

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES
CENTERS FOR DISEASE CONTROL
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SAFETY AND HEALTH

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ADVISORY BOARD ON RADIATION AND
WORKER HEALTH

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WORK GROUP ON PINELLAS

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THURSDAY
MARCH 10, 2016

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The Work Group convened telephonically at 11:00 a.m. Eastern Time, Phillip Schofield, Chairman, presiding.

PRESENT:

PHILLIP P. SCHOFIELD, Chairman
BRADLEY P. CLAWSON, Member
R. WILLIAM FIELD, Member

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ALSO PRESENT:

TED KATZ, Designated Federal Official

BOB BARTON, SC&A

PETE DARNELL, DCAS

BRIAN GLECKLER, ORAU Team

DONNA HAND

JENNY LIN, HHS

JIM NETON, DCAS

MUTTY SHARFI, ORAU Team

MATT SMITH, ORAU Team

JOHN STIVER, SC&A

KATHY LUDWIG TALBOT

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P-R-O-C-E-E-D-I-N-G-S

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(11:06 a.m.)

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Welcome and Roll Call

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MR. KATZ: So I want to say welcome to everyone on the line. This is the Advisory Board on Radiation and Worker Health. This is the Pinellas Work Group, and we're meeting to follow up on a meeting we had about a month ago to try to wrap up the Board's review of the Site Profiles. And we're down to a couple issues.

The agenda for this meeting is posted on the NIOSH website and was also distributed, I think, to some interested parties. And what materials are available are also posted there, related to the discussions today.

So let's do roll call and let's begin with Board Members, and you just need to speak to conflict of interest since we were talking about a specific site. And we'll begin with the Chair.

(Roll call)

MR. KATZ: Okay, then. So, again, the

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1 agenda is posted on the website and the first item
2 on the agenda, SC&A Matrix issue number 5. I don't
3 know, Jim or Pete, how you want to handle this. Who
4 wants to take the reins?

5 **Response to SC&A Memo on Issue #5**

6 MR. DARNELL: Well, this is Pete. In
7 speaking with John Stiver, issue number 5 was, from
8 their point of view, closed with the technical call
9 discussion and the discussion regarding RTGs
10 actually is no longer needed.

11 So I think I'll turn it over to John
12 Stiver and let him cover the tech call and go from
13 there, if that's all right with everyone.

14 MR. KATZ: Yes, I think that's good. I
15 think just you or John need to just explain that
16 in more full English so that everyone can
17 understand.

18 MR. STIVER: Okay. Well, this is
19 Stiver. I can go ahead and take this one.
20 Sub-issue 5 was limit of detection for the film
21 badge dosimeters that were used, I believe, in like

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1 the '74 to '79 time frame.

2 And we had a concern that was like a
3 sub-issue really of Finding 5 that came out back
4 in 2012. We were kind of concerned about the fact
5 that NIOSH had gone, in the revision about the TBD,
6 TBD 6, I believe, they had changed the LOD from 20
7 millirem to ten millirem and we were kind of
8 concerned that might not be claimant-favorable for
9 the workers who were handling RTGs inside the
10 encapsulated plutonium-238 sources because we felt
11 that, you know, the film badges might not be
12 sensitive enough to higher energy spectrum like
13 with respect from a hardened beam, hardened flux
14 coming off of the heavily shielded source.

15 And so there was quite a bit of
16 discussion on this and we enlisted Craig Yoder, Dr.
17 Yoder, who is basically already one of the
18 preeminent experts on film badge dosimetry and the
19 history of it.

20 He was with Landauer for a number of
21 years, back from like '83 up until just a couple

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1 of years ago and actually had help develop the
2 DOELAP Standards for Accreditation for film badge
3 dosimetry. So he knows a few things about film
4 badge dosimetry.

5 And we posed this question to him. You
6 know, is this detection limit that's stated, the
7 limit of detection of ten millirem, is that more
8 of a policy by the company, kind of, you know, or
9 does it have real sound scientific basis behind it?

10 And each frame in detail, that's the way
11 that the badges, the batches of film work, were
12 calibrated, handled and so forth, and how the
13 densitometry works was really kind of unique in the
14 distribution of doses that you'd expect. It really
15 doesn't follow a Gaussian. Really it's based on
16 the densitometry increments, it's more of a step
17 function.

18 And so each little click on the
19 densitometry corresponds with high energy gammas
20 to about a six millirem exposure. And so the way
21 they did this at the time, so let's say you have

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1 6, 12, 18 and so forth in increments of optical
2 density that you've then converted over to
3 exposure.

4 And they're -- rather than try to
5 calibrate each for each separate energy, they kind
6 of have a catch-all approach even though the film
7 is more sensitive to lower energy.

8 Obviously it would be because the
9 photoelectric effect basically could detect three
10 millirem of low energy x-rays and claim they could
11 detect about ten millirem, you know, actually 12
12 to 14 for higher energy photons.

13 But the way they reported these doses
14 out were: anything less than ten millirem was
15 considered not significant, that was reported as
16 a zero, and then ten to 15 was reported as ten and
17 so forth, in 20 millirem increments.

18 And so my question for Dr. Yoder was,
19 well, is that ten millirem, you know -- regardless
20 of, you know, the degree of hardening in the
21 spectrum, could you detect, you know, let's say one

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1 MeV a year, 800 keV photons, with a degree of
2 confidence at that ten millirem exposure?

3 And he explained how they did this.
4 Basically, they controlled type I and type II error
5 rates to five percent. So 95 percent of the time,
6 you know, if they're reporting ten, you're going
7 to see a ten or a 20.

8 And in my mind that provided, you know,
9 his explanation provided the scientific basis that
10 we were looking for, for whether that ten was really
11 a good solid number.

12 And based on that we recommend go ahead
13 and closing out that open sub-issue of finding 5.

14 CHAIRMAN SCHOFIELD: Anybody else have
15 anything to comment?

16 MEMBER CLAWSON: Phil, this is Brad.
17 I just wanted to get around this because reading
18 these guides has mostly stopped.

