

Panel Discussion (contd)

1 recent years, in a lot of -- some very
2 difficult things.

3 I mean, we're not just saying
4 they're doing bad here and bad there. They've
5 done some tremendous things.

6 Groundwater is one area we think
7 that has been tremendously neglected over the
8 past decade. They're beginning to get to where
9 it's at least on the radar, a lot more than
10 it's been. It's not yet where we would like to
11 see it.

12 We would like to see more
13 progressive and active efforts to try and stop
14 some of these groundwater contamination plumes.

15 Mike is right, there is some limited
16 pump and treat, and some chemical treatments.
17 We would like to see additional work.

18 MR. DEE WILLIS: Anybody else?
19 Shelley.

20 MS. SHELLEY CIMON: Yeah, I
21 want to jump in really quickly. Not just about
22 groundwater, but the fact that we've got these
23 burial grounds all over the site.

24 And some of them are not -- are
25 filled with remote -- What is remote-handled

Panel Discussion (contd)

1 material? It means that you can't send a guy
2 in there and open it up without killing him.

3 So we need to develop technology,
4 still, to deal with those burial grounds and be
5 able to exhume that waste and contain it.

6 Because some of those burial grounds
7 are sending plumes such as tritium down through
8 the vadose zone and eventually they'll be into
9 groundwater.

10 So this, once again, really focuses
11 back to the prize. What is the prize? The
12 prize is getting Hanford cleaned up, it's
13 dealing with the wastes that are there.

14 And my total sense of bringing
15 70,000-plus shipments to the site is that we
16 will lose sight of what the prize is if we
17 allow this to happen.

18 MR. DEE WILLIS: Gerry?

19 MR. GERRY POLLET: Yeah. Let
20 me just give you an illustration from the
21 groundwater, since there's so much interest,
22 we'll just --

23 (Presenting slide presentation).

24 MR. DEE WILLIS: Gerry, two
25 minutes.

Panel Discussion (contd)

1 MR. GERRY POLLET: You can see
2 it better than we can describe it orally. This
3 is the Hanford site and this is the Columbia
4 River running through it.

5 Now, this is that model that
6 Shelley's mentioned before. So here's the
7 Columbia River at the edge of the site, running
8 for 50 miles.

9 Red (indicating) is 100 times, or
10 more, above the federal drinking water standard
11 for radionuclides, the red area. And that
12 means 100 people out of 10,000 drinking it,
13 adults, would die of fatal cancer. Okay.

14 And pink is 10-to-100 times. So
15 that is the model depicting it as it was in
16 2000.

17 And then we have several different
18 slides showing it in -- over a course of time.
19 This one being 2060, 2080, 2100. You see the
20 red spreading towards the river. That's the
21 point. And it's very frightening.

22 The time it takes for waste in a
23 burial ground at the surface here to reach the
24 subsurface water, called the aquifer down here,
25 is not a hundred years at Hanford.

Panel Discussion (contd)

1 They used to say it was thousands of
2 years, and therefore they said they could keep
3 dumping waste. And they said tank leaks
4 wouldn't reach groundwater.

5 We know that waste from the
6 high-level waste tanks has now reached
7 groundwater in less than 50 years.

8 We know that waste from these burial
9 grounds, transuranic waste has reached
10 groundwater in 25 years.

11 And that means that what we have to
12 do is what the state of Washington just issued
13 an order to do, we've been advocating this for
14 several years.

15 It says: Dig up everything in the
16 damn burial grounds as quickly as we can,
17 retrieve it, characterize it, treat the wastes,
18 and get it out of unlined burial grounds where
19 we know we're spreading contamination.

20 And the state of Washington has just
21 issued this order on April 30rd. It's long
22 overdue, and it's really terrific news.

23 MS. SHELLEY CIMON: Dee, can we
24 take public testimony now? It's 9:00, and I
25 want to make sure that we capture everything.

