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ALLEGHENY COUNTY SANITARY AUTHORITY (ALCOSAN)

PUBLIC MEETING

- - - - -

IN RE:

ALCOSAN DRAFT WET
WEATHER PLAN
PRESENTATION AND
PUBLIC COMMENTS

- - - - -

IBEW
5 Hot Metal Street
South Side, PA 15203
Tuesday, September 18, 2012
6:35 p.m.

- - - - -

PRESENT: Arletta Scott Williams, Executive
Director of ALCOSAN and Moderator
David W. Borneman, P.E., Director of
Engineering and Construction, ALCOSAN

- - - - -

TRANSCRIPT OF PROCEEDINGS

- - - - -

Reported by:

Sandra J. Mastay
Court Reporter

- - - - -

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AGENCY

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1

2

P R O C E E D I N G S

18: 41: 12 3

- - - - -

18: 41: 12 4

(At 6:40 p.m., opening remarks

18: 41: 12 5

and a presentation were made that were not

18: 41: 12 6

transcribed.)

18: 41: 12 7

(At 7:24 p.m., the public

18: 41: 12 8

comments session commenced.)

19: 24: 54 9

MR. BORNEMAN: If you are

19: 24: 54 10

going to have any questions, I would ask you to

19: 24: 56 11

go to the mic and state your name and your

19: 25: 00 12

address and the nature of your question. Any

19: 25: 02 13

questions? Again, I thank you for listening,

19: 25: 06 14

and I hope you can encourage others to

19: 25: 10 15

participate in this process.

19: 25: 14 16

MS. SCOTT WILLIAMS: Thank

19: 25: 14 17

you, Dave. For anybody who came in late, the

19: 25: 38 18

presenter is David Borneman. He's the Director

19: 25: 42 19

of Engineering and Construction at ALCOSAN. I

19: 25: 46 20

am the Executive Director, Arletta Williams,

19: 25: 48 21

and we thank you for coming.

19: 25: 50 22

We do have any questions? We don't

19: 25: 56 23

have any questions right at this point. We do

19: 25: 58 24

have two people that have signed up for public

19: 26: 00 25

comment. I will go to those two people. If

1

BILL BARTLETT

19: 26: 04

2

anybody decides after that that they have

19: 26: 08

3

something that they would like to add to the

19: 26: 10

4

record, I will call upon you, just go by hands.

19: 26: 16

5

Go through a fast round, one by one. We do

19: 26: 20

6

have a stenographer here.

19: 26: 22

7

As Dave said, I want you to step to

19: 26: 26

8

the podium back there, use the microphone, give

19: 26: 28

9

us your name, first and last name, with

19: 26: 30

10

spelling, and your address, including your

19: 26: 34

11

community. If you are representing an

19: 26: 38

12

organization, if you would list that as well,

19: 26: 42

13

we would appreciate it.

19: 26: 42

14

With that we will start with Bill

19: 26: 44

15

Bartlett. Bill.

19: 26: 48

16

MR. BARTLETT: Hello. The

19: 26: 50

17

microphone is overkill in a room like this. My

19: 26: 52

18

name is Bill Bartlett, B-I-L-L, Bartlett,

19: 26: 56

19

B-A-R-T-L-E-T-T. I live at 253 Dakota Avenue

19: 27: 02

20

in Bellevue, 15202. I do represent an

19: 27: 06

21

organization. I represent Action United.

19: 27: 10

22

We're a membership organization of low and

19: 27: 14

23

moderate income working families in the City of

19: 27: 16

24

Pittsburgh and surrounding areas.

19: 27: 16

25

And I wonder if you could put the

1

BILL BARTLETT

19: 27: 20

2

chart back, the one page you had which was the

19: 27: 24

3

residential income --

19: 27: 30

4

MS. SCOTT WILLIAMS: The

19: 27: 30

5

Residential Indicator?

19: 27: 30

6

MR. BARTLETT: Yes, indeed.

19: 27: 30

7

MS. SCOTT WILLIAMS: The

19: 27: 34

8

Residential Indicator or the color map?

19: 27: 36

9

MR. BARTLETT: No. That one

19: 27: 38

10

right there is good.

19: 27: 38

11

MR. BORNEMAN: This is for the

19: 27: 38

12

\$2 billion one?

19: 27: 40

13

MR. BARTLETT: Yes, the \$2

19: 27: 40

14

billion is fine.

19: 27: 42

15

I want to point out just on this

19: 27: 44

16

map, it is done, as it indicates in the bottom

19: 27: 46

17

corner, by municipality, and so it blankets all

19: 27: 50

18

of Pittsburgh into the same average income.

19: 27: 52

19

But the reality, this really masks a reality

19: 27: 56

20

that is very important to members of mine,

19: 27: 58

21

which is that, you know, if you see in the

19: 28: 00

22

south there, you have Mount Oliver, which is a

19: 28: 04

23

red blip in the middle of Pittsburgh. Yeah.

19: 28: 06

24

You know, the average income in

19: 28: 08

25

Mount Oliver is really shared by folks in --

1

BILL BARTLETT

19: 28: 14

2

throughout low income neighborhoods in

19: 28: 18

3

Pittsburgh: Garfield, Homewood, and Hazelwood.

19: 28: 20

4

And so the truth is that even at

19: 28: 26

5

the reduced levels, we're talking about a

19: 28: 30

6

disproportionate impact on family incomes, of

19: 28: 36

7

especially low income folks within Pittsburgh.

19: 28: 38

8

And I say that because there is such a

19: 28: 42

9

tremendous opportunity I think with green

19: 28: 48

10

infrastructure -- and I have said this over and

19: 28: 50

11

over again, this is nothing new -- but, you

19: 28: 52

12

know, it is like I'm struck by --

19: 28: 54

13

I guess my point today is that I'm

19: 28: 56

14

struck by how we're allowing -- if we don't

19: 29: 04

15

change this significantly, we're going to allow

19: 29: 06

16

political divisions, you know, the

19: 29: 08

17

fragmentation of the County into different

19: 29: 12

18

sewer authorities and, you know, and your

19: 29: 16

19

contractual obligations as it's written, these

19: 29: 20

20

are legal -- just legal things.