19 You said that this was in increments of
20 ten that they did this. But so if he had 15
21 millirem it would go to ten? Is that, am I reading

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1 that correctly or --

2 MR. STIVER: I think 15 we'd round up
3 to the next highest number and we get up to 20.

4 MEMBER CLAWSON: Okay.

5 MR. STIVER: So I guess like ten to 14
6 would be ten and then so forth. Even though
7 they're actually calibrated in six millirem. It's
8 kind of confusing, but it was done basically just
9 so they could have one set of standards they could
10 use for all these different batches of film.

11 They all read, and Craig also
12 described, you know, how they control for base fog
13 for each group separately, each batch of film
14 separately. That was the other thing we were kind
15 of concerned with.

16 You know, whether a batch of film that
17 was at Pinellas, or any other site for that matter,
18 might have a different accrual rate kind of a base
19 fog, I guess that's not really the best word, but,
20 you know, the rate of the fogging over time might
21 be different from one site to another due to

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1 background differences and so forth. But they
2 control for that too, so. But I think it's a pretty
3 solid program in place.

4 MEMBER CLAWSON: Right. But, and just
5 what I'm going through is what you guys' notes were
6 in that. So they're still going to read 14 or 15
7 but they're actually going to round them up or down,
8 correct? Yet they were still reading them?

9 MR. STIVER: Right. Yes. So it would
10 either be zero or ten or 20. If it's less than ten,
11 say it's up to nine it would be reported as zero.
12 You're not going to actually detect it, you know,
13 at the lower energies. The ten to 12, 14 would be
14 to come in as a ten.

15 Probably there might be some
16 statistical variation. You got some ten, some 20,
17 but the closer you got to 20, the more likely you
18 would get to see more 20s and fewer tens.

19 DR. NETON: Hey John, this is Jim.
20 Just a minor correction. I think if it was listed
21 as less than ten it would be indicated, M, minimal,

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1 on the -- not zero.

2 MR. STIVER: Yes. Minimal, I think
3 basically it was considered, yes. None are really
4 a zero, but, yes, you're right.

5 DR. NETON: It was listed as M, was the
6 technical designation.

7 MR. STIVER: Yes. Yes, you're right.
8 Yes, that was right.

9 MEMBER CLAWSON: So and this again, to
10 what my point was, especially that below the ten
11 millimeter -- ten millirem, you are still rounding
12 up. So what my question kind of was, and I didn't
13 quite see it in your notes and stuff, so if it was
14 five or whatever, would that show up as zero or
15 would it be showing up as ten?

16 MR. STIVER: It would -- anything less
17 than nine, nine or below is just recorded as Jim
18 said, as M, for minimal.

19 MEMBER CLAWSON: Okay.

20 MR. STIVER: So anything like that like
21 that, ten would be basically ten to 15 and so. The

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1 question I was really concerned with was is that
2 a solid number, that ten, does it have a solid
3 basis?

4 And, you know, based on how they
5 controlled the -- how they determine the detection
6 limits, you know, I felt that it was adequate. It
7 certainly is as good as you're going to get with
8 film badging dosimetry.

9 MEMBER CLAWSON: Okay. I'm just -- I
10 offer nothing. I was just trying to follow you
11 guys' notes and I was a little bit confused in it
12 and I wasn't a part of that and I apologize but,
13 okay. That answers what I wanted to know. Thank
14 you.

15 MR. KATZ: Okay.

16 MR. STIVER: Thanks.

17 MEMBER FIELD: This is Bill Field. I
18 thought it was a brilliant, brilliant informative
19 discussion and really helpful. I had concerns
20 about the impact of fogging but it sounds like that
21 had very minimal effect on the interpretation.

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1 MR. STIVER: Yes, Dr. Yoder was very,
2 very helpful, very clearly spoken and clearly one
3 of the most knowledgeable people on the subject.

4 So without any further discussion I
5 guess I could move on to the next item.

6 CHAIRMAN SCHOFIELD: Okay. The next
7 item is on the matrix issue number 6 on the D&D.

8 MR. KATZ: Well, Phil, just formally,
9 I think the Working Group needs just to close that
10 matter.

11 CHAIRMAN SCHOFIELD: Oh, true. But I
12 think we can close that issue. I think we've all
13 come to agreement on it.

14 MR. KATZ: That's fine. You just need
15 to state the thing and you're doing that, right?
16 Thanks.

17 MEMBER CLAWSON: Well, I agree with
18 you, Phil. This is Brad.

19 CHAIRMAN SCHOFIELD: Thanks, Brad.

20 MR. KATZ: Okay.

21 CHAIRMAN SCHOFIELD: So, Pete, again,

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1 which one of you want to take the next one? The
2 response?

3 **Response to SC&A Memo on Issue #6**

4 MR. DARNELL: This is Pete. I'll go
5 ahead and take it. Issue 6 was well, again, a
6 holdover from the last matrix review that was done
7 prior to the turn of the year.

8 SC&A commented, basically we heard from
9 a site expert that there may be some issue or some
10 records in Albuquerque. And they basically wanted
11 NIOSH to go over and look for the records.

12 What we did was go through our Site
13 Research Database and come up with all the records
14 that have been found so far and ask for a finding
15 aid on the Sandia National Laboratory which has the
16 Albuquerque holdings.

17 We received the finding aid on March 1st
18 and I supplied that to everybody and emailed out
19 the location of the actual finding aid.

20 And then we did a review on the finding
21 aid looking for number of key words to try to find

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1 information regarding decontamination and
2 decommissioning it to an off-site.

3 As routine, the paper, we were quite
4 thorough in looking through. What we found in
5 those holdings were basically documents that were,
6 could be indirectly valuable.

7 In other words, information regarding
8 the processes or equipment at the site. One of the
9 items we pointed out was the helium-3 release and
10 retention rate characteristics of, in
11 spectrometric behavior of H TRIGA uranium, uranium
12 oxide, uranium and aluminum samples.