Panel Discussion (contd)

1 Or at least that's my concern.

2 MR. DEE WILLIS: Does anybody
3 else have a formal comment they'd like to give
4 DOE? Questions? Just a minute, sir.

5 So if there's no more comment, we're
6 going to go back to questions. Okay, Shelley?

7 MS. SHELLEY CIMON: Sure.

8 MR. DEE WILLIS: And, sir,
9 Mr. Kenton here had a question first. We'll
10 come to you after him, okay.

11 MR. RICHARD KENTON: Okay.
12 First of all let me state that I'm not willing
13 to accept the risk of, you know, to my body by
14 standing in front of a whole bunch of
15 radioactive material and take money for it.

16 But this is the way I'm going to
17 phrase the question: There's billions of
18 dollars worth of work going into the
19 Richland/Tri-Cities area.

20 And this is back to Ken. And I
21 don't think I got my question answered
22 completely.

23 Billions of dollars flowing into
24 Washington. They're getting the benefit. I
25 see us shouldering a lot more risk as far as

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Panel Discussion (contd)

1 truck miles, et cetera, and I want to know
2 who's paying the bill.

3 With the data you gave me, 70 bucks
4 a truck, 2000 trucks a year, you know, it's
5 \$140,000. There's people making -- they're
6 paying a lawyer on a retainer that much a year,
7 come on.

8 Who's paying the bill in Oregon?
9 Are my tax dollars paying for local response
10 training?

11 MR. KEN NILES: A very tiny
12 amount. But let me tell you, just in terms
13 of --

14 MR. RICHARD KENTON: But they
15 are. My state tax dollars are paying for --

16 MR. KEN NILES: No. No. No.
17 Not your state tax, your federal tax dollars.

18 MR. RICHARD NILES: Okay.

19 MR. KEN NILES: No. No. No.

20 Well, yes, your state tax dollars
21 are paying for your local HAZ-MAT teams, yes,
22 they are.

23 MR. RICHARD KENTON: Okay, so
24 we have --

25 MR. KEN NILES: In terms of the

Panel Discussion (contd)

1 equipment and the training, radiological
2 specific, that comes through the fee we raise
3 and the money we get through the U.S.
4 Department of Energy.

5 For the equipment, the radiation
6 detection equipment, we give to the HAZ-MAT
7 teams and the fire departments.

8 And the training we give to the fire
9 departments, that comes from, again, Federal
10 Government and the fee we charge.

11 MR. RICHARD KENTON: Including
12 the salaries of the trainers?

13 MR. KEN NILES: Yes. Yes.

14 MR. RICHARD KENTON: Okay.

15 Thank you.

16 MR. KEN NILES: That part of it
17 is paid. It's a very small part of what, you
18 know, their HAZ-MAT capability and their
19 training. But that part is paid.

20 MR. DEE WILLIS: Shelley?

21 MS. SHELLEY CIMON: No.

22 MR. DEE WILLIS: Any other
23 panel members respond -- Sir?

24 MR. BILL OBERTEUFFER: Bill
25 Oberteuffer. A question to the panel or

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Panel Discussion (contd)

1 anyone.

2 How much radioactive material has
3 reached the Columbia River?

4 MR. KEN NILES: I don't think
5 anybody knows exactly. When Hanford was in its
6 heyday of operations in the '50's and '60's,
7 there were tremendous amounts of radioactive
8 material being discharged directly into the
9 Columbia River.

10 When they changed the processes,
11 they shut down all of their early reactors in
12 1972, that dramatically dropped off.

13 But there has been contaminated
14 groundwater reaching the Columbia River
15 probably well beyond that or well before that.

16 And it's a variety of chemicals.
17 What they'll tell you is that if you go a few
18 feet down from wherever it enters the river, it
19 dilutes away.

20 But it really doesn't take into
21 account the cumulative impact of all these
22 years and all these radioactive materials and
23 all these chemicals.

24 I don't think anyone knows the
25 answer. And I don't think, more importantly, I

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Panel Discussion (contd); TLG-0011

1 don't think anyone knows the answer to the next
2 question, which is: What is the impact of all
3 of that?

4 MR. GERRY POLLET: Right.

5 MR. MICHAEL COLLINS: And I
6 want to echo what Ken said. I mean, what was
7 it, there was nine reactors on site, all shut
8 down now. But eight of them had what they're
9 called a once through -- once passed through --

10 MS. SHELLEY CIMON: Single
11 pass.

12 MR. MICHAEL COLLINS: Single
13 pass cooling, which meant they took the water
14 directly from the river, put it through the
15 reactor, and then put it right back in the
16 river.

