

In the Matter Of:

EXIDE TECHNOLOGIES SITE

DTSC SCOPING MEETING

June 18, 2015

Reported By: Stephanie Leslie CSR No. 12893

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DTSC SCOPING MEETING  
REPORTER'S TRANSCRIPT OF PROCEEDINGS  
Thursday, June 18, 2015

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1 Maywood, California Thursday, June 18, 2015

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3 MR. MAGANA: Good evening. It's about  
4 6:15 p.m., and it seems like you guys are still not  
5 awake. Good evening. There we go.

6 Well, my name is Oscar Magana. I'm a council  
7 member for the City of Maywood. Thank you for all of  
8 your attendance. It seems like there are people still  
9 driving around looking for parking spaces, so we might  
10 have people still making their way in. If they do,  
11 please make sure that you let them know what's going on  
12 here in case they look a little bit lost.

13 If you're wondering, our restrooms are over  
14 here on the right: Men's and women's. If for whatever  
15 reason -- we do live in Southern California -- we were  
16 to have some kind of an emergency, follow the exit  
17 signs. I know some of you are not familiar with our  
18 council chambers. This is the southeast meeting, so I  
19 know we have community members from other surrounding  
20 cities.

21 Once again, I want to thank DTSC for holding  
22 this meeting. We really appreciate you guys coming out  
23 to our community. I'm hoping that as the meeting  
24 progresses, we'll have people funneling in, because the  
25 input of our community is really important.

1           Other than that, once again, welcome. There  
2 will be an opportunity for questions from the community  
3 at the end, and I turn it over to Su Patel.

4           MS. PATEL: Thank you, Oscar. Thank you, all,  
5 and good evening. Thank you for coming.

6           As you all know, DTSC, Department of Toxic  
7 Substances Control, is a state regulatory agency, and  
8 we are responsible for compliance under CEQA. CEQA is  
9 California Environmental Quality Act. DTSC will be  
10 preparing an environmental impact report.

11           I'm told I have to speak up.

12           "Environmental impact report" will be referred  
13 to as "EIR." We are here tonight to hear your comments  
14 as we develop this document. We want your input in  
15 what the content of this document should be, what  
16 impacts we should be considering. And so we will start  
17 with a short presentation by my colleagues Wayne and  
18 Sarah here, and then we will open it up for your  
19 comments.

20           We have comment cards. All of you should have  
21 a handout. If you don't have a handout, let us know.  
22 Marina will be happy to give it to you. And if you  
23 need comment cards, Marina and Patrice both are in the  
24 back. They'll be happy to give one to you. We'll be  
25 collecting these comment cards.

1           And we have a court reporter here who is going  
2           to capture so we address everything. We don't want to  
3           miss anything you guys say.

4           If you have comments that are not pertaining  
5           to the EIR, we are happy to receive those comments as  
6           well, but we have two hours, and we would like to  
7           dedicate this to the environmental impact report. So  
8           if time remains, we'll get -- address those other  
9           comments. But your comments are welcome, and they're  
10          always welcome, and you -- if you need to speak with  
11          any of us afterwards, I'm going to direct you to  
12          Marina.

13          So with that, I turn it over to Sarah, who's  
14          going to kick us off.

15          MS. CROMIE: Thank you, Su.

16          Thank you all for being here. As Su said,  
17          this meeting is a little bit different. I see a lot of  
18          familiar faces out in the crowd, and I'm glad to see  
19          you all here again. And you'll notice that this  
20          meeting is a little bit different than previous  
21          meetings that you've probably been to, because we're  
22          really here to really listen to you tonight and really  
23          get your comments, your questions, your concerns  
24          regarding the closure of the Exide facility.

25          We are, as Su said, preparing an environmental

1 impact report which will cover the closure of the Exide  
2 facility. Wayne will go over what is an environmental  
3 impact report, because that's probably a question in  
4 your minds. So I'm going to focus for now on what this  
5 meeting's about and what we need from all of you.

6 This meeting is the first of several chances  
7 that the public is going to have to voice their  
8 concerns and questions about the closure of the Exide  
9 facility. I'm sure you all know by now that the Exide  
10 facility in Vernon is closing for good, so we're now in  
11 the planning phases of closure of the facility, which  
12 basically means that we need to get the waste out of  
13 the facility. We need to get the hazardous waste units  
14 out of the facility, and then we need to take buildings  
15 down and then get rid of any contaminated soil that is  
16 there. That's a very basic explanation of what this  
17 project is about.

18 And this is where we need your help. We need  
19 to know what your concerns are about this facility  
20 coming down. That's what this meeting is for. We want  
21 to hear all of your questions and concerns, and we just  
22 want to know how you think it's going to go to get this  
23 done safely in your community.

24 So I also want to point out that -- we want to  
25 make sure there's time for everybody to be heard

1 tonight; so this is where this meeting's a little bit  
2 different than past meetings you've been to, because we  
3 want to hear everyone's concerns and questions. So we  
4 won't be able to answer a lot of the questions, but  
5 we're going to answer those questions in the  
6 environmental impact report. And so that's why we  
7 have -- that's why we're here. We want to hear your  
8 concerns to make sure that we do all the research and  
9 thoroughly answer all of your questions.

10 So having said that, I'm guessing a lot of you  
11 might have a thought in your mind, you know, we're the  
12 community. How do we know what to do about closing a  
13 hazardous waste facility? How are we supposed to have  
14 questions and concerns when we really don't know the  
15 process? And so to answer this concern for you, I  
16 offer this: You're all here tonight. You all took the  
17 time to be here tonight, and you're all concerned about  
18 the Exide facility. Some of you might live in the  
19 community. Some of you might have worked at Exide.  
20 Some of you might have a grandmother or grandfather who  
21 lives nearby Exide.

22 MS. MARQUEZ: Excuse me. I'm trying to listen  
23 to you, but at the same time something is going on back  
24 here that -- they're taking our attention away. I  
25 would appreciate for them not to do that.

1 MS. CROMIE: We'll pause for a second.

2 MS. MARQUEZ: Thank you.

3 MS. CROMIE: Okay. I think it's quieted down  
4 enough.

5 Okay. So I'm actually going to repeat what I  
6 just said because I think it's pretty important, and a  
7 few of the people that walked in might want to hear it  
8 as well.

9 So I know a lot of you might have in your  
10 minds, How are we supposed to have concerns? How are  
11 we supposed to have comments when we don't know how a  
12 hazardous waste facility is closed? And so all of you  
13 in your heads do have concerns. You're here tonight.  
14 You care about how this facility comes down, and I'm  
15 sure you have questions about it, and I'm sure you have  
16 thoughts on how you want to see this happen, and that's  
17 what we want to hear. We want to hear all these things  
18 from you. Because you live here, you work here, and  
19 it's important for us to hear all of those concerns  
20 from you.

21 So now I'm going to go a little bit into the  
22 actual process that we go through. So this slide up  
23 here represents the process for how we prepare the  
24 environmental impact report. You all know that we like  
25 acronyms, so you'll see "environmental impact report"

1 abbreviated as "EIR" in this slide and then moving  
2 forward through the presentation.

3 Before I talk about the slide, I want to point  
4 out that there are large orange circles on this slide,  
5 and so those are the opportunities where we want public  
6 input. So pay particular attention -- I think  
7 everybody's got handouts, so you can even circle those  
8 or something so that you know when we're going to ask  
9 again for your input.

10 So the way this process works is that on  
11 May 28th we did a notice of preparation, and so that  
12 was to let everybody know that we're preparing the EIR.  
13 We're -- the next step, second one down, is the scoping  
14 meeting, which is tonight, to get all of your questions  
15 and concerns.

16 The next part of the process is we will  
17 finalize the scope of the draft EIR. Then we prepare  
18 the draft EIR. After that we go out for public notice  
19 with the draft EIR and the draft closure plan.

20 And then the next step, the top of the slide  
21 on the right, is where you'll notice an orange circle,  
22 and that's where we have public and agency review of  
23 the draft EIR and draft closure plan. And so that  
24 document is going to have all of the questions and  
25 concerns that you bring up tonight. We're going to try

1 and address all of those. So once that comes out --  
2 that stuff is really important, so you can look at that  
3 document and make sure we've addressed your concerns  
4 and your comments in there. Then you'll have -- that's  
5 a 45-day review process.

6 After that, we're going to have a public  
7 meeting much like this meeting, so you can come back  
8 again. And if you've got more concerns after you've  
9 read the actual EIR, you can bring them to us at that  
10 time, and then we'll consider all of your comments, all  
11 of your questions. And we're also going to actually be  
12 getting comments and concerns from other agencies as  
13 well. And then we incorporate those, and then we  
14 prepare a final EIR and closure plan.

15 So I wanted to give a brief explanation of why  
16 we're going through this review process. Besides that  
17 it's a good idea and it makes logical sense to actually  
18 look at all the concerns and potential impacts that a  
19 project might have, there are regulations and guidance  
20 documents that we follow. The statewide policy of  
21 environmental protection is covered under the  
22 California Environmental Quality Act, or CEQA. You'll  
23 hear us call it "CEQA" a lot because it's hard to say  
24 "California Environmental Quality Act." CEQA requires  
25 that government agencies identify potential impacts

1 that could occur as the result of approving a project.

