

1

00:00:13,360 --> 00:00:14,468

Victoria Robinson: Welcome everybody

2

00:00:14,492 --> 00:00:18,908

to the eighth EPA National Environmental  
Justice Community Engagement Call.

3

00:00:18,932 --> 00:00:22,168

We do appreciate everybody taking  
the time out of their busy schedules

4

00:00:22,192 --> 00:00:26,808

to be able to participate with  
us and provide information

5

00:00:27,032 --> 00:00:29,666

and ask questions and  
feedback EPA on some of these--

6

00:00:29,690 --> 00:00:34,548

these issues that are very critical for you  
guys as well as for us to hear your feedback.

7

00:00:34,572 --> 00:00:38,508

Before we get started, before I turn it  
over to our moderator Matthew Tejada,

8

00:00:38,532 --> 00:00:42,320

I'm going to quickly go  
over some housekeeping.

9

00:00:42,399 --> 00:00:47,600

The first thing is most of you  
guys are probably joining by computer.

10

00:00:47,600 --> 00:00:50,966

Some of you may also be joining  
by phone and having separate audio,

11

00:00:50,990 --> 00:00:55,341

but we're also encouraging folks to  
join us by either or by either phone

12

00:00:55,365 --> 00:00:57,615

or by computer, but not both,

13

00:00:57,639 --> 00:01:02,572

it helps with the bandwidth as well as  
with allowing more people an opportunity

14

00:01:02,596 --> 00:01:05,680

to be able to participate in the call.

15

00:01:05,680 --> 00:01:10,799

You're on mute, so please enter any  
questions and comments into the Q&A pod.

16

00:01:10,799 --> 00:01:14,868

If you look at your toolbar for those  
individuals who are on the computer,

17

00:01:14,892 --> 00:01:19,468

who are using the app,  
you'll see a Q&A icon

18

00:01:19,492 --> 00:01:22,384

and that's the Q&A pod where  
you can pose your questions,

19

00:01:22,408 --> 00:01:25,119

and we will be  
answering them as well.

20

00:01:25,119 --> 00:01:28,640

If you're selected to  
speak during the dialogue,

21

00:01:28,640 --> 00:01:33,119

we're asking you to limit  
your comment to one minute.

22

00:01:33,119 --> 00:01:36,409

For us to be able to know  
that you want to ask a question,

23

00:01:36,433 --> 00:01:40,628

we're asking you to go  
ahead and raise your hands

24

00:01:40,652 --> 00:01:45,759

and this will show up, that way we can see that you wanted to ask a question.

25

00:01:45,759 --> 00:01:50,989

Please, note that a recording a transcript will be made available online in the near future,

26

00:01:51,013 --> 00:01:57,268

not necessarily at the same time, we do have to send the transcript out for review

27

00:01:57,292 --> 00:02:00,399

and for translation.

28

00:02:00,399 --> 00:02:04,009

And for those who are interested who-- we are offering Spanish

29

00:02:04,033 --> 00:02:06,254

simultaneous Spanish interpretation,

30

00:02:06,278 --> 00:02:10,134

so you see that globe in the middle  
of the screen it says interpretation,

31

00:02:10,158 --> 00:02:13,028

you click on that and you can choose  
your language whether you want English

32

00:02:13,052 --> 00:02:16,848

or whether you want Spanish  
if you prefer to listen to that,

33

00:02:16,872 --> 00:02:20,800

and it's going to switch you to  
the Spanish language audio channel.

34

00:02:20,800 --> 00:02:24,349

And we also-- if you want  
to ask questions in Spanish,

35

00:02:24,373 --> 00:02:27,417

post them in Spanish in the Q&A

pod we'll do our best to be able to

36

00:02:27,441 --> 00:02:32,100

respond in turn back in Spanish.

37

00:02:32,800 --> 00:02:37,519

So I am now going to turn it over to  
Matthew Tejada to give us our welcome,

38

00:02:37,519 --> 00:02:42,170

and I'm going to mute myself.

39

00:02:42,194 --> 00:02:43,677

Matthew Tejada: Hey,  
thank you, Victoria.

40

00:02:44,201 --> 00:02:50,879

Hey, everyone, very happy to have  
another of our bi-weekly engagement calls.

41

00:02:50,879 --> 00:02:56,560

We've got a big update

for everyone on Justice40,

42

00:02:56,560 --> 00:03:01,519

we're going to have colleagues from our  
Superfund Remedial Program joining us today

43

00:03:01,519 --> 00:03:10,028

to discuss their implementation of their  
program as part of the pilot for Justice40.

44

00:03:10,052 --> 00:03:13,680

Very briefly, I wanted to share  
a few other updates with folks

45

00:03:13,680 --> 00:03:19,177

just to get started here and then  
we can return to these at the end as well

46

00:03:19,201 --> 00:03:23,840

to update folks and we'll also  
with whatever time we have left over

47



00:03:23,840 --> 00:03:28,135

after the Superfund

program talks about Justice40

48

00:03:28,159 --> 00:03:31,688

and receives some questions

and any dialogue on Justice40,

49

00:03:31,712 --> 00:03:38,256

anytime we have left, we're of course

open to just dialoguing on any other issues

50

00:03:38,280 --> 00:03:40,695

that folks want to have

addressed or have a question about

51

00:03:40,719 --> 00:03:44,959

or if there's something we can do to

assist folks through these calls,

52

00:03:44,959 --> 00:03:49,120

we'll use whatever time we

have left at the end for that.

53

00:03:49,120 --> 00:03:56,400

So obviously at EPA, we're  
very excited by the passage

54

00:03:56,400 --> 00:03:59,747

of the infrastructure  
bill last Friday evening.

55

00:03:59,771 --> 00:04:04,919

EPA stands to receive, I  
believe around 60 billion dollars,

56

00:04:04,943 --> 00:04:09,599

a huge chunk of that for  
drinking water infrastructure,

57

00:04:09,599 --> 00:04:12,188

another chunk of it for  
Superfund remediation,

58

00:04:12,212 --> 00:04:17,519

so our time today with our Superfund  
colleagues is very timely and appropriate.

59

00:04:17,519 --> 00:04:22,400

Other monies going into things like  
diesel emission reductions

60

00:04:22,400 --> 00:04:27,199

or other forms of contamination  
cleanup, like Brownfields,

61

00:04:27,199 --> 00:04:32,468

so overall just a huge obviously  
boon to a lot of the issues

62

00:04:32,492 --> 00:04:36,881

that are the primary issues for  
communities with EJ concerns.

63

00:04:36,905 --> 00:04:41,888

A lot of those legacy contamination  
issues, drinking water issues,

64

00:04:41,912 --> 00:04:47,301

it is great that that  
infrastructure bill has come out

65

00:04:47,325 --> 00:04:52,320

and has come together at a time  
when we have this focus on Justice40.

66

00:04:52,320 --> 00:04:59,040

And I believe every program that is or almost  
every program that is going to be funded

67

00:04:59,040 --> 00:05:05,247

through that infrastructure bill are  
parts of Justice40 or our pilot programs

68

00:05:05,271 --> 00:05:07,600

in the Justice40 program.

69

00:05:07,600 --> 00:05:13,368

So this is again, a huge opportunity I think  
one of the things that a lot of the leaders

70

00:05:13,392 --> 00:05:17,379

and advocates across the United  
States on environmental justice issues

71

00:05:17,403 --> 00:05:22,840

were really hoping for seeing these things  
come together in this very powerful way.

72

00:05:22,840 --> 00:05:28,212

So today in engaging with folks across the  
United States and hearing directly from you,

73

00:05:28,236 --> 00:05:33,759

this is an important opportunity  
to make sure that our thinking

74

00:05:33,759 --> 00:05:38,000

where we are in terms of bringing the  
Superfund program together with this

75

00:05:38,000 --> 00:05:41,480

Justice40 initiative,  
that is being done in a way,

76

00:05:41,504 --> 00:05:47,735

that is very much grounded in the realities,  
the demands, the opinions and suggestions

77

00:05:47,759 --> 00:05:52,367

of the actual community members out  
there on the front lines of these issues

78

00:05:52,391 --> 00:05:56,443

in your communities from  
amongst your families and neighbors

79

00:05:56,467 --> 00:06:01,713

to make sure that we use this unprecedented  
funding for so many of EPA's programs

80

00:06:01,737 --> 00:06:06,988

to its best effect, which means to make  
sure that that funding goes to the places

81

00:06:07,012 --> 00:06:10,387

of greatest need, where  
there's a disproportionate burden,

82

00:06:10,411 --> 00:06:14,160

where there are communities  
with excess vulnerabilities

83

00:06:14,160 --> 00:06:19,188

to really drive these resources to  
those areas of greatest challenge.

84

00:06:19,212 --> 00:06:24,479

I also just want to make sure  
just on a higher plane

85

00:06:24,479 --> 00:06:29,511

that folks are aware, so Justice40  
we're going to talk about that a lot today,

86

00:06:29,535 --> 00:06:35,919

that's an element in President Biden's Executive

Order 14008 on tackling the climate crisis

87

00:06:35,919 --> 00:06:38,479

at home and abroad.

88

00:06:38,479 --> 00:06:44,205

The Justice40 initiative, specifically the language, I'm not going to say verbatim,

89

00:06:44,229 --> 00:06:50,090

but it's ensuring that 40% of the benefits of certain programs

90

00:06:50,114 --> 00:06:53,280

go to disadvantaged communities.

91

00:06:53,280 --> 00:07:00,240

The Superfund Remedial Program is already in that, it is a pilot of those certain programs.

92

00:07:00,240 --> 00:07:04,947

So one of the things that our Superfund



colleagues are figuring out right now

93

00:07:04,971 --> 00:07:10,718

is well how do they calculate benefits,  
it's not just money, it's not just dollars,

94

00:07:10,742 --> 00:07:16,137

but it's the benefits of that program,  
how do we calculate those benefits,

95

00:07:16,161 --> 00:07:22,000

and how do we ensure that they're  
going in the right equitable proportion

96

00:07:22,000 --> 00:07:24,319

to disadvantaged communities?

97

00:07:24,319 --> 00:07:28,070

The disadvantaged communities  
piece is going to be determined

98

00:07:28,094 --> 00:07:30,411

by the climate economic  
justice screening tool,

99

00:07:30,435 --> 00:07:33,996

which the council on environmental  
quality at the White House--

100

00:07:34,020 --> 00:07:37,199

They're in charge of  
coming up with that tool,

101

00:07:37,199 --> 00:07:41,199

we're in charge of trying to figure out  
how do we calculate the benefits for

102

00:07:41,199 --> 00:07:43,280

a program such as Superfund.

103

00:07:43,280 --> 00:07:47,968

It's really important to understand  
Justice40 is not just this big pot of money

104

00:07:47,992 --> 00:07:50,912

that people are going to  
come scoop out of, right?

105

00:07:50,936 --> 00:07:56,387

Justice40 is looking at hundreds  
if not thousands of pots of money

106

00:07:56,411 --> 00:08:01,448

across the federal government, not just  
EPA, but the entire federal government

107

00:08:01,472 --> 00:08:06,080

and looking specifically  
within each of those programs

108

00:08:06,080 --> 00:08:10,960

to try to make sure  
that they are allocating the resources

109

00:08:10,960 --> 00:08:16,639

of those programs to drive the  
benefits to certain communities.

110

00:08:16,639 --> 00:08:21,542

So it's, that's a  
fairly nuanced thing,

111

00:08:21,566 --> 00:08:25,680

it's one of the reasons why  
there's so much work to do on this

112

00:08:26,080 --> 00:08:29,848

across all of the federal government  
and we at EPA are not leading it,

113

00:08:29,872 --> 00:08:35,360

CEQ, the Council on Environmental Quality  
at the White House is leading that overall

114

00:08:35,360 --> 00:08:39,599

federal government effort,  
but even just for us at EPA,

115

00:08:39,599 --> 00:08:44,528

we're looking at a lot of different programs  
that do a lot of very different things

116

00:08:44,552 --> 00:08:46,946

that have been around in some  
cases for a short amount of time

117

00:08:46,970 --> 00:08:53,040

in some cases some of these programs  
have been around since EPA was founded.

118

00:08:53,040 --> 00:08:57,772

So there's a lot of things we have to sort  
through in terms of statutory requirements,

119

00:08:57,796 --> 00:09:03,982

past policy and practice, the  
availability of tools, previous definitions,

120

00:09:04,006 --> 00:09:05,535

how do we look at benefits,

121

00:09:05,559 --> 00:09:09,200

so a lot of those things are  
going to be figured out,

122

00:09:09,200 --> 00:09:12,068

again across all the federal government  
a lot of it though for us at EPA

123

00:09:12,092 --> 00:09:16,320

we are just figuring  
out here at EPA.

124

00:09:16,320 --> 00:09:21,036

So you're going to hear  
from one of those six pilots

125

00:09:21,060 --> 00:09:26,480

that is leading the effort to figure this out  
in real time the Superfund Remedial Program,

126

00:09:26,480 --> 00:09:34,480

and the other five at EPA, we have our two  
water programs, our state revolving funds

127

00:09:34,480 --> 00:09:37,360

for clean water and for drinking water.

128

00:09:37,360 --> 00:09:42,808

We also have another drinking water fund,  
our reducing lead and drinking water program.

129

00:09:42,832 --> 00:09:47,920

Those are three more of the  
pilots coming out of our Water Office,

130

00:09:47,920 --> 00:09:50,908

a sister office to  
our Superfund Office,

131

00:09:50,932 --> 00:09:54,767

the Brownfields Program  
they're another pilot,

132

00:09:54,791 --> 00:09:58,866

and then we also have our Diesel

Emission Reduction Act Program.

133

00:09:58,890 --> 00:10:02,133

So those are the six pilots at EPA.

134

00:10:02,157 --> 00:10:08,027

Those are six of the programs,  
I'm not sure if each one got funding,

135

00:10:08,051 --> 00:10:09,968

I'm not sure about the  
reducing lead in drinking water,

136

00:10:09,992 --> 00:10:13,812

but all those other programs  
were the programs that just received

137

00:10:13,836 --> 00:10:16,527

a big amount of  
funding this past Friday.

138

00:10:16,551 --> 00:10:22,959



So again, this Justice40 initiative getting  
the engagement from you all externally

139

00:10:22,959 --> 00:10:25,628

making sure that we are grounded  
in your reality and your demands,

140

00:10:25,652 --> 00:10:31,279

is really critical at this time where we  
have an unprecedented level of support

141

00:10:31,279 --> 00:10:36,511

and an unprecedented mandate to make sure  
that that support goes to the communities

142

00:10:36,535 --> 00:10:40,880

that need it the most, the communities  
that have those greatest challenges.

143

00:10:40,880 --> 00:10:44,228

So thank you all so much for  
being with us on this call today.

144

00:10:44,252 --> 00:10:46,294

We really do need  
to hear from you all.

145

00:10:46,318 --> 00:10:50,800

So here in just a minute, I'm going to  
hand it over to our Superfund colleagues.

146

00:10:50,800 --> 00:10:54,255

Just a couple other of quick updates.

147

00:10:54,279 --> 00:11:00,148

First, I hope most folks are aware that the  
National Environmental Justice Advisory Council

148

00:11:00,172 --> 00:11:04,959

is going to hold a public  
meeting tomorrow afternoon.

149

00:11:04,959 --> 00:11:09,248

The 10th of November tomorrow afternoon  
starting at 1 o'clock eastern time.

150

00:11:09,272 --> 00:11:16,268

The NEJAC is going to convene our Deputy  
Administrator Janet McCabe is going to be with us

151

00:11:16,292 --> 00:11:19,668

to do an opening, we have a bunch  
of new members to introduce as well

152

00:11:19,692 --> 00:11:22,071

we're adding 10 new members  
onto the NEJAC tomorrow,

153

00:11:22,095 --> 00:11:25,904

which will be a lot of fun, it's  
always great to get to meet new faces

154

00:11:25,928 --> 00:11:28,880

that are coming on to  
serve on the NEJAC,

155

00:11:28,880 --> 00:11:31,760

then Deputy Administrator  
McCabe is going to talk,

156

00:11:31,760 --> 00:11:35,200

and then we're going to  
spend a big chunk of time

157

00:11:35,200 --> 00:11:39,448

going through one part of the  
agency's multi-year strategic plan,

158

00:11:39,472 --> 00:11:42,732

which is out  
for comment right now,

159

00:11:42,756 --> 00:11:45,415

and that was the second update  
I wanted to share with folks,

160

00:11:45,439 --> 00:11:48,438

our draft multi-year  
strategic plan for EPA,

161

00:11:48,462 --> 00:11:52,184

which I know is a big,  
boring, bureaucratic document.

162

00:11:52,208 --> 00:11:57,507

It is out there on the street right now  
for public feedback, there is a docket,

163

00:11:57,531 --> 00:12:02,000

where people can send in their  
comments, that docket will close,

164

00:12:02,024 --> 00:12:05,920

I believe still on the 12th this Friday.

165

00:12:05,920 --> 00:12:10,480

So this NEJAC meeting tomorrow is a  
big opportunity to hear more about that

166

00:12:10,480 --> 00:12:16,000

and for the NEJAC to give us their  
feedback and opinions.

167

00:12:16,000 --> 00:12:19,600

But there's also still an  
opportunity for anybody

168

00:12:19,600 --> 00:12:24,480

whether it's community leaders or  
business and industry or state or local

169

00:12:24,480 --> 00:12:31,360

or tribal colleagues partners out there to give  
us feedback through that public docket system

170

00:12:31,360 --> 00:12:36,639

before November 12th or by the  
end of the day on November 12th.

171

00:12:36,639 --> 00:12:39,920

And then I believe the last  
thing I wanted to bring up

172

00:12:39,920 --> 00:12:43,364

is that the next of these  
bi-weekly engagement calls,

173

00:12:43,388 --> 00:12:46,880

is actually the Tuesday  
before Thanksgiving.

174

00:12:46,880 --> 00:12:49,988

So one of the things maybe after  
our Superfund colleagues go that

175

00:12:50,012 --> 00:12:53,600

we would like to hear  
some feedback on

176

00:12:53,600 --> 00:12:58,677

is do folks want us to go ahead  
and have this call

177

00:12:58,701 --> 00:13:02,399

in two weeks on the  
Tuesday before Thanksgiving

178

00:13:02,399 --> 00:13:05,440

or would folks

prefer to take a pass.

179

00:13:05,440 --> 00:13:11,350

We're very happy to do it, we realize

though that there has been a lot of demand

180

00:13:11,374 --> 00:13:16,699

on the time particularly of our

community leaders across the United States

181

00:13:16,723 --> 00:13:19,048

to engage with us on all

of these different mandates,

182

00:13:19,072 --> 00:13:23,040

all of these different

initiatives on equity and justice.

183

00:13:23,040 --> 00:13:27,927

So if folks would like to have a break from



one call on the Tuesday before Thanksgiving,

184

00:13:27,951 --> 00:13:30,399

we're happy to give that break,

185

00:13:30,399 --> 00:13:33,988

but if folks would like to still  
have an opportunity to engage,

186

00:13:34,012 --> 00:13:36,751

we'll definitely keep  
that on the calendar,

187

00:13:36,775 --> 00:13:40,010

so if maybe folks want to  
think about that for a minute.

188

00:13:40,034 --> 00:13:43,468

And if you have any feedback, you  
can drop it into the question and answer

189

00:13:43,492 --> 00:13:45,121

or you can just wait  
till the end of this call,

190

00:13:45,145 --> 00:13:49,600  
hopefully you'll be able to give  
us some of that feedback vocally.

191

00:13:49,600 --> 00:13:54,608  
But again we're looking for a little  
bit of sense of if folks want to break

192

00:13:54,632 --> 00:13:56,864  
or want us to keep that call on.

193

00:13:56,888 --> 00:14:00,650  
We don't have another EPA  
program scheduled for that call,

194

00:14:00,674 --> 00:14:05,040  
it would probably just be a general  
update on Tuesday the 23rd.

195

00:14:05,040 --> 00:14:09,440

We do have for the first  
of these calls in December,

196

00:14:09,440 --> 00:14:13,166

we're going to be joined by some of our  
other federal colleagues at other agencies

197

00:14:13,190 --> 00:14:15,684

are going to join us  
for the EPA call.

198

00:14:15,708 --> 00:14:18,100

So that folks can  
get a little exposure

199

00:14:18,124 --> 00:14:24,079

to what some of our colleagues  
are doing on Justice40 outside of EPA.

200

00:14:24,079 --> 00:14:29,108

But again, let us know if you want us  
to keep that call on January 23rd,

201

00:14:29,132 --> 00:14:34,462

you can just pop something in the Q&A and let us know your thoughts or wait till the end.

202

00:14:34,486 --> 00:14:35,192

I think--

203

00:14:35,216 --> 00:14:37,948

Victoria Robinson: November 23rd, November 23rd,

204

00:14:37,972 --> 00:14:39,760

Matthew Tejada: November 23rd, what did I say?

205

00:14:39,760 --> 00:14:41,188

Victoria Robinson: and January--

206

00:14:41,212 --> 00:14:46,320

Matthew Tejada: Oh, well, yeah November 23rd [LAUGHS] Tuesday before thanksgiving.

207

00:14:46,320 --> 00:14:48,361

Did I forget any of the  
updates, Victoria?

208

00:14:48,385 --> 00:14:50,664

Victoria Robinson: Oh no, I think you  
got them covered, the other updates

209

00:14:50,688 --> 00:14:54,160

we have will be at the end those  
are engagement opportunities.

210

00:14:54,160 --> 00:14:54,932

Matthew Tejada: Okay.

211

00:14:54,956 --> 00:14:55,060

Victoria Robinson: Thank you.

212

00:14:55,760 --> 00:14:58,898

Matthew Tejada: Great, well  
with that, I'm going to hand it over

213

00:14:58,922 --> 00:15:01,668

to our colleagues in  
the Superfund Office.

214

00:15:01,692 --> 00:15:03,858

I see a lot of them  
with us here today,

215

00:15:03,882 --> 00:15:06,800

I don't know who's going to  
start, Lavar are you starting?

