

U. S. ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS
FORMER CONWAY BOMBING AND
GUNNERY RANGE
ENGINEERING EVALUATION & COST
ANALYSIS (EE/CA)
PUBLIC REVIEW MEETING

Carolina Forest Elementary School
Tuesday, April 20, 2004
6:45 p.m. - 8:20 p.m.

COPY

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APPEARANCES:

Ron Nesbit (CESAC)
Sarah McGraw (USAESCH)
Ola Awosika (PARSONS)
Belinda Estabrook (Savannah Real Estate)
Sommer Cotton (ZAPATA Engineering)

COURT REPORTER:

Karen L. Brown
Verbatim Reporter

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1 Mr. Nesbit: Good evening. Thank you for
2 coming out this afternoon for us to have an
3 opportunity to present to you the findings from the
4 EE/CA, the Engineering Evaluation/Cost Analysis is
5 what we call it, EE/CA for short. First of all, my
6 name is Ron Nesbit. I'm the project manager from the
7 Charleston district. I'm responsible for all the
8 FUDS projects for the Corps of Engineers in the State
9 of South Carolina. With me tonight, I have Sarah
10 McGraw. She is my technical manager out of
11 Huntsville division. And also, we have Ms. Belinda
12 Estabrook. She is representing our real estate
13 office out of Savannah, Georgia. And Mr. Ola
14 Awosika, he is representing the contractor for having
15 done the EE/CA on the contract with Huntsville. What
16 we intend to do today, or tonight I should say, is to
17 provide the long awaited results of the EE/CA that we
18 had hoped to have brought to you long before now.
19 However, because of many things, it has been delayed.
20 What we are presenting to you right now has already
21 been put in the library in the Conway area for your
22 review prior to this meeting and it will remain in
23 review so that you have an opportunity or anyone else
24 has the opportunity to review these documents. Mr.
25 Awosika will, I'm sorry, Ms. McGraw will follow me in

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1 presenting the description of the ordnance process.
2 After her, Ola will follow with giving you the ins
3 and outs of the EE/CA itself, how it was done, the
4 rationale for the decisions that were made, as well
5 as the responses to questions that were brought by
6 some of you, and also to give you the final results
7 with recommendations that we have reviewed and
8 approved in the Corps of Engineers. After that
9 point, we will have questions and answers and we will
10 make every effort to answer all of your questions.
11 Some questions we may not be able to answer, and
12 those questions, we will get the answer and make sure
13 that we get that question or response back to you, so
14 rest assured we will do our best to answer all of
15 your questions tonight. When you have a question, we
16 ask that you state your name clearly so that we can,
17 in fact, record who asked the question, as well as
18 try to maintain some peace and order so that we can
19 capture all of the questions, all of the information
20 passed on, as well as information from you that you
21 might be able to assist us in different areas as we
22 go along. We hope this won't be a very long night.
23 We hope to be clear and concise so that you'll have
24 an opportunity to go home and do the things that you
25 do, but our primary purpose is to inform you of the

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1 results of the EE/CA that was done in 2002 and 2001.
2 Sarah.

3 Ms. McGraw: Thank you, Ron. As Ron
4 mentioned, my name is Sarah McGraw and I work
5 with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers in
6 Huntsville, Alabama at the U.S. Army Engineering
7 Support Center. We are one of four design
8 centers that handles ordnance which is currently
9 (inaudible) obtained through military initial
10 response program. The U.S. Army, as well as the
11 Department of Defense, endorse the new
12 terminology as we haven't changed it for this
13 project since it started back, believe it or not,
14 in approximately 1997. What we have here is just
15 a little bit of an organization chart because
16 usually when I come out to a project, people say
17 why am I here all the way from Huntsville,
18 Alabama when there's a district of the Corps
19 that's a lot closer. Well, the reason is, we are
20 one of a few design centers. Our design center
21 started, actually, back in 1986 when a very
22 unfortunate accident happened in California where
23 the two young boys were killed when they picked
24 up a piece of ordnance that was unexploded
25 ordnance. They died and their friend survived.

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1 From that grew the ordnance design center, the
2 ordnance safety, the ordnance center of expertise
3 and we've been at it since then. Just to let you
4 know, I've been doing ordnance for the past few
5 years. I've been with the Corps of Engineers
6 much longer than that and I am an engineer by
7 degree. But this is one of the things I take
8 pleasure in doing, is to come out to you, no
9 matter where it is because I've been not only
10 here in South Carolina, but also in Washington
11 State, Arizona, New Mexico, Louisiana, North
12 Carolina, lots of places, and that's one
13 advantage of having us to do the work because we
14 have no boundaries. As of (inaudible), I can
15 tell you very quickly, we're also doing work in
16 Iraq. Our process is just a little bit hard for
17 you to see here and I'll go through this and the
18 contents in each slide. If I'm standing in the
19 way, I apologize. At the very end on the left,
20 what you don't see, and I will apologize now for
21 not having a laser pointer, is the Inventory
22 Project Report. This is done by the district.
23 What they do to start with is they check their
24 area to see where their work performing in each
25 area. The former Conway Bombing and Gunnery

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1 Range encompasses well over 55,000 acres that
2 were used during World War II when we were
3 training our bombardiers. Primarily, yours was
4 not the only location, a lot of places in Florida
5 and all along the coast were used because our
6 bombardiers were preparing to bomb north, the
7 beaches of Normandy and what better to use than
8 our own beaches. Well, at this time frame, it's,
9 I think, a very unusual thing to do; but in that
10 scenario, it was the most appropriate thing to
11 do. And people here in Conway gave up their
12 properties, allowed the U.S. government to lease
13 it for that use. In that Inventory Project
14 Report, they walked around to see what was there
15 and if there was a need to do any further
16 investigation. Next came the Archive Search
17 Report. This particular Archive Search Report
18 was done by the St. Louis district of the U.S.
19 Army Corps of Engineers. They have personnel
20 that are UXO trained that went to search the
21 area. They went to Washington, D.C. to research
22 the national archives of all of the military.
23 They came back with maps that included aerial
24 photos. They got maps that showed where the
25 ranges were. They, also, did surveys to say

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1 whether or not they saw any presence of ordnance
2 or not and you'll see more about that as Mr.
3 Awosika does his presentation. But you've been
4 seeing the circles and the squares on the maps
5 that have gone around on all your fact sheets,
6 those are generated, that's at that stage, that's
7 telling you where to start. Anywhere in the
8 process, if I may add, there's the time critical
9 removal or even no DOD action based upon what's
10 being found. You don't see the little arrows
11 here, but that's pretty much the way it works.
12 Huntsville is contracted by Charleston district
13 to conduct the Engineering Evaluation and Cost
14 Analysis for the Conway former, former Conway
15 Bombing and Gunnery Range. We, not having the
16 personnel to always do the initial investigations
17 ourselves, hired Parsons Engineering to do the
18 work for us. But before they could do the work,
19 we had to review their work plans, their safety
20 plans, make sure they had all the bonding
21 insurance and things of that nature to qualified
22 personnel to actually come and do the project.
23 Within that part of the project, we had to have
24 rights of entry, which is where Ms. Estabrook
25 comes in, and their office researched who owned

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1 the property at the time and made a written
2 request to allow us to come on the property.
3 Well, once they have formerly used the same sites
4 as (inaudible), we cannot come onto the property
5 without the property owners permission. So
6 therefore, if you look on some of the maps in the
7 back again, you'll see where the rights of entry
8 were and were not obtained. So if you have a
9 question about whether your particular property
10 before you bought it was investigated, because I
11 have a feeling a lot of you may be new, then you
12 can go to that and see whether or not we were
13 even allowed to be on that property. The other
14 part of that is to be environment friendly, we
15 also look into that, so we are also very careful,
16 if we find anything, to go ahead and explode it
17 exactly where it is and we did have some of
18 those, just to let you know. But all the data
19 that we've gathered from the various ranges were
20 compiled and put into this document which is not
21 only in your local library, but also on the
22 internet and Mr. Awosika can tell you about that
23 as well. One of the things about us, and I would
24 like to stress this, is that everything that we
25 do becomes part of an administrative record. It

