do it. Did you ask our state
5 legislature? The governor? The local mayors? It
6 was a big, deadly mistake in 2019.

7 I was there. I was there in Chula Vista
8 in 2019, and I've gone to all the meetings I
9 could. Here's how you can rectify it, go buy or
10 borrow some hot cells from the navy, from Europe,
11 build your own I don't care, and then get some big
12 industrial cranes and get it up and off the beach
13 without scraping it anymore, and then we can worry
14 about getting the DOE or the DOT or somebody to
15 take it away, to take it to Idaho, take it to
16 Hanford, they're already contaminated like crazy.
17 Take it across the street, or this gentleman's
18 place, we can take it here, but just get it off
19 the beach before a Tsunami or an earthquake comes.
20 That's all.

21 MANUEL CAMARGO: Yeah, thank you, Daryl.
22 Thank you for being here and taking time from your
23 evening to join us. I do appreciate that.

24 We chatted a little bit earlier. I
25 appreciate your frustration. Yeah, we're the

1 stewards of the spent nuclear fuel. We are doing
2 our absolute best to keep that spent fuel on site
3 in a safe condition until the federal government
4 performs. In the meantime, things like hot cell,
5 we've covered that in previous meetings. A hot
6 cell would not be needed at this time. Again, the
7 canister systems, as I mentioned a little bit
8 earlier, are good for 100 years or more, and we
9 have an aging management program. So that aging
10 management program allows us to make sure that we
11 are inspecting these canisters on a periodicity,
12 to make sure they remain in good shape and
13 continue to perform their containment function.

14 But once again, we are working to -- very
15 hard in order to get the spent fuel off site. We
16 do recognize there are a number of good reasons to
17 get the spent fuel off site, it's what our
18 customers -- what retail customers paid for in
19 terms of the contributions to the Nuclear Waste
20 Fund, and we appreciate that the community around
21 San Onofre never consented to the long term
22 storage of spent fuel in their community.

23 You have our commitment. We're working
24 hard on this issue, you know, we are encouraged by
25 the current approach, but we really do need to

1 make some of this happen, whether it's in
2 legislation in a lame duck session as was
3 mentioned earlier, or other, to really get on a
4 more durable path for the spent fuel program.
5 Once again, I thank you for your comments.

6 Going back to -- do we have the only
7 other card I have is from George Phillips. Do we
8 have George Phillips in the room? If not, then
9 we'll transition to other questions that we have
10 in writing.

11 Okay. So we have three questions from
12 Van Snyder. The first, I'll read these off, the
13 first question from Van is what are -- sorry, was
14 there a comment?

15 Question from Van Snyder is what are NRC
16 and SONGS and CEP and Spent Fuel Solutions doing
17 to amend the Nuclear Waste Policy Act? I think he
18 means to say so that its fund can be used for
19 spent fuel processing, instead of funds being
20 required for Yucca Mountain.

21 So there I guess what I would say with
22 regard to the Nuclear Waste Fund it's already been
23 addressed to a degree, a large degree, in this
24 panel discussion, but those funds at present can
25 only be used for disposal. But as was discussed

1 earlier, there are some who suggest that, perhaps,
2 at least part of that fund could be used for to
3 support reprocessing. So we're aware of all this.
4 It does appear that we're trying to head toward a
5 place. We're here in the U.S., we are
6 reprocessing, recycling used nuclear fuel. This
7 is definitely the matter of the Nuclear Waste
8 Fund. Those funds were built on contributions
9 from customers, including those in the community
10 around SONGS who paid for electricity produced by
11 SONGS.

12 We are very mindful of that, and continue
13 to track this issue very closely regarding the
14 Nuclear Waste Fund and how it is used to ensure,
15 as much as we can, to make sure that that is used
16 appropriately.

17 Next question also from Mr. Snyder is
18 what methods to reprocess spent nuclear fuel. He
19 basically goes into the fact there are a number of
20 different ways to reprocess spent nuclear fuel.
21 There's pyro processing, aqueous. There are a
22 variety. There are also a number of different
23 companies that are working with the entities that
24 have responded to the RFIs. There are a variety
25 of approaches here, and it's not clear exactly

1 what might be done in the United States, whether
2 it's one or more of those. Some of them are being
3 done at sort of the R&D level, some of the
4 national labs here in the U.S. So we'll continue
5 to monitor this. There may be some reprocessing
6 that gets done, at least in the pilot stage, by
7 2030 or somewhere in that time frame and -- but it
8 sounds like Mr. Snyder has a decent handle on the
9 range of reprocessing technologies that are
10 currently either employed elsewhere in the world
11 or in R&D here in the U.S.

12 No? Allison.

13 ALLISON MACFARLANE: It's not -- you
14 won't see anything by 2030 I promise you, like
15 1,000 percent promise you, you know.

16 MANUEL CAMARGO: I'm not sensing a lot of
17 wiggle room there. Okay. I appreciate that,
18 Allison.

19 Okay. So next question also on
20 reprocessing, yeah, just so challenging the fact
21 that, you know, if you call it -- so there's
22 terminology matters here, so traditionally we've
23 considered spent nuclear fuel that's been through
24 the reactor as spent fuel, and you know, the plan
25 for a long time in the U.S. is that it will go

1 directly into disposal. But if you are going to
2 recycle or reprocess, the current terminology and
3 the more appropriate technology and that framework
4 is used fuel. So, Mr. Snyder, I recognize that,
5 yeah, there is a difference. And that is part of
6 the national dialogue.