216

00:15:06,800 --> 00:15:07,644

Lavar Thomas: Yes, I'm starting.

217

00:15:07,668 --> 00:15:11,199

Matthew Tejada: All right,  
Lavar you go for it man, you start.

218

00:15:11,199 --> 00:15:12,492

Lavar Thomas: Awesome, thank you, Matt.

219

00:15:12,516 --> 00:15:14,697

Good afternoon, everyone,  
my name is Lavar Thomas,

220

00:15:14,721 --> 00:15:17,660

and I'm with the Office  
of Superfund Remediation

221

00:15:17,760 --> 00:15:23,848

and Technology Innovation, Communities  
Involvement and Program Initiatives Branch,

222

00:15:23,872 --> 00:15:28,480

and prior to that, I served as a Community  
Development Coordinator in Region 3.

223

00:15:28,480 --> 00:15:31,231

Now, before we kind of get  
deeper into the presentation,

224

00:15:31,255 --> 00:15:34,828

I just wanted to lay a bit of a  
framework for the discussion today,

225

00:15:34,852 --> 00:15:39,027

and start off by saying that environmental  
justice has really been a key part

226

00:15:39,051 --> 00:15:42,348

of the Superfund program  
and that is not new,

227

00:15:42,372 --> 00:15:48,880

but it's a thread that we weave into  
the very work that we do in the program.

228

00:15:48,880 --> 00:15:53,440

The picture that you're seeing currently  
on your screen was taking place in 1982

229

00:15:53,440 --> 00:15:59,040

when it when a group of black residents  
from rural Warren county, North Carolina



230

00:15:59,040 --> 00:16:04,441

literally laid their lives down on the road  
to prevent a carcinogen tainted landfill

231

00:16:04,465 --> 00:16:09,308

from being built in their communities  
near their farms and where they lived,

232

00:16:09,332 --> 00:16:15,040

and this was really when the movement started  
when civil rights activist Dr. Benjamin Chavis

233

00:16:15,040 --> 00:16:17,967

helped coined the term  
environmental racism,

234

00:16:17,991 --> 00:16:21,600

and began to emerge as a  
movement across the country.

235

00:16:21,600 --> 00:16:25,206

So when we look at environmental

racism on the other side of that

236

00:16:25,230 --> 00:16:29,519

and we can go to the next

slide-- the other side

237

00:16:29,519 --> 00:16:31,641

of environmental racism

is environmental justice,

238

00:16:31,665 --> 00:16:35,440

which looks at the fair treatment and  
meaningful involvement of all people

239

00:16:35,440 --> 00:16:38,639

regardless of race, color,

national origin, or income,

240

00:16:38,639 --> 00:16:41,067

and we believe that

this can be achieved

241

00:16:41,091 --> 00:16:45,680

when everyone enjoys the same  
degree of protection underneath the law,

242

00:16:45,680 --> 00:16:52,079

and when we look at  
environmental justice overall,

243

00:16:52,079 --> 00:16:55,440

I think the two areas that we  
primarily focus on is fair treatment

244

00:16:55,440 --> 00:16:56,945

and meaningful involvement,

245

00:16:56,969 --> 00:17:02,399

which means that no group should  
bear any disproportionate share of negative

246

00:17:02,399 --> 00:17:03,828

environmental consequences.

247

00:17:03,852 --> 00:17:05,631

And when we think about  
meaningful involvement

248

00:17:05,655 --> 00:17:09,868

we're looking at how can the  
community be a part of that process,

249

00:17:09,892 --> 00:17:12,060

how are we engaging the  
community to better understand,

250

00:17:12,084 --> 00:17:14,328

not only their needs  
and their concerns,

251

00:17:14,452 --> 00:17:16,959

but the environmental  
barriers and factors

252

00:17:16,959 --> 00:17:22,720

that might prevent them from engaging in the  
Superfund process and the work that we're doing.

253

00:17:22,720 --> 00:17:25,280

Next slide.

254

00:17:26,079 --> 00:17:28,240

So when we look at  
the Superfund Program

255

00:17:28,240 --> 00:17:31,048

and how we approach environmental  
justice and community involvement

256

00:17:31,072 --> 00:17:33,436

we do that primarily  
in three ways.

257

00:17:33,460 --> 00:17:36,921

We're looking at how can we  
help communities build capacity,

258

00:17:36,945 --> 00:17:39,840

understanding what are

those things in place

259

00:17:39,840 --> 00:17:42,348

that might be preventing them  
from being a part of the discussion,

260

00:17:42,372 --> 00:17:44,241

understanding their needs,

261

00:17:44,265 --> 00:17:49,731

understanding what can we  
do better in terms of providing them

262

00:17:49,755 --> 00:17:53,039

with the tools and resources  
to have their voice heard

263

00:17:53,039 --> 00:17:55,728

to ensure that we're bringing their  
voices to the decision making table.

264

00:17:55,752 --> 00:17:58,650

So that we're making  
more informed decisions

265

00:17:58,674 --> 00:18:01,600

and that we are working  
together to ensure that there's

266

00:18:01,600 --> 00:18:03,208

a win-win for both parties.

267

00:18:03,232 --> 00:18:05,176

Also looking at how  
are we training our staff,

268

00:18:05,200 --> 00:18:08,668

how are we providing training opportunities  
to help with cultural competency,

269

00:18:08,692 --> 00:18:12,720

and helping with an  
EPA to do a better job

270

00:18:12,720 --> 00:18:16,240

and thinking about how do we engage  
communities, how do we establish trust,

271

00:18:16,240 --> 00:18:21,008

how do we help build long-term  
relations so that the cleanup,

272

00:18:21,032 --> 00:18:25,607

and even the future use of the particular  
site is being factored into that process,

273

00:18:25,631 --> 00:18:28,116

and we do that in a number  
of ways in which we will discuss.

274

00:18:28,140 --> 00:18:32,223

But also just thinking about overall,  
how we building on the success

275

00:18:32,247 --> 00:18:37,408

of the Superfund program and through  
using community involvement as a way



276

00:18:37,432 --> 00:18:40,782

to ensure that we're working  
together with the community

277

00:18:40,806 --> 00:18:43,729

and we're doing our best  
to address those barriers

278

00:18:43,753 --> 00:18:50,884

that might be in place from  
preventing exchange and dialogue

279

00:18:50,908 --> 00:18:53,575

within the cleanup  
of a particular community.

280

00:18:53,599 --> 00:18:59,134

So we go to the next slide and  
as we can see from the map.

281

00:18:59,158 --> 00:19:02,998

The map on the left shows  
is a picture of Superfund sites

282

00:19:03,122 --> 00:19:07,429  
on the national priorities list across  
the country, approximately 1800 sites

283

00:19:07,453 --> 00:19:11,691  
and on the right we have  
a map of the EJSCREEN tool,

284

00:19:11,715 --> 00:19:14,016  
which they have  
briefly been mentioned,

285

00:19:14,040 --> 00:19:19,388  
but the tool allows us to kind  
of get a baseline understanding

286

00:19:19,412 --> 00:19:23,360  
of what we're looking at in terms  
of the percentage of low income

287

00:19:23,360 --> 00:19:28,008

and minorities living in these  
communities in close proximity to the site.

288

00:19:28,032 --> 00:19:32,320

And as we can see on  
the slide approximately

289

00:19:32,320 --> 00:19:37,919

73 million people live within a mile--  
within three miles of a Superfund site.

290

00:19:37,919 --> 00:19:43,520

And this data we provided because we  
want to show you that EPA considers

291

00:19:43,520 --> 00:19:46,614

the environmental burdens and  
other socioeconomic challenges

292

00:19:46,638 --> 00:19:48,368

when we're doing

community involvement

293

00:19:48,392 --> 00:19:51,428

and we're thinking about the  
cleanup of a Superfund site.

294

00:19:51,452 --> 00:19:55,671

And assessing environmental justice  
concerns in the communities we serve

295

00:19:55,695 --> 00:19:57,760

is an  
important first step

296

00:19:57,760 --> 00:20:02,908

to influencing how successful we are  
when we're engaging in these communities

297

00:20:02,932 --> 00:20:04,844

and making sure  
that clean up decisions

298

00:20:04,868 --> 00:20:10,368

and the future reuse of Superfund sites are wrapped into the feedback

299

00:20:10,392 --> 00:20:13,280

that communities are providing us.

300

00:20:13,280 --> 00:20:17,768

So we can go to the next slide.

301

00:20:17,792 --> 00:20:25,120

So, as Matt mentioned earlier, Superfund Program is one of the six pilot programs

302

00:20:25,120 --> 00:20:29,280

and this is an opportunity for us to really learn from the community as to

303

00:20:29,280 --> 00:20:32,502

what we can do, what can we be doing a better job at,

304

00:20:32,526 --> 00:20:35,519

how can we build upon,  
what we are already doing,

305

00:20:35,543 --> 00:20:40,187

but thinking about new and innovative  
ways to ensure that the communities

306

00:20:40,211 --> 00:20:44,317

that are being disproportionately  
impacted, their voices are heard,

307

00:20:44,341 --> 00:20:48,353

and that we're doing a better job in  
thinking about what are those concerns

308

00:20:48,377 --> 00:20:51,608

what are those barriers and how  
can we further expand the work

309

00:20:51,632 --> 00:20:53,600

that we're doing into those areas.

310

00:20:53,600 --> 00:20:58,928

So next, I'll be turning it over to Bill Denman,  
who will now discuss and define Superfund,

311

00:20:58,952 --> 00:21:01,046

but also the benefits  
of the program.

312

00:21:01,070 --> 00:21:02,355

Over to you Bill.

313

00:21:02,379 --> 00:21:04,763

Bill Denman: Well, thank  
you, Lavar, I appreciate that,

314

00:21:04,787 --> 00:21:09,200

and so Lavar and I work in the  
same division at EPA Headquarters.

315

00:21:09,200 --> 00:21:13,088

I am Chief of the Site Assessment

and Remedy Decisions Branch,

316

00:21:13,112 --> 00:21:17,627

which is the branch that handles  
the beginning of the Superfund process.

317

00:21:17,651 --> 00:21:21,081

And so today I'm going to talk a  
little bit about what Superfund is,

318

00:21:21,105 --> 00:21:25,039

but like Lavar I also  
worked in a Regional Office,

319

00:21:25,039 --> 00:21:30,080

I was in the Superfund Program  
in EPA southeastern Region 4

320

00:21:30,080 --> 00:21:34,880

for about 20 years working  
on Superfund sites as a project manager

321



00:21:34,880 --> 00:21:38,728

and it worked in a lot of communities  
on addressing some of these issues.

322

00:21:38,752 --> 00:21:44,172

And so, you heard Matt  
talk about our strategic plan

323

00:21:44,196 --> 00:21:47,520

and that is an important  
document that kind of guides,

324

00:21:47,520 --> 00:21:50,947

EPA's direction over a  
usually a five-year period

325

00:21:50,971 --> 00:21:56,453

and there are many programs at EPA  
and at states and at local governments

326

00:21:56,477 --> 00:21:58,364

that address  
contaminated properties,

327

00:21:58,388 --> 00:22:01,025

so you may hear  
about Brownfields,

328

00:22:01,049 --> 00:22:03,544

which are much  
larger in number,

329

00:22:03,568 --> 00:22:07,415

but usually not as contaminated,  
not always the case,

330

00:22:07,439 --> 00:22:12,480

their state voluntary cleanup programs,  
their state enforcement cleanup programs

331

00:22:12,480 --> 00:22:13,853

similar to Superfund.

332

00:22:13,877 --> 00:22:18,153

But like Lavar mentioned, we have

about 1800 sites across the country

333

00:22:18,177 --> 00:22:20,500

that are on the  
national parties list

334

00:22:20,524 --> 00:22:28,028

and those are the sites that EPA is  
working on under the Superfund Program,

335

00:22:28,052 --> 00:22:31,840

which is a law that was  
passed by congress in 1980,

336

00:22:31,840 --> 00:22:36,909

this is the acronym for it that we use, it's  
a mouthful we commonly call it Superfund.

337

00:22:36,933 --> 00:22:41,922

It'll it gave EPA the authority to clean  
up abandoned hazardous waste sites

338

00:22:41,946 --> 00:22:45,628

and hold polluters accountable  
for those cleanup costs,

339

00:22:45,652 --> 00:22:48,720

and so that was important  
that polluter pays concept,

340

00:22:48,744 --> 00:22:51,280

that was is a key part  
of the Superfund program

341

00:22:51,280 --> 00:22:55,407

and the fact that it,  
that we work primarily on sites

342

00:22:55,431 --> 00:23:01,908

that are legacy issues left behind  
by 150 years or so of industrial use

343

00:23:01,932 --> 00:23:05,801

of land in the United States,  
and trying to address those things,

344

00:23:05,825 --> 00:23:09,004

as well as some that have  
happened since 1980.

345

00:23:09,028 --> 00:23:14,720

So the reason it's called Superfund is  
because it provides EPA federal funding

346

00:23:14,720 --> 00:23:16,962

and authority to  
clean up contaminated sites,

347

00:23:16,986 --> 00:23:20,095

even if there's not a  
responsible party present.

348

00:23:20,119 --> 00:23:26,720

And so we can use federal money to conduct  
cleanups when there's not a responsible party.

349

00:23:26,720 --> 00:23:28,559

Next slide, please.

350

00:23:28,559 --> 00:23:32,559

So I'm going to talk about some of the benefits of the Superfund Program now,

351

00:23:32,559 --> 00:23:39,448

and there are a lot of benefits to Superfund being involved in a cleanup,

352

00:23:39,472 --> 00:23:43,236

but these are four that we wanted to highlight, the long-term protectiveness

353

00:23:43,260 --> 00:23:47,417

for human health and the environment, we look at both human health

354

00:23:47,441 --> 00:23:50,000

and ecological environmental impacts.

355

00:23:50,000 --> 00:23:54,757

Probably one of the key parts of Superfund  
that distinguishes it from many other programs

356

00:23:54,781 --> 00:23:59,120

is it has a very significant  
and intensive requirement

357

00:23:59,120 --> 00:24:01,919

and process for engaging the communities.

358

00:24:01,919 --> 00:24:09,039

We also focus on helping communities heal  
from having had these sites in their areas for

359

00:24:09,039 --> 00:24:12,448

sometimes decades by helping  
return these sites to beneficial use,

360

00:24:12,472 --> 00:24:19,948

and the part I mentioned, which is the  
holding polluters accountable for the cleanup costs.

361

00:24:19,972 --> 00:24:23,840

So I'm going to go briefly through  
each of these four, so next slide, please.

362

00:24:23,840 --> 00:24:26,408

So as I mentioned, long-term  
protectiveness of human health

363

00:24:26,632 --> 00:24:30,880

and the environment is one of the  
key benefits of the Superfund program

364

00:24:30,880 --> 00:24:34,094

when we start working on a  
site, we do an investigation,

365

00:24:34,118 --> 00:24:39,414

which basically means we go out and take  
samples of soil and groundwater and air,

366

00:24:39,438 --> 00:24:44,408

and sediment and any area that we have  
reason to believe could be contaminated



367

00:24:44,432 --> 00:24:47,520

from a release from a facility,

368

00:24:47,520 --> 00:24:52,080

and we determine what we call the nature  
and extent of contamination so that's,

369

00:24:52,080 --> 00:24:53,816

What is it and where is it?

370

00:24:53,840 --> 00:24:58,559

And then we do a risk assessment and  
that's where we determine well what is--

371

00:24:58,559 --> 00:25:03,588

what are the hazards for being potentially  
exposed to this either now or in the future?

372

00:25:03,612 --> 00:25:07,600

So we're looking at potential  
hazards whether they're actual or not,

373

00:25:07,600 --> 00:25:13,349

and so that's-- and we do that both  
for human health and ecological impacts,

374

00:25:13,373 --> 00:25:16,960

and so by addressing,  
by determining these risks

375

00:25:16,960 --> 00:25:23,508

and having a very stringent  
acceptable level for cleanup

376

00:25:23,532 --> 00:25:27,411

we are able to have some very  
significant human health impacts

377

00:25:27,435 --> 00:25:30,368

and benefits for communities  
in just a couple here,

378

00:25:30,392 --> 00:25:32,480

I won't read them  
to you but a couple

379

00:25:32,480 --> 00:25:37,039

that show that when we do a  
cleanup and when we come in,

380

00:25:37,039 --> 00:25:42,623

and can implement our process that we can  
have some significant human health benefits.

381

00:25:42,647 --> 00:25:45,200

So next slide, please.

382

00:25:45,200 --> 00:25:49,466

As I mentioned, I really think  
this is one of the major components

383

00:25:49,490 --> 00:25:54,288

that distinguishes Superfund from  
most other cleanup programs certainly

384

00:25:54,312 --> 00:25:58,962

that EPA implements and that's the  
community engagement process that we have.

385

00:25:58,986 --> 00:26:03,154

And so when we start  
working on a national parties list site,

386

00:26:03,178 --> 00:26:08,414

we start developing what's called  
the community involvement plan,

387

00:26:08,438 --> 00:26:10,234

we interview people  
in the community,

388

00:26:10,258 --> 00:26:13,726

we interview local government officials,  
environmental groups, community members,

389

00:26:13,750 --> 00:26:15,703

people who live near the site,

390

00:26:15,727 --> 00:26:20,748

and we come up with a plan for how to best  
engage with communities throughout the process.

391

00:26:20,772 --> 00:26:23,039

And when we have significant  
[CLEARING THROAT],

392

00:26:23,039 --> 00:26:27,520

either at significant decision points or  
have significant information to share

393

00:26:27,520 --> 00:26:30,859

we'll hold public meetings or  
open houses or issue fact sheets

394

00:26:30,883 --> 00:26:33,288

or maybe even a  
combination of all of those

395

00:26:33,312 --> 00:26:37,440

to make sure that people are

informed about what we're doing,

396

00:26:37,464 --> 00:26:41,148

and what the impact  
is going to be on their community.

397

00:26:41,172 --> 00:26:43,977

And one of the most  
significant times that we do this

398

00:26:44,001 --> 00:26:47,148

is right before we make a  
decision on how to do the cleanup,

399

00:26:47,172 --> 00:26:51,214

so we basically come and hold a  
public meeting summarize what we found,

400

00:26:51,238 --> 00:26:57,520

what the risks are, what different types of ways  
that we looked at for conducting the cleanup

401

00:26:57,520 --> 00:27:03,120

and we take public comment for at  
least 30 days on that proposed plan,

402

00:27:03,120 --> 00:27:07,856

and we use that and that's actually required  
in the regulation than governs Superfund,

403

00:27:07,880 --> 00:27:09,801

we use that as a  
modifying criteria

404

00:27:09,825 --> 00:27:15,919

and certainly take that into account when  
developing our cleanup decision.

405

00:27:15,919 --> 00:27:18,304

We also can provide  
technical assistance

406

00:27:18,328 --> 00:27:22,168

through the funding  
of a independent expert

407

00:27:22,192 --> 00:27:28,491

that community group can hire to help  
them better understand the documents

408

00:27:28,515 --> 00:27:33,292

and the issues that come up  
and explain them to the community.

409

00:27:33,316 --> 00:27:38,948

If they don't feel that we're  
explaining them in a way that's understandable

410

00:27:38,972 --> 00:27:40,931

that can be someone that  
they can hire to help with that.

411

00:27:40,955 --> 00:27:43,814

And also we have the  
Superfund job training initiative

412

00:27:43,838 --> 00:27:48,308



and in certain situations where  
cleanup may be going on for a long time

413

00:27:48,332 --> 00:27:53,388  
or there's a significant cleanup  
that's happening in a community,

414

00:27:53,412 --> 00:27:57,600  
we can help provide people in  
the community with the training

415

00:27:57,600 --> 00:28:00,682  
that will qualify them to  
apply for those cleanup jobs,

416

00:28:00,706 --> 00:28:05,464  
and so these are three different  
ways that we engage the community

417

00:28:05,488 --> 00:28:08,619  
and we're very proud  
of this and part of this call

418

00:28:08,643 --> 00:28:12,738

and part of this activity is to see  
how we can maybe do this better.

419

00:28:12,762 --> 00:28:17,044

And so thank you all for your participation  
today and for your input on this.

420

00:28:17,068 --> 00:28:18,880

So next slide, please.

421

00:28:18,880 --> 00:28:22,559

And then the third part,  
you saw from the beginning

422

00:28:22,559 --> 00:28:26,208

that Superfund was created in  
1980 when the law was passed,

423

00:28:26,232 --> 00:28:31,588

and then we went on for  
about almost 15, 16 years,

424

00:28:31,612 --> 00:28:35,760

and started to realize as we, as  
sites started to get through the process

425

00:28:35,760 --> 00:28:37,287

and cleanups were conducted

426

00:28:37,311 --> 00:28:40,707

that we were really leaving out,  
we were focusing just on cleanup,

427

00:28:40,731 --> 00:28:44,640

we were really leaving out a key  
component which was helping people,

428

00:28:44,640 --> 00:28:48,640

helping communities, helping property  
owners, developers, local governments,

429

00:28:48,640 --> 00:28:52,559

return these sites to beneficial use,

just cleaning them up isn't enough,

430

00:28:52,559 --> 00:28:56,117

we need to work  
to help communities.

431

00:28:56,141 --> 00:29:00,356

If they're gonna heal from having  
had these sites in their areas,

432

00:29:00,380 --> 00:29:05,585

returning them to beneficial uses  
is something that we're very proud

433

00:29:05,609 --> 00:29:07,776

of the work that we've done,

434

00:29:07,800 --> 00:29:11,901

and it's such a significant-- was  
such a significant issue that congress

435

00:29:11,925 --> 00:29:15,840

actually amended the  
Superfund law in 2002

436

00:29:15,840 --> 00:29:20,948

to codify the Brownfields program, which you'll learn about in another call, I'm sure.

437

00:29:20,972 --> 00:29:25,757

But also to include criteria that  
would help promote redevelopment

438

00:29:25,781 --> 00:29:27,775

and reuse of Superfund sites.