2 If a project doesn't have any impact, then we  
3 write what's called a negative declaration. If a  
4 significant impact is anticipated, then we write an  
5 environmental impact report. So for Exide, the project  
6 that DTSC needs to approve is the actual closure of  
7 this facility, which is detailed in Exide's proposed  
8 closure plan. Since we anticipate that there could be  
9 some significant impacts caused by the closure of the  
10 facility, that's why we're not writing a negative  
11 declaration. We're writing an environmental impact  
12 report.

13 Now I'm going to go into the specific  
14 categories of potential impacts. There are 18  
15 categories that the EIR covers, and I'm going to go  
16 through the list and give you a quick example for each  
17 category just to kind of get you thinking in your minds  
18 what things you're concerned about.

19 So the first one is aesthetics. And  
20 aesthetics is the visual part. So, you know, if this  
21 project goes through, is a beautiful view going to be  
22 blocked?

23 Next is biological resources. Could this  
24 project impact the L.A. River?

25 Next is greenhouse gas emissions. Would

1 closure activities add particles into the atmosphere  
2 that could trap heat and that would contribute to the  
3 climate change?

4 Next is land use plan. Would the closure of  
5 this facility be incompatible with zoning laws?

6 Next is population and housing. Could the  
7 project cause a population growth that could impact  
8 housing in the area for residents?

9 Next is transportation and traffic. Could the  
10 project cause major congestion or issues that could  
11 cause a lot of traffic?

12 Next is agriculture and forestry resources.  
13 This one -- obviously not one that's probably going to  
14 be impacted by the Exide facility. But these are all  
15 things that -- steps that we have to go through  
16 according to CEQA. So as an example, agriculture and  
17 forestry could be something like, is the project going  
18 to convert farmland into a different use?

19 Cultural resources -- this has to do with  
20 historical resources. So are any historical buildings  
21 going to be impacted, or are there artifacts that might  
22 be in the area?

23 Next is hazards or hazardous materials. This  
24 obviously is a big one. So would hazardous material  
25 transportation be an issue for the public?

1           Next is mineral resources. That would be, is  
2 there a coal mine in the area or an oil rig or  
3 something that could possibly be impacted by the  
4 project?

5           Next is public services. This is your fire  
6 department, your ambulances, your police. Would these  
7 services be somehow affected by the project?

8           Next is utilities and service systems. This  
9 is your sewer, your water. Would these things possibly  
10 impact -- be impacted by the project?

11           So stay with me. There's only six more.

12           The next one is air quality. And so this one  
13 also I know is a concern for the community. And  
14 this -- a question could be, you know, would the  
15 quality of the air the residents breathe be affected by  
16 the project?

17           Next is geology and soils. Is there a  
18 potential for dangerous soil erosion or for a  
19 landslide?

20           Hydrology and water quality. Could water be  
21 affected? And this could be surface water or ground  
22 water.

23           Noise. Could noise around this project  
24 disturb residents at night or during the day?

25           Recreation. Are there any recreational

1 activities that could be affected because of the  
2 closure of this facility?

3 And the last one is mandatory findings of  
4 significance. This last category is a little bit less  
5 straightforward than the other ones, but it basically  
6 has to do with cumulative impacts, so we would look at  
7 other projects that are going on in the area and see if  
8 there is anything that is going to result from  
9 cumulative impacts from the two projects or three  
10 projects at the same time.

11 So now I'm going to turn the presentation over  
12 to Wayne, and he's going to explain a little more about  
13 the process and get into comments and questions from  
14 all of you.

15 MR. LORENTZEN: Thank you, Sarah.

16 So I want to say first that we are listening  
17 to you and your concerns about this facility and the  
18 potential for the closure of this Exide facility to  
19 have potential significant impacts to you. So we hear  
20 that, and we've already determined that because of the  
21 potential for significant impacts, we are preparing an  
22 environmental impact report.

23 An environmental impact report is a way for us  
24 to list out all of the relevant impacts from the list  
25 that Sarah just talked about so that we can think of

1 ways to lower or get rid of that impact.

2 So after looking at the details of the closure  
3 process, when we find a significant impact, we will  
4 also list ways that can lower the potential for impact.  
5 Those are called mitigation measures or project  
6 alternatives.

7 For example, if we are looking at all of the  
8 activities that would occur while closing down the  
9 facility: Removing the waste, pressure washing the  
10 equipment, deconstructing buildings, transporting the  
11 waste -- we expect to find that those activities have  
12 the potential to impact air quality significantly. So  
13 we would add air quality as a significant impact to  
14 this report.

15 Then we would look at ways to reduce that  
16 potential impact by adding restrictions on how the  
17 facility is closed, wetting dusty material, keeping  
18 pressure washing inside buildings when possible,  
19 tarping buildings before taking them apart, covering  
20 loads before transporting, and monitoring the air  
21 around the facility to make sure that all of those  
22 restrictions that I just talked about are working. So  
23 we would list those as mitigation measures. The report  
24 will inform us if there are other ways to close the  
25 facility, and we would list those as project

1 alternatives.

2 So that's an environmental impact report.  
3 That's what we're about to prepare, and we want your  
4 input before we start.

5 So we start with a scoping meeting. That's  
6 why we're here today. We are asking for input on what  
7 impacts we should look at. We are asking other  
8 agencies, and we are asking you. We need other  
9 agencies to give us input because we need their  
10 expertise in other areas. For example, we would ask  
11 the California Fish and Wildlife to provide input on  
12 endangered species or biological resources. They might  
13 tell us to look at the potential for Exide's closing  
14 activities to destroy the Swainson's hawk habitat,  
15 which is an endangered species. That may be a  
16 significant impact.

17 We would ask South Coast AQMD to provide input  
18 on air quality because they already have guidelines for  
19 figuring out how much emissions would impact air  
20 significantly and what needs to be done to reduce those  
21 impacts. So those are the mitigation measures.

22 As you can see, there would be many agencies  
23 that will provide valuable input for this report, but  
24 we are also asking you to give us input. We need your  
25 input because you live here. We want to know what

1 concerns you have about Exide closing down the facility  
2 so that we can consider it as we prepare the  
3 environmental impact report.

4 For example, last week at the advisory group  
5 meeting, we listened to concerns about trucks  
6 transporting soils through the neighborhood. Would it  
7 be appropriate for trucks to transport demolition  
8 debris through neighborhoods? We hear you. Will  
9 restricting the routes the trucks take reduce that  
10 impact? These are good examples of what we are looking  
11 for tonight and through June 29th.

12 So what happens next? We will use your input  
13 to prepare the environmental impact report. We will  
14 come back to you with the report and ask you for more  
15 input. You will be able to read the report and tell us  
16 what you think. So based on comments and questions  
17 that we have heard from the advisory group and the  
18 community, as well as our own knowledge of the  
19 facility, we have identified the items listed in this  
20 slide as a -- potentially significant, considering the  
21 closure of the site.

22 So air quality is up here because of exhaust  
23 from construction equipment that would be used during  
24 demolition. Cultural and historic resources are up  
25 here because digging up the ground at the site has the

1 potential to expose cultural artifacts like pottery or  
2 bones.

3 Geology and soils are up here because there's  
4 an existing seismic risk or risk of damage from  
5 earthquakes.

6 Hazards and hazardous materials are up here  
7 because of the potential for exposure from contaminated  
8 soils and materials and transporting them. Noise and  
9 vibration are up here because of construction and  
10 demolition equipment during closure. These are impacts  
11 we think have the potential to be significant, so we  
12 will be coming up with ways to lessen or eliminate  
13 them.

14 So before we give you all the microphone and  
15 we listen to you, I just want to give you some examples  
16 of some helpful input, put some ideas in your head.  
17 There are ways that environmental impact reports are  
18 typically written, but what would you like to see in  
19 it? Are maps and figures helpful for you? Will an  
20 executive summary be helpful? Are there any  
21 recreational activities you use that we may not know  
22 of, like soccer fields close to the facility? Are you  
23 concerned about nighttime noise from the facility as  
24 they close? What about daytime noise?

25 Someone last week mentioned having Exide

1 process materials and pour into ingots instead of  
2 shipping the materials out of the facility. We want to  
3 know how you feel about that.

4 Concrete crushing was proposed in the initial  
5 plan, and we are looking for a different plan for  
6 removing the concrete from the site. We want to know  
7 what you feel about that.

