



April 23, 2026

VIA EMAIL

Hon. Michelle L. Phillips
Secretary to the Commission
3 Empire State Plaza
Albany, NY 12223-1350

Re: Matter No. 21-01188 – In the Matter of the Indian Point Closure Task Force and Indian Point Decommissioning Oversight Board.

Dear Secretary Phillips:

Please accept for filing in the above-captioned matter, the transcript of the Indian Point Decommissioning Oversight Board's February 12, 2026 meeting. Should you have any questions regarding this filing, please contact me. Thank you.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Tom Kaczmarek".

Tom Kaczmarek
Executive Director
Indian Point Decommissioning Oversight Board

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2 STATE OF NEW YORK

3 PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

4 INDIAN POINT DECOMMISSIONING OVERSIGHT BOARD

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6 BOARD MEETING

7 DATE: FEBRUARY 12, 2026 at 6 p.m.

8 LOCATION: Webex

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16 Reported by Abdullah Khalid

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2 (The hearing commenced at 6:01 p.m.)

3 CHAIR CONGDON: All right, I'll call
4 the meeting to order. I'm Tom Congdon, the chair of
5 the Indian Point Decommissioning Oversight Board. I
6 want to welcome everyone to tonight's virtual meeting
7 of the DOB.

8 Please, go to the next slide.

9 I'll go ahead and do a quick roll
10 call. Make sure you're unmuted to answer my call for
11 your attendance. I'm Tom Congdon.

12 I'm going to ask for John Sipos, the
13 counsel. John Sipos, are you with us?

14 Tom, I know you're with us.

15 Senator Pete Harckham?

16 MR. HARCKHAM: Here.

17 CHAIR CONGDON: Assemblywoman Dana
18 Levenberg, I think, is going to be a bit late.

19 MS. CAFARELLI: Yes. Victoria
20 Cafarelli, her chief of staff, here to represent her
21 until she's on. Thank you.

22 CHAIR CONGDON: Excellent. Thanks,
23 Victoria.

24 Kelly Turturro from DEC?

25 MS. TURTURRO: Here.

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2 CHAIR CONGDON: Cindy Costello from
3 Department of Health?

4 MS. COSTELLO: Here.

5 CHAIR CONGDON: Elizabeth Dovell,
6 Department of Labor?

7 Linda Malave, Empire State
8 Development?

9 MS. MALAVE: Present.

10 CHAIR CONGDON: Jennifer Wacha from
11 DHSES?

12 MS. WACHA: Present.

13 CHAIR CONGDON: Alyse Peterson from
14 NYSERDA.

15 MS. PETERSON: Here.

16 CHAIR CONGDON: Anthony Hill from
17 NYPA.

18 MR. HILL: Here.

19 CHAIR CONGDON: Is Dave Lochbaum on?

20 MR. LOCHBAUM: I'm here. Yes.

21 CHAIR CONGDON: Hi, Dave.

22 Richard -- well, it's not Richard
23 Webster any longer. Larissa Liebmann?

24 MS. LIEBMANN: Here.

25 CHAIR CONGDON: Hi, Larissa. And now

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2 to our local representatives.

3 Mayor Knickerbocker.

4 MS. KNICKERBOCKER: I am here.

5 CHAIR CONGDON: Supervisor Becker?

6 Not yet.

7 Commissioner Spear?

8 MS. SPEAR: Here.

9 CHAIR CONGDON: County Legislator
10 Ulaj?

11 MS. ULAJ: Here.

12 CHAIR CONGDON: County Legislator
13 Smith?

14 Superintendent Tromblee.

15 MR. TROMBLEE: Present.

16 CHAIR CONGDON: Tom Carey.

17 MR. CAREY: Present.

18 CHAIR CONGDON: Lou Picani or anyone
19 from Teamsters?

20 Rich Nasca?

21 MR. NASCA: Here.

22 CHAIR CONGDON: Hi, Rich. Okay.

23 Next slide, please.

24 I'm sorry? Did I miss anyone? Oh,

25 Jane Thompson is here from Department of Labor. Hi.

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2 And am I missing anyone that wants to
3 announce themselves? Okay. Terrific. Thank you.

4 And I see John Sipos joined us. Hi,
5 John.

6 MR. SIPOS: Good evening.

7 So Tom, you want to give us the
8 meeting logistics?

9 MR. KACZMAREK: Absolutely. And just
10 bear with me one moment here. There's just a small
11 mix up with the slides.

12 CHAIR CONGDON: Oh, is that why I had
13 the old --

14 MR. KACZMAREK: That may explain a
15 little bit of it. Yes. Okay.

16 CHAIR CONGDON: Well, while you're
17 pulling up those, I'll just quickly let everyone
18 know, especially for tonight's all-virtual meeting, I
19 think it's important, please keep your mics muted
20 unless you're speaking. Folks should reserve the
21 chat feature for reporting technical issues. Only
22 the questions captured in the Q&A field are able to
23 be saved for review and later response. Participants
24 are encouraged to use custom video layout features to
25 enhance your personalized view of speakers and the

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2 presentation content.

3 And when the panelists are speaking
4 and when we get to the public statement hearing
5 portion of the meeting, it will be helpful to our
6 court reporter if you indicate your name before
7 speaking.

8 Next slide.

9 Tonight, we will be hearing from the
10 school's contractor that performed the baseline
11 environmental assessment to present their work at the
12 BV Elementary School. We will hear our typical
13 operational updates from Holtec, as well as our state
14 agencies.

15 Tonight, we have a guest presentation,
16 from Michel Lee to provide an overview of some of the
17 research she has done pertaining to changes at the
18 NRC of late. And then we'll go to the public
19 statement hearing and adjourn.

20 Next slide, please.

21 So with that, I want to introduce, Ted
22 Rahon from CoPhysics Corporation.

23 Ted, you want to say a few words about
24 your company and then begin your presentation?

25 MR. RAHON: Sure. Let me share my

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2 screen.

3 CHAIR CONGDON: Actually, we've got
4 your slides up, Ted.

5 MR. RAHON: Yes. But it's better if I
6 can go back and forth between them.

7 CHAIR CONGDON: Okay.

8 MR. RAHON: Yes. All right. Do you
9 see the first slide?

10 MR. KACZMAREK: We do, but it seems to
11 be covered by the slide management screen. Yes.
12 That looks better.

13 MR. RAHON: Okay. So yes, last
14 summer, I got a call from the school district asking
15 if we can perform a baseline radiological survey of
16 the school property. They were concerned that
17 perhaps in the future some dust from the
18 decommissioning of the Indian Point Plant could go
19 downwind, land on the school property. So they
20 wanted to see what the radiological condition of the
21 property was at the present time, so it can be
22 compared in the future. So we undertook that project
23 for them.

24 Let's see. So we're a small business
25 in Orange County just across the river there and

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2 licensed by the New York State Department of Health
3 for various radiological services. Here's a short
4 resume that I have there. So we looked at the site,
5 which is -- can you all see my cursor?

6 CHAIR CONGDON: Yes.

7 MR. RAHON: Okay. Good. Here's a
8 school here, and here's Indian Point. And we also
9 did a survey of this property here for the town of
10 Cortlandt. I guess it's going to be a park someday.
11 So we did a radiological survey of that. Didn't see
12 too much of anything. So just quickly, I'm sure
13 you've all seen this before, but radioactive material
14 is a substance. It could be soil. It could be --
15 the radioactive material could be mixed with soil,
16 water, or air or any type of gas. It's measured in
17 curies, or the European units are becquerels.

18 And when we have a concentration in
19 soil, water, or air, you might be familiar with parts
20 per million. Well, we use something called
21 picocuries per gram. A picocurie is one trillionth
22 of a curie. Or if it's water or air, picocuries per
23 liter. Now, unlike most chemical contaminants, we
24 can detect radioactive material by measuring the
25 radiation that is emitted by the radioactive

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2 material. So if you have lead or mercury or asbestos
3 or something like that, it can't be detected at a
4 distance, but radioactive material can.

5 And radiation that is being emitted
6 from the radioactive materials is measured in rems,
7 or roentgens, millirems per hour is the rate of
8 radiation exposure or dose. And we also have
9 microroentgens per hour, which is a very low
10 radiation level. And it's usually used for near
11 background measurements, is what we're doing here.

12 Quickly, the the gamma rays that we're
13 measuring out of the radioactive materials are high
14 energy photons. These are all photons of different
15 energies. You have radio waves from your cell phone,
16 microwaves from your oven, infrared waves from, say,
17 a toaster. You can feel it with your skin.

18 Visible light, it's the only type of
19 photon that we can detect with our eyes. Insects can
20 see ultraviolet rays, and then we have higher energy
21 X-rays and gamma rays. All these ultraviolet X-ray
22 and gamma rays, they all can cause ionizations in
23 matter, and they can cause cancer. So these are the
24 ones that we protect mainly against, although we've
25 done other things, like laser jobs and microwave

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2 jobs.

3 Sources of natural background
4 radiation, cosmic rays. If I had a Geiger counter
5 right here, it'd be clicking away just from natural
6 background. About one-fourth of the clicks on a
7 Geiger counter are photons that come from outer
8 space. The other three-fourths are from terrestrial
9 radiation, which is gamma rays coming up out of the
10 earth or out of building materials. We are also
11 exposed by internal sources. We all have small
12 amounts of radioactive material in our bodies. And
13 then radon is a gas that is emitted from the ground,
14 from the decay of radium. We won't get into that.

15 But anyway, the gamma background
16 radiation level in the East Coast of the U.S. ranges
17 from 6 to 13. We call it microR per hour. It can
18 get a lot higher. It could even be lower. Things
19 like granite countertops are in the 10 to 20 range.
20 Fire brick that you might have in your fireplace I've
21 seen as high as 40 to 60 microR per hour. And here I
22 am up at Saratoga, teaching my youngest daughter how
23 to make a radiation measurement. This is a big salt
24 deposit in Saratoga. That bridge up there is -- the
25 parking area is here, and the amphitheater is here if

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2 you've ever gone to a concert.

3 But this is pretty hot. It's 300
4 microR per hour. Normal background is about 10
5 microR hour per hour. So it's just from the
6 naturally occurring minerals in the salt deposit.
7 And mainly the radionuclide of interest is radium,
8 radium 226. So internally, we try to protect against
9 dust exposure in industrial settings, but we always
10 have natural background to contend with. So the
11 natural radioactivity in our bodies is mainly due to
12 potassium-40 and radium and uranium, which are in
13 mainly well water.

14 Surface water isn't as high, but the
15 minerals in well water has elevated levels of radium
16 and uranium just naturally. So most of our internal
17 exposure comes from potassium-40. And we get about
18 25 millirems per year, and millirem is a unit of
19 radiation dose. The national average radiation dose
20 is about 100 millirem. So it's 25 from internal dose
21 and 75 from external sources like the ground and
22 building materials. Sources of man-made radiation.
23 Natural background. As I just said, 100 millirem per
24 year. Medical radiation, on average, it could be
25 around 50 millirem per year.

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2 I just had some surgery last summer.

3 The fluoroscopist gave me 40,000 millirems in a one-
4 hour operation. I had to call him up and complain.
5 I called him old lead foot. He kept his foot on the
6 fluoroscope actuator a little long there, so I wasn't
7 too happy about that. But anyway, domestic water. I
8 talked about well water. You get 5 millirems from
9 the uranium and radium in water. Building materials.
10 Some concrete blocks have higher levels of radium and
11 thorium. The old CRT televisions, well, picture
12 tubes, they run off a high voltage so that they
13 produce X-rays. But these new flat-screen TVs, they
14 don't produce any X-rays at all. And then airline
15 flights. When you're flying five miles high, that's
16 five miles less atmosphere you have to protect
17 against cosmic rays.

18 So you can get 5 millirems or more
19 going from New York to LA. So the flight crews get a
20 lot higher dose than even nuclear power plant
21 workers. So we're all exposed to small amounts of
22 radiation every day, but over thousands of years, our
23 bodies have developed protection against such
24 exposures. But in my profession, the main objective
25 is to reasonably minimize radiation exposures.

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2 And back 100 years ago, this is what
3 started my profession is the radium dial painters.
4 Where it's mostly girls, they painted radium onto
5 watch dials and clocks. And they'd lick the brush to
6 get a fine tip on the paintbrush, and they ingested
7 thousands of millicuries of radium, and they had a
8 tremendous dose, something like 3 million millirem.
9 Yeah, 3,000 rems over the course of their lifetime.
10 So there was a high incidence of bone cancer and
11 leukemia in these girls. So that started my
12 profession to protect people against radiation
13 exposure.

14 So I designed this survey, trying to
15 keep it at a reasonable time frame and reasonable
16 cost to see what we can use to compare in the future
17 if there was any change in the radiological
18 environment around the school. So we did a walkover
19 gamma scan of the property. We did some soil
20 sampling. We did some gamma ray measurements in the
21 building. And in the building, also, we did wipe
22 tests to test for radioactivity and dust.

23 And so this is another daughter,
24 helped out on the project. She's wearing our product
25 called SitePad. It collects gamma radiation levels

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2 every one second as you're walking along, coupled to
3 a GPS receiver, and it gives a gamma map of the
4 property as you're walking. And this is an example
5 of a contaminated piece of property. You can see
6 that the green and yellow are within the natural
7 background range of what I said, 6 to 13 microR per
8 hour. And the pink there, the magenta, is indicative
9 of contamination. And red would even be higher
10 levels, but I don't see any -- I don't see any red in
11 this map.

12 So here's the Buchanan school
13 property, the gamma scan. My computer got changed to
14 green to blue, but it's the same thing. So the blue
15 is slightly below average background. Yellow is on
16 the upper half of normal background. And you can see
17 most of the property is blue. And near the building
18 is a little higher in gamma exposure, and that's due
19 to the brick construction of the building. Now,
20 bricks are made of clay, and clay has elevated levels
21 of minerals. And those minerals have thorium and
22 radium at a higher concentration than soil. Soil,
23 we'll get into the levels in a minute, but bricks or
24 clay have maybe three times more radium and thorium
25 than normal soil.

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2 And so then, we see some elevated
3 areas up here in the forest. So after reviewing this
4 gamma map, we had decided to collect five soil
5 samples for this initial survey. And so our
6 technicians collected five samples at the highest
7 spots of gamma exposure that we detected. So here's
8 the five soil sample locations on the corner of the
9 building, on this side of the building in the ball
10 field, and on that in the forested area here. So we
11 sent those out for analysis to a New York State
12 certified lab, and let me go through this. So way in
13 the right column is potassium-40, and it's the
14 highest level of any radionuclide that we detected,
15 and that's naturally occurring. That happens all
16 throughout the planet.

17 Potassium-40 is the predominant
18 radionuclide. We have normal East Coast background
19 here is 11 to 23, and we're right in that range.
20 Similarly, thorium-232. It's very low. It's less
21 than a picocurie per gram. This one's right at 1
22 picocurie per gram, and that's typical background.
23 So uranium and radium, similarly, it's also less than
24 1 picocurie per gram.

25 When I mentioned radium in clay and

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2 brick, you see these are, like, 0.5, 0.6 picocuries
3 per gram. Clay and brick have something like 2 or 3
4 picocuries per gram. That's why we have higher gamma
5 emissions from clay or brick. So then I included
6 three man-made radionuclides that could occur during
7 a decommissioning of a power reactor.