17 MR. DEE WILLIS: Okay.

18 MS. SHELLEY CIMON: So, Bill,
19 there's chromium, there's technetium, there's a
20 uranium plume that's 500 times higher than
21 APOL. Yeah.

22 Solution to pollution is dilution
23 right now. And there's tritium. There's a
24 host of radionuclides.

25 **TLG-0011** MR. NORM CIMON: One of the

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TLG-0011 (contd)

1 réál problems, of course, is that there are
2 sinks, physical sinks, specifically the base of
3 the damns are, in fact, sinks for sediments.
4 Accumulation happens there.

5 So a solution to pollution is
6 dilution until it hits the damn. At which
7 point the non-solution to pollution is
8 accumulation. So we need to be realistic about
9 the dangers.

10 There's other things. I mean, a lot
11 of stuff tends to get buried up in technical
12 complexities when this is, your intuition
13 serves you quite well sometimes, in fact.

14 The plain fact of the matter is all
15 those pretty differential equations, and I
16 taught them, have to do with homogeneous media,
17 in other words, everything looks the same.
18 It's all sand or it's all nice soil and all of
19 that stuff.

1 20 When you start looking at anybody
21 that's rafted these rivers or climbed these
22 canyons understands perfectly what the
23 situation is. You see all those cracks, those
24 fissures.

25 It would be like trying to predict

TLG-0011 (contd)

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1 what a marble shot up into a pinball machine is
2 going to do. I dare anyone to do that.

3 Of course, it's undoable. That's
4 exactly the situation we face, which we're
5 faced with. That's why it's crucial to get the
6 water stopped.

7 All the leakage has to be stopped.
8 There will be no predicting this, let's be
9 clear about that.

10 All of that stuff needs to be kept
11 into account. A lot of this stuff is, in fact,
12 fairly easy in intuit.

13 The other one that needs to be
14 mentioned, any solution that talks about
15 incasing, storing, or shielding, this stuff's
16 energetic. It's radiation. It transmutes by
17 definition.

18 Anything it hits starts to get
19 brittle, starts to crack, starts to change. It
20 denatures stuff. Literally, that's what it
21 does. And that's why there's a lot of
22 unknowables in all of this. Anyway, I had to
23 say that stuff.

24 MR. GERRY POLLET: Is that a
25 comment? You'd like that as a comment?

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TLG-0011 (contd); TLG-0012

1 MR. NORM CIMON: It sounded
2 like it.

3 MR. DEE WILLIS: Does the panel
4 have any response to that comment?

5 MR. KEN NILES: Good comment.

6 **TLG-0012** MR. PETER FARNAM: Peter
7 Farnam. I'm a local resident, a life-long
8 resident of the area.

1

9 And I appreciate this format that
10 you've provided for us here tonight. I think
11 it's an improvement over the last one we had
12 here, where there's a lot more input from
13 citizen groups and from state agencies.

14 I'm feeling like I'm hearing a lot
15 more about what other people are thinking
16 about. People that understand this kind of
17 this stuff a lot more than most of us lay
18 people around here.

19 And I've heard some comments from
20 both the citizen groups and the state agency
21 officials that lead me to believe that there
22 are some serious concerns about this particular
23 document, and not to mention all these other
24 concerns about sort of related issues that
25 maybe aren't addressed in this document.

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TLG-0012 (contd)

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1 I, for one, favor a new document
2 that addresses the concerns raised by both the
3 citizen groups and the state agencies here.

3

4 And an adequate notification period
5 so that local people can familiarize themselves
6 with this new document, along with the concerns
7 that are raised by people who study these
8 things.

4

9 And I especially appreciate those
10 graphics that you showed that rendered the
11 volumes of materials that we're talking about.

12 But I would like to see, in future
13 documents, also some kind of graphic that shows
14 this waste in terms of actual danger rather
15 than volume, like if you could measure it in --
16 I notice there's a diagram here that talks
17 about megacuries of different kinds of
18 materials.

