ALLEGHENY COUNTY SANITARY AUTHORITY (ALCOSAN)

PUBLIC MEETING

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IN RE:

ALCOSAN DRAFT WET WEATHER PLAN PRESENTATION AND PUBLIC COMMENTS

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Hilltop Hall
Harper Drive
Turtle Creek, PA 15145
Wednesday; September 5, 2012
9:40 a.m.

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PRESENT: Arthur M. Tamilia, Esq.; Deputy Executive Director of ALCOSAN and Moderator
David W. Borneman, P.E.; Director of Engineering/Construction and Presenter

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TRANSCRIPT OF PROCEEDINGS

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Reported by:

Tricia M. Clegg
Registered Professional Reporter

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P R O C E E D I N G S

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09:40:58 MR. TAMILIA: Good morning,
09:40:59 everyone. Thank you for coming this morning.
09:40:59 I'm Arthur Tamilia. I'm the Executive Director
09:41:02 for the Allegheny County Sanitary Authority.
09:41:04 We're here to present what is going to be the
09:41:08 largest environmental project, the largest
09:41:11 Public Works project that I have seen in my
09:41:13 lifetime, probably most of us have seen.
09:41:18 We're here today to present
09:41:20 information about our plan which is going to be
09:41:22 submitted to the Environmental Protection
09:41:25 Agency in January of 2013. We are soliciting
09:41:32 your comments. And as others of our staff will
09:41:36 explain, your comments will be recorded and
09:41:40 included in the official record of the document
09:41:42 as it's submitted.
09:41:44 This morning we have from ALCOSAN
09:41:48 David Borneman, our Director of Engineering and
09:41:52 Construction, and Tim Prevost, our Manager of
09:41:56 Wet Weather Programs. We will be available to
09:41:59 you during the program and afterward to answer
09:42:01 any questions.

09:42:04 To get the program started, I would like to introduce Lugene Keys. She'll be giving some housekeeping information and describe the format of the program.

09:42:26 MS. KEYS: Good morning and thank you all, once again, for taking the time to meet with us today. First, I want to take a few minutes to go through your packets just to make sure we cover everything there. There should be a survey form that's in the front part of your booklet. It just has a couple of questions. If you could complete that and drop it off at the back table there where we have registration, we'd really appreciate it.

09:42:56 There are also additional items in the back of your booklet. There should be -- or in the front. There should be a meeting agenda that's going to take you through our schedule for this morning.

09:43:06 MS. BARYLAK: Lugene, would you lean into the microphone.

09:43:10 MS. KEYS: Is that better?

09:43:12 MS. BARYLAK: Better.

09:43:13 MS. KEYS: Okay. There should

09:43:14 be a public comment form in the back of your
09:43:16 booklet. That form is in there for you to fill
09:43:19 out, drop in a comment box if you have remarks
09:43:22 or thoughts that you want to pass on to ALCOSAN
09:43:24 and you either don't have a desire or you just
09:43:27 have additional information that you want to
09:43:29 present or you don't want to come up and speak
09:43:32 at the microphone.
09:43:34 There should be an Open House flier.
09:43:37 ALCOSAN is going to have its annual Open House
09:43:39 September 15. It's a really nice event. We
09:43:41 encourage you to attend that and take others
09:43:44 and particularly kids. It's very educational.
09:43:47 It's all free, and there's also free food.
09:43:51 There is a brochure on sewer overflows. What
09:43:55 you could do -- another important document is
09:43:57 the public comment guidelines. I'll go over
09:43:58 that pretty quickly a little later on this
09:44:01 morning. But there are large boards. There's
09:44:03 one in the private common area, and there's one
09:44:05 in the back of the room. And, again, we have
09:44:07 this piece of paper that's in your booklet that
09:44:09 basically gives you the guidelines for the
09:44:11 comment period. It's really important to

09:44:13 review that because basically what it says, we
09:44:15 want to give everyone equal opportunity and
09:44:18 equal time to make their comments and to do
09:44:20 that without interruption.

09:44:22 And finally, there's -- well, I
09:44:26 mentioned the survey form with just a few
09:44:28 questions that was in the front of your
09:44:30 booklet. We need you to drop that off. The
09:44:33 main purpose of this meeting is for you to
09:44:33 provide comments to ALCOSAN about the Draft Wet
09:44:38 Weather Plan. So we don't know if anybody has
09:44:40 had an opportunity to see it, to take a look at
09:44:42 the plan. It's in the libraries -- the
09:44:43 Carnegie Library Network. It's also on-line at
09:44:49 ALCOSAN's website, www.alcosan.org. Has
09:44:53 anybody had an opportunity to look at the Wet
09:44:55 Weather Plan? Great. Excellent. People --
09:44:56 three people.

09:44:57 I think we do have a copy up here in
09:45:00 the front. I'm not even going to try to pick
09:45:02 it up. Our meeting today is going to be run by
09:45:06 a moderator. We're also going to have a
09:45:08 timekeeper. Right now Art Tamilia who opened
09:45:10 the meeting up is our moderator. I'm thinking

LUGENE KEYS

I may be the timekeeper --

MS. BREAN: I am.

MS. KEYS: Okay. Karen Brean -- I'm sorry -- will be our timekeeper. And she will be in place just during the comment period. Everybody will have three minutes to make their comments. She will hold up a card that says you have one minute remaining, and then a final card that says your time is up. And, again, we only want to do this so that everybody has equal time to make their comments.

We have two court reporters who will be recording the meeting session. And this is Tricia. She'll do the meeting session as well as the comment period. And we have a private common area set up in the kitchen in the back of the room, and that's for people who may not be comfortable making their comments before a crowd, or if you can't stay for the entire meeting, and you definitely want to get your comments taken, you can go back to the private comment area at any point in time. Our comment period will follow the presentation and the

09:46:08 presentation question-and-answer session. So
09:46:10 it will be as indicated on your agenda a little
09:46:12 bit into our program.
09:46:15 Just for your information, there
09:46:17 should be also a list of public meetings, all
09:46:20 of the public meetings scheduled that ALCOSAN
09:46:22 has for these events. Public comment is being
09:46:26 taken at every single public meeting that's on
09:46:29 that list. The last two public meetings --
09:46:31 there's one October 17 at the Sheraton Station
09:46:34 Square, and there's also one on October the
09:46:35 19th at ALCOSAN. At those two meetings there
09:46:39 won't be a formal presentation. Those meeting
09:46:41 times will be completely dedicated to receiving
09:46:45 public comment.
09:46:45 So you can go to that facility. You
09:46:48 can make your comments orally, or you can bring
09:46:50 them and drop them off if they're in written
09:46:52 format and leave them with ALCOSAN. But there
09:46:55 won't be a formal meeting agenda like today.
09:46:58 You'll just come in, be able to make your
09:47:00 comments. That's just the way that ALCOSAN is
09:47:03 demonstrating the need to get and the
09:47:05 importance of public comment. Your comments

will become part of the project record, the official project record, and will be submitted with the document to USEPA for review.

One thing that we are going to ask that you do, if you have got questions during the presentation, unless you really need a point of clarification to make sure that you understand what's being conveyed, we would ask that you hold your questions until the end of the presentation. At that time we'll have a question-and-answer period for the presentation. And after that, we'll take a five-minute break for the benefit of our court reporters, and then we'll come back and initiate the formal comment period and at that time, once again, we'll review the comment guidelines.

Finally, as you can see, in the back of the room, the restrooms are all the way in the back to your left. The ladies' room is the first door to your left, and the men's room is there at the end on your left. At this point that's all I have. Art. Dave. Dave Borneman. Sorry.

DAVID BORNEMAN

MR. BORNEMAN: Good morning, everyone. Can everybody hear me all right? Thanks, Lugene.

MS. KEYS: I was going to tell you to stay away from the speakers.

MR. BORNEMAN: Stay away from the speakers. Yes. I'm glad to see everybody here this morning. It's a very important issue in our region, something we have been working on for the last several years. Today we're going to try to -- about a 30-minute presentation, try to highlight the issues related to the Wet Weather Plan.