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1 becomes public knowledge because, above all, I
2 think my position is one of public safety, as
3 well. So if you'd like to see this and it's not
4 in the library, by all means, before you leave,
5 ask us about the website. We can direct you to
6 that website. In the library, some of them
7 actually have newspaper clippings and things that
8 relate to the job. You can go and ask the
9 records librarian. These are not where you can
10 check them out, but you can look at them while
11 they're there. I said I'd be concise. I
12 apologize. Action Memo, we're actually in the
13 stage of the draft Action Memo. What that does
14 is, it allows the commander of Charleston
15 district to outline in his memorandum what the
16 U.S. Army Corps of Engineers will do to clear the
17 property. It doesn't have a time frame, it just
18 says we agree that this is what we will do. That
19 opens the door for Congress to send funding and,
20 like I said, we're in the draft mode right now.
21 We are going through our final figures to make
22 sure that we have everything included that needs
23 to be included. Once that's done, we get to
24 probably the one thing that most people are most
25 interested in is the removal action, where we're

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1 going to do it, how we're going to do it, what
2 depth we're going to do it. That will all be
3 included. In the Engineering Evaluation/Cost
4 Analysis, we call them EE/CAs, the Cost Analysis
5 is also part of the Action Memo. There are some
6 areas of this property that need to be cleared
7 that costs a whole lot more than others,
8 primarily because of what the property was used
9 for back in 1945, somewhere, '44, '45, until we
10 gave it back. And as the name implies, the local
11 bombing range. However, in some areas the bombs
12 were practiced longer; in others, they were not.
13 Some were incendiary. Some were, like I said,
14 full live demo type bombs. But in any case, as
15 you can see public involvement, as I stated
16 earlier, it's very critical and we're very happy
17 that you are here. We want to get this
18 information out. We want you to be safe. We're
19 not trying to scare you. It's more of an
20 educational process. There are people who live
21 on those properties all across the country, from
22 one end to the other, from highly populated to
23 sparsely populated. And one of the biggest
24 things that we found to be different is the
25 public involvement as well as the public's

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1 education. I thank you for your time and if you
2 have any questions for me, I will be here during
3 the question and answer period, but at this time,
4 I'll turn it over to Mr. Awosika to go through
5 the reports that we've done for your particular
6 area.

7 Mr. Awosika: Thank you, Sarah. I will
8 try as much as possible to make sure that I am
9 speaking into this speaker here. If you can't
10 hear me in the back, just let me know. To start
11 with, my name is Ola Awosika. I'm with Parsons
12 and our office is pretty much based in Atlanta,
13 Georgia. I was working out of that office when
14 this project started back in 1996. I've since
15 been involved in the project and, as matter-of-
16 fact, I think I'm the only one still around that
17 was actually involved in this section of the
18 project up to the present moment. I'd like to
19 bring your attention to the fact that we do have,
20 at the back of the hall here, all the results
21 that have been generated from the EE/CA for each
22 of the ranges at Conway. You heard Sarah mention
23 that we do have a website that has been developed
24 where you can also go after and check out the
25 EE/CA reports that have been prepared for the

1 sites. The site is called www.projecthost, P-R-
2 O-J-E-C-T-H-O-S-T, .org. If you go get on that
3 site and on the dropdown folder, look for Conway
4 BGR; and in there you'll find the work plans, the
5 EE/CA report and the Time Critical Removal Action
6 Report that has been prepared. All this was
7 brought in their final form, so anything, any
8 information that you get from those documents
9 will be something that you can be rest assured
10 with that has been reviewed by the Corps of
11 Engineers, as well as the district, and that
12 deals with the final information that we have in
13 there. The goal of the EE/CA, as we all know it,
14 is to reduce exclusive threat to the public.
15 Basically, just to give you an idea of what the
16 Conway Bombing and Gunnery Range was used for
17 back in the '40s in preparation of the second
18 World War, it was used for training air-to-ground
19 unit gunnery and bombing, you know, by the Air
20 Force, as well as the U.S. Army Air Corps back
21 then. Again, the total acreage of the entire
22 Conway Bombing and Gunnery Range is 65,000 acres.
23 That was fairly what size, you know, the ranges
24 were. The area of concern, as we've applied to
25 all these ranges, constitutes, basically, Range

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1 II, Range III, Range IV, VII and Range XX. Of
2 course, the sites located in Horry County. This
3 is a map depicting the location of each one of
4 the ranges. Range II is located right there off
5 U.S. Highway 501 and is accessible from Highway
6 90 just a little bit south of the Horry County
7 landfill. Range III, of course, we are very much
8 close to Range III here, you get there through
9 Carolina Forest Road, Carolina Forest Highway, I
10 believe, or whatever it's called now. Range XX
11 can be accessed through highway, still Highway 90
12 and that's a nature preserve, you know, by the
13 State of South Carolina. Range IV is located
14 very close to, well, actually the side of what is
15 now known as the Barefoot Golf Course. The half
16 portion of that side right there has a golf
17 course and a lot of residential properties that
18 has been built over the next, the past couple of
19 years. Range VII is more of a little community
20 over here, again, that can be accessed through
21 Highway 90. It has fairly a larger population of
22 people, you know, there and you've got a couple
23 of farmlands as well as, also, wooded areas there
24 that is still yet to be developed. This figure
25 here, I do have a breakdown of the acreage for

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1 each one of the ranges, but I won't bore you with
2 that information again. You can find it easily
3 in the EE/CA report. To give you an idea of what
4 was done at each one of the ranges, Range II was
5 basically used as a practice, skip parafrag
6 bombing and rocket firing range back in the '40s.
7 Range III appears to be the most heavily used of
8 the sites based on what we've now come to know
9 after doing the investigation. It was used for
10 practice demolition, dive, incendiary and skip
11 bombing and rocket firing. Range IV, to also a
12 good extent, also was used for practice bombing.
13 And Range VII was used for skip bombing also, but
14 we think not a whole lot of bombing was done in
15 here based on the Archive Site Report and based
16 on the evidence of the same from aerial
17 photographs that were taken at this site. Range
18 XX was also reported used for rocket firing, skip
19 bombing and strafing. There's hardly very little
20 evidence of use of this site from looking at the
21 aerial photos that we've seen back in the '40s,
22 as well as, you know, (inaudible). This slide
23 basically is to give you an idea of what was the
24 findings from the Archive Site Report. For Range
25 II, OE was confirmed. What this means is that

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1 the Corps of Engineers goes out there that
2 actually went to visit the site, walk the site
3 and see whether they could find any ordnance at
4 the ground surface. So if it was not, then
5 possibly, you know, the site visit was non-
6 intrusive during the visit there. You know, it's
7 just a matter of walking the site through
8 whichever means by which you can access each of
9 these sites and then making a report, record of
10 that. In addition to that, there were interviews
11 conducted with former residential individuals,
12 people that used to live in the area, as well as
13 those people that served in the forces during
14 that era of time, to get any information that
15 they had that could shed some light as to what
16 might be at the sites. Range III, OE, the
17 potential for OE was also confirmed at Range III.
18 At Range IV, the potential for OE also was
19 confirmed. And at Range VII, the potential for
20 OE was confirmed. I take that back. When I say
21 confirmed, potential and confirmed, they are two
22 issues (inaudible). Confirmed means the presence
23 of OE, they actually identified an ordnance that
24 was on the surface there. The potential, when I
25 say potential, that means that all they found was

1 sort of scrap material that led them to believe
2 that, yes, there's evidence of the use of OE at
3 this site. The last two sites that you see
4 there, "F" and "G", are not included as part of
5 the EE/CA because they were basically ruled out
6 as, you know, for that investigation because
7 there was, it was determined there was no
8 potential for presence of OE at those sites.

9 The EE/CA process, Sarah explained to you
10 what this process was. Of course, it was pretty
11 much in a brief form. I will try to go in, a
12 little bit into detail to let you understand each
13 one of these process tasks that we have. Site
14 characterization is where we actually go out in
15 the field and actually sample the sites to
16 determine what type of material, the initial and
17 extent (inaudible) of OE at each of the sites.
18 Institutional analysis is conducted to actually
19 find out from the community, the county, as well
20 as all the local agencies, as to what kind of
21 research that a community will have as, and
22 gathering what can be done at this site based on
23 the recommendations that are made in the EE/CA.
24 We would like to know from the county what kind
25 of measures that we can take that will still be

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1 acceptable to the public as well as, you know, to
2 the county body, if you will. Risk evaluation is
3 done with a data that's collected from site
4 characterization effort. The risk evaluation
5 determines the level of OE and OE hazard at each
6 one of the sites, so that we can tell you, for a
7 given site, you know, if we find UXO, we can tell
8 you right now that any site with UXO, which means
9 unexploded ordnance, that will have the higher
10 priority, if you will, and the sites, you know,
11 with scrap that is not indicative of the material
12 that is considered to be UXO will probably fall
13 in a lesser category in terms of action that is
14 taken after the study's done. Alternative
15 evaluation and analysis is where we would have
16 the different options that are available to the
17 Corps of Engineers in terms of addressing the
18 results that are obtained from the site
19 characterization effort. That task, by itself,
20 takes quite a lot of time to accomplish. It is
21 where we look at the cost that, also, we have to
22 account for the level of renovations that will
23 have to be done at each of the sites. Once this
24 is done, then we are ready, we're in the mode to
25 prepare the EE/CA report. All the information