7 Okay. There was a question here that,
8 perhaps, one of our three member panel might want
9 to comment on. There was a question about weapons
10 proliferation, but you know, anything about
11 proliferation of nuclear material that come --
12 that might be able to come as a result of
13 separating the plutonium from uranium.

14 ALLISON MACFARLANE: Yeah, absolutely.

15 MANUEL CAMARGO: Anybody on the panel
16 would like to address?

17 ALLISON MACFARLANE: One hundred percent,
18 when you reprocess spent fuel, you separate
19 plutonium from the rest of the material, and that
20 is a proliferation hazard, because that plutonium
21 could be directly used in a nuclear bomb. And
22 that is why after India in 1974 exploded their
23 first nuclear bomb by diverting material from a
24 Canadian supplied reactor with U.S. supplied fuel,
25 that by reprocessing that used fuel to get that

1 plutonium, that then President Ford and then
2 President Carter indefinitely deferred
3 reprocessing in the United States to set an
4 example for the rest of the world, because it is a
5 proliferation risk and a great hazard.

6 We do not need more nuclear weapons in
7 the world, and so that should be a serious
8 consideration before anybody reprocesses spent
9 nuclear fuel.

10 LAKE BARRETT: I'll add that, yes, it is
11 certainly a risk, and yes, it is something we have
12 to be very careful with it in society. But since
13 1974 there is a large degree of requirements for
14 proliferation control under the NRC rules, which
15 any recycler would have to abide by on how you
16 would do that.

17 I mean, the French do that today and
18 others and so -- and the Japanese. So yes, it's a
19 risk, yes, it's something that's very important.
20 It doesn't necessarily mean you can't do it, but
21 it is something that has to be addressed.

22 ALLISON MACFARLANE: Yeah, you would at
23 least have to add expensive safeguards.

24 LAKE BARRETT: Yes.

25 ALLISON MACFARLANE: Expensive safeguards

1 to any kind of reprocessing facility, and
2 expensive security measures to any kind of
3 reprocessing facility to ensure that nobody stole
4 this material and diverted it for nuclear weapons.

5 And just a side note on money, okay,
6 seeing how there's been a lot of attention on
7 reprocessing here, the Japanese have been building
8 a reprocessing facility since 1997. It is 2026,
9 okay. This reprocessing facility is not complete.
10 The last number that I saw reported for the cost
11 of the processing of the reprocessing facility was
12 more than ten years ago, and it was around
13 \$25 billion. So one imagines that this
14 reprocessing facility is now closer to the order
15 of 40 or \$50 billion. That is the amount of money
16 in the spent fuel fund, and you still need a deep
17 geological repository. So Japan is still looking
18 for a site for deep geological repository.

19 Reprocessing is a management option for
20 nuclear waste; it is not a final disposal method.

21 TOM ISAACS: I don't even think of it as
22 a management option, frankly. It's an option to
23 do something, but in first order doesn't really
24 change in kind of the nuclear waste issue.

25 ALLISON MACFARLANE: Right, correct.

1 TOM ISAACS: The proliferation issue is
2 quite complex. I mean, we're already a nuclear
3 weapons state, so reprocessing it seems, in this
4 country interest from a security point of view,
5 why do you care, right, we already have all the
6 weapons that we need. But the point is it sets a
7 standard of acceptability around the world. If we
8 can do it, then why can't other countries do it,
9 and many countries would like to do it. Some may
10 be because they think there's additional benefits
11 in terms of extending the resource usage of the
12 uranium and the produced plutonium, but some of
13 them probably want to do what's called latent
14 proliferation, and what latent proliferation means
15 is countries want to get as close as they can to
16 have everything you need for a nuclear weapon
17 without raising your hand and saying, I'm going to
18 build a nuclear weapon. That's kind of the
19 concern that's been with Iran right now, is that
20 Iran has been doing things that, while they claim
21 they don't want a nuclear weapon, they are
22 walking, talking and quacking like they want a
23 nuclear weapon.

24 They're enriching uranium to higher and
25 higher levels that get you closer and closer to

1 the material. You can make a weapon with high
2 enriched uranium or plutonium. Plutonium comes
3 out a reactor, high enriched uranium comes out of
4 an enrichment plant.

5 Either way, these countries get closer
6 and closer so that the gap between what they have
7 and having a servicable weapon gets smaller and
8 smaller, and so it would take them less time, less
9 money, less detectability to get to the place
10 where if they decided to have a nuclear weapon, we
11 would have less and less certainty to detect it
12 and less and less time to stop them.

13 So there is a definite proliferation
14 concern here. It's not theoretical; it's real.
15 And it's true, not just in Iran, but it's been
16 true in many other concerns with other countries
17 as well.

18 It's interesting to note Allison
19 mentioned that India detonated a nuclear device, I
20 think in 1973, somewhere in there.

21 LAKE BARRETT: '74.

22 ALLISON MACFARLANE: '74.

23 TOM ISAACS: Years later they detonated
24 another one, and Pakistan detonated five in
25 response. So it leads, not just to proliferation,

1 but it leads to regional instability, and if my
2 neighbor, who I don't trust, has one, I want one
3 as well, so it can lead to great instability.
4 It's a real concern.