439

00:29:27,799 --> 00:29:31,467

So today more than 700  
sites are in some sort of reuse

440

00:29:31,491 --> 00:29:35,919

and they just vary widely  
their recreational uses,

441

00:29:35,919 --> 00:29:41,168

residential uses, ecological uses,  
commercial industrial uses,

442

00:29:41,192 --> 00:29:44,848

and with all of those they have  
a significant economic impact,

443

00:29:44,872 --> 00:29:50,348

which is something we need to remember  
when we look at helping revitalize areas

444

00:29:50,372 --> 00:29:57,619

is having that economic boost by providing  
clean land for jobs to be created on

445

00:29:57,919 --> 00:29:59,971

or economic activity to occur,

446

00:29:59,995 --> 00:30:05,806

it raises the property value so local  
governments get more taxes for the properties,

447

00:30:05,830 --> 00:30:08,317

which they can then  
use to do the great things

448

00:30:08,341 --> 00:30:12,703

that local governments do fire and  
education and streets and all of those things

449

00:30:12,828 --> 00:30:13,873

that we all enjoy.

450

00:30:13,897 --> 00:30:17,445

So this is certainly a key benefit to the  
Superfund program

451

00:30:17,469 --> 00:30:19,360

something we're very proud of.

452

00:30:19,360 --> 00:30:21,279

Next slide, please.

453

00:30:21,279 --> 00:30:26,480

As I said in the beginning, one of the  
key foundational principles of

454

00:30:26,480 --> 00:30:29,013

the Superfund Program  
is the polluter pay concept,

455

00:30:29,037 --> 00:30:34,640

and we work really hard through our  
enforcement program to find responsible parties,

456

00:30:34,640 --> 00:30:37,349

and hold them  
accountable for the pollution

457

00:30:37,373 --> 00:30:40,264

that occurred-- may have  
occurred decades ago

458

00:30:40,288 --> 00:30:44,259

maybe even before Superfund Law was passed  
or any environmental laws were passed,



459

00:30:44,283 --> 00:30:48,413

and that's also one of the key principles  
of Superfund is it's retroactive.

460

00:30:48,437 --> 00:30:52,480

So the release or the contamination  
could have been caused

461

00:30:52,480 --> 00:30:54,579

before there was any  
law or regulation against it,

462

00:30:54,603 --> 00:30:58,000

but somebody has to pay  
for the cleanup and under Superfund

463

00:30:58,000 --> 00:31:00,627

we do a really good job  
of looking for responsible parties

464

00:31:00,651 --> 00:31:05,368

so that the taxpayers don't have to

shoulder that burden for the cleanup costs,

465

00:31:05,392 --> 00:31:09,308

and so we just have some  
statistics here about how we do that.

466

00:31:09,332 --> 00:31:12,480

So next slide, please.

467

00:31:12,480 --> 00:31:16,228

And one thing we haven't talked about in and Matt mentioned this in the beginning

468

00:31:16,252 --> 00:31:19,126

that this is primarily focused on  
what we call the remedial program,

469

00:31:19,150 --> 00:31:22,640

these are the long-term cleanups  
the national party list sites

470

00:31:22,640 --> 00:31:26,708

the ones that, we spend

a lot of time working on,

471

00:31:26,732 --> 00:31:29,445

but we also under

Superfund have the authority

472

00:31:29,469 --> 00:31:31,428

and implement what's called

the emergency response

473

00:31:31,452 --> 00:31:33,034

and removal program.

474

00:31:33,058 --> 00:31:37,396

And that is where if there's an emergency

response I think it's pretty self-evident

475

00:31:37,420 --> 00:31:42,720

that's a trained derailment or

truck turns over on the interstate

476

00:31:42,720 --> 00:31:46,468

or a facility catches on  
fire or something like that.

477

00:31:46,492 --> 00:31:49,440

But we also have what's  
called the removal program

478

00:31:49,440 --> 00:31:52,312

and we can work with  
them on smaller cleanups,

479

00:31:52,336 --> 00:31:56,003

and this doesn't even have to be  
on sites that are on the national parties list

480

00:31:56,027 --> 00:31:58,240

sometimes it is,  
sometimes it's not,

481

00:31:58,240 --> 00:32:03,039

to do either time critical or non-time  
critical removals is what we call them,

482

00:32:03,039 --> 00:32:07,679

and that's just a way that the Superfund program provides us the ability

483

00:32:07,679 --> 00:32:11,760

to take care of some of those, some of those immediate issues or smaller issues

484

00:32:11,760 --> 00:32:15,039

that may not rise to the level of a national party list site,

485

00:32:15,039 --> 00:32:19,668

but can be addressed, and so just in fiscal year 2021,

486

00:32:19,692 --> 00:32:24,320

which we operate in fiscal year so that's October 1st to the end of September,

487

00:32:24,320 --> 00:32:28,291

EPA completed

186 removal actions,

488

00:32:28,315 --> 00:32:33,766

and of these 103 were emergency  
response actions in communities

489

00:32:33,790 --> 00:32:35,674

across the states and territories.

490

00:32:35,698 --> 00:32:39,207

So, is a really significant  
part of the Superfund Program,

491

00:32:39,231 --> 00:32:41,519

and one that can  
have a lot of benefit

492

00:32:41,519 --> 00:32:45,760

for those smaller projects  
that need immediate attention.

493

00:32:45,760 --> 00:32:48,640

So with that I'm going to  
turn it back over to Lavar

494

00:32:48,640 --> 00:32:50,148

to wrap us up here.

495

00:32:50,172 --> 00:32:54,640

Lavar Thomas: Well, thank you for  
walking us through the benefits Bill.

496

00:32:54,640 --> 00:32:59,919

On this particular  
slide as Bill mentioned.

497

00:32:59,919 --> 00:33:02,907

The purpose of these sessions  
are for us to get a better sense of

498

00:33:02,931 --> 00:33:08,528

how we can do a better job in  
appropriating the resources in our program

499

00:33:08,552 --> 00:33:11,966

to benefit distant franchise  
and disadvantages communities

500

00:33:11,990 --> 00:33:17,288

and going forward we're also looking  
at how this model and framework

501

00:33:17,312 --> 00:33:21,313

could be adapted into the regions,  
as well as we look at states and tribes,

502

00:33:21,337 --> 00:33:25,200

community representatives,  
community advisory groups

503

00:33:25,200 --> 00:33:28,188

and technical assistant grant  
recipients and also other stakeholders

504

00:33:28,212 --> 00:33:32,595

that can provide meaningful feedback  
to how we can be doing a better job



505

00:33:32,619 --> 00:33:38,080

in thinking about the current plan for  
addressing underserved communities.

506

00:33:38,080 --> 00:33:40,668

So more to follow on that.

507

00:33:40,692 --> 00:33:46,320

So next, we'll be now  
turning it over to you all

508

00:33:46,320 --> 00:33:50,399

and thinking about based on what we've  
presented getting your feedback on what

509

00:33:50,399 --> 00:33:53,448

we can be doing a better job at and  
addressing some of your questions,

510

00:33:53,472 --> 00:33:57,519

so if you have any questions, please

follow these instructions on your screen,

511

00:33:57,519 --> 00:34:01,519

write any comments

in the Q&A pod.

512

00:34:01,519 --> 00:34:05,348

If you going to speak, raise your  
hand, use the raised hand function,

513

00:34:05,372 --> 00:34:10,239

and also be mindful that  
there is a limit to one minute.

514

00:34:10,239 --> 00:34:12,820

So on the next screen  
we have a few problems

515

00:34:12,844 --> 00:34:14,159

Victoria Robinson: OK, Lavar?

516

00:34:14,159 --> 00:34:15,040

Lavar Thomas: Sorry, Victoria.

517

00:34:15,040 --> 00:34:16,708

Victoria Robinson: No  
problem, that's not a problem.

518

00:34:16,732 --> 00:34:16,831

Lavar Thomas: Okay.

519

00:34:16,855 --> 00:34:19,548

Victoria Robinson: As a reminder,  
in addition to writing any comments

520

00:34:19,572 --> 00:34:24,320

or questions in the Q&A pod, y'all  
have been doing a great job on that,

521

00:34:24,320 --> 00:34:27,367

we do have time for people  
to ask the questions verbally

522

00:34:27,391 --> 00:34:29,635

and that includes individuals  
who are on the phone only,

523

00:34:29,659 --> 00:34:33,348

I know we have several, we  
have 12 people who are on the call,

524

00:34:33,372 --> 00:34:34,568

who've just called in.

525

00:34:34,592 --> 00:34:38,434

So if you want to ask a  
question to raise your hand,

526

00:34:38,458 --> 00:34:41,847

you need to press \*9 to raise your hand.

527

00:34:42,171 --> 00:34:45,985

If you are using the  
app or the web browser,

528

00:34:46,009 --> 00:34:51,119

you'll go to the reactions icon  
and you'll raise your hand there

529

00:34:51,119 --> 00:34:53,913

and that will allow you  
guys to pop up to the top

530

00:34:53,937 --> 00:34:58,400

and we'll be able to call you,  
and as we go through these questions,

531

00:34:58,400 --> 00:35:02,800

again limit your responses or  
questions and comments to one minute.

532

00:35:02,800 --> 00:35:08,587

We will read, we'll go first and have  
individuals who will read questions for Q&A pod

533

00:35:08,611 --> 00:35:11,928

that we've been posed and then we'll go  
to people who've got their hands raised.

534

00:35:11,952 --> 00:35:15,547

And then we'll probably go back and forth, depending on how many we have.

535

00:35:15,571 --> 00:35:18,492

So I'm going to go ahead and turn it back over to you, Lavar,

536

00:35:18,516 --> 00:35:21,839

and switch to the next slide.

537

00:35:21,839 --> 00:35:23,920

Lavar Thomas: Awesome, thank you for that, Victoria.

538

00:35:23,920 --> 00:35:29,628

And we just have a few prompting questions to get the discussion going

539

00:35:29,652 --> 00:35:32,788

and I'll read the questions on both slides

540

00:35:32,812 --> 00:35:37,200

and then just to get you  
all thinking about,

541

00:35:37,200 --> 00:35:39,237

you know to get the discussion going.

542

00:35:39,261 --> 00:35:44,400

So the first question is, what services or  
resources can EPA provide to communities

543

00:35:44,400 --> 00:35:47,283

while we're cleaning up Superfund sites?

544

00:35:47,307 --> 00:35:48,960

It's the first question.

545

00:35:48,960 --> 00:35:51,033

And I'll read it again  
for folks on the phone,

546

00:35:51,057 --> 00:35:54,032

What services or resources  
can EPA provide to communities

547

00:35:54,056 --> 00:35:57,280

while we are cleaning  
up Superfund sites?

548

00:35:57,280 --> 00:36:01,680

The next question is, what programs or  
resources does your community need

549

00:36:01,680 --> 00:36:05,520

in order to participate in the Superfund  
decision making process?

550

00:36:05,520 --> 00:36:10,000

I'll repeat that , what programs or  
resources does your community need

551

00:36:10,000 --> 00:36:13,680

in order to participate in the



Superfund decision making process?

552

00:36:13,680 --> 00:36:19,468

The third question is, what could  
EPA do to ease your concerns

553

00:36:19,492 --> 00:36:22,400

about living near a  
Superfund site?

554

00:36:22,400 --> 00:36:25,348

The question is, what could  
EPA do to ease your concerns

555

00:36:25,372 --> 00:36:27,599

about living their Superfund site?

556

00:36:27,599 --> 00:36:31,760

We can go to the next  
slide and I'll read those.

557

00:36:36,240 --> 00:36:39,097

It's the fourth question is,  
how can EPA remove barriers

558

00:36:39,121 --> 00:36:44,240

that make it difficult for the  
community to access EPA resources?

559

00:36:44,240 --> 00:36:51,599

How can EPA remove barriers that make it difficult  
for the community to access EPA resources?

560

00:36:51,599 --> 00:36:54,767

The fifth question is, how can  
EPA better work with communities

561

00:36:54,791 --> 00:36:58,560

to address issues  
associated with gentrification?

562

00:36:58,560 --> 00:37:01,280

How can EPA better  
work with communities

563

00:37:01,280 --> 00:37:04,960

to address issues

associated with gentrification?

564

00:37:04,960 --> 00:37:07,832

And the last and final

prompting question is:

565

00:37:07,856 --> 00:37:12,480

EPA can often influence how

sites are revitalized for beneficial use,

566

00:37:12,480 --> 00:37:17,520

such as recreational areas, businesses,

local government offices, a public space

567

00:37:17,520 --> 00:37:18,533

and much more.

568

00:37:18,557 --> 00:37:25,760

So, how can EPA better engage with

communities on future use of Superfund sites?

569

00:37:25,760 --> 00:37:29,200

How can EPA better  
engage with communities

570

00:37:29,200 --> 00:37:31,680

on the future use of Superfund sites?

571

00:37:31,680 --> 00:37:35,359

So those are some of the  
prompting initial questions

572

00:37:35,359 --> 00:37:37,287

to get the discussion going.

573

00:37:37,311 --> 00:37:39,748

So you can open it up now Victoria.

574

00:37:39,772 --> 00:37:42,560

Victoria Robinson: Okay wonderful,  
thank you, thank you, Lavar.

575

00:37:42,560 --> 00:37:48,103

I'm going to ask Christina to  
go ahead and read a lot of those

576

00:37:48,127 --> 00:37:53,040

you want to have answered live  
first, and then do about four of those

577

00:37:53,040 --> 00:37:56,607

and then we'll go to some of the people  
who have already raised their hands.

578

00:37:56,631 --> 00:37:58,256

That work for you, Christina?

579

00:37:58,280 --> 00:37:59,359

Christina Motilall: That works for me.

580

00:37:59,359 --> 00:38:00,523

Victoria Robinson: Great, thank you.

581

00:38:00,547 --> 00:38:02,079

Christina Motilall: Great, all right, well.

582

00:38:02,079 --> 00:38:03,883

Thank you, everyone,  
again for being on the call.

583

00:38:03,907 --> 00:38:06,480

My name is Christina Motilall, I'm  
the Communications Lead for the Office

584

00:38:06,480 --> 00:38:07,628

of Environmental Justice.

585

00:38:07,652 --> 00:38:10,908

And as Victoria was saying we  
have some questions in the Q&A pod

586

00:38:10,932 --> 00:38:14,079

that I'm going to read  
aloud to be answered.

587

00:38:14,079 --> 00:38:19,200

So the first question to read aloud is  
in it from Don Chapman,

588

00:38:19,200 --> 00:38:23,280

and they ask the larger multi-million  
dollar environmental organizations have

589

00:38:23,280 --> 00:38:26,075

been receiving the bulk  
of EPA grants for years,

590

00:38:26,099 --> 00:38:30,160

what steps is EPA taking to  
help local grassroots organizations

591

00:38:30,160 --> 00:38:34,480

apply for and receive grants to help  
them advocate for environmental justice

592

00:38:34,480 --> 00:38:35,955

in their local community?

593

00:38:35,979 --> 00:38:39,414

I ask because part of the difficulty  
of achieving equality

594

00:38:39,438 --> 00:38:42,744

in the Superfund program for communities  
is acknowledging the specific needs

595

00:38:42,768 --> 00:38:44,012

within these communities.

596

00:38:44,036 --> 00:38:47,359

The smaller grassroots  
organizations are already working

597

00:38:47,359 --> 00:38:52,320

to help establish equity by  
identifying these specific needs.

598

00:38:56,560 --> 00:38:58,407

Victoria Robinson: Oh so, Lavar,  
if there's somebody on your team



599

00:38:58,431 --> 00:39:01,839

that would be able to  
answer that question?

600

00:39:03,359 --> 00:39:14,880

Lavar Thomas: Yes, I will turn it  
over to Freya or Devin to discuss that.

601

00:39:14,880 --> 00:39:19,040

Victoria Robinson: Okay, Freya you  
can go ahead and unmute yourself.

602

00:39:24,000 --> 00:39:32,240

Freya Margand: Oops, oh sorry,  
I don't know why I'm upside down.

603

00:39:32,240 --> 00:39:37,040

I'll stop the video [LAUGHS].

604

00:39:37,040 --> 00:39:42,560

Could we go to Devon first, I'm

sorry, I was responding to a question

605

00:39:42,560 --> 00:39:47,440

while you were talking.

606

00:39:47,440 --> 00:39:48,939

Victoria Robinson: Okay, no problem.

607

00:39:48,963 --> 00:39:52,400

Go ahead Devon

and unmute yourself.

608

00:39:55,280 --> 00:40:01,520

Devon Martin: Thanks, I'll take  
the first part of that question

609

00:40:01,520 --> 00:40:05,768

and I think that was in response to a lot  
of the talk about the infrastructure funding

610

00:40:05,792 --> 00:40:08,319

at the beginning of the call,

611

00:40:08,319 --> 00:40:12,720

and at this point we're still very early  
in the stages of figuring out what we--

612

00:40:12,720 --> 00:40:15,508

what we can do with  
that infrastructure money,

613

00:40:15,532 --> 00:40:19,440

and we're developing  
our plan about that.

614

00:40:19,440 --> 00:40:23,767

So I'll just say early on there's  
not much we can say about that as well,

615

00:40:23,791 --> 00:40:27,481

and I know some of our colleagues  
from the Office of Environmental Justice

616

00:40:27,505 --> 00:40:29,119

may be able to jump in,

617

00:40:29,119 --> 00:40:35,280

and then Freya, I think can  
handle the grant portion of that.

618

00:40:36,880 --> 00:40:39,556

Matthew Tejada: Yeah,  
so I'll help out a little here.

619

00:40:39,580 --> 00:40:42,480

This is Matthew Tejada for OEJ.

620

00:40:42,480 --> 00:40:46,127

I'm sorry I just put them into my mouth.

621

00:40:46,151 --> 00:40:50,593

So a couple things  
on grants, we at EPA,

622

00:40:50,617 --> 00:40:57,760

I think are very aware of

the inequities, the historic inequities

623

00:40:57,760 --> 00:41:02,677

of how funding has worked in the  
United States both foundation funding,

624

00:41:02,701 --> 00:41:07,023

private funding coming from philanthropy  
as well as taxpayer funding, right?

625

00:41:07,047 --> 00:41:12,659

And the investments or  
disinvestments in certain communities,

626

00:41:12,683 --> 00:41:16,960

and that has typically happened  
in this country along the lines

627

00:41:16,960 --> 00:41:20,228

that are the same lines as what we would  
consider communities with EJ concerns

628

00:41:20,252 --> 00:41:24,160

or organizations that focus  
on environmental justice issues.

629

00:41:24,160 --> 00:41:30,400

Part of what is before  
this administration

630

00:41:30,400 --> 00:41:35,381

is to change that, to  
change the allocation of resources,

631

00:41:35,405 --> 00:41:39,828

to change the allocation  
of technical assistance

632

00:41:39,852 --> 00:41:46,281

of grants, of just the time and attention  
and energy of our federal colleagues,

633

00:41:46,305 --> 00:41:48,960

who actually implement  
these programs on the ground

634

00:41:48,960 --> 00:41:54,880

and to make sure that they are focusing  
on the communities with the greatest need

635

00:41:54,880 --> 00:41:59,440

and engaging with those  
communities in a meaningful way

636

00:41:59,440 --> 00:42:03,520

to make sure that the application of our  
programs matched their need, right?

637

00:42:03,520 --> 00:42:05,877

Because if they were already  
doing that across the board

638

00:42:05,901 --> 00:42:08,800

across everything that  
the federal government does,

639

00:42:08,800 --> 00:42:12,404

then we wouldn't have so many environmental justice issues across the United States.

640

00:42:12,428 --> 00:42:16,640

So whether it is looking at the Justice40 initiative, which again,

641

00:42:16,640 --> 00:42:21,119

and that's what we're talking about here is the Superfund Program looking at

642

00:42:21,119 --> 00:42:25,268

okay, you know we really need to make sure that the benefits of the Superfund program,

643

00:42:25,292 --> 00:42:27,911

not just the grant dollars, although that's part of it,

644

00:42:27,935 --> 00:42:33,200

but the benefits of cleaning up Superfund sites really are driven towards



645

00:42:33,200 --> 00:42:34,720

those communities.

646

00:42:34,720 --> 00:42:40,095

We can also look at things like other elements of other executive orders,

647

00:42:40,119 --> 00:42:44,174

like Executive Order 13985, the executive order on racial equity

648

00:42:44,198 --> 00:42:47,200

that the president signed on his first day in office

649

00:42:47,200 --> 00:42:52,480

or other elements of things like that we have in our draft strategic plan for EPA

650

00:42:52,480 --> 00:42:54,277

about providing more grants,

651

00:42:54,301 --> 00:42:59,280

providing more technical assistance,  
providing more capacity building

652

00:42:59,280 --> 00:43:03,225

across all of EPA's programs,  
not just the EJ Program.

653

00:43:03,249 --> 00:43:10,861

I think this administration has very squarely  
identified the point of your question

654

00:43:10,885 --> 00:43:13,520

as one of the biggest  
issues for this administration.

655

00:43:13,520 --> 00:43:17,588

And part of our engagement  
today is to hear directly from you on,

656

00:43:17,612 --> 00:43:21,119

not just do we need to

change that, we have heard that,

657

00:43:21,119 --> 00:43:26,820

that's what we're working on, but how, to  
make sure that as we embark upon this process

658

00:43:26,844 --> 00:43:29,760

of changing the way  
the government operates,

659

00:43:29,760 --> 00:43:36,160

that we're doing it in a way that matches  
the need from community members.

660

00:43:36,160 --> 00:43:39,680

It looks like Bill wanted  
to add in some to.

661

00:43:39,680 --> 00:43:40,484

Bill Denman: Thank you, Matt.

662

00:43:40,508 --> 00:43:41,728

That was really good.

663

00:43:41,752 --> 00:43:46,567

And I just wanted to point out since I was the one that talked about the Superfund program.

664

00:43:46,591 --> 00:43:52,768

Superfund, as I mentioned, one of our key benefits is that we hold polluters accountable,

665

00:43:52,792 --> 00:43:54,826

so we're primarily an enforcement program

666

00:43:54,850 --> 00:43:57,520

and then we manage money to conduct cleanups.

