

BAAQMD_AB&I_05.07.21_MA_Transcribed_5.13.21

Aneesh Rana (Facilitator): [00:00:01] Welcome. Good evening, everyone. You have joined the virtual workshop on the Air District's Draft Health Risk Assessment of AB&I Foundry. At this at this time, I'd like to ask everybody, please mute themselves. This workshop is being recorded. My name is Aneesh Rana. I work in the Air District's Community Engagement Office. Before we get started, I'm going to go over some of the Zoom and other technical features for the meeting this evening. For those of you joining via a Web browser on your computer, smartphone or tablet, you will see icons along the bottom of your screen by clicking the two icons on the left corner, you can mute and unmute your microphone and turn the camera on your device on and off. If you move down the bar to your right, you will find the participants icon, by clicking this icon you can rename yourself, which we'd like you to do now so we can better identify you if you wish to speak later during the workshop. This is also where you can raise your hand to indicate that you wish to speak. If you are dialing into the meeting with your phone, you can dial star nine to raise your hand and then star nine again to lower it.

Aneesh Rana (Facilitator): [00:01:13] Moving further down the bar, to your right, you'll find the chat icon. You can use this feature to submit questions or comments during the question and answer and public comment periods. You can also use the chat function to reach our tech support if you need technical assistance at any point during the workshop. If you continue moving further down the bar, you will find the reaction icon, which provides you yet another option for raising your hand as well as the ability to share your reactions. Simultaneous interpretation in Spanish is available for this workshop. To access this, please click the interpretation icon along the bottom of your screen, shown here with the globe. You will then select Spanish as your preferred language and then select mute original audio. Once you're in the correct room, please click the participant icon to rename yourself and add a capital ES and space before your name. This will help us later on in the workshop place you in the correct break up with the interpreters. I will now have one of our Spanish interpreters introduce themselves and go over these instructions in Spanish.

Ariana (Facilitator): [00:02:51] Can you go back to the English room, you're in the Spanish room. Sylvia, please continue. Yes, yes, can you start from the beginning, please? Yes. Yes, you're in the English room.

Anna Lee (Facilitator): [00:04:32] I believe- I believe so. To explain how those who speak Spanish can access the interpretation channel.

Aneesh Rana (Facilitator): [00:04:50] Do I need to go back to the previous slides or.

Ariana (Facilitator): [00:04:55] I'll just start Sylvia I'll go from here.

Ariana (Facilitator) SPANISH: [00:05:01] Hola a todos, bienvenidos a al Borrador de riego de la salud por la Fundación AB&I. Queremos darles la bienvenida y mostrarles como utilizar el zoom. Para utilizar el zoom por favor visualice la barra de menú negra que se encuentra en la parte superior o inferior de la pantalla. En el encontraran unas imágenes que digan: Audio, video, participantes, característica de chat, o reacción. En el audio, por favor silénciese cuando hable, en el video podrán acceder a que puedan mostrarse o si prefieren también apagar su cámara. En participantes podrán ver a otros miembros, cambiar su nombre y añadir su afiliación o agencia depende de lo que corresponde y levantar la mano. ¡Por favor, recuerde bajarla después! En característica de chat, para proporcionar preguntas o comentarios cuando el chat está habilitado. Ahí podrán hacer comentarios o preguntas, lo que ustedes deseen, ahí podremos ver y ayudarlos. Y en reacción, ahí levante la mano y el pulgar o aplaude depende de las emociones que ustedes tengan.

Aneesh Rana (Facilitator): [00:06:45] If you need technical assistance at any point during the workshop this evening, please use the chat function and direct your questions to support dash Lisa, you can also contact Lisa via phone, text or email the contact information listed there below. If you need technical assistance in Spanish, please use the chat function and direct your questions to soporte dash Ariana, and you can reach Ariana via phone, text or email at the contact information listed there below. Now I'd like to hand it over to my colleague Anna, who will formally kick off the workshop for us.

Anna Lee (Facilitator): [00:07:27] I just want to pause and make sure that the interpretation channel is OK. Sylvia and Ariana, are we OK? Ariana are we OK? OK, great. OK, OK, no problem. Thank you so much. So welcome, everybody. My name is Anna Lee, my pronouns are she/her/hers. I'm an acting manager with the community

engagement office at the Bay Area Air Quality Management District. I just want to say thank you for taking the time to be with us tonight. I know it's a Friday night and when you could be with your family or friends, you decided to be here, so that tells me you care very much about this issue, so thank you so much for being here. I want to thank Communities for a Better Environment for cohosting with the Air District. This is the first time we've done this type of partnership, and thank the Air District team as well, who have put- collectively we put a lot into this. We hope the meeting is informative, that you learn something new, and that everyone can participate in this process. We really want to hear from you and learn from you, from your experience, from whatever background you have, for whatever reason that brings you here. We want to hear from you and learn from that and have that inform our decision making. We have a facilitation team that will be supporting us throughout the evening, so Aneesh is one of them, and myself, Azibuike Akaba, and Ernesto Arevalo from Communities for a Better Environment. I'll ask them all to introduce themselves as they come on the screen.

Anna Lee (Facilitator): [00:09:25] This is our first time kind of sharing the role like that, so please be patient with us as we switch facilitators and all that. So we're going to kick off the beginning with a quick zoom poll. So next slide, please. So we want to get a sense of who is in the room with us today. So if you all could, for those who are on the computer, if you could take a minute to choose up to two options, the question is which groups do you identify with: East Oakland resident, youth, worker, local business owner, government agency, or other affiliation? So I'm going to give you about 15 more seconds. Seems like it's moving a little bit. Still. All right, five more seconds. And I'm going to end the polling now. And so these are our results, so it looks like, oh, OK, it looks like a lot of folks chose other affiliation. And we also have a lot of East Oakland residents as well as government agencies and followed by workers, East Oakland workers and local business owners, and East Oakland youth. All right. I just want to thank you for participating in that poll. It's really helpful to know what motivated you to be here with us today. And we really hope that this workshop really accommodates your needs. So I will pass the mic over to Ernesto, who is going to walk through some of our participation principles.

Ernesto Arevalo (Facilitator): [00:11:47] Hello and good evening, I'm Ernesto Arevalo, Northern California program director with Communities for a Better Environment, CBE. Today's meeting will and should bring up much conversation. We want to ensure that

we stick to principles of participation to ensure that we respect each other throughout tonight's meeting. Tonight is an opportunity to ask questions about the findings from the health risk assessment on AB&I, and provide comment. We want to make sure you and others present have the opportunity to do so in a way that you feel safe and respected, so the following are principles of virtual participation. One person speaks at a time. Be respectful of one another's opinions. Please mute yourself when you're not speaking. Share video so we can stay visually connected, but also we respect when you cannot be on video. Technology happens, please be flexible and patient with us throughout this process. And I will pass it to the technical team now. That way they can repeat how to access Spanish translation and interpretation. Thank you.

Anna Lee (Facilitator): [00:13:23] Sylvia or Ariana, can someone come into the English room and- thank you.

Ariana (Facilitator) SPANISH: [00:13:34] Hola a todos, bienvenidos nuevamente y les voy a mencionar los diferentes pasos y principios para la participación virtual. Primero por favor, una persona habla a la vez para poder escucharnos a todos. Respetar las opiniones de las otras personas. Por favor silencie su micrófono cuando no este hablando. Comparta su video para poder mantenernos contactados visualmente. Y la tecnología a veces falla, a si que por favor seamos flexibles y pacientes.

Anna Lee (Facilitator): [00:14:16] Gracias Ariana. I'll do a quick overview of the agenda. Before I do, I want to let folks know that in the chat, at the very top, there is a link to a Google doc, and we're asking everybody to please go to that link at some point in the meeting and should you want to receive more information from the Bay Area Air Quality Management District or Communities for a Better Environment you can feel free to sign in there. Thank you very much.

Anna Lee (Facilitator): [00:14:52] So a quick overview of the agenda. We are going to- I'm going to pass it over to Azibuike for opening statements and then after that, we will get to hear some community perspectives from some members of Communities for a Better Environment. Then we will hear from Air District staff on a presentation of the draft health risk assessment for AB&I Foundry. We'll have a question and answer session where Air District staff, as well as other government agencies, will be available to answer your questions, followed by public comment. Then breakout sessions where

we will get into smaller groups to do additional public comment, and then next steps and closing remarks. So with that, I will pass it to my colleague Azibuike Akaba.

Azibuike Akaba (Facilitator): [00:16:01] Good afternoon, everyone. My name is Azibuike Akaba and I'm the acting senior policy adviser to our senior executive deputy director, Veronica Eady, who's here tonight. So it's my pleasure to welcome everyone. I also want to acknowledge US EPA is present and able to ask questions. The California Air Resources Board is available and present also is the Alameda County Department of Public Health. So it's exciting that we have this opportunity in collaboration with other agencies to support this effort and it's a historical effort because we're partnering as the Air District with Communities for Better Environment. So that's a historical event. First, I'd like to turn it over to one of our directors on the board, director Nate Miley. And then after director Nate Miley speaks, then the senior executive deputy director Veronica Eady will speak, and then we'll go from there. Director Miley? I know he's present, but he might be having technical difficulties, so we'll go to our senior executive deputy director, Veronica Eady.

Veronica Eady (Participant): [00:18:06] Ok, now time for me to unmute. Thank you so much, Azibuike. I just want to welcome everyone, thank you for being here. My name is Veronica Eady, and as you heard from Azibuike, I am the senior deputy executive officer for policy and equity with the Air District. And my pronouns are she/her. I just want to welcome everybody and let you know a little bit about the Air District and our priorities and how we got to be here tonight. So public health and equity and environmental justice are at the core of our mission and our values guiding the work that we do. We hope we can all agree everyone, no matter where they live, the color of their skin, their income, their background, their language, no matter any of these things that make us different, deserve the same access to opportunities and to breathe clean air and lead a healthy life and beautiful communities like East Oakland, where we're focused tonight. Getting to- getting there is not an easy feat, especially when we're trying to undo the historic discrimination and unfair policies and practices like redlining, which got us to where we are today. But this is a goal that our agency is committed to, and certainly with hiring me, I started in the Air District in August. These are all steps to changing the outcomes for communities like this one, and it means trying new things.

Veronica Eady (Participant): [00:19:41] So you should rest assured that East Oakland is an Air District priority. We know the community has disproportionate cumulative impacts and those are impacts from a variety of sources in your community that include industrial sources, that include highways and a myriad of things that get us to where we are tonight. That shows up, of course, in the health data, we see higher asthma rates, lower life expectancies in low income communities of color compared to more affluent white communities. And those white communities are not that far away. So it makes no sense. The air and the environment play an important part in shaping those health outcomes. So we're using tools like AB-617, which you may have heard of. It's a statewide bill that requires the Air District to partner with impacted communities and residents to develop strategies that reduce exposures to toxic air pollution and requires partnership with the community to plan the path towards reducing those exposures. But tonight, we're here because of the Air District's rule 11 18. This is the first workshop under rule 11 18, which requires a health risk assessment coming out that helps the air district prioritize facilities that pose high health risks, risks on communities, and then require a risk reduction plan.