8 So this one here is europium-152. It
9 has a ten-year half-life. It mainly occurs from
10 irradiation of concrete. We didn't see anything.
11 Nothing detectable there. Cobalt-60, that occurs
12 from irradiation of steel, iron. And we didn't see
13 anything there either. Cesium-137 is a fission
14 product that's left over from the splitting of the
15 uranium atoms in the fuel. And the three samples
16 down around the school really didn't show much of
17 anything. But up in the forest, we saw some
18 detectable cesium-137.

19 And that was surprising. Not too
20 surprising, but I had to call my technician and say,
21 hey, did you collect moss and lichens in these
22 samples? Because I told them to collect just the top
23 six inches of whatever is there. Could be soil.
24 Could be humus, whatever. The forest floor for
25 detritus, there was. Because we want to assess if

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2 any dust has fallen on the surface of the ground.

3 So that's what he did, and there was a
4 lot of moss and lichens there. And there's several
5 famous research papers about the Inuits and Arctic
6 people up in the -- and the Norwegians too -- up near
7 the Arctic Circle. They have cesium-137 in their
8 bodies. Why does that occur? It's because of
9 nuclear weapons fallout from many years ago, back in
10 the 1950s and '60s are concentrated by lichens, of
11 all things, and mosses.

12 And there's no trees or grass up
13 there, right? So what do the reindeer eat? They eat
14 the lichens and moss, and they lick these rocks. So
15 the Inuits eat a lot of reindeer. So they get
16 cesium-137 in their bodies. When I was over at NYU
17 across the river in Sterling Forest, we had a company
18 in Florida that made fertilizer. They dug rock out
19 of the ground and processed it for fertilizer. And
20 if you look over here, the radium-226 -- that rock
21 had about 30 picocuries per gram of radium. You
22 could see here we're down in the 0.3, 0.6 range. So
23 the rock in Florida has quite a bit of radium. So
24 the fertilizer company wanted to see if the workers
25 were uptaking uranium into the bodies. So at NYU, we

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2 had a whole-body counter, very sensitive radiation
3 detector that we can place near a person and
4 determine how much radioactivity is in the person.

5 So luckily, we really didn't detect
6 much radium in the workers except for one guy. He
7 had cesium-137. And we all said, what? You must
8 have worked somewhere else, like, at some nuclear
9 plant. He goes, nope. I worked there all my life
10 with the fertilizer plant. So what do you do
11 different from your buddies here? And well, I eat a
12 lot of deer meat. I have a freezer full of deer
13 meat. I said, oh, no. Even down in Florida. I
14 thought it was only up in the Arctic Circle with the
15 reindeer, but evidently, it's a thing all over the
16 place where the deer eat the lichens and people eat
17 the deer, and it's a detectable amount of cesium-137
18 in this guy.

19 So that was the -- so anyway, I don't
20 think this is from the Indian Point Plant, but it's
21 only two samples. It's hard to make a complete
22 conclusion, but I've seen this elsewhere. After we
23 found that guy that ate the deer meat, I ran out to
24 Sterling Forest, a pristine forest there, and I
25 collected the lichen samples and analyzed them. Yup.

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2 Yup. They had elevated cesium. I did a survey in
3 Virginia out in the forest there. Same thing,
4 elevated cesium in the moss and lichens, whereas
5 there are no detectable cesium levels in grassy areas
6 or just bare soil, which is what we have here in the
7 first three samples.

8 Okay. We went into the building, and
9 we did wipe tests by taking a small filter paper,
10 wiping it on the surface, collecting dust. And we
11 analyzed that in our lab. And we analyzed it for
12 alpha radioactivity. We won't get into what that is.
13 Beta radioactivity. And we do a lot of tritium work
14 for other clients and our instrument of tritium
15 anyway, so I just included that. And we don't really
16 see anything detectable. These are all background
17 levels. Nothing significant.

18 The gamma radiation levels, just
19 holding a instrument, were all normal in that 6 to 13
20 microR per hour range. The highest one was the
21 bottom one here at 12, and that was in the courtyard,
22 which is surrounded -- a brick courtyard. And again,
23 that's more of the brick, naturally occurring
24 minerals there. And these are the several locations.
25 The yellow and green are where we took the samples

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2 and readings in the school.

3 So our conclusion is that the
4 radiation or radioactivity levels in and around the
5 elementary school are indicative of normal natural
6 background. Two soil samples from the highly
7 vegetated northern section showed a small amount of
8 cesium-137. These levels are of no health concern
9 because they're far lower than the natural occurring
10 radionuclides in the soil. They're way less than
11 potassium-40 itself. So we believe that the cesium
12 levels are due to normal residual levels in lichens
13 and moss from worldwide fallout from atomic testing
14 in the 1960s. Other results and readings from the
15 rest of the property are unremarkable.

16 Let's see. From a health standpoint,
17 I don't think you need any additional sampling, and
18 everything came out really, really low. However, if
19 you want to do a statistically significant study, you
20 need more than just five samples. I'd say at least
21 30 samples on a grid. If you grid the whole
22 property -- here's how we assess, say, a factory that
23 got cleaned up. We want to see if the average
24 radiation levels are within regulatory limits. We
25 grid it off, and we take samples at each grid point

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2 and do a statistical analysis of the distribution of
3 radioactivity in the samples. So you need at least
4 30 samples now and say, at some time in the future
5 when you wanted to make a comparison study.

6 Any questions?

7 CHAIR CONGDON: Well, first, I'll just
8 say, I really appreciate the presentation and want to
9 commend Superintendent Tromblee for being so
10 responsive to his school community that requested
11 this work be done. And I really appreciate, both the
12 school districts, and Ted, your work. And I know our
13 DEC and DOH subject matter experts also reviewed the
14 work and provided feedback to you, Ted. And so thank
15 you for being available to them, and our own
16 independent technical expert, Dave Lochbaum on the
17 DOB also reviewed your report and included some
18 review slides that we have posted on the DOB website
19 under Dave Lochbaum's section where his other reviews
20 and work that he's done for the DOB reside.

21 So thank you also to Dave, and to the
22 DOH, and DEC colleagues.

23 So with that, I do see a few hands up,
24 so I will call on Superintendent Tromblee.

25 MR. TROMBLEE: Thank you, Tom. And

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2 just to echo your comments --

3 Dr. Rahon, I want to thank you for
4 your staff, your team coming out to BV, working with
5 our facilities department to really give us the
6 confidence that we need to to ensure to our
7 community, but most importantly, to our students that
8 Buchanan-Verplanck Elementary is a place where they
9 should feel safe to learn and to grow. It's really
10 helpful to have a good baseline. I will go back and
11 probably reengage on what a statistical sampling
12 project might look like and definitely touch base
13 with you on that. But thank you for your work with
14 us, your work here with the DOB, and also thank you
15 to the DPS to engage some of our other alphabet
16 agencies to assist us in understanding and analyzing
17 this. So thank you.

18 MR. RAHON: You're welcome.

19 CHAIR CONGDON: County Legislator
20 UlaJ?

21 MS. ULAJ: Thank you so much. Good
22 evening. Thank you for that wonderful presentation,
23 for your clear explanation and making me feel great
24 about where we are and having these numbers at the
25 start of all this. I felt great up until the end

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2 when you said, we should be doing 30 samples. And
3 then I thought, why didn't we do 30 samples? Was it
4 just a matter of the parameters of the contract that
5 you were hired under? But I guess Superintendent
6 Tromblee is also going to take care of it as a next
7 step.

8 MR. RAHON: Well, I wasn't real sure
9 about the objectives for the survey. So I just put
10 this together as an initial survey to see what we
11 could see. And I mean, I wasn't figuring on a
12 master's thesis level survey here, which is what
13 taking 60 samples on a grid and the transit in there
14 and laying it all out. It would be a big effort. So
15 I didn't think you wanted to spend that kind of money
16 at this point, but it's a two-step process or even a
17 three-step process sometimes to do a survey.

18 MS. ULAJ: Thank you.

19 CHAIR CONGDON: Superintendent, did
20 you also want to respond?

21 MR. TROMBLEE: I'll respond to the
22 question I -- the school district did what it could
23 afford is the basic answer. And we relied on the
24 advice when we did the initial survey that was
25 utilized using DPS funds. And that survey came back,

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2 and we were informed by some colleagues -- part of
3 this group -- that said it wasn't -- it was not a
4 survey that did what it should've -- it was intended
5 to do. So we dipped into our own budget, and had
6 to -- again, we are not subject matter experts.

7 So the fact that we did not do a
8 thirty sample survey was based upon what we could
9 afford and what we know in our limited knowledge of
10 radiological sampling. Not many of my -- I have two
11 masters, an undergrad and associates, and I was never
12 prepared to do radiological sampling as an educator.
13 So I would welcome any advice to help us do a better
14 job in the future, to do that. But I'm very thankful
15 for Dr. Rahon's support. And as I said, we'll take a
16 look at what we can afford and go back and see what
17 we can do to continue to ensure our students are
18 safe.

19 MR. RAHON: Yes. There's the EPA and
20 the Department Energy and Nuclear Regulatory
21 Commission has come out with a thick manual of how to
22 do radiological surveys. It's called MARSSIM. And
23 it's a really a four-step process. First, you go in
24 and you do a limited survey. It's called the scoping
25 survey, which is kind of what this was. If you did

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2 find contamination, then you go back in to do a
3 characterization survey, more in-depth samples, maybe
4 deep samples closer together, things like that. And
5 then if there's any cleanup necessary, then you go
6 back in with a really in-depth survey with the
7 gridded measurements. It's called a final status
8 survey. So I didn't think we needed to get to that
9 point with, essentially, a pristine piece of
10 property.

11 CHAIR CONGDON: Mayor Knickerbocker,
12 did you have a question? Oh, you're on mute.

13 MS. KNICKERBOCKER: There I am. Can
14 you hear me?

15 CHAIR CONGDON: Yes.

16 MS. KNICKERBOCKER: Thank you. I
17 appreciate the presentation. Of course, we want our
18 school and the village to be safe for the children
19 and for everyone. So I was interested in the results
20 of that, and I'm happy to see what the results are.
21 But what I was really interested in -- I never
22 realized when you spoke about the moss and what's
23 it -- the lichen -- that they would absorb radiation.
24 And you had mentioned that back in the '60s there was
25 a lot of nuclear testing, so that could possibly be

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2 from there all over the world. So I found that quite
3 interesting, but appreciate the report. It was very
4 informative, and thank you.

5 CHAIR CONGDON: Thank you, Mayor.
6 Victoria?

7 MS. CAFARELLI: Thank you. Victoria
8 Cafarelli for Assemblymember Dana Levenberg. I do
9 have a question. This may be more of a question for
10 some of the state folks. But can somebody speak to
11 how well this will align with the ongoing monitoring
12 that has been funded by the decommissioning process
13 that's anticipated during heavy demolition? Is this
14 a satisfactory baseline survey, and how will that
15 data be utilized as part of the ongoing monitoring
16 when heavy demolition is set to begin?

17 CHAIR CONGDON: Well, there's maybe a
18 two-part answer to that. There's the fence line
19 monitoring that DPS is going to be covering. And I
20 think that's not what this baseline assessment was
21 intended to inform. The fence line monitoring is to
22 ensure that we catch anything that is migrating off
23 the site. To the extent we did find that and that
24 caused a concern, then there could be potentially an
25 action item to do some sampling in the community to

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2 determine whether anything that we detected at the
3 fence line may have gone to properties beyond the
4 Indian Point site.

5 But Superintendent Tromblee, did you
6 want to speak to the school district's monitoring
7 plans?

8 MR. TROMBLEE: Yes. So that's, in a
9 nutshell, my understanding too. The fence line
10 monitoring, we anticipate to have operational two
11 devices at every building. And this baseline survey
12 is parallel to the work we're doing, but it will --
13 it's not going to be what we compare that air quality
14 to because it's obviously -- we're not doing air
15 quality in the baseline sampling. That ongoing
16 monitoring will let us know from a reactive
17 standpoint of any air quality issues. I'll get
18 alerts.

19 Thank you to Commissioner Spear for
20 her efforts to help establish a protocol with myself
21 and our team on if we -- we will establish a baseline
22 of those devices once they are fully operational.
23 Right now, we have nine out of ten online. One of
24 the devices is not registering, is not coming active
25 on the network. We're waiting on a part from the UK.

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2 We anticipate that within the next month. Once that
3 is up and running, I will have a fully operational
4 system. I will be the sole monitor of that.

5 And the intended protocol is that once
6 it's up and running, that will be my baseline, and
7 anything that is of abnormal readings up to a certain
8 amount times that baseline will cause me to implement
9 the protocol that we have worked with the Westchester
10 County Emergency Services Office to implement, which
11 is similar to the protocol that was put in place
12 while Indian Point was active with our local first
13 responders to just mirror that work.

14 But this will serve as a baseline that
15 we could always go back to from an environmental
16 standpoint within our buildings and on our grounds as
17 once that heavy demolition does occur, I will look to
18 see how we can plan for a statistical survey, a
19 better baseline survey, but then also a future
20 statistical survey that could be done when the
21 demolition does occur.

22 MS. CAFARELLI: Great. Thank you for
23 explaining that.

24 CHAIR CONGDON: Senator Harckham?

25 MR. HARCKHAM: Thank you very much,

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2 Tom. And Ted, thank you. That was a very thorough
3 presentation. Greatly appreciate it. Just to kind
4 of contextualize, would you say the school district
5 and the community are at far less of a risk of
6 nuclear exposure now that the plant is inoperable and
7 defueled?

8 MR. RAHON: I'm sorry. I had some
9 noise in the background. Could you repeat that
10 again?

11 MR. HARCKHAM: Sure. I'm just trying
12 to contextualize all of this with the monitoring.
13 Would you say that the school district and the
14 community are at less of a risk of radiological
15 exposure now that the plant is offline and has been
16 defueled?

17 MR. RAHON: It's beyond my field of
18 study right here. Yes. I haven't studied the Indian
19 Point plant at all, so I can't really give you a
20 knowledgeable answer to that.

21 CHAIR COGDON: Senator, if I -- I
22 guess --

23 MR. HARCKHAM: Go ahead, Tom.

24 CHAIR CONGDON: I was just going to
25 say, our independent technical expert, Dave Lochbaum,

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2 has presented a couple of times on the risk profile
3 and how it would change over the course of the very
4 beginning of decommissioning to later in the
5 decommissioning. His presentations, I believe, are
6 still in our archives. I can pull those up and --

7 MR. HARCKHAM: Yes. And that's what
8 I -- that's what I was getting at, Tom. Thank you.

9 CHAIR CONGDON: Yes. There's been a
10 very, very significant reduction in the potential for
11 radiological releases from the site since the fuel
12 has been moved into dry cask storage.

13 MR. HARCKHAM: Yes, exactly what I was
14 leading to. Thank you.

15 CHAIR CONGDON: Thank you, Senator.

16 Are there any other questions or shall
17 we move on to the next item on the agenda?

18 County Legislator Ulaj --

19 MS. ULAJ: Sorry.

20 CHAIR CONGDON: It's okay. Go ahead.

21 MS. ULAJ: Yeah. I just put something
22 in the chat. The cessation fund that the state
23 created to help local municipalities and the school
24 district, is the school district eligible to apply to
25 that fund for its testing monitoring costs? I see

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2 the mayor shaking her head.