667

00:43:57,520 --> 00:44:03,428

Now, within this, the primary grant opportunity that's available under Superfund

668

00:44:03,452 --> 00:44:04,991

is the Technical Assistance Grant,

669

00:44:05,015 --> 00:44:09,490

which I mentioned, yeah, and that's where  
communities can hire technical experts

670

00:44:09,514 --> 00:44:13,748

to help interpret the information  
that we generate and explain it to them,

671

00:44:13,772 --> 00:44:18,160

and as an independent  
viewer of that information.

672

00:44:18,160 --> 00:44:23,781

I think it's important to see that  
under Superfund we have a lot of tools

673

00:44:23,805 --> 00:44:25,599

to work with communities.

674

00:44:25,599 --> 00:44:29,359

We can help with reuse,  
planning and looking at future use.

675

00:44:29,359 --> 00:44:35,667

These public meetings and the picture  
that Lavar included in one of his slides,

676

00:44:35,691 --> 00:44:38,451

where a community member was  
talking with the local government

677

00:44:38,475 --> 00:44:40,453

about the future use  
of a site in Jacksonville.

678

00:44:40,477 --> 00:44:43,731

I'm particularly proud of that, I  
took that photo, I was in that meeting,

679

00:44:43,755 --> 00:44:48,946

and I heard it was a meeting  
that we had formed at EPA

680

00:44:48,970 --> 00:44:50,428

and we brought in  
the local government,

681

00:44:50,452 --> 00:44:54,748

we brought in some community  
leaders that we have worked with.

682

00:44:54,772 --> 00:44:57,420

And we talked about  
the future use of that site,

683

00:44:57,444 --> 00:45:01,749

but we also talked-- she also  
talked about some of the other issues

684

00:45:01,773 --> 00:45:04,400

that their community was facing.

685

00:45:04,400 --> 00:45:08,259

And had the ear and the audience

of the local government officials

686

00:45:08,283 --> 00:45:12,347

that control things like zoning and  
permitting and building sidewalks

687

00:45:12,371 --> 00:45:14,740

and building parks  
and stuff like that.

688

00:45:14,764 --> 00:45:19,217

So I think that's a benefit  
under community involvement that,

689

00:45:19,241 --> 00:45:24,480

we provide that for and help the  
community build the capacity to advocate

690

00:45:24,480 --> 00:45:28,366

for those types of changes,  
but as far as grants in particular,

691



00:45:28,390 --> 00:45:33,323

EPA's Superfund is not really  
a grant program other than,

692

00:45:33,347 --> 00:45:34,934

the technical  
assistance grant.

693

00:45:34,958 --> 00:45:39,347

Now with that being said  
the Brownfields program,

694

00:45:39,371 --> 00:45:40,551

which is a, I mentioned earlier,

695

00:45:40,575 --> 00:45:44,640

and I think there'll be another  
call on this and there's another,

696

00:45:44,640 --> 00:45:48,640

they'll have a whole lot to talk  
about in their program, is primarily,

697

00:45:48,640 --> 00:45:50,880

a grant program from  
EPA's perspective,

698

00:45:50,880 --> 00:45:54,168

and with the build act that  
passed just a couple of years ago

699

00:45:54,192 --> 00:45:57,079

nonprofits can  
now apply for those.

700

00:45:57,103 --> 00:46:02,480

And that's where EPA gives grants  
for to local governments to non-profits

701

00:46:02,480 --> 00:46:11,119

and helps fund state programs that can look at revitalizing communities doing things like

702

00:46:11,119 --> 00:46:17,208

doing phase one environmental assessment, some  
phase two or sample sampling assessments,

703

00:46:17,232 --> 00:46:23,040

which those are important to help  
promote or help dislodge some sites

704

00:46:23,040 --> 00:46:25,601

that have real or  
perceived contamination,

705

00:46:25,625 --> 00:46:29,216

and so as far as a grant  
opportunity in the cleanup arena,

706

00:46:29,240 --> 00:46:32,819

Brownfields is definitely  
where EPA shines,

707

00:46:32,843 --> 00:46:37,056

and so much has been-- so many  
benefits have been realized from that program

708

00:46:37,080 --> 00:46:44,640

I would certainly encourage people with that question to tune in to that meeting as well.

709

00:46:51,200 --> 00:46:52,238

Victoria Robinson: Thank you, Bill.

710

00:46:52,262 --> 00:46:56,319

Christina, you want to ask-- who's the next question you want to ask.

711

00:46:56,319 --> 00:47:02,024

Christina Motilall: Yes, the next question in is from Ramona, and they ask

712

00:47:02,048 --> 00:47:08,420

Is TA available to Superfund communities that aren't on the high priorities list?

713

00:47:08,720 --> 00:47:11,839

Excuse me.

714

00:47:16,160 --> 00:47:22,639

Bill Denman: I think Helen wants  
to answer that one, is that right?

715

00:47:22,663 --> 00:47:24,418

Helen: Sure,  
yeah, I can answer it.

716

00:47:24,442 --> 00:47:34,427

Hi, so technical assistance is available to  
anyone who is affected by a Superfund site,

717

00:47:34,451 --> 00:47:38,761

and we have several technical  
assistance programs that help communities

718

00:47:38,785 --> 00:47:44,559

and in the Q&A, I can post a link  
to our community involvement program

719

00:47:44,559 --> 00:47:48,381

and the technical  
assistance opportunities

720

00:47:48,405 --> 00:47:53,370

that are available cover what Bill spoke  
about earlier our Technical Assistance Grant.

721

00:47:53,394 --> 00:47:58,014

We also have funds available  
to hire technical experts

722

00:47:58,038 --> 00:47:59,986

through a  
contract-based vehicle,

723

00:48:00,010 --> 00:48:04,747

and then we also have a lot of  
support that we can provide communities

724

00:48:04,771 --> 00:48:07,440

to form a community  
advisory group or the like.

725

00:48:07,440 --> 00:48:13,068

So a lot of different things, we also have

support to help communities think through

726

00:48:13,092 --> 00:48:16,480

and envision what a

Superfund site could be for their

727

00:48:16,480 --> 00:48:17,908

community once it's cleaned up.

728

00:48:17,932 --> 00:48:20,993

So how do we get that Superfund

site back into redevelopment

729

00:48:21,017 --> 00:48:24,240

so that it becomes a

benefit for the community?

730

00:48:24,240 --> 00:48:28,408

So I'll post a chat or somebody can post

a link in the chat, sorry or the Q&A

731

00:48:28,432 --> 00:48:32,160

to our Superfund community involvement  
program and encourage you to look at it,

732

00:48:32,160 --> 00:48:36,000

and if you have any questions, we're  
happy to answer them after the call.

733

00:48:36,000 --> 00:48:38,079

Thank you.

734

00:48:38,079 --> 00:48:39,786

Victoria Robinson: Thank you, Helen.

735

00:48:39,810 --> 00:48:42,280

Christina with your permission,  
I'm going to go ahead

736

00:48:42,304 --> 00:48:44,868

and go to the first person  
who's got their hand raised,

737

00:48:44,892 --> 00:48:47,520



they've had it raised since  
the near the beginning,

738

00:48:47,520 --> 00:48:52,559

That is Eledoux e-l-e-d-o-u-x,

739

00:48:52,559 --> 00:48:59,740

you can go ahead and unmute your  
phone to ask your question.

740

00:49:03,840 --> 00:49:07,028

Eledoux, I hope I'm  
pronouncing it correctly.

741

00:49:07,052 --> 00:49:10,959

Are you able to  
unmute your line?

742

00:49:13,520 --> 00:49:15,427

All right we'll come back to you.

743

00:49:15,451 --> 00:49:23,599

The next person who had  
raise their hand is Ladonna W.

744

00:49:24,880 --> 00:49:28,520

Go ahead Ladonna.

745

00:49:31,944 --> 00:49:33,944

Matthew Tejada: There she is.

746

00:49:34,160 --> 00:49:35,744

Ladonna Williams: Yes,  
can you hear me now?

747

00:49:35,768 --> 00:49:36,995

Matthew Tejada: Yes.

Victoria Robinson: Thank you.

748

00:49:37,019 --> 00:49:38,240

Ladonna Williams: Okay, yes  
good morning, I'm Ladonna Williams.

749

00:49:39,040 --> 00:49:41,397

All positive as possible.

750

00:49:41,421 --> 00:49:45,200

There's a lot of great  
information here,

751

00:49:45,200 --> 00:49:48,847

but you only given us one minute  
to be able to communicate this

752

00:49:48,871 --> 00:49:53,853

so that's part of my first suggestion is  
to give the public longer than a minute

753

00:49:53,877 --> 00:49:59,317

to be able to get in all this  
feeling of what we need to do

754

00:49:59,441 --> 00:50:02,548

and communicate to you to be effective.

755

00:50:02,572 --> 00:50:10,258

First, and foremost is all of us who are  
for justice need to press President Biden

756

00:50:10,282 --> 00:50:14,734

on his unwillingness to  
honestly address the reparations

757

00:50:14,758 --> 00:50:18,640

and the atonement needed  
for African-Americans.

758

00:50:18,640 --> 00:50:21,644

We were forced here, for  
those of you that know the history,

759

00:50:21,668 --> 00:50:24,468

I'm sure, I don't have to  
repeat it, but for those that don't,

760

00:50:24,492 --> 00:50:29,440

we were forced here by force  
to have to give free labor,

761

00:50:29,440 --> 00:50:35,608

then after we got past that, we're put  
on toxic dumps as you opened up about

762

00:50:35,632 --> 00:50:38,778

North Carolina how  
this all got started

763

00:50:38,802 --> 00:50:43,839

and how even now we're still  
suffering as a people African-American.

764

00:50:43,839 --> 00:50:49,320

So we need to press those  
conversations, force the administration

765

00:50:49,344 --> 00:50:55,375

to focus on African-American needs that are  
specific and unique aside from all others.

766

00:50:55,399 --> 00:50:59,680

We've got to stop the black

and brown and lumping us together.

767

00:50:59,680 --> 00:51:04,868

But what is the EPA doing and who  
do we contact or who do I contact

768

00:51:04,992 --> 00:51:12,497

to start these conversations of focusing on  
African-American historically disadvantaged

769

00:51:12,521 --> 00:51:18,160

long-term high exposed populations  
so that money gets to us?

770

00:51:18,160 --> 00:51:22,108

Not the high paid consultants, not all  
these other technical processes,

771

00:51:22,132 --> 00:51:29,359

where the money is still in the hands of those  
who have the ability to address these issues,

772

00:51:29,359 --> 00:51:31,634

because they have that expertise.

773

00:51:31,658 --> 00:51:37,839

We need this money and funding to  
come specifically to our front line small

774

00:51:37,839 --> 00:51:42,640

community-based organizations  
that are actually doing this work,

775

00:51:42,640 --> 00:51:44,640

with the grace of god, because we're not

776

00:51:44,640 --> 00:51:49,448

getting that funding that you have given  
to these other larger organizations.

777

00:51:49,472 --> 00:51:53,680

You actually acknowledge  
that in your presentation

778

00:51:53,680 --> 00:51:56,953

that you know that historically  
where that money is gone,

779

00:51:56,977 --> 00:51:59,892

so if we are gonna change  
the course of how things are,

780

00:51:59,916 --> 00:52:03,824

we can no longer and I'm  
sorry, I am gonna name names,

781

00:52:03,848 --> 00:52:10,102

you can't rely on the professor Bullards  
and those folks, who, for politically reasons

782

00:52:10,126 --> 00:52:12,576

always talk that  
we're all in this together,

783

00:52:12,600 --> 00:52:15,226

but when  
you look at the suffering and the dollars,



784

00:52:15,350 --> 00:52:20,427

it is not going to black communities,  
is going to the other people of color,

785

00:52:20,451 --> 00:52:23,041

from the native  
Americans to the Latinos,

786

00:52:23,065 --> 00:52:30,800

who we just seen are on the radar to get to  
450,000 dollars per person for the wrongs

787

00:52:30,800 --> 00:52:35,359

that they say have been done to them,  
although they were breaking the law.

788

00:52:35,359 --> 00:52:41,440

Yet, we ignore the over 400 years of  
suffering that African Americans have

789

00:52:41,440 --> 00:52:45,688

suffered and we continue to suffer today  
through these types of programs

790

00:52:45,712 --> 00:52:52,108

and the unwillingness of America to  
address the suffering of African Americans.

791

00:52:52,132 --> 00:52:57,494

So I'd like to see where the  
EPA will start these conversations.

792

00:52:57,518 --> 00:53:00,268

We're not eliminating  
others that have suffered,

793

00:53:00,292 --> 00:53:04,741

but we are starting with African  
Americans, who have suffered the most

794

00:53:04,765 --> 00:53:06,715

and continue to suffer the most.

795

00:53:06,739 --> 00:53:09,473

So I know that was a lot,  
apologize if I went over time,

796

00:53:09,497 --> 00:53:16,691

but I'd like to know who do I contact so that  
I can do my part to start these conversations,

797

00:53:16,715 --> 00:53:22,047

and get this rolling, because it's way  
overdue for us to start addressing those

798

00:53:22,071 --> 00:53:25,680

who are suffering the worst  
and getting the least support.

799

00:53:25,680 --> 00:53:28,880

Thank you.

800

00:53:28,880 --> 00:53:30,982

Matthew Tejada: Thank you, Ladonna.

801

00:53:31,006 --> 00:53:35,367

And I don't, I hope-- I don't  
think we are putting a time on this.

802

00:53:35,391 --> 00:53:40,106

Did we say--are we just  
asking folks to try to get to the point,

803

00:53:40,130 --> 00:53:43,100

but no, I don't think  
we had like a one minute.

804

00:53:43,124 --> 00:53:45,556

Christina Motilall: So  
Matt this is Christina, yeah,

805

00:53:45,580 --> 00:53:47,717

we did ask just out of respect to try

806

00:53:47,741 --> 00:53:50,868

and get as many people's  
questions answered as possible

807

00:53:50,892 --> 00:53:52,319

to try and

limit it to a minute,

808

00:53:52,319 --> 00:53:54,888

but we are very interested in

hearing what everyone has to say.

809

00:53:54,912 --> 00:53:59,702

Matthew Tejada: Yeah, I mean the amount of  
time you took it's an important topic Ladonna,

810

00:53:59,726 --> 00:54:05,599

so absolutely please, do not feel the need to  
apologize for taking the time you need there.

811

00:54:05,599 --> 00:54:09,907

I would say one, just  
by being on this call

812

00:54:09,931 --> 00:54:13,691

and by saying what you just said that's

that's part of what you need to do,

813

00:54:13,715 --> 00:54:19,760

because that's why we've provided  
these, the folks on this call today

814

00:54:19,760 --> 00:54:24,000

are thinking through how do we  
make sure that the communities

815

00:54:24,000 --> 00:54:27,252

that need the support the  
most, receive that support.

816

00:54:27,276 --> 00:54:32,908

So continuing to engage with us on these  
calls is really important continuing

817

00:54:32,932 --> 00:54:38,416

as we look out-- this is going  
to be a long-term effort, right?

818

00:54:38,440 --> 00:54:45,040

We're not going to suddenly take the way that  
the government has operated for centuries

819

00:54:45,040 --> 00:54:46,892

and just go and reorient it.

820

00:54:46,916 --> 00:54:52,640

That's why this is  
such a big priority for the president

821

00:54:52,640 --> 00:54:54,970

and for Administrator Regan,

822

00:54:54,994 --> 00:55:00,668

is because this is going to be a  
lot of effort over a period of time

823

00:55:00,692 --> 00:55:04,068

so we're going to  
continue to engage in this.

824

00:55:04,092 --> 00:55:07,371

We're going to continue to  
have these national conversations

825

00:55:07,395 --> 00:55:11,280

and invite our colleagues  
in from across EPA,

826

00:55:11,280 --> 00:55:15,351

from other federal agencies as we mentioned  
before to take part in these conversations,

827

00:55:15,375 --> 00:55:19,828

so continuing to show up and  
to let them hear directly from you,

828

00:55:19,852 --> 00:55:25,348

it's one thing if me and  
my staff and the EJ Program tells them,

829

00:55:25,372 --> 00:55:30,803

it's another thing--important  
things to hear from you, right?



830

00:55:30,827 --> 00:55:33,195

Ladonna Williams: Yes, now  
can I ask you this though,

831

00:55:33,219 --> 00:55:36,960

because I've been  
doing this for 30 years plus, right?

832

00:55:36,960 --> 00:55:43,548

And what is different than the Mr.  
Takata, I don't know where he's gone

833

00:55:43,572 --> 00:55:48,692

and but it's so many changes that has  
happened, they're still Jackie Lane within EPA

834

00:55:48,716 --> 00:55:54,499

we've been through President Clinton  
and wishing they weren't completely terrible,

835

00:55:54,523 --> 00:55:58,606

but even so was Obama on this,  
and let's call it what it is.

836

00:55:58,630 --> 00:56:02,400

He ignored African-Americans  
more than almost any other president,

837

00:56:02,400 --> 00:56:05,259

but what is going to be different?

838

00:56:05,283 --> 00:56:10,915

I get it takes time, but that's also part of  
the injustice when it comes to black folks

839

00:56:10,939 --> 00:56:15,520

we're expected to take this  
time and be so understanding and patient,

840

00:56:15,520 --> 00:56:22,054

yet, we're watching other populations not have  
to suffer the amount of time on their issues,

841

00:56:22,078 --> 00:56:27,743

they come in, they're not being studied  
for another 40 years of the obvious.

842

00:56:27,767 --> 00:56:30,230

They see an injustice,  
they're handling it,

843

00:56:30,254 --> 00:56:34,160

they're getting that funding  
to these other people of color.

844

00:56:34,160 --> 00:56:37,208

Yet, when it comes to us we're  
told to continue to wait like,

845

00:56:37,232 --> 00:56:39,131

what is going to be different?

846

00:56:39,155 --> 00:56:44,967

We need to really feel that this 40, which  
isn't enough, but let's start somewhere,

847

00:56:44,991 --> 00:56:48,573

but how is it going to be different  
than what's been happening before?

848

00:56:48,597 --> 00:56:51,003

Matthew Tejada: Right, thanks,  
thank you for that Ladonna.

849

00:56:51,027 --> 00:56:52,441

So a couple things.

850

00:56:52,465 --> 00:56:56,310

The bigger thing  
for me on this is that

851

00:56:56,334 --> 00:57:01,760

no administration before has  
made as clear a commitment

852

00:57:01,760 --> 00:57:08,480

and put in place or at least put in the  
mandate to create the accountability measures

853

00:57:08,480 --> 00:57:13,321

where we're going to be scored, each  
government agency is going to be scored

854

00:57:13,345 --> 00:57:17,528

on how well we implement  
the president's mandates here,

855

00:57:17,552 --> 00:57:20,627

and we're not exactly sure  
how that's going to work yet,

856

00:57:20,651 --> 00:57:24,380

that's going to be the job of the White House  
to kind of come up with that score card,

857

00:57:24,404 --> 00:57:29,694

but there's going to be accountability  
for us to actually figure this stuff out.

858

00:57:29,718 --> 00:57:34,720

So that is different from before, right?

And that's something that I'm hopeful,

859

00:57:34,720 --> 00:57:40,775

that level of transparency, that very clear  
accountability across the federal government,

860

00:57:40,799 --> 00:57:45,280

and also the opportunity like  
we're taking right now at EPA

861

00:57:45,280 --> 00:57:49,647

to not just implement these  
as part of executive orders,

862

00:57:49,671 --> 00:57:53,708

but bring them in to the actual  
strategic plan of the agency

863

00:57:53,732 --> 00:57:58,248

so that it's not just this high level  
accountability for the agency overall,

864

00:57:58,272 --> 00:58:05,251

but it starts to actually filter down to leadership, to mid-level managers to staff.

865

00:58:05,275 --> 00:58:08,326

The people that actually review the grants

866

00:58:08,350 --> 00:58:14,000

or write the RFAS right the details of how we give out money,

867

00:58:14,000 --> 00:58:20,960

it's going to be pushed into all of those different parts of government.

868

00:58:20,960 --> 00:58:23,888

And then the other thing to the first part you had,

869

00:58:23,912 --> 00:58:29,359

so engaging in these conversations is an

important way of answering your question,

870

00:58:29,359 --> 00:58:32,035

we need to hear from you

here, I would also recommend,

871

00:58:32,059 --> 00:58:36,880

and we can put it in chat for I'm

not sure where you are specifically,

872

00:58:36,880 --> 00:58:41,225

making sure that you're in touch with your

regional environmental justice coordinator,

873

00:58:41,249 --> 00:58:45,160

each region, all 10 regions

of EPA have EJ coordinators,

874

00:58:45,184 --> 00:58:50,239

if there are specific Superfund

issues, other contamination issues,

875



00:58:50,263 --> 00:58:54,240

you are having in your  
community or other pollution issues,

876

00:58:54,240 --> 00:58:58,248

your EJ coordinator can  
help you navigate inside of EPA

877

00:58:58,272 --> 00:59:05,760

to find the actual folks responsible  
for site-specific projects or resources

878

00:59:05,760 --> 00:59:09,920

so that would be another  
really good way or just generally,

879

00:59:09,920 --> 00:59:17,631

staying on with our @EPAEnvjustice  
Twitter handle or signing up for our email,

880

00:59:17,655 --> 00:59:20,720

because we try to push out  
through the EJ program.

881

00:59:20,720 --> 00:59:24,748

Any of these other opportunities to receive  
funding whether it's their Superfund

882

00:59:24,772 --> 00:59:26,319

or some other program.

883

00:59:26,319 --> 00:59:29,368

We try to make sure that we  
are pushing that information out

884

00:59:29,392 --> 00:59:33,119

so that folks are aware when  
these opportunities come along,

885

00:59:33,119 --> 00:59:38,768

because there's a lot that we have to  
do to improve on the government side

886

00:59:38,792 --> 00:59:41,846

of pushing the money out in

ways to get to those communities.