Veronica Eady (Participant): [00:21:12] So this is the first step where we are tonight, and we're looking forward to getting your thoughts on this health risk assessment. So we're bringing all of our resources to address this issue, including compliance and enforcement. The health risk assessment helps us quite a bit at pointing us in that direction. We hear and respect all of the complaints that have been brought to the Air District from this community for, you know, years. I mean, I've certainly been aware of a AB&I for a couple of years now. We are committed to working with community members and to identify and confirm the complaints, and then to be responsive. So you've heard from us a book that we have several government agencies here tonight in the room. And it's important because we all have different jurisdictions and different missions and different authorities. So it's important for us to partner together with these agencies to solve problems like we're here tonight. And importantly, our agency could not develop sound solutions without the impacted communities as partners at the table with us. Your lived experiences are critical to us in understanding the community and understanding how we address issues of exposure to air pollution.

Veronica Eady (Participant): [00:22:40] So in partnership with the community, I also want to just take a moment to recognize most of you who are here unpaid and here

because you're concerned about the health of your family, your friends, your neighbors, students, churchgoers. Thank you for being here tonight. And lastly, before I hand it off to him, I want to thank Ernesto at Communities for a Better Environment, who you heard from earlier tonight, I want to thank CBE for their willingness to partner on this workshop. We've never co-led a workshop before with a community group and we appreciate CBE. CBE has challenged the Air District to hang up our business as usual models and to do things differently. We believe this partnership and making this our practice, so this is only the first time we hope that it will be our practice to help us transform how we make information accessible to all of the communities in the Bay Area and to authentically engage communities and residents in our decision making processes. With the support of CBE, I believe that you all have helped us to improve accessibility of this workshop and reach more community members with this information. And I know that just looking at the numbers of people here, we're at one forty five. So I want to thank you all for being here tonight. So with that, I will pass it back to I think Ernesto.

Azibuike Akaba (Facilitator): [00:24:21] Well, it's supposed to go to Ernesto, but I'm trying to give- it looks like Director Nate Miley is available. So Director Miley?

Nate Miley (Participant): [00:24:35] Can you hear me?

Azibuike Akaba (Facilitator): [00:24:36] Yes, sir.

Nate Miley (Participant): [00:24:37] Yes, thank you. Yes, I was admitted to speak when you called me initially, so thank you so very much. And I too, want to thank all the people who are attending this evening. This is a tremendous turnout by folks. I'm really, really grateful for the significant turnout. So good evening. My name is Nate Miley and I'm the county supervisor who represents this area from the Alameda County Board of Supervisors. I'm also a member of the Air District Board of Directors. I've lived in Oakland for more than 40 years and I served on the Oakland City Council for 10 years. It has been my honor and pleasure to serve as your county supervisor for the past 21 years and as a member of the Air Board for the past 20 years. During that time, I've pushed hard for new and innovative regulations and programs that have reduced air pollution here in District Four and across the Bay Area. One of those regulations is why we are here tonight. In November 2017, as a member of the Air District Board, I voted to

adopt Regulation 11, Rule 18. That rule requires Air District staff to look at existing sources of air pollution across our jurisdiction and determine if their health risk exceeds the levels that the board has determined to be health protective of the communities that surround them.

Nate Miley (Participant): [00:26:14] The levels set in Rule 11 18 are the most health protective in the nation for existing sources of air pollution in major urban areas. Facilities exceeding our health risk threshold are required to submit plans to the Air District that seek to reduce air emissions using the best available control technologies. If those controls can't reduce the risk enough, the facility is required to submit a plan to reduce those emissions within five years. The plan also requires annual check-ins with the Air District to report on progress towards meeting our rules. However, before we get to that point, it is necessary for the Air District staff to first assess the risk from the facility and to inform the public regarding that risk. Tonight, you will hear from our staff on the recent health risk assessment they performed on air emissions from AB&I Foundry. They will explain what they've done and answer some of your questions. Staff will also be recording the event tonight so that they can provide written responses to the questions raised and comments we hear from members of the community. As staff will explain, this isn't your last opportunity to comment, and they will talk to you about how you can submit additional written comments based on the information you hear tonight.

Nate Miley (Participant): [00:27:54] In addition to our staff, we also have partners here from the California Air Resources Board, the United States Environmental Protection Agency, the city and county government, that may be able to answer some of your questions as well that fall outside the jurisdiction of the Air District. Finally, I want to really acknowledge and thank the great work of the Communities for a Better Environment in putting on this workshop with the Air District. I very much appreciate in value their work and the standards that they bring. The Air District recognizes and values the partnership that we have with the community and with CBE regarding air pollution in East Oakland communities, and we are very happy to be cohosting this with them tonight. Thank you so very much. And I look forward to hearing the comments from everyone. Thank you.

Azibuike Akaba (Facilitator): [00:28:51] Thank you, Director Miley. So a couple other recognitions is our chief executive officer Jack Broadbent is present today. And also

there's representatives from AB&I in the audience as well. So I'm not sure that Jack wants to speak, but if he does, the opportunity is there. OK, so-

Jack Broadbent (Participant): [00:29:26] Thanks, Az. Thanks, everyone, for being here. Look forward to it.

Azibuike Akaba (Facilitator): [00:29:31] OK, thank you, Jack, and then I will turn it over to Mr. Arevalo- Ernesto, he's the Northern California director for Communities for a Better Environment. He spoke earlier, but he'll be introducing the community perspective. Thank you.

Unknown Speaker: [00:30:11] Ernesto I cannot hear you.

Ernesto Arevalo (Facilitator): [00:30:17] My apologies. Can you hear me?

Azibuike Akaba (Facilitator): [00:30:20] Yes.

Ernesto Arevalo (Facilitator): [00:30:21] Thank you. So in order to better understand the impact and historical context of the health risk assessment findings, we need to understand the history of environmental racism in East Oakland. I introduce to you Mykela Patton, who is a wonderful East Oakland resident youth and now East Oakland youth organizer with CBE. Mykela will provide the necessary grounding tonight.

Mykela Patton (Participant): [00:30:53] Hi, everyone, and welcome, thank you all for being here on a Friday night as things are finally starting to open again, super important that we're all here. And I know CBE has been waiting for a long time to kind of be in this space. So, yeah, my name is Mykela Patton. I use she/her/hers pronouns. I am the East Oakland youth organizer, as Ernesto mentioned, and also I am a youth. I currently go to Colby College in Maine, although remotely for now, and we'll be graduating next semester. So I'm an Oakland native, I hate to say I was born in San Francisco, but been here all my life and I really wanted to ground us to make sure that as we really look into these health impacts and begin to engage with community, industry and agency, we're all kind of on the same page and understanding kind of like why we got to this place and why we're here.

Mykela Patton (Participant): [00:31:54] So I want to first say that we're not here by accident. As you all know, the United States was founded on the genocide of indigenous people, the enslavement of Africans and African-Americans. So it's no surprise that racism developed just in tandem with this country on the same level and really just reformed its ways to kind of shape shift into different, different policies that we kind of have and see now, as Veronica Eady mentioned, redlining was a really, really, really big part of it. And I'm going to go a little bit in depth about redlining, as it was a tool used by the federal government, as well as cities and banks to essentially deem what areas were and were not desirable. So I have an interactive map I want to share really quickly, and it's a great tool and it's an interactive redlining map, and I don't think we really think about housing being tied to race, but housing and where you live, the city you grew up in, your neighborhood really determines everything, determines your health, your livelihood, how long you're going to live, how much money you're going to make, what schools you're going to go through. Really everything. As you see the whole country really was redlined specifically in tandem, kind of with suburb and getting out of cities. But obviously we're in Oakland. So I'm going to zoom in to Oakland and especially being in California, I don't think a lot of people think about, you know, the racist policies or practices that were kind of in place because California is known as super liberal.

Mykela Patton (Participant): [00:33:54] If my computer hurries up, I'm going to go to Oakland and we can really begin to see, really, I mean, I'm sure even before I zoom into the street, ya'll know, exactly, ya'll can say who lives where, what school go where, where you do and don't go and what specific reasons that is. And, you know, this map, like I said, was used by the federal government and by cities and banks to essentially direct city funding, city funding and resources. So I want to pay close attention focusing on D15, because that's kind of the border of High Street. And this is where Communities for a Better Environment, this is where we really begin our organizing. So we consider Deep East Oakland and the Flat High Street for the San Leandro border. And as you can see, this is because a history of racism and redlining that made these entire districts just completely red and the nearby districts yellow, which were steadily declining as the term was. Paying attention to D18, we can see that this is San Leandro Street, and essentially this is kind of why we're all here today. You know, this is the heart of East Oakland. This is where a lot of industry is located. This is also where AB&I is located,

you know, and this is also very red. And you can click on these specific areas and see the description as to why it was red lined.

Mykela Patton (Participant): [00:35:34] And you can see industry was a part of the reason. Who wants to live by industry and unhealthy air? Also specifically low income folks and African-Americans and Asian folks all made that area undesirable, not a place folks will want to live, and specifically not a place where the bank wants to hand out money so it can actually get the support and services and funding that the city and that area really needs. So instead, Deep East Oakland was left behind as other parts of the city were able to really gain resources, city support and funding to create schools, better air quality, better zoning and better city plans to make sure that their communities were desirable and a place where their residents and business owners and homeowners to live and also thrive. This wasn't the case for East Oakland. And although racism is obviously not something we want to say our city was complicit in, it is. And this is the proof right here. It was all over the country as well. And so communities all over the country, marginalized communities, have health impacts that are completely disproportionate to, as Veronica said, you know, if you go to Piedmont, it's just completely different.

Mykela Patton (Participant): [00:36:54] So this is a really good tool to use, and you can zoom in to see specific cities and specific streets and really get a good sense of kind of what Oakland was. And it does extend past Oakland, to Berkeley and Alameda and everything. But, yeah, that's that tool. And I think picking up the actual map that they were using in our communities is also really empowering. But, you know, like this is home to many of us and these are the lives and the experiences that we've had. And Communities for a Better Environment and the residents and community of Deep East Oakland has been organizing for years to essentially get us to this point and where we are now and getting agencies in the cities to understand that they have to support and we need their support in providing the data. But no matter what the HRA says, I can tell you and Jasmine and Esther, who are going to be speaking shortly, can tell you who they've lost because of air pollution, who have gone to the hospital every month, every year, who- how many times they have to take their children outside of school because of asthma attacks, or how many times they have to take them to the E.R. not knowing what's going on. These are stories that no matter what this data says, community can tell you time and time and time again, I promise you. So I really just want to ground us in

the fact that we're not here by accident. We're not. There is a specific reason why industry has been concentrated in Deep East Oakland and West Oakland as well, and not other parts of the city, because it's not spread out proportionately.

Mykela Patton (Participant): [00:38:37] So when we think about the impacts and we think about all the health risks, we need to understand that this comes from the history of colonization and slavery. And it is not different than what we've seen, you know, in Jim Crow era that we'd like to forget about. And specifically, community has been doing the work and we're very thankful that we have the support of the Air District to really propel us and begin talking about these conversations and having the data to back up the experiences that our community has been publishing for so long. So with that, I appreciate you all for being here and just always remember that there are very specific reasons why our communities and cities look and feel the way they do. So with that, I will pass it back to Ernesto. Thank you.