Again, if you have not been to our plant, this (indicating) is a picture of our plant on the North Side of Pittsburgh. We handle 250 million gallons a day of wastewater from our customer municipalities. There are over 4,000 local miles of sewer like from where we're standing today. The local sewers in the communities generally by gravity flow towards the streams and rivers where the ALCOSAN system is, the 90 miles of interceptor system where we capture and treat flows from the

09:49:13 municipalities. Today we capture and treat up
09:49:16 to 250 million gallons a day.
09:49:19 We're going to touch base a little
09:49:20 bit -- if you're not familiar with the history
09:49:23 of ALCOSAN, prior to the 1950's, this region
09:49:28 had no significant treatment of wastewater.
09:49:31 The sewer systems predominantly are as old as
09:49:35 the communities. The older urban communities,
09:49:39 like before the 1900's, at that time the local
09:49:42 sewer systems were built primarily to serve the
09:49:46 local needs. They were built in such a way to
09:49:48 collect waste/stormwater, groundwater from the
09:49:52 properties. Some areas will erode, sometimes
09:49:57 just very sparse areas, they built a series of
09:50:01 pipes for the rivers and streams, and all the
09:50:04 flows went to the rivers and streams.
09:50:08 In the 1950's ALCOSAN was built. At
09:50:12 that time you not only had your older
09:50:14 communities, river communities, you also had
09:50:17 urban, small suburbs. Today we have 83
09:50:22 communities. So you also have sewer systems
09:50:25 out there where they also are conveying their
09:50:28 flows to ALCOSAN. The system at that time by
09:50:31 design was ALCOSAN's system was designed just

to handle the dry weather flows. The system that ALCOSAN built in 1950 by permit with the state tried to intercept all the dry weather flow, but during a storm, wet weather, rain events, snow-melt conditions, it was designed in such a way that at over 300 points along the rivers and streams, Turtle Creek, the Mon River, Chartiers Creek, Saw Mill Run, Allegheny River, Ohio River, the systems were allowed overflow during wet weather.

That is the essence of the problem we have today because things changed through the years. The 1950's, ALCOSAN system was built. 1970's, it was an evolving set of regulations, Clean Water Act, there was mandates across the country to upgrade the level of the treatment. That's what we're talking about in 1973. We did expansion and upgraded our treatment plant. Original plant was 150 million gallons a day. We upgraded it to somewhere near 200. We brought in another level of treatment, what we call secondary treatment would roughly remove 85 percent of the pollutants. There's always an ongoing need

09:51:42 to upgrade in the level of compliance with EPA
09:51:45 regulations. The 1990's, the service area was
09:51:49 growing. Certain areas along the perimeter
09:51:51 were added to the service area. We also had
09:51:54 issues with air quality control of the plant.
09:51:57 A lot of improvements were initiated in the
09:51:59 1990's.

09:52:00 2008 is when the Consent Decree was
09:52:03 about a 270-page document and was entered into
09:52:06 with the EPA, Federal EPA, Department of
09:52:09 Justice, Pennsylvania Department of
09:52:11 Environmental Protection, and Allegheny County
09:52:14 Health Department. That culminated in many
09:52:17 years of negotiations that started in the late
09:52:18 90's. We were trying to comply with these
09:52:21 changing regulations.

09:52:24 To understand this issue I'm talking
09:52:26 about, we have done a lot of work in this area
09:52:28 of our service area throughout the service
09:52:30 area. It is a problem that we're talking in
09:52:35 terms of 9 billion gallons of overflow,
09:52:39 untreated wastewater during wet weather in our
09:52:41 region. So to study the problem, we had a
09:52:46 better understanding of where do our sewers

overflow. As I said, we found over 300 points that we knew about under permit of our system. We also found there's over 100 up in the municipalities' systems, in 83 communities.

Again, how often does it occur? Under what weather conditions? Again, what impact does it have on the receiving streams? That is the focus of the EPA and the Consent Decree, to provide improvements to the water quality and the use of our rivers and streams. And, again, locally how institutionally can we develop a plan to be implemented? Because, as we said, the 83 municipalities we have, some areas are pretty well -- a certain valley, you may have one community on the left, one community on the right, and then they have a common sewer that they work together to convey the flows towards the receiving stream where ALCOSAN is at.

We found a lot of things of why they overflow. Again, this is a very wet region. We have a lot of basins. We have a lot of groundwater. We have a lot of urban streams that have been tied into the areas that

09:53:55 eventually found their way to the ALCOSAN
09:53:58 system. We have an old aging infrastructure in
09:54:01 our region. As I said, over 100 years some of
09:54:03 the sewers are.

09:54:04 Again, we are learning that there's
09:54:06 some plumbing practices in the past that were
09:54:09 not run to code. And, again, you may have had
09:54:12 an area where you may have had a sanitary
09:54:15 sewer, but you had no storm sewer system. And
09:54:17 at that time the storm sewers were usually
09:54:21 built into the road. There's downspouts or
09:54:24 foundation drains, and sometimes it all tied
09:54:29 into the sanitary system. And some of the
09:54:31 older communities that was permissible, and
09:54:34 some of the newer communities, it's not.

09:54:35 There's a variation of complexity of
09:54:37 types of problems as well. The work we have
09:54:42 done has identified a lot of sources, has
09:54:46 quantified the level of runoff, as I said, 98
09:54:50 gallons of wastewater untreated and
09:54:52 overflowing. And, again, learning a little
09:54:54 more of the relationship of how it runs off,
09:54:56 not just when it hits the surface, but how
09:54:59 fast; how much of it gets absorbed into the

ground; how much of it runs off because of impervious surfaces. We're also unsure there how treatment is limited in capacity and, again, how that may contribute to how often we have an overflow condition.

As I said, we are mandated under this Consent Decree to come up with this Wet Weather Plan. It all, in essence, starts with the Clean Water Act. There was a policy with the mine sewer overflows which are your older urban communities that had a one-pipe system. They had both the wastewater, the stormwater and groundwater all going into one.

There are also issues with what we call separate sewer areas which are more in the suburban communities where they only have a small sanitary pipe, and stormwater is not supposed to find its way into it, but a lot of times it does. We also have, as I said, basins that contribute with groundwater, foundation drains. As we said, the goal of the plan is to eliminate what we call SSOs which are the sanitary sewer overflows. Those are -- of the 300 or so overflows, about -- okay. I'm a

09:56:20 little too loud. I don't know how to turn that
09:56:23 down thanks, Dan. I'm just trying to keep
09:56:29 everything away.
09:56:30 Again, SSO, the sanitary sewer
09:56:33 overflows. Those are more in the suburban
09:56:36 communities, newer systems where you have a
09:56:37 separate sanitary sewer that wasn't supposed to
09:56:41 get excessive amounts of groundwater or
09:56:43 stormwater in it. There's about 20 percent of
09:56:45 our system, the ALCOSAN system, where that
09:56:47 condition exists, less than combined sewer
09:56:50 overflows, which by and large are the largest
09:56:54 contributing by volume of the problem.
09:56:58 Again, the goals were to provide
09:57:00 capacity as well going forward so that we can
09:57:05 sustain growth in our region. They wanted us
09:57:07 to look out to 2026, the forecast, especially
09:57:15 in this region, the Turtle Creek and our
09:57:16 Chartiers Creek region where growth is
09:57:16 expected. So we're trying to be careful to
09:57:19 maintain the necessary support of the
09:57:21 infrastructure for growth. The need for
09:57:23 regional coordination cannot be stated enough.
09:57:27 It's a very complex arrangement we have with

09:57:29 our municipalities trying to implement a plan
09:57:33 to really achieve the benefits. It's very
09:57:37 complex.
09:57:37 But the one thing we also have to
09:57:39 point out in our local areas, some in the areas
09:57:42 are servicing -- there are some plumbing
09:57:44 problems, but I have to clarify that the flood
09:57:46 control is not the objective of this program.
09:57:48 It's about addressing these controlled pipe
09:57:51 overflows at the rivers and streams. We
09:57:54 certainly hope that anything we do will benefit
09:57:58 some local communities that have some flooding
09:58:01 problems. However, it is not a flood control
09:58:04 project or a flood control program.
09:58:05 The other key point of this Consent
09:58:08 Decree is that whatever programs is proposed,
09:58:11 it's supposed to be implemented between now and
09:58:14 2026 which is a short 14 years from today. So
09:58:19 to highlight how we went about trying to put
09:58:23 the plan together, and a lot of this is
09:58:25 described in the Consent Decree, the level of
09:58:28 cooperation with the municipalities, the
09:58:30 gathering of information, exchange of
09:58:33 information, we did extensive inventory as the