5 FRED BAILLY: If I may, to some extent,
6 your concerns also apply to enrichment.

7 TOM ISAACS: Absolutely.

8 ALLISON MACFARLANE: Absolutely.

9 TOM ISAACS: Maybe even worse.

10 FRED BAILLY: And we're not helping
11 enrichment in the U.S. because we want to set a
12 precedent in the rest of the world not to enrich
13 uranium. So that's another angle that we can look
14 at things.

15 MANUEL CAMARGO: Thank you. Thank you
16 for the answers. I appreciate that.

17 The next question is from Doris Fisk. So
18 Doris Frisk -- pardon me -- Doris Fisk is
19 frustrated, clearly, so she's concerned about the
20 removal of the spent fuel, she would really like
21 to know when the waste will be removed. There's
22 awareness of the timeline, but you know, temporary
23 to a better location, a permanent disposal site
24 we're done hearing it.

25 So Doris is clearly frustrated.

1 Certainly on behalf of SCE, I guess I can say that
2 we appreciate the frustration. We talked a lot
3 tonight to the level which the DOE and government
4 are behind plan. That's why we're active in this
5 space.

6 In terms of the timing, I think at this
7 point it's shifting now. You know, in the last
8 couple of years I've heard DOE personnel talk
9 about perhaps consolidated interim storage being
10 available in the mid to late 2030s, but that's not
11 certain. And then deep geological repository
12 takes a lot more time because of all the
13 "ologies," as Tom mentioned earlier, so that would
14 be much off into the future.

15 But, yeah, stay tuned in because we will
16 watch closely what happens with these innovation
17 campuses, because at least at those states that
18 included storage or disposal on site, that may be
19 a near term path forward.

20 Okay. So Gerry Phillips, we don't have
21 Gerry Phillips in the room and was expected to
22 sign up and speak in person. The question was
23 about are states currently open to hosting
24 disposal sites?

25 So I can take that one, and perhaps the

1 panel can weigh in if they have further
2 information. But my understanding is at present
3 there are four states that -- well, there are 26
4 states, of course, that replied to the RFI. There
5 are four where they were really responsive to the
6 part of the, perhaps, vague part of the RFI that
7 was related to disposal.

8 And so those four, as I understand it,
9 are Tennessee, Utah, South Carolina and Nebraska.
10 My understanding is that there is a fifth state
11 that chooses to, you know, stay -- maintain a low
12 profile at this point, but those are the four, at
13 least, that I'm aware of that have been open about
14 accepting spent nuclear fuel for disposal.

15 Any clarification? Lake?

16 LAKE BARRETT: Not much, but there's a
17 range, I mean states, many states said they would
18 be interested in discuss deep bore hole disposal.
19 Didn't name a site particularly. Tennessee talked
20 about a region, said they would be interested in
21 discussing the Cumberland Plateau. That's
22 basically Western Appalachia for a potential
23 disposal site.

24 Utah expressed an interest. They would
25 consider discussing Salt Domes in Utah. So, as

1 far as a specific site, per se, maybe in some of
2 the proprietary ones they had it, but others did
3 discuss about low-level waste in existing like in
4 Utah and Clive, which is a low-level waste
5 disposal site, so there's some discussion about
6 those things. But as far as a specific deep
7 geologic repository site, I'm not aware of any
8 other than what Utah did, but there may be some.

9 MANUEL CAMARGO: Thank you for that.

10 Next up, Charles, are you looking to
11 participate in comment?

12 CHARLES LANGLEY: Yeah, I would like to
13 comment and ask a question. May I?

14 MANUEL CAMARGO: Please, three minutes.

15 CHARLES LANGLEY: Sure. I'd like to
16 thank Lake Barrett and Allison Macfarlane for
17 coming out here. I think this has been a really
18 terrific Community Engagement Panel meeting.

19 I am particularly concerned about the
20 report of the nuclear waste leaking out of the
21 55-gallon drums, and I'm hoping you can tell us
22 what the date was on that so we can look up the
23 event report at the Nuclear Regulatory Commission,
24 or, perhaps, Edison could make the event report on
25 this public that would have been filed with the

1 NRC?

2 I also want to comment on or echo
3 Ms. Macfarlane's comments regarding plutonium
4 reprocessing. It's a really bad idea because
5 plutonium -- the only real use for plutonium, in
6 my opinion, is for nuclear weapons. It was the
7 justification for building many nuclear power
8 plants in the first place. The electricity was
9 literally a biproduct of nuclear power in order to
10 get plutonium.

11 And then, finally, a question for
12 Mr. Barrett, you said that the fuel was old and
13 cold, and when I first started participating in
14 these meetings, the original gentleman, Dr. David
15 Victor was referring to the storage as cold and
16 dark. So I was really surprised when I learned
17 that if you touched one of these canisters, it
18 would probably fry your hand off because, if I
19 recall correctly, the fuel rods were, you know,
20 1700 degrees or something inside a stainless steel
21 canister, and you would probably be dead within a
22 few hours of getting close to one of these
23 canisters.