19 And if you could show a graphic
20 that, like your football field diagram, shows
21 the actual radioactivity of these different
22 kinds of waste so that those of us that don't
23 really understand what this stuff is, we can at
24 least grasp the danger of it and the potential
25 risks involved, not necessarily just in terms

TLG-0012 (contd)

1 of the volume of material that's going through
2 here, but the different kinds of materials
3 represent different levels of risk.
4
5 And it's a bit misleading to just
6 talk about cubic yards of material as if it's
7 all the same risk.
8
9 And I think, in the future, it would
10 be really nice if, in fact, credibility and
11 communication is a goal here, that we try to
12 show people really what it is that we're
13 proposing to ship through here.
14
15 And I think one other thing that
16 occurred to me as we were talking about
17 seasonal differences in transportation
18 conditions around here, it looks to me like
19 wintertime conditions pose a recognized threat.
20
21 But I think it also needs to be
22 taken into consideration that because winter
23 conditions are so severe, that it effects
24 safety and other things that a lot of this
25 maintenance stuff that gets deferred to other
times of the year.
So therefore, the time of year when
we have the highest number of vacation
travelers and other travelers, we also have the

TLG-0012 (contd); Panel Discussion (contd)

6

1 most maintenance happening on our roads.

2 So if we defer maintenance for those
3 times and we have to slow down some of the
4 shipments, we're going to be concentrating more
5 shipments during times when we have higher
6 volumes of traffic and more regularly scheduled
7 maintenance projects.

8 So we're concentrating all of those
9 factors together. It's not the same as
10 spreading it out over the whole year.

11 That was just one thing that
12 occurred to me. I think that's all I need to
13 say.

14 MR. DEE WILLIS: Thanks for the
15 comment. And there was a lot in that comment.
16 And I think Mike Barry's probably going to
17 respond and then Gerry and then -- who's going
18 to go first?

19 MR. MIKE BARRY: Well, I
20 thought that was a great comment. You know, we
21 do have winter here and we do have seasons.

22 Fortunately, we have a lot of new
23 tools that we can use for managing truck
24 traffic and traveler information. In fact, we
25 have weather stations.

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Panel Discussion (contd)

1 And I'm on a committee, a statewide
2 committee, that manages ITS devices in our
3 traffic operation centers statewide.

4 MS. SHELLEY CIMON: An acronym
5 here.

6 MR. MIKE BARRY: ITS,
7 integrated transportation systems. Yes.
8 Integrated transportation systems, which is
9 another way to say electronic data that we can
10 easily gather around transportation related
11 weather conditions and roads conditions and
12 incident management on the roadway.

13 And so we've got those things to our
14 advantage. And opposing that, we have a lot
15 more trucks and a lot more traffic and a lot
16 fewer dollars and fewer people out on the
17 roadway to take care of them.

18 So, you know, there's some real
19 challenges out there in transportation. But on
20 the other hand, you know, we have good staff
21 here.

22 MR. DEE WILLIS: So he has a
23 point.

24 MR. MIKE BARRY: Yeah. Yeah.
25 And then in the summertime, that's definitely

Panel Discussion (contd)

1 the peak time for cars. Trucks are steady all
2 year long. Cars go up and down.

3 MR. PETER FARNAM: And the
4 maintenance stuff, where you actually have
5 resurface roads, you have to slow down traffic,
6 you have to even stop it sometimes.

7 MR. MIKE BARRY: Right. It has
8 to be a certain temperature before you can
9 pave. So, you know, the wintertime, our focus
10 is winter maintenance and incident response.

11 And then in the summertime it's
12 maintenance and construction.

13 MR. DEE WILLIS: Okay. Explain
14 curies and so forth.

15 MR. MICHAEL COLLINS: Explain
16 curies? Do you want me to take that first?

17 MR. GERRY POLLET: Please.

18 MR. MICHAEL COLLINS: I
19 appreciate the comment. I mean, we spent a lot
20 of time trying to figure out one quantity or
21 one something to try to express the danger.

22 A volume is a very inaccurate way of
23 expressing danger, but it does give people a
24 good feel for -- it's something that's more
25 tangible to them. That's the reason, as you

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Panel Discussion (contd)

1 notice, that curie chart was in there.