887

00:59:41,870 --> 00:59:44,884

But we still need  
communities ready and aware

888

00:59:44,908 --> 00:59:49,200

to pull that money into their  
communities on their side.

889

00:59:49,200 --> 00:59:55,359

So I think with that Christina or  
Victoria will probably move on.

890

00:59:55,359 --> 01:00:00,200

Victoria Robinson: Yeah, Christina  
go ahead, is there a question to be read?

891

01:00:00,559 --> 01:00:03,784

Christina Motilall: Honestly,  
right now not at the moment

892

01:00:03,808 --> 01:00:07,119

so if you wanted to call on another  
hand raise that would be great,

893

01:00:07,119 --> 01:00:10,400

and then I will pull a  
question in a second.

894

01:00:10,400 --> 01:00:15,200

Victoria Robinson: No problem,  
I'm going turn to White Arrows.

895

01:00:15,200 --> 01:00:20,000

If you would like to go  
ahead and unmute your phone.

896

01:00:21,760 --> 01:00:23,920

Ray Hall: Yes, thank you very much.

897

01:00:23,920 --> 01:00:26,608

I will be in contact with-- this is  
Ray hall from Flint Michigan.

898

01:00:26,632 --> 01:00:29,146

I don't know if you  
remember me Matt.

899

01:00:29,170 --> 01:00:29,681

Matthew Tejada: Yes.

900

01:00:29,705 --> 01:00:33,280

Ray Hall: But this I'll be giving you a  
call soon-- this is beautiful [LAUGHS]

901

01:00:33,280 --> 01:00:35,748

beautiful event, but the  
name of thing I was asking was that

902

01:00:35,772 --> 01:00:38,559

we got EPA here on the  
ground right now in Flint Michigan,

903

01:00:38,559 --> 01:00:41,559

because of the lead water crisis--  
do I get it--

904

01:00:41,583 --> 01:00:45,283

Female Voice: Today's webinar we are offering simultaneous interpretation in Spanish.

905

01:00:45,307 --> 01:00:51,007

Please follow through [UNINTELLIGIBLE] on the screen if you'd prefer to listen.

906

01:00:51,031 --> 01:00:53,031

Matthew Tejada: Thanks, Ray.

907

01:00:53,055 --> 01:00:54,936

I think we might be getting some feedback from you.

908

01:00:54,960 --> 01:00:58,799

So we might put you back on you right-- it's great to hear your voice though

909

01:00:58,799 --> 01:01:02,000

I could have told-- I would

have been able to tell it was you

910

01:01:02,000 --> 01:01:05,839

without your name up there  
or you telling me your name.

911

01:01:05,839 --> 01:01:14,720

Yeah so a lot of times what folks--  
I know it's hard-- well it's not hard.

912

01:01:14,720 --> 01:01:20,826

It is always best to start with your regional  
EJ folks or your regional EPA folks

913

01:01:20,850 --> 01:01:25,348

like coming up to headquarters  
nine times out of ten

914

01:01:25,372 --> 01:01:30,799

if you come to headquarters with  
an EJ issue or a Superfund issue,

915

01:01:30,799 --> 01:01:35,548

probably 99 times out of a 100, first thing we do is turn around to our regional colleagues

916

01:01:35,572 --> 01:01:37,520

and like "Hey what's going on here?"

917

01:01:37,520 --> 01:01:41,440

Are you aware of this? What are we doing? Where are we? What can we do?"

918

01:01:41,440 --> 01:01:46,720

So coming to headquarters really just brings us back to the loop of

919

01:01:46,720 --> 01:01:47,567

"Hey, regions..."

920

01:01:47,591 --> 01:01:51,280

The regions are what implement so much of EPA's programs,

921



01:01:51,280 --> 01:01:54,548

they are closer to you  
all in the community,

922

01:01:54,572 --> 01:01:58,388

they are closer to our state  
and local and tribal colleagues--

923

01:01:58,412 --> 01:02:02,388

The regions are really  
the implementers at EPA.

924

01:02:02,412 --> 01:02:07,599

Now some-- if there's a dissatisfaction or  
a miscommunication or something goes wrong,

925

01:02:07,599 --> 01:02:10,472

that's when a lot of times  
folks come to headquarters

926

01:02:10,496 --> 01:02:14,240

and we kind of widen the  
circle and figure things out,

927

01:02:14,240 --> 01:02:19,680

but yes folks should-- I think as  
a rule, start with the regional folks

928

01:02:19,680 --> 01:02:25,428

and then reach out to other  
parts of EPA if that's not working

929

01:02:25,452 --> 01:02:29,588

or if something else is needed, we  
can facilitate that from headquarters

930

01:02:29,612 --> 01:02:35,075

but the regions or even more locally like  
we have folks on the ground in Flint still,

931

01:02:35,680 --> 01:02:39,168

getting to those local folks because  
that's who we in headquarters,

932

01:02:39,192 --> 01:02:44,480

we're going to rely on what those  
local folks for EPA are telling us.

933

01:02:44,480 --> 01:02:48,508

Ray Hall: Okay so that's it, did I  
just get in contact with the EPA here local

934

01:02:48,532 --> 01:02:52,000

and that's how I start my  
community engagements, right?

935

01:02:52,000 --> 01:02:52,720

Matthew Tejada: Yes.

936

01:02:52,720 --> 01:02:53,668

Ray Hall: Thank  
you so much, thank you.

937

01:02:53,692 --> 01:02:55,280

Have a beautiful day both of you all.

938

01:02:55,280 --> 01:02:58,480

Matthew Tejada: Thank you Ray, you too.

939

01:02:59,359 --> 01:03:03,680

Victoria Robinson: This is Victoria, I'm going to add one thing that we will be posting,

940

01:03:04,559 --> 01:03:06,836

a link in the Q&A pod.

941

01:03:06,860 --> 01:03:10,587

I think we'll try to post it there, a link to the page

942

01:03:10,611 --> 01:03:15,599

where you can find the individual EJ coordinators for your regions

943

01:03:15,599 --> 01:03:21,117

and so that you guys can then be able to reach out to them via their email.

944

01:03:21,141 --> 01:03:24,228

So we'll try to get that  
into the Q&A pod.

945

01:03:24,252 --> 01:03:35,760

All right, so the next person we have is  
actually on the phone ending in 780

946

01:03:37,440 --> 01:03:41,680

and I'm going to ask  
you to unmute your line.

947

01:03:42,000 --> 01:03:44,720

Are you able to unmute your line?

948

01:03:44,720 --> 01:03:50,788

Matthew Tejada: Yeah it starts out 415 and  
780 we can't see the rest of that number,

949

01:03:50,812 --> 01:03:54,240

so if somebody who  
called in on the phone

950

01:03:54,240 --> 01:03:58,799

actually figured out how to raise your  
hand on the phone in Zoom,

951

01:03:58,799 --> 01:04:04,400

but you get a huge-- a huge  
gold star just for figuring that out

952

01:04:04,400 --> 01:04:10,599

but 415 telephone  
number ending in 780.

953

01:04:12,559 --> 01:04:16,319

It looks like they're still muted, do you  
know Victoria is it star or something?

954

01:04:16,319 --> 01:04:17,533

\*6, \*3 to unmute?

955

01:04:17,557 --> 01:04:24,160

Victoria Robinson I think \*6, I think  
is the way to unmute your phone.

956

01:04:24,160 --> 01:04:25,680

Matthew Tejada: Oh, hey there it went.

957

01:04:25,680 --> 01:04:27,588

Victoria Robinson: Here it goes.

958

01:04:27,612 --> 01:04:28,240

Matthew Tejada: 415.

959

01:04:28,240 --> 01:04:29,108

Victoria Robinson: Go ahead.

960

01:04:29,132 --> 01:04:30,000

Raymond Tompkins: Yes, sir.

961

01:04:30,000 --> 01:04:31,297

Matthew Tejada: Hey!

962

01:04:31,321 --> 01:04:32,160

Raymond Tompkins: Oh, thank you.

963

01:04:32,160 --> 01:04:35,148

Thank you, my name is

Dr. Raymond Tompkins

964

01:04:35,172 --> 01:04:40,588

and I had the TAG grant some years

ago at the United States Navy Shipyard

965

01:04:40,612 --> 01:04:45,839

and Nuclear Research Facility

in Hunters Point in San Francisco.

966

01:04:45,839 --> 01:04:51,359

The TAG grants ain't enough

money to do the damn job.

967

01:04:51,359 --> 01:04:53,808

Secondly, it is very limited.

968

01:04:53,832 --> 01:04:59,385

You are asking us to review the

polluters documents they submitted.



969

01:04:59,409 --> 01:05:06,559

You are asking us to believe the fox  
to tell us how many chickens they stole

970

01:05:06,559 --> 01:05:09,200

out of the chicken coop.

971

01:05:09,200 --> 01:05:11,288

That ain't how science is conducted.

972

01:05:11,312 --> 01:05:17,760

Now I taught it over the decade, I've been  
involved in environmental science for 50 years

973

01:05:17,760 --> 01:05:24,160

when I started research as a sophomore  
and I've been all over the world doing this.

974

01:05:24,160 --> 01:05:29,928

I also worked with Mrs. Williams  
as well and Dr. Clark in Richmond

975

01:05:29,952 --> 01:05:35,520

and we were all as she brought during the  
Manpower Commission during World War II

976

01:05:35,520 --> 01:05:42,899

recruited black people and out of the  
government policy of the war department of 1925

977

01:05:42,923 --> 01:05:48,438

saying how black dumb  
stupid generated Tuskegee study,

978

01:05:48,462 --> 01:05:55,920

they forced my parents to live  
next door to the sources of pollution.

979

01:05:55,920 --> 01:05:58,720

One, we need to quit--

[CLEARING THROAT]

980

01:05:58,720 --> 01:06:02,291

EPA needs to stop using  
traditional risk assessments

981

01:06:02,315 --> 01:06:05,520

based on your own  
literature you publish,

982

01:06:05,520 --> 01:06:08,967

a medical model of a  
35 year old white male

983

01:06:08,991 --> 01:06:14,240

being applicable to African-American  
people and people of color.

984

01:06:14,240 --> 01:06:18,628

Secondly, you need to provide in the  
Technical Assistance Grant

985

01:06:18,652 --> 01:06:24,400

to allow the independent professors  
for us to sit up here and check--

986

01:06:24,400 --> 01:06:28,201

spot check the data

that is being presented.

987

01:06:28,225 --> 01:06:33,039

Out here in Bayview, Tetra

Tech which was hired by the Navy,

988

01:06:33,039 --> 01:06:38,559

falsified the radiological studies

that they conducted on the shipyard.

989

01:06:38,559 --> 01:06:45,180

I've been participating in cancer research

and biomonitoring and I'm doing the clusters

990

01:06:45,204 --> 01:06:53,359

and we have measured radio isotopes

and individuals urine in the community.

991

01:06:53,359 --> 01:07:00,387

We need EPA to step up to the game and put

real measurements out here to protect us.

992

01:07:00,411 --> 01:07:07,280

I don't need the rhetoric, we are now in  
the 21st century I've already read Mein Kampf,

993

01:07:07,280 --> 01:07:12,480

we need to drop it and do real  
science to protect people of color

994

01:07:12,480 --> 01:07:19,680

and African-American people because we  
were forced by law, forced by desegregation

995

01:07:19,680 --> 01:07:28,160

to live next door at Hunters Point, they put  
trailers next to four nuclear accelerators.

996

01:07:28,160 --> 01:07:32,828

Mrs. Cherry gave testimony at the RAB  
meeting, Remediation Advisory Board

997

01:07:32,852 --> 01:07:40,348

that out there on old navy road, the 12 black families that will force their every member

998

01:07:40,372 --> 01:07:44,000

in that household had cancer.

999

01:07:44,000 --> 01:07:49,627

In Bayview–Hunters Point, at one point Dr. Gillis Debbie did the studies on breast cancer

1000

01:07:49,651 --> 01:07:54,720

and black women in this community had the highest breast cancer rate in the world.

1001

01:07:54,720 --> 01:08:00,880

I've just finished doing a study for the air district and my other colleagues from the university

1002

01:08:00,880 --> 01:08:14,240

and that benzene levels at a base cancer rate of 1:100000 is 574% above that for over 20 years

1003

01:08:14,240 --> 01:08:18,319

and no one has done a damn  
thing to sit around and change this.

1004

01:08:18,319 --> 01:08:26,641

We need EPA also to step up and deal  
with measuring radioactive fugitive dust

1005

01:08:26,665 --> 01:08:28,960

leaving the work site.

1006

01:08:28,960 --> 01:08:36,479

Your practices that you're allowing the  
U.S Navy to do out there is unacceptable.

1007

01:08:36,479 --> 01:08:39,528

You do not have standards  
for moisture content.

1008

01:08:39,552 --> 01:08:42,588

The American standards of  
measurement and technology says

1009

01:08:42,612 --> 01:08:45,759

it should be 12% moisture content.

1010

01:08:45,759 --> 01:08:51,439

You got somebody with a hole spraying  
subjectively when they think it is,

1011

01:08:51,439 --> 01:08:54,799

but yet we are mentioned in the  
neighborhood, damn it,

1012

01:08:54,799 --> 01:08:59,439

people with radioisotopes in their urine.

1013

01:08:59,439 --> 01:09:02,399

The methodology is inappropriate.

1014

01:09:02,399 --> 01:09:07,120

We want to play that the wind just flows  
westwardly it's swirling around



1015

01:09:07,120 --> 01:09:12,000

out here in our neighborhood and  
flowing back into the neighborhood.

1016

01:09:12,000 --> 01:09:15,120

We need real measurements, we need in the

1017

01:09:15,120 --> 01:09:21,227

TAG grant and we had the TAG grant for  
four years and that we even gave money back

1018

01:09:21,251 --> 01:09:25,759

when I couldn't get the quality of  
scientists that I wanted to work on it

1019

01:09:25,759 --> 01:09:32,912

and that the scientists that volunteered risk  
suspension and punishment from the university

1020

01:09:32,936 --> 01:09:37,120

because it was so little money  
being invested into the community

1021

01:09:37,120 --> 01:09:42,560

and what they were doing they did it out of  
friendship and a commitment for the truth.

1022

01:09:42,560 --> 01:09:49,707

We need real funding and reverse this racism  
of underfunding these impacted communities.

1023

01:09:49,731 --> 01:09:53,607

And yes, like Mrs. Williams  
based on historical record,

1024

01:09:53,631 --> 01:09:56,807

I am interested in the  
African-American community

1025

01:09:56,831 --> 01:10:03,760

because they have the longest  
experience of long-term exposure

1026

01:10:03,760 --> 01:10:05,768

what I had to explain to the air district.

1027

01:10:05,792 --> 01:10:12,068

I'm not dealing with high dose, single dose exposure, it's long-term high dose exposure.

1028

01:10:12,092 --> 01:10:18,640

The families live there next to these sources of pollution for 24 hours a day,

1029

01:10:18,640 --> 01:10:25,600

it's not the work level of 8 hours and then you're okay, it's 24 hours.

1030

01:10:25,600 --> 01:10:32,188

There's a reason why there is this elevated cancer risk out here

1031

01:10:32,212 --> 01:10:34,000

in Bayview-Hunters Point.

1032

01:10:34,000 --> 01:10:39,679

It's not by accident, I'm not  
trying to cover for the developers,

1033

01:10:39,679 --> 01:10:44,480

we need objective science to  
help us address these issues

1034

01:10:44,480 --> 01:10:47,440

and that's why I'm  
asking EPA to step forward.

1035

01:10:47,440 --> 01:10:48,951

Matthew Tejada: Okay, thank you for that.

1036

01:10:48,975 --> 01:10:52,880

I was trying to keep track of  
all the different things you offered, sir.

1037

01:10:52,880 --> 01:10:54,400

Thank you for that.

1038

01:10:56,080 --> 01:11:01,411

To the-- one point in  
particular really stuck out to me

1039

01:11:01,435 --> 01:11:08,250

about how we approach science and how for a  
long time so much of environmental regulation

1040

01:11:08,274 --> 01:11:12,708

has supposed average exposure to a  
single pollutant by an average individual

1041

01:11:12,732 --> 01:11:18,488

which was-- I don't even know if code is  
the right word for a middle-aged white male

1042

01:11:18,512 --> 01:11:23,108

and that has nothing to do with the reality  
of exposure across the United States.

1043

01:11:23,132 --> 01:11:29,600

I believe that our scientists and researchers  
at EPA and other parts of the federal government

1044

01:11:29,600 --> 01:11:36,828

have finally learned and internalized that,  
it does not make up for or help with the fact

1045

01:11:36,852 --> 01:11:41,040

that we have decades of science  
that operated this way.

1046

01:11:41,040 --> 01:11:47,440

Now I believe eyes are opened up to-- we need  
to do science that is based in the reality

1047

01:11:47,440 --> 01:11:52,648

of communities and especially  
based in the reality of communities

1048

01:11:52,672 --> 01:11:57,888

that have a disproportionate burden,  
that have excessive vulnerabilities

1049

01:11:57,912 --> 01:12:01,600

such as communities of

color across the United States,

1050

01:12:01,600 --> 01:12:06,080

so I'm hopeful that the scientific  
endeavor of really understanding

1051

01:12:06,080 --> 01:12:09,840

impacts on health--  
cumulative impacts on health,

1052

01:12:09,840 --> 01:12:13,468

impacts on the most sensitive  
populations in the United States

1053

01:12:13,492 --> 01:12:21,760

that we're going to make real progress  
on that direction in this administration.

1054

01:12:21,760 --> 01:12:29,760

I also appreciate your hearing, your  
experience about being a TAG recipient,

1055

01:12:29,760 --> 01:12:32,308

about the limitations and funding,

1056

01:12:32,332 --> 01:12:35,760

I think that's the sort of

feedback we need to hear

1057

01:12:35,760 --> 01:12:42,400

and that's why we have our Superfund colleagues

on to hear exactly that sort of feedback

1058

01:12:42,400 --> 01:12:46,800

from real experiences

across the United States,

1059

01:12:46,800 --> 01:12:52,640

that the levels of funding and the

flexibilities for use of that funding

1060

01:12:52,640 --> 01:12:56,560

need to be examined

as part of this process.



1061

01:12:56,560 --> 01:13:03,440

So Victoria, I think we had a couple of  
maybe questions that were put in the Q&A

1062

01:13:03,440 --> 01:13:06,159

that we wanted to bring up at this point.

1063

01:13:06,159 --> 01:13:08,224

Victoria Robinson: I am waiting to see if--

1064

01:13:08,248 --> 01:13:11,280

Christina do you have  
any that you would like to read out loud?

1065

01:13:11,280 --> 01:13:13,887

If not, I was going to go  
on to the next person in line.

1066

01:13:13,911 --> 01:13:16,303

Christina Motilall: I think you  
can go to the next person please.

1067

01:13:16,327 --> 01:13:22,080

Victoria Robinson: All right,  
this person is Saul Lopez.

1068

01:13:22,239 --> 01:13:26,400

So if you-- Yep, your mic  
is open, go ahead Saul.

1069

01:13:26,400 --> 01:13:28,480

Saul Lopez: Thank you,  
thank you for the opportunity.

1070

01:13:28,480 --> 01:13:35,859

Yes, I work for the city of Omaha and  
I'm part of the group of people in charge

1071

01:13:35,883 --> 01:13:41,280

of helping the EPA with  
the Omaha lead Superfund site.

1072

01:13:41,280 --> 01:13:46,388

We have done great work this

year even with--despite COVID,

1073

01:13:46,412 --> 01:13:48,828

we have completed our  
projects and we're gonna about--

1074

01:13:48,852 --> 01:13:51,308

we're gonna complete  
our projects as we intended

1075

01:13:51,332 --> 01:13:54,640

but anyhow I just wanted  
to let you know that

1076

01:13:54,640 --> 01:13:58,800

we work very closely with  
our EPA rep Kimberly Burr

1077

01:13:58,800 --> 01:14:05,760

and one of the things though that I'm  
going to have to bring to her attention

1078

01:14:05,760 --> 01:14:12,000

is the need that we need that we  
have seen and we have heard from

1079

01:14:12,000 --> 01:14:15,520

several of our property owners,

1080

01:14:15,520 --> 01:14:20,628

they want to see the EPA program-- I mean the  
city of Omaha now implementing the program

1081

01:14:20,652 --> 01:14:23,280

with a different approach.

1082

01:14:23,280 --> 01:14:28,450

They for instance have suggested that a lot of  
those areas where we are really hitting soil

1083

01:14:28,474 --> 01:14:31,056

taking out the old-- I mean  
the contaminated soil

1084

01:14:31,080 --> 01:14:36,000

and bringing in the new soil but  
they have requested at this point even--

1085

01:14:36,000 --> 01:14:40,762

I mean because of COVID they  
want to grow their own vegetables

1086

01:14:40,786 --> 01:14:47,440

and we really see that as a project that  
we would really like to implement for 2022,

1087

01:14:47,440 --> 01:14:52,867

we really would want to know who do  
we have to talk to to make sure

1088

01:14:52,891 --> 01:14:59,760

that all communities have the benefit of  
having additional soil given to these projects,

1089

01:14:59,760 --> 01:15:04,177

so whenever they want to grow their own  
vegetables, they will be given that opportunity.

1090

01:15:04,201 --> 01:15:07,040

So I'm just going  
to leave it like that.

1091

01:15:07,040 --> 01:15:09,674

Matthew Tejada: Thank you, Saul  
I think that's a great question.

1092

01:15:09,698 --> 01:15:15,760

I'm not sure if any of our headquarters Superfund  
folks can help out with that other than--

1093

01:15:18,159 --> 01:15:27,760

Well actually, I know that we have at least  
one Superfund rock stars from Region 7

1094

01:15:29,600 --> 01:15:35,520

on here I'm gonna scroll down real quick  
and see if she's actually hung on with us.

1095

01:15:35,520 --> 01:15:36,880

Victoria Robinson: What's  
the name? I'll search for--

1096

01:15:36,880 --> 01:15:38,308  
what's her name?