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1 that is collected from the site characterization
2 effort, institutional analysis, risk evaluation
3 and alternative analysis all are, pretty much,
4 put together into the EE/CA report. So when you
5 go to the EE/CA report, you will see that the
6 outline of the report is, pretty much, centered
7 around these four parameters, if you will.
8 Public and regulatory review, this is done once
9 the drafted report is ready to go out to the
10 public for review. We had previous meetings here
11 to present the results for the draft EE/CA at the
12 time and also, at that time, to give the
13 opportunity, to give the public the opportunity
14 to be able to make comments and then have us
15 provide responses to them. Once that is done,
16 the EE/CA draft report is upgraded into a final
17 report. And then, an Action Memorandum is issued
18 to reflect the recommendations from the EE/CA.
19 Once we get to that point, we're pretty much done
20 with the investigation of the sites. We are now
21 ready to move forward with remedial action. That
22 will not uphold until the Corps of Engineers and
23 the district is able to find adequate funds to
24 address the remedial action. That would lead
25 more into the site characterization effort to

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1 give you a better flavor of what was done at the
2 site visit for the site work conducted back in
3 1997. What we did was, we addressed each one of
4 the ranges just to have a more up-to-date
5 information as to what kind of condition the site
6 was in so that we can better prepare ourselves to
7 put the work plan together for the EE/CA. The
8 work plan was subsequently prepared in 1999 and
9 submitted, you know, for our review to, by the
10 Corps as well as the district. From 1999 to
11 2002, we have right of entry issues being taken
12 care of. Some of you may wonder why that took
13 quite a long time. It's a process that is a
14 little bit very time consuming, if you will, in
15 that, forms have to be prepared and you have to
16 identify all the property ordnance within each of
17 the ranges and the information has to be sent out
18 to them to get their consent so that we can go
19 out there and investigate their property and it
20 was a difficult task. That itself delayed the
21 EE/CA from moving forward as planned because,
22 typically, an EE/CA for a site should be done
23 within a year or two once you have your work plan
24 ready to go; but in this case, we had quite a
25 little bit of problem with right of entries for

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1 most of the properties in the ranges that we
2 needed to get in. The prove-out was done in mid
3 1999. The prove-out is typically done to test
4 out a different type of equipment that we used to
5 survey the site. This is, basically, geophysical
6 equipment from magnetometers, EM, to geophysical
7 magnetometers, different type of equipment was
8 tested at the sites. And we decided in each one,
9 based on the field test, it's more adequate to
10 performing the actual survey that has to be done
11 for the EE/CA. That is a function of depth
12 coverage (inaudible) to get a function of the
13 type of OE that's been used at a site, soil at a
14 site and several other factors that have to be
15 considered. The field work actually started on
16 October 1, 2000 and continued through September
17 2001. The evaluation of soil and ordnance pretty
18 much took place in 2001, institutional analysis
19 from 2001 to 2002 and risk evaluation, also, was
20 conducted in that time frame. Institutional
21 analysis in a response that pretty much was done
22 in 2002. And the EE/CA draft report was ready
23 for review by the public in 2002. We had a
24 public review meeting here, I believe it was
25 October, September time frame in, September 2002

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1 was when we had that. And now, we do have the
2 final EE/CA product out there in the libraries.
3 It's available on the website for everyone to
4 see. Action Memorandum, we've already prepared a
5 draft. The draft has been reviewed by the Corps.
6 We're waiting to get this public meeting out of
7 the way and make sure that South Carolina DHEC is
8 in agreement with everything we have in the
9 report to move forward with finalizing the Action
10 Memorandum. Again, once that's done, the next
11 phase of work to be done is remedial action.
12 Again, that cannot be accomplished until
13 appropriate funding is obtained by the district
14 to move forward with that; and Ron will be able
15 to expand on that during the question and answer
16 session. One key task that was done during the
17 EE/CA, almost kind of concurrent with the EE/CA,
18 but was a lot of part of the EE/CA was the TCRA.
19 This was warranted in Range III on a piece of
20 property owned by Mr. Goodson. This, again, was
21 warranted as (inaudible) the results of the fact
22 that the property owner had a contract in place
23 with the State that involved construction of the
24 new highway that's just been built. And he was
25 scheduled to excavate soil from the site to build

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1 the highway and that warranted action on behalf
2 of the district to make sure that OE, potential
3 OE risk at the site was dealt with so that we
4 don't have to keep going out there, digging up
5 the soil and then having an accident with OE
6 there. So what happened in that regard was that
7 Parsons was retained by Huntsville to go out
8 there and provide necessary clearance that's
9 needed to get that property in a situation where
10 Mr. Goodson can successfully excavate soil from
11 the site and use it to construct the highway.
12 That took about a year to complete. It was a
13 very tedious effort. One of the things that came
14 out of that effort was that it, pretty much,
15 corroborates the results of the EE/CA. From the
16 EE/CA, we found out that we had unexploded
17 ordnance in Range III, specifically, the target
18 area at Range III. Mr. Goodson's property lies
19 directly in the target zone at Range III. And
20 when we went out there and cleared the site, we
21 found quite a number of unexploded ordnance at
22 the site; and we, basically, took care of that
23 and I'm happy to report that we didn't have any
24 incidents or accidents that involved OE, neither
25 did the contractor that did the highway had any

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1 problem either. So it was kind of a win-win
2 situation for us to clear that property. The
3 results, again, it's going to be hard for me to,
4 basically, project all the sites for you to show
5 you the specific results that we've had, but I
6 can tell you specifically that only at Range III
7 did we find unexploded ordnance from the EE/CA
8 effort. We found, too, we found a lot of
9 evidence of scrap, a lot of evidence of use from
10 aerial photos. Bomb craters were identified at
11 the site. None of the other sites had anything
12 to indicate similar use as what we found at Range
13 III in terms of looking at the aerial photos, in
14 terms of looking at historical records that we
15 have from the ASR. So in that regard, the bottom
16 line is that the risk evaluation that was done
17 for all the sites did show that Range III had the
18 highest of the priority in terms of OE hazard to
19 the public. And going down the list, the next
20 one up is Range IV, specifically, the target zone
21 in Range IV. It's referred to as Area "C". And
22 then we have the safety zone for, both, Ranges
23 III and IV. And Range II had some evidence of OE
24 use at the site, also. Some scrap were found in
25 there from 100 pound practice bombs. And so was

1 Range VII. We found some scrap also on the
2 perimeter of the range. Nothing was found in
3 Range XX to indicate OE use at the site. That,
4 basically, concludes the information of the TCRA.
5 Just to give you an idea of what, the breakdown
6 of what was found at Range III during the TCRA
7 was, we found that, more of the ordnance found
8 was, pretty much, the four pound incendiary bomb.
9 Range III, we found only practice bombs, 20 pound
10 frag bombs, five inch practice warheads and other
11 miscellaneous OE items. Again, this information
12 is in the TCRA report. If you want further
13 details of this, you can get the TCRA report and
14 get that information. What is important about
15 this, though, is that the OE that was present in
16 the TCRA was over a 40 acre area. The target
17 area, itself, was well over 100 acres which was
18 only about, I think, 150 to 170 acres, you know,
19 just off, from the top of my head. I'm going to
20 have to go back and check that number again for
21 you, but that gives you an idea of how difficult
22 it will be to clear the target area on Range III.
23 It took us a year to actually clear 40 acres of
24 the site. The clearance work involved a lot more
25 than just getting the people out there to start

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1 digging. You've got to have the work plan in
2 place. You've got to communicate with the
3 property owner. You've got to, also, communicate
4 with several local agencies to make sure that
5 they're aware of the activities at the site. And
6 then, you have to deal with other issues on a
7 daily basis as to making sure you keep the
8 exclusion zone where the workers that are working
9 at the site, if they come up on a OE item that
10 could blow up potential, potentially blow up
11 during the clearance effort, that you do not harm
12 the public in that process.