2 That's a little better at expressing
3 the overall danger to Hanford in that chart
4 (indicating). But again, I appreciate the
5 comment and we'll see if we can --

6 MR. PETER FARNAM: I notice
7 there was some pretty wide swings in the
8 numbers on that chart that mentioned curies,
9 but it represented in colors what these
10 different things were, but again to show,
11 really -- if you could do that graphically and
12 show, like you did with your football field,
13 the volume of curies, I mean, curies must take
14 up some space -- I mean, not space, but they're
15 measurable.

16 MR. MICHAEL COLLINS: Right.

17 MR. PETER FARNAM: So you could
18 do it graphically. You could show how many
19 curies are going to be coming through in a
20 certain truckload of tank stuff versus
21 transuranic waste or whatever.

22 MR. GERRY POLLET: That's a
23 great point. And one that's been made quite a
24 bit. Unfortunately, the DOE has a better focus
25 on rad than on the chemical wastes.

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Panel Discussion (contd); TLG-0013

1 MR. DEE WILLIS: RAD?

2 **TLG-0013** MR. GERRY POLLET: The
3 radiation. And the hazardous component of
4 these wastes may be as great or greater risk
5 and it certainly amplifies all the risks.

6 And if you don't have any
7 information about that, you're flying blind.
8 But whether it's transportation or if it's in
9 the burial grounds here, and we don't have any
10 of that, it's totally ignored, especially for
11 the burial grounds.

12 And I think I'd like to add to what
13 you said because you made a very interesting
14 point that I'd like to make sure it gets
15 captured for the record.

16 If we concentrate shipments to avoid
17 bad weather, then they have to redo the
18 calculation for the worker, the trucker
19 radiation dose, because it's going to take
20 longer to truck the waste and also for the
21 public radiation dose, because they're going to
22 be stuck in traffic next to it.

23 And that's very significant. Same
24 as the detour risk. And we do believe they
25 need to do those calculations on a route and

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TLG-0013 (contd)

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site-specific level.

And it needs, then, to include the impact on the accidents of the hazardous waste component.

Crazily, and this is my last point here, but it's very important that this EIS be revised to do a real transportation analysis, because it relies on the old '97 document.

That '97 document transportation risk analysis is based on an assumption that all the waste is treated before it's on the highway; for instance, the remote-handled, mixed transuranic waste.

And it acknowledges that untreated waste has far greater impacts. And they don't know what it is.

They don't know what the chemical composition is, they don't know what the impacts are. And it's much more stable after treatment. And they only modeled post-treatment.

And the same is true for once it's at Hanford, they only modeled, for instance, what the impact is if you got this remote-handled transuranic waste to Hanford,

TLG-0013 (contd); Panel Discussion (contd)

2

1 there's an earthquake, and they expected it to
2 kill 200 people offsite from the waste
3 management PEIS analysis, you won't find this
4 new one.

5 And 200 offsite fatal cancers. And
6 it's modeled on it coming after treatment, but
7 we know this stuff is coming without treatment.

8 MR. DEE WILLIS: Okay. Anymore
9 questions or comments?

10 MS. MAXINE HINES: What are
11 trenches going to be lined with?

12 MR. MICHAEL COLLINS: The
13 Resource Conservation Recovery Act, it's a
14 federal law that a lot of states have taken on
15 thier own, so there's some -- in our case,
16 Washington state, regulations that require
17 about the same thing.

18 Basically what it is, you have a
19 layer of clay. On top of that, you have a
20 plastic liner. You have some space. You have
21 another liner, and then you have dirt.

22 And the thought is is if that first
23 top liner leaks, you can collect the stuff
24 between what's called the leachate, the liquid
25 between the two liners. Pump it out and

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Panel Discussion (contd)

1 treat it.

2 MR. BILL OBERTEUFFER: What
3 makes the space?

4 MR. MICHAEL COLLINS: Typically
5 it's a fabric that looks like a bunch of Xs and
6 you lay it down. And it's usually about this
7 thick (indicating). And then you can also put
8 gravel in there as well.