1097

01:15:38,332 --> 01:15:39,391  
Matthew Tejada: It is Pamela Houston.

1098

01:15:39,415 --> 01:15:39,760  
Victoria Robinson: Oh, yeah I know her.

1099

01:15:41,760 --> 01:15:46,800  
I'm gonna give-- I'll give  
her permission to talk, okay? Go ahead, Pam.

1100

01:15:46,800 --> 01:15:48,560  
Matthew Tejada: Pam, were you listening?

1101

01:15:48,560 --> 01:15:50,768  
Pamela Houston: Yes,  
I'm so glad that I stayed on--

1102

01:15:50,792 --> 01:15:56,164

We had a Region 7 call at  
2 o'clock our time,

1103

01:15:56,188 --> 01:15:58,632

but I said "Oh, I'm  
gonna stay on this one."

1104

01:15:58,656 --> 01:16:02,227

And actually the community  
involvement coordinator for the site

1105

01:16:02,251 --> 01:16:07,600

is actually on the call, Elizabeth  
Kramer you may want to unmute her.

1106

01:16:07,600 --> 01:16:10,000

Victoria Robinson: Yep, is it EK Kramer?

1107

01:16:10,000 --> 01:16:10,868

Pamela Houston: Yes.



1108

01:16:10,892 --> 01:16:15,120

Victoria Robinson: E. Kramer,  
okay I'm allowing her to talk right now.

1109

01:16:15,199 --> 01:16:17,194

Elizabeth Kramer: Hey good afternoon.

1110

01:16:17,218 --> 01:16:18,093

Matthew Tejada: Hey, Elizabeth.

1111

01:16:18,117 --> 01:16:20,742

Did you hear Saul's question?

Can you give him any feedback?

1112

01:16:20,766 --> 01:16:21,672

Elizabeth Kramer: Yes, I did.

1113

01:16:21,696 --> 01:16:25,940

That's a great idea and Kim

Burr and I will follow up with you,

1114

01:16:25,964 --> 01:16:28,208

we can also talk with Erin Evans,

1115

01:16:28,232 --> 01:16:33,224

she's our director for the ATSDR in  
Region 7 and talk about this project.

1116

01:16:33,248 --> 01:16:38,960

We definitely want to make sure that people  
can garden and eat food in their own home,

1117

01:16:38,960 --> 01:16:43,128

grow it, it's part of being human,  
it's part of living on this planet

1118

01:16:43,152 --> 01:16:46,208

and definitely that's something that  
needs to happen, it's part of future reuse

1119

01:16:46,232 --> 01:16:50,031

and being able to have urban  
gardening and eat your own tomatoes.

1120

01:16:50,055 --> 01:16:54,900

I love your ideas and I look forward to  
meeting you and thanks for being on the call

1121

01:16:54,924 --> 01:16:57,621

and this is a great  
call, thanks for the opportunity.

1122

01:16:57,645 --> 01:16:59,548

Matthew Tejada: Great,  
thanks Elizabeth, thanks Pam.

1123

01:16:59,572 --> 01:17:02,640

So they'll connect-- they'll  
be connecting with you, Saul.

1124

01:17:02,640 --> 01:17:06,480

And just for folks--  
for folks awareness,

1125

01:17:06,480 --> 01:17:11,838

you can always find EPA folks pretty  
easily, it's lastname.firstname@epa.gov.

1126

01:17:11,862 --> 01:17:16,040

So like for me it's tejada.matthew@epa.gov.

1127

01:17:16,239 --> 01:17:20,080

Unless it's like Sally Smith or  
something, it might get a little weird

1128

01:17:20,080 --> 01:17:25,040

but for most of us, there haven't been  
too many of us, so you can find--

1129

01:17:25,040 --> 01:17:27,360

you can find just about anyone at EPA,

1130

01:17:27,360 --> 01:17:30,960

lastname.firstname@epa.gov.

1131

01:17:30,960 --> 01:17:32,108

All right Victoria--

1132

01:17:32,132 --> 01:17:37,199

Victoria Robinson: All right, the next  
one we have is Velma

1133

01:17:37,199 --> 01:17:44,520

and if you can go ahead  
and unmute your phone, Velma.

1134

01:17:48,640 --> 01:17:52,000

Are you able to unmute, Velma?

1135

01:17:56,159 --> 01:18:02,088

Okay, I tell you what-- I will  
go to the next person in line

1136

01:18:02,112 --> 01:18:10,233

J. Thorn, the initial J t-h-o-r-n, if  
you are-- want to be able to speak

1137

01:18:10,257 --> 01:18:13,840

go ahead and unmute your line.

1138

01:18:18,960 --> 01:18:21,760

Are you there J.?

1139

01:18:25,600 --> 01:18:29,679

Okay, we'll go ahead

and keep going.

1140

01:18:29,679 --> 01:18:31,343

Victoria Robinson: I'm sorry?

1141

01:18:31,367 --> 01:18:32,430

Matthew Tejada: We'll keep going

1142

01:18:32,454 --> 01:18:35,679

Victoria Robinson: Yeah,

I will go to Karen Nichol.

1143

01:18:37,679 --> 01:18:42,043

Oh, I have to move her up in order-- she's

an older version of Zoom

1144

01:18:42,067 --> 01:18:44,000

so let me move her up.

1145

01:18:44,000 --> 01:18:46,641

All right, Karen?

1146

01:18:46,665 --> 01:18:48,480

Matthew Tejada: She went away.

1147

01:18:48,480 --> 01:18:53,688

Victoria Robinson: No she's in, she's now  
in and she's moved into a different area.

1148

01:18:54,320 --> 01:18:55,760

Matthew Tejada: Oh, okay great.

1149

01:18:57,360 --> 01:19:00,560

Victoria Robinson: Karen,  
can you speak now?

1150

01:19:00,560 --> 01:19:02,828

Karen Nichol: Yes, can you hear me?

1151

01:19:02,852 --> 01:19:03,600

Victoria Robinson: Yes.

1152

01:19:03,600 --> 01:19:04,542

Karen Nichol: Okay, hi.

1153

01:19:04,566 --> 01:19:07,508

I wanted to talk just a little  
bit about-- I know Matt--

1154

01:19:07,532 --> 01:19:12,159

you mentioned to one  
of the previous speakers

1155

01:19:12,159 --> 01:19:16,080

to kind of take their issues  
to the specific regions

1156

01:19:17,120 --> 01:19:21,679

and kind of put an emphasis on that



before heading to D.C. I understand that.

1157

01:19:21,679 --> 01:19:27,040

I think what I wanted to maybe  
suggest or talk about is a lot of times

1158

01:19:27,040 --> 01:19:35,440

I live in St. Louis and live 1.8 miles away  
from the Westlake landfill Superfund site

1159

01:19:35,440 --> 01:19:39,920

and some of the things  
that I would suggest is

1160

01:19:39,920 --> 01:19:47,077

the CICs maybe need or someone--  
maybe it's a social worker in each region

1161

01:19:47,101 --> 01:19:52,159

that could be hired, I don't know  
maybe it's a social worker for EPA D.C.

1162

01:19:52,159 --> 01:19:55,868

that could oversee something but  
somebody needs to get out

1163

01:19:55,892 --> 01:20:00,848

into these specific communities and they need  
to find out what their needs actually are.

1164

01:20:02,480 --> 01:20:07,388

EJ is-- could be different  
across this nation and some things

1165

01:20:07,412 --> 01:20:10,800

that might work for one  
might not work for another

1166

01:20:10,800 --> 01:20:13,796

and it would have been nice  
if we would have had someone

1167

01:20:13,820 --> 01:20:18,768

that was able to get in the community,  
find out where the food insecurities were--

1168

01:20:18,792 --> 01:20:22,908

were the people that were under  
insurance or had no insurance

1169

01:20:22,932 --> 01:20:26,923

how to make meetings that  
EPA was hosting more accessible

1170

01:20:26,947 --> 01:20:35,679

by offering babysitting or different ways to  
get people out to meetings more accessible.

1171

01:20:35,679 --> 01:20:40,560

And I think also the  
community health workers--

1172

01:20:40,560 --> 01:20:43,108

there needs to be a level of empathy,

1173

01:20:43,132 --> 01:20:47,040

there needs to be the

"I'm sorry this is happening"

1174

01:20:47,040 --> 01:20:50,948

because these people are waking  
up to finding out that they're living close

1175

01:20:50,972 --> 01:20:55,760

to a Superfund site, most of  
them are scared, they're sick,

1176

01:20:56,639 --> 01:21:00,480

they have no idea what  
Superfund even means

1177

01:21:00,480 --> 01:21:05,108

and it really is even in communities  
that already have Superfund sites

1178

01:21:05,132 --> 01:21:09,568

that have been there for-- the site's  
been there for years and years and years,

1179

01:21:09,592 --> 01:21:15,120

new people learn that they're  
living next to these things all the time.

1180

01:21:15,120 --> 01:21:20,621

I just-- it would be nice to have  
someone that already knows

1181

01:21:20,645 --> 01:21:24,067

what is going on in  
this particular community

1182

01:21:24,091 --> 01:21:29,248

where-- because the site itself  
there's so much more happening

1183

01:21:29,272 --> 01:21:34,768

things that we've run into are  
trying to educate about our site

1184

01:21:34,792 --> 01:21:39,199

when there are these  
other things that you know--

1185

01:21:39,199 --> 01:21:45,199

the crime rate's high, can't let their kids  
play outside because they're afraid of drive-bys.

1186

01:21:46,320 --> 01:21:51,840

There's a lot going on in communities  
that need to be addressed once

1187

01:21:52,719 --> 01:21:58,080

a Superfund site is acknowledged or  
decided to be a Superfund site, whatever,

1188

01:21:58,080 --> 01:22:02,719

they need to have all of these  
things in place going forward.

1189

01:22:02,719 --> 01:22:03,847

Matthew Tejada: Thank you for that, Karen.

1190

01:22:03,871 --> 01:22:08,228

You're hitting on a number

of topics that we have--

1191

01:22:08,252 --> 01:22:14,159

I mean a lot of us at

EPA are acutely aware of

1192

01:22:14,159 --> 01:22:19,888

and I think the leadership team that

has been brought in by Administrator Regan

1193

01:22:19,912 --> 01:22:24,628

is acutely aware of, folks like--

I know Carlton Waterhouse,

1194

01:22:25,360 --> 01:22:29,120

we were on a call last week about a

Superfund site with some community folks

1195

01:22:29,120 --> 01:22:33,968

and I think there is a level of

not just awareness but appreciation

1196

01:22:33,992 --> 01:22:39,199

and hopefully value for exactly  
what you were talking about

1197

01:22:39,199 --> 01:22:43,440

that we've never had before  
in my experience at EPA

1198

01:22:43,440 --> 01:22:52,960

and I think pursuing opportunities to  
develop exactly those sorts of resources

1199

01:22:52,960 --> 01:22:57,199

is a priority, it's-- I don't have  
a satisfying answer for you,

1200

01:22:57,199 --> 01:23:00,868

I wish I could say "Yeah and we  
just got 100 million dollars

1201

01:23:00,892 --> 01:23:04,583

so we could hire community health  
workers across the entire United States"



1202

01:23:04,607 --> 01:23:09,888

that's something we're talking about, we  
can't write checks to ourselves, of course,

1203

01:23:09,912 --> 01:23:14,560

that is congress's authority and  
we work with what congress gives us

1204

01:23:14,560 --> 01:23:18,928

but we have talked specifically about  
things like a community health worker model

1205

01:23:18,952 --> 01:23:25,440

and how could we potentially at  
EPA develop that sort of a capacity

1206

01:23:25,440 --> 01:23:32,159

not just for Superfund but for-- so that so  
that when we do show up in a community,

1207

01:23:32,159 --> 01:23:40,400

EPA is showing up with ready to engage the  
community on the realities of their challenges

1208

01:23:40,400 --> 01:23:46,388

above and beyond, the things that we can  
specifically respond to with our authorities

1209

01:23:46,412 --> 01:23:49,668

whether it's bringing in other  
partners from the federal government,

1210

01:23:49,692 --> 01:23:52,960

whether it's bringing in state  
or local or tribal government,

1211

01:23:52,960 --> 01:23:57,760

whether it's trying to get  
philanthropy or academic institutions

1212

01:23:57,760 --> 01:23:59,428

to come to the table.

1213

01:23:59,452 --> 01:24:04,960

That's-- we see not just the  
value in that but the necessity of it.

1214

01:24:04,960 --> 01:24:07,262

So those are things  
that we're considering,

1215

01:24:07,286 --> 01:24:10,480

so hearing that from you in  
this conversation is really valuable

1216

01:24:10,480 --> 01:24:13,199

just to continue to elevate that.

1217

01:24:13,199 --> 01:24:16,948

It's not just something to talk  
about as we look at future budgets,

1218

01:24:16,972 --> 01:24:20,308

it's something we need to think  
about and talk about right now

1219

01:24:20,332 --> 01:24:23,450

as we're looking at

the budgets we already have,

1220

01:24:23,474 --> 01:24:30,639

the additional resources we just

received so that we can prioritize

1221

01:24:30,639 --> 01:24:34,639

looking at how to allocate those and

spin those in ways that really lift up

1222

01:24:34,639 --> 01:24:38,960

the value that you're talking about

which at the end of the day

1223

01:24:38,984 --> 01:24:41,280

is going to help us do our work

1224

01:24:41,280 --> 01:24:44,088

to match the needs of the communities

that have the greatest--

1225

01:24:44,112 --> 01:24:49,199

the greatest burden, the greatest  
challenges, thank you for that.

1226

01:24:49,199 --> 01:24:50,575

Victoria Robinson: Okay, great.

1227

01:24:50,599 --> 01:24:54,188

I'm gonna go ahead and  
try J. Thorn once again

1228

01:24:54,212 --> 01:24:58,760

and see if you can unmute yourself.

1229

01:25:03,679 --> 01:25:04,960

Okay.

1230

01:25:04,960 --> 01:25:12,000

I'm not sure, so we'll try  
to go with Velma Bailey.

1231

01:25:13,920 --> 01:25:16,400

Let's see.

1232

01:25:18,159 --> 01:25:19,051

And I'm not--

1233

01:25:19,075 --> 01:25:19,925

Velma Bailey: Hello?

1234

01:25:19,949 --> 01:25:21,774

Matthew Tejada: There

she is, Velma just came in.

1235

01:25:21,798 --> 01:25:23,317

There we go, hey Velma.

1236

01:25:23,341 --> 01:25:25,516

Velma Bailey: Hi there, how  
are you all doing this afternoon?

1237

01:25:25,540 --> 01:25:27,040

Matthew Tejada: I'm fine, how are you?

1238

01:25:27,040 --> 01:25:29,225

Velma Bailey: Well, I've been  
better and I'm glad I'm not worse

1239

01:25:29,249 --> 01:25:34,080

and I'm believing that something  
positive is going to come from this meeting.

1240

01:25:34,080 --> 01:25:37,294

I live in St. Louis Missouri and I live  
near one of the sites

1241

01:25:37,318 --> 01:25:43,679

that was cleaned up on the Superfund  
sites and it was called a carburetor.

1242

01:25:43,679 --> 01:25:47,679

And I really feel that the people in the  
neighborhood did not get an opportunity

1243

01:25:47,679 --> 01:25:51,920

to talk about the  
adaptive reuse of that land

1244

01:25:51,920 --> 01:25:59,008

and for some reason the EPA  
funded the Superfund cleanup

1245

01:25:59,032 --> 01:26:05,489

and then the land was returned back to  
the people who actually were responsible

1246

01:26:05,513 --> 01:26:09,280

or owners of the land  
that was contaminated

1247

01:26:09,280 --> 01:26:14,239

and then they have somehow  
transferred the land to the PGA,

1248

01:26:14,239 --> 01:26:18,594

the Professional Golf Association and  
the Boys and Girls Club



1249

01:26:18,618 --> 01:26:23,139

and the people who live in the neighborhood  
who have been adversely affected

1250

01:26:23,163 --> 01:26:28,800

for more than 30 years have no  
say-so on the reuse of that land

1251

01:26:28,800 --> 01:26:34,239

and there is no benefit necessarily  
to the people who live here

1252

01:26:34,239 --> 01:26:41,120

because the land is supposed to be  
used by the PGA for golfing, for children

1253

01:26:41,120 --> 01:26:47,684

and in addition to that, just recently I saw the  
PGA and some other people doing a walk through

1254

01:26:47,708 --> 01:26:51,040

our neighborhood and  
they're talking about housing,

1255

01:26:51,040 --> 01:26:53,526

that they're going to  
finance in our neighborhood

1256

01:26:53,550 --> 01:26:56,719

and we're seriously facing  
gentrification,

1257

01:26:56,719 --> 01:27:03,115

the National Geospatial Agency is pressing us  
aggressively on the east side of our neighborhood,

1258

01:27:03,139 --> 01:27:10,214

now this Superfund site and the PGA, they  
are bringing in people to start businesses,

1259

01:27:10,238 --> 01:27:13,528

to look at what kind of things  
they can do to make money

1260

01:27:13,552 --> 01:27:18,880

and then they are trying to basically squeeze  
the rest of us out and take our property

1261

01:27:18,880 --> 01:27:26,960

and I think a lot of it was supported because  
the Superfund sites gave them a lot of land

1262

01:27:26,960 --> 01:27:31,147

and opportunities for people now in the PGA  
and their group of people to come in

1263

01:27:31,171 --> 01:27:35,280

and look at our community and see  
how they can continue to take it over.

1264

01:27:35,280 --> 01:27:39,920

They had about 20 people that were all  
white walking through our neighborhood

1265

01:27:39,920 --> 01:27:44,120

and none of the neighbors were invited.

1266

01:27:48,719 --> 01:27:50,207

Matthew Tejada: Thank you, Velma.

1267

01:27:50,231 --> 01:27:57,440

You're you're pointing to one of I  
think the toughest aspects of Superfund,

1268

01:27:57,440 --> 01:27:59,920

it's something that I was just--

1269

01:27:59,920 --> 01:28:05,120

I was in another community just a couple  
weekends ago, not your community

1270

01:28:05,120 --> 01:28:10,028

and we had this exact same  
conversation, they weren't at the same point

1271

01:28:10,052 --> 01:28:12,639

in their progression as you all are,

1272

01:28:12,639 --> 01:28:16,480

but one of the things we  
were talking about was,

1273

01:28:16,480 --> 01:28:20,567

"Hey, folks are already building  
400000 dollar homes around here

1274

01:28:20,591 --> 01:28:25,600

even though it's still contaminated  
because we're so close to downtown,

1275

01:28:25,600 --> 01:28:29,679

what's going to happen once that  
contamination actually gets cleaned up?"

1276

01:28:29,679 --> 01:28:35,600

The presence of contamination  
might be one of the only things

1277

01:28:35,600 --> 01:28:41,440

that is keeping the community

from being entirely displaced

1278

01:28:41,440 --> 01:28:46,609

and that is an unintended  
consequence of our actions,

1279

01:28:46,633 --> 01:28:52,560

it's something that has been  
highlighted for EPA for a number of years.

1280

01:28:52,560 --> 01:28:57,128

The National Environmental Justice Advisory  
Council actually wrote a whole report

1281

01:28:57,152 --> 01:29:01,679

about that very issue, it's  
been over 15 years now I think,

1282

01:29:01,679 --> 01:29:09,040

about 15-16 years ago it was more focused on  
Brownfields cleanup than Superfund cleanups.

1283

01:29:11,440 --> 01:29:17,360

We are aware of that, not sure--

1284

01:29:18,480 --> 01:29:21,827

I'm not sure who else-- I'm  
not sure where we are though

1285

01:29:21,851 --> 01:29:24,080

in the Superfund program and considering it.

1286

01:29:24,080 --> 01:29:25,600

Casey you're coming on to help me out.

1287

01:29:25,600 --> 01:29:27,508

How can you help me out?

1288

01:29:27,532 --> 01:29:28,800

Casey Lockett: Sure, thanks Matt.

1289

01:29:28,800 --> 01:29:35,908

Hi Velma, thank you for your comment  
and your thoughtful feedback

1290

01:29:35,932 --> 01:29:38,348

on the Carter Carburetor site.

1291

01:29:38,372 --> 01:29:43,204

My name is Casey Snyder I am  
currently on detail to EPA headquarters

1292

01:29:43,228 --> 01:29:46,480

and I'm working in the  
Superfund Redevelopment Program.

1293

01:29:48,639 --> 01:29:56,128

So you have hit on and Matt alluded to one of  
the major if not really the only major drawback

1294

01:29:56,152 --> 01:30:01,527

to beneficially reusing and  
redeveloping our Superfund sites

1295

01:30:01,551 --> 01:30:06,686

which is sometimes that can



unintentionally result in gentrification,

1296

01:30:06,710 --> 01:30:10,960

in the displacement of people  
who have long lived in the area

1297

01:30:10,960 --> 01:30:18,400

and have lived through a Superfund  
site and the cleanup of a Superfund site.

1298

01:30:18,400 --> 01:30:22,392

I'm not familiar with the specifics  
of the Carter Carburetor site

1299

01:30:22,416 --> 01:30:27,947

but I can tell you that EPA Superfund  
Redevelopment Program did fund

1300

01:30:27,971 --> 01:30:33,440

or did provide technical assistance  
for a Superfund reuse assessment

1301

01:30:33,464 --> 01:30:40,480

where we look at the beneficial  
reuse options and opportunities for a site

1302

01:30:40,480 --> 01:30:46,080

that does typically include soliciting  
feedback from the community,

1303

01:30:46,080 --> 01:30:51,575

so I will certainly make sure that that was  
done when we did the reuse assessment

1304

01:30:51,599 --> 01:30:54,560

for the Carter Carburetor site.

1305

01:30:54,560 --> 01:31:00,536

And one of the things that's sometimes hard  
for communities that they grapple with

1306

01:31:00,560 --> 01:31:03,600

is the fact that EPA doesn't  
own the Superfund sites,

1307

01:31:03,600 --> 01:31:09,748

they're privately owned and clearly real  
estate transactions between private landowners,

1308

01:31:09,772 --> 01:31:15,814

don't really involve EPA and so  
we don't have title to the property

1309

01:31:15,838 --> 01:31:19,684

and we don't control  
local land use decisions.