13 The next couple of slides here is, pretty
14 much, a depiction of the type of geophysical
15 equipment that was used at the sites. During the
16 TCRA, the initial survey that was done at the site
17 was done with geophysical equipment called the MTADS
18 which stands for Multi Towed Array Detection System.
19 This equipment is designed to be able to acquire data
20 on a rapid mode basis and allow you to callback such
21 a large area within a short span of time. Now, one
22 of the key issues here for the EE/CA, as well as the
23 TCRA, is that for any clearance work to be done at
24 all or any testing to be done at a site, you have to
25 remove the vegetation from the area because, again,

1 this site was used back in the '40s. A lot of trees
2 have grown in the last 50 years in this area. You
3 can imagine 30, 40 foot trees are up already. So,
4 basically, what we have there right now is not the
5 original, it's not the original forest that was
6 there. It's pretty much new growth in the area. And
7 most of the roots from these trees have all grown
8 into the ordnance and all that and you cannot
9 successfully use the geophysical equipment there
10 without having to remove the vegetation. So it's
11 labor intensive to start with by, first of all,
12 clearing the vegetation, setting up your grids, doing
13 geophysical work and then having an intrusive team
14 come out there to dig up the site. This equipment is
15 called the EM61. This was the original equipment
16 used during the EE/CA effort. That previous one I
17 showed you was just used for the TCRA. It was not
18 used for the EE/CA. This was what we used for the
19 EE/CA effort. During the TCRA, during the actual
20 clearance work, we were also using the G858
21 equipment, which is a magnetometer. The reason for
22 that is because this had a lot of depth of coverage
23 than the EM equipment and we were concerned because
24 the contractor was going to be digging a lot of dirt
25 from the site up to a depth of, I think, about 22

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feet, so we had to use something that had a larger depth coverage and this equipment was tested and found out to be the better one to use during that period of time. I'm not too sure whether this image is quite clear to you. This is just to give you an idea of what the terrain looked like at Range III after removing some of the vegetation in the area there. That guy right there is actually standing in an area that would probably have been one of those bomb craters that we identified when we looked at the aerial photos of the site. This is a view of the portion of the parcel of land owned by Mr. Goodson that was cleared. That's another shot again. The proposed EE/CA recommendation, I'm sorry about this slide, it may not be very clear enough for you all to see, but it pretty much provides a summary of the EE/CA results; and I'm going to try as much as possible to make sure that this is as clear as possible to you. Starting with Range II, what we recommended for Range II is that some clearance has to be done for areas with intended construction work. That is, the area that's in the plans that have already been submitted to the county for development for actual physical construction of the building, we are recommending that we go out and clear that

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1 footprint area for the construction of that building.
2 In addition to that, we're asking that institutional
3 controls have to be implemented for that site.
4 Institutional controls is a very broad spectrum of
5 controls that can be implemented from public
6 awareness, information disseminated to the public,
7 from news, media, based on information that's from
8 the Corps of Engineers, as well as the district. We
9 have, also, information that can be routed through
10 the radio, through public meetings and things like
11 that to keep the public aware of what the current
12 situation is at a site and what kind of measures that
13 can be taken, and warnings about if you happen to do
14 any work at any of these sites, if you come up, come
15 up against anything that looks strange to you, you
16 should not bother to touch it or whatever. It gives
17 you the procedure to follow so that you can make sure
18 that your system is working properly. Going to Range
19 III, I already discussed a little bit about it.
20 We've already cleared a total of about 60 acres of
21 that land. Twenty acres of this, of that was
22 cleared, primarily, by the owner, Mr. Goodson, and
23 Parsons was contracted to clear 40 acres of that, so
24 60 acres of that portion of that range has been
25 cleared. Again, the recommendation for the rest of

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1 that site, specifically, is to concentrate on the
2 target area where unexploded ordnance has been found
3 and clear the entire target area to a depth of about
4 four feet. The safety zone outside the target zone
5 at that site is recommended for clearance to the
6 depth of where the construction work, construction
7 activities will occur. Again, that will have to be
8 based on a plan that has been submitted to the county
9 for that area. In Range IV, the target area is
10 recommended for clearance, but not in it's entirety.
11 It's only, again, the footprint of construction that
12 are planned for that site. Now, if during that
13 construction work we come up against any item that
14 gives us reasonable information to think that there's
15 potential for OE exposure that is more stringent than
16 what we are now recommending, additional work will be
17 required and that will be followed up through the
18 district. The safety zone to Area "C", we are
19 recommending in there that we just do surface
20 clearance work which means we go out there and
21 actually clear the entire area of the surface and to
22 remove ordnance from the surface. That means we're
23 not going to do any intrusive work. We're not going
24 to be digging that site up for any reason at all.
25 We'll just only clear ordnance at the surface. Now,

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1 again, if while we're clearing ordnance from the
2 surface, we find a UXO during that period, unexploded
3 ordnance, that, again, is going to cause us to have
4 to go back and rethink the recommended action for
5 that particular area and that will have to be
6 followed up, again, with the district. Range VII,
7 this is an area where we only found very light
8 evidence of scrap from OE. We are recommending for
9 the target zone in that area, in that range, that
10 we'll proceed, again, with institutional controls and
11 make sure that if we get any report of any sort from
12 anybody regarding finding OE or whatever that that
13 information is passed through the county out to the
14 district, so that follow up action can be determined.
15 We did not find anything in the safety zone for that
16 site, so no action, pretty much, is recommended for
17 that zone. We will not be doing anything in the
18 safety zone at that range. Range XX, there was no
19 evidence at all of any OE used at this site, meaning
20 we didn't find scrap, we didn't find any land marks
21 such as bomb craters or any other evidence from the
22 landscaping that would cause us to think that OE
23 might be present at this site. That, basically,
24 concludes the recommended action for all the ranges
25 at Conway.

1 This is just to give you an idea of how we
2 safeguard up a site. As you can see in here in Range
3 III, which is in red, and Range IV, the red zone
4 there and the red zone here, is area that both have
5 the highest level of priority to the Corps, the
6 highest being Range III target zone followed by Range
7 IV. Then, the next is the safety zone to Range III,
8 safety zone to Range IV and, then, the target zone to
9 Range II. And the next one, you know, are
10 (inaudible) going to the safety zone around Range II
11 and then the other two sites that we have.

12 The next couple of slides here are just to
13 give you an idea of what the OE that was found at the
14 sites look like. This is a 2.25 subcaliber aircraft
15 rocket. We found quite a number of these at the
16 sites. Specifically, more of these were actually
17 found during the clearance work at Range III. One
18 hundred pound practice bomb was found at both Ranges
19 III and IV. And, also, there was some report about
20 some fragments of this found at Range II. Twenty
21 pound fragment bomb was what was found, again, at
22 Ranges III and IV. A lot of these were also found at
23 Range III during the clearance effort. The four
24 pound incendiary bomb, this was recovered (inaudible)
25 at Range III. We recovered about somewhere in the

1 neighborhood of about, I think, 1,200 of these, at
2 the minimum, at Range III. And this site, then, also
3 was (inaudible) in the safety zone. And, I think,
4 the fragments of this were also detected in the
5 safety zone to Range III. That, basically, concludes
6 the presentation on the EE/CA.

7 What we plan to happen here next is to have
8 a quick video that would give you an idea of what the
9 public awareness concerns are at the site. This
10 video has been put together by the Huntsville Company
11 just to educate the public as to some of the public
12 awareness issues.

13 Ms. McGraw: Let me apologize. Because we
14 all had to fly in or drive in, we thought the school
15 had a larger television that we could use. They
16 actually don't. So in order to keep you from
17 enduring a very small screen, what I'm going to do
18 is, we're going to move this to the back where the
19 other displays are and just kind of show it back
20 there when you go back to watch them. What it does,
21 it shows, we used, we asked some children at Lee High
22 School in Huntsville, Alabama to help us make this
23 video; and what they show in the video is that they
24 walk around in the woods just playing, doing their
25 own thing and they stop and they see something.

1 Well, what do you do? Well, this video shows what
2 you're supposed to be. You're supposed to mark the
3 spot with something, whether it's one of your
4 baseball caps or you have a soda bottle or a can that
5 you're through with, mark your spot. Then, get away
6 from it. Don't touch it, don't pick it up, don't try
7 to dig it up. And, then, the other part to that is
8 to call 9-1-1. But we tell children, normally, to
9 tell your parents and then call 9-1-1. In the days
10 with cell phones, you can call from there, but we
11 would rather you not. Move away from the area. If
12 there's one thing about unexploded ordnance, it
13 doesn't care how old it is. Our UXO safety
14 specialists have told me that postwar ordnance that's
15 not been exploded is still very much active because
16 it's black powder. It's doesn't degrade. And people
17 who ask for souvenir cannonballs shouldn't because
18 they sometimes contain black powder and they are
19 still very much dangerous. So that being said, I'll
20 apologize for this. We'll try to do better at our
21 public meeting tomorrow night. So if you would like
22 to really look at it, these are only about six and 12
23 minutes, respectively, and a lot of the safety
24 information is captured on this fact sheet, but we
25 will also, I will make copies of these and run these

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1 out to the libraries. There, again, education is
2 important. One's called "Play It Safe," and the
3 other one is "This Land Is Your Land." We will, like
4 I said, make sure you get a chance to see those, but
5 I apologize for the very small screen. We'll do
6 better next time. If I have to make a DVD and put it
7 on the computer, I will.