8 We heard last week the following comments that  
9 I want to mention again here tonight so we can get them  
10 into the discussion tonight too, and those comments  
11 include trucks driving through the community uncovered  
12 and unmarked; feed stock transportation; how does DTSC  
13 or the Department of Transportation track truck  
14 movements? Is the Department of Transportation  
15 involved in monitoring trucks? Can cameras or GPS  
16 units be used to track truck routes? Is Cal/OSHA  
17 involved in monitoring worker safety? Air  
18 monitoring -- there was a lot of talk about air  
19 monitoring -- and suggestions that DTSC should provide  
20 personal monitors. Is there a risk of L.A. River  
21 contamination? What happens to the storm water pipes?  
22 Waste water treatment plant -- when will that be  
23 decommissioned or dismantled? And will a temporary  
24 treatment system be used? These are all comments from  
25 last week at the advisory group.

1           So how can you give us comments and provide  
2 input tonight? You can tell us tonight what concerns  
3 you have. You can fill out a comment card tonight.  
4 They're in the back on the tables. Or take one home  
5 and think about it and send it to us by June 29th. You  
6 can e-mail. My e-mail address is on the screen and in  
7 the handouts. You can send a letter. My mailing  
8 address is also listed on the screen and in the  
9 handouts. Or you can send us a fax. The fax number is  
10 also listed on the screen and in the handouts.

11           Last slide. And right here we would like to  
12 listen to you, so we want to hear from all of you about  
13 what your concerns are, what you want to make sure is  
14 covered in this process. This slide shows all the  
15 categories that Sarah talked about earlier in the  
16 presentation. You can use these categories if it helps  
17 you think about what concerns you have about Exide's  
18 closure.

19           And that's the end of the presentation. Who  
20 would like to go first?

21           MS. MARQUEZ: Wayne, I have a question for  
22 you.

23           MR. LORENTZEN: First we have one in the back  
24 here.

25           MR. AGUIRRE: Okay. I wanted to ask a couple

1 of questions regarding this process, Mr. Wayne.

2 MS. PATEL: Just a second.

3 We have a court reporter here. She needs to  
4 get your name. She may ask you to spell it if she  
5 can't get it, so if you can please start -- all of you  
6 that come and talk, state your name first.

7 MR. AGUIRRE: My name is Felipe Aguirre. I  
8 live here in the city of Maywood. My question is  
9 regarding the issue of the storm water and all the  
10 things related to the water. I want to know if the  
11 DTSC or any of the agencies that you're going to be  
12 working with are going to do a characterization of the  
13 water that is underneath the Exide plant and where that  
14 water has gone and how far has it reached. And I want  
15 to know if you're going to be working with the  
16 sanitary -- sanitation district or the water -- or the  
17 water quality control board regarding the issue of the  
18 water quality that we have here in the city of Maywood  
19 and other communities and how that has been affected by  
20 Exide.

21 MR. LORENTZEN: That's a very good comment,  
22 and we are looking at that, but it's a good comment,  
23 and we're going to add it to our list for the  
24 environmental impact report.

25 And I just wanted to say -- we had a comment

1 up here that I failed to introduce myself. My name is  
2 Wayne Lorentzen. I'm an engineer. I work for the  
3 Department of Toxic Substances Control. I work in the  
4 permitting program, and I'm the project manager for the  
5 closure of the site.

6 MR. AGUIRRE: Okay. I had a follow-up  
7 question, Wayne, as to the issue -- so you don't sit  
8 down. Just stay up there.

9 As to the issue right now, what's going on  
10 with the CAC, Community Advisory Committee, and this  
11 process -- how do those two processes overlap, and how  
12 much are they working on the same issues? Because that  
13 has got a four-month closure program, and I don't know  
14 how the EIR is going to be working with that, is this  
15 the horse before the cart or the cart before the horse,  
16 or which way is it -- how are these two processes  
17 working?

18 And additionally, also, on that same issue, if  
19 there is a lot of comments here to the environmental  
20 impact report, how does that affect the question of the  
21 closure? Thank you.

22 MS. PATEL: So I'm going to answer that second  
23 question, but I want to make it very clear that we are  
24 here to listen to your comments. If we start answering  
25 back and forth, we won't get to all of you, so -- but

1 I'll answer that. Closure is the project, and the EIR  
2 is being written for the closure. So all the  
3 activities of closure -- how will they impact the  
4 environment and the community? That's how they're  
5 developing, and they will go in parallel. So we are  
6 working on the closure plan. We are having Exide  
7 revise the closure plan as we speak; and we, the  
8 agency, will be developing the EIR with our own  
9 in-house expert; and we have consultants on board, and  
10 we will be writing that ourselves.

11 So with that, I'm going to recommend that all  
12 of you just give your comments, we capture them, we  
13 capture them ourselves. Comment cards are with Marina.  
14 And I don't know who was next, but I'm going to turn it  
15 off.

16 MS. MARQUEZ: My name is Teresa Marquez. I'm  
17 with Boyle Heights.

18 My question is: On all these agencies that  
19 you're going to be working with -- we like to -- are we  
20 going to get their report? Are we going to be able to  
21 evaluate their own report?

22 MS. VILLEGAS: Hi. I'm Teresa with Supervisor  
23 Hilda Solis's office. I have several questions just  
24 about input and access to comments from the community.  
25 So we heard that the, I guess, public input date was

1 due to you by June 29. That's in 11 days. How -- and  
2 over here in this room we just have folks that have  
3 been attending those meetings. How can we reach -- or  
4 what are you doing to reach others who are not here  
5 today so they can provide that comment period? And the  
6 June 11 -- like, is there any way of expanding that --  
7 June 29. Excuse me.

8 MS. PATEL: So we sent out a notice on  
9 May 28th, was it? May 28th, to a mailing list that's  
10 2700-plus.

11 MS. VILLEGAS: Is that to residents, or is  
12 that e-mails?

13 MS. PATEL: No. It's residents, hard copy.

14 MS. VILLEGAS: Homes?

15 MS. PATEL: Yes. It was mailed. Mailed. We  
16 also have an electronic list that we blasted it to,  
17 which -- I don't know the count for that. Marina  
18 probably has the count. So we have done everything to  
19 receive written comments. Tonight we are here to  
20 receive oral comments for those who do not want to  
21 write to us. But we'll take your comments, and you'll  
22 have another opportunity when we public notice the EIR.

23 The comments we receive tonight will also be  
24 posted on our Web site. So if you have an  
25 afterthought, after you've seen all of the comments you

1 go home and think of something else, you will have an  
2 opportunity to send it to us.

3 MS. VILLEGAS: Okay. On your environmental  
4 review process, you have a 45-day review period. Can  
5 that be extended to 60 days?

6 MS. PATEL: Sure. We'll take that as a  
7 comment.

8 MS. VILLEGAS: On the public agencies' input,  
9 how are you soliciting their input, or who are you  
10 reaching out to?

11 MS. PATEL: Okay. I better stay up here.

12 MS. VILLEGAS: Yeah. I just had a couple of  
13 questions.

14 MS. PATEL: Yeah. We don't -- hopefully we'll  
15 get to all of you.

16 So there's a process -- there's a state  
17 clearinghouse that we post the draft document in, and  
18 we notify all the agencies that we are -- we have  
19 developed this, and they comment --

20 MS. VILLEGAS: So we are the local city and  
21 county that are most affected by this. So you are  
22 reaching all the county agencies: County public  
23 health, county parks, transportation?

24 MS. PATEL: Those are not part of our usual --  
25 transportation will be part of it, but other than --

1 MS. VILLEGAS: So other than state agencies,  
2 we are the local affected community, and it's really  
3 important just to reach out to all the local agencies  
4 here in the county --

5 MS. PATEL: Okay.

6 MS. VILLEGAS: -- okay?

7 And then for mitigation measures, the  
8 trucks -- they need to be labeled, and then the  
9 transportation -- when that is occurring, if that can  
10 be delineated in your report on how that's going to be  
11 done, and if it can be done at night.

12 MS. PATEL: Okay.

13 MS. VILLEGAS: On -- I notice that on here --  
14 also on the EIR categories, on the potential impact,  
15 you did not include -- and maybe you just had some as  
16 an example, but you did not include the -- what is  
17 it -- the land use, and so we were hoping that the  
18 transportation corridors that you're going to be using  
19 are commercial.

20 MS. PATEL: Absolutely. Those were examples.

21 MS. VILLEGAS: Okay.

22 MS. PATEL: Those are not all of them. These  
23 are all of them (indicating).

24 MR. LORENTZEN: Can you go into what you were  
25 talking about with the trucks must be labeled at night?

25

25

1 I didn't quite catch that -- that comment.

2 MS. VILLEGAS: That any of the trucks  
3 removing, like, any kind of feed stock or any kind of,  
4 I guess, hazardous material or material that is of  
5 value to Exide -- because we understand that they're  
6 taking any kind of materials from Exide here in Vernon  
7 and transporting it to -- I think it was Minnesota.

8 MR. LORENTZEN: Sure. Yeah.

9 MS. VILLEGAS: So those -- if they could be  
10 labeled, and if that can be done -- if the  
11 transportation -- if your EIR can delineate how that is  
12 going -- the truck routes and if the trucks are closed  
13 and if the paths are within the commercial corridors.

14 MR. LORENTZEN: Sure. So trucks -- labeling  
15 of trucks to clearly indicate that they are Exide? Is  
16 that what you mean?