13 We get some information regarding how
14 some of the materials reacted and what went on with
15 those materials but very little information would
16 we get towards site radiological operations or the
17 radiological conditions on the site.

18 We did not find anything that would be
19 related to the D&D or the radiation and safety
20 programmatic knowledge.

21 And basically, on our review feel

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1 there's no value in going out and try and pull these
2 records to support anything that we haven't already
3 done.

4 So yes, I mean, that's basically it in
5 a nutshell.

6 CHAIRMAN SCHOFIELD: The rest of you
7 have any comments?

8 MR. STIVER: Yes, this is John.
9 Basically, in our line we were thinking there might
10 be some additional monitoring data and records out
11 there at Sandia, basically the Albuquerque office,
12 that possibly hadn't been captured yet.

13 It turns out, well, and, you know, as
14 you can tell, I mean, you look at, you know, Pete's
15 response and then the response from the February
16 meeting.

17 It looks like they had done a due
18 diligence so they run this thing to ground. You
19 know, they got what there is out there, I think.
20 There is no, you know, additional data to be found.

21 So, you know, it becomes kind of a

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1 weight of evidence argument. I mean, you know, we
2 have a good quantity of the monitoring data. We
3 have an interviewee who was, you know, one of the
4 principle health physicists and during that period
5 of D&D he recalled a very, you know, detailed
6 knowledge of the operations and how things were
7 done back then.

8 So anyway, we have a very credible
9 interviewee and a subject matter expert, if you
10 will.

11 And so, you know, we have that, you
12 know, and NIOSH has a good solid set of data,
13 monitoring data. We have the word of the subject
14 matter expert who was actually there during, in the
15 operations.

16 And they also are going to apply the
17 coworker dose which is the 95th percentile.
18 That's a -- you can turn up with a D&D worker who
19 didn't have monitoring data and that, remember, is
20 a whole body dose, basically.

21 It's a combination of photon, neutron

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1 and tritium and doses the 95th percentile during
2 the operational period assuming continuous
3 exposure.

4 For all we know at Pinellas the exposure
5 were typically released to external radiation a
6 very short term. It's either on or it's off, you
7 know, that kind of thing.

8 So, yes, we have been through that
9 before and we felt that that was, you know, a good
10 claimant-favorable approach.

11 And so, you know, here you've got a guy
12 who comes along who doesn't have a monitoring data
13 log. They have the coworker dose that's going to
14 be applied to the 95th percentile and we felt that
15 that's adequate.

16 So, you know, in my mind there's really
17 nothing more to do on this so I think we could
18 probably go ahead and close it out.

19 MEMBER CLAWSON: Hey John, this is
20 Brad. Dealing with Sandia stuff, we don't have,
21 do we still have any notes or anything else that

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1 are still pending down with them?

2 I know that with some of the other sites
3 that they have some information. We were kind of
4 still waiting for some notes for them to release
5 it.

6 But have we got all of our information
7 from Sandia that we have requested? Or do we have
8 anything still waiting?

9 MR. DARNELL: Brad, this is Pete. We
10 received everything from Sandia that they have.
11 That 60 page listing of documents was it.

12 MEMBER CLAWSON: Okay. I guess -- and
13 this pertained to another site. I was just, we
14 just had some notes that were kind of tied up down
15 there with their library down there and I just
16 wanted to make sure that we'd received everything
17 we were supposed to.

18 MR. DARNELL: Yes. We actually waited
19 until we received their -- what they call their EDC
20 review. I don't remember what the acronym stands
21 for, but their complete review of the holdings and

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1 then their technical review of the list. This
2 completed, I'm sure, everything that they had was
3 included on this before they sent it to us.

4 MEMBER CLAWSON: Okay. I'm just, yes,
5 I just wanted to make sure. Appreciate it.

6 MR. DARNELL: Not a problem.

7 MR. STIVER: So Phil, I guess maybe
8 make a motion to go ahead and close out number 6?

9 CHAIRMAN SCHOFIELD: Yes, I mean,
10 unless there's something outstanding that somebody
11 knows about, I feel we should go ahead and just
12 close it out and then allow the public to speak.

13 MR. DARNELL: I do want to point out
14 that, you know, we will still be looking for
15 documents and as we come across them we'll make them
16 available to the Board and apply them as needed.

17 So while we're recommending closure
18 it's still something that's ongoing as with all of
19 our cases in all the different sites.

20 CHAIRMAN SCHOFIELD: You know, that
21 reminded me of one thing, Pete. Have you checked

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1 with LANL?

2 MR. DARNELL: Los Alamos. I believe
3 that's in the memo. That some of the stuff was
4 found at Los Alamos.

5 CHAIRMAN SCHOFIELD: Yes, because I
6 personally know some people who've, were involved
7 in all that, so.

8 MR. DARNELL: Right.

9 CHAIRMAN SCHOFIELD: I doubt if any of
10 them are still around, but.

11 MR. DARNELL: Oh, you never know. Off
12 the top of my head I'm almost positive what we did,
13 but I'll do a quick check and make sure that we,
14 and see if we've gotten anything from LANL.

15 MR. STIVER: Yes, Pete, in the memo you
16 sent out for February?

17 MR. DARNELL: Yes?

18 MR. STIVER: They had 771 SRDB
19 references captured from other sources and
20 included LANL and some other -- NIOSH, SAIC, et
21 cetera.

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1 MR. DARNELL: I am looking at my
2 report, so I am not finding it. Yes, you're right.

3 CHAIRMAN SCHOFIELD: Okay. That was
4 my only question.

5 MR. KATZ: Okay. So Phil, you just
6 need concurrence from your Work Group Members.

7 MEMBER CLAWSON: Phil, this is Brad.
8 I agree with you. We can go ahead and close this
9 item.

10 MEMBER FIELD: This is Bill. Agree,
11 okay.

12 **Public Comments/Questions**

13 CHAIRMAN SCHOFIELD: Well, and we'll
14 open it up to the public if they have any questions
15 or comments.

16 MS. HAND: This is Donna Hand. Your
17 issue number 6 back in 06-11-2008, and they said
18 that the Site Profiles even addressed the D&D era,
19 [identifying information redacted] has stated that
20 yes, we have a number of workers but we don't know
21 if they were involved with the D&D time period.