1310

01:31:19,708 --> 01:31:21,868

Velma Bailey: But I'd like to say this:

1311

01:31:21,892 --> 01:31:27,440

The EPA was fully involved in all  
of the negotiations and the meetings

1312

01:31:27,440 --> 01:31:30,727

and I really don't feel that the  
community people got a voice,

1313

01:31:30,751 --> 01:31:37,760

I'm not sure what your research is going to reveal  
in terms of actual participation of neighbors

1314

01:31:37,760 --> 01:31:41,520

because then I would like to talk to  
you about that also.

1315

01:31:41,520 --> 01:31:49,322

The people in this community have been  
neglected and not been able to have full input

1316

01:31:49,346 --> 01:31:53,308

into that process and there  
may be some names on some paper

1317

01:31:53,332 --> 01:31:58,828

but I am sharing with you that the people  
in this community who are homeowners

1318

01:31:58,852 --> 01:32:04,359

did not have an equal voice  
or necessarily a voice at all,

1319

01:32:04,383 --> 01:32:10,719

they were overshadowed by people  
who we feel were staged in that process

1320

01:32:10,719 --> 01:32:17,647

and we would like to have some  
vindication of what's going on in the area

1321

01:32:17,671 --> 01:32:23,048

and the EPA provided federal funds,  
tax dollars that many of us pay into

1322

01:32:23,072 --> 01:32:25,264

to help with this process.

1323

01:32:25,288 --> 01:32:32,159

We're just asking for some equitable  
support in this process and the EPA fund us

1324

01:32:32,159 --> 01:32:35,868

with people who are knowledgeable  
that we can trust and depend on

1325

01:32:35,892 --> 01:32:37,656

to help rectify this issue.

1326

01:32:37,680 --> 01:32:43,165

There is no reason in the world  
for that land to be used by children

1327

01:32:43,189 --> 01:32:48,268

who don't even live in this neighborhood  
who have never been adversely affected

1328

01:32:48,292 --> 01:32:51,607

by all of the issues  
that happen with the EPA.

1329

01:32:51,631 --> 01:32:56,085

We have hundreds of people here and  
then we have many people in our community

1330

01:32:56,109 --> 01:33:00,968

that have died from cancer, we kept asking  
for them to test and do health studies,

1331

01:33:00,992 --> 01:33:06,960

we ask them to test soil in the community,  
not just the soil around the Superfund site

1332

01:33:06,960 --> 01:33:12,188

but the soil where we live  
and we are not getting any results.

1333

01:33:12,212 --> 01:33:16,425

Many of us are retired and  
older now and some of us

1334

01:33:16,449 --> 01:33:21,487

don't have the kind of funds that  
people are able to utilize through the EPA,

1335

01:33:21,511 --> 01:33:26,880

they used our own money against

us to be able to maneuver this project

1336

01:33:26,880 --> 01:33:29,710

so that they can invite  
people in to take our property

1337

01:33:29,734 --> 01:33:34,632

and it's not a group of people who  
have a private ownership of some land,

1338

01:33:34,656 --> 01:33:40,000

it's a whole governmental  
operation, it's systemic.

1339

01:33:41,199 --> 01:33:44,504

Casey Lockett: I appreciate that feedback,

1340

01:33:44,528 --> 01:33:50,719

we will have the Superfund site team  
in Region 7 reach out directly to you

1341

01:33:50,719 --> 01:33:52,758



and I will be a part  
of that conversation

1342

01:33:52,782 --> 01:33:56,880

as the National Superfund  
Redevelopment Program Coordinator.

1343

01:33:56,880 --> 01:34:00,988

Velma Bailey: I would like to have some money  
so that we can have people who we can trust

1344

01:34:01,012 --> 01:34:02,518

at the table with us.

1345

01:34:02,542 --> 01:34:07,328

I respect your level of knowledge and I have  
learned from participating in those meetings

1346

01:34:07,352 --> 01:34:10,908

all these years, the skill  
level that your people have.

1347

01:34:10,932 --> 01:34:15,679

We don't have that, I'm telling you  
we're being out man, we're being outskilled,

1348

01:34:15,679 --> 01:34:18,835

we're out knowledge and we  
need some people to be on our side,

1349

01:34:18,859 --> 01:34:21,452

people going to help  
us and give us the truth

1350

01:34:21,476 --> 01:34:23,325

even with all of those contracts,

1351

01:34:23,349 --> 01:34:27,250

there was a small amount of people who  
were black who got a chance to participate

1352

01:34:27,274 --> 01:34:29,920

and earning money  
from the cleanup.

1353

01:34:29,920 --> 01:34:34,000

I don't have any problem with  
any of you all, I'm just saying this:

1354

01:34:34,000 --> 01:34:37,568

Let's level it up, let's equal it out,  
give us the same amount of money

1355

01:34:37,592 --> 01:34:43,028

let us get the same kind of attorneys and  
people who have at least an equal status

1356

01:34:43,052 --> 01:34:48,887

and a knowledge base that you guys  
have so that we can get the full support

1357

01:34:48,911 --> 01:34:51,845

that we need to be whole,  
to be made whole from this.

1358

01:34:51,869 --> 01:34:54,639

That was one of your questions,

how can we be made whole?

1359

01:34:54,639 --> 01:34:59,840

We want some people to represent us and  
talk about how we can retain ownership

1360

01:34:59,840 --> 01:35:03,827

of our homes and these people coming in  
walking around our neighborhood,

1361

01:35:03,851 --> 01:35:08,719

taking pictures of our  
houses it's just not-- it's not fair.

1362

01:35:08,719 --> 01:35:09,123

Matthew Tejada: I'm thinking--

1363

01:35:09,147 --> 01:35:11,679

Velma Bailey: And they're  
using government money.

1364

01:35:11,679 --> 01:35:13,708

Matthew Tejada: Yep,  
thank you, thank you Velma.

1365

01:35:13,732 --> 01:35:17,760

We hear you, I  
think that's part of--

1366

01:35:17,760 --> 01:35:22,080

the challenge we have  
in this administration is

1367

01:35:22,080 --> 01:35:24,828

making the government  
really work for the communities

1368

01:35:24,852 --> 01:35:27,588

that have not received the benefit

1369

01:35:27,612 --> 01:35:32,628

or I think what I'm hearing in your case  
not knowing about the Carter Carburetor site

1370

01:35:32,652 --> 01:35:36,080

in the detail that

Casey and other folks do.

1371

01:35:37,679 --> 01:35:43,280

How is it actually played out and what do we need to change in our processes?

1372

01:35:43,280 --> 01:35:49,520

What do we need to change in terms of what we fund or how we fund or when we fund

1373

01:35:49,520 --> 01:35:52,159

to make sure that the communities that

1374

01:35:52,159 --> 01:35:59,840

have been contaminated, that have been dumped on, that have lived for years or generations

1375

01:35:59,840 --> 01:36:06,639

of that exposure and all the other impacts from the exposure including and beyond health,

1376

01:36:06,639 --> 01:36:12,400

what can we do to make sure that you  
are lifted up and not just heard anymore,

1377

01:36:12,400 --> 01:36:18,400

but actually have what you need to  
make your communities a better place?

1378

01:36:18,400 --> 01:36:24,080

And certainly not for us to clean stuff up  
and then well everyone just get displaced.

1379

01:36:24,080 --> 01:36:29,235

Nobody at EPA wants that to be the  
end result of cleaning up contamination,

1380

01:36:29,259 --> 01:36:36,000

we want to make communities better,  
polar, safer, more prosperous places to live.

1381

01:36:36,000 --> 01:36:38,800

Bill did you want to add to that?

1382

01:36:38,800 --> 01:36:40,281

Bill Denman: Yeah, thank you Matt.

1383

01:36:40,305 --> 01:36:46,400

And as Casey said in the beginning,  
we have limited ability to address this

1384

01:36:46,400 --> 01:36:50,667

but gentrification is definitely  
something that EPA is aware of,

1385

01:36:50,691 --> 01:36:56,368

it's something that we've  
tried to expand the conversation on,

1386

01:36:56,392 --> 01:37:03,040

and just a tool that was recently developed  
in Region 4 in our southeast region,

1387

01:37:03,040 --> 01:37:06,400

that I'd like to share if



we can share it in the chat,

1388

01:37:06,400 --> 01:37:12,400

is our Brownfields program which I was working in before I came to headquarters,

1389

01:37:12,400 --> 01:37:18,968

developed a brochure on equitable development and it gave some examples

1390

01:37:18,992 --> 01:37:24,719

of how some of the local communities in Region 4

1391

01:37:24,880 --> 01:37:29,600

address the issues of affordable housing of equitable development of

1392

01:37:29,600 --> 01:37:33,679

communities having a role and it gives a lot of examples of how

1393

01:37:33,679 --> 01:37:38,948

nonprofits community-driven  
organizations helped make a big difference

1394

01:37:38,972 --> 01:37:43,679

and so I'd just like to share that and let  
everyone on the call know that that's available.

1395

01:37:43,679 --> 01:37:47,520

And one of the things that we  
were very interested in this

1396

01:37:47,520 --> 01:37:52,370

is establishing and there are contacts  
in there in those local governments

1397

01:37:52,394 --> 01:37:56,130

that people can-- it's not just local  
governments it's non-profits as well

1398

01:37:56,154 --> 01:38:00,881

that people can contact that are  
facing some of the same issues

1399

01:38:00,905 --> 01:38:07,641

and they can share their experiences  
and hopefully expand this conversation

1400

01:38:07,665 --> 01:38:12,028

so that we can address the  
issue of equitable development.

1401

01:38:12,052 --> 01:38:15,268

So I just wanted to offer that as  
a resource for those on the call

1402

01:38:15,292 --> 01:38:18,880

that may be interested in this issue.

1403

01:38:18,880 --> 01:38:20,228

Matthew Tejada: Thanks Bill.

1404

01:38:20,252 --> 01:38:25,520

And I see Velma you're still you're  
heading to the chat, yeah I absolutely--

1405

01:38:25,520 --> 01:38:28,788

that's the point here,  
that's the point of justice.

1406

01:38:28,812 --> 01:38:34,080

If we're really going to  
advance and achieve justice,

1407

01:38:34,080 --> 01:38:38,400

it means making sure that the  
communities that need the most help,

1408

01:38:38,400 --> 01:38:45,760

whose voices have not been lifted up, who have  
been marginalized or segregated or oppressed

1409

01:38:45,760 --> 01:38:52,210

that we actually focus on your needs  
and we help you come up with the vision

1410

01:38:52,234 --> 01:38:57,280

of what your community wants to  
be and that we help you achieve that,

1411

01:38:57,280 --> 01:39:02,063

not put you in a position to  
eliminate a source of exposure

1412

01:39:02,087 --> 01:39:06,813

but create a vulnerability  
for you on the other side of it,

1413

01:39:06,837 --> 01:39:09,668

that's not what the  
purpose of this program is,

1414

01:39:09,692 --> 01:39:12,639

that's not what any of  
us are trying to achieve,

1415

01:39:12,639 --> 01:39:20,628

but we have some progress to make and some  
things to evolve and change to make sure

1416

01:39:20,652 --> 01:39:25,199

that we are-- as we clean  
up contaminated sites,

1417

01:39:25,199 --> 01:39:30,747

everything we do points  
towards and supports the future

1418

01:39:30,771 --> 01:39:38,080

that that existing community sees for itself  
after that contamination has been cleaned up.

1419

01:39:38,080 --> 01:39:40,560

So where-- what do we have next?

1420

01:39:40,560 --> 01:39:43,388

Victoria Robinson: All right  
Matthew, we have two more people

1421

01:39:43,412 --> 01:39:46,179

and that's about all we have  
for be able to ask a question,

1422

01:39:46,203 --> 01:39:50,768

is then we do want to get to our question  
that we had about whether we want to do

1423

01:39:50,792 --> 01:39:56,159

November 23rd call as well as an update  
about some upcoming engagement opportunities.

1424

01:39:56,159 --> 01:40:04,239

So I'm going to first turn to first on  
the phone, area code 314 ending in 595.

1425

01:40:04,239 --> 01:40:11,760

If you can unmute your line,  
see if you're able to access.

1426

01:40:12,480 --> 01:40:14,159

Are you able to unmute?

1427

01:40:14,159 --> 01:40:17,548

Matthew Tejada: \*6 was the lucky

combination earlier on the phone.

1428

01:40:17,572 --> 01:40:19,360

Victoria Robinson: Yeah, I think so.

1429

01:40:19,360 --> 01:40:25,199

Matthew Tejada: So the telephone  
number that starts with 314 ends in 595,

1430

01:40:25,199 --> 01:40:29,840

if you hit \*6 you should  
be able to talk at us.

1431

01:40:33,520 --> 01:40:40,840

Victoria Robinson: All right, I'll  
go ahead and do Jen Hahn, h-a-h-n.

1432

01:40:42,000 --> 01:40:43,026

Are you able to?

1433

01:40:43,050 --> 01:40:44,400

Jen Hahn: Hi there, did it work?



1434

01:40:44,400 --> 01:40:46,031

Matthew Tejada: It did work.

Victoria Robinson: Yes.

1435

01:40:46,055 --> 01:40:48,227

Jen Hahn: Great. Hi thanks

everybody, this is fantastic.

1436

01:40:48,251 --> 01:40:53,348

I've been a community advocate in my area  
in Frederick, Maryland for the Superfund site

1437

01:40:53,372 --> 01:40:57,081

surrounding Fort Dietrich  
and I had childhood cancer,

1438

01:40:57,105 --> 01:41:00,809

I laid in one of the places they  
found the original source contamination

1439

01:41:00,833 --> 01:41:05,828

for three summers in a row and  
within 10 years I had a childhood cancer

1440

01:41:05,852 --> 01:41:08,228

that didn't run  
anywhere in my family.

1441

01:41:08,252 --> 01:41:12,639

So I when I was diagnosed  
later in life with my second cancer

1442

01:41:12,639 --> 01:41:15,920

probably caused from the  
treatment from the first one,

1443

01:41:15,920 --> 01:41:19,075

they started doing cancer cluster  
investigations in my area

1444

01:41:19,099 --> 01:41:22,448

and I decided to get involved  
because you can't change the past

1445

01:41:22,472 --> 01:41:27,520

but you can definitely keep an eye moving  
forward to keep it from happening again.

1446

01:41:27,520 --> 01:41:32,228

So I wish I could sit around the table  
with you all and talk all day about this

1447

01:41:32,252 --> 01:41:35,920

but first thank you  
for having this.

1448

01:41:35,920 --> 01:41:40,639

So there are so many  
spokes to this wheel

1449

01:41:40,639 --> 01:41:45,520

but I thought one place to start an  
effective arrow for targeting awareness

1450

01:41:45,520 --> 01:41:51,760

would be to try to somehow standardize

real estate disclosure laws via legislation.

1451

01:41:51,760 --> 01:41:54,808

I don't know what the EPA's role could  
be in that other than advising

1452

01:41:54,832 --> 01:41:58,639

but via legislation when it  
comes to Superfund sites

1453

01:41:58,639 --> 01:42:04,068

most people are buying homes in  
these areas or currently living there

1454

01:42:04,092 --> 01:42:08,719

and they don't even know what's there  
or that there could possibly be a concern.

1455

01:42:10,159 --> 01:42:14,448

I can advocate all I want in my  
community but people living there are like

1456

01:42:14,472 --> 01:42:17,227

"What do you mean there's a  
Superfund 10 yards over that fence

1457

01:42:17,251 --> 01:42:18,080

and what do you mean?

1458

01:42:18,080 --> 01:42:21,288

It's there's groundwater  
use restrictions well,

1459

01:42:21,312 --> 01:42:24,400

we're not on well water so it  
doesn't matter to me."

1460

01:42:25,280 --> 01:42:31,076

But the problem is like currently,  
our local officials have been planning

1461

01:42:31,100 --> 01:42:34,159

a four lane 50 mile an  
hour road to go through area

1462

01:42:34,159 --> 01:42:37,048

B which is 10 yards  
from an unlined landfill

1463

01:42:37,072 --> 01:42:40,400

that still hosts  
biowarfare contamination

1464

01:42:40,400 --> 01:42:43,520

that has the old outdated remedy in

1465

01:42:43,520 --> 01:42:46,400

place of a giant umbrella on top to keep--

1466

01:42:46,400 --> 01:42:50,068

turning the tap off from keeping  
unknown contaminants

1467

01:42:50,092 --> 01:42:53,548

from also adding to what we  
already know are the VOCs

1468

01:42:53,572 --> 01:42:56,560

and our creating our  
groundwater plume.

1469

01:42:56,560 --> 01:42:59,679

So there's this disconnect  
between the city officials

1470

01:42:59,679 --> 01:43:04,400

and the planning commissions  
voting all over the country.

1471

01:43:04,400 --> 01:43:07,587

There's a disconnect between city  
officials and planning commissions

1472

01:43:07,611 --> 01:43:11,388

that turn over their members every  
couple years being informed enough

1473

01:43:11,412 --> 01:43:16,168

while they're voting on land use

and a disconnect between that

1474

01:43:16,192 --> 01:43:19,920

and the army still

discovering issues because

1475

01:43:19,920 --> 01:43:24,080

CERCLA as you know, is a long process, so

we're still in remedial investigations

1476

01:43:24,080 --> 01:43:28,560

with some things even though other

things have remedies in place

1477

01:43:28,560 --> 01:43:33,199

and yet land use surrounding and

abutting this is being voted on

1478

01:43:33,199 --> 01:43:37,840

without anybody really knowing enough or

attending the RAB meetings to understand,

1479



01:43:37,840 --> 01:43:40,381

to have the responsibility

to be voting on land use

1480

01:43:40,405 --> 01:43:45,840

and most of this land use concerns low-income  
communities and housing developments.

1481

01:43:46,639 --> 01:43:51,040

So the only way I can see  
to start with a straight arrow,

1482

01:43:51,040 --> 01:43:55,547

there's no clear disclosure  
or law ray potential vapor intrusion

1483

01:43:55,571 --> 01:43:59,360

in these low-income houses  
that are about to be built.

1484

01:43:59,360 --> 01:44:02,588

If it were radon you'd have to  
have something at settlement

1485

01:44:02,612 --> 01:44:07,040

and even then most people  
don't really know what that means.

1486

01:44:07,040 --> 01:44:10,282

We're just in this pickle of  
we need to close all these gaps

1487

01:44:10,306 --> 01:44:12,719

between the local  
what's happening,

1488

01:44:12,719 --> 01:44:20,560

the EPA, the state environmental  
places and the Superfund site laws,

1489

01:44:20,560 --> 01:44:22,719

like what can the EPA do--

1490

01:44:22,719 --> 01:44:28,628

what part can the EPA do to bridge the gaps

between the real estate laws and disclosures,

1491

01:44:28,652 --> 01:44:34,880

the local planning commissions,  
Superfund sites, public health and safety

1492

01:44:34,880 --> 01:44:39,212

and especially the community impacted that for  
the most part doesn't even have the dialogue

1493

01:44:39,236 --> 01:44:41,440

to ask the right questions.

1494

01:44:41,440 --> 01:44:46,639

So though the EPA doesn't control  
local land use or real estate laws,

1495

01:44:46,639 --> 01:44:49,760

can they get it all involved  
in creating legislation

1496

01:44:49,760 --> 01:44:53,280

especially like if it involves a  
military site doing the contamination?

1497

01:44:53,280 --> 01:44:57,625

Can there be some federal law across the  
board to keep people safe

1498

01:44:57,649 --> 01:45:01,668

especially those living in or moving  
into these Superfund site areas,

1499

01:45:01,692 --> 01:45:05,520

a majority of which  
are lower income places?

1500

01:45:05,520 --> 01:45:08,932

Sorry for the ramble, I hope  
there was a clear question in there.

1501

01:45:08,956 --> 01:45:11,261

Matthew Tejada: I think so, I  
think so but thank you so much, Jen.

1502

01:45:11,285 --> 01:45:16,876

And I'm so sorry to hear about  
what you have been impacted by

1503

01:45:16,900 --> 01:45:20,855

through your life starting from  
a very young age obviously.

1504

01:45:20,879 --> 01:45:24,320

Jen Hahn: Oh it gave me such a  
mission to help others, so that's okay.

1505

01:45:24,320 --> 01:45:25,359

Matthew Tejada: Well, thank you.

1506

01:45:25,383 --> 01:45:27,948

And Frederick is one of  
my favorite places on earth,

1507

01:45:27,972 --> 01:45:32,639

so I need to figure out more about what's  
happening around Fort Dietrich up there.

1508

01:45:34,320 --> 01:45:39,748

But I think some folks had earlier  
put some questions in the chat,

1509

01:45:39,772 --> 01:45:43,247

I'm not sure it was you or  
some other folks about this

1510

01:45:43,271 --> 01:45:48,883

or a similar issue around real estate  
controls and notification awareness

1511

01:45:48,907 --> 01:45:51,199

like what can we do.

1512

01:45:51,199 --> 01:45:55,368

So I'm vamping for a moment to see if  
one of my Superfund colleagues can get on

1513

01:45:55,392 --> 01:45:56,880

and speak specifically to that,

1514

01:45:56,880 --> 01:46:01,548

but to your other point

we can't advocate for laws at EPA.

1515

01:46:01,572 --> 01:46:08,880

The best we can do is when laws  
are proposed or when they're drafted

1516

01:46:08,880 --> 01:46:14,055

is we are-- the folks on the Hill  
will ask us for technical assistance

1517

01:46:14,079 --> 01:46:16,159

or even at the state level,

1518

01:46:16,159 --> 01:46:18,670

they will come to us and  
ask us for technical assistance

1519

01:46:18,694 --> 01:46:20,436

and that's like a

magical phrase for us,

1520

01:46:20,460 --> 01:46:25,235

if they ask us for technical assistance,  
we can talk to them about their legislation

1521

01:46:25,259 --> 01:46:29,756

otherwise we can't get in there and  
like craft legislation with lawmakers,

1522

01:46:29,780 --> 01:46:32,400

that's that branch of government,

1523

01:46:32,400 --> 01:46:36,960

but if there were some laws that  
people were thinking about

1524

01:46:36,960 --> 01:46:39,388

then through that  
technical assistance channel,

1525

01:46:39,412 --> 01:46:42,000



we could sit down with them and  
say well this is how this would work,

1526

01:46:42,000 --> 01:46:43,483

this is how that would work.