17 MS. VILLEGAS: Yes. Yes.

18 MR. LORENTZEN: Got it.

19 MS. VILLEGAS: And then the executive  
20 summary -- is that going to be done in English and in  
21 Spanish?

22 MR. LORENTZEN: We do plan to do that. I'll  
23 put that in as a comment.

24 MS. VILLEGAS: I'll give you my card. Can we  
25 see a draft in advance?

1 MR. LORENTZEN: Sure.

2 MS. VILLEGAS: Okay. Thank you.

3 MS. MAJIA: Hello. My name is Dolorez Majia  
4 with L.A. Coalition Against Exide toxic technologies,  
5 and that includes all toxic technologies, including the  
6 regulators that have allowed us to be poisoned up to  
7 this point.

8 At this time I did want to make some comments  
9 with respect to ideas that should be included. And I'm  
10 glad to hear that the board of supervisors and other  
11 persons in our audience here that -- some of them are  
12 actually professional panelists and whatnot -- have  
13 finally listened after the community's repeatedly  
14 insisted that public health advisories go out, that  
15 clinics and schools be mandatorily tested.

16 In addition to that, I want to emphasize this.  
17 You know, every impacted community should immediately  
18 require school board; fire department; CERT members,  
19 Community Emergency Response Team officials; public  
20 health, et cetera -- all these officials -- so that  
21 they are up to speed and can notify the respective  
22 communities accordingly. We shouldn't have to beg them  
23 to allow us to test the schools that our children  
24 attend. They should already be up to speed. They  
25 should be here today, at every single community event

1 that we're at.

2 So I am again insisting that you -- however  
3 you serve the community, that this should be -- this is  
4 like a -- this should be a standard operating  
5 procedure. When we're dealing with a toxic dilemma  
6 here -- Exide toxic technologies was actually a point  
7 that could have been a -- you know, of terrorist  
8 proportions. Somebody could just go in there and, you  
9 know, start stealing this toxic waste or exposing our  
10 water system even more so than Exide already has, you  
11 know? It's just dangerous. Homeland Security should  
12 be here. Homeland Security should be here.

13 Anyhow, in addition to that, you know, we want  
14 third-party oversight selected from choices provided by  
15 our local -- local environmental justice communities,  
16 community workers, not just, you know, these huge  
17 corporate nonprofit groups. They have something to  
18 offer, but it should be our local EJ groups that are  
19 working with these big nonprofits that have access to  
20 technical toxic experts.

21 So we don't want you to just say, "Well, Exide  
22 chose a third party to come in and clean." No. You  
23 know, that's not appropriate. They are not allowed to  
24 clean up their mess by their own standards. And the  
25 regulators are not allowed to work with them to make

1 that happen because you guys are the reason we're in  
2 this mess today.

3 All the toxic loads can and should be  
4 monitored by LoJacks. My goodness gracious. Car  
5 dealers sell cars and they put LoJacks in the cars so  
6 they know where the cars are at. What is so hard for  
7 you guys to understand? There is better security --  
8 video surveillance security at the 99 cents store.  
9 Every single area of the Exide toxic technical plant  
10 should be monitored by video, even by sound. This is a  
11 dangerous area. It should be tented and tarped right  
12 now. And people say, "Well, gee. Let's not postpone  
13 this." No, we're not postponing anything because  
14 they're not going to dip out. They are not going to  
15 leave town because if they do, I will be there and make  
16 damn sure they get freaking arrested, as per their  
17 agreement with the feds.

18 So we shouldn't have to repeat this over and  
19 over and over again, you guys. Again, like we said  
20 over and over and over again, there is such a thing as  
21 Dragon software. Dragon software is available,  
22 especially for those that respect and support the  
23 American Disabilities Act so that, verbatim, our  
24 comments and your comments and your responses and our  
25 responses are recorded and it can never be said that

1 you guys didn't know what we wanted, what we demand,  
2 you know?

3           There's something called a cost-benefit  
4 analysis that I just realized right now. Again, I'm  
5 just a low-ranking kind of foot soldier. This is  
6 language that's very familiar to all of you in this  
7 business, cost-benefit analysis. How much is it  
8 costing you guys to put on these community meetings?  
9 You know, we certainly -- you all should be consulting  
10 us, and we provide you the venues to do a better job.

11           But I do thank Maywood for sponsoring this and  
12 hosting us again. You all have been right there with  
13 us and struggling and, you know -- there's no need to  
14 ask us what we need to do. You guys know what you need  
15 to do. And I still say I'm all for reforming and  
16 removing DTSC with some corrective measures taken, not  
17 just against the polluters, but against the regulators.

18           So let's get to business here. Quit messing  
19 around. Put some GPS on these trucks. And, by the  
20 way, what's -- I'm not saying that I know the answers,  
21 but I have some good questions, I think.

22           Why are these toxic loads not being  
23 transported out by rail? I mean, I don't think that  
24 that's fair to a lot of the communities like Commerce  
25 and whatnot that are, you know, just overwhelmed; and

1 that's -- ergo their name, East Yard Communities. You  
2 know, not only impacted by Exide, but by the railways  
3 and whatnot. So let's consider that, some different  
4 options, and consult our community EJ experts, local EJ  
5 experts. Thank you.

6 MR. LORENTZEN: Very good comments. Thank  
7 you. One clarification on your comment about the  
8 third-party oversight. Are you talking about oversight  
9 for the closure of the facility?

10 MS. MAJIA: All of it. All of it.  
11 Third-party oversight of DTSC as well.

12 MR. LORENTZEN: Okay. Got it. Thank you.

13 MR. LOPEZ: Hi. My name is Mark Lopez, and  
14 I'm with East Yard Communities for Environmental  
15 Justice. Was there any other information that you  
16 need? No? Okay.

17 So first off, of course, thank you, Maywood,  
18 for hosting tonight. So I think many folks in the  
19 previous meeting and this meeting have commented about  
20 transportation, and I think the concern is always  
21 fugitive dust from transportation. So in the last  
22 meeting I heard some comments about sending the trucks  
23 eastbound on Bandini.

24 So I think -- I want to make sure that when  
25 you study that, you consider the fact that when you get

1 on the northbound -- because a lot of this is going up  
2 the 5 north; right? So as you get on the 710 north and  
3 try to get over all the way to the left side of the  
4 freeway to get onto the 5 north, that's a very  
5 difficult thing for a truck to do, so what will  
6 potentially happen is these trucks will actually go  
7 north on Atlantic, going through the city of Commerce,  
8 through residential areas, through parts of --  
9 unincorporated parts of unincorporated East Los Angeles  
10 that are residential areas to get on the 5 north over  
11 at Telegraph and Atlantic. There's an entrance there  
12 for the 5 north, so there's actually a lot of traffic  
13 across Atlantic for kids that are going to Rosewood  
14 Elementary and Middle School, so we definitely want to  
15 consider that. And then a lot of foot traffic for  
16 people that don't know how to get to the Citadel, so  
17 they take the Gold Line and then they walk all the way  
18 down. So there's just a lot of foot traffic there. So  
19 I think, obviously, we want to look at what are the  
20 technologies that are being used to transport the goods  
21 to ensure that that fugitive dust isn't an issue.

22 And then transportation emissions; right? So  
23 how many trucks are going to be coming out of this  
24 facility? How often? What technology is being used?  
25 So we want to look at zero emission or near zero

1 emission technology to reduce the impacts of a totally  
2 different type of contaminant; right?

3 And then see what the feasibility is to  
4 implement a mitigation fund for community benefits.  
5 It's been done with other projects, so I would like to  
6 see what could be done with that here.

7 And then I'll just bring up a point that  
8 Council Member Oscar Magana brought up at a previous  
9 meeting about local hire, looking at local hire for  
10 this because these aren't, like, federal funds that are  
11 being used. I think it's something that could easily  
12 be implemented, so we would definitely like to see that  
13 in this project.

14 MR. MAGANA: Oscar Magana, City of Maywood.

15 There are some things that I think, for the  
16 community, are nonnegotiable. I think that labeling  
17 the trucks so that people are aware that these are  
18 Exide trucks, these are carrying contamination -- I  
19 think that's nonnegotiable. The community wants to  
20 make sure that part of the closure plan includes that  
21 these trucks are labeled. So if you come back in a  
22 month and we find out that the trucks are not labeled,  
23 you're going to have angry people here. That's the  
24 frustration with the community: That they've given you  
25 input, and you come back a month later and that input

1 seems to have gone out the wayside.

2 My comments and suggestions, though, are  
3 concerning communication. And I've had conversations  
4 with individual DTSC members about this, and I'm going  
5 to go ahead and give you my suggestions again. And I  
6 give these suggestions because we -- in Maywood we have  
7 had frustrations with DTSC in the past about the way  
8 you are receiving comments from the community.

9 Typically, what DTSC does is they send a white  
10 envelope. And if I haven't been to one of your  
11 meetings, that envelope doesn't have my name on it. It  
12 will say "To the resident of," and then it will have my  
13 address on there. The community -- people here, they  
14 receive tons of mail daily. If they're continually  
15 seeing Exide envelopes come and it's always the same  
16 envelope, they're going to figure that it's always the  
17 same information.