Ernesto Arevalo (Facilitator): [00:39:29] Thank you, Mykela. Thank you for grounding us in such a powerful way. And now I have the pleasure to introduce you, Jasmine and Esther, CBE and Environmental Justice Work Group members of the Congress of Neighborhoods. They will both share their lived experience of being impacted by emissions from AB&I. First up, will have Jasmine Gonzalez, who has been a fierce advocate in her neighborhood on the impact of odors from AB&I.

Jasmine Gonzalez (Participant): [00:40:06] Thank you so much, Ernesto. Good afternoon, everyone. My name is Jasmine. I'm really happy to be able to talk with you all today. I'm here as a member of the Arroyo Viejo community and Deep East Oakland, and I'm also a member of the Communities for a Better Environment, Environment, Environmental Justice Work Group. So as a lifelong renter since childhood and after living in Oakland over half of my life, I was thrilled when my family and I were finally able to buy a home in our beloved Oakland. As a first time homebuyer, there were many dreams I had about finally becoming a homeowner. Shortly after moving in, I started smelling a burnt rubber odor. The odor would waft into my home, it would linger outside my home for hours while I was gardening. The odor caused me to get headaches and my throat to feel as if it was closing up. I smelled it for several weeks before I found out where the odor was coming from: the AB&I Foundry plant. And the more I learned about AB&I, the more outraged I became. I couldn't believe that AB&I had been allowed to

pollute and cause a public nuisance to the East Oakland community for over one hundred years. The toxic odor coming from AB&I that my family and I are subjected to on a regular basis makes me feel as if I'm in a case study, in a chapter in a book about environmental racism or environmental justice. As you heard, it's no secret that the area in which AB&I operates is in a community that has been historically and purposely redlined.

Jasmine Gonzalez (Participant): [00:41:47] And studies have shown that red lined communities bear the burden of environmental pollution where the community is mostly made up of black and brown people. Since moving here, I wake up feeling anxious every morning, especially on warmer days when I want to open my windows or open my doors to let in some fresh air. I do those things, but then almost immediately after doing so, I go around regularly checking by those doors and windows for that odor, because I know that at a moment's notice I will have to close them all in order to keep the odor outside as much as possible. The Health Risk Assessment, which we are reviewing today, has shown that the odor that showers the Deep East Oakland community and beyond is loaded with cancer causing particles which threaten our health and potentially shorten our lifespan. I deeply resent that AB&I controls my ability to have access to fresh air both inside and outside my home, where I should have the right to breathe clean air. We all do. Some neighbors have also described similar feelings, and I quote, of feeling trapped by this traumatic health oppressor. Another describes feeling anxious and sick and deeply worried about the cumulative effects that AB&I has on the community, especially our most vulnerable members, like our elders and children. I can only imagine the negative health impacts that AB&I has on its workers.

Jasmine Gonzalez (Participant): [00:43:28] AB&I has been putting out press releases saying that they fear the effects of job loss will have will have on their workers. However, these jobs have the most cancer causing effects. Negative effects and, sorry, I mean, I've lost my [inaudible 00:43:50], so we want jobs in Oakland, however, we- we do want jobs in Oakland, however, we want them to be healthy jobs. The time for us to have access to clean air is now. We cannot wait any longer.

Jasmine Gonzalez (Participant): [00:44:08] Even if AB&I were to remove their molding operations in 2022 and which they claim causes the odor, AB&I's remaining facilities will still be over the cancer risk threshold. The HRA process will only require AB&I to make

changes by 2028. That is nearly ten years from now. Our lives are at risk. We cannot wait that long. The time is now. AB&I has put forth a public image that they care about this community. Politicians and nonprofits are taking money from AB&I. BAAQMD board member Nate Miley does public relation events with AB&I. The mayor crossed our protest line outside AB&I without talking to us and proceeded to give a congratulatory speech on AB&I. City council members have offered some support, however, in one case **[inaudible 00:45:03-00:45:04]** proudly announced that giving away of free turkeys supplied by AB&I for community members in need of food for the holidays. All that to say is that we must not allow AB&I to portray itself as a good neighbor or a positive member of our community. As a community, we must continue to stand up and demand clean air as a human right. The time is now. Thank you.

Ernesto Arevalo (Facilitator): [00:45:31] Thank you, Jasmine. Up next, we have Esther. Seasoned organizer on a range of environmental justice issues in East Oakland, on mass incarceration and reparations for American descendants of slavery. Esther Goolsby.

Esther Goolsby (Participant): [00:45:55] Hello, thank you for the intro, thank you, everyone, that has spoken already. And, I want to share my story. I want to share why I am here today. So those who have heard my story before, it starts off me moving to 82nd Ave when I was 16 years old. But then I really reflected and actually I was 15. A few months shy of my 16th birthday. Yes, I was a young parent. Yes, my environment showed me things that a lot of people don't understand. A lot of people don't understand how people and why people want to advocate for themselves and those rights. We talk about slavery, we talk about Jim Crow, we talk about **[inaudible 00:47:01]** convict leasing, redlining, segregation, the racial wealth gap, mass incarceration, the war on drugs. Endless. Where we have a roof, it should be a place where we can thrive, where we can be healthy. So as a 15-year-old parent, I'm living my life, my children are growing up. We aren't able to just breathe, breathe healthy air. We have not only AB&I, but we had a lot of industries, Mother's Cookies, Sunshine Biscuits, **[inaudible 00:47:55]** Candies, all on 81st Ave. Then the two elementaries and the public library got built. My youngest went to that elementary. I can remember waking up, going on our balcony, and being like mmm fresh air. And once I learned, I took the toxic tour with CBE and I learned about all the toxic and industry and corporations surrounding. By then, 20 years had already passed. So all our health issues, we normalize as a lot of us

do. All of our- my children's nose bleeds, random headaches, stomachaches. This is what they were born into from the environment that they ran.

Esther Goolsby (Participant): [00:48:53] Mind you, I'm still a child myself. It's important for people to hear our stories and not just use our stories. It's important for people to understand that justice actually has to be said. Compensation. When you have a whole area that's been bombarded by toxins and you can put a map over a map, over map. No matter what. Everything is still the same. This HRA that we're going to hear today is only talking about a little part of the whole process. I've been a part of CBE for about 9, 10 years now. I had to take my fight somewhere else, so I ran for county supervisor for district 4. Because somebody that actually has the experience of breathing in this air every single day. Was not just the eight hours of working there, it's not just the eight, six, five, four hours of going to school around there. It's twenty four hours a day, seven days a week, especially for the people that don't work. The people that aren't educated. You should take a look again at those maps and check out all of our school scores. Our housing rates. You can understand the pattern and the pattern. But when we try to advocate? When we try to breathe healthy air? We get turned into, I'm going to just say it, the bad guys. Because not enough community that's living there and normalizes these smells, these odors, these toxins, our whole body development changes while we grow. My oldest is going to be 30 years old this year. That's 30 years of breathing in this air.

Esther Goolsby (Participant): [00:51:17] It's a part of my story. Now, it's a part of your story. We can no longer have jobs over environment. It must change. We have to have green, clean. And everybody on this call. If you're not a part of actually fighting for clean air for East Oakland, I'm just going to say this: Shame on you. There's no way that that map over the map, over maps is still continue to build with negativity, especially for American descendants of slavery, that's especially for these people that have constantly, constantly been using PR systems over them. Like you can't you can't put out false information and expect everybody to believe it, even though that's what's happening constantly. In 2019, I went to the hospital because I could not breathe. As much time as I advocated for all the members of CBE and them not being able to breathe. The youngest member at the time was eight years old. Living right next to the freeway. Numerous trips to the hospital. When I couldn't breathe, I felt what they were telling me all the times when I was advocating for them, telling their stories to people

that again, tell us that we should not be advocating for our help. Well, I'm going to end my story with saying that I'm still here. I made it and I do know so many that hadn't. I don't know how many more I have. I know where I've been living since I was 15 and a half, has about 10 to 15 years less. From using it every single day, and I urge you to use every single day to change all these normal standards that we say we can't do this because we can do everything, especially for the help of our futures. Thank you.

Esther Goolsby (Participant): [00:53:47] Thank you, Esther. Thank you, Jasmine, for speaking truth to power, and thank you, Mykela, too, for speaking truth to power. I'm going to pass it to InterEthnica to remind us on how to get on to simultaneous translation, especially for new folks that have joined us.

Ariana (Facilitator) SPANISH: [00:54:32] Gracias por habernos escuchado y vamos nuevamente a mencionarles como utilizar la herramienta de interpretación de Zoom. Primero en la parte de abajo o de arriba de la pantalla, podrán encontrar una barra negra en donde encontraran un globito o un mapamundi que diga interpretación. Harán click ahí y se les abrirá una pequeña pestaña en la que verán el idioma Ingles, Español. Seleccione el idioma preferido y luego seleccione “mute original audio” para escuchar solo el idioma seleccionado.

Anna Lee (Facilitator): [00:55:34] Great, thank you, Ariana. Thank you so much to our translators and thank you, InterEthnica, for your support for this workshop. We'll pass it to Carol Allen, who will present to us on the draft health risk assessment.

Carol Allen (Participant): [00:55:54] Good evening, ladies and gentlemen, Thank you for joining us tonight. We share your concern-

Anna Lee (Facilitator): [00:56:00] We can't hear you or at least I can't hear you.

Unknown Speaker: [00:56:06] I could hear you, Carol.

Ernesto Arevalo (Facilitator): [00:56:08] I could hear Carol. Reverse that, Carol, if you don't mind.

Carol Allen (Participant): [00:56:12] Ok

Ernesto Arevalo (Facilitator): [00:56:13] There you go.

Carol Allen (Participant): [00:56:14] I'm going to start again. Good evening, ladies and gentlemen, thank you for joining us tonight. We share your concerns about air quality in East Oakland. The Air District has been working to reduce toxic air emissions in the Bay Area for more than 30 years. While we have measured over 80 percent reduction in the average cancer risk due to air toxics since 1990, recent evaluations demonstrate that some Bay Area communities, like East Oakland, have higher health risks due to air toxics than other communities. This is unacceptable, and we are using all of our tools available to reduce Bay Area health risks and especially to reduce those health risk disparities in already overburdened communities. The health risk assessment for AB&I Foundry is a critical step in the Air District's efforts to improve air quality in East Oakland. Now, I would like to acknowledge my team who prepared this health risk assessment and who will be available later for question and answer session. The principal modeler, Ted Hall, the supervising engineer, Bhagavan Krishnaswami, and our toxicologist, toxicologist Daphne Chung. Next. This is the outline for my presentation. Before I get into the details of the AB&I health risk assessment, I want to give you a little background on our facility risk reduction regulation that we call rule 11 18 and about health risk assessments so that everyone is familiar with our terms. I'll provide some information about AB&I foundry's processes and emissions. I'll explain the health risk assessment results and discuss the facilities risk reduction requirements and next steps.