3 CHAIR CONGDON: The fund is -- the
4 fund is applied for. They were awarded acceptance
5 into the program. There are no restrictions on the
6 use of funds. It goes to offset the school
7 district's costs. So it's whatever the school
8 district's operational budget is.

9 The way the cessation mitigation fund
10 works is that school districts and other taxing
11 jurisdictions that lost revenue associated with the
12 closure of a power plant are eligible for seven years
13 of assistance. And the grant amount is awarded as a
14 percentage of the lost revenue, and that percentage
15 declines over time. It's a seven-year award. And
16 over that seven years, the amount of funding awarded
17 from ESD, which administers the fund, declines by
18 about ten percentage points a year.

19 Superintendent Tromblee, did you have
20 a question?

21 MR. TROMBLEE: Yes. Just to clarify
22 the use of the cessation fund. The cessation fund
23 that we're thankful to have as a mitigating item on
24 our budget. It goes into our general operating fund.
25 So again, it directly goes to supporting students.

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2 Our community will see that as, hopefully, a small
3 portion of how to offset the loss of the \$25 million
4 in annual revenue, and so it goes into our general
5 fund.

6 So anything a school district is asked
7 to do, we try to be as transparent as possible in the
8 budget development to show what builds up our budget.
9 But in general terms, it's a about \$100 million a
10 year for our budget, and it's a general fund that we
11 would draw down to use to support our school district
12 functions. We are one of the only school districts
13 probably doing radiological monitoring, though.

14 CHAIR CONGDON: Yes. Thank you,
15 Superintendent.

16 I see one other hand up. Tom Papura.
17 Tom, did you have a comment or question?

18 MR. PAPURA: Oh, sorry. I was, sort
19 of moving around this because I'm not used to Zoom,
20 and I accidentally think I hit that. Apologies for
21 that.

22 CHAIR CONGDON: Oh, that's okay.
23 Okay. No worries.

24 So why don't we move on to the next
25 item on the agenda, which is the update from Holtec?

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2 Who do we have on from Holtec?

3 MR. JOHNSON: Hey, Tom. How are
4 doing? This is Matt Johnson. I'm on for Holtec.

5 CHAIR CONGDON: Okay. Thanks, Matt.
6 You can begin.

7 MR. JOHNSON: Absolutely. So I
8 appreciate it, everybody. As I just mentioned, this
9 is Matt Johnson. I'm filling in as the acting site
10 vice president for Frank Spagnoulo, who is supporting
11 Palisades currently.

12 You can go ahead to the next slide.

13 So just a quick agenda, quick
14 presentation here on updates. Not too much has
15 changed since December. So I'll cover our safety
16 topic quickly. We'll go through the work since the
17 last DOB and our focus for 2026. Quick NRC update.
18 And then I have Don Mayer with me as well to go over
19 an update for the training building cesium.

20 Go to the next slide.

21 All right. So our safety topic this
22 month is a respectful work environment, our nuclear
23 topic. And the core value there is trust. The
24 reminder at each of our meetings is trust is
25 established through the organization in part through

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2 timely and accurate communications. That's
3 communication that we focus on both up and down the
4 organization. Very important and essential for a
5 good nuclear safety culture. Our industrial safety
6 topic is hierarchy of hazard control. So you can see
7 the pyramid there, the inverted pyramid.

8 So the most effective way to deal with
9 hazards is to remove the hazard, if possible, down to
10 the least effective is PPE. So a misnomer is that
11 PPE prevents the accidents. That's not true. PPE is
12 the last line of defense. So we put a lot of focus
13 into mitigating accidents by preventing them and
14 ensuring they don't happen at all. You can see our
15 safety statistics there. So those are refreshed for
16 the new year. So far, nothing to report, which is
17 good, and we plan to keep it that way. We do track
18 at the lowest level there.

19 Significant near misses, we have not
20 had any of those yet, but we do track those in IR
21 space CAP program at the site as a way to gather
22 lessons learned.

23 As Dose for the previous quarter and
24 into this year. So for the IP1, Indian Point One,
25 the Dose was right on track, as you could see there,

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2 for both the fourth quarter and the last year as a
3 whole. For IP2 and IP3, the fourth quarter was right
4 on track. Sorry. It's a little confusing the way I
5 labeled the slide there. Got some feedback on that
6 earlier. But the Dose numbers for IP2 and IP3 are a
7 two-year project, 2025 and 2026. They look much
8 lower right now, and those will be tracking through
9 the rest of this year as well.

10 You can go to the next slide.

11 So the next two slides, nothing
12 changed from the last meeting. It's just a site map
13 with the color coded there on what we've removed,
14 what's active and scheduled. So just a quick
15 highlights. The yellow boxes there are really the
16 vessel segmentation, which we're continuing to work
17 on. And the green box right in the middle is the
18 unit 1 superheater, which I'll be changing from
19 scheduled to active demo. Right now, we're in preps,
20 but we'll be focusing on that through the rest of the
21 year.

22 Next slide is just the other side of
23 the property, the south side. Nothing major going on
24 there. No changes to that slide from the last
25 meeting. A few buildings, as you can see, have been

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2 removed. And that's the area out around the training
3 building.

4 Next slide, please.

5 So vessel seg. Since the last DOB,
6 we've continued work in Unit 2. Unit 2 remains the
7 focus and will be for the rest of the year. So you
8 can see that big "complete" on the top there. That's
9 the latest ring that we've completed. And we've
10 completed all operations using the Post Saw. So now
11 we've transitioned to doing the lower section of
12 cutting, which is just -- we do it with a gantry saw.

13 And then as I mentioned, unit 3,
14 there's no activities currently. The focus remains
15 in Unit 2.

16 If you go to the next slide, you'll
17 see that the blue area there -- this is a kind of
18 zoomed out view of the reactor vessel internals. The
19 blue area is everything that we've completed up to
20 this point.

21 So through the rest of 2026, we'll be
22 working on those rings below the blue highlighted
23 area up to the lower bowl, which is the curved
24 section. Once we complete the rings, then we'll move
25 into GTCC loading. Once that's complete, then we'll

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2 come back and do the lower bowl.

3 And then for unit 3, as I mentioned,
4 no activities ongoing for this year. GTCC loading,
5 we'll go back over to unit 3 in 2027.

6 Next slide.

7 So unit 1 in the mausoleum. So unit
8 1, we've just continued with component breakdown and
9 removal. So since last year, B unit 1 boilers,
10 specifically 14 boiler, upper segmentation is
11 complete, and we've started the lower segmentation.

12 We've continued preps for pressurizer
13 removal, and we've been working on the removal of
14 spent fuel pit pump and motor piping that was
15 completed since last DOB. And then the original
16 north curtain drain skid has been removed out of unit
17 1 as well.

18 Out in the mausoleum, 21 steam
19 generator steam dome has been segmented off of the
20 steam generator and relocated. And then 21 steam
21 generator transition cone work is in progress. So
22 you can see the pictures to the right there. The top
23 set of pictures is just various pictures from unit 1,
24 and the lower set is the mausoleum where we're
25 removing 21 steam dome. That got moved across the

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2 street into a rad pen area.

3 And then the pictures to the right are
4 the transition cone piece, which we're currently
5 working into now.

6 Next slide.

7 So going for the rest of the year in
8 unit 1, we'll basically continue the work that I just
9 mentioned. We'll complete the removal of 14 boiler.
10 We'll begin the pressurizer removal in the second
11 quarter. Removal of the heat decay, removal of
12 the -- the decay heat components will be third
13 quarter. There's the blowdown tanks that will be
14 removed by the third quarter, and then we'll continue
15 working abatement and piping removal, and that'll be
16 throughout the full year.

17 The CSB and NSB. The original
18 processing skid was removed. That's been completed.
19 33-foot NSB demo, that would be the second quarter.
20 And then we continue working on electrical gapping in
21 the NSB.

22 For the steam generators out in the
23 mausoleum, 21 steam generator will continue, as I
24 mentioned. And then once 21 is complete, the next
25 one that we'll move into will be the 23 steam

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2 generator, and that'll follow the same process where
3 we remove the steam dome, go through the transition
4 cone, and then segment the lower half, which is the
5 primary half.

6 The picture is on the right. On the
7 left is the unit 1 pressurizer with the ongoing prep.
8 And then the other picture is removal in progress of
9 the old processing skid.

10 Can you go to the next slide?

11 CHAIR CONGDON: Can I just pause you
12 there, Matt, for a second? I see --

13 MR. JOHNSON: Sure.

14 CHAIR CONGDON: -- Dave Lochbaum has a
15 raised hand.

16 Dave, did you have a question on this
17 slide?

18 MR. LOCHBAUM: No. It's earlier
19 question. This is Dave Lochbaum. On slide 3, I was
20 impressed by the information in the lower right-hand
21 corner where the radiation dose is expected versus
22 actual. They're maintaining them below the expected
23 exposure. That's impressive. That's not what I've
24 seen in other plants. So I was glad to see that
25 information. Thank you.

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2 CHAIR CONGDON: Thank you, Dave.

3 MR. JOHNSON: Appreciate that, Dave.

4 So you can move ahead to the next
5 slide, which would be slide 10 for conventional.

6 So basically, since the last meeting,
7 we've -- GT2-3 fuel line has been removed. We
8 continue to work on the unit 1 superheater structural
9 removal preps, as I mentioned. And then for the
10 secondary side, the superheater structure removal
11 will be our focus going through the rest of the year.
12 The unit 1 house service boiler and associated tanks
13 will be the secondary focus as we continue working
14 through the superheater. So that's really it there.

15 You can go to the next slide.

16 All right. NRC update. So we did
17 receive NRC inspection report. It was issued on
18 January 20th. That was for the third and fourth
19 quarters of 2025. So there were no new violations
20 noted. They did close out the previous violation,
21 and the CBS multipurpose canister. So that was
22 closed out with the NRC with enforcement discretion,
23 meaning there's no further enforcement actions
24 required.

25 Again, just a quick refresher, that

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2 was back in 2022. That was the design issue that was
3 noted at -- with Holtec on the change from the welded
4 to the bolted shims on the canister. We worked
5 through that with the NRC. We're correcting the
6 licensing documentation. Again, that was just a
7 documentation issue that the NRC had found. And with
8 that closing out in this report, basically, it says
9 at the site level, there's no further enforcement
10 actions. It's being tracked in CAP to repair the
11 paperwork, and that's all that's needed at this time.

12 And then future inspections, a couple
13 of weeks, February 23 and 26, we have the NRC coming
14 back. They'll be performing plant walk-downs, 50.59
15 screening reviews, reviewing the rad protection
16 program as well as the corrective action program.
17 And then in March, the NRC will be back for ISFSI
18 CASK inspection, which will be focused on the pad.

19 And with that, I will pause for a
20 moment.

21 And the next slide, I'll turn over to
22 Don Mayer, who will run through a quick update on the
23 cesium and training building.

24 MR. MAYER: Okay. Good evening,
25 everyone. And as Matt said, I'll take you through a

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2 quick status report. We're at a certain point now
3 where there's a lot of data review going on. So as a
4 first -- so from a big picture status, we've
5 collected the majority of the sample data that we
6 need to characterize the 21-acre area that we're
7 interested in potentially releasing. There is some
8 outstanding survey work that needs to be done in the
9 parking lot. And there are several different
10 techniques available that we're going to be
11 evaluating for final surveys of this area.

12 Part of the delay is we're waiting for
13 some -- waiting for the weather to be a little bit
14 less challenging for this particular area, but we're
15 making good progress. There's quite a volume of data
16 that has to be distilled and put into spreadsheets
17 and whatnot that we can use to start the next step,
18 which we have here with remaining scope is
19 determining excavation volume. And that excavation
20 volume determination will include data from the
21 parking lot, which is the last area that we want to
22 check out.

23 At the last meeting, I think it was in
24 in December, we had a -- well, I mentioned that we
25 had some low-level contamination identified on the

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2 edge of the parking lot. And so we're going to just
3 make sure that we do a full review of the parking lot
4 to make sure we don't have any other areas that might
5 be of interest.

6 Once we have the excavation volume
7 defined, then we'll conduct excavations and remove
8 any soils. As we say here, it'll be NRC-compliant
9 disposal practices. It'll go off as radioactive
10 waste in proper containers. And then at the end, and
11 Ted Rahon mentioned this, in fact, in his
12 presentation, we will be doing what he referred to as
13 the final status surveys.

14 We've talked about that in the past.
15 That's the last step in the process. And that final
16 status survey is a survey of record that the NRC will
17 review as part of the regulatory path here, which is
18 conducting a partial site release per that regulation
19 that's on the screen, 10 CFR 50.83.

20 And then once we submit the request to
21 the NRC and they comment, we go back and forth, they
22 approve the request, then at their schedule, they
23 will come in and review all of our data and use an
24 independent lab to come in and take samples and do
25 some confirmatory measurements just to provide

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2 oversight of our process. And that's the update.

3 Any other questions? I'll take them
4 now.

5 CHAIR CONGDON: Thank you, Don, and
6 thank you, Matt. I have a few questions, and I see
7 Tom Carey has his hand up. And I'm sure others will
8 as well. But let me just begin. Could you go back
9 just to the last slide on Don's presentation there?
10 With respect to the parking lot, you said that you
11 found a hit that was at the edge. Was that on the
12 parking lot side of the edge or the soil side of the
13 edge?

14 MR. MAYER: We found two -- we found
15 two locations. One just inside on the asphalt, and
16 one off the edge in the dirt. And so it's a big
17 parking lot. So we're not going to hang it on just a
18 couple of samples. Very similar to what was
19 discussed with the school survey, we will be doing a
20 gridded survey.

21 CHAIR CONGDON: Okay.

22 MR. MAYER: We know how to do that.
23 So that's what's -- that's the next step.

24 CHAIR CONGDON: Curious, when was the
25 parking lot constructed? Was it kind of -- has it

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2 been around forever? And so --

3 MR. MAYER: It was constructed -- I'm
4 sorry. It was constructed in -- I don't know the
5 exact number, but I think 1985. It was around that
6 time frame.

7 CHAIR CONGDON: Okay.

8 MR. MAYER: When the building was
9 built.

10 CHAIR CONGDON: But it's conceivable
11 that the contamination, which no one knew was
12 there -- it's conceivable that that occurred prior to
13 the construction of the parking lot. So the parking
14 lot could be covering some contamination potentially?

15 MR. MAYER: That's correct.

16 CHAIR CONGDON: Okay.

17 MR. MAYER: And that's our job to --

18 CHAIR CONGDON: Yes.

19 MR. MAYER: -- look at that and
20 document it, and that comes out in the final status
21 survey. But yes, you're absolutely right, Tom.
22 That's why we're -- that's why we're looking at the
23 most efficient way to conduct that survey. There's a
24 couple methods we can employ, but we're not ready to
25 do that yet.

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2 CHAIR CONGDON: Okay. Could you go
3 back to page 9 of the presentation? Where you're
4 talking about the Unit 2 steam generators, I'm
5 interested in what equipment is included in that
6 decommissioning and dismantling.

