

## **DISCLAIMER**

Except for the marked redactions for FOIA withholding, this transcript has not been edited or otherwise reviewed for accuracy by participants or the NRC. It may contain typographical mistakes or other transcription errors.

**Official Transcript of Proceedings**  
**NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION**

Title: Japan's Fukushima Daiichi ET Audio File

Docket Number: (n/a)

Location: (telephone conference)

Date: Saturday-Sunday, March 19-20, 2011

Work Order No.: NRC-944

Pages 1-275

**NEAL R. GROSS AND CO., INC.**  
**Court Reporters and Transcribers**  
**1323 Rhode Island Avenue, N.W.**  
**Washington, D.C. 20005**  
**(202) 234-4433**

TR  
275  
/ 9

1  
2  
3  
4  
5  
6  
7  
8  
9  
10  
11  
12  
13  
14  
15  
16  
17  
18  
19  
20  
21  
22  
23  
24  
25

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA  
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

+ + + + +

JAPAN'S FUKUSHIMA DAIICHI ET AUDIO FILE

+ + + + +

SATURDAY-SUNDAY

MARCH 19-20, 2011

+ + + + +

**NEAL R. GROSS**

COURT REPORTERS AND TRANSCRIBERS  
1323 RHODE ISLAND AVE., N.W.  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20005-3701

(202) 234-4433

[www.nealrgross.com](http://www.nealrgross.com)

1 (CONFERENCE CALL INITIATED.)

2 00:00:06/00:15:03

3 ROY ZIMMERMAN: Hi, Chuck.

4 CHUCK CASTO: Hi. Hey, it's your  
5 favorite action item man.

6 ROY ZIMMERMAN: Ah, man.

7 CHUCK CASTO: I just got out of another  
8 meeting with the ambassador, and -- this is Roy?

9 ROY ZIMMERMAN: You've got Roy, Marty,  
10 and Scott.

11 CHUCK CASTO: Good. Hi, guys.

12 I just, he just called me up there about  
13 something else, and while I was up there, I  
14 socialized the [REDACTED] on  
15 responding and the concern about who's the player.

16 His thinking on that -- well, first of  
17 all, he thought that was a wonderful idea.

18 ROY ZIMMERMAN: When you say, "who's the  
19 player," who do you mean?

20 MARTY VIRGILIO: Who's the power player.

21 CHUCK CASTO: I don't remember. I'm  
22 sorry. Maybe it was Marty and I who talked about  
23 this.

24 ROY ZIMMERMAN: Okay.

25 CHUCK CASTO: One of the concerns about

**NEAL R. GROSS**

COURT REPORTERS AND TRANSCRIBERS

1323 RHODE ISLAND AVE., N.W.

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20005-3701

(202) 234-4433

www.nealrgross.com

5

1 setting up the consortium is, are we advising the  
2 right organization? Is Tepco the right  
3 organization, or should we be doing MOD, or who?  
4 Who in the Japanese government should, should they  
5 be advising?

6 ROY ZIMMERMAN: Okay.

7 CHUCK CASTO: You know, their theory is  
8 it's industry to industry, but, but I read the, the,  
9 the issue that [REDACTED] sent to Marty and the  
10 Chairman three times. You know, they've got to take  
11 our advice. You know, industry to industry might  
12 not be the right model. It might be industry to  
13 government, but, you know, I don't know. That's all  
14 you political guys.

15 The bottom line is you got to know who  
16 the, who can actually get something done and make  
17 decisions and actually implement it, and you know  
18 it's not wasteful. That was [REDACTED] concern, as  
19 I understood it from Marty.

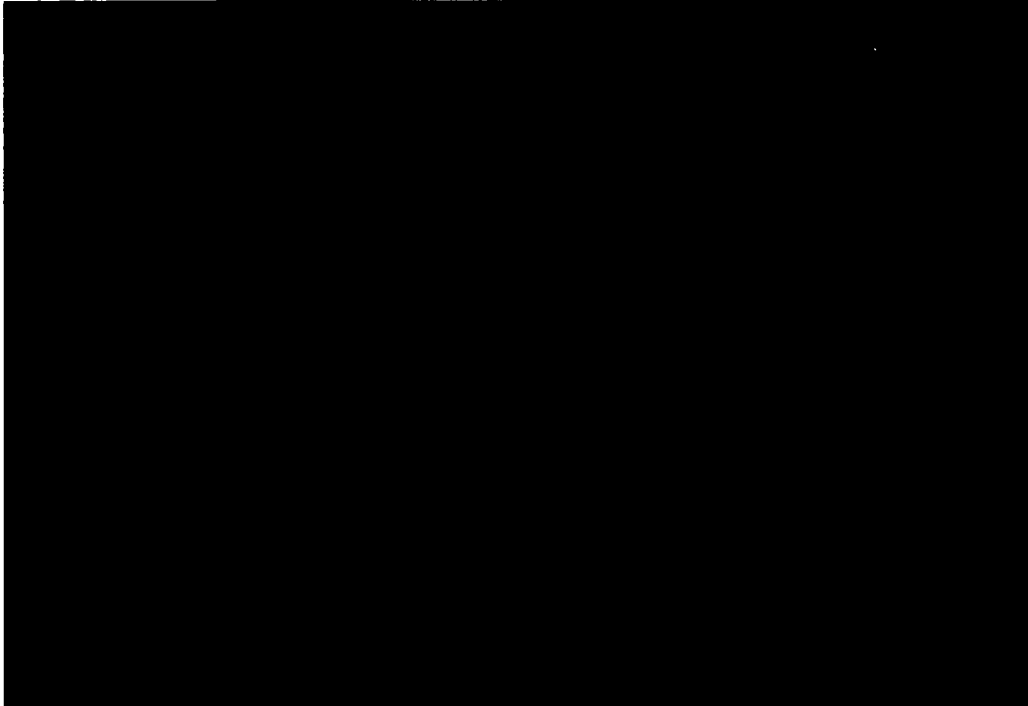
20 MARTY VIRGILIO: Yep, you've got it.  
21 You got it correct.

22 CHUCK CASTO: So I socialized it with  
23 the ambassador, and he got that and said, you know,  
24 that's right. He said, we can, we can find out from  
25 the Japanese government. But he -- and what I read

**NEAL R. GROSS**

COURT REPORTERS AND TRANSCRIBERS  
1323 RHODE ISLAND AVE., N.W.  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20005-3701

1 from the conversation is he's not sure that the, you  
2 know, how accurate they'll be on that call.



5

3  
4  
5  
6  
7  
8  
9  
10  
11  
12  
13 That's just an idea. There's a lot of ideas.

14 The, the issue is that, I think that --  
15 and he, and the Chairman probably has to call  
16 Ambassador Roos. But before, you know, they, they  
17 have some kind of kickoff meeting or something, I, I  
18 think it would be beneficial for the Chairman to  
19 call the ambassador and for them to discuss the  
20 matter.

21 MARTY VIRGILIO: I think we can arrange  
22 that.

23 CHUCK CASTO: He's expecting -- I don't  
24 know if expecting is the right word -- but he and I  
25 agreed that the Chairman would call him. I, I don't

**NEAL R. GROSS**

COURT REPORTERS AND TRANSCRIBERS

1323 RHODE ISLAND AVE., N.W.

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20005-3701

(202) 234-4433

www.nealrgross.com

1 know if that's an expectation or what, but I said  
2 I'll have the Chairman call me, and he said, that's  
3 what I'd like to have. I said fine. So we, that's  
4 an action item, I guess, for you all to think about,  
5 whether you want to tee that up with the chairman or  
6 what.

7 SCOTT MORRIS: Well, because of the  
8 time difference, we have to -- well, I don't know.  
9 When were you thinking of doing that?

10 CHUCK CASTO: I don't, I don't know. I  
11 don't I don't think, know that I has to -- well,  
12 that's up to [REDACTED] and the Chairman and those  
13 guys. That's, that's a much higher decision than my  
14 pay grade.

15 SCOTT MORRIS: Yeah.

16 MARTY VIRGILIO: Now, noting that the --  
17 [REDACTED]  
18 [REDACTED]  
19 [REDACTED]  
20 [REDACTED]  
21 [REDACTED]

22 CHUCK CASTO: Right.

23 MARTY VIRGILIO: And that would be a  
24 great opportunity debt because both Admiral Donald  
25 and the Chairman could be on one of those calls, and

**NEAL R. GROSS**

COURT REPORTERS AND TRANSCRIBERS

1323 RHODE ISLAND AVE., N.W.

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20005-3701

(202) 234-4433

www.nealrgross.com

6

5

1 the two of those could talk about the -- you know,  
2 that's one method of alerting the rest of the  
3 stakeholders.

4 But do you think the ambassador is  
5 looking for a more personal touch from the Chairman?

6 CHUCK CASTO: I thought of, that's the  
7 sense I got.

8 MARTY VIRGILIO: Okay.

9 CHUCK CASTO: You know, they, first they  
10 would have that personal touch, and then maybe they  
11 would carry whatever they concluded off to the, to  
12 the other call.

13 MARTY VIRGILIO: So that's a good idea  
14 that, you know, we could suggest to the Chairman  
15 that he make that call maybe with Admiral Donald to  
16 the ambassador before the next SVTS call.

17 CHUCK CASTO: Yeah, before, you know --  
18 you say they're every four hours or so, but, you  
19 know, before the next couple. But I, I think the  
20 ambassador, I remember him the other day saying he  
21 wants to be on every SVTS call. So he's, you know,  
22 whatever. Whatever they can work out.

23 But I'm just, I've got to get out of  
24 that loop.

25 SCOTT MORRIS: The objective of --

**NEAL R. GROSS**

COURT REPORTERS AND TRANSCRIBERS


1323 RHODE ISLAND AVE., N.W.

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20005-3701



1 CHUCK CASTO: That's, that's up in the  
2 stratosphere.

3 MARTY VIRGILIO: Go ahead.

4 SCOTT MORRIS: 

5

6

7

8

9

10

11

12

13

Is that correct? I mean, that's --

14

15

16

17

CHUCK CASTO: I don't know. That  
sounds, that sounds very articulate, but I'm just,  
my, I'm just trying to figure out who the power  
player is over here.

18

19

20

21

22

23

24

25

SCOTT MORRIS: I guess that's what I'm  
getting at. I mean, the point of this all is to  
get, you know, to start at the top of the mountain  
with the Prime Minister and say, look, we're  
bringing all these resources to bear, we want to  
help, but we're not going to, we can't help unless  
you help let us help you. And so we need to know,  
who is that power player? Who is that entity that

**NEAL R. GROSS**

COURT REPORTERS AND TRANSCRIBERS

1323 RHODE ISLAND AVE., N.W.

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20005-3701

(202) 234-4433

www.nealrgross.com

5

1 we need to go to? That's what I think you're  
2 suggesting here, so I'm just trying to confirm that.

3 CHUCK CASTO: Yeah, I think that's what  
4 we said. Right.

5 So I'm going to go off, unless you have  
6 more, Marty.

7 MARTY VIRGILIO: No. I'm just going to  
8 think about that for a while.

9 CHUCK CASTO: Oh, I know what else I  
10 got, an action item. Hopefully -- I don't know  
11 where we're at on this.

12 MARTY VIRGILIO: Only one per call.  
13 Hey, Chuck, only one per call. Okay? Call back.

14 (Laughter.)

15 SCOTT MORRIS: You can only call once an  
16 hour.

17 CHUCK CASTO: Yet. What was Jim  
18 Wiggins's rule the other day at that meeting? You  
19 said he only gets two every 30 minutes.

20 MARTY VIRGILIO: Yeah. I think that was  
21 it.

22 CHUCK CASTO: We're working on -- let me  
23 put it this way. Rather than have an action item, I  
24 just want to confirm that the Protective Measures  
25 Team is working with Jack Foster and DOE.

**NEAL R. GROSS**

COURT REPORTERS AND TRANSCRIBERS  
1323 RHODE ISLAND AVE., N.W.  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20005-3701

1 I just got pulled up in the ambassador's  
2 office, blindsided -- it, it was uncomfortable -- by  
3 DOE in there giving dose numbers and projections. I  
4 thought that we were linked up with Jack Foster and  
5 PM, Protective Measures. And the ambassador's  
6 asking me, you know, what do you think of these  
7 numbers? Are these right? Whatever, you know, and  
8 I just had to say, look, I haven't seen these  
9 numbers. I don't know what they are. You know, I  
10 can go find out with Protective Measures and, you  
11 know, all that stuff.

12 But I had talked about those, you know,  
13 that term [REDACTED] and all that and given that  
14 task to somebody, and it was due by six o'clock  
15 tonight. And, you know, I got blindsided up there,  
16 so I've got to reinvigorate whatever connections we  
17 have with that.

18 He wants, he wants projections based on  
19 six core melts and -- you know, five, four, three,  
20 two, one -- and I know you guys have been pushing me  
21 for data to do a better calculation. And we've got  
22 John and them over at Tepco trying to get the data.

23 I also suggested to the ambassador, I  
24 said with this, with this technical organization  
25 stand-up, there's going to be a lot of resources

**NEAL R. GROSS**

COURT REPORTERS AND TRANSCRIBERS

1323 RHODE ISLAND AVE., N.W.

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20005-3701

(202) 234-4433

www.nealgross.com

5

1 brought to bear on, you know, that kind of stuff,  
2 where industry and DOE can work together and come up  
3 with some projections for Tokyo, and, you know,  
4 rather than a half a dozen people down in a room.

5 And I would prefer to be, to, to go  
6 slower and be more accurate than, and you know, to  
7 come up with something with six people sitting in a  
8 room. And, you know, that, he acknowledged that,  
9 but that only goes so far. You know, it sounds  
10 good. If you say it fast.

11 MARTY VIRGILIO: Okay. Chuck, there --

12 CHUCK CASTO: Okay, so --

13 MARTY VIRGILIO: Chuck, there are a  
14 couple of projects that are ongoing that I, I think  
15 we may have confused a few things for you.

16 I thought Jack Foster was at the Tepco  
17 offices trying to get data so that we could develop  
18 a site map with, with dose rates in various areas  
19 where people might have to work. The other thing  
20 that, that's ongoing is our staff is working with  
21 DOE to actually do the dose projections in two, in  
22 two ways. One would be sort of a worst-case and the  
23 other would be sort of a best, more realistic case.

24 CHUCK CASTO: Right.

25 MARTY VIRGILIO: So that you could have

**NEAL R. GROSS**

COURT REPORTERS AND TRANSCRIBERS

1323 RHODE ISLAND AVE., N.W.

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20005-3701

1 your [REDACTED] [REDACTED]

2 CHUCK CASTO: Right. That latter one is  
3 the important one for -- I mean, those are all  
4 important, don't get me wrong, but the ambassador  
5 certainly wants the latter one --

6 MARTY VIRGILIO: Yeah. Yeah. I know --

7 (Simultaneous conversation.)

8 CHUCK CASTO: -- so he can project  
9 whether or not there's any possibility of closing  
10 the Embassy.

11 MARTY VIRGILIO: Right. I, I  
12 understand. We're working both those projects. So  
13 Jack Foster is working on the site map and our staff  
14 is working with DOE on the dose projections in  
15 Tokyo.

16 CHUCK CASTO: Well, I need to plug Jack  
17 Foster into the other project as well because --

18 MARTY VIRGILIO: Okay. Do you --

19 CHUCK CASTO: -- So I'll have him call  
20 -- who should he call?

21 ROY ZIMMERMAN: Protective Measures  
22 Team?

23 SCOTT MORRIS: He can call the Ops  
24 Center, and they can put him in --

25 MARTY VIRGILIO: Yeah, and they could

**NEAL R. GROSS**

COURT REPORTERS AND TRANSCRIBERS

1323 RHODE ISLAND AVE., N.W.

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20005-3701

5

1 put him into the -- I'm sorry -- PMT, Yeah.

2 CHUCK CASTO: Is Trish there, or who's  
3 in there?

4 MARTY VIRGILIO: Trish turned over to  
5 Kathy Gibson.

6 CHUCK CASTO: Okay.

7 So I'll have Jack call Kathy, and they  
8 need to get hooked up because I, I, you know, I  
9 really don't want to deal with this issue. This is  
10 not my area, I don't have the skill set in this, and  
11 I need somebody to handle this for me --

12 MARTY VIRGILIO: Now, be aware --

13 CHUCK CASTO: -- and run interference,  
14 even if it means getting on a conference call with  
15 the ambassador --

16 MARTY VIRGILIO: Okay.

17 CHUCK CASTO: -- or whatever, working  
18 with DOE. But, you know, this is kind of out of my  
19 skill set.

20 MARTY VIRGILIO: Okay. I'll be blunt  
21 with you, since you are with us often. You know, I  
22 understand the ambassador wants these threshold  
23 values --

24 CHUCK CASTO: I'm often blunt with you.  
25 I don't -- sorry, Marty.

**NEAL R. GROSS**

COURT REPORTERS AND TRANSCRIBERS  
1323 RHODE ISLAND AVE., N.W.  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20005-3701

1 MARTY VIRGILIO: Yeah. I, I understand  
2 he wants the values, but please don't tell us what  
3 the initial conditions are because we've spent a lot  
4 of time working with the staff to figure out what is  
5 the worst-case initial conditions and what's the  
6 best, you know, most optimistic case.

7 CHUCK CASTO: Yeah, well --

8 MARTY VIRGILIO: And what we can tell  
9 him is a rationale for how we got to where we are.  
10 But --

11 CHUCK CASTO: Yeah, that's great. I  
12 think he will insist with at least DOE that they  
13 give him the six-reactor thing. He made it clear  
14 that that's what he wanted. So, you know, if we  
15 give, if we work on realistic one and DOE works on  
16 that extreme one, that's okay.

17 MARTY VIRGILIO: Well, we're working on  
18 an extreme one, but it's not six reactors because we  
19 don't have six reactors in trouble right now.

20 CHUCK CASTO: Yeah; four. We only have  
21 four.

22 MARTY VIRGILIO: Yeah.

23 CHUCK CASTO: Yeah, plus the source term  
24 from the spent, six spent fuel pools or something.

25 MARTY VIRGILIO: Okay, well, we went to

**NEAL R. GROSS**

COURT REPORTERS AND TRANSCRIBERS

1323 RHODE ISLAND AVE., N.W.

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20005-3701

1 great pains to develop a rationale for our initial  
2 conditions.

3 CHUCK CASTO: Well, I think, I think  
4 what they're driving to, Marty, there's two things,  
5 a couple of things they're driving to. One is the,  
6 the decision point on the embassy.

7 MARTY VIRGILIO: Right.

8 CHUCK CASTO: And, you know -- what am I  
9 trying to -- mandatory evacuation of Americans, and  
10 also, I think they're trying to get something out to  
11 the employees that show it's safe to, no matter what  
12 happens, to -- even if the extreme happens -- it's  
13 safe to be in Tokyo. Here's what it means to you.  
14 You know, it's over a 40-year lifetime, whatever.

15 So I think they want to post that on a  
16 web or something like that --

17 MARTY VIRGILIO: Yeah, but the initial  
18 conditions --

19 CHUCK CASTO: -- so that the employees  
20 that remain can see, even if it's worst-case  
21 scenario -- and his definition of worst-case is, let  
22 me see, would be one, two, three, four, five, six,  
23 seven, eight -- eight source terms.

24 SCOTT MORRIS: I tell you right now --

25 MARTY VIRGILIO: Hey, you know what,

**NEAL R. GROSS**



COURT REPORTERS AND TRANSCRIBERS  
1323 RHODE ISLAND AVE., N.W.  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20005-3701



1 he's going to receive see the PAGs with his worst  
2 case.

3 CHUCK CASTO: Right.

4 MARTY VIRGILIO: 

5   
6   
7 CHUCK CASTO: Okay.

8 MARTY VIRGILIO: Not with his initial  
9 conditions.

10 CHUCK CASTO: Okay. Well, I'll just,  
11 you know, I'll just share with him, we don't think  
12 that's realistic to do the worst case.

13 MARTY VIRGILIO: Yeah, that's why we're  
14 not, that's why we're trying to do a worst-case that  
15 really makes sense given the conditions that we have  
16 now and an optimistic (inaudible) case given the  
17 conditions we have now. I mean, the team spent half  
18 the night last night trying to figure out where do  
19 we start from.

20 CHUCK CASTO: Yeah. Well, and I  
21 appreciate that work. And then he'll probably just,  
22 I just expect he'll turn to DOE and say, give me the  
23 worst-case.

24 MARTY VIRGILIO: Well, "Be careful" --  
25 you know the old, the old adage, "be careful what

**NEAL R. GROSS**

COURT REPORTERS AND TRANSCRIBERS

1323 RHODE ISLAND AVE., N.W.

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20005-3701

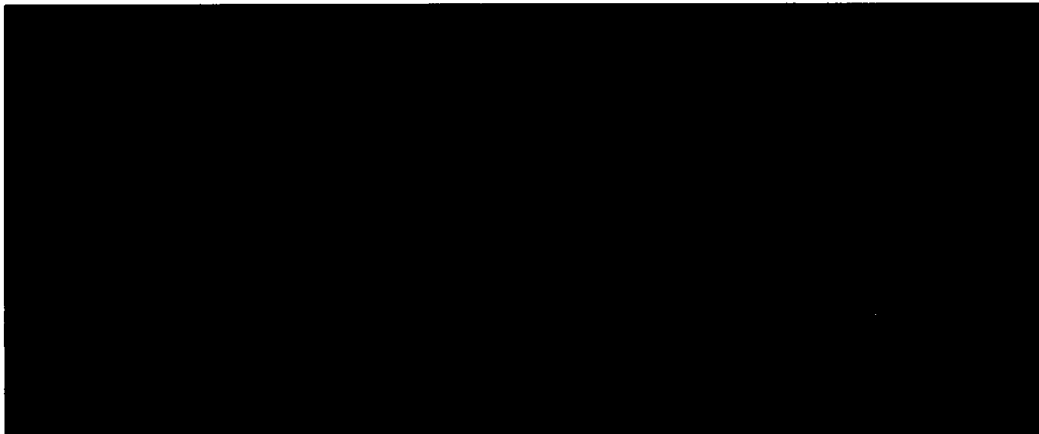
1  
2  
3  
4  
5  
6  
7  
8  
9  
10  
11  
12  
13  
14  
15  
16  
17  
18  
19  
20  
21  
22  
23  
24  
25

you ask for."

CHUCK CASTO: Right. Well, I think they  
already gave him something. I don't know.

So, but okay. We're good on that.  
We're real good on that. We're real good on that.

Okay. I'm going to go get some lunch.  
Kirk and I are going to get some lunch. [REDACTED]



5

CHUCK CASTO: Yeah.

MARTY VIRGILIO: How are you doing with  
the (Inaudible)?

CHUCK CASTO: All right. We'll talk to  
you soon.

(CONFERENCE CALL INITIATED.)

00:15:27/00:15:44

(Extraneous conference call omitted.)

1 (CONFERENCE CALL INITIATED.)

2 00:15:52/00:29:17

3 BOB TAYLOR: Hello. Bob Taylor here.

4 SCOTT MORRIS: Hey, Bob.

5 BOB TAYLOR: Hi. Bob Taylor, Leigh  
6 Trosine, and Cara --

7 CARA CHRISTIE: Cara Christie, response  
8 manager on the RMT.

9 BOB TAYLOR: Yeah, the reason why I'm,  
10 I'm just getting off the ground is Cara made a  
11 request to have us give her a little bit of  
12 information on projections beyond, I guess, what we  
13 have out currently to, you know, as to wind shifting  
14 on Sunday and all, specifically to the point of  
15 best-case, worst-case scenarios, or the most  
16 probabilistic scenarios.

17 And, mostly, at the 30,000-foot level,  
18 not necessarily having detailed information like  
19 dose or whatever, but just to get a better  
20 understanding about how their effort over there, the  
21 humanitarian effort, may be impacted if we would  
22 believe that the efforts that are currently under  
23 way either produce a favorable response or the  
24 worst-case response, or that it goes along some  
25 other type of a predictable response so they

**NEAL R. GROSS**

COURT REPORTERS AND TRANSCRIBERS

1323 RHODE ISLAND AVE., N.W.

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20005-3701

(202) 234-4433

www.nealrgross.com

1 understand what they need, would the Japanese ask  
2 for their people to evac beyond the 20-mile or --  
3 excuse me -- beyond the 20-kilometer range so they  
4 would better be able to anticipate the humanitarian  
5 efforts that may be needed in the future here just  
6 within the next few days.

7           And I think that's, that's mostly what  
8 the -- Cara's saying yes -- that's most of the  
9 requests coming in. And maybe if we already have  
10 that kind of data or something, is that something  
11 that we could support?

12           MALE PARTICIPANT: Let me make sure I  
13 understand the, the request. Are you looking for  
14 real-time dose information that we've collected  
15 over, over time or are you trying to get predictions  
16 for the future? And it's all in-country that you're  
17 looking for?

18           CARA CHRISTIE: Yeah, this is Cara. I  
19 think, less emphasis on dose information collected  
20 to date and more a step back on just looking at what  
21 the current situation is at the plant and what it  
22 might evolve into over the next several -- well, I  
23 guess whatever a reasonable time period is -- for  
24 analysis, so if that's several days, if that's  
25 weeks.

**NEAL R. GROSS**

COURT REPORTERS AND TRANSCRIBERS

1323 RHODE ISLAND AVE., N.W.

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20005-3701

1                   You know, the nuclear situation is  
2 something that is not very familiar to the folks  
3 that are used to working in humanitarian emergencies  
4 over here. We're much more used to war and drought  
5 and things like that. And so when we are doing our  
6 contingency planning and trying to figure out how  
7 big of a humanitarian emergency there might be, it's  
8 difficult for us to wrap our minds around what  
9 issues we should even be including.

10                   So, for example, you know, could there  
11 be such a huge escalation in the nuclear situation  
12 that they're going to have to evacuate, you know, to  
13 50 miles out, to a 100 miles out, less, more, and  
14 then to try to work it from there? Or is that so  
15 unlikely that it's, you know, almost a futile  
16 exercise? Or is it somewhere in between?

17                   Did that help?

18                   MALE PARTICIPANT: Yes, I think, a  
19 little. It sounds like what you need is, is actual  
20 dose information to be able to determine where you  
21 can get to and where you can't get to.

22                   BOB TAYLOR: Well, I don't know if it's  
23 as much as the personnel performing the humanitarian  
24 aid as much as what would be the need. In other  
25 words, if the evacuation was to expand to, say, 30,

**NEAL R. GROSS**

COURT REPORTERS AND TRANSCRIBERS

1323 RHODE ISLAND AVE., N.W.

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20005-3701

1 40, or 50 kilometers -- and that's not what it's at  
2 now, of course -- but if it would need to be  
3 expanded.

4 Then, there would be more evacuees to  
5 take care of, and there would be more sheltering  
6 locations and more items needed for those who would  
7 need to be evacuated into those shelters. And then  
8 they would need to know what they would need to  
9 provide to them.

10 They don't need to know the doses as to  
11 what's causing that to be the evacuation, but they  
12 would need to know when that may occur and how far  
13 out it may occur so that they can put together their  
14 contingency plans.

15 I mean, to provide the doses would be  
16 something -- excuse me -- that could be useful for  
17 teams that would be actually doing that. But that  
18 part of it, I believe, is, is kind of like, you  
19 know, part of that effort, but to know what that  
20 effort is needed is really what they, they are  
21 seeking.

22 SCOTT MORRIS: Let me, let me try.

23 So you -- just to play it back, I think  
24 what I heard was that there's an interest in  
25 understanding that, should the, the event at

**NEAL R. GROSS**

COURT REPORTERS AND TRANSCRIBERS

1323 RHODE ISLAND AVE., N.W.

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20005-3701

1 Fukushima, Fukushima get worse, is there any  
2 likelihood that the protective actions might expand  
3 beyond the current 20- and 30-kilometers?

4 CARA CHRISTIE: Yes.

5 SCOTT MORRIS: And if so, so, how  
6 likely is that to occur, I guess, and how far might  
7 it reach out to. That's what I'm hearing you ask.

8 CARA CHRISTIE: Yeah. I think the  
9 question is, how likely is it that the situation at  
10 the plant will deteriorate? And how, if there is  
11 any likelihood that it could deteriorate, how much  
12 might it deteriorate?

13 SCOTT MORRIS: All right.

14 CARA CHRISTIE: And then what would that  
15 mean for a possible evacuation perimeter?

16 SCOTT MORRIS: As much as I think we  
17 don't like to answer that, I mean any, any answer we  
18 provide would be highly speculative because we  
19 don't, we don't have access to, you know, precisely  
20 what's occurring at the site.

21 KATHY GIBSON: I think the source term  
22 that we found (off-mic).

23 CARA CHRISTIE: I mean, it's definitely  
24 understood that that sort of analysis would probably  
25 have to be caveated with all sorts of limitations

**NEAL R. GROSS**

COURT REPORTERS AND TRANSCRIBERS

1323 RHODE ISLAND AVE., N.W.

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20005-3701

1 about, you know, this is what we know, this is what  
2 we don't know, this is what we're basing our  
3 analysis on, you know, critical assumptions.

4 SCOTT MORRIS: Well, I can tell you  
5 this. I mean, we, we have done, for lack of a  
6 better term, worst-case. You can argue, reasonable  
7 people can debate whether it's truly worst case, but  
8 for the purposes of our work and working with  
9 others, we've done that worst-case analysis and  
10 we're continuing to refine it. And we made  
11 projections on the basis of that worst-case, and  
12 that's what led to our -- what's the word? The, the  
13 protective action recommendation that we made is  
14 pushing it out to 50 miles.

15 BOB TAYLOR: I guess -- Scott, is that  
16 you?

17 SCOTT MORRIS: Yes.

18 BOB TAYLOR: Yeah, I guess, though, we,  
19 we have been receiving some flyover data.

20 SCOTT MORRIS: All right, I haven't  
21 seen the latest flyover data.

22 BOB TAYLOR: Yeah, and it's just, it's  
23 just, I guess this is just something I think that  
24 is, is more of a, not to take action on, as much as  
25 to create contingency plans for.

**NEAL R. GROSS**

COURT REPORTERS AND TRANSCRIBERS

1323 RHODE ISLAND AVE., N.W.

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20005-3701



1                   So, you know, if, if, if we believe not  
2 for, you know, to actually take action on it if we  
3 did it out to the 50-mile range, but for if the  
4 worst-case happened. It is to plan for, if it were  
5 to happen, what would be humanitarian -- or I  
6 shouldn't say "humanitarian" -- what would be the  
7 impact upon the population in that area be [sic]?

8                   In other words, what, what -- again,  
9 just going back again, if it were out that 30 miles,  
10 what would be the cause of that, an actual release,  
11 and when would we predict it to happen? If we're  
12 already saying we're predicting out to 50 miles,  
13 then I think they would like to have a little more  
14 information as to the basis, not the basis of  
15 prediction, but when we would anticipate that to  
16 occur, given current information that we have.

17                   And if we tell them that it's going to  
18 occur any, you know, any moment, then I guess they  
19 would need to act on that. But that's part of what  
20 they're looking for is what could the future hold.

21                   SCOTT MORRIS: Oh, yeah.

22                   SCOTT MOORE: This is Scott Moore. I  
23 guess, who is "they"? Is it the US government or  
24 the Japanese government?

25                   BOB TAYLOR: US government. USAID is

**NEAL R. GROSS**

COURT REPORTERS AND TRANSCRIBERS

1323 RHODE ISLAND AVE., N.W.

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20005-3701

1 trying to predict and create contingency plans on  
2 how much assistance may be requested in the future  
3 so they can put together a contingency plan.

4 SCOTT MOORE: Okay. Well, in, in direct  
5 response to the question, I'm not sure that we can  
6 answer that because a lot of it's based on things  
7 like the meteorology, the, the wind direction --

8 SCOTT MORRIS: The effectiveness of any  
9 measures that the, the folks on the ground are  
10 having now. I mean, it's --

11 CARA CHRISTIE: I think, actually, even  
12 if we could get a description of those factors that  
13 go into the analysis, that would help as well. So,  
14 for example, you know, I've seen reports that the,  
15 the weather patterns might change on Sunday and  
16 blow, I guess, the plume cloud back over Japan as  
17 opposed to out over sea. But I don't know what that  
18 means as far as risks to the Japanese population.

19 Or, on the more technical side, my  
20 understanding is that efforts right now are to get  
21 water back into the spent fuel pools. (Inaudible)  
22 is talking about the power, but I understand from a  
23 call earlier tonight that it's NRC's view that the  
24 power supply is not necessarily the priority given  
25 its likelihood of improving the situation.

**NEAL R. GROSS**

COURT REPORTERS AND TRANSCRIBERS

1323 RHODE ISLAND AVE., N.W.

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20005-3701

1                   So, looking at the different efforts  
2 that are underway now, if they all fail, what does  
3 that mean as far as impact on radiation? And, I  
4 guess, what other scenarios could lead to a  
5 significant radiation event?

6                   And if the answer is, we don't know  
7 because there are all of these factors, then it  
8 would be helpful just to get an explanation of what  
9 those factors are and why it's not possible just so  
10 we have some basis of how far we go in our  
11 contingency planning.

12                   JOE PIKE: Okay. Let's make sure that  
13 we have your number, and then our Protective  
14 Measures folks will give you a call a little bit.

15                   SCOTT MORRIS: Well, I think we should  
16 work this to the LTs because that's standard  
17 protocol. But --

18                   BOB TAYLOR: You can email me through,  
19 just through the ELMRC email, myself or Leigh, as to  
20 --

21                   SCOTT MORRIS: Well, we've got a  
22 liaison team; right? So we should be working  
23 through that process to interact with (audio  
24 interference). So we'll do that.

25                   But, yeah, so the contact information is

**NEAL R. GROSS**

COURT REPORTERS AND TRANSCRIBERS

1323 RHODE ISLAND AVE., N.W.

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20005-3701

1 helpful.

2 LEIGH TROCINE: Well, these books are  
3 the --

4 BOB TAYLOR: we are the liaison team --

5 LEIGH TROCINE: -- to the RMT.

6 BOB TAYLOR: Yeah, we are the liaison  
7 team.

8 SCOTT MORRIS: No, I'm talking about  
9 the liaison --

10 KATHY GIBSON: So, when we're ready to  
11 talk, we can let the liaison team know, and they'll  
12 set up --

13 BOB TAYLOR: Yes, that's what I'm  
14 saying. When the Liaison Team is ready to talk,  
15 they can send the information via the normal email  
16 channels to us here and we can set up the conference  
17 call. We'll be on the call then.

18 KATHY GIBSON: Okay.

19 SCOTT MORRIS: Okay.

20 JOE PIKE: Okay. I'm not sure how  
21 satisfying information is going to be for you. We  
22 can't predict what's going to happen at the site.  
23 You know, it, it's not like there's something  
24 imminent in terms of a degradation in, in one of  
25 these systems that's apparent to us.

**NEAL R. GROSS**

COURT REPORTERS AND TRANSCRIBERS

1323 RHODE ISLAND AVE., N.W.

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20005-3701

(202) 234-4433

[www.nealrgross.com](http://www.nealrgross.com)

1                   They're trying a variety of mitigating  
2 measures, which are having likely limited effects  
3 and, as you all know, it's difficult to get  
4 information on what the radiation doses are. So the  
5 things that you've talked about, like weather, will  
6 clearly have an impact on what the situation is  
7 going to be in country.

8                   But we'll try to work up a few thoughts  
9 for you and try to support you as best we can.

10                  BOB TAYLOR: Okay. Thanks, Roy [sic].

11                  LEIGH TROCINE: Appreciate it. Thanks,  
12 everybody.

13                  JOE PIKE: Okay. Thank you. Bye now.  
14  
15  
16  
17  
18  
19  
20  
21  
22  
23  
24  
25

**NEAL R. GROSS**

COURT REPORTERS AND TRANSCRIBERS

1323 RHODE ISLAND AVE., N.W.

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20005-3701

1 (CONFERENCE CALL INITIATED.)

2 00:29:19/01:18:26

3 JOE PIKE: Brian, are you there?

4 BRIAN McDERMOTT: Yeah, I am.

5 JOE PIKE: Okay. This is Joe Pike.

6 You're up on the bridge.

7 BRIAN McDERMOTT: Thanks.

8 (Standby to 00:29:--.)

9 (Partially inaudible content omitted.)

10 MALE PARTICIPANT: I, it's my  
11 understanding, it's really intended to be an  
12 INPO-led --

13 MALE PARTICIPANT: Yeah.

14 MALE PARTICIPANT: Well, I think --

15 MALE PARTICIPANT: -- industry response.

16 MALE PARTICIPANT: I think about it sort  
17 of like a Deepwater Horizon here. I think that that  
18 would -- would the government (inaudible) that out,  
19 and his, his folks that (inaudible). There was  
20 really lot of industry there at that well.

21 MALE PARTICIPANT: Yeah.

22 MALE PARTICIPANT: I sort of see that as  
23 the model.

24 MALE PARTICIPANT: Yeah. I, I had  
25 suggested that when, when I got here a few days ago,

**NEAL R. GROSS**

COURT REPORTERS AND TRANSCRIBERS  
1323 RHODE ISLAND AVE., N.W.

1 the Deepwater Horizon --

2 MALE PARTICIPANT: It took us a while to  
3 catch on.

4 MALE PARTICIPANT: -- an example of this  
5 --

6 MALE PARTICIPANT: We get there. That's  
7 all that --

8 (Audio interference.)

9 MALE PARTICIPANT: -- he was not  
10 contacted. It was disappointing for the Chairman.  
11 So that's the model that we worked on.

12 MALE PARTICIPANT: Have you shared this  
13 with (inaudible).

14 MALE PARTICIPANT: I told him what we  
15 were doing.

16 MALE PARTICIPANT: Okay. Yeah.

17 MALE PARTICIPANT: I, I knew he, he was  
18 not (inaudible).

19 MALE PARTICIPANT: Is this available  
20 (inaudible) we might share --

21 (Audio interference.)

22 MALE PARTICIPANT: We just sent it out  
23 to all the -- we sent it out all the, we sent it out  
24 to these folks electronically with an invitation to  
25 the meeting, so you all (inaudible), just ask

**NEAL R. GROSS**

COURT REPORTERS AND TRANSCRIBERS .

1323 RHODE ISLAND AVE., N.W.

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20005-3701

1 (inaudible) and we'll get (inaudible).

2 BRIAN McDERMOTT: Good morning, Marty.  
3 This is Brian McDermott. I was just calling in to  
4 listen as you guys wrapped up this shift.

5 MARTY VIRGILIO: Okay, Brian. Are you  
6 on your way in?

7 BRIAN McDERMOTT: I am.

8 MARTY VIRGILIO: Okay. Yeah, I, I think  
9 the significant issue that we're going to be dealing  
10 with tomorrow is setting up a meeting. Well, we  
11 actually, I think we got everything in motion for  
12 you.

13 But what we'll be having is we'll be  
14 hosting a meeting here, at two o'clock in the  
15 afternoon, of a consortium of government and  
16 industry representatives. And think "Deepwater  
17 Horizon" and how we capped that well and the  
18 industry-government partnership that was formed, and  
19 was eventually successful, in that operation.

20 And so we're bringing to bear the  
21 resources of folks like GE, Hitachi, Areva, Bechtel  
22 and others, being coordinated by INPO, to this  
23 meeting with us, Naval Reactors, and Department of  
24 Energy to start a dialogue on how this, how this is  
25 going to work.

**NEAL R. GROSS**

COURT REPORTERS AND TRANSCRIBERS  
1323 RHODE ISLAND AVE., N.W.  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20005-3701



1 BRIAN McDERMOTT: Okay.

2 MARTY VIRGILIO: So I think this is a  
3 real significant milestone and turning point for our  
4 operations.

5 BRIAN McDERMOTT: Yeah. It looks like  
6 we've got some more operational folks involved, as  
7 opposed to NRR engineers.

8 MARTY VIRGILIO: Yep. Yeah, people that  
9 actually can implement, and that's where we've been  
10 frustrated here, is the implementation.

11 BRIAN McDERMOTT: Right.

12 MARTY VIRGILIO: So we're going to have  
13 that meeting here tomorrow at two. I think we're  
14 going to do it in one of the ACRS rooms. And we're,  
15 we're inviting representatives from all of our  
16 principal, you know, program offices to either have  
17 the office director or the office  
18 director-designate, one of his subordinates to come,  
19 one of his or her subordinates, to come in and do  
20 this.

21 MALE PARTICIPANT: I'm on the way up.  
22 Did you hear me?

23 MARTY VIRGILIO: Who's on the line? Who  
24 just joined the bridge?

25 (No response.)

**NEAL R. GROSS**

COURT REPORTERS AND TRANSCRIBERS  
1323 RHODE ISLAND AVE., N.W.

1 MARTY VIRGILIO: Are you still there,  
2 Brian?

3 BRIAN McDERMOTT: Yes I am.

4 MARTY VIRGILIO: Okay. We can hear you.

5 BRIAN McDERMOTT: That almost sounded  
6 like one of the operations --

7 MARTY VIRGILIO: Yeah, it might've been  
8 one of our HOOs.

9 BRIAN McDERMOTT: Okay. So that's the  
10 (audio interference).

11 (Partially inaudible content omitted.)

12 ROY ZIMMERMAN: I personally wasn't  
13 sure. I knew they were talking about (inaudible) on  
14 hold (inaudible) hydrogen explosion.

15 FEMALE PARTICIPANT: It's on the IAEA  
16 (inaudible).

17 ROY ZIMMERMAN: Yeah, that's what I was  
18 going to say. The IAEA is reporting that.

19 FEMALE PARTICIPANT: Yeah, it's on the  
20 press release.

21 MALE PARTICIPANT: Okay.

22 MARTY VIRGILIO: I don't understand  
23 either of those. So, so that's different than what  
24 I heard (inaudible).

25 MALE PARTICIPANT: There, I thought the

**NEAL R. GROSS**

COURT REPORTERS AND TRANSCRIBERS

1323 RHODE ISLAND AVE., N.W.

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20005-3701

1 concern was more of, as you concentrate (audio  
2 interference), the core adapts. I was looking at --

3 MALE PARTICIPANT: Yeah, I'm sorry.  
4 Okay. Okay. These are materials, and I was  
5 thinking, one --

6 MALE PARTICIPANT: But they were also,  
7 they were also raising concerns about the reactor  
8 vessel and the impact of the steam water on the  
9 reactor themselves.

10 MALE PARTICIPANT: It would affect the  
11 materials.

12 MALE PARTICIPANT: First of all, this  
13 reactor really wasn't meant for boric acid, number  
14 one, and number two, now you've got seawater, so  
15 you're concentrating sodium in there. If you  
16 generate caustic sodium hydroxide, then, you know,  
17 God knows what you got. What kind of brew have you  
18 got going on in there? Not to mention, all the  
19 little wee beasties that you're pumping in there  
20 from the ocean.

21 MALE PARTICIPANT: Yeah. It's not  
22 designed for boron, so they don't use boron and any  
23 NA forms for refueling outages or --

24 MALE PARTICIPANT: Only as part of an  
25 emergency shutdown. They have a thing called

**NEAL R. GROSS**

COURT REPORTERS AND TRANSCRIBERS  
1323 RHODE ISLAND AVE., N.W.

1 "standby liquid control". It's a control that, they  
2 can, well, put it in. If the control (inaudible) is  
3 stuck, then they'll go in and set it down the  
4 (inaudible).

5 MALE PARTICIPANT: Okay. That's, I  
6 guess I was thinking that it's at least been thought  
7 about as part of the system, but it's not  
8 (inaudible).

9 MALE PARTICIPANT: Anything (inaudible)  
10 effective.

11 MALE PARTICIPANT: The, they're kind of  
12 shifting towards the longer, intermediate and  
13 longer-term kind of thinking; okay, so now we've got  
14 the reactors cool, what have we done kind of stuff.  
15 That's an interesting one.

16 One of the things that I had suggested  
17 to some of the, our folks is that if they look to  
18 intermediate, longer-term, the (audio interference)  
19 were earthquakes and tsunamis and the rest of it.  
20 So getting into a place where we're not just stable,  
21 but they've got to take steps on (audio  
22 interference) based on siting dry wells, that kind  
23 of thing.

24 MALE PARTICIPANT: Can I see the number  
25 on that information?

**NEAL R. GROSS**

COURT REPORTERS AND TRANSCRIBERS  
1323 RHODE ISLAND AVE., N.W.  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20005-3701

1 MALE PARTICIPANT: I think you got, I  
2 think you've got a potential fill.

3 MALE PARTICIPANT: It's something like  
4 11 dash something.

5 (Partially inaudible content omitted.)

6 MALE PARTICIPANT: (Inaudible) falling  
7 down into a puddle.

8 MALE PARTICIPANT: What, what I had  
9 read, I guess, was that if the dry well is flooded,  
10 then it prevents pre-failure (inaudible), but then  
11 again, what we're dealing with is an a direct  
12 statement (inaudible).

13 MALE PARTICIPANT: First principles need  
14 to be (audio interference). And again, I'm not  
15 trying to (inaudible) this meeting response either.

16 I'm just saying I think it's some longer-term,  
17 (audio interference) longer-term (inaudible). Is  
18 there, is there a need to think beyond just the  
19 first stage of cooling (inaudible).

20 I can see that the, the team could  
21 evolve. You know, the consortium could evolve as a  
22 function of time, and as conditions change, the NRC  
23 backing out of this at some point and DOE  
24 (inaudible) the actual cleanup.