1527

01:46:43,507 --> 01:46:50,000

I'm not super savvy or savvy  
enough on Superfund

1528

01:46:50,000 --> 01:46:53,187

about how to control for that local piece

1529

01:46:53,211 --> 01:47:02,080

but I think from my experience, that is one  
of the tougher things that we have encountered

1530

01:47:02,080 --> 01:47:04,828

currently and going  
back several years

1531

01:47:04,852 --> 01:47:07,968

when we've looked at environmental  
justice and Superfund issues,

1532

01:47:07,992 --> 01:47:12,748

is that idea of controlling in the future,  
making sure that there's awareness,

1533

01:47:12,772 --> 01:47:18,857

making sure that as city councils  
turn over and real estate turns over

1534

01:47:18,881 --> 01:47:22,775

and planning departments  
folks retire and new folks come in

1535

01:47:22,799 --> 01:47:29,811

and some folks might have no idea of a  
contaminated site or the impact of a community

1536

01:47:29,835 --> 01:47:33,252

and that folks probably  
shouldn't be building houses there

1537

01:47:33,276 --> 01:47:34,495

or buying new houses there,

1538

01:47:34,519 --> 01:47:38,159

or that we need to make

sure we're testing for vapor intrusion

1539

01:47:38,159 --> 01:47:40,888

and families should be aware of that

before they're making a decision,

1540

01:47:40,912 --> 01:47:47,119

like that's basic empowering

of citizens to protect themselves.

1541

01:47:47,119 --> 01:47:55,040

I'm not sure where we are exactly with

any flexibility that we can push forward on

1542

01:47:55,040 --> 01:47:58,560

with the laws that we

currently have on the books.

1543

01:47:58,560 --> 01:48:02,527

I think that is a great example though  
potentially of something that we can look at

1544

01:48:02,551 --> 01:48:05,920

with some of this extra  
resources we've been receiving

1545

01:48:05,920 --> 01:48:11,679

to try to elevate that awareness  
nationally or at specific sites

1546

01:48:11,679 --> 01:48:15,679

that we're not just  
relying on local memory

1547

01:48:15,679 --> 01:48:20,718

of local partners in city government  
but in other ways to try to raise that up.

1548

01:48:20,742 --> 01:48:23,119

and Bill I hope you're going to  
help me out with some specifics

1549

01:48:23,119 --> 01:48:26,560

as to the Superfund program.

1550

01:48:29,760 --> 01:48:33,119

Bill Denman: Yes I am Matt if I can  
find the mute button, sorry about that.

1551

01:48:33,920 --> 01:48:39,108

So yes and I know  
this is frustrating to hear, Matt.

1552

01:48:39,132 --> 01:48:44,159

I'm so glad you covered the part  
about our-- we're an executive agency,

1553

01:48:44,159 --> 01:48:49,119

we can't lobby  
for laws or lobby congress,

1554

01:48:49,119 --> 01:48:52,719

for those types of things we  
enforce the laws that were given

1555

01:48:52,719 --> 01:48:58,508

and real estate transactions and real  
estate laws are typically state laws

1556

01:48:58,532 --> 01:49:02,253

and yeah as a redevelopment  
coordinator for years

1557

01:49:02,277 --> 01:49:06,987

I've given several talks  
to organizations of realtors

1558

01:49:07,011 --> 01:49:10,281

and attorneys that handle  
real estate transactions

1559

01:49:10,305 --> 01:49:14,627

and people that work on Brownfields and  
contaminated properties and those issues

1560

01:49:14,651 --> 01:49:22,667

and we almost never own the property,  
we don't govern land use, we don't issue,

1561

01:49:22,691 --> 01:49:28,107

that's usually almost always city councils,  
county commissions, places like that.

1562

01:49:28,131 --> 01:49:37,528

So we work within the confines  
of those but that's the bad news,

1563

01:49:37,552 --> 01:49:44,000

the good news is we have been  
developing tools to better communicate

1564

01:49:44,000 --> 01:49:51,679

the extent of contamination from  
Superfund sites to show where--

1565

01:49:51,679 --> 01:49:56,404

using geographic--  
the GIS type databases

1566

01:49:56,428 --> 01:50:01,428

to show more than just a point, that  
this is the Superfund sites at this point

1567

01:50:01,452 --> 01:50:03,709

but to show the extent of that.

1568

01:50:03,733 --> 01:50:07,116

We're in the process of developing,  
we call them site boundaries

1569

01:50:07,140 --> 01:50:14,448

for various sites and I'm sure we'll  
continue to expand on that in the future

1570

01:50:14,472 --> 01:50:19,001

but that is an informational  
tool that we have

1571



01:50:19,025 --> 01:50:25,698

that will be available and for some  
sites it is available on the internet now.

1572

01:50:25,722 --> 01:50:29,280

I know Casey has been  
very involved in that work

1573

01:50:29,280 --> 01:50:32,212

as well as Helen and a  
lot of folks in her group.

1574

01:50:32,236 --> 01:50:37,468

and I think that's one of the things  
that we do have the ability to do

1575

01:50:37,492 --> 01:50:44,927

is just to be more clear about the information  
we have on the extent of contamination.

1576

01:50:44,951 --> 01:50:48,400

and I know still people  
have to go and look for that

1577

01:50:48,400 --> 01:50:53,839

but to the extent we can expand  
on or engage with communities

1578

01:50:53,863 --> 01:50:56,320

and make sure that  
information is out there.

1579

01:50:56,320 --> 01:51:00,068

That's certainly  
something we can do,

1580

01:51:00,092 --> 01:51:05,267

something that we do to try to make sure  
people are aware but I know it's a challenge

1581

01:51:05,291 --> 01:51:08,960

if people don't live in the community, we  
won't necessarily know to contact them.

1582

01:51:08,960 --> 01:51:13,567

So it's a great point and you know I  
wish there were more we could do about it

1583

01:51:13,591 --> 01:51:20,547

but I think that is what we are trying  
to do is to make it more straightforward

1584

01:51:20,571 --> 01:51:22,800

on the extent of contamination.

1585

01:51:22,800 --> 01:51:26,025

Now the good thing is when an  
investigation does occur

1586

01:51:26,049 --> 01:51:30,153

we have really done a  
tremendous amount of sampling,

1587

01:51:30,177 --> 01:51:35,920

so we're pretty certain  
about that data but that's--

1588

01:51:37,119 --> 01:51:44,110

I think that the tool that we're working on to try to be able to identify proximity

1589

01:51:44,134 --> 01:51:47,543

to contamination from a Superfund site.

1590

01:51:47,567 --> 01:51:53,828

Jen Hahn: Is it identified on there as well the places that data gaps are being filled in

1591

01:51:53,852 --> 01:51:58,483

like currently with our situation the army's still under remedial investigation

1592

01:51:58,507 --> 01:52:00,880

with certain pieces of this land

1593

01:52:00,880 --> 01:52:05,599

which is still close to where houses have already had master plan approvals.

1594

01:52:05,599 --> 01:52:10,338

So like if somebody, I don't think that  
GIS database for site boundaries

1595

01:52:10,362 --> 01:52:14,648

because we've been asking between the  
army and our local planning commission

1596

01:52:14,672 --> 01:52:15,840

for an overlay of that area

1597

01:52:15,840 --> 01:52:20,048

so that the people voting on land use can  
clearly see something like that in a snapshot

1598

01:52:20,072 --> 01:52:23,440

where is the contamination and  
do we have to pause before approving

1599

01:52:23,440 --> 01:52:25,599

this land for building homes.

1600

01:52:25,599 --> 01:52:29,040

It's crazy that there's

not that just automatically

1601

01:52:29,040 --> 01:52:34,719

but it is-- oh, I've

lost my question.

1602

01:52:34,719 --> 01:52:38,319

Bill Denman: I think your initial

question I can answer, I believe

1603

01:52:38,343 --> 01:52:41,088

and Casey, please join me because

you've been a lot more involved

1604

01:52:41,112 --> 01:52:46,480

in the development of this tool

but I believe this is more for sites--

1605

01:52:46,480 --> 01:52:51,148

that we started with sites that we were  
already past the remedial investigation phase,

1606

01:52:51,172 --> 01:52:56,800

so I don't think we have site boundaries for  
those that we haven't incomplete data for.

1607

01:52:56,800 --> 01:53:02,719

Jen Hahn: But they're on a 399 acre area B,  
some sites are closed out within that

1608

01:53:02,719 --> 01:53:05,887

and some sites, they're  
going back to reinvestigate,

1609

01:53:05,911 --> 01:53:09,364

so my question is then when the  
planning commission would look at this,

1610

01:53:09,388 --> 01:53:13,360

is there a tool to indicate  
this site is still under investigation

1611

01:53:13,360 --> 01:53:18,268

or are you answering that only the closed  
out what you know definitively places

1612

01:53:18,292 --> 01:53:22,480

have this tool because if that's the  
case, it still doesn't solve the problem

1613

01:53:22,480 --> 01:53:24,320

of planning commission members saying

1614

01:53:24,320 --> 01:53:27,627

"Yeah, you can build homes here because we  
don't see anything on this map

1615

01:53:27,651 --> 01:53:28,947

that says there's an issue"

1616

01:53:28,971 --> 01:53:33,268

but if you had something on that GIS  
mapping that said under investigation,



1617

01:53:33,292 --> 01:53:35,788

still in remedial

investigation because there may--

1618

01:53:35,812 --> 01:53:39,499

we can't confirm or deny an

issue, that would be really helpful.

1619

01:53:39,523 --> 01:53:41,408

Bill Denman: That's great feedback.

1620

01:53:41,432 --> 01:53:47,040

We don't have, we

have the 1800 or so sites--

1621

01:53:47,040 --> 01:53:50,560

Casey, I'm not sure, do you know how many

we've done the site boundaries for?

1622

01:53:50,560 --> 01:53:55,408

This is really kind of in the--

don't want to say beginning phase

1623

01:53:55,432 --> 01:53:58,239

but certainly we're in the  
first phase of doing this.

1624

01:53:58,239 --> 01:54:00,400

So Casey do you want to--

1625

01:54:00,400 --> 01:54:05,187

Casey Lockett: Right, yeah Bill you  
are correct, we are continuing to collect

1626

01:54:05,211 --> 01:54:08,053

as much site boundary  
information as possible

1627

01:54:08,077 --> 01:54:13,920

and then at that point I think hopefully  
get to the question that's being asked,

1628

01:54:13,920 --> 01:54:19,768

then at that point EPA is going to make an

effort to overlay our boundary information

1629

01:54:19,792 --> 01:54:25,584

with parcel information

and operable unit boundaries

1630

01:54:26,960 --> 01:54:32,827

so that when you have a specific

question about a specific area of a site

1631

01:54:32,851 --> 01:54:37,920

which is the way it sounds like for the

federal facility that you're referring to,

1632

01:54:37,920 --> 01:54:41,098

that information will

be more available.

1633

01:54:41,122 --> 01:54:47,760

At this time, what we have

is information about the site

1634

01:54:47,760 --> 01:54:52,252

connected to those site boundaries, so you can go look at the most recent five-year review

1635

01:54:52,276 --> 01:54:55,840

which would then drill down into the five-year review report

1636

01:54:55,840 --> 01:54:58,080

which would then drill down into

1637

01:54:58,080 --> 01:55:01,924

which parts of the site are still in the remedial investigation phase,

1638

01:55:01,948 --> 01:55:07,268

which parts of the site have had remedies completed and that kind of thing,

1639

01:55:07,292 --> 01:55:13,920

but at this point it does take a bit of a drill down to get to that level of information.

1640

01:55:13,920 --> 01:55:15,679

Bill Denman: But I really  
appreciate your comment

1641

01:55:15,679 --> 01:55:19,928

because I do think that is  
something within our ability to do

1642

01:55:19,952 --> 01:55:24,080

is to develop site boundaries, it's  
something that we are working on.

1643

01:55:24,080 --> 01:55:28,584

It's difficult site boundaries have  
been one of, as you know, being--

1644

01:55:28,608 --> 01:55:32,448

it sounds like you've worked with a lot  
of with Superfund sites for a long time

1645

01:55:32,472 --> 01:55:34,960

or at least you know

the one in your area

1646

01:55:34,960 --> 01:55:37,808

and it's not a simple question

1647

01:55:37,832 --> 01:55:40,928

but it is one that's important

for us to be able to communicate

1648

01:55:40,952 --> 01:55:46,826

and like Casey said, the property

parcels aren't the same as operable units

1649

01:55:46,850 --> 01:55:49,348

or of course where the

contamination came to be

1650

01:55:49,372 --> 01:55:52,228

and so for us to try to connect

those dots I think is important

1651

01:55:52,252 --> 01:55:54,320

and we really appreciate your feedback.

1652

01:55:54,320 --> 01:55:58,480

Unfortunately, we don't  
have it for all sites at this point.

1653

01:55:58,480 --> 01:56:02,420

Matthew Tejada: Thank you Bill, thank  
you Casey so much for that responsiveness.

1654

01:56:02,444 --> 01:56:05,128

So we're coming right  
up on the end here.

1655

01:56:05,152 --> 01:56:08,138

We wanted to see if we get a  
little feedback on whether or not

1656

01:56:08,162 --> 01:56:09,292

we do the November 23rd.

1657

01:56:09,316 --> 01:56:13,280

I think we're going to have to  
forego that feedback for now.

1658

01:56:13,280 --> 01:56:16,198

We do want to be  
respectful of everyone's time.

1659

01:56:16,222 --> 01:56:17,107

Yes, Victoria.

1660

01:56:17,131 --> 01:56:22,187

Victoria Robinson: I'm sorry to interrupt but  
the Superfund programs folks were wondering

1661

01:56:22,211 --> 01:56:26,267

if you want to point out to  
or Lavar can point out to folks

1662

01:56:26,291 --> 01:56:30,400

if they have additional  
questions who they can reach out to

1663



01:56:30,400 --> 01:56:34,159

for further action so I just  
wanted to point that out on this.

1664

01:56:34,159 --> 01:56:38,198

Matthew Tejada: Yes for folks  
we have it up here on the screen.

1665

01:56:38,222 --> 01:56:42,000

Again lastname dot--

1666

01:56:42,000 --> 01:56:45,840

oh yeah, lastname.firstname, god Lavar  
threw me for a minute, was like Thomas

1667

01:56:46,639 --> 01:56:49,705

lastname.firstname@epa.gov so  
here's some of the folks

1668

01:56:49,729 --> 01:56:52,110

that you were hearing  
from today, Lavar, Bill

1669

01:56:52,134 --> 01:56:55,360

I think you heard from

Helen once or twice,

1670

01:56:55,360 --> 01:56:59,466

those are some good contacts, I know a few  
folks were wanting to connect with each other

1671

01:56:59,490 --> 01:57:05,360

that had spoken, we can't put your personal  
information just out there publicly

1672

01:57:05,360 --> 01:57:10,552

but if folks are wanting to try to connect  
with some of the other folks you heard from,

1673

01:57:10,576 --> 01:57:13,480

from the community if you  
could email maybe Lavar,

1674

01:57:13,504 --> 01:57:17,368

and we'll try to make those

connections directly between folks,

1675

01:57:17,392 --> 01:57:19,992

we just can't put out

even if you say so in chat,

1676

01:57:20,016 --> 01:57:24,960

we can't really put out people's like

phone numbers or whatever just in chat,

1677

01:57:24,960 --> 01:57:27,948

and with that I'm going to

pass it over I believe, Victoria.

1678

01:57:27,972 --> 01:57:30,239

That's it for us, I'm going to

pass it over to Chitra Kumar

1679

01:57:30,239 --> 01:57:33,199

who has almost no

time left, I'm sorry Chitra.

1680

01:57:33,199 --> 01:57:35,440

Can you close us out?

1681

01:57:35,440 --> 01:57:38,400

Chitra Kumar: Hi, thank you all.

1682

01:57:38,400 --> 01:57:41,287

So much appreciate all  
of you being on this call.

1683

01:57:41,311 --> 01:57:45,199

If you have a moment to stay  
with us, we wanted to offer you

1684

01:57:45,199 --> 01:57:50,216

the mindful EPA council  
which is a mindful moment,

1685

01:57:50,240 --> 01:57:55,748

it's a way to take care of  
ourselves doing this justice work,

1686

01:57:55,772 --> 01:58:00,400

it takes a toll on us and  
having to sustain this over time

1687

01:58:00,400 --> 01:58:03,040

means that we need to sustain ourselves.

1688

01:58:03,040 --> 01:58:05,227

So if you do have a moment  
and you want to stay on

1689

01:58:05,251 --> 01:58:10,367

I'll just guide you through  
a very quick little practice

1690

01:58:10,391 --> 01:58:14,808

and hopefully that will help you move  
on through your day and your week.

1691

01:58:14,832 --> 01:58:19,595

So if you could just take a moment  
to lift your-- allow your spine to lift

1692

01:58:19,619 --> 01:58:25,167

and your shoulders to soften  
finding a good spot on your chair

1693

01:58:25,191 --> 01:58:29,679

or if you're standing something  
that you can stay in for a few seconds,

1694

01:58:29,679 --> 01:58:36,320

and if you'd like you can just  
look down or close your eyes gently.

1695

01:58:36,320 --> 01:58:42,000

And today we'll be practicing  
wishing ourselves and others well.

1696

01:58:42,000 --> 01:58:46,159

So this can help us improve  
our sense of connection to others

1697

01:58:46,159 --> 01:58:51,360

and in doing so even bring

a sense of ease for ourselves.

1698

01:58:51,360 --> 01:59:02,119

So taking in a full breath  
and releasing the breath slowly.

1699

01:59:06,400 --> 01:59:11,840

Now bringing to mind someone  
that you care deeply about.

1700

01:59:13,119 --> 01:59:17,840

Imagine them well and happy.

1701

01:59:19,119 --> 01:59:23,440

Say to them in your  
mind's eye "may you be well,

1702

01:59:23,440 --> 01:59:28,639

may you be happy" and whatever  
other wishes you have for them.

1703

01:59:28,639 --> 01:59:31,840

Say them now.

1704

01:59:38,719 --> 01:59:47,599

Now, I ask you to bring to mind a colleague  
in this community for whom you care.

1705

01:59:47,840 --> 01:59:56,320

Imagine them well and happy  
saying to yourself "may you be well,

1706

01:59:56,320 --> 02:00:05,760

may you be happy" and whatever other  
wishes you have for them and yourself now.

1707

02:00:10,080 --> 02:00:16,960

Now bring to mind the entire  
community joined here today on this call.

1708

02:00:18,080 --> 02:00:22,719

With the same sense of care  
that you felt for that one colleague,

1709



02:00:22,719 --> 02:00:30,159

invite a sense of camaraderie in care  
for this community joined here today

1710

02:00:30,159 --> 02:00:35,920

from whom we've heard  
has gone through so much.

1711

02:00:37,840 --> 02:00:45,920

Say to yourself "may you all  
be well, may you all be happy."

1712

02:00:49,440 --> 02:00:54,208

We might not all agree on topics  
but we can revel in our connectedness

1713

02:00:54,232 --> 02:01:01,360

as humans on this planet  
each trying our best.

1714

02:01:02,880 --> 02:01:08,050

Maybe work together to bring  
greater ease, more compassion

1715

02:01:09,199 --> 02:01:12,639

to our collective community.

1716

02:01:19,360 --> 02:01:25,199

May we work together to bring  
greater ease, more compassion

1717

02:01:25,199 --> 02:01:31,520

to our collective community,  
offering these wishes again

1718

02:01:31,520 --> 02:01:36,599

in the spirit of kindness and generosity.

1719

02:01:39,920 --> 02:01:46,320

Now staying with the breath, allow  
these offerings of goodwill to sink in,

1720

02:01:46,800 --> 02:01:54,080

sink into you to all your friends,  
colleagues, even strangers

1721

02:01:54,080 --> 02:02:02,520

all of whom are working towards protecting  
public health and the environment.

1722

02:02:04,719 --> 02:02:09,520

Now if you wish noticing  
how it feels in your body

1723

02:02:17,040 --> 02:02:26,560

and with that you may open your  
eyes or start moving your fingers.

1724

02:02:26,560 --> 02:02:31,788

Thank you so much for joining in this mindful  
moment and for joining us on this call.

1725

02:02:31,812 --> 02:02:36,239

We wish you the  
best until next time.

1726

02:02:40,000 --> 02:02:42,480

Victoria Robinson: Thank you, Chitra.

1727

02:02:42,480 --> 02:02:45,280

Chitra Kumar: Thank you, Victoria.

1728

02:02:45,679 --> 02:02:49,119

Victoria Robinson: Matthew,  
will there be anything else?

1729

02:02:51,679 --> 02:02:53,760

Chitra Kumar: I'm guessing  
he's jumped off already.

1730

02:02:53,760 --> 02:02:58,638

Victoria Robinson: Okay, all  
right so this will conclude our call.

1731

02:02:58,662 --> 02:03:03,568

We are keeping the-- the line will  
stay open for another five minutes

1732

02:03:03,592 --> 02:03:07,827

if anybody has any other questions  
they want to pose into the Q&A pod

1733

02:03:07,851 --> 02:03:14,719

and the Superfund folks will follow  
up after the fact to you as an individual

1734

02:03:14,719 --> 02:03:17,336

and we can go from there.

1735

02:03:17,360 --> 02:03:20,510

If you want to go ahead and leave,  
you go ahead and leave,

1736

02:03:20,534 --> 02:03:23,520

we're going to go ahead and  
stop sharing the screen right now

1737

02:03:23,520 --> 02:03:30,920

and again thank everybody for their time  
and their patience today, thank you.