Commission of Inquiry into the Decline of Sockeye Salmon in the Fraser River



Commission d'enquête sur le déclin des populations de saumon rouge du fleuve Fraser

Public Hearings

Audience publique

Commissioner

L'Honorable juge / The Honourable Justice Bruce Cohen

Commissaire

Held at:

Tenue à :

Room 801 Federal Courthouse 701 West Georgia Street Vancouver, B.C. Salle 801 Cour fédérale 701, rue West Georgia Vancouver (C.-B.)

Wednesday, June 15, 2011

le mercredi 15 juin 2011



Commission d'enquête sur le déclin des populations de saumon rouge du fleuve Fraser

Errata for the Transcript of Hearings on June 15, 2011

Page	Line	Error	Correction
	throughout document	Tramner	Tranmer
2	95	also juvenile sockeye salmon	also found juvenile sockeye salmon
26	91	Mariah	Maria

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No appearance Pacific Salmon Commission ("PSC")

No appearance B.C. Public Service Alliance of Canada

Union of Environment Workers B.C.

("BCPSAC")

No appearance Rio Tinto Alcan Inc. ("RTAI")

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B Harvest Committee (Seine) ("GILLFSC")

No appearance Southern Area E Gillnetters Assn.

B.C. Fisheries Survival Coalition ("SGAHC")

West Coast Trollers Area G Association; No appearance

United Fishermen and Allied Workers'

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B.C. Wildlife Federation; B.C. Federation No appearance

of Drift Fishers ("WFFDF")

No appearance Maa-nulth Treaty Society; Tsawwassen

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First Nations Coalition: First Nations Fisheries Council; Aboriginal Caucus of the Fraser River; Aboriginal Fisheries Secretariat; Fraser Valley Aboriginal Fisheries Society: Northern Shuswap Tribal

Council; Chehalis Indian Band;

Secwepemc Fisheries Commission of the Shuswap Nation Tribal Council; Upper Fraser Fisheries Conservation Alliance; Other Douglas Treaty First Nations who applied together (the Snuneymuxw, Tsartlip and Tsawout); Adams Lake Indian Band; Carrier Sekani Tribal

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No appearance Laich-kwil-tach Treaty Society

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No appearance Musgamagw Tsawataineuk Tribal

Council ("MTTC")

No appearance Heiltsuk Tribal Council ("HTC")

Emily Mak Metro Vancouver ("METROVAN")

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1 Vancouver, B.C./Vancouver (C.-B.) 3 June 15, 2011/le 15 juin 2011 4 5 THE REGISTRAR: The hearing is now resumed. 6 MR. McGOWAN: Good morning, Mr. Commissioner. It's 7 Patrick McGowan. With me is Micah Carmody. 8 counsel for the Commission. We have our second 9 panel this morning on the wastewater topic. 10 looking at the panel, to my left is Mr. James 11 Arnott, on the right is Dr. Albert van Roodselaar. 12 They will be the panellists today. 13 Mr. Commissioner, we have one additional 14 counsel in the room today. To my left and behind 15 me is Ms. Emily Mak. She is counsel for Metro Vancouver, and she will be examining the witness 16 17 after Commission counsel this morning, her 18 witness. 19 Could we have the witnesses sworn, please. 20 THE REGISTRAR: Good morning, gentlemen. Could you 21 each put on your microphones, please. 22 2.3 JAMES ARNOTT, affirmed. 24 25 ALBERT van ROODSELAAR, affirmed. 26 27 THE REGISTRAR: State your name, please. 28 MR. ARNOTT: James Arnott. 29 THE REGISTRAR: Thank you. 30 DR. van ROODSELAAR: Albert van Roodselaar. 31 THE REGISTRAR: Thank you. Counsel 32 MR. McGOWAN: Thank you. Mr. Commissioner, I don't 33 propose to seek to have either of these witnesses 34 qualified as experts, but I will just ask them a 35 couple of questions about their background and 36 mark their c.v.'s by way of introducing them to 37 you. 38 39 EXAMINATION IN CHIEF BY MR. McGOWAN: 40 41 Mr. Arnott, you have been with Environment Canada 42 since the year 2000? 43 MR. ARNOTT: Yes, that's correct. 44 And you're presently the Manager of the Wastewater 45 Section of Environment Canada? 46 MR. ARNOTT: Yes. 47 MR. McGOWAN: And just on the screen there we see your

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c.v. or your profile. If that could be the next exhibit. 3 THE REGISTRAR: Exhibit 1056. 4 5 EXHIBIT 1056: Curriculum vitae of James 6 Arnot.t. 7 8 MR. McGOWAN: 9 Dr. van Roodselaar, you're presently the Division 10 Manager of Utility Planning and Environmental 11 Management with Metro Vancouver? 12 DR. van ROODSELAAR: That's correct. And you've held that position since the year 2000? 13 14 DR. van ROODSELAAR: I've held several positions, this 15 was the last of several positions I held there. 16 With Metro Vancouver. 17 DR. van ROODSELAAR: With Metro Vancouver. 18 MR. McGOWAN: Thank you. And if we could have Dr. van 19 Roodselaar's c.v. up, please. 20 MR. LUNN: I was looking for a tab number on that. 21 MR. McGOWAN: It's 32. 22 MR. LUNN: Thank you. 2.3 THE REGISTRAR: That will be Exhibit 1057. 24 MR. McGOWAN: 25 That's the -- Dr. van Roodselaar's c.v.? 26 DR. VAN ROODSELAAR: That's correct. 27 MR. McGOWAN: Thank you. 2.8 29 EXHIBIT 1057: Curriculum vitae of Albert van 30 Roodselaar 31 32 MR. McGOWAN: Mr. Arnott, I wonder if you could just briefly 33 34 address the Commissioner on where the Wastewater 35 Section is situated within Environment Canada, or 36 in the organization, and perhaps briefly explain 37 what your position is within that section. 38 MR. ARNOTT: Sure, certainly. So within Environment 39 Canada there's broad branches within the 40 structure. Wastewater Section is situated, 41 broadly speaking, within the main regulation 42 making branch, and that's the Environmental 43 Stewardship Branch. Within that context, the 44 Environmental Stewardship Branch is broken up into 45 a number of different directorates. I'm with the Public and Resources Sector Directorate. We 46 47 develop regulations for wastewater, as well as

- we're responsible for other regulations under both the **Canadian Environmental Protection Act** and the **Fisheries Act** related to industrial sectors, as well.
 - Thank you. Dr. van Roodselaar, could you please explain to the Commissioner what Metro Vancouver is and what its relationship is to its member municipalities.
 - DR. van ROODSELAAR: Metro Vancouver is the general name given to the Greater Vancouver Regional District, and in fact there is three entities. There is the Greater Vancouver Regional District, which has its own Act, and that is made up of member municipalities in the Lower Mainland. There is the Greater Vancouver Sewage and Drainage District, that's also under its own legislation, its own Act, and that is an entity that provides wastewater treatment services to its member municipalities. And then there's the Greater Vancouver Water District, which is also under its own Act, which provides drinking water services and treatment to the member municipalities.
 - Q Thank you. The Commissioner heard yesterday about the new proposed federal regulations relating to wastewater. Dr. van Roodselaar, I wonder if you could just briefly explain to the Commissioner what role you had, or what involvement you had in the development of the Canada-wide Strategy and the development of those regulations.
 - DR. van ROODSELAAR: Okay. In terms of the Strategy now, I believe you're referring to the Canadian Council of Ministers of the Environment Strategy for Municipal Wastewater Effluent?

 O Yes.
 - DR. van ROODSELAAR: I was involved with that, and in fact was invited there to be on a Risk Management Committee of the CCME, that involved other members on that committee that were provincial representatives and federal representation, and basically looking there at appropriate risk management options and processes with respect to managing municipal wastewater effluent.
 - Q Thank you.
 - DR. van ROODSELAAR: You asked about the federal regulation that's currently in draft form, I believe. I don't really have a role in that in terms of that's an Environment Canada initiative,

 as I understand it. And really the only role there in terms of myself and municipalities across the country, was opportunity to comment on those draft regulations that were gazetted, and basically through CWWA, Canadian Water and Wastewater Association, and FCM, the Federation of Canadian Municipalities, bringing some of the concerns and some of the issues that the members see as pertinent to the development of the regulation.

- Q And Metro Vancouver did make a submission, did they?
- DR. van ROODSELAAR: That's correct.
- Mr. Arnott, could you please explain to the Commissioner what involvement you had in the development of the Canada-wide Strategy for the Management of Municipal Wastewater Effluent and the draft regulations.
- MR. ARNOTT: Certainly. Within the context of the period of 2004 to 2009, the period where the Canada-wide Strategy was developed under the Canadian Council of Ministers of the Environment, I was supporting the Canada member on the CCME Committee, much the same way that Albert spoke to in terms of the issues, environmental risk management and some of those concepts that were integrated into the strategy.

Since 2009 when the strategy was endorsed by the Canadian Council of Ministers of the Environment, I've been managing the Wastewater Section in terms of the next step in developing the proposed regulations under the *Fisheries Act*. That was a key commitment that the federal government had within the agreed to Canada-wide Strategy.

- Q Could we please have our list of documents 5 on the screen, please. Now, we've been referring to the Canada-wide Strategy. The full name is the Canada-wide Strategy for the Management of Municipal Wastewater Effluent. That's this document we see in front of you on the screen?

 MR. ARNOTT: Yes.
- Q And that was a strategy developed by Canada and the provinces, through the CCME, to set an approach, Canada-wide approach to the regulation and treatment of wastewater; is that fair?
- MR. ARNOTT: That's correct, as well as the

territories.

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MR. McGOWAN: Thank you. If that could be the next 3 exhibit, please. 4 THE REGISTRAR: Exhibit 1058. 5 6 EXHIBIT 1058: Canada-wide Strategy for the 7 Management of Municipal Wastewater Effluent, 8 February 27, 2009 [CCME] 9 10 THE COMMISSIONER: Mr. McGowan, just at this point, if 11 you could just elicit the structure of 12 responsibility around legislative control over 13 this particular issue, so I have a sense of how 14 these parties relate one to the other. 15 Yes, certainly, I'm --MR. McGOWAN: THE COMMISSIONER: Perhaps you're coming to that, so I 16 17 can wait. 18 MR. McGOWAN: No, that's fine. Now is perhaps a 19 convenient time to --20 THE COMMISSIONER: All right. 21 MR. McGOWAN: -- do that. 22 Are you able to briefly set out for the 23 Commissioner, explain the structure, explain what 24 the CCME is, and the division of legislative 25 responsibility, and I'll ask you perhaps to do 26 that, Mr. Arnott. 27 MR. ARNOTT: Sure. So CCME in general exists as a body 28 that jurisdictions, in this case federal, 29 provincial and territorial governments, can talk 30 and collaborate and discuss issues related to 31 environmental protection. Generally environmental 32 protection is a shared jurisdiction, depending on 33 the issue. In the case of effluents released from 34 wastewater systems, that is the case. There's 35 provincial and federal jurisdiction, and the 36 territorial jurisdictional issues are a bit 37 different, but they're at play. 38 So in this case, CCME was the forum that was chosen to take on this matter. CCME is a 39 structure, develops agreements that aren't legally 40 41 binding. They're agreements that the 42 jurisdictions agree to do certain things. 43 the case for the CCME Canada-wide Strategy. 44 Okay. Now, regulation of wastewater from a 45 federal perspective is primarily handled at this 46 point through s. 36(3); is that fair? 47 MR. ARNOTT: Under the authority of the Fisheries Act,

1 yes. Yes. And these new proposed regulations under the 3 Fisheries Act would set out in much more detail a 4 federal approach to regulation of wastewater? 5 MR. ARNOTT: Correct. 6 Each of the provinces also have the capability of 7 enacting legislation which relates to the 8 environment in which wastewater is discharged? 9 MR. ARNOTT: Correct. 10 And British Columbia does have legislation dealing 11 with that? 12 Legislation, and to be specific, a MR. ARNOTT: 13 regulation. 14 MR. McGOWAN: Yes. And now, Mr. Commissioner, for your 15 benefit, these various pieces of legislation are described in some detail in the Policy and 16 17 Practice Report. I'm sure you're familiar with 18 that, and I'm --19 THE COMMISSIONER: I am. I was -- I apologize, Mr. 20 McGowan, I am. I was just trying to get a sense of where their roles fit into that structure. 21 22 MR. McGOWAN: Yes. 23 THE COMMISSIONER: Perhaps that will come out during 24 the course of your eliciting the evidence. I 25 just, insofar as these two gentlemen are 26 concerned, I'm trying to understand where they fit 27 into this legislative structure, their specific 28 roles. 29 MR. McGOWAN: Yes. Thank you. 30 Part of the Canada-wide Strategy is the 31 development of bilateral agreements? 32 MR. ARNOTT: That's correct. 33 And if you could explain to the Commissioner what 34 bilateral agreements are in this context. 35 MR. ARNOTT: Okay. Well, maybe I'll first start with 36 in general the Canada-wide Strategy dealt with two 37 sets of issues: performance issues that speak to the nature of effluent quality issues from 38 wastewater systems, and environmental risk 39 40 management concepts within setting those 41 standards. The other side related to governance,

Given the fact that the federal government is

so that was how the jurisdictions were going to

contemplate continuing to working together. So

within that set of issues under governance, the

Canada-wide Strategy does lay out how that would

work.

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committed to develop regulations under the **Fisheries Act**, it was recognized that there needed to be a mechanism or a model that would allow the continuing collaboration of the jurisdictions.

Within the authority of the **Fisheries Act** we can develop bilateral administrative agreements, which in general we would intend to have a one-window kind of regulatory reporting structure built in. So in this case municipalities or others that have to report information under the regulations could do so in a way that they're reporting just once to both the provincial and federal regulators.

- Okay, thank you. Now, in terms of the regulations themselves, and what they'll prescribe and what the -- and who will carry them out, I wonder if we can perhaps now walk through the regulations and deal with some of the key elements under the regulations. First of all, do the regulations prescribe a certain level, either a certain level of treatment or parameters that amount to prescribing a certain level of treatment that would be required Canada-wide.
- MR. ARNOTT: That's a good question, and in fact that I should speak, in general, the authority we have under the *Fisheries Act* allow us to prescribe a quantity or a concentration of a deleterious substance. So specifically the regs don't prescribe a specific level of treatment. We prescribe specific, in this case, concentrations of four deleterious substances.
- Q And those four deleterious substances are BOD, TSS, chlorine and ammonia?
- MR. ARNOTT: Correct.
- Q And the levels that are prescribed, practically speaking, do they amount to a requirement that plants be upgraded to a minimum of secondary?
- MR. ARNOTT: That's correct, and I would add that, that primarily relates to carbonaceous biochemical oxygen demand, BOD, CBOD in that case, and suspended solids. For ammonia and chlorine the levels really relate to, not the issue of level of treatments, directly, it relates to the issue of acute toxicity.
- Q Do the regulations require the testing of or impose limits with respect to any of the emerging contaminants of concern?

- MR. ARNOTT: When you say emerging contaminants of concern...?
 - Q Things like pharmaceuticals, surfactants, some of the persisting organic pollutants, PBDEs, matters such as those.
 - MR. ARNOTT: In general, no. And we could maybe touch on some of the additional requirements that are proposed in the regulations under the environmental effects monitoring, and we could talk about those features as proposed, because there are some issues there that relate to your question.
 - Okay. Throughout the process of -- or once the draft regulations were developed, they were gazetted and put out for comment through a consultative process; is that fair?
 - MR. ARNOTT: That's right. So last March published, the proposed regulations were published in Canada Gazette Part I, as we always do, and for a 60-day open comment period. And then we go into the phase of reflecting on those comments. In this case we've done quite a bit of follow-up with organizations that did provide comments, and basically spent quite a bit of time on clarifying some technical issues, as well as further clarify what some of the comments were.
 - Q And were you involved in reviewing those comments? MR. ARNOTT: Yes, I was.
 - Q And were you involved in considering, or have you been, in considering possible amendments to the draft regulations, based on the comments received?

 MR. ARNOTT: Yes.
 - Q And that process is ongoing, is it?
 - MR. ARNOTT: Yes, it is.
 - Q Okay. And the comments that were received would be those such as the ones forwarded by Metro Vancouver?
 - MR. ARNOTT: That's correct.
 - Q And there was a submission, I understand, made by the Province of British Columbia, as well?
 - MR. ARNOTT: That's correct.
 - Q Did you receive comments with respect to the degree to which the regulations deal with some of the emerging contaminants of concern, such as endocrine-disrupting compounds?
- MR. ARNOTT: To a certain extent we characterized the comments we received on the regulations in general

in a couple of categories, both in very specific technical detail in terms of what was proposed as well as some additional issues, and that was one of them, certainly.

- Q Okay. And did some of those comments propose increased regulatory requirements relating to matters such as endocrine-disrupting compounds?
- MR. ARNOTT: I don't recollect that specifically. We certainly heard about that issue in terms of what might be emerging as concerns related to some of those additional substances. But I don't recollect the direct correlation that you're making, no.
- Do the regulations require environmental effects monitoring?
- MR. ARNOTT: Yes, they do.
- Q And who do they require it of?
- MR. ARNOTT: As proposed, there's a mechanism that would determine that within the regulations, so the key message there is as proposed, the environmental effects monitoring provisions would not apply to all wastewater systems. It would apply to a certain subset of the sector, and those that are already complying or already meeting the effluent quality limits for the deleterious substances that we spoke of already.
- Q Okay. Have you determined yet which facilities in the Fraser watershed, or how many in the Fraser watershed would be required to carry out the environmental effects monitoring?
- MR. ARNOTT: No. The way the regs, the regulations as proposed would work is both in terms of who would need to do the environmental effects monitoring requirements, as well as the compliance timelines for those that need an upgrade, are all set in motion once the regulations are finalized, and it's based on information that needs to be submitted by municipalities and others that are required to submit that kind of information.

 So and just to your point --
- O Yes.
- MR. ARNOTT: -- about the question, we will only know who is required to do environmental effects monitoring once we have some of that reporting happen once the regulations are finalized.
- Q Will it be the wastewater treatment facility operators that are required to carry out the

1 monitoring, or is that going to be done by 2 Environment Canada?

- MR. ARNOTT: No, the owners/operators of the facilities.
- Q Now, there was an issue that was drawn to the attention of the Commissioner yesterday, which I'd like you to have an opportunity to comment on, and that is the proposal under the regs that after a period of environmental monitoring without the detection of issues, the environmental monitoring would not be required to continue. Is that a fair characterization of what's proposed under the regulations?
- MR. ARNOTT: Yes. The -- we have proposed an approach that, generally speaking, after a couple of cycles -- so let me step back for a minute. Roughly speaking, we're contemplating proposed provisions for environmental effects monitoring that would last about 13 years. Within that 13-year phase, we would have four cycles of monitoring, both water quality monitoring, benthic invertebrate monitoring and it may also include fish population monitoring. If there are no effects identified in the first two cycles within that period, yes, as proposed, those provisions would not continue.
- And did you receive feedback on the limited nature, in terms of time of the environmental monitoring that's required?
- MR. ARNOTT: Yes, we did. I would characterize the comments that we received on either side. Some supported, some thought we needed to go further.
- Q And given the comments that are received, is Canada contemplating, are you aware through the work you've done, making any alterations to that timing issue?
- MR. ARNOTT: We are certainly trying to consider carefully on both sides of the argument. I think one of the things that we tried to do in the proposal is reflect on the fact that there have been lessons learned from the other existing regulations in the **Fisheries Act** for environmental effects monitoring provisions. That's partly what led us to propose the scheme that we did. We will certainly contemplate how best and in what manner to finalize those provisions in the final regulations.
- Q We had some witnesses here yesterday, you may be

aware of them, and they commented on treatment levels and the degree of technology that's available. And I think it's a fair characterization of their evidence that secondary treatment is a fairly old piece of technology, and there are much more advanced options available. Are you aware of technologies that go beyond secondary in terms of the treatment of wastewater?

- MR. ARNOTT: Absolutely, yes. In terms of characterizing levels of treatment, I would characterize all existing levels of treatment as technology that's been around for quite some time. So whether it's secondary wastewater treatment or even advanced treatment beyond secondary, typically referred to as tertiary, all those levels of technology have been existing for quite some time.
- Q Given the availability of much more advanced technology, why did Canada in these proposed regulations set levels such that they would only require the upgrade -- plants that would be upgrading to secondary, as opposed to something more advanced?
- MR. ARNOTT: Right. I'll start to provide a bit of context to the consultation that happened within the development of the CCME Canada-wide Strategy. It's one of the issues that played through those consultations from 2004 to 2009. I think what we heard through that process was the need for a national baseline, and that's what ended up getting reflected in this -- in the CCME Canada-wide Strategy. One of the commitments that the federal government was to reflect that baseline set of national standards within the regulation of the **Fisheries Act**.