25 (Inaudible) the core is stable and cool

**NEAL R. GROSS**

COURT REPORTERS AND TRANSCRIBERS

1323 RHODE ISLAND AVE., N.W.

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20005-3701

1 and everything else is done, then, you know, start  
2 thinking about the longer-term cleanup. That's not  
3 our, that's not our strength.

4 If it were Chernobyl, that might be  
5 different. Chernobyl stakeholders (inaudible).  
6 They've got the right people.

7 MALE PARTICIPANT: Their, their groups  
8 and focus and constitution of this could change --  
9 (audio interference) -- they need contract proposals  
10 (inaudible).

11 MALE PARTICIPANT: All-righty.

12 MALE PARTICIPANT: We'll have to think  
13 ahead. It's going to be a good day.

14 MALE PARTICIPANT: (Inaudible).

15 MALE PARTICIPANT: All right. Good.

16 (Standby 00:39:59 to 00:41:13.)

17 MALE PARTICIPANT: -- the priorities  
18 doesn't make sense for these units.

19 MALE PARTICIPANT: Yeah.

20 MALE PARTICIPANT: (Audio interference).

21 It was an indication that we think that they --

22 MALE PARTICIPANT: Yeah. We think it's  
23 a bigger problem.

24 MALE PARTICIPANT: Yeah, but you have a  
25 good point because the issues we're dealing with,

**NEAL R. GROSS**

COURT REPORTERS AND TRANSCRIBERS

1323 RHODE ISLAND AVE., N.W.

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20005-3701

1 both the spent fuel pool and the core (audio  
2 interference), the core may not be the same priority  
3 as the spent fuel pool.

4 MALE PARTICIPANT: All right. I just  
5 don't know what we're doing with that (inaudible).

6 MALE PARTICIPANT: Joe, here you go.

7 MALE PARTICIPANT: If it is an example  
8 of not doing much with this, it's because we didn't  
9 get any more information.

10 MALE PARTICIPANT: Yeah, right. Well,  
11 no, we didn't -- if the units (inaudible).

12 (Standby 00:42:03 to 00:42:23)

13 MALE PARTICIPANT: (Inaudible) the  
14 release in progress, or releases in progress. I  
15 think it's going to be a big deal because that's  
16 been creeping now to this country.

17 MALE PARTICIPANT: It already has?

18 MALE PARTICIPANT: It has. Yeah.

19 MALE PARTICIPANT: It looks like  $10^{-13}$   
20 microcuries per milliliter airborne (inaudible) --

21 MALE PARTICIPANT: It's a matter of  
22 putting it in perspective so people understand how  
23 low the values are.

24 MALE PARTICIPANT: (Inaudible)  
25 protection. And then that (inaudible) order's a

**NEAL R. GROSS**

COURT REPORTERS AND TRANSCRIBERS

1323 RHODE ISLAND AVE., N.W.

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20005-3701

1 magnitude below (audio interference). That would be  
2 another issue. I think.

3 MALE PARTICIPANT: Basically it's at the  
4 lowest, lowest at the tactical level. So it's a  
5 question of a question of its (inaudible) doing  
6 there (inaudible) --

7 (Audio interference.)

8 MALE PARTICIPANT: -- which it may or  
9 may not.

10 MALE PARTICIPANT: That's true.

11 MALE PARTICIPANT: It said that they  
12 picked it up in Hawaii first.

13 MALE PARTICIPANT: It depends on the,  
14 how the --

15 MALE PARTICIPANT: yeah?

16 (Audio interference.)

17 (Partially inaudible content omitted.)

18 MALE PARTICIPANT: They're pulling the  
19 table out.

20 MALE PARTICIPANT: That changed over  
21 time. They liked the table.

22 MALE PARTICIPANT: Yeah, well, but now  
23 it's -- is the reason the table is no good is  
24 because people don't want to read on the BlackBerry,  
25 can't, so that's why they just got rid of the table.

**NEAL R. GROSS**

COURT REPORTERS AND TRANSCRIBERS  
1323 RHODE ISLAND AVE., N.W.  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20005-3701



1 Now it just looks . . .

2 MALE PARTICIPANT: You just say it's  
3 uncomfortable getting rid of the table.

4 MALE PARTICIPANT: Great.

5 (Standby 00:44:34 to 00:46:46.)

6 SCOTT MORRIS: Hey, Brian, are you  
7 there?

8 BRIAN McDERMOTT: Yes, Scott.

9 SCOTT MORRIS: Hey, did you brief  
10 General Fields yesterday?

11 BRIAN McDERMOTT: He never called.

12 SCOTT MORRIS: Is that right? Because  
13 I didn't get any turnover on how that went, so that  
14 explains it.

15 BRIAN McDERMOTT: Yes.

16 SCOTT MORRIS: So he never called in,  
17 huh? All right. Well, but he has our number, so he  
18 --

19 MALE PARTICIPANT: He was pretty  
20 interested in it.

21 SCOTT MORRIS: Yeah, I mean -- okay.  
22 That's helpful. I didn't know.

23 BRIAN McDERMOTT: He had our number and  
24 we didn't have his. So it's just like if, well, if  
25 he wants the information, he'll call.

**NEAL R. GROSS**

COURT REPORTERS AND TRANSCRIBERS

1323 RHODE ISLAND AVE., N.W.

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20005-3701

(202) 234-4433

[www.nealrgross.com](http://www.nealrgross.com)

1 SCOTT MORRIS: Okay. Fair enough.

2 Thank you.

3 BRIAN McDERMOTT: He resolved the issues  
4 with USAID last night. There were some calls going  
5 on around, around five or six o'clock. Did you hear  
6 anything about that?

7 SCOTT MORRIS: What was the issue?

8 BRIAN McDERMOTT: I, I wasn't exactly  
9 sure. I, I had heard something before I had left  
10 about their desire for more information from the  
11 team in Japan, that they weren't really getting a  
12 lot of briefings from the team and (inaudible) fact  
13 that, you know, they were extremely busy, getting  
14 very little sleep, and, you know, if we needed to  
15 (inaudible) communication, we could help with that.  
16 We might even be able to get one of their people  
17 closer to our people.

18 The other aspect was a question about  
19 the whole, who was paying for travel and that. And  
20 I know Jim Dyer was working that issue.

21 SCOTT MORRIS: Well, I didn't get any  
22 turnover on that, Brian.

23 BRIAN McDERMOTT: Okay.

24 SCOTT MOORE: There was a long  
25 conversation -- this is Scott Moore, Brian -- there

**NEAL R. GROSS**

COURT REPORTERS AND TRANSCRIBERS

1323 RHODE ISLAND AVE., N.W.

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20005-3701

1 was a long conversation between USAID and the  
2 Protective Measures Team on, on, you know,  
3 worst-case postulating and, and what would be needed  
4 with regard to evacuating or what could happen with  
5 regard to people that could be assisting with their  
6 team, and the area that's helping USAID people that  
7 I guess are in Japan in areas of Japan helping with  
8 the earthquake and that kind of stuff. And they  
9 wanted us to speculate a lot.

10 So we just referred to the protective  
11 measures team so they could try to answer their  
12 questions. They wanted us to talk about when things  
13 could happen and how they could happen and that kind  
14 of stuff. You know, it would require us to  
15 speculate a whole lot, and I think the Protective  
16 Measures Team has the same problem too.

17 BRIAN McDERMOTT: And that's really  
18 about measures for the team, and they're how  
19 (inaudible).

20 SCOTT MOORE: You're breaking up, Brian.

21 BRIAN McDERMOTT: The interest we heard  
22 from them was about what protective measures might  
23 need to be taken for their team members who are out  
24 doing search and recovery?

25 SCOTT MOORE: It wasn't exactly that

**NEAL R. GROSS**

COURT REPORTERS AND TRANSCRIBERS

1323 RHODE ISLAND AVE., N.W.

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20005-3701

1 clear. They just wanted us to kind of speculate on  
2 what exactly could happen, what was the worst kind  
3 of case thing that could happen based on the status  
4 of the plant as we knew it. I guess I would  
5 characterize it that way.

6 Did you all hear it the same way?

7 (No response.)

8 SCOTT MOORE: What USAID was asking from  
9 us today.

10 MARTY VIRGILIO: Oh, the call with them  
11 today?

12 SCOTT MOORE: Yeah.

13 ROY ZIMMERMAN: Yeah, what I got out of  
14 it -- we kind of went around the barn a few times,  
15 but they seem to have interest in trying to  
16 understand if there, if we foresaw changes that were  
17 going to be occurring with the units that were going  
18 to have an impact in country, that would impact  
19 their other activities that they were doing based on  
20 rad level changes, you know, wind shifts, you know,  
21 anything that was going to have a major impact on,  
22 on their other activities.

23 And I'm not sure what we ultimately told  
24 them through the PMT, but in the short dialogue they  
25 had with us, we really weren't able to provide

**NEAL R. GROSS**

COURT REPORTERS AND TRANSCRIBERS  
1323 RHODE ISLAND AVE., N.W.  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20005-3701

1 anything definitive because we don't, we don't know  
2 whether something may occur at the site in the short  
3 term that could change radiological conditions in  
4 the general, in the general populace.

5 So they were looking for some sort of  
6 assurance or some intel about things either changes  
7 or not changing in the, in the short term and  
8 there's just no guarantees.

9 BRIAN McDERMOTT: Right. Did the  
10 Protective Measures Team end up completing the  
11 documentation of that super-scenario or whatever  
12 we're calling it?

13 SCOTT MORRIS: Yes.

14 BRIAN McDERMOTT: Okay.

15 SCOTT MORRIS: It's in the sitrep.

16 BRIAN McDERMOTT: Great.

17 (Extraneous conversation omitted.)

18 (Conference call resumed.)

19 BRIAN McDERMOTT: Yes, sir?

20 BRIAN McDERMOTT: Did the strategy  
21 relative to copying Ops Center email addresses for  
22 the purpose of making FOIA data collection easier  
23 come up on your turnover?

24 SCOTT MORRIS: The only thing I got on  
25 that was Mr. Nelson in NRR was spearheading that

**NEAL R. GROSS**

COURT REPORTERS AND TRANSCRIBERS

1323 RHODE ISLAND AVE., N.W.

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20004-4401

1 collection effort. But I hadn't heard anything  
2 about tagging things to make it easier.

3 BRIAN McDERMOTT: I mean, NRR is doing  
4 it, but everybody has to --

5 SCOTT MORRIS: Sure.

6 BRIAN McDERMOTT: -- participate.

7 SCOTT MORRIS: I haven't seen any, I  
8 haven't seen any sort of protocol advertised for how  
9 we should be doing that.

10 BRIAN McDERMOTT: All right. I think,  
11 as things got extremely active in the middle  
12 turnover last night as we were going off shift and  
13 the Chairman was headed in to speak with the  
14 Japanese ambassador --

15 SCOTT MORRIS: Right.

16 BRIAN McDERMOTT: -- it may have gotten  
17 lost in the translation.

18 What we had worked out was, if everybody  
19 who was using personal email accounts would simply  
20 make sure that we have a copy that went to one Opts  
21 Center accounts, then when we ask individuals to do  
22 the FOIA search, they would only have (inaudible)  
23 based on any personal emails. Does that make sense?

24 SCOTT MORRIS: You kind of broke up  
25 there. I, I -- something got garbled.

**NEAL R. GROSS**

COURT REPORTERS AND TRANSCRIBERS  
1323 RHODE ISLAND AVE., N.W.  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20005-3701

1 BRIAN McDERMOTT: Okay. If you include  
2 one of the Ops Center email addresses on your  
3 communications relative to the event --

4 SCOTT MORRIS: Right.

5 BRIAN McDERMOTT: -- then we can have  
6 (inaudible) staff go through and pull all those,  
7 those messages.

8 SCOTT MORRIS: Right.

9 BRIAN McDERMOTT: So that, when  
10 individual staff members are asked to do a review  
11 for the FOIA data, they can focus on just the  
12 person-to-person ones that did not include an ops  
13 center email address.

14 SCOTT MORRIS: Yeah. Yeah, that --

15 BRIAN McDERMOTT: So we're not having  
16 all these people printing redundant copies of the  
17 same message.

18 SCOTT MORRIS: That makes sense. It  
19 would be helpful if we could get that written down  
20 and shared promptly with people I guess.

21 BRIAN McDERMOTT: Yeah, we'll work that  
22 today.

23 MALE PARTICIPANT: (Off mic).

24 SCOTT MORRIS: An AP Newswire came out  
25 and put out a (inaudible) for everything we have,

**NEAL R. GROSS**

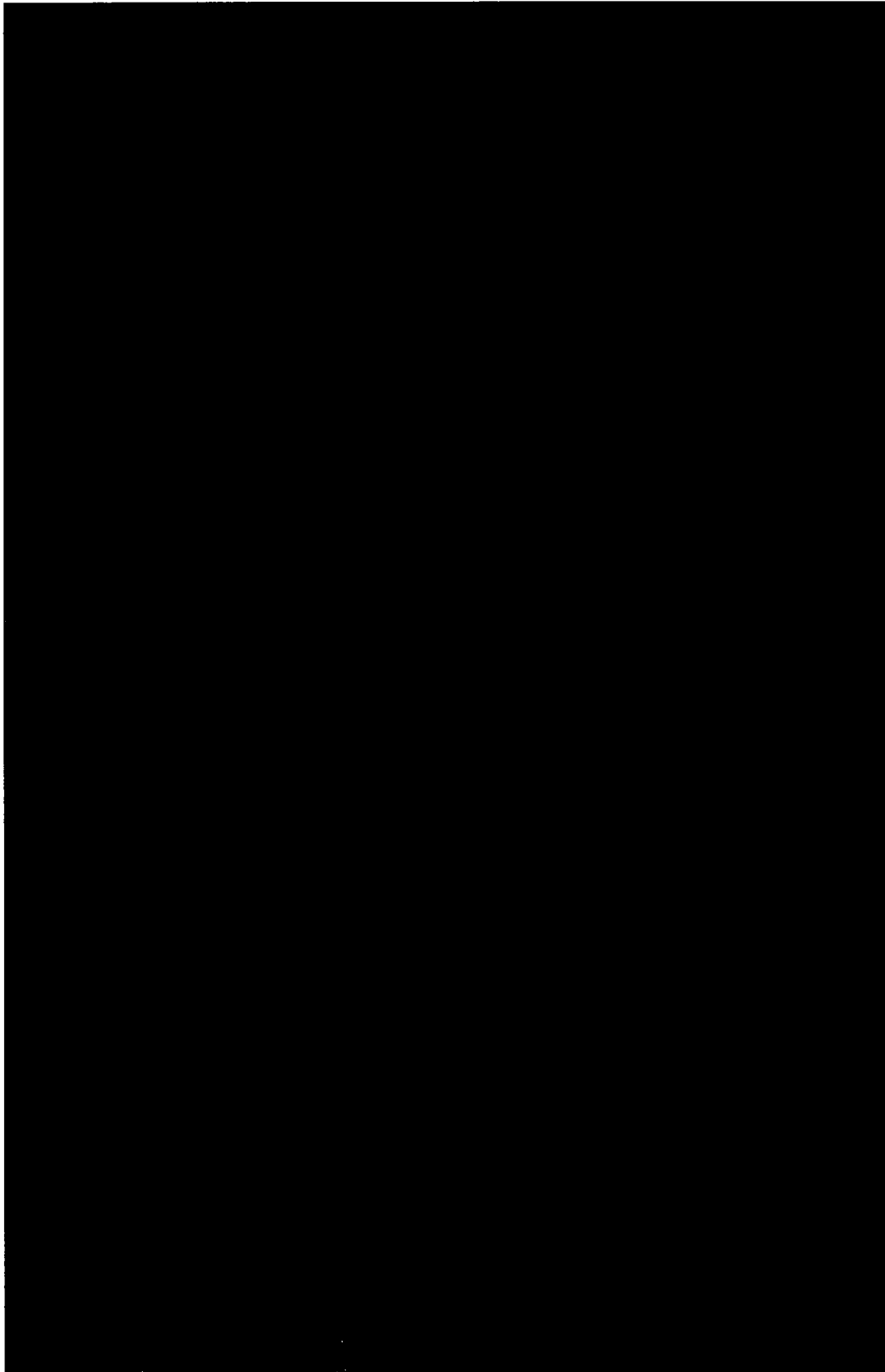
COURT REPORTERS AND TRANSCRIBERS

1323 RHODE ISLAND AVE., N.W.

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20005-3701

1 which was --

2  
3  
4  
5  
6  
7  
8  
9  
10  
11  
12  
13  
14  
15  
16  
17  
18  
19  
20  
21  
22  
23  
24  
25



5

MALE PARTICIPANT: (Inaudible) in

**NEAL R. GROSS**

COURT REPORTERS AND TRANSCRIBERS

1323 RHODE ISLAND AVE., N.W.

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20005-3701

(202) 234-4433

[www.nealrgross.com](http://www.nealrgross.com)



1 addition, if something like this has never actually  
2 even happened, which (inaudible) is similar to our  
3 design, what would we be doing if this occurred in  
4 one of our facilities --

5 MALE PARTICIPANT: Yep.

6 MALE PARTICIPANT: -- which is the  
7 consortium? We would have started it earlier.

8 MALE PARTICIPANT: Yeah.

9 MALE PARTICIPANT: You could have the  
10 addition of (inaudible) international (inaudible)  
11 starting to work that out. Initially, they weren't  
12 looking for help from us, and it --

13 SCOTT MORRIS: They've already approved  
14 a structure setup, so basically they're dealing with  
15 (inaudible).

16 MALE PARTICIPANT: Well, some of it  
17 takes creative thinking that has --

18 MALE PARTICIPANT: We were going to try  
19 --

20 MALE PARTICIPANT: -- we'll learn a lot.  
21 We'll learn a lot from (inaudible).

22 SCOTT MORRIS: We were to try some of  
23 this out there in the (inaudible).

24 MALE PARTICIPANT: We're more than  
25 ready.

**NEAL R. GROSS**

COURT REPORTERS AND TRANSCRIBERS

1323 RHODE ISLAND AVE., N.W.

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20005-3701

1 SCOTT MORRIS: Yeah.

2 MALE PARTICIPANT: Especially after  
3 this.

4 (Partially inaudible content omitted.)

5 FEMALE PARTICIPANT: We got a FOIA slip  
6 and so (inaudible) are going to send all of their  
7 emails to review --

8 SCOTT MORRIS: This is protocol. You're  
9 in it.

10 FEMALE PARTICIPANT: Yeah. So we're  
11 going to email that to everyone.

12 MALE PARTICIPANT: Who put this  
13 together?

14 SCOTT MORRIS: I was just talking to  
15 Brian about this.

16 FEMALE PARTICIPANT: About the email or?

17 SCOTT MORRIS: Yeah, this guidance --  
18 (Audio interference.)

19 FEMALE PARTICIPANT: I don't know. I  
20 was just told to email that out.

21 SCOTT MORRIS: Just following the  
22 action guide.

23 FEMALE PARTICIPANT: Yeah.

24 BRIAN McDERMOTT: Scott, did I just hear  
25 we were (inaudible) our own guidance now?

**NEAL R. GROSS**

COURT REPORTERS AND TRANSCRIBERS  
1323 RHODE ISLAND AVE., N.W.

1 SCOTT MORRIS: A second (inaudible)  
2 brought in. It's something that says -- let me read  
3 it -- "In response to FOIA, (audio interference)  
4 requests that an email account be created as a FOIA  
5 drop box. In the near future, you will be required  
6 to forward all emails that you have received either  
7 to your personal email or HOC container emails.  
8 (Inaudible) drop box, including those of you who may  
9 have deleted but have the ability to restore. In  
10 addition, all future emails pertaining to the  
11 Japanese nuclear incident must be copied into this  
12 drop box."

13 And then they give the address.

14 "A team is being assembled to ensure  
15 that all forwarded communications will be reviewed.  
16 Any information that qualifies for exemption (for  
17 example, PII) will be redacted. Therefore, you do  
18 not need to filter or redact any communications."  
19 (Audio interference). That's all it says.

20 FEMALE PARTICIPANT: (Off mic) the EPA  
21 website (inaudible) gives a short description of  
22 what's there. We've got a whole stack of paper  
23 (inaudible) administration on that.

24 (Partially inaudible content omitted.)

25 MALE PARTICIPANT: Didn't we -- on at

**NEAL R. GROSS**

COURT REPORTERS AND TRANSCRIBERS

1323 RHODE ISLAND AVE., N.W.

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20004-2000

1 least one or two press releases, I recall we had a  
2 number of, you know --

3 FEMALE PARTICIPANT: It just gives a  
4 website.

5 MALE PARTICIPANT: -- a website.

6 FEMALE PARTICIPANT: Right.

7 (Inaudible).

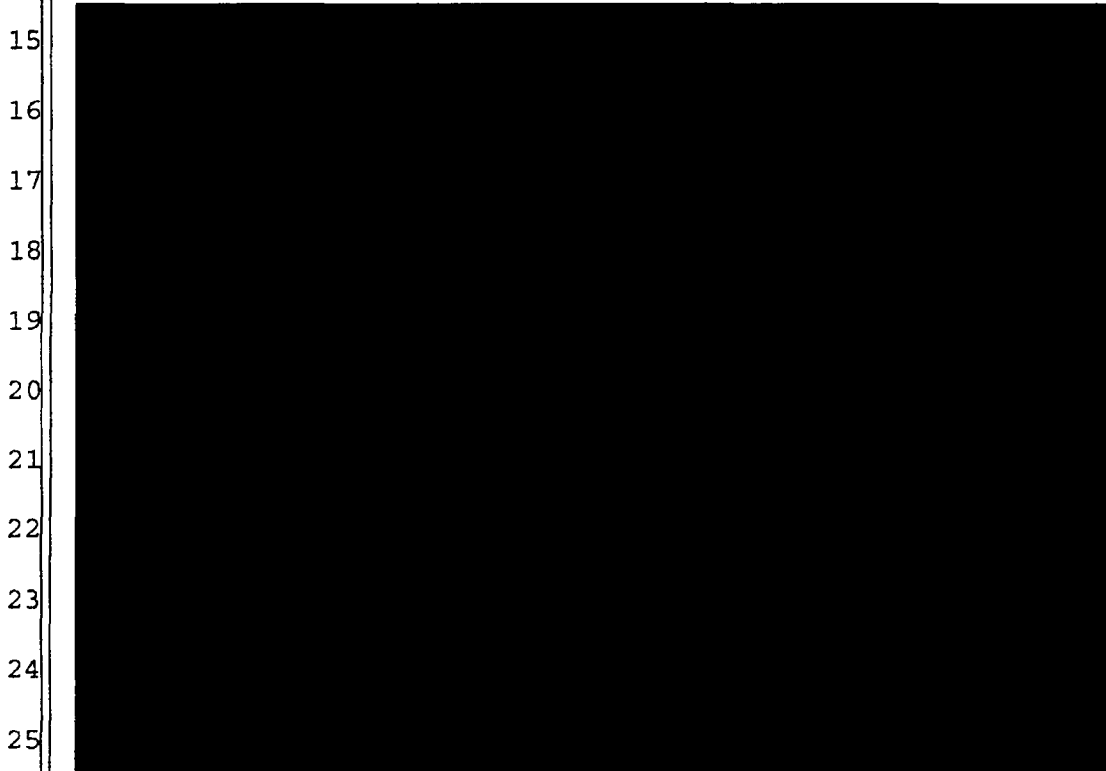
8 MALE PARTICIPANT: it seems to me like  
9 (audio interference) --

10 MALE PARTICIPANT: (Inaudible).

11 MALE PARTICIPANT: Why?

12 MALE PARTICIPANT: Did you hear what  
13 she's (inaudible) saying?

14 MALE PARTICIPANT: No. Why?



5

1 [REDACTED]  
2 SCOTT MORRIS: They often spin it to  
3 the (inaudible).

4 (Volume increased on news broadcast.)

5 (Extraneous and partially inaudible  
6 content omitted.)

7 (THE FOLLOWING TRANSCRIPT WAS OBTAINED  
8 AT TRANSCRIPTS.CNN.COM) :

9 QUEST: Japan is now reporting levels of  
10 radiation in some of the country's milk and spinach  
11 that exceed permissible levels. And the news comes  
12 while a diesel generator is powering a cooling  
13 system for reactor 5 and 6 of Japan's crippled  
14 nuclear power plant. Workers have drilled holes in  
15 the ceiling of the nuclear reactors to release  
16 explosive hydrogen gas and steam.

17 Other developments -- Friday, Japan  
18 raised the nuclear crisis level. However, the IAEA  
19 says the situation did not actually worsen, despite  
20 that action.

21 The strategy is to try to keep spraying  
22 water until electricity can be flowing to restart  
23 the reactor's own cooling water pumps. The  
24 engineers say they hope to have electricity flowing  
25 to some of the reactors by the end of Saturday, and

**NEAL R. GROSS**

COURT REPORTERS AND TRANSCRIBERS

1323 RHODE ISLAND AVE., N.W.

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20005-3701

(202) 234-4433

www.nealrgross.com

1 the rest by Sunday night.

2 CNN's Anna Coren is following the  
3 developments. She is with us now from Tokyo.

4 It is clearly a still very serious,  
5 grave crisis, but is there a feeling there that  
6 things have taken a turn for the better?

7 ANNA COREN, CNN INTERNATIONAL

8 CORRESPONDENT: Richard, I think it's fair to say  
9 that there's a feeling that things have stabilized,  
10 and I think that is certainly encouraging. We know  
11 that the government has come out today and said that  
12 reactors 1, 2 and 3 have stabilized. They are  
13 happy, I guess you could say, with the water levels  
14 in those cooling tanks, and that is where those  
15 spent nuclear rods are, and they are the concern.  
16 So they need to be covered in water. Otherwise,  
17 they are emitting this radioactive material. So  
18 water levels are satisfactory, I guess you could  
19 say.

20 But one official has come out and said  
21 that, Of course, we know that the situation is  
22 unpredictable. You mentioned a little earlier that  
23 holes have been drilled in the ceilings of reactors  
24 5 and 6. We also know that power is going to both  
25 those reactors because of a backup generator that

**NEAL R. GROSS**

COURT REPORTERS AND TRANSCRIBERS  
1323 RHODE ISLAND AVE., N.W.

(202) 234-4433

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20005-3701

[www.nealrgross.com](http://www.nealrgross.com)

1 was repaired.

2           They were hoping to get the power lines  
3 connected to reactor 2. It has so far reached the  
4 substation. That is the reports that we are  
5 receiving. It has yet to get to reactor 2. But if  
6 that does happen, it will be able to supply power to  
7 both reactors 1 and 2, and then, hopefully, later  
8 on, reactors 3 and 4. If that power is restored,  
9 then they'll be able to get the pumps going.

10           And as you say, that water, going into  
11 those pools. At the moment, the water is coming  
12 from outside, from on the ground. Those forces,  
13 those military, the police, the fire department --  
14 they are outside in these fire trucks 15 in total of  
15 the trucks being used to spray water.

16           And then, of course, there is that  
17 super-pumper that we mentioned a little earlier, and  
18 that is directly sucking water out of the ocean and  
19 then spraying it via a 22-meter extended arm off one  
20 of these tankers directly into reactor 3. That  
21 reactor is still the number one priority. They need  
22 to keep that cool. That, of course, is where the  
23 hydrogen fire occurred. That is where that  
24 explosion took place. So they just need to continue  
25 cooling the situation from outside but also from

**NEAL R. GROSS**

COURT REPORTERS AND TRANSCRIBERS

1323 RHODE ISLAND AVE., N.W.

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20005-3701

1 within -- Richard.

2 QUEST: And this report on milk and  
3 spinach that is contaminated -- what are you hearing  
4 about that?

5 COREN: The chief cabinet secretary,  
6 Edano -- he came out this afternoon, addressed the  
7 media, saying that they have found higher levels of  
8 radiation in milk and spinach. And of course, that  
9 always sets off alarm bells when people hear that.  
10 He said that as far as milk, the source of that was  
11 some 30 kilometers from the Fukushima Daiichi  
12 nuclear power plant. Spinach -- that was a little  
13 bit further out.

14 But before we get carried away and  
15 become quite alarmed about the situation, we should  
16 note that you would have to drink a year's worth of  
17 milk for it to be the equivalent of undergoing a CT  
18 scan. That's how much radiation that you would take  
19 in. So that is what we know at the moment. The  
20 government has launched a thorough investigation  
21 because they want to know if other foods have been  
22 affected, where the sources are, and if so, that  
23 needs to be banned.

24 Let's have a listen to what the cabinet  
25 minister, Edano, had to say a little earlier.

**NEAL R. GROSS**

COURT REPORTERS AND TRANSCRIBERS

1323 RHODE ISLAND AVE., N.W.

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20005-3701

(202) 234-4433

[www.nealrgross.com](http://www.nealrgross.com)



1 (BEGIN VIDEO CLIP)

2 YUKIO EDANO, JAPANESE CHIEF CABINET

3 SECRETARY (through translator): In Fukushima  
4 prefecture, the milk that is produced and spinach  
5 that is grown in Ibaraki prefecture, the samples of  
6 these food products recorded radiation level that is  
7 over the limit stipulated in food safety law.

8 (END VIDEO CLIP)

9 COREN; Now, the chief cabinet secretary  
10 -- he said that he cannot confirm whether those  
11 higher radiation levels were coming from the nuclear  
12 power plant. And he said there certainly was a high  
13 possibility -- Richard.

14 QUEST: Anna Coren, who is in Tokyo this  
15 evening. Not everyone in Japan is so sure that  
16 officials are telling them the truth. And that, of  
17 course, breeds suspicion and fear. Our senior  
18 international correspondent, Stan Grant, explains  
19 rumors and distrust are taking a deep psychological  
20 toll on the Japanese people.

21 (BEGIN VIDEOTAPE)

22 STAN GRANT, CNN INTERNATIONAL

23 CORRESPONDENT (voice-over): A stricken nuclear  
24 plant, talk of meltdown, radiation leaking, fire and  
25 explosions -- no wonder people are scared. Terumi

**NEAL R. GROSS**

COURT REPORTERS AND TRANSCRIBERS

1323 RHODE ISLAND AVE., N.W.

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20005-3701

1 Tanaka survived the atomic bomb of Nagasaki. He  
2 knows about nuclear fear and suspects people here  
3 are not getting the truth.

4 The company is hiding information, he  
5 says. They're not telling the truth. He says  
6 radioactive substances are spewing out of the plant,  
7 but they're not coming clean about the dangers.

8 Some U.S. officials have even  
9 questioned the Japanese government's radiation  
10 readings. Each new crisis has officials here  
11 scrambling for answers, reassurances day after day  
12 that no one is at risk.

13 YUKIO EDANO, JAPANESE CHIEF CABINET  
14 SECRETARY (through translator): The radiation  
15 measurement has not been serious, serious enough as  
16 to have health effects. Although some readings are  
17 high, but these values are not the ones that pose  
18 direct human threat today. But this all depends on  
19 other conditions, environmental monitoring  
20 conditions.

21 GRANT: To critics, the official response  
22 is often too little and too late. But beyond the  
23 mistrust is often misinformation. Dan Pulanski (ph)  
24 specializes in weapons of mass destruction and knows  
25 about radiation. He says science and fact get lost

**NEAL R. GROSS**

COURT REPORTERS AND TRANSCRIBERS  
1323 RHODE ISLAND AVE., N.W.  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20005-3701

1 in panic, "radiophobia."

2 DAN PULANSKI, RADIATION EXPERT: What  
3 radiophobia is, is people hear that word radiation,  
4 and immediately think of the worst case scenario,  
5 that they're going to, you know --

6 GRANT (on camera): We're all going to  
7 die.

8 PULANSKI: We're all going to die. We're  
9 all going to turn into Toxic Avenger and start  
10 mutating.

11 GRANT (voice-over): Fact, Fukushima is  
12 no Chernobyl. Not yet, anyway. In the Soviet  
13 reactor, workers died within weeks. In the final  
14 phase of that disaster, radiation hit levels of  
15 6,000 millisieverts an hour. Fukushima Daiichi's  
16 peak has been 400 millisieverts per hour, and that's  
17 at the red-hot center of the plant itself. Nuclear  
18 industry figures show you need more than double that  
19 before you get radiation sickness. Even for the  
20 heroic workers, prolonged exposure, says Dan  
21 Pulanski, could make them sick, but not kill.

22 (on camera): Sounds scary, 400. Is it?

23 PULANSKI: No, it's not. It sounds  
24 scary, but it's not.

25 GRANT (voice-over): And here's another

**NEAL R. GROSS**

COURT REPORTERS AND TRANSCRIBERS

1323 RHODE ISLAND AVE., N.W.

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20005-3701

1 thing. Radiation levels peak and drop within  
2 minutes, and depend on the distance from the hot  
3 zone.

4 (on camera): Imagine this intersection  
5 is the perimeter of the Daiichi nuclear plant. I'm  
6 standing here at one of the reactor sites, I get a  
7 high radiation reading. But crossing to the other  
8 side, to the front gates, say 30, 40 meters away,  
9 and according to the official readings, it could be  
10 significantly lower.

11 (voice-over): But that all depends on  
12 the quality of information, information people  
13 simply often don't trust in the face of crisis,  
14 fact, whispers, and fear screams (ph). Stan Grant,  
15 CNN, Tokyo.

16 (END VIDEOTAPE)

17 QUEST: Whether it is in Japan or in  
18 Libya, because the news never stops, neither do we.  
19 This is CNN.

20 (COMMERCIAL BREAK.)

21 (End transcript.)

22 MALE PARTICIPANT: The HOOs are planning  
23 to make a phone call for the seven o'clock.

24 SCOTT MORRIS: Okay.

25 MALE PARTICIPANT: What they will do is

**NEAL R. GROSS**

COURT REPORTERS AND TRANSCRIBERS

1323 RHODE ISLAND AVE., N.W.

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20005-3701

1 they will bring the CAs up on the bridge in here at  
2 730.

3 SCOTT MORRIS: Okay.

4 MALE PARTICIPANT: They will put the  
5 other folks on a separate bridge in a holding room.

6 SCOTT MORRIS: Right.

7 (Extraneous content omitted.)

8 MALE PARTICIPANT: Kathy was briefing me  
9 on rad maps.

10 SCOTT MORRIS: EPA?

11 MALE PARTICIPANT: Yeah.

12 SCOTT MORRIS: Okay.

13 FEMALE PARTICIPANT: The suggestion is  
14 that we add this website to our list of websites  
15 that we have listed in the blog, and that's what  
16 people can refer to.

17 MALE PARTICIPANT: Have you gone to it  
18 to see what information we get off of it now?

19 FEMALE PARTICIPANT: Yeah. Yeah, it's  
20 good. It has a description of what's there. If, if  
21 you -- it gives an explanation of what beta is and  
22 what gamma is, minor fluctuations of the data, a  
23 data summary. And then you can click on cities that  
24 you're interested in.

25 MALE PARTICIPANT: And it'll give you

**NEAL R. GROSS**

COURT REPORTERS AND TRANSCRIBERS

1323 RHODE ISLAND AVE., N.W.

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20005-3701

1 readings? That's good.

2 FEMALE PARTICIPANT: It gives you this.

3 MALE PARTICIPANT: That's good.

4 FEMALE PARTICIPANT: And then they say,  
5 "These levels are (inaudible) conservative level of  
6 concern.

7 MALE PARTICIPANT: Yeah, we probably  
8 ought to (inaudible) OTA now.

9 FEMALE PARTICIPANT: So there's  
10 Anchorage --

11 MALE PARTICIPANT: What we're giving.  
12 What we're putting up.

13 SCOTT MORRIS: Is that in Hawaii, or?

14 MALE PARTICIPANT: I think it's good.  
15 Does that, I mean, does it have the new stations in  
16 Oregon and Washington and all that they've been  
17 putting up?

18 FEMALE PARTICIPANT: It has (audio  
19 interference) --

20 MALE PARTICIPANT: It has the Oregon --

21 FEMALE PARTICIPANT: -- Alaska,  
22 California, Hawaii --

23 MALE PARTICIPANT: I know Oregon and  
24 Washington --

25 FEMALE PARTICIPANT: -- Oregon and

**NEAL R. GROSS**

COURT REPORTERS AND TRANSCRIBERS

1323 RHODE ISLAND AVE., N.W.

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20005-3701

1 Washington.

2 MALE PARTICIPANT: Okay, great. Yeah.  
3 Now all we've got to do is put OTA that we're  
4 putting it up. Maybe we'll send them an email or  
5 send them a copy of the link to the website.

6 MALE PARTICIPANT: Is OTA on there?

7 SCOTT MORRIS: No. They're in their  
8 own --

9 FEMALE PARTICIPANT: Here. Here's  
10 direction here.

11 SCOTT MORRIS: They're not here right  
12 now.

13 FEMALE PARTICIPANT: I mean, you have  
14 to, you have to register to get in there and get the  
15 data.

16 MALE PARTICIPANT: Okay. That's good.

17 SCOTT MORRIS: The OTA is just a small  
18 organization, but that then they got 24/7  
19 (inaudible).

20 MALE PARTICIPANT: That's good.

21 MALE PARTICIPANT: So do we just send  
22 them an email?

23 MALE PARTICIPANT: Oh, that's what we  
24 need to do for the website.

25 So why don't you send them an email on

**NEAL R. GROSS**

COURT REPORTERS AND TRANSCRIBERS

1323 RHODE ISLAND AVE., N.W.

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20005-3701

1 what's the status.

2 FEMALE PARTICIPANT: Okay.

3 MALE PARTICIPANT: And let them know the  
4 link. And then also suggest that they might want to  
5 put (audio interference) central link in, a central  
6 link in the email.

7 FEMALE PARTICIPANT: Okay. Let me go  
8 get --

9 MALE PARTICIPANT: (Inaudible) just to  
10 say, we did that, we provided technical information  
11 to the US Ambassador to Japan and the Japanese  
12 Government?

13 MALE PARTICIPANT: That doesn't, that  
14 doesn't matter. I made an edit, so she probably just  
15 thought that was --

16 MALE PARTICIPANT: Yeah.

17 (Partially inaudible content omitted.)

18 MALE PARTICIPANT: Also, the wind's  
19 going to shift on Sunday from nine to six toward  
20 Tokyo.

21 MALE PARTICIPANT: Yeah, that's not  
22 good.

23 MALE PARTICIPANT: No.

24 (Standby.)

25 ROY ZIMMERMAN: When are we going to

**NEAL R. GROSS**

COURT REPORTERS AND TRANSCRIBERS

1323 RHODE ISLAND AVE., N.W.

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20005-3701



1 pick out the government attendees for the, for the  
2 meeting tomorrow?

3 MARTY VIRGILIO: For the meeting  
4 tomorrow, we wrote down that GE is coming, INPO's  
5 coming, Areva's coming (inaudible). Is the State  
6 Department coming?

7 MALE PARTICIPANT: They're not -- we  
8 didn't invite the State Department.

9 MARTY VIRGILIO: Oh, we did not?

10 MALE PARTICIPANT: No.

11 MARTY VIRGILIO: Okay. We didn't --

12 MALE PARTICIPANT: (Inaudible) anybody.  
13 The DOE, we didn't invite those folks.

14 MALE PARTICIPANT: But I thought we, we,  
15 I thought we agreed that we would take them in a  
16 subsequent meeting.

17 MALE PARTICIPANT: We'd keep them  
18 informed, but we weren't going to try to anticipate  
19 any --

20 MALE PARTICIPANT: Okay. This meeting  
21 is just the stakeholders then.

22 ROY ZIMMERMAN: Jim Lyons is coming  
23 though, isn't he?

24 MALE PARTICIPANT: DOE. Yeah, people  
25 will be here from DOE and Naval Reactors.

**NEAL R. GROSS**

COURT REPORTERS AND TRANSCRIBERS

1323 RHODE ISLAND AVE., N.W.

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20005-3701

1 ROY ZIMMERMAN: (Inaudible) leave it  
2 pending.

3 MALE PARTICIPANT: And naval reactors.  
4 (Extraneous and partially inaudible  
5 content omitted.)  
6  
7  
8  
9  
10  
11  
12  
13  
14  
15  
16  
17  
18  
19  
20  
21  
22  
23  
24  
25

**NEAL R. GROSS**

COURT REPORTERS AND TRANSCRIBERS  
1323 RHODE ISLAND AVE., N.W.  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20005-3701

1 (CONFERENCE CALL INITIATED.)

2 01:19:12/01:30:58

3 JIM WIGGINS: Good morning. This is Jim  
4 Wiggins. Are we ready? Are we on?

5 MALE PARTICIPANT: Yes.

6 SCOTT MORRIS: Okay. Let's, we'll  
7 start the 7:30 brief. Just for a little bit of  
8 housekeeping, we only have until 7:45. We have to  
9 move to another, another important activity at 7:45.

10 So we'll go through the brief. We'll try to answer  
11 as many questions as we can during the brief. If  
12 there are other residual questions, I'd ask that you  
13 would email it to me, Jim Wiggins, here in the Ops  
14 Center and we'll take it from there.

15 So basically, let's start off with a  
16 facility status, and Brian McDermott will do that.

17 BRIAN McDERMOTT: Okay. I'm Brian  
18 McDermott. Essentially, no significant changes in  
19 what we know about the units or what we anticipated  
20 yesterday.

21 Working down the list, Unit 1 remains  
22 the same. We did put out a status at 0600, and  
23 that's what I'm working down, just for those of you  
24 who were wondering.

25 Unit 2 -- one update there. .Tepco has

**NEAL R. GROSS**

COURT REPORTERS AND TRANSCRIBERS

1323 RHODE ISLAND AVE., N.W.

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20005-3701

(202) 234-4433

www.nealrgross.com

1 put out in their press release that they have  
2 connected power to a, the auxiliary transformer and  
3 they're working to put that to a temporary set of  
4 bus work, or switchgear rather. No further details  
5 on specifics about their focus in terms of how  
6 they're going to use that power. We did hear  
7 through the day yesterday that one of the issues  
8 they were looking to do was restore some of the HVAC  
9 systems for control rooms to provide some protection  
10 for their folks.

11 On Unit 3, we did have reports yesterday  
12 -- it was in the media; also reported by METI --  
13 that they were spraying water from fire trucks on  
14 the pool periodically. No specific details beyond  
15 that.

16 Moving down the list, no change on Unit  
17 4.

18 Unit 5 -- they did have indication there  
19 that they saved some fire, firefighting equipment  
20 there, in case, but right now, we haven't seen  
21 anything that would indicate that they needed to use  
22 that so far. It was reported that the diesel  
23 generator from Unit 6 is still available. It is  
24 being shared between those two units.

25 There were questions about the common

**NEAL R. GROSS**

COURT REPORTERS AND TRANSCRIBERS

1323 RHODE ISLAND AVE., N.W.

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20005-3701

1 wet spent fuel pool, and it indicates -- we saw a  
2 report from the company's update that they've done  
3 inspections of not only the wet pool but also the  
4 separately located dry cask storage, and no problems  
5 were identified.

6 That's it for the units.

7 JIM WIGGINS: Jim. Okay. For  
8 protective measures, Mike.

9 MIKE WEBER: All right. Okay. First,  
10 we provided to NARAC some source term for a  
11 realistic worst-case scenario. They have some  
12 concerns about how long it would take to tie up the  
13 computer for them to run it as provided. They would  
14 prefer to assume a 24-hour release period as opposed  
15 to the exact time that we provided to them. We'll  
16 continue to talk with them about a rundown of that  
17 analysis.

18 We have some information from San  
19 Onofre. They reported, provided some sample results  
20 for iodine. They collected these from 1.7 in the  
21 morning, until about 10 o'clock in the morning, a  
22 318. Levels at NDA minimal detectable activity --  
23 the actual values were 1.79. That's  $10^{-13}$   
24 microcuries per cc, iodine. Similarly, for SONGS,  
25 1.4, we've got  $10^{-13}$  microcuries per cc, again, you

**NEAL R. GROSS**

COURT REPORTERS AND TRANSCRIBERS

1323 RHODE ISLAND AVE., N.W.

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20005-3701

1 know, NDA values. They're going to continue to  
2 collect samples about every four hours.

3 We did receive some data of actual  
4 measured dose rates from various cities around  
5 Japan. The PMT will be evaluating those measured  
6 dose rates from the Japanese ministry for use as we  
7 continue to look at the calculations.

8 Last evening, Trish Holahan reported  
9 that, based upon DOE aerial measurement, the team  
10 findings for flyovers, there, there's some ground  
11 deposition in the northwest quadrant to the plant  
12 site. We're continuing to try to get more on-site  
13 data. We don't have much data at this point, but  
14 we're talking to NISA and our on-site team as well  
15 as Tepco to try to get more actual measurements  
16 on-site.

17 And the last thing I would point out is  
18 that the meteorological forecast for the next 48  
19 hours, a period of March 19 through March 21,  
20 indicates the wind is headed offshore until Sunday  
21 with a shift counterclockwise to on-shore expected  
22 around 9:00 a.m. This onshore shift remains, is  
23 predicted to last about 12 hours before shifting  
24 back offshore. We're going to be running some  
25 additional analysis this morning to try to better

**NEAL R. GROSS**

COURT REPORTERS AND TRANSCRIBERS  
1323 RHODE ISLAND AVE., N.W.  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20005-3701

1 understand the preciseness of those, of that  
2 timeframe and wind change.