Carol Allen (Participant): [00:58:17] At the conclusion of my presentation, we will open up the meeting for questions. Next. The Air District adopted rule 11 18 in November 2017, this is a risk management based rule that will help improve community health and reduce air quality disparities in vulnerable communities by reducing toxic emissions from stationary sources at existing facilities. The facility must either reduce all health risk, all health impacts below the rule's risk action levels, or demonstrate that each significant source of risk has installed the best available controls for that source type. I'll explain more about those two terms in red in a moment. But first, I want to go through our rule 11 18 implementation process with you. Next. The rule 11 18 process starts when the Air District determines that a site may pose an elevated health risk based on the facility's annual toxic emissions inventory. Next. This triggers a health risk

assessment for the facility that will include all stationary sources at that site. Health risk assessments, or HRAs, require detailed information about the facility, which we verify before we start preparing the health risk assessment. Once we complete a preliminary risk assessment, we share our input data and the results with the facility, and correct any errors that may be identified. Next, we share the draft health risk assessment with the public, collect public comment, make any necessary corrections or improvements, and publish the final health risk assessment. Next.

Ernesto Arevalo (Facilitator): [01:00:16] If this final health risk assessment demonstrates that a health risk exceeds a risk action level, the facility must submit a risk reduction plan. This plan must demonstrate how the facility will meet the rule's risk reduction requirements. Risk reduction plans, or RRP's go through a similar review and approval process as the risk assessment. The Air District reviews the plan and requires additions and corrections until we are satisfied that the plan demonstrates sufficient risk reductions. A draft plan is shared with the public and all comments are considered. We will require the facility to make any necessary revisions to the plan before the final risk reduction plan is approved. Next. Once the plan is approved, the facility has five years to fully implement all risk reduction measures. This time is established by the rule and provides time for the facility to design the emission control systems, obtain all required permits for these facility changes, build the control systems, conduct the testing needed to demonstrate compliance with the new limits. Next. Risk action levels are health risk levels that trigger facility action. The Air District established this risk action levels in Rule 11 18. They apply to the maximum health risk level for a facility as identified by a health risk assessment based on the combined operation of all stationary sources at that facility. As you can see, there are three health risk categories: cancer risk, chronic hazard index, and acute hazard index.

Carol Allen (Participant): [01:02:07] Exceeding any one of these categories, risk action levels, requires risk reduction for that health risk category. I'll explain more about these health risk categories in a moment. While the risk action levels apply to the combined impacts from all sources at a facility, the significant source thresholds apply to individual equipment units or operations. Individual sources that have a source risk above a significant source level must have the best available controls for that source category unless total facility risks are less than all the risk action levels. The Air District's risk action levels and significant source levels are the most stringent risk reduction

thresholds in the nation for existing facilities. Next. Health risk assessment is one of many tools that the air district uses to compare air quality throughout our region and determine where we need to focus our efforts to improve that air quality. Health risk assessment is a type of analysis that quantifies health risks for a given situation. These health risks can then be compared to risk management thresholds, such as the rule 11 18 risk action levels. Risk assessments are conducted using scientific methods and the most up to date health protective information available. The procedures and health risk data are established by the California Office of Environmental Health Hazard Assessment, or OEHA, which ensures consistency throughout California. The health risk results represent the chance or odds that an exposed population will experience a health effect. These results are strictly a measure of probability and do not mean that disease or health effects will actually occur.

Carol Allen (Participant): [01:04:12] Risk assessments include many assumptions that are often purposely health protective. The results of rule 11 18 health risk assessments are specifically intended to be compared to the rule 11 18 risk management thresholds. These results do not represent health risks for an individual person. An individual's health risk depends on many other exposure, genetic and social factors that cannot be assessed in a standardized health risk assessment. Next. The health risk assessment starts by defining the situation to be evaluated. These include identifying facility location, toxic emissions, locations of emission points, building dimensions, terrain data and local meteorology data and more. Next. We run a computer program called an air dispersion model that determines how the pollutants that are emitted by the facility will move out into the surrounding community. The air dispersion model determines toxic pollutant concentrations in air at locations throughout the community. Next. And one more, please. Thank you. Next, we use information about people and the toxicity of the pollutants to calculate health risks for different exposure cases. Breathing rates are considered for different ages and activity levels. We also consider ways other than breathing that people might be exposed to air toxics, such as absorption through skin or drinking water that has been contaminated by toxins. Children's sensitivity to toxics is also included. As I mentioned earlier, all of this health risk data has been developed by OEHA using best available science and is used by all air districts throughout California.

Carol Allen (Participant): [01:06:21] Next. Finally, we use the information about potential locations of off site workers, residents, and schools, in the local community to

determine the maximum health risk for each of these different standardized exposure scenarios. Next. For each of these standard exposure cases, the air district's health risk assessment will determine the maximum health impact for three health- health risk categories: cancer risk, chronic hazard index and acute hazard index. Cancer risk is determined for toxic compounds that have the potential to cause cancer, which are called carcinogens. Long term exposure to toxic compounds may also cause non cancer health effects, such as impacts to heart, kidneys, reproduction or other organ systems. The potential for non cancer health impacts due to long term exposure to toxic compounds is called the Chronic Hazard Index. Short term or one hour exposures to toxic compounds may cause eye, nose, skin irritation, dizziness or other temporary impacts. The potential for health impacts due to short term exposure to toxics is called the Acute Hazard Index. Please keep in mind that the results from these Rule 11 18 health risk assessments are estimates of the probability of health risks. These results should not be interpreted as an estimate of disease in your community. We use risk assessments to determine whether facility risk reductions are necessary and to identify the equipment or sources at a facility on which to focus our risk reduction requirements. Next.

Carol Allen (Participant): [01:08:15] Now, I'd like to provide some background information about AB&I foundry located at 7825 San Leandro Street. Next. The area immediately surrounding AB&I Foundry is industrial and commercial in nature. Residential neighborhoods are located north and east of the facility, as close as two tenths of a mile, or about a thousand feet from AB&I. ACORN Woodland Elementary School is located about a third of a mile or eighteen hundred feet northeast of the facility. Next. The interim community map identifies places and areas of interest that are near AB&I. The map shows one quarter, one half, one mile and two mile radii from the facility. It shows locations of community places of interest, especially for children, families, and elders, including schools and learning centers, child care facilities, hospitals and clinics, parks and recreation areas and churches. AB&I Foundry manufacturers cast iron soil pipes and fittings from recycled iron. There are three major processes: scrap iron melting operations, pipe production and coating operations, fittings and custom castings. Next. Scrap iron, limestone and coke are loaded in layers into the cupola where the iron is heated and melted. Molten iron is held in a furnace until it is transferred to either the pipe production operations or the fittings and castings operations. Next. At the pipe production operations, molten iron is injected into

centrifugal pipe machines. These pipe machines used spinning forces to create uniform hollow pipes. After cooling, the pipes are dipped in an asphalt type coating to seal the pipes.

Carol Allen (Participant): [01:10:34] Next. Fittings and custom castings are created using sand molds and cores that are loaded into a molding machine. After cooling, the cast materials pass through a shake out process to remove excess sand. The materials are finished and packaged for shipment. Next. And one more. Going back to our Rule 11 18 process drawing, we are here at the step outlined in red for AB&I Health Risk Assessment. Next. I'd like to go back a little bit and talk about why we are conducting the HRA for AB&I in the first place. The Air District uses a calculated value called a prioritization score to compare the emission levels and toxicity of toxic emissions from facilities. In 2018, the Air District identified about 40 Air District sites that had high potential for elevated health risks. Under rule 11 18, we refer to these sites as phase one facilities, which need additional review and health risk assessment. AB&I Foundry's cancer risk prioritization score was 644. Sites with similar scores include large landfills, power plants, and manufacturing operations. Since AB&I scores exceed the phase one facility thresholds, a health risk assessment is required. The Air District collected the necessary input data for the health risk assessment from AB&I, updated the toxic emission inventory, and we've shared a preliminary inventory with the facility and now we've completed the draft health risk assessment. And now I'd like to go into the results for this facility.

Carol Allen (Participant): [01:12:39] For AB&I Foundry the maximum health risks from all stationary source operations were determined to be a cancer risk of forty six in a million, a chronic hazard index of one point six, and an acute hazard index of five point eight. The health risk for each category exceeds the rule 11 18 action levels. The Air District's draft determination is that AB&I will be required to reduce these facility health risks to meet rule 11 18 requirements. Next. This figure shows the highest cancer risk for each of our three standard exposure cases compared to the risk action level in red. As you can see, cancer risk impacts are highest for the worker exposure case. For the resident exposure case, the highest cancer risk is about twenty two in a million. And there are some residential areas where the cancer risk exceeds our risk action level of 10. For students attending ACORN school, the cancer risk is less than the risk action level. Next. This table identifies each of the significant sources of cancer risk at AB&I.

Any source that has a cancer risk greater than one in a million is a significant source. These five sources will be required to have the best available retrofit controls for toxic emissions. Note that three of these sources are pipe casting machines. Next. This is another view of where the cancer risk is coming from. The relative contributions to the worker cancer risk are shown in the orange balloons, about seventy five percent of the maximum cancer risk for workers, and that's for off site workers, is coming from the pipe casting machines.

Carol Allen (Participant): [01:14:53] About 20 percent of this risk is coming from the molding operations and about two percent is coming from the cupola. For the pipe casting machines, about two thirds of the risk is coming from fugitive emissions, and one third is coming from the roof vents. Next. For residential receptor locations, the source contribution breakdown shown in the yellow balloons is a little different due to the farther distance from the facility and the influences of emission release methods. For example, emissions from stacks move through the atmosphere differently than fugitive emissions do. However, the significant risk sources are still the same. Primarily, the pipe casting machines, followed by the molding operations and then a small amount from the cupola. Next. At both off site worker locations and residential locations, the primary contributor to cancer risk is a toxic metal called hexavalent chromium. Arsenic, benzene and cadmium emissions are also significant contributors, especially for the residential cancer risk. Scrap iron contains small amounts of toxic metals like hexavalent chromium, arsenic, cadmium, nickel and lead. These toxic metals are emitted from operations that handle molten iron. These operations include the cupola where the scrap iron is melted, the pipe machines where the molten iron is formed into pipes, and the molding operations where molten iron is cast into fittings. Small amounts of toxic metals may also be emitted from grinding and finishing operations. Baghouses at the cupola, loading operations, and finishing operations capture and control most of the toxic metals from these sources.

Carol Allen (Participant): [01:17:05] But the pipe casting machines are currently uncontrolled. Benzene and other toxic compounds are produced during combustion at the cupola and from binders used in the molding operations. Cupola, organic toxic emissions are captured and controlled by afterburners. Next. This map shows the worker exposure case, which has the highest cancer risk. Areas shaded in orange, have worker cancer risk greater than the rule 11 18 risk action level of 10 in a million. Areas

shaded in green or gray have cancer risk for workers that are less than the risk actual level of 10. Next. This map shows cancer risk for the residential exposure case. Again, areas shaded in orange have resident cancer risk greater than the risk action level of 10, while areas shaded in green and gray are below that risk action level. I'll zoom in now, next. As you can see from this map, there are residential areas east of Holly Street and east of G Street that have cancer risks in the orange shaded areas. While most of the cancer risk is coming from pipe casting machines, most of the non cancer impacts are coming from the pouring, cooling and shake out areas of the fitting and custom casting operations. Most significant pollutants are arsenic, for chronic impacts, and nickel, for acute impacts.