8 Mr. Nesbit: Thank you. For the most
9 part, that's the presentation about the EE/CA itself.
10 We're about to open up for questions. We've got Ola
11 here and we have Sarah and we also have Belinda with
12 the idea of trying to pick those areas that
13 potentially will answer the questions that you may
14 have. But before I open it, there is one thing I'm
15 sure you're going to ask, well, two things I'm sure
16 you're going to ask before I leave the building
17 tonight. One being, do we expect to be able to begin
18 construction this year or next year? The answer to
19 that question is dependent upon funding, of course.
20 And right now, I can tell you emphatically that the
21 kind of funding that we need to begin construction is
22 not there in our program for fiscal year '05 and it's
23 not there, of course, for '04, the remainder of this
24 year. So what does that really do to our schedules?
25 Backs us up, unfortunately. Does that mean that

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1 there's not a potential of getting special funding
2 for this project in itself? No, that is not what it
3 means. That potential always exists. This project
4 is considered to be one of the high priorities for
5 the Corps of Engineers, as well as for the Department
6 of the Army. The unfortunate thing is,
7 unfortunately, that priorities associated with the
8 FUDS program in itself right now everyone is looking
9 for funding with potential drain (inaudible) on the
10 program itself. This program only had 200,
11 approximately 248 million dollars for the entire
12 country to deal with ordnance and HTRW work. South
13 Carolina's portion of that this past year was only
14 1.6 or 7 million dollars of which a portion of that
15 money was used for HTRW. So what does that really
16 leave for ordnance? Not much, I can tell you that.
17 So you now understand the monumental hurdles that we
18 have to try to climb in order to try and meet our
19 requirements and yet be judicious with your funding
20 at the same time. We understand the importance of
21 trying to restore the property as soon as we possibly
22 can and we're working toward that end. We're making
23 every effort to plan and have things in a ready state
24 so that when funding is available, we can move
25 readily. They mentioned about the Action Memorandum.

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1 That's a step that typically doesn't happen until
2 after the EE/CA's complete and you move forward
3 beyond that and you know where you're going. We're
4 already in a position where minor adjustments to our
5 Action Memorandum needs to be incorporated and we
6 could go forward to the Department of Defense or
7 Department of Army and our headquarters to ask for
8 permission to move forward on this project. We are
9 doing everything that we can to ensure that we are in
10 a position, should funding become available, so that
11 we will have the, I would like to say, the edge of
12 being the one called so we can move forward as money
13 becomes available. Now, even though this project has
14 not had a good track record, so it appears on paper,
15 that we have not made a lot of progress, I will tell
16 you this project has made a lot of progress primarily
17 because of actions such as I've just mentioned to
18 you. The same thing I'm telling you that I'm doing,
19 other project managers are doing the same thing in
20 other states. So therefore, you understand that
21 funding is in direct competition between the states
22 within the U.S. Now, I tell you this so that you can
23 understand that not only do we need your help in
24 helping us make certain that we have the correct
25 information, but some of you may have already started

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1 actions to do things on your own and you have already
2 gathered information that potentially we can use to
3 shorten our process so that we can move forward, as
4 well. If, in fact, you have had removal actions
5 taking place or investigation taking place on your
6 property, let us know, make that information
7 available to us and, as we proceed through the
8 process of trying to complete and get in a position
9 to complete our work, we can use your information to
10 further solidify and make certain that we are making
11 the correct assumptions as soon as we possibly can
12 and that would save us a lot of time and you a lot of
13 time in the effort, as well. So I think I've
14 answered your question about funding. I think I've
15 answered your question about schedule. I know those
16 are two very, very important questions that you had
17 and we're open for questions. Please state your name
18 clearly so that we can capture it and we'll do our
19 best to answer your questions. Does anyone have
20 questions?

21 Mr. Nichols: David Nichols, N-I-C-H-O-L-S.
22 You've referred to depth. Can you define that depth
23 for me?

24 Mr. Awosika: Clearance to depth, I use
25 that during, in my recommendation, you know, just a

1 recommendation. By the Corps of Engineers, that is
2 pretty much understood as clearing from a depth of
3 zero to four feet.

4 Mr. Evans: My name is Fred Evans, E-V-A-
5 N-S. I live at Myrtle Beach National and we're
6 surrounded by three golf courses. I would assume
7 that if they would have exploded something, we may
8 would've heard about it, which I have not heard about
9 it. That's my first question. My second question,
10 did I understand you to say that they built Highway
11 31 without exploding anything?

12 Mr. Awosika: Let me answer. Your first
13 question has to do with the fact that you live around
14 Range II.

15 Mr. Evans: Range II.

16 Mr. Awosika: Yes. We have not done any

17 ---

18 Mr. Evans: Myrtle Beach National Golf
19 Course.

20 Mr. Awosika: Yes. We didn't do any
21 clearing work at Range II. All we did there was the
22 EE/CA investigation. We had a couple of sampling
23 grids that were strategically placed at the site and
24 we did a geophysical survey there. We have had a
25 couple of anomalies. We went in there, did intrusive

1 work and found some scrap that was indicative of the
2 use of OE at that site. There was no detonation of
3 any, any type of ordnance at the site at all.

4 Mr. Nesbit: And I, also, would mention
5 that some of these golf courses that are, that were
6 probably in existence prior to our investigative
7 work, we did coordinate with those golf courses to
8 try to find out whether or not they encountered any
9 ordnance of any kind or whether or not, for that
10 matter, they had any records available to
11 substantiate any of that, as well. So we did go the
12 extra mile to ensure that we were trying to gather as
13 much data and information as we possibly can. And
14 that kind of information is also placed or made it as
15 a part of the EE/CA study, as well.

16 Mr. Awosika: If you don't mind, remind me
17 of your second question again, please.

18 Mr. Evans: Highway 31, it's like 22, 23
19 miles right through the middle of this.

20 Mr. Awosika: Yes. That highway was
21 constructed with soil that was dug from Range III,
22 from Mr. Goodson's property. And your concern was
23 that there were no ---

24 Mr. Evans: Did you find anything?

25 Mr. Awosika: Yes, we did. Again, when I

1 was talking about the TCRA, the Time Critical Removal
2 Action was specifically designed for making sure that
3 no material left that site, no soil left that site
4 without, also, making sure that it's free of OE,
5 scraps or whatever. So we are confident in saying
6 that the material that left that site to build the
7 highway was, pretty much, clean of ordnance.

8 Mr. Evans: Did you find a lot?

9 Mr. Awosika: Yes, sir. We did find a lot.

10 Mr. Evans: Okay. That's good.

11 Mr. Awosika: We found a lot. In the
12 thousands; let me see if I can put it that way. And
13 it's a combination of all those different type of
14 ordnance items that I showed you on the slides.

15 Mr. Levin: Yes, my name's Dick Levin.
16 I'm also from Myrtle Beach National. In fact, there
17 are probably about 15 or so people here. I just want
18 to clarify one thing. On page 8-1 of, of your draft
19 report where I got a copy out of the library, we have
20 homes that are either in Area "A" or in Area A-1. So
21 for Area A-1, your recommendation was no DOD action
22 will be implemented at this section. And in
23 discussions with people, our understanding is that A-
24 1 is not going to receive any further review or
25 activity. Now, on "A", what you say is, the best

1 alternative for "A" is that they would have report
2 the footprints of planned construction; therefore,
3 any of the homes that exist in Area "A", nothing's
4 going to be done there because they've been cleared,
5 they've been built on. So the only area, if there is
6 any area in Area "A" that would have construction,
7 you're saying you would use this, the, what's the
8 term that you used here, institutional controls, in
9 other words, make the public aware, report anything
10 you see. So the bottom line, as we understand it, is
11 that people who live in Area "A" or Area A-1 are
12 pretty well clear of any danger or any special
13 requirements.

14 Mr. Awosika: Again, Area "A" in Range II,
15 as we understand it, a higher percentage of Area "A"
16 is a golf course, so there's just a minimal area
17 there that belongs to private and residential
18 properties, if you will. You live in "A", right?