18 If it's something as important as giving  
19 comments and feedback for the EIR, then you need to  
20 make a better effort of making sure that people  
21 understand that this time the mailer you're getting is  
22 really important. This time the mailer that you're  
23 getting is going to allow you to give comments back to  
24 DTSC. If you were to send out an envelope that's a  
25 large yellow envelope that's labeled on there

1 "Important. We need your feedback," then I think you  
2 would receive a lot more comment cards from people that  
3 are writing to you.

4 I'd be willing to bet that anybody who has  
5 submitted comment cards to you has also attended these  
6 meetings. And I don't think that's the people that  
7 you're looking for feedback from, because the people  
8 that are at these meetings, I'm pretty sure you've  
9 heard enough from them. So I think there needs to be a  
10 better effort. That's one suggestion.

11 The other suggestion is the schools. The  
12 schools are usually a great place for information to  
13 get passed around. I haven't seen enough of an effort  
14 from DTSC's part to get that information to the  
15 schools.

16 Now, one thing I've heard before is: "Well,  
17 we can't go into the schools because we don't have  
18 jurisdiction." If you guys were to park a vehicle out  
19 in front, similar to the way the taco stands do -- park  
20 it out in front of the school -- you put a booth out  
21 there, and parents are dropping off their kids or  
22 picking them up, guess what. You're going to have  
23 parents who are going to wander over. They're going to  
24 come to you, and they're going to say, "Hey. What's  
25 going on?" Guess what. Now you can give them

1 information and they're not getting it secondhand.  
2 They're getting it straight from you. And now you're  
3 communicating with them face to face, and you have an  
4 opportunity to get input from them as well.

5 I've suggested this before. I haven't seen it  
6 implemented. I think it's something that you really,  
7 really need to consider. And, you know, I have a lot  
8 of other ideas as far as how you can communicate with  
9 the residents that are affected. I think you  
10 definitely need to put some of those booths out in  
11 front of those schools that -- I think it's a list of  
12 about 12 schools that are directly affected.

13 Again, my frustration has been that I don't  
14 feel DTSC is doing enough to go out into the  
15 communities. Somebody mentioned that you need to go  
16 out and speak to the EJ experts. Guess what. Those  
17 people have experience doing canvassing, going door to  
18 door, knocking, talking to people face to face. If you  
19 reached out to some of those organizations, I would bet  
20 you anything that they would be more than willing to go  
21 out there and get that job done.

22 MS. MARQUEZ: Yeah. Again, my name is Teresa  
23 Marquez from Boyle Heights. In identifying the  
24 trucks -- I went to training on the hazardous waste and  
25 so on so I could see the signs on the trucks and know

1 what kind of chemicals they are and whether I should be  
2 close to it or not.

3 If there's an accident, we also are trained to  
4 look at the wind side and so on. But what I want is I  
5 want -- I want to know exactly that these trucks are  
6 from Exide, that part of this -- not just the chemical  
7 identification or hazardous waste, but that they are  
8 from Exide. If you want to paint them yellow, I would  
9 be glad to help you, but I know it's not going to  
10 happen.

11 But the other thing is transportation -- do we  
12 really know which way those trucks go? Because all the  
13 trucks that I've seen with that kind of load, they go  
14 down the Pomona freeway and they go east. I don't know  
15 where they're going. To the desert? I'm not sure what  
16 route they're taking, but that's my experience. I have  
17 actually seen them drive down the 60 Freeway. So I  
18 haven't seen any on the 5 freeway going north.

19 And let me tell you, I'm on those freeways  
20 every day. So we need to identify which routes they're  
21 actually taking right now and which routes they're  
22 going to be taking later on and then discuss it. We  
23 don't want it in Commerce. We don't want it in Boyle.  
24 I definitely don't want it in Boyle Heights because  
25 that's a residential. That's strictly residential that

1 you're going through.

2 My understanding on the routes, that Vernon  
3 and commercial trucks should be going down Bandini to  
4 the 710. The 710 is a route for transportation -- for  
5 vehicle transportation with -- from commercial sites.  
6 So I'm not going to argue with anybody, but maybe we  
7 need to better understand what's going on. Thank you.

8 MS. CASTRO: Hi. Aide Castro with the office  
9 of Assemblyman Anthony Rendon. I have two concerns,  
10 but I'll start with the question, slash, concern:  
11 What's being done to reach out to the businesses; not  
12 just the businesses, but also the employees? I will  
13 tell you that although I do represent Assembly Member  
14 Anthony Rendon, I also own a business in the city of  
15 Maywood, and I did not receive any notification. And I  
16 purposely did not say anything because I wanted to see  
17 if there would be any outreach or if I would receive  
18 anything in the mail or anything, and I did not. So if  
19 that's something that you guys can please look into.

20 And second of all, the other concern is, you  
21 know -- some of us worked really hard to bring this  
22 meeting here because we felt that we needed to be fair  
23 to the other communities that were affected, so  
24 thankfully the City of Maywood agreed to host us.

25 However, I believe there's 40 of us on the

1 advisory group. Not one of us received a flyer from  
2 you guys. Most of the flyers are coming from the  
3 office of Supervisor Solis, which we greatly  
4 appreciate, but I would assume that that would be your  
5 guys' responsibility. And if we're not receiving a  
6 flyer or an invitation to a meeting, I -- it's hard to  
7 fathom that the community outreach is being done  
8 properly, because we've offered several times to help.  
9 There's 40 of us in an advisory group. If we all  
10 receive a flyer, we're all happy to disseminate it to  
11 our contacts, to the constituents that we're constantly  
12 in communication with. We're not doing that.

13 It goes back to communication. And quite  
14 frankly, with all due respect, it seems like you guys  
15 are just kind of going through the motions and it's  
16 more of a dog and pony show. And I say that with all  
17 due respect because I understand that you guys have to  
18 follow protocol and that you guys are limited to  
19 certain things, but at the end of the day some of these  
20 things are a little obvious and easy. So please,  
21 please take that into consideration and do not insult  
22 our communities by giving us minimal information. We  
23 are capable of understanding the information given to  
24 us. Thank you.

25 MR. RUIZ: Hi. I'm Daniel Ruiz. I grew up in

1 Huntington Park. I was just wondering, you know,  
2 what's going to happen to all of the contaminated  
3 material you're going to get from the Exide plant? The  
4 contaminated soil? Where will it be taken? Is it  
5 going to be taken to a local landfill? Is it going to  
6 be taken to another area that is also struggling with  
7 contamination just like we are? What's the process of  
8 decontaminating these things? Where will it happen?

9 MR. LORENTZEN: It's a good comment. It  
10 depends on what it is. They've proposed to take some  
11 material to other facilities, to some of their  
12 facilities. They've proposed to ship some to hazardous  
13 waste landfills. They've proposed to ship some to  
14 nonhazardous waste landfills. So we are looking at all  
15 this. It's a very good comment, and we will consider  
16 it in the EIR. Thank you.

17 MS. MAJIA: Hello again. I'm back. My name  
18 is Dolorez Majia, Eastside Coalition against Exide  
19 toxic technologies, and I'm really proud to stand here  
20 with the folks that have spoken up on behalf of their  
21 communities to whom -- my goodness. The CAG, the  
22 Community Advisory Group, is not even being informed?  
23 You know, that is beyond unethical. That is  
24 unscrupulously negligent. I'm ashamed of you all,  
25 really.

1           Anyhow, I was just wondering, how difficult is  
2 it, you know, to Google methods for transporting toxic  
3 waste? My goodness gracious. There is escort services  
4 for funeral parades. Like when a truck is a wide load  
5 on the freeway, they've got additional trucks riding  
6 alongside. Why can't we employ these? What is so  
7 difficult? I mean, I don't have a degree. I'm not a  
8 bureaucrat. You know, I can figure these things out.  
9 The average person can figure these things out. What  
10 is so difficult that you guys can't understand that  
11 there are measures that can be taken to notify the  
12 community, not just put a seal on it?

13           Yeah, there are signs on freeways that state  
14 "hazardous materials," et cetera, and you kind of have  
15 to have that information already to reference. But,  
16 you know -- my goodness gracious. If Exide toxic  
17 technologies broke down -- first tarped, then tented  
18 and broke down all their toxic, poisoned plant, then it  
19 would be transported all at one time. You could  
20 actually shut down a freeway for one night and post it  
21 in the newspaper stating the route and how the police  
22 escort, you know -- like a funeral parade, because  
23 basically it kind of is. Basically, it kind of is.

24           So I don't see what the big problem is. You  
25 could GPS it. You could tarp it. You could put a seal

1 on it. You could have a police escort. You could put  
2 the route -- post it in the newspaper or on the news so  
3 that people can avoid it or close their windows at  
4 night, and shut down the freeway with a police escort  
5 and certainly -- wide load -- you know, come on. It's  
6 not that difficult.