3 That's all I have.

4 JIM WIGGINS: And some other issues  
5 overall. The site team on the site team in country  
6 continues to work. We've identified a relief watch  
7 bill for the site team, and individuals will start,  
8 starting today, to transit over to Japan to provide  
9 reliefs.

10 Dan Dorman is going out today. He  
11 should provide some senior relief to Chuck Casto  
12 possibly later in the week. He will be in place and  
13 up, and up and operating.

14 But we do have a rather bold watch bill  
15 that's made up of skill sets that we coordinated  
16 with Chuck, and we've put together the people within  
17 the agency that could fill the bill.

18 We're still preparing for a commission  
19 meeting on Monday that would focus on support for  
20 Japan, looking at US reactors and a justification on  
21 why they can, should be, and are continuing to  
22 operate, and a discussion of severe accident  
23 management and B5B approaches. That's basically  
24 what was going to be discussed.

25 As we continue to follow the efforts of

**NEAL R. GROSS**

COURT REPORTERS AND TRANSCRIBERS  
1323 RHODE ISLAND AVE., N.W.  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20005-3701

1 the operators in Japan, we've become aware that  
2 Tepco has raised concerns internally about the  
3 potential longer-term effects of seawater on their  
4 components. Now I'm not talking about recovery of  
5 the facilities but whether there will be cause for  
6 further degradation based on use of seawater. Our  
7 research office is getting into that to support  
8 Chuck and the team.

9 Bechtel's making progress towards  
10 accumulating the equipment needed for their  
11 four-train temporary pumping system. We don't have  
12 a status on Tepco's parallel efforts, but we do  
13 understand that there may be parallel effort under  
14 way at Tepco, although we do get a sense that that  
15 those focus back on the vessels rather than the  
16 pools. And we'll have to come to grips with that  
17 and work with Chuck's team to decide whether we want  
18 to provide some very specific advice to the, through  
19 the ambassador on whether we think that's the right  
20 priority.



5

**NEAL R. GROSS**

COURT REPORTERS AND TRANSCRIBERS

1323 RHODE ISLAND AVE., N.W.

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20005-3701



1  
2  
3  
4  
5  
6  
7  
8  
9  
10  
11  
12  
13  
14  
15  
16  
17  
18  
19  
20  
21  
22  
23  
24  
25

This consortium includes not only NRC operating licensee Exelon, but it includes EPRI, Areva, and other amenities that would have both practical engineering experience in the field plus also what I would characterize as implementation experience.

**NEAL R. GROSS**

COURT REPORTERS AND TRANSCRIBERS  
1323 RHODE ISLAND AVE., N.W.  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20005-3701

(202) 234-4433

www.nealrgross.com

5

1           Our discussions with Chuck's folks and  
2           our reckoning here is we do great at licensing, so  
3           we can analyze the appropriateness of a plan, but  
4           when you get to the point of asking questions about,  
5           or providing suggestions about how to effectuate the  
6           change -- like how to install systems and how many  
7           people would you need to install this Bechtel system  
8           -- we like that expertise. Industry can certainly  
9           fill the bill.

10           Okay, that's the end of our prepared  
11           remarks. We've got about five minutes for  
12           questions.

13           (No response.)

14           JIM WIGGINS: Any questions? I'd like  
15           to hear some noise. Will somebody just say  
16           something so that we know that the line's live?

17           PAT CASTLEMAN: Yeah. This is Pat  
18           Castleman. This was a good briefing. I have no  
19           questions.

20           JIM WIGGINS: All right. Thanks, Pat.  
21           At least we know -- we haven't heard anything from  
22           you guys, so we wondering if we were actually  
23           connected.

24           BILL ORDERS: Jim, this is Bill Orders.  
25           I have one comment.

**NEAL R. GROSS**

COURT REPORTERS AND TRANSCRIBERS

1323 RHODE ISLAND AVE., N.W.

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20005-2701

1 JIM WIGGINS: Yes, sir?

2 BILL ORDERS: The only comment that I  
3 have is there continues to be reports that Unit 4's  
4 spent fuel pool does have water. It seems like our  
5 recommendations for dose from the Unit 4 spent fuel  
6 pool is very conservative, given that.

7 JIM WIGGINS: I wouldn't go to the bank  
8 on water. [REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED]

9 [REDACTED]  
10 [REDACTED]  
11 [REDACTED]  
12 [REDACTED]  
13 [REDACTED]  
14 [REDACTED]

15 And I, I'm not even thinking that Tepco  
16 thinks the pool's anywhere near full. So to say  
17 that there's water in it doesn't mean -- even if  
18 there were water in the pool, Chuck, I don't know  
19 that there's enough to make a damn bit of  
20 difference.

21 We're behaving and operating under the  
22 idea that it isn't, that it's dry.

23 BILL ORDERS: I understand.

24 JIM WIGGINS: It may be conservative in  
25 the end. We'll know as this gets unraveled, but

**NEAL R. GROSS**

COURT REPORTERS AND TRANSCRIBERS

1323 RHODE ISLAND AVE., N.W.

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20005-3701

(202) 234-4433

www.nealrgross.com

5

1 it's probably the best we can do, given the  
2 information that we have.

3 All right. Thank you for your time.  
4 This will terminate the briefing.

5 MALE PARTICIPANT: Thank you for the  
6 brief.

7 MALE PARTICIPANT: Thank you.  
8  
9  
10  
11  
12  
13  
14  
15  
16  
17  
18  
19  
20  
21  
22  
23  
24  
25

**NEAL R. GROSS**

COURT REPORTERS AND TRANSCRIBERS

1323 RHODE ISLAND AVE., N.W.

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20005-0701

1 (CONFERENCE CALL INITIATED.)

2 01:31:20/01:44:42

3 CHUCK CASTO: Hey, Jim, this is Chuck  
4 Casto. Are you guys on?

5 JIM WIGGINS: Hi, Chuck. We're here.

6 CHUCK CASTO: Chuck. Okay. I just  
7 didn't know if it -- I had to go to another bridge  
8 for the --

9 JIM WIGGINS: It's 7:45. You're right  
10 where you need to be.

11 CHUCK CASTO: All right. I feel  
12 comfortable now.

13 JIM WIGGINS: I would say good morning,  
14 but it's good evening. How are you doing this  
15 evening? Did you get any --

16 CHUCK CASTO: Oh, we're doing great.  
17 How's everything back there?

18 JIM WIGGINS: Oh, whatever. It's not as  
19 frantic as it was at, you know, at 3:45 our time  
20 yesterday afternoon when we had to rack you out.  
21 Sorry about that.

22 CHUCK CASTO: Yeah, I know. I, what  
23 I've been saying is, today is the craziest day ever  
24 in my life, until tomorrow.

25 JIM WIGGINS: Yes, you got it. It's, I

**NEAL R. GROSS**

COURT REPORTERS AND TRANSCRIBERS

1323 RHODE ISLAND AVE., N.W.

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20005-3701

1 don't think it's going to ameliorate itself until  
2 things get stable out there.

3 So, anyhow, we had this request that  
4 apparently came [REDACTED] about how  
5 many people do you think that Pepco needed, men.  
6 That's, that's kind of the --

7 MALE PARTICIPANT: (Off mic).

8 JIM WIGGINS: -- yeah, that's sort of,  
9 somewhat outside of, of what our area of expertise  
10 was, so we had to scramble late to kind of come up  
11 with something. That's why we had to get you up.

12  
13  
14  
15

16 JIM WIGGINS: Okay, sir. We've got  
17 others coming up on the bridge, and then Marty will  
18 take over.

19 (Standby 01:32:45 to 01:33:04).

20 BRIAN McDERMOTT: This is Brian  
21 McDermott. I'm on.

22 JIM WIGGINS: Thanks, Brian. We're just  
23 getting organized here.

24 (Standby 01:33:05 to 01:33:16.)

25 MIKE: I don't think you can do an

**NEAL R. GROSS**

COURT REPORTERS AND TRANSCRIBERS

1323 RHODE ISLAND AVE., N.W.

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20005-3701

(202) 234-4433

www.nealrgross.com

6

5

1 automatic roll call because we weren't asked for our  
2 names.

3 JIM WIGGINS: Okay. Hey, Mike.

4 We'll just go around and see what  
5 offices we have represented.

6 Research?

7 MALE PARTICIPANT: Yeah.

8 JIM WIGGINS: NRR?

9 ERIC LEEDS: Eric Leeds.

10 JIM WIGGINS: INSR's (inaudible) were  
11 here)

12 OPA?

13 ELIOT BRENNER: Eliot Brenner.

14 JIM WIGGINS: OTC?

15 (No response.)

16 JIM WIGGINS: Anyone from OTC?

17 (No response.)

18 JIM WIGGINS: Okay. The site team -- I  
19 know Chuck's there.

20 IT?

21 NADER MAMISH: Nader Mamish.

22 JIM WIGGINS: Hey, Nader. Could be --  
23 Larry's here. He'd probably --

24 CHARLIE MILLER: Yeah, I'm also here,  
25 Jim.

**NEAL R. GROSS**

COURT REPORTERS AND TRANSCRIBERS  
1323 RHODE ISLAND AVE., N.W.  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20005-3701

1 JIM WIGGINS: All right, Charlie.

2 OTA?

3 MALE PARTICIPANT: I'm here.

4 JIM WIGGINS: And we've got the  
5 Commission, this -- the Chairman's office?

6 JOSH BASKIN: Joshua C. Baskin here.

7 JIM WIGGINS: Okay. And OEDO -- Marty's  
8 got it, so --

9 MALE PARTICIPANT: No, it should be Jim  
10 Anderson on the line too.

11 MALE PARTICIPANT: OGC's on the way.

12 JIM WIGGINS: Okay.

13 MR. FERNS: Ferns.

14 JIM WIGGINS: (Inaudible) Ferns. All  
15 right.

16 How about EDO's office?

17 MIKE WEBER: Mike Weber.

18 BILL BORCHARDT: Bill Borchardt.

19 JIM WIGGINS: Good.

20 We've got the list of the offices on  
21 here.

22 MARTY VIRGILIO: All right. Let's,  
23 let's go ahead and get started, and thanks to  
24 everybody for, for their participation in this early  
25 morning call. It's Marty Virgilio.

**NEAL R. GROSS**

COURT REPORTERS AND TRANSCRIBERS  
1323 RHODE ISLAND AVE., N.W.  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20005-3701



1 I just want to give you a little  
2 background on where we're headed today and maybe for  
3 the next several weeks and several months.

4 Based on the conditions at the Fukushima  
5 Daiichi site and the interactions that we've had  
6 with Tepco, the Ministry of Defense, and NISA, the  
7 Chairman reached out last night to Naval Reactors  
8 and INPO to discuss a new direction in our approach  
9 to addressing this issue. In short, this new  
10 direction involves a consortium of industry and  
11 government to develop and implement actions that  
12 will terminate the event at Fukushima.

13 Now, now think about the Deepwater  
14 Horizon and how industry and government came  
15 together to address that issue and terminate the,  
16 the, the leak. And I think that's the model that  
17 I've got in mind as to how this will work.

18 Each of you should have received an  
19 email with an agenda for a kickoff meeting that  
20 we're going to have here in Headquarters at two  
21 o'clock this afternoon in the ACRS meeting room.  
22 The purpose of this call is just to ask you to  
23 either commit to this meeting or commit to having  
24 somebody from your office participate in the  
25 meeting. And in my mind, I'm thinking that the

**NEAL R. GROSS**

COURT REPORTERS AND TRANSCRIBERS  
1323 RHODE ISLAND AVE., N.W.  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20005-3701

1 commitment to have somebody participate for you  
2 would be at the division director level or above.

3 I also want to take the opportunity to  
4 answer any questions you might have about the  
5 logistics or how we would define success for this  
6 meeting.

7 In addition to the agenda for the  
8 meeting, we prepared a detailed background book for  
9 each of the meeting participants, so that'll be  
10 there on your chair when you arrive at the meeting.

11 Participants for the meeting include  
12 INPO, Exelon, General Electric, EPRI, Bechtel,  
13 Areva, Babcock, Naval Reactors, and Department of  
14 Energy, as, as well as you all, or representatives  
15 from the NRC.

16 We have a purpose in our mind, and it's  
17 really to just plan for and initiate the consortium.

18 We've defined success for the meeting as aligning  
19 on an approach for addressing the technical,  
20 logistical, and political issues that we're dealing  
21 with in addressing and resolving, terminating, the  
22 accident.

23 We've, we've defined a process that  
24 includes briefing for the participants on the status  
25 of the site, and most importantly, I think, a

**NEAL R. GROSS**

COURT REPORTERS AND TRANSCRIBERS

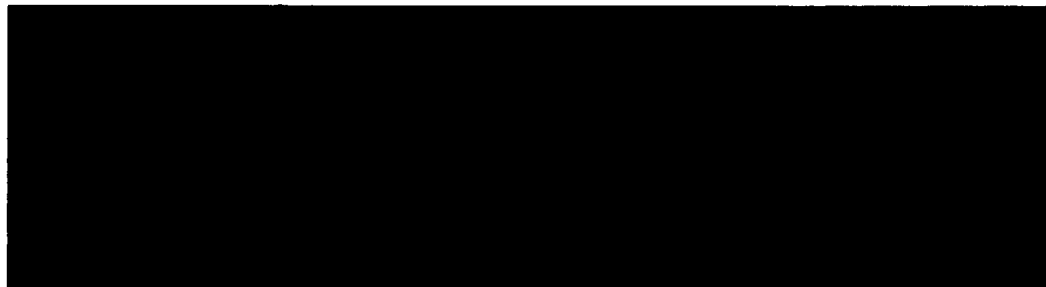
1323 RHODE ISLAND AVE., N.W.

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20005-3701

1 briefing from the site team on the relationship  
2 between the various Japanese government and private  
3 sector organizations. And you need to understand  
4 the roles, responsibilities, and decision-making  
5 authorities as we understand them today.

6 We're going to ask GE and Bechtel to  
7 give us a briefing on the current status of their  
8 design for providing water to the spent fuel pool.  
9 We're going to, we'll ask INPO and [REDACTED] to  
10 facilitate a discussion amongst the industry  
11 representatives on the capabilities that they can  
12 bring to bear on, in the near-term not only in  
13 designing but also in implementing solutions to the  
14 problems that we face.

15 We're going to have an open discussion  
16 on what we think might be applicable (sic) actions  
17 and strategies, what priorities that we think we  
18 ought to establish for terminating the event and  
19 gaining control over the situation. We want to have  
20 an open discussion about the challenges that need to  
21 be addressed.



**NEAL R. GROSS**

COURT REPORTERS AND TRANSCRIBERS

1323 RHODE ISLAND AVE., N.W.

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20005-3701

(202) 234-4433

www.nealrgross.com

1 [REDACTED]  
2 [REDACTED]  
3 [REDACTED]  
4 [REDACTED]  
5 [REDACTED]  
6 [REDACTED]  
7 The final thing that I think we need to  
8 get decided at the meeting and resolved is roles and  
9 responsibilities for the participants. I could see  
10 us formulating a charter that would be somewhat  
11 similar to what we get with Chuck, maybe one page,  
12 recognizing that as conditions improve, the charter  
13 will evolve and the roles and responsibilities will  
14 evolve to a point that I think we'll be out of, out  
15 of this and maybe some other government organization  
16 will be in a leadership role.

17 I think that's pretty much what I wanted  
18 to say, and I'm pretty, I think -- I'm available to  
19 any answer any questions you might have at this  
20 point.

21 CHARLIE MILLER: Marty, this is Charlie.  
22 Most of my senior managers are on shift, so I'll  
23 come in and cover the meeting.

24 MARTY VIRGILIO: Okay. Thanks, Charlie.

25 BRIAN McDERMOTT: Marty, this is Brian.

**NEAL R. GROSS**

COURT REPORTERS AND TRANSCRIBERS

1323 RHODE ISLAND AVE., N.W.

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20005-3701

1 I've got the three o'clock to 11 o'clock shift in  
2 the ET. Should I be at this meeting? And is -- you  
3 know, in other words, should I do double duty or  
4 should I try to find a division director?

5 JIM WIGGINS: Brian, I'll stick around  
6 and hold it until you're done. Why don't you come  
7 into the meeting then.

8 BRIAN McDERMOTT: Okay. Thanks.

9 MARTY VIRGILIO: I think you've got --  
10 in the background book, you'll see a lot of  
11 information that Jennifer prepared for you, Brian,  
12 on some of the issues that I think we see with  
13 respect to the challenges that we face.

14 BRIAN McDERMOTT: Okay.

15 MARTY VIRGILIO: So I think it's  
16 critical that either you or somebody that --

17 BRIAN McDERMOTT: All right. Well,  
18 maybe I, I'll come in a little early and go through  
19 that briefing book real quick before the two-o'clock  
20 then.

21 MARTY VIRGILIO: Okay. Good.

22 Others?

23 STEVE: This is Steve. I've, I'm  
24 presuming that you all have decided to chuck the  
25 open meeting policy.

**NEAL R. GROSS**

COURT REPORTERS AND TRANSCRIBERS

1323 RHODE ISLAND AVE., N.W.

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20005-3701

1 MARTY VIRGILIO: There's no -- well,  
2 hopefully you can find a reason why, in light of the  
3 fact we're making no regulatory decisions that  
4 involve any NRC licensees, that we can do this.

5 STEVE: All right. And the other thing,  
6 and I suppose this will be somewhat discussed, is  
7 DOE or NRC in the leadership role on -- that sounds  
8 operational to me. Is NRC or DOE, is the intention  
9 NRC or DOE to be the lead on this in terms of the  
10 government end?

11 MARTY VIRGILIO: Well, we'll discuss  
12 roles and responsibilities at the meeting, but I can  
13 see that NRC might have a leadership role for a very  
14 brief period of time until the reactor and spent  
15 fuel pool is stabilized, at which time we would turn  
16 it over to DOE.

17 But I think, Steve, that's something to  
18 discuss at the meeting.

19 STEVE: All right.

20 BILL BORCHARDT: Yeah, this is Bill.  
21 Steve, that's a really good point. I intend to call  
22 the Chairman this morning. I think we need to get  
23 some alignment on NRC's role moving forward.

24 STEVE: Right.

25 ELIOT BRENNER: Yeah, it's Elliot. I've

**NEAL R. GROSS**

COURT REPORTERS AND TRANSCRIBERS

1323 RHODE ISLAND AVE., N.W.

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20005-3701

1 got the same issue because there's going to have to  
2 be a focal point for this on the public safe side.

3 MARTY VIRGILIO: Yeah. The Thad Allen,  
4 you know, who represents the government in this  
5 endeavor.

6 MIKE WEBER: Marty, this is Mike. Did  
7 you Jim Dyer involved?

8 MARTY VIRGILIO: No, I didn't. There,  
9 there are a lot of stakeholders. There are a lot of  
10 people that need to be informed, but for this  
11 meeting, I thought that we could keep it to a, to a  
12 manageable subset.

13 MIKE WEBER: Okay. I was just thinking  
14 about the financial ramifications.

15 MARTY VIRGILIO: USAID is, as I see it,  
16 is, is holding the purse strings on this.

17 MIKE WEBER: Yeah, they have a different  
18 view or potentially different view.

19 NADER MAMISH: This is Nader. I had a  
20 lengthy discussion with Dyer and we got alignment.  
21 It's not going to be USAID. It's going to be, it's  
22 going to be the NRC, and he's going to asking for  
23 some funding.

24 MARTY VIRGILIO: Okay. Additional  
25 funding from Congress?

**NEAL R. GROSS**

COURT REPORTERS AND TRANSCRIBERS

1323 RHODE ISLAND AVE., N.W.

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20005-3701

1 NADER MAMISH: Yeah. He's going to be  
2 looking at additional funding. It's going to be  
3 characterized as assistance and -- well, I can  
4 explain later.

5 MARTY VIRGILIO: Okay.

6 STEVE: Yeah, I think you're right. It,  
7 it might be good at least to give Dyer the option.

8 MARTY VIRGILIO: We will. Thank you.

9 MALE PARTICIPANT: Hey, Marty, again,  
10 it's in the ACRS room?

11 MARTY VIRGILIO: Yeah.

12 MALE PARTICIPANT: Yeah. Sorry. I just  
13 blanked.

14 MARTY VIRGILIO: Yeah. Yeah.

15 MALE PARTICIPANT: And Marty, did I hear  
16 two o'clock?

17 MARTY VIRGILIO: Two o'clock.

18 MALE PARTICIPANT: Okay. We'll be  
19 there.

20 BILL BORCHARDT: Yeah, I don't want into  
21 a long, protracted discussion because this is the  
22 subject of the two o'clock meeting, perhaps, but I  
23 think Nader just mentioned a very important word,  
24 which is "assistance."

25 You know, the way we're talking about

**NEAL R. GROSS**

COURT REPORTERS AND TRANSCRIBERS

1323 RHODE ISLAND AVE., N.W.

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20005-3701



1 it, the vocabulary we're using is like we have the  
2 lead, like this is a US reactor that, that we're  
3 trying to fix. And I want to make sure that  
4 whatever materials we have for the meeting  
5 participants has that concept that we're providing  
6 assistance in the proper context.

7 MARTY VIRGILIO: We'll look at the  
8 briefing book with that in mind, Bill.

9 BILL BORCHARDT: Okay. Thanks.

10 Do you, do we know if the Chairman, has  
11 the Chairman called in this morning, or?

12 MARTY VIRGILIO: We haven't heard from  
13 him yet this morning.

14 BILL BORCHARDT: Okay. Was somebody,  
15 was Josh or somebody from the Chairman's office on  
16 this call?

17 JIM WIGGINS: Yes.

18 MARTY VIRGILIO: Yeah.

19 JOSH BASKIN: I'm on. Bill.

20 BILL BORCHARDT: All right, Josh. I'll  
21 give you call in a minute. All right?

22 JOSH BASKIN: Okay.

23 BILL BORCHARDT: All right. Thanks,  
24 Marty.

25 MARTY VIRGILIO: Okay. Thank you all.

**NEAL R. GROSS**

COURT REPORTERS AND TRANSCRIBERS  
1323 RHODE ISLAND AVE., N.W.  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20005-3701

1  
2  
3  
4  
5  
6  
7  
8  
9  
10  
11  
12  
13  
14  
15  
16  
17  
18  
19  
20  
21  
22  
23  
24  
25

MALE PARTICIPANT: All right.

MALE PARTICIPANT: Thank you.

MALE PARTICIPANT: Thank you.

**NEAL R. GROSS**

COURT REPORTERS AND TRANSCRIBERS

1323 RHODE ISLAND AVE., N.W.

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20005-3701

1  
2  
3  
4  
5  
6  
7  
8  
9  
10  
11  
12  
13  
14  
15  
16  
17  
18  
19  
20  
21  
22  
23  
24  
25

(CONFERENCE CALL INITIATED.)

01:45:10/01:45:26

(Extraneous conference call omitted.)

**NEAL R. GROSS**

COURT REPORTERS AND TRANSCRIBERS

1323 RHODE ISLAND AVE., N.W.

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20005-3701

1 (CONFERENCE CALL INITIATED.)

2 01:45:30/01:47:44

3 JIM WIGGINS: Nader.

4 NADER MAMISH: Yes?

5 JIM WIGGINS: Hi. It's Jim Wiggins, the  
6 ET.

7 NADER MAMISH: Hey, Jim.

8 JIM WIGGINS: You got a number of  
9 people. Bill Borchardt's here too. Mike Kemper  
10 (phon), Brian McDermott, and others.

11 We need your advice.

12 NADER MAMISH: Okay.

13 JIM WIGGINS: Let me complete an email  
14 to Chuck.

15 We just hit another logjam in the saga  
16 of the Bechtel equipment.

17 NADER MAMISH: Okay.

18 JIM WIGGINS: That's one train of  
19 Bechtel equipment loaded in an Australian C-17 with  
20 a flight crew ready to go, except there's a snag.  
21 Apparently, the cost has gone up from whatever,  
22 \$750K to \$2.4 million --

23 MALE PARTICIPANT: Total.

24 JIM WIGGINS: -- total.

25 NADER MAMISH: I'm sorry -- \$750K?

**NEAL R. GROSS**

COURT REPORTERS AND TRANSCRIBERS

1323 RHODE ISLAND AVE., N.W.

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20005-8700

1 (Simultaneous conversation.)

2 JIM WIGGINS: (Inaudible) to just  
3 transport this one train.

4 NADER MAMISH: Okay.

5 JIM WIGGINS: So things are stuck on the  
6 ground. And we may lose the crew. We may lose the  
7 air frame because it was committed to a humanitarian  
8 effort in the Middle East.

9 So I got an email to Chuck -- apparently  
10 he's up and answering emails -- to see if he needs  
11 help because I thought before that he was trying to  
12 ram this thing through DART on his side.

13 NADER MAMISH: Okay.

14 JIM WIGGINS: But the more I got to him,  
15 before I knew he was available, I thought to call  
16 you.

17 Do you have anything you can do to help  
18 or any advice? Where, where is --

19 NADER MAMISH: Yeah, let me, let me make  
20 a phone call to, let me make a phone call to USAID  
21 and see what they --

22 JIM WIGGINS: Okay. That that would be  
23 helpful.

24 NADER MAMISH: -- what they advise.

25 JIM WIGGINS: Yeah, as best as we can

**NEAL R. GROSS**

COURT REPORTERS AND TRANSCRIBERS

1323 RHODE ISLAND AVE., N.W.

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20005-3701

1 tell, if it goes over there, it's going to be used.

2 And even though it's one train, we can at least put  
3 something, put water somewhere.

4 NADER MAMISH: Okay. Now what is on  
5 this --

6 JIM WIGGINS: As we understand it, it's  
7 the complete train. It's that -- know the Bechtel  
8 --

9 NADER MAMISH: Yeah, I do.

10 JIM WIGGINS: -- the design for the  
11 temporary system?

12 NADER MAMISH: Yes, I do.

13 JIM WIGGINS: It's got several pumps and  
14 --

15 NADER MAMISH: Yes.

16 JIM WIGGINS: -- I guess piping and  
17 such.

18 NADER MAMISH: Okay. So that's the  
19 equipment?

20 JIM WIGGINS: Yeah. Apparently one  
21 train of it's located, loaded on this plane.

22 NADER MAMISH: Okay.

23 JIM WIGGINS: All right?

24 NADER MAMISH: I'll make this call and  
25 I'll get back to you promptly.

**NEAL R. GROSS**

COURT REPORTERS AND TRANSCRIBERS

1323 RHODE ISLAND AVE., N.W.

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20005-3701

1  
2  
3  
4  
5  
6  
7  
8  
9  
10  
11  
12  
13  
14  
15  
16  
17  
18  
19  
20  
21  
22  
23  
24  
25

JIM WIGGINS: All right. Thanks, Nader.

NADER MAMISH: Bye.

JIM WIGGINS: Bye.

**NEAL R. GROSS**

COURT REPORTERS AND TRANSCRIBERS

1323 RHODE ISLAND AVE., N.W.

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20005-3701

1  
2  
3  
4  
5  
6  
7  
8  
9  
10  
11  
12  
13  
14  
15  
16  
17  
18  
19  
20  
21  
22  
23  
24  
25

(CONFERENCE CALL INITIATED.)

01:48:57/1:49:50

(Extraneous conference call omitted.)

**NEAL R. GROSS**

COURT REPORTERS AND TRANSCRIBERS

1323 RHODE ISLAND AVE., N.W.

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20005-3701



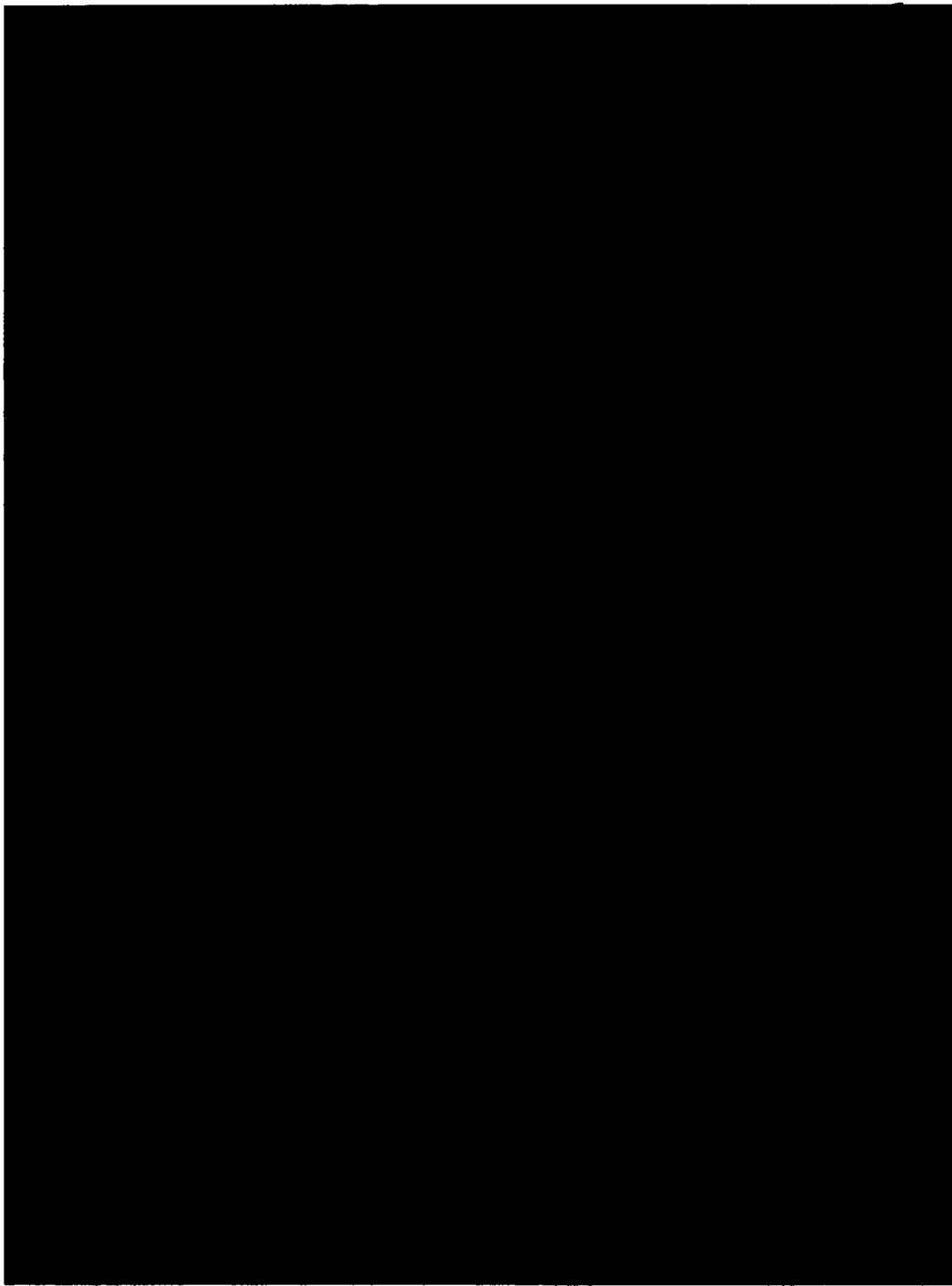
(CONFERENCE CALL INITIATED.)

01:49:53/01:53:24

NADER MAMISH: Yeah, this is Nader.

JIM WIGGINS: Yeah, Nader. What did you

find?



5

1  
2  
3  
4  
5  
6  
7  
8  
9  
10  
11  
12  
13  
14  
15  
16  
17  
18  
19  
20  
21  
22  
23  
24  
25

**NEAL R. GROSS**

COURT REPORTERS AND TRANSCRIBERS

1323 RHODE ISLAND AVE., N.W.

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20005-3701

(202) 234-4433

[www.nealrgross.com](http://www.nealrgross.com)

1  
2  
3  
4  
5  
6  
7  
8  
9  
10  
11  
12  
13  
14  
15  
16  
17  
18  
19  
20  
21  
22  
23  
24  
25



5

JIM WIGGINS: Okay. All right. I think, based on what you said, we need to go back to the team and quiz them on whether you need these Bechtel guys running with this device. I, that's a new one on me.

NADER MAMISH: Yeah.

JIM WIGGINS: Laura's here.

Have you heard?

LAURA: I just talked to Bill Cook, who's at the embassy right now, and his view was twofold. One is getting the equipment on the ground now is not urgent to make rash decisions. The focus isn't, doesn't to be done immediately. But they did

**NEAL R. GROSS**

COURT REPORTERS AND TRANSCRIBERS

1323 RHODE ISLAND AVE., N.W.

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20005-3701

(202) 234-4433

www.nealrgross.com

1 take -- then he's got the political side, which took  
2 it took them all day yesterday to convince [REDACTED] to  
3 accept it. But they think at some point they'll  
4 lever it. But Tepco will most likely not use this  
5 in the muted pewter.

6 MALE PARTICIPANT: When were the flight  
7 crews (inaudible)?

8 LAURA: You'd have to (inaudible).

9 MALE PARTICIPANT: All right. Good.  
10 That leaves them basically no other choice. All  
11 right. Good, Chuck.

12 We're (audio interference) Chuck.

13 (Off-mic conversation.)

14 MALE PARTICIPANT: Well, that's the  
15 question. How soon are they going to use this  
16 thing? I said, do they need --

17 MALE PARTICIPANT: Well, will it ever be  
18 used?

19 Nader, are you on?

20 NADER MAMISH: Yes.

21 JIM WIGGINS: All right. I think we, I  
22 think you got us what we needed. The cost won't  
23 change, so, thanks. Okay?

24 NADER MAMISH: Okay. Let me know if you  
25 guys need anything else.

**NEAL R. GROSS**

COURT REPORTERS AND TRANSCRIBERS

1323 RHODE ISLAND AVE., N.W.

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20005-3701

5

1  
2  
3  
4  
5  
6  
7  
8  
9  
10  
11  
12  
13  
14  
15  
16  
17  
18  
19  
20  
21  
22  
23  
24  
25

JIM WIGGINS: Okay. Thanks a lot.

Goodbye.

**NEAL R. GROSS**

COURT REPORTERS AND TRANSCRIBERS

1323 RHODE ISLAND AVE., N.W.

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20005-3701

1 (CONFERENCE CALL INITIATED.)

2 01:53:32/01:55:41

3 CHUCK CASTO: Hey, Jim.

4 JIM WIGGINS: Hey, Chuck, hi. Good  
5 evening.

6 We've been -- do you know that there's a  
7 current hang-up with the Bechtel equipment?

8 CHUCK CASTO: Right.

9 JIM WIGGINS: I need your, I need your  
10 advice.

11 Here's what we understand. There's a  
12 single train of the Bechtel lash-up setting on an  
13 Australian C-17 in Perth with a flight crew ready to  
14 go.

15 CHUCK CASTO: Right.

16 JIM WIGGINS: Except Bechtel just  
17 changed the price from \$750K to \$2.4 million --

18 CHUCK CASTO: Right.

19 JIM WIGGINS: -- to transport the single  
20 train. That, that \$2.4 million is beyond,  
21 apparently, the level that whoever it is, AID or  
22 whoever, can fund that.

23 CHUCK CASTO: Right.

24 JIM WIGGINS: So now everything is kind  
25 of hang-fire.

**NEAL R. GROSS**

COURT REPORTERS AND TRANSCRIBERS  
1323 RHODE ISLAND AVE., N.W.  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20005-3701

1 I called Nader. Nader talked to USAID  
2 here. What he, what Nader is hearing is that the  
3 cost includes not just the components but several  
4 Bechtel individuals at [REDACTED] that are  
5 apparently flying with this thing.

6 CHUCK CASTO: I didn't know that part.

7 JIM WIGGINS: Yeah --

8 CHUCK CASTO: I just know that (audio  
9 interference).

10 JIM WIGGINS: Then we talked to Bill  
11 Cook -- you know, how serious are we with this? And  
12 Bill was saying, well, you know, he spent, we  
13 finally got MOD to agree to let this thing come  
14 over, but it's not clear when any of this is going  
15 to be used.

16 And now we are potentially going to get  
17 to the painful part. Nader suggested that we talked  
18 to Dyer, and that means we're heading down a path of  
19 --

20 CHUCK CASTO: Oh.

21 JIM WIGGINS: -- potentially paying for  
22 ourselves.

23 CHUCK CASTO: Yeah.

24 JIM WIGGINS: So you, you need to weigh  
25 in on this. Where do you weigh in this?

**NEAL R. GROSS**

COURT REPORTERS AND TRANSCRIBERS  
1323 RHODE ISLAND AVE., N.W.  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20005-3701

1 CHUCK CASTO: (Audio interference).

2 JIM WIGGINS: You're breaking up.

3 Can we clean the line?

4 MALE PARTICIPANT: Not without calling  
5 him back.

6 CHUCK CASTO: Can you hear me?

7 JIM WIGGINS: We need to call you back,  
8 Chuck.

9 CHUCK CASTO: Okay.

10 JIM WIGGINS: We can't, we can't  
11 understand you. We have to call you back.

12 CHUCK CASTO: Okay.

13 JIM WIGGINS: Just stay where you are.

14 CHUCK CASTO: Okay.

15

16

17

18

19

20

21

22

23

24

25

**NEAL R. GROSS**

COURT REPORTERS AND TRANSCRIBERS

1323 RHODE ISLAND AVE., N.W.

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20005-3701

1 (CONFERENCE CALL INITIATED.)

2 1:56:51/02:04:10

3 MALE PARTICIPANT: Chuck, are you there?

4 JIM WIGGINS: Chuck?

5 (No response.)

6 JIM WIGGINS: Chuck?

7 CHUCK CASTO: Yes.

8 JIM WIGGINS: Okay, you're back. Okay,  
9 so -- Yeah. Yeah, all right. It's a little bit  
10 better.

11 So say what you're going to say. Where  
12 do you want to go with this?



13  
14  
15  
16  
17  
18 I would -- you know, there will be  
19 another airplane. There will be another -- I don't  
20 think it's that urgent that, that, you know, we  
21 ought to do, we ought to go to Herculean efforts, so  
22 to speak, to get it on this flight.

23 You know, it's unfortunate, but I don't,  
24 I, I -- you know, politically it's really a pain in  
25 the ass, really, honestly, but in terms of, you

**NEAL R. GROSS**

COURT REPORTERS AND TRANSCRIBERS

1323 RHODE ISLAND AVE., N.W.

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20005-3701

(202) 234-4433

www.nealrgross.com



1 know, we offered and offered and said we could do  
2 this and we said we could do it. And we met with  
3 [REDACTED] and I told them we would do it if they  
4 wanted it. And they went through three no's with  
5 them. And then, when we got back to the embassy,  
6 they called back and said, yeah, we'll take it  
7 because they'd talked to the minister and the  
8 minister said, yeah, we'll take it.

9 But I don't think it's, you know, I  
10 don't think it's urgent, and I don't -- you know,  
11 politically it's not the smoothest situation. But  
12 I, I, you know, I wouldn't go to Herculean efforts  
13 to get it paid for and there will be another  
14 airplane. If we really, really need it, somebody  
15 will lift it out of there.

16 But, you know, Tokyo Fire Department is  
17 going to use their system first. I would imagine,  
18 if that doesn't work or if they need something else,  
19 they'll go to the Tepco system second. And thirdly,  
20 they would go to our system.

21 JIM WIGGINS: All right. So what do you  
22 want to -- we'll talk to Cook and we'll just  
23 basically, what? Unload this damn thing until we  
24 get some money to, to sort it out?

25 CHUCK CASTO: Yeah, that's my feeling.

**NEAL R. GROSS**

COURT REPORTERS AND TRANSCRIBERS

1323 RHODE ISLAND AVE., N.W.

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20005-3701

5

1 Unless [REDACTED] and those guys -- you know, I  
2 emailed [REDACTED] and he knows, and he knows the  
3 situation. And he knows USAID here. And he knows  
4 the situation.

5 [REDACTED]  
6 [REDACTED]  
7 [REDACTED]  
8 [REDACTED]  
9 [REDACTED]  
10 I'm not going to, I'm not going to push  
11 the government to spend \$2-1/2 million on this  
12 system.

13 JIM WIGGINS: Okay, but do you think we  
14 should push Bechtel on why in the hell they changed  
15 this God-damn price structure?

16 CHUCK CASTO: I mean, you could ask  
17 them, or you could ask [REDACTED] -- I guess he's the  
18 guy -- what happened there. But I think that  
19 airplane needs to get to -- you know, it's being  
20 diverted from relief efforts in the Middle East.

21 JIM WIGGINS: We were told.

22 CHUCK CASTO: You know, so it probably  
23 needs to get back to where it's going.

24 JIM WIGGINS: Okay. All right, so let's  
25 see. Do you have the capability of sending an email

**NEAL R. GROSS**

COURT REPORTERS AND TRANSCRIBERS

1323 RHODE ISLAND AVE., N.W.

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20005-3701

(202) 234-4433

www.nealrgross.com

1 to AID and the ambassador's office, the guy you  
2 mentioned, that says, that kind of lays this out,  
3 that we've run into a snag with regard to funding,  
4 as the cost structure for this thing had changed  
5 significantly. It's going to take us a while --

6 CHUCK CASTO: Well, they've already  
7 emailed it, they've already emailed it out through  
8 that loop. You know, AID and everybody's already  
9 been talking about it.

10 JIM WIGGINS: Okay.

11 CHUCK CASTO: But the ambassador's staff  
12 and, and AID, you know, they've conversed back and  
13 forth. So, you know, I'm not going to try to  
14 overrule AID.

15 You know, somebody will figure it out.  
16 They'll get it on another, they'll load it on --  
17 they already said something about two other  
18 countries that airplanes, you know?

19 JIM WIGGINS: Right.

20 CHUCK CASTO: There was something in  
21 there. I have to go back and say, well, you know,  
22 we might be able to get the Canadians or somebody  
23 else to do it. So I'm going to leave that to AID,  
24 and if we can't, you know, if we can't get it there  
25 right now, it's, it's not, you know, urgent anyhow.

**NEAL R. GROSS**

COURT REPORTERS AND TRANSCRIBERS  
1323 RHODE ISLAND AVE., N.W.  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20005-3701

1 So --

2 JIM WIGGINS: Okay, so what we need to  
3 do here?

4 We'll talk to Bill Cook and tell him  
5 that.

6 FEMALE PARTICIPANT: You know, but  
7 Bill's got very limited staff at the embassy right  
8 now, and we, there's --

9 JIM WIGGINS: Well, what do we need to  
10 do?

11 FEMALE PARTICIPANT: Well, that's what  
12 I'm trying to figure out because we --

13 JIM WIGGINS: How do we set it off,  
14 then, if we say, okay, can't go?

15 FEMALE PARTICIPANT: We've got them  
16 loading a plane, getting it ready to go. Who are  
17 the -- I mean, we can, we can call [REDACTED] and  
18 have him, from an industry perspective, put it back  
19 in a safe situation in Perth. Is that what the NRC  
20 --

21 JIM WIGGINS: Who's that [REDACTED]

22 FEMALE PARTICIPANT: He's the Bechtel  
23 thing running this process.

24 JIM WIGGINS: It sounds like that's what  
25 we ought to do.

**NEAL R. GROSS**

COURT REPORTERS AND TRANSCRIBERS

1323 RHODE ISLAND AVE., N.W.

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20005-3701

(202) 234-4433

www.nealrgross.com

1 Anything, Chuck?

2 CHUCK CASTO: Yeah, I would unload it  
3 and tell that airplane to be on its way. And then,  
4 you know --

5 JIM WIGGINS: We'll, we'll, we're going  
6 to rail at [REDACTED] for where the hell did the  
7 significant increase come from?

8 CHUCK CASTO: Yeah.

9 JIM WIGGINS: Okay. All right.

10 CHUCK CASTO: We're not the pay, we're  
11 not going to pay \$2-1/2 million dollars for this  
12 thing, even if we did promise the Japanese. It's  
13 not, you know, this isn't essential to cool those,  
14 to cool those pools. They've got two other systems  
15 in design and procurement now here in country.

16 JIM WIGGINS: I wouldn't, I wouldn't say  
17 "not". I would say "not now".

18 CHUCK CASTO: Yeah. Right.

19 JIM WIGGINS: All right, so we've got,  
20 we've got a significant cost snag, which is going to  
21 now delay our ability to get the devices over there.

22 So that meant that the stuff's got to come off the  
23 plane because we're not going to pay, we don't, we  
24 don't understand these costs and we're not to go  
25 forward until we do. How about that?

**NEAL R. GROSS**

COURT REPORTERS AND TRANSCRIBERS

1323 RHODE ISLAND AVE., N.W.

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20005-3701

1 CHUCK CASTO: Yeah. I mean, unless  
2 somebody is willing to call the Chairman and have  
3 him pull the plug and call the White House or  
4 something. You know?

5 MALE PARTICIPANT: (Off mic).

6 CHUCK CASTO: Well I would, I would call  
7 -- what time -- it's, it's --

8 JIM WIGGINS: Don't worry about it.

9 CHUCK CASTO: -- it's nine o'clock or so  
10 --

11 JIM WIGGINS: Yes, there's plenty of  
12 time here. I'll --

13 CHUCK CASTO: I would call, I would call  
14 Josh or something and let them know the situation.  
15 If the Chairman wants to call the White House and  
16 get --

17 JIM WIGGINS: Yeah, that's what I was  
18 thinking. We'll go to Josh and say, here is your --  
19 the team's advice in the field, from a technical  
20 point of view, a delay in this is not very hurtful.