7 I saw a YouTube video of a YouTuber
8 called Radioactive Drew. And Radioactive Drew got a
9 tour of Indian Point. I don't know. I don't know
10 exactly when it was. I believe, it was in December.
11 December would be a few months after our September
12 DOB meeting. At the September DOB meeting, we
13 discussed recent news coverage of Holtec mentioning
14 that they were examining whether or not Indian Point
15 could be restarted. That caused a lot of questions
16 and concerns within the community. At the time of
17 our September meeting, I believe, Holtec said that it
18 was simply answering a question and that it was not
19 an official plan of Holtec's to pursue restarting
20 Indian Point and that decommissioning work was
21 continuing apace.

22 On the YouTube video, during the tour,
23 Radioactive Drew, the personality conducting the
24 video and the tour, was interviewing some staff who
25 were providing the tour. And there was -- they were

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2 at a -- at the turbine, discussing how it operated,
3 when it was under -- when the plant was running. And
4 there was a question posed by Drew about whether or
5 not this is the type of equipment that would remain
6 intact sufficient for restarting the plant? And the
7 answer provided in the video, was that, yes, it was.
8 And in fact, when that question was raised, they
9 stopped doing work to decommission that portion of
10 the plant.

11 So as you can imagine, a number of
12 people have now seen that video and have called into
13 question what the plans are. And so I wanted to ask
14 Matt, are you aware of that video of that
15 interaction? And what is your response to that? And
16 does this discussion here regarding the Unit 2 steam
17 generators relate to that in any way?

18 MR. JOHNSON: Yes. Sure. Good
19 question, Tom. Appreciate it.

20 First off, the -- the discussion on
21 the Unit 2 steam generators does not relate to that
22 in any way. These are the old steam generators that
23 were removed from Unit 2 --

24 CHAIR CONGDON: Um-hum.

25 MR. JOHNSON: -- way back when. And

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2 we're working through the segmentation of -- of them
3 right now. So that -- that's the first piece.

4 The second piece -- or the first part
5 of your question, yeah. So the -- the comment made
6 by the individual on the interview was categorically
7 false and incorrect. So we have not started work on
8 the turbines, just based on our schedule and
9 resources. So it's not like we stopped -- we -- we
10 started work and stopped in -- in any way, shape, or
11 form. The person that -- that made those comments is
12 an excellent rad pro tech and chem tech, has no --
13 has no say or impact on our -- our schedule or -- or
14 why or when we work anything.

15 So my opinion is that, it was somebody
16 that was excited in showing our plant, and maybe got
17 a little ahead of himself and used -- used a poor
18 choice of words. So that is not what Holtec intends
19 to put out there. As I -- we've stated before, we
20 don't currently have any plans to restart. And I
21 would just answer it like that.

22 So I apologize if that caused any
23 consternation. But a lesson learned from me and our
24 team, as well as an individual on -- on, you know,
25 interviews and presentations, and how things can --

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2 can get put out there in such a way that it causes
3 consternation. So apologize for that.

4 CHAIR CONGDON: Yeah. Well, thank you
5 for the answer. Do you have a schedule for the
6 turbine dismantling?

7 MR. JOHNSON: Yeah. That is in the
8 schedule. I don't have that off the top of my head.
9 But yes, it's -- it's part of our decommissioning
10 schedule, of course.

11 CHAIR CONGDON: Okay. Thank you.
12 Another question. And then, I will open up to the
13 other DOB members -- I see hands going up. I'm
14 sorry.

15 But last question from me. There was
16 recently an NPR investigative reporting piece that
17 described some less than transparent activities
18 within the U.S. Department of Energy in changing its
19 standards pertaining to advanced nuclear reactors
20 backsliding in terms of certain public health
21 protections and other things that have some parallels
22 to NRC regulations. And our team has reviewed that.
23 And I've been briefed that the DOE activities have
24 absolutely no impact on NRC's regulatory oversight of
25 decommissioning sites or existing NRC-regulated

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2 operating reactors. But I wanted to hear from Holtec
3 that you concur with our team's review of that news.

4 MR. JOHNSON: Yeah, absolutely. I
5 concur with your review. We continue to be regulated
6 as we had been previously, including the -- the
7 normal site inspections. So I would concur
8 specifically with -- with how you put that there,
9 Tom.

10 CHAIR CONGDON: Thank you.

11 All right. So in order that I saw the
12 hands go up. I see Tom Carey still has his hand up.

13 Tom, do you have questions?

14 MR. CAREY: Yeah. But I see, Tom, you
15 stole my thunder. But I still have a couple other
16 questions.

17 CHAIR CONGDON: Okay.

18 MR. CAREY: And as you know, that's
19 okay. Couple of questions.

20 First, I want to thank you guys for a
21 great report. I think, I was just curious what the
22 labor outlook is looking for manpower-wise for 2026?
23 And with that manpower report, labor report, is it
24 just carpenters and operating engineers, or what
25 other craft do you have on site, or will you have on

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2 site for the remainder of 2026, if you can answer the
3 question?

4 MR. JOHNSON: Yeah. Sure. So -- so
5 we -- we have carpenters, laborers, OEs, ironworkers.
6 We -- we have a bunch of the different trades there,
7 Tom. And -- and as of right now, barring any major
8 changes, we should have the -- the same resources
9 throughout the rest of the year. So I don't --

10 MR. CAREY: Okay.

11 MR. JOHNSON: -- anticipate any major
12 changes at this point.

13 MR. CAREY: Any rough numbers, Don? I
14 don't know if that's Don or Matt answering. Any
15 rough numbers?

16 MR. JOHNSON: No. This is Matt. I
17 don't have a number off the top of head. I -- I
18 can --

19 MR. CAREY: That's okay.

20 MR. JOHNSON: I can get it for you,
21 though.

22 MR. CAREY: Okay. And how about, any
23 reportable incidents or injuries since our last -- I
24 know there was one last year at one point.
25 Anything -- any reportables going on?

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2 MR. JOHNSON: No. We have nothing --
3 nothing to this point this year. That, if you -- if
4 you refer back to the first slide of my -- my safety
5 review, every presentation at the DOB, you'll see
6 the -- the safety triangle on the upper right. If
7 there's any -- anything that even meets the
8 threshold, down as low as a -- as a near miss, it'll
9 be reported -- it'll be reported there. And -- and
10 I'll have an explanation.

11 MR. CAREY: Great. And I guess, my
12 last question. I'll make it quick, because I don't
13 want to open a can of worms. But I know you did
14 mention it, according to Tom's questions about, was
15 Holtec approached by any state or federal agencies in
16 regards to a possible reuse? And like I said, I'm
17 not trying to open a can of worms here. But would
18 there be a change in the demolition process, if there
19 was a possibility for reuse? And I'm not even saying
20 nuclear. It could be any reuse of some type of
21 energy.

22 MR. JOHNSON: Yeah. So like I said
23 before, that question was asked. We answered. And
24 then, but we've also stated we don't have any plans
25 to restart at this time. If for some reason that

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2 came about -- and obviously, there would be major
3 changes to -- to decommissioning, because we wouldn't
4 be able to do that with -- with funds from the
5 decommissioning trust fund.

6 MR. CAREY: Yes.

7 MR. JOHNSON: So that would be a
8 totally different scope. And -- and we would have
9 to, you know, change the way we're doing things. But
10 as of right now, we don't have any plans on -- on
11 going in that direction.

12 MR. CAREY: Okay. Thank you, Matt.
13 Appreciate you guys.

14 MR. JOHNSON: Sure.

15 CHAIR CONGDON: Assemblywoman
16 Levenberg is the next, and then Larissa Liebmann, and
17 then Mayor Knickerbocker.

18 MS. LEVENBERG: Thank you so much.

19 And Matt, I'm just trying to kind of
20 put the two comments that you just made together,
21 because you answered Tom Carey's -- there's too many
22 Toms. Okay. You answered Tom Carey's question about
23 labor, and said you didn't anticipate for the entire
24 year that there would be many changes to what --
25 who's going be on site working. But then to Tom

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2 Congdon, you actually said you didn't really know
3 what the plan was, I think, for the continued
4 segmentation, especially as it pertains to what the
5 YouTube video shows. I mean, so if you can answer
6 that, and then --

7 MR. JOHNSON: Yeah. Well, no. So let
8 me -- let me correct you. No.

9 MS. LEVENBERG: Okay.

10 MR. JOHNSON: What I said was --

11 MS. LEVENBERG: Yep.

12 MR. JOHNSON: I just don't know off
13 the top of my head when we're scheduled to start
14 turbine demolition. It's not this year. I can
15 assure you that. It's further out in the future. So
16 I just, for this year, who we have on site now is --
17 is pretty much what I expect for -- for the most --
18 the rest of the year. But in the future, when we get
19 to some major work, like a turbine or whatever, if we
20 needed to adjust, we would adjust personnel as
21 required.

22 MS. LEVENBERG: Okay.

23 MR. JOHNSON: But that's -- that's all
24 I meant, is I just didn't remember when that was
25 scheduled out in the future.

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2 MS. LEVENBERG: I see. But so just to
3 clarify, further out into the future, is that -- was
4 that always when the turbine was going to be
5 addressed, or was that --

6 MR. JOHNSON: Yeah.

7 MS. LEVENBERG: -- that?

8 MR. JOHNSON: No. We had not changed
9 any -- changed dates for when turbines -- or -- or
10 -- or equipment like that were going to be addressed.

11 MS. LEVENBERG: Okay. And I
12 appreciate the clarification that it was this guy
13 saying this thing. And he should've said that. And
14 sorry. But I mean, this is the kind of stuff that
15 obviously makes the community trust you less. We
16 don't -- you tell us one thing at the DOB meeting.
17 And then, we hear something else in a video. And
18 people go crazy. We don't need that. We don't need
19 that. We need reassurances and assurances and proof
20 on paper in writing, signed documents that says what
21 your plan is, and when you're going to do this and
22 when you're going to do that. And you need to stick
23 to it.

24 That's all. Thank you.

25 CHAIR CONGDON: Larissa?

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2 MS. LIEBMANN: Thank you.

3 And my question is actually for Don
4 about the partial release process. And I feel like
5 we may have covered this before. So sorry if I'm
6 being repetitive here. I just wanted to check, is
7 DEC at this point involved at all, or in terms of,
8 like, going through remediation process and things
9 like that, making sure the levels are okay from a New
10 York perspective, or is that something that you all
11 will be working with DEC on once the site is released
12 from NRC?

13 MR. MAYER: Okay. Yeah. No. We --
14 we have -- we have been in communication with the
15 DEC. They're aware of what we're doing. As you're
16 aware, Cliff is on site observing for the State. So
17 there's -- there's clear communications going on.
18 One thing that I -- it might be helpful for you folks
19 to understand is, Holtec signed an agreement. And I
20 don't -- so I can't, for the life of me, ever
21 remember what it's called. But there's a -- there's
22 a public document out there that Holtec signed. And
23 they -- they -- they agreed with a request by the
24 State to change the endpoint dose value.

25 So that's the clearest, for lack of a

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2 better term, hook that the State has. We have an
3 obligation to meet that. And so you know, you can
4 get into all kinds of interesting calculations and
5 things that would bore people. But the fact of the
6 matter, is that we -- once we show the -- the -- the
7 methodology and process to the NRC that we've used
8 and they agree that we're in compliance with what
9 they consider to be good practice, then it's -- it's
10 a linear relationship between the NRC limit and the
11 State limit. So it's -- it's very -- it's very
12 clear. And you know, the -- the State has that --
13 that hook.

14 MS. LIEBMANN: Okay. So as I'm
15 understanding it -- thank you for clarifying that.
16 And it's in Holtec's interest to be working with the
17 State, because you will have to meet those endpoints
18 anyway?

19 MR. MAYER: That's correct. That's
20 correct. It's -- there's -- there's -- we need open
21 communications. And we will do that. I mean,
22 we're -- we are very early in the stage. The -- the
23 State will become more interested when we get towards
24 the, what we call, the FSS, the final status survey.
25 You know, right now, we're -- we're just studying and

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2 understanding what we've got. And then, we'll --
3 we'll move forward. But we -- we have -- we have
4 plans through the project management team to, you
5 know, interface with the State.

6 MS. LIEBMANN: Thank you. And sorry,
7 just, like, one other follow-up question.

8 MR. MAYER: Um-hum.

9 MS. LIEBMANN: Is there an estimated
10 time frame at this point, or is it all just very up
11 in the air, in terms of when you expect to be able to
12 apply for release or any of that?

13 MR. MAYER: There's no time -- there
14 is no time frame that has been set. You know, we --
15 we -- we're -- we're proceeding -- I -- I think, the
16 best way to characterize that is, we're proceeding
17 with the process at what I view a -- a good, but not
18 rushed pace.

19 MS. LIEBMANN: Um-hum.

20 MR. MAYER: And it'll take care of
21 itself. As we go through the DOB, it'll become more
22 and more apparent, you know, when we get closer to
23 when we might actually make a submittal. But we're
24 not -- we're not there yet. It's -- it's a project.
25 And we don't have a -- we don't have a defined

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2 endpoint yet from Holtec. So we're just going to
3 make ensure that we, for the radiological team, are
4 ahead of the game.

5 MS. LIEBMANN: Thank you.

6 MR. MAYER: You're welcome.

7 CHAIR CONGDON: Mayor Knickerbocker,
8 your hand was up. But now it seems to have dropped.
9 Are you good?

10 MS. KNICKERBOCKER: It has dropped,
11 because my question was answered about --

12 CHAIR CONGDON: Okay.

13 MS. KNICKERBOCKER: -- possible time
14 frame for the -- the partial release.

15 CHAIR CONGDON: Got it.

16 MS. KNICKERBOCKER: So it was
17 answered.

18 CHAIR CONGDON: Thank you.

19 MS. KNICKERBOCKER: Thank you, Don.

20 CHAIR CONGDON: Okay. Thank you.

21 Kelly Turturro?

22 MS. TURTURRO: Thanks, Tom.

23 Larissa, I just also wanted to respond
24 to your question, and confirm Don's statement that
25 DEC has been communicating with both Holtec and Cliff

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2 as the on-site monitor as this investigation of the
3 training center goes forward. We are monitoring for
4 investigation of hazardous materials and petroleum
5 under the terms and conditions of the consent order.
6 In addition, the consent order does acknowledge that
7 radiological materials first are addressed under work
8 plans that are under NRC regulation and developed
9 through the MARSSIM process. And then, as Don was
10 explaining, and as -- as you summarized, that's at --
11 towards the end of the process is when DEC looks at
12 meeting the radiological standard that is outlined in
13 the joint proposal and in the consent order that
14 brings the cleanup from twenty-five millirem down to
15 ten millirem.

16 CHAIR CONGDON: Thank you, Kelly.

17 John Sipos, and then Susan Spear. And
18 then, I would like to move on to the next agenda item
19 in the interest of time.

20 So John, go ahead, and then Susan.

21 MR. SIPOS: Thank you.

22 Matt, a couple of questions. On this
23 slide, actually, there's reference to electrical
24 gapping. Can you describe for folks attending
25 tonight's meeting what that involves?

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2 MR. JOHNSON: Yes. That -- that's
3 just basically saying, we're removing, essentially
4 removing power from rooms or buildings, so just
5 making it safe to work electric -- electrically
6 within that area. So it's -- it's applying a
7 protective tagging, so opening breakers, putting
8 switches in the correct positions, et cetera.