19 Mr. Levin: Well, there's 250 homes in
20 that area, in either "A" or A-1.

21 Mr. Awosika: Okay. So your concern is, if
22 you already have a home there, should there be any
23 reason for you to be worried that the property that
24 you're living on still has a threat, OE threat of it?
25 The potential is real. Having said that, the

1 potential for Area "A" to have ordnance in it is
2 there. That's the reason why we are saying, that's
3 why we're recommending clearing the footprint of
4 planned construction. Now, if there's any reason for
5 you to believe, on your property, that there's
6 something there, if you have come up or if you know
7 of one of your neighbors that have come up with
8 something in the last couple of years, that
9 information will be passed on to the Corps of
10 Engineers and then they will determine if other
11 action should be taken for that property other than
12 what we are recommending. But, yes, to say, to
13 simply say that we're not going to clear the rest of
14 your property does not mean that that full property
15 that you have does not have any OE potential, if you
16 will, especially in Area "A". Is that clear?

17 Mr. Levin: Well, if, I think you're
18 covering yourself and I understand that. What I'm
19 saying is that part of your draft report states that,
20 you imply that only areas that have planned
21 construction are going to be investigated.

22 Mr. Awosika: Right.

23 Mr. Levin: We have areas that are
24 already constructed and the assumption is they're not
25 going to be investigated unless somebody finds

1 something on that property just by virtue of putting
2 in a porch or digging a hole for a tree or whatever,
3 correct?

4 Mr. Awosika: That's correct.

5 Mr. Levin: Okay.

6 Mr. Nesbit: Let me take that one step
7 further, okay. Keep in mind that if a structure
8 already exists on your property and that's one of the
9 areas such as Area "A" that you're talking about, we
10 will not go in to move any structures to see if we
11 can find any ordnance. Our assumption, like yours,
12 is, to a big part, is that if there were ordnance
13 there, that it would've been discovered earlier on.
14 With the type of investigation that we do, we try our
15 best to minimize damage to people's property as we
16 can. So in a case where there's potential
17 construction going into an area and we try to make
18 certain that everyone is aware of the potential
19 danger the best we could and describe the danger as
20 best we can, as well. We do not guarantee that's
21 there's nothing there. We can't. Even in property
22 that we have cleared, I can't guarantee 100 percent
23 that we have removed all ordnance or potential of
24 ordnance being on that site. But what we can say is,
25 we have done removal action on a piece of property

1 and we feel reasonably sure that we have removed what
2 we found and that the probability of the risk to the
3 general public has been reduced substantially and
4 that's what our primary objective is.

5 Mr. Walker: Jack Walker. You mentioned
6 that 60 acres were being cleared. Were they
7 completely, totally cleared?

8 Mr. Awosika: Totally cleared.

9 Mr. Walker: Do you know what the price
10 was? I know there were two sections, 20 acres and 40
11 acres. Do you know what the cost of the clearance
12 was?

13 Mr. Awosika: The cost for clearing the 60
14 acres?

15 Mr. Walker: Correct.

16 Mr. Awosika: I'm not privy of information
17 on the clearance of the first 20 acres that was
18 cleared because it was done by Mr. Goodson, himself.
19 The other 40 acres that was cleared, there's a lot of
20 issues involved in how that was done and that does
21 not translate to how you can extrapolate from that
22 cost to clearance at the other site because, again,
23 the function of how much ordnance or UXO that is --
24 you know, if you look at a site and it is cleared and
25 you find only the scrap, the amount of effort that

1 goes in there is not the same that goes with a site
2 that you are finding UXO. Once you start to find UXO
3 all over the place, the level of concern on how you
4 go about doing intrusive work is heightened; it's
5 elevated to the highest level, if you will. And that
6 would, basically, increase the cost for actually
7 clearing that specific property. I don't really have
8 the full benefit of giving you the bottom line cost
9 for the EE/CA, excuse me, for the TCRA.

10 Ms. McGraw: It was millions.

11 Mr. Walker: I'm sorry?

12 Ms. McGraw: Millions.

13 Mr. Awosika: Millions.

14 Ms. McGraw: And one thing that Ola's
15 trying to explain is, for the 40 acres that we did,
16 it's very unusual to clear to 26 feet. And the way
17 it was done, so that the dirt could go on the
18 highway, is they cleared four feet sections at a time
19 because that's usually the detection depth of the
20 equipment. So as they cleared four feet, Mr.
21 Goodson's company came in, took that four foot layer
22 off. Well, actually, after it was sifted, excuse me,
23 that is one soil that we have totally sifted, just
24 like you sift flour, I use that because I bake. That
25 was sifted and then taken offsite. There were at

1 least, I don't know, there were several thousand
2 pounds of scrap taken off that project site because
3 of the sifting process, but we continued to do that
4 in layers. And it's been very, it was very hard to
5 explain to people in the past why it costs so much
6 money. That's because of, first of all, it's labor
7 intensive. And as we showed in the pictures up
8 front, you're talking a wooded area. The person had
9 to cut all the trees down, cut the grass if it was
10 higher than three feet, then start laying out grids,
11 run the equipment over it, find out where to start
12 digging and then start digging at four foot lifts at
13 a time. The sifting equipment and the process is
14 usually very expensive, but it was, had to be done to
15 ensure the safety of the public. I would like to
16 hazard a guess, but I really don't want to, but I can
17 say between three and four million.

18 Mr. Nesbit: I can tell you it was more
19 than that.

20 Mr. Awosika: It was more than that.

21 Mr. Sobel: Craig Sobel from South Creek
22 at Myrtle Beach National. Now that you know that
23 there was an extraordinary amount of work and cost
24 involved at an extra deep dig (inaudible), would it
25 be possible, knowing the areas that are involved, to

1 further down the road restrict them from any deep
2 digging and encourage developers to get soil for
3 other projects from other non-contaminated? This
4 would be a significant cost reduction. I know
5 properties have been condemned in other places by the
6 government for certain reasons, but it seems like it
7 would be advantageous to the taxpayers to avoid any
8 further 20 plus foot digging.

9 Mr. Nesbit: Well, let me ---

10 Mr. Sobel: And a follow up part,
11 question.

12 Mr. Nesbit: Go ahead.

13 Mr. Sobel: I notice on one of the
14 charts, three areas were exactly 2,005 acres. Was
15 this a swag or did somebody actually identify three
16 areas exactly to the acre? I would be suspicious of
17 that number if I was paying the bill, and I am paying
18 the bill.

19 Mr. Nesbit: You are. To try to answer
20 the first part of your question, as Sarah mentioned,
21 that was a special set of circumstances. The
22 unfortunate thing associated with trying to determine
23 whether or not property is condemned or anything else
24 in those lines, we're not involved in. We're purely
25 tasked, as you would, with dealing with the

1 restoration of property itself that are identified in
2 the FUDS. We do, in fact, make recommendations about
3 these special tasks that we come upon every now and
4 then, but just like everything else, there are
5 extenuating circumstances that cause us to do things
6 such as you, as well. We are trying to be good
7 stewards of your funds, I can tell you that. We do
8 everything that we can to minimize our cost efforts
9 and will continue to do that. As so far as the
10 square acreage involved, I can only tell you that we
11 get that information through our Archive Search
12 Reports and looking at leases and so on, based upon
13 records that the Department of Army and Air Force and
14 so on has and we use those as guidelines.

15 Mr. Awosika: We actually use, in addition
16 to that, Ron, during the preparation of the work
17 plan, we actually use GIS to provide an estimate of
18 the acreage of each one of these ranges, as well as
19 each one of the parcels of land that are owned by the
20 different property owners in each one of the ranges.
21 So I can say that the estimates that were given in
22 the reports is as pretty close as it should be.

23 Unidentified Male: You said that they dug down
24 to 26 feet. What was the deepest you found an
25 unexploded ordnance?

1 Mr. Awosika: We found, I believe we found
2 a rocket at the depth of about 20 feet. I do have,
3 among us here, who can specifically tell me or remind
4 me exactly what that depth was. Bud?