Within the CCME Canada-wide Strategy it also reflects that in certain instances, especially based on site-specific needs in terms of sensitive receiving environments, for instance, that there may need to be more stringent standards in place. If the CCME Canada-wide Strategy situates the provincial regulator with that role to basically set standards for -- that would be more stringent than the national baseline where required. In many cases, provinces do that to a certain extent already.

Q Okay. In setting the levels of treatment that are

required by prescribing limits, do the regulations take into account receiving environment or prescribe different levels for particularly sensitive receiving environments, or those that might be considered particularly valuable or special? MR. ARNOTT: The limits themselves are baseline limits.

In the construct of the regulations, the receiving

environment does get taken into consideration, but

it relates primarily to the approach to compliance

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timelines. Yes.

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MR. ARNOTT: So using criteria that looks at existing effluent quality, what's being discharged now, as well as specific criteria for the receiving environment that that effluent's going into right now, there's three categories of wastewater systems that are determined for the purposes of compliance or upgrade to secondary wastewater treatment, and those three categories relate to the different timelines that are proposed.

And just to perhaps summarize what you're saying, there is a formula set out in the draft regulations, which would take into account several factors, one of them being receiving environment, to develop, to calculate a number of points. And depending on the number of points calculated, that would dictate the timeline within which facilities that wouldn't currently comply with the regulations would have to upgrade to the level of Is that a fair summary? compliance.

MR. ARNOTT: Yes.

Okay. MR. ARNOTT: Correct.

So receiving environment is taken into account in that calculation.

MR. ARNOTT: Yes.

- Did Canada consider doing a similar calculation and perhaps having a graded level of treatment that was required that would have required higher treatment in special receiving environments?
- In terms of constructing the proposed MR. ARNOTT: regulations as they are, no. Those issues were at play in terms of developing the Canada-wide Strategy, though, and certainly looked at all of the various options that were at play in terms of how the federal, provincial and territorial

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governments would move forward. So I would say that those options were looked at, at that phase.

Once we got to the phase of reaching an agreement under the Canada-wide -- through the Canada-wide Strategy, the concept of national effluent quality standards as a baseline that would get reflected in a regulation of the Fisheries Act was set in motion, and that's what we've contemplated in the proposed regulations.

- While we're talking about the point system, Dr. van Roodselaar, has Metro Vancouver calculated the points for the two primary facilities in its area, both Iona and Lions Gate?
- DR. van ROODSELAAR: Yes, we have.
- And under the proposed regulation what would the mandated upgrade times be?
- DR. van ROODSELAAR: According to the calculation we've done, it would seem that Lions Gate would be a ten-year timeline, Iona would be a 20-year timeline.
- Mr. Arnott, is it to be left to the wastewater treatment operators to calculate their own points, or is that an exercise that's going to be undertaken by Environment Canada?
- I think that's an exercise that is built MR. ARNOTT: into the regulations as proposed. So the regulations set out their criteria and the point scheme, as you just summarized well. So that information needs to be submitted once the regulations are finalized. So the municipality or the owner/operator of the wastewater system has responsibility to submit that information. criteria is quite open and transparent. So that information gets submitted and that sets in motion those compliance timelines.
- Okay. Do the regulations presently deal with biosolids?
- MR. ARNOTT: No, they do not.
- Those are a matter of some concern to some Okay. that are --
- MR. ARNOTT: Yes.
- -- produced as a by-product of the waste treatment process.
- MR. ARNOTT: Right. And on that issue, in terms of the sludges and biosolids that are a by-product of the wastewater treatment process, we did hear comments all the way through the development of the Canada-

wide Strategy for effluents on this, and it is contemplated that it is an issue that needs to be dealt with. Currently the Canadian Council of Ministers of the Environment have been working on a Canada-wide approach for the management of -- Yes.

- MR. ARNOTT: -- wastewater biosolids. They're about two-thirds through that process. Actually consultation on the Canada-wide approach is ongoing right now.
- Q And is it contemplated that that will -- that process will ultimately result in some regulatory framework addressing the issues related to biosolids?
- MR. ARNOTT: Yes. I think there's similar -- there's similar issues at play. The Canada-wide approach is both looking at risk management issues related to how sludges and biosolids from wastewater treatment plants are managed. And as well as some of the existing governance regulatory frameworks that are in place, and that's primarily provincially in this case. Federally there's very limited authority to -- that exists right now in terms of managing sludges and biosolids.
- Q Okay. Dr. van Roodselaar, what does Metro Vancouver presently do with its biosolids?
- DR. van ROODSELAAR: In the current, the current practice that Metro Vancouver has with biosolids, primarily most of it's going to -- to mine reclamation. There's two principal locations in the province where most of our biosolids go for mine application.
- Q Okay. And is that reclamation of strip mines? DR. van ROODSELAAR: That's correct.
- Q Okay. And are any of the sites where the biosolids are deposited located within the Fraser River watershed?
- DR. van ROODSELAAR: No. Looked at locations and do not appear to be relevant to Fraser River.
- As a result of the consultative process, Mr. Arnott, and the feedback you received, are there any significant changes relating to matters such as the level or matters to be monitored or the way in which the Environmental Effects Program will be administered, contemplated to the proposed regs at present?
- MR. ARNOTT: Well, as you're probably aware, we're in

the middle of that process; there's no final decisions yet. I would say, though, that at the core of the regulations and really at the core of what was agreed to within the CCME Canada-wide Strategy, there's no significant changes being contemplated in terms of the effluent quality standards that reflects the baseline. A lot of the comments that we received support that. We also heard comments on either side, as well, but we're pretty confident that the core of the regulations will stay intact.

We are certainly contemplating a series of changes that I would characterize as fairly technical in detail and in some cases adding some technical clarification, especially as it relates to subsets of the sector. There are features in the regulation that would contemplate probably in a clearer way certain types of wastewater systems that are -- that currently exist, that would demand different provisions. And speaking primarily of smaller wastewater systems, like lagoon systems that don't discharge continually, discharge only a couple of times a year, for instance, that have caused us to think about additional provisions that better regulate those kind of systems.

- Q Okay. What is the target for these regulations that have been finalized and coming into effect?
- MR. ARNOTT: The target to finalize and publish final regulations is the end of this calendar year, the end of 2011. The regulations as proposed did contemplate a phased-in approach in terms of certain parts of the regulation coming in force at different times. That's certainly still the case and we're contemplating the most appropriate phase-in of different features of the regulation.
- Q And are you still on track to commence the implementation by the end of this year?
- MR. ARNOTT: That's what we're targeting, yes.
- Q Once the regulations come into force, is it anticipated that they will impact on Environment Canada's approach to enforcement?
- MR. ARNOTT: Well, I would say in terms of enforcement, when we do develop new regulations, it does cause us to contemplate the best approach in terms of a compliance strategy that would obviously include how we would promote compliance for the new

requirements, as well as contemplate an appropriate supporting enforcement approach. 3 in terms of where we are right now with the features of the Fisheries Act, including a general 5 prohibition under 36(3), with the regulation 6 providing a very specific set of requirements and 7 very specific set of expectations under the 8 authority of the Fisheries Act, yes, I would think 9 that would influence the development of that 10 compliance strategy that included the enforcement 11 activity. Thank you. There are definitions provided for 12 13 certain terms that impact on the timing of 14 upgrades to facilities. For example, "open 15 marine" is defined --MR. ARNOTT: Correct. 16 17 -- in the regulations. 18 MR. ARNOTT: Yes. 19 Was the definition for "open marine" crafted with 20 any particular wastewater facility in mind? 21 MR. ARNOTT: No, not with any particular facility in 22 mind. I think that the concepts that were 23 anchored within the CCME Canada-wide Strategy 24 again was the starting point for us to contemplate 25 the criteria within the proposed regulations. We 26 had to make some changes related to some of that 27 detail for the risk criteria that primarily 28 related to the authority we have under the 29 Fisheries Act. We were looking at the issues of 30 defining certain terms in a national scope, only 31 in terms of providing some clarity. So that when 32 regulatees had a chance to look at the proposed 33 provisions, they would have some better clarity 34 about what was expected under that risk criteria. 35 Dr. van Roodselaar, in making submissions through 36 this process, did Metro Vancouver make any 37 submissions suggesting changes to the regulations 38 that such that the timing of the upgrade to Iona 39 that's mandated would be affected? 40 DR. van ROODSELAAR: No, I don't believe so. 41 Dr. van Roodselaar, Metro Vancouver has had in 42 place since 2002 a Liquid Waste Management Plan, 43 correct? 44 DR. van ROODSELAAR: Excuse me, can you... 45 Metro Vancouver has had in place since 2002 a Liquid Waste Management Plan? 46

DR. van ROODSELAAR: That's correct.

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Q And this Liquid Waste Management Plan is not mandatory, is that fair to say, the use of it?

DR. van ROODSELAAR: The Liquid Waste Management Plan is mandatory in that it was approved by the provincial Minister of the Environment, and under

provincial Minister of the Environment, and under British Columbia requirements, a jurisdiction has the option of either operating under the regulations or developing a management plan acceptable to the province.

Q Yes.

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- DR. van ROODSELAAR: So at the time that the Minister accepted that plan, in a letter where the Minister also provided a number of conditions in the acceptance of that plan, that plan then became the requirement for Metro Vancouver.
- Yes. My question was awkward. The development of a plan is one of the options that's available to a municipality or a wastewater treatment facility in order to get an operating certificate?

DR. van ROODSELAAR: That's correct.

- Q Okay. And the other option is just to proceed under the regulations?
- DR. van ROODSELAAR: That's correct.
- Q Metro Vancouver has elected to proceed by way of a Liquid Waste Management Plan?
- DR. van ROODSELAAR: That's correct.
- Q Why did Metro Vancouver choose to proceed in that manner?
- DR. van ROODSELAAR: Well, if you take a large system like Metro Vancouver, it's quite complex. There's a lot of different pieces there. And in terms of developing a rational process to deal with those various pieces, Metro Vancouver felt that a plan would best serve that process.
- Q Absent the use of a Liquid Waste Management Plan, would Metro Vancouver with the facilities it has be capable of complying with the regulations?
- DR. van ROODSELAAR: Under the plan, it's acceptable.
- Yes. Without a plan, would it be acceptable?
- DR. van ROODSELAAR: It would have to be under the regulations, no.
- Q Okay. Under the Metro Vancouver's Liquid Waste Management Plan, I understand there's an Environmental Monitoring Program?
- DR. van ROODSELAAR: That's correct.
- Q And could we please have our list of documents number 17. The program is described in some

detail in a document called GVRD, "Cautions, 1 Warnings and Triggers: A Process for Protection of the Receiving Environment"? 3 DR. van ROODSELAAR: That's correct. 5 And this is the document we see on the screen? 6 DR. van ROODSELAAR: That's correct. 7 MR. McGOWAN: If that could be the next exhibit, 8 please. 9 THE REGISTRAR: Exhibit 1059. 10 11 EXHIBIT 1059: Cautions, Warnings and 12 Triggers: A Process for Protection of the 13 Receiving Environment, Volume I - Main 14 Document, January 2004 [GVRD] 15 16 MR. McGOWAN: 17 And the manner in which environmental monitoring 18 is conducted is somewhat different for the in-19 river facilities as compared to Iona; is that 20 correct? 21 DR. van ROODSELAAR: Excuse me, can you say that again? 22 The manner in which the environmental monitoring 2.3 is carried out is somewhat different for Iona as 24 compared to the in-river facilities? 25 DR. van ROODSELAAR: Well, the environmental monitoring 26 programs were developed for the specific locations 27 to which they are applied, so, yes. I mean, in 28 the case of the Fraser River, we have a flowing 29 system. In the case of Iona we have a marine 30 environment. 31 Yes, thank you. Could we please have our list of documents number 14. And with respect to the Iona 32 33 environmental monitoring, there was a peer review 34 of Cycle 3 of that program that was carried out, 35 correct? 36 DR. van ROODSELAAR: That's correct. 37 And this is a copy of the report that was produced as a result of that peer review? 38 39 DR. van ROODSELAAR: That's correct. 40 MR. McGOWAN: I wonder if that could be the next 41 exhibit, please. 42 THE REGISTRAR: Exhibit 1060. 43 44 EXHIBIT 1060: Peer Review of Cycle 3 of the 45 Iona Deep-Sea Outfall Environmental 46 Monitoring Program Final Report, June 2006

[GVRD]

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1 MR. McGOWAN: Thank you. 2 Q And if we could jus

Q And if we could just turn to page 54, please. I'm looking at the document number or the page numbers at the bottom of the document. One of the recommendations that's made as a result of this peer review process, at number 26, was that Metro Vancouver:

Investigate the feasibility of a pelagic, planktivorous fish species, if an appropriate one could be identified...

Has Metro Vancouver investigated adding pelagic species to the environmental monitoring process and, if so, have you proceeded to do so?

- DR. van ROODSELAAR: Yes. We currently have included in the testing English sole, Dungeness crab and shrimp. So we have added shrimp to part of that study.
- Q Dungeness crab, are they a pelagic species, to your understanding?
- DR. van ROODSELAAR: I'm not familiar with that. Sorry.
- Q Okay. Have you added any species or the testing of any fish that move through the water column and aren't resident sort of just at one level, close to the bottom.
- DR. van ROODSELAAR: No, we, in terms of that monitoring program, we have a benthic monitoring program, and we monitor those three species in terms of Iona.
- Thank you. Could we have our list of documents number 22, and perhaps just before we move on, if I could mark that last document, please.
- THE REGISTRAR: I think you have already marked that one, that was 1060, the Environmental Management Final Report.
- THE COMMISSIONER: That was Tab 14.
- MR. McGOWAN: Thank you.
 - THE REGISTRAR: At Tab 14, yes.
- MR. McGOWAN: Yes, thank you.
 - Q And if we could then have number 22 from our list on the screen. And, Dr. van Roodselaar, could you please explain to the Commissioner what this document is.
 - DR. van ROODSELAAR: Yeah. This is an annual report put out by our Quality Control Division, which is

part of our Operation and Maintenance Department,
which contains the information in terms of the
ongoing operation of the Greater Vancouver
Sewerage & Drainage District's water treatment
plants.
And it contains some description of the manner in

- And it contains some description of the manner in which testing is conducted and monitoring is conducted, and also some information about the outcomes of that testing, and monitoring.
- DR. van ROODSELAAR: That's correct, it has a section on the Environmental Monitoring Program, and basically summarizes the testing done by Metro Vancouver with respect to those Environmental Monitoring Programs.
- MR. McGOWAN: If that could be the next exhibit, please.

THE REGISTRAR: Exhibit 1061.

EXHIBIT 1061: Wastewater - Greater Vancouver Sewerage & Drainage District Quality Control Annual Report 2009 [MetroVan]

MR. McGOWAN:

- Now, with respect to the waste treatment facilities in Metro Vancouver and the environmental monitoring, does your task include overseeing those facilities and the programs that conduct the testing and the monitoring?
- DR. van ROODSELAAR: My role has been involved in the development of the Environmental Monitoring Program. As part of the operation of wastewater treatment plants there is considerable ongoing monitoring as part of the operational requirements. So in that part I am not involved. I have been involved in looking at setting up the environmental monitoring components.
- Q Okay. And I take it part of your role includes the review of information that's received from these monitoring programs about the potential impacts of facilities on the receiving environments?
- DR. van ROODSELAAR: Yes, the whole idea of the monitoring programs, of course, is to collect data and then look at that data within the context of various parameters that can be used to assess that data. Water quality objectives would be some that we would apply to assessing that data. And

that's the whole purpose of the Cautions, Warnings and Triggers approach, is basically a proactive approach to say where does the facility stand with respect to these parameters, and is there cause for concern, is there any significant effect on the environment and do we have any cause for concern.

Q Okay. With respect to Iona, has the monitoring

- Q Okay. With respect to Iona, has the monitoring that's been conducted disclosed matters that are cause for concern or any negative effects on the receiving environment or the surrounding environs?
- DR. van ROODSELAAR: No. At the present time the monitoring programs which we've been carrying on, you know, at the time that the plan was approved to the present, any effects that we're seeing with respect to the Iona receiving environment are negligible, and those small effects that can be seen are primarily attributed to some nutrient differences in different parts.
- Prior to approval of your first Liquid Waste Management Plan in 2002 and surrounding it, it was put out for some consultation and commented on by the Department of Fisheries and Oceans and Environment Canada?
- DR. van ROODSELAAR: Excuse me?
- Q The draft Liquid Waste Management Plan --
- DR. van ROODSELAAR: Yes.
- Q -- that was approved in 2002, certain aspects of that were commented on by Environment Canada and the Department of Fisheries and Oceans?
- DR. van ROODSELAAR: I believe so, yes.
- Q Okay. Is it fair to say that there was a fairly consistent message from the Department of Fisheries and Oceans and Environment Canada urging a timely upgrade to Iona?
- DR. van ROODSELAAR: I think basically what we were looking at there is we proposed a process, a risk management process in the development of that plan, and I think we got communication back from the federal government that they supported that plan with respect to that environmental monitoring, but they were still encouraging Metro Vancouver to try and upgrade, you know, in the best possible time that they could.
- Q Could we have our list of documents number 18, and there's four subdocuments in there. I'm looking for the document dated July 30th, 2002 addressed

to Chris Badger. Do you know Mr. Badger? DR. van ROODSELAAR: No, I don't.

Q This is a document from the Department of Fisheries and Oceans addressed to a Mr. Badger, who was at that time with the Vancouver Port Authority. And the very last paragraph on the first page reads:

In the past three years, DFO and EC Pacific Region have sent more than five letters to the GVRD, and have met with them to request firm and reasonably short schedules for compliance with the **Fisheries Act** at Iona and Lions Gate, and the --

- and just carrying over the page -

-- and the timely elimination of combined sewer overflows (CSOs),...

So have you become familiar with, I'll ask again, a consistent message that was coming with respect to the upgrade to Iona from Environment Canada or the Department urging timely upgrades to the Iona facility?

DR. van ROODSELAAR: I mean, as you see here, I mean, obviously it was in the interest of Canada to see those upgrades move along at as timely a pace as possible. They also raised the issue of the combined sewer overflows, which were another part of it. Metro Vancouver and its member municipalities have been working on those different pieces. With respect to combined sewer overflows, this is something that has been proceeding according to planning at a regular pace.

Combined sewers are located in Vancouver, part of Burnaby, and New Westminster, and those have required and are being carried out on a regular basis to separate those sewers. Because what's required there is in fact taking the one sewer, which is currently carrying storm water and sanitary wastewater, separating those into two pipes, and conveying those separately, the sanitary wastewater going to the wastewater treatment plant.

This is an extremely complex process where

you have to go into every street in, let's say, Vancouver, separate those. As you move through and do a portion, you then have to subdivide that portion so you can convey that separately to the wastewater treatment plant, with respect to the wastewater, and carry the storm water out.

So that's one piece of comment there in terms of what's referenced here that you're showing me. And then also with respect to Iona and Lions Gate, you know, the whole issue there in terms of being able to meet things like LC50 fish bioassays.

- Q Right. Just, well, you've touched on the combined sewer issue, and there's perhaps just one thing we should clarify on that. The combined -- the sewers that are being separated in Vancouver, are those owned by Metro Vancouver or by the City of Vancouver?
- DR. van ROODSELAAR: They are owned by the City of Vancouver.
- Q And who is doing the upgrade to them?
- DR. van ROODSELAAR: That would be the City of Vancouver.
- Q Okay, thank you. The Liquid Waste Management Plan that was approved in 2002 set a deadline for the upgrade of Iona at 2020; is that correct?
- DR. van ROODSELAAR: Yes. In fact, it addressed both Lions Gate and Iona as shown here. Iona at that time was 2020, Lions Gate was 2030.
- The new Liquid Waste Management Plan mandates that you upgrade Iona by as soon as possible, but no later than 2030; is that a fair characterization?
- DR. van ROODSELAAR: That's correct. And that was with basically reference to the CCME Strategy, and accepting the Strategy as approved by Environment Canada and the province.
- Q Okay.
- DR. van ROODSELAAR: And looking to that strategy for guidance, yes.
- Q What do you see the approval as mandating that you do with respect to Iona in terms of timing?
- DR. van ROODSELAAR: Can you elaborate?
- Q You said that it's consistent with the Canada-wide Strategy. Under the Canada-wide Strategy you would be mandated to upgrade by 2030; is that correct?
- DR. van ROODSELAAR: That's correct.
 - Q And do you see the approval letter as being

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- DR. van ROODSELAAR: Yes, I do. You're talking about the provincial Minister's approval letter for the new -- the new Liquid Waste Management Plan?
- Yes. If we could have it, it's now an exhibit, but it was our document 29.
- THE REGISTRAR: Do you wish to mark that last document? MR. McGOWAN: Yes, if we could mark that last document, please.
- THE REGISTRAR: Yes. Within Tab 218 of the four documents there, CAN number 459564 will be marked as Exhibit number 1062.