09:58:38 municipalities were required to do. They had
09:58:41 separate orders with the county and the state.
09:58:43 We had to understand better how much pipe was
09:58:45 under the ground, how old it is, what condition
09:58:48 it's in, how does it respond when we have storm
09:58:52 events and where.
09:58:53 We had to also understand the
09:58:55 relationship with these overflows into the
09:58:57 rivers and streams. We had to develop a lot of
09:59:01 different options to try to control the
09:59:03 overflow problem. We had to certainly look at
09:59:05 the financial aspect of it, the cost which, as
09:59:08 you will see, is significant, as well as how
09:59:12 can this arrangement with our customer
09:59:16 municipalities work going forward to implement
09:59:19 this plan.
09:59:21 It entailed a lot of municipal and
09:59:22 public involvement. And, again, we'll touch
09:59:24 base on exactly what we're proposing going
09:59:28 forward with the plan. We have had a series of
09:59:31 groups form through the process, some mandated
09:59:34 by the Consent Decree, Municipal Advisory
09:59:37 Committee. We have also had a regional
09:59:41 stakeholder group. We have created within our

basin areas -- there's a map in the back -- created local groups there and engaged municipal officials and the public.

The goals of this program, also to keep in mind, were by EPA's concerns primarily water quality, the rivers that are used and how they're used, how can we sustain the current use. The main concern with the water quality found is bacteria levels after a storm event. The elevated indicators are the bacteria levels in the rivers exceeding water quality standards.

There's a risk associated with those standards and the uses. The uses predominantly are boating. Some are on the main rivers. There's some kayaking. There's certain areas of our service area they wanted us to specifically address the pipes in those areas that are overflowing: Washington's Landing; all along Sandcastle; along the Mon River. Also, where the water supplies are, there are five water intakes that take water from the main rivers and provide you drinking water. They have their own separate treatment process

which is a higher standard than what we're talking about, giving you safe drinking water. There's still concerns there are any relationship between these overflows of bacteria, the indicators of what might be in the rivers, the organisms, and how it may impact water uses, drinking water, or conditional uses.

We also had to look at certain times of the year where the recreational use is much higher, certainly more this past summer. It was more -- we seen more activity. Again, trying to balance all of these things, also with economic growth, redevelopment along the rivers, certain areas have some potential growth.

We also had to consider a couple legal aspects. I mentioned the deadline of 2026. But there's also a third-party lawsuit that we had to settle with some group over in Chartiers Creek. We settled that actually prior to the Consent Decree back in 2004. And it had a schedule to clean up that part of our service area by 2019. As I mentioned earlier,

10:02:05 extensive work was done on understanding better
10:02:09 the relationship of these overflows with the
10:02:11 rivers and streams, and essentially it requires
10:02:14 a lot of sampling of both the discharge points
10:02:17 as well as the various points along the rivers
10:02:19 and streams. We had to do it during wetland/
10:02:22 dryland conditions.

10:02:23 As I said earlier, bacteria was
10:02:25 determined among all the perimeters we had to
10:02:27 look at. Bacteria, again, is a main concern
10:02:32 that the state has all these different
10:02:34 standards of the rivers and streams, and that
10:02:37 is the one area where it violates the
10:02:41 standards.

10:02:41 Again, as I mentioned earlier, the
10:02:43 risks as it means to the use of the rivers and
10:02:46 the public, public health issues, public safety
10:02:49 issues. The uses of the rivers go hand in
10:02:55 hand. To touch base on our approach as to how
10:02:59 to once we quantify the problem in terms of the
10:03:03 gallons of overflow, how often they occur and
10:03:06 where, where they're coming from, we try to
10:03:09 also look at our service area and look at our
10:03:12 communities as to there are four approaches,

10:03:16 and the solution here is really a mix of all.
10:03:18 First of all, you have to understand ALCOSAN's
10:03:21 charge is to provide in the Consent Decree
10:03:25 treatment of all these overflows that come
10:03:27 through the ALCOSAN system, and bring the
10:03:28 frequency and duration of the overflows to be
10:03:31 in compliance with the standards.
10:03:32 The SSO areas mandate is they have
10:03:35 to be eliminated. CSOs, they have to be
10:03:39 reduced to such a frequency and duration that
10:03:41 they do not cause the problem with the water
10:03:43 quality standards. And you'll see us looking
10:03:47 at a very -- various levels of controls, but
10:03:50 all included approaches that first with the
10:03:53 communities, if there's a way to remove the
10:03:55 amount of groundwater or stormwater from the
10:03:58 local sewer systems and stormwater management
10:04:01 practices. That was something that, again, we
10:04:03 try to educate and try to advise that that is
10:04:07 the form of an option.
10:04:09 However, by and large with
10:04:10 exchanging information with the municipalities,
10:04:13 asking them how much flow they plan to send to
10:04:17 us, we then had to look at the existing ALCOSAN

10:04:19 system. It's not sized or designed for wet
10:04:24 weather. Weather improvements we have to make
10:04:27 to that. Some of the communities, also they
10:04:29 may have some local problems where some other
10:04:32 overflow points happen in the valleys. They
10:04:34 may have to do some additional infrastructure
10:04:36 improvements to take care of the problem
10:04:38 locally.

10:04:38 So the other three options are more
10:04:40 in terms of if we have this overflow condition
10:04:43 that's going to continue in the future, what
10:04:46 can we do to control it or eliminate it? And
10:04:49 those are a series of solutions where we either
10:04:51 are trying to provide some underground storage
10:04:55 where it comes to the ALCOSAN's system, hold it
10:04:57 until the storm lets over, integrate in the
10:05:00 plant or convey more pipes to the plant or
10:05:04 expand the plant with all the conditional
10:05:07 conveyance improvements.

10:05:08 And as you'll see, we had to sift
10:05:10 through a lot of different variations of those
10:05:13 four options. And we'll share with you the
10:05:16 solution that we're proposing on the Wet
10:05:19 Weather Plan. As I mentioned about source

10:05:22 control, this region has had a history because
10:05:24 of high groundwater, because of the various
10:05:27 types of infrastructure and age of the systems,
10:05:31 source control is very difficult.
10:05:33 However, we certainly have tried to
10:05:36 encourage that if our plans aren't the
10:05:38 redevelopment, there are local programs that
10:05:40 are going to address eliminating stormwater
10:05:43 from the systems or separate it out, or new
10:05:47 technologies that are out there, green
10:05:49 technologies where we think of the materials
10:05:53 used in the design of treescapes, more trees,
10:05:57 you know, we tried to educate the public and
10:06:00 municipalities, for several years we formed
10:06:03 through the wet weather who as late as 2010
10:06:06 tried to give guidance to the municipalities to
10:06:09 consider green options.
10:06:11 The problem with the region is
10:06:12 twofold. First under our institutional
10:06:16 arrangement, ALCOSAN does not have authority to
10:06:18 implement -- bring the people that can
10:06:20 implement with green or the people to control
10:06:22 the land use that have ownership of the local
10:06:25 redevelopment, adopting the local ordinances.

10:06:31 There the municipalities, as we have asked
10:06:33 them, if you are going to do any source
10:06:35 control, tell us. You'll see a whole section
10:06:37 in this plan of what we captured of what we
10:06:39 know today upon which source control will be,
10:06:42 and there's a sprinkling of it in the plan but
10:06:45 not enough to change the need for additional
10:06:48 controls, additional pipes, additional
10:06:51 facilities to come to the compliance with the
10:06:55 Consent Decree.

10:06:57 Again, our role has always been to
10:06:59 catch whatever flow is sent to us and comply
10:07:02 with the EPA regulations to provide the
10:07:04 necessary control and treatment, and that's
10:07:06 where we are today. Municipalities have set
10:07:10 the deadline to submit -- study and submit
10:07:13 their intentions July of next year. We have
10:07:17 captured in this plan what we know to date. If
10:07:19 things change in the next year or the next nine
10:07:22 months, we'll be back to incorporate those
10:07:24 changes.