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1 And, you know, you had -- but there was
2 no information put up of what type of monitoring
3 practices, procedures. And then Peter Darnell
4 says, well, suppose 10 CFR 835 so they were under
5 the rule. And Mr. Gibson has then just said just
6 because they're under a rule that doesn't mean they
7 followed it.

8 And there was, you had no, received no
9 documentation of the swipes, and also the personnel
10 remained, they stayed there and worked on a D&D time
11 period from 1994 all the way up until September of
12 1997.

13 They were the ones that acted as HPs.
14 They did the swipes. You know, they cleared the
15 house, they cut down the stacks. They sent it to
16 the Nevada Test Site or to Savannah River depending
17 on how much radiation it was, and you have no
18 documentation of it.

19 So where are those records? And if you
20 don't have any documentation, you know, your data
21 integrity is questionable.

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1 And this is where you're really first
2 Work Group meeting. And at that time you also ran
3 this as classified. We still have not received any
4 radiation dose from the HEATHER Project.

5 And we know for a fact that it did emit
6 radiation and you just now are sending out those
7 Q clearance interviews to the people that did the
8 Q clearance.

9 And this was done back in, what, 2011,
10 2012? It's taken this many years to do this? This
11 is not a timely matter. And in the 2008 Work Group
12 report it also says that you did not have a proper
13 electronic data set.

14 The data changed from some claimants
15 that have filed. And Brad Clawson then brought up,
16 well, we need to look at the data adequacy and the
17 integrity.

18 And Neton said the same thing. We will
19 look into that and that still has not been done.

20 So I question you closing these issues
21 when you're ignoring the fact at the very beginning

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1 these issues are still outstanding.

2 So what is the Working Group, and what
3 is the NIOSH, going to do to correct this because
4 you do not have anywhere within the, you know, the
5 -- what, about eight years came up with
6 documentation to support your data.

7 And even Phil, you know, and according
8 to Peter Darnell, who's the last meeting you had
9 when he told the gentleman from Landauer, oh, we
10 don't take opinion, we have to have reference and
11 documents, who then told Pinellas Plant it's based
12 off of his opinion that the workers don't know what
13 they're talking about.

14 And that again is mentioned in 2008.
15 So this has been going on for eight years and we're
16 not being treated the same way as any other site.

17 So I would like for the Working Group
18 and NIOSH, the upper people, you know, decide what
19 are you going to do. Are you going to do the right
20 thing and be fair or are you going to continue
21 dragging us along, you know, and where, you know,

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1 somebody's going to have to take you to Federal
2 Court. Thank you.

3 MS. TALBOT: This is Kathy Talbot. I
4 would just like to add also that at the outreach
5 meeting last week that they had that we attended,
6 I think the first group was about 125 people. We
7 ask an enormous amount of questions. We
8 absolutely tried to validate our concerns and were
9 shut down left and right.

10 The reason I bring this up is I just want
11 to follow this up with these Q clearance interviews
12 which have to go back to some of this not being
13 completed, the Site Profile as far as the Pinellas
14 Plant employees are concerned, and there's a lot
15 of them involved now.

16 You know, these workers knew what was
17 going on. These workers were there. It's an open
18 plant. You know, I think one of the things that
19 needs to be brought to fruition on a lot of these
20 points is it's the only, as far as I know and please
21 correct me if I'm wrong, one of the only open

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1 quality control manufacturing lines in the nation.

2 And this is never really been addressed.

3 I'm sure all of you were aware and Ted,
4 I'd like to direct a question to you and I know that
5 Mr. Schofield is there.

6 I can't seem to get an email to send,
7 you know, certain people certain things and I don't
8 get any confirmation that they've been sent. Is
9 that still the best way to get information to Phil
10 and Brad, is through you, Ted, through that D --

11 MR. KATZ: Yes, that is and you should
12 be getting, Kathy, you should be getting
13 confirmation because I always respond to, I respond
14 to the same mailbox that you send to. They send
15 me emails, I respond back.

16 And I always tell them I've done this
17 and that they should be forwarding that on to the
18 original inquirer, like you, when you inquire about
19 something.

20 MS. TALBOT: Okay, well, and again, not
21 trying to be argumentative. I've never once

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1 received a response except when I sent you some
2 documents that were not in the proper format and
3 I won't do that again. I'll send them PDF.

4 MR. KATZ: Yes, because I had an email
5 directly from you so I just responded to you, right.

6 MS. TALBOT: You did, yes, you did.

7 MR. KATZ: And you can, I'm fine with
8 you sending me an email directly, Kathy. That's
9 not a problem.

10 MS. TALBOT: And do I send that one
11 direct? Maybe I did eventually get an email --

12 MR. KATZ: Either you sent it to me or
13 your email was on what I received but I remember
14 responding to you or copying you or whatever.

15 MS. TALBOT: Yes, it's all right, it's
16 all right.

17 MR. KATZ: Yes.

18 MS. TALBOT: I'm just trying to clarify
19 this. And I, again, I understand that we're a bit
20 off-subject on this. This is kind of an open forum
21 for us. We have to jump in when we can, guys.

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1 And we know this is a big meeting coming
2 up in Tampa and we know that some of the Site Profile
3 information on Pinellas will -- you know, will be
4 discussed.

5 And as you can imagine we'll be there
6 to listen carefully. And I'm sure that you're all
7 aware, and if you're not I'm here to tell you or
8 inform you, we did file a thick SEC.

9 It's, you know, I got a clarification
10 or a notification that it's been assigned a
11 tracking number.

12 You know, so we've tried to make this
13 one strong. We, you know, tried to bring things
14 to the attention of the Working Group and NIOSH and
15 everyone concerned that, you know, we are concerned
16 that the Pinellas plant is special in that it had
17 some unique qualities and, you know, there are some
18 things that's not been addressed in the prior four
19 SECs.