EXHIBIT 1062: Letter from S. Farlinger, Department of Fisheries and Oceans, to C. Badger, Vancouver Port Authority, re GVRD Liquid Waste Management Plan, July 30, 2002

- MR. McGOWAN: Thank you. And the document I'm looking for now is 1050, that's the exhibit number 1050.
- MR. LUNN: Thank you.
- MR. McGOWAN:
- Q Reading from the paragraph that has the number 1 before it.
- DR. van ROODSELAAR: Yes.
- Q And just sort of skipping to the second half of that sentence, or maybe I'll just read the whole sentence:

The Minster supports upgrading to secondary level treatment the Lions Gate wastewater treatment plant by 2020 and Iona Island wastewater treatment plant as soon as possible, but no later than 2030.

My question to you, in your position reading that letter, do you interpret that as consistent or inconsistent or somehow different from what's mandated under the Canada-wide Strategy?

- DR. van ROODSELAAR: I think that's consistent with the Canada-wide Strategy.
- Q Okay.
- DR. van ROODSELAAR: It's also consistent with the text in the new Liquid Waste Management Plan, where the board has indicated that they will, they intend to upgrade Iona by 2030, but as soon as possible in a 10- to 20-year timeframe.

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- Q Do you attach any significance to the word in the approval, the words in the approval "as soon as possible"?
- DR. van ROODSELAAR: I think that's a statement of encouragement, and I do. I think, however, that what Metro Vancouver has to do, there's obviously different complexities and pieces that are going to be involved in complying with that. I think the intent of the board is stated very clearly, that they, too, wish to see that being done as soon as possible in terms of, you know, no later than 2030, but ideally sooner than 2030, and towards 2020. However, having said that, I mean, obviously what Metro Vancouver also has to deal with is the various pieces involved in planning and in development and design and funding, and dealing with the various land issues, First Nation issues, and other issues with respect to making it all happen.
- Thank you. If we could have our list of documents number 8, please. And going to the bottom of the second paragraph, the last sentence -- this is a letter to you from Environment Canada; is that correct?
- DR. van ROODSELAAR: Can you just scroll up, please. Yes, that's correct. Yes.
- Q And this is sent to you in April of 2009 --
- DR. van ROODSELAAR: Yes.
- Q -- providing comments on the draft at that point, draft Liquid Waste Management Plan, the one that was just approved?
- DR. van ROODSELAAR: Yes.
- Q Okay. And in that context Environment Canada is saying to Metro Vancouver in the last sentence:

However, in the interest of protecting the environment, we strongly encourage Metro Vancouver to upgrade its wastewater treatment plants without delay.

- DR. van ROODSELAAR: Mm-hmm.
- Q And those upgrades that are being referred to there would be Iona and Lions Gate?
- DR. van ROODSELAAR: That's correct.
- MR. CARMODY: If that could be the next exhibit, please.
- 47 THE REGISTRAR: Exhibit 1063.

EXHIBIT 1063: Letter from M. Wilson, Environment Canada, to A. van Roodselaar, Metro Vancouver, re Environment Canada's comments on Metro Vancouver's Liquid Waste Management Plan Five-Year Review, April 24,

MR. McGOWAN:

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- Q Has the consistent message that's coming from Environment Canada and the Department of Fisheries and Oceans, encouraging the timely upgrade of these facilities, as they put it, in the interest of protecting the environment, caused you to question your concern that any effects from the outfall of Iona are negligible?
- DR. van ROODSELAAR: You're saying whether their encouragement puts question to the Environmental Monitoring Program that we have in place, and the conclusions that come from those Environmental Monitoring Programs?
- Your review, you told the Commissioner, of those Environmental Monitoring Programs has caused you to conclude that any effects from Iona are negligible.
- DR. van ROODSELAAR: That's correct. Those programs we've had in place are very comprehensive. I would suggest that our Environmental Monitoring Programs are the most comprehensive of any done by a practitioner, a wastewater treatment plant system operator in the country, possibly on the continent. The other aspect of Metro Vancouver's process is that we review those monitoring programs with our Environmental Monitoring Committee on a monthly basis, on a regular basis. We meet with them and we provide all documentation in terms of the results of those monitoring programs.

At the table of that Environmental Monitoring Committee we have the province, and until quite recently we had the federal government. We have representatives from University of British Columbia, as well as Simon Fraser University. We have a public member. We have a representative from Health. So these various individuals that have responsibility for those regulated areas are at the table, are fully open to the results of those monitoring programs. We hire expert

consultants to carry out those various monitoring programs on our behalf. They present those results to the Environmental Monitoring Committee. Those results are discussed, and I think if there were particular concerns with those results, that opportunity to bring that forward and for Metro Vancouver to become aware of that, from other than simply Metro Vancouver's assertion, is there.

So, yes, I think it's reasonable and very responsible on Metro Vancouver's point of view in terms of how we carry out those monitoring programs, and the manner in which they are vetted in terms of determining whether the conclusions are reasonable.

- We had some scientists here yesterday, including Dr. Ken Ashley and Dr. Peter Ross, both of whom expressed some level of concern about potential negative impacts on the receiving environment of Iona. Have you had concerns, any concerns of that nature expressed to you or expressed to Metro Vancouver?
- DR. van ROODSELAAR: Well, I mean, in terms of the way you put it, you say "potential" for concerns with respect to the environment, and I think I wouldn't -- certainly wouldn't quibble with that. there are constituents in municipal wastewater, depending on their concentration, the nature of the receiving environment, the manner in which they would interact with that receiving environment, that potentially could be of concern. And I think that is the whole point of our monitoring program and of our Cautions, Warnings and Triggers Process, and of our review with other authorities, is to ensure to the best of our capability that that is not the case. That to the ability we can affirm it, that we are not causing a significant environmental concern.
- Thank you. You mentioned the Environmental Monitoring Committee, and I just have a couple of questions to you about that. Could we have our list of documents number 4, please. Sorry, that's not the document I'm looking for. If I could just have a moment.

It's our document 16, please. These are the Terms of Reference for the Environmental Monitoring Committee, which was originally created under your first Liquid Waste Management Plan; is

1 that correct? DR. van ROODSELAAR: That's correct. 3 And if you could just very, in a sentence or two, 4 explain to the Commissioner what the Environmental 5 Monitoring Committee does. 6 DR. van ROODSELAAR: The Environmental Monitoring 7 Committee in brief basically works with Metro 8 Vancouver in terms of reviewing the Environmental Monitoring Program, in terms of its scope, its 9 10 design, looking at the results, and being able to 11 advise Metro Vancouver as to changes that should be occurring to those monitoring programs, and 12 13 also being able to advise Metro Vancouver as to 14 concerns that may arise out of those monitoring 15 programs. So that would be sort of an encapsulated version, I think, of that committee. 16 17 And, you know, to look at the membership of 18 that committee, the intention was to have 19 individuals on that committee that would represent 20 both the authority and the expertise to be able to make those kind of judgments. 21 22 Thank you. If we could turn to page 3 of the document, the top half. There is a list of the 23 24 proposed groups that would be represented on the 25 Environmental Monitoring Committee, correct? 26 DR. van ROODSELAAR: That's correct. 27 And if we look at the third and fourth from the 2.8 bottom, we see Department of Fisheries and Oceans 29 and Environment Canada listed. 30 DR. van ROODSELAAR: That's right. 31 Does the board presently have a representative 32 from either the Department of Fisheries and Oceans 33 or from Environment Canada? 34 DR. van ROODSELAAR: No. We had both representatives 35 when we started with the Liquid Waste Management 36 Plan in 2002. Somewhat later the Department of 37 Fisheries and Oceans informed us that Environment 38 Canada would be able to represent the federal 39 responsibilities with respect to representation on 40 this committee. And so at that time we ceased to 41 have the DFO representative, and we continued to

have the Environment Canada representative.

had the Environment Canada representative until

And the chair of the Environmental Monitoring

Committee wrote to the federal government

2009, and at that time, you know, in 2010 we did not have an Environment Canada representative.

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requesting that they appoint a replacement or a new representative from Environment on the Monitoring Committee, and the chair and the committee were advised that Environment Canada was not going to do that. The reasons given were twofold: One was restructuring at Environment Canada, was the first reason, and then the second one that was given to the chair was that Environment Canada felt that a representative on this committee might be in contradiction with their regulatory responsibilities. And I'm using my own words there now.

Yes. No, I accept that. Does Metro Vancouver continue to desire the presence of the Department of Fisheries and Oceans and Environment Canada on its Monitoring Committee?

DR. van ROODSELAAR: Absolutely. I think, you know, the kind of questions you've asked me earlier in terms of veracity of the program, and in terms of the correctness of the conclusions coming out of the Environmental Monitoring Program, and the environmental assessments, I think individuals from those two Departments would go far to adding credibility to that.

MR. McGOWAN: Okay. If that could be marked as the next exhibit, please, the Terms of Reference. THE REGISTRAR: Exhibit 1064.

EXHIBIT 1064: GVRD Environmental Monitoring Committee Terms of Reference, March 5, 2001

MR. McGOWAN:

Q In terms of the upgrade to Iona, does Metro Vancouver have in place a plan presently that dictates the anticipated or targeted timing for the upgrade aside from the 30-year outer limit set by the federal regs and the approval letter?

DR. van ROODSELAAR: No, I can only refer to the approved plan, which was board approved, and basically the board has indicated in that plan that they will meet the 2030 timeframe, and that they would like to do it sooner than that, within the ten years prior to that. I certainly can't speak or fetter the discretion of the board with respect to, you know, that kind of statement. I mean, that's their statement.

Q Okay. Mr. Arnott, have you been able to ascertain

whether the federal government has been approached by Metro Vancouver for funding assistance with respect to the upgrade to Iona?

- MR. ARNOTT: Yes. And before I provide that answer, Environment Canada is the regulator within this context. We're not the funder. That's -- Yes.
- MR. ARNOTT: -- another agency, that's Infrastructure Canada. Infrastructure Canada has advised that Metro Vancouver has submitted an application for the upgrade to Iona. That application is being considered by Infrastructure Canada. They'd be in that process for some time. I would imagine they'd be in communication fairly extensively with the provincial government, as well. And so within that context there's no decision being made.

The only other thing I would add, within the context of developing both the CCME Canada-wide Strategy and developing the federal regulations of the **Fisheries Act**, we certainly are in communication with Infrastructure Canada officials in terms of the policy and the technical details that we're working towards. So they're certainly aware.

And in the broader context of the Infrastructure funding, budget 2011 did confirm to legislate the permanent transfer of the gas tax funds, \$2 billion per year, to municipal governments. That would include obviously the ability to use that money for upgrading wastewater facilities. And budget 2011 also did confirm an approach that the federal government would take along with province and territories, municipalities for the Federation of Canadian Municipalities primarily, to develop a long-term approach to infrastructure funding, especially beyond the current funding programs that exist right now, for instance, the Building Canada Fund. Okay. Dr. van Roodselaar, did the application for

- Q Okay. Dr. van Roodselaar, did the application for funding that went to the federal government specify the level of upgrade that was being contemplated, whether to secondary or something beyond secondary?
- DR. van ROODSELAAR: I can't speak to the specific document. I know that the intention is looking at the equivalent of the regulation and meeting the requirements of the regulation.

- Q Okay. With the availability of much more advanced technologies for the treatment of wastewater, some of which we heard about yesterday, why is Metro Vancouver not contemplating upgrading to a level beyond secondary at Iona?
- DR. van ROODSELAAR: Well, I think what you're asking there is --
- Maybe I should first ask you if they are contemplating an upgrade to something beyond secondary.
- DR. van ROODSELAAR: Yeah, I mean, really we're undergoing a process right now where we're looking at, you know, the various aspects of what's going to go into the upgrade of the wastewater treatment plants. There's obviously, as I mentioned earlier, a number of different factors. Part of the constraint will be, you know, the footprint of the area available and other things.

Certainly the aspects of environmental concerns will be part of that assessment and will be brought into that determination in terms of, you know, what the upgrade should look like. Now, when I say that, I think I also need to elaborate in the sense that, you know, you're talking about Metro Vancouver.

Q Yes.

DR. van ROODSELAAR: And talking about the GVS&DD, and we're basically an operator of wastewater treatment plant facilities. We're not researchers. We're not in the business of looking at the development of water quality guidelines and water quality objectives, and those things. We look to senior government, the province and the federal government with respect to those parameters. We can only use those parameters and those values when developed by senior levels of government to then try and determine, you know, what we think might be appropriate.

And I think, you know, some of the things that have been brought up earlier in discussion here that I've heard is concern with respect to things like pharmaceuticals, and so on, and chemicals of emerging concern. And I think part of the difficulty of Metro Vancouver when we're going through that process, and we are going through that process, is to say, how are we going to consider, how are we supposed to consider some

of those things, when in fact senior levels of government don't have enough information themselves to set guidelines or objectives, more forcefully, in terms of those parameters. Because there is a paucity of information out there with respect to what the environmental consequences of some of those things might be, and in what kind of concentrations.

The other thing that I think I need to also include here is that we need to also consider that wastewater treatment plants are not absolutes. mean, they cannot deal with everything. consequently again if you're looking at the design and the upgrade of a wastewater treatment plant, I think you have to put it in context, and you have to say, well, you know, there are some of the chemicals that are recalcitrant that are not necessarily going to be effectively dealt with by a wastewater treatment plant, regardless of some of the types of technologies that might be available. And so that, you know, they have to be dealt with by other means. And some of the things that we're seeing out there, well, there's the historic one of PCBs, and currently there's quite a bit of concern with respect to flame retardants, or PBDEs with respect to their effect on the environment. But again, these are chemicals that themselves are not well dealt with in the context of a wastewater treatment plant.

- Maybe let me ask the question this way. There's been a mandate to upgrade Iona since at least 2002. It's now got to the stage of submitting an application for funding. Is Metro Vancouver proposing to upgrade to secondary or something beyond secondary?
- DR. van ROODSELAAR: Well, I think Metro is certainly going to meet the regulatory requirements, and I think that is, you know, a technology that is normally termed secondary would be applied to do that. What the options are in terms of that technology, I think that's still under development.
- Q Are you able to assist us in understanding why Metro Vancouver has rejected the idea of going with a more advanced waste treatment facility for the Iona receiving environment?
- DR. van ROODSELAAR: Well, I guess the difficulty I

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have with that question is, is I'm not sure, you know, when you say "advanced", what does that There's various types of treatment, even mean? within the context of what's typically called secondary, there are many different types of treatment that are available out there. And so, you know, when you say "other" or "advanced", that's a difficult question. You're aware there are a number of technologies

- You're aware there are a number of technologies that go beyond what is traditionally termed secondary, sometimes called tertiary treatment facilities.
- DR. van ROODSELAAR: In the case of -- if you look within Canada, in the case of tertiary treatment, a lot of the facilities in the country that have gone tertiary treatment, have gone to a type of treatment that deals more with nutrient removal. So oftentimes if you have a wastewater treatment plant in an inland province, discharging into a small water body, the question of nutrients and the effect of nutrients on the environment can be very large. So in that case those facilities, yes, have had to go to a tertiary type or nutrient removal type of treatment.

THE COMMISSIONER: Mr. McGowan, we'll take...
MR. McGOWAN: Mr. Commissioner this would be a
convenient time.

THE COMMISSIONER: Thank you.

THE REGISTRAR: The hearing will now recess for 15 minutes.

(PROCEEDINGS ADJOURNED FOR MORNING RECESS) (PROCEEDINGS RECONVENED)

THE REGISTRAR: The hearing is now resumed.

MR. McGOWAN: Thank you, Mr. Commissioner. Those are

my questions for the panel. Ms. Mak will be going

next.

THE COMMISSIONER: Thank you, Mr. McGowan.

MS. MAK: The last name is Mak, M-a-k, first initial E., counsel for Metro Vancouver. I'm sure you've heard this all before, but I will try to keep my questions very brief, and I just have a few clarification points, and for Dr. van Roodselaar to expand on a couple of points made during this examination in chief.

THE COMMISSIONER: Thank you, Ms. Mak.

CROSS-EXAMINATION BY MS. MAK:

- Q Dr. van Roodselaar, at the beginning of your evidence you briefly discussed Metro Vancouver and the nature of the acronyms, Greater Vancouver Regional District, GVRD, and the GVS&DD. Just for the benefit of the Commission, could you just provide a little bit more explanation about what you meant by the term "member municipalities" and the phrases, "drainage district" or "sewerage areas".
- DR. van ROODSELAAR: Yes. If you look at the Metro Vancouver area, the Metro Vancouver member municipalities make up those parties that are served by the services provided by Metro Vancouver in terms of wastewater treatment in the case of the GVS&DD. The areas, the sewerage areas are relative to the particular wastewater treatment plant that's served by that sewerage area. the case of Iona, the Vancouver sewerage area would be Vancouver and a piece of Burnaby, and I believe a piece of Richmond is included in that sewerage area, but largely the City of Vancouver. If you're looking at Annacis, the sewerage area includes a large number of different municipalities in that sewerage area. is on the North Shore, so it's the North Shore municipalities served by that sewerage area, and then Lulu is served Richmond.
- You had also made reference to the "board". Can you just expand on who comprises the board, and how the voting structure and financing scheme work?
- DR. van ROODSELAAR: Yes. The board is made up of members from the -- individuals from the member municipalities. Now, depending on the weighting, different municipalities have different voting levels on the board, but basically then in total, that board then just determines what it wants to do. Now, in the case of the GVS&DD, that's not the Metro Vancouver or GVRD board, that's the GVS&DD board that makes determinations with respect to the wastewater treatment systems. I guess it's important to note, I mean, these board members are coming from the councils and include mayors from those member municipalities that have to provide the finances that are required to fund

these various infrastructure works for the various sewerage areas.

Now, in the case of Iona, the way the structure is set up, a very large proportion of the costs there would go to those individuals living in the Vancouver sewerage area in terms of that upgrade. So again, in terms of the concerns of members of that area, I mean, they'd be looking at very significant financial implication in terms of their occupants and, you know, the effect that this would have in terms of the people living in that area and their resistance to a very large rate hit. So that's all part of that, that whole sewerage area question.

- While we're on the topic of the City of Vancouver, it's probably the municipality where there's the most interest with respect to combined sewer overflows and CSO separation. You mentioned it briefly this morning. But just for the benefit, very briefly, could you just describe what the process would be for CSO separation within the City of Vancouver?
- DR. van ROODSELAAR: Yeah, the combined sewers are present in those municipalities that are the oldest municipalities in the Lower Mainland, and so consequently, Vancouver, the City of Vancouver is one of those, with part of Burnaby, and New Westminster is the other area that's very old and consequently has combined sewers. Because back in the '50s, this was the normal way that sewerage -sewers were built, basically they were designed to carry both sanitary sewerage and storm water. consequently to then separate those systems to get the sanitary sewerage going to the wastewater treatment plant and the storm water being diverted, requires that the whole system from every street in the combined sewerage area has to be separated.

And I mean, one approach would be you have to separate the whole system before you would have a truly separated system. But, I mean, that's a huge job and highly disruptive. So the way it's typically done is you're doing a certain section, you then have to design so you can take the sanitary sewerage from that section, you can't put it back into the rest of your system, which may still be combined sewerage, you now have to -- you

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lay it in some fashion to the wastewater treatment plant, and also you have to provide a proper location for storm water discharge.

So this is a very complex, highly disruptive process that Metro Vancouver is working on. In the original plan, they basically had a timeline going to 5050 for -- excuse me, 2050 for -- That's a long plan.

Q That's a long plan.

- DR. van ROODSELAAR: That would be a long plan. 2050 for complete separation of that system, because it's not a simple piece. And it's not just the cost, although the cost in total would rival the cost of a wastewater treatment plant of around a billion dollars, but it's also the disruptive nature of the whole process.
- Q So just following on your earlier description of the relationship between member municipalities and the Greater Vancouver Sewerage & Drainage District, is it fair to say that the upgrades to Iona would be borne by the City of Vancouver primarily, as a member of the Vancouver Sewerage & Drainage District, as well as the costs of CSO separation through the City of Vancouver's own responsibility to separate.
- DR. van ROODSELAAR: To a large extent that's correct. Q I also want to take you to the policy and planning report that's been prepared for the Commission. I take it you've read that report, Dr. van Roodselaar?
- DR. van ROODSELAAR: I went through it, yes, indeed.

 Q Mr. Lunn, could I ask you to bring that PPR up to page 34, and you could zoom in on paragraph 85, please. The intention of the policy and planning report is to speak in broad strokes to provide some background information for the Commission, and there's a general statement here at paragraph 85 that:

Municipal governments across Canada have the mandate to provide sewage treatment, as well as to control discharges into the sewer systems.

And I just want to get into a little bit more detail about the latter part of that sentence, which is the ability to control discharges into the sewer systems.