21 CHUCK CASTO: Right.

22 JIM WIGGINS: From a political point of  
23 view, it might be a different story because we had  
24 to do a lot of convincing to get [REDACTED] willing  
25 to take this stuff.

**NEAL R. GROSS**

COURT REPORTERS AND TRANSCRIBERS  
1323 RHODE ISLAND AVE., N.W.  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20005-3701

5

1 CHUCK CASTO: Right. You got it  
2 exactly, Jim. If you would, if you would tell Josh  
3 that.

4 JIM WIGGINS: Well, let me ask one more  
5 question. Is a commitment, do we have a firm  
6 commitment in hand from [REDACTED] if they got it,  
7 they'd use it? 5

8 CHUCK CASTO: No. No we don't. We have  
9 that they would accept it.

10 JIM WIGGINS: Okay. That, that's fine.  
11 All right, let us to do our thing.  
12 We'll call Josh, see what he's got to say, and if it  
13 goes the way we think it is, we'll, Laura will talk  
14 to [REDACTED] say, you got be kidding me. You know,  
15 do what you need to do with -- 6

16 CHUCK CASTO: Yeah.

17 JIM WIGGINS: -- the equipment. We're  
18 two and a half million dollars.

19 CHUCK CASTO: Yeah. The other option is  
20 for the Chairman to call Bechtel.

21 JIM WIGGINS: Right.

22 CHUCK CASTO: And say, what in the hell  
23 are you guys doing?

24 JIM WIGGINS: Yeah.

25 CHUCK CASTO: You know? So make that a

**NEAL R. GROSS**

COURT REPORTERS AND TRANSCRIBERS

1323 RHODE ISLAND AVE., N.W.

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20005-3701

(202) 234-4433

www.nealrgross.com

1 -- yeah, you do that. You got it, Jim. That's it.  
2 Go for it.

3 JIM WIGGINS: All right.

4 CHUCK CASTO: Bulldog that thing.

5 JIM WIGGINS: Thanks.

6 CHUCK CASTO: All right.

7 JIM WIGGINS: Thanks, Chuck. See you.

8 CHUCK CASTO: Yeah.

9 JIM WIGGINS: Bye.

10

11

12

13

14

15

16

17

18

19

20

21

22

23

24

25

**NEAL R. GROSS**

COURT REPORTERS AND TRANSCRIBERS

1323 RHODE ISLAND AVE., N.W.

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20005-3701



1 (CONFERENCE CALL INITIATED.)

2 02:04:15/02:25:25

3 (Standby to 02:04:59.)

4 JIM WIGGINS: Bill?

5 BILL BORCHARDT: Yeah.

6 JIM WIGGINS: What's up?


7 BILL BORCHARDT: Nothing. I'm just  
8 listening in.

9 JIM WIGGINS: Yeah, you heard the -- oh,  
10 all right. You're just announcing that you're  
11 white-ratting us. Okay.

12 BILL BORCHARDT: Yeah. I just --

13 JIM WIGGINS: We talked to Chuck about  
14 this equipment that's sitting in, in Australia.

15 Chuck's view is that from a technical  
16 point of view it's not immediately needed. It looks  
17 like Tepco or -- who was it? -- the Tokyo Fire  
18 Department and Tepco already have schemes under way,  
19 to his knowledge. And so Chuck's team says, from a  
20 technical point of view, it's not needed.

21 From a political point of view, it's  
22 kind of a different story 

23 

24  
25  
**NEAL R. GROSS**

COURT REPORTERS AND TRANSCRIBERS  
1323 RHODE ISLAND AVE., N.W.  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20005-3701

(202) 234-4433

www.nealrgross.com

57

1  
2  
3  
4  
5  
6  
7  
8  
9  
10  
11  
12  
13  
14  
15  
16  
17  
18  
19  
20  
21  
22  
23  
24  
25

[REDACTED]

BILL BORCHARDT: Yeah.

JIM WIGGINS: [REDACTED] [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] [REDACTED]

So when you've you got 200 and, \$2.4 million-a-train cost for this thing, maybe it's not the best thing to pull the stops out to get this thing over. So we're talking to Bask -- we're going to get Josh. We're going to call him --

JOSH BASKIN: Josh is on.

JIM WIGGINS: Okay.

And then we'll go from there.

BILL BORCHARDT: Okay. Thanks.

JIM WIGGINS: All right.

Josh?

JOSH BASKIN: Yes, sir.

JIM WIGGINS: Good morning. How are you?

JOSH BASKIN: Great. How have you guys been?

JIM WIGGINS: You've got to save all these squirrely things for dayshift. Are you ready for this one?

JOSH BASKIN: Okay. What have you got?

JIM WIGGINS: They got a train in the

**NEAL R. GROSS**

COURT REPORTERS AND TRANSCRIBERS

1323 RHODE ISLAND AVE., N.W.

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20005-3701

(202) 234-4433

www.nealrgross.com

5

1 Bechtel system loaded in a C-17 -- it's an  
2 Australian Air Force C-17 with a flight crew -- on  
3 the, on the ground in Perth. Okay?

4 JOSH BASKIN: Okay.

5 JIM WIGGINS: But it seems that Bechtel  
6 has re-costed it, and it's now gone from \$750,000  
7 for the project to the \$2.4 million per train.  
8 Obviously, [REDACTED].

9 JOSH BASKIN: Okay.

10 JIM WIGGINS: It actually exceeds the  
11 legal limit that they're allowed to handle.

12 JOSH BASKIN: Okay.

13 JIM WIGGINS: That's what we were told.  
14 That's what Nader told us.

15 Here's, here's the lay of the land  
16 though. From a technical point of view -- we talked  
17 to Chuck -- from a technical point of view, the  
18 equipment is not immediately needed.

19 JOSH BASKIN: Okay.

20 JIM WIGGINS: A combination between what  
21 Tokyo Fire Department is doing and what the Tokyo  
22 Electric people are doing, at this point, as the  
23 team understands it, would tend to de-emphasize the  
24 need for this in any immediate sense. You follow?

25 JOSH BASKIN: Yep.

**NEAL R. GROSS**

COURT REPORTERS AND TRANSCRIBERS

1323 RHODE ISLAND AVE., N.W.

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20005-3701

5

1 JIM WIGGINS: But from a political  
2 sense, Chuck's in a bad, in a different spot. They  
3 spent all of today, you know, the last, whatever,  
4 12, 24 hours or so, working hard [REDACTED] [REDACTED]

5 [REDACTED]  
6 [REDACTED]  
7 [REDACTED]  
8 [REDACTED] No affirmative assurance  
9 that they intend to use it.

10 So now our options are try to either  
11 find \$2.4 million; figure out a way to paint over  
12 USAID for them to figure out how to fund it; or tell  
13 Bechtel, well, what the hell did you do? We don't  
14 need it right now. Take it off the plane and we'll  
15 reload later.

16 So we are kind of siding towards the  
17 third option from a technical point of view but need  
18 your, your judgment on this on whether you need to  
19 call the boss.

20 JOSH BASKIN: The boss is calling me.  
21 Can you hold one second?

22 JIM WIGGINS: Yeah.

23 JOSH BASKIN: All right. I'll be right  
24 back.

25 (Nader Mamish joins the bridge.)

**NEAL R. GROSS**

COURT REPORTERS AND TRANSCRIBERS  
1323 RHODE ISLAND AVE., N.W.  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20005-3701

5

1 NADER MAMISH: Hey, Jim?

2 JIM WIGGINS: Nader, Josh is also on.  
3 Bill Borchardt's listening in.

4 NADER MAMISH: Okay. I got an update  
5 for you.

6 JIM WIGGINS: He's talking to the  
7 chairman right now.

8 Yeah, what have you got?

9 NADER MAMISH: So I, I asked the folks,  
10 our folks down at USAID, to get a little more  
11 clarity on the costing and, and, and so forth. The  
12 information I'm getting is that DOD has already  
13 authorized --

14 JOSH BASKIN: Hey, Jim?

15 JIM WIGGINS: Yes?

16 JOSH BASKIN: It's Josh.

17 JIM WIGGINS: Okay.

18 JIM WIGGINS: So, is this equipment the  
19 equipment that is related to the plan that the  
20 Chairman shared with the ambassador yesterday?

21 JIM WIGGINS: It would be the Bechtel  
22 plan.

23 JOSH BASKIN: It would be the Bechtel  
24 Plant.

25 JIM WIGGINS: Yes.

**NEAL R. GROSS**

COURT REPORTERS AND TRANSCRIBERS  
1323 RHODE ISLAND AVE., N.W.  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20005-3701

1 JOSH BASKIN: And the reason that the  
2 team on the ground doesn't think it's necessary  
3 right now is?  
4 JIM WIGGINS: Because there's, there's  
5 other systems being used other than this right now.  
6 JOSH BASKIN: Would this be better?  
7 JIM WIGGINS: Also, they don't have high  
8 assurance that if this stuff actually did land in  
9 Japan [REDACTED]  
10 --  
11 JOSH BASKIN: They would use it.  
12 JIM WIGGINS: -- they would actually  
13 construct and use it.  
14 JOSH BASKIN: Got it. Okay. Hold, hold  
15 on.  
16 JIM WIGGINS: Nader's on the line too.  
17 He's got some late update from the AID he was giving  
18 us. If you've got a second, why don't you listen to  
19 that too.  
20 JOSH BASKIN: Okay.  
21 Nader, just hold, hold real quick.  
22 NADER MAMISH: Yep.  
23 (Standby 02:10:18 to 02:11:22.)  
24 JIM WIGGINS: Hey, Nader, you're still  
25 hanging on, right?

**NEAL R. GROSS**

COURT REPORTERS AND TRANSCRIBERS  
1323 RHODE ISLAND AVE., N.W.  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20005-3701

(202) 234-4433

www.nealrgross.com

5

1 NADER MAMISH: Yes, sir.

2 JIM WIGGINS: All right. Let's give  
3 Josh a few more seconds to talk to the Chairman and  
4 see comes out of that unless you have, unless you've  
5 rescued the day. Do you have a rescue plan, or did  
6 you --

7 NADER MAMISH: Actually, we may have a  
8 rescue plan, but really, it comes down to price and  
9 priority.

10 The fund is, no longer, appears to be an  
11 issue if the price is right and the priority is  
12 high.

13 JIM WIGGINS: Who -- was it AID --

14 NADER MAMISH: Okay, so let me -- if  
15 Josh is --

16 JOSH BASKIN: Josh is back. Sorry about  
17 that.

18 NADER MAMISH: That's okay.

19  
20  
21  
22  
23  
24  
25

5

**NEAL R. GROSS**

COURT REPORTERS AND TRANSCRIBERS  
1323 RHODE ISLAND AVE., N.W.  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20005-3701

1  
2  
3  
4  
5  
6  
7  
8  
9  
10  
11  
12  
13  
14  
15  
16  
17  
18  
19  
20  
21  
22  
23  
24  
25

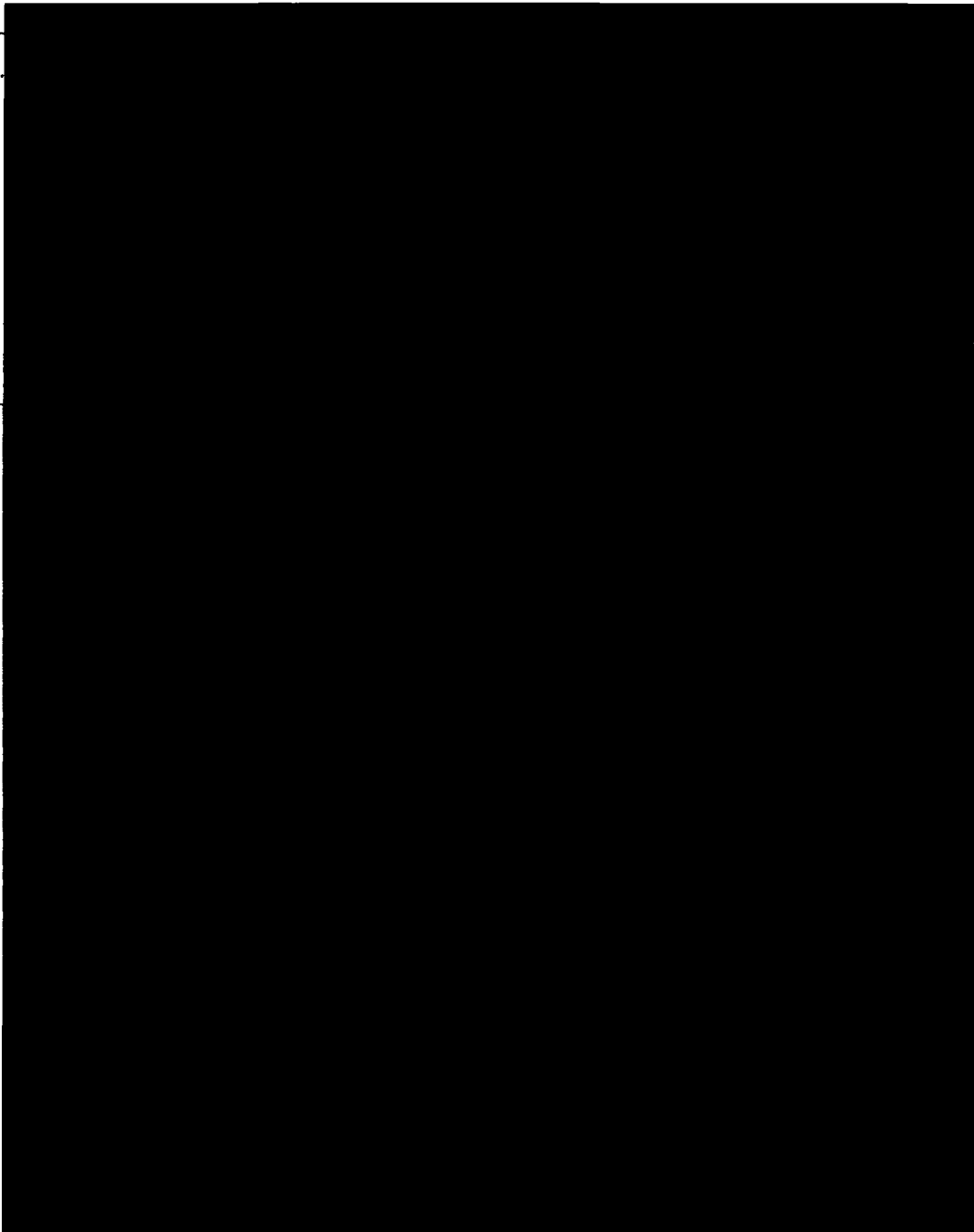


JOSH BASKIN: \$9.6 million?

NADER MAMISH: \$9.6 million.

JIM WIGGINS: That's 2.4 times four,  
Josh. Remember? It's \$2.4 million per train.

JOSH BASKIN: Got it. Got it.



5  
  
5

**NEAL R. GROSS**

COURT REPORTERS AND TRANSCRIBERS

1323 RHODE ISLAND AVE., N.W.


WASHINGTON, D.C. 20005-3701

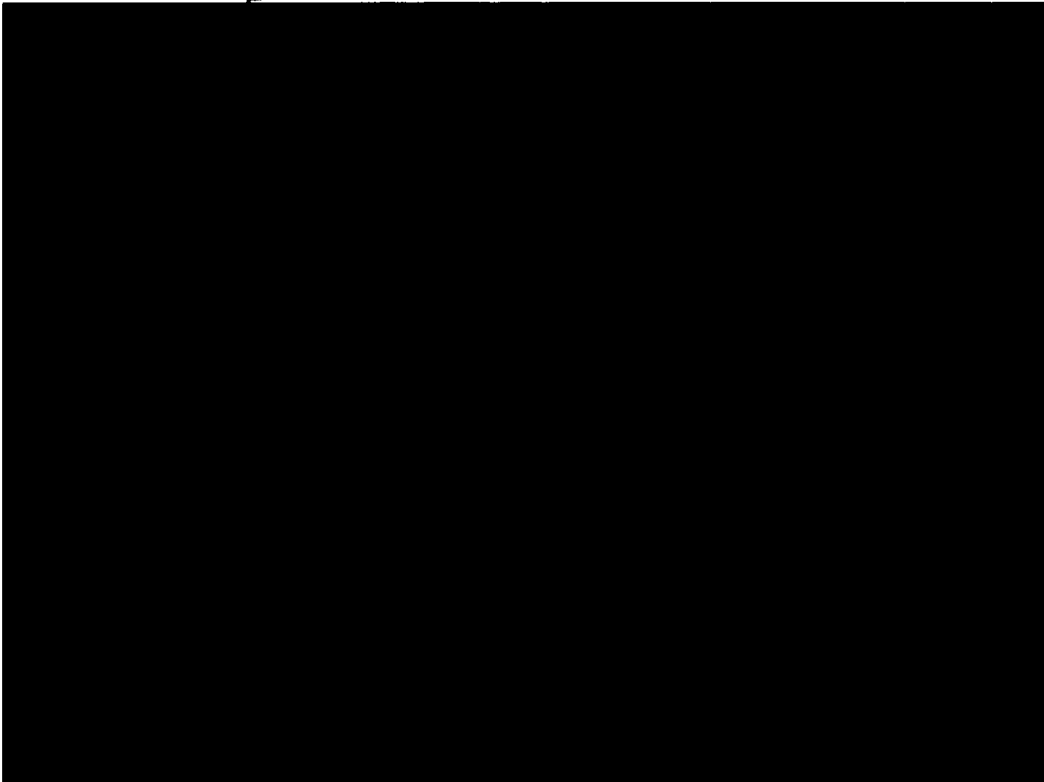


1  
2  
3  
4  
5  
6  
7  
8  
9  
10  
11  
12  
13  
14  
15  
16  
17  
18  
19  
20  
21  
22  
23  
24  
25

NADER MAMISH: No. They're not on.

JOSH BASKIN: Okay. I mean, in one sense, you know, this is what our team came up with and this is what the Chairman presented to the ambassador as something that would help. So, if we still believe that, even if we don't think we need it at this second, it's probably in everybody's interest to get it, to look a little bit forward and get it moving, at least get it in country. Right?

 doesn't use it, then that's not, you know, that's not our call.



NADER MAMISH: You know, it's not -- they're relying on our recommendation, and I think our recommendation is, is, yeah, send the equipment.

**NEAL R. GROSS**

COURT REPORTERS AND TRANSCRIBERS

1323 RHODE ISLAND AVE., N.W.

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20005-3701

(202) 234-4433

www.nealrgross.com

5

5

1 But we don't know -- I think we would probably --  
2 my own view is, is we probably need to get some  
3 assurances from the Japanese that they're going to  
4 use this equipment.

5 JIM WIGGINS: That's, that's the rub.

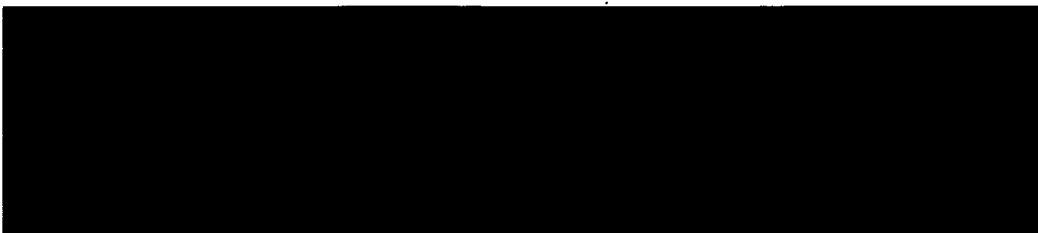
6 NADER MAMISH: Okay.



15 So we could be spending \$2.4- to 9.6  
16 million to send one to four trains of this stuff  
17 over there that will sit on the ground somewhere  
18 under the control [redacted] but not  
19 necessarily erected and used.

20 JOSH BASKIN: Okay.

21 JIM WIGGINS: And that, that seems to be  
22 an awful waste of money.



5

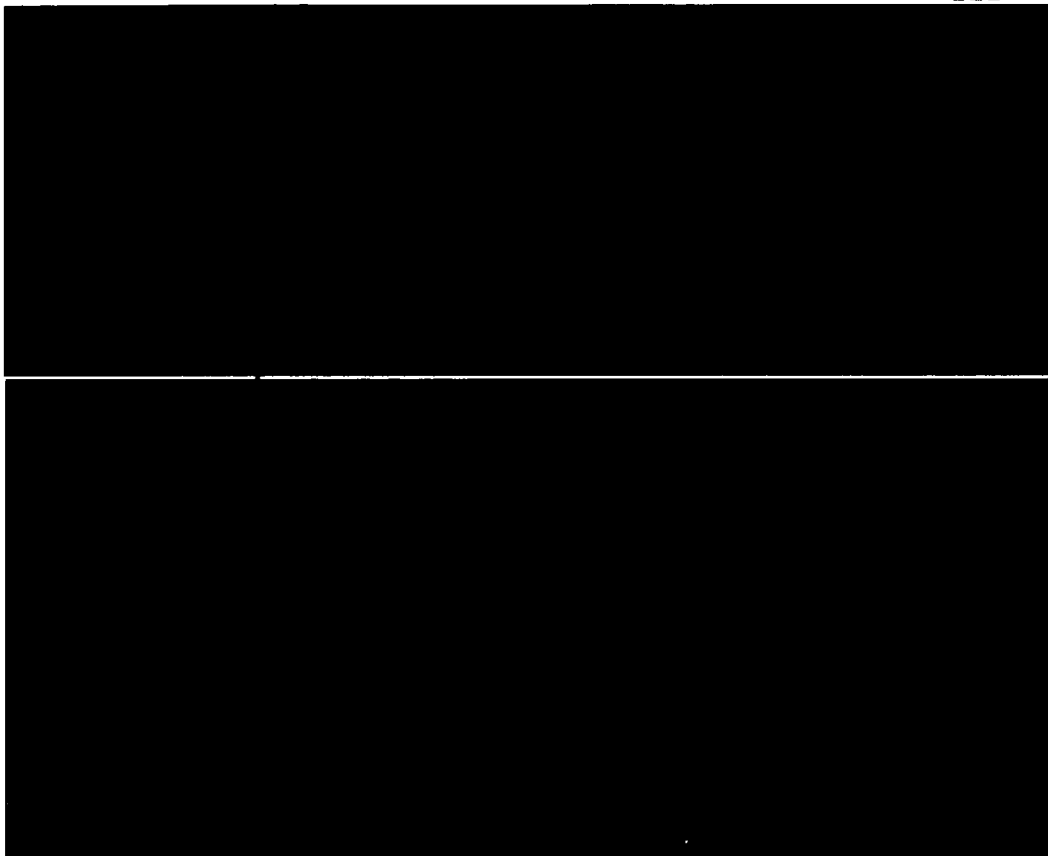
5

5

**NEAL R. GROSS**

COURT REPORTERS AND TRANSCRIBERS  
1323 RHODE ISLAND AVE., N.W.  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20005-3701

1  
2  
3  
4  
5  
6  
7  
8  
9  
10  
11  
12  
13  
14  
15  
16  
17  
18  
19  
20  
21  
22  
23  
24  
25



5

5

JIM WIGGINS: So the full story would be, from a purely technical perspective, based on our understandings of what Tepco and others in country are doing, of what the Japanese themselves are doing, there is not an immediate need for this to be put in place. The other parallel efforts would go, would be expected to go forward. Okay?

So, from a pure technical point of view, this wouldn't add much.

JOSH BASKIN: Well, then, I think the key word there is "immediate".

JIM WIGGINS: Yeah.

JOSH BASKIN: Okay. So I mean, it's not

**NEAL R. GROSS**

COURT REPORTERS AND TRANSCRIBERS  
1323 RHODE ISLAND AVE., N.W.  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20005-3701

1 going to be immediately available, even if we pulled  
2 the trigger a half an hour ago.

3 JIM WIGGINS: Yeah, right. Well, I'll  
4 -- let me finish this discussion --

5 JOSH BASKIN: Okay.

6 JIM WIGGINS: -- before I get into this  
7 red herring because this (inaudible).

8 So, anyhow, technically, from a purely  
9 technical point of view, the argument would be,  
10 well, take it off the plane, leave it at the airport  
11 or leave it at the airfield, and we'll study this a  
12 little bit more from a cost point of view. And if  
13 the costs come more in line or if the need becomes  
14 more than it is now, we'll fly in next frame --  
15 apparently, there's other airframes -- we'll load it  
16 and, and then pull the trigger on it. Okay?

17 From a political point of view is, after  
18 they, that works the other direction. They spent  
19 all yesterday [REDACTED]

20 [REDACTED] Now they've  
21 accepted, they've agreed to take it, and now we're  
22 not give it to them.

23 JOSH BASKIN: Right.

24 JIM WIGGINS: But the bottom line,  
25 though, is if they get it, there's no assurance that

**NEAL R. GROSS**

COURT REPORTERS AND TRANSCRIBERS

1323 RHODE ISLAND AVE., N.W.

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20005-3701

5

1 they'll use it.

2 Now here's the latest.



3  
4  
5  
6  
7  
8  
9  
10  
11  
12  
13  
14  
15  
16  
17  
18  
19  
20  
21  
22  
23  
24  
25

7

1 true either. So all three counts have failed.

2  
3  
4  
5  
6  
7  
8  
9  
10  
11  
12  
13  
14  
15 sent -- but yesterday, from a technical perspective,  
16 that was needed. So why is it not needed today from  
17 a technical perspective? Did they do something  
18 overnight that is --

19 JIM WIGGINS: No. I'm not sure it was  
20 any different. We knew before that -- we're just  
21 telling you what Chuck's saying. You know, he's  
22 seeing what Tepco and what he does is moving forward  
23 in the, with Tepco and the Tokyo Fire Department.  
24 So I think we need knew that yesterday.

25 JOSH BASKIN: Okay. We've continued to

**NEAL R. GROSS**

COURT REPORTERS AND TRANSCRIBERS

1323 RHODE ISLAND AVE., N.W.


WASHINGTON, D.C. 20005-3701

1 see a higher level of effort?

2 JIM WIGGINS: Yes.

3 JOSH BASKIN: Okay.

4 JIM WIGGINS: Yeah, that's, that's a  
5 good way of putting it. You know, that earlier, you  
6 get, you see Tepco is -- let's try to put it  
7 politely -- not well focused. Then the Ministry of  
8 Defense comes in and starts exerting a stronger  
9 hand. That might have forced Tepco to get more  
10 focused.

11 I think you may have heard yesterday  
12 when, or the day before, when Chuck's people,  
13 talking to Bechtel -- 

14

15

16

17 JOSH BASKIN: Okay.

18 JIM WIGGINS: So there were signs that  
19 there was movement going forward in the same  
20 direction.

21 JOSH BASKIN: So, would the, would the  
22 fire truck system be as effective as this, the  
23 hardened, this design?

24 JIM WIGGINS: I can't tell. I don't  
25 know what the gallons per minute or the list or any

**NEAL R. GROSS**

COURT REPORTERS AND TRANSCRIBERS

1323 RHODE ISLAND AVE., N.W.

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20005-3701

4

1 of that would be.

2 JOSH BASKIN: Okay.

3 JIM WIGGINS: And I don't know -- that,  
4 that's something Chuck's people might know, but I  
5 don't.

6 JOSH BASKIN: Okay.

7 JIM WIGGINS: I know what the specs are  
8 that they --

9 JOSH BASKIN: Do you need less personnel  
10 to operate this system than you do, the fire truck  
11 system?

12 JIM WIGGINS: I don't know that either.

13 JOSH BASKIN: Okay.

14 JIM WIGGINS: I never --

15 NADER MAMISH: What I was, for what it's  
16 worth, is that Bechtel wanted to send three people  
17 per train. I don't know if that's more or less than  
18 a fire truck.

19 JIM WIGGINS: But three people per train  
20 won't work, Nader.

21 NADER MAMISH: Oh, okay.

22 JIM WIGGINS: I don't think it could  
23 work. What are these people, what are they going to  
24 do? If they're just chaperoning the equipment, that  
25 seems like they're going overboard. If they think

**NEAL R. GROSS**

COURT REPORTERS AND TRANSCRIBERS

1323 RHODE ISLAND AVE., N.W.

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20005-3701



1 there's three people needed to erect and operate  
2 this thing, have they considered the fact that  
3 they're operating it in, you know, tens of millirem  
4 fields? Have they figured stay time? So that's  
5 only at the gates. So the rad levels as you closer  
6 to the building where this thing will be useful are  
7 probably going to go up. It may go up  
8 significantly. There are measurements of R per hour  
9 on the top --

10 FEMALE PARTICIPANT: (Off mic).

11 JIM WIGGINS: -- yeah. It's 30 R per  
12 hour at the top of these, these buildings. I don't  
13 know what they were on the side. You know, but that  
14 just seems unreasonable to me. They would have to  
15 do a relay race to erect it in and to operate it.

16 NADER MAMISH: Yeah. I don't know what  
17 these three people would do, but that's what they  
18 were suggesting.

19 JIM WIGGINS: Yes, Laura?

20 LAURA: The three people were from the  
21 suppliers from all the equipment. They were only  
22 going to take it up to Yakota. [REDACTED]

23 [REDACTED]  
24 [REDACTED]  
25 JIM WIGGINS: So we're paying to [REDACTED]

**NEAL R. GROSS**

COURT REPORTERS AND TRANSCRIBERS

1323 RHODE ISLAND AVE., N.W.

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20005-3701

(202) 234-4433

www.nealrgross.com

5  
4

1 [REDACTED]  
2 LAURA: It was going to go to -- they  
3 wouldn't -- I would most likely suggest that these  
4 three individuals would not make it off the Yakota  
5 air band.

6 The other item from a technical team on  
7 site -- do they have the fire trucks going? Tepco  
8 has another type of more long-term pumping system  
9 under development now, so that would be their second  
10 option that they're working on. So this system is  
11 actually --

12 JIM WIGGINS: Tertiary.

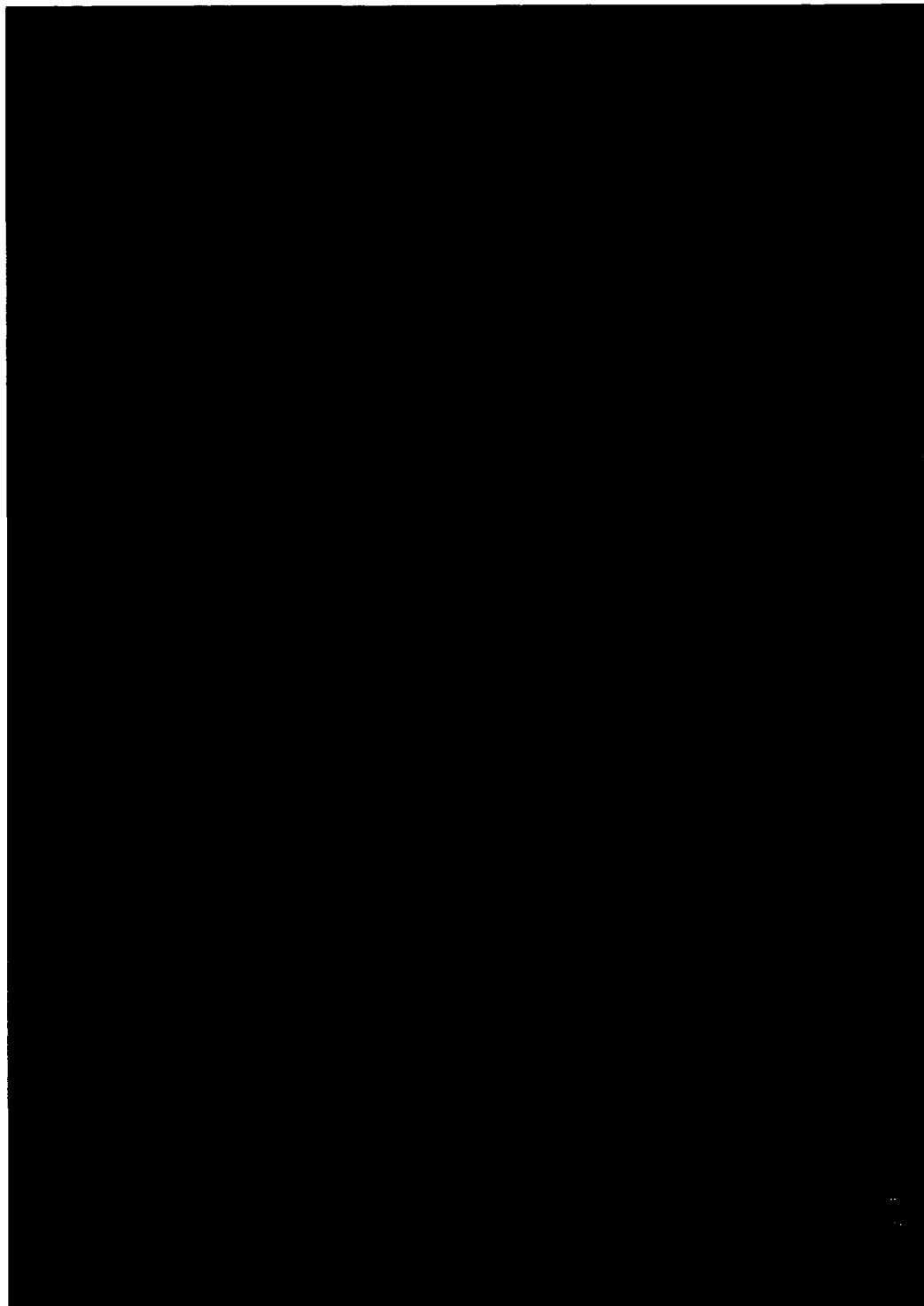
13 LAURA: -- There's not a commitment to  
14 use it, and it would be the third activity that  
15 Tepco would approach. So fire trucks would be  
16 first. They're acting. They're already in  
17 development on a second type of pumping system,  
18 which is more permanent than a fire truck system.

19 And so, again, the priority on this, and  
20 that's where Chuck has shifted, is that Tepco's  
21 initiation of their second solution seems to be  
22 going forward. were going to have.

23 They were going to have. They were saying [REDACTED]  
24 [REDACTED]

25 JOSH BASKIN: Okay. That, that makes

1 perfect sense to me. I guess where my, where my gut  
2 is, is I'm okay with a little bit of extra defense  
3 in depth at this point because we ain't got any of  
4 that going on right now.



5  
6  
7  
8  
9  
10  
11  
12  
13  
14  
15  
16  
17  
18  
19  
20  
21  
22  
23  
24  
25

57

**NEAL R. GROSS**

COURT REPORTERS AND TRANSCRIBERS

1323 RHODE ISLAND AVE., N.W.

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20005-3701

1 JOSH BASKIN: Let me get right back to  
2 you on that.

3 JIM WIGGINS: Well, that's where we  
4 stand. That would be --

5 JOSH BASKIN: Oh, okay. That's kind of  
6 where we are.

7 JIM WIGGINS: -- where we are. And then  
8 you get, get to see if the Chairman is -- what's he  
9 feel about all that.

10 JOSH BASKIN: Okay.

11 JIM WIGGINS: All right.

12 JOSH BASKIN: I'll call you back.

13 JIM WIGGINS: We'll stand by.

14 JOSH BASKIN: Okay. Thank you.

15 JIM WIGGINS: All right.

16 NADER MAMISH: Jim?

17 NADER MAMISH: I'm also on standby if  
18 you need help.

19 JIM WIGGINS: Yeah --

20 NADER MAMISH: I'm not doing anything.

21 JIM WIGGINS: Yeah -- don't say that.  
22 We'll bring you in.

23 NADER MAMISH: Well, I'm coming in.  
24 But, but as far as this issues goes, I'm not  
25 proceeding any further --

**NEAL R. GROSS**

COURT REPORTERS AND TRANSCRIBERS  
1323 RHODE ISLAND AVE., N.W.  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20005-3701

1 JIM WIGGINS: Okay. Are you --

2 NADER MAMISH: -- unless otherwise  
3 directed.

4 JIM WIGGINS: Are you coming in for the  
5 two o'clock meeting?

6 NADER MAMISH: Yes, sir.

7 JIM WIGGINS: Okay. We'll probably see  
8 you then.

9 NADER MAMISH: Okay.

10 JIM WIGGINS: Thanks a lot.

11 NADER MAMISH: Bye.

12 JIM WIGGINS: Bye.

13

14

15

16

17

18

19

20

21

22

23

24

25

**NEAL R. GROSS**

COURT REPORTERS AND TRANSCRIBERS

1323 RHODE ISLAND AVE., N.W.

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20005-3701

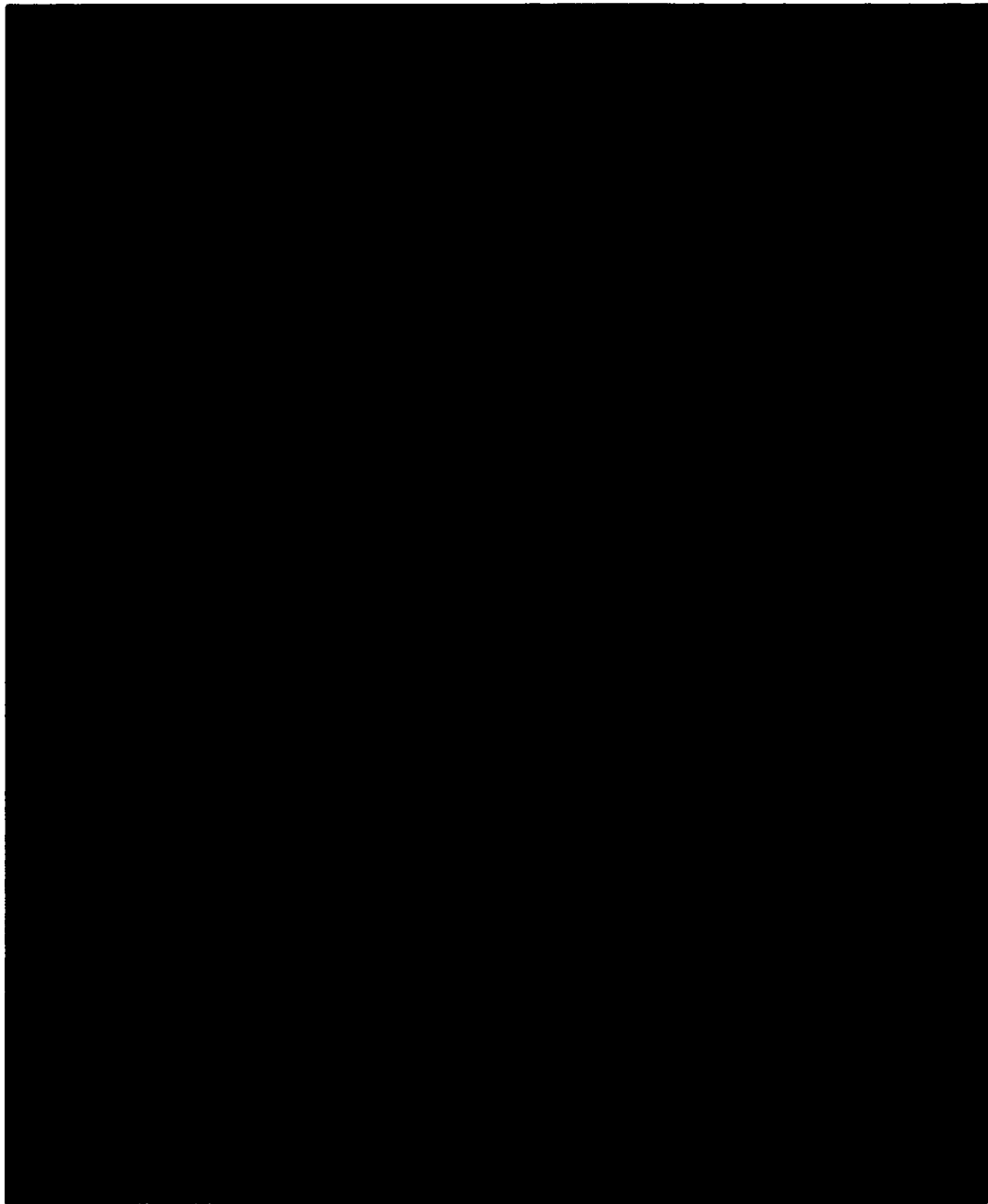
1 (CONFERENCE CALL INITIATED.)

2 02:25:29/02:29:28

3 BRIAN McDERMOTT: Hey, guys. This is  
4 Brian McDermott.

5 MICHAEL DUDEK: Hi, Brian.

6 BRIAN McDERMOTT: What can we do for  
7 you?



5

1  
2  
3  
4  
5  
6  
7  
8  
9  
10  
11  
12  
13  
14  
15  
16  
17  
18  
19  
20  
21  
22  
23  
24  
25

**NEAL R. GROSS**

COURT REPORTERS AND TRANSCRIBERS

1323 RHODE ISLAND AVE., N.W.

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20005-3701

(202) 234-4433

[www.nealrgross.com](http://www.nealrgross.com)

1  
2  
3  
4  
5  
6  
7  
8  
9  
10  
11  
12  
13  
14  
15  
16  
17  
18  
19  
20  
21  
22  
23  
24  
25



5

JIM WIGGINS: We've done our part.

We've provided -- our role was to provide the technical input, which says that was important to put water on those damn plants.

MICHAEL DUDEK: Got it.

JIM WIGGINS: Okay, and we worked with Bechtel to come up with an option. The implementation of that option or any further

**NEAL R. GROSS**

COURT REPORTERS AND TRANSCRIBERS

1323 RHODE ISLAND AVE., N.W.

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20005-3701

(202) 234-4433

[www.nealrgross.com](http://www.nealrgross.com)

1 development of it is probably going to transition  
2 after the consortium meeting. At least, that's the  
3 intent will be to get that over somewhere else,  
4 because that's not what we do best. We did our  
5 part.

6 So, yeah, just, just --

7 JOE ANDERSON: The only reason we  
8 brought it up was -- this is Joe Anderson, Jim. The  
9 only reason we brought it up the call with Mike may  
10 have probably called [REDACTED] from Bechtel just  
11 to try to get a better idea where these cost  
12 estimates came from, especially the \$750,000.

13 JIM WIGGINS: Yeah.

14 JOE ANDERSON: At that time, he informed  
15 us that he was basically acting off an email that  
16 Bob Kaylor, who was the liaison before us, had sent  
17 out something on the order of a cease-and-desist  
18 until we determine how we're going to pay for it.  
19 And again, just because of the cost and personnel,  
20 aircraft et cetera, Bechtel president took that to  
21 infer that they're to demobilize.

22 So that's why we really called, saying,  
23 okay, is this really demobilization -- his response  
24 to an email from an NRC employee whether or not we  
25 would want to clarify it.

**NEAL R. GROSS**

COURT REPORTERS AND TRANSCRIBERS

1323 RHODE ISLAND AVE., N.W.

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20005-3701

(202) 234-4433

www.nealrgross.com



1 JIM WIGGINS: I don't know what, Bob,  
2 why, why any of us sent that. The, the actual  
3 situation we're in, I don't know that I'd actually  
4 be advising demobilization. I would say that they  
5 were, they're not going to send it on this plane.

6 JOE ANDERSON: Well, right now, the  
7 plane's going away and they're bringing all the  
8 equipment back to the sources.

9 JIM WIGGINS: Okay. Well, whatever they  
10 do --

11 JOE ANDERSON: [REDACTED] f  
12 [REDACTED]  
13 [REDACTED] meaning this is not going to sit on  
14 the tarmac waiting for decision.

15 JIM WIGGINS: Okay. Well, they can  
16 always put it back together again.

17 JOE ANDERSON: Okay. Well, (inaudible)  
18 can always put it back together again.

19 JOE ANDERSON: Okay. Well, we just  
20 wanted to make sure that we --

21 JIM WIGGINS: Does [REDACTED] recognize b  
22 that he, he may need to, you know, he should be able  
23 to put it back together again if that becomes  
24 necessary?

25 JOE ANDERSON: I'm sure they can. It's

**NEAL R. GROSS**

COURT REPORTERS AND TRANSCRIBERS

1323 RHODE ISLAND AVE., N.W.

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20005-3701

(202) 234-4433

www.nealrgross.com

1 going to be a time issue, and it's, you know, also  
2 going to be a logistics issue.

3 JIM WIGGINS: All right. I have to get  
4 on a call from --

5 BRIAN McDERMOTT: Okay. All right,  
6 well, you guys got the, the, the latest.

7 JOE ANDERSON: All right. So we  
8 basically do nothing.

9 BRIAN McDERMOTT: Correct.

10 JOE ANDERSON: And it's, it's  
11 demobilized. All right.

12 BRIAN McDERMOTT: That's right. Step  
13 back.

14 JOE ANDERSON: Understood.

15 BRIAN McDERMOTT: All right. Thanks  
16 guys.

17 MALE PARTICIPANT: Okay, thank you.

18 (CONFERENCE CALL INITIATED.)

19 02:29:34/02:30:02

20 (Extraneous conference call omitted.)

21

22

23

24

25

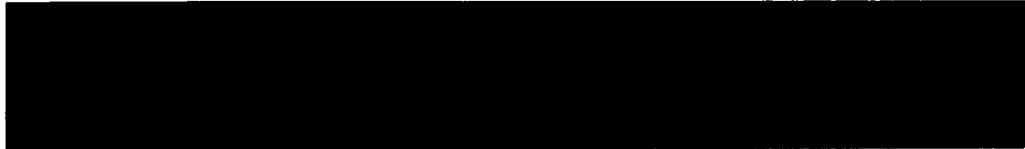
**NEAL R. GROSS**

COURT REPORTERS AND TRANSCRIBERS  
1323 RHODE ISLAND AVE., N.W.  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20005-3701


1  
2  
3  
4  
5  
6  
7  
8  
9  
10  
11  
12  
13  
14  
15  
16  
17  
18  
19  
20  
21  
22  
23  
24  
25

(CONFERENCE CALL INITIATED.)