Carol Allen (Participant): [01:18:52] Next. For chronic non cancer health risks, only the hazard index for workers exceeds the rule 11 18 risk action level of one. The chronic hazard index for residents, residents and students at ACORN school are each less than one. Short term or acute non cancer impacts exceed the risk action level of one for locations near the facility. Next. Our draft determination is that AB&I foundry will be required to reduce risks from this facility. Risk reduction measures should be targeted at the significant risk sources. The most significant source of cancer risk is toxic metal emissions from the pipe casting machines. At the fittings and custom casting operations, the source two pouring, cooling and shake out operations have significant health risks for both cancer risk and non cancer health impacts, also due to toxic metals. Some acute health risks for source two also come from benzene. The cupola is also a significant source of cancer risk and non cancer health impacts, primarily due to toxic metals. Next. AB&I has installed baghouses at several operations that control particulate matter and toxic metal emissions. The cupola has two afterburners that control organic compounds, including toxic organic emissions such as benzene. Cupola particulate and metal emissions are also controlled by a baghouse. Pouring, cooling, and shakeout areas have four baghouses that control particulate matter and toxic metal emissions.

Carol Allen (Participant): [01:20:51] Next. As a result of Air District rules, especially in anticipation of rule 11 18, Air District enforcement actions, odor complaints and voluntary measures, AB&I has made process and physical changes to reduce toxic emissions from this facility, they have replaced mold binders with less toxic materials and added and replaced baghouses to improve control of toxic metals. They have also

installed windbreaks and enclosures, made system changes, and improved maintenance and housekeeping procedures to improve capture efficiencies and reduce fugitive emissions. Next. While AB&I and the Air District requirements have reduced toxic emissions from this facility, our health risk assessment has revealed that the control measures taken to date are not enough, and that additional controls are necessary to meet Air District health goals. When this health risk assessment is finalized, AB&I will be required to submit a risk reduction plan that demonstrates how they will further reduce risk from their operations. These risk reduction strategies should focus on the significant risk sources that have been identified in this risk assessment, especially the pipe casting machines, which are the highest contributor to the cancer risk and are currently uncontrolled. Possible risk reduction strategies include installing additional enclosures to reduce fugitive emissions, venting captured emissions to new or updated control devices, modifying operations to use less toxic compounds, and relocating or curtailing operations. Next. This is our estimated schedule for the next steps in the risk reduction process for AB&I Foundry.

Carol Allen (Participant): [01:22:58] We will collect public comment on this draft HRA, or health risk assessment, through June 8th. Next, we will post the final risk assessment. We hope to have it posted by September, but this draft schedule depends on the extent of public comments received, and the amount of revision the risk assessment is needed. Concurrently with the posting of the final health risk assessment, we will notify AB&I of the risk reduction plan due date, which is six months after notification. Toward the end of 2022, we expect to post the draft risk reduction plan on the website and we will have a public comment period for this plan. If there are no major issues with the plan, we expect to approve it by April 2023. Although AB&I has five years to complete all the risk reduction measures, the plan will include interim milestones to keep the facility on schedule. AB&I must also submit annual progress reports until all risk reductions are completed. Next. More information about rule 11 18 requirements, health risk assessments and the AB&I health risk assessment can be found on the Air District's website. We will continue to collect public comment on the AB&I risk assessment through June 8th. You may submit your comments online through the website or send them to my attention by email. This concludes my presentation. And now I'd like to turn it back to Anna.

Anna Lee (Facilitator): [01:24:39] Thank you so much, Carol, that was very informative. Right now, we're going to move over into the question and answer portion of the agenda. So first, I'd like to remind everybody that we- of the virtual participation principles as a way to be respectful of one another's opinions, making sure you're muting yourself when you're not speaking, share your video if that's possible, so we can stay visually connected, be flexible and patient with the technology, and one person speaks at a time. And to- to that end, please use your raised hand function, and if you're on the phone, you can raise your hand by doing star- pressing star six on your phone. Before we start, though, we're going to do a quick zoom- oh, sorry. That's for later. But so we will- there's a lot of people, we have about thirty five minutes for this section, and because of that we'd like to- we're going to limit each speaker with their questions, because they may have multipart questions, to two minutes each. So we're going to be thirty to thirty five minutes here. And so with that I will open up the Q&A.

Anna Lee (Facilitator): [01:26:19] And one thing to note, Carol and her team are here, we also have the Air District health officers here, representatives from our compliance and enforcement division, meteorology and measurements. And as we said in the beginning, the US Environmental Protection Agency is here as well. So, Aneesh, I see one hand up I saw Katherine Funes is that the first hand? Please Katherine, go ahead and unmute yourself.

Katherine Funes (Participant): [01:27:07] Hi, yeah, hi, Katherine Funes, I'm here with New Voices of the Rose Foundation, also a Deep East Oakland resident. I have a question, so many questions, but I think the first one is to clarify that resident descriptor, especially when we're talking about that area, also has a lot of un-housed neighbors there. So does that risk assessment on residents, is there an opportunity to differentiate residents who at some point can maybe enter a home and have some sort of buffer versus residents in the area that don't have housing?

Anna Lee (Facilitator): [01:27:49] Katherine, did you have more questions? You can feel free to just go through them. OK, so I'll pass that to Carol.

Carol Allen (Participant): [01:28:12] So the- to answer the question about the residents, when we're doing the standard health risk assessment, we- we looked at areas that we could identify where there were permanent housing residents. So at this

time, we have not identified unhoused areas as residential receptors for this health risk assessment.

Anna Lee (Facilitator): [01:28:45] Thank you. So next, we have Bethany.

Bethany (Participant): [01:28:55] Yes, thank you and thank you for this great presentation. 2028 seems very far off and I do feel ill in the mornings and I keep my windows closed until the evening when I think they're shut down. I'm wondering what I can do to keep myself safe from these toxins in the meantime, while we're working on getting better standards set and eliminating these toxins.

Anna Lee (Facilitator): [01:29:26] So, Carol, do with that, Bethany, sorry.

Bethany (Participant): [01:29:31] Thank you.

Carol Allen (Participant): [01:29:32] OK, thank you, Bethany. Carol, do you have a response or Judy Cutino?

Judith Cutino (Participant): [01:29:40] Hi, yes, thank you Anna and good evening, everyone. I'm the health officer for the Air District. So ideally, I understand it can be challenging, but if people are able to get air cleaners, that can be helpful, especially if they have carbon. And the Air District is- it's it's still early and it's challenging. But we're trying to work on programs to help people get air cleaners. But it's still early and it's a very challenging program. Other than that, it's- the best things are to try and minimize exposure, which might mean that if you're able to leave the area for even some amount of time to well, especially as we, as we come out of COVID, that would be helpful if you're able to go to school or- but otherwise, you know, just regular things that we know to take care of ourselves, and that's to get as much sleep as we can, to eat as good food, and I know that can be a challenge for people that don't have access to good food, but good food helps like fruits and vegetables and, and exercise, you know, just kind of the regular things to take care of ourselves. Anna?

Anna Lee (Facilitator): [01:31:36] Thank you, Judy. So we have a bit of a queue, so we're going to go Mariana Munoz, David Belle, Rupa Marya and then Anna C., Anna C. and then so let's have Mariana first. Oh, sorry, I think it's Marina. Marina Munoz.

Marina Muñoz (Participant): [01:32:14] Permítame tantito estoy quitando, cambiando de cámara. Mire yo creo que ya estamos cansados de hacer tanto trabajo verdad. Aquí en el este de Oakland. Tengo años que soy miembro de CBEs, he sido una líder de mi comunidad de la Sobrante Park y he hecho mucho estudio verdad. Ya que me interesa mucho por que mis hijas tienen asma y yo creo que ya deben de hacer algo las autoridades porque nosotros somos la parte mas afectada. Entonces piensen ustedes verdad. He estado escuchando al supervisor verdad, que tiene 10 años trabajando aquí. Porque no ha venido por esta área a caminar, a ver los problemas de la comunidad, de lo que estamos necesitados. La verdad es una vergüenza, diría yo. Salgan de las oficinas, vengán nuestra comunidad se está muriendo de asma, de cáncer, de muchas necesidades. Yo he trabajado dura para que mi comunidad cambie. Porque necesitamos un aire puro para respirar. Denos recursos para hacer varios estudios. Se necesita dinero para hacer estudios en nuestras comunidades Hay mucha pobreza aquí. Estamos en el área mas abandonada. Gracias, mi nombre es María Muñoz.

Anna Lee (Facilitator): [01:35:36] Thank you so much for your comment, Marina. Just a heads up. That's OK. That's OK, Oscar. For others who may be monolingual Spanish speakers moving forward, we will definitely build in more time for the interpretation. So the way we did it right now was just round the clock two times, which should equal four. So don't want to cut you all short of your time. So next, we have, and I just want to pause if I believe that was a comment, so I'll move on. But if any Air District staff want to respond, feel free to jump in. Otherwise, we will go to David Belle. Feel free to unmute yourself.

David Belle (Participant): [01:36:32] Hi, yeah, so I just like, for my first thing is like, this is like a really big issue and my biggest problem with it is the fact that it took ya'll so long to kind of like, just like, actually come up and speak about it like, and then also like with what you said about like getting away from it, especially in these times, we cannot just get away. We can't just move away and like, just go somewhere and get away from it for an extended amount of time. Like, we can't just move like, and at a moment's notice. Like, that's expensive for one. And that's also a really hard thing to do. And then the eat well thing, especially in East Oakland, that is the thing that is extremely hard to do because healthy, fresh foods are so hard to find, like they're either super expensive or

they just aren't readily available at all. And I honestly just think like the like the timing of this is kind of just it's like, it's kind of just like all like it's really late, in my opinion. Like it could have been done so much earlier, like and it could have just been like dealt with so much earlier as to where it wouldn't be this big of a thing.

David Belle (Participant): [01:37:50] People wouldn't like like people wouldn't be here, like just trying to talk about this nearly as much as possible and like voice our concerns as much as we are right now, as much as we need to right now if it had just been dealt with beforehand. I understand that it's not something that can just be done like at the drop of a hat, but it is something that is extremely important, that needs to be done. And it's something that should have been dealt with a long time ago. And I don't want this to come off as like me just being like, yeah, this is your fault. You should have done this. Like, I just like, like [unintelligible 01:38:23] I understand. Like, this is something that should have been done quite a while ago. And it's something that we shouldn't have to come up here and voice our concerns about for something to be done about it.

Anna Lee (Facilitator): [01:38:47] David, thank you so much for your comments. So next, we have Rupa Marya.

Rupa Marya (Participant): [01:38:58] Hello, can you hear me? Thank you so much for this presentation. My name is Rupa Marya. I'm an associate professor of medicine at UCSF in San Francisco. I'm an East Oakland resident two to three days a week with my two year old and seven year old. I'm forced to go inside during the morning hours because of the toxic smells coming from the AB&I Foundry. I have deep concerns about the derelict behavior of BAAQMD in this process in terms of protecting the health of the people of East Oakland. It is shocking to me to see how odor complaints are handled or how the complaints of people living under this oppression of poisonous air, it's poisonous air that we're talking about in Oakland, how it's dealt with with people coming out to stand next to me three or four hours after we call to complain, to sniff the air. And only if they sniff the air in the way that we sniff the air do they register a complaint. So there's a farcical nature to how BAAQMD is proceeding in this day and age. I work at a top notch health institution. If you want more information or more technical savvy, I'm sure you could partner with more people in the health institutions.