20 So again, that's just my statement. So
21 these are the things that we get nervous about when

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1 they close things because SC&A -- and John, I know
2 that you must be aware of this, I had a meeting with
3 our group here in Pinellas and I saw the letters.
4 They're dated the 25th of January on some of these
5 interviews. That's a long time not to finish what
6 was started.

7 And I, you know, I'm not looking for an
8 explanation. I'm just looking for some of these
9 things to be left open or to be added to at a later
10 date.

11 When these were the top ten or 12 guys
12 and some of them unfortunately are already passed,
13 you know -- so what would have been a great
14 interview for those very, very brilliant people
15 that you chose to give you solid information, have
16 already passed away.

17 And they're dropping like flies. I
18 hate to say it that way, but, I mean, we're
19 approaching 550 people.

20 And, you know, I just think that again,
21 you know, you guys are really famous for opinion

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1 so I'll give you one of mine. Pinellas Plant is
2 not treated the same as a lot of the other plants
3 although you refer to the surrogate by Pinellas,
4 surrogate by Pinellas.

5 So, you know, and that's another issue
6 to be brought up for in our SEC consultation. When
7 I was on the phone with this conference I had a call
8 from Cincinnati so that may have been it.

9 But, you know, that's just what I want
10 to say. We just want to be treated fairly. And
11 we want it scientific like everyone else. That's
12 all we want.

13 MR. DARNELL: Excuse me.

14 MS. TALBOT: You talked about a
15 coworker dose, you talk about a coworker dose, a
16 hundred millirems every year is not a fair coworker
17 dose. It should be different for every year.

18 And you're doing straight across the
19 board a hundred millirems for the coworker dose.
20 I asked Grady Calhoun that question and he couldn't
21 answer me. And then he lied and told me that every

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1 single one of these things were closed.

2 And they had to come back 15 minutes
3 later in the meeting and say I have to respond to
4 Ms. Talbot's question. Some of the items are still
5 open.

6 But he told 125 people that every single
7 one of these items were satisfied and closed. I
8 mean, you're talking about people who don't even
9 know how to file a claim. Some of these people
10 don't even know how to file a claim. Thank you.

11 MR. KATZ: Thank you, Kathy. A couple
12 things. One, Donna, related to Donna's comment
13 too. I think, John, are you preparing the sort of
14 overall review of the Site Profile Review for the
15 Board?

16 MR. STIVER: Yes, I'll be doing that.

17 MR. KATZ: So when you do that you'll
18 be covering all the findings and how they were
19 resolved, right?

20 MR. STIVER: Yes. I've got, planning
21 on using the matrix, you know, we went through the

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1 last meeting and just kind of, you know, give the
2 highlights of that and then, you know, I can take
3 questions that are related to it.

4 MR. KATZ: Right. So I'm just
5 assuming that that's going to cover some of Donna's
6 questions about how matters were closed on various
7 findings?

8 MR. STIVER: Yes. Like I said, if you
9 noticed the matrix that we sent around since the
10 last meeting it's annotated with, you know,
11 different transcripts.

12 MR. KATZ: Right.

13 MR. STIVER: And then when things were
14 closed out and, you know, the discussions are
15 there, you know, that led up to it.

16 MEMBER CLAWSON: John, this is also
17 Brad. And you're going to cover the data adequacy
18 question because you guys have checked into that,
19 right, and explained what the process --

20 MR. STIVER: I'm kind of just talking
21 off the cuff. I think you're talking about the

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1 issue 1 and, you know, all of them, but.

2 MEMBER CLAWSON: I just want to make
3 sure because I've been involved in a lot of the data
4 captures and stuff with Pinellas.

5 But I also went down to Sandia on some
6 of the interviews and we actually went in and looked
7 at the process that was actually brought up from
8 Pinellas and so forth.

9 And I just want to make sure that we'd
10 let them know what, a lot of time's as a group we've
11 all been involved in these, but I want to make sure
12 the information -- and they understand what we have
13 done and what, how deep we've dug into this to come
14 to these conclusions.

15 MR. KATZ: Right. So this is Ted.
16 So, I just, I would have this suggestion, I guess.
17 John will have a presentation where he'll go
18 through all of the matrices, matrix items.

19 But also I think, John, if we have it,
20 we should have a finally updated version of the
21 matrix with all the items, how they were closed and

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1 we can put that out too and that might give more
2 detail on some matters that you're not going to,
3 you know, go into in detail in your presentation.
4 Does that make sense?

5 MR. STIVER: Yes, just sort of a, like
6 a final --

7 MR. KATZ: Yes, we always do anyway a
8 final matrix with all the matters closed and how
9 they were closed, how they were disposed.

10 MR. STIVER: Now are you talking like
11 in the next couple of days from the meeting or this
12 is going to be like a --

13 MR. KATZ: Well, no, I mean, well, the
14 matrix normally is kept more or less up to date and
15 it would just be for the Board meeting in -- is that
16 a problem? I mean that, it would have to be done
17 sometime, completed in sometime next week but we
18 have a matrix, right, that's been --

19 MR. STIVER: We do but it's not a super
20 detailed matrix. It doesn't cover every
21 discussion that ever took place. We had --

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1 MR. KATZ: No, right. But I mean,
2 they never do.

3 MR. STIVER: Yes. We had something
4 like that back in like the 2011 time frame and it
5 just got so cumbersome that, you know, it was too
6 unwieldy to even deal with.

7 MR. KATZ: Okay. Well, I guess it's,
8 I mean, if all you have is something that's very
9 summary, then I think your presentation will do the
10 job. But if your matrix as it stands now has more
11 detail then I would just update it with these last
12 few items.