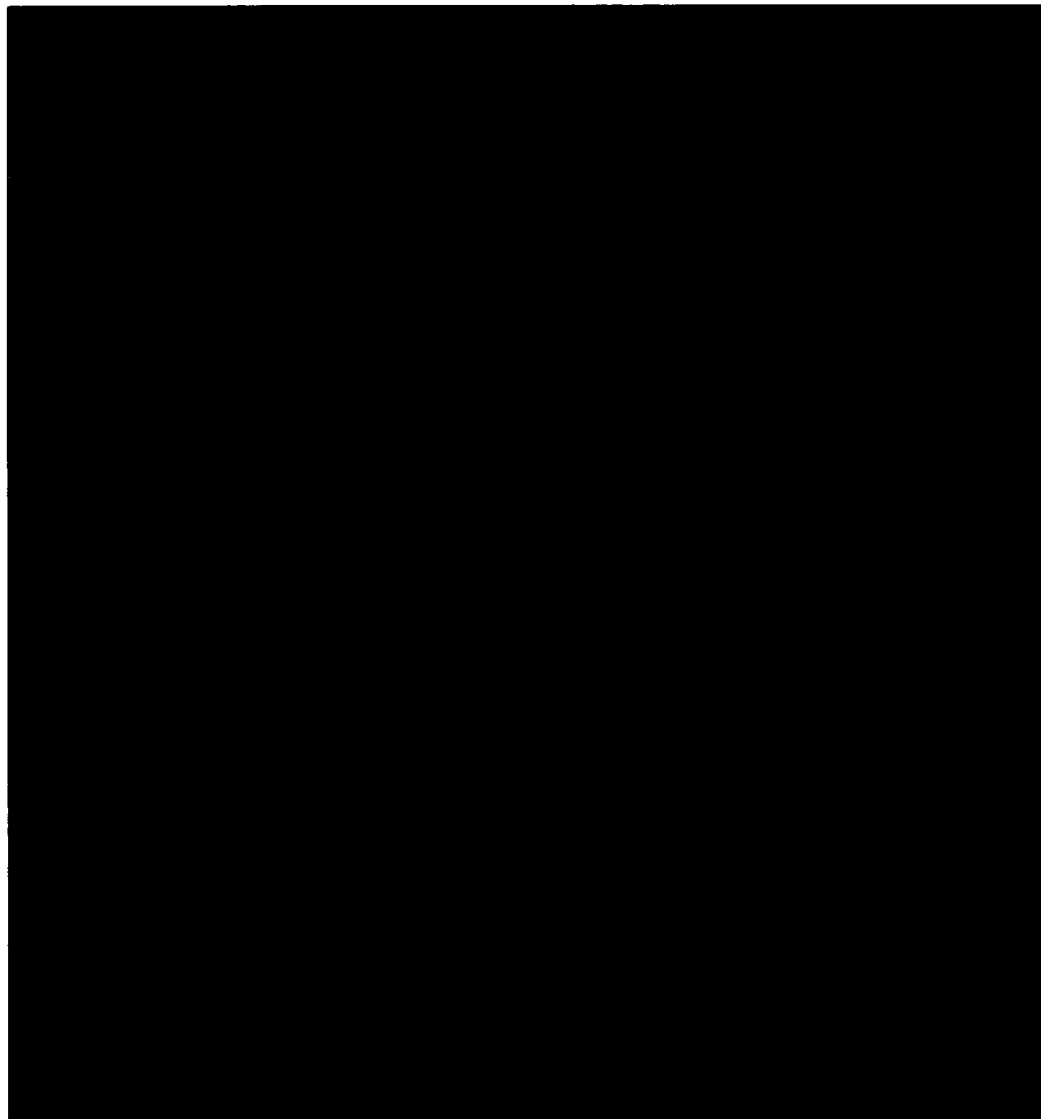
02:30:27/02:37:22



JIM WIGGINS: Yes, this is Jim Wiggins  
on the executive team director for today.

 Hi, Mr. Wiggins.

JIM WIGGINS: What's up?



5

6

5

**NEAL R. GROSS**

COURT REPORTERS AND TRANSCRIBERS

1323 RHODE ISLAND AVE., N.W.

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20005-3701

1 trust that, you know, we had turned to both parties  
2 and, and, you know, reached out to make this happen.

3 I mean, to turn us all off at the last minute  
4 because of the funding issue that -- I realize that  
5 it's a real funding issue, but --

6 JIM WIGGINS: Yeah, well, the --

7 [REDACTED] I mean, we're, yeah, we're  
8 just dangling out there at the State Department. We  
9 were asked to do all of this on the understanding  
10 that the equipment would be made available in  
11 reaching out to the Australians, reaching out to the  
12 Japanese.

13 JIM WIGGINS: Right.

14 [REDACTED] And we're feeling now -- and  
15 that's just me. I haven't even, I haven't --

16 JIM WIGGINS: Well, let me, let me --

17 (Simultaneous conversation.)

18 [REDACTED] -- spoken to the ambassador,  
19 or -- yeah.

20 JIM WIGGINS: So let me just lay out  
21 what we've been through with this. And believe me,  
22 we didn't give the concerns that you've raised  
23 you've raised a short shrift.

24 [REDACTED] Yeah.

25 JIM WIGGINS: Now, you, your, you added

**NEAL R. GROSS**

COURT REPORTERS AND TRANSCRIBERS

1323 RHODE ISLAND AVE., N.W.

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20005-3701

1 to the picture with Australia. We were focusing on  
2 what it looked like to the Japanese, but your  
3 Australian dimension is something we hadn't thought  
4 of. I'll admit to that.

5 But when, when we talk our team -- and  
6 we do what we do best, which is to ask ourselves the  
7 technical questions; is the, is the system actually  
8 needed? And really, the question is, is the system  
9 actually needed now? Not needed; needed now -- and  
10 what we get back from our team on the ground is  
11 Japan is, when you consider what they understand  
12 Tepco is heading toward and what they understand  
13 Tokyo Fire Department is heading toward, this would  
14 have been a third parallel path to get essentially  
15 the same technical problem dealt with.

16 So it becomes a tertiary system in that  
17 regard. There were the other two things that are  
18 the primary and secondary, or the two primaries, and  
19 this could be the secondary; however you want to  
20 count it. So, from a technical point of view, it  
21 wasn't immediately necessary that the plane take  
22 off. We had some time to try to sort out why this  
23 cost exploded up to \$9.6 million. That was one.

24 MALE PARTICIPANT: Jim?

25 JIM WIGGINS: The second thing that we,

**NEAL R. GROSS**

COURT REPORTERS AND TRANSCRIBERS

1323 RHODE ISLAND AVE., N.W.

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20005-3701

1 that weighed on our decision is, from our team, what  
2 we understood, to the extent that we got from [REDACTED]  
3 [REDACTED] as an agreement to accept the  
4 equipment, the team was quite clear that they didn't  
5 have a similar agreement in hand or (inaudible) that  
6 they did not, that that equipment would be used and  
7 accepted.

8 MALE PARTICIPANT: Jim?

9 JIM WIGGINS: So that really meant, it  
10 really then said, well, gee, what are we getting for  
11 \$10 million? And, and what we said is, well, we  
12 came to the conclusion that we didn't have to send  
13 that one single train on that one single airplane  
14 today. We have some time to go back and re-,  
15 re-calibrate this thing.

16 I don't understand why Bechtel's costs  
17 are now what they are, and, you know --

18 [REDACTED] Yeah, we -- yeah, but -- I  
19 understand. But we didn't get that message at the  
20 embassy. Our message was, the message we received  
21 from the NRC team was, go out and see if you can get  
22 the Australians to bring it in; go talk to the  
23 Japanese and see if they'll accept the system.

24 JIM WIGGINS: Yeah.

25 [REDACTED] I mean, and so we did that

**NEAL R. GROSS**

COURT REPORTERS AND TRANSCRIBERS  
1323 RHODE ISLAND AVE., N.W.  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20005-3701

1

2

3

4

5

6

7

8

9

10

11

12

13

14

15

Hello?

16

JIM WIGGINS: Hello? Yeah, are you

17

there?

18

JOE YOUNG: Yeah, I'm still here. Yeah.

19

JIM WIGGINS: Okay. Got it. Your

20

impression in speaking to our team -- who were you

21

speaking to?

22

JOE YOUNG: I was speaking to everybody

23

-- Chuck and John, and there was, you know, Tim

24

Kolb. I mean, the whole team was // I, I didn't

25

think to do this on my own. They came to me and

**NEAL R. GROSS**

COURT REPORTERS AND TRANSCRIBERS

1323 RHODE ISLAND AVE., N.W.

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20005-3701

(202) 234-4433

www.nealrgross.com

57

1 said, can you get (audio interference).

2 JIM WIGGINS: Yeah, well, we talked to  
3 the team also within, just within the last hour we  
4 talked to the team. So, you know, that, that's,  
5 that was the information that we had from that --  
6 are you there with us, Joe?

7 (No response.)

8 JIM WIGGINS: Did we lose you?

9 I think we lost him.

10 MALE PARTICIPANT: (Inaudible).

11 MALE PARTICIPANT: Yeah, and USAID made  
12 the decision. The cost went from seven-fifty to ten  
13 million?

14 FEMALE PARTICIPANT: Well, don't, don't  
15 go there because we don't know that.

16 MALE PARTICIPANT: (Inaudible).

17 MALE PARTICIPANT: You mean it could  
18 have always been this?

19 LAURA: I think that Bechtel was working  
20 real-time. I think they were costing it out, and I  
21 don't think, I don't think we have any evidence of  
22 changing it. And so if we start going down that  
23 road (audio interference).

24

25

26

**NEAL R. GROSS**

COURT REPORTERS AND TRANSCRIBERS

1323 RHODE ISLAND AVE., N.W.

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20005-3701

(202) 234-4433

[www.nealrgross.com](http://www.nealrgross.com)



(CONFERENCE CALL INITIATED.)

02:37:22/02:43:28

[REDACTED] Sorry about that. I, I, my phone line dropped. I apologize for that. Is, is, is Mr. Wiggins still on the line?

JIM WIGGINS: Yeah, we're here with you. Your volume went to, went to heck here.

[REDACTED] Sorry about that.

JIM WIGGINS: That's okay.

[REDACTED] I guess, I'm going to -- Well, I'll to let you know I'm going to have to --

JIM WIGGINS: Let, let me, let me give you some further, further (inaudible) here. So basically, from the technical point of view, the information we were getting from the team said that it would be a backup to what they already understood was under way by the, the, the owner, the operator, Tepco and by other Japanese assets. That tended to recede in significance from a technical point of view.

The other fact is we have a message via the Bechtel people that quotes a, a statement from, or a direction from USAID to stand down on it.

So we, [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

NEAL R. GROSS

COURT REPORTERS AND TRANSCRIBERS

1323 RHODE ISLAND AVE., N.W.

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20005-3701

www.nealrgross.com

(202) 234-4433

6

6

6

5

1 [REDACTED] 5  
2 [REDACTED] And the technical  
3 part won't support us doing that. So that's where  
4 we ended up.

5 I'm a little bit, I'm a little bit  
6 disappointed too that we understand that Bechtel is  
7 demobilizing, but I don't know if we can, I don't  
8 know if that means a lot. I think that just --

9 MALE PARTICIPANT: Well, I think they're  
10 getting wind that that's changed. 6

11 [REDACTED] The last, the last word I  
12 had with that they simply sent the pilots home for  
13 the evening. They were sending everybody home for  
14 the evening who had worked on the, on the cargo --

15 JIM WIGGINS: Okay, well, that leaves  
16 some time to --

17 MALE PARTICIPANT: Sure. Sure. Sure.

18 JIM WIGGINS: -- to redo this if need  
19 be.

20 [REDACTED] Well, here's the thing. We  
21 were thinking -- I mean, this is, you know, we, we  
22 talked about this with the NRC team, that there  
23 would be a value to redundancy only because of the  
24 situation we faced, the, you know, possible nuclear  
25 meltdown -- and that we don't know what the Japanese

**NEAL R. GROSS**

COURT REPORTERS AND TRANSCRIBERS

1323 RHODE ISLAND AVE., N.W.

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20005-3701

1 have.

2 I think -- and Chuck and his team, who  
3 are great -- but I don't know if anybody has a clear  
4 idea of what Tepco has in mind.

5 JIM WIGGINS: Well, we're not going to  
6 say no and we're not going to say yes. We're just  
7 going to say I think it's fortunate that the pilots  
8 went home tonight.

9 I think we ought to get, we ought to  
10 reload on this and get State, AID, you know, and any  
11 of the other players together on this and make a  
12 decision tomorrow because if it, if it, if it's a  
13 go, somebody's got to find the money.

14 [REDACTED] Yeah. Yeah. 6

15 JIM WIGGINS: You know, we have to  
16 decide that the equipment is important to spend the  
17 money.

18 [REDACTED] Yeah.

19 JIM WIGGINS: And it's hard for us to do  
20 the technical piece from here. That's why we've got  
21 a team in the field out there. And the way we, this  
22 is, we rely on the technical team tells us. They're  
23 in the field. They got the best information. 6

24 So Chuck and John, Bill Cook, and those  
25 guys are the ones that have been working on this.

**NEAL R. GROSS**

COURT REPORTERS AND TRANSCRIBERS

1323 RHODE ISLAND AVE., N.W.

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20005-3701

1 You know, they're probably hopefully getting some  
2 sleep now. Maybe you should be too.

3 Are you over -- you're over, you're in  
4 Japan; right?

5 [REDACTED] Yeah.

6 JIM WIGGINS: Yeah. Maybe we should do  
7 this first thing early in the morning.

8 [REDACTED] Okay. But I mean, there is  
9 a time factor with the units, I mean the units at  
10 the Fukushima plant. We're talking about, you know,  
11 we don't to delay much longer because our  
12 understanding is those units are increasingly  
13 vulnerable. And I mean --

14 JIM WIGGINS: Okay.

15 [REDACTED] -- diplomatically --

16 JIM WIGGINS: I --

17 [REDACTED] Sure. If you could just let  
18 me, I'll let my State Department chain of command  
19 know and then ask them maybe to be in touch with you  
20 in the course of our night. And then, hopefully,  
21 we'll have a, you know --

22 JIM WIGGINS: Yeah, well --

23 [REDACTED] There's just one, one other  
24 thing -- I'm so sorry I'm hogging the line; I  
25 apologize -- but, you know, another consideration

**NEAL R. GROSS**

COURT REPORTERS AND TRANSCRIBERS

1323 RHODE ISLAND AVE., N.W.

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20005-3701

(202) 234-4433

www.nealrgross.com

1 too, as I started to say, is [REDACTED]

2  
3  
4  
5  
6  
7  
8  
9  
10  
11  
12  
13  
14  
15  
16  
17  
18  
19  
20  
21  
22  
23  
24  
25

JIM WIGGINS: Okay. What, what I think we should do -- we're, we're, you know, we're all up here up anyhow; our day is your night, so it's really, you guys are hard-pressed based on the time of day -- it sounds like we have six or seven hours or so to try to sort this out.

I'll just tell you that, you know, basically we think AID made a decision that the last time we talked to our technical staff, which was in the field, which was within the last hour or so, we don't, we would not have a technical basis to say that this has to happen.

5

**NEAL R. GROSS**

COURT REPORTERS AND TRANSCRIBERS

1323 RHODE ISLAND AVE., N.W.

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20005-3701

(202) 234-4433

www.nealrgross.com

1           The team, however they got there, has  
2 confidence that the other two approaches that are  
3 going on by the indigenous assets will, you know,  
4 they seem to be confident that they'll have a,  
5 they'll get to play out and this won't necessarily  
6 be needed. It would be a backup.

7           But I grant you that there's, this  
8 decision is not without other consequences. So  
9 we'll stand by here ready to get on a call or  
10 discuss it. It sounds like the players are State  
11 and AID and our team in Japan and us here. You  
12 know, we're ready to do that. Okay.

13           [REDACTED] I'll let folks in the State  
14 Department know, and hopefully, we could, you know,  
15 make some progress overnight.

16           JIM WIGGINS: Yeah, that's good. We're  
17 here.

18           [REDACTED] Okay. Thanks, Mr. Wiggins.

19           JIM WIGGINS: Thanks a lot. Goodbye.

20  
21  
22  
23  
24  
25  
**NEAL R. GROSS**

COURT REPORTERS AND TRANSCRIBERS  
1323 RHODE ISLAND AVE., N.W.  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20005-3701

1  
2 (CONFERENCE CALL INITIATED.)

3 02:44:04/02:53:05

4 [REDACTED] Hello. Is this Jim  
5 Wiggins?

6 JIM WIGGINS: Jim Wiggins is here. Go  
7 ahead.

8 [REDACTED] Okay. So, as I said,  
9 I've been directed to determine whether or not what  
10 the NRC and, from what I understand from the  
11 Embassy, that the NRC position is the embassy  
12 position, on whether or not we want this Bechtel,  
13 these four Bechtel pumps, the airlift to go forward,  
14 whether or not this is, this is in fact a desired  
15 procurement and, and that this is the priority  
16 solution and this is what we want to go with.

17 JIM WIGGINS: Okay. So what you're --  
18 what do you want for me exactly again?

19 [REDACTED] Well, Chuck Casto told me  
20 that the NRC position as to whether this is what we  
21 wanted to use or not, I could get from you. And  
22 that seems to be what -- the issue is, the issue is  
23 --

24 (Simultaneous conversation.)

25 [REDACTED] I gather there are

NEAL R. GROSS

COURT REPORTERS AND TRANSCRIBERS  
1323 RHODE ISLAND AVE., N.W.

1 multiple, on the one hand, the Bechtel people are  
2 asking for a certain amount of money and they're  
3 asking for certain things to be done. Stuff is  
4 ready to be shipped but it exceeds the amount of  
5 money which was originally quoted, and there's a  
6 funding issue.

7 Now, if this is the preferred solution,  
8 if this is the way that NRC believes we should be  
9 moving to get this problem solved or to contribute  
10 to an effective solution to the problem, then the  
11 funding issue can be overcome.

12 JIM WIGGINS: Yeah.

13 [REDACTED] If it's not the desired  
14 thing, if it's a nice thing to have but maybe  
15 there's another way of doing it, or maybe the  
16 Japanese will do it a different way and do not want  
17 to use this method, then we would move in a  
18 different direction with this.

19 JIM WIGGINS: Okay. Here's how we  
20 approached the decision, and I guess the bottom line  
21 is we talked to [REDACTED]

22 [REDACTED] Um-hmm, [REDACTED] at the  
23 embassy.

24 JIM WIGGINS: Yeah. And I think he left  
25 the call with a plan to try to put together a

**NEAL R. GROSS**

COURT REPORTERS AND TRANSCRIBERS

1323 RHODE ISLAND AVE., N.W.

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20005-3701

(202) 234-4433

www.nealrgross.com



1 subsequent call that's got all the parties on that  
2 have a say.

3 [REDACTED] Okay.

4 JIM WIGGINS: And that would be Chuck  
5 Casto -- you have to understand, in the NRC, the way  
6 we, the way we do our jobs here, and we, we do this  
7 a lot domestically --

8 [REDACTED] Um-hmm.

9 JIM WIGGINS: -- you know, mostly, well,  
10 only in exercises; we don't really have this --

11 [REDACTED] Right.

12 JIM WIGGINS: -- (inaudible) BMI. but  
13 what we, the reason we sent, when we send site  
14 teams, we put people in there and we value the fact  
15 that the site team on the ground's got the best  
16 information technically.

17 [REDACTED] Um-hmm. Um-hmm.

18 JIM WIGGINS: So we need Chuck in this.

19 [REDACTED] Right.

20 JIM WIGGINS: So what we're getting from  
21 Chuck is that it's his understanding --

22 [REDACTED] Um-hmm.

23 JIM WIGGINS: -- that what we're getting  
24 from Chuck is, from a technical point of view, the  
25 system that we're talking about would be, at best, a

NEAL R. GROSS

COURT REPORTERS AND TRANSCRIBERS

1323 RHODE ISLAND AVE., N.W.

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20005-3701

(202) 234-4433

www.nealrgross.com



1 [REDACTED] Right.

2 JIM WIGGINS: Okay?

3 [REDACTED] Okay.

4 JIM WIGGINS: So, if they, if they mount  
5 their own systems, they're then taking ownership of  
6 the problem and its solution, as opposed to having,  
7 in the end, an NRC- or US government-imposed  
8 solution on them. Do you see where I'm going?

9 [REDACTED] Yeah.

10 JIM WIGGINS: And it's much better, it  
11 would, it fits much better overall when you deal in  
12 the nuclear business to have the owner and, in fact,  
13 the Japanese regulator have more, have more, have  
14 the sense of ownership for solving this problem.

15 [REDACTED] Um-hmm.

16 JIM WIGGINS: So, in that regard,  
17 having, allowing Tepco or recognizing and not  
18 impeding Tepco or any other aspect in Japan moving  
19 forward to solve the problem, using their own  
20 capabilities, I think, would be preferable. We  
21 would like it to come out that way. So that's one  
22 point.

23 [REDACTED] Right.

24 JIM WIGGINS: What Chuck tells us is,  
25 again, this is like a secondary or tertiary system.

**NEAL R. GROSS**

COURT REPORTERS AND TRANSCRIBERS

1323 RHODE ISLAND AVE., N.W.

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20005-3701

(202) 234-4433

www.nealrgross.com

1 You know, that leads us to believe that, well,  
2 that's like three ways, three, three paths working  
3 in parallel.

4 [REDACTED] Right.

5 JIM WIGGINS: That's another point.

6 So the next point was, when we actually  
7 saw the cost, that was pretty staggering because we  
8 hadn't anticipated the cost being that.

9 [REDACTED] Right.

10 JIM WIGGINS: Of course, when it gets  
11 down to, you know, you have to weigh the costs  
12 against what you're trying to achieve.

13 [REDACTED] Right. Sure. Sure.

14 JIM WIGGINS: And if this were the only  
15 game in town, then you'd pay the money. You know  
16 what I mean?

17 [REDACTED] Right.

18 JIM WIGGINS: But because there appear  
19 to be a couple other games in town, we might have a  
20 little bit of an opportunity to say, well, wait a  
21 minute, let's step back a bit. Let's make sure we  
22 understand what we're getting ourselves into before  
23 we commit the costs and commit the airframe upgrades  
24 and all that.

25 [REDACTED] Um-hmm.

**NEAL R. GROSS**

COURT REPORTERS AND TRANSCRIBERS  
1323 RHODE ISLAND AVE., N.W.  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20005-3701

1 JIM WIGGINS: So it turns out, as we  
2 understand it, the stuff is basically sitting there  
3 in Australia.

4 [REDACTED] : Right.

5 JIM WIGGINS: The crew's not going  
6 anywhere and the airframe's not going anywhere. And  
7 we have at least a night --

8 [REDACTED] To work through the  
9 issues. Right.

10 JIM WIGGINS: -- to work through the  
11 issues. And that seemed like the best approach.

12 [REDACTED] Right.

13 JIM WIGGINS: And that seem like the  
14 best approach. We need to get, you know -- now,  
15 USAID made the call, as far as we can talk tell from  
16 talking the Bechtel. AID told Bechtel to  
17 essentially stop the shipment. Okay?

18 [REDACTED] Well, I think AID told  
19 Bechtel that they were not in a position to pay what  
20 Bechtel was asking.

21 JIM WIGGINS: Well, we had a quote that  
22 I have laying around somewhere we have courtesy of

23 [REDACTED]  
24 [REDACTED] That's

25 pretty direct.

**NEAL R. GROSS**

COURT REPORTERS AND TRANSCRIBERS  
1323 RHODE ISLAND AVE., N.W.  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20005-3701

1 [REDACTED] Right. 6

2 JIM WIGGINS: But anyhow, what I think  
3 we need, sir, is our guys -- that would include  
4 Chuck and John Monninger and us here -- and AID and  
5 State, and we just get together and say, okay, what  
6 are we, what is this and where do we net out on it?

7 [REDACTED] Right. 6

8 JIM WIGGINS: You know, there's  
9 political considerations, diplomatic considerations,  
10 and technical considerations. And then, you know,  
11 you come to a -- and I think the answer is, do you  
12 need it, do you send it or not? And then you deal  
13 with the cost, who pays it --

14 [REDACTED] right. Sure. Sure. 6

15 Sure.

16 JIM WIGGINS: And it's not, oh, we can  
17 say the day but we're not willing to spend the \$9.6  
18 million. Is, is it the right thing to do --

19 [REDACTED] Yeah. 6

20 JIM WIGGINS: -- or is it not the right  
21 thing? If it's not the right thing, then --

22 [REDACTED] And you're right. The 6  
23 money will be worked out. Sure. Absolutely. And,  
24 and we're in agreement with that.

25 JIM WIGGINS: And here's the --

**NEAL R. GROSS**

COURT REPORTERS AND TRANSCRIBERS

1323 RHODE ISLAND AVE., N.W.

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20005-3701

1  
2  
3  
4  
5  
6  
7  
8  
9  
10  
11  
12  
13  
14  
15  
16  
17  
18  
19  
20  
21  
22  
23  
24  
25

[REDACTED]

But if it's secondary or tertiary, that's sort of, that's a relevant part of it.

6

JIM WIGGINS: Yes, it is. That's what was driving our decision. If this was the only game in town, we'd say -- you know, I'd be a lot more press -- but let's move forward.

[REDACTED]

Right.

6

JIM WIGGINS: But the advice we're getting from Chuck in the field is this does not the only game in town.

[REDACTED]

Right.

6

JIM WIGGINS: Let me, let me read the, the -- I'll tell you where this comes from. This is

[REDACTED]

4

[REDACTED]

Right.

6

JIM WIGGINS: Okay, so when you look at

**NEAL R. GROSS**

COURT REPORTERS AND TRANSCRIBERS

1323 RHODE ISLAND AVE., N.W.

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20005-3701

1 that, actually, you can make a case than that the  
2 decision fails all three scores.

3 [REDACTED] Right.

4 JIM WIGGINS: Okay. The justification  
5 needs to be made on the priorities. It, it, as we  
6 understand that, would not be number one. It would  
7 be a tertiary.

8 [REDACTED] Right.

9 JIM WIGGINS: Acceptance by the Japanese

10 [REDACTED]

11 [REDACTED]  
12 [REDACTED]  
13 [REDACTED] They're not asking for it  
14 though. They'll say, if you have to, if you want to  
15 give it, we'll take it.

16 JIM WIGGINS: Yeah, but they won't  
17 necessarily use it.

18 And then, and then the third criteria  
19 is, other equipment is not is available in Japan.  
20 We think that's met either. We think that Tokyo  
21 Electric found it.

22 [REDACTED] Um-hmm.

23 JIM WIGGINS: You see --

24 [REDACTED] Right.

25 JIM WIGGINS: -- so that was the USAID

6  
6  
5  
6  
6

**NEAL R. GROSS**

COURT REPORTERS AND TRANSCRIBERS  
1323 RHODE ISLAND AVE., N.W.  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20005-3701



1  
2  
3  
4  
5  
6  
7  
8  
9  
10  
11  
12  
13  
14  
15  
16  
17  
18  
19  
20  
21  
22  
23  
24  
25

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED] And based on what we got from  
Chuck, I don't think we do.

[REDACTED] Right.

JIM WIGGINS: And that's been cleared up  
through our chain, including the Chairman. So --

[REDACTED] Okay.

JIM WIGGINS: Okay?

[REDACTED] All right.

JIM WIGGINS: This isn't just Wiggins  
making the call here in the Ops Center.

[REDACTED] Right. No, I understand.

It's the considered opinion of the Nuclear  
Regulatory Commission.

JIM WIGGINS: You got it. It's the  
commission

[REDACTED] Okay.

JIM WIGGINS: All right, sir.

[REDACTED] All right, thank you very  
much. You've been very helpful.

JIM WIGGINS: We are here --

MALE PARTICIPANT: Sir, I need to get  
the spelling of his last name.

[REDACTED]

5  
6  
6  
6  
6  
6  
6

**NEAL R. GROSS**

COURT REPORTERS AND TRANSCRIBERS  
1323 RHODE ISLAND AVE., N.W.  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20005-3701

1 MALE PARTICIPANT: And, sir, can I get  
2 your title if possible?

3 [REDACTED] Well, the title for, for  
4 today's purposes is Coordinator, Japan Task Force,  
5 Department of State.

6 JIM WIGGINS: All right. Thanks a lot,  
7 sir.

8 MALE PARTICIPANT: Okay. Thank you.

9 JIM WIGGINS: We're here 24/7, so if you

10 --

11 [REDACTED] Okay. So are we. So are  
12 we.

13 JIM WIGGINS: Any phone calls, any  
14 conferences on this, if we do get, if you guys are  
15 able to put a conference together with all the  
16 players, you know, we'll make it work.

17 [REDACTED] Okay. Great.

18 JIM WIGGINS: Thanks.

19  
20  
21  
22  
23  
24  
25  
26

**NEAL R. GROSS**

COURT REPORTERS AND TRANSCRIBERS

1323 RHODE ISLAND AVE., N.W.

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20005-3701

(202) 234-4433

www.nealrgross.com

1 (CONFERENCE CALL INITIATED.)

2 02:53:24/02:55:33

3 BILL BORCHARDT: Hi. This is Bill  
4 Borchardt. Is Jim there?

5 JIM WIGGINS: Yeah. I'm on, Bill.  
6 What's up?

7 BILL BORCHARDT: Yeah, I just talked  
8 with [REDACTED] from INPO about the two o'clock  
9 meeting.

10 JIM WIGGINS: Yeah?

11 BILL BORCHARDT: And I've, I think I've  
12 got him on board with the, you know, the three  
13 principles that we talked about earlier, and I had  
14 talked to the Chairman about.

15 JIM WIGGINS: Yes.

16 BILL BORCHARDT: So I'm optimistic that  
17 we're going to head off in the right direction at  
18 this two o'clock meeting.

19 And I've convinced him that one of the  
20 immediate follow-on activities from two o'clock is  
21 going to need to be that the industry's going to  
22 need to meet on their own to decide what level of  
23 commitment and what kind of activities and what kind  
24 of, what level of people they want to send to Japan  
25 to provide interface with Tepco and, you know, have

**NEAL R. GROSS**

COURT REPORTERS AND TRANSCRIBERS

1323 RHODE ISLAND AVE., N.W.

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20005-3701

1 their own interface separate from and not be under  
2 the leadership of NRC.

3 JIM WIGGINS: Yeah.

4 BILL BORCHARDT: You know, I told them  
5 we would do a facilitation. You know, we would help  
6 the invitation get extended from the Japanese  
7 government if that's what's needed. But we didn't  
8 want to be the lead for that.

9 So he rogered for all that. He had just  
10 one simple request, and that was, if necessary,  
11 could they use an NRC meeting room for, for that  
12 meeting. So I don't think there's any problem with  
13 that. But if you could ask somebody, just pull a  
14 string to see if they could just stay in the ACRS  
15 room where we're meeting. But they would, you know,  
16 need somebody to be the escort for them I guess.

17 JIM WIGGINS: They need to get cards of  
18 somebody to --

19 BILL BORCHARDT: Yeah. Right.

20 JIM WIGGINS: All right. Let me get,  
21 let me try to see if we can work that request here.

22 BILL BORCHARDT: Okay. And I suspect  
23 they're going to be able to get a room in the  
24 Marriott, so I wouldn't, I wouldn't go to all, you  
25 know, battle stations over it but just see if it's

**NEAL R. GROSS**

COURT REPORTERS AND TRANSCRIBERS

1323 RHODE ISLAND AVE., N.W.

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20005-3701

1  
2  
3  
4  
5  
6  
7  
8  
9  
10  
11  
12  
13  
14  
15  
16  
17  
18  
19  
20  
21  
22  
23  
24  
25

possible.

JIM WIGGINS: All right.

BILL BORCHARDT: Thanks.

JIM WIGGINS: All right, Bill.

**NEAL R. GROSS**

COURT REPORTERS AND TRANSCRIBERS

1323 RHODE ISLAND AVE., N.W.

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20005-3701

1 (CONFERENCE CALL INITIATED.)

2 02:55:37/03:01:04

3 JOSH BASKIN: Hey guys.

4 (No response.)

5 JOSH BASKIN: Hello? Hello?

6 JIM WIGGINS: Hey, Josh. Could you just  
7 wait a sec?

8 JOSH BASKIN: Absolutely.

9 JIM WIGGINS: Go ahead, Josh.

10 JOSH BASKIN: Yeah, I'm here. Is Bruce  
11 in there too?

12 JIM WIGGINS: Brian McDermott and I are  
13 here.

14 JOSH BASKIN: Great. So I just talked  
15 to, I just got another call from USAID just to  
16 verify, Jim, what, where we were a few, an hour or  
17 two ago, and I circled back through Brian to you  
18 that the Chairman was comfortable with that.

19 JIM WIGGINS: Yes.

20 JOSH BASKIN: So, should I just reaffirm  
21 that we do not believe that there is a technical  
22 urgency to this?

23 JIM WIGGINS: Yes.

24 JOSH BASKIN: We think it would be the  
25 third option to get the equipment --

**NEAL R. GROSS**

COURT REPORTERS AND TRANSCRIBERS

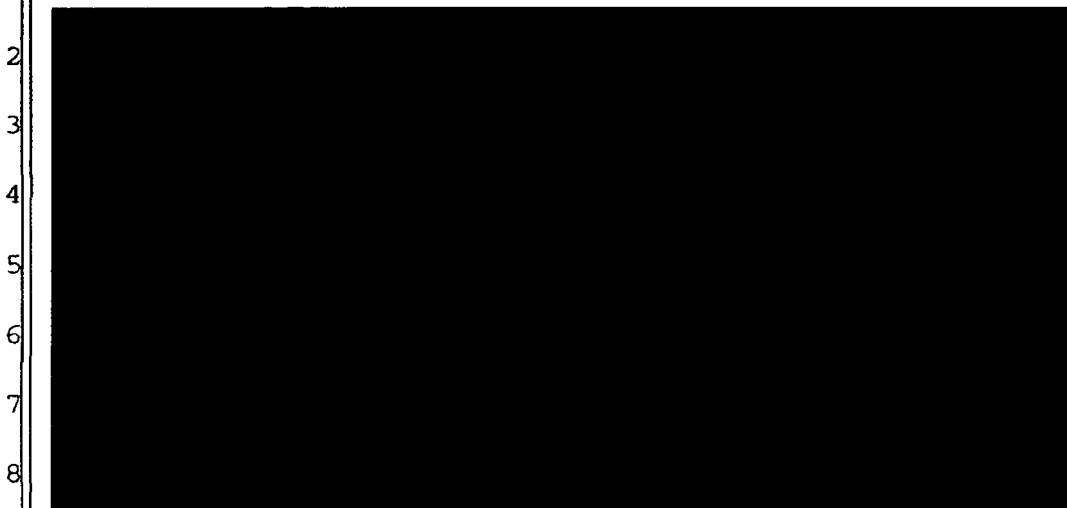
1323 RHODE ISLAND AVE., N.W.

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20005-3701

(202) 234-4433

www.nealrgross.com

1 JIM WIGGINS: Yeah.



2  
3  
4  
5  
6  
7  
8  
9 JIM WIGGINS: We haven't changed. I  
10 haven't talk to Chuck since then.

11 JOSH BASKIN: Okay.

12 JIM WIGGINS: One thing that you want to  
13 realize is that the Naval Reactor piece, the guys --  
14 and they're listening here today -- they're on the,  
15 they're in the room. They've been working with us  
16 in our RST.

17 JOSH BASKIN: Great.

18 JIM WIGGINS: The Naval Reactors, I  
19 guess used the word, "position" (with a small "p")  
20 is they see that having at least one train  
21 transported would be a valuable defense in depth  
22 measure. Okay?

23 JOSH BASKIN: Okay.

24 JIM WIGGINS: And I think, and there is  
25 merit in that discussion, but I think everything all

**NEAL R. GROSS**

COURT REPORTERS AND TRANSCRIBERS

1323 RHODE ISLAND AVE., N.W.

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20005-3701

(202) 234-4433

www.nealrgross.com

1 still hangs together.

2 JOSH BASKIN: Okay.

3 JIM WIGGINS: From a technical, from a  
4 technical point of view, there's not a sense of  
5 urgency because this is not the only game in town.

6 JOSH BASKIN: Okay. Got it.

7 JIM WIGGINS: It would be a, a second  
8 third back up that was actually more of a defense in  
9 depth measure that we shouldn't seize at either.

10 I think the best thing to do is that we  
11 all got ourselves together when it becomes daytime  
12 in Japan -- State, AID, Naval Reactors, NRC at least  
13 -- get on a call and just make a decision about what  
14 to do with this one train.

15 JOSH BASKIN: Got it.

16 JIM WIGGINS: Okay?

17 JOSH BASKIN: No, I think I understand.

18 And -- I've been hanging around with Navy people  
19 too long, I guess, because that was, I mean, that  
20 was my guess too, it's, you know, it's always good  
21 to have defense in depth.

22 But, but with the escalating costs and  
23 the, the lack of sense of urgency, we're not going  
24 to push on USAID to come to a different decision  
25 than they have at this point.

**NEAL R. GROSS**

COURT REPORTERS AND TRANSCRIBERS

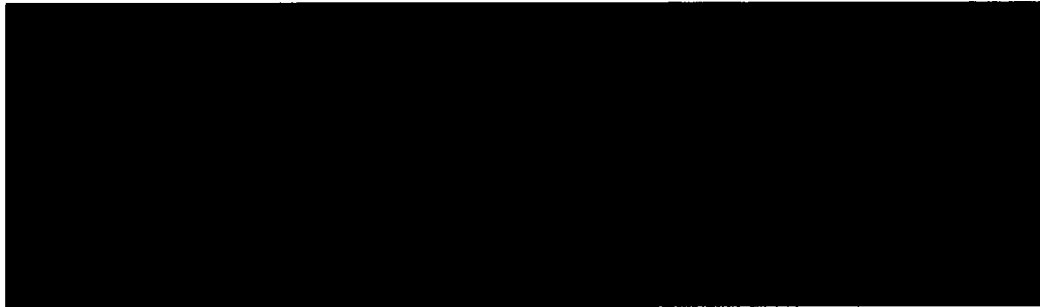
1323 RHODE ISLAND AVE., N.W.

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20005-3701



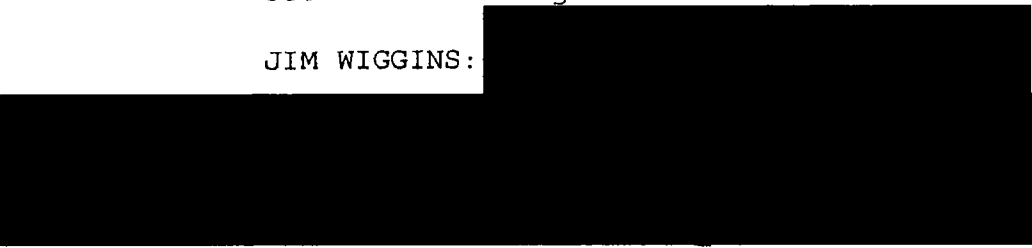
1  
2  
3  
4  
5  
6  
7  
8  
9  
10  
11  
12  
13  
14  
15  
16  
17  
18  
19  
20  
21  
22  
23  
24  
25

JIM WIGGINS: Not now, but I would hope there would be a conference call. We'd just lay it all out and then collectively they just decide it.



JOSH BASKIN: Right.

JIM WIGGINS:

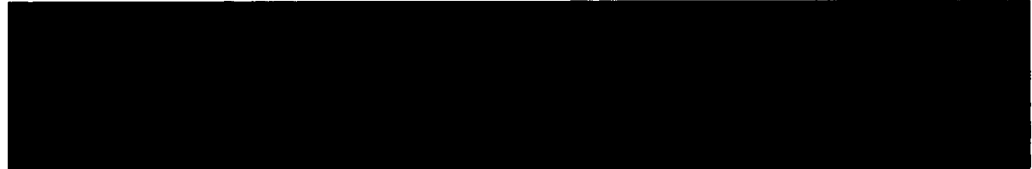


JOSH BASKIN: Right.

JIM WIGGINS: Okay? So that --

JOSH BASKIN: I think, I think the fact that the team worked with them, designed it, the fact that we delivered it both in Washington and to the ambassador in Japan, had the desired effect of getting them thinking along those lines. So, yeah, no, I agree.

JIM WIGGINS: So there's, we've already got movement, we've already had an effect by what we've done thus far, regardless of whether this stuff ever shows up.



**NEAL R. GROSS**

COURT REPORTERS AND TRANSCRIBERS  
1323 RHODE ISLAND AVE., N.W.  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20005-3701

5  
5  
5

1  
2  
3  
4  
5  
6  
7  
8  
9  
10  
11  
12  
13  
14  
15  
16  
17  
18  
19  
20  
21  
22  
23  
24  
25

MALE PARTICIPANT: That would be our position to.

JIM WIGGINS: All right, so Naval Reactors says they're going to sign up to that too, plus the defense in depth piece.

JOSH BASKIN: Okay.

JIM WIGGINS: Okay, I think, I think we're all right. But as time goes on, we need to get a better answer.

JOSH BASKIN: Got it. Okay.

JIM WIGGINS: So I guess if I don't -- well, I guess I'll turn this over to Sheron. He'll be around in the next shift and there will be daylight in Japan. We'll get, you know, we'll get a reasonable time to get Chuck up and see if we can get a call among all the cognizant parties and then just make a, make a decision that sounds like it's a decision. Okay?

JOSH BASKIN: Okay. And again, from where we stand, we're not deciding whether or not it goes. We're deciding whether or not we, as the

**NEAL R. GROSS**

COURT REPORTERS AND TRANSCRIBERS

1323 RHODE ISLAND AVE., N.W.

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20005-3701

(202) 234-4433

www.nealrgross.com

57

1 technical experts, are going to advise USAID that it  
2 is a very high priority. And if we tell them that,  
3 then they'll look at it differently. If we tell  
4 them we think it's a good thing to do because its  
5 third in line, their position right now is they're  
6 not going to do that.

7 So that needs to be our focus. Is there  
8 any information which changes, which tells us that  
9 we think from a technical standpoint that it is a  
10 very high priority to get it there now?

11 JIM WIGGINS: Yeah, it might be helpful  
12 to get the Naval Reactors people together. They can  
13 speak for themselves in terms of their view on this  
14 defense in depth value. That's an important element  
15 to put on the table.

16 JOSH BASKIN: Good. Good. Okay. Well,  
17 if you guys come to a different conclusion at some  
18 point, just let me know so you or, or I can touch  
19 base with Nancy Lindborg, the assistant  
20 administrator, directly.

21 JIM WIGGINS: Okay.

22 JOSH BASKIN: Great.

23 JIM WIGGINS: Yep.

24 JOSH BASKIN: Thank you, sir.

25 JIM WIGGINS: All right, Josh. Bye.

**NEAL R. GROSS**

COURT REPORTERS AND TRANSCRIBERS

1323 RHODE ISLAND AVE., N.W.

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20005-3701

1  
2  
3  
4  
5  
6  
7  
8  
9  
10  
11  
12  
13  
14  
15  
16  
17  
18  
19  
20  
21  
22  
23  
24  
25

(CONFERENCE CALL INITIATED.)

3:01:17/

(Standby 3:01:17 to 3:06:07.)

BRIAN SHERON: All right. This is, this is the NRC.

MALE PARTICIPANT: USAID is on the line.

MALE PARTICIPANT: NRC Japan is present.

[REDACTED] Embassy Japan, Political Section, [REDACTED]

BILL YOUNG: Bill Young.

MALE PARTICIPANT: American Embassy, Canberra, [REDACTED]

BRIAN SHERON: Hi. This is Brian Scherer out at the NRC. Is USAID, do you guys want to start the meeting?

[REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED] I'm not sure who actually called the meeting. I'm happy to give kind of the background that I have to my knowledge, and we can go from there if that's what the preference is.

BRIAN SHERON: Sure.

[REDACTED] Okay. Just a quick background is we just got the request in yesterday, this, these pumps -- and forgive me in terms of the

6  
6  
6  
6

**NEAL R. GROSS**

COURT REPORTERS AND TRANSCRIBERS

1323 RHODE ISLAND AVE., N.W.

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20005-3701

1 technical ground forgive me about the technical  
2 background of exactly of what they are (inaudible)  
3 -- had requested yesterday and had been advised that  
4 the total amount was for \$785,000. We have learned  
5 since then it was not a correct amount. We, we  
6 confirmed with DOD that they did have funding to pay  
7 for this, and they did approve that funding to be  
8 able to pay the \$750,000.

9 This morning we received notification,  
10 probably about five, 5:30 a.m., that the total cost  
11 was actually \$9.6 million. There was also a lot of,  
12 there was not a confirmation that this was a real  
13 specific identified need, humanitarian need, or had  
14 any sort of a real urgent need on the ground. There  
15 had been different information coming in that this  
16 may or may not be a need; it might be kind of  
17 secondary or tertiary need.