24 And so I looked up the cool-down period
25 for a high burnup fuel, and it says it's

1 452 degrees after 15 years. So you know, that's
2 hot enough to combust paper spontaneously. So I'm
3 wondering when we're talking about old and cold
4 and cold and dark, when is this stuff really cold?
5 I mean, do we have to wait 50 years or a hundred
6 years? Maybe you could give us some guidelines on
7 that.

8 Thank you very much.

9 LAKE BARRETT: Sure. I mean, basically
10 relative to when a reactor is operating, okay,
11 there's a lot of heat coming off those fuel
12 assemblies that makes the steam, but after
13 decades, like most of your fuel here, the heat
14 load is low. I don't know what the numbers are in
15 the canisters, but I mean we're talking four or
16 five, maybe ten hairdryers. This is not going to
17 burn you.

18 Now, is it still high radiation?
19 Absolutely. Okay, you don't go next to the fuel
20 assembly or next to one of these canisters, but as
21 far as any energy, as the lady from Orange County
22 in the emergency plan, it's these very little
23 energy is going to drive that off site.

24 Could it be a terrorist attack and if
25 somebody hit it with a high explosive armor, there

1 would be some local type of thing, yes. There's
2 no energy like a Fukushima or something like that
3 where you got to drive things off site. You're
4 not going to get high enough to have hydrogen gas
5 and that kind of thing that you could have metal
6 oxidation. You're not going to get it when it's
7 old and cold. My probably inappropriate words but
8 nonetheless, as far as cold and dark, I don't know
9 what that has to do with it, that's like no
10 electricity, okay.

11 But as far as the risk of old fuel is
12 nowhere near as high as risks are when it's --
13 when it's young or when it's operating as far as
14 energy is concerned. But there's still a risk,
15 and it's still important. That's why millions and
16 millions of dollars are spent to keep it safe at
17 low risk. Safe is the word I try to avoid.
18 Because there's risk in everything. Every breath
19 you take is a risk. Okay, I accept that because I
20 want to live.

21 You know, there's all kinds of safety is
22 your perception of risk. But the risk of drive
23 storage, massive storage is fairly low from an
24 emergency planning point of view, which is what
25 the lady was -- I thought she was asking for.

1 TOM ISAACS: If I could just mention,
2 because it's come up a couple times tonight, the
3 CEP several years ago did a -- one of these
4 sessions dedicated to the security risks of the
5 waste on site. I was one of the people who
6 talked. There was a panel of people who talked
7 about what those risks were, what the NRC
8 requirements were, what the potential damages were
9 and so for those of you who are interested in
10 learning about the security risks of terrorism,
11 for example, there's I assume it's available on
12 the site, and you can get a lot of information
13 about that.

14 MANUEL CAMARGO: Thank you for the
15 question. It was a multi-part question. With
16 respect to the shipment, that question we have
17 Mark Morgan, if we can unmute Mark Morgan. He's
18 going to deliver that part of the answer.

19 Mark MORGAN: Yes. So the drums were
20 opened at the Clive facility. We were notified of
21 that on March 17th, and I believe they were
22 opened, you know, within 24 hours prior to that.
23 But I want to reiterate the question implied that
24 there was leakage from the drums. There was not
25 leakage from the drums. And, in part, based on

1 that, it was not a reportable event at the time.

2 So, again, the best information that's in
3 the public venue, if you want to find out more
4 about it, is the inspection report and the ADAMS
5 number was listed in the slide as part of a deck.

6 MANUEL CAMARGO: Thank you, Mark. Okay
7 any -- so is there a comment?

8 Okay. So thank you, Charles, and
9 Charles, I don't think I mentioned. Charles
10 Langley is with Public Watch Dogs.

11 CHARLES LANGLEY: I do have a follow-up
12 question, I thought I heard the word "leak." Was
13 it a radiation leak or --

14 Mark MORGAN: No. So the issue at hand
15 was we shipped it as solid waste, and when it
16 arrived at Clive, they realized there was liquid
17 in the drums beyond what was allowed for the
18 shipment of solid waste. There were no
19 indications of leakage, though.

20 CHARLES LANGLEY: Okay.

21 MANUEL CAMARGO: Okay. Thank you for
22 that.

23 So then on line we have Carl Perez. I
24 think Carl Perez has some questions. Can we
25 unmute Carl and allow Carl to ask his question --

1 questions?

2 CARL PEREZ: Yes. So can you hear me?

3 MANUEL CAMARGO: Yes, loud and clear. Go
4 ahead.

5 CARL PEREZ: Yes. I just wanted to thank
6 all the panelists for coming for a very
7 informative discussion on where we're headed on
8 the path forward for nuclear waste disposal. And,
9 frankly, I used to be anti-nuclear and also anti
10 reprocessing. My father actually protested
11 against the construction of nuclear power plants
12 in France.

13 And I've really revisited my opinions
14 once you started really understanding the facts
15 and, you know, relying less on opinions. And I
16 think I being able to use these public engagement
17 panels for sources of really factual information
18 is really important.

19 And so, you know, I definitely want to
20 point a couple of questions to you know,
21 Dr. Macfarlane, and I tried to really limit the
22 questions to be easy yes or nos, but I guess the
23 first one is, you know, in the spirit of open
24 minds, reprocessed uranium, contrary to what you
25 previously said on this panel, is, in fact, used

1 to power four units of 900 megawatts in France at
2 the Cruas facility --

3 MANUEL CAMARGO: Carl, Carl, sorry to cut
4 you off. Can you get closer to your microphone,
5 please. It's difficult to hear you in the room
6 here.