10:07:26 Again, we have tried to educate both
10:07:29 the public and municipal officials on the new
10:07:33 evolving technology of green infrastructure.

10:07:35 Other cities are much further along than us and
10:07:38 have different institutional arrangements. You
10:07:42 know, we have helped foster within Three
10:07:44 Rivers -- there are other local agencies --
10:07:47 Pennsylvania Environmental Council. Together
10:07:49 those two agencies formed a green
10:07:51 infrastructure network.
10:07:53 We have been successful in getting
10:07:54 some local funding. $40 or $50 million dollars
10:07:58 over the last 10 years has been actually
10:08:00 lobbied by ALCOSAN and received in the region
10:08:02 and have done some things with stream removal,
10:08:05 some of the streams like Pine Hollow and some
10:08:07 area here locally. There are things that we
10:08:11 have been able to get some funding to help
10:08:13 municipalities implement some programs.
10:08:15 We also are trying to get an
10:08:17 environmental sewer by all the new building
10:08:20 construction of the plant, finish one building,
10:08:22 and another building is almost completed where
10:08:25 we have achieved LEED certifications with the
10:08:29 use of green infrastructure, whether it's
10:08:32 harvesting off the roofs, or in this case, a
10:08:35 picture of our departmental bioswales and our

customer service building. Again, as I said earlier, as municipal plans are refined, if there's anything they do to source-control, whether they are going to implement groundwater systems or implement some meaningful stormwater management or green infrastructure, we will refine our plan to reflect those intentions in those efforts.

The thing you have to keep in mind is EPA is number driven. As I mentioned earlier, 9 billion gallons of overflow. They are interested in a lot of math and interested in solutions that can quantify improvements. Certainly if we're talking about building more pipes, more facilities, we can quantify how much flow we will then not overflow. But when we talk about source-control, it's very hard to quantify how much reduction can be achieved, and those are the types of figures we will need from the municipalities.

To date of the 83 municipalities, we've got some green reflected in three communities, but it's not quantified. So, again, we're trying to keep the door open, if

there's new information from the municipalities going forward.

We have looked at this problem a number of ways, various combinations of technology. Overall system-wide, we have looked at about 26, what we say, control alternatives. A lot of these are requested by the EPA and DEP. They want us to look at the need for another plant. They asked us do various sizes and lengths of different conveying storage facilities.

These are just, again, numerically some of the things we have you identify, first the options, and then when I said earlier about the performance. We had to identify the options but also quantify how is that going to affect the overflow volumes? How much is that actually going to be captured? And how often will we still have overflows? And the more meaningful to the EPA is what are the measured benefits to the rivers and streams.

And there's a thing called the knee of the curve that I'll show you later as to how we try the varied options and how it helps

10:10:40 arrive at a cost-effective solution. With all
10:10:44 these things considered, this (indicating) is a
10:10:48 map of the selected plan. It shows about $3.6
10:10:57 billion dollars of improvements that include a
10:10:59 half a billion of municipal improvements.
10:11:03 There's a few hundred miles of local conveyance
10:11:07 storm improvements that are included in there
10:11:09 that have been identified by the
10:11:10 municipalities.

10:11:11 But more importantly, we're showing
10:11:12 you on this map (indicating) the ALCOSAN
10:11:15 improvements. The plan on the North Side of
10:11:17 Pittsburgh, we will expand that plan to the
10:11:20 tune of going from 250 million gallons a day to
10:11:25 600 million gallons a day as well as in all
10:11:28 conditions year-round, 295 million gallons will
10:11:31 receive full secondary treatment, and I'll
10:11:34 explain that to you further.

10:11:35 With the plant expansion, we have
10:11:37 recognized the need for improvements all along
10:11:40 the existing interceptor system. There's a
10:11:43 series of tunnels that are proposed. The green
10:11:45 is under the combined sewer controls that
10:11:50 extends from the plant. It's a tunnel that's

10:11:52 going to be about 150 feet deep, tunnel and
10:11:56 rock, Pittsburgh bedrock. Using the green is
10:12:01 using the technology, the tunnel boring
10:12:04 machine, talking 12 to 14 feet in diameter for
10:12:07 the green here (indicating). It extends all
10:12:11 the way up to Washington Boulevard on the
10:12:13 Allegheny. It extends all the way out here
10:12:15 (indicating) near the Rankin and Braddock area.
10:12:19 The purple lines are still large
10:12:22 pipes to be built, but they won't be using that
10:12:25 boring machine. They're under 10 feet in
10:12:27 diameter. There will still be some boring
10:12:29 machines used, but they will be not of the size
10:12:32 of the other. There's also some open-cut where
10:12:34 you really open the ground from the surface and
10:12:37 digging a trench and laying the pipe. These
10:12:39 are significant pipes. On Chartiers Creek
10:12:42 we're talking from McKees Rocks all the way out
10:12:45 to Bridgeville. Saw Mill Run, we're actually
10:12:47 extending the combined sewer tunnel all the way
10:12:50 out to McNeilly Road, out 51 to 88.
10:12:53 And this region here (indicating),
10:12:54 we have realized that along the perimeter of
10:12:57 our system, there's a break point between

10:12:59 additional conveyance and storage, and this
10:13:02 area here (indicating), we're actually building
10:13:04 a deep -- it's not the size of the green. So
10:13:07 it's purple color. So it's less than 10 feet
10:13:11 in diameter but will be a need for additional
10:13:14 trunk sewer along ALCOSAN's system all the way
10:13:15 throughout this region but would supplement
10:13:17 that with storage tanks. These cylinders are
10:13:20 four locations under this $3.6 billion dollar
10:13:24 plan. This is the plan that to achieve all the
10:13:30 necessary levels of control of SSOs, this is
10:13:33 what will be needed bringing in compliance.
10:13:37 Upper Allegheny will supplement the
10:13:39 tunnel with some additional local sewer
10:13:43 improvements on the North Shore, Sharpsburg,
10:13:45 Etna area as well as storage up here
10:13:47 (indicating) near Verona, Blawnox area. Down
10:13:51 to Emsworth, it's a different color, light
10:13:55 blue, but that's still a tunnel, actually a
10:13:58 little larger than this (indicating), but its
10:13:59 primary purpose is to store and convey SSOs.
10:14:04 So with that said, this is a $3.6 billion
10:14:09 dollar plan. It indicates here the level
10:14:11 improvements and control in terms of volumes,

10:14:14 the numbers. It also addresses sensitive areas
10:14:18 that I mentioned earlier, the back channel of
10:14:21 Washington's Landing. There's the various
10:14:22 water supply intakes which are these triangles
10:14:25 in yellow. There's a public boat ramp on the
10:14:28 South Side of Pittsburgh that's some concern as
10:14:31 well as the Sandcastle area.

10:14:33 So we address the level of control
10:14:35 mandated by the EPA to achieve water quality.
10:14:38 However, it is not affordable, which I will
10:14:41 talk about in a little bit. Clearly, this
10:14:43 region cannot support in that time frame that
10:14:46 cost. This is what you'll see more developed
10:14:52 in the Wet Weather Plan. The Wet Weather Plan
10:14:54 highlights all the various options. It
10:14:57 highlights how we achieve compliance. Legally
10:15:00 we have to have a plan that does show how we
10:15:02 can meet compliance with the EPA regulations.

10:15:05 However, they are also making an
10:15:07 argument that we cannot afford to implement a
10:15:09 $3.6 billion dollar plan. Again, that includes
10:15:12 $500 million dollars worth of local costs,
10:15:15 local improvements. But with our plan, we are
10:15:19 willing to renegotiate a plan that we can

10:15:21 afford. This is a plan that, again, with other
10:15:25 considerations, but this is what you'll see in
10:15:27 the draft plan that we are recommending. We
10:15:30 will explain a little further that this is a $2
10:15:33 billion dollar plan. And a few slides I'll
10:15:36 explain how we got to $2 billion. But it's
10:15:39 taking that earlier plan and seeing what parts
10:15:42 of it is the best way to spend the first $2
10:15:45 billion dollars.