19: 29: 22

21

But the real reality is that this is

19: 29: 26

22

our water and it's really our income, that it's

19: 29: 30

23

our family incomes. This is food on our

19: 29: 32

24

tables. This is our ability to have a car and

19: 29: 34

25

put fuel in our vehicles.

1 BILL BARTLETT - SAM HENS-GRECO

19: 29: 36 2 And so if we can do this cheaper in
19: 29: 40 3 ways that can benefit the community much more
19: 29: 44 4 significantly in terms of business development,
19: 29: 46 5 in terms of employment, you know, in terms of
19: 29: 50 6 better communities, it's just -- it seems to me
19: 29: 52 7 a grievous error not to put every resource we
19: 29: 56 8 can into investigating it despite the fact that
19: 29: 58 9 it may not be politically feasible. Because
19: 30: 02 10 politics and legal things can be changed a lot
19: 30: 04 11 easier than a \$4 billion or a \$2 billion
19: 30: 10 12 investment that we can never retrieve from.
19: 30: 12 13 That's my comment. Thank you.

19: 30: 14 14 MS. SCOTT WILLIAMS: Thank you
19: 30: 16 15 very much.

19: 30: 40 16 Second I have Sam Hens-Greco.

19: 30: 52 17 MR. HENS-GRECO: Good evening.
19: 30: 52 18 My name is Sam Hens-Greco. That's spelled
19: 30: 58 19 S-A-M, Hens is H-E-N-S - G-R-E-C-O. I am a
19: 31: 06 20 resident of Pittsburgh. I live at 1208
19: 31: 08 21 Dennison Street in Squirrel Hill.

19: 31: 12 22 I am here today to comment on the
19: 31: 14 23 plan. I want to thank the presenter. I have
19: 31: 18 24 read the companion document, I have scanned the
19: 31: 22 25 report, and I appreciate your comments and

1

SAM HENS-GRECO

19: 31: 26

2

further explanation tonight, but what I'm here

19: 31: 30

3

to comment on is I guess the disappointment in

19: 31: 34

4

the lack of analysis that seems to be presented

19: 31: 36

5

here on green infrastructural work.

19: 31: 40

6

Your report, the companion report,

19: 31: 44

7

points out, and you have done it here tonight,

19: 31: 48

8

the one issue you started with is the overflow

19: 31: 50

9

issues of the flow into the system, and then

19: 31: 56

10

the next page in the companion report just sort

19: 32: 00

11

of systematically dismisses any sort of

19: 32: 02

12

analysis of that.

19: 32: 04

13

And I understand that the

19: 32: 06

14

communities have their responsibilities, but it

19: 32: 08

15

seems like there hasn't been any discussion on

19: 32: 12

16

alternatives, of ways to even look at how

19: 32: 16

17

reducing the flow into the system may impact

19: 32: 20

18

the numbers. And I think that is, for me,

19: 32: 24

19

probably the most disappointing part in this.

19: 32: 26

20

If you don't even -- and obviously

19: 32: 30

21

you've spent seven, eight years just looking at

19: 32: 32

22

what would happen if you are able to reduce the

19: 32: 34

23

number of water, the amount of water into the

19: 32: 38

24

system, how that may impact.

19: 32: 40

25

You said you've used computer

1

SAM HENS-GRECO

19: 32: 42

2

models. I don't know if you've -- maybe that's

19: 32: 44

3

a question I should have asked -- if you've run

19: 32: 48

4

computer models, if the inflow has been

19: 32: 50

5

reduced, but I haven't seen anything like that

19: 32: 54

6

in your report.

19: 32: 58

7

It also seemed to impact the

19: 33: 00

8

portability plans. If you have less water in,

19: 33: 04

9

is there then less cost required of it.

19: 33: 06

10

So I guess the real sort of concern

19: 33: 10

11

I have, that doesn't seem that that has

19: 33: 14

12

happened in this analysis. I appreciate the

19: 33: 16

13

fact that you have these adaptive principles.

19: 33: 20

14

I assume that means if municipalities come

19: 33: 22

15

forward and say we have plans to reduce our

19: 33: 26

16

impact, our flow into the system, that we will

19: 33: 28

17

then make these changes. So I appreciate that

19: 33: 30

18

part of it.

19: 33: 30

19

But I sat at my desk today and just

19: 33: 34

20

did a real simple analysis. I had a sewer

19: 33: 38

21

backup in July. I had my pipes cleaned out.

19: 33: 42

22

So I decided one of the things I want to do is

19: 33: 44

23

get rain barrels. So I got an estimate. 500

19: 33: 48

24

bucks for my house -- I have a typical, I

19: 33: 50

25

think, Pittsburgh house -- to put rain barrels.

1

SAM HENS-GRECO

19: 33: 54 2

In the report it says you have

19: 33: 58 3

318,000 service units in the district. So by

19: 34: 02 4

my simple analysis, that comes to 157 million

19: 34: 06 5

if we're able to buy two rain barrels for every

19: 34: 12 6

one of these service areas.

19: 34: 16 7

Based on what I understand to be

19: 34: 20 8

2.8 billion, because you project out the

19: 34: 22 9

interest over the extent of cost over a

19: 34: 26 10

15-year-period, that means the rain barrel

19: 34: 28 11

cost, if you bought everybody a rain barrel in

19: 34: 30 12

the district, would only amount to 5.6 percent

19: 34: 34 13

of the entire cost of the project, which means

19: 34: 36 14

if you took the project from 2.8 billion -- if

19: 34: 40 15

you wanted to fund it, you take it from 2.8

19: 34: 44 16

billion to 2.95 billion. It's not a terrible

19: 34: 46 17

increase in cost.

19: 34: 48 18

I am also very interested in sort of

19: 34: 50 19

solutions, so I'll give you a couple of my sort

19: 34: 54 20

of suggestions or thoughts. This is all going

19: 34: 56 21

to be paid by --

19: 34: 58 22

MS. SCOTT WILLIAMS: Pardon

19: 35: 00 23

me. I believe you have exceeded your time.

19: 35: 02 24

MR. HENS-GRECO: Are there any

19: 35: 02 25

other speakers after me?

1 SAM HENS-GRECO

19: 35: 04 2 MS. SCOTT WILLIAMS: Okay.

19: 35: 04 3 But -- allow me to continue, please. If you
19: 35: 08 4 could give me a feel for how much more time you
19: 35: 10 5 are going to take, you can continue or I can
19: 35: 14 6 come back to you.