13 MR. STIVER: Yes, I'll update it with
14 the one we have now, with that.

15 MR. KATZ: Yes.

16 MR. STIVER: You know, I'm just afraid
17 that, you know, if we put all the details from
18 everything we got before why, you know, that's what
19 the entire meeting is going to be.

20 MR. KATZ: Oh no, I don't think you can
21 possibly do that, right.

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1 MR. STIVER: Yes, yes.

2 MR. KATZ: You can't possibly do that
3 for sure.

4 MR. STIVER: I'll give you the time
5 I've got. I mean, we can certainly, you know, if
6 petitioners or other folks are interested in, you
7 know, some more of the details, well, we can provide
8 it but probably not in real time but we can
9 certainly get it to them.

10 MR. KATZ: Right.

11 MR. DARNELL: Hey, John, this is Pete.
12 I have a matrix that I'll send you. It was the last
13 one that NIOSH put out. All it's missing is the
14 final updates for tritides, issue 5 and issue 6.
15 Maybe that will help with your effort.

16 MR. STIVER: Yes, well, I have the one
17 from 2009. I remember that was the last one we
18 discussed for the 2011 meeting and --

19 MR. DARNELL: It's the one we put out
20 January 12th of 2016.

21 MR. STIVER: I didn't catch that last

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1 part. You broke up.

2 MR. DARNELL: We put it out in January
3 12th of 2016.

4 MR. STIVER: Yes, I've got that one.
5 Yes, I've got that one.

6 MR. DARNELL: Okay.

7 MR. STIVER: That's what I used to
8 generate our responses.

9 MR. DARNELL: Yes. And I do have a
10 question for Ms. Talbot.

11 MS. TALBOT: Yes.

12 MR. DARNELL: I understand that you're
13 looking for some type of closure on the interviews
14 and what I'd like to know is what would meet your
15 expectations for closure on those?

16 MS. TALBOT: Well, you know, my
17 expectation is that it would, that the interviews
18 are done and completed.

19 I'll give you an example. Am I talking
20 to John?

21 MR. STIVER: Yes, I'm here.

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1 MS. TALBOT: I just want to know who I'm
2 talking to, that's all.

3 MR. DARNELL: You're speaking to Peter
4 Darnell.

5 MS. TALBOT: Oh, okay.

6 MR. DARNELL: Yes, this is Pete.

7 MS. TALBOT: So, Pete, what I saw at
8 this meeting, okay, were letters to the
9 interviewees. And if you would like a name I'll
10 give you the name of the gentlemen that I saw his
11 paperwork.

12 MR. DARNELL: No, we won't use names in
13 this meeting.

14 MS. TALBOT: I know you don't. So and
15 it was a summary of the interview, you know, which
16 he should have gotten years ago. And, you know,
17 if there was anything they wanted to add or, you
18 know, or update or whatever.

19 And he took that and he reviewed it and
20 there was many, many things missing that he was
21 going to try to fix or update before he signed it.

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1 And I have not spoken to him in about a week so I
2 don't know where he is at in that, Pete.

3 MR. DARNELL: Right.

4 MS. TALBOT: But, you know, I would
5 like to see these interviews completed in part of
6 the Site Profile or whatever you do with that
7 information, to make it part of the Site Profile.

8 And there seems to be a lot of question
9 and very documented about the intelligence or the
10 knowledge that these Pinellas Plant employees had.

11 And you know, I don't know how these
12 people were picked or how these folks were picked.
13 You know, I couldn't agree with your picks based
14 on what I, you know, I'm familiar with. I grew up
15 at this plant so, you know, I know most of these
16 people that haven't already passed.

17 So my answer is I'd like to see them
18 completed in part of our Site Profile because it
19 seems that's what SC&A was looking for, was any kind
20 of information especially in the early years. In
21 '57 to '74 there seems to be a lot of discussion

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1 about, you know, the validity with any, of, you
2 know, the records and, you know, quoting
3 [identifying information redacted], our HP out
4 there and everything else. So I hope that answered
5 your question.

6 One question I want to ask before I
7 forget along with that is, we think the metal
8 tritide, the tritium issue was closed?

9 MR. DARNELL: Yes, ma'am.

10 MS. TALBOT: I mean that was not on
11 today's schedule so you're considering that
12 closed?

13 MR. DARNELL: That was finally closed
14 during our last Work Group meeting.

15 MS. TALBOT: Okay. So back on
16 February 11th?

17 MR. DARNELL: Yes, ma'am.

18 MS. TALBOT: Okay.

19 MR. DARNELL: I'd just like to point
20 one thing out to you about the interviews. Those
21 interviews were actually corrected by the

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1 Department of Energy as soon as we got done writing
2 on those. And all of that information was taken
3 for classification review.

4 MS. TALBOT: Right.

5 MR. DARNELL: Some of the information
6 I believe that you're talking about that's missing,
7 the information that DOE deemed classified, we
8 can't use it in the technical basis at all.

9 MS. TALBOT: Okay.

10 MR. DARNELL: And to tell you the
11 truth, right now I couldn't tell you exactly what
12 was in and what was out of those notes because of
13 the classification review, you know, it happened
14 in 2011.

15 But I just wanted to make sure that you
16 understood that a lot of the information that we
17 took was redacted and cannot be used, cannot be
18 discussed in our Technical Basis Document.

19 However, the exposure information and
20 information related to the radiological program
21 have been incorporated. It's just not pointed out

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1 that they came from such and such an interview.

2 MS. TALBOT: And if that's the case,
3 and I appreciate the information, Peter, if that's
4 the case then why after five years are they just
5 getting the paperwork on, you know, and in the Work
6 Group meeting back in 2011, it's an issue.

7 It's, you know, these were pending or
8 this is still open or, you know. And again,
9 understand, you know, over the last two or three
10 years I'm just learning to navigate this, okay.

11 I've been navigating it for 20 years
12 because that's how long my dad's been gone, okay,
13 but really navigating it as an advocate for these
14 Pinellas Plant workers.