My hope is that with the benefit of your explanation, Doctor, the Commissioner's recommendations can be appropriate to the various levels of government that are involved with sewage, the control of discharge to sewer. So could you from an operational perspective describe what happens when the toilet flushes, and with a private lateral all the way to the treatment system.

DR. van ROODSELAAR: Right. Yeah, what 85 refers to is municipal governments across Canada, and the GVS&DD, GVRD, are not municipal governments, they're regional. And GVS&DD provides a regional service of wastewater treatment to member municipalities. So in fact those members are municipal governments.

This creates an additional level of complexity to the system, in that the sewerage from the member municipalities are then collected in trunk sewers that belong to the GVS&DD and are conveyed to the wastewater treatment plants that are owned and operated by the GVS&DD. Where this adds the additional complexity is that GVS&DD does not have control of the municipal sewers. The individual municipalities in fact control those municipal sewers.

The other thing is that the individual municipalities also have the responsibility with respect to the private properties that connect into those municipal sewers. So therefore, you know, if somebody was going to take action with respect to, as you called them, private laterals, or the sewers that go from, for instance in terms of a home, from the home to the street where it hooks up into the municipal sewer, that would be the municipality that would have to take that and that would have that authority, not the GVS&DD. The GVS&DD's responsibility only comes into effect at the point where the municipal sewer is discharged into the sewers of Metro Vancouver.

So the other difficulty there is of course is that the GVS&DD doesn't therefore manage the discharge into those municipal sewers. They don't directly deal with the content of those sewers, including both in terms of volumes and constituency. We get sort of what's delivered to us from our member municipalities, and then we

have to deal with that through our wastewater treatment plants.

- At yesterday's Commission hearings the Commissioner heard about the notion of source control, and that it's been suggested as a way to reduce the introduction of contaminants into the waste stream. You've now provided an explanation of how the wastewater flows, literally, to the GVS&DD wastewater treatment plants. How does this type of system affect the ability to use source control from a regulation and enforcement perspective. And by that I mean Metro Vancouver's ability to use regulation and enforcement to control the source.
- DR. van ROODSELAAR: Well, okay, there's two aspects now. Metro Vancouver has a Regulation and Enforcement Division that deals with regulation of ICI sector, institutional, commercial, and it then regulates those. But even there is limited in the sense that in the City of Vancouver, the City of Vancouver has its own enforcement officers. So again, there's a shared jurisdiction there.

So the problem, however, with that kind of regulation is that by the time that something comes into Metro Vancouver sewer and we realize that there might be a concern trying to trace that back to where it came from, and secondly, if you can, getting the burden of proof in terms of taking action and even, you know, getting a conviction, and assuming the success of getting a conviction after you've gone through all these other hoops of trying to track it, you know, is the penalty sufficient to deter. So, you know, that's a difficulty in that end.

Then on the individual household end, even more difficult in the sense that we don't control those discharges in any direct way. And what we try to do with respect to the public, to the individual householders, is apply sort of the tools of moral suasion, where we put in programs that try and educate the public in terms of the consequence of their discharge. But that's a very indirect way of trying to affect behaviour to solve the problem.

So, you know, in case of, let's say, pharmaceuticals, one area that we were looking at there is working with the Pharmaceutical

Association, the druggists, and so on, in terms of return programs of those pharmaceuticals. Don't flush them down your toilet if you have leftover pills. We don't want to see them there. We don't want them in the system. So we have that kind of a program, like I say, of moral suasion.

But then you also have to realize in the case of those kind of things, that when people are taking their medication, and certainly very difficult to say you can't have your medication, when that medication is taken a certain proportion of that medication will pass through and be excreted from that individual into the sewer system. And only a portion of that medication will actually make it into the body to do what it was designed to do. So again, even in that case, we still have the consequences in our sewers, we have these kind of materials that are going to be carried. And to the degree that we can deal with them, we try to deal with them. But, you know, those are not necessarily easily to deal with types of substances that we have there.

- Q Before we took a break, Dr. van Roodselaar, you were providing the Commissioner with some information about Metro Vancouver Environmental Monitoring Program, and the Cautions, Warnings and Triggers document. I just want to back it up for a moment. If you could describe how the Environmental Monitoring Program came about, and what are the components and what's involved in carrying out that type of extensive monitoring program?
- DR. van ROODSELAAR: Well, okay, the program itself came out of a requirement, although we were doing some monitoring before that, came out of a requirement in the 2002 Liquid Waste Management Plan. And there was also a requirement in that 2002 plan to then submit to the province by 2004, the beginning of 2004, a process by which this monitoring information would be used to determine what effect was being had on the environment by the various parameters that were being monitored.

So to do that, we worked with the Environmental Monitoring Committee and we worked through various stages of the initial monitoring program. And certainly the first one that was of prime focus was to design the best possible

monitoring program for Iona. And we went through the Environmental Monitoring Committee and worked with the Environmental Monitoring Committee to see what that would look like, and to develop that, and that then resulted in the Cautions, Warnings and Triggers document that was provided to the provincial government, submitted to the provincial government in 2004, and that was accepted.

So the components of the monitoring program are looking at the water column, they're looking at the benthos, they're looking at the sediments, and we also have fish surveys, as well.

- And just in terms of a sense of scale or order of magnitude, how much does it cost, and I'm just asking for ballparks, but to understand how extensive this program is, how much does it cost, the people power involved with running this kind of program. Could you just comment on that?
- DR. van ROODSELAAR: Well, it's in the millions. I mean, if you look at the cost of the hiring of the consultants to undertake the studies, the Metro Vancouver staff that manage the programs, and the laboratory costs for the various analyses that have to be undertaken, this is a program that runs in the order of probably three, four million.
- And how do you distinguish the environmental monitoring or do you distinguish the Environmental Monitoring Program from scientific research?
- DR. van ROODSELAAR: Oh, definitely. If you look at the conditions of the approval letter from the Minister in 2002, for the Liquid Waste Management Plan at that time, there was number of different conditions, and there was one condition in particular, I believe it was condition 7, where there was a whole range of aspects that the condition asked Metro Vancouver to develop a program for. And that was a challenge, because the thing is that those were really in the purview of researchers, and Metro Vancouver is a service provider. We're not a research facility. don't provide those kinds of -- we don't have those kind of skills in terms of research. look to universities and government research agencies to provide that. So that was a bit of a challenge.

And so what we thought about was, well, how can we satisfy that condition. How can we look at

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things like genomics, EDCs, you know, various types of things like that which are sort of cutting edge, you know, even now, highly under development, how can we satisfy that. So we went back to the Environmental Monitoring Committee and what we said is that we propose that the way to satisfy that is that we collaborate with, we work with the universities, we work with the government research agencies to undertake those studies that are relevant, because these are pieces of research work. So we have, you know, provided some funding and we work with, we cooperate with the various research facilities and agencies in the area.

I guess one example would be work we're doing with SFU where Dr. Francis Law, Toxicologist, at SFU, is working on a yeast assay, looking at estrogen-type compounds that might be significant, and developing testing protocols on that. Now, the latest piece of that work is where we're cooperating also with Environment Canada. currently an Environment Canada study going on, directed or managed by, I believe it's Dr. Shirley Anne Smyth, where she's looking at different wastewater treatment plants across the country in terms of different types of plants and how they might be responding to the input of different types of organics, these various organics that have been mentioned, like the pharmaceuticals, the personal care products, and to see how those might be responding. So again we're cooperating there. In that case we sorted of acted as the middleman where Dr. Law is now doing samples from across the country.

MS. MAK: Those are my questions.

THE COMMISSIONER: Thank you, Ms. Mak.

MR. EAST: Mr. Commissioner, Mark East for Department of Justice, Government of Canada. I'm here with my co-counsel, Geneva Grande-McNeill. I just have a few questions, and I have been allotted 25 minutes and I'll keep it to that timeline.

CROSS-EXAMINATION BY MR. EAST:

Q I just have a few questions, actually, for Mr. Arnott, and it's mostly going to relate to a couple of documents, and primarily one document, and that's the RIAS, or the regulatory -- sorry,

the Regulations and the Regulatory Impact Analysis Statement, that's Exhibit 1047, Tab 6 of the Commission's list of documents. Mr. Arnott, we're going to jump into the topic, and I just want to step back a bit, the topic of the regulations, and maybe ask you some questions about the policy challenges and policy purposes of the regulations. And I think the Regulatory Impact Statement perhaps it provides a good foundation for that.

I'd like to go first to page 12 in Ringtail in the document. And near the bottom it says under "Status quo", and the heading above that is "Regulatory and non-regulatory options considered", and there's a discussion of the status quo. And then it starts off by noting subsection 36(3) of the *Fisheries Act*, then in the last five lines from the bottom, I'd just like to read this line:

This current prohibition --

- s. 36(3) -

-- is not always aligned with the regulatory regimes of the provinces and territories. It has resulted in various levels of wastewater treatment across Canada which means that Canadians do not necessarily enjoy similar levels of benefits.

I'd like to stop there.

From your perspective in Ottawa and the Government of Canada, national, you know, looking at this, is the national perspective on these issues of wastewater regulation something that you are particularly looking at in these regulations? ARNOTT: Yes, and in terms of the broad context, I

MR. ARNOTT: Yes, and in terms of the broad context, I think a couple of those sentences in the status quo part of the Regulatory Impact Analysis Statement does provide a backbone for what led to the conversation, again with the provinces and the territories, about how all jurisdictions should come together and try to figure out a way through the issues of different levels of requirement that existed across the country, and try to construct a harmonized framework that we could all act under in a consistent way.

So that's what led to the development of the Canada-wide Strategy through CCME. In our view it does provide that framework, that harmonized framework to act both in terms of establishing national effluent quality standards, as well as a framework to continue to work together in terms of the implementation of the federal req, along with the existing provincial frameworks that are in place.

Q Okay, thank you. And then actually the next page, right at the bottom, page 13. The last two sentences on page 13. Again we obviously in this process, we've been focused on Pacific Coast, and the Vancouver area, especially with respect to municipal wastewater. The last two sentences, though:

Without a nationally consistent regulatory approach, it would be much more difficult to ensure that all Canadians enjoyed a similar level of protection for their water resources. As such, the proposed Regulations have been developed to achieve the desired objective.

And focusing on "desired objective", is the message here that the purpose of these regulations is to provide national baseline standards for municipal wastewater treatment?

- MR. ARNOTT: Correct. And I'd also take you to the first sentence under "Regulatory measures" where the regulations were considered as the best option for achieving the objective of reducing those risks to ecosystem health, fish resources, and human health posed by wastewater effluent.
- Q And this, in terms of your consultation and stakeholder feedback, I take it there wasn't any serious disagreement from the stakeholders that these harmonized regulations were not a good idea?
- MR. ARNOTT: I think there was broad support for especially the jurisdictions working together to come up with both national baseline standards that could be achieved over time, as well as a broader approach to continued cooperation and collaboration by the senior levels of government.
- Q Thank you. And perhaps if we can go to page 9 of this document, and second-to-last paragraph,

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starting with the word "Despite", and I think this perhaps echoes some of what Dr. van Roodselaar was saying about the local situation, but here I'm interested in this paragraph:

Despite the increase in public infrastructure investment over the past decades, Canada's wastewater systems are aging. A large percentage of these were constructed in the 1960s and, as of 2007, it was estimated that many facilities had passed over 60% of their useful life nationally. Thus, significant new investment will be required for this sector in the near future.

Is this one of the major considerations that were facing you in developing these regulations?

- MR. ARNOTT: I would say it was certainly a significant factor in developing the regulations in the context of implementation. I think one of the broad issues we heard through consultation was the need to construct regulations that reflected national standards that took into account the fact that new investments were going to be required for older and aging facilities, and that we should take that into account in terms of implementation.
- And if you go over to the next page, page 10, there's an interesting map of Canada. And it talks about, I guess, where you get the darker colour, and looking over at the charts, it's, "Proportion of the Served Population with less than Secondary Treatment". And you look over at British Columbia, we're kind of in the middle between the "10-50%" range. What this seems to suggest that there is a wide variation nationally in the levels of treatment.
- MR. ARNOTT: Yes, that's correct.
- Q And if you go up to the paragraph right above the map, as you -- even the last sentence of the previous paragraph, it talks about at this point:

...3.2% of the population served by sewer systems [still] had no treatment for their wastewater effluent.

And then continuing:

Additionally, the degree of wastewater treatment varies greatly across Canada. For instance, there are much lower treatment levels for releases to coastal waters than inland fresh waters.

And then there's a reference to the map. interested, too, and it says with respect to British Columbia:

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Additionally, British Columbia has approximately 36% of its served population receiving less than secondary treatment.

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So again I guess this would just reinforce the theme that one of the primary purposes of these regulations is to ensure the harmonization nationally.

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- MR. ARNOTT: Yes. The harmonization nationally and, as well, the CCME Canada-wide Strategy does provide that harmonized framework for both, in this case British Columbia to act provincially, and for the federal government to act through the regulations that we're developing.
- Thank you. I'd like to move on to another topic in the same document, however, and that's at page 7 in Ringtail.

MR. LUNN: Sorry, page...?

MR. EAST: Page 7 in Ringtail at the bottom, start at the bottom.

35 36 And there's been a lot of questions about environmental effects monitoring, and I just want to make sure that we're not mixing two different concepts here. The regulations deal with -- well, first of all, let's look at the heading here, "Effluent monitoring". And perhaps I can read this, and then ask you to comment:

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Effluent monitoring and reporting requirements are also specified under the proposed Regulations. Owners or operators of --

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- and go over to the next page -

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-- wastewater systems would be required to install, maintain and calibrate monitoring

equipment and to monitor the volume and the composition of the effluent.

And it talks a little bit more about this requirement in the regulations. This is not the same as the environmental effects monitoring that we've been discussing; is that right?

- MR. ARNOTT: That's correct. In this case these provisions as contemplated would apply to all wastewater systems under the regulations.
- And these aren't the -- these aren't the regulations that would expire after a two-year period of time. These are ongoing?
- MR. ARNOTT: These are ongoing and they would be consistent and would be maintained.
- Thank you. The next paragraph does talk about the receiving environment monitoring, as they call it here, also defined as environmental effects monitoring. A couple of things about this, and we've had some discussions about this and there's two questions I just want to follow up on.

I think earlier on in your testimony Mr. McGowan asked you about emerging contaminants of concerns, and I think you indicated that, well, we'll get back to this, but, you know, there's elements of looking at these contaminants in the context of environmental effects monitoring. And forgive me if I missed it, but I don't believe you got back to that. Did you want to add to that as far as whether or not this monitoring will take into account, you know, contaminants other than the ones prescribed in the regulations?

MR. ARNOTT: Right. So within the provisions that are proposed, it does include other parameters to monitor. So under the theme that's characterized in this paragraph, water quality monitoring, there are other substances that would be required to be monitored within these provisions, as well as some of the other activities that were required for environmental effects monitoring, like monitoring benthic and in some cases fish populations.

So the broader issues that might be contemplated under that water quality monitoring are issues of some emergent substances, especially as it relates to endocrine function, as well as looking at issues related to nutrient inputs to a particular receiving environment. And that's why

you'll see in the specific provisions requirements for parameters that relate to nutrient loadings. And we heard some testimony from Dr. van

- And we heard some testimony from Dr. van
 Roodselaar about the purposes for which Metro
 Vancouver does environmental effects monitoring.
 What is, in the context of these regulations,
 what's the purpose of the environmental effects
 monitoring?
- MR. ARNOTT: Yes. And it's a bit different in our context of why we would propose receiving environment or environmental effects monitoring provisions. In this case it really is to evaluate the effect of the effluent quality standards that are within the regulations, and looking specifically at protecting fish and fish habitat. So it's designed a performance measure for the regulations.

And I should also be clear that these additional receiving environment monitoring requirements would only be for those wastewater systems that are already meeting the secondary wastewater treatment effluent quality standards. It would not apply to those that still need to upgrade, because as I spoke to, really these additional requirements are looking at the effectiveness of the regulations within the context of achieving those effluent quality standards, those baseline effluent quality standards.

- Q Thank you. Staying on the same topic, you alluded earlier or referred to earlier to some of the lessons learned from some of the other regulations under the *Fisheries Act* that have environmental effects monitoring. Are those references to the *Pulp Mill Effluent Regulations* and the *Metal Mining Effluent Regulations*?
- MR. ARNOTT: That's correct.
- Q And what are some of the lessons learned, I suppose, from those processes that made its way into these regulations?
- MR. ARNOTT: Well, I think the lessons learned get reflected directly into what we proposed, in the sense that I would characterize it as two main features, whereas proposed in the environmental effects monitoring requirements are targeted at a subset of the entire sector, in this case the wastewater sector is much different than the

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industrial sectors that are regulated under those regulations that you mentioned. So we did have to contemplate a specific subset, and we proposed a risk-based approach to identify what we felt the right system should do these additional environmental effects monitoring requirements, that's number one.

I think number two is the lessons learned about making sure that we've got the appropriate kinds of requirements for environmental effects monitoring, and that there is a start and a finish to these requirements. Because at the end of the day, they are designed to be a performance check. We think as proposed the information that would be collected through the phase that's proposed, would inform future amendments to the regulation, future amendments to both environmental effects monitoring provisions, as well as the effluent quality standards, and we don't -- then we wouldn't need to have the endless cycle of feedback for that purpose. We'd be contemplating those amendments based on what's proposed. Thank you. I want to move now to some of the regulations performance measurements requirements and the easiest way to do this perhaps is to go to page 31 in Ringtail. And perhaps I'd like to go to the last paragraph on page 31. Sorry, I'm going to back up. Maybe go up to under the heading, "Performance measurement and evaluation". And in this paragraph, if I'm reading this correctly, there is paragraphs relating to the immediate, intermediate and final outcomes of these regulations. Could you talk a little bit as to project, you know, particularly what these stages of outcomes are.

MR. ARNOTT: Certainly. Within the broad context of these regulations, in developing a Regulatory Impact Analysis Statement, the basis for the text that we're talking about currently, the contemplation of a lot of these features that are described here relate to requirements that we face under Treasury Board Secretariat within the federal government. When any federal government department contemplates regulations, regulations go through a process designed by Treasury Board. And in this case this regulation has a high regulatory impact and we do have to contemplate in

quite a bit of detail features like a performance measurement and evaluation plan.

So as described here, there's different phases of how we would measure specific outcomes of the regulation, and that includes features like as described in the second paragraph there, where we're determining a percentage of the regulated community that's reporting on time, and in terms of whether that regulated community is in compliance with the effluent quality standards. So we've had to contemplate a measurement and evaluation plan that includes all the various steps in terms of establishing a new regulation, and how it would get implemented over time. And then leading into my next question, which is

Q And then leading into my next question, which is the last paragraph, and the first sentence is:

The proposed Regulations would require regulatees to submit reports through an electronic reporting system developed by Environment Canada.

Has that been developed or is that being developed now?

MR. ARNOTT: Yes, it is being developed. We see it as a key feature of moving forward in terms of implementing the federal regulations, as well as a key feature of establishing bilateral agreements with provinces in terms of that regulatory reporting for municipalities and others that have to report under the regulations.

I should also add that the federal government developing an electronic reporting system was a commitment that we made under the CCME Canada-wide Strategy as well.

Okay. And internally more to government, I suppose, further down in the paragraph, starting on the line that says "Annual reports".

Annual reports based on the routine reporting required by the proposed Regulations would also be produced and made publicly available. In addition, the effectiveness of the national effluent quality standards in protecting fish and fish habitat would be evaluated through environmental effects monitoring studies and reported on by

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Environment Canada.

I think the first sentence is relatively straightforward. Can you talk a little bit about what's anticipated in the second sentence?

MR. ARNOTT: Well, I think we've spoken to that a few

- MR. ARNOTT: Well, I think we've spoken to that a few minutes ago. In terms of how we would situate future amendments to the regulations, we'd certainly be looking at the environmental effects monitoring information studies, the data that's reported there. I think it's just in terms of reporting back out, Environment Canada typically reports back out publicly summaries of those requirements, in this case, the environmental effects monitoring provisions.
- Q Thank you. And just being my last line of questions on this document, I just want to talk a little bit about the cost-benefit discussion, and maybe start with page 2 of the document. Now, my understanding is that with these Regulatory Impact Statements there's quite, I think, a mandated cost-benefit analysis that goes into any kind of regulatory regime.

MR. ARNOTT: That's correct. Yes.

Q And under the heading "Cost-benefit statement", can you zero in on that, on the second line:

While the estimated costs of the proposal are significant (in the order of \$5.9 billion in discounted 2010 dollars), the overall quantified benefits are almost three times this amount, totalling \$17.6 billion. This results in a benefit to cost ratio of almost 3:1 for the country as a whole.

I take it this is considered a good ratio?