19: 35: 14 7 MR. HENS-GRECO: I have
19: 35: 14 8 probably -- I'm not sure how long. I have
19: 35: 18 9 about two pages here. I'm done with this
19: 35: 20 10 (indicating) page, and this (indicating) page
19: 35: 20 11 is only at the top of the page. I can't
19: 35: 24 12 imagine it is more than a minute.

19: 35: 24 13 MS. SCOTT WILLIAMS: Keep
19: 35: 24 14 going.

19: 35: 28 15 MR. HENS-GRECO: So my
19: 35: 28 16 suggestion, and I believe if I'm going to sort
19: 35: 32 17 of put ideas out that I should put suggestions,
19: 35: 34 18 one would be, obviously, to increase the cost
19: 35: 38 19 by a 5 percent to cover potential rain barrels
19: 35: 42 20 if that be one of the possibilities.

19: 35: 46 21 The other is to negotiate with the
19: 35: 50 22 state that there be state tax breaks. So if I
19: 35: 54 23 buy -- put a rain barrel into my property, I
19: 35: 56 24 get a \$500 -- it costs me 500 bucks, the state
19: 36: 00 25 gives me a tax break of \$500 on my income

1 SAM HENS-GRECO

19: 36: 04 2 taxes, an incentive.

19: 36: 08 3 Some political parties love
19: 36: 10 4 incentives with tax breaks. It should feed
19: 36: 12 5 right into that, that strategy.

19: 36: 14 6 The other incentive would be to, if
19: 36: 16 7 you're going to have to post bonds, is to do a
19: 36: 22 8 \$200 million bond just for green
19: 36: 26 9 infrastructure. Give the incentives then to
19: 36: 28 10 the municipalities. Since the municipalities
19: 36: 30 11 have to be the ones that provide the water
19: 36: 34 12 flow, give them the incentive. You raise the
19: 36: 36 13 money. You say, whatever, Wilksburg, Penn
19: 36: 40 14 Hills, you have -- you get 80 percent,
19: 36: 44 15 whatever, 90 percent compliance with people who
19: 36: 46 16 put in rain barrels, we give you the money
19: 36: 50 17 back. You figure out how you're going to fund
19: 36: 52 18 it; we give you the incentive by raising the
19: 36: 54 19 bond money.

19: 36: 54 20 And if it is a specific green bond,
19: 36: 58 21 you have a completely different market out
19: 37: 00 22 there for bonding and funding. There's
19: 37: 02 23 tremendous interest in financing through green
19: 37: 04 24 initiatives now that are separate and apart
19: 37: 08 25 from municipality and other type of bonds.

1

SAM HENS-GRECO

19: 37: 12 2

I guess the only other comment I

19: 37: 16 3

would have is that if the plan doesn't

19: 37: 18 4

incorporate green technologies, to me it just

19: 37: 22 5

seems to be incredibly short-sighted. And I

19: 37: 26 6

would ask that you look at other programs that

19: 37: 28 7

we've done in the city that have been

19: 37: 30 8

short-sighted, and the one I like to look at

19: 37: 34 9

oftentimes is the East Busway.

19: 37: 36 10

The East Busway proposed -- the

19: 37: 38 11

original plan for the East Busway included a

19: 37: 40 12

bike path on the plan, but at that point in

19: 37: 44 13

time they said nobody rides bikes. As a

19: 37: 48 14

commuter, I commute to work on my bike. I live

19: 37: 50 15

in Squirrel Hill. It is downhill to Downtown.

19: 37: 54 16

But when I come home, I've got to go uphill.

19: 37: 58 17

There's no better way to get from

19: 38: 00 18

the east, from downtown to the east end than to

19: 38: 02 19

go by the busway, the East Busway. If there

19: 38: 04 20

was a bike trail on that, you would include --

19: 38: 08 21

you would have an increased amount of bikers in

19: 38: 10 22

the city.

19: 38: 10 23

It was just short-sighted planning,

19: 38: 12 24

a lack of funding 20 years, whatever, 20, 30

19: 38: 16 25

years ago.

1

SAM HENS-GRECO

19: 38: 16 2

That's what I would suggest in this

19: 38: 18 3

plan, that more effort be looked at in the

19: 38: 24 4

analysis of the green structures, and I hope

19: 38: 26 5

that you implement, you use the adaptive

19: 38: 32 6

principles to do that when you have your

19: 38: 34 7

programs. Thank you for the extension of time

19: 38: 38 8

especially.

19: 38: 46 9

MR. BORNEMAN: Before she

19: 38: 46 10

speaks, we did put up a slide. We actually

19: 38: 50 11

have another 30 slides, but I don't think you

19: 38: 52 12

could tolerate them to be up that long.

19: 38: 54 13

This is that other slide looking by

19: 38: 58 14

municipality. We actually looked at the

19: 38: 58 15

financial impacts by census block. So the

19: 39: 02 16

gentleman, the point he was making, you can see

19: 39: 04 17

a lot throughout the city of Pittsburgh, if

19: 39: 06 18

you're familiar with its border, it does vary

19: 39: 10 19

by neighborhood, the impacts.

19: 39: 10 20

So we do have that information in

19: 39: 14 21

the plan, but we kept it on the level by

19: 39: 16 22

municipality for presentation. I'm sorry.

19: 39: 20 23

MS. SCOTT WILLIAMS: Thank

19: 39: 20 24

you, Dave.

19: 39: 20 25

MS. CRECELIUS: My name is

MARY ANNE CRECELIUS

1
19: 39: 24 2 Mary Anne Crecelius. First name is two words
19: 39: 26 3 with an "E" on the end, and the last name is
19: 39: 32 4 C-R-E-C-E-L-I-U-S. I live at 306 Hastings
19: 39: 34 5 Street in the Point Breeze section of
19: 39: 36 6 Pittsburgh, and I have kind of a combination of
19: 39: 38 7 questions and comments.

19: 39: 50 8 MS. SCOTT WILLIAMS: Okay.

19: 39: 50 9 All right.

19: 39: 50 10 (Interruption in proceedings.)

19: 39: 52 11 MS. CRECELIUS: I'm not sure
19: 39: 52 12 what that was about.