18 For us, the important thing was just to  
19 get the correct information to DOD. This is not a  
20 USAID decision. this was really (inaudible) for  
21 colleagues in NRC to tell us what the needs are, and  
22 then we were trying find the proper funding source  
23 for it. So I think there was some confusion on that  
24 and, and there were a lot of different people  
25 weighing in with different ideas about what the

**NEAL R. GROSS**

COURT REPORTERS AND TRANSCRIBERS

1323 RHODE ISLAND AVE., N.W.

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20005-3701

1 needs were.

2 Now, at the same time, I understand  
3 there was, was conversations going on at the ground.

4 But our perspective -- we had been told that DOD  
5 had provided funding for up to \$750,000, and  
6 therefore, had given the green light on that figure.

7 Anything beyond that, we just needed to get  
8 confirmation from DOD that, and, that they had the  
9 authority to approve more. So that, that's kind of  
10 where we're coming for a mere.

11 My understanding is this has been, DOD  
12 hasn't gone ahead and (audio interference) up to \$10  
13 million. (Audio interference)

14 USAID doesn't have any objection to  
15 this, So I think that's where e stand this point.

16 MALE PARTICIPANT: Somebody's speaking  
17 in the background causing you to mute out. We got  
18 most of that conversation, but whoever is in a  
19 satellite station that's got background speaking,  
20 they need to cease it.

21 BRIAN SHERON: Yeah, could you repeat  
22 the last part again, Kathleen?

23 [REDACTED] I think the last part  
24 was that the, the, best I understand it (inaudible)  
25 there was a conversation with DOD. NRC colleagues

**NEAL R. GROSS**

COURT REPORTERS AND TRANSCRIBERS  
1323 RHODE ISLAND AVE., N.W.  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20005-3701

(202) 234-4433

www.nealrgross.com

6

1 had validated, at well as DOD, that this was a need  
2 on the ground. DOD, from my understanding,  
3 confirmed that they were in a position to fund this,  
4 and USAID has, we have no objection to any of that  
5 as long as all, all of you guys are on board with  
6 this and the approvals have gone through.

7 The party that strikes me that really  
8 should be on this call is DOD and I'm, I never heard  
9 anybody from OSD on here. Because it is not -- and  
10 I hope this is clear. This is not USAID funding.

11 This is not our funding stream, nor do we have  
12 authority to approve any money on the behalf of DOD.

13 So our position is more to link up the different  
14 parties and to, you know, essentially to say that we  
15 had don't object, which has been kind of our point  
16 since the beginning.

17 [REDACTED] It's [REDACTED] here in Tokyo.

18 We, we can certainly reach out to PACOM, where I  
19 understand the funding is going to come from. But  
20 could you repeat the number that -- I kept hearing  
21 \$750,000, I thought -- but what is, what is the  
22 commitment the DOD has made and then your  
23 understanding, the full \$9.7 million or whatever it  
24 is?

25 [REDACTED] So the initial

**NEAL R. GROSS**

COURT REPORTERS AND TRANSCRIBERS

1323 RHODE ISLAND AVE., N.W.

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20005-3701

(202) 234-4433

www.nealgross.com

1 \$750,000 was the commitment made yesterday based  
2 upon an estimate given to USAID from -- I think  
3 there were miscommunications between Bechtel and  
4 NRC. Bechtel, to my understanding, gave that figure  
5 of \$750,000 to NRC, and it was not as a complete --  
6 as we, as is quite obvious right now -- figure,  
7 funding figure. That message was communicated to  
8 USAID that this is the total amount requested, so  
9 DOD had, under their funding authority, approved  
10 \$750,000.

11 The message we then received in this  
12 morning was that the total cost associated with  
13 these 12 pumps was somewhere around \$9.6 million.  
14 To be very honest, we have sort of extracted  
15 ourselves from these conversations because it really  
16 is something that's between NRC and Bechtel to  
17 determine what the total costs are, and, at that  
18 stage and get approval from DOD for funding.

19 USAID -- the only place that we have and  
20 this was bringing the two together and saying that  
21 we have no objection, which has been our stance from  
22 the beginning.

23 [REDACTED] This is [REDACTED] [REDACTED] Just  
24 from a very practical standpoint, has that been  
25 communicated to the folks on the ground in Perth?

**NEAL R. GROSS**

COURT REPORTERS AND TRANSCRIBERS

1323 RHODE ISLAND AVE., N.W.

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20005-3701

(202) 234-4433

www.nealgross.com

6



1 Because the plane had loaded up last night and then  
2 when there was, you know, our correspondence back  
3 and forth, the pilots went in for the evening, and I  
4 believe the cargo was still loaded. So I, I'm just  
5 hoping that the plane isn't preparing to take off  
6 without knowledge that we now have approval for  
7 this. Does anybody know?

8 MALE PARTICIPANT: [REDACTED] there was also  
9 an issue associated with the plane that had an  
10 electrical failure. The plane is grounded. They're  
11 bringing in another plane from elsewhere. So, you  
12 know, it, it's, right now, the transport is on hold  
13 in Perth.

14 [REDACTED] Okay, because I thought the  
15 one that's loaded is not --

16 MALE PARTICIPANT: There was a real plan  
17 on the ground that was being loaded. So earlier,  
18 there was a plane that had to turn back, so I want  
19 to make sure we're all talking about the same, the  
20 same plane.

21 I mean, I have the Australian Department  
22 of Defense on the other line, and I could find out  
23 immediately. The status. But since I don't have  
24 guidance on what our government is doing, I want to  
25 make sure I knew whether we were going ahead or not.

**NEAL R. GROSS**

COURT REPORTERS AND TRANSCRIBERS

1323 RHODE ISLAND AVE., N.W.

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20005-3701

(202) 234-4433

www.nealrgross.com

1 But I can get that and send it by email to folks in  
2 a, in a couple of minutes.

3 But again, I want to make sure that I  
4 know what my instructions are from the US  
5 government.

6 [REDACTED] Does anybody know who at  
7 PACOM is the point of contact on this?

8 [REDACTED] We're, we're trying to  
9 track down a woman who actually was working with OSD  
10 Policy, who -- not Clark. It's N-G-O-C, C-L-A-R-K  
11 -- is our contact over at OSD policy, and she was  
12 the one that was working this on the DOD side in  
13 coordination with (audio interference.)

14 Now, I don't have -- again, we kind of  
15 pulled ourselves out of this, and I don't have a  
16 direct contact with PACOM as we (audio interference)  
17 OSD policy.

18 [REDACTED] Hi there. This is [REDACTED]  
19 [REDACTED] Department of State, Task Force 1. If you  
20 guys can just send the latest email chain to the  
21 Task Force 1 email address, I can pass this to our  
22 guys that the Joint Staff ops center and they should  
23 be able to better route it to the PACOM folks or at  
24 least attack it through that channel too.

25 [REDACTED] I'm not sure that

**NEAL R. GROSS**

COURT REPORTERS AND TRANSCRIBERS

1323 RHODE ISLAND AVE., N.W.

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20005-0704

1 there is an email update kind of articulating these  
2 latest events.

3 MICHAEL DUDEK: Just, just from a  
4 logistics standpoint, I'd like to take a step back  
5 for, for one minute. Is this the direction we want  
6 to head? Is this the correct direction? Because  
7 we'd heard from Mr. Wiggins earlier from the NRC  
8 that he, he did not want to proceed down this path.

9 [REDACTED] Well, again -- it's [REDACTED] 6  
10 -- but I'm afraid we already have proceeded down  
11 this path, so we, we made this offer and it's been  
12 informally accepted [REDACTED] 5  
13 [REDACTED]  
14 [REDACTED]  
15 [REDACTED]

16 Plus, my understanding from the  
17 correspondence overnight was that there had been  
18 approval to move forward from the NSC, DOD, State,  
19 at the assistant secretary level at least. I saw  
20 the emails, so --

21 (Speaker interference.)

22 (Standby.)

23 BRIAN SHERON: This is Brian Sheron at  
24 the, at the NRC. A couple things. One is that my  
25 understanding when I talk to Jim Wiggins -- I'm, I'm

**NEAL R. GROSS**

COURT REPORTERS AND TRANSCRIBERS  
1323 RHODE ISLAND AVE., N.W.

1 the ET director right now. Jim went home -- is that  
2 what he said is that right now, he understands that  
3 the Japanese don't need those pumps as a primary  
4 source of pumping water, sea water, into the  
5 reactors.

6 They would be used, or they would accept  
7 them and they would be considered backup, like  
8 either secondary or tertiary. I don't think he said  
9 that they're not needed. He was just saying, in  
10 fact, they are no longer the primary source of pumps  
11 that the Japanese need.

12 The other thing is that we have an email  
13 here that was just handed to me, that apparently  
14 Bechtel, somebody, [REDACTED] --

15 MALE PARTICIPANT: Right.

16 BRIAN SHERON: -- from Bechtel sent an  
17 email at 9:26 a.m. today. The last line says, [REDACTED]

18 [REDACTED]

19 [REDACTED]

20 [REDACTED]

21 [REDACTED] That's, that's from last  
22 night. I think there must be some folks who are not  
23 on that e-mail chain.

24 I tell you what, I'm going to -- this is  
25 [REDACTED] -- I'm going to drop from the call and I'm

Handwritten marks on the right margin: a checkmark, a large 'X', and a flourish.

**NEAL R. GROSS**

COURT REPORTERS AND TRANSCRIBERS

1323 RHODE ISLAND AVE., N.W.

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20005-3701

1 going to call Bechtel right away and tell them that,  
2 at least as I understand it, there is high-level US  
3 government support proceed with this shipment.

4 So at least, I just want to -- I don't  
5 want to plane to leave, so let me drop and do that.

6 Okay?

7 MALE PARTICIPANT: Yeah, and I'll, I'll  
8 call the Department of Defense in Australia and say,  
9 at any rate -- I mean, I guess I have to -- I mean,  
10 we need a decision-maker here, but I'll tell them as  
11 far as I know, it is still on and ask him what the  
12 status is of the airlift out of Perth. Is that what  
13 you want me to do, [REDACTED]

14 [REDACTED] I think that would be great. 6

15 MALE PARTICIPANT: Yeah, okay.

16 [REDACTED] Great.

17 [REDACTED] And if I could, if I could go  
18 back to the previous point, maybe there's new  
19 information, but what I understood yesterday was  
20 that they were trying to get a pumping system up,  
21 but it hadn't started yet and they didn't know if it  
22 was going to work. So I'm not sure that it's fair  
23 to say that this would be a backup or that the  
24 primary system is, is, is even working at this  
25 point.

**NEAL R. GROSS**

COURT REPORTERS AND TRANSCRIBERS  
1323 RHODE ISLAND AVE., N.W.  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20005-3701

1 JOHN MONNINGER: John Monninger.

2 [REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED]  
3 [REDACTED] I just wanted to let  
4 everyone know, I did get an email contract, as I  
5 understand, from PACOM. [REDACTED]

6 is the person who has been trying to coordinate this  
7 from the DOD side. So, probably, somebody can reach  
8 out and give him a call to get confirmation.

9 But I think the, the main question is  
10 whether or not NRC and DOE are on board with this  
11 and validate this and other implications in terms of  
12 the political considerations on the ground.

13 But as far as I understand from the  
14 highest levels, and (audio interference), we at  
15 least -- okay. Okay -- at least from DOD, there is  
16 support. You know, they're happy to support it if  
17 this is a request (audio interference).

18 [REDACTED] We still need but, the person  
19 in PACOM who's, who's going to pay.

20 [REDACTED] [REDACTED] That's, that's Michael  
21 Schiffer you probably want to contact.

22 [REDACTED] No, Michael Schiffer's not in  
23 PACOM. Michael Schiffer's in the Office of the  
24 Secretary of Defense in Washington.

25 [REDACTED] No, I understand. He

**NEAL R. GROSS**

COURT REPORTERS AND TRANSCRIBERS

1323 RHODE ISLAND AVE., N.W.

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20005-3701

6  
6  
6  
6

1 has an email here that I'm happy to forward on to  
2 anyone that says to say it's a validation; PACOM is  
3 ready execute. So it sounds like he can make a move  
4 forward.

5 [REDACTED] Can you fire that off to  
6 Department of State Task Force 1? It's just Task  
7 Force 1, task force-1@state.gov. Thanks.

8 [REDACTED] Sure. Happy to do so.

9 BRIAN SHERON: So, to maybe try to focus  
10 the discussion on the decision-making, there's a  
11 technical aspect and there's a political aspect.  
12 The technical aspect changes over time as the  
13 government and Tepco take action.

14 Where, where we were last week when we  
15 talked with the Japanese government, they were very  
16 much interested in the system. Since then, it's, I  
17 guess it's our understanding, they continue with the  
18 fire trucks in and out. They have a remotely  
19 operated fire truck also on site (audio  
20 interference) hours or so. In addition to that,  
21 they had a plan for using a concrete pumping truck,  
22 and it's our understanding, for the concrete pumping  
23 truck, that that's also (audio interference). That  
24 would be from the technical point of view, it sounds  
25 like they have three different means for engaging on

**NEAL R. GROSS**

COURT REPORTERS AND TRANSCRIBERS

1323 RHODE ISLAND AVE., N.W.

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20005-3701

(202) 234-4433

www.nealrgross.com

6

1 site.

2 From, I guess, a political point of  
3 view, we did definitely offer this equipment, and  
4 they were to get back to us on an acceptance. From  
5 what [REDACTED] is -- I'm sorry -- from what [REDACTED] is saying  
6 there, it sounds like they, you know, have accepted.

7 [REDACTED] Yeah, my understanding is  
8 that this has been, now, endorsed by the defense  
9 minister and the chief cabinet secretary. So I, I,  
10 I think politically, if this, if it were to get out  
11 that we offered this and then pulled it back, it  
12 would be very, very damaging. And again, if --

13 MALE PARTICIPANT: May I offer a  
14 suggestion?

15 [REDACTED] Yes.

16 MALE PARTICIPANT: My understanding from  
17 the turnover information last night is that the four  
18 systems are actually going to be staggered delivery  
19 anyway, with the first one currently sitting in  
20 Perth and available to be delivered and the next one  
21 following by day or days after that.

22 So may I suggest that we just go ahead  
23 and pursue getting the first system here, completing  
24 the delivery, getting it staged, put together, make  
25 sure it works, turn it over to the Tepco [REDACTED]

**NEAL R. GROSS**

COURT REPORTERS AND TRANSCRIBERS  
1323 RHODE ISLAND AVE., N.W.  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20005-3701

6  
6  
6  
5



1 [REDACTED] or whoever is going to take  
2 possession of it, and then await their further  
3 request if they want more of the systems?

4 [REDACTED] I think that sounds  
5 reasonable to me. I, I don't know when the second  
6 flight is scheduled to leave, but as a first step,  
7 that certainly sounds reasonable.

8 MICHAEL DUDEK: We need a little bit  
9 more clarification about the, the logistics behind  
10 when that plane lands in Japan. Are we going to  
11 pick it up from the airport and transport it to the  
12 site?

13 [REDACTED] We were told yesterday that  
14 the plan would arrive Yakota Air Force Base and the  
15 self-defense forces would arrange for transport to  
16 either a training location or to the site.

17 MALE PARTICIPANT: And General Electric  
18 Hitachi was also involved in there with to the  
19 transport being to their facility for assembly and  
20 testing before it went to the site.

21 [REDACTED] I, I, I, I think we, we  
22 probably need to know if -- Task Force 1, are you  
23 still on the line?

24 [REDACTED] Yes.

25 [REDACTED] I think what we need to know

**NEAL R. GROSS**

COURT REPORTERS AND TRANSCRIBERS

1323 RHODE ISLAND AVE., N.W.

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20005-3701

5

6

6

6

6

1 here is, is this definitely a go? In other words,  
2 has PACOM got the money and have they approved this  
3 request. So could you follow up immediately with,  
4 with OSD and the Joint --

5 [REDACTED] Yes.

6 [REDACTED] Yes, this is [REDACTED]  
7 in Canberra. Is [REDACTED] back on the line, or is  
8 he still calling [REDACTED]

9 [REDACTED] No, but you can tell me.

10 It's [REDACTED]. Go ahead.

11 [REDACTED] Okay. I just talked to  
12 this Australian Department of Defense and confirmed  
13 that the C-17 is on the ground in Perth. It's  
14 partially loaded from last night. There's a second  
15 C-17 on tap. I'm not sure whether it's already  
16 landed or about the land.

17 And they are, if they get the go-ahead  
18 already to send two sorties today, one at 1200 local  
19 Perth time, which is about -- I'm probably going to  
20 be off or by about an hour so here -- but let's say  
21 about six hours from now, and the second one at  
22 1400, which would be like eight hours from now.

23 And I think they're, the Australians are  
24 in on these same emails, so they're just as confused  
25 as everyone else. So they just want the formal

**NEAL R. GROSS**

COURT REPORTERS AND TRANSCRIBERS

1323 RHODE ISLAND AVE., N.W.

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20005-3701

(202) 234-4433

www.nealrgross.com

6

1 go-ahead to proceed, you know, and so that's what  
2 we're looking for on this end. But the plane is  
3 really there. It's partially loaded. They're  
4 committed to it. They have the defense attaché in  
5 Japan that will be waiting at Yakota when it  
6 arrives. So there's no operational confusion on the  
7 Australian side and there are real assets there.  
8 It's just a question of, you know, giving the formal  
9 go-ahead.

10 [REDACTED] Okay, so --

11 [REDACTED] I just wanted to confirm, I,  
12 I just spoke with the defense attaché and the plane  
13 is still there and awaiting instructions.

14 [REDACTED]: Hey, [REDACTED], did you get through  
15 to Bechtel?

16 [REDACTED]: No. I, I left a phone  
17 message.

18 [REDACTED] And I, I think the key point  
19 here is we need to get the go from, from PACOM that  
20 they're going to pay, and then we can tell the plane  
21 to fly.

22 [REDACTED] Was the NRC team -- did you,  
23 you had mentioned a contact person.

24 (Simultaneous conversation.)

25 [REDACTED] No, there's --

**NEAL R. GROSS**

COURT REPORTERS AND TRANSCRIBERS

1323 RHODE ISLAND AVE., N.W.

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20005-3701

1 MALE PARTICIPANT: -- is the contact  
2 from NRC.

3 [REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED] there was a contact  
4 that was given, but it was, it was Michael Schiffer  
5 it OSD.

6 [REDACTED] [REDACTED] Okay.

7 [REDACTED] [REDACTED] So, again, we don't know who  
8 in PACOM -- I mean, is Admiral Willard out here now?

9 [REDACTED] [REDACTED] He, he was here as late as  
10 two days ago. I can try to run this to the ground.

11 [REDACTED] [REDACTED] Admiral Walsh, I know, is  
12 coming. Anyway, we need to get somebody to, to tell  
13 us that this is a go and do it right away.

14 [REDACTED] Okay. I'm going to drop  
15 again and start working on that.

16 BRIAN SHERON: This is Brian Sheron at  
17 NRC. Also, is somebody got a call Bechtel and tell  
18 them to get the other systems ready if, you know, if  
19 we do decide to go ahead with all of them?

20 [REDACTED] That's what I was trying to  
21 do. I left a phone message to that effect, and I'll  
22 try calling, I'll also send an email.

23 BRIAN SHERON: Okay.

24 [REDACTED] Okay. All right. I'm  
25 dropping now. Thank you.

**NEAL R. GROSS**

COURT REPORTERS AND TRANSCRIBERS

1323 RHODE ISLAND AVE., N.W.

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20005-3701

(202) 234-4433

www.nealrgross.com

1 MALE PARTICIPANT: Okay. Who's left on  
2 the line?

3 BRIAN SHERON: I've got one more  
4 question, or a couple here.

5 John Monninger, are you still on?

6 JOHN MONNINGER: Yeah.

7 BRIAN SHERON: Okay. One of the  
8 questions is, do the Japanese need any assistance  
9 with robotics?

10 MALE PARTICIPANT: This is, this is  
11 Canberra. I'm going to drop out now. We'll wait  
12 for formal guidance here. Thank you.

13 BRIAN SHERON: Okay, do they need any  
14 help with, with robotics and infrared flyovers?

15 JOHN MONNINGER: Okay, so there's two,  
16 two topics there. We'll hit the first one,  
17 robotics. And we talked about two types of  
18 robotics. One is the things you see a nuclear news,  
19 those little things that crawl through contaminated  
20 facilities, DOE sites, rubble, take rad detections,  
21 measurements, video cameras, all that kind of stuff.

22 We have mentioned it on numerous occasions, and we  
23 said it's commercially available and it's been used  
24 for 15, 20 years or so. And we have asked them if  
25 they would like to have us pursue it, and they have

**NEAL R. GROSS**

COURT REPORTERS AND TRANSCRIBERS

1323 RHODE ISLAND AVE., N.W.

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20005-3701

1 been noncommittal, nonresponsive on that.

2           We've talked to them about the merits of  
3 using it to try to more accurately characterize the  
4 sites in terms of protection for the self-defense  
5 forces or the firefighters going in, where they  
6 could potentially station them. We talked to them  
7 about the merits of these robots to characterize the  
8 sites. But if they did put in the spray system,  
9 they would know where it is more protective for the  
10 workers to do so. But they've been noncommittal in  
11 wanting to accept that.

12           In terms of the dose assessments, you  
13 know, -- so that for outside.  
14 The other thing we've said is, you know, they also  
15 used that inside the building. Of course it would  
16 be up problems for doorways et cetera but, you know,  
17 we've mentioned to them that the potential use of it  
18 inside the reactor buildings. And they could figure  
19 out more what's going on or underneath, you know,  
20 because your spent fuel pools are way up in the air.

21           You know, you, you can get around those vicinities  
22 to see if there's any leakage. And they've been  
23 noncommittal, nonresponsive on that.

24           The second remote equipment we mentioned  
25 was the lead that we got from someone on the ET or

**NEAL R. GROSS**

COURT REPORTERS AND TRANSCRIBERS

1323 RHODE ISLAND AVE., N.W.

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20005-3701

(202) 234-4433

[www.nealrgross.com](http://www.nealrgross.com)

1 maybe the Reactor Safety Team about the Lockheed  
2 Martin remote-controlled, unmanned helicopter  
3 capable of lifting 7,000, 5,000 pounds. We talked  
4 to them about the merits of using something like  
5 that for potentially installing any of these types  
6 of pumping systems.

7 And then actually, on our phone call  
8 with Bechtel and Tepco and all those guys a couple  
9 of nights ago, we mentioned to Bechtel, would it be  
10 possible to do some type of assessment of using, you  
11 know, more of an engineering assessment, of using  
12 these helicopters, or using this helicopter, to, to  
13 get the pumping system installed. They, they, they  
14 hadn't completed that but they thought it had a lot  
15 of merit.

16 In our meeting with the defense ministry  
17 yesterday, we also mentioned this. And, and they  
18 have everything that we've talked to them about.  
19 They seem to have had the interest in the  
20 helicopter. But, but even with that, they did not  
21 commit or respond for any of it.

22 [REDACTED] Yeah. I, I think that's  
23 probably an accurate summary of the meeting itself,  
24 but I did get a call last night from the, the guy  
25 who was leading that meeting who said that, now that

**NEAL R. GROSS**

COURT REPORTERS AND TRANSCRIBERS  
1323 RHODE ISLAND AVE., N.W.  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20005-3701

6

1 he's taken this to the minister, that this decision  
2 -- he didn't specify on which; I think he was mainly  
3 talking about the Australian shipment -- but my  
4 impression is that the Japanese are now willing to  
5 accept any and all (inaudible).

6 JOHN MONNINGER: And that's, I wasn't in  
7 on any of the emails, but it is my understanding,  
8 which could be incorrect, that Lockheed Martin might  
9 have offered the helicopter for, for free or for  
10 whatever, recognizing, of course, that any of this  
11 equipment is not going to come back.

12 So, so right now, I guess that's [REDACTED] I  
13 don't think we're pursuing or (audio interference)  
14 we're pursuing anything more with this or not. It's  
15 our understanding that they got the go-ahead and  
16 they want it and they'll accept it, but I'm not sure  
17 we've taken it to the next step.



18 [REDACTED]  
19 [REDACTED]  
20 [REDACTED]  
21 [REDACTED]  
22 [REDACTED]  
23 [REDACTED]  
24 [REDACTED] And we can clarify now, today,  
25 whether the acceptance is only for the flights from

6

5

**NEAL R. GROSS**

COURT REPORTERS AND TRANSCRIBERS

1323 RHODE ISLAND AVE., N.W.

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20005-3701

(202) 234-4433

www.nealrgross.com



1 Australia or for the whole package that we discussed  
2 yesterday.

3 JOHN MONNINGER: My, my personal view is  
4 that, given where they are today, the thing that  
5 would be most valuable would be the  
6 remote-controlled helicopter. I mean, I do  
7 recognize, if they have accepted this spray systems,  
8 they need to most likely continue with that, given  
9 all the political considerations.

10 The spray system was of utmost priority  
11 when last week when we met [REDACTED] and it didn't  
12 really seem like they had a, a clear path forward as  
13 they were looking for something really on-site by  
14 Friday night. So I think things have changed quite  
15 a bit from that aspect.

16 Brian, you mentioned the second topic,  
17 the, the infrared, the flyovers, all that kind of  
18 stuff. I think there's two aspects of it, and  
19 however the Japanese do it and however the US do the  
20 over-flights, but the Japanese have been doing  
21 over-flights -- I guess some of it's with  
22 helicopters. I'm not sure how they're doing it.  
23 But they did share some of that data and information  
24 with us. And then Jim Trapp is here. [REDACTED]

25 [REDACTED]

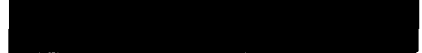
5

5

**NEAL R. GROSS**

COURT REPORTERS AND TRANSCRIBERS  
1323 RHODE ISLAND AVE., N.W.  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20005-3701

1  
2  
3  
4  
5  
6  
7  
8  
9  
10  
11  
12  
13  
14  
15  
16  
17  
18  
19  
20  
21  
22  
23  
24  
25



Is there still a need for us  
to contact DOD or anybody to do over-flights of a  
BWR here in the US.

JOHN MONNINGER: I, we don't believe so.

No.

JEFF TEMPLE: Okay, that request has  
been kind of -- this is Jeff Temple from the liaison  
team -- it's been on our plate for a couple days.  
The other issue was a Lockheed Martin helicopter.  
I've got to contact the guy that got that. The  
aircraft, the young man helicopter, that aircraft,  
the unmanned aircraft, the helicopter is in  
Bloomfield, Connecticut as we speak. If that, if we  
decide to go through with that, my guess is we'll  
need to have USAID to organize that will need to  
have USAID organize that because it's an asset that

**NEAL R. GROSS**

COURT REPORTERS AND TRANSCRIBERS

1323 RHODE ISLAND AVE., N.W.

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20005-3701

(202) 234-4433

www.nealrgross.com

5

1 needs to be paid for or negotiated for whatever. Is  
2 that the right process?

3 And I can provide somebody with the  
4 contact information for the guy from Lockheed Martin  
5 that runs that. What's our next step with that  
6 remotely operated helicopter?

7 JOHN MONNINGER: I, I think our next  
8 step with that -- and [REDACTED] [REDACTED] you can correct  
9 me -- is we would be wanting additional feedback  
10 from, even though they said yes, from the Ministry  
11 of Foreign Affairs. We, we need clarification on  
12 that; yes, was it just limited to the spent fuel  
13 pool cooling system or was it much broader, the  
14 acceptance of the offers to include the remote  
15 equipment, including the remote helicopter, et  
16 cetera.

17 [REDACTED] [REDACTED]: Yes. I, I agree with that.  
18 I also think that if we're going to be funding the  
19 cost of this, then we need to find out what the  
20 price tag is because we don't want to run into the  
21 same issue with AID.

22 JOHN MONNINGER: There was, there was --  
23 someone may be can correct me in the line -- I  
24 thought there was some emails out there and some  
25 discussions with Lockheed, some VP, saying they were

**NEAL R. GROSS**

COURT REPORTERS AND TRANSCRIBERS  
1323 RHODE ISLAND AVE., N.W.  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20005-3701

1 donating it. Has anyone seen that?

2 BRIAN SHERON: I have not here at the  
3 NRC, but that doesn't mean it doesn't exist.

4 JOHN MONNINGER: I did not myself  
5 receive it, but there was a guy on our van on the  
6 trip back from the Ministry of Defense who had said  
7 that.

8 [REDACTED] That may be [REDACTED] was  
9 -- was it [REDACTED] Yeah.

10 MALE PARTICIPANT: Well, I, I've got the  
11 contact information to the Lockheed Martin person  
12 who controls that asset and can give us quick access  
13 to that. He's in New York.

14 JOHN MONNINGER: You know, what I would  
15 say with the -- in my personal opinion, it's a lot  
16 of running a robot on the ground with a camera and  
17 infrared detectors and some radiation measurements  
18 than it is remote-controlled -- it's probably a  
19 pretty big helicopter if they can carry 5,000  
20 pounds.

21 BRIAN SHERON: Yeah, a maximum of seven  
22 but they like to keep it at five.

23 JOHN MONNINGER: So I think, you know,  
24 who's going to -- it's -- I, I think considerable  
25 consideration would have to come in as to who's is

**NEAL R. GROSS**

COURT REPORTERS AND TRANSCRIBERS

1323 RHODE ISLAND AVE., N.W.

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20005-3701

(202) 234-4433

www.nealrgross.com

6

1 going to operate that.

2 MALE PARTICIPANT: Exactly.

3 BRIAN SHERON: We also have to  
4 investigate another asset. NASA has a humanoid type  
5 robot that has full (inaudible) hands, arms,  
6 shoulders, feet and everything else. It's on a  
7 stable platform with wheels. And I think they  
8 manufactured that for General Motors, but that's  
9 another potential asset that could be remotely  
10 operated.

11 JOHN MONNINGER: You know, something  
12 like that within reactor building, a robot, would be  
13 good. But you know, my concern there would be that  
14 the doors, normal doors that are, you know,  
15 security, locked up. How do you get through them?

16 BRIAN SHERON: But again, the NRC  
17 Headquarters Liaison Team has access information for  
18 the remotely operated helicopter and NASA assets.  
19 If anybody would like that and goes through the DART  
20 process, or whatever else, call us and we can  
21 provide that contact information. Right now, we're  
22 on hold.

23  
24  
25

**NEAL R. GROSS**

COURT REPORTERS AND TRANSCRIBERS

1323 RHODE ISLAND AVE., N.W.

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20005-3701

(202) 234-4433

www.nealgross.com

5

1 JOHN MONNINGER: We're, and, and I did  
2 mention, we're going to touch base with Chuck this  
3 morning, so --

4 BRIAN SHERON: Let us know.

5 JOHN MONNINGER: -- on the flyover the  
6 US.

7 [REDACTED] Did somebody get that contact  
8 for Lockheed Martin?

9 BRIAN SHERON: Yes. I don't have a  
10 right here but I can provide it.

11 [REDACTED] Okay.

12 BRIAN SHERON: But does somebody want to  
13 give me an email address?

14 [REDACTED] Well, I guess, send it to the  
15 NRC group out here, and that'll be [REDACTED]

16 [REDACTED] -- I'm sorry -- [REDACTED] Well, just  
17 send it to me. It's [REDACTED]

18 BRIAN SHERON: Okay. I've got it right  
19 here. The guy's name for the Lockheed Martin  
20 remotely operated helicopter is [REDACTED] His  
21 telephone number is [REDACTED], and [REDACTED]

22 JOHN MONNINGER: And ask them like -- if  
23 they don't use it today or tomorrow, I would think  
24 over the next year or five, 10 years on the site  
25 would be of value.

NEAL R. GROSS

COURT REPORTERS AND TRANSCRIBERS

1323 RHODE ISLAND AVE., N.W.

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20005-3701

(202) 234-4433

www.nealrgross.com

1 BRIAN SHERON: Okay, so we will hold off  
2 on doing any further research on remotely operated  
3 robotics type equipment [REDACTED]

4 [REDACTED]  
5 [REDACTED]  
6 [REDACTED]  
7 [REDACTED]  
8 [REDACTED]  
9 [REDACTED]  
10 [REDACTED]  
11 BRIAN SHERON: Okay. If you need  
12 anything else from us, let us know.

13 JOHN MONNINGER: All right. And so the  
14 feedback on the robotics, et cetera, we're waiting  
15 for the feedback from the Japanese government, of  
16 the ministry, and the over-flights would be feedback  
17 from the Japanese NRC team here.

18 BRIAN SHERON: Okay. That's all I think  
19 we have at NRC headquarters.

20 DAVE SKEEN: John, can you do you need  
21 anything else over there in Japan? This is Dave  
22 Keene.

23 JOHN MONNINGER: No. I think sometime  
24 today, maybe Chuck and I, maybe we'll chat with  
25 Brian and all that kind of stuff on.

**NEAL R. GROSS**

COURT REPORTERS AND TRANSCRIBERS

1323 RHODE ISLAND AVE., N.W.

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20005-3701

(202) 234-4433

www.nealrgross.com

5

1 DAVE SKEEN: Okay. Brian just stepped  
2 out, so I'm just sitting in.

3 FEMALE PARTICIPANT: Yeah --

4 [REDACTED] Can I, I just add one thing,  
5 John? You're aware that a meeting with the chairman  
6 of Tepco has been arranged for 10 o'clock this  
7 morning?

8 JOHN MONNINGER: Yes. Chuck has -- last  
9 night, it was fluctuating. We have it up on the  
10 board as a definitive. We have to confirm that  
11 Chuck knows about it.

12 [REDACTED] Yeah, I, I, I got a call from  
13 the Chairman himself on my cell phone, so it's  
14 definitely 10 o'clock this morning.

15 JOHN MONNINGER: All right. So we'll  
16 have a car from here. Chuck will run out with an  
17 interpreter, or?

18 [REDACTED] You were going to arrange  
19 that, so.

20 JOHN MONNINGER: Okay.

21 [REDACTED] Yeah.

22 JOHN MONNINGER: Okay. Sounds great.

23 Thanks, Rob.

24 [REDACTED] I'm going to get off here.

25 JOHN MONNINGER: All right. So are you

**NEAL R. GROSS**

COURT REPORTERS AND TRANSCRIBERS

1323 RHODE ISLAND AVE., N.W.

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20005-3701



1 downstairs?

2 [REDACTED] I'm at home right now. I'll  
3 be in, in about an hour.

4 JOHN MONNINGER: All right. Thank you,  
5 sir.

6 [REDACTED] Okay. Bye-bye.

7 DAVE SKEEN: Okay, John, so here's NRC  
8 Headquarters. I guess we're on hold until we hear  
9 verification on exactly what the Japanese will agree  
10 to accept, and we'll just stand by. And I  
11 understand that you and Chuck will be calling us  
12 sometime later.

13 JOHN MONNINGER: Yeah. I guess my  
14 thought is I'm significantly behind on email, so it  
15 doesn't work, but it's, I recognize that there's a  
16 Commission meeting tomorrow --

17 TRISH HOLAHAN: Monday.

18 DAVE SKEEN: Monday. We're still two  
19 days off.

20 JOHN MONNINGER: Well, tomorrow for us.  
21 We're --

22 (Simultaneous conversation.)

23 JOHN MONNINGER: Yeah. But just  
24 thinking about the team and the operations, the  
25 Commission meeting tomorrow, and the notion of

**NEAL R. GROSS**

COURT REPORTERS AND TRANSCRIBERS

1323 RHODE ISLAND AVE., N.W.

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20005-3701

1 sending out additional personnel, you know, trying  
2 to look at our charter and seeing, you know --  
3 because whatever's said at the Commission meeting is  
4 going to provide our direction, I assume, continued  
5 direction for the next couple weeks. So --

6 DAVE SKEEN: Yeah, I understand.

7 JOHN MONNINGER: -- yeah. So, if we  
8 want to reassess where we are on the charter, we  
9 should do it today, today, and tomorrow for you  
10 guys, prior to the Commission meeting, et cetera.  
11 So that was the notion.

12 DAVE SKEEN: Okay, so you and Chuck want  
13 to talk to some person and give us a call back?

14 JOHN MONNINGER: Yes. Yep, unless you  
15 guys know of any changes in the mission in the  
16 charter.

17 DAVE SKEEN: I don't think we know  
18 anything at this time.

19 TRISH HOLAHAN: No. We haven't heard  
20 anything yet.

21 JOHN MONNINGER: Well, the thing I'd  
22 like to know is, you know, the last bullet on the  
23 charter providing assistance, recommendations, et  
24 cetera -- that's been the most difficult aspect.

25 DAVE SKEEN: Okay.

**NEAL R. GROSS**

COURT REPORTERS AND TRANSCRIBERS

1323 RHODE ISLAND AVE., N.W.

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20005-3701

1 MALE PARTICIPANT: Good?

2 (Audio interference.)

3 DAVE SKEEN: Yeah, good. Anything else?

4 JOHN MONNINGER: No.

5 DAVE SKEEN: All right. Well, we'll  
6 look forward from hearing from you guys after you've  
7 had a chance to talk then.

8 JOHN MONNINGER: All right. Bye-bye.

9 DAVE SKEEN: All right. Thanks a lot.

10

11

12

13

14

15

16

17

18

19

20

21

22

23

24

25

26

**NEAL R. GROSS**

COURT REPORTERS AND TRANSCRIBERS

1323 RHODE ISLAND AVE., N.W.

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20005-3701

1 (CONFERENCE CALL INITIATED.)

2 03:45:46/03:58:47

3 BRIAN SHERON: Hey, John?

4 JOHN MONNINGER: Yeah, Brian. How are  
5 you doing, sir?

6 BRIAN SHERON: Hey, the reason I was  
7 calling, when I got here and took over from Wiggins

8 --

9 JOHN MONNINGER: Yes.

10 BRIAN SHERON: -- he was telling me that

11 we had some commitment

12 [REDACTED] to provide a list of --

13 excuse me -- provide a list of equipment and people  
14 at the Japanese needed, you know, I guess, to, to  
15 deal with the accident. And I, you know, and it --  
16 right after he told me that, he immediately said  
17 that, you know, he said you know, we don't have this  
18 expertise. We don't know, you know, we could  
19 probably cause more harm than good. Loblaw block.

20 JOHN MONNINGER: Right.

21 BRIAN SHERON: I said, well, why didn't  
22 you just push back and say we're not doing it, and  
23 he said that's not an option.

24 JOHN MONNINGER: Right. Right.

25 BRIAN SHERON: A little later, I was on

**NEAL R. GROSS**

COURT REPORTERS AND TRANSCRIBERS

1323 RHODE ISLAND AVE., N.W.

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20005-3701

1 the phone at four o'clock with the, [REDACTED] 5  
2 [REDACTED] on a briefing and -- with Pete Lyons  
3 -- and during that briefing, they were going around  
4 the room and they asked, they said, you know, has  
5 NRC got that list of equipment?

6 I punted and said --

7 JOHN MONNINGER: Right.

8 BRIAN SHERON: -- you know, I'd just  
9 gotten there and just got a turnover and I hadn't  
10 really had a chance to check. And I said I'd get  
11 back to them.

12 JOHN MONNINGER: Right.

13 BRIAN SHERON: Then I thought about, you  
14 know, going to like Josh Baskin and just saying, you  
15 know, hey, we're going to push back and say this,  
16 you know, this isn't the kind of stuff we do.

17 JOHN MONNINGER: Right. Right.

18 BRIAN SHERON: But then I thought about  
19 it and I said, you know, well, we just got done  
20 talking about the pumps --

21 JOHN MONNINGER: Right.

22 BRIAN SHERON: -- you know, and stuff  
23 that we're going to bring over, and I think there's  
24 also a question about bringing some robotics over --

25 JOHN MONNINGER: Right.

**NEAL R. GROSS**

COURT REPORTERS AND TRANSCRIBERS

1323 RHODE ISLAND AVE., N.W.

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20005-3701

1                   BRIAN SHERON:  -- In the light.  And to  
2 me, I think that would satisfy that commitment.  
3 Wouldn't it?

4                   JOHN MONNINGER:  I, I think it would.  
5 I, I think there's four potential responses to the  
6 question.  The, the first response was several days  
7 ago.  There was a two-page, there was two pages that  
8 were labeled equipment that the Japanese would like.  
9       We do not know where that list came from.  But the  
10 list was sent back, and I think some of the stuff  
11 has come through.  There were some issues with  
12 boron, maybe some, you know -- what you call them?  
13 -- the anti-seize, and I forget everything else on  
14 the list.  It's, you know, certain things,  
15 demineralized water, etc.

16                  BRIAN SHERON:  Right.

17                  JOHN MONNINGER:  You know, so that's,  
18 that's a potential, a potential response.  I'm not  
19 sure where the current status of that list is, but  
20 we could try to run it down.

21                  BRIAN SHERON:  I haven't even seen that  
22 list.

23                  JOHN MONNINGER:  Yeah, that came through  
24 probably three or four days ago.

25                  BRIAN SHERON:  All right, we --

**NEAL R. GROSS**

COURT REPORTERS AND TRANSCRIBERS

1323 RHODE ISLAND AVE., N.W.

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20005-3701

1 TRISH HOLAHAN: Is that the list Monday  
2 night that the TA's were talking about yesterday?

3 JOHN MONNINGER: Yeah.

4 BRIAN SHERON: I don't know.

5 JOHN MONNINGER: We don't, to tell you  
6 the truth, we, we have no idea where that list came  
7 from, within the government or from Tepco or what.

8 BRIAN SHERON: All right, well then,  
9 obviously, it didn't come over in any sort of an  
10 official capacity, I guess.

11 JOHN MONNINGER: No. No. What, so it  
12 didn't come over in an official capacity or  
13 whatever. We would have faxed it over to you guys  
14 somehow.

15 The second potential response would be  
16 something like the sprays -- I'm sorry -- the spent  
17 fuel pool cooling system. And you know, what we're  
18 coming down to is the potential of success would be  
19 to just ship one full train as opposed to four full  
20 trains. That could, that would provide them with  
21 some equipment if they ever intend to use it, plus  
22 it would provide a good political solution for both  
23 sides.

24 BRIAN SHERON: Well, it's, but, I  
25 thought the plan was that we were going to ship the

**NEAL R. GROSS**

COURT REPORTERS AND TRANSCRIBERS

1323 RHODE ISLAND AVE., N.W.

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20005-3701

1 one and then, you know, let them take it over, set  
2 it up et cetera, and then maybe they could make a  
3 decision later if they wanted to do the rest of  
4 them.

5 JOHN MONNINGER: Yeah. That's, that's,  
6 that's what the plan is, but now we've got to  
7 confirm with Australia --

8 BRIAN SHERON: Right.

9 JOHN MONNINGER: -- whatever the  
10 shipments are. You know, you have -- if so, the  
11 first plane, you don't want four pumps, four valves,  
12 four nozzles, and all the hoses come on the second  
13 plane.

14 BRIAN SHERON: Right.

15 JOHN MONNINGER: So we want to make sure  
16 that Plane 1 is one complete train.

17 BRIAN SHERON: Right.

18 JOHN MONNINGER: Another response would,  
19 of course, be nothing.

20 A fourth response would be "other". You  
21 know, we could pontificate over here. You guys  
22 could pontificate. I really think what we should be  
23 looking at is stuff they're going to need in two  
24 weeks, three weeks, et cetera, you know, stuff like  
25 that remote-controlled --

**NEAL R. GROSS**

COURT REPORTERS AND TRANSCRIBERS

1323 RHODE ISLAND AVE., N.W.

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20005-3701

(202) 234-4433

[www.nealrgross.com](http://www.nealrgross.com)



1 BRIAN SHERON: That's not our job.  
2 That's DOE's job.

3 JOHN MONNINGER: Yeah. But to tell you  
4 the truth, my, my assessment is they really do not  
5 want any of this stuff. They're not interested in  
6 the support.

7 BRIAN SHERON: Right.

8 [REDACTED]  
9 [REDACTED]

195

10 BRIAN SHERON: Yeah. So, anyway, my  
11 intent is to respond basically that, you know, we're  
12 providing this, the, the one set of pumps and valves  
13 and stuff, the one train.

14 JOHN MONNINGER: Right. Right.

15 BRIAN SHERON: You know, and that's on  
16 its way. They'll reevaluate once that's over there  
17 whether they need more.

18 I think -- where did we, where did we  
19 leave -- I left the room. Where did we leave that  
20 room with the robotics?

21 JOHN MONNINGER: Where we left the room  
22 with the robotics was, the highest level officials  
23 in Japan accepted our offer for the assistance, for  
24 this equipment, but we are unclear whether that was  
25 a blanket acceptance or if it was just for the spent

**NEAL R. GROSS**

COURT REPORTERS AND TRANSCRIBERS

1323 RHODE ISLAND AVE., N.W.

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20005-3701

1 fuel cooling system.

2 BRIAN SHERON: Right.

3 JOHN MONNINGER: Did that acceptance  
4 also include the robotics? Did it include the  
5 helicopter?

6 BRIAN SHERON: Uh-huh.

7 JOHN MONNINGER: So, the State  
8 Department guy here with going to get back to the  
9 ministry to say, hey, when you said, yes, did that  
10 just mean the spent fuel pool cooling system or the  
11 robotics and the helicopter?

12 BRIAN SHERON: Yeah, but I mean the  
13 point is we made the contact, we made offer; we've  
14 just got work out some details.