7 Now, come on. If we're going to use the  
8 rails, that's another concept. All this stuff is  
9 nothing new. We're not reinventing the wheel here.  
10 We're just putting a different spin on it, because  
11 apparently this is the first time that I understand  
12 that the most -- this is the largest toxic technology  
13 that is being dismembered and evicted and removed, from  
14 what I heard from an authority in the EJ world. But as  
15 far as the state of California goes, this is the  
16 biggest one. So with that in mind, you guys could  
17 employ a little ingenuity. Figure out how to inform  
18 people, possible, you know, notify people, first of  
19 all, that there is a meeting here to discuss how we're  
20 going to get rid of this garbage that you guys allowed  
21 to be dumped in our neighborhood.

22 All right. Thanks a lot.

23 MS. GUARDADO: My name is Veronica Guardado.  
24 I'm a city council member for the City of Maywood. I  
25 have a question. I saw that an article came out

1 regarding that there were LAUSD schools that were liked  
2 as having to be looked at. I was just wondering, has  
3 DTSC reached out to the schools who are not a part of  
4 the LAUSD system? Because Maywood does have one of  
5 them in that particular area, and then there's Rose of  
6 Lima, so I was just wondering if that effort had been  
7 made.

8 MR. GHAZI: Hi, Veronica.

9 MS. GUARDADO: Hi.

10 MR. GHAZI: This is Rizgar Ghazi with the  
11 Department of Toxic Substance Control. We did work  
12 with the unified school district, and we have an access  
13 agreement that is being signed tonight. In fact,  
14 the -- Exide's contractor and the school district  
15 signed the access agreement that will be sampling,  
16 shortly, these schools.

17 MS. GUARDADO: No. My question is: What  
18 about the schools who are not part of the unified  
19 school district?

20 MR. GHAZI: Those have already been sent, all  
21 the private schools that are not part of that school  
22 district. The only ones that were remaining were the  
23 school districts.

24 MS. GUARDADO: So do you have a list of the  
25 schools that have been tested in Maywood that are not

1 part of the school district?

2 MR. GHAZI: We could get that to you. I don't  
3 have it in front of me. Yes.

4 MR. CABRALES: Good evening. Roberto Cabrales  
5 with CBE in Huntington Park.

6 My question is: In residential areas where  
7 there's different lead-abatement projects going on,  
8 there's usually different steps to enclose it to ensure  
9 that nothing is -- fugitive air is actually  
10 distributed, so is there any specific plans to do  
11 enclosures for different -- dismantling or cleanup and  
12 so forth to control specifically there? So for me,  
13 that's one of the things that I envision. It's a huge  
14 facility that will be dismantled, so I'm imagining it  
15 will be like a huge fumigation in a residential home,  
16 circus-like tent.

17 But I think that would be one of the things  
18 that I would envision, in looking at it, how -- what  
19 measures would be taken to actually contain some of  
20 that dust and then the dismantling of a facility,  
21 specifically the most affected areas there.

22 MR. LOPEZ: This is Mark Lopez with East Yard  
23 Communities for Environmental Justice.

24 I also wanted to add Bandini Elementary as a  
25 school. It's Montebello Unified School District. It's

1 not the LAUSD. It's within 6,000 feet, I think,  
2 somewhere between, like -- probably around 5,000 feet  
3 away from the site.

4 And then also, I wanted to encourage or see if  
5 y'all were going to be developing baselines by sampling  
6 businesses around Exide, just as -- there's a lot of  
7 food handling that happens in that area, and then  
8 obviously exposure to workers, so just ensuring that  
9 we're kind of monitoring during, but that we get a  
10 baseline before and then see what exposure is after.

11 MS. MAJIA: I don't think that anybody really  
12 answered Robert's question. I think there was some  
13 talk of -- during the -- during the slide show, or  
14 whatever it's called, at the CAG. But I would like to  
15 know to what extent you all are going to tarp and tent  
16 this toxic -- this poisoned plant that's in our  
17 neighborhood here before -- if you don't mind.

18 MS. CROMIE: So I can tell you what's being  
19 proposed right now, and they are proposing to tent over  
20 the buildings. So that's what's in their proposal plan  
21 right now. They don't have the specifics on that, and  
22 we are asking for more specifics about it. So that is  
23 definitely something that we are concerned about. We  
24 know that you all are concerned about that as well. So  
25 that is definitely something we are looking at, and

1 we're glad to get that comment from you.

2 MS. MAJIA: I'm sorry, but I have another  
3 comment. I know it's endless. This is an endless  
4 stream of disappointment.

5 Dolorez Majia from Eastside Coalition against  
6 Exide toxic technologies and the regulators that  
7 endorse them.

8 I'm just wondering, all this talk about the  
9 schools -- my goodness gracious. I think that we  
10 should bring some -- like an audit here of, what is the  
11 protocol? When you have a toxic emergency like this,  
12 shouldn't you all be -- have -- have mandatory access  
13 to, say, day care centers that receive public funding,  
14 you know? That shouldn't be an option.

15 If I receive public funding to open my own  
16 little private day care center, I should want to be  
17 toxic tested. I have the responsibility -- I have the  
18 liability of taking care of children with the use of  
19 public funds. Why are we not toxic testing every  
20 single day care center, senior citizens center,  
21 et cetera? Come on, you guys. We have foster care,  
22 group homes. Why are we not toxic testing all of  
23 these? These are the people that are the most  
24 vulnerable to exposure to contaminants.

25 And absolutely what Mr. Mark Lopez has stated.

1 We all concur -- are considering the huge distribution,  
2 manufacture, packaging of food products. I have a  
3 whole list of them. I was ready to launch this, you  
4 know? I don't want to -- I was hoping that we'd get to  
5 the point where we can, you know, agree on doing a  
6 little damage control here, but you all apparently want  
7 to force our hands, and we might have to, you know,  
8 come out with this and make a big issue out of it,  
9 because this is not just an east side of Los Angeles  
10 issue. This is of international proportion when you  
11 consider the food products that come out of the city of  
12 "Vermin." That's what I like to call it; not Vernon,  
13 but the city of Vermin.

14 So you all really need to pay attention to our  
15 local EJ experts that speak on our behalf in our best  
16 interest. Toxic test every single day care center,  
17 foster -- group home, every single low-income housing  
18 unit in the impacted vicinity. It should be no  
19 questions asked. You shouldn't be asking for  
20 permission. Just go from the top and let them know.  
21 Let the top officials notify them that you all will be  
22 coming through with the third-party oversight that was  
23 proposed with our local EJ community and selected that  
24 way. Thank you.

25 MS. PRIETO: Hi. My name is Jessica Prieto.

1 So my question -- or my comment is regarding areas that  
2 aren't necessarily accounted for. So there's  
3 Brownfield, where the owners aren't necessarily aware  
4 of what's going on in those areas. And so those --  
5 that soil that's there on those empty lots -- they  
6 might not get cleaned up. And then years later or  
7 months later when they are bought and there is  
8 development there, the new owners don't know that that  
9 soil could potentially be contaminated.

10 Also, a lot of the freeways, they have land  
11 surrounding them, so -- like, the 710 freeway has the  
12 hills alongside of them, or just that property filled  
13 with soil. So I was wondering if that will be tested,  
14 and what will happen to that?

15 MS. DUPRET: All right. This is Andre Dupret.  
16 I'm with the City of Maywood. And in listening to all  
17 the comments -- there's been some great comments  
18 presented -- I have one that came -- popped up in my  
19 mind regarding what I've heard is a possibility of us  
20 entering a severe El Nino winter, which means rain and  
21 lots of rain, and I'd like to know what kind of  
22 contingency plan would be in place in the event that  
23 does occur to contain any of the runoff or any of the  
24 effects that excessive water would create. That's all  
25 I have to say.

1 MS. RODRIGUEZ: My name is Teresa Rodriguez.  
2 I'm very pleased to hear that the company has been  
3 closed, the toxins that make us sick so many times, and  
4 I hope I will be very happy to see the closure and the  
5 cleanup of the company. Thank you. Thank you so much.

6 MR. LOPEZ: This is Mark Lopez with East Yard  
7 Communities for Environmental Justice.

8 I just wanted to add a little bit to the  
9 urgency that Jessica brought up earlier. Exide might  
10 push back and say, why would we sample the areas along  
11 the freeways? And so the 710 is looking at proposed  
12 construction within the next couple of years. The 5  
13 freeway is also looking at widening within the next  
14 couple of years, so that's a whole new avenue of  
15 exposure if that isn't dealt with. So that could be  
16 something y'all can use to push back.

17 MS. PEREZ: Any other comments?

18 MS. MAJIA: Simply because we've had such  
19 issues, and even within your CAG group -- my name is  
20 Dolores Majia, Eastside Coalition against Exide toxic  
21 technologies. Simply because even within the CAG  
22 group, the Community Advisory Group, there's been  
23 discrepancies or issues regarding comments and what was  
24 the accuracy of comments and responses -- let's say, at  
25 the end of the comment period, why not review some of

1 these comments? Let's make sure that you all have  
2 recorded them accurately.