9 MR. BILL OBERTEUFFER: Okay.

10 MR. DEE WILLIS: Does that
11 answer your question?

12 MS. MAXINE HINES: Uh-huh.

13 MR. DEE WILLIS: Anybody else
14 have a question?

15 MS. MAXINE HINES: I have
16 another one.

17 MR. DEE WILLIS: Keep going.

18 MS. MAXINE HINES: But it's
19 late. But, yeah, I have this long list.

20 When Gerry was talking, and he was
21 talking about the safety records of the trucks
22 that were hauling waste, they were appalling.

23 I would like other comments and hope
24 that that's not true.

25 MR. KEN NILES: I mentioned

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Panel Discussion (contd)

1 that on some of the shipments, the western
2 states have negotiated certain agreements with
3 the U.S. Department of Energy.

4 One of those conditions -- and
5 again, this doesn't cover all shipments, but it
6 certainly does the higher activity, the
7 transuranic and some of the others.

8 One of the conditions in that is a
9 higher standard for the truck carrier. And
10 that is audited by one of the western states or
11 the U.S. Department of Energy with a state
12 observer.

13 Tri-State is, in fact, one of the
14 carriers. And they have, overall, they have a
15 pretty mixed record, frankly. I mean,
16 sometimes they're going real well, sometimes
17 they're not going real well.

18 With these shipments, the contract
19 requires them to use certain trucks that are
20 dedicated to this program and certain drivers
21 that are dedicated for this program.

22 And in these cases, they do meet
23 those standards for, again, these shipments.

24 MR. GERRY POLLET: Ken, are you
25 talking about WIPP shipments? Or are these new

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Panel Discussion (contd)

1 ones from -- of transuranic to Hanford?

2 MR. KEN NILES: We got, the
3 western states, got the same agreement for
4 those shipments as well.

5 So all the agreements we have of
6 waste going out of Hanford to the Waste
7 Isolation Pilot Plant.

8 These other shipments that they've
9 talked about of transuranic waste coming to
10 Hanford, they have to operate under the same
11 provisions.

12 And carrier is a very important part
13 and the driver qualifications, as well, is a
14 very important part.

15 MS. MAXINE HINES: And that's
16 the stuff coming out --

17 MR. KEN NILES: Same thing.
18 Same thing.

19 MR. GERRY POLLET: That's for
20 the transuranic waste. That doesn't apply
21 for --

22 MR. KEN NILES: It doesn't
23 apply to most of the low-level shipments. And,
24 again, low-level doesn't always mean low
25 hazard. Sometimes it means high hazard.

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Panel Discussion (contd)

1 MR. GERRY POLLET: You know,
2 the other thing is I just saw, maybe other
3 people may have seen it, it's like waste
4 shipment was turned back by the Nevada test
5 site from Paducah last week. Paducah is
6 another DOE site.

7 Again, this is not an infrequent
8 occurrence of having trucked waste all the way
9 across the United States and having found that
10 it was leaking. That it wasn't what they
11 claimed it was.

12 Hanford has a long history of taking
13 waste at its burial grounds, and the waste is
14 not what it was manifested to be.

15 It has liquids, highly radioactive
16 materials that aren't supposed to be in there
17 are unknown, or chemical wastes that aren't
18 supposed to be in there.

19 And they've trucked it across the
20 country. It's not listed on the manifest. And
21 it's the worst nightmare for an emergency
22 responder.

23 We did an emergency response survey
24 a few years ago for how they were prepared.
25 And one of the things was, you know, it's great

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Panel Discussion (contd)

1 when you know what's in the truck. That system
2 works, if it's followed.

3 But if they violate those manifest
4 requirements, which happens frequently with DOE
5 shipments, all bets are off.

6 The rule of thumb, they said,
7 applied. The emergency responders all talk
8 about the rule of thumb for these shipments.

9 And the rule of thumb is: You stick
10 your thumb up like this (indicating), and if
11 the truck is bigger than your thumb, you stay
12 back.

13 MR. MICHAEL COLLINS: I
14 disagree with Gerry. To characterize it as
15 prevalent or often occurring, it doesn't. It
16 has occurred.

17 And as far as HAZ-MAT teams and
18 first responders, dealing with situations like
19 this, this is the same situation that happens
20 with the 300 million hazardous material
21 shipments that occur in the United States every
22 year.