15 JOHN MONNINGER: Right. Right. Right.

16 Now if I could back to the first one,  
17 you said you were going to say that the plane is  
18 essentially on the way. They still do not have this  
19 final approval through the group called PACOM. I  
20 guess it's a DOD-type --

21 BRIAN SHERON: I wasn't going to say  
22 that the plane's on the way. It was going to say  
23 that, you know, we think we've worked it out.  
24 They've, you know, the DOD was going to pick up the  
25 tab.

**NEAL R. GROSS**

COURT REPORTERS AND TRANSCRIBERS

1323 RHODE ISLAND AVE., N.W.

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20005-3701

(202) 234-4433

[www.nealrgross.com](http://www.nealrgross.com)

1 JOHN MONNINGER: Right. Right.

2 BRIAN SHERON: But they've got to, got  
3 to confirm that they're going, that they're actually  
4 going to pay the money.

5 JOHN MONNINGER: Right. Right. But  
6 there could be --

7 BRIAN SHERON: But that's out of our  
8 hands.

9 JOHN MONNINGER: Yeah. It's out of our  
10 hands, and then DOE may sign it; they may not.

11 BRIAN SHERON: Yeah.

12 JOHN MONNINGER: Yeah, okay. Yep.

13 BRIAN SHERON: All right.

14 DAVE SKEEN: John, this is Dave Keene.  
15 This is Dave Keen. Someone needs to make sure  
16 Bechtel understands, though, because if they're  
17 going to turn it back on and say put three more  
18 systems together, they're going to go off and work  
19 on that and then they're going to want the rest of  
20 their money if they do that.

21 JOHN MONNINGER: Right.

22 DAVE SKEEN: So, if we only just want  
23 one system, somebody needs to tell Bechtel just to  
24 stand by right now.

25 BRIAN SHERON: Yeah, I know. They tried

**NEAL R. GROSS**

COURT REPORTERS AND TRANSCRIBERS

1323 RHODE ISLAND AVE., N.W.

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20005-3701

1 to contact the Bechtel and there was no answer.

2 DAVE SKEEN: But the last I heard was  
3 that the Embassy guy was going to make sure he got  
4 hold of the, Bechtel and tell them to go ahead and  
5 put the other systems together. We don't want them  
6 to do that right now if you don't think the Japanese  
7 are going to use it.

8 JOHN MONNINGER: Okay. How about this?  
9 How about we take the NRC, Japan team take the  
10 action item to engage with the guy in the State  
11 Department to see exactly where they are on, on the  
12 ministry accepting the equipment, et cetera, and we  
13 would get back?

14 DAVE SKEEN: Well, I agree. I agree,  
15 John because, at least my understanding is they've  
16 got one system put together and ready, and that was  
17 going to get on the plane. And they were going to  
18 send that now. And then they've got these other  
19 systems along the way and they'd send them when they  
20 were ready.

21 JOHN MONNINGER: Yeah.

22 DAVE SKEEN: So, but they, they would  
23 all stop once they heard that someone wasn't going  
24 to pay.

25 JOHN MONNINGER: Right.

**NEAL R. GROSS**

COURT REPORTERS AND TRANSCRIBERS

1323 RHODE ISLAND AVE., N.W.

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20005-3701

1                   DAVE SKEEN:  Someone just needs to  
2 clarify that, and if they're just sending one  
3 system, let's send the one system and tell Bechtel  
4 to stand by unless we ask them for more.

5                   JOHN MONNINGER:  Yeah.  And if I was to,  
6 to predict the future, what I would say is I think I  
7 think outcome will be the one system will go; the  
8 trains 2 through 4 will be a complete stand down.

9                   DAVE SKEEN:  Yeah, I think you're right.

10                  JOHN MONNINGER:  But we don't have any  
11 decisions on that.

12                  DAVE SKEEN:  Right.

13                  JOHN MONNINGER:  Right.  So, with that,  
14 we'll contact the guy and he'll go to the ministry,  
15 but it could be, you know, some time on it.

16                  We also did mention to them this notion  
17 of scheduling the planes every two, four, you know,  
18 six hours or even sending the first one.  We said,  
19 you know, you guys want to look at delays for them  
20 unless this thing gets turned around.  So they are  
21 looking at, you know, significantly or potentially  
22 delaying Planes 2, 3, and 4.

23                  DAVE SKEEN:  Right.

24                  JOHN MONNINGER:  Okay.

25                  BRIAN SHERON:  All right, I think that

**NEAL R. GROSS**

COURT REPORTERS AND TRANSCRIBERS  
1323 RHODE ISLAND AVE., N.W.

1 was all we had, John.

2 JOHN MONNINGER: All right. Thanks, you  
3 guys.

4 MJ: Hey, John, this is MJ. Are you  
5 hanging in there okay?

6 JOHN MONNINGER: Yeah. Yeah. Actually,  
7 last night was probably the -- you know, I had  
8 catnaps other times -- but last night was the first  
9 time I really got some sleep, probably seven, eight  
10 hours, so that was pretty good.

11 MJ: Oh, so you sound good today, so  
12 that's positive.

13 JOHN MONNINGER: Yes. Yeah. Yesterday  
14 was probably the roughest one, but yeah. We're  
15 coming back, we're looking at -- it's Sunday over  
16 here. We don't have many meetings. Things have  
17 simmered down. So we're looking at a, probably a  
18 really scaled-back staffing at least for today.

19 MJ: I thought we --

20 JOHN MONNINGER: We, we, we'd always  
21 have continuous coverage at the phones here. We'd  
22 cover any meetings and cover, you know, action items  
23 and then, you know, we discuss it from there.

24 MJ: Okay, well, yeah, you got to take  
25 care of yourself.

**NEAL R. GROSS**

COURT REPORTERS AND TRANSCRIBERS

1323 RHODE ISLAND AVE., N.W.

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20005-3701

1 JOHN MONNINGER: Yeah. All right.

2 MJ: All right. Thanks, John.

3 JOHN MONNINGER: All right. We'll see  
4 you guys. Bye-bye.

5 BRIAN SHERON: Okay. Bye-bye.

6

**NEAL R. GROSS**

COURT REPORTERS AND TRANSCRIBERS  
1323 RHODE ISLAND AVE., N.W.  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20005-3701

1 (CONFERENCE CALL INITIATED.)

2 3:59:10/4:34:28

3 BRIAN SHERON: Is anybody on the line  
4 here?

5 PAT CASTLEMAN: This is Pat Castleman.  
6 I'm on the line and, and I'm not hearing the roster  
7 playback.

8 MICHAEL MARSHALL: Michael Marshall on  
9 the line, and I'm not hearing the roster playback  
10 either.

11 BRIAN SHERON: Why don't we just go  
12 around and everybody introduce themselves. And  
13 we'll just leave it there.

14 REBECCA CARDOZA: Rebecca Cardoza (phon)  
15 from Commissioner Magwood's office.

16 LARRY CAMPER: Larry Camper, FSNM.

17 MICHAEL MARSHALL: Michael Marshall,  
18 Chairman Jaczko's office.

19 BEN HARRIS: Ben Harris, OGC.

20 PAT CASTLEMAN: Pat Castleman,  
21 Commissioner Svinicki's office.

22 BILL ORDERS: Bill Orders, Commissioner  
23 Magwood's office.

24 JIM ANDERSON: Jim Anderson, EDO's  
25 office.

**NEAL R. GROSS**

COURT REPORTERS AND TRANSCRIBERS

1323 RHODE ISLAND AVE., N.W.

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20005-3701

(202) 234-4433

[www.nealrgross.com](http://www.nealrgross.com)



1 MIKE FRANOVICH: Mike Franovich,  
2 Commissioner Ostendorff's office.

3 CONTACT, REGION I: Contact, Region I  
4 duty officer.

5 CINDY PETERSON: Cindy Peterson, Region  
6 III.

7 DUTY OFFICER: (Inaudible) duty officer.

8 MALE PARTICIPANT: (Inaudible) Region  
9 II.

10 MIKE: Mike (Inaudible) NRR.

11 OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY: (Inaudible),  
12 Office of the Secretary.

13 ANDY: Andy (inaudible).

14 VICTORIA MIDDLEING: Victoria Middling,  
15 Public Affairs, Region III.

16 LAURA: Laura, Public Affairs, Region  
17 IV.

18 ROGER HANNA: Roger Hanna (phon), Region  
19 II, Public Affairs.

20 MIKE DONNELLY: Mike Donnelly,  
21 Commissioner Apostolakis' office.

22 SCOTT MOORE: Scott Moore, FSME.

23 KEITH McCONNELL: Keith McConnell, FSME.

24 FEMALE PARTICIPANT: (Inaudible), Public  
25 Affairs, Region III.

**NEAL R. GROSS**

COURT REPORTERS AND TRANSCRIBERS  
1323 RHODE ISLAND AVE., N.W.  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20005-3701

1 BRIAN SHERON: Okay, that, that sounds  
2 like everybody.

3 So, anyway, this is Brian Sheron. I'm  
4 the, I'm the ET director for the evening here and  
5 I'm going to give you an update on what's going on.

6 I'm going to start with just a couple  
7 items. I guess, I don't know if you're familiar --  
8 there was a meeting that was called today at two  
9 o'clock by Bill Borchardt. He brought in, there was  
10 a number of representatives from the industry, the  
11 US industry, as well as from some other government  
12 agencies. Naval Reactors was there. I think it was  
13 a liaison from the Pentagon.

14 The purpose was to, I guess, try and,  
15 you know, discuss with the industry the need for  
16 them to actually mobilize and interact with their  
17 industry counterparts in Japan. The NRC did not  
18 want to be seen as the de facto, taking a lead and  
19 being responsible while you were managing this  
20 accident.

21 The feeling was that, you know, the  
22 industry does have very specialized expertise to  
23 hopefully, you know, cope with these kind of events  
24 and the like. And it was felt that they should take  
25 a lead role in coming together, interacting with

**NEAL R. GROSS**

COURT REPORTERS AND TRANSCRIBERS  
1323 RHODE ISLAND AVE., N.W.  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20005-3701

1 their Tepco counterparts, and, you know, either  
2 making recommendations or providing other support.

3 But Westinghouse and GE said that they  
4 were interacting with the Japanese through their,  
5 through their, I guess it was their Japanese owners,  
6 which is Toshiba and -- I can't remember --

7 FEMALE PARTICIPANT: Hitachi.

8 MALE PARTICIPANT: Yeah, and it was  
9 Hitachi for GE.

10 But anyway, the meeting lasted about an  
11 hour and a half. It was good discussion. When we  
12 finished, the industry asked if they could stay and  
13 use the room. They were going to put their heads  
14 together. They were planning another meeting, I  
15 think at INPO, on Monday. And they said that their,  
16 their actions would be measured in days rather than  
17 weeks. So, they'll be meeting, I think, Monday, and  
18 we'll have to wait and see what, what they conclude  
19 and what they propose.

20

21

22

23

24

25

 Pete Lyons from DOE was here and he

**NEAL R. GROSS**

COURT REPORTERS AND TRANSCRIBERS

1323 RHODE ISLAND AVE., N.W.

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20005-3701

(202) 234-4433

www.nealrgross.com

5

1 sat in there with me.

2 At six o'clock, we had a conference call  
3 with USAID. There was an issue that came up about,  
4 Bechtel was going to ship four trains of pumps and  
5 valves and et cetera that would be used to pump  
6 seawater into the reactors' areas, I guess, either  
7 into the reactor or to spray them down.

8 This equipment was in Australia. The  
9 Australians actually called back a C-17 transport  
10 from the Middle East to move this equipment. My  
11 understanding is it was loaded on the airplane. The  
12 cost was originally estimated at something like  
13 \$750,000. And then Bechtel announced that the total  
14 cost for all four trains was going to be \$9.6  
15 million.

16 USAID stopped the shipment. They said  
17 they did not have the money for it. They, they did  
18 not agree with it. And so that was held up. During  
19 the conference call at six o'clock, it was, -- they  
20 were first looking to NRC to determine whether or  
21 not the equipment was actually needed.

22 What we told them was that, based on our  
23 contacts with our team in Tokyo, this was not, these  
24 pumps and everything were not as a first line of  
25 defense. In other words, they would not be used

**NEAL R. GROSS**

COURT REPORTERS AND TRANSCRIBERS

1323 RHODE ISLAND AVE., N.W.

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20005-3701

(202) 234-4433

[www.nealrgross.com](http://www.nealrgross.com)

1 immediately but would actually be either backups or  
2 even tertiary pumps in the event that the first-line  
3 pumps that they're currently using didn't work or  
4 failed or whatever. USAID said that that was  
5 sufficient.

6 They also -- there was some, there was  
7 some political implications because we had made the  
8 promise to supply these pumps and didn't want to,  
9 then, all of a sudden say, no, we're not sending  
10 them over.

11 USAID did some groundwork with DOD, and  
12 they told us at six o'clock on this conference call  
13 and the DOD was now in a position to fund it.  
14 However, they needed to get with the DOD office that  
15 provides that funding to confirm it.

16 The C-420 is on the ground now in  
17 Australia. We understand that it's partially  
18 loaded. USAID has the lead now. Once they, once  
19 they get confirmation that DOD is going to pick up  
20 the tab, my understanding is it will be shipped --  
21 and I'm sorry -- at least one train will initially  
22 be shipped over there. The plan is that they'll  
23 ship it over, set it up, test it out, whatever they  
24 have to do. They will most likely then interact  
25 with their Japanese counterparts and determine if

**NEAL R. GROSS**

COURT REPORTERS AND TRANSCRIBERS

1323 RHODE ISLAND AVE., N.W.

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20005-3701

(202) 234-4433

[www.nealrgross.com](http://www.nealrgross.com)

1 the other three trains are needed or not. So  
2 that's, that's moving along.

3 We've also inquired whether there was  
4 any additional systems that the Japanese needed  
5 either with robotics or for infrared detection  
6 during flyovers. My understanding right now that --  
7 and what, specifically on the robotics, there was a,  
8 there was apparently a Lockheed Martin  
9 remote-controlled helicopter that can lift 5,000  
10 pounds and the question was did they need that help  
11 get the pumping systems installed in or near the  
12 plant. Based on our discussions with the NRC folks  
13 in Tokyo, the Japanese did not either commit or  
14 respond to the offer. So we are, we're not pursuing  
15 either of those right now.

16 Let's see. With that, I'm going to ask  
17 our PMT and RST directors to give you a quick update  
18 on radiological stuff and also on, on the reactors.

19 I'm going to ask Don Cool to go first.

20 DON COOL: Okay. This is Don Cool. The  
21 situation with regards to radiological information  
22 is essentially unchanged from that which was  
23 reported this morning. The last aerial monitoring  
24 survey data that we have is now about 36 hours old.

25 We are working with DOE in an attempt to get

**NEAL R. GROSS**

COURT REPORTERS AND TRANSCRIBERS

1323 RHODE ISLAND AVE., N.W.

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20005-3701

1 updated information as we get to daylight, and the  
2 new wave of monitoring will happen today. We expect  
3 -- that last data, as you know, indicated that there  
4 was a narrow band of elevated contamination towards  
5 the northwest with 20- to 40-millirem (inaudible)  
6 reported and a confirmation from at least one ground  
7 point. That remains unchanged.

8 We also have no new information at this  
9 point with regards to dose rates at locations on the  
10 facility. That's also a number of hours from us  
11 now. The doses between the facilities are --  
12 otherwise no additional dosimetry data on  
13 individuals that we are aware of at this point. I  
14 think most of you are aware of the report that there  
15 was, one of the individuals positioning one of these  
16 fire trucks got 10 Rem in two minutes. We don't  
17 have any other data either collaborating that or  
18 other information.

19 The meteorological conditions there in  
20 Japan are shifting. The winds, which had been out  
21 of the west, therefore blowing material out to sea,  
22 are gradually shifting to southwest, south and then  
23 gradually continuing clockwise so that there will be  
24 onshore winds during the next day or so, again,  
25 initially, toward the northwest where that current

**NEAL R. GROSS**

COURT REPORTERS AND TRANSCRIBERS

1323 RHODE ISLAND AVE., N.W.

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20005-3701

(202) 234-4433

[www.nealrgross.com](http://www.nealrgross.com)

1 higher level is. And my understanding is it's  
2 continuing to shift in a clockwise fashion, which  
3 will actually have it blowing from the northeast  
4 towards the southwest, as in blowing towards Tokyo,  
5 for some period of time, some number of hours --  
6 we're not exactly sure what will actually take  
7 place; this is just a forecast -- before it returns  
8 back out to sea.

9 The Protective Measures Team is going to  
10 be running and is at the moment running a series of  
11 calculations using the previous source term just to  
12 continue to validate our protective measure  
13 recommendations as that wind shifts through a period  
14 of time. At this point, we have no reason to  
15 believe that there is any change in the protective  
16 action recommendations.

17 We also understand that the Department  
18 of Energy will be using their NARAC resources to do  
19 a calculation actually down in Tokyo. That's beyond  
20 the modeling capability that we possess here. We'll  
21 be looking to understand exactly how they did that  
22 to make sure that we have an understanding of any  
23 dose recommendations.

24 That's it from the PMT.

25 BRIAN SHERON: Okay. Dave?

**NEAL R. GROSS**

COURT REPORTERS AND TRANSCRIBERS

1323 RHODE ISLAND AVE., N.W.

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20005-3701



1                   DAVE SKEEN: Yeah. Thanks, Brian.

2                   This is Dave Keen in with the Reactor  
3 Safety Team. Just to give you an update on the  
4 status of the six units at Fukushima Daiichi, Units  
5 1, 2, and 3 reactors, all of the reactor cores  
6 appear to be at least half-covered and cooling water  
7 is being maintained on the reactors themselves.

8                   We believe that the spent fuel pool for  
9 Unit 1 is, is still in good shape. There's, is time  
10 to boil off there, so, but the fuel is still covered  
11 in the spent fuel pool.

12                  In Unit 2, likewise, we believe that  
13 the, the pool is also covered there for the time  
14 being. They did get reserve power hooked up to the  
15 substation on Unit 2. However, they haven't  
16 completed getting the power into Unit 2 at this  
17 time. But they're working to do that right now.  
18 Once they do that, they'll have to do some check-out  
19 of the pumps and motors and instrumentation due to  
20 the fact that the equipment's been out of service  
21 and they're not sure what condition they're in at  
22 this time due to the environment they've been in.

23                  Unit 3 still remains a point of concern.  
24 Fire trucks did supply cooling spray there at least  
25 40 tons at least twice during the day, and it seemed

**NEAL R. GROSS**

COURT REPORTERS AND TRANSCRIBERS  
1323 RHODE ISLAND AVE., N.W.  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20005-3701

1 to have some effect as far as getting some cooling  
2 in place, but it's unknown exactly how much got into  
3 the spent fuel pool at Unit 3.

4 Unit 4, we just saw on television as we  
5 were talking to you here that they announced that  
6 fire trucks are beginning spraying on Unit 4 this  
7 morning as well in Japan. So that's good news if  
8 that is the case.

9 And for Units 5 and 6, although they  
10 were not as severely affected, there was still a  
11 temporary -- diesel generators were running in Unit  
12 6. And we had an earlier report that they had seen  
13 some lowering of the spent fuel pool in Unit 5 but  
14 were able to restore cooling with, using power from  
15 one of the Unit 6 emergency diesel generators. And  
16 so Units 5 and 6, both had spent fuel pools covered  
17 at that time. In addition, they have ventilated the  
18 rooftops in the, the reactor buildings for Units 5  
19 and 6 as a cautionary measure, just in case there  
20 would a problem with the spent fuel pool or there  
21 would be a hydrogen release into the secondary  
22 containment that it would not take out the whole  
23 containment.

24 Power restoration does continue. Units  
25 1, 2, 5, and 6 -- they're still laying electrical

**NEAL R. GROSS**

COURT REPORTERS AND TRANSCRIBERS

1323 RHODE ISLAND AVE., N.W.

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20005-3701

1 cables there in an effort to try to, to reattach  
2 some kind of power into those units. And hopefully,  
3 they, they hope that they'll get power back on Units  
4 3 and 4 by tomorrow. But of course, we've heard  
5 that for the last few days. It always seems like  
6 it's tomorrow that they're going to restore power to  
7 Unit 3 and 4, and we haven't heard that yet, so  
8 let's hope tomorrow is true.

9 And I think with that, that's all we  
10 have on the condition of the six units.

11 BRIAN SHERON: Okay. I think that's,  
12 that's about, that's about all the update we have  
13 that right now.

14 Do you all have any questions?

15 BILL ORDERS: Are you open for questions  
16 now?

17 BRIAN SHERON: Yes.

18 BILL ORDERS: This is Bill Orders. Just  
19 a quick question. There was a report that there's,  
20 a core is loaded on Unit 5 but there's no  
21 parameters. How does that look?

22 BRIAN SHERON: The core's loaded on Unit  
23 5? I don't know. I'll have to get back to you on  
24 that one.

25 BILL ORDERS: Okay. The, you've got it

**NEAL R. GROSS**

COURT REPORTERS AND TRANSCRIBERS

1323 RHODE ISLAND AVE., N.W.

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20005-3701

1 loaded, meaning there's some fuel in the pot. And  
2 at one time, I thought I picked up on the fact that  
3 the reactor pressure was increasing, so that's a  
4 real concern.

5 And one more thing. The margin that  
6 you've got on the spent fuel pools, what's that? A  
7 margin 2?

8 BRIAN SHERON: I think that's a margin 2  
9 boil off.

10 BILL ORDERS: Like boil off to the top  
11 of the core, I mean top of the fuel?

12 BRIAN SHERON: To the top of the fuel.

13 BILL ORDERS: Okay.

14 BRIAN SHERON: Of the spent fuel pool.

15 BILL ORDERS: Only one more question,  
16 then I'll quit. Was there any effort to reach out  
17 from the Chairman's office to his colleagues on this  
18 two o'clock meeting? Over.

19 MARTY VIRGILIO: Bill, this is Marty.  
20 After an initial call the chairman had with Admiral  
21 Donald and [REDACTED] I took over arranged the  
22 meeting.

23 BILL ORDERS: Okay. But is this  
24 something that -- I'm just asking. It seems very  
25 much policy issues involved here. It seems like

**NEAL R. GROSS**

COURT REPORTERS AND TRANSCRIBERS

1323 RHODE ISLAND AVE., N.W.

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20005-3701

1 loaded, meaning there's some fuel in the pot. And  
2 at one time, I thought I picked up on the fact that  
3 the reactor pressure was increasing, so that's a  
4 real concern.

5 And one more thing. The margin that  
6 you've got on the spent fuel pools, what's that? A  
7 margin 2?

8 BRIAN SHERON: I think that's a margin 2  
9 boil off.

10 BILL ORDERS: Like boil off to the top  
11 of the core, I mean top of the fuel?

12 BRIAN SHERON: To the top of the fuel.

13 BILL ORDERS: Okay.

14 BRIAN SHERON: Of the spent fuel pool.

15 BILL ORDERS: Only one more question,  
16 then I'll quit. Was there any effort to reach out  
17 from the Chairman's office to his colleagues on this  
18 two o'clock meeting? Over.

19 MARTY VIRGILIO: Bill, this is Marty.  
20 After an initial call the chairman had with Admiral  
21 Donald and Admiral Ellis, I took over arranged the  
22 meeting.

23 BILL ORDERS: Okay. But is this  
24 something that -- I'm just asking. It seems very  
25 much policy issues involved here. It seems like

**NEAL R. GROSS**

COURT REPORTERS AND TRANSCRIBERS

1323 RHODE ISLAND AVE., N.W.

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20005-3701

1 Commission matters but there's no communication.

2 MARTY VIRGILIO: That's between you and  
3 the Chairman's office.

4 BILL ORDERS: Got you. Thank you.

5 MIKE FRANOVICH: I, this is Mike  
6 Franovich. I have one question for Don Cool. This  
7 morning, we heard about some very low readings of  
8 San Onofre, and I think the previous evening it was  
9 also noted, Diablo Canyon was picking up some iodine  
10 131. Do we have anything new in that, in that  
11 update?

12 DON COOL: No, sir. We don't at this  
13 time.

14 PAT CASTLEMAN: Hi. This is Pat  
15 Castleman. I have a couple of questions. One of  
16 them is, on the news today, I heard that the  
17 Fukushima site was designed for a tsunami of 16  
18 feet, but they actually saw 20 feet. Do we have any  
19 more information on that?

20 BRIAN SHERON: I'm not, I'm not aware of  
21 any. I, I had actually heard it was designed for 20  
22 feet, and they --

23 MALE PARTICIPANT: Thirty-seven?

24 BRIAN SHERON: -- it was something like  
25 36 and 37 feet.

**NEAL R. GROSS**

COURT REPORTERS AND TRANSCRIBERS

1323 RHODE ISLAND AVE., N.W.

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20005-3701

1 PAT CASTLEMAN: Oh, really. Wow.

2 BRIAN SHERON: Yeah.

3 MALE PARTICIPANT: But I don't know  
4 that that's --

5 BRIAN SHERON: But we don't have very  
6 reliable sources of information, Pat. So I, I  
7 really don't like to -- you know, don't quote me on  
8 that or, or run with it. It's just stuff that we've  
9 heard.

10 PAT CASTLEMAN: Right. I understand.  
11 It's, it's just, obviously, there's a fog of  
12 information here and I, I'm just, just throwing that  
13 out there to see what it is. And the bottom line is  
14 we still don't know, nor do we know about the design  
15 accelerations and actual accelerations and so forth  
16 from the earthquake though.

17 BRIAN SHERON: We, I'm not sure we know  
18 about the accelerations. I mean, we were told it  
19 was, it was actually a magnitude 8 earthquake --

20 MALE PARTICIPANT: Nine.

21 BRIAN SHERON: I'm sorry -- it was a  
22 nine. I'm sorry. The design basis was eight --

23 PAT CASTLEMAN: Oh, okay.

24 BRIAN SHERON: -- for the site. But  
25 that doesn't necessarily, I mean when you're talking

**NEAL R. GROSS**

COURT REPORTERS AND TRANSCRIBERS  
1323 RHODE ISLAND AVE., N.W.

1 seismic design, that doesn't really mean anything  
2 because it's a matter of where is the, where is the  
3 epicenter located and what's in between the  
4 epicenter and basement.

5 PAT CASTLEMAN: Okay, exactly.


6 BRIAN SHERON: And that determines the  
7 ground motion.

8 PAT CASTLEMAN: Right. Right. And of  
9 course, you know, as I understand it, we, we license  
10 to accelerations, you know, versus, you know, the  
11 Richter scale, which is really an energy measurement  
12 more than anything, as I understand it.

13 BRIAN SHERON: Right.

14 PAT CASTLEMAN: Right.

15 Okay. A couple of questions. On page 2  
16 of the situation report that we got, it talks about  
17 evacuation of US citizens from Sendai and it says  
18 that additional busses have been suspended because  
19 of a lack of demand. Do we have any idea if that is  
20 because US citizens, all US citizens are gone or  
21 that the US citizens that remain have decided that  
22 they're going to go with the Japan protective action  
23 recommendations?

24 BRIAN SHERON: What, what I heard on my  
25 conference call 

**NEAL R. GROSS**

COURT REPORTERS AND TRANSCRIBERS

1323 RHODE ISLAND AVE., N.W.

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20005-3701

(202) 234-4433

www.nealrgross.com

5



1 that a majority of the US citizens in Japan were not  
2 choosing to evacuate -- I'm sorry -- were not  
3 choosing to, to leave. They said they, they did see  
4 an increase in the number of military families that  
5 did want to leave, but they were using terms like  
6 there were empty seats on airplanes flying out and  
7 everything. So, you know, that's as much as I know.

8 PAT CASTLEMAN: And that's just  
9 anecdotal, and I understand that. I just wanted to  
10 kind of get an idea of that.

11 What are we doing in terms of the relief  
12 team? I understand Dan Dorman is en route. Do we  
13 have -- how are we doing on the rest of the relief  
14 team?

15 BRIAN SHERON: There is a second,  
16 there's a second team. I think, a couple were going  
17 to go out on Monday and the rest of the team, I  
18 think, was supposed to leave -- what? Thursday? It  
19 was Wednesday, Thursday, they were going to fly over  
20 and relieve the team that's over there.

21 PAT CASTLEMAN: Okay. Great. Thanks.

22 The last thing is, when we had finished  
23 up our morning conference call, we were breaking up  
24 because there was going to be a conference call at  
25 0745 with INPO and NR and the industry and so forth,

**NEAL R. GROSS**

COURT REPORTERS AND TRANSCRIBERS

1323 RHODE ISLAND AVE., N.W.

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20005-3701

1 and that was regarding establishment of a consortium  
2 or something.

3 MARTY VIRGILIO: No, no. Let me make  
4 sure we get the facts straight. This is Marty.

5 PAT CASTLEMAN: Yeah, Marty.

6 MARTY VIRGILIO: The 7:45 phone call was  
7 internal to NRC to see who was going to be  
8 participating in that meeting.

9 PAT CASTLEMAN: Oh, okay. That, that  
10 differs from what we were told.

11 MARTY VIRGILIO: Yeah. It was, that was  
12 my, I hosted the call with the office directors just  
13 to make sure we were aligned on the purpose of the  
14 meeting and who was going to be participating from  
15 the NRC.

16 PAT CASTLEMAN: Okay. So, then, am I  
17 correct in surmising that the 1400 meeting this  
18 afternoon was, that, that the 7:45 call with the  
19 preparation for this afternoon's meeting?

20 MARTY VIRGILIO: Yeah. Yeah. That's  
21 the way we set it up.

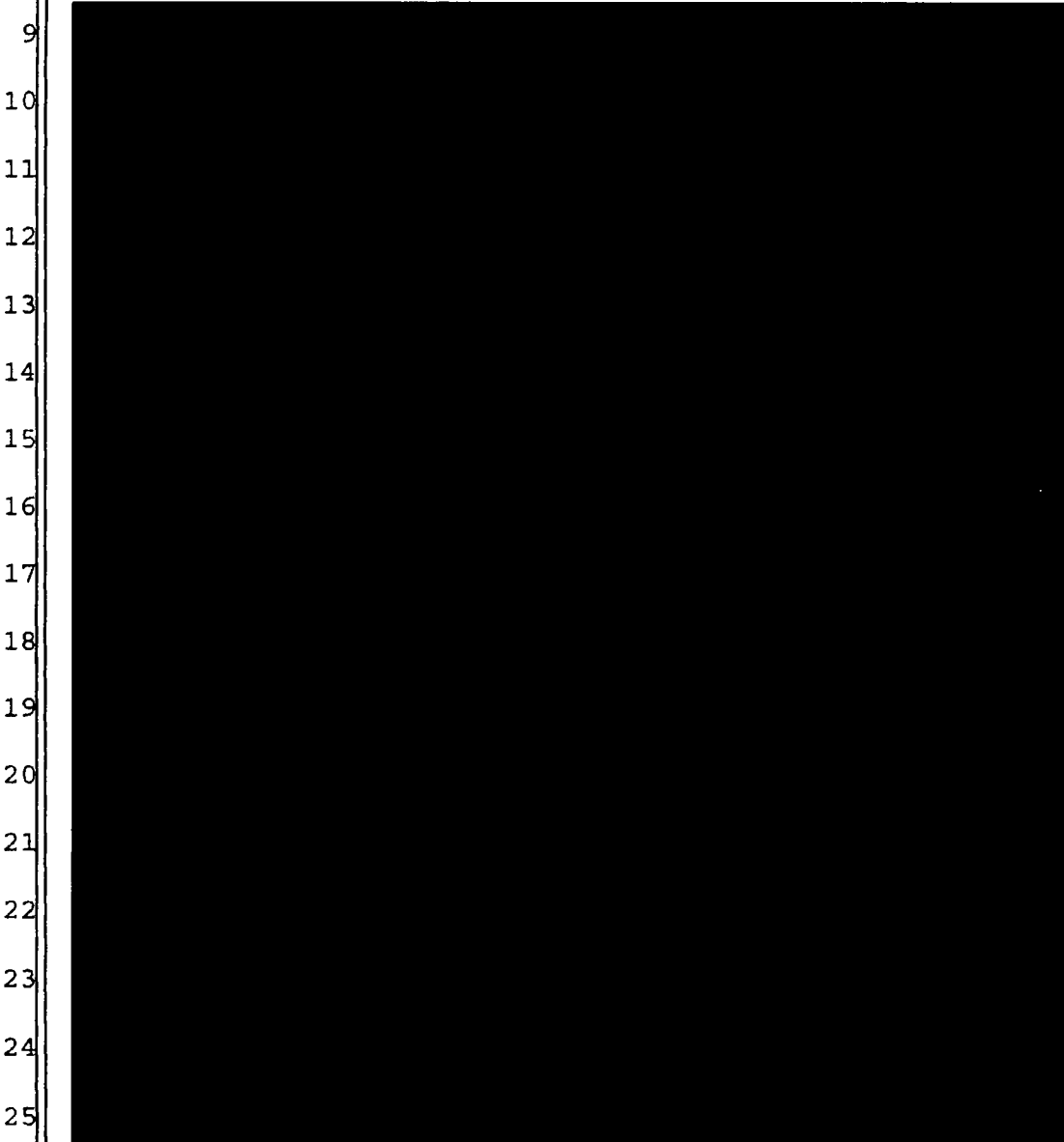
22 PAT CASTLEMAN: Okay.

23 MARTY VIRGILIO: Like I had worked the  
24 night with [REDACTED] and others to set up the  
25 1400 meeting. We never had a phone call with the

1 industry participants. What we did is we worked  
 2 primarily through [REDACTED] Pete Lyons, and  
 3 Naval Reactors representatives who were here in the  
 4 Ops Center with me through the night. And then we,  
 5 at 0725, briefed up the office directors, and then  
 6 had the meeting at two o'clock this afternoon.

6

7 PAT CASTLEMAN: Okay. Got it. That's  
 8 good.



7  
10

9  
10  
11  
12  
13  
14  
15  
16  
17  
18  
19  
20  
21  
22  
23  
24  
25

**NEAL R. GROSS**

COURT REPORTERS AND TRANSCRIBERS

1323 RHODE ISLAND AVE., N.W.

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20005-3701

(202) 234-4433

www.nealrgross.com

1 critical, and that's still an ongoing effort to  
2 confirm that through our site team and the  
3 Department of State, the ambassador. So that's,  
4 that's how I got started. Now, I was the method two  
5 o'clock meeting.

6 Brian, were you there?

7 BRIAN SHERON: Yeah. I was there. And  
8 the, during the discussions, what the industry  
9 pointed out -- and this was, Westinghouse, [REDACTED]  
10 [REDACTED] (phon) and I can't remember the guy's name  
11 from General Electric; he was a VP for GE -- but  
12 both of them said [REDACTED]

13 [REDACTED]  
14 [REDACTED]  
15 [REDACTED]  
16 [REDACTED]  
17 [REDACTED]  
18 [REDACTED]  
19 [REDACTED] so I think they're looking that if they are  
20 going to be effective in their interactions with,  
21 with Tepco, that they would probably do it through  
22 their Japanese owners.

23 PAT CASTLEMAN: That, that makes sense.

24 That comports with all the interactions I've had  
25 with the Japanese over the years.

**NEAL R. GROSS**

COURT REPORTERS AND TRANSCRIBERS

1323 RHODE ISLAND AVE., N.W.

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20005-3701

1                   Anyway, that's all the questions I had.

2                   Thank you very much.

3                   BRIAN SHERON: Any other any others?

4                   LARRY CAMPER: Yeah, Larry Camper.

5                   Trish, are you there?

6                   TRISH HOLAHAN: Yes, I am.

7                   LARRY CAMPER: Did -- where do we stand  
8                   on NARAC running the analysis on the worst-case  
9                   scenario that you and I were discussing as we were,  
10                  you know, trading off duties? Did anything positive  
11                  come out of that or did we feel that we needed to  
12                  talk to Admiral Crowell (phon)?

13                  DON COOL: Larry, this is Don Cool. Let  
14                  me answer that. We've gotten an alignment with  
15                  NARAC on the parameters of source term. We had  
16                  earlier this evening, we sought an alignment with  
17                  NNSA and the NIT (inaudible) start that.

18                  In a conference call that was happening  
19                  just before this call happened, there was a  
20                  discussion with OSTG and DOE, including Steve Aoki  
21                  and others, sorting out some priorities for NARAC in  
22                  terms if they run Japanese local out to Tokyo to  
23                  support some of those predictions. That one will be  
24                  done, and then they will do some melt-core  
25                  trans-Atlantic run.

**NEAL R. GROSS**

COURT REPORTERS AND TRANSCRIBERS

1323 RHODE ISLAND AVE., N.W.

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20005-3701

1                   So it's on the schedule, but it isn't  
2                   the first thing that NARAC is going to do. So it  
3                   may well be, even as far as Monday morning, I  
4                   suppose, because of the time devoted to each run,  
5                   before that run is completed.



6  
7  
8  
9  
10  
11  
12                   LARRY CAMPER: Okay. So we're  
13                   comfortable with that?

14                   DON COOL: You have to run the assets  
15                   that you have. Given my responsibility is to  
16                   provide advice there in Japan and 50 miles, if they  
17                   want to run the Tokyo run to help me understand and  
18                   confirm the ones that I'm doing with the meteorology  
19                   shifts over the next 24 hours, that would be more  
20                   important to me than the melt core worst-case  
21                   transported across the Atlantic.

22                   LARRY CAMPER: Okay. One other  
23                   question. Don, the direction of the wind -- when I  
24                   last saw that, it was due south on Sunday mid-day to  
25                   late day on Sunday. Is that -- you mentioned

**NEAL R. GROSS**

COURT REPORTERS AND TRANSCRIBERS  
1323 RHODE ISLAND AVE., N.W.  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20005-3701

1 earlier south, southwest. Has that changed since I  
2 saw that two hours ago, or is this still due south?

3 DON COOL: You know, that's, that  
4 long-term prediction is the prediction that we have,  
5 that the current predictions were coming from the  
6 west, will gradually shift until they are on shore  
7 continuing to swing around. Sunday night through  
8 Monday, they'll be variable between south and then I  
9 think they will gradually be moving back offshore  
10 again.

11 LARRY CAMPER: Yeah. I think it's back  
12 out to sea again. Yeah. Okay.

13 DON COOL: Eventually, but we have at  
14 least 24 hours where we will have wind directions  
15 that will take any releases over land instead of out  
16 to sea.

17 LARRY CAMPER: All right. Okay. Thank  
18 you.

19 MALE PARTICIPANT: The plant conditions,  
20 they've changed a bit. Has that modified our source  
21 term at all?

22 DON COOL: There are -- well, when we  
23 say "source term", I think we need to be careful.  
24 In terms of the ones that I'm asking my team to do,  
25 they are still runs which would anticipate things

**NEAL R. GROSS**

COURT REPORTERS AND TRANSCRIBERS

1323 RHODE ISLAND AVE., N.W.

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20005-3701

1 getting much worse and a major release. They are  
2 not, we are not attempting to model the actual doses  
3 on the ground that have been surveyed because we  
4 want to base our protective actions on what could  
5 happen still rather than what we're seeing at this  
6 moment.

7 So, no, I have not changed the source  
8 terms that we're running.

9 MALE PARTICIPANT: Okay. So, in other  
10 words, it's sort of worst-case.

11 DON COOL: It's a realistically bad  
12 case. We're using a variety of, we are now using  
13 the phrase "worst-case" or "the melt core source  
14 term", which our folks in Research Office developed,  
15 which includes contributions from Units 1, 2, and 3,  
16 and spent fuels 1, 2, 3, 4.

17 TRISH HOLAHAN: Yes.

18 MALE PARTICIPANT: And that, that source  
19 term is not what I'm using. We're continuing to use  
20 the source term that was the basic underlying  
21 assumption for, that's what supported our press  
22 releases and protective action recommendations two  
23 or three days ago now.

24 MALE PARTICIPANT: And that particular  
25 press release is based on the spent fuel pool in



1 Unit 4 as 100-percent gone. Right?

2 DON COOL: That's correct.

3 MALE PARTICIPANT: Okay. So we stand by  
4 that. Right?

5 DON COOL: As something about which to  
6 beg the question of protective actions. We can hold  
7 a poll around the room of what people think is  
8 actual conditions in that pool, and I think you'll  
9 get -- you know, there's six people -- there's seven  
10 answers.

11 (Laughter.)

12 BRIAN SHERON: Well, let's face it.  
13 Having -- I think, you know, as Bill Borchardt that  
14 this morning, I mean this afternoon at two o'clock  
15 when he was talking about the status, is he said  
16 that, you know, it's the fog of war. In other  
17 words, you're, you're taking information from  
18 various sources. A lot of it's conflicting. You're  
19 trying piece<sup>o</sup>it together and put together the best  
20 scenario you can. But you recognize that there  
21 could be errors. It could be, it could be  
22 different, you know, but it's the best that we have.

23 MALE PARTICIPANT: All right. I  
24 understand. I understand. Thank you.

25 LARRY CAMPER: Hey, Brian. Larry again.

**NEAL R. GROSS**

COURT REPORTERS AND TRANSCRIBERS

1323 RHODE ISLAND AVE., N.W.

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20005-3701

1 In the final analysis, then, going back to the  
2 Bechtel train situation, is the train going to  
3 Japan? And did AID come up with the money at \$2.4  
4 million?

5 BRIAN SHERON: AID confirm that the --  
6 no -- I said AID confirmed that DOD had agreed to  
7 pick up the tab to ship one train over there for  
8 \$2.5 million, I think it was, roughly.

9 LARRY CAMPER: So is that en route, or  
10 do you know?

11 BRIAN SHERON: No. It's still on the  
12 ground in Australia. We understand the plane is  
13 partially loaded. AID had to get a hold of the  
14 appropriate place. I can't remember the acronym  
15 they used --

16 TRISH HOLAHAN: PACOM.

17 BRIAN SHERON: -- PACOM. That's the  
18 guys who approve the money --

19 TRISH HOLAHAN: In Japan.

20 BRIAN SHERON: Huh?

21 TRISH HOLAHAN: In Japan.

22 BRIAN SHERON: In, in, in Japan.

23 So once they got that approval, my  
24 understanding is that they were going to call over  
25 to Australia and authorize the flight.

**NEAL R. GROSS**

COURT REPORTERS AND TRANSCRIBERS

1323 RHODE ISLAND AVE., N.W.

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20005-3701

1 LARRY CAMPER: Was the Embassy in Japan  
2 on that call that US --

3 TRISH HOLAHAN: Yes.

4 LARRY CAMPER: Huh?

5 TRISH HOLAHAN: Okay.

6 TRISH HOLAHAN: And the embassy in  
7 Australia was on the call as well.

8 LARRY CAMPER: Okay. So is there a  
9 sense that all that diplomatic concern has been put  
10 to rest?

11 TRISH HOLAHAN: Yes.

12 BRIAN SHERON: So far.

13 LARRY CAMPER: Okay. Thank you.

14 BRIAN SHERON: Any other comments?

15 MALE PARTICIPANT: Just one. I  
16 appreciate what you're doing.

17 BRIAN SHERON: Okay.

18 MALE PARTICIPANT: Yeah, I'll second  
19 that. Thank you very much for that very informative  
20 briefing.

21 BRIAN SHERON: Okay. Great. Take care.  
22 Have a good evening.

23

24

25

**NEAL R. GROSS**

COURT REPORTERS AND TRANSCRIBERS

1323 RHODE ISLAND AVE., N.W.

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20005-3701

1 (CONFERENCE CALL INITIATED.)

2 04:34:46/05:10:25

3 BRIAN SHERON: Chuck?

4 CHUCK CASTO: Yeah. Is this Brian?

5 BRIAN SHERON: Yeah, this is Brian.

6 CHUCK CASTO: how are you doing, Brian?

7 BRIAN SHERON: Good. What's up?

8 CHUCK CASTO: I guess I need to talk, I  
9 probably need to talk to you guys and Marty. Do you  
10 know if Marty's available?

11 BRIAN SHERON: Marty's here --

12 MARTY VIRGILIO: Marty took the day off.

13 BRIAN SHERON: Yeah, Marty took the day  
14 off.

15 CHUCK CASTO: Yeah, you know how that  
16 guy is. He's always out riding that motorcycle.

17 MARTY VIRGILIO: I actually got it out  
18 of the garage today but I didn't get very far.

19 CHUCK CASTO: Here's today's crisis,  
20 Marty and, and Brian. When I came in, finally --  
21 you know, I don't get in until late -- when I came  
22 in this morning, the, the ambassador and his staff  
23 had arranged a meeting with Tepco, and I, I  
24 understand the sensitivity there. So here, I went  
25 to a Tepco meeting with them. And I talked about --

**NEAL R. GROSS**

COURT REPORTERS AND TRANSCRIBERS

1323 RHODE ISLAND AVE., N.W.

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20005-3701

(202) 234-4433

www.nealrgross.com

1 they asked, you know, give us an update on your,  
2 where we're at with salt and radiation.

3 Well, well, honestly, I didn't have a  
4 wallet in my back pocket on that. I said, well, you  
5 asked me about it yesterday. There's a, there's a  
6 lot of information, a lot of analysis, and I believe  
7 we're working on that. And I said, you know, with  
8 your permission, it would be much more elegant for  
9 us to provide that information to NISA so NISA can  
10 get the information to you. Well, he, he, he didn't  
11 warm up to that idea. He, they basically said, we  
12 need this stuff immediately. We need this help  
13 immediately on, on the salt and the radiation.