19: 39: 54 13 MS. SCOTT WILLIAMS: I have no
19: 39: 54 14 idea.

19: 39: 54 15 MS. CRECELIUS: I'm one of the
19: 39: 56 16 people that's had problems with sewer backups
19: 39: 58 17 into our basement in heavy rain situations. It
19: 40: 02 18 seems to have gotten worse in the thirty-some
19: 40: 06 19 years we've lived in our house, and what I
19: 40: 12 20 don't know --

19: 40: 12 21 (Interruption in proceedings.)

19: 40: 12 22 MS. CRECELIUS: What is that?

19: 40: 20 23 MS. SCOTT WILLIAMS: Try it
19: 40: 20 24 again.

19: 40: 36 25 (Interruption in the

1 MARY ANNE CRECELIUS - ARLETTA SCOTT WILLIAMS
19: 40: 36 2 proceedings.)

19: 41: 00 3 MS. CRECELIUS: I'm one of
19: 41: 02 4 those people who have had sewer backups into
19: 41: 04 5 our basement in the past -- over the past
19: 41: 08 6 30 years, and they seem to have gotten worse
19: 41: 12 7 over time, more frequent and deeper.

19: 41: 16 8 My question is who -- like, is that
19: 41: 18 9 a city issue or is that an ALCOSAN issue? What
19: 41: 24 10 is the interaction between the ALCOSAN and the
19: 41: 30 11 municipalities?

19: 41: 32 12 MS. SCOTT WILLIAMS: That's an
19: 41: 36 13 excellent question. Just very basically, your
19: 41: 42 14 municipality, you live in Point Breeze, so it
19: 41: 44 15 is the city. The City of Pittsburgh uses PWSA,
19: 41: 50 16 Pittsburgh Water and Sewer Authority, to manage
19: 41: 52 17 the sewers in your community. That's whose
19: 41: 56 18 responsibility those lines and pipes that are
19: 42: 00 19 in your community, in your neighborhood
19: 42: 02 20 streets.

19: 42: 06 21 Those lines then run to larger lines
19: 42: 08 22 that come to the ALCOSAN system. Our large
19: 42: 10 23 pipes run along the rivers and along the
19: 42: 16 24 streams. They collect all that flow, or as
19: 42: 18 25 we've said recently, they catch that flow

1 MARY ANNE CRECELIUS - ARLETTA SCOTT WILLIAMS

19: 42: 22 2 that's coming from each municipality. We
19: 42: 24 3 convey it in our pipes to our treatment
19: 42: 28 4 facility, and we treat it.

19: 42: 28 5 So where you are having an issue
19: 42: 32 6 within your neighborhood, that's an issue that
19: 42: 38 7 would be resolved by the municipality, by the
19: 42: 42 8 City of Pittsburgh through the Pittsburgh Water
19: 42: 46 9 and Sewer Authority. Does that clear up the
19: 42: 46 10 relationship any?

19: 42: 48 11 MS. CRECELIUS: Yes, it does.
19: 42: 50 12 That's a big help.

19: 42: 52 13 MS. SCOTT WILLIAMS: That's
19: 42: 52 14 the first part. And you said you had a
19: 42: 54 15 two-part?

19: 42: 54 16 MS. CRECELIUS: Yeah. Just
19: 42: 56 17 following up on what Mr. Hens-Greco was saying
19: 43: 00 18 about green infrastructure, I'm wondering what
19: 43: 04 19 kind of efforts ALCOSAN is making to have sort
19: 43: 10 20 of a citizens' council that could provide some
19: 43: 14 21 input and thinking and also work on informing
19: 43: 20 22 people. This is very disappointing, I'm sure,
19: 43: 22 23 to you and to me to see so few people here
19: 43: 24 24 tonight.

19: 43: 24 25 MS. SCOTT WILLIAMS: Very.

1 MARY ANNE CRECELIUS - ARLETTA SCOTT WILLIAMS

19: 43: 26 2 MS. CRECELIUS: Because I know
19: 43: 26 3 that as people hear about sewer bills doubling
19: 43: 30 4 over the next 13 years or so, there's going to
19: 43: 36 5 be all sorts of complaints and moaning and
19: 43: 38 6 groaning and everything like that. And
19: 43: 40 7 certainly none of us like that idea, but I
19: 43: 42 8 think it is imperative that we understand why
19: 43: 46 9 it is happening, and that so few people are
19: 43: 48 10 learning about this is distressing.

19: 43: 50 11 I also think any idea of having some
19: 43: 54 12 sort of citizens' council with ideas for ways
19: 43: 58 13 of improving the green infrastructure within a
19: 44: 02 14 municipality, especially for some of the
19: 44: 06 15 smaller municipalities -- it might be a little
19: 44: 08 16 harder here in the city -- but, nevertheless,
19: 44: 10 17 there are people around that are very
19: 44: 14 18 interested in that, and it's something to help
19: 44: 16 19 bring us together and to both provide education
19: 44: 20 20 and to provide input to the municipalities and
19: 44: 24 21 to ALCOSAN from the point of view of us, the
19: 44: 28 22 residents.

19: 44: 28 23 MS. SCOTT WILLIAMS: Thank
19: 44: 32 24 you. Excellent comments and questions. We do
19: 44: 36 25 not have a specific plan for a citizens' group

ARLETTA SCOTT WILLIAMS

19: 44: 44 2 specific to green infrastructure initiatives.

19: 44: 50 3 We do have a customer municipal advisory

19: 44: 52 4 committee that works with the Authority and

19: 44: 56 5 brings us what we hope are municipal concerns.

19: 45: 00 6 That is a 14-member group that -- I

19: 45: 06 7 think it is larger than 14. It has expanded.

19: 45: 10 8 But those members are appointed by the

19: 45: 12 9 Allegheny County Executive and it gives us an

19: 45: 16 10 opportunity to interact directly with municipal

19: 45: 18 11 officials, who, again, we hope are bringing us

19: 45: 22 12 their constituents' issues.

19: 45: 24 13 We also have a regional stakeholders

19: 45: 28 14 group that is a larger group that has

19: 45: 30 15 representation from academia, citizens' groups,

19: 45: 38 16 and municipalities. So those two groups. And,

19: 45: 42 17 in addition, we've gone through the process and

19: 45: 42 18 we have reached out to all of our communities

19: 45: 48 19 and formed basin planning groups.