10:15:47 This plan, as you can see, has a lot
10:15:49 of the elements that I mentioned in the other
10:15:51 plan but are less, less. We're still talking
10:15:56 about the plant expansion. We're not going to
10:15:58 expand it to 600 but to 480 million gallons.
10:16:03 There are certain aspects that we're going to
10:16:05 drop out of this plan. But between the plant
10:16:07 expansion and the improvements you see here,
10:16:09 the whole region will benefit. We will be able
10:16:12 to capture more flows from this area, from the
10:16:15 upper Allegheny. We just won't be able to
10:16:17 provide as much capture and treatment as under
10:16:19 the other select -- the compliance plan. But
10:16:23 it does entail construction of the tunnel
10:16:25 starting from the plant coming up to the point,

going so far up the Allegheny, Strip District, Lawrenceville area from all the way up to Second Avenue where Greenfield Avenue, Panther Hollow comes down to the river. It still includes improvements along the sensitive areas of the Sandcastle area trying to relocate some of the pipes that are within the recreational area. The back channel of Washington's Landing, will improve the back channel.

Because I said there was another legal matter, we have recommended that the upper part of Chartiers Creek, the areas cover the third-party lawsuit, we're going to make improvements on the part of Chartiers Creek with an interim facility. It originally had storage proposed there. We're going to modify that facility and also provide some level of treatment for wet weather.

That is a $2 billion dollar plan that is highlighted in here (indicating), and you'll see in the plan the implementation reflects implementing this plan here. It does include all the $500 million dollars of local improvements. So you have $1.5 billion of

10:17:36 ALCOSAN improvements I'm showing you, and
10:17:38 there's still, again, complimented with about
10:17:41 $500 million dollars of local improvements
10:17:43 which municipalities have shared with us so far
10:17:45 that includes a lot of additional second pipes,
10:17:48 pipes being reconstructed up the areas that
10:17:52 flow towards ALCOSAN.

10:17:54 This is just a highlight of what
10:17:57 we're talking about the plant expansion. The
10:18:01 flows today underneath the plant are 100 feet
10:18:03 down. They are pumped through the plant, go
10:18:05 through the full treatment which will remove
10:18:08 large debris from the streams process. Then we
10:18:11 have an area where we move out road sediment,
10:18:13 and then we send them through what we call our
10:18:15 primary treatment which is part of the original
10:18:17 plan, and that removes about 30 to 50 percent
10:18:22 of the pollutants.

10:18:24 It then continues on to what we call
10:18:26 the secondary. This is the part of the plant
10:18:28 that was expanded in the '70s and then later
10:18:30 expanded in the '90s. That is what provides
10:18:33 the biological treatment process that then from
10:18:36 there it flows to our disinfection tank where

we add sodium-nickel chloride, given as a strong bleach that then kills the bacteria below that we can discharge back into the river.

The proposed plan would utilize a lot of what we have in place. However, you can see a lot of blue blocks. These are little splinters of the plant site which you can see is very limited along the river. This (indicating) is Route 65 up here, the railroad tracks here (indicating) and McKees Rocks bridge, Ohio River.

So we have tried to take advantage of what land there is available and propose a process which EPA provides during our Wet Weather Plan regulations. So we will bring all the flows through the plant. Well, actually under 600 million gallons a day, we'll have to build a second pumping station. If we stay at 480, we may not have to depending on what's decided going forward with the conveyance improvements, but we're going to expand the streams and river and primary, and that part of the plant will be able to handle the 480 or 600

million gallons. The secondary area will still be expanded up to 295, but all flows up to 295 will receive full treatment, but during wet weather under EPA regulations, we will be allowed to take the flows that go through the primary but can't make it through the secondary, we will bypass this part of the process but will provide disinfection of it. So all will be disinfected. And under Wet Weather Plan conditions, you'll see the bypass activity, but will greatly enhance the treatment capacity and capture of these overflows.

As I mentioned earlier, the most important aspect of this plan is affordability. EPA did come out with guidance, and they recognized this years ago, that, you know, what level of burden can a repair afford to make these improvements. So they came out with guidelines back in the late '90s that said, well, we'll take the median household income in our region, which is about $45,000 across our service area, and it varies greatly community to community, but their guidelines said, okay,

10:20:47 1 percent or less, that's considered any
10:20:49 improvement is a low impact or burden to the
10:20:54 ratepayer. If it's 1 to 2 percent, it's
10:20:58 midrange. Anything greater than 2 percent is
10:21:00 considered to be high burden.
10:21:04 We set the bar at 2 percent. We
10:21:07 feel responsibly to our ratepayer that that is
10:21:10 as much as we can propose to our customers in
10:21:14 the level of improvements. The 2 percent in
10:21:17 doing the math related to supporting concerning
10:21:21 existing debt, trying to average out what we
10:21:24 understood was a debt, and the improvements of
10:21:26 the municipalities we're talking about, we set
10:21:29 a cap of improvements at the $2 billion dollar
10:21:32 figure.
10:21:33 Now, stepping back as we talked
10:21:35 about various options, we had looked at a
10:21:39 series of approaches with all these various
10:21:41 options and improvements and facilities. If we
10:21:43 had tried to remove all the stormwater out of
10:21:47 the sewer systems and rebuild the storm
10:21:50 systems, you're talking about a $10 billion
10:21:52 dollar solution. That's this green block here
10:21:54 (indicating). If we simply looked at

10:21:56 variations in size and lengths of the tunnel
10:21:59 approach, which you saw in both of the plan
10:22:02 maps, that's this green bar here (indicating),
10:22:05 if we looked at building some local
10:22:07 improvements without building a tunnel,
10:22:09 building about 30 to 40 facilities along the
10:22:11 rivers and streams, that's this blue bar here
10:22:15 (indicating), EPA, again, looking at the
10:22:18 threshold of compliance, this is -- why I asked
10:22:23 this in terms of billions of dollars, this is
10:22:27 in terms of what I told you earlier, 9 billion
10:22:30 gallons of overflow. We started at this point
10:22:33 here just for the purpose of clarity. This is
10:22:35 3.5 billion gallons here (indicating). This is
10:22:38 how much will be left with level of
10:22:39 improvements as you go to the right and greatly
10:22:42 reduce the amount of overflow still left.
10:22:44 So we're looking in this range here,
10:22:46 this is a billion gallons right here
10:22:48 (indicating). EPA tries to assess how much
10:22:51 money should you spend and try to measure what
10:22:53 the value and the return is. And as long as
10:22:57 you're seeing added value with the level of
10:23:00 improvements, they call it a knee in the curve

10:23:04 right in this side (indicating). The EPA would
10:23:06 like us to be in this part of the curve
10:23:08 selected option. We're showing you here
10:23:10 (indicating) is various levels of control.
10:23:12 Today we know from 30 to 70 times a year
10:23:15 depending what part of the system.
10:23:16 All these improvements inside of the
10:23:18 variation, we brought it down about 13 to 20
10:23:21 depending on what approach we took in the
10:23:23 tunnel or local -- regional basin improvements.
10:23:26 As we came this way, you start to see it going
10:23:29 up where you're seeing spending significant a
10:23:32 lot more money to reduce a little bit of
10:23:35 overflow. This is where you see it -- when it
10:23:35 starts turning up here is where you're in the
10:23:38 range of what makes sense from a cost-effective
10:23:40 standpoint, from a benefits to cost.
10:23:43 What we're showing you here, this
10:23:45 triangle (indicating) is where that $3.6
10:23:47 billion dollar program would take us in terms
10:23:50 of reduced to 9 billion gallons of overflow
10:23:54 down to less than a billion gallons. But as I
10:23:57 mentioned, we also determined $2 billion
10:23:59 dollars is all we can afford to do. This is,

again, the driving force as to how we went from showing you a $3.6 billion dollar plan for compliance to then determining what $2 billion dollars could do for the region. This also highly impacts, as I said earlier, the median household income varies greatly by municipality. We try to consider that as well. This is under the $3.6 billion dollar plan. Red is over 3 percent. Green is less than 2 percent. The yellow, somewhere in between 2 to 3 percent. It's still significant in our minds. As I said earlier, anything over 2 percent is considered high, high burden.