9 MR. SIPOS: And does it involve
10 removing cables?

11 MR. JOHNSON: It could -- it could
12 remove -- it could involve removing cables. But most
13 of what we're talking about here is -- is protection,
14 opening -- removing links, opening breakers,
15 opening -- removing stabs, just making the area safe
16 for electrical work.

17 MR. SIPOS: Okay. Thank you. Second
18 question, down at the bottom of the page, there's
19 reference -- and you had a discussion with Tom about
20 this, about the steam generator, Number 21 from Unit
21 2. And I think you had a picture. And you mentioned
22 that the steam generator dome was being removed; do I
23 have that correct, out at the mausoleum?

24 MR. JOHNSON: Correct. Yep.

25 MR. SIPOS: Great. Thank you. And

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2 what's going to -- what's going to happen to that
3 dome?

4 MR. JOHNSON: So the -- the dome --
5 the reason why we remove it out of the building is,
6 because that's the clean side of -- of this steam
7 generator. Now, with that being said, it still sits
8 within a fenced in, quote, unquote, "rad pen". But
9 it is clean. Then, the primary side of the steam
10 generator stays within that mausoleum to be
11 segmented. But eventually, the -- the steam dome
12 will be segmented as well. It'll be cut up and --
13 and scrapped.

14 MR. SIPOS: Understood. So Holtec's
15 plan is to cut up and scrap the steam generator dome?

16 MR. JOHNSON: Correct.

17 MR. SIPOS: Okay. Thank you very
18 much.

19 Those are my questions. Thanks, Tom.

20 CHAIR CONGDON: Okay. Thanks, John.
21 Commissioner Spear?

22 MS. SPEARS: Yes. Thank you so much.
23 Susan Spear, Westchester County.

24 I want to thank you, Matt, for the
25 clarification. I'm sorry the issue has come up again

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2 about restarting Indian Point, but just wanted to
3 reiterate the County's position is clear, and
4 continuing that we would oppose restarting. And
5 according to the joint proposal, that authority rests
6 with us. And we intend to use it, if necessary. But
7 just wanted to clarify for anybody who still was
8 concerned and appreciate Matt's clarification. Thank
9 you.

10 CHAIR CONGDON: Thank you,
11 Commissioner.

12 If we could move on, advance the
13 slides to the State agency oversight updates. Thank
14 you.

15 Who's going to start us off here?

16 MR. CHAPIN: Hi. This is Cliff.
17 I'll -- I'll take it from here.

18 CHAIR CONGDON: All right. Cliff
19 Chapin, thank you.

20 MR. CHAPIN: Okay. Good evening.
21 This is Cliff Chapin, New York State inspector with
22 the Department of Public Service, stationed at Indian
23 Point. This slide is a reminder that the Department
24 of Public Service maintains an independent -- excuse
25 me, an Indian Point tip line and website for raising

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2 concerns. The website provides common questions and
3 answers associated with raising concerns and offers
4 different options, including an online form that can
5 be filled out, a phone number that can be called,
6 and/or an email address that can be utilized. DPS
7 has not received any messages to the tip line since
8 the last meeting.

9 Next slide. Thank you.

10 Holtec continues to maintain four of
11 the Reuter-Stokes radiation monitors in service.
12 These monitors are the four closest monitors to the
13 Buchanan-Verplanck Elementary School. The monitors
14 continue to show stable background radiation levels
15 as expected.

16 Next slide.

17 Since the last DOB meeting, DPS
18 reviewed the combined third and fourth quarter NRC
19 inspection report. Indian Point received one
20 noncited violation, as previously mentioned,
21 associated with their use of the multipurpose
22 canisters that had an inadequate certificate of
23 compliance. This violation is consistent with
24 violations received by other licensees in the nuclear
25 industry that have used the same canisters. And as

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2 mentioned, associated with this violation, the NRC
3 chose to use enforcement discretion.

4 CHAIR CONGDON: Just pausing --

5 MR. CHAPIN: Next slide.

6 CHAIR CONGDON: -- here. I'm sorry.
7 Sorry to interrupt, Cliff. Just pausing here to
8 amplify. You said that this is the one identified
9 before. Meaning, this has been discussed at previous
10 meetings? This is not a new violation?

11 MR. CHAPIN: No. What I meant to -- I
12 said previously mentioned, because Matt talked about
13 this -- this report. So this is -- this is -- I'm
14 basically saying the same thing that Matt -- Matt
15 said. I reviewed the report. This is where the
16 violation came through for Indian Point. And we did
17 previously talk about the vio -- the violation that
18 Holtec Corporate received for the design change. And
19 then, this was the final part of that, if you will.
20 And -- and it affected Indian Point and multiple
21 licensees in the industry.

22 CHAIR CONGDON: Thank you for the
23 clarification.

24 MR. CHAPIN: Okay. Next slide.

25 All right. Holtec has continued to

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2 hold monthly project update meetings in accordance
3 with the joint proposal. These meetings are attended
4 by the New York State Department of Public Service
5 and the Department of Environmental Conservation. As
6 part of the walk-downs that I perform on site, I've
7 recently walked down demolition project areas
8 associated with the Unit 1 water factory, Unit 1
9 substation abatement area, and inside the Unit 2
10 containment, where the reactor lower vessel internals
11 are currently being segmented.

12 I'll now turn it over to Kelly
13 Turturro for DEC updates.

14 MS. TURTURRO: Thank you, Cliff. In
15 terms of the remedial investigation taking place
16 under DEC's consent order, Holtec continues to work
17 on area of concern, 118, which is known as the
18 Lafarge area. After conducting fieldwork, Holtec had
19 submitted a remedial investigation report to DEC.
20 DEC has reviewed that report, issued comments. The
21 last and second round of comments that we issued were
22 issued on November 25th, 2025. And we await a
23 response from Holtec to those comments. No other
24 remedial investigation work plans have been submitted
25 to DEC.

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2 Next slide, please.

3 And as I've mentioned before, in terms
4 of our SPDES permit renewal, DEC is awaiting a final
5 court decision on the Save the Hudson litigation
6 before providing a draft SPDES permit for public
7 review and comment. Thank you, Tom.

8 CHAIR CONGDON: Thank you. Any
9 questions for the State agencies? Okay. Seeing
10 none. I think, we can --

11 Oh, Senator Harckham? Senator, I saw
12 you --

13 MR. HARCKHAM: Yeah. Thank you.
14 Forgot to unmute.

15 CHAIR CONGDON: Okay. Okay.

16 MR. HARCKHAM: No questions. Just
17 want to thank all of our State partners and
18 colleagues for everything they're doing out there.
19 Thank you.

20 CHAIR CONGDON: We appreciate that,
21 Senator. Thank you.

22 All right. Now, I'd like to introduce
23 Michel Lee. Michel has presented to the DOB before,
24 and requested some time on the agenda to make a
25 presentation regarding some changes that have been

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2 occurring at the federal level. And we welcome
3 Michel for a few minutes to give us a presentation.

4 Are you with us, Michel? Can folks
5 make sure that we've turned her panelist function on?

6 MS. LEE: Can you hear me?

7 CHAIR CONGDON: Yes. We hear you now.

8 MS. LEE: Yay. Terrific. Okay. And
9 you can't see me, which is a blessing.

10 Okay. Let -- let's try to scoot
11 through this quickly, so I have time to answer
12 questions. Let's go into a little bit more into a
13 deep dive of one of the critical executive orders.

14 If you could just move to the second
15 slide. Thanks.

16 For people on the phone, I'll just
17 read this. You -- I have bullet points. This is an
18 overview, "Nuclear Regulatory Scheme: Dismantled",
19 "Career Staffers: Gone", "Rush to Build", "Context:
20 All Important", and the last bullet point,
21 "Specifically Relevant to DOB". I would add to that
22 sub bullet points there. It's relevant to the DOB
23 members as a body and as individuals as public
24 officials, to other public officials who might be
25 listening to the public at large, and to the media.

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2 Next slide.

3 So this is titled "ADVANCE Act
4 Detonates". Back in July 2024, President Biden
5 signed into law a -- essentially a dramatic and
6 radical mission change of the Nuclear Regulatory
7 Commission. The -- the NRC, just for a little bit of
8 background for folks, the NRC was established in 1974
9 when the Atomic Energy Commission was spun out. So
10 the AEC became the NRC, which was supposed to
11 regulate the industry and focus with a mission on
12 public health, safety, and environmental protection.
13 And the DOE, the Department of Energy, was tasked
14 with a number of other things, but including, not
15 limited to the promotion of nuclear energy and
16 various other things. It's heavily, heavily funded
17 research and development of the nuclear industry over
18 the last seventy years.

19 A couple of things to note about this
20 act. It was -- it really flew by the radars of the
21 public-advocacy community, because there had been
22 attempts over -- over decades. I -- I've been in
23 this now twenty-five years, since 9/11. And this is
24 something that the industry has been trying to get
25 into law for -- for years. And it's always failed.

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2 So I think we just didn't pick up that it was going
3 to happen. There was a three-page -- it wasn't even
4 a full three-page act. It was like a two-and-three-
5 quarter-page act to amend the Federal Fire Protection
6 and Control Act at a time, like, right before
7 beginning of -- of the fire season in -- in the
8 summer of -- of 2024. And at the last minute, you
9 had this -- this sudden nuclear promotional act that
10 was shoveled in that ended up be calling the ADVANCE
11 Act. And so the ADVANCE Act is Accelerating
12 Deployment of Versatile, Advanced Nuclear for Clean
13 Energy Act.

14 Now, I didn't completely understand
15 what was behind this. I just assumed a lot of it had
16 to do with recharging the commercial industry,
17 because of the belief that -- that the arguably even
18 reasonable belief, after Russia's invasion of Ukraine
19 that a little bit more attention had to be focused on
20 refurbishing, you know, military aspects of the -- of
21 the industry. But there is an article that came out
22 in Bloomberg, which I think shines some light on it.
23 It's in the -- the more detailed long commentary and
24 extended references, that I filed. If you look under
25 Riley -- Riley -- that's Michael Riley is the author

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2 of that. And I really suggest reading the excerpts
3 from that article.

4 There's a quote in here, for those on
5 the phone: "Make no mistake: This is not about
6 making the reactor licensing process more efficient,
7 but about weakening safety and security oversight
8 across the board, a long-standing industry goal."
9 And that was a quote from Edwin Lyman of the Union of
10 Concerned Scientists in 2024.

11 Next slide.

12 So in May 2025, President Trump,
13 taking over from Biden and continuing along the same
14 lines, issued four key executive orders. One
15 essentially overhauls the NRC regulation, the entire
16 regulatory scheme and the NRC. And I'll go into that
17 a little bit later after I get through the slides.

18 Another was to hand power to prove new
19 reactors designs and products essentially to the
20 Department of Energy and also to the Department of
21 Defense, or now, the Department of War. It handed a
22 huge amount of control over to the OMB, the Office of
23 Management and Budget. And effectively, the nuclear
24 safety gatekeeper is now a -- clearly an industry
25 sponsor, you know, officially.

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2 Next slide.

3 I just have a couple of quotes here.

4 One from Stephen Burns, who was former NRC chairman,
5 about the executive -- about these nuclear executive
6 orders. His quote is, quote, "This is the detailed,
7 agency-specific effort to override the historic
8 independent agency construct."

9 The second quote, from Gregory Jaczko,
10 who's a former NRC chairman, he was talking about the
11 executive orders, and he said that it looked like
12 somebody asked an AI chat box, quote, "How do we make
13 the nuclear industry worse in this country?", end
14 quote. And then he called the orders a, quote,
15 "guillotine to the nation's nuclear safety system",
16 that will make the country less safe, less reliable
17 and climate crisis more severe. Next quote -- I
18 mean, I'm sorry.

19 Next slide.

20 The "Fallout: Secretly Tossing
21 Safety". So there are sweeping changes being made to
22 pretty much accelerate every single thing along the
23 nuclear commercial design pathway as well as along
24 the atomic military pathway. I won't read everything
25 in this slide. But a couple of key things to point

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2 out is that it puts -- it puts the regulators under a
3 real gun. That everything is supposed to be
4 accelerated, supposed to be really fast.

5 The President wants the agency staff
6 to get new reactors up by July 4th of this year. I'm
7 sorry. I wrote the wrong year in the slide. I just
8 realized that. It's actually July 4th, 2026, in time
9 for the nation's 250th birthday.

10 A couple of really key things is, from
11 a point of view of public health and the environment,
12 is the new orders strip out guiding principles of
13 nuclear safety, particularly ALARA, which some of you
14 may have remembered as the concept "As Low As
15 Reasonably Achievable". That requires nuclear
16 operations to keep radiation exposure below the legal
17 limit whenever they can, reasonably can.

18 So if you think of the logic here, it
19 begs the question, so now you're allowed to have
20 radiation exposure to everybody, like, higher than
21 reasonably achievable?

22 Anyway, the next one is that they are
23 also going to be -- I'm not sure if it was this --
24 yeah, it was in this one -- changing the entire
25 threshold of the radiation protection standard. So I

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2 don't have that in the slide, and in fact, there was
3 something that came out yesterday on the new
4 radiation protection standards. I haven't had time
5 to see it yet.

6 But you know, all of this is
7 essentially unfolding very, very rapidly. And we're
8 probably going to see a lot of new rules and
9 proposals being -- coming out over the next month or
10 two.

11 Next slide.

12 "Tossing environmental review". So
13 NEPA is out the window. That, folks, of course,
14 probably know, is the landmark, 1970s environmental
15 law signed by President Nixon. And, you know, yes,
16 there's going to -- they're going to theoretically
17 look at environmental issues, but now the idea is
18 that things don't have to go through the more formal
19 and detailed NEPA process.

20 Next slide.

21 So this is interesting, and you know,
22 I wonder how that corresponds to the earlier
23 presentation tonight about contamination around
24 Indian Point. Out of Harvard late last year, there
25 was a study published in Environmental Engineering

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2 Science. And basically, the study -- the researchers
3 looked at radioactive particle contamination around
4 the Pilgrim Nuclear Power Station in Plymouth,
5 Massachusetts.

6 They found strong evidence for
7 different kinds of radioactive dust isotopes in both
8 dust and soil in the vicinity of the plants, so this
9 is outside of the plant lines. Evidence of uranium-
10 235, cobalt-60, which is a really nasty radionuclide,
11 and polonium-210 (sic). For recent Russian history,
12 polonium-210 (sic) was the poison that was put in
13 the tea of the former Russian official that was
14 poisoned and killed in the U.K. a few years ago.

15 Here's the real kicker, though. The
16 isotopes that were found were -- and I'm going to
17 quote, "inhalable or ingestible radioactive
18 microparticles". So what does that mean? It means
19 it's really, really, really, really tiny, tiny
20 little, you know, matter -- sizes of particulate
21 radiation.

22 When discussions usually are about
23 natural radiation exposure -- those are rays that
24 essentially go through us and that we were exposed
25 to, you know, since we crawled out of the swamp,

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2 right? And all living things were -- have been
3 exposed to rays from, you know, the sun, right?

4 Particulate contamination is in
5 something like radon, and in uranium, you know, very
6 heavy around uranium mines. But that -- but it's the
7 particulates that can go -- be breathed in and go
8 deep, deep, deep into your lungs. And you know, I
9 think you need very, very highly sophisticated
10 equipment and lab work to identify them.