19: 45: 50 20 In your companion documents, you

19: 45: 52 21 will see that our service area is represented

19: 45: 56 22 in seven pastel shades. Each one of those

19: 46: 00 23 shaded areas represents a basin, and we took a

19: 46: 04 24 specific look at activities and initiatives

19: 46: 08 25 within each of those basins.

1

ARLETTA SCOTT WILLIAMS

19: 46: 08

2

We assigned people to look at each

19: 46: 12

3

basin so we can try to get our arms around it

19: 46: 16

4

rather than looking at our three hundred

19: 46: 18

5

twenty-some mile service area.

19: 46: 18

6

Within each of those basin areas

19: 46: 22

7

there are basin planning committees, and in at

19: 46: 24

8

least one basin there are two committees. We

19: 46: 26

9

meet with those people and have met with those

19: 46: 30

10

people regularly of which, as Dave said, the

19: 46: 36

11

open house, the annual open house, is probably

19: 46: 38

12

our most significant effort, significant with

19: 46: 42

13

respect to the response that we get.

19: 46: 44

14

These meetings, we've done these

19: 46: 46

15

meetings since 1999. And you're right, it is

19: 46: 50

16

disappointing. It is very disappointing when I

19: 46: 52

17

only have four or five people show up. It is

19: 46: 56

18

disappointing when 20 people show up. I should

19: 46: 58

19

have a packed house given the magnitude of the

19: 47: 02

20

things we're talking about. But it varies.

19: 47: 04

21

In the ALCOSAN open house, we had as

19: 47: 10

22

many as 2,500 people come through. It was an

19: 47: 14

23

opportunity to educate people and get them to

19: 47: 14

24

look at ways that they can come and work with

19: 47: 16

25

us. We are always looking for new

1 ARLETTA SCOTT WILLIAMS - DAVID BORNEMAN, P.E.
19: 47: 18 2 opportunities. We will go out to any group
19: 47: 18 3 anywhere.

19: 47: 22 4 It is an evolving process. We're
19: 47: 24 5 trying to educate. We're not trying to get
19: 47: 26 6 people to buy in. We want to educate so people
19: 47: 30 7 can make a decision based on the information we
19: 47: 32 8 put forth.

19: 47: 38 9 Is our mic back up?

19: 47: 38 10 MS. CRECELIUS: Yes.

19: 47: 38 11 MR. BORNEMAN: Yes. You just
19: 47: 42 12 have to position it to your face. Arletta, can
19: 47: 44 13 I just mention a couple things?

19: 47: 46 14 MS. SCOTT WILLIAMS: Yes.

19: 47: 46 15 MR. BORNEMAN: I'm glad you
19: 47: 50 16 brought up the basin planning process. The
19: 47: 50 17 chart in the middle over there shows how we
19: 47: 52 18 formulated the seven planning basins, and that
19: 47: 56 19 was in those discussions with the
19: 47: 56 20 municipalities where source reduction had its
19: 47: 58 21 best discussion working with the communities.

19: 48: 00 22 The plan kind of like consolidated
19: 48: 04 23 what we learned through that process, but there
19: 48: 06 24 is a lot more analysis that was done in terms
19: 48: 08 25 of certain sources, whether it was green,

1 DAVID BORNEMAN, P. E.

19: 48: 12 2 whether there was expected reduction in
19: 48: 14 3 groundwater by fixing the local pipes in the
19: 48: 16 4 ground.

19: 48: 16 5 So there is a lot more information.
19: 48: 18 6 And unfortunately, even if you looked at the
19: 48: 20 7 volumes that we're talking about in overflow,
19: 48: 24 8 looking at regional programs elsewhere, the
19: 48: 28 9 amount we will achieve will not eliminate the
19: 48: 30 10 overflows. It will help reduce the volumes,
19: 48: 32 11 possibly, but that is the response of the
19: 48: 34 12 municipalities to tell us what they're -- about
19: 48: 36 13 the programs. That's what we're still kind of
19: 48: 38 14 like in limbo over.

19: 48: 38 15 So we had to work with the figures
19: 48: 40 16 that we have in front of us today. We gave one
19: 48: 48 17 person's numbers that involved the plan and
19: 48: 48 18 addresses the numbers we have worked with
19: 48: 50 19 today.

19: 48: 52 20 We had one community that had a
19: 48: 54 21 volunteer group trying a disconnect program, a
19: 48: 54 22 nice little community on the Allegheny River.
19: 48: 56 23 Their engineer was not comfortable giving us
19: 49: 00 24 numbers how effective that program could be.
19: 49: 02 25 We do mention it in the plan. We would be

1 DAVID BORNEMAN, P. E.

19: 49: 04 2 waiting for that additional information so we
19: 49: 06 3 can see if our plan can be revised from it.

19: 49: 10 4 We are hoping to weigh the source
19: 49: 10 5 control. There just hasn't been enough
19: 49: 12 6 documentation or numbers for us to comfortably
19: 49: 16 7 work with and present ourselves to the EPA.

19: 49: 18 8 You talk about rain gardens. I
19: 49: 20 9 mean, rain barrels are on private property. A
19: 49: 24 10 good part of the runoff lays on public
19: 49: 24 11 right-of-way streets, playgrounds, and that in
19: 49: 28 12 itself requires re-doing the streetscapes.

19: 49: 32 13 Rain gardens are being considered in
19: 49: 34 14 other cities. To be a significant source
19: 49: 34 15 reduction, they talk about municipalities with
19: 49: 38 16 rain gardens. We do participate in the Green
19: 49: 42 17 Infrastructure Network. There's information on
19: 49: 44 18 the web sites of the Rain Garden Alliance.
19: 49: 46 19 They try to keep account of how many rain
19: 49: 50 20 gardens have been reported locally. To date
19: 49: 52 21 there are only 65.

19: 49: 54 22 I'm saying we're working towards
19: 49: 56 23 those types of improvements, but we do not have
19: 49: 58 24 the numbers that we can work with to propose to
19: 50: 02 25 the EPA. And it is still open for discussion

1 ANTHONY STEWART - DAVID BORNEMAN, P.E.

19: 50: 04 2 if municipalities can put forward programs that
19: 50: 08 3 can suggest better source control. We are
19: 50: 12 4 obligated to try to work with communities to
19: 50: 14 5 provide level of service, and we are open to
19: 50: 16 6 those discussions, but we have deadlines.