Just to highlight the impacts, we're talking in terms of 26 municipalities will exceed the 3 percent. The red speaks for itself. A lot of the Steel Valley communities here, Turtle Creek communities, City of Pittsburgh -- City of Pittsburgh is 3.1. There are some of these communities that are actually over 4 percent. Again, it reflects some of the older communities, McKees Rocks. That, again, is why we said we cannot recommend to the agencies or to you, the public, a $3.6 billion

10:25:15 dollar plan. There are other reasons under
10:25:17 consideration. Finance the debt because there
10:25:20 is no federal money to assist us in this
10:25:23 program. This is all borrowing money to make
10:25:25 capital improvements and asking the ratepayer
10:25:28 to pay for them.
10:25:29 This is the impact of the $2 billion
10:25:32 dollar plan. It's still not, you know, good
10:25:34 for everybody. It still has some impacts
10:25:38 locally in the Steel Valley that are still
10:25:40 keeping us over 3 percent. There are some
10:25:43 other communities, Mt. Oliver, McKees Rocks,
10:25:46 similarly over 3 percent. It does paint a
10:25:49 better picture for the yellow communities, but
10:25:53 they're still over 2 percent. City of
10:25:55 Pittsburgh is 2.3 percent.
10:25:59 Looking at the guidance documents,
10:26:01 we still felt where you draw the line, the $2
10:26:04 billion dollar plan, $1.5 billion of ALCOSAN
10:26:06 improvements, $500 million of municipal
10:26:10 improvements. That's where we felt we can make
10:26:12 an argument to renegotiate with the EPA.
10:26:16 What we see happening with the rates
10:26:19 to support that between now and 2026, the

10:26:22 amount of money that has to be borrowed to
10:26:24 finance, we have concluded that there is going
10:26:26 to be a point in that time period where you
10:26:29 will see our annual rate increases go up to 10
10:26:32 to 12 percent. It's unavoidable. Maybe it's
10:26:38 avoidable. Things could change, but it seems
10:26:40 likely.

10:26:42 We are saying that the cost today
10:26:43 will double, not right away, but over time as
10:26:47 more money is borrowed, we will reach a point
10:26:49 where average cost per household -- this is an
10:26:52 average. It will vary. It will double by 2026
10:26:56 to support a $2 billion dollar plan.

10:27:00 So going forward, we are trying to
10:27:02 use those affordability provisions to make an
10:27:05 argument and to renegotiate that if we put
10:27:09 forward this $2 billion dollar plan, we can
10:27:12 achieve it. We are trying to say to the EPA
10:27:16 other cities are doing it, that we maybe can
10:27:20 implement a $2 billion dollar plan, we think we
10:27:22 can at this point get it done by 2026.
10:27:25 However, we are seeing across the country a lot
10:27:28 of things changed since we negotiated our
10:27:32 Consent Decree. The green infrastructure

movement, you know, locally the Rain Garden Alliance qualifies maybe 100,000 gallons of reduced flows. We need to get much more than that if we're going to be able to quantify additional stormwater management practices like green gardens or rain barrels, bioswales pervious pavement, those types of new practices going forward. You know, there are changes going on, and certainly we will try to approach if there's a way that municipalities are proposing programs like that, we try to work them into the program.

There are changes with the EPA regulations. They are considering new regulations on the bacteria levels on the recreational use on the rivers and streams. That may help us a little bit. We are recognizing an over -- a program over a 10, 15-year plan, you should have stops like five, seven years to reassess where you are financially, the scope technically of the program, making sure things haven't changed. So we're calling it adaptive management principles. They negotiate longer periods of

time. They allow for -- you know, we're going to make a responsible commitment and recognize things can change and allow you to change things accordingly.

All this work is a culmination of a lot of engineering work, a lot of interaction, communication, exchanging information, learning more about the rivers and streams, understanding as best as we can the impact to our ratepayers, and also, it's been an education process of both the public and communities.

However, trying to work together, you know, integrate a planning process, trying to understand compliance of this problem, how we can do it responsibly over a period of time, those are our goals, and we still believe there's a measurable amount of benefits to the rivers and streams. Even under the $2 billion dollar plan, we're still talking about using about reaching that 9 billion gallons of overflow basically in half. So there are things that we can achieve responsibly and affordably, but today we're trying to share

10:29:43 with you where we are in this process and
10:29:46 welcome your comments. Lugene mentioned
10:29:48 earlier, and Art, this is the product, this
10:29:51 plan here is on our website. We have made it
10:29:54 available for municipalities. We have a
10:29:54 booklet, the companion document here that was
10:29:57 in the folder. It highlights a lot of the
10:30:01 aspects of the plan, what it means to you, the
10:30:04 ratepayer.

10:30:05 We are trying to issue a series of
10:30:09 fact sheets. We have our Open House September
10:30:11 15. We have these public meetings. As you
10:30:13 saw, there's a list of the remaining public
10:30:16 meetings that we hope you to tell someone to
10:30:18 come out to and learn more about the issue,
10:30:20 various social media. And, again, our website,
10:30:24 we have created it in the last five or six
10:30:26 years. It has full information on the issue as
10:30:28 well as our plans going forward.

10:30:31 As Lugene said, we are going to do a
10:30:36 comment period. These meetings will continue
10:30:38 through October 19. We have provided methods
10:30:42 for everyone to comment or appear today and
10:30:45 going forward in the future. Various forms are

10:30:47 listed here providing testimony of these types
10:30:50 of meetings. E-mail your thoughts to our
10:30:54 websites. There are forms provided in the
10:30:58 folder. You can mail information to us. And,
10:31:00 again, the last public meetings are actually
10:31:02 for testimony only. I may be there, but I
10:31:05 won't be presenting.
10:31:06 But hopefully the people will come
10:31:09 to those and have knowledge of the issue by
10:31:11 then, but they will be able then to provide
10:31:13 their own testimony. Those are long periods of
10:31:16 time. October 17, 19. There's ample time for
10:31:19 anybody to stop by and provide a comment.
10:31:22 With that, I will -- we're going to
10:31:27 go back to Lugene, and I don't know if we're
10:31:31 talking about questions and answers at this
10:31:33 point or take a break.
10:31:35 MS. KEYS: I think right now
10:31:37 if there are any questions associated with the
10:31:39 presentation, this will be the time to ask
10:31:41 those questions. Once we get through the
10:31:43 questions, we're going to take a five-minute
10:31:47 break for the benefit of our court reporters.
10:31:47 You can come back and get refreshments, go to

10:31:49 the restroom if you like, and then we have a
10:31:51 comment period. Are there any questions? Yes, sir.

MR. HARRIS: Yes. Could you --

THE COURT REPORTER: Can I have your name, please, sir?

10:32:12 MR. HARRIS: -- explain --

THE COURT REPORTER: I'm sorry. Can I have your name please, sir?

MR. TAMILIA: For the court reporter.

MS. KEYS: Sir, she needs to hear your information.

MR. BORNEMAN: Yeah. We'd appreciate if you'd come up to the microphone
10:32:14 and state your name, address.