Rupa Marya (Participant): [01:40:13] What Judith just shared as your health advisor, that people in East Oakland who are being exposed to carcinogenic materials should just sleep better and eat better and do those basic things to keep themselves better while they're being exposed to carcinogenic materials in the air is again farcical. This is not the way we treat people with respect, especially black and brown community. So I want to know a couple of things, like number one, in your report, in your health assessment report. With this elevated cancer risk, is there going to be an option to shut the AB&I Foundry down? They've been operating in East Oakland for over one hundred years and they still haven't figured out how to operate safely, even cutting the jobs and moving them to Texas, and we'll be in touch with the people over there in Texas, even doing that, it won't cut enough down to lower our cancer risk. We do not deserve to be breathing this shitty air. We do not deserve for the people of East Oakland who are already hit by COVID and the highways and all of that and the poverty and the racism and the policing, we don't need to be breathing air that's going to cause cancer.

Rupa Marya (Participant): [01:41:24] I want to know if the cancer risk in the children is actually calculated over time. I have a couple more questions. Can I can I just ask a couple more questions?

Anna Lee (Facilitator): [01:41:33] Could you. Yeah, if you could. If you could wrap up your remark. And then I just want to make space for other folks.

Rupa Marya (Participant): [01:41:39] Yes. The questions are, is it is it feasible to have the closure of AB&I foundry be involved in the BAAQMD report? Number two, why do AB&I employees show up at my doorstep when I call BAAQMD to file a report about an odor complaint? Why are they showing up? What is the relationship between BAAQMD? Number three, it's not a question of statement. Shame on you, Nate Miley, for being there for twenty one years and doing nothing about this toxic pollution happening and taking campaign help.

Anna Lee (Facilitator): [01:42:08] OK, thank you Rupa. I just want to make space for other folks and I will turn over to I think there was a permitting question. So I think that goes to Pam.

Pamela Leong (Participant): [01:42:31] So I think Carol has the answer for that but-

Anna Lee (Facilitator): [01:42:35] OK

Pamela Leong (Participant): [01:42:35] -the elevated risks do trigger the- the risk reduction plans and otherwise there there is no other violation that we could shut them down.

Damian Breen (Participant): [01:42:55] This is Damian Breen here, I'm our senior deputy for operations, and I just wanted to add a little bit to Pam's answer there. We at the Air District are extremely concerned that the facility is above the limits that are in our rules. But our rules do limit what we can do. Like any organization, any governmental organization, we're bound by the regulations that we have. So while, as Pam says, currently the facility is not in violation of any of our regulations, we will do our best in the most expedited timeframe that we have available to us under the rules to put pressure on the facility to employ the best available control technology that they have to them to bring these emissions down and we'll continue to use our enforcement and investigative group to make sure that the facility is complying with all of our rules during that period. Thank you.

Anna Lee (Facilitator): [01:44:05] Thank you. Apologies, I- there was a question, I think, about compliance and enforcement, is Jeff Gove on the line?

Jeff Gove (Participant): [01:44:41] Can you hear me?

Anna Lee (Facilitator): [01:44:43] Yes.

Damian Breen (Participant): [01:44:44] Yes sir.

[01:44:45] Yeah, this is Jeff Gove Compliance Enforcement Division, I think the question with regards to complaint response, our inspectors are in the field every day responding to complaints when they come in and we try to get them as expeditiously as possible. Sometimes when the complaints are routed through the California Air Resources Board, they'll take a little bit longer to get to our dispatcher and can be delayed response times. But again, we try to do our response as quick as we can. We do have a professional relationship with AB&I, when we do receive complaints, and we let them know that their

complaints allege against them. So if they wish to do a patrol out in the area, they can patrol. But we do not divulge any information about the complainants themselves and I'm not sure you can still hear me on my computer just went completely blank.

Anna Lee (Facilitator): [01:45:43] I could hear you, and I hope that addresses all your questions, Rupa. I just want to let people know we're running short on this portion of the agenda. However, so if you want to put your question in the chat, that's one way of getting it up there. And if we can't get to your question, all these questions, everything in the chat is being recorded and staff will reply to the questions in the chat on the website at a later date. Next, we have Anna or Anna C..

Anna Cobbit (Participant): [01:46:34] Hi, am I unmuted? Am I unmuted, can you hear me?

Anna Lee (Facilitator): [01:46:41] Yes, I could hear you.

Anna Cobbit (Participant): [01:46:43] Ok, great. This is Anna Cobbit and I live on Frances and Fairfax, which is outside of the two mile radius that was in the study. And I first want to say thank you for doing this study and this risk assessment. However, I do agree that it's a kind of a day late and a dollar short, but at least it was done. And I could say that even though I'm outside the two mile radius of the study, I still smell that crap. And it's bad. It just feels like you're being attacked by the air. So it is a serious problem. And I also just wanted to say about the complaint process when when I complained to the Air Quality Board, somebody comes out here, it's usually a guy and who's like, you know, 20 years younger than me and and three feet taller than me and he comes out here, and he mansplains to me why, you know, it's just not what I think it is. I'm not smelling what I think I smell and I'm not experiencing this. And anyway, the point being is I feel like these guys that come out after you complain are really intimidating and they have a really bad attitude and they show up two hours later and they're like sniffing around, going I don't smell anything. That is just incredibly, that's really unacceptable in terms of a scientific method to verify a complaint. Just unacceptable on any standard of evidence. So I just want to wrap up and say that people outside of the two mile radius are definitely experiencing these effects just as strongly, I mean, I don't know if there is something you can add to the radius, but the point being is, yes, please do something about the complaint process, yes I see that, I'm going to finish my sentence and say-

Anna Lee (Facilitator): [01:48:52] OK, thank you.

Anna Cobbit (Participant): [01:48:53] -people should continue to complain because we all know this agency has had tremendous inefficiencies and even corruption. Thank you I pass.

Anna Lee (Facilitator): [01:49:05] Thank you Anna. And I think we're going to just combine the Q&A and public comment section, so so just FYI we're going to do that and I'm going to turn to Jeff to see if you have any comments or responses to that. There was also a couple of questions about what's the number to call for BAAQMD, and thank you, Damian, for putting the the phone number for the complaint line as well as the website. So, folks, I refer to the chat, please, for how to contact the Air District. Jeff, do you want to respond?

Jeff Gove (Participant): [01:49:48] Yes, sure. Again, my name is Jeff Gove, compliance and enforcement director. My staff is out there every day trying to do its best to confirm complaints to the facility, but if you're experiencing any issues, you can always feel free to call me directly to address your concerns. Maybe we can talk about that offline and I can put my information in a chat. Thank you.

Anna Lee (Facilitator): [01:50:17] Thank you. So next, we have Anya Cross. Feel free to unmute yourself and ask a question or give comment. Thank you.

Anya Cross (Participant): [01:50:28] Hi, I don't know if everybody can hear me. My first question was just regarding BAAQMD's actual measuring procedures, any other agency that is measuring something that would be considered science would have to use some type of scientific measuring technology in order to verify a complaint or what's going on. Is there equipment that could be issued to them instead of the sniff test? The sniff test, again, is something that is arbitrary. We're talking about Troy, we're talking about Mike and different people who are coming out that may not vibe with us. And it seems like if they verified the complaint, it's going off of their vibe, not actual science. There's no other environmental health agency that would consider that as an actual finding. It's ridiculous. Number two, just hearing this, hearing the health officer say things about moving out of the area, eating healthy foods, we've all talked about that,

but just seeing that this problem is plaguing East Oakland, an area we know people do not have transportation. They don't- they can't just move out of their house and go to another place. Do the politicians on the line like Nate Miley, I was hoping maybe our D6 councilman would be on here, I don't see his name, but do other politicians feel different about their alliance with AB&I and receiving contributions from them? And I would really like to hear from Nate Miley if he could answer. Do you feel different knowing that the people that you represent or your friends and colleagues represent are not getting a fair handshake in this? And it's just the, the, it's just not realistic what's being told as the quick fixes on this?

Anna Lee (Facilitator): [01:52:18] Thank you so much for your comment and question. So I think there was a question for Carol. And was the measure- was that for you?

Carol Allen (Participant): [01:52:30] I'll start and then I think I'm going to pass this off to Jerry, but I'll just start by saying, regarding odors, our noses are extremely sensitive and they are much more sensitive than measurement techniques. But I also wanted to mention that what we smell and the, what we measure in the health risk assessment are not necessarily the same things for, for example, what you smell when you're, when you're smelling an odor is often an organic type of compound, whereas the primary, primary health risk issue for this facility is a toxic metal. And so there isn't necessarily a correlation between what you're smelling and what's causing the most health effects. But I'd also like to pass it off to Jerry to talk about measurement techniques for odors.

Jerry Bovee (Participant): [01:53:36] Yeah, thanks, Carol. This is Jerry Bovee, I'm the manager of the source test section at the Air District. Odors like Carol mentioned that are extremely difficult to measure. She's correct in stating that the human nose is the most sensitive detector of odors and being able to detect these compounds that are causing the odors down to the level that the human nose can is extremely, the technology is just, hasn't really developed to that point yet. There are some instrumentation out there that can get down to the parts per billion or parts per trillion level. But this, these technologies are still much in the development phase and they're not very portable at this point. It's not something that can easily be deployed when we get a complaint to bring out to an area to try to assess what the concentration level is or what is actually causing that odor. Ideally, in the future, as this technology advances further, there might be methods where or instrumentation developed where you can

actually make it more portable and bring it out to the facility, to the areas and be able to detect these things. But it's just not there yet. So we have to rely on the inspectors and the human nose at this point to try to detect this and, and do odor screening of various types in order to determine how bad it is.

Anna Lee (Facilitator): [01:55:12] Ok, so I think we have next, Bethany, have you gone yet? Think you were next.

Bethany (Participant): [01:55:21] Thank you. I think I'm unmuted now. I'm wondering why we're waiting till 2028 have these, these things in force. And also, is it possible to just completely shut them down before that? Maybe they can reopen when they figure out how to do things safely. But it seems like, you know, keeping everybody in a state that's dangerous is, is not a solution. And something needs to happen yesterday, like a lot of people are saying. So can we push up the timeline? Can we pause operations? What can we do to help us today?

Anna Lee (Facilitator): [01:56:04] Thank you for your comment and question, Carol?

Carol Allen (Participant): [01:56:10] Sure I'll take that. So the rule 11 18 established the timeline, this rule was adopted by a board of directors and the timeline is part of the regulation. The- it does allow them five years once we've approved the risk reduction plan to do this installation. There are engineering design that needs to happen, and for designing the new control devices, the facility has to apply for permits from multiple different agencies for the changes at the facility. They need time to install the abatement equipment and to do the source testing to demonstrate that the abatement equipment is performing the way it's supposed to be performing. And all of that does take time. But where we can, we will do everything we can to accelerate this process as much as we can and to ensure that the facility is keeping to the schedule that's set out in the risk reduction plan.

Anna Lee (Facilitator): [01:57:21] Ok, next up is Margie Lewis 22, feel free to unmuted yourself.