7 CARL PEREZ: Okay. Let me try again. Is
8 now better?

9 MANUEL CAMARGO: Yes.

10 CARL PEREZ: Again, I'll just keep it
11 short. But I think information is really
12 important for these public meetings, and I really
13 wanted to direct four yes-or-no questions to
14 Dr. Macfarlane.

15 In the spirit of open minds, reprocessed
16 uranium, contrary to what you previously said on
17 this panel is, in fact, used to power four units
18 of 900 megawatts of reactor in France at the Cruas
19 facility. It's also been used in the Netherlands,
20 Germany, Japan, India, Canada, Switzerland,
21 amongst many other countries.

22 Would you like to correct your earlier
23 statement for the record that reprocessed uranium
24 cannot, and will never been used during your
25 exchange with Supervisor Desmond?

1 ALLISON MACFARLANE: No, my statement is
2 correct.

3 CARL PEREZ: That you cannot use
4 reprocessed uranium?

5 ALLISON MACFARLANE: No. My statement
6 was reprocessed uranium is not used very much at
7 all, because it is contaminated with uranium 232
8 and 236, which you don't want to put into your
9 reactor, so you have to remove the 232 or 236 or
10 dilute it enough, and there aren't many
11 centrifuges around the world, except maybe in
12 Russia, that would accept that dirty uranium for
13 enrichment, and so, therefore, it's very expensive
14 to reuse and, therefore, it's not used.

15 CARL PEREZ: So the facility at Framatome
16 in rue d'Arcueil that I visited five weeks ago
17 looking at reprocessed uranium being fabricated
18 into fuel to go into the four reactors was, you
19 know, pure imagination, I guess?

20 ALLISON MACFARLANE: The French have
21 looked at this -- I'm looking at Fred, because
22 he's knowledgeable more probably, firsthand
23 knowledge, but the French have looked at this, and
24 they've done a little, but they haven't done a lot
25 with reprocessed uranium because it's expensive,

1 and guess what, regular uranium, uranium-based
2 fuel is just a lot cheaper.

3 TOM ISAACS: Likewise, it's worth
4 mentioning that the French do -- and Fred, please
5 feel free to comment -- the French do reprocess,
6 but the idea that we would have sequential
7 reprocessing and over time invert more and more of
8 the uranium into plutonium, and then the plutonium
9 would be used as a fuel is very, very difficult.
10 The French are only reprocessing once for very
11 much the same kinds of reasons that Allison just
12 mentioned, that other isotopes of the plutonium
13 build into the plutonium, and they make a use of
14 it as a fuel very inefficient.

15 ALLISON MACFARLANE: Yeah, exactly
16 exactly. So it's called monocycling, what France
17 does, .

18 FRED BAILLY: Yeah.

19 ALLISON MACFARLANE: And so you can read
20 about this in National Academy of Sciences report
21 from 19 -- sorry -- from 2022 called The Merits
22 and Viability of Nuclear Fuel Cycles, et cetera.
23 Just look at National -- Google National Academy
24 of Sciences Merits and Viability, this report will
25 come up.

1 FRED BAILLY: Thank you. I do confirm
2 that, yes, there are four units in France that do
3 run with reprocessed uranium.

4 Just want to mention that the French when
5 they went into using MOX fuel, it was, in part, to
6 bridge the gap to the Gen 4 reactors and they were
7 on the path to definitely closing the fuel cycle
8 when political changes put a stop to their
9 approach to it.

10 So it is feasible. It is more expensive
11 to reenrich reprocessed uranium than natural
12 uranium, but it doesn't mean that you can't have
13 cascades of enrichment that could be dedicated to
14 that.

15 ALLISON MACFARLANE: The other -- on
16 reprocessing again, the other issues we have
17 haven't talked about is that all countries that
18 have reprocessed civilian spent fuel for reuse as
19 MOX fuel, now have massive stock piles of
20 separated plutonium that they have not been able
21 to keep up with using.

22 And so I think France's stockpile is now
23 about 70,000 metric tons, which is a problem.

24 FRED BAILLY: Not 70,000.

25 TOM ISAACS: It wouldn't be that much,

1 maybe 70 metric tons.

2 ALLISON MACFARLANE: Sorry, 70 metric
3 tons.

4 TOM ISAACS: Japan has about 46 metric
5 tons.

6 ALLISON MACFARLANE: The UK has over a
7 hundred metric tons so --

8 MANUEL CAMARGO: Okay. Thank you for
9 your answers. Thank you for the questions,
10 Mr. Perez.

11 Moving to the next person on line that is
12 Jeremy Pearson, so if we can unmute his mic.

13 Do we have Mr. Pearson? Okay. Not
14 hearing whether we have Mr. Pearson and not
15 hearing him come --

16 JEREMY PEARSON: Okay. Sorry, Manuel,
17 can you hear me now?

18 MANUEL CAMARGO: Yes.

19 JEREMY PEARSON: Okay. Thank you,
20 Manuel, and thank you to the panel. This is
21 Jeremy Pearson with Utah Office of Energy
22 Development. And I don't have an official
23 statement prepared on behalf of our office, but I
24 just thought it would be worth jumping on for a
25 second just to say hello and to thank Chairman

1 Macfarlane and Lake Barrett for their report.

2 And it's great that we have more
3 summarizing all the thought over the last decade,
4 15 years to useful for states like ours who have
5 submitted the Innovation Campus Proposal.