MR. ARNOTT: It is a good ratio. Within the context of what Treasury Board expects Departments to do in terms of a benefit-cost calculation, they are looking for a broad national check on those issues, not designed necessarily to contemplate case-by-case or wastewater system-specific issues. That's recognized that they can be different. We did in this case here, comments on the costbenefit approach, but it really related to wastewater system or municipality-specific issues that could play into how the cost-benefit would

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Cross-exam by Mr. East (CAN)

play out to case-by-case.

But generally speaking, Treasury Board is looking for a broad national scope. That's what's contemplated here. And any ratio that gets close to one-to-one is the only time that there would be pause to think about the regulatory approach. And maybe just to probe into that a little bit

- And maybe just to probe into that a little bit further, I'd like to go to page 15, again in Ringtail. And there's a "Table 1 National ranking of wastewater facilities in Canada". And just noting the heading says, "Number of Facilities Requiring Upgrades Based on National Ranking System", and I think maybe we've had this in evidence already. But it says here British Columbia 5, medium risk, upgraded by 2030; 8, high risk, upgraded by 2020. Is that your understanding?
- MR. ARNOTT: Yes, that's correct. And I should add the table as presented was based on the existing information that was available by any means that we had. And as we've spoken to already today, these numbers would not get finalized until the regulations are actually finalized.
- Q Okay. And so going further down, there's another "Table 2", again, that's a restatement of what we already said, "Benefits to cost ratio", "Total benefits", over 17 billion, "Total cost" almost six billion, the "Benefit/Cost" ratio of 3:1. Are you familiar with -- well, first of all, maybe let me ask this question. On page 16, next paragraph -- next page, sorry, "Wastewater system costs". And this is where it talks about, the second paragraph:

The total costs to wastewater system owners and operators are estimated to be \$5.9 billion discounted to 2010 dollars.

And breaks it down a bit more. That's based on a standard of secondary treatment, is that right?

MR. ARNOTT: That's correct, yes.

- Q So these numbers would not necessarily be the same if there were upgrades or expected upgrades to more, we sometimes call, advanced treatment facilities.
- MR. ARNOTT: Advanced or tertiary, yes, that's correct. Q Okay.

1 MR. ARNOTT: I should -- sorry.
2 Q Yes.
3 MR. ARNOTT: I should also add

- MR. ARNOTT: I should also add that we did hear comments in terms of the way the numbers are characterized in the Regulatory Impact Analysis Statement, in terms of it being labelled as discounted to 2010 dollars. If these were not discounted numbers, they'd be higher which reflects some of the other estimated values in the range of 10 billion to 13 billion in undiscounted terms, just to be -- just to make that distinction between two ways of representing these kind of numbers.
- Okay. My final question on this, this one goes to page 19 of Ringtail. And under "Table 3 Present value net benefits of proposed Regulations" broken down by jurisdiction, there's a line that talks about "Costs", "Capital Costs", "O&M", "Non-Capital" and "Cost to Government". And then the "Benefits", and interesting here looking under the "BC" line. Are you familiar with how they identified the benefits? Like, I'm curious as what "WTP" means -- willingness to pay.
- MR. ARNOTT: Willingness to pay. Yeah, I mean, in terms of the economists that are responsible for these kind of calculations, there's a number of ways that they would approach this calculation. Within the context of this sector, there was a, how would I say, a factor that was used in the calculation of willingness to pay calculation, or a factor in the calculation where given this is a public, publicly owned, publicly operated sector, some of the issues have come up already during testimony today. That was factored in to how the benefit cost was calculated.
- Q Okay. Anyway, at the far right column the number there for "NET Benefit" to B.C., as reflected in the willingness to pay principle and the property value increase, is over \$5 billion in British Columbia.
- MR. ARNOTT: Yes, correct.
- Q The final question, and just my last one, and this is related to Tab 5, Exhibit 1058. And the Canada-wide Strategy for the Management of Municipal Wastewater Effluent, are you familiar with this document?
- MR. ARNOTT: Yes.

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THE COMMISSIONER: Thank you very much.

Page 13 of Ringtail. There's a reference to a "Science and Research" heading, and it says:

> To promote coordinated research and disseminate information within the municipal wastewater effluent sector, a committee is needed. Such a committee would track who is researching what, what has already been done and what the key research priorities should be in the future.

And going down to the bottom:

The proposed committee would publicize projects and results to prevent duplication and to promote collaboration among researchers. It would neither conduct nor fund research.

Has this been set up?

MR. ARNOTT: Yes, it has. Within the context of CCME there's two federal-provincial-territorial committees that are set up related to wastewater, one dealing with the implementation of the Canadawide Strategy for Municipal Wastewater Effluent, as well as the committee that's set up to look at that Canada-wide approach being developed for wastewater biosolids. So under those two committees, there is now a third committee set up to meet this commitment to better coordinate science and research amongst the jurisdictions. Environment Canada is leading that process in terms of making some next steps, and contemplating the right model to establish in terms of figuring out research priorities and how to move forward.

So, yes, the committee has been set up. They are moving forward in very early stages to deliver some results.

MR. EAST: Thank you, Mr. Arnott. Those are my questions, Mr. Commissioner.

THE COMMISSIONER: Thank you very much, Mr. East. MR. McGOWAN: Mr. Commissioner, I'm going to suggest we

break for the lunch break now. We'll continue with this panel for one hour till the afternoon break, following which the gravel topic will commence.

THE REGISTRAR: The hearing will now adjourn until 2:00 1 p.m. 3 4 (PROCEEDINGS ADJOURNED FOR NOON RECESS) 5 (PROCEEDINGS RECONVENED) 6 7 THE REGISTRAR: The hearing will now resume. 8 MR. McGOWAN: Yes, Mr. Commissioner, as I advised this 9 morning, this panel will conclude at three o'clock 10 followed by a brief break, and then the gravel 11 topic will commence. 12 Just before Mr. Leadem commences his cross-13 examination, I wanted to deal with one exhibit-14 related matter. You'll recall that yesterday Dr. 15 Ken Ashley testified and we filed his c.v., but at the time I advised we were going to apply some 16 17 redactions to it. We've now done so, so we've 18 replaced Exhibit 1045 with the redacted version. 19 THE COMMISSIONER: Thank you. Mr. Leadem? 20 MR. LEADEM: Mr. Commissioner, Leadem, initial T., 21 appearing as counsel for the Conservation 22 Coalition. I'm going to ask leave -- I'm having 23 trouble with my hearing today, Mr. Commissioner. 24 It may have something to do with the ambient 25 noise, but I'm going to ask leave to have the 26 headphones on so I can hear the answers. 27 THE COMMISSIONER: Oh, absolutely, no problem. 2.8 29 CROSS-EXAMINATION BY MR. LEADEM: 30

- Q Gentlemen, I act for the environmental community, a group of environmental organizations that you are probably familiar with such as the David Suzuki Foundation and a number of other related organizations. So my questions are going to be primarily coming from that aspect and that perspective. I want to begin by examining some documents with you.
- MR. LEADEM: I'm going to ask Mr. Lunn to pull up Conservation Coalition number 13 which is not the one that I want. I think it's a letter, "Warning Respecting an Alleged Violation". That's it, thank you. I'm not sure if I'm off on numbering. If so, I'm going to be off for the rest of the balance of my cross. I apologize.
- MR. LUNN: That's all right. Thank you.
- Q This appears to be a letter dated March 20, 2001

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written, as you will see, if you can scroll down to the signature column, from Inspector Nick Russo who's with the -- Spill Assessment Biologist, Environment Canada. Is this a document, Mr. Arnett, that would have been prepared in the ordinary course of business of Canada, a piece of correspondence that, in all probability, was sent by Canada to Mr. Puil as Chairman of the Board for the Greater Vancouver Regional District? You'll have to say "yes" or "no".

- MR. ARNOTT: I would imagine so, yes. That's what the letter indicates, yes.
- Q All right. Might that be marked as the next exhibit, please?

THE REGISTRAR: Exhibit 1065.

EXHIBIT 1065: Letter to GVRD from Environment Canada - Warning Respecting an Alleged Violation, March 20, 2011

- Q Now, in coming to testify here today, I had asked a number of documents be placed before you and this was one of the documents. You were a member of Environment Canada from the year 2000, as I understand it; is that right?
- MR. ARNOTT: Yes, that's correct.
- Q Were you based in the Pacific Region at that time? MR. ARNOTT: No, I was not.
- Q Were you aware of any of the facts and circumstances that led up to this warning being issued?
- MR. ARNOTT: No, I would not have been.
- Q And I'll turn to you, Dr. Van Roodselaar. Were you aware of any of the facts and circumstances? You were working for the GVRD back in 2000, were you not?
- DR. van ROODSELAAR: That's correct.
- Q And were you aware of receiving this warning respecting an alleged violation under s. 36(3) of the *Fisheries Act*?
- DR. van ROODSELAAR: As I recall, I remember a letter having been received.
- Q The next document, which should be the very next document from our list, is a letter dated May 15th, 2001 on the letterhead of Environment Canada, and the writer of that is the Regional Director General for Pacific and Yukon Region, Mr.

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PANEL NO. 45
Cross-exam by Mr. Leadem (CONSERV)

Fast.

Once again, the question to you, Mr. Arnott, this appears to be a letter that was sent in the ordinary course of business by Environment Canada to the City of Vancouver; is that right?

MR. ARNOTT: Correct.

- Q And turning to you, Dr. van Roodselaar, were you aware of this letter on or about the time that it was received and its contents?
- DR. van ROODSELAAR: I can't say that I was. This is a letter to the City of Vancouver. At the time I was working with the Greater Vancouver Regional District.
- Q Okay. Were you aware -- if we look at the contents of the letter and the last -- well, the penultimate paragraph says:

We confirm that recent inspections carried out by EC show that the Iona and Lions Gate treatment plant discharges were not in compliance with the *Fisheries Act*.

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Were you aware of that roughly around that time frame?

- DR. van ROODSELAAR: I believe I recall that some samples were taken, yes.
- Q All right. And the position taken by Environment Canada was that there was non-compliance as a result of those samples with respect to the Iona and Lions Gate treatment plant; is that right?

DR. van ROODSELAAR: That's what it says, yes.

MR. LEADEM: Okay. Might that be marked as the next exhibit, please.

THE REGISTRAR: Exhibit 1066.

EXHIBIT 1066: Letter from D. Fast (EC) to D Clairmont (City of Vancouver) re City Council's Recommendations re the GVRD LWMP, May 15 2001

- MR. LEADEM: The next letter in that chain of letters is one dated June 14th, 2001. It's once again on the letterhead of the Environmental Protection Branch as it was then know, Environment Canada. Maybe it's still known as that, I'm not sure.
- 46 Q Is it, Mr. Arnott?
 - MR. ARNOTT: No, it is not.

1 And would you agree with me that this appears to be a letter, on its face, was sent in the ordinary 3 course of business from Environment Canada? 4 MR. ARNOTT: Yes. 5 MR. LEADEM: Next exhibit, please. 6 THE COMMISSIONER: Are we marking that? 7 MR. LEADEM: Might that be marked as the next exhibit, 8 please? 9 THE REGISTRAR: Oh, I'm sorry. Exhibit 1067. 10 11 EXHIBIT 1067: Letter from B. Wilson (EC) to 12 K. Cameron (GVRD) re GVRD Liquid Waste Mgmt 13 Plan, June 14 2001 14 15 MR. LEADEM: 16 And were you aware of it, Dr. van Roodselaar, of 17 the facts and circumstances as contained in this 18 letter at the time that it was written? 19 DR. van ROODSELAAR: Yes. 20 And if we look at the last full paragraph on the 21 first page, the author of this document, the 22 letter, who is a Dr. -- I think it's Brian Wilson, 23 Director, says: 24 25 As I pointed out in my letter of May 25, 26 2000, compliance with subsection 36(3) of the 27 Fisheries Act is determined on the basis of 28 end-of-pipe discharges (effluent quality at 29 point of discharge or last point of control). 30 31 That was your understanding of how Environment 32 Canada conducted its business, particularly with 33 respect to subsection 36(3) of the **Fisheries Act**; 34 is that right? 35 DR. van ROODSELAAR: General practice, I believe that's 36 37 Now, I'd like to now turn to Exhibit 1061 if I 38 may, and to go to page 33 of that report. Now, on

DR. van ROODSELAAR: In general, yes.

Q All right. And essentially what happens, as I understand it, on an annual basis is that the wastewater treatment plants within the GVRD or Metro Vancouver file annual summaries of the

its head, it appears to be "Iona Island Wastewater

Treatment Plant, 2006, Annual Summary." Dr. van

Roodselaar, you recognize this document, do you

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            results of testing at their plants; is that
            correct?
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       DR. van ROODSELAAR: Yes.
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            And Table 4.4-1 is the table for Iona Island WWTP
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            for 2009; is that right?
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                             That's correct.
       DR. van ROODSELAAR:
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            And if we can look down at the -- it appears to be
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            two tables. If we look down at the actual second
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            table there under the heading, "Monitoring
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            Parameters", are you with me there, Doctor?
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       DR. van ROODSELAAR: Excuse me, can you come again?
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            The second table there.
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       DR. van ROODSELAAR:
                            Yes.
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            The one that's now being highlighted --
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       DR. van ROODSELAAR:
                            Yes.
            -- "Monitoring Parameters", and the second item down, the second row, says, "Toxicity 96 hour LC50
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            (%v/v)." That's what is known as the acute
            lethality test; is that right?
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       DR. van ROODSELAAR: That's correct.
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            And the frequency of testing for Iona is once a
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            month; is that right?
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       DR. van ROODSELAAR: That's correct.
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            The sample type is a grab sample, meaning that a
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            sample is taken from the last filter pulled before
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            it's going out the pipe into the Strait of
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            Georgia; is that right?
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                            It's a grab sample from the pipe,
       DR. van ROODSELAAR:
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            Okay. And under the maximum, I find the greater-
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            than-100 -- 100 percent is what you need to
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            achieve in order to pass; is that right?
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       DR. van ROODSELAAR: That's correct.
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            All right. And the minimum obtained during that
35
            year was 67; is that right?
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       DR. van ROODSELAAR:
                            That's what it says, yes.
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            Okay. And you're not disputing that, are you?
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       DR. van ROODSELAAR:
                            No.
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            And the average then for the year is less than 94;
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            is that right?
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       DR. van ROODSELAAR:
                             That's correct.
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            All right. So taken on an average then for the
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            year 2009, there's a failure of the toxicity 96-
44
            hour LC50 test, the acute lethality test, at
45
            various times during the year; is that right?
46
       DR. van ROODSELAAR: Of the monthly testing, and that's
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correct, yes.

- Q All right. Now, if you move on to Exhibit 1055, these are reports that were entered into evidence yesterday. You were not in the hearing room and we had the benefit of hearing advice that was proffered to us by Mr. van Aggelen, and you're familiar with Mr. van Aggelen, are you, Dr. van Roodselaar?
- DR. van ROODSELAAR: Yes, I've met Mr. van Aggelen.
- Q All right. And he took some time to explain to us some of these columns, and specifically the column entitled, "96 hour LC50". The first one that is up there for your perusal is one in June 2010 report. Do you recognize this as a report that is produced by, in this case, Iona Island wastewater treatment plant, and produced and then posted online through the internet?
- DR. van ROODSELAAR: That's correct.
- Q All right. And looking down the column, we already ascertained that the 96 hour LC50 test is one that's done on a monthly basis; is that right?
- DR. van ROODSELAAR: That's correct.
- Q So for this particular month, that test would have occurred on it appears to be June the 22nd; is that right?
- DR. van ROODSELAAR: Seems to be the date, yes.
- Q All right. And the number that appears in that column is 81, which also is a failure of the acute lethality test; is that correct?
- DR. van ROODSELAAR: That's correct.
- Q All right. I'll do one more with you. If you want to turn to July 2010, which will be the next page, once again looking at the column entitled "96 hour LC50", and looking at the data that was obtained for the monthly test done on July the 14th, 2010, I find the figure of 65, as do you; is that right?
- DR. van ROODSELAAR: Yes.
- Q And so that also represents a failure of the acute lethality test on that date; is that right?
- DR. van ROODSELAAR: Yes.
 - Q And so the question is, we see that for -- with respect to the acute lethality test, as long ago as 2000 or 2001, we see failures of this particular test existing right up through 2009 and right up to 2010. Is that a fair statement?
- 46 DR. van ROODSELAAR: Yes.
- 47 Q And essentially, then, with respect to the acute

lethality test, what that means is that any fish
that's swimming by the effluent is in trouble.

It's probably going to not do well because of the
oxygen demand having been taken up by the effluent
from the wastewater treatment plant; is that fair
to say?

DR. van ROODSELAAR: No, I would dispute that

- DR. van ROODSELAAR: No, I would dispute that statement.
- Q All right. Well, let's put it this way: That you're obliged your plant, that is is obliged to pass this test, at least in respect of compliance with Environment Canada standards; is that fair to say?
- DR. van ROODSELAAR: We are obliged to do that on a monthly basis based on our operating certificate with the province. What you're indicating is that Environment Canada would consider those test results to be unacceptable.
- Q Right. And turning now to Environment Canada, Mr. Arnott, I don't know whether you have any understanding or knowledge of this particular issue with respect to the failure of Iona to comply with the acute lethality test. Are you familiar with this issue at all?
- MR. ARNOTT: I'm familiar with the issue in general. O Yes?
- MR. ARNOTT: Specifically relating to the cases of noncompliance, that is an issue related to Enforcement Branch.
- Yes. And what is your knowledge of what Enforcement Branch is doing, if anything, about these non-compliance with the acute lethality tests that are occurring on fairly regular basis at Iona Wastewater Treatment Plan.
- MR. ARNOTT: Sorry, you repeat the question? O Yes.
- Q Yes. Do you have any knowledge of what the Enforcement Branch position is with respect to these non-compliance issues?
- MR. ARNOTT: No. Enforcement Branch conducts their business in a neutral and independent way.
- Q All right. Has it been the subject of any discussion to your knowledge, either in the work that you do, about the fact that there seems to be a lot of failures, or a certain number of failures

1 of acute lethality test at the Iona wastewater treatment plant? 3

- MR. ARNOTT: No, not specifically.
- This is not mentioned to you in Environment Canada?
- MR. ARNOTT: No, not specifically. I can say in the context of developing the regulations --
- Yes.

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- MR. ARNOTT: -- and the context of the consultation we've done over a number of years, is the issue of the interpretation of 36(3), using the acute lethality test and the need for greater clarity using the Fisheries Act authority. We can do that by establishing regulations that express a concentration, a quantity of deleterious substances in a regulation, and that's what we've done in terms of proposing regulations under the Act.
- But until the regulations are in place, you still have s. 36(3) of the **Fisheries Act**, correct?
- MR. ARNOTT: Correct.
- And one of the elements that has been prescribed as a deleterious substance under the provisions of that **Act**, specifically 36(3), is biological oxygen demand, BOD; is that correct?
- MR. ARNOTT: Correct.
- And so the acute lethality test, as I understand it, relates to a failure on the part of an effluent to meet the BOD test; is that fair to say?
- MR. ARNOTT: I wouldn't say that's completely correct. There are a number of things that could express toxicity in an effluent, oxygen demand just being one of them.
- Right. But more often than not, if you're dealing with sewage effluent, you're probably looking and focusing on BOD, are you not?
- MR. ARNOTT: Perhaps. Not in all cases, though.
- Okay. Well, I won't get into a quarrel with you about this, but what I'd like to know is what, if anything, is Environment Canada doing about these failures at Iona? Do you know anything about this?
- MR. ARNOTT: No, as I said before, that would be Enforcement Branch issues to manage. In terms of what Environment Canada is doing, as I've said, we have gone through this extensive process of both

developing a Canada-wide strategy under the CCME with provinces and territories to reach an agreement, broadly speaking, on a harmonized regulatory framework, and we're moving ahead with regulations under the *Fisheries Act* to express that clarity that municipalities and other stakeholders have asked for under the *Fisheries Act*.

- Q Okay. I'll turn to you, Dr. van Roodselaar. What, if anything, is the GVRD or Metro Vancouver doing about these failures at Iona wastewater treatment plant?
- DR. van ROODSELAAR: Under the 2002 Liquid Waste Management Plan, there was a process put into place to work through BIEAP-FREMP with the federal government with respect to these kinds of matters. Part of what we did and do, is we do toxicity identification evaluations to determine why we might get some of these kinds of results. At the time in 2002 when the plan was approved, we were working on not just Iona. We were working on Iona, Lions Gate, Annacis, Lulu with respect to these kind of issues.
- Q Yes.