10:32:14 MR. TAMILIA: Everyone's
10:32:14 comments will become part of the record. So
10:32:14 please --

10:32:14 MR. HARRIS: Yes. My name is
10:32:18 Larry Harris from Penn Township. Can you just
10:32:20 try to explain a little better of how the
10:32:24 residential indicator is going to -- how it

10:32:27 relates to the ratepayers and the various
10:32:31 monies?
10:32:34 MR. BORNEMAN: Sure. Again,
10:32:35 in terms of rates, we're talking, as I said
10:32:37 earlier, the terms of this report in general in
10:32:44 our region, the median household income is
10:32:46 about $45,000. If you take that figure, the
10:32:50 EPA sets the bar at 2 percent. So in terms of
10:32:52 the annual cost, if you take 2 percent of
10:32:55 $45,000, it's roughly $900. So that would be
10:32:59 in terms of $900 is what the ratepayer under
10:33:03 that guidelines would be the limits of a burden
10:33:09 of cost. That's how much your sewage bill,
10:33:12 including both the ALCOSAN portion and
10:33:15 municipal portion, it would be $900 a year
10:33:17 under the 2 percent guidelines of a $2 billion
10:33:21 dollar program.
10:33:22 MR. HARRIS: That would be
10:33:23 spread across the entire municipality, sewage
10:33:26 authority, or are you not talking $900 per
10:33:31 individual household or living dwelling unit or
10:33:34 are you?
10:33:36 MR. BORNEMAN: Well, I'm
10:33:37 talking about per household. However, we have

10:33:39 averaged that. It varies greatly. As you know
10:33:42 today, ALCOSAN's bill annually is about $270 a
10:33:47 year. Municipalities vary anywhere where their
10:33:49 rates today, including ALCOSAN's portion might
10:33:51 be as low as $300 and could be as high as $600
10:33:55 a year. We haven't averaged it out in terms of
10:33:58 our service area.
10:33:59 So when I'm saying 2 percent, it
10:34:02 will vary greatly. It affects everybody
10:34:07 differently. As I said, some people in the $2
10:34:10 billion dollar plan will have 3 percent. Well,
10:34:12 3 percent, again, when we did those, we took
10:34:14 your local communities medium household income.
10:34:18 It's over $200,000 in Fox Chapel and as low as
10:34:21 under $20,000 in Rankin. So we tried to factor
10:34:24 that in on the maps by the municipality.
10:34:26 So it's really a simple
10:34:27 understanding of what your median household
10:34:31 income is, and when we say 2 percent, we take 2
10:34:34 percent of that number, and that's how much per
10:34:36 year the wastewater costs. The limit is we're
10:34:40 saying is what's a reasonable amount to pay for
10:34:41 sewage. It's very complex because we have 83
10:34:45 different communities and varying levels of

what the sewer rates are. So I'm not sure I helped you or not. But that's how you do it. You take your median household income. You take 2 percent.

Today it's about 1 percent, so on average. And that's what we set our cost of level. I said our $2 billion dollar program would double the rates.

MR. HARRIS: So you're talking -- your presentation of $45,000 average medium income. But now are you saying that really it's not the average across the entire 83 municipalities, but it is the average income for that particular municipality? What are you talking about here?

MR. TAMILIA: Well, for our purposes --

MR. HARRIS: I want to know for our purposes. As a ratepayer and our municipality, are we being charged at a 2 percent, or whatever the percentage might be, of our average income or is it across the entire ALCOSAN service area?

MR. TAMILIA: You're being

10:35:45 charged by water use. So you're being charged
10:35:49 per gallon. That includes your local and your
10:35:52 ALCOSAN cost. For the purposes of discussing
10:35:55 this issue with EPA extending the schedule,
10:35:59 changing what needs to be done, we have to look
10:36:02 at our entire service area, the middle income
10:36:06 across the entire service area, entire range of
10:36:11 incomes.

10:36:15 MR. BORNEMAN: Here's a --
10:36:17 look at this map. When we first said $45,000,
10:36:19 that's averaging everything. When I said $500
10:36:21 million dollars of improvements, it's across
10:36:24 everybody. It varies by municipality. This
10:36:27 chart here, we did try to do two things. When
10:36:29 we say, look, the ALCOSAN rates are going to
10:36:31 double, so if I said, it's $270, that's taking
10:36:34 it to $540. But the local charge could vary
10:36:38 greatly by municipality.

10:36:39 So what we tried to do here is we
10:36:41 tried to understand not just what our cost to
10:36:44 you is today but also what you add to it. This
10:36:46 map here (indicating) is showing certain
10:36:49 communities in red and some in green because we
10:36:51 tried to better distribute the cost knowing

10:36:54 what -- how the municipal charge is today. All
10:36:58 this $500 million, we didn't spread that cost
10:37:02 everywhere. That's when we think the
10:37:04 municipalities do their plans. They will
10:37:07 clarify. They will look locally what is the
10:37:09 actual burden, not just the ALCOSAN
10:37:11 improvement, but if they have some local
10:37:12 improvements, too.
10:37:13 So it's still going to vary. That's
10:37:15 the only information we have to work with right
10:37:18 now. We hope in the next nine months this will
10:37:21 change, the picture will change. I'm not
10:37:22 saying for the better or for the worse because
10:37:23 the municipalities are going to start making
10:37:26 their arguments. Like when I said $500 million
10:37:28 dollars, I don't know how much of that is in
10:37:29 the City of Pittsburgh. I have no idea. But,
10:37:32 you know, I don't know the level of
10:37:33 improvements. That's going to affect each
10:37:35 municipality differently. They may not see the
10:37:37 same impacts. I just saw an article in the
10:37:40 Trib. Penn Hills was saying that all the
10:37:42 things that happened recently, they may not
10:37:43 have to do as much going forward because they

10:37:45 did so much in the last 15, 20 years. It's
10:37:48 going to vary. Sorry I don't have better
10:37:51 information for you right now.
10:37:53 MR. TAMILIA: We have some
10:37:55 speakers now that registered.
10:37:56 MS. BREAN: We're going to
10:37:58 have a five-minute break.
10:38:00 MR. BORNEMAN: If you can come
10:38:04 to the podium and -- we're going to take
10:38:09 questions now. This is questions to the
10:38:10 presentation and then a break.
10:38:10 MS. BREAN: Then we'll take a
10:38:12 five-minute break for the stenographer.
MS. WESNER: I'm Moni Wesner.
I live in Churchill. I am just a simple
resident.
THE COURT REPORTER: Can you
spell your name, ma'am?
MS. WESNER: M-O-N-I,
10:38:29 w-E-S-N-E-R. One question occurred to me.
10:38:32 Whenever there's the word rate increase, people
10:38:36 go nearly bonkers. If you look at the money
10:38:40 saved overall by avoiding flood after flood
10:38:46 after flood, the damage done to private

10:38:50 residences, roads -- I remember one time a
10:38:54 downpour three or four years ago when the creek
10:38:58 overflowed, and the road just lifted up. It
10:39:02 was amazing, the damage being done by
10:39:06 stormwater coming up in all kind of
10:39:09 communities. And I really would like to see
10:39:13 what is the overall damage within the year,
10:39:15 within a decade over this area?
10:39:21 MR. BORNEMAN: I understand
10:39:22 your question. But as I said earlier, our
10:39:24 program is not a flood-controlled program.
10:39:28 Those types of programs do look at property
10:39:30 damages and the level of improvements, and that
10:39:34 is not under the requirements of what we were
10:39:37 charged to do. It's complying with these
10:39:40 untreated overflows and rivers and streams. So
10:39:43 I'm sorry. We don't have that kind of
10:39:44 information.
10:39:46 MS. WESNER: It belongs in the
10:39:48 whole picture because here is the money spent
10:39:50 on --
10:39:51 MR. BORNEMAN: There are --
10:39:52 again, one of the things we talked about,
10:39:53 integrated planning going forward, the EPA has

10:39:56 separate stormwater regulations. Those are a
10:40:00 separate set of regulations than the ones we're
10:40:03 talking about related to the treatment
10:40:04 wastewater. Those regulations may have the
10:40:07 types of programs that you're looking for
10:40:10 someone to do, but that's not our charge under
10:40:13 this plan. I'm sorry.
10:40:15 MS. WESNER: Hopefully down
10:40:15 the road.
10:40:16 MR. BORNEMAN: There are
10:40:17 evolving stormwater regulations coming forward.
10:40:20 That's one of the things. If there is
10:40:22 something going on in a certain part of our
10:40:24 service area where stormwater is being
10:40:27 addressed that affects what we're doing, we
10:40:29 have to work together. But right now, it's not
10:40:31 foreseen. We're on our own trying to deal with
10:40:35 the overflow problems.
10:40:38 MS. WESNER: Thank you.
10:40:39 MR. BORNEMAN: You're welcome.
10:40:40 Any other questions relative to the
10:40:42 presentation? I encourage you to look at the
10:40:44 booklet. We're going to take a break.
10:40:48 MS. BREAN: A five-minute

10:40:50 break and come back for testimony.

10:40:52 MR. BORNEMAN: We'll come

10:40:53 back, and everybody will be given permission to

10:40:57 provide testimony for three minutes. See you

10:41:01 in five.