6 And so I just wanted to let everyone know
7 that we have indeed submitted a proposal and while
8 it is very recent and new to a lot of people, we
9 lived in breathed it for the last three months
10 that we were working on it, and our proposal is
11 available on the Utah Office of Energy
12 Development's website for review.

13 And to Chairwoman Macfarlane's comment
14 that you made earlier, that some applicants may
15 have not understood that that storage of fuel was
16 the center motivation of this RFI, just wanted to
17 say, as our state was submitting a response, this
18 was our understanding from the very beginning, and
19 that we're very much interested as a state and
20 working with other states on finding a solution to
21 this problem.

22 So love to -- for you to reach out to us
23 and review our RFI and continue the conversation.
24 And well done to CEP and Southern California
25 Edison and everyone in California that has been

1 working on this.

2 I did my -- I grew up in Southern
3 California, did my Ph.D. at UC Irvine when San
4 Onofre was being shut down and went to multiple
5 meetings there with Southern California Edison,
6 went to the Waste Confidence Hearings, and even
7 went to D.C. with some students and met you,
8 Allison, with the Nuclear Engineering Student
9 Delegation. Just really know the concerns that
10 you have down there and really understand those
11 concerns and looking forward to working together
12 with you to find a wonderful solution moving
13 forward here. So thank you.

14 ALLISON MACFARLANE: That's great,
15 thanks.

16 CHAIRMAN DAN STETSON: Jeremy, I just
17 want to thank you and the State of Utah and Clive,
18 Utah to accepting so many shipments from SONGS.

19 MANUEL CAMARGO: An early thank you.
20 Okay.

21 Thank you, Mr. Pearson, and thank you,
22 Allison, for the support on the answer.

23 Okay moving on, we do have a question
24 from Peter Jones. Can we unmute Peter?

25 Peter, still on line?

1 PETER JONES: Yes, can you hear me now?

2 MANUEL CAMARGO: Yes, go ahead Peter.

3 PETER JONES: Good evening, and I am
4 Peter Jones. I work with SOF, and I was lucky
5 enough to attend the Mike Levin sponsored meeting
6 last week. And as it just so happens, I was in
7 communication with a few staffers on the hill and
8 talked about Dr. Macfarlane's and Lake's proposal,
9 and they were more interested than I would have
10 expected out of the get-go, and they, you know,
11 had the more concrete questions than I expected.
12 So they were wondering what would be a good
13 template for NuCorp and, you know, something that
14 you alluded to earlier, the consortium that
15 eventually became a private company in 2010
16 selling uranium.

17 So I was just wondering if there were
18 entities, legislation, or any type of template
19 that you could point me to as we look for partners
20 to start building out this legislation and is like
21 Semitech, is that, you know, aside from the need
22 to have local and state partners on the board and
23 NRC oversight, is the semiconductor public/private
24 partnership that was aimed at catching up
25 America's semiconductor industry in the '80s that

1 was a public/private partnership between
2 semiconductor industry and government and, you
3 know, had a slow phase in terms of funding from,
4 you know, being the entirely the U S. Government
5 to get it up to speed, and then you phase into,
6 you know, funding for -- from the industry, is
7 something like that a good place to start from, or
8 what would you recommend as we're actually trying
9 to build more concrete proposals?

10 Like, how flushed out is the proposal in
11 terms of the legislation that it would take, the
12 design of the entity proposed? Just very
13 interested. And there's more interest and
14 momentum than I -- than I ever would have dared to
15 hope.

16 So thank you, the panel, speakers are
17 fantastic, southern California Edison.

18 Template, what do you have for me?

19 LAKE BARRETT: Thank you, that's
20 encouraging what you said. I'll give you a couple
21 of models. There's no perfect one, but as far as
22 a partnership, there was back in the 1960s the
23 West Valley Reprocessing Plant in New York. It
24 technically didn't work out very well, but
25 nonetheless, it was a State of the New York,

1 NYSERD, New York State Energy Research and
2 Development, I believe, and Getty oil were the
3 original companies put together a partnership
4 where it was on state land and all that.

5 So, I mean, that was a business model.
6 Now, the approach with the lifecycle campuses,
7 it's privately-driven for business point of view.
8 So I mean there was a model there they did that.
9 Now, it didn't pan out well, technically speaking
10 and economically speaking --

11 ALLISON MACFARLANE: Economically
12 speaking.

13 LAKE BARRETT: -- you know, the safety
14 risk situation changed with time, but that was a
15 model. Another model is you look at the -- United
16 States Enrichment Corporation, which was split off
17 in DOE which was legislative. I don't think the
18 federal government had to change much as far as
19 laws in the case of West Valley, but they did have
20 to do to put out the USEC model out from DOE, but
21 I mean, that didn't go so well for other reasons
22 nonetheless as far as legislation.

23 I think when you start looking at hybrid
24 of the public service corporations, which we talk
25 about a little bit in our report, you start

1 looking at things like Port Authority of New York,
2 New Jersey, Metropolitan, airports of DC, you
3 started TVA to some degree, but TVA is
4 federally-controlled where presidents appoint
5 people and fire people, and that sort of thing.
6 To me, it's a little too close to the federal
7 government, so I don't like the TVA model
8 particularly. But it is single purpose, and it's
9 probably better than DOE.