- DR. van ROODSELAAR: And we did our toxicity identification evaluations. In the case of Annacis and Lulu, which are secondary treatment plants, to evaluate what those results meant, what we did was we did an in situ bioassay at Annacis over a period of a year where we ran these tests on a regular basis over a period of a year or two, to evaluate if we were in fact seeing these kind of results that, at that time, the lab results were indicating for Annacis, and we did not. The in situ tests of the affluent at Annacis were fine.
 - You're referring specifically now to the ammonia test, are you not?
- DR. van ROODSELAAR: Well, no, that was not the ammonia test at that time. We brought the matter to the attention of Environment Canada who then looked into it and, based on that, developed an add-on procedure which I believe is what you're referring to with respect to the ammonia. It's an add-on procedure that basically keeps the pH in the laboratory of the sample the same as it was in the effluent, so that in fact what you're looking at

in the laboratory is the same as the sample or the material that's present in the pipe. From then on, using that add-on procedure, as now authorized by Environment Canada, we didn't have any problems with respect to the 96 hour LC50 at Annacis and Lulu.

In the case of Lions Gate we again did the TIE procedure and we found out that in terms of Lions Gate, the primary issue there was surfactants --

Q Yes.

- DR. van ROODSELAAR: -- that was contributing. There can be other things, but certainly the predominant issue there were surfactants. We then set up an action plan where we put in place a public education program in terms of detergents, since detergents are one of the primary sources of surfactants in a community that's primarily homes.
- Q That services mostly homes in North Vancouver, West Vancouver.
- DR. van ROODSELAAR: That's correct. And so we actively pursued a program there in terms of saying to people, because of the extremely soft water, the nature of the water in Metro Vancouver, that the instructions that they had on their detergent containers basically indicated dosages of detergent that were far larger than they needed, and consequently they could save money and they could then also help possibly affect the environment and these results in terms of the surfactants.

So we undertook that program, and we have found in the last several years that we don't have that issue at Lions Gate.

Q What about Iona? Don't you do TIEs at Iona?
DR. van ROODSELAAR: Okay. We also did the TIEs at
Iona and we found there that the primary issue
that we saw - there were other issues as Mr.
Arnott has pointed out - but a primary issue was
the fact that with the microbiological activity in
the sample, in the lab, that the dissolved oxygen
was dropping faster than it was replenished using
the air supplementation rate in the test.

So consequently in the laboratory, the fish were unable to survive due to this oxygen depletion. So --

Q They were unable to survive in the effluent that

was coming out of the wastewater treatment plant, right?

DR. van ROODSELAAR: Well, when you say they were

- DR. van ROODSELAAR: Well, when you say they were unable to survive in the effluent coming out of the wastewater treatment plant, we had an extensive monitoring program in the receiving environment, i.e. around the point of discharge, and we didn't have any issues at that location. So in terms of the receiving environment, certainly that issue was not reflected.
- Have you been in some discussions with Environment Canada enforcement agents, and so forth, about this issue and have there been some discussions amongst yourself and members of GVRD and Canada Enforcement (sic) around these issues?
- DR. van ROODSELAAR: We have reported our actions. We reported our efforts over that period of time starting back in 2002 through the BIEAP-FREMP mechanism --
- O Yes.

- DR. van ROODSELAAR: -- as indicated in the Liquid Waste Management Plan that was approved at that time, and so those discussions occurred at that table.
- Q Isn't it true that the only way that we can really get rid of this problem with acute lethality coming out of the effluent at Iona wastewater treatment plant is to move to a secondary treatment? That's a safe bet. That's probably going to do it for you; isn't that fair to say?
- DR. van ROODSELAAR: Well, I would have to take issue with your first statement, the first part of your statement, which you said was "only way" to do it was to --
- Q Well, the --
- DR. van ROODSELAAR: -- do the secondary --
- Q Let's say that it's the safest way to do it. It's the most -- it's the most precautious way to do it.
- DR. van ROODSELAAR: I'm not sure what you mean by that.
- Q All right.
- DR. van ROODSELAAR: The safest most precautious way of --
- Q Well, let's not quibble about words. Let me just say it plainly then. That if Iona goes to secondary treatment, the prospects of encountering

an acute lethality test, the LC50 test, are lessened as a result of that. DR. van ROODSELAAR: I would say that's probably likely, yes. But I guess the other issue that we were looking at, at the time, was within the context of the facility we had there, whether we could take other actions, and one thing we looked at, in terms of effluent - not receiving environment -effluent was that if we disinfected the effluent with chlorine, we could in fact create a condition where that test would be -- of the end-of-pipe sample would be effectively passed. However --I'm sorry. DR. van ROODSELAAR: advised us that we should actually have

DR. van ROODSELAAR: I was going to say however we took that to the Environmental Monitoring Committee who advised us that we should actually have discussions with Environment Canada in terms of, you know, the ongoing process, rather than going to that solution, even though that solution is perfectly acceptable within a regulatory framework. They felt that that was not probably the best way to manage the issue at that time.

You understand that this Commission's work is all about sockeye salmon and about conserving sockeye salmon and trying to find out what's caused the decline and, to some extent, we've heard some evidence yesterday, from some of the notable doctors who preceded you to that podium, concerning the sockeye and what effects, if anything --- or could be visited upon the sockeye by virtue of some of these endocrine disruptors, some of the brominated --- polybrominated flame retardants, things of that nature.

What specifically are you doing at Iona and other wastewater treatment plants to rectify those issues, to make the world a safer place for sockeye salmon by dealing with polybrominated flame retardants, by dealing with endocrine disruptors by these emerging chemicals of concern.

DR. van ROODSELAAR: Okay. If I can take them sort of in order there, as far as the PBDEs, the flame retardants, this is a substance that does not lend itself well to wastewater treatment plant treatment. In fact, what we did there, and I believe others did as well, communicated to the

federal government that this was a material that,
like the PCB material of past, was the kind of
material that was best managed by prohibition.
In fact, that has now happened where the
federal government has put in that prohibition to
come into effect over a period of time, but that

federal government has put in that prohibition to come into effect over a period of time, but that action has been taken. So the recognition was there that this was a substance that was not best managed at a wastewater treatment plant location, but best dealt with by prohibition.

- Q But before you move off of that, the problem with the PBDEs is that they're persistent and that they tend to biomagnify in trophic levels; is that right?
- DR. van ROODSELAAR: I think that's correct. I'm not an expert, but certainly I believe that's correct, yes.
- Q So even though the problem may be solved by banning these substances, we still are going to see them appear in the environment for some time.
- DR. van ROODSELAAR: Unfortunately, that is so.
- All right. And I don't want to belabour the point, but essentially what I'm interested in finding out is -- or arriving at are solutions. I've heard some evidence this morning from Dr. -- or from Mr. Arnott about the possible solutions coming by way of these new regulations that are coming into voque.

The solutions that I seem to be hearing from you, Dr. van Roodselaar, is that there is some commitment now being made by the board to ramp up and go to at least secondary treatment at Iona sewage treatment plant; is that right?

- DR. van ROODSELAAR: That's correct.
- Q All right.

- DR. van ROODSELAAR: And so that's actually in our Liquid Waste Management Plan. When I mentioned that, I referred to our new Liquid Waste Management Plan where that is stated.
- And essentially, as I understand it, I mean the problem hasn't been one of "we lack the technology" to deal with some of these issues, but rather "we lack the money". I mean, if we had the money presumably a wastewater treatment plant to the quaternary level might be in place in Iona, right? So it comes down to a question of funding all the time, doesn't it?

- DR. van ROODSELAAR: I would say, and I can't speak on behalf of the board, but I would say they have certainly expressed that funding was a significant issue for them.

 Now, in the document, the CCME and I might ask
 - Q Now, in the document, the CCME and I might ask Commission counsel to help me with respect to the exhibit number on that document I think it was Tab 5 of your brief. I know it's been an exhibit.

MR. McGOWAN: Exhibit 1058.

MR. LEADEM: Exhibit 1058.

Q I think there was some funding information that was presented at pages 7 and 8. I think if you go to page 8 there's actually a table. That's it, Table 1.

So "Potential Funding Mechanisms", and this is rather rough, is it not, Mr. Arnott? It's basically and overview of what to do if you need money and you're a municipality and you need to find some money for wastewater treatment plants. Essentially, the big item in that table, I'm going to suggest to you, are the capital costs; is that right?

MR. ARNOTT: Yes.

- And under the "Potential Sources" we have "Own source revenue" which, I take it, Dr. van Roodselaar, would be money coming from taxpayers in Greater Vancouver to fund their plant; is that...?
- DR. van ROODSELAAR: For Iona, that would be certainly a major part of it --

Q Yes.

- DR. van ROODSELAAR: -- coming through the municipality of Vancouver to Metro Vancouver for funding the infrastructure, that's correct.
- Q Right. Another source identified there is provincial funding. Have you approached the province to obtain funding for upgrading?
- DR. van ROODSELAAR: I believe those discussions are ongoing with the province.
- Q And are you at liberty to tell us are they likely to bear fruit or not?
- DR. van ROODSELAAR: I guess I would refer to the letter from the Minister when he approved the Liquid Waste Management Plan, the new Liquid Waste Management Plan where he indicates that the upgrades shall proceed, not contingent on funding.

Q Right.

- DR. van ROODSELAAR: However, he encourages Metro
 Vancouver to continue to seek funding from the
 levels of government, senior levels of government.

 All right. And you already indicated that you've
 - Q All right. And you already indicated that you've approached the federal infrastructure for funding and those talks are ongoing; is that right?
 - DR. van ROODSELAAR: That was indicated. Mr. Arnott in fact recognized that that was there.
 - What about this other heading, "Other Innovative Funding Mechanisms". Has the board considered any other type of funding mechanisms, going to a referendum or some special vote from the people in Vancouver who may be willing to pay for a cleaner environment?
 - DR. van ROODSELAAR: I think in either way, I mean, what you're stating is if it's "own source revenue" or that mechanism you just indicated, in either case, it would have to come from the citizens of Vancouver.
 - MR. LEADEM: Okay. In the interest of time, I'm going to move on to another topic, and I should have said I asked for two hours; I got 40 minutes, Mr. Commissioner, so I'm really getting stretched here.
 - Q I want to go to Exhibit 1048, if I could. These questions will be to you, Mr. Arnott. This is a memo that was prepared from a number of your DFO scientists in toxicology, Rob Macdonald, and Dr. Ross spoke to this. Are you familiar with this memo?
 - MR. ARNOTT: I am not.

- Q So that takes me a little bit by surprise, because as I understand it, you're basically the point person for the development of the regulations, the wastewater regulations. Do I have that fair?
- MR. ARNOTT: That's correct. DFO did submit formal comments to us, but these were not them.
- Q All right. Do you know why this document did not get into your mix?
- MR. ARNOTT: I do not know. You'd have to ask DFO.
- Q All right. Dr. Ross testified yesterday about submitting these in a compressed time frame. Do you know why there was such a compressed time frame to getting internal reviews from your own colleagues from within DFO in terms of the import and the impact of these draft regulations and draft wastewater regulations?

- MR. ARNOTT: No, I can't comment on that specifically.

 There was ample time to provide comments. I can't speak to why they would have been perceived as compressed.
 - Q All right. From your perspective, do you know when the draft started to get -- to be circulated internally? By "internally" I mean within federal governmental departments?
 - MR. ARNOTT: Well, if you step back and think about the context of what the regulations contemplated, there was five years of consultation on the CCME Canada-wide strategy that contemplated national baseline standards of secondary wastewater treatment that we had indicated through that process that we'd be reflecting in a regulation under the *Fisheries Act*. There was quite a bit of consultation even leading up to contemplating specific regulatory provisions in a draft regulation.
 - All right. And so that confuses me, then, because if you're saying that there's a five-year lead-in to the promulgation of the draft regulations, even before they're drafted, why is Environment Canada not talking to DFO in terms of what import or what kind of review should be done in terms of DFO scientists having some impact and having some input into this whole drafting exercise?
 - MR. ARNOTT: Well, I would say that there was extensive dialogue all the way through the process, in terms of input, both on the CCME Canada-wide strategy. That process was certainly open to input from stakeholders in general as well as federal scientists. As well, as we moved from developing and finalizing the CCME Canada-wide strategy towards the development of regulations in the **Fisheries Act**, there's been ongoing communication with DFO.
 - MR. LEADEM: I see my time is up, Mr. Commissioner. I could go on for hours, but unfortunately, we don't have that luxury.
 - THE COMMISSIONER: Thank you, Mr. Leadem.
 - MS. BROWN: Thank you, Mr. Commissioner. For the record, Anja Brown, and with me is Crystal Reeves. We've been allotted 20 minutes today.

Quickly, as a matter of housekeeping, Mr. Commissioner, Ms. Reeves and I will excuse ourselves during the break, and Ms. Pence will be

here for the remainder of the afternoon on gravel removal, and she'll be here tomorrow as well with Ms. Gaertner.

CROSS-EXAMINATION BY MS. BROWN:

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Q Mr. Arnott and Dr. Roodselaar, we're counsel for the First Nations Coalition. The Coalition is comprised of a number of Fraser River First Nations, Fraser River aboriginal fishing organization, the Council of Haida Nation and also some of the Douglas Treaty First Nations.

My first questions go to you, Dr. Arnott -or Mr. Arnott, rather. According to the PPR and
some of the other documents that have been
provided by the Commission, the proposed
regulations that have been the subject of some
discussion today were subject to years of
consultation, and you told us moments ago that was
approximately five years. I'm wondering whether
First Nations were a formal part of that
consultation?

MR. ARNOTT: That's a good question. In terms of consultation specifically on the regulations, I should qualify that. I spoke to the consultation that primarily happened around the development the CCME Canada-wide strategy which, through that process of -- always indicated they used that as the basis for developing regulations under the **Fisheries Act**.

So within that context, yes, we did directly engage First Nations aboriginal communities through that process, specifically from a federal perspective. There was extensive cross-Canada consultations that were conducted in late 2007, early 2008 that included not only the national aboriginal organizations, but also communities across the country. I think we conducted 13 consultation sessions in communities themselves across the country.

In that context, it was primarily on the CCME Canada-wide strategy and we also conducted consultations specifically about how Environment Canada was going to implement the CCME strategy through regulations under the **Fisheries Act** as well as other things that we were contemplating at that point.

All right. And we've heard that one of the purposes of the strategy and the new regulations is to ensure harmonization nationally. Do I have it that the regulations, once approved, will apply on Indian reserves? That's correct. MR. ARNOTT: Has the capacity of First Nations communities, and particularly those in isolated areas, to meet the requirements of these new regulations been a topic of discussion by Environment Canada?

- MR. ARNOTT: Yes, I would say that's one of the broad themes that was identified through the consultation even going back to 2007, 2008, was the issue of capacity within First Nations aboriginal communities to not only upgrade wastewater treatment systems themselves to comply with the effluent quality standards as well as the capacity issue to respond to the additional requirements in the regulations even such things as basic monitoring and reporting that's required under the regulations. The capacity for communities just to do that was also identified as a key issue for them.
- And would building that type of capacity be part of Environment Canada's responsibility or would it be solely Indian Affairs?

MR. ARNOTT: Indian Affairs.

MS. BROWN: All right. Mr. Lunn, could you please bring up Commission document 31?

Now, you've indicated earlier today that, as a part of -- this isn't the -- could I have a moment, please, Mr. Commissioner? Sorry, Mr. Commissioner, there's some confusion with respect to the documents so I'll move on to some other questions that I have.

Mr. Lunn, could you please turn up the PPR number 15 at page 26?

Mr. Arnott, this is a question that I'll direct at you. Paragraph 63 tells us about the municipal water and wastewater surveys that Environment Canada engages in, in all Canadian municipalities serving populations of 1000 or more, excluding First Nations communities. We see there that the survey discusses water sources, water use, conservation and wastewater treatment, and that it's a survey that's conducted every two or three years.

So my question is whether there's anything equivalent to this type of a survey that's undertaken by Environment Canada and First Nations communities?

kind of survey for First Nations, but Indian and Northern Affairs Canada would have that information, and we are working with them in terms of understanding existing levels of treatment in First Nations' communities and contemplating the impact of the regulations there.

MR. ARNOTT: Environment Canada wouldn't conduct that

And does Environment Canada engage in any fashion with First Nations with respect to wastewater issues?

 MR. ARNOTT: I'm not sure of the context of your question. Existing right now with direct --

 Q With existing right now, or upgrading to existing facilities?

MR. ARNOTT: Well, I can say that beyond consultations that have occurred and working with -- continue to work with national aboriginal organizations in terms of our next steps in the process of establishing and implementing the regulations, I think historically there's been the context of federal guidelines that have been in place for wastewater treatment, wastewater management, for federal departments, and that's certainly been a bit of a backbone in terms of guidance to the levels of treatment that are expected.

I'm specifically talking about a 1976 federal guideline that's existed, and even within those guidelines, a baseline of secondary wastewater treatment has been provided as guidance to be expected for federal departments.

Q All right. My next series of questions are for you, Dr. Roodselaar.

MS. BROWN: Mr. Lunn, could you turn up exhibit 1050, please?

Q So this is, of course, the letter from the Minister approving the latest management plan. If we could go to condition number 10, please, on page 3, which is the list of imposed changes that the Minister has attached to the letter in the approval of the management plan. Condition 10 requires Metro Vancouver to continue to consult with First Nations during the implementation of the plan, it says, in particular engaging is

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Cross-exam by Ms. Brown (FNC)

appropriate with First Nations likely to be impacted.

Is part of the work that you do, Dr. Roodselaar, are you at all involved in consultation with First Nations?

- DR. van ROODSELAAR: Not me personally, but I know Metro Vancouver considered this a necessary piece of the business in undertaking the upgrades even prior to the Minister's conditions, so I'm certainly aware that those are our full expectation, that this would be part of the process.
- Q And which First Nations does Metro Vancouver ordinarily consult with?
- DR. van ROODSELAAR: It depends, of course, in terms of -- it says "likely to be impacted by the secondary upgrades". So the ones in the proximity of the facilities in question would be the ones that I would expect that they would be dealing with. Certainly that's been the general understanding that I have with respect to other projects as well.
- And do you agree that all Fraser River First
 Nations will potentially be affected, hopefully in
 a positive way, by these secondary upgrades once
 they've been implemented?
- DR. van ROODSELAAR: What's implicit in that statement is that these upgrades will have a significant effect on Fraser River water quality. I don't think that that is necessarily the case. So if you're looking at which Nations are going to be impacted, I would think it's more likely that you're looking at the ones that are in close proximity to the facilities, and therefore the consequences around the facility upgrade themselves or the likely pieces that are relevant here.
- Q All right. Now, this morning you answered some questions in relation to the terms of reference for the Environmental Monitoring Committee.
- MS. BROWN: And if we could have Exhibit 1064, please, Mr. Lunn.
- Q Page 3 of the exhibit sets out the proposed membership, and I note that this document is from 2001 so it's ten years ago.
- 46 DR. van ROODSELAAR: Yes.
 - Q The membership list there doesn't include First

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Nations representatives, and my question is whether the actual membership of that Environmental Monitoring Committee now includes any First Nations representatives?

DR. van ROODSELAAR: Not at the present time, no, it does not.

And why would that be?

DR. van ROODSELAAR: The only answer I can give you is that the membership of that committee is representative of this proposed membership list. That was not altered or has not been changed up to the present time.

Do you agree, Dr. Roodselaar, that First Nations' participation in this sort of a committee would be important, especially when one considers the close proximity of Indian reserves to both the Lions Gate and the Iona treatment plants?

DR. van ROODSELAAR: Well, this committee here is not just dealing with Iona and Lions Gate water treatment plants, but it's dealing with the overall environmental monitoring program. However, that doesn't mean I take issue with your statement in the sense of the fact that a First Nation representative on this committee might be appropriate.

Right. Also in response to questions this morning posed by Mr. McGowan about the timing of the upgrades, you noted that Metro Vancouver has many issues that it needs to deal with, with respect to the timing of the upgrading, including planning, design, funding. You said land issues and you also said First Nations issues. Do you recall that?

DR. van ROODSELAAR: Yes, I do.

 What specific First Nations issues are you referring to?

DR. van ROODSELAAR: Well, I think if you refer to the last condition in the Minister's letter, the whole question of consultation, and in that consultation, dealing with any issues that are pertinent to the First Nations would have to be addressed.

Now, I think on the North Shore, there were some issues around the location of the current wastewater treatment plan, the Lions Gate plan, so I can't speak in particular, but I can certainly state that in general, since I don't personally --

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haven't been dealing with those pieces.

MS. BROWN: Mr. Commissioner, may I have a moment, please, with respect to the document? Those are my questions, Mr. Commissioner. Thank you.

THE COMMISSIONER: Thank you very much, Ms. Brown. MR. McGOWAN: Yes, Mr. Commissioner, just a brief question in re-examination, a couple of questions, Mr. Arnott, will be directed to you.

RE-EXAMINATION BY MR. McGOWAN:

Could we please have Exhibit 1047 up and the ringtail page number 13 is what I'm looking for, the bottom left quarter of the page under "Regulatory Measures".

Mr. Arnott, you recall being taken to this section of the RIAS by counsel for Canada?

MR. ARNOTT: Yes.