14 So my proposal in talking with the  
15 embassy is that we meet with NISA Tepco to go over  
16 any information that we have.

17 MARTY VIRGILIO: That sounds like a good  
18 plan.

19 BRIAN SHERON: Okay.

20 CHUCK CASTO: The embassy says, you  
21 know, they have to do that with other agencies all  
22 the time, but we would not meet with Tepco alone in  
23 any event. So every, every meeting we have would be  
24 with NISA and Tepco.

25 He -- honestly, NISA -- I don't how to

**NEAL R. GROSS**

COURT REPORTERS AND TRANSCRIBERS

1323 RHODE ISLAND AVE., N.W.

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20005-3701

1 put this diplomatically -- but, you know, that's a  
2 challenge. And he's, he's very anxious. In fact,  
3 they had already called back over here before I got  
4 over here and called John Monninger before I got  
5 back. It's a 15-minute car ride, and they'd already  
6 called over here. And I'm -- Marty, I'm talking,

7 

8 JOHN MONNINGER: Yeah, they called me  
9 and they wanted to know how quickly we could get  
10 down there to discuss details.

11 MARTY VIRGILIO: And do you have the  
12 background papers that we have here?

13 BRIAN SHERON: What, what are the  
14 specific issues on salt and radiation, Chuck?

15 CHUCK CASTO: The specific issues are,  
16 on salt, you know, as you know better than I do,  
17 Brian, they're, they're running three evaporators.  
18 And, and we have some analyses here that I saw this  
19 morning -- I think they were European or UK analyses  
20 -- that show they're heavily concentrating salt  
21 within the reactor.

22 BRIAN SHERON: Right.

23 CHUCK CASTO: On the fuel and in the  
24 bottom head and everywhere, it's attacking heat  
25 transfer rate. They seem to be very concerned about

**NEAL R. GROSS**

COURT REPORTERS AND TRANSCRIBERS  
1323 RHODE ISLAND AVE., N.W.  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20005-3701

5

1 that. And, and he's told me twice now this is  
2 urgent.

3 BRIAN SHERON: Do they have --

4 CHUCK CASTO: [REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED]

5 [REDACTED]

6 [REDACTED]

7 BRIAN SHERON: We can get you some  
8 articles that we have here on salt. We've got one  
9 here from Naval Reactors. The, the punch line in  
10 there is that they should probably switch over to  
11 freshwater sources, if they have it, as soon as  
12 possible.

13 CHUCK CASTO: Yeah, and we talked about  
14 that, and I said you you=re your desalinization  
15 plant or reverse osmosis. And the Navy here is  
16 telling me -- I don't know; the Navy guys can  
17 explain more about that stuff than I know about it  
18 -- but we talked about that, and they're prepared to  
19 do that.

20 The challenges, as you well know, are  
21 how to do it. I mean, they can make freshwater, but  
22 the challenge is, how do you get freshwater into the  
23 reactors, you know, with a 100-R field or 450-R  
24 field.

25 So the other part two is he's desperate

**NEAL R. GROSS**

COURT REPORTERS AND TRANSCRIBERS

1323 RHODE ISLAND AVE., N.W.

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20005-3701

6

1 to figure out how to lower the radiation levels.  
2 And, you know, we talked about it. I said, when you  
3 fill the spent fuel pools, you're going to help it  
4 little bit, you know, but what you need, what you  
5 need to think about -- and this is me talking. I  
6 have no idea what I'm talking about -- but you know,  
7 you need keyholes into, keyholes into, to crucial  
8 components, you know, that you lead-line a walkway,  
9 you know, don't try to, don't try to lower all the  
10 radiation levels across the site at once, you know,  
11 to eat the elephant a piece of the time.

12 BRIAN SHERON: Yeah.

13 CHUCK CASTO: Get to critical components  
14 and get -- you know, if you have to cut a new  
15 connection into the -- he wants to -- you know, this

16 [REDACTED]  
17 [REDACTED]  
18 [REDACTED]  
19 [REDACTED]  
20 [REDACTED]  
21 [REDACTED]

22 [REDACTED] We've got to test  
23 everything. We're going to have to replace pumps,  
24 we're going to have to figure out motors. You know,  
25 we're going to have to test everything one component

**NEAL R. GROSS**

COURT REPORTERS AND TRANSCRIBERS

1323 RHODE ISLAND AVE., N.W.

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20005-2704

5



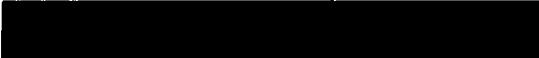
1 of the time to restore a plant that's had a major  
2 explosion in it.

3           So, you know, my suggestion to him was,  
4 you know, look, that, that is the dose and -- you  
5 know, I said, look, why don't you pursue multiple  
6 options? Get the desalinization plant, drill some  
7 keyholes in the plant -- you know, that's,  
8 conceptually, I'm talking about -- and, you know,  
9 get a connection, a freshwater connection to those  
10 reactors, cut a freshwater connection to it if they  
11 have to. And there goes the robot.

12           I suggested to him, you know, we can  
13 provide lots of robotics equipment to help put the  
14 keyholes in, the gopher holes --

15           BRIAN SHERON: Yeah.

16           CHUCK CASTO: -- you know, and, and get  
17 it to the critical components through the gopher  
18 holes and get some freshwater in these reactors to  
19 get rid of that salt water and stop the  
20 accumulation.

21           That's the, that's the -- you know, and  
22 I, I very much appreciate and respect and honor all  
23 the stuff about, you know, we've got to stay our  
24 Lane. I understand that. There's a couple of  
25 challenges with that. 

**NEAL R. GROSS**

COURT REPORTERS AND TRANSCRIBERS

1323 RHODE ISLAND AVE., N.W.

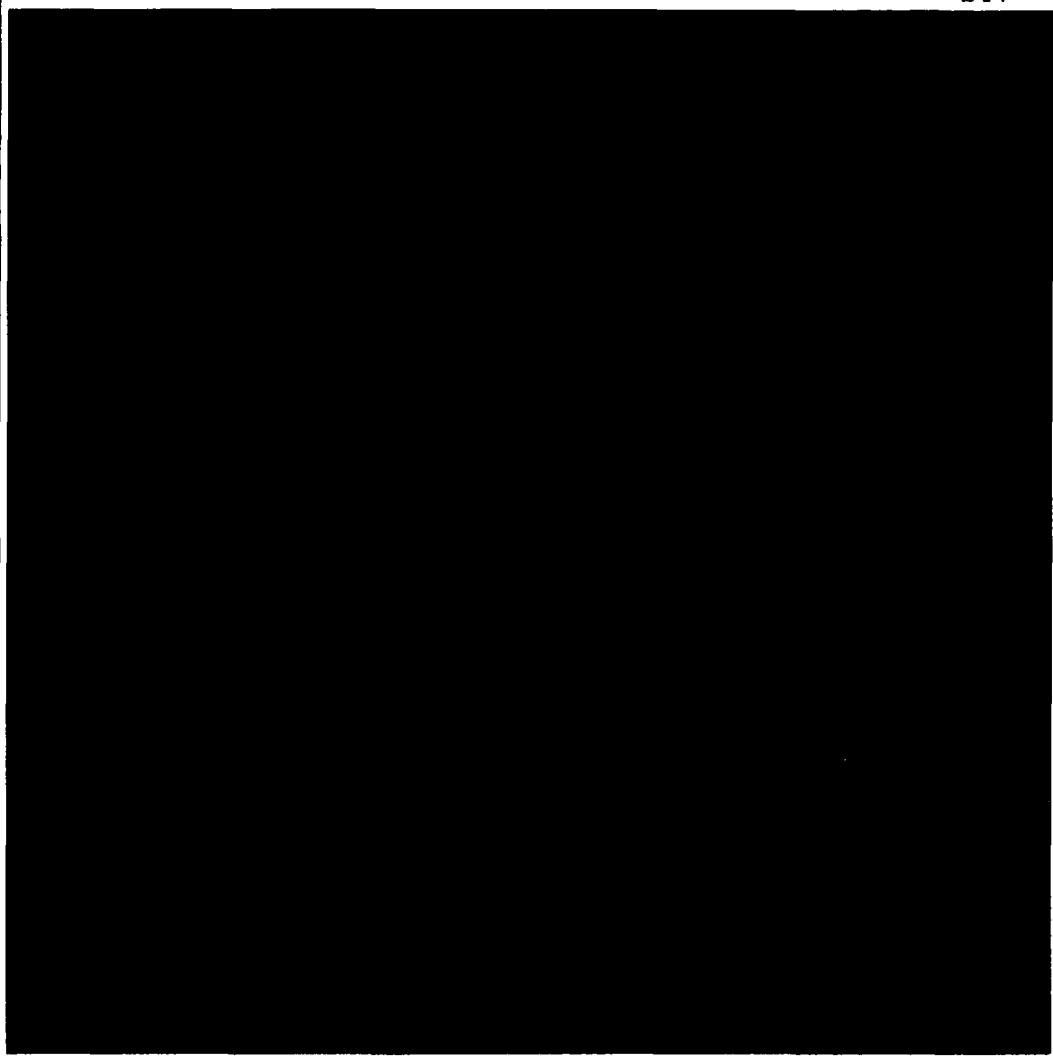
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20005-3701

(202) 234-4433

www.nealrgross.com

5

1  
2  
3  
4  
5  
6  
7  
8  
9  
10  
11  
12  
13  
14  
15  
16  
17  
18  
19  
20  
21  
22  
23  
24  
25



5

MARTY VIRGILIO: Yeah. That makes good sense.

CHUCK CASTO: And we can get information to Tepco, you know, and everybody's all on one page, NISA, Tepco, and us.

MARTY VIRGILIO: All right.

CHUCK CASTO: And with regard to the industry, Marty, you know, I made no offers about the industry because I was obviously on part of the phone call last night. And it seemed to me that the

**NEAL R. GROSS**

COURT REPORTERS AND TRANSCRIBERS

1323 RHODE ISLAND AVE., N.W.

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20005-3701

1  
2  
3  
4  
5  
6  
7  
8  
9  
10  
11  
12  
13  
14  
15  
16  
17  
18  
19  
20  
21  
22  
23  
24  
25

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

said, well, you know, we work with GE and Hitachi.  
And I said, well, I think, you know, the industry  
would be very well -- because they said last night,  
hey, we'll work behind GE and Hitachi; you know,  
we're happy to do that --

[REDACTED]

So and he, the [REDACTED] you  
know, I work with GE and Hitachi. And I said, well,  
the American nuclear industry is, I'm sure if you  
reach out to them, we would, you know, be happy to  
support GE and Hitachi in all that work.

He also said, with regard to -- he was  
not aware of the robots and the helicopters. You  
know, we had shared that with the staff. We had  
shared that last night with the staff. He was not  
aware of that, and he said he would love to have all  
that equipment.

MARTY VIRGILIO: On that note, you know,  
I'm reading trade press that says that INTRA, a  
joint venture of EDF, Areva, and CDA, has sent 130  
tons of robots and specialized equipment to help  
Japan cope with the aftermath of the nuclear power

**NEAL R. GROSS**

COURT REPORTERS AND TRANSCRIBERS  
1323 RHODE ISLAND AVE., N.W.  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20005-3701

X  
6  
X  
6

1 plant accident.

2 CHUCK CASTO: Where the hell is that  
3 stuff at?

4 MARTY VIRGILIO: That's the question. I  
5 mean, you've got other mature countries sending  
6 equipment in there, and, you know --

7 CHUCK CASTO: Well, everybody wants to  
8 say they've done it, Marty, but it could be sitting  
9 in a warehouse here in Japan --

10 MARTY VIRGILIO: Right.

11 CHUCK CASTO: -- and they could  
12 advertise that they've done it.

13 You know, now we've had a lot of  
14 companies call here and a lot of powerful companies  
15 go through the embassy, you know, very powerful  
16 officials at the embassy, and come down to us and  
17 say these people -- you know, and we've been pushing  
18 all that stuff to the ops center and saying, you  
19 know, we're not there yet. But we are there with  
20 robots.

21 And, and he accepted them with a caveat.  
22 He said, look, I'll take, you know, I want this  
23 stuff. There's two caveats. I want this stuff.  
24 Okay, I wasn't aware of it, but I want it. However,  
25 we don't -- I'm paraphrasing here. I'm sorry, Marty

**NEAL R. GROSS**

COURT REPORTERS AND TRANSCRIBERS  
1323 RHODE ISLAND AVE., N.W.  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20005-3701

1 -- but he basically said, don't blame us if we don't  
2 use it all.

3 And I said, hey, that's absolutely  
4 acceptable. All right? It's fine. I mean, you  
5 know, we understand that. [REDACTED]

6 [REDACTED] 5  
7 [REDACTED]  
8 [REDACTED]  
9 You know, I said, look, what we'll do --  
10 maybe the Hilo (phon); maybe the Hilo we could do --  
11 but I said, our intent is to get the equipment in  
12 country. We will take it somewhere safe, we will  
13 train your people on how to use it and -- I lost the  
14 point on that in my mind -- we'll train your people  
15 how to use it, and FDF can use it.

16 Now also, he was talking about  
17 transportation and we said we could get everything  
18 to Yukoda. In talking with FDF last night, FDF said  
19 we will transport anything necessary from Yakoda to  
20 the site. So, you know, and right now, [REDACTED]

21 [REDACTED] here in the Embassy 6  
22 -- you know, basically, I told some the embassy  
23 people it's out of our lane; you know, once we,  
24 we're going to work at the other end of the arrow  
25 and devise how we make the gopher holes and all that

**NEAL R. GROSS**

COURT REPORTERS AND TRANSCRIBERS  
1323 RHODE ISLAND AVE., N.W.  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20005-3701

1 stuff and tell DOD what equipment we need and what  
2 priority, you know, but we're not working the  
3 logistics stuff.

4 We're, we learned our lesson on that  
5 damn pumping system. Okay? We're not doing that.  
6 It's out of our Lane. Were not going to do it.

7 MARTY VIRGILIO: Right.

8 CHUCK CASTO: And they were great with  
9 that. I mean, DOD, you know, they said, hey, that  
10 ain't a problem. You tell us what you need and what  
11 priority, and we will get it to you.

12 They certainly were interested in the  
13 unmanned helicopter, so, you know, if we have a  
14 trigger to pull on that, we, we probably could --  
15 that thing's in New England or something, Lockheed  
16 Martin -- we probably need to push that thing this  
17 way.

18 But that's the outcome of the meeting.  
19 And I would offer to you, Marty, that while not  
20 exactly the way Bill said last night, Bill Borchardt  
21 said in his meeting last night, I think it's an  
22 acceptable compromise, in my view, to work with  
23 Tepco and NISA. And, you know, yeah, and you know,  
24 that's the way the ambassador, you know, would, I  
25 think would prefer it --

**NEAL R. GROSS**

COURT REPORTERS AND TRANSCRIBERS

1323 RHODE ISLAND AVE., N.W.

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20005-3701

1 MARTY VIRGILIO: So we --

2 CHUCK CASTO: -- just talking to his  
3 senior staff. And they're going in to back-brief  
4 him now.

5 MARTY VIRGILIO: So we should work  
6 through Japanese countries for coordinating aid from  
7 the US industry, and we should work with both Tepco  
8 and NISA?

9 CHUCK CASTO: Yeah, and MOD. In their  
10 command center, there's GE. Hitachi's in there.  
11 And NISA's in there. And Tepco's in there.

12 BRIAN SHERON: It's a massive command  
13 center, 250-people staffed ops center.

14 CHUCK CASTO: But they, they're -- I  
15 tried to go back to, you know, sitting behind NISA  
16 and both, you know, [REDACTED]

17 [REDACTED]  
18 MALE PARTICIPANT: (off mic).

19 CHUCK CASTO: No, no. The other guy.  
20 Keith -- the main contact guy you were just on the  
21 phone with.

22 Anyhow --

23 MALE PARTICIPANT: (Off mic).

24 CHUCK CASTO: [REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED]

25 [REDACTED]

**NEAL R. GROSS**

COURT REPORTERS AND TRANSCRIBERS

1323 RHODE ISLAND AVE., N.W.

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20005-3701

6

1 But , you know, [REDACTED]  
2 after we walked out of the room and I said, look,  
3 you know, we, it's better if we work government to  
4 government with NISA, and, and, and he just said,  
5 look, we need this stuff now. We need help now on  
6 the salt and the, and the radiation.

7 MARTY VIRGILIO: Okay.

8 CHUCK CASTO: So I would --

9 MARTY VIRGILIO: Do they have a decent  
10 map of that site of the radiation fields so that  
11 they know what they're facing as they go in to try  
12 to restore equipment?

13 JOHN MONNINGER: They provided us, they  
14 provided us with a site map. But they, the rad  
15 fields are in huge areas, so it would not  
16 necessarily help personnel access. You know,  
17 probably a zone like 30 meters by 30 meters, they're  
18 saying, is 20 R. You know they, they -- you really  
19 want much more fine-detailed mapping.

20 Now they may have that information, but  
21 they have not shared that information with us.

22 FEMALE PARTICIPANT: Is that --

23 CHUCK CASTO: Here's, here's what I  
24 would suggest, Marty, and humbly. If, if we set up,  
25 if we set up two, a bridge in the ops center called

**NEAL R. GROSS**

COURT REPORTERS AND TRANSCRIBERS

1323 RHODE ISLAND AVE., N.W.

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20005-3701



1 the Salt Bridge or something -- I don't know what  
2 the hell want to -- you know, the Salt Bridge and,  
3 and Radiation Bridge or, or, you know, something  
4 like that. And we get with them and call back to  
5 you guys and get -- we just want to be the broker of  
6 this, you know, and be the liaison and get the salt  
7 people working directly with NISA and Tepco.

8 JOHN MONNINGER: You know, we had a good  
9 model of that the other night. We facilitated a  
10 call with the Reactor Safety Team, Bechtel, et  
11 cetera, and us and Tepco.

12 So my proposal would be, you know, they  
13 would like to meet us shortly this afternoon. I  
14 would call back and have the Reactor Safety Team on  
15 the line there, and we would also have the regulator  
16 there, NISA.

17 CHUCK CASTO: And what I would suggest  
18 is we identify targets that -- you know, I don't  
19 know; I may be back into solving their problem. I  
20 don't know. But, so you've got to slap me when this  
21 happens, Marty.

22 But, you know, what I would do is work  
23 with that group and identify targets like what we do  
24 in force-on-force, and just hand that off to a  
25 radiation team, you know, that says these are target

**NEAL R. GROSS**

COURT REPORTERS AND TRANSCRIBERS

1323 RHODE ISLAND AVE., N.W.

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20005-3701

1 that we need to get to. Here's the dose. You know,  
2 tell us what, tell us what you can do for us in  
3 terms of the dose. But that may be way too much  
4 involvement.

5 MARTY VIRGILIO: Yeah. Yeah.

6 CHUCK CASTO: But I mean we could --  
7 here's what I can do is suggest they do that.

8 MARTY VIRGILIO: Yeah. Yeah.

9 CHUCK CASTO: Not us do it, but they do  
10 it. And, you know, we walk them through the first  
11 one, you know, pilot. You know, here's the first  
12 target set. Okay, let's work with NISA and Tepco to  
13 do the first target set and then show them the  
14 techniques and let them go on their own.

15 I'm just brainstorming, Marty, really.  
16 That's just coming to my head.

17 MARTY VIRGILIO: No, no, no. That  
18 sounds pretty good. And I also like the idea of a  
19 phone call where we could, back here, get the  
20 Reactor Safety Team to, you know, get whoever  
21 external experts we would want on a bridge line here  
22 --

23 CHUCK CASTO: Right. And we might, that  
24 may be where we bring in the nuclear industry.

25 MARTY VIRGILIO: Right. Right.

**NEAL R. GROSS**

COURT REPORTERS AND TRANSCRIBERS  
1323 RHODE ISLAND AVE., N.W.  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20005-3701

1 CHUCK CASTO: Into that bridge, and not  
2 even, you know, not even mess with the nuclear  
3 industry coming about here.

4 JOHN MONNINGER: Yeah, I mean, that, on  
5 that call the other night, we had Bechtel, we had  
6 INPO, we had GE, all of them working together.

7 MARTY VIRGILIO: Yeah, I think that  
8 might be the model of how we want to attack this  
9 salt issue.

10 BRIAN SHERON: Yeah. So they, they're  
11 proposing to leave within the hour.

12 CHUCK CASTO: They're, they're -- I  
13 mean, here's the squeeze we get in, Marty, is, you  
14 know, they desperately want this, and they want it  
15 now. They've told -- this is the second time in 24  
16 hours [REDACTED]

17 I went in just -- you know, the embassy  
18 takes me in there and I said, hey, let me just give  
19 you an update. You know, we're working on it and  
20 it's a tough question. I felt pretty unarmed going  
21 in there, honestly.

22 MARTY VIRGILIO: Yeah. I bet.

23 CHUCK CASTO: But I got through it. It  
24 was, you know, my good looks.

25 (Laughter.)


**NEAL R. GROSS**

COURT REPORTERS AND TRANSCRIBERS

1323 RHODE ISLAND AVE., N.W.

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20005-3701

6

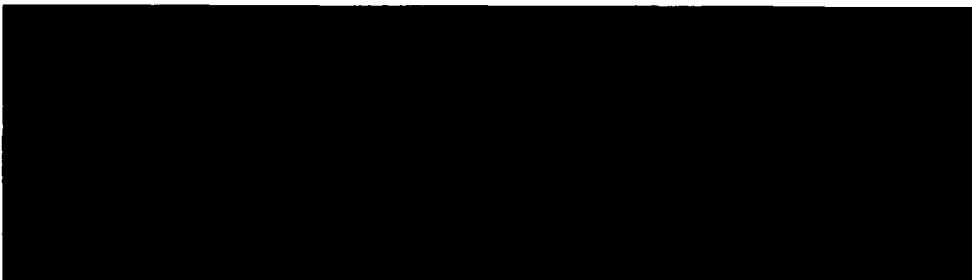
1 CHUCK CASTO: But, no, but, and I think  
2 it was -- no, I think he was very satisfied and very  
3  is what I would  
4 characterize it as. 6

5 MARTY VIRGILIO: Well, let's, let's --  
6 and I know they want and they want it now, but let's  
7 let the Reactor Safety Team figure out how soon they  
8 could get a team assembled and ready for a phone  
9 call.

10 CHUCK CASTO: And here's what they owe  
11 us and I want John to work with, is I missed an  
12 opportunity at this meeting. It came across my  
13 mind, but I missed the opportunity, you know, with  
14 all the ceremony, that they need to provide us with  
15 the data. We can't help them unless they provide us  
16 with the data.

17 MARTY VIRGILIO: That's, well, yeah.

18 CHUCK CASTO: 

19 

20 5

21

22

23 MARTY VIRGILIO: For example, how many  
24 gallons of salt water have they pumped in there?

25 TRISH HOLAHAN: Yeah.

**NEAL R. GROSS**

COURT REPORTERS AND TRANSCRIBERS

1323 RHODE ISLAND AVE., N.W.

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20005-3701

(202) 234-4433

www.nealrgross.com

1 CHUCK CASTO: Yeah.

2 MARTY VIRGILIO: Give us an estimate.

3 And I realize they probably don't have it metered,  
4 but they --

5 CHUCK CASTO: But also, on mitigating  
6 the event, Marty, we don't, you know, we don't  
7 really know -- well, we really don't know the  
8 condition of the reactors. You know, we don't know  
9 what containment pressure is, what reactor pressure  
10 is what, what, whether those things are even full.  
11 We don't even know if those vessels are full.

12 So, nevertheless, all that's moot. The  
13 bottom line is get water. They need to get fresh  
14 water into that reactor. And what I told him was  
15 it's going to take forever to power up -- I didn't  
16 say it that way -- but diplomatically, I said, you  
17 know, it's a long process to get that, to use the  
18 salt equipment. So let's, you know, get a temporary  
19 system, you know, run in there through a gopher  
20 hole, cut a hole in the RCS or whatever you have to  
21 do to find a connection that you can feed fresh  
22 water into and start pumping freshwater through the  
23 gopher holes.

24 DAVE SKEEN: Chuck, this is Dave Skeen.

25 Do they have a source of fresh water?

**NEAL R. GROSS**

COURT REPORTERS AND TRANSCRIBERS  
1323 RHODE ISLAND AVE., N.W.  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20005-3701

1 CHUCK CASTO: No. That's why the  
2 urgency, Dave, is that they know that this is, salt  
3 is building up. They're making an evaporator. And  
4 they'll have to build or bring in a desalinization  
5 system. You know, the Navy or whatever's going to  
6 have to happen, is going to have to bring in, either  
7 build or bring in or both, you know, bring in a  
8 temporary while you build a new one, but you, you --  
9 you know, so there's a lot of work to be done. But  
10 we don't need to do it. We just have to share  
11 insights with them.

12 MARTY VIRGILIO: Well, what --

13 BRIAN SHERON: No, go ahead.

14 MARTY VIRGILIO: Well, why don't you  
15 tell them to start working on that fresh water  
16 source and we'll start working on the calculations  
17 and information that they're looking for.

18 CHUCK CASTO: Yeah. They've got power  
19 on site, so we have power, or, they can power  
20 whatever they want. And they need to start working  
21 on a desalinization system. We'll share that within  
22 the hour here when John goes over to talk to Tepco.

23 MARTY VIRGILIO: And I think -- and it's  
24 sort of off topic -- but I would like to understand,  
25 for them to explain to you, how they're coordinating

**NEAL R. GROSS**

COURT REPORTERS AND TRANSCRIBERS

1323 RHODE ISLAND AVE., N.W.

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20005-3701

1 the aid that they get from various countries because  
2 it seems to me, I'm reading that the French are  
3 sending robots and they're asking us for robots.

4 CHUCK CASTO: All right.

5 And you write that down. Ask them, tell  
6 them that --

7 MARTY VIRGILIO: I mean, you can tell  
8 them that the American press is reporting that  
9 INTRA, I-N-T-R-A, has sent 130 tons of robots and  
10 specialized equipment.

11 JOHN MONNINGER: Well, let me push back  
12 on you a little bit. I bet you that robotic  
13 equipment has been designed and manufactured in  
14 Japan.

15 (Laughter.)

16 JOHN MONNINGER: That's one of the  
17 frustrations. That's one of the biggest  
18 frustrations from the military guys. What the hell  
19 are we going halfway around the world to pick up  
20 pumps that are made in this country and are sitting  
21 in Tokyo.

22 MARTY VIRGILIO: Well --

23 JOHN MONNINGER: All right. I'm done.

24 CHUCK CASTO: Yeah, this, the  
25 bureaucracy in the system here is difficult.

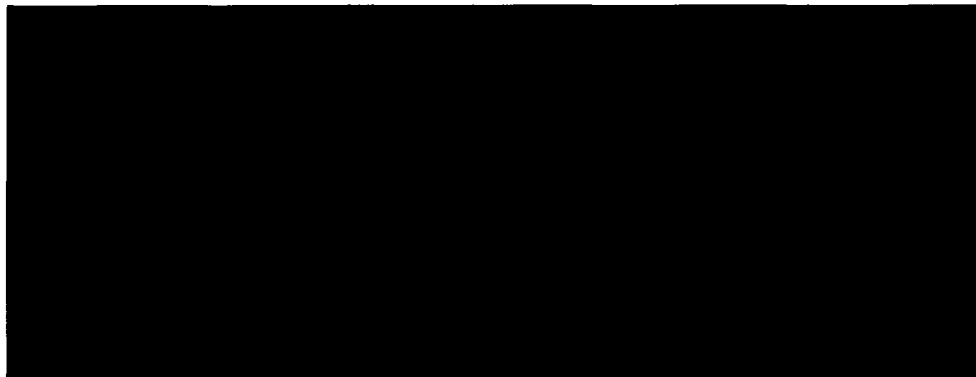
**NEAL R. GROSS**

COURT REPORTERS AND TRANSCRIBERS

1323 RHODE ISLAND AVE., N.W.

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20005-3701

1 MARTY VIRGILIO: Yeah.



7 MARTY VIRGILIO: Yeah.

8 CHUCK CASTO: So it's sort of, you know,  
9 don't rely on the installed equipment. You know,  
10 build a temporary one and put it in there. You  
11 know, you've got to try -- and I shared with him,  
12 you know, he's got to think about multiple options  
13 on how to do this. Move forward on trying to get  
14 the, the installed plant equipment working. You  
15 know, the ones that the most, the highest  
16 probability. Meanwhile, you're working on a  
17 temporary system.

18 Now, I've talked enough, Marty, so let  
19 me know what direction you have. And the idea here  
20 is that we would help them do the first set, you  
21 know, the first gopher hole and the target set, and  
22 then we'd walk away.

23 MARTY VIRGILIO: All right. Let me ask  
24 Dave, Reactor Safety Team -- not necessarily your  
25 watch -- but should we be arranging this telephone

**NEAL R. GROSS**

COURT REPORTERS AND TRANSCRIBERS

1323 RHODE ISLAND AVE., N.W.

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20005-3701

(202) 234-4433

[www.nealrgross.com](http://www.nealrgross.com)



1 call on the --

2 DAVE SKEEN: Yeah, but we've got very  
3 good sources. GE and INPO, both of their ops  
4 centers, we've talked to usually once or twice per  
5 shift anyway.

6 MARTY VIRGILIO: Yeah.

7 Okay, so they can take the lead, the  
8 Reactor Safety Team can take the lead to arrange the  
9 phone call on salt accumulation and its impact.

10 From our perspective, I think we need a  
11 more detailed site map from them with the radiation  
12 fields.

13 TRISH HOLAHAN: Yeah, now --

14 MARTY VIRGILIO: And equipment  
15 locations. So if we're going to help them pilot the  
16 first target set assessment, we're going to need,  
17 you know, the information on radiation fields and  
18 equipment locations, I would think.

19 CHUCK CASTO: Yes.

20 TRISH HOLAHAN: Yeah.

21 CHUCK CASTO: What their priority is on  
22 equipment locations, they show it to us, and we'll  
23 show it to them in a target set fashion, in a pilot  
24 mode, how to do the first one or two.

25 TRISH HOLAHAN: Okay, now, Chuck the --

**NEAL R. GROSS**

COURT REPORTERS AND TRANSCRIBERS

1323 RHODE ISLAND AVE., N.W.

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20005-3701

1 this is Trish Holahan -- the dose information you  
2 got from them, is that the map that Jim Trapp  
3 emailed last night?

4 JOHN MONNINGER: Probably. It's real  
5 (inaudible).

6 TRISH HOLAHAN: With numbers basically  
7 on the outside of the facility.

8 CHUCK CASTO: Yeah. Yeah. Nobody's  
9 been in to do any kind of survey.

10 TRISH HOLAHAN: Okay. Okay.

11 CHUCK CASTO: Yeah. You know, the first  
12 thing you've got to do is dig a golfer holding it in  
13 the building.

14 TRISH HOLAHAN: Yeah.

15 BRIAN SHERON: Hey, Chuck, this is  
16 Brian. Where are they taking -- how did they get  
17 salt water in the reactor in the first place? Where  
18 did they take the suction from?

19 CHUCK CASTO: You know, that's a good  
20 question. And the other -- I, I see where you're  
21 going, Dr. Sheron -- put the desalinization plant  
22 between the sea and the building.

23 BRIAN SHERON: Wherever they're taking  
24 the salt water come from, if they can access it,  
25 they should be able to, somehow be able to get fresh

**NEAL R. GROSS**

COURT REPORTERS AND TRANSCRIBERS

1323 RHODE ISLAND AVE., N.W.

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20005-3701

1 water in there, even if they have to bring in trucks  
2 or something.

3 CHUCK CASTO: Right, and put it in the  
4 line that's going in from the sea water system.

5 BRIAN SHERON: Right. It's going in  
6 somewhere.

7 CHUCK CASTO: Yeah.

8 BRIAN SHERON: So they ought to be able  
9 to try and access that and get the water in.

10 CHUCK CASTO: But they -- yeah, that's  
11 right. You're right, Brian. And we'll work with  
12 them on that. And then also, you know, for other  
13 reasons, they still need the target sets and the  
14 gopher hole --

15 BRIAN SHERON: Yeah.

16 TRISH HOLAHAN: Yeah.

17 CHUCK CASTO: -- to get the, you know,  
18 operate plant equipment and long-term recovery.

19 BRIAN SHERON: Yeah.

20 CHUCK CASTO: So it's, do everything.

21 You know, get working on changing that suction  
22 supply from seawater to, to freshwater, get gopher  
23 holes and target sets, and go from there.

24 Yeah, I see you're right, I think you're  
25 right, Brian. Why build a whole fresh water system

**NEAL R. GROSS**

COURT REPORTERS AND TRANSCRIBERS

1323 RHODE ISLAND AVE., N.W.

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20005-3701

1 when you've got an ocean?

2 BRIAN SHERON: Just, the question is,  
3 where are they taking it from and can they access  
4 the suction point and tape into it?

5 CHUCK CASTO: Okay. Well, we'll check  
6 on that.

7 MARTY VIRGILIO: Now let me ask Dave,  
8 could we go back to GE and say, for this plant  
9 design, identify the target sets? What groups of  
10 equipment would you want to have powered up in order  
11 to, you know --

12 DAVE SKEEN: Yeah, that's a good idea.

13 (Simultaneous conversation.)

14 MARTY VIRGILIO: -- what system they  
15 have?

16 DAVE SKEEN: Sure.

17 CHUCK CASTO: And you've got -- I forget  
18 what -- but I think it's Unit 2 that you have to  
19 prioritize. That's the first thing we have to agree  
20 on with them. You know, all of them we prioritize  
21 on salt, but we've got to prioritize, you know, what  
22 unit -- I think they need to recover Unit 2 first.

23 BRIAN SHERON: That's probably the least  
24 infrastructure damage, so the most successful one.

25 CHUCK CASTO: And they have a reactor

**NEAL R. GROSS**

COURT REPORTERS AND TRANSCRIBERS

1323 RHODE ISLAND AVE., N.W.

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20005-3701

1 building full of hydrogen that's being vented by the  
2 hole --

3 BRIAN SHERON: Right.

4 CHUCK CASTO: -- that one hole, that,  
5 then they need more holes.

6 BRIAN SHERON: Right.

7 CHUCK CASTO: Or they're going to blow  
8 that building up.

9 BRIAN SHERON: Right.

10 CHUCK CASTO: So they, you know, that's  
11 another priority that they had that's just too far  
12 down the road. They wanted to open up another hole  
13 in Unit 2's reactor building because they're fearful  
14 that the hole that's there that's venting the  
15 hydrogen isn't big enough. And they had some  
16 absolutely amazing ideas about how to open that  
17 hole, to open that hole more. But that's the other,  
18 that's the other thing that they need, is to open  
19 the Unit 2 reactor building's roof or hole.

20 You know, I would say, my, my own  
21 thought is that if I had to do this, I would go to  
22 the opposite side of the building where the spent  
23 fuel pool is and I would take a helicopter and I  
24 would drop something right through the roof, you  
25 know, and just cave in the roof. But that's just

**NEAL R. GROSS**

COURT REPORTERS AND TRANSCRIBERS

1323 RHODE ISLAND AVE., N.W.

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20005-3701

1 my, my thoughts.



2  
3  
4  
5  
6  
7  
8 So I, you know, if we have any thoughts  
9 on how to open up a hole on, a bigger hole on Unit  
10 2, that's somewhat of a priority. I mean, they're  
11 worried about it because, honestly, they don't want  
12 to see that on CNN if that building goes.

13 TRISH HOLAHAN: Chuck?

14 CHUCK CASTO: Yes?

15 TRISH HOLAHAN: This is Trish again.  
16 The other day, we were asked to have the  
17 force-on-force guys consider ways to remove the roof  
18 or a portion of the roof non-explosively. Is that  
19 still a concern?

20 CHUCK CASTO: Yeah. That's what I'm  
21 talking about. You know, you either -- you know,  
22 somehow -- you don't have a remove the whole roof.  
23 You have to -- you know, they just don't know if  
24 that hole that's there is enough to vent all the  
25 hydrogen because I think that hole is a floor lower

**NEAL R. GROSS**

COURT REPORTERS AND TRANSCRIBERS  
1323 RHODE ISLAND AVE., N.W.

1 than the spent fuel pool.

2 TRISH HOLAHAN: Okay.

3 CHUCK CASTO: So, you know, they're  
4 uncertain whether that hole is big enough to vent  
5 all the hydrogen. You know, there's really no way  
6 of knowing.

7 TRISH HOLAHAN: So is there a, a small  
8 hole there now?

9 CHUCK CASTO: Yes. The explosions in  
10 the other buildings punched, put a hole in one of  
11 the panels on the reactor building.

12 TRISH HOLAHAN: Okay, in the side of the  
13 wall. Okay.

14 CHUCK CASTO: Yeah, in the side. So  
15 their concern is, you know, how do we make a bigger  
16 hole?

17 BRIAN SHERON: If you make a spark,  
18 you're going to blow it --

19 TRISH HOLAHAN: Yeah, and we were  
20 thinking of having a helicopter with a grappling  
21 hook or putting a, putting a Bambi bucket on the  
22 roof, which has 5,000 gallons of water and --

23 CHUCK CASTO: Yeah. That's what I was  
24 thinking is collapse it.

25 TRISH HOLAHAN: Yeah.

**NEAL R. GROSS**

COURT REPORTERS AND TRANSCRIBERS

1323 RHODE ISLAND AVE., N.W.

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20005-3701

1                   DAVE SKEEN: And we was talking about  
2 that before the last time I was with Chip, I think,  
3 Chuck. And that's what we came up with, is you  
4 could take a Bambi bucket, drop it from the right  
5 height, and that ought to go right through the  
6 corrugated metal of that roof.

7                   CHUCK CASTO: That, that roof is not  
8 just corrugated metal. Believe it or not -- I have  
9 never seen this before -- but that roof is concrete.

10                  BRIAN SHERON: Yeah. They said three  
11 inches or more of concrete, the roof.

12                  TRISH HOLAHAN: Oh, okay.

13                  DAVE SKEEN: Oh. That's a whole  
14 different animal.

15                  BRIAN SHERON: If you make a, if you  
16 make a spark, you're liable to ignite that stuff  
17 anyway.

18                  CHUCK CASTO: Yeah. That's what we were  
19 saying about the saw, you know, the, the helicopter  
20 in the saw. Yeah, that was . . .

21                  Well, the other thing is you can fly the  
22 helicopter and, and the bucket of water and go  
23 through the side of the building and just, you know,  
24 swing it into the side of the building.

25                  JOHN MONNINGER: But, but there's

**NEAL R. GROSS**

COURT REPORTERS AND TRANSCRIBERS

1323 RHODE ISLAND AVE., N.W.

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20005-3701



1 hydrogen right off light-off. Even a little sparkle  
2 take it off. So a destructive force, you know, even  
3 if it's not an explosive could easily spark stuff up  
4 through all the blasting, but --

5 CHUCK CASTO: And again, their concern  
6 is not only the damage it does to the building but  
7 the damage it does, you know, politically if, if  
8 that building goes up.

9 MALE PARTICIPANT: (Off mic).

10 CHUCK CASTO: Yeah, we can do it, and  
11 another big explosion wouldn't be good.

12 So we, I've talked a lot.

13 MARTY VIRGILIO: I, I, I see we have  
14 three actions and you have two.

15 Our first action is to arrange the  
16 conference call on the sale accumulation. Our  
17 second action is to start the development of a pilot  
18 on the target set approach, based on the equipment  
19 that they need to restore normalcy and the radiation  
20 fields that they're experiencing in the plant. And  
21 the third item we have is to brainstorm a little bit  
22 here about options for increasing the size of the  
23 hole in secondary containment.

24 Your actions, the first action for you,  
25 is to suggest that they substitute fresh water in

**NEAL R. GROSS**

COURT REPORTERS AND TRANSCRIBERS

1323 RHODE ISLAND AVE., N.W.

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20005-3701

1 their suction supply. And your, your second action  
2 is to ask them how they're coordinating support from  
3 other countries; for example, the French supplied  
4 robots.

5 Does that sound like a deal?

6 JOHN MONNINGER: That sounds like a  
7 deal. Can I throw one variation maybe?

8 MARTY VIRGILIO: Go ahead, John.

9 JOHN MONNINGER: Yeah. I understand  
10 there will be a conference call with an expanded  
11 group with the notion they want a shorter-term  
12 meeting. We would, I propose we would include, go  
13 forward with the shorter-term meeting but include  
14 whoever's there from the Reactor Safety Team and  
15 then we could have second, third meetings, et cetera

16 So we, we could get the landscape from  
17 the engineers, the techies maybe, at this first  
18 conference call with whoever's there in the Reactor  
19 Safety Team.

20 CHUCK CASTO: [REDACTED]

21 [REDACTED]

22 [REDACTED]

23 MARTY VIRGILIO: Well, if you've got  
24 operations centers manned in other locations, it  
25 shouldn't be that much of a chore to tie in other

**NEAL R. GROSS**

COURT REPORTERS AND TRANSCRIBERS

1323 RHODE ISLAND AVE., N.W.

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20005-3701

5

1 people on the call.

2 DAVE SKEEN: When do you want to have  
3 this call then, John?

4 JOHN MONNINGER: They, they have, they  
5 -- when the guy called me up, I did not confirm to  
6 him, but he wants me to show up in potentially 35  
7 minutes.

8 DAVE SKEEN: Okay. Well, I'll get on  
9 the line with GE and INPO at least, and we'll stand  
10 by for a call and, and we can present what the  
11 information is and, and brainstorm then.

12 JOHN MONNINGER: Yeah, but I said  
13 potentially 35 minutes. They haven't fully  
14 confirmed.

15 DAVE SKEEN: When do we get to the  
16 second shift?

17 MALE PARTICIPANT: Half an hour.

18 MARTY VIRGILIO: Yeah, buy us some time,  
19 and that way, we'll be able to better coordinate  
20 with, with our partners and get the next shift in  
21 here.

22 JOHN MONNINGER: Okay.

23 MARTY VIRGILIO: Yeah, so if you can buy  
24 us half an hour and a half, that would be best.

25 JOHN MONNINGER: So, one o'clock our

**NEAL R. GROSS**

COURT REPORTERS AND TRANSCRIBERS  
1323 RHODE ISLAND AVE., N.W.  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20005-3701

1 time out here.

2 MARTY VIRGILIO: Yeah, I think one  
3 o'clock your time would be a good time.

4 Don't you think?

5 DAVE SKEEN: Yeah. Let's try that.

6 MARTY VIRGILIO: Yeah.

7 CHUCK CASTO: Yeah, I'm sorry. Let me  
8 back up. Did you say there was an action item for  
9 you all to look at the roof?

10 MARTY VIRGILIO: Yeah.

11 JOHN MONNINGER: The Unit 2 roof?

12 MARTY VIRGILIO: Yeah, we'll brainstorm,  
13 we'll get our folks back here brainstorming about  
14 how to, non-, or non-energetically widen that hole.

15 JOHN MONNINGER: Yes, sir.

16 MARTY VIRGILIO: Were created new whole.

17 CHUCK CASTO: Well, thank you. Thank  
18 you, folks.

19 DAVE SKEEN: And, Chuck, one more thing  
20 before you go. We do have our Naval Reactors folks  
21 here with us.

22 CHUCK CASTO: Yeah.

23 DAVE SKEEN: And they did some work,  
24 they had managed to do some work on this issue of  
25 the seawater in the BWR plant, and we've got like a

**NEAL R. GROSS**

COURT REPORTERS AND TRANSCRIBERS  
1323 RHODE ISLAND AVE., N.W.  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20005-3701

1 two-pager that we can send you on the information  
2 they provided on the effects and some of the  
3 different concerns that we need to think about.

4 JOHN MONNINGER: Yeah, that's, that's  
5 great. Yeah, we have, like, I think, a big report  
6 or something, a PowerPoint from the UK or something.

7 But let me, let me -- I'm glad you  
8 brought that up because let me make it clear, we  
9 really need you guys to be the brain waves and give  
10 recommendations. You know, here, we can't, you  
11 know, really read stuff and come up with thoughts  
12 and recommendations and that kind of stuff. We, we  
13 want to be the, you know, the grease there.

14 DAVE SKEEN: Okay.

15 JOHN MONNINER: So we need, you know,  
16 the hard recommendations from you all if that makes  
17 sense.

18 DAVE SKEEN: I understand. Okay.

19 JOHN MONNINGER: Hey, send it to Kirk  
20 Fogey (phon) also so we can print it out.

21 DAVE SKEEN: Kirk Fogey?

22 JOHN MONNINGER: Yeah. He's got Citrix  
23 fax so we can print it about.

24 CHUCK CASTO: You can send it, ask them  
25 to send it to me too. I have to --

**NEAL R. GROSS**

COURT REPORTERS AND TRANSCRIBERS  
1323 RHODE ISLAND AVE., N.W.  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20005-3701

1  
2  
3  
4  
5  
6  
7  
8  
9  
10  
11  
12  
13  
14  
15  
16  
17  
18  
19  
20  
21  
22  
23  
24

JOHN MONNINGER: okay. Send it to Kirk.

DAVE SKEEN: Okay. Will do..

JOHN MONNINGER: We're good?

DAVE SKEEN: We're good.

JOHN MONNINGER: All right, folks. Talk  
to you again soon.

(END OF SERIES.)

**NEAL R. GROSS**

COURT REPORTERS AND TRANSCRIBERS

1323 RHODE ISLAND AVE., N.W.

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20005-3701