Margie Lewis (Participant): [01:57:27] Hello. As Carol pointed out and I want to sort of piggyback on what Bethany said, Carol pointed out in the report, the emissions are

toxic. There's no ifs, ands or buts about it. And the clock has run out. The infant, the child, the young parent, the elderly do not have time. So therefore and I understand that what the timeline is in the regulations, we need you to advocate for a change in these regulations because it's unacceptable. You cannot continue to put the burden on the community to continue to breathe the air. There's nowhere to run. There's nowhere to hide. You close your window unless you live in a hermetically sealed cabin, you breathe the toxic air, no matter how great your food is and how much you exercise. And by the way, you're breathing in more when you exercise, you're breathing and more toxins. So the point is you've got to change the regulations and they have to be shut down. And the burden has to be on AB&I to figure out whatever they need to do. If they need 10 years, fine. Let them be closed for 10 years, figure it out. But the community cannot continue to bear the racist brunt of these toxins. So what can you do to help change the regulations? And the community will be behind you to do that because these regulations are unacceptable. The clock has run out.

Anna Lee (Facilitator): [01:59:16] Thank you, Margie. I think there was a question about what could be done with the regulation, so does someone either on engineering or executive leadership-

Damian Breen (Participant): [01:59:29] Damian here, I'll just step in and take that one. So one of the, one of the things that's happening through this process is we are taking your comments. And we do understand that folks are frustrated with the amount of time that we have in our timeline here. But that's a comment we can take back to our board of directors, I'm certain. As you know, many of them are very interested in what happens here. So that's something that we can definitely share with them and see if they're willing to take that up. I'd also say that while we are working on the rule timeline, we're also using our other enforcement tools. We're having our staff visit the facility. We're making sure that we're trying to stay on top of the complaints and keep this facility in compliance. And we're also working with our partners at the California Air Resources Board and US EPA to see what other things we can do, even outside of our own authority, to make sure that we are trying to get the best and quickest cleanup that we can from this facility. So we'll definitely take those comments back and we will share them with our board.

Nate Miley (Participant): [02:00:42] Yeah and this is Nate Miley. I've been listening as well and, and I'm listening to the comments from the community and I'll be talking to the staff about this as well.

Anna Lee (Facilitator): [02:00:54] Ok, thank you. So next, we have Shanthi Gonzales, please feel free to yourself.

Shanthi Gonzales (Participant): [02:01:03] Thank you. I want to just thank CBE for organizing this and getting a mailing out to everyone in the neighborhood because we usually don't hear about these kind of meetings. So appreciate the effort. I just wanted to say that I'm appreciating that, you know, there was research done about the impact on Lockwood and EnCompass, I mean sorry, on ACORN Woodland and EnCompass students. I just wanted to say there's probably a dozen schools that are impacted by AB&I's activities. There is the students on the Lockwood campus, which is, includes Havenscourt. So the Coliseum College Prep Academy across the street from them is Aspire Golden State. There's three state run preschools at Arroyo Viejo, at, God. I just lost my train of thought. But there are three state run preschools, there's the Stonehurst CDC, so it's not, it's not as though there's only a couple of schools that are being impacted by this. It's actually much more far reaching. There's actually probably two thousand or three thousand students that are being impacted by the poison. So I just want to echo what Bethany said, which is not acceptable to wait five years to fix this.

Shanthi Gonzales (Participant): [02:02:17] Kids are being impacted every day. And with kids going back to school, they're not going to be able to just be inside all the time like they have been over the last year. So I hope that we can take action much sooner than five years from now, because it's not it's not acceptable to expose kids in this way. Thank you.

[02:02:36] Thank you for your comments, is Cesar East- Dash East Oakland, are you there? Feel free to unmute yourself.

Cesar (Participant): [02:02:51] I just want to know what type of pollutant controls has the company put in place? I mean, have they put any in place? Have they, have they changed their operations since they, since they've started? Because there's plenty, there's state of the art pollutant controls available for foundries, and for them to, to, and

five years, five years from now is a long time. I mean, the- the effects of the hexavalent chromium, chromium alone are extensive. They're- I mean, I was driving today just from San Leandro to, to, to my home in East Oakland through San Leandro street, and right after passing that, the AB&I Foundries, I got a nosebleed. I didn't even know what AB&I Foundry was. I didn't, I didn't know that at all. And it was pretty extensive. My, my, my nose bleed and I- as soon as I got home, I was like I just kept thinking, I'm like, why did I get a nosebleed? I haven't gotten a nosebleed in over 20 years. I'm like, What? What is going on? And then I paid attention to that little pamphlet. Then I as soon as I came back, I came back to San Leandro, I got online and I did some research on the company. I finally realized what that company is. And just, just know, I've only been living in Oakland and East Oakland for a year, and to, and and the effects that I, that I have, that I have felt just to the- from the air alone are extensive. I mean, I'm inside my home and I feel like I can't breathe.

Cesar (Participant): [02:04:28] I, it's, I want to know what the company is, what are, what are the, based on this, on the assessment, what are the recommendations? What what does the company have to do? Has the Air Board actually set certain standards that they have to follow or, or set or, or set certain technologies that they have to put in place by a certain date? I mean, what is it? What's what's next, I want to know, what is the company going to do next?

Anna Lee (Facilitator): [02:05:08] Thank you-

[02:05:09] Aren't there representatives from the company here now, can't they answer some of these questions? Can't they tell us what, what, what are some of the things that the company has done to, to, to control the pollutants that they released out into the air?

Anna Lee (Facilitator): [02:05:32] I believe that they-

Cesar (Participant): [02:05:33] -don't answer, no one answers. It's ridiculous.

Damian Breen (Participant): [02:05:38] Cesar, if we might, think we can answer a little bit back to what, what's been happening. So over the last few years, there have been significant numbers of complaints from the community that's allowed the Air District to confirm a couple of violations for odor. We've also been working on this particular study

here. And as a result of that and our work with the facility, we've seen them make a number of changes. Carol I don't know if you want to step through kind of some of the things that they've done so far. But one of the things I would say is that we continue to put pressure on them to change it, to change quickly, and we will continue to do that. We have the timeline that's in the, in the regulation, but that's not all of the things that the Air District can do or our partners can do to, to increase the pace of change. But, Carol, do you want to talk a little bit about some of the things that have happened since we've began, begun kind of to issue violations and since the facilities begun to realize that the issue that there is here?

Carol Allen (Participant): [02:06:47] Sure. I think I mentioned earlier that the facility has installed and updated a number of baghouses. Baghouses are high efficiency air filters that remove particulate matter and toxic metals from collective air from certain operations. So they have installed enclosures around certain operations and particularly in the molding operations, the sand molding operation areas, where they've installed these enclosures around those areas which enable them to capture those emissions, and then once they're captured, they can be vented to these baghouse type filters. So there's been a number of updates to those baghouses, and improvements to the capture efficiencies around those sand molding operations. They're also doing some experiments with methods of capturing organic emissions from those baghouse areas as well. At the cupola, they have thermal oxidizers that control organic emissions and another baghouse that controls the toxic metals from the cupola, that's the metal melting operation, but the one area that is still uncontrolled, and that we want the facility to focus on, because seventy five percent of the cancer risk is coming from this area, are these centrifugal pipe casting machines. So right now, those centrifugal pipe casting machines are not controlled and that, that is the area where we want the facility to focus on. That is what the health risk assessment identified for us, is that this, that this was a particular area that we need them to do controls on, so that's what we're going to be working with the facility and the future. The rule allows the facility to develop a plan on how they want to control their emissions, but our health risk assessment shows them where those emissions are coming from, so we know where to direct those efforts. And that's, so that's what we will be working with the facility on in the future.

Azibuike Akaba (Facilitator): [02:09:09] Ok, so this is Azibuike, so I'm taking over the comment period, so we basically combined the question and answer period. We

changed it up to combine the public comment period. We have thirty five minutes and then we're going to go into small groups where more people might want to ask questions that's not a big group or make comments. So that's how we're going to use the rest of the time. And I'll start with the list continuing for Michelle, looks like Micheline Beam. You can unmute.

Micheline Beam (Participant): [02:09:58] I'm unmuting, can you hear me?

Azibuike Akaba (Facilitator): [02:09:59] Yes, yes.

Micheline Beam (Participant): [02:10:01] Ok, it's Micheline.

Azibuike Akaba (Facilitator): [02:10:04] Ok, thank you.

Micheline Beam (Participant): [02:10:05] I was asking because, my question is, although ABI, AB&I is the current offender that we're discussing tonight, this area has a lot of other companies. And I'm wondering how many of those have also been asked to cut down on the pollution that they're putting out, because there are a number of factories that had been vacant. People and companies are beginning to move in. And there are companies, some of them are marijuana manufacturing or whatever else they're doing. So I'm wondering what the Air Quality Board is doing about the other ones. In addition, I happen to garden so that I can get those, quote, healthy vegetables, unquote. So I'm particularly disturbed that all of this air is dropping off what I thought were my organic vegetables. So what is a person to do? So that's a two part question. What else is going on with the other factories and monitoring their emissions? And about the, you know, vegetables and things like that, so you can't win if you living in East Oakland, it seems.

Azibuike Akaba (Facilitator): [02:11:16] Good point. So maybe we should take a list of comments and questions and then we'll have our staff respond to each one or group them together. Josh Beth?

Josh Beth (Participant): [02:11:36] Greetings. I'm a resident of Deep East Oakland, I'm within that red zone around the foundry, I live here with my, solo parent, with my 12 year old son. I just wanted to go back to the presentations that Mykela and Esther

shared with us at the beginning. And in that vein, I think the first thing that needs to happen is, and I hope the AB&I representatives here are listening, is that AB&I needs to own up. AB&I needs to do so much of what this country needs to do, which is to acknowledge, acknowledge that they're, the reason they were able to locate where they are is because that was where black and brown and low income people were living. And the reason- and they made, they have made historically their money off of the long term health of people of color and low income people, just own it, just acknowledge it. They are not the only ones. This whole country has done it. That's our history. And we are not going to start healing as a country until we all start owning up to that and fixing it. So start from that place, own it, acknowledge it, apologize, and then figure out what you're going to do to make amends. I don't know what your balance sheet looks like. I know it's expensive to make these changes. I don't think the answer is to move to Texas and poison the low income people and people of color in Texas. I don't want the jobs to go. I'm glad you're recycling metal. It's better to recycle than to keep mining. That's a good thing. But clean it up. Take the money back that's on your balance sheet, that you've made over the past hundred years off our backs and clean it up. And my question is, apart from using their own funds, are there government funding streams either from the federal government or from the state government to help them clean up? Thank you.

Azibuike Akaba (Facilitator): [02:13:26] Excellent. Angela?

Angela (Participant): [02:13:33] Oh, so my turn already. OK, so the HRA shows that much of AB&I's toxic emissions come from a piece of equipment that is completely unpermitted. So for years, communities have been exposed to the toxics because BAAQMD decided that the facility didn't need a permit. So, is, would BAAQMD then fix their mistake?

Angela (Participant): [02:14:07] Ok, Katherine? Thank you.