3 And then possibly if you have any comments  
4 about our comments at this time, or at least make some  
5 speculation about when you can get back to us with a  
6 critique or, you know -- you know, incorporating our  
7 input -- otherwise why should we bother to come here,  
8 you know? We're just open-ended -- open-ended, you  
9 know, time frame, you know -- let's kind of review what  
10 some of the comments were. What do you think about  
11 that?

12 MR. LORENTZEN: Yes. Absolutely.

13 MS. MAJIA: All right. Thank you.

14 MR. LORENTZEN: I'm just going to put a slide  
15 up that shows everybody how to send comments and --  
16 while we take more comments.

17 MR. MARTINEZ: Good evening. My name is  
18 Miguel Martinez. I'm here on behalf of Assembly Member  
19 Miguel Santiago, who represents many of the communities  
20 who are affected by Exide. Unfortunately, the assembly  
21 member wasn't able to be here tonight because he's in  
22 Sacramento. He wanted me to just provide a general  
23 comment. And he wanted to go ahead and thank everyone  
24 who was here tonight. Hundreds of people throughout  
25 Assembly Member Santiago's district has fought long and

1 hard for the closure of Exide in Vernon, and the  
2 assembly member is really proud of the collective  
3 efforts. But, as you all know, in order to move  
4 forward, we need the community's input so that we can  
5 go ahead and make sure that Exide and DTSC are held  
6 accountable.

7 As you know, the assembly member is strongly  
8 committed to our community's health and will work to  
9 monitor Exide as it continues remediating the  
10 contamination in the months ahead. The assembly member  
11 has pledged to maintain solid pressure on all parties  
12 to resolve this situation. He is also committed to  
13 holding not only Exide, but DTSC responsible for this  
14 cleanup process.

15 As you all know, Assembly Member Santiago has  
16 worked with the DTSC, the Department of Toxic Substance  
17 Control, some time ago to help outline the framework  
18 for a comprehensive stakeholders' working group, which  
19 we now have, which is essentially the first time we  
20 have a collaborative between AQMD and DTSC to have a  
21 parallel process to go along with this cleanup process.

22 As you all know, that group has slowly began  
23 meeting. It is now in its second meeting. We do go  
24 ahead and hope that that is another venue for community  
25 members, elected officials, the environmental justice

1 groups to go ahead and come together to help bring up  
2 some of these other concerns that are starting to come  
3 up. So just know that this is not the only venue, but  
4 we also have another venue to do that.

5 But he is hoping that we get this closure done  
6 right. And thank you for the opportunity to make a  
7 comment.

8 MS. PATEL: It looks like there's one more  
9 comment.

10 MS. PRIETO: Hi. Jessica Prieto. This is  
11 about you guys -- or if you guys send mail out,  
12 informing people that there is going to be a public  
13 comment period and that they can mail in their  
14 comments, maybe it would be useful to people when they  
15 receive -- if you are able to send a postcard form or  
16 some kind of attachment to the mail so that they can  
17 send it more easily back. So maybe it comes with that  
18 mail that tells them, Oh. You could also detach this  
19 attachment, put in your comment, or put it in your  
20 mailbox so that way it makes it much easier for people  
21 because people shouldn't have to -- they've been  
22 through enough because of this and they shouldn't have  
23 to put more effort into putting their voices heard.  
24 They deserve better than that. So thank you.

25 MS. PATEL: Thank you. Is there any more?

1 There's somebody in the back.

2 MS. LOPEZ: Good afternoon. My name is Maria  
3 Guadalupe Lopez, and I live here in the city of  
4 Maywood. I have a comment and also a question. Who is  
5 really responsible for the fact that -- the people that  
6 have been greatly affected for all the pollution that  
7 was coming from the factory, from Exide? I only see  
8 that people are blaming each other. I have been coming  
9 to these meetings, and I don't see that the community  
10 comes out being benefited from it.

11 Why? Because the pollution is -- it's still  
12 present at the schools, and it's still around us.  
13 We're still breathing. And, in fact, nobody has heard  
14 in the community, nobody has sent in the community from  
15 whom and to whom they are going to send these people  
16 that had been already affected by that. Some people  
17 had their house cleaned. The owners had their house  
18 cleaned, but we're also tenants of this city, the city  
19 of Maywood, and the surrounding areas.

20 I please ask you to please notify our  
21 community about when and where these people have to go,  
22 because here in the city of Maywood we have many people  
23 that have been affected. They have been polluted, and  
24 they have been affected with many illnesses. Don't  
25 just say that you are going to clean up the factory,

1 that you're just going to clean up. You also have to  
2 give a service to the communities that have been  
3 affected, and one of them is the city of Maywood.

4 So I'm going to keep an eye on you, and I'm  
5 going to remind you every time that I come to the  
6 meetings, because in every meeting you change the  
7 people. Where are the rest of the people that are  
8 going to be held responsible? You know what, they seem  
9 like they're -- there is a long way to go. So that's  
10 it, and thank you very much.

11 MS. MAJIA: Thank you to these folks in the  
12 community here. These are the true EJ experts. They  
13 come out and speak from their communities, their  
14 barrios, their churches. I have this little veecho  
15 (phonetic) myself. You just say, hey. If you can't  
16 bring the people to the protest, you bring the protest  
17 to the people. If you can't get the people to the  
18 meeting, get the meeting to the people. Why don't you  
19 guys put yourselves on the agenda for the school  
20 boards? Put yourselves on the agenda for, I don't  
21 know, the fire department, you know, board meeting.

22 You know, if you really want to know what the  
23 community needs and how they're best going to address  
24 this problem and do it responsibly, and if you're not  
25 willing to, you know, persuade our city -- our

1 impacted -- our city officials to attend here, then why  
2 don't you all -- let's put you on the agenda, huh?  
3 What about that?

4 At the PCAB -- is it Police Advisory Board --  
5 I was thrown out of Hollenbeck Police Department Police  
6 Advisory Board. You know why? I was submitting a  
7 packet of the chemical fire that took place at Exide  
8 toxic technologies to the director of the CERT team,  
9 Community Emergency Response Team. She sits on the  
10 board. This is the kind of -- this is the kind of, you  
11 know, insult to injury that the community has had to  
12 put up with, because you all aren't doing the best job  
13 that you can. Right now is the time for you to do a  
14 little damage control, you know, because I'm all about  
15 reform or remove DTSC, you know? I think this switch  
16 sign is -- yeah. This is it. Reform or remove DTSC.

17 Now, I know some of you guys put a little spin  
18 on that. It's reform and remove DTSC. No. I say  
19 reform or remove DTSC with corrective action. You all  
20 need to open yourselves up. Is today a hearing or a  
21 meeting? I see "meeting" up there. Somebody said this  
22 is a hearing. What is it?

23 MS. PATEL: It's a scoping meeting where we  
24 listen to your comments.

25 MS. MAJIA: Okay. Very good.

1           So anyhow, in addition to that, as you can  
2 see, my other sign here, which is one of the battle  
3 cries of expose and expel Exide: "Check" -- and we  
4 have an empty box here by "DTSC." When are you guys  
5 going to take us seriously? We just got through  
6 shutting down a huge toxic terrorist corporation.

7           I don't think it would be a lot of fun to take  
8 you guys down. If you guys don't take us seriously,  
9 take these people seriously, the grandfathers, the  
10 grandmothers, the children, and start putting  
11 yourselves in a position -- instead of jockeying for  
12 some kind of relief or some kind of apologetic -- some  
13 kind of a -- I don't know -- like we're going to feel  
14 sorry for you? I don't think so.

15           So get with the program. And if you can't get  
16 the officials here, go to the officials. Get on the  
17 school board agendas. Get on the agendas for the fire  
18 department, the community police advisory boards. Get  
19 on those agendas. It's not a problem. We can help you  
20 line it up; okay?

21           MS. PATEL: Thank you.

22           MS. MAJIA: Okay. You've got it?

23           MS. PATEL: Thank you.

24           So we have 12 more minutes. And we are going  
25 to take your comment, Dolorez, and review the points we

1 heard today. So Wayne is going to -- Dolorez?

2 MS. MAJIA: Yes, ma'am?

3 MS. PATEL: We are going to review, as you  
4 suggested, all the comments we heard. We have 12  
5 minutes. And -- but I want to -- before I turn it on  
6 to Wayne to summarize those, we also have a court  
7 reporter who's captured them, and this is how you can  
8 still submit your comments to us, and I just want to  
9 remind folks. Thank you all for coming, and Wayne is  
10 going to give us a summary now.

11 MR. LORENTZEN: Okay. Put me on the spot with  
12 my notes.

13 So I -- as Su said, we do have a court  
14 reporter here, so I'm going to try to read back to you  
15 my notes, and I hope that I caught everything. But if  
16 I don't read it off, it's on the transcription, and we  
17 will review it as we prepare this environmental impact  
18 report.

19 So storm water: Characterization of storm  
20 water beneath Exide. Are we going to look at that?  
21 The Community Advisory Group, four-month program. A  
22 lot of comments. How does it affect the closure?