15 So thank you for answering that. I
16 understand about redacting. I've filed enough
17 FOIAs to know about redacted information and it
18 goes back to how much was classified. HEATHER and
19 other, you know, classified projects.

20 I mean, at what point does it become an
21 issue for the Pinellas Plant workers if there was

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1 so much classified documents and you can't get the
2 data? How can we feel comfortable that we're
3 getting the, you know, the dose that we deserve?

4 You know, my father was extremely
5 involved in the HEATHER and I just got his third
6 dose reconstruction and they're giving him nothing
7 for HEATHER.

8 And that's not an issue. I'm making a
9 statement. I'm not talking about separate claims.
10 I'm just making a statement.

11 MR. DARNELL: I understand.

12 MS. TALBOT: So with all the things
13 that are redacted, I mean, I have a 180 page report
14 and 78 pages are redacted, okay. It's kind of
15 frightening, you know. So, and they give enough
16 just to concern of ours.

17 You know, these concerns come from many
18 people that you know and that you've talked to a
19 number of times that have been to every meeting,
20 you know. So, but I appreciate the explanation.

21 So basically you guys considered these

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1 two interviews or these interviews closed and
2 whatever data you could use you incorporate it into
3 the Site Profile?

4 MR. DARNELL: The data has been
5 incorporated. SC&A was the one that ran the
6 interviews.

7 MS. TALBOT: Yes.

8 MR. DARNELL: I can't answer. Maybe,
9 John, you can speak to this or put out why they're
10 just now receiving interview summaries and things
11 and that information. I can't answer that one for
12 you. I'm sorry.

13 MR. STIVER: Yes, this is John. Yes,
14 we had kind of a lengthy process. Back when we did
15 these interviews the classification interview took
16 quite a while. I believe it was like a couple years
17 or so before we got everything together that we
18 needed.

19 You know, so as far as getting the
20 information back out, I mean, we looked through
21 them, you know, there were some that were heavily

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1 redacted. We identified areas that, you know, we
2 wanted additional classification or clarification
3 on.

4 And to be honest with you, it kind of
5 was kept on the back burner because there were so
6 many other hot button SECs going on at the time.

7 We were putting all our effort into that
8 and we were kind of waiting on NIOSH to come back
9 with the, before we could get moving on the tritides
10 model. And that was going on for about three or
11 four years.

12 And to be honest with you, it just kind
13 of fell through the crack. You know, I take
14 responsibility for that. You know, we brought it
15 back to light, you know, once we got the light once
16 that we got the word that the plant review of
17 Pinellas was going to be revived again, once NIOSH
18 indicated that the tritide model was nearing
19 completion.

20 MS. TALBOT: Right.

21 MR. STIVER: And with that we went back

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1 and so, yes, look we better, you know, close the
2 loop on this to make sure that all these people have
3 a chance to look at their notes and get that
4 finished and get those summaries completed and put
5 up into the SRDB.

6 MS. TALBOT: And I certainly
7 appreciate your honesty, John, I really do. And
8 I know that these guys are, you know, at least there
9 are more of them that I know that they got their
10 paperwork in late January, you know, are working
11 feverishly to get those back to you and, you know,
12 and anything that might be missing or that they're
13 concerned about. I know they're right on top of
14 it so I certainly appreciate your honesty. Thank
15 you.

16 MR. STIVER: Yes, we've received about
17 five or six responses so far.

18 MS. TALBOT: Sure, sure.

19 MR. STIVER: We need to get as many as
20 possible before we go ahead and just decide, okay.
21 You know, and so you can let the people know who

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1 were working on getting those in that, you know,
2 if they can go ahead and get it in as soon as they
3 can we can go ahead finish this all up.

4 MS. TALBOT: Yes, I'm trying to be a
5 fish wife and get them to get those in there for
6 you, so I'll --

7 MEMBER CLAWSON: This is Brad. I'd
8 like to make a comment too though. I want to make
9 sure that you understand on this.

10 So when we talk about these being
11 classified and a lot of the information kept, we
12 kept out, I want you to understand that that is not
13 kept from the Board.

14 The Board has a hundred percent access
15 to everything. Several of us have Q clearances and
16 this is part of the reason why we went to Sandia
17 because of some of these interviews and the
18 discussions of it.

19 It brought questions to us and part of
20 the process was the tritium part and a lot of other
21 things that we got into.

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1 I want to make sure that you understand
2 we may not be able to put it in the Site Profile
3 but the information that we glean from this is put
4 into it because we have to keep security as a very
5 high priority.

6 But I want you to also know that nothing
7 has been held back from the Board. We have a
8 hundred percent access to everything there are and
9 that's why a lot of our questions that are done
10 unfortunately behind closed doors.

11 But national security is important to
12 us. But we have gone in great depth to a lot of
13 this and a lot of it we can't, you know, we can't
14 discuss outside those areas.

15 But I want you to know that the Board has done
16 nothing, nothing is held back from us and we have
17 a hundred percent access to everything that we need
18 to.

19 MS. TALBOT: That's excellent. Thank
20 you. Thank you for that.

21 MEMBER CLAWSON: Yes.

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1 CHAIRMAN SCHOFIELD: Are there any
2 other comments?

3 MS. HAND: This is Donna Hand. I
4 appreciate that, you know, the Board has seen all
5 of this and I'm sure that the people at NIOSH and
6 SC&A that has a Q clearance has seen, you know, and
7 knows where the radiation was.

8 And then some of the issues that were
9 still outstanding back in the 2011 was depleted
10 uranium, you know, and it was, you know, they
11 refilled the depleted uranium yet there was no
12 uranium dose.

13 And again in 2008, the O: drive showed
14 that there was uranium. Phil Schofield talking
15 about the RTGs saying that yes, we had workers come
16 in there, the maintenance and the crafts, they
17 weren't monitored. So, and that yes, there was
18 monitored workers and the plutonium.

19 All these issues and then yet, we find
20 that there was exposures, re-exposures,
21 re-exposures but there's no data.