10 I mean, I think there were some reverse.
11 I don't think you can start looking at what's the
12 Corp entity look like, what's the NuCorp look
13 like, until you have the whole state sitting down
14 with private industry saying this is what I want
15 to do in my state, how do I do that with the
16 federal government without this going belly up
17 when it changes? It's getting out the two, four
18 and six-year election cycle.

19 Starting with a state proposal, okay, and
20 the governor saying we -- and private industry
21 stepping up and saying, I will bring this money in
22 and I will do these things, and the state has got
23 wide open eyes on how credible what they're
24 promising, and they have guardrails on it. That's
25 when you start.

1 So we have a host state, you have a DOE
2 that says this sounds reasonable to me, then you
3 start putting together the legislation, okay. So
4 without a host state and that is MOU that DOE is
5 trying to work on, hopefully this summer, that
6 would be the basis where a governor says, I will
7 do this, and the community says, I will do that,
8 and then it starts to go together and then the
9 top, the congress will follow the state and follow
10 the private industry, and DOE will be part of the
11 catalyst bringing that together, because the new
12 entity will be implementing the Nuclear Waste
13 Policy Act responsibilities of the Secretary. So
14 it goes from the Secretary to the NuCorp.

15 But the details of that, and there's lots
16 of devils in the details, I mean, there's things
17 about who's going to pay the fee, when you going
18 to pay the fee, how you transition these things,
19 how you get to Corp, all of these things, and then
20 you have to pass the legislation, and you're going
21 to deal with Pay go, and a whole lot of other
22 little arcane things, you have to get 60 votes in
23 the senate, all of these kind of things work into
24 it.

25 But starting with just the legislation

1 alone, with the entity, I think it's hard without
2 a host state saying, Here's the plan.

3 ALLISON MACFARLANE: Just to add or
4 contrast, I think, I mean, clearly you need to
5 amend the Nuclear Waste Policy Act. If you're
6 looking at ways to do that, again, you really have
7 to solve both of the financial problems and
8 implementer. If you want to use a NuCorp as an
9 implementer, Canada did this in 2002-ish, and so
10 just look at what Canada did. The law isn't very
11 long. It's very easy to read, and you can adapt
12 from there, you know.

13 MANUEL CAMARGO: Thank you. Thank you
14 for the question.

15 Moving on to the next person online. We
16 have a Kalene Walker. If we can hear from her --

17 VICTOR CABRAL: Just out of curiosity,
18 are we at the hour mark soon?

19 MANUEL CAMARGO: Yes, we're over. We are
20 past it. Over on time.

21 VICTOR CABRAL: How long do we --

22 CHAIRMAN DAN STETSON: We're about to
23 wrap it up, are we?

24 MANUEL CAMARGO: Yes, as Dan would
25 suggest, we're about to wrap it up.

1 KALENE WALKER: Hello? Can you hear me?
2 Can you hear me?

3 MANUEL CAMARGO: Yes. We -- we have one
4 last question from Kalene.

5 CHAIRMAN DAN STETSON: We have one last
6 question.

7 KALENE Walker: Hello? Can you hear me?

8 MANUEL CAMARGO: Go ahead, Kalene.

9 CHAIRMAN DAN STETSON: Three minutes.

10 KALENE Walker: Okay. So I find it
11 interesting that Lake Barrett's slide 24 said
12 complex, social, political, legal, economic and
13 financial interactions blah, blah, blah, will be
14 necessary. I'm wondering when the technical
15 issues will be addressed?

16 It's so quick to say it's a political
17 issue but when you look at the technical stuff, it
18 becomes a real situation. I attended numerous
19 Nuclear Waste Technical Review board meetings and
20 NRC technical meetings regarding canister
21 degradation, fuel degradation in storage, and the
22 problems with higher burnups, anything above 35
23 gigawatt base per metric ton of uranium, all of a
24 sudden all the hydride rate, and the colliding,
25 and you have the radial hydrides, and you have the

1 ductile to brittle, so the stuff becomes more
2 brittle, and it -- you know, you have colliding
3 failure, all of these things are very real and
4 there's a lot of research that's been done it, but
5 none of this is being addressed at all at San
6 Onofre or any of the other storage facilities.

7 Yes, it's been discussed but only a
8 one-way conversation like the -- if I ask a
9 question tonight, you'll answer it, but usually my
10 mic is shut off, so you can never do a follow-up
11 conversation. We've never had a thorough dialogue
12 regarding canister degradation. This is very
13 serious, because we know we have canisters that
14 were stainless steel canisters that were gouged
15 against carbon steel. And we have carbon embedded
16 into the canisters in certain cases. This could
17 lead to pit corrosion, right?

18 I would -- I think that the fact that
19 Edison and the NRC and everybody, that their
20 inspection management plan that got approved by
21 the Coastal Commission, you're not really, really,
22 really taking this storage facility seriously.

23 So what is the canister degradation rate,
24 and what are the consequences of canister failure?
25 You know when the Garden Grove incident happened

1 up there a few weeks ago and 50,000 people got
2 evacuated because they thought it might blow,
3 there is absolutely zero contingency plan for any
4 kind of abnormality with the canister.