19: 50: 16 7 This plan had information in it.
19: 50: 20 8 That other type of information isn't available
19: 50: 22 9 right now. We are hopeful that, as new
19: 50: 24 10 information comes, we can incorporate it into
19: 50: 26 11 our efforts. Arletta.

19: 50: 28 12 MS. SCOTT WILLIAMS: Thank
19: 50: 28 13 you, Dave. Appreciate it.

19: 50: 30 14 MR. STEWART: My name is
19: 50: 30 15 Anthony Stewart, A-N-T-H-O-N-Y S-T-E-W-A-R-T.
19: 50: 38 16 I live at 1303 Bingham Street near the South
19: 50: 40 17 Side. My question is, is there or will there
19: 50: 42 18 be an environmental impact survey on the
19: 50: 46 19 implementation of the wet weather plan?

19: 50: 50 20 MS. SCOTT WILLIAMS: A good
19: 50: 50 21 question. Dave?

19: 50: 54 22 MR. BORNEMAN: In future
19: 50: 54 23 phases of developing the implementation,
19: 50: 58 24 certainly in terms of impacts to construction,
19: 51: 00 25 I believe there would be, indirectly,

1 ROBERT MULLIN

19: 51: 02 2 requirements for some types of assessment under
19: 51: 06 3 the permitting process. It is not required
19: 51: 06 4 under this level of planning right now.

19: 51: 10 5 MR. STEWART: Thank you.

19: 51: 10 6 MS. SCOTT WILLIAMS: Thank
19: 51: 12 7 you.

19: 51: 22 8 MR. MULLIN: Hi. My name is
19: 51: 22 9 Robert, R-O-B-E-R-T, Mullin, M-U-L-L-I-N. I
19: 51: 26 10 live at 6812 Meade Street.

19: 51: 32 11 Climate forecasts predict that in
19: 51: 34 12 the next 50 years or so dry areas will be
19: 51: 40 13 drier, wet areas will be wetter. So my
19: 51: 40 14 question is, how have your models incorporated
19: 51: 44 15 this in addition to the increase in the
19: 51: 46 16 previous --

19: 51: 46 17 THE COURT REPORTER: I can't
19: 51: 46 18 hear you. I'm sorry.

19: 51: 46 19 MR. MULLIN: My question is
19: 51: 56 20 that how will your models incorporate the
19: 51: 56 21 increase in rainfall that may occur in the next
19: 52: 00 22 50 years in addition to the increase in
19: 52: 00 23 impervious surfaces as the region grows and
19: 52: 08 24 expands?

19: 52: 08 25 MR. BORNEMAN: When we said

1 ROBERT MULLIN - DAVID BORNEMAN, P.E.

19: 52: 14 2 9 billion gallons, we did try to consider
19: 52: 14 3 population growth and expansion of the sewer
19: 52: 18 4 systems. Those, we feel, could generate an
19: 52: 20 5 additional one and half billion gallons of
19: 52: 24 6 flow.

19: 52: 28 7 Concerning the climate and
19: 52: 28 8 precipitation, we're required to look at a
19: 52: 32 9 typical year. We have tried to go back 50
19: 52: 34 10 years. We've tried to know about that issue.
19: 52: 36 11 I'm not sure how well I could answer that part
19: 52: 40 12 of the question.

19: 52: 40 13 The other point going forward, if we
19: 52: 42 14 talk about new stormwater management.
19: 52: 46 15 Stormwater regulations have changed over the
19: 52: 48 16 years. If anything, they are saying new
19: 52: 50 17 development needs to generate less runoff or
19: 52: 54 18 certainly no worse than what exists when they
19: 52: 56 19 turn to shovel.

19: 52: 56 20 So we're not really anticipating
19: 52: 58 21 more impervious surface. We are thinking that,
19: 53: 02 22 if anything, it will be status quo through the
19: 53: 06 23 new engineering practices of stormwater
19: 53: 08 24 management.

19: 53: 08 25 We are accounting for system

1 ZACK HIRSCHFELD - DAVID BORNEMAN, P. E.

19: 53: 10 2 expansion. If there's more pipes in the
19: 53: 12 3 ground, there's more potential for groundwater.
19: 53: 14 4 So I'm not sure if I answered your question.

19: 53: 22 5 MS. SCOTT WILLIAMS: Do you
19: 53: 22 6 have a follow-up to that? Are you good?

19: 53: 30 7 MR. MULLIN: Yeah.

19: 53: 36 8 MR. HIRSCHFELD: My name is
19: 53: 36 9 Zack Hirschfeld, Z-A-C-K H-I-I-R-S-C-H-F-E-L-D.
19: 53: 42 10 I also live at 6812 Meade Street in North Point
19: 53: 48 11 Breeze.

19: 53: 48 12 I really wholeheartedly agree with
19: 53: 52 13 the gentleman talking about green
19: 53: 54 14 infrastructure and being short-sighted.

19: 53: 56 15 I was wondering if you had looked at
19: 54: 00 16 other cities around the country or worldwide
19: 54: 02 17 that were doing similar projects like this that
19: 54: 06 18 have been implemented and that are being
19: 54: 10 19 implemented, and I was wondering if you had
19: 54: 12 20 learned of any successes and failures and
19: 54: 14 21 integrated that into your project. Thank you.

19: 54: 20 22 MR. BORNEMAN: Again, we have
19: 54: 22 23 been trying to watch other cities. We've been
19: 54: 24 24 fortunate to see other programs being
19: 54: 26 25 implemented. Large cities like nearby

1 ZACK HIRSCHFELD - DAVID BORNEMAN, P. E.

19: 54: 30 2 Cleveland, Cincinnati, Washington, D. C.,
19: 54: 34 3 Baltimore. Chicago started way back in the
19: 54: 38 4 early '70s. Portland, Oregon.

19: 54: 40 5 Atlanta, we've learned some things
19: 54: 42 6 that they -- that was the city I was talking
19: 54: 44 7 about earlier where they made a long-term
19: 54: 46 8 commitment at a certain cost and found that
19: 54: 48 9 they couldn't manage it properly because things
19: 54: 52 10 changed and they couldn't get it done and the
19: 54: 54 11 prices went through the roof. They actually
19: 54: 58 12 did ask for an extension in time. They were
19: 54: 58 13 successful with that.