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1 And then you go and you're seeing this
2 Q clearance which is a classified metal tritide,
3 the HEATHER, and I believe another project that was
4 done in 126, as well as the hoods according to a
5 DOD employee, a head guy that was assigned to
6 Pinellas, he informed me that what was done in the
7 hood cannot be talked about, it's classified.

8 So we, there was, you know, those
9 incidents, there was radiation. But you can't
10 talk about it because it was classified or the dose
11 would be put at zero and no one knew.

12 And they made the neutron tube and the
13 neutron generator. So, you know, so that was the
14 main issue. And Sandia is making the neutron tube
15 and the neutron generator and it was sent to them
16 in the 90s, but yet they don't have the dose for
17 it in that but yet Pinellas can get the dose? It
18 doesn't make sense to us. It's not logical.

19 MR. KATZ: Donna, this Ted Katz.
20 John, you know, first of all, with respect to
21 classified as has been explained during this

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1 meeting, where there's dose associated with
2 classified information, the dose, even though the
3 classified information is protected the dose is
4 considered and included where it can be included
5 where it belongs.

6 So, but that's how that gets addressed
7 and there's nothing that can be done about
8 classified remaining classified because that's
9 protecting national security.

10 But as far as the closure of the
11 findings are concerned, John, at the, John Stiver,
12 for Phil at the Board meeting will be presenting
13 all of the closures and how those were done.

14 So he will be presenting what the
15 finding was and how they resolved the issue for all
16 of the findings going back to the beginning of this
17 review which has of course gone on for a long time.

18 MS. HAND: Yes, and the only thing is,
19 is if, is that your findings scientifically valid?
20 Is your findings based on documentation?

21 MR. KATZ: Donna, I understand.

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1 (Simultaneous speaking.)

2 MS. HAND: -- because we agree, no.
3 You agreed because, you know, where's the
4 references, you know, what documentation are you
5 using? And if it's classified then just say it's
6 classified whenever we do agree, you know.

7 But the thing is, is that we're closing
8 these issues out and there's a disagreement between
9 the whole time span that this Working Group has
10 worked at Pinellas plant.

11 CHAIRMAN SCHOFIELD: Donna, let me
12 make comment. This is Phil. Part of the exposure
13 information particularly on the RTGs is very well
14 characterized.

15 There's been numerous studies,
16 measurements done, on the different RTGs that have
17 been manufactured over the years. That
18 information is readily available to the health
19 physics people to look at.

20 Even though publicly you can't get into
21 discussion about certain aspects of RTGs but as far

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1 as the measurements and characterization or the
2 exposures, that is something that has been looked
3 at for many years now.

4 MS. HAND: And I agree, Phil, because
5 I've looked at those records with that information,
6 you know. And Pinellas has two different sizes and
7 whenever it was leaking when it was left in the 200
8 D&P, they would reopen it, fix the leak and then
9 reencapsulate it, you know.

10 And this is from a worker that did it,
11 so that, it has cause for concern. And in the main
12 issue is that you're not treating, the information
13 that I can find on the internet, fine. I've done
14 it.

15 But I also find reports underneath the
16 OSPI like Sandia did in 2000 with the metal tritides
17 and they had got those metal tritides from Pinellas
18 Plant and they said that, and you can't deal with
19 just one swipe. But yet you're doing resuspension
20 with one swipe.

21 And Ted Katz at a meeting told, informed

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1 me that, you know, Pinellas has five metal
2 tritides. You don't know which one a worker was
3 exposed to. And Neton said that, yes, it makes a
4 difference of whatever metal is, the solubility of
5 it of whatever that metal is connected to that
6 tritium.

7 So you've got a lot of variables here
8 that, you know, it doesn't work and you can't get
9 the documentation for.

10 And that's all I'm asking you guys to
11 do, is to go back and look at all your
12 correspondence. Your O: drive from the very
13 beginning in 2008 when you had your first Work Group
14 committee meeting and that's when Presley informed
15 everybody we can't talk about Pinellas. And
16 that's very offensive to us.

17 And then you, you know, and Brad was
18 talking about it and also Mauro was talking about
19 it, we need to address the data, the validity of
20 the data.

21 And, you know, all these years you still

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1 haven't done it. But yet you closed it up. So
2 then at the meeting we'll be prepared and that's
3 all we're asking for is to be fair.

4 Fair, you know, if you're willing to
5 treat a site and you're going to give them, you
6 know, yes, we have the data or no, we don't have
7 the data.

8 How we do the coworker model is for each
9 year not one amount for the entire period for 20
10 years. You know, all these issues are combined to
11 be if their Pinellas Plant workers don't believe
12 anything that NIOSH says.

13 MR. KATZ: Okay. Thank you, Donna.
14 And Pete?

15 MR. DARNELL: Yes?

16 MR. KATZ: I think that if we have a
17 plan going forward we have John preparing the
18 presentation for you. I think that ends our agenda
19 for today.

20 MR. STIVER: Yes, Ted, this is John. I
21 have one other question. Was Pete going to have

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1 a presentation also?

2 MR. KATZ: No.

3 MR. STIVER: Okay.

4 MR. KATZ: No, I think we talked about
5 that the last meeting too but maybe not. But it
6 doesn't make, if there's really no reason for Pete
7 to do half and you do half of it.

8 MR. STIVER: Yes.

9 MR. KATZ: I think you, I mean, you can
10 cover the waterfront.

11 MR. STIVER: Exactly.

12 MR. KATZ: And Pete will then be made
13 available and Jim will be available for questions
14 for sure.

15 MR. STIVER: Okay. All right, that's
16 fine. Just want to make sure.

17 MR. KATZ: But thank you, thank you.

18 MR. STIVER: Okay.

19 MR. KATZ: So, Phil?

20 CHAIRMAN SCHOFIELD: If there's no
21 more questions then I will call this meeting

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1 adjourned.

2 MR. KATZ: Thank you, Phil. And thank
3 you everyone for participating.

4 (Whereupon, the above-entitled matter
5 went off the record at 12:05 p.m.)

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