11 Let's -- and by the way, this was
12 outside of the plant site, and the authors say,
13 quote, it "represents a significant potential source
14 of internal radiation dose to people in the
15 surrounding area", end quote.

16 Next slide.

17 A companion study which was issued in
18 December 2025 out of the same research group, from
19 Harvard T.C. Chan School of Public Health, looked at
20 cancers around all nuclear power plants -- actually,
21 it was all people in Massachusetts living in the
22 vicinity of any nuclear power plant. And so they
23 concluded that about 20,600 cancer cases in
24 Massachusetts were attributable to living near a
25 nuclear power plant.

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2 So proximity to the plants, they also
3 found, significantly increased cancer incidence with
4 risk declining by distance. So that meant if you
5 were near the plant, you had more -- higher
6 likelihood of getting certain kinds of cancers.

7 And then they did a cancer site-
8 specific analyses, and they identified associations
9 for -- and I'll read them alphabetically: bladder,
10 breast, colorectal, esophageal, Hodgkin's lymphoma,
11 kidney, laryngeal, leukemia, lung, melanoma, oral,
12 pancreatic, prostate, thyroid, and uterine.

13 But then this is -- sort of goes back
14 to the slide I was talking about earlier. They
15 state -- they state here, quote, "The strong
16 association observed with lung cancer, the most
17 prevalent and lethal cancer in their analysis,
18 suggests inhalation of airborne radionuclides as a
19 potential exposure pathway."

20 So those are, again, the little micro
21 particles that people just breathe in, that can be
22 kicked up in the vicinity to a plant. And people are
23 breathing in probably miniscule quantities, but they
24 may be breathing in those quantities day after day,
25 week after week, year after year.

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2 Notably, the particular study did not
3 look at children. They only looked at adult cancer
4 incidents. And it's well-known, well-established,
5 that children, babies developing in utero, infants,
6 and girls are much more sensitive to radiation
7 exposure than an adult. And I think -- is that the
8 last slide?

9 Yes. That was my -- thank you for
10 your attention. If you have time, or if I have time,
11 I'd like to go over a little bit more details of the
12 executive order on the NRC. But if you don't have
13 time, I invite people to really look at that
14 carefully, and maybe I'll just mention -- maybe I can
15 answer some information -- questions in the Q and A.

16 CHAIR CONGDON: Michel, do you want to
17 take another two or three minutes on that now?

18 MS. LEE: Oh, sure.

19 CHAIR CONGDON: Go ahead.

20 MS. LEE: Okay. So I'm going
21 through -- so there were -- again -- then again,
22 there were four executive orders issued specifically
23 on nuclear in May 2025. I would urge people to at
24 least peruse, read the first page. I tried to put it
25 into just one page of my commentary that I submitted

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2 to the DOB, which is available for the public.

3 And then I'm following that one page,
4 which sort of tries to explain essentially what I'm
5 trying to do here, and give context for why I titled
6 this slide presentation "System is Blinking Red". I
7 also have 25 pages of annotated references.

8 And it's really the context that's
9 key, because this doesn't -- the, you know -- the NRC
10 is nested within a large regulatory scheme at the
11 federal government. The state is nested within the
12 NRC -- you know, the state -- the federal regulatory
13 scheme. And of course, local communities are within
14 the state, and all are interactive.

15 And -- and this -- there is -- people
16 in the NRC rely on people in FEMA. Communities rely
17 on people, you know, scientists with expertise, and
18 particularly with civil servants who have been
19 working in the federal government for decades and
20 decades, and have this accumulated experience, and
21 also have built up, over decades, relationships with
22 state -- state officials. So people build, you know,
23 develop trust.

24 So when you have, you know, hundreds,
25 thousands of people are gone, you lose a lot of

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2 really, really critical human resources, human
3 capital. And it's not just about changing
4 regulations on paper.

5 But while we're talking on creating
6 regulations on paper, let me quickly go through
7 Executive Order 14300, which is ordering the reform
8 of the Nuclear Regulatory Commission, so the -- it
9 says to quote the -- "reform the NRC, including its
10 structure, personnel, regulations, and basic
11 operations."

12 So I'm going to just -- I'm just going
13 to pull out some keywords. So it affects reforming
14 the NRC's culture, and it says, as per the 2024
15 ADVANCE Act -- that was the act signed by President
16 Biden -- NRC's licensing and regulation should not,
17 quote, "unnecessarily limit", end quote, civilian use
18 of radioactive materials and deployment of nuclear
19 energy.

20 And there's a section reforming the
21 NRC structure. That's to reorganize, to promote the,
22 quote, "expeditious processing of license
23 applications", end quote, to undertake reductions in
24 force. And again, I think, several hundred people
25 have left the NRC already, either by virtue of

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2 reductions in force or taking early retirements.

3 The -- President Trump took the
4 unprecedented step of firing a former NRC
5 commissioner, Christopher Hanson, in June 2025. A
6 month later, another commissioner, Annie Caputo,
7 resigned abruptly. There's been a lot of shakeup of
8 the NRC. I won't go into detail there.

9 Really key point in this executive
10 order -- I'll read -- I'll quote it. "The personnel
11 and functions of the advisory committee on reactor
12 safeguards shall be reduced to minimum necessary to
13 fulfill its statutory obligations." So that's
14 basically a very high-level advisory body, expert
15 body, that's been told to just really, really
16 minimize how you're -- how you're looking at things,
17 which I find great concern.

18 Then there's a lengthy sections on
19 reforming the NRC's regulations. The entire,
20 wholesale revision -- and here, I'll quote it,
21 "undertake a review and wholesale revision of its
22 regulations and guidance documents and issues of
23 notices of proposed rulemaking", that those have to
24 be done within 9 months, and final rules and guidance
25 within 18 months of the executive order, which was,

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2 again, May 2025.

3 So the -- can go on and on, but I --
4 but I would -- I would put the heading here, the
5 rush, rush, rush, rush section.

6 Real interesting thing, the NRC staff
7 is supposed to focus on fixed deadlines and quote,
8 "Those deadlines shall be enforced by fixed caps on
9 the NRC's recovery of hourly fees." What does that
10 mean? That means that actually money is going to be
11 cut to the NRC if they're not going fast, fast, fast,
12 fast. That is, you know, work under the gun. Do --
13 we want you to accelerate everything, do everything
14 fast. But -- and if you don't do that, there's a --
15 you'll actually have a financial penalty.

16 We can go forward rapidly here. We
17 already talked about NEPA. There's an expedited
18 pathway -- the -- this EO essentially puts the
19 Department of Energy and to some extent, the
20 Department of Defense, or Department of War, in
21 charge of the NRC.

22 The executive order says, quote, "NRC
23 review of designs that -- that the DOE and DOD have
24 reviewed shall focus solely on risks that may arise
25 from new applications permitted by NRC licensure,

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2 rather than revisiting risks that have already --
3 already been addressed in the DOE -- DOE or DOD
4 processes."

5 So there was an article that came out
6 last year, that was leaked, that somebody at -- in
7 the White House, staffers, had specifically said that
8 the NRC is being expected to rubber-stamp the
9 decisions that are being made to expedite new
10 reactors by the Department of Energy. That came up
11 during a September 2025 U.S. Senate hearing, that
12 oversight hearing, on the NRC.

13 And the chairman, David Wright, who is
14 still on the NRC, but he was booted as chairman
15 last -- at the end of the year, he really had -- gave
16 a lot of assurances. Oh, yes, I've pushed back
17 against that at this meeting, and the NRC isn't going
18 to rubber-stamp anything. So that was David Wright.
19 We have a new chairman since then.

20 And I'm -- just three more points, and
21 then I'll shut up. Just -- I'll read the quote.
22 "Establish stringent thresholds for circumstances in
23 which the NRC may demand changes to reactor designs
24 once construction is underway", end quote.

25 So what does that mean? That means if

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2 a new kind of plant is being built and people at the
3 NRC think, oh, wait a minute. They're all --
4 something's really wrong with the design, that could
5 be considered a problem by the White House. So once
6 you go underway, you have to go forward. It's, you
7 know, momentum. You know, too bad, so sad if it's
8 not safe enough.

9 They also have a aspect of the order
10 to revise the reactor oversight process and reactor
11 security rules to reduce unnecessary burdens to the
12 industry. That's the -- the language is --
13 "unnecessary burdens" is in quotes.

14 And finally, and I guess this goes to
15 here, streamline the public hearings process. So
16 that is, of course, to get rid of pesky things like
17 people like me talking to public officials and
18 raising problems. So I will end it there.

19 CHAIR CONGDON: Michel, thank you very
20 much for the presentation. I will note that in the
21 past, whenever there have been rulemaking proceedings
22 at the NRC, we at the State have informed the DOB
23 members and our followers of the opportunities to
24 comment.

25 We have staff at NYSERDA, and within

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2 DPS and DEC and others, who are tracking every
3 opportunity for any rulemaking changes, and will be
4 filing comments on behalf of the State, which we will
5 share with the DOB. And again, we'll also try to
6 flag when there are comment opportunities for
7 individuals to see that opportunity and weigh in.

8 I think a number of people might have
9 hands up. Assemblywoman Levenberg?

10 MS. LEVENBERG: Thanks so much. And
11 Michel, thank you so much for that detailed
12 presentation. I guess the question isn't to you,
13 Michel, at all. It's really to DPS and DEC. What
14 exactly can we do to protect New York State against
15 these sped up and lax regulations? Or I don't -- the
16 regulations aren't sped up, but the, you know, the
17 timing for building, the race to -- the race to the
18 bottom.

19 How is it exactly that we can make
20 sure that we use every tool in our toolbox to protect
21 New York and our beautiful natural resources and our
22 people?

23 CHAIR CONGDON: Right. So we've --
24 I've just identified the fact that there will be
25 opportunities to submit comments and to participate

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2 in their rulemaking processes. I'm not sure if John
3 Sipos would want to add anything to what I've already
4 said.

5 MS. LEVENBERG: Okay. But just let me
6 ask a question, because you said you'd let us know
7 when they were -- are we clear that there actually
8 are going to be opportunities to do that, or not?
9 Just because there were in the past doesn't mean that
10 there will be. So I mean, that's another question.

11 CHAIR CONGDON: Totally fair point.
12 We're monitoring. I can't answer on behalf of the
13 federal government, what they're -- what they may do.
14 But assuming normal processes, yeah, there would
15 be -- there would be opportunity, and we would make
16 folks aware of that opportunity and weigh in
17 ourselves.

18 I saw Dave Lochbaum's hand go up.
19 Maybe it went back down. Dave, did you have a
20 question or comment?

21 MS. LEVENBERG: Okay. But -- and I
22 mean, you can -- but just to add to that, I mean,
23 besides just commenting on, you know -- I mean, we --
24 what state -- what can the State do to protect the
25 state? I think that's more to the point, not just,

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2 you know, what can we do to get our word in for
3 federal regs?

4 MR. SIPOS: So I don't -- I can't see
5 if Dave's hand is up. This is John. And I don't --
6 Dave, I don't want to, like, cut in front of you. So
7 why don't you go ahead right now, and I'll pick it up
8 when you're done.

9 MR. LOCHBAUM: Yeah. This is Dave
10 Lochbaum. The NRC, or actually, the President
11 executive, issued Executive Order 14300 in March
12 (sic) of 2025, directing the NRC to revise its
13 regulation, protection regulations, to increase the
14 public protection levels by a factor of 50 over what
15 they've been for the decades.

16 That's nonsense. I'm working with a
17 number of local groups to protect against this
18 killing of American soldiers in public from this
19 nonsense. It's -- there's no science based within
20 this. It's -- in 2021, the NRC denied petitions by
21 the nuclear industry to increase the regulations to
22 kill Americans similarly. And it's nonsense then, in
23 2021; it's nonsense now, in 2026.

24 There's no science involved. It's
25 political science only. And we're working with a

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2 number of NGOs around the country to stop this
3 nonsense and not kill American public anymore. Other
4 than that, there's no -- there's no nonsense
5 involved.

6 CHAIR CONGDON: Thank you, Dave.

7 John, did you want to add?

8 MR. SIPOS: So I wanted to come back
9 to Dana's question about opportunities to
10 participate. Every day, the Federal Register is
11 published, and it includes notices of federal
12 rulemakings. And there is an opportunity to review
13 that, to see what various federal agencies are doing
14 in this -- you know, to your specific question, to
15 the Nuclear Regulatory Commission or, potentially,
16 the Department of Energy.

17 And that opportunity exists -- it is
18 part of the regular federal notice and comment
19 rulemaking under the Federal Administrative Procedure
20 Act, and it, you know, it is -- it is an opportunity.
21 And you know, if, you know, you or your office wish
22 to review that, it's there every day. It can be
23 logged on and reviewed, and you know, comments can be
24 marshaled and sent in. That's this -- that is part
25 of the notice and comment process that we have.

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2 MS. LEVENBERG: John, I wish I had any
3 faith in that. But unfortunately, I don't have faith
4 in the commenting portion of it. I don't necessarily
5 think that would help in the -- in the case of this
6 administration.

7 MR. SIPOS: Well, it is -- it has been
8 the process, I think, probably going back to 1932, at
9 least. And it is -- the initiatives that are being
10 contemplated are, you know -- they do go -- that is a
11 requirement under federal law, and that opportunity
12 exists.

13 And you know, it is a -- you asked
14 about tools in the toolbox. It is a tool, and it
15 has -- it does provide an ability and -- to make
16 perspectives and to marshal science and to marshal
17 policy arguments and to place things in the record.

18 That is how -- that's how
19 rulemaking -- that is how rulemaking has worked, and
20 I think that's how, you know, folks throughout the
21 state, you know, probably folks even on this call,
22 you know, have engaged with the federal government.
23 So it is there. It's --

24 MS. LEVENBERG: Sure. I mean, I get
25 it, but I mean, the dates on this -- July 4th, 2026.

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2 You know, we want a new nuclear plant up and
3 running -- I mean, all of the -- all of this flies in
4 the face of anything that's ever been done before.
5 So what I'm saying is, what are the laws that we can
6 put in place in New York to supersede?

7 And similar to, you know, I guess, you
8 know, what are our -- what are our -- where do our
9 abilities lie to protect New York from unsafe --

10 MS. LEE: Can I jump in?

11 CHAIR CONGDON: Yeah. Please go
12 ahead, Michel. And then Mayor Knickerbocker, you're
13 up next.

14 MS. KNICKERBOCKER: Thank you.

15 MS. LEE: Or I'll go after the mayor.

16 MS. KNICKERBOCKER: Okay. Thank you,
17 Michel, for your presentation. But you know, we've
18 gotten into these conversations before about the
19 federal government, rulemaking, laws, the NRC. You
20 know, this is something that, if you want to address
21 it, we really have to go to our representatives, our
22 federal representatives, Chuck Schumer, Senator
23 Gillibrand, and the conversations really have to be
24 with them.

25 The federal government supersedes any

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2 other municipality or any other form of government.
3 So I think it's good to have this conversation, but I
4 think the conversation needs to be held at a higher
5 level, dealing with the federal government.