19: 55: 00 14 We're watching other cities
19: 55: 00 15 renegotiate the length of time. We are
19: 55: 04 16 watching some cities try to reopen their
19: 55: 08 17 Consent Decrees to consider green technology.

19: 55: 12 18 We are trying to stay open to what
19: 55: 14 19 other cities are able to do and make those
19: 55: 16 20 same -- to see if they make sense to our
19: 55: 18 21 region, a similar argument.

19: 55: 26 22 MR. HIRSCHFELD: Have you
19: 55: 26 23 learned anything from Philadelphia's
19: 55: 28 24 experience?

19: 55: 30 25 MR. BORNEMAN: We've learned a

1 ZACK HIRSCHFELD - DAVID BORNEMAN, P. E.

19: 55: 30 2 lot about Philadelphia in the last couple of
19: 55: 32 3 years. We've learned that they don't have a
19: 55: 36 4 Consent Decree with the EPA. They don't have
19: 55: 38 5 the level of requirements that we have to
19: 55: 40 6 achieve in our plan.

19: 55: 40 7 They do have a understanding with
19: 55: 44 8 the state. They are embarking on this green
19: 55: 46 9 program of 25 years to show what it can do.
19: 55: 50 10 They are not as far along as us understanding
19: 55: 54 11 how much overflow it will reduce and don't
19: 55: 58 12 exactly know the impacts on receiving streams
19: 56: 00 13 and rivers.

19: 56: 00 14 So it is a little different in
19: 56: 04 15 talking about them and the relationship about
19: 56: 04 16 their implementing green. It is apples and
19: 56: 06 17 oranges, but there can be a lot to learn there.

19: 56: 08 18 But in fairness to us, it is not on
19: 56: 10 19 the same playing field. I can't explain why
19: 56: 14 20 that is, but it is.

19: 56: 28 21 MS. CRECELIUS: Once again,
19: 56: 30 22 another little question. Looking at the map,
19: 56: 32 23 how are you working with the surrounding
19: 56: 34 24 counties? I mean, the stuff doesn't end at the
19: 56: 38 25 county borders. The land and the rivers and

1 MARY ANNE CRECELIUS - DAVID BORNEMAN, P.E.

19: 56: 42 2 the streams and the valleys and so forth don't
19: 56: 44 3 end at county borders. So are you working with
19: 56: 48 4 the surrounding counties?

19: 56: 50 5 MR. BORNEMAN: Actually, those
19: 56: 52 6 areas you are seeing are actually within
19: 56: 54 7 Allegheny County.

19: 56: 54 8 MS. CRECELIUS: Right.

19: 56: 56 9 MR. BORNEMAN: There are --
19: 56: 56 10 those other parts of Allegheny County are
19: 56: 58 11 provided by a different wastewater treatment
19: 57: 02 12 provider. They have their own sewer systems,
19: 57: 04 13 their own treatment plants. Some of them may
19: 57: 06 14 have some customers coming to us and some going
19: 57: 08 15 to their own facilities. They have their own
19: 57: 12 16 permit requirements and relationships with DEP.

19: 57: 16 17 From a water quality standpoint, I'm
19: 57: 20 18 not sure how much, other than doing some
19: 57: 22 19 background sampling, did we understand any
19: 57: 24 20 pollution they may be generating and how it
19: 57: 26 21 relates to us. We didn't really do any type of
19: 57: 30 22 joint study. Colleen.

19: 57: 34 23 DR. HUGHES: From a large
19: 57: 34 24 quality assessment perspective, we did monitor
19: 57: 36 25 the quality of what is coming into the ALCOSAN

1 ARLETTA SCOTT WILLIAMS

19: 57: 40 2 service area to quantify the impacts that
19: 57: 42 3 ALCOSAN's overflows are causing versus what the
19: 57: 46 4 impacts are that are coming from upstream. So
19: 57: 48 5 that was included in the modeling process.

19: 57: 58 6 MS. SCOTT WILLIAMS: All
19: 58: 02 7 right. Any more questions? Unfortunately,
19: 58: 06 8 Mr. Hens-Greco has left. I should have
19: 58: 10 9 responded earlier to some of his commentary,
19: 58: 18 10 his observations that it would appear that we
19: 58: 22 11 have not given this issue thorough
19: 58: 26 12 investigation and review. I can see how it
19: 58: 32 13 could appear that way.

19: 58: 32 14 But if you think of the \$2 billion
19: 58: 38 15 initial commentary about the map that we put
19: 58: 40 16 up, Dave then came back and we pulled up
19: 58: 44 17 another map to show you what it looks like in
19: 58: 46 18 the City of Pittsburgh.

19: 58: 48 19 Dave also told you there's another
19: 58: 52 20 thirty-some slides for this particular
19: 58: 54 21 presentation. That's just this presentation.

19: 58: 58 22 There's a lot of detail, a lot of
19: 59: 00 23 work and effort that has gone into this over
19: 59: 06 24 almost a 20-year period. Granted, we have been
19: 59: 10 25 working under a Consent Decree for the last

1 ARLETTA SCOTT WILLIAMS

19: 59: 12 2 four years, but we didn't just wake up to this.
19: 59: 20 3 We've been working on these issues for quite
19: 59: 22 4 some time, and we've looked at them in a
19: 59: 24 5 variety of ways.

19: 59: 24 6 When it gets to the municipal level
19: 59: 28 7 and the municipal detail, we don't have access
19: 59: 32 8 to all that finite information. Where we could
19: 59: 36 9 have the opportunity to get information from
19: 59: 40 10 our communities, from those municipalities, we
19: 59: 44 11 have used it, we've incorporated it.

19: 59: 48 12 Dave is telling you that within the
19: 59: 50 13 costs of whatever plan that we put on the
19: 59: 54 14 table, there's about \$550 million of municipal
20: 00: 00 15 improvements that it will cost. We didn't just
20: 00: 04 16 conjure that number up. That number comes from
20: 00: 06 17 working closely with our communities, sharing
20: 00: 08 18 information over these last four years.