Okay. I'm just going to read you the first sentence there:

> Regulations were considered to be the best option for achieving the objective of reducing the risks to ecosystem health, fisheries resources and human health posed by wastewater effluent.

Is that statement, in part, an acknowledgement of Canada's obligation to protect fisheries resources?

- MR. ARNOTT: I would say that it reflects the authority you have under the Fisheries Act, yes.
- It is Canada who is vested with the responsibility and the jurisdiction to protect fisheries resources, correct?

MR. ARNOTT: Correct.

And that, of course, includes Fraser sockeye which is the subject matter of this inquiry.

MR. ARNOTT: Correct.

In the crafting of the regulations, Canada could, if it saw fit, prescribe higher levels of treatment requirements for particularly sensitive or important receiving environments, could it not?

MR. ARNOTT: It could.

We had some scientists here yesterday, a couple of whom gave evidence about the benefits of higher, more advanced treatments to marine life and

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specifically sockeye. You've heard today the witness from Metro Vancouver give evidence that the plan for at least one of the treatment facilities is to go to secondary, and at least part of the explanation for that is that's what's required. That's what Canada has told us is the level that we have to go to.

Given that state of affairs, should Canada perhaps not be considering in the regulations identifying particular types of receiving environments or receiving environments that contain particularly significant resources, such as sockeye, and mandating a higher level of protection for those receiving environments in the regulations?

- MR. ARNOTT: I'm not sure if I followed your question.
 Should Canada contemplate a different structure in the regulations for particular receiving environments?
- O Yes.

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- MR. ARNOTT: Is that generally your question?
- MR. ARNOTT: That's certainly been an issue that we've heard through consultation. In terms of the construct of this CCME Canada-wide strategy, the broad outcomes of achieving secondary wastewater treatment, in itself, in our view, has a significant outcome not just on reducing pollutants in general from no treatment or just primary treatment to secondary treatment. As an unintended outcome, secondary treatment does have significant outcomes as it relates to emerging substances as well.

Beyond the issue of what to do with some of the substances that may be posing harm, I think that's an issue for a longer term discussion.

- MR. McGOWAN: Thank you. Mr. Commissioner, those are my questions. I'm going to suggest, subject to any questions you may have or re-examination by Mr. East, that we take a short break and allow those counsel that are exchanging places for the next topic to accomplish that.
- THE COMMISSIONER: Very well. Thank you.
- MR. McGOWAN: Thank you.
- THE REGISTRAR: The hearing will now recess for ten minutes.

1 (PROCEEDINGS ADJOURNED FOR AFTERNOON RECESS) 2 (PROCEEDINGS RECONVENED) 3 THE REGISTRAR: The hearing is now resumed. 5 Thank you, Mr. Commissioner. It's Wendy MS. BAKER: 6 Baker for the Commission, and today we have Dr. 7 Laura Rempel and Dr. Marvin Rosenau which are the 8 first panels to deal gravel removal. Before we 9 begin with the witnesses, though, I would like to 10 mark the Policy and Practice Report that was 11 prepared for this portion of the hearings. 12 dated May 20, 2011, and it's entitled, "Gravel Removal in the Lower Fraser River." 13 14 THE REGISTRAR: That will be PPR number 16. 15 16 PPR-16: Policy and Practice Report, Gravel 17 Removal in the Lower Fraser River, May 20, 18 2011 19 20 MS. BAKER: Thank you. All right. These witnesses 21 haven't testified before. Could they both be 22 sworn? 23 24 LAURA REMPEL, affirmed. 25 26 MARVIN ROSENAU, affirmed. 27 28 THE REGISTRAR: State your name, please. 29 DR. REMPEL: Laura Rempel. 30 DR. ROSENAU: Marvin Rosenau. 31 THE REGISTRAR: Thank you. Counsel? 32 MS. BAKER: Thank you. 33 34 EXAMINATION IN CHIEF ON QUALIFICATIONS BY MS. BAKER: 35 36 I'll start with you, Dr. Rempel. If I could have 37 your c.v. put up on the screen, please. It's Tab number 1. Thank you. First of all, that is your 38 39 c.v.? 40 DR. REMPEL: It is. 41 MS. BAKER: All right. I'll have that marked, please. 42 THE REGISTRAR: Exhibit 1068. 43 44 EXHIBIT 1068: Curriculum vitae of Laura 45 Rempel 46 47 MS. BAKER: Okay. Thank you.

Q You have a Ph.D. in physical geography and your dissertation in that degree was on physical and ecological organization in large gravel bed rivers and responses to disturbances by gravel mining, and it's all in the Fraser River; is that right?

DR. REMPEL: Yeah, that's correct.

- Q Okay. And I'm just looking at your c.v., you identify that -- well, first of all, presently, you're working as a habitat biologist with the Department of Fisheries and Oceans?
- DR. REMPEL: Yeah, that's correct.
- Prior to that, you were a research scientist with DFO and led research programs in habitat risk assessment, aquatic bio-monitoring and fish habitat?
- DR. REMPEL: That's right. Yes, correct.
- And you have worked in stream and river environments for over 15 years, focussing on fish habitat interactions, habitat productivity and the physical and hydrological aspects of productive fish habitat, correct?
- DR. REMPEL: Yeah, correct.
- All right. Before you were a habitat biologist, you were an environmental analyst and also a river systems ecologist?
- DR. REMPEL: Correct.

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- And on pages 2 and 3 of your c.v., the publications relevant to this topic are set out, relevant to your work, I should say, are set out? The first one under "Refereed publications," is a paper that you wrote with Dr. Michael Church, which was published in 2009, and is entitled, "Physical and ecological responses to disturbances by gravel mining in large alluvial river"?
- DR. REMPEL: Yeah, correct.
- Q And that has direct application to the Fraser system; is that right?
- DR. REMPEL: Yes, correct.
- You have also, if I move to your reports under "Technical/Professional Reports," on page 3, a paper also prepared with Dr. Church in 2003, called "The Harrison Bar gravel removal experiment: final report." That was while you were still a student; is that right?
- DR. REMPEL: Yeah, that's correct.
- Q Okay. And moving to page 4, I see a report that you did with Weatherly called "2003 Fraser River

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potential gravel removals," and that was prepared
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            by Kerr Wood Leidal for the B.C. Ministry of
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            Water, Land, and Air Protection?
       DR. REMPEL: Yes, correct.
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            And also another work with Dr. Church called,
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            "Morphological and habitat classification of the
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            Lower Fraser River gravel-bed reach," and that was
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            also prepared while you were a student; is that
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            right?
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       DR. REMPEL:
                   That's right.
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           All right.
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       MS. BAKER: Mr. Commissioner, I'll ask for both of
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            these witnesses to be qualified as experts, but
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            I'll first go through the qualifications of Dr.
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            Rosenau next, and then I'll ask them to be
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            qualified together.
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            Dr. Rosenau, your c.v. is at Tab 19? Okay.
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            that your c.v.?
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       DR. ROSENAU: That's correct.
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       MS. BAKER: If I could have that marked, please?
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       THE REGISTRAR: Exhibit 1069.
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                 EXHIBIT 1069: Curriculum vitae of Dr. Marvin
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                 Rosenau
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       MS. BAKER: Okay.
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            All right. You have a Ph.D. in fisheries science;
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            is that right?
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       DR. ROSENAU: A DPhil.
                               Same thing.
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            Okay. And you have a Masters of Science in
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            zoology, as well?
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       DR. ROSENAU: That's correct.
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            Okay. You have -- you were previously with the
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            Ministry of the Environment, also known as
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            Ministry of Water, Land and Air Protection for the
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            B.C. Government from 1991 to 2006?
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       DR. ROSENAU: That's correct.
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            And in that role, you were involved in reverse
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            sediment management and development of impacts on
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            floodplains, and you can see that referenced on
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            page 2, at the top of your resume?
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       DR. ROSENAU: That's correct.
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            And in that work, did you engage in work involving
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            the gravel reach of the Fraser River?
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       DR. ROSENAU: That's right. I sat on the technical
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            committee, basically referred to as the Gravel
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            Committee of the Fraser, in addition to a number
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of other watersheds, the Vedder, Chilliwack, et cetera.

- Q Okay. And turning to page 4 of your CV, your publications are set out. And looking at under "Primary Scientific Journals," can you identify which of these are relevant to Fraser River gravel reach and fish habitat in the gravel river?
- DR. ROSENAU: The Perrin, Rempel and Rosenau, 2003. To a lesser degree, the Veinott paper, which dealt with sturgeon, and that's predominantly the ones in the refereed publication.
- Q Okay. And then under "Symposia," there's a number of other works which are relevant to the Fraser River gravel reach, I take it, and fish habitat in that area?
- DR. ROSENAU: Most of the sturgeons, and some of the reports with Mark Angelo for the Pacific Fisheries Resource Conservation Council, one in particular on sand and gravel removal.
- Q All right. If I can add, that's on page 6, is it? DR. ROSENAU: It might be as far back as -- or far down as that, yeah.
- Q Okay. So if you can identify which documents those are. I can see third from the bottom, under the Pacific Fisheries Resource title is a document with you and Dr. Angelo, "Sand and gravel management and fish-habitat protection in British Columbia salmon and steelhead streams," is that the one you're referring to?
- DR. ROSENAU: Yes, much of that dealt with the Fraser River. Second from the top, Rosenau and Angelo, 2007, also dealt with that issue, as well, specific to the Fraser and the gravel reach.
- Q Okay. And then moving on to technical reports and articles, second from the top is an article or a report that you prepared with Dr. Church and Ellis, 2004, "Characterization of 4 floodplain side channels of the lower Fraser River"?
- DR. ROSENAU: That's correct. It was a student that I was co-supervising with Dr. Church.
- Q Okay. Have you supervised any other Ph.D. theses or work by students on the gravel reach?
- DR. ROSENAU: Laura Rempel's, sitting beside me, at the Ph.D. level.
- 45 Q Any others?

- 46 DR. ROSENAU: No.
- Q Okay. And I should identify, Dr. Rempel, your

thesis is actually in the Commission's documents at Tab 2, and it's titled, "Physical and ecological organization in a large gravel bed river and response to disturbance," and what was the subject of that, in layman's terms? DR. REMPEL: The focus of my thesis was looking at the

- DR. REMPEL: The focus of my thesis was looking at the physical habitat characterization of the gravel reach in the Fraser River, and characterizing the ecological communities associated with these habitats.
- Q And are either of you fluvial geomorphologists? DR. ROSENAU: Go ahead.
- DR. REMPEL: No.

- DR. ROSENAU: No, but I've interacted with quite a few over the years so I do have some level of understanding which I would suggest Laura probably does, too, but I don't want to put words in her mouth.
- DR. REMPEL: Yes, I carried out my Ph.D. in the Department of Geography at UBC and studied directly with Dr. Michael Church, who is one of the pre-eminent fluvial geomorphologists in the province. So I have training in that, but I wouldn't say that's my realm of expertise.
- Q All right. And terms of habitat and impacts on habitat by fluvial geomorphology and hydrology, is that within your area of expertise? Do you use that knowledge in assessing habitat impacts in your work?
- DR. REMPEL: Yes, directly.
- Q Dr. Rosenau?
- DR. ROSENAU: Same for me.
- MS. BAKER: Mr. Commissioner, I'd like both of these witnesses qualified as experts in two areas, one freshwater fish habitat and flowing waters and rivers, with an emphasis in the Lower Fraser, and second, experts in fluvial geomorphology and hydrology as those relate to freshwater aquatic ecosystems and flood profiles.
- MR. SPIEGELMAN: Mr. Commission, for the record, it's Jonah Spiegelman for the Government of Canada. I just want to be clear on the record what the extent of the qualifications for these two witnesses are, and I have a couple of questions that I'd like to put to them in that regard

1 CROSS-EXAMINATION ON QUALIFICATIONS BY MR. SPIEGELMAN:

- Q First, do either of you have any academic training in hydraulic engineering?
- DR. REMPEL: No, not directly.
- DR. ROSENAU: Not directly, either.
- Q And no professional experience as hydraulic engineers?
- DR. REMPEL: No.
- DR. ROSENAU: Well, I have managed hydraulic engineering studies so I have had hydraulic engineers work for me and so by association, I do have some experience, but I'm not a hydraulic engineer.
- Q No, and you've already stated that you're not a fluvial geomorphologist proper?
- DR. ROSENAU: Not a registered professional fluvial geomorphologist.
- Q Okay. Thank you. Do you have any training or work experience in the area of flood risk management?
- DR. ROSENAU: Could you define "flood risk management"?
- Devising strategies or assessing strategies as pertaining to managing a flood risk in a river system?
- DR. ROSENAU: Well, I sat on gravel committees vis-àvis flood risk so that is my experience. So both the Fraser River Technical Committee and the Vedder/Chilliwack Technical Committee, and that's my experience with flood risk management.
- Q But you don't have any personal experience you brought to bear in those contexts; is that correct?
- DR. ROSENAU: No, I do have personal experience because I saw on those committees, dealing with flood engineers, managing hydraulic modelling and I've also, in effect, provided my opinion on those issues. I'm not a flood engineer so that's the distinction.
- Q Okay. So you're not a flood engineer. Thank you. And do you have any particular expertise in public safety issues generally, from a policy or operational level, from your experience?
- DR. ROSENAU: Maybe you can describe that a little bit more clearly.
 - Q I'm wondering if you've ever brought personal experience or training to bear in the planning for

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Cross-exam on qualifications by Mr. Spiegelman (CAN) Cross-exam on qualifications by Ms. Schabus (STCCIB)

1 public safety as it pertains to flood risk? DR. ROSENAU: Well, I was the B.C. Hydro representative 3 from a fish perspective in Victoria. I had a 4 secondment in Victoria, and we dealt with flood issues, in particular, the 1997 flood -- province-5 6 wide flood issue. And so that had those flood 7 risk components to it, but I'm not trained as a 8 flood risk engineer or manager. 9

MR. SPIEGELMAN: Thank you.

MS. SCHABUS: Mr. Commissioner, Nicole Schabus for the record. I'm co-counsel for the Sto:lo Tribal Council and the Cheam Indian Band. I also have some follow-up questions, if I may?

CROSS-EXAMINATION ON QUALIFICATIONS BY MS. SCHABUS:

Dr. Rosenau, looking at your c.v., you list one of the cases that you were qualified in as R. v. Douglas.

- That's correct. I was one of the agency DR. ROSENAU: expert witnesses on that case.
- And your qualifications were limited to being a habitat biologist in that case, right?
- DR. ROSENAU: It could be, if that's what the document said.
- Record shows? And you specifically admitted in that case that you're not qualified to speak to fluvial geomorphology, correct?
- I might have at that time. DR. ROSENAU:
- And you would also recall that actually, one of the points that the case came down to is the issue of whether gravel removal impacted or constituted destruction of fish habitat, right?
- DR. ROSENAU: I believe that's correct, but you would have to point the line out to me.
- Sure, I could point the line out to you, but you would be aware that your qualifications came in question in that case by Judge Lenaghan?
- DR. ROSENAU: Well, I'd have to see the statement with regards to what he brought into question.
- Okay.
- I'm going to ask to pull up the document MS. SCHABUS: from the Province's list of documents, under Tab 23, please. Sorry, Your Honour, I'm trying to find it in my paper copy -- Mr. Commissioner.
- I'm going to first take you to paragraph 143, if I may, Tab 23. Yeah, perfect. That would be on --

I have a different version of the document. Just paragraph 143.

- Just taking you to that paragraph first, you agreed that you're not a fluvial geomorphologist or could not assess the stability of the armouring layer on top of the gravel lift that he had seen in January 1998. You recall making that statement and being questioned in that regard?
- DR. ROSENAU: I'll accept it as written.
- And actually, you would not be qualified to conduct geomorphological studies about channel stability or generally, your qualifications and accreditation does not qualify you to conduct geomorphological studies, correct?
- DR. ROSENAU: I'm not a fluvial geomorphologist, but I deal with fluvial geomorphological issues as part of my habitat dealings so I have a level of experience that allows me, I think, as a professional. Not a registered professional fluvial geomorphologist, but as somebody who's dealt with the topic. And again, the court case was about 10 years ago so there's been an additional 10 years of experience so I do view myself as being able to make some comments.
- Q But the court case was exactly about that issue, connecting the habitat aspect to the gravel removal and whether it did constitute a destruction of fish habitat, right, and that's in regard to what you were called, correct?
- DR. ROSENAU: In a general sense, yes.
- Q Okay. So I'm going to just take you briefly to paragraph 204. And you've reviewed this decision since it came down? You listed it in your CV, right, the case?
- MS. SCHABUS: Paragraph 204, please?
- Q And this is Judge Lenaghan's ruling:

I was unable to give any significant weight to the opinions the three experts offered on issues which they admitted were beyond their expertise. As a result, the evidence on these important issues fell far below the required standard of proof. It is somewhat puzzling that the Crown did not call a fluvial geomorphologist or river engineer to testify when it must have known ...

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That that would be required. And it refers to other fluvial geomorphologists. And it states in paragraph 205, then:

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to provide any meaningful, direct evidence with regard to the effects of the gravelextraction fish-habitat they described and discussed. Each relied ...

As mentioned earlier, the experts were unable

12 13 14 On other secondary evidence so to say. And so basically, you would agree with me that in this case, the conclusion was, one, that there wasn't sufficient expert evidence and qualifications rendered to --

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MS. BAKER: I don't think it's appropriate to ask the witness to agree with what an opinion of a court is. The opinion is what it is.

MS. SCHABUS: That is fine.

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But clearly, that connection was not established in that court case, you'd agree with that? DR. ROSENAU: No, I would agree that the judge had his

opinion and other people had their opinions, and I would also add that a lot of -- I'll put it this way, a lot of water's gone under the Rosedale-Agassiz Bridge in the interim, where people like Laura and myself have spent a lot of time learning things and so I think we understand the river much better.

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You understand and you can read studies that Q fluvial geomorphologists have written, but you are not the one who is qualified to actually specifically conduct those studies or provide primary evidence on those as a fluvial geomorphologist, correct?

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DR. ROSENAU: If I have to put a stamp under the Association of Professional Engineers and Fluvial Geomorphologists, no, I can't do that, but I can certainly make statements of my opinion given the extent of experience I've had in the interim.

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In the field of habitat and drawing conclusions, but not a fluvial geomorphologist, you'd agree with that?

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DR. ROSENAU: The two are joined at the hip.

45 46 47 Where you rely on others to conduct the studies, but you're not the one qualified to conduct them, and you do not conduct them? You haven't

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Cross-exam on qualifications by Ms. Schabus (STCCIB) Submissions on admissibility of expert witnesses

- 1 conducted them in the context of the Lower Fraser 2 River, have you?
 - DR. ROSENAU: Not in a global sense, but I do interact with them on a regular basis.
 - You interact with them, but you don't conduct those studies?
 - DR. ROSENAU: That's correct.
 - MS. SCHABUS: Thank you, those are my questions.
 - MS. BAKER: Oh, could my friend clarify, is she only attacking the expertise of Dr. Rosenau in this?
 - MS. SCHABUS: Specifically, yes, I've seen Dr. Rempel's Ph.D. so I think she's able to comment in the context of what she did in her Ph.D., but regarding Dr. Rosenau, I would oppose the qualification on the second point.
 - MS. BAKER: All right. And I take it Federal Crown is of the same position?
 - MR. SPIEGELMAN: Canada's position is that neither of these witnesses are qualified to give opinion evidence on the issue of flood risk impact and the engineering aspects of the topic today.
 - MS. BAKER: All right. To be clear, Mr. Commissioner, I'm not asking either of these witnesses to be qualified as experts -- oh, I'm sorry, I didn't realize I had a third objector, but I do.
 - MR. TYZUK: Boris Tyzuk for the Province of British Columbia. The Province concurs with the views of Canada on this matter.
 - MS. BAKER: To be clear, Mr. Commissioner, I'm not asking for either witness to be qualified as experts in flood risk or however my friend for Canada described it. What I'm asking them to be qualified as is experts in freshwater fish habitat and flowing waters and rivers, with an emphasis in the Lower Fraser. I haven't heard anybody dispute And fluvial geomorphology and hydrology as that. those relate to freshwater aquatic ecosystems and flood profiles. And what I'm asking these people to do today is to assist you in understanding how changes in the river system and how changes in gravel beds affect habitat for fish, in particular, sockeye salmon. That's why I've called these witnesses.
 - THE COMMISSIONER: Can you just say the second part slowly?
 - MS. BAKER: Sure. Fluvial geomorphology and hydrology as those relate to freshwater aquatic ecosystems

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PANEL NO. 46
Submissions on admissibility of expert witnesses
Ruling re admissibility

and flood profiles. So the issue that I'm asking these witnesses to testify on, and to assist the court, is how the flowing rivers affect fish habitat, how changes to the morphology of the river will affect fish habitat, particularly sockeye habitat. That's why I'm asking these witnesses to come and assist the court with their expertise in that area. And the case of Douglas, which Ms. Schabus took the witness to, in fact, in that case, Dr. Rosenau was qualified, at paragraph 97 of that decision, he was qualified as an expert in river fish biology, with an emphasis on physical habitat, including sediment and its removal, and with regard to the life histories of salmonoids and sturgeon and their habitats. while there were comments made later in the judgment about areas that he'd entered into outside of his expertise, the court did qualify Dr. Rosenau within that exact area of expertise which is, in my submission, another way of saying what I've asked him to be qualified here today as. And a number of the papers which have been described by Dr. Rosenau were written post. in terms of Ms. Schabus' submission that Dr. Rempel is qualified in this area, but Dr. Rosenau is not, I note that Dr. Rosenau supervised Dr. Rempel's thesis on this front so it would be odd that the student is more qualified than the teacher.