6 MS. LEVENBERG: I understand. Yeah.

7 MS. KNICKERBOCKER: Just my thoughts.

8 MS. LEVENBERG: I understand. I'm
9 just saying, like --

10 MS. KNICKERBOCKER: Yeah.

11 MS. LEVENBERG: -- you know, I think
12 it's -- yeah. Anyway.

13 CHAIR CONGDON: Okay.

14 MS. LEVENBERG: All good.

15 MS. LEE: Yeah. So -- so here's my
16 take on that -- that, and again, I -- I really hope
17 people will read the first page of my commentary. If
18 not, skim through the references. Because, you know,
19 I can go out and whistle into the wind, and maybe
20 that'll have some impact; I don't know.

21 But the system is blinking red, and I
22 really want to emphasize the word "system" because
23 it's not just, you know, foolish action to change the
24 mission of the NRC during the Biden administration.
25 It's not just this big push during the Trump

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2 administration. And we can go back, you know,
3 administration after administration.

4 There -- this is an area that
5 essentially the public has fallen down on as much as
6 anybody else, because people don't want to spend the
7 time and effort equipping themselves with the, you
8 know, knowledge of what's going on. And it is
9 complex.

10 But right now, it's pretty simple.
11 Right now, you effectively have the end of federal
12 regulation on the part of robust regulatory
13 processes, which does go back to the fact that
14 everything's going to be what happens within the
15 state.

16 And you know, and other actors besides
17 those here at the state level, I think, are
18 insufficiently aware of what's changing, and that
19 the -- that the groundwork in which they may be
20 thinking policy might have been good, we're in a
21 different world. I would really question whether
22 that policy is sufficiently protective of the state
23 and the nation at this point in time. Going forward
24 with something under one scheme is different than
25 going forward with something at another scheme.

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2 With respect to Indian Point
3 specifically, you will notice the very carefully
4 worded response that Holtec's representatives have
5 given to repeated questions about reopening Indian
6 Point.

7 The question is not only whether that
8 is going to be the, you know, the "old plant",
9 quote/unquote, created into a new plant, which gets
10 into the question of, is it a new reactor, or is the
11 old reactor being changed? But the State can
12 certainly have input into that at some point. But
13 also about having an SMR, whether -- a small modular
14 reactor at the site, which has not been ruled out
15 from what I've heard.

16 And if you look in the annotated
17 references under Smith, the article that was done in
18 the Bulletin of Atomic Scientists reviews how Holtec
19 went for decommissioning of the Palisades nuclear
20 plant in Michigan. And within a week or two after
21 taking over the plant for decommissioning, and
22 without public knowledge -- this ended up coming out
23 through FOIA requests to the State of Michigan --
24 Holtec went for the -- to the federal government to
25 restart the plant.

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2 And it is also pushing for small
3 modular reactors that don't even exist yet, but maybe
4 will be created under this very, very rushed federal
5 regulatory policy and put that at the same plant
6 also.

7 One thing David Lochbaum educated me
8 about decades ago was something called the bathtub
9 curve. So when a plant is young, or when any kind of
10 a machine or new operational system is young from an
11 engineering 101 perspective, it tends to have a fair
12 amount of kinks, and those get worked out in the
13 early years. Then you have a whole long period
14 during its planned design life where a plant works
15 pretty well, and then it starts to age.

16 And as age sets in, you start to have
17 components break and cracks, and things go wrong.
18 And that's when you start having more and more safety
19 problems, again, at the end stage. So what we would
20 be talking about at Indian Point, if any of that came
21 to pass, it could be either one of those extremes,
22 either the new plant or an old plant. And that's
23 where I think people can have discussions and educate
24 their fellows.

25 CHAIR CONGDON: Yeah. Well, thank

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2 you, Michel, for the presentation.

3 And thank you, Assemblywoman, for your
4 questions.

5 And I think it is very, very important
6 that we continue to track and think about how
7 potential changes at the NRC could impact Indian
8 Point and for the state, how it could impact our
9 other reactors that are operating here. So thank you
10 very much. Good discussion.

11 I'd like to now move to the public
12 statement hearing portion of the meeting.

13 And Tom Kaczmarek, could I call on you
14 to run this portion, please?

15 MR. KACZMAREK: Absolutely. So just
16 as a reminder, please remember that you know,
17 attendees will be called on in the order in which
18 they registered. Your line will be unmuted when it
19 is your turn to speak. So please confirm your own
20 microphone is unmuted when you are called on.

21 Please also note, I noticed a number
22 of individuals who registered to speak, their names
23 are not clearly marked in the attendee list. So
24 please, if you have the opportunity, and you signed
25 up to speak, please make sure that the name reflected

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2 on your Zoom account is reflective of your own and
3 does not have a phone number or another name that
4 would not help us identify you.

5 So our first speaker for this evening
6 is Jacquelyn Drechsler. Is Ms. Drechsler with us
7 this evening? You may raise your hand if you're in
8 the app, or if you're joining by phone, you may dial
9 star-9. All right.

10 Please pay attention to the timer on
11 your screen. It'll be a three-minute timer, and you
12 may begin when you're ready.

13 MS. DRECHSLER: Okay. Well, first of
14 all, thank you, Mr. Kaczmarek, and all assembled. I
15 do appreciate that today we did get the -- not only
16 the agenda, but the PowerPoint presentations a little
17 bit in advance; a little more in advance would be
18 better.

19 I'm really sorry, but for the first
20 time in a very long time, I cannot actually -- I did
21 not get to listen to the meeting because I'm -- I
22 have a prior commitment. But I do want to say that I
23 really look forward to hearing the speakers that I
24 can listen to for the moment, and also to reviewing
25 the video when it comes out in the next couple of

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2 days. So I am abdicating my time now. Thank you
3 very much.

4 MR. KACZMAREK: Thank you. Next is
5 Jocelyn DeCrescenzo.

6 MS. DECRESCENZO: Here. Can you hear
7 me?

8 MR. KACZMAREK: Yes, we can.

9 MS. DECRESCENZO: Okay. Thank you so
10 much for the opportunity to speak. I'm Jocelyn
11 DeCrescenzo, and I live in Valley Cottage.

12 Holtec International, a rogue company
13 that repeatedly and continuously does everything they
14 want, whenever they want, without permissions,
15 begging only after the fact for forgiveness.

16 Holtec International has never
17 completely decommissioned a site and certainly have
18 never been operators. However, it was said at a
19 previous DOB meeting, by a Holtec person, that Holtec
20 will be the biggest and best on decommissioning and
21 by operating nuclear power plants in the country.
22 Mr. Singh has a really big ego and likes to think
23 big.

24 So here's their rap sheet exposing
25 workers to radiation in excess of standards. In

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2 2024, workers at Oyster Creek in New Jersey, while
3 packing up machinery for transport to Indian Point in
4 New York were exposed to radiation in excess of
5 allowable amounts. The workers at Indian Point were
6 also exposed. This was -- this was caught by the
7 DOT, but there was only a slap on the wrist to
8 Holtec -- a level IV violation, because Holtec
9 presented a corrective plan of action.

10 In 2024, two workers at the Pilgrim
11 plant in Massachusetts were exposed to radiation
12 levels that were in excess of allowable limits. One
13 worker had to have part of his tongue and esophagus
14 removed. The other worker is in hospice care.

15 On October 21, 2025, a contracted
16 worker for Holtec fell into a radioactive pool of
17 water in the reactor cavity at the Palisades,
18 Michigan, plant. Although the person was
19 decontaminated, think Karen Silkwood in the Kerr-
20 McGee plutonium plant. The fellow was found to have
21 300 counts per minute of radioactivity in his hair.

22 So here we go on to doing whatever
23 they want, whenever they want: the canister design
24 change without a presenting plan -- without
25 presenting a plan to the NRC and without

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2 authorization from the NRC.

3 Before this was discovered, Holtec
4 International had already sold these unapproved
5 canisters that they -- that they produced to other
6 companies and to themselves. As far as we know,
7 there are approximately 350 of these out there at
8 undisclosed locations. Because Holtec supplied the
9 obligatory corrective plan of action, once again,
10 only a level IV violation, no consequences.

11 The cask vent -- the cask ventilation
12 design changed, once again, without presenting a plan
13 and without NRC approval. This design change can
14 have very serious consequences, as the vents can
15 become clogged with debris from storms, possibly
16 leading to potential meltdown of the hot rods in the
17 canisters and the casks.

18 The canister drop at San Onofre and
19 the misguided insertion of the canisters into the
20 cask led to scratches and a gouge on a canister,
21 leaving the canister at risk to the gouge and
22 scratches getting worse, having cracks, leaking
23 radiation over time. There was quite a cover-up with
24 both Holtec and the NRC asserting that nothing
25 happened. Please watch the movie The San Onofre

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2 Syndrome.

3 Improperly welded flanges at the
4 Palisades, Michigan, plant, the plant Holtec holds up
5 as their model of what they can do, and what they can
6 do the same here at Indian Point. Once again --

7 (Music played)

8 MS. DECRESCENZO: -- work was done
9 without presenting a plan to the NRC and without --

10 MR. KACZMAREK: Miss --

11 MS. DECRESCENZO: -- authorization --
12 I'm -- I'm almost done. I -- I think we had
13 discussed me being able to finish this. I only have,
14 like, half a page left, Mr. Kaczmarek.

15 MR. KACZMAREK: Yes. Please -- please
16 move it along. Thank you.

17 MS. DECRESCENZO: Yes. I -- I'll
18 be -- do the best I can.

19 The work Holtec did does not comply
20 with the American Society of Metallurgical Engineers.
21 And according to one expert, no one has ever done
22 this work without meeting the standards. This
23 welding work cannot be undone, cannot be fixed. Not
24 only that, but Holtec admitted they lost the
25 paperwork that verified their testing they supposedly

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2 did on the material strength and compatibility.

3 They are petitioning the NRC in an 84-
4 page letter for a relief request to use an
5 alternative methodology. They have no proof, no
6 verification, and want to pass on safety. There
7 could be a catastrophic event. In my mind, this
8 would be considered a negligent catastrophe caused by
9 inadequate planning, inept work, lack of safety
10 protocols, and negligent maintenance.

11 Holtec seems to have a disregard for
12 workers and the public safety. I have only touched
13 the tip of this iceberg, have not even gotten to
14 Holtec International's financial shell games. In any
15 other business in the world, such multiple repeated
16 violations compounded from many facilities, and yet
17 all with the same company, would result in severe
18 consequences.

19 Hear this. We have all been played by
20 this company that is amassing great wealth, and which
21 continues to amass a staggering number of violations.

22 And thank you for letting me finish.

23 I really appreciate that. Thank you so much.

24 MR. KACZMAREK: Thank you. Next is
25 Tina Volz-Bongar.

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2 MS. VOLZ-BONGAR: Hi.

3 MR. KACZMAREK: You may --

4 MS. VOLZ-BONGAR: Hello.

5 MR. KACZMAREK: You may begin when
6 ready.

7 MS. VOLZ-BONGAR: Okay. I guess I
8 can't -- I -- you don't want to see me on video.
9 That's okay.

10 So yes. I'll just call myself
11 Radioactive Tina instead of Radioactive Drew, and
12 say, like, I can't believe the way that Holtec is
13 allowing access to this guy who goes out there on
14 YouTube and declares that -- you know, with this
15 worker -- that Indian Point is going to reopen.

16 And then, you know, Holtec's response,
17 meh, you know? Anyway, I -- it's really concerning
18 to me and disturbing. So I just want to say, I
19 understand that you can't talk about the Save the
20 Hudson bill, but I am very involved in the court of
21 public opinion. And I just want to remind everyone
22 on the call that 445,000 people signed a petition to
23 the CEO of Holtec asking him and -- to not dump the
24 tritiated water into the Hudson River.

25 And you know, the other thing here,

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2 you know, there's just a couple of things about the
3 decommissioning of the plant that are just, you know,
4 sort of beyond the pale to me. Holtec is -- you
5 know, laid off all of these workers saying that the,
6 you know, storage of the tritiated water was going
7 to -- you know, it -- it demanded that they do this.
8 And then they show up, and they're over budget.

9 Then, you know, thanks to the NRC, we
10 get this really, really lousy financial report. You
11 know, when does that come? The end of March, in
12 April? I mean, there's no accounting of the
13 ratepayer funds that -- you know, 2.4 billion dollars
14 and we only get that, you know, statement?

15 Anyway, I really feel like a deep --
16 and I -- our legislators are great. They are our
17 voice. But this board here, you know, what -- what
18 is the accountability? And you know that I feel this
19 again. So I raised in my last public comment that we
20 really have never gotten a safety report about what
21 the emergency response of the plant is in our
22 neighboring towns.

23 Now suddenly, everyone says, well,
24 there isn't --

25 (Music plays)

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2 MS. VOLZ-BONGAR: -- any. Okay.

3 Anyway. That's my time. But anyway, it would be
4 great to hear something about that, an official
5 statement, and whether that be from Susan Spear or
6 someone. Thank you very much.

7 MR. KACZMAREK: Thank you. Next is
8 Jen Benson. If you're with us this evening, please
9 raise your hand or dial star-9. Jen Benson?

10 Okay. Next is Catherine Skopic. Ms.
11 Skopic, you can unmute when you're ready. Ms.
12 Skopic, are you with us?

13 Okay. Next is Christopher Vargo. You
14 may begin when ready.

15 MR. VARGO: How are you doing? This
16 is Chris Vargo from Verplanck.

17 I'd like to comment about how Mr.
18 Sipos didn't ask about manpower; Mayor Knickerbocker
19 didn't ask about manpower. But constantly, their
20 favorite words is a prompt decommissioning, prompt
21 decommissioning.

22 Nobody asked why they're not working
23 on Unit 3. Suddenly, they don't care. They only
24 care when it came to dumping hazardous waste into the
25 Hudson River. But at the slightest of opportunities

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2 to open up a nuclear power plant, they can take as
3 long as they like.

4 Right away, Mr. Sipos asked about Unit
5 2 steam generator. And if I understood correctly, it
6 was the old steam generator, not even the one that's
7 in place right now, because it was in the mausoleum.

8 Also, can we extend the time from
9 testing to dumping? Right now, it's only 11 days --
10 11 business days. So once they take the -- the water
11 samples, they only have 11 days to get the results
12 back before they dump this waste into the Hudson
13 River. We know from the NRC that it takes at least
14 45 days for strontium-90 to be detected in the water.
15 Let's extend -- at least do that, that little bit of
16 common sense -- extend the -- the testing time.

17 Also, why, like, everybody doesn't --
18 doesn't get upset about anything else but the
19 tritium? Asbestos is being removed. Other hazardous
20 waste is being removed. For some reason, nobody
21 wants to ship out the tritium.

22 One more question or comment. Oh, I
23 take a little bit of offense -- not a little bit, a
24 lot -- for Mayor Knickerbocker. Assemblywoman
25 Levenberg was making a great comment and standing up

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2 for her constituency. And -- and I -- I call for all
3 elected officials to come together, and let's talk to
4 our -- our federal -- our -- our two senators, and
5 let's hold the NRC accountable.

6 For Mayor Knickerbocker to interject
7 her comment instead of being more constructive, I --
8 I really take offense about that. And Assemblyperson
9 Levenberg, I give you a lot of credit and keep up the
10 fight. Don't back down. But you have to keep
11 pushing these questions.