20: 00: 10 19 So there's a lot that's in the book.
20: 00: 14 20 It is almost 1,200 pages. There's a lot that's
20: 00: 18 21 not in the book that has taken place. There
20: 00: 22 22 are reports and documentation that have been
20: 00: 24 23 submitted to EPA, the Health Department and the
20: 00: 30 24 state over many years to support our
20: 00: 36 25 associates. We have --

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ARLETTA SCOTT WILLIAMS

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I am very confident that we have put

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our best foot forward, as Dave said, in regard

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to being compliant with what we're required to

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do.

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We have before us a signed Consent

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Decree that says I am bound to do certain

20:01:00

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things by a certain time. We have taken the

20:01:04

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best approach available to us. We have worked

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with our communities through the weekends where

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we have been able to. There is more work to be

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done with them.

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You must understand that our

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planning process has brought us to this point

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for us to prepare, again, a 1,200-page

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document. That document is now in the public

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comment period, which will go on through the

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middle of October.

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We're going to be significant about

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it. No, it's not going to be a wholesale

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change because, once again, our schedule, this

20:01:40

22

document has to be submitted in January of next

20:01:44

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year. But once it is submitted, the agencies,

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EPA, DEP, and the Health Department, have a

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full year to review it. They have a year to

1 ARLETTA SCOTT WILLIAMS

20: 01: 56 2 review and make comment.

20: 01: 56 3 Within the span of that year, our
20: 02: 00 4 municipalities will be submitting plans and
20: 02: 04 5 will be submitting their own plans in July of
20: 02: 06 6 next year. That information will be taken into
20: 02: 12 7 consideration with whatever the ultimate
20: 02: 14 8 response is of EPA, DEP, and the Health
20: 02: 14 9 Department.

20: 02: 18 10 None of this is being done in a
20: 02: 20 11 vacuum. The overall schedule may seem a little
20: 02: 24 12 bit off. I'm sure you are sitting there, well,
20: 02: 28 13 if you've got to July to work with what the
20: 02: 30 14 municipalities give you, why didn't they have
20: 02: 34 15 to turn their plans in first? That's not just
20: 02: 36 16 the way the schedule works.

20: 02: 36 17 Sometimes life isn't fair. I do
20: 02: 40 18 believe life is everlasting and it will adapt,
20: 02: 44 19 and we're going to get to where we need to be.
20: 02: 48 20 We do not want to be at odds with regard to our
20: 02: 50 21 communities. We do want every drop of flow
20: 02: 54 22 that can come out before we have to deal with
20: 02: 56 23 it to come out in the best way possible. An
20: 03: 00 24 ounce of prevention, a pound of cure. It all
20: 03: 04 25 comes down to dollars at this point.

1

ARLETTA SCOTT WILLIAMS

20: 03: 06

2

We're going to continue to talk

20: 03: 10

3

about these issues. If you can drag, scratch,

20: 03: 14

4

beat, cajole anybody into coming out to one of

20: 03: 16

5

these meetings. If they want to come out and

20: 03: 18

6

beat me up just because they had a bad day,

20: 03: 18

7

they don't have a dog to kick, they can come

20: 03: 22

8

out and kick me because while they kick me,

20: 03: 24

9

they're going to get my message. My message is

20: 03: 26

10

going to be consistent. It is going to be

20: 03: 30

11

maintain course.

20: 03: 30

12

That document is going to be

20: 03: 32

13

submitted in January because if it isn't, we're

20: 03: 34

14

going to be paying fines; and if we're paying

20: 03: 38

15

fines, you're all going to be kicking me

20: 03: 40

16

whether you have a dog or not.

20: 03: 42

17

All right. So there we have it.

20: 03: 44

18

We've got the chicken and ribs cruise coming up

20: 03: 48

19

on October 4. Everybody write that down.

20: 03: 52

20

Actually, we're going to be on the Gateway

20: 03: 58

21

Clipper Princess -- is it the Princess? -- on

20: 04: 00

22

October 4. Some people will feel better about

20: 04: 04

23

coming to check out and hear about the plan.

20: 04: 08

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Maybe that's the meeting that you suggest

20: 04: 10

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someone come to.

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ARLETTA SCOTT WILLIAMS

All right. Absent that, we do have
schedules in the back of the book. We greatly
appreciate you coming out and participating
tonight.

There's a lot of stuff back there.
If you just want to shove some in your pockets
on the way out, that's fine, too. Thank you so
much.

(Whereupon, the above-entitled
matter was concluded at 8:00 p.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
public hearing of the within cause and
that this is a correct transcript of
the same.

S/SANDRA J. MASTAY

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ALLEGHENY COUNTY SANITARY AUTHORITY (ALCOSAN)

PUBLIC MEETING

- - - - -

IN RE:

ALCOSAN DRAFT WET
WEATHER PLAN
PRESENTATION AND
PUBLIC COMMENTS

- - - - -

IBEW Local Union No. 5
5 Hot Metal Street
Pittsburgh, PA 15203
Tuesday, September 18, 2012;
6:25 p.m.

- - - - -

BEFORE: Joseph Day, Government Relations
Specialist, ALCOSAN

- - - - -

TRANSCRIPT OF PROCEEDINGS

- - - - -

Reported by:
Lina G. Hershberger
Court Reporter

- - - - -

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AGENCY

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P R O C E E D I N G S

- - - - -

MR. LUDWIG: My name is Les Ludwig. I live at 6589 Rosemoor Street in Pittsburgh, 15217. That's Squirrel Hill. My contact information is 412-758-1111.

In reading the newspaper coverage, I looked at it, and I said nine billion gallons of water, that's a lot of material to be moved, and you don't have enough money. So I came with the idea to present something to stimulate thinking. And maybe it's totally out of line, I'm not an engineer, but as a layperson, I know it's going to take a heck of a lot of pumps to move that water, and it's also going to take a lot of electricity.

The question that comes up is, I don't know where the tunnels are, but is it possible that literally there's a hydroelectric solution involved because you are moving so much water? And by making the project possibly bigger than was originally expected, if the Federal Government sees the production of electricity either to move the water or the

LES LUDWIG

production of electricity for the community serviced that perhaps more money could be had than just approaching with the regular project.

So this is the reason why I came, and that's it Fort Pitt.

(Whereupon, the above-entitled matter was concluded at 6:27 p.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/Lina G. Hershberger