23 Teresa talked about all agencies will be able  
24 to evaluate their own report -- or asked that question.  
25 Will all agencies be up to evaluate their own report?

1 Input and access to comments. How are we  
2 reaching others that are not here tonight?

3 45-day review process. Can that be extended  
4 to 60 days? Public agencies' input. How are we  
5 reaching out to them?

6 Mitigation measures. Trucks must be labeled.  
7 And if it can, be done at night. Identify the truck  
8 routes. We heard that as a strong message tonight  
9 about labeling trucks.

10 Land use and transportation corridors.

11 Dolorez talked about every community should  
12 require officials to notify communities about the  
13 schools' testing. Third-party oversight on the closure  
14 selected for the local community workers. Toxic loads  
15 should be monitored by LoJacks. Every area should be  
16 monitored by video and sound. Very good comments.

17 Dragon software to record our meetings. GPS  
18 on trucks. Why aren't we using rail?

19 Mark talked about fugitive dust from  
20 transportation, trucks going through -- eastbound on  
21 Bandini, north on Atlantic, through residential to get  
22 to 5 north. We -- that's a strong message to us. We  
23 will look at that.

24 Foot traffic to the Citadel. Transportation  
25 emissions -- somebody mentioned -- I think it was

1 Mark -- about near zero or looking into zero emission  
2 technology. Mitigation funds for community benefits.  
3 Using local hires.

4 Oscar talked about labeling trucks again and  
5 communication, our communication methods should have  
6 names instead of resident of the city of Maywood.

7 "Important," that "we need your feedback" was the  
8 suggestion for what to put on the envelope. Use  
9 schools to pass information around. "Taco truck  
10 style," I wrote. So we go out in a taco truck and hit  
11 all the schools up.

12 We don't provide enough effort to communicate  
13 to the communities. Use EJ groups to spread the info.

14 Teresa talked about we want to know if the  
15 trucks are from Exide. Which way will the trucks go?  
16 Down Pomona freeway and go east? We need to identify  
17 the routes. Those trucks should be going down Bandini  
18 to the 710.

19 From the office of Anthony Rendon, what's  
20 being done to reach out to businesses and employees?  
21 They don't get any notice. Advisory group members are  
22 not receiving flyers from us. And the suggestion that  
23 those advisory group members would be happy to  
24 disseminate that information from the Community  
25 Advisory Group.

1 Daniel talked about what will happen to  
2 contaminated soils. Where will it go? Where will it  
3 end up?

4 Dolorez told us about transporting toxic  
5 waste, shutting down the freeway and providing funeral  
6 police escorts for the loads as they get shipped out.  
7 Notifying the community about when they will get  
8 transported. Notify us about meetings.

9 Ronny talked about schools. Has DTSC reached  
10 out to school districts that are not part of the L.A.  
11 Unified system?

12 Roberto talked about residential areas, lead  
13 abatement and closures during dismantling. What  
14 measures are we going to take to contain dust during  
15 dismantling?

16 Mark talked about Bandini Elementary being  
17 within 6,000 or 5,000 feet of the site and asked about  
18 baseline sampling around the Exide site before and  
19 measuring after.

20 Dolorez talked about schools. Why aren't we  
21 toxic testing the children and seniors and those most  
22 vulnerable in the community? We should be looking at  
23 manufacturing of food products nearby, using local EJ  
24 exports and paying more attention to them.

25 Jessica talked about Brownfields and soil in

1 the empty lots that may not get cleaned out and the  
2 potential for impacts to future buyers of those  
3 properties, and asked us, will areas off of the 710 be  
4 tested, soils along the 710?

5 Andre talked about El Nino winters and what  
6 are the plans -- what are the contingency plans for  
7 potential heavy rains during deconstruction of  
8 buildings and closure.

9 Teresa wants to see closure of the company.  
10 Mark reiterated the need for sampling along the 710 and  
11 identified impacts from new exposures if those areas  
12 are not sampled.

13 Dolorez wanted us to review the comments at  
14 the end.

15 Santiago's representative asked -- told us  
16 that he was holding DTSC accountable.

17 Jessica talked about notifying people with  
18 postcards for public comment periods. Very good  
19 comment.

20 Maria talked about those responsible for  
21 pollution from Exide. The community is not benefiting  
22 from it. Nobody has said what will happen to those  
23 people. Some owners had homes cleaned, notified the  
24 community when and where those people have to go.  
25 Don't just say you will clean it up. Need to take care

1 of the residents.

2 Dolorez talked about getting on the agenda for  
3 the school boards, the fire department meetings, and  
4 the community police advisory boards. And that's all I  
5 have.

6 So I just wanted to say if there's anything  
7 that I didn't capture there, we will review the  
8 transcript as we prepare this EIR.

9 MS. MAJIA: Excuse me. The purpose for -- I  
10 thank you for doing that. I appreciate that. Because  
11 you are helping us understand, what it is -- I mean,  
12 she's not a robot, which is why there's software for  
13 doing that, you know?

14 And that's why even these translators here --  
15 I found out that this company -- they have the ability  
16 to record these meetings. I've already asked them,  
17 "Why don't we just employ that?" Because I don't know  
18 if you transcribe -- if you spoke verbatim what your --  
19 what she recorded. I did not say toxic test the  
20 children. What I said was -- hello. Dolorez Eastside  
21 Coalition against toxic technologies.

22 Again, thank you for reviewing the comments.  
23 I think it's useful for us to understand what it is  
24 that you're taking into account: Our input, how it is  
25 being transcribed. And I just want to point out

1 that -- thank you for doing so, young lady; but in that  
2 matter there, I did not say why don't we toxic test the  
3 children. Hello. What I said was, Why don't we toxic  
4 test all day care center venues, all group homes,  
5 foster -- foster homes, senior centers, anywhere  
6 that -- any single place -- adult day care centers.

7           Anywhere that receives public funding, it  
8 should not be an issue. It should be no question that  
9 they should open up and they should want to be tested  
10 for liability reasons. And in the past Ms. -- over at  
11 East Yard, they brought up a very good point. I didn't  
12 know what you called those parkways. I always thought  
13 to myself, Why are these agencies asking homes to open  
14 their doors to be tested? They don't understand what  
15 it means, when, in fact, you could use -- you could  
16 test the parkways. Come on now. You don't have to ask  
17 permission for the businesses next door to Exide.  
18 They're not going to want to be toxic tested. You just  
19 toxic test the parks in front.

20           So please -- can we please take that comment  
21 seriously? A lot of people feel the same way. Can't  
22 we just get up to speed and just record -- there are a  
23 lot of issues, say AT&T hearing boards, if they  
24 streamline it -- what's it called -- stream it online.  
25 There's no reason -- even if it's just audio or

1 whatever, so that people can want a -- want to come,  
2 and it will motivate them. They could call in. You  
3 could stream it and call in for comments. They could  
4 text in comments. There's so many ways. Thank you  
5 very much.

6 MR. LORENTZEN: Thank you.

7 So this isn't the only opportunity. You can  
8 contact me. The contact information is up here. If  
9 you want to send a written comment, it's in your  
10 handout. You can do it by e-mail. You can do it by  
11 mail. You can do it by fax. If you need help with  
12 that, it's in your handout. So from here, we are  
13 taking your comments. We're going to review everything  
14 as we prepare this environmental impact report, and we  
15 will come back to you with the report that you can  
16 comment on after we put it together. So we will come  
17 back to you with a report and ask for your input again.  
18 Thank you.

19 MR. MAGANA: So once again, folks, thank you  
20 very much for coming out here today. We really  
21 appreciate it. I want to remind you that you, the  
22 activists, you, the community members -- you're the  
23 reason why Exide is shut down. You're the reason why  
24 there's a closure plan that's actually happening now.  
25 And if it wasn't for your continued efforts, we

1 wouldn't be where we are right now.

2           But, again, we have to work with DTSC. We  
3 have to make sure that we are the ones holding them  
4 accountable so that the closure plan goes the way that  
5 we want it to go. Again, thank you for being here  
6 tonight. We really appreciate you guys being here  
7 tonight. If you have any comments -- I know when I was  
8 a kid, I used to hate talking in front of a crowd, so I  
9 know some of you probably didn't want to come up here.  
10 Maybe you wrote your comment down. There's a box  
11 coming around where you can insert your comment. Thank  
12 you.

13           (End of proceedings at 7:51 p.m.)

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CERTIFICATE  
OF  
CERTIFIED SHORTHAND REPORTER  
\* \* \* \*

The undersigned Certified Shorthand Reporter  
of the State of California does hereby certify:

That the foregoing Proceeding was taken before  
me at the time and place therein set forth.

That the testimony and all objections made at  
the time of the Proceeding were recorded  
stenographically by me and were thereafter transcribed,  
said transcript being a true and correct copy of the  
proceedings thereof.

In witness whereof, I have subscribed my name,  
this date: July 3, 2015.



STEPHANIE LESLIE, CSR No. 12893

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