THE COMMISSIONER: Yes, I -- I can't get the microphone any closer. Okay. Thank you very much. I was not aware of this objection to the qualifications of these two witnesses to testify in the areas in which Ms. Baker has outlined, so I haven't really enough background at this stage. You've made very brief submissions on areas that are very technical.

My suggestion is this: this is not a trial, we know. But my suggestion, if counsel will agree to it, is this: that we conduct a kind of voir dire around this evidence. I will allow Ms. Baker to examine the witnesses as she prepared to examine them, in the areas that she has prepared to examine them in. You will all have an opportunity to cross-examine these witnesses once their evidence is completed by Ms. Baker, and when you make your final submissions, I will receive

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your submissions on, really, two matters, one, whether some parts of their evidence ought to be admitted as part of the Commission process in terms of the body of evidence, or alternatively, the question of how much weight I ought to attach to a piece of evidence from either one of them given during the course of their testimony. And ultimately, I will deal with that when I issue my report in terms of what weight or whether I, in fact, treat their evidence as part of the body of evidence whatsoever.

If we don't deal with it that way today, I would simply want to reserve on these objections because I don't have enough, at the moment, background in these areas which are very technical to be able to give a ruling based simply upon a couple of paragraphs from a court decision and your very brief submissions today.

So that would be my suggestion, if it's comfortable for counsel to conduct it that way, I'm content to do it that way.

- MS. BAKER: I support that. I think my friends will find that the witnesses are not going to move out of the areas that I've described for them.
- MR. SPIEGELMAN: I'm quite content with that proposal. Thank you.
- MS. SCHABUS: So am I, Mr. Commissioner. Sorry.
- MR. TYZUK: As are we, Mr. Commissioner.
- THE COMMISSIONER: Thank you, counsel, very much. As I say, I don't plan to qualify them today, I reserve on that, but I will have an opportunity later to receive your submissions about the body of their evidence and how I ought to deal with it. Thank you.

MS. BAKER: Thank you.

EXAMINATION IN CHIEF BY MS. BAKER:

I'll start with you, Dr. Rempel. If you could jus provide us with a bit of background, and I'll ask you to lay a lot of the foundation for the evidence that we're going to hear today and tomorrow. First of all, if we could go to Tab 3 of the Commission's documents, you'll see the article, 2009 article of Rempel and Church. This is the one I referred to when I reviewed your CV, is that right?

DR. REMPEL: That's correct. 1 2 And on Ringtail page 3, which is 54 out of the 3 journal, there's a nice map that shows us the 4 area, the study area, but that, I think, will be 5 helpful for the Commissioner when you answer this 6 question I'm going to pose, which is can you 7 identify the area known as the gravel reach on the 8 Fraser River? 9 DR. REMPEL: Yeah, Commissioner, referring to the 10 figure here, the gravel reach generally refers to a stretch of the Fraser River that's, 11 12 approximately, 60 kilometres in length. 13 bounded at the upstream end by the town of Hope 14 and at the downstream end by the town of Mission, 15 and it represents a stretch of the Fraser River 16 that is predominantly an accumulation zone of 17 gravel-sized sediment, and it's referred to as the 18 gravel reach because it's gravel-sized sediment 19 that makes up the bed of the river. And at the 20 town of Mission, the gradient slackens to such a 21 degree that the river no longer has the power to 22 move gravel-sized sediment so it transitions to a 23 sand bed reach, and that's why from Mission 24 downstream, it's referred to as the sand reach. 25 Thank you. And in your thesis, which we've Okay. 26 included at Tab 2 --27 MS. BAKER: Oh, sorry, I'll first mark that exhibit, 28 please, as the next exhibit, the article. 29 THE REGISTRAR: Exhibit 1070. 30 THE COMMISSIONER: Which tab is that, Ms. Baker? 31 MS. BAKER: Three. 32 THE COMMISSIONER: I have a screening report. Maybe I 33 have the wrong binder. 34 35 EXHIBIT 1070: Rempel & Church, "Physical and 36 Ecological Response to Disturbance by Gravel 37 Mining in a Large Alluvial River, " 2009 38 39 MS. BAKER: Is that the Commission's, or B.C.'s? 40 THE COMMISSIONER: It says, "Gravel Removal B.C. documents" 41 42 Yeah, okay, that's B.C.'s. MS. BAKER: 43 THE COMMISSIONER: Oh, all right, then I've got the 44 wrong one. I'm sorry. My apologies. 45 THE REGISTRAR: Okay. Here we are. 46 THE COMMISSIONER: My apologies. Thank you very much. 47 It's my fault.

MS. BAKER: There's a lot of big binders for this one.

I'm sorry. You're going to have strong wrists by
the end of tomorrow.

THE COMMISSIONER: Sorry.

MS. BAKER: Okay. So Tab 3 is the article that Dr.

MS. BAKER: Okay. So Tab 3 is the article that Dr.
Rempel wrote with Dr. Church, and we were looking at page 54 in the journal, but it's 3 in the Ringtail numbers. And then I was going to ask Dr. Rempel to her Ph.D. thesis because there's a useful diagram in that, as well, and we've just got excerpts, I think, in the binder, but Ringtail page number 100 should pull up a figure. Right.

Q Okay. First of all, just to identify, this is a copy of your thesis?

DR. REMPEL: That's correct.

MS. BAKER: I'll first mark the thesis as an exhibit and then we'll go to the figure.

THE REGISTRAR: Exhibit 1071.

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EXHIBIT 1071: Rempel Thesis: Physical and Ecological Organization in a Large, Gravel-Bed River and Response to Disturbance, July 2004

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MS. BAKER: All right.

- Q Now, could you use this diagram and just explain to us how sockeye salmon may use aspects of the reach, as you've -- I think this is just a make believe bar that shows all the different features you might see on a bar; is that right?
- DR. REMPEL: That's correct. Yeah, this illustration in my thesis is meant to be a simple caricature of gravel bars that are commonly occurring along the gravel bed reach. Gravel bars are sedimentation zones, or locations where gravel accumulates in large quantity and the schematic is meant to depict the range of habitat types that you would typically see around the perimeter of a gravel bar. So it gives a sense of the variety and the complexity of these gravel bars and each of these habitat types have a particular depth, and velocity and substrate characterization, and that makes them more or less suitable and favourable for different fish species. And the channels that are depicted bounding the gravel bar, the main channel and side channel, as well as a summer channel intersecting diagonally across the bar are

meant to represent the different flow paths that sort of divert around these sedimentation gravel bar zones.

- Q All right. So which of these areas would be used by sockeye salmon?
- DR. REMPEL: Based on the extensive sampling that I did over three years for my Ph.D. research, as well as based on the sampling that others have done in the gravel bed reach, we found juvenile sockeye salmon consistently locating only in slack water habitats which on this figure, we referred to as channel nooks and bays. And this is consistent with the literature, where juvenile sockeye are found in other river systems, as well.

Adult sockeye salmon moving upriver in migration don't tend to be associated with any particular habitat features as they're making an upriver migration so they're just following sort of energetically-favourable flow paths upriver.

- Q And are you aware of any sockeye that's spawned on the gravel reach?
- DR. REMPEL: I'm not aware of any sockeye salmon that spawn in the mainstem gravel reach, but I am aware of a population that has been observed spawning in a slough habitat towards the top end of the gravel reach. The slough is referred to as Mariah Slough, and this population has been observed in at least four different years over the past three decades so the observations indicate it's a sporadically-occurring population of very small These numbers have been as small as two numbers. adult sockeye in some years, such as 2006, but as large as up to 100 adult sockeye in 1986. But the observations suggest that it's a sporadicallyoccurring population.
- Q All right. And you just identified that you spent three years doing surveys of fish in the gravel reach as part of your thesis?
- DR. REMPEL: That's right, between the years of 1999 and 2001.
- Q All right. And as part of your thesis, was within the scope of that work to determine what species, aquatic species are using the gravel reach?
- DR. REMPEL: Yeah, that's exactly right.
- Q All right. If I could ask you to turn to your thesis, Table 3-4, which is at page 53. Let me find the Ringtail number for that. So that would

be Ringtail number 77.

- Q All right. What does this table show? First of all, just to identify that sockeye is noted here, sockeye salmon, O. nerka, on the second to the last line under "salmonoids." What is this table illustrating or describing?
- DR. REMPEL: This table is a summary of my catch data using a beach seine net, based on 960 beach seine samples, and it reflects the occurrence of the species in the gravel reach, the occurrence of those species in my beach seine sample. So out of a total of 960 beach seines that were carried out over three years, sockeye salmon occurred in 11.7 percent of those. And that corresponds to, I believe, around 105 of the 960 samples. So at least one or more juvenile sockeye salmon were found in 105 of the 960 samples.
- Q All right. And then Table 6.1, which is Ringtail number 199, what does this table show?
- DR. REMPEL: This table is based on the exact same data set of 960 beach seine samples, and it reflects the total number of fish caught in those beach seines, a total of 40,000, and it demonstrates that on average, sockeye salmon represented .8 percent of my total catch so that was 201 juvenile sockeye out of a total of 40,974 fish. So these fish were caught over multiple seasons and over three years.
- Thank you. I'd also like to take you to the PPR and ask you to assist me in making a correction at page 6 of that document. So at the top of the page, which is in paragraph 8, you'll see it's describing the fish, and then a gravel reach. It says, and this is the beginning of the sentence on the previous page:

Sockeye salmon are not known to spawn in the gravel reach, unlike pink --

And it says:

-- coho salmon.

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44 And I don't think "coho" is right. Should it be a
45 different?
46 DR. REMPEL: That's correct. That should say "chum."

DR. REMPEL: That's correct. That should say "chum." Q Or Chinook, or just chum?

- DR. REMPEL: Pink and chum are known to spawn in the gravel reach. That sentence should be corrected to "chum."
 - Q Okay. Thank you. Without taking you to it, in your Ph.D. thesis, you refer to the sockeye salmon that you found in your study as accidentals. What did you mean by that and is it still your view that they're accidentals?
 - DR. REMPEL: At the time of conducting my research, I was aware of river-type sockeye occurring in the Pitt River, and I make mention of that in my thesis, and these 201 sockeye that I had caught over those three years was puzzling to myself and to my committee members, including Dr. Rosenau. And at the time, the body of knowledge we had on these river-type sockeye, really, we discounted the possibility that these sockeye might be these river-type juveniles and instead, we referred to them as accidentals, indicating that we expected they were likely strays from a lake-type population that had either inadvertently or deliberately moved out of the lake environment to rear in the gravel bed reach. And the fact that we found them in such low numbers sort of, I quess, substantiated that view.

Now, with more information available on this river-type juvenile sockeye that we know of, I would perhaps refer to them as incidentals, but there's no way to be absolutely sure that they would be either a lake type or a river-type sockeye without genetic analysis. There's a likelihood that it might have been a mix.

- Q Okay. Are you aware of any other studies or surveys, or work done, published or unpublished, that would help understand the number of sockeye salmon using the gravel reach?
- DR. REMPEL: In addition to the work that I've carried out, there have been extensive stock assessment surveys done over many decades, over the fall month periods during spawning, that have looked for all species of Pacific salmon, including sockeye, and some of those observations I've referred to earlier.

There has been some work recently done by Dr. Rosenau that he might speak to later, and some of his students. That more or less sums up the body of work I know of on sockeye.

- Q All right. I'd like to move to Dr. Rosenau. You have done some sampling work in the Fraser River, and I think going back to 2007, you did some sampling work in the Fraser River, which data was provided to Canada; is that right?
 - DR. ROSENAU: I think you're referring to the BCIT studies; is that correct?
 - Q Well, I'm actually looking at --
 - DR. ROSENAU: Oh, the ad hoc gravel committee work.
 - Q Right. There was a --
- 11 DR. ROSENAU: Yes.

- If you look in Canada's binder of documents, there's an email at Tab 3 and some data following, in Tab 4. So this is an email from you to Barbara Mueller, and it attaches the sampling results or I don't know how to describe it, but the work that's at Tab 4 --
- DR. ROSENAU: Yeah.
- Q -- which is, I think, taken from the sampling work you did in the river?
- DR. ROSENAU: Yes, basically, it was a single-day survey that I conducted, or a bunch of us conducted through the auspices of the Fraser River Gravel Stewardship Committee, and we got permission through a sampling permit to be able to look at and sample some of the sites that we thought were of importance in the gravel reach upstream, from Tramner Bar upstream.
- MS. BAKER: And if you could, Mr. Lunn, turn to Tab 4 and go to the very end of that document, the last two pages.
- Q And maybe just before you get there, Dr. Rosenau, you can just explain what you found when you did that work.
- DR. ROSENAU: Well, we found, I think it was about eight or 10 species, different species of fish inhabiting a variety of different habitat types, some of those habitat types of which Laura has mentioned already. Most ubiquitous and probably the highest density or highest numbers were chinook salmon, juvenile chinook salmon, which is understandable. Juvenile chinook salmon utilized the gravel reach very extensively. We also found some non-salmonoid species, Cyprinids, which are normally known as or often known commonly as minnows, and Catostomids, which are suckers. We also found a number of salmonoids that were not

chinook, including, I think, maybe a cutthroat trout or two, some whitefish, and we also juvenile sockeye salmon.

Now, those sockeye salmon -- I just want to make a bit of a distinction, which Laura didn't make, but I think she can appreciate what I'm saying here, when you refer to juveniles, you can refer to animals that have lived a year in freshwater in lakes, and when they smolt or go out to sea, that's one life history phase. The fish that we're talking about, the life history of sockeye salmon that we're predominantly talking about today as juveniles are younger than a year or fish that have not spent a full year in freshwater or have just passed that full year, if you catch them January. And so those are the juveniles that we caught at Tramner Bar, and we caught them in what I refer to as a nook.

- Q Okay. The page that's on the screen now, which is Ringtail 19, what does that describe?
- DR. ROSENAU: Basically, what it basically says is of the 10 habitats or 10 locations that we sampled, the two locations that we found juvenile, the younger than a year sockeye or upper spring bar and Tramner, and at Tramner, which was kind of a very discrete habitat relative to the other habitats that we looked at so in other words, it was one of these channel nooks that Laura describes, I think we caught something like 13 sockeye in the mix, in addition to a large number of juvenile chinook.
- Q Okay. And then the following page, does this tell us anything different from what you just described?
- DR. ROSENAU: It's just a continuation of what I described. We found very large numbers of chinook in particular habitats. The bar directly across from Tramner Nook had a look of chinook. There were chinook upstream. But again, Tramner Nook was the one location, the one habitat feature, and it's consistent with Laura's thesis, where she found most of the juvenile, the younger than a year sockeye in nooks as opposed to the spectrum of the other eight or 10, or 12 habitat types that she found. And the Tramner Nook was kind of unique insofar as it appeared to be groundwater fed, that is water percolating from out of the

ground. It wasn't a stillwater environment. And one of the hints that it might have been groundwater is that it was very intensely covered with algae, as opposed to a lot of the other habitats that we looked at. So the water chemistry, or the water temperatures, or whatever, was different about Tramner. These sockeye were very clearly, in my view, in my opinion, attracted to that site.

- Q And then did you go back to the Tramner site in 2010?
- DR. ROSENAU: Yes, we did, we went. Sort of the same group of people, or similar group of people under the auspices of the Fraser River Gravel Stewardship Committee went out on a day, December 17th. DFO was gracious in providing us with a permit to do this. And we didn't have a lot of time that day, but one of the things that I wanted to do was go back to Tramner and basically say, "Okay, this is my hypothesis. If that particular habitat type is special to sockeye, will we find them again?" We went back to the Tramner Nook, it was there in one form or another, similar to what it was in 2007. And, essentially, the first seine that we did, we caught sockeye again so there's something consistent going on there.
 - And did you prepare a document to set out the observations and photographs of the work that you did that day in December 2010?
- DR. ROSENAU: That's right. A colleague of mine, Otto Langer, was the first person to provide a document, and I basically abstracted his key points, put the words in my own way, wrote them down on paper, and that document was submitted to you.
- Q All right.
- MS. BAKER: And that's at Tab 28 of the Commission documents. If I could have that marked, please, as the next exhibit?
- THE REGISTRAR: Ms. Baker, did you wants Tabs 3 and 4 marked?
- 43 MS. BAKER: I did, thank you.
 - THE REGISTRAR: Tab 3 will be marked as 1072, Tab 4 will be marked as 1073, and now you wish, on your list, Tab 28 --
 - MS. BAKER: Yes.

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THE REGISTRAR: -- to be marked, which will be 1074; is
 1
            that correct?
 3
                          No, that's correct. Thank you.
       MS. BAKER: Yeah.
       THE REGISTRAR: Thank you.
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 6
                 EXHIBIT 1072: Email from M. Rosenau (BCIT)
 7
                 to B. Mueller et al, re Fish Collection
 8
                 Permit, Dec 13 2010
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10
                 EXHIBIT 1073: Attachment to Exhibit 1072 -
11
                 Basok et al, Fraser River Seine Sampling,
12
                 Nov 7 2007, [FR Gravel Stewardship Committee]
13
14
                 EXHIBIT 1074: Rosenau, Lower Fraser Gravel
15
                 Reach Assessment of Past and Proposed Gravel
16
                 Bar Mining Locations, Dec 10 2010 [FRGSC]
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18
       THE COMMISSIONER:
                         Ms. Baker, I note the time.
19
      MS. BAKER:
                  Thank you.
20
       THE COMMISSIONER:
                         John, could you just bring up Tab 3,
21
            or it would be, now, 1072. I'm sorry. Is that
22
            the only thing at that tab?
23
      MR. LUNN: The email is Tab 3.
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       THE COMMISSIONER: All right. Just so you know, maybe
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            it's just me today, Ms. Baker, but I think I do
26
            have Commission counsel's binder, but my Tab 3,
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            there's a --
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       MS. BAKER: No, I went too fast. I apologize.
                                                       It's in
29
            Canada's binder, the very small binder.
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       THE REGISTRAR: Microphone, please.
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       THE COMMISSIONER: Your mike's not on.
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      MS. BAKER: Excuse me. Canada's binder, a very small
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           binder --
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       THE COMMISSIONER:
                         Oh.
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       MS. BAKER: -- was where the Tabs 3 and 4, the 2007
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            sampling was found. Yeah, so you've probably got
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            it there in your hand.
       THE COMMISSIONER: Okay.
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                                 So --
39
       MS. BAKER: You should have an email at Tab 3, and then
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            those data at Tab 4.
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       THE COMMISSIONER: Yes, I think, just for the record,
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            so you've been saying Tab 3 of Commission counsel
43
            and, I'm sorry --
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       MS. BAKER: I did talk about Tab 3 of Commission
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            counsel initially, that was the Rempel and Church
            article.
46
47
       THE COMMISSIONER: Yes, correct.
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MS. BAKER: And I may have gotten mixed up here and
            said --
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       THE COMMISSIONER: Oh, I see. Okay.
       MS. BAKER: Potentially, I got that mixed up.
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       THE COMMISSIONER: I think that's what happened. I was
 6
            still --
 7
       MS. BAKER: Sorry.
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       THE COMMISSIONER: I was still on the Commission's
            binder. All right. That clarifies it for me.
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10
            Thank you very much. Sorry about that. Okay.
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            Thank you.
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       THE REGISTRAR: The hearing is now adjourned for the
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            day and we'll resume at ten o'clock tomorrow
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            morning.
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16
                 (PROCEEDINGS ADJOURNED TO THURSDAY, JUNE 16,
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                 2011, AT 10:00 A.M.)
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I HEREBY CERTIFY the foregoing to be a true and accurate transcript of the evidence recorded on a sound recording apparatus, transcribed to the best of my skill and ability, and in accordance with applicable standards.

Pat Neumann

I HEREBY CERTIFY the foregoing to be a true and accurate transcript of the evidence recorded on a sound recording apparatus, transcribed to the best of my skill and ability, and in accordance with applicable standards.

Diane Rochfort

I HEREBY CERTIFY the foregoing to be a true and accurate transcript of the evidence recorded on a sound recording apparatus, transcribed to the best of my skill and ability, and in accordance with applicable standards.

Irene Lim