5 Mr. Griff: Bud Griff. I was the Parsons
6 property manager during the remedial action and we
7 did find one rocket at 26 feet, we found another one
8 at 17 feet and we found buried fuses at the bottoms
9 of the craters that went on to 16 feet. It was a
10 mess. We're talking, he said, 1,200. I remember
11 blowing up 2,000 and finding another 77,000 more that
12 we had to investigate to make sure that they were
13 safe before we shipped them off to a landfill. One
14 of the big problems was ---

15 Unidentified Male: You found one at 26 feet? At
16 26 feet, are you not in water?

17 Mr. Griff: We were in water and we were
18 in mud and in snow and in sleet and whatever else
19 they had that year.

20 Mr. Awosika: Well, just after that, just
21 after that, the contractor had a large pump out there
22 to dewater that area to make it possible for us to go
23 in there and do the work with the other people.
24 Thank you, Bud.

25 Mr. Warren: Walter Warren. It appears to

1 me the Action Memorandum is a critical component to
2 get completed. You mentioned earlier that internal
3 review was done, this was with DHEC for review. So,
4 right now, is there a hold up on getting that
5 approved and moved through so funding can occur?

6 Mr. Nesbit: No, that's not true. The
7 Action Memorandum is critical action to take place,
8 but DHEC is not holding us up in any way at this
9 point in time. The document, they haven't even seen
10 that document yet. They have reviewed the EE/CA.
11 The Action Memorandum hasn't been completed yet. We
12 have it in a draft form with additional information
13 to be incorporated once we have completed the EE/CA
14 file, signoff and we have also completed the public
15 reviews to ensure that there aren't any other issues
16 that might come up that warrant investigation because
17 all that information must be incorporated or
18 summarized as part of the document. And we will, as
19 soon as that is, we are done with these type of
20 things, that will be our next step and we will be
21 forthcoming on that pretty soon.

22 Ms. McGraw: And if I may add to that,
23 you're wondering what's happening with that? It's an
24 internal review and because our center of expertise
25 is very sensitive more so to the public, I would say,

1 than we are, when we asked Parsons to draft the
2 Action Memorandum, the flags went up as to why don't
3 you have a restoration advisory board, have you
4 coordinated with the State, what are the
5 recommendations based on what the public has said?
6 And one of the problems we've had, Ms. Cotton is with
7 Zapata Engineering, is being able to develop a
8 restoration advisory board. It is very discouraging.
9 Like I said, I'm very happy to see so many of you
10 here. After they sent out hundreds of, "Will you
11 please join the restoration advisory board." I
12 believe they got two letters back. We were here for
13 other public meetings begging people, "Please sign
14 up, we want to have a restoration advisory board,
15 give us your feedback." We don't want to just
16 operate in a vacuum. This is not the, "We're the
17 government and we're here to do what we want to do."
18 No, we want your input. So they actually said, "No,
19 we're not going to have you send that to the
20 Charleston district commander to sign. You haven't
21 incorporated the community concern, nor have you
22 incorporated all of the State's concern." So we
23 stopped at that point. We have sent, met with DHEC
24 and we are doing our best to get that finalized. We
25 want to make sure that we get this out, which is

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1 another reason why we're here again today, is to let
2 everybody know what we have done, what we plan to do
3 and we want to go forward so that, as Ron said, when
4 the monies become available, we'll have a plan.

5 Mr. Hail: Tom Hail. Who is the person
6 in the Corps in the end that approves the Action
7 Memorandum? Does it end up with someone in the Corps
8 or with someone else?

9 Mr. Nesbit: Yes and no. There is a
10 limited authorization within the Corps that
11 headquarters can sign. As it stands right now, the
12 cost of this project is beyond that limit, which
13 means that it has to go through the Department of the
14 Army for approval. So it's actually signed by my
15 commander in Charleston, it goes through the division
16 commander in Atlanta and then on to headquarters
17 before it's forwarded to the Department of the Army.

18 Mr. Hail: Tom Hail again. Any kind of
19 reasonable -- I mean, that sounds like years to me.
20 It might be ---

21 Mr. Nesbit: It won't be years. No, it
22 won't.

23 Mr. Hail: No?

24 Mr. Nesbit: The process itself shouldn't
25 take no more, between six to nine months. That's

1 what we've been told. That's what has been proven in
2 other cases, and potentially, even shorter. It just
3 depends on circumstances that are involved. We feel
4 that this project is not one of any special
5 consideration in terms of difficulty. This is a
6 basic ordnance type project that had extenuating
7 circumstances of everyone who's concerned about time
8 and now money. But as far as some extenuating
9 circumstances as far as technical requirements or
10 some special considerations other than that, we don't
11 see this being out of the ordinary type ordnance
12 project that would require any major concern for
13 delaying signing the document once it's, all our
14 "I"'s and "T"'s are dotted and crossed.

15 Mr. Wiley: Pete Wiley from Myrtle Beach
16 National. With planned development based at Myrtle
17 Beach National, and your slides kind of indicated
18 that you go into an area and the first thing you do
19 is remove trees before you can actually do your tests
20 and groundwork. How do you treat wetlands when you
21 come across that scenario?

22 Mr. Awosika: Do you want to take that one,
23 Ron?

24 Mr. Nesbit: It's strange you should
25 mention that, but anyway, when we deal with a

1 wetlands issue, that's one that the State and the
2 Corps are still grappling with because the potential
3 normally in wetland areas, we don't remove ordnance
4 from underwater. It's a safety issue, along with the
5 fact that we don't remove ordnance from underwater.
6 It's a safety issue. But also, it's one that we try
7 to deal with very sensitively because we are not
8 wanting to destroy wetland areas, number one.
9 Environmentally, it's not necessarily the right thing
10 to do and we try our best not to do it if we can
11 avoid to. If there's a situation where people end up
12 having to pump water out of the area and change the
13 wetlands and so on and so forth, as far as we're
14 concerned, we don't do that. So wetland issues are
15 one that typically end up being dealt with with the
16 lawyers and the State and the Corps legal staff in
17 making a final determination. But most often, we do
18 not dig out wetlands.

19 Mr. Wiley: Have you tested it or
20 researched it at all to see if there is wetlands over
21 there?

22 Mr. Awosika: There are ways to test areas
23 of wetland. We can do the airborne geophysics and
24 then you can do some other means of geophysics
25 techniques, but the best one to use is to do an

1 airborne geophysical of the area. Now, the type of
2 information you get from that for this kind of site
3 that we're talking about, I'm not too sure whether
4 you can solely attribute the anomalies that would
5 detect true ordnance. You could have an area that's
6 been farmed before that will have farm tools or
7 whatever you have that would be mixed with whatever
8 you find there. So, obviously, once you do have
9 geophysical investigation where you do here, you have
10 the (inaudible) go out there and do some ground
11 treatment, complimentary work. That's where they
12 become a problem. How do you go about doing
13 complimentary work in a wetland? One of the big
14 things that we found here in Conway is that you have
15 a lot of endangered species, type of exotic type
16 vegetation, the flytrap, Venus flytrap and all that
17 stuff. You have a whole lot of sensitive environment
18 out there. We would rather not mess with that unless
19 directed to do so in a (inaudible) from the district.

20 Mr. Drusseau: Aaron Drusseau. If I
21 understand you right, the only area you cleaned up is
22 the one with the 60 acres. But if you go over to
23 Area IV which is, which is very popular land, now,
24 they're developing up a storm over there. Has that
25 been cleaned or not been cleaned?

1 Mr. Nesbit: We have not done any removal
2 activities.

3 Mr. Drusseau: Well, how can they build a
4 highway there? How can they build a golf course
5 there? How can they build without being cleaned up?

6 Mr. Nesbit: First of all, there's one
7 thing I need to make sure that everyone understands.
8 The Corps of Engineers and the U.S. government, in
9 this perspective, do not own any property. Anything
10 that we do on your property, we have to get your
11 permission to do.

12 Mr. Drusseau: Don't you have to disclose
13 it, though?

14 Mr. Nesbit: No, we can't. That's not, I
15 mean, if you want that piece of property and you
16 wanted to go on and do construction or farming or
17 whatever the case may be, I can't stop you. We can
18 tell you what our concerns are and make you aware of
19 them, but as far as the Corps of Engineers or the
20 U.S. government is concerned, we can't stop you.
21 Now, that's not to say ---

22 Mr. Drusseau: But you're saying that they
23 can build a highway on that property and not disclose
24 it; is that what you're saying?

25 Mr. Nesbit: Pardon me?

1 Mr. Drusseau: They can build a highway on
2 that property and not disclose it; that's what you're
3 saying?

4 Mr. Nesbit: I still have no authority
5 over that individual and that property owner
6 whatsoever. If he chose to do something to that
7 property that's contrary to our recommendations,
8 that's between him, the county and the State and the
9 city, if that's the case.