10:47:29 (Short recess taken.)

10:47:29 MS. KEYS: Excuse me. We're

10:47:29 going to go ahead and start the formal comment

10:47:32 period now. I just want to take a couple of

10:47:34 minutes. I indicated earlier that you had your

10:47:37 comment guidelines in your packet. I'm not

10:47:39 going to go through all of this, just some key

10:47:42 points. One is that everybody is going to have

10:47:44 three minutes. We will have a timer. Karen

10:47:47 Brean will be sitting here and will kind of

10:47:47 give you an idea when you've got one minute

10:47:50 left. Your time is going to begin once you

10:47:52 state your name, your street address, where you

10:47:55 live, and also include your municipality, same

10:47:59 information you put on the form. And you need

10:48:00 to state that clearly so that the court

10:48:03 reporter can get that information accurately.

10:48:04 And once you state that information, your time

10:48:05 will begin. You'll get a warning card that

10:48:08 says you've got a minute left, and then you
10:48:10 also have a card that says your time is up.
10:48:13 We would appreciate if everyone
10:48:14 would please turn off your cell phones, and we
10:48:18 just ask for the courtesy of the speaker if
10:48:20 there is no interruptions, we really appreciate
10:48:22 that. I think that's all in terms of the key
10:48:30 information. Again, you have three minutes to
10:48:33 speak. And we'll begin with the first
10:48:36 individual, and have Art to call the first
10:48:38 speaker up.
10:48:44 MR. TAMILIA: Thank you.
10:48:44 Before we get started, I would like to point
10:48:47 out that our executive director is in the
10:48:49 house, Arletta Williams. She's standing in the
10:48:52 back of the room. Say hi.
10:48:52 MS. WILLIAMS: Hi.
10:48:54 MR. TAMILIA: Hello. The
10:48:55 first speaker I have on my list here is Joseph
10:48:55 Asturi.
10:49:07 MR. ASTURI: Thank you. My
10:49:08 name is Joseph. Last name, A-S-T-U-R-I. I'm
10:49:11 with the County Controller's Office. Thank you
10:49:14 for letting me speak today. Good morning to

10:49:17 everyone. I'm Joe Asturi, director of
10:49:20 government relations to the Allegheny County
10:49:21 Controller's Office, Joseph Wagner. I just
10:49:23 wanted to say a few brief points.
10:49:25 Controller Wagner has always been an
10:49:28 advocate for green infrastructure. Green
10:49:29 infrastructure has proved to save money in the
10:49:33 Consent Decree and hopefully improve our
10:49:34 communities. ALCOSAN's desire to renegotiate
10:49:37 their plan and promote cost savings overall
10:49:41 creates a pretty good opportunity to
10:49:43 incorporate improvements in the plan.
10:49:45 I know as the gentleman spoke, they
10:49:46 can't enforce with municipalities today, but
10:49:49 hopefully the municipalities working with
10:49:50 ALCOSAN, vice versa, and other authorities to
10:49:53 consent by the way of improvements or gain
10:49:56 commission, I think it would be very
10:49:59 beneficial. Reinvestments would boost the
10:50:00 entire industry and create new jobs for our
10:50:03 residents in the future, and other regions, and
10:50:05 other regions of the country have as was stated
10:50:09 today renegotiated plans, and a green
10:50:10 infrastructure was included. So I just wanted

to put that on the record, and I thank you very much for offering me to speak on such an important issue.

MR. TAMILIA: Thank you very much. I would like to just make a couple of comments towards that. As we have said numerous times, we welcome the opportunity for the use of green infrastructure in our neighborhoods. That is a source control option, and that is really where that effort has to begin. Places like Philadelphia, places like Lancaster will serve as models for our communities to see what can be done in terms of long pipe controls, less expensive controls.

So this is a good opportunity between now and the time that our communities have to provide their plans which is July of 2012 -- 2013, to look into these opportunities, and we will certainly be their advocate at the table. Next I have Jennifer England, Clean Rivers Campaign.

MS. ENGLAND: My name is Jennifer England. I live at 743 Laurel Street, Pittsburgh, PA 15217. I am a member of the

Clean Rivers Campaign. I have a prepared statement which I have now completely scribbled over and rewritten as you have been talking. So forgive me.

I keep hearing you talk about how, you know, green infrastructure is great, but it really -- it can't be done or you can't lead it. And I think that's what's really missing here is leadership. We need ALCOSAN to take leadership on the issue of green infrastructure. We have a historic, literally, once-in-our-lifetime opportunity here to make an investment into our future.

The plan you have offered is an old, gray industrial underground approach, and it literally buries billions of dollars under our rivers. We can take that investment, and we can invest it in our communities and things that make a visible, tangible impact to our neighborhoods. One of the questions was about flood control. Managing stormwater where it falls not only helps the overflow problem, but it helps flood control. It can provide benefits in neighborhood like by creating like

parks and rain gardens. This increases property values. It sparks community revitalization. Green infrastructure reduces energies and improves air quality, potentially creates more jobs, short and long-term jobs. It opens up project financing options that aren't available for green infrastructure. And I have heard a lot of talk about cost, and I think that's what we need in order to understand that the ultimate funding opportunities of green infrastructure or green method of stormwater capture is a bigger part of this plan.

We understand that Pittsburgh areas are unique. We know that there are some slopes, clay soil, multiple jurisdictions, and so on. But every region has its barriers, and progressive districts have treated these barriers as opportunities and challenges to be overcome. We need to see that here. We need to see ALCOSAN leading the way, pursuing green infrastructure and source reduction, new partnerships, trying out new funding, financing initiatives, figuring out ways that can be done

instead of talking about why it can't be done.

As you talked about, many districts have determined that green infrastructure is the way to go and have implemented plans, and I think in some ways we love what they're doing, and it may, in fact, save repair money. But whether green costs the same amount as gray or it costs less, and if we're going to spend billions of dollars to solve a water quality problem and a public health problem, why not do so in ways that are rich in community and environmental benefits? Why not approach this project as an opportunity and investment in our region instead of the cost that's going to burden taxpayers.

I think there's a better way to do this. I would really -- sorry -- I would really like to see ALCOSAN take some initiative and take leadership on this and look at ways this can be done instead of continuing telling us why it can't be done.

MR. TAMILIA: Thank you. That's all I have on the speakers list. If anyone else would like to come up and offer

comments for the record, please do. I thank you for your participation. We will be here for conversation if you'd like, David Borneman, our director of engineering, Tim Prevost, our manager of Wet Weather Programs, Arletta Scott Williams, our executive director, and I will be here. Thank you.

MR. BORNEMAN: I just want to add that, again, the schedule of the remaining public meetings are in your folder. Please try to tell someone. It is a very important issue, and we're welcoming everyone's input. Thank you.

(At this juncture, the hearing was concluded at 10:55 a.m., this date.)

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C E R T I F I C A T E

I hereby certify that the proceedings and evidence are contained fully and accurately in the stenographic notes taken by me on the hearing of the within cause and that this is a correct transcript of the same.

S/Tricia M. Clegg, RPR

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ALLEGHENY COUNTY SANITARY AUTHORITY (ALCOSAN)

PUBLIC MEETING

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IN RE:

ALCOSAN DRAFT WET WEATHER PLAN INDIVIDUAL COMMENTS, PRIVATE COMMENT AREA

- - - - -

Hilltop Hall
Harper Drive
Turtle Creek, PA 15145
Wednesday; September 16, 2012
9:30 a.m.

- - - - -

BEFORE: Joseph Day, Government Relations Specialist, ALCOSAN

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TRANSCRIPT OF PROCEEDINGS

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Reported by:

Christopher G. Gray
Court Reporter

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P R O C E E D I N G S

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(On Wednesday, September 5, 2012, at Hilltop Hall, Harper Drive, Turtle Creek, Pennsylvania, 15145, the private comment area for individual comments was open and available for testimony from 9:30 a.m. to 10:55 a.m. No individuals appeared during the allotted time to give testimony.)

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C E R T I F I C A T E

I hereby certify that the proceedings and evidence are contained fully and accurately in the stenographic notes taken by me on the hearing of the within cause and that this is a correct transcript of the same.

S/Christopher G. Gray