5 So I'm wondering who in this panel or who
6 is willing to have a technical follow-up
7 conversation with the public or someone like
8 myself?

9 Thank you.

10 ALICE McNALLY: Dan, Alice McNally is
11 waiting to speak.

12 MANUEL CAMARGO: Sorry, hold on here a
13 second.

14 So that was Kalene, Kalene Walker. So
15 Kalene, yeah, I -- clearly you're frustrated. I
16 would just say that we have had quite a bit of --
17 quite of bit of time over time talking about
18 canisters, canister integrity, the aging
19 management program, the IMP, Inspection and
20 Maintenance Program, I would point back to the
21 October 2025 special meeting that we had with
22 third party expert, Dr. Jimmy Burns who is with
23 the Electric Power Research Institute and a true
24 expert in this space.

25 We tried real hard to be clear about the

1 durability of these canisters, the duration of
2 these canisters, yeah, at the same time these
3 canisters are not designed for permanent -- it's
4 not a permanent solution, and that's why we're
5 talking here tonight about permanent solutions to
6 the disposition of spent nuclear fuel.

7 With that, Dan, I have to apologize to a
8 couple of folks on line who we did not get to --
9 we did not get to --

10 CHAIRMAN DAN STETSON: Manuel, with all
11 due respect to everyone I think we are already
12 over three hours, for those who might want to save
13 their question for the next meeting, we're
14 certainly --

15 ALICE MCNALLY: No.

16 CHAIRMAN DAN STETSON: -- welcome to
17 them. I want to thank every for participating.
18 Victor has a --

19 VICTOR CABRAL: My brief comment. I want
20 to thank all the panelists.

21 Inciteful discussion. The legislation
22 approach is a viable one. It's going to take a
23 long time I think, in my view. And I think the
24 alternative, that I mentioned earlier, is we got
25 to look to, and it may be after five years of

1 legislation we end up in the administration where
2 they're moving and there's an option. There's
3 windows that open every once in a while. I think
4 there's a big window that's open right now. I
5 think we have to get behind this administration,
6 see what they're doing, see if there's a way to
7 push this committee's effort to say this is how it
8 can happen. This is what will make it happen
9 right now and quicker, and that's what we have to
10 look at as a committee.

11 CHAIRMAN DAN STETSON: Thank you. Thank
12 you, Victor.

13 I want to thank everyone for their
14 comments on this marathon meeting. Fred, I want
15 to turn it over to you for some closing comments.

16 FRED BAILLY: I'll be quick. I want to
17 thank everyone who joined. Thank you for the
18 panelists who joined us tonight. I'm really
19 encouraged by the growing momentum around spent
20 fuel management. We're certainly actively
21 monitoring these developments. We are positioning
22 SONGS to be ready when the opportunity to ship our
23 fuel materializes some day. In the interim, our
24 fuel remains safely stored and we continue
25 inspecting and monitoring our canisters under our

1 management spent fuel management aging programs.

2 We value in-person and hybrid engagement.
3 We remain committed to transparency, and we'll
4 continue to engage with the community. And we had
5 one slide that refers to -- probably the next
6 slide the songscommunity.com is a great source for
7 decommissioning update, and please visit the site
8 and reach out with any questions.

9 And with that, I'll turn it back to you,
10 Dan.

11 CHAIRMAN DAN STETSON: Thank you, Fred.

12 First, I want to thank all the
13 participants in tonight's meeting. Thanks to the
14 technical team, everyone in the back of the room
15 making this happen. Thanks to the SCE leadership.
16 Chris, thanks for your excellent panel discussion.
17 Of course, special thanks to Allison, Lake and
18 Tom, for your participation in this meeting. You
19 could have just done this virtually, but instead
20 you made the trip, you showed up in person to meet
21 the members of the local community, to look them
22 in the eye to address their concerns and, for
23 that, we sincerely thank you.

24 We learned a lot about the path forward.
25 From what I can understand, there's a number of

1 elements in this. Number one, we really need a
2 new implementer, not subject to election cycles to
3 manage the transportation, storage and disposal of
4 spent fuel.

5 Number two, we need reliable funding, of
6 course we do. And all of this, this path must be
7 built on a foundation of trust, and this trust
8 must be earned through demonstrated confidence, a
9 belief that the plans are made with the
10 community's best interests in mind and listening
11 to and responding to the community's concerns.

12 Next slide, please. One more. Next
13 slide, please. Here you can see our schedule for
14 2026. So please mark your calendars. Our third
15 quarter meeting will be on August 27th and will
16 tentatively focus on the Department of Energy's
17 Canister Monitoring Demonstration Project at
18 SONGS. I'm really looking forward to this. I
19 remember talking with Paul Murray about this a
20 long time ago. So I'm glad it's coming to
21 fruition. Details for the next meeting will be
22 posted on the CEP web page.

23 Next slide. Thank you again for this
24 marathon meeting. Thank you for a productive and
25 engaging and most of all, a civilized meeting.

1 Every voice is important. While we may not agree
2 on everything, we all want the safe storage of the
3 spent fuel while it remains at SONGS, and we all
4 want it safe and timely removals.

5 Safe travels everyone. Good night.

6

7 (Meeting adjourned at 8:43 P.M.)

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