23 Occasionally you're going to come
24 across an unknown. 300 million shipments of
25 hazardous materials. 6,000, 7,000 shipments of

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Panel Discussion (contd)

1 DOE radioactive materials, some percentage
2 isn't going to come across. HAZ-MAT teams are
3 used to that.

4 MR. DEE WILLIS: Shelley?

5 MS. SHELLEY CIMON: I guess I
6 wanted to qualify that Gerry's statistics were
7 from 1989.

8 MR. GERRY POLLET: '89.

9 MS. SHELLEY CIMON: So it was a
10 ways back. That was awhile ago. But it also
11 speaks to the issue of: We haven't been
12 collecting this information because of a lack
13 of funding.

14 And it would make sense to, if we're
15 going to start these campaigns, to look -- to
16 request funding.

17 For the state of Oregon to request
18 funding to track these shipments and pay
19 attention as each campaign starts.

20 MR. DEE WILLIS: Any more
21 questions or comments? Sir?

22 MR. PETER FARNAM: I just have
23 to respond to what you just said, when you said
24 because so many other shipments that are
25 non-DOE shipments have manifest problems, that

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Panel Discussion (contd)

1 it sounded to me like you were saying: Well,
2 because we face all these other risks, these
3 additional risks shouldn't concern us as much.

4 Well, that's what it sounded like to
5 me. And the main difference that occurred to
6 me between most of those shipments and these
7 ones is that I have something to say about
8 these ones.

9 I don't have a lot to say about what
10 Dupont ships, and/or what they say they ship.
11 But the reason I'm here is because I have
12 something to say about your shipments.

13 And I don't care what -- I mean, I
14 do care a lot about what those -- but, I don't
15 have a lot to say about it.

16 And the reason I'm here is because I
17 want to tell you, I want to know what's in
18 those shipments, exactly; and I want them to be
19 what they say they are. And I want them to be
20 safe.

21 MR. MICHAEL COLLINS: I agree.
22 If I misled you, I apologize for that. All's I
23 was trying to do is say first responders and
24 HAZ-MAT teams are not surprised by unusual
25 situations. That was the only point I was

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Panel Discussion (contd)

1 trying to make.

2 And I totally agree. And I do
3 appreciate the fact that you are speaking just
4 to my waste. And I understand that.

5 MR. PETER FARNAM: Well, yeah.
6 The Government's waste.

7 MR. GERRY POLLET: First
8 responders are trained to use caution in
9 response. That's the first rule; that's the
10 point.

11 But what we're faced with here is
12 the fact that DOE claims that its low-level
13 wastes are entirely self-regulated.

14 And you do have more of a say over a
15 private company shipping its chemical wastes to
16 a regulated firm for disposal, because that
17 regulated firm, that landfill is going to be
18 regulated by your state and the EPA.

19 Here's what you've got, is a sad and
20 sorry record. And I'm sorry, but it is a sorry
21 record of the Department of Energy shipping
22 waste across the country without proper
23 manifesting, traceability, and characterization
24 of wastes.

25 And what you have, because there is

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Panel Discussion (contd)

1 no effective external regulation, they ship
2 waste to their own low-level burial grounds,
3 which they say are self-regulated. No one can
4 look at it.

5 They've just told the state of
6 Washington to bugger off in Federal Court.

7 And the bottom line is that lack of
8 regulation means that you have a higher
9 incidence of not doing the right thing with
10 tracking your wastes.

11 Not one private -- you can't point
12 to a private industry in America that has a
13 backlog of 30 years mixed or chemical wastes
14 sitting around in wooden boxes, metal boxes in
15 the snow and rain.

16 Anywhere else, there is not another
17 industry in America like it that is shipping
18 its wastes. And if you don't believe me, ask
19 the states and EPA.

20 MR. DEE WILLIS: Okay, other
21 questions? Comments?

22 Thank you all for coming. I want to
23 thank, especially, Shelley Cimon.

24 MR. GERRY POLLET: I do want
25 to, now that we're closing, just remind you of

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Panel Discussion (contd)

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Maik Twain's comment about communication, which
was "We have enough trouble communicating for
anyone to try to put any words off limit."

(9:30 p.m.)

* * *