12 Right away, this gentleman from Holtec
13 says, oh, no, no. We're -- we're -- we're continuing
14 to work, and you guys shut right down. Nobody asked
15 how many people were there. Nobody asked about
16 layoffs. Nobody asked about any pertinent questions
17 to the decommissioning. Why aren't they taking --
18 dismantling Unit 3 steam turbine? Nobody asked that
19 question.

20 All right. I'm done. Thank you very
21 much.

22 MS. SKOPIC: I just was able to
23 unmute. This is Catherine Skopic. May I speak now?

24 MR. KACZMAREK: Yes. You may begin
25 when ready.

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2 MS. SKOPIC: Thank you so much. First
3 of all, I just have to congratulate Michel Lee on
4 making us aware of all these important things. It is
5 beyond belief, what we heard, and I am happy to know
6 that we will be thinking about this and how we might
7 be able to move forward.

8 Okay. My name is Catherine Skopic,
9 and I'm going to speak about renewable energy as
10 being continually more affordable. Renewable energy
11 technologies such as enhanced geothermal, wind, and
12 solar are improving every day.

13 The current battery revolution with
14 its nonlithium, safer, faster, longer-lasting, less
15 expensive battery storage can supply us with stored
16 energy for a constant baseline of energy for those
17 intermittent times the wind is quiet, and the day is
18 cloudy.

19 While renewable energy is becoming
20 more affordable, nuclear energy is becoming more
21 expensive. In fact, nuclear is the most expensive
22 form of energy in the world. Ratepayers in multiple
23 states have been stuck with bills of billions of
24 dollars needing to be paid off over seven, eight, ten
25 more years from never started, partially constructed,

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2 and abandoned nuclear power plants.

3 Plus, they emit fossil emissions, have
4 meltdowns, been scientifically proven to cause
5 cancers, produce thousands of metric tons of waste,
6 nuclear waste that cannot be permanently stored,
7 costs thousands of dollars to temporarily store, and
8 remain lethal for a million years.

9 Nuclear power: think of the acronym
10 CRUMB, C-R-U-M-B. C for costly, R for radioactive, U
11 for unsafe, M for meltdowns, and I'll leave it up to
12 you to figure out what the B stands for.

13 Again, my name is Catherine Skopic. I
14 live in New York City. I'm a member of Sierra Club,
15 the Alliance for a Nuclear Free New York, and chair
16 of the former Shut Down Indian Point Now,
17 transforming to, just to be safe, Keep Indian Point
18 Shut Down Now. So just in case, we're reactivating
19 our Shut Down Indian Point Now organization -- just
20 in case.

21 And please, I must thank Michel for
22 doing that expansive, expansive report. We are in
23 big trouble, because we all know about the integrity
24 and responsibility of this administration, and that
25 there might not be the opportunity to comment on the

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2 rulemaking as we normally would, as others on this
3 call have pointed out that we have a process for
4 changing rulemaking.

5 But from what we've seen so far, as
6 wonderful as other things about it might be, this
7 administration does not seem to be adhering to the
8 constitution and the process of it.

9 (Music plays)

10 MS. SKOPIC: Thank you very much.

11 Sorry I went over.

12 MR. KACZMAREK: No worries. And --
13 and thank you. I -- I must admit, I did not know
14 that sound effect existed until this evening. So --

15 MS. SKOPIC: It's much better than a
16 buzzer.

17 MR. KACZMAREK: Right. So our next
18 speaker tonight is Manna Jo Greene. You may unmute
19 and begin when you're ready.

20 MS. GREENE: Okay. Did that work?

21 MR. KACZMAREK: Yes, it did.

22 MS. GREENE: Okay. First of all, I
23 want to thank you for a very well-run and fair
24 meeting. And I'm very proud to see how the
25 Decommissioning Oversight Board is unfolding as

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2 someone who envisioned it and helped design it and
3 lobbied for it to be created.

4 And I want to agree with a lot of what
5 has been said, and I share concerns, particularly
6 about weakening of the federal oversight to protect
7 communities. And I think the important question was
8 raised, what can New York do in the face of that?

9 I also want to talk a little bit about
10 the monitoring. At Three Mile Island, Eric Epstein
11 and community members there have really developed
12 expertise, and I think they would be glad to share
13 that with the school district and the Decommissioning
14 Oversight Board and -- and others that are
15 interested.

16 And -- and the reason I bring that up
17 is that the -- the medical reports, the scientific
18 studies of health impacts that, for example, Michel
19 Lee cited the Harvard study, and Joe Mangano has done
20 studies. And there are definite health impacts to
21 people that live near nuclear power plants.

22 And when the plants are shut down and
23 no longer operating, the rates of cancer and
24 mortality and impacts on infants and children
25 decrease, but they don't go away because we're still

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2 having radioactive releases from the stored waste
3 that -- the waste that is stored on-site.

4 And we have a series of forums. I put
5 that information in the chat, and I hope you'll share
6 it. And there's one coming up tomorrow, and you do
7 need to register, but I -- I would invite people to
8 hear the other side of the story. The industry is --
9 has really geared up its, what I feel, is often
10 disinformation.

11 I think the reports that were offered
12 here were very helpful to understand what's going on,
13 but I -- I strongly urge folks to check out the --

14 (Music plays)

15 MS. GREENE: -- event that already
16 occurred. I -- I put the link in the chat with Joe
17 Mangano and Mark Z. Jacobson, and Alec Baldwin
18 moderated that. And one coming up tomorrow. And we
19 will have one on waste, one on transportation, one on
20 the dangers of reopening closed nuclear plants as was
21 referred to at Palisades.

22 So I just want to thank everyone for their
23 participation and say that, you know, if we keep
24 working on this, we will find ways to be protective,
25 but nuclear power is absolutely not a climate

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2 solution, and that's what we're going to be focusing
3 on, because the governor is pushing so hard to
4 develop nuclear. With beneficial --

5 MR. KACZMAREK: Are -- are -- Manna?

6 MS. GREENE: I'm done.

7 MR. KACZMAREK: Okay.

8 MS. GREENE: Thank you very much. I
9 appreciate it.

10 MR. KACZMAREK: All right. Thank you.

11 Our next speaker is Susan Shapiro.

12 MS. SHAPIRO: Okay. Am I unmuted?

13 MR. KACZMAREK: Yes. You are.

14 MS. SHAPIRO: Okay. Thank you. So I
15 really appreciate this conversation today that we're
16 having, and I have a question. It's a question to,
17 well, anyone who wants to answer it, to be honest.

18 My understanding is that during
19 operations, Indian Point -- that the -- during
20 operations at Indian Point, the NRC's jurisdiction
21 was limited to what occurred on the reactor's site.
22 This was told to us multiple times, especially during
23 the emergency drills, and that's why there were never
24 releases off-site because the NRC and Indian Point
25 had no control over anything went off-site; is that

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2 correct? That the NRC's jurisdiction is limited to a
3 licensed reactor site? That's my first question.

4 And if that is true, which I believe
5 it is true, can you please point to what regulation
6 gives the NRC any control over anything that happens
7 off-site of a licensed reactor site? I don't believe
8 they have any jurisdiction there. And the reason I'm
9 bringing this up is given what Michel has brought
10 forward is that we now cannot count on the federal
11 government at all for any kind of protection of New
12 York State and New York State resources.

13 And so we need our state agencies, our
14 state representatives, and our governor to take
15 control, and the PSC who works under the auspices of
16 the governor's office to take action to protect us.
17 I am concerned that's not happening because everyone
18 still thinks that the federal government is acting
19 with oversight. That's clearly not what's happening
20 anymore.

21 Furthermore, I want to raise something
22 here that the PSC has recently done, which I think is
23 based on deception and false advertisement that is
24 diverting billions and billions of dollars of New
25 York State taxpayer funds away from renewables, which

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2 the legislature has said should be -- our money
3 should be used for to continue funding nuclear.
4 You've already given them 7.6 billion dollars in
5 2016. Now you've just approved another 33 billion
6 dollars to keep us tied to nuclear for the next
7 twenty years.

8 And I understand that you're
9 considering another 100 billion dollars for SMRs,
10 which are a totally experimental, unproven, untried
11 experiment that New York State doesn't necessarily
12 need the burden of, nor do we need the burden of all
13 this nuclear waste. There's no consideration of how
14 much the nuclear waste is going to cost going down
15 the road. And it's all based on this false premise
16 that nuclear is zero emissions energy. You're giving
17 them this money through a zero emissions energy
18 credit.

19 And I ask that you look at the facts,
20 and you look at the actual physics of nuclear fission
21 and understand that nuclear emits radioactive waste,
22 radioactive isotopes. It emits large amounts of
23 thermal pollution, which you're well aware of, and it
24 emits greenhouse gases. So giving nuclear all this
25 money, our taxpayer money, where we already pay the

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2 highest electricity bills in the country, is really a
3 fraud on the public. So I'm asking you to rethink
4 that and change those -- the way the PSC is granting
5 this kind of funds to the nuclear industry. Thank
6 you.

7 MR. KACZMAREK: Thank you. That
8 concludes the public statement portion of tonight's
9 meeting.

10 I do want to briefly go back to a
11 slide that we skipped over. I just wanted to draw
12 attention to the frequently asked questions portion
13 of our website. We've mentioned this before, that
14 questions that are asked are addressed within the FAQ
15 section if they're novel questions. So please keep
16 an eye on that. You simply navigate to the DOB
17 website, select DOB frequently asked questions, and
18 there's a navigation pane on the left-hand side that
19 can direct you to a number of broad topics that
20 questions have been raised on. So thank you.

21 MR. CONGDON: Thanks, Tom, and thank
22 you all for your engagement and participation. I
23 want to remind folks that you can also submit written
24 comments to the DOB's website.

25 Next slide, please.

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2 MR. KACZMAREK: Thank you.

3 MR. CONGDON: There's also a mechanism
4 to sign up for updates. Folks -- you may have heard
5 some folks refer to seeing meeting materials ahead of
6 tonight's meeting. That's how you get them, is to
7 sign up for updates.

8 Next slide.

9 This is our DOB website. We encourage
10 folks to visit frequently because there are
11 frequently updates that are provided on the website.

12 Next slide.

13 We also, make interpretation services
14 and translation services available so that folks of
15 other languages can get the content.

16 Next slide.

17 And before we adjourn, I just want to
18 call -- I see a few hands of DOB members. If anyone
19 has some closing comments they'd like to make, we'll
20 go ahead and take a few.

21 Mayor Knickerbocker?

22 MS. KNICKERBOCKER: Yes. It's going
23 to be a brief comment. I'd just like to respond to
24 Mr. Vargo.

25 Mr. Vargo, I am pro-labor. I was the

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2 one that had the rally for the laborers there the
3 closing day of Indian Point to thank them for their
4 safe operation. I am still for prompt
5 decommissioning.

6 Unfortunately, I do not set the
7 decommissioning schedule, Holtec does, and I wish
8 there were still 1,000 skilled laborers working over
9 there. And as you know, the decision for the water
10 release is in the courts at this time. And I
11 mentioned the federal government, Senator Schumer and
12 Gillibrand, because they are our federal
13 representatives, because the NRC and DOE are federal
14 agencies.

15 So yes, it's great to talk about that,
16 but if we want to do something or move the needle on
17 these things, we need to do it through the federal
18 channels. And also, if you would like to discuss
19 anything further with me, I would be very happy to
20 meet with you.

21 So thank you all for participating
22 tonight.

23 And Tom, back to you.

24 MR. CONGDON: Thank you, Mayor.

25 Larissa?

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2 MS. LIEBMANN: Yeah. Sorry. I just
3 wanted to highlight that it looks like Nancy Vann
4 said she thought she was signed up to speak. I don't
5 know if we can quickly squeeze her in.

6 MR. CONGDON: Yeah. I think we would
7 have time to squeeze her in.

8 Tom, could Nancy raise her hand so
9 that we can unmute her?

10 Thanks for pointing that out, Larissa.

11 MS. VANN: Hi. Can you hear me?

12 MR. KACZMAREK: Yes.

13 MS. VANN: Okay. Yes. One of the
14 things I had planned to speak about -- it sounds like
15 there's an echo. I hope that that's not accurate.
16 But I would wanted to ask that there'd be an autopsy
17 of the (audio interference) millions of the plants
18 that are being decommissioned or are being discarded
19 now are now similar plants to what has happened at
20 Indian Point. And there were (audio interference) --
21 there were so many -- okay. There was a -- I think
22 I -- my -- my microphone was on test, so it was
23 echoing from my end.

24 There's so many plants that are being
25 decommissioned across the country now and plants that

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2 are being restarted, zombie plants like Palisades.
3 We need to know what the condition is of a plant that
4 has operated like Indian Point has for many years.
5 There were problems for the baffle bolts at Indian
6 Point, for the O rings at Indian Point. There were
7 leaks in the fuel pools, and we need to know what
8 those materials, how the constant radiation over
9 decades had affected those materials? Are they about
10 to fail at other plants like Palisades, which has the
11 same type of generator reactor?

12 The generators at Palisades, experts
13 have said that those generators are about to fail,
14 that they give them a fifty-fifty chance of making it
15 through the first fuel cycle. Are we testing the
16 generators at Indian Point to see what type of stress
17 has been done to those generators? Are they also in
18 that kind of condition?

19 And not only the plants like the
20 zombie plants, but as you heard, there are proposals
21 to keep the upstate nuclear plants -- four reactors
22 at three plants upstate that are now slated to be
23 extended, their lives extended.

24 (Music plays)

25 MS. VANN: And we need to know what

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2 the condition of the different materials, the steel,
3 the bolts, the generators, the concrete, all of those
4 have apparently been degraded by the constant
5 bombardment with the radioactive material.

6 And I would ask Holtec, who owns --
7 not only owns Palisades, but owns Indian Point now,
8 that if they want to reassure people at Palisades
9 that those plants can -- that that plant can open
10 safely, for heaven's sakes, do an autopsy of the
11 materials at Indian Point. If you want to spend --

12 MR. KACZMAREK: Ms. Vann, are you
13 wrapping up?

14 MS. VANN: Yes. Just one or two more
15 sentences. If you want to spend thirty-three -- if
16 the State wants to spend 33 billion dollars estimated
17 to keep four reactors open upstate, for heaven's
18 sakes, do an autopsy on Indian Point. Use those
19 materials to see the actual condition of those aging
20 plants at those two sites so that we have some
21 assurance that that we're not really just pushing the
22 limits beyond the breaking point.

23 MR. CONGDON: Thank you.

24 MS. VANN: Thank you.

25 MR. CONGDON: Thank you, Ms. Vann.

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2 You have the last word tonight. This meeting is
3 adjourned.

4 I appreciate everyone's engagement,
5 and we'll be sending out a meeting notice for the
6 next meeting sometime in the next few months. I
7 suspect we're going to shoot for June for the next
8 meeting.

9 So thank you all very much, and we
10 look forward to our next meeting. Take care.

11 (The hearing concluded at 8:44 p.m.)

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2 STATE OF NEW YORK

3 I, ABDULLAH KHALID, do hereby certify that the
4 foregoing was reported by me, in the cause, at the
5 time and place, as stated in the caption hereto, at
6 Page 1 hereof; that the foregoing typewritten
7 transcription consisting of pages 1 through 121, is a
8 true record of all proceedings had at the hearing.

9 IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto
10 subscribed my name, this the 18th day of February,
11 2026.

12 
13

14 ABDULLAH KHALID, Reporter

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