10 Mr. Palmer: Milton Palmer. I'm a
11 resident of South Creek. I received my explosive
12 ordnance disposal training in Aberdeen many, many
13 years ago. I have just three comments. I can
14 understand you saying finding thousands of ordnance
15 because the failure rate for the U.S. bombs was
16 around 14 percent. So every 100 that was dropped, 14
17 failed to go off. I'm familiar with the ordnance you
18 showed here and I wanted to mention to Sarah, if it
19 means anything, the 20 pound fragmentation bomb,
20 which I'm very familiar with, during World War II,
21 they also used a different fuse. It was called an M-
22 20. It was nicknamed the always fuse, but it didn't
23 always go off. The other comment, you've mentioned
24 that if somebody finds a piece of ordnance and marks
25 it with a baseball cap or whatever, if your child

1 comes home and tells you he found it, if you make the
2 call, stick around. There's nothing more frustrating
3 than for a disposal person to go out and that
4 person's gone for the day and he can't go in the
5 woods. It's like looking for a needle in a haystack.
6 So that would be my only comment.

7 Ms. McGraw: Thank you.

8 Mr. Nesbit: We will go over what you're
9 supposed to do before we leave here tonight, believe
10 me. Anyone else?

11 Mr. Johnson: My name is Bill Johnson. I
12 also live at South Creek, Myrtle Beach National. If
13 we can get down to a personal level now, since you
14 don't plan to do anything else in that area, how
15 concerned should I be if I go out in my backyard,
16 after having lived there for 12 years, if I go out in
17 my backyard and dig a hole to plant a tree or if my
18 neighbor's digging a hole in his yard? Is this
19 something I should be concerned about or are the odds
20 so slight that I'm more likely to get hit by a
21 falling airplane or what?

22 Mr. Nesbit: Let me answer that this way.
23 I can't tell you not to be concerned that,
24 potentially, you might hit an ordnance if you dug in
25 your backyard. I can only tell you the mere fact

1 that you've lived there 40 some years or 20 years or
2 whatever the case may be and your home has been in
3 existence for a number of years, that sometimes we
4 use those things as an indication of what we can
5 expect in our immediate surroundings. The chances of
6 hitting an ordnance or anything else, for that
7 matter, always exists, but you will have to be the
8 one really to determine what the real insecurity you
9 may have or confidence you may have as to whether or
10 not you're going to find something when you go in
11 your backyard to dig, if you understand what I'm
12 saying? It's very difficult for me to try to tell
13 you other than that when we did the review and we
14 feel, or we have conclusions that says that areas
15 where you live, potentially, may have ordnance there.

16 Ms. McGraw: And if I may be so bold,
17 because I've been to other meetings with the same
18 question, the one thing to determine is how much soil
19 the builder brought in. Usually, they brought in
20 good top soil after they put in the foundation for
21 your home and if your digging goes deeper than that,
22 that's where I would say your caution would go in.
23 But for the most part, I think most of the homes in
24 this area are slab on grade and they brought in soil
25 to bring it up further so that there wouldn't be a

1 flooding problem and that, to me, would be the more
2 concern. Where is the native soil with relation to
3 where you're going to do what you have to do?

4 Mr. Johnson: Well, I take it that most of
5 us don't know, don't know that information because,
6 number one, a golf course has been built there and
7 how much soil was moved or brought in for the golf
8 course, we live on the golf course and whatever was
9 done to the lot before the house was built. So I
10 guess my question is, you've mentioned how many
11 thousands of pieces you found in Area III and, based
12 on the examinations of Area II, it sounded like the
13 number in Area II would not be anywhere near that
14 number, so the odds would be less, if I understand
15 what you're saying?

16 Mr. Awosika: That's correct, sir. The
17 risk, the potential for OE exposure where you live
18 would be much, much lower than what we have at Range
19 III.

20 Mr. Levin: Dick Levin. In your report
21 that you wrote up, for Area "A" it says, "No OE or
22 evidence of OE was reported; however, they discovered
23 a practice rocket and .50 caliber bullets," I mean,
24 in that entire area. So I would think that we should
25 be relatively assured that, that that area is not an

1 area that we should be greatly concerned with and
2 that's why most of the people are here tonight. I
3 know you can't answer it, but this report is in the
4 Conway Library and there's about five or six key
5 pages in it and it does not appear that our area is
6 something we should overly concerned with.

7 Mr. Awosika: That, again, relates to what
8 we are saying. It's an area of low risk compared to
9 the other areas.

10 Mr. Palmer: I'm just following up with a
11 comment. My practice, I've found, most of the
12 accidents were from, you could go back and say the
13 person didn't use common sense, a rocket lodged in a
14 tree and you try to pull it out, trying to dig up a
15 bomb, you know, you hit the fragment or after you hit
16 the body of it. But most of the time, 90 percent of
17 the time, people always go back in an incident where
18 someone was killed and find that they just didn't use
19 common sense. So, basically, they had hit something.
20 If you dig around and it looks like it's a piece of
21 ordnance, just back off and leave it alone. If you
22 find something lodged in a tree like a rocket, which
23 these things have done, well, don't try to remove it.

24 Mr. Nesbit: Any other questions,
25 comments? (No response from public.) Like I said

1 earlier tonight, we're very happy to have you come
2 tonight and ask these questions because it really
3 helps us in at least getting a gauge as to what your
4 concerns are and also to provide you information that
5 hopefully either, I hope, put your minds a little
6 more at ease of your circumstances. But take some
7 time tonight before you leave to look at the maps to
8 look at your particular areas to determine whether or
9 not you have a question about some of the information
10 we might've passed on tonight. We'll be here and try
11 our best to answer your questions. If you have a
12 chance to look at the tapes, do so. We'll have them
13 in the back where you'll have an opportunity to do
14 that. And most of all, one thing I did mention, if,
15 in fact, you should come across an ordnance, by all
16 means, do not bother it. Call 9-1-1. They have been
17 and are aware that they will come out and check and
18 verify the situation and take responsive action.
19 Don't call us in Charleston or Huntsville if you
20 should come across an ordnance. Call 9-1-1 in your
21 local area and they will take responsive action by
22 sending someone out to verify and/or do whatever is
23 necessary to take charge of the situation. Sarah.
24 Ms. McGraw: I'd just like to close, that
25 if you do find something, as Ron said, and we will

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1 keep saying this, be sure you tell your neighbors,
2 your friends, especially if they're children, but
3 even so, I would say, the grown people because, for
4 some reason, pieces of ordnance are fascinations to
5 some people. Our guys have found where people have
6 brought the stuff into their homes. And there was a
7 very tragic incident I heard about where a little boy
8 who was an Air Force colonel's son, went out into a
9 range, brought home a rocket and then his father
10 said, "Boy, put that thing back," and before the poor
11 soul could get back with it, something happened to
12 him. Dad should've said, "Get away from it; let me
13 call 9-1-1." Don't save souvenirs. Our OE safety
14 chief will not certify anything as being inert so you
15 can take it home, not even archives people, not even
16 museum people. In fact, some of our guys have gone
17 to a museum and said, "Oh, my gosh, there's a UXO,"
18 because somebody picked it up and took it away. And
19 unfortunately, people lose hands, lose eyes, lose
20 arms, their children get hurt because of curiosity.
21 As the gentleman said here, don't do something
22 stupid. Leave it there. And what they always tell
23 me, I've been ACRW trained safety, if I didn't drop
24 it, I'm not going to pick it up, even if it's a rock.
25 Even if it looks interesting, I ask the safety

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specialist. "Can I pick up that rock," because I'm not going to pick it up if I didn't drop it.

Mr. Palmer: Sarah was right. Back around the end of 1948, '49, '50, in that time span, a family from New England came down south and found a cannonball. They took it back and the guy polished it, put it next to his fireplace. And when the cold weather started, he turned on his fire and it exploded and killed the family. So Sarah is right. Don't take any souvenirs.

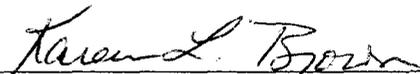
Mr. Nesbit: Thank you very much.
(The public meeting concluded at 8:20 p.m.)

CERTIFICATE

This is to certify that the foregoing public meeting, consisting of **Sixty-six (66)** pages, is a true and correct transcript of the aforesaid public meeting; said public meeting was reported by method of stenomask with backup. This transcript may contain quoted material; said material is transcribed as read or quoted by the speaker.

I further certify that I am neither employed by nor related to any of the parties in this matter; nor do I have any interest, financial or otherwise, in the outcome of the same.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF I have hereunto set my hand and seal this 27th day of July, 2004.



Karen L. Brown, Court Reporter
Notary in and for the State of
South Carolina

My Commission Expires: 10-2-10

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