Katherine Funes (Participant): [02:14:15] Oh, hi, sorry I couldn't unmute myself earlier again for the rest of the questions I had, but I was really also going to echo what Angela had just said about what the Air District is going to do. We have talked a lot about this plan that AB&I is going to set forth. It's going to take too long. People are going to die in that time. But what is the Air District committing to in terms of your regulations and your permitting? What are you going to change? I am not satisfied as a resident of Deep

East Oakland with the standards that you currently have today. And I really don't want those to be the same standards that we have in 2030 something, whenever this plan is supposed to be finalized, implemented. So how can we bring those down to zero? And additionally, AB&I has violated those, those emissions threshold standards for, for a while now and at some point has been held financially responsible for violating those those standards, paying to the Air District. What percentage of any of that has gone to also hold them financially responsible for the health impacts on workers and youth and residents, both unhoused and housed? And if they're not going, how do we get them to be financially responsible? Because it's been a history of financial responsibility on the health impacts and there will continue to be so.

Azibuike Akaba (Facilitator): [02:15:42] Thank you, Katherine. So I want to defer to the panel of experts that the Air District has, there's several questions around, you know, are there federal funding? Is there funding to support the streams to help AB&I, is there, what is the Air District going to do with the regulations? Also, Micheline asked about growing vegetables, so we're just trying to group them together, but can we start with Carol?

Carol Allen (Participant): [02:16:27] So I'll talk about the permitting for the pipe casting machine. So, first of all, the machines that were previously exempted are going to be required to get a permit so that it- that is we do have backstops that are regulations that if a operation emits toxic air contaminants over certain levels, that it does require a permit and that permit exemption is no longer valid. So we will be requiring a permit for those pipe casting machines. And I think there was another question about making changes to the regulations. And I just wanted to point out that we do have another workshop coming up later next week on permit reform. And maybe Pam would like to say something about that?

Pamela Leong (Participant): [02:17:31] Hi, good evening. Yes, next Wednesday, there's a public meeting from six to eight on permitting reform. So we'd be like looking at different ideas to make permitting tougher or more stringent in impacted areas to be able to protect the public's health. So I hope you can join us for that. And if you go to our website, there'll be a link for it. And there's also an announcement, I think, Anna just put out the announcement so she could probably give you some details too. Thank you.

Azibuike Akaba (Facilitator): [02:18:06] Ok, did anybody want to answer the question about is there any government funding that can help AB&I so that they can clean up their facility since those Josh Beth-

Damian Breen (Participant): [02:18:22] Azibuike, Damian here. You know, we're always looking to the federal government and state government for help in these areas, but there's nothing that we're aware of right now. But one thing I did want to let everybody know tonight is that we are recording your questions and comments. So things that we can't answer tonight or we may not have the full information on, we'll give you a formal response. We'll give you a written response on them. So that's an area where I don't think we've identified anything that can help them just yet. But we continue to look and if we do find something, we'll let everybody know. OK, so I want to let everybody know that we're not ignoring your questions, we're trying to take all the questions that we can. Also that if you could use the chat to list your questions, we'll come back and respond to them in writing. And, yeah, there's no intention to ignore your questions. Jennifer? Unmute please.

Jennifer Pope (Participant): [02:19:39] OK, can you hear me?

Azibuike Akaba (Facilitator): [02:19:41] Yes, we can.

Jennifer Pope (Participant): [02:19:42] Thank you very much. So when we call in complaints, we're responding to what we smell in the air. That's what our senses are picking up. I'm really concerned about this hexavalent chromium, though, and my, my question has to do with the range of where this hexavalent chromium is leaching or are getting into our neighborhoods. And this touches on the concern about growing our own vegetables. And I have chickens. I have eggs I sell to other people outside of the community. And I'm just really concerned about that hexavalent chromium. That is some really bad stuff. So, Carol, I appreciated your, your thorough presentation, but is there somewhere where we can learn more about what to do about that stuff that we can't smell? We can't see if it lands in our yards? Is there any kind of way that we can, You know, we can test for lead in the soil, is there any way we can test for these- these horrible chemicals to see if there's really something to be concerned about on our properties? That's what I want to know. How is it affecting me personally? Because I figure if it's affecting my family and me and my pets and my- my garden, that it's

probably affecting my neighbors around me as well. So that's something I'm very, very interested in doing. I'm being proactive about myself to see just how safe is this property that I bought two years ago. Thank you.

Azibuike Akaba (Facilitator): [02:21:32] Thank you, David Belle? You can unmute David.

David Belle (Participant): [02:21:42] Yeah, I just, my questions are, my first one is just how are, I've I've seen some people in chat like like raising their concerns about this. How are the workshops helping people? Like how are these workshops actively helping people. It's pretty much just giving them info but not actually doing any, like actively doing anything. And two, also with the workshops, the workshops aren't going to actively help people like doing something about this will, like standing up like, oh, AB&I what you're doing, it needs to be cut down, it needs to be cut off, it needs to be stopped immediately. Like going to them will always and it will all will always be the most effective route. And next was I just kind of wanted to say, like the whole time, like I understand the whole timing thing, but like cutting people off when the timer goes off, that's not it. Like, I understand there's a timing thing, but it's so inconsiderate when there are people here who are trying to voice their concerns because they're scared that they are going to die from this. They're scared about their health effects. They're scared about what's happening, and they're being forced to limit their times and all of like all of their concerns to this two minute window, which is nearly impossible. Some people, like some people, are completely and utterly terrified about what's happening. And some people don't even know how to get these resources. And to have the people who know how to come to y'all and know when to come to y'all know what times everything is. And then have them just get cut off completely whenever their time runs out is completely unacceptable. Like that needs to be changed. Period point blank.

Azibuike Akaba (Facilitator): [02:23:30] Thank you, David. So I'm just going to intervene here is one, the purpose of the workshops is to inform people about what's going on, our rules, regulations and our activities in terms of compliance and enforcement. And that's the venue that we're using is workshops. The second thing is that the two minutes is- we're allotting that for everybody to have two minutes. So is this fair? Because this could go on for hours if that's the case. And we want to make sure that everybody gets a chance to speak. And also people can submit written comments,

they can submit comments in the chat section. And if they don't have that ability, then you can call the Air District if, if you want to call or write, like Jeff Gove mentioned his contact information earlier. So the purpose is trying to be as equitable as possible to allow as many people as possible to make comments. There's no intention to be disrespectful and take, you know like, limit people from making longer comments. But we just found that this two minute thing works for getting as many people as possible. But I definitely appreciate your comments and observations. Michael, I mean, Sunny? You're still on mute. OK.

Sunny (Participant): [02:25:04] I want to raise again about the issue of timeline here. Several people already mentioned, but when we mentioned it's of- people talked about five years. In fact, it's not five years. 2028 is like eight years from now, which is for me, it's giving the permission to the AB&I polluting more eight years. Now I'm also concerned about the ground. You have that rule the five years or eight years. So for me, you have to back and forth between AB&I until 2023 for two years, over two years. I wonder what that conversation will be about, why it has to be that long. And some people mentioned above AB&I's here because, in fact, you can see AB&I in my background, I wonder if any board members, if you Air District board members, anyone is from East Oakland living near this factory would allow eight years to wait. To- to reduce any pollution, I don't think so. So I want to ask, this is my comment you don't have to answer that, but my, my question is, if any board members or staff members of Air District will ever live near here, near this factory, you will think it's fair to use to have that eight years. In fact it's not eight years when I'm looking at the regulation 1 118, it was it was enacted in twenty six- twenty- like four years ago, five years ago. We already waited five years and now we have to wait eight years more. I don't think it's acceptable. And the ground on the [inaudible 02:26:54] is, oh, they have to, AB&I has to, it's convenient for the AB&I not considering about people's health living near here.

Azibuike Akaba (Facilitator): [02:27:07] Ok, thank you. These are important questions and we're going to get our staff to respond. I want to take a couple more questions, Michael Lowe? Or comments?

Michael Lowe (Participant): [02:27:21] Thank you. My name is Michael Lowe, I am the general manager of AB&I and I have been the general manager for five years, worked for AB&I for 20. Under my leadership I've been trying to help make things better and be

part of the solutions, and since the odor complaints started spiking in the summer of 2018, we've put near total focus from our VP of Engineering and Operations and our teams in order to do our best to control the odors. What we're finding is the best solution is to move the molding operation elsewhere. It will eliminate the odors to which we're hearing all of these complaints. After that, what we want to do is move two of our six baghouses that we're using for the molding operations to focus on pipe. Our analysis from our consultant based on the current HRA numbers in the draft, we believe we will be under 10 cancer risk for both resident and worker and acute and chronic. So we are actively going to pursue that as quickly as possible.

Michael Lowe (Participant): [02:28:43] We agree 2028 is too long. We will partner with the Bay Area Quality District to do it as quickly as possible. Lastly, we will be having a community zoom that we will be hosting on May 18th. You can go to AB&I Oakland dot net to register and we'd be happy to answer your questions more directly. And by the way, we were not running today, so thank you again. We're actively listening and we want to be part of the solution. Thank you all. Thank you, CBE and Bay Area for hosting this great meeting.

Azibuike Akaba (Facilitator): [02:29:23] Thank you. Aneesh, I'm wondering, are we getting any questions from the Spanish speaking audience members? Because I want to make sure that we're not excluding anybody and I know we have comments in the chat, but I just want to make sure that we have the opportunity to listen to anybody who is speaking, their first language is Spanish.

Aneesh Rana (Facilitator): [02:29:51] Hi Azi thanks for the- thanks for checking. No, we haven't gotten any raised hands from the Spanish speaking channel at this time.

Azibuike Akaba (Facilitator): [02:30:02] OK, thank you. Mykela, and then we're going to go back to our panel for responses to these questions.

Mykela Patton (Participant): [02:30:14] Yeah, so thank you. Obviously, I provided the grounding and the framework on red lining and really this whole conversation, I just proved everything I said at the beginning. The agencies, the city, industry is mad racist, And like Josh Beth said I'd rather folks just say that instead of kind of like this performative liberalism of actually acting like folks care, because CBE has been

engaging folks and engaging AB&I for a really, really, really long time. And specifically I know AB&I labeled CBE as a community threat in presentations that they do across the country. So our leadership and the community's efforts in really trying to partner with the city, with the agency up until now has really just gone completely unnoticed and ignored. The fact that people in the Air District made the comments and the fact that folks have to correct them in saying that eating healthy and sleeping is not enough, just shows that there is clearly not enough support or knowledge for the folks actually doing these studies and actually talking to community. It's not there. I don't know if folks live in East Oakland, which is a question I would love to know the answer to, but I know for sure that most of them don't. I know for sure that the folks at CARB who work on the AB-617 process that approve everything don't live in Oakland. And I know that when they went to West Oakland, they didn't even know what Bart was. So I don't understand how folks can just kind of come look at some pictures of East Oakland, look at an aerial map, count little shapes and say they know our community. That just doesn't make sense to me. Like I said in the chat, if folks are just going to be, you know, making maps and graphs, I can do that because I took the data analysis class and ah, I would love to get paid over 100k to do that and actually advocate for community. Thank you.

Azibuike Akaba (Facilitator): [02:32:21] Ok, so we have a few questions and I'd like to go to the panel. There is questions about the hexavalent chromium exposure, especially for pets and people and the food products. That was from Jennifer. And then Sunny had a question about eight years of delay in the process, especially since it was done five years ago. It was approved five years ago. So. That's the question and then. No questions from Mike Lowe, but I guess they'll be available and they're going to have their own workshop and then Mykela. So is anybody, Carol, Damian, anybody interested in starting off responding to the questions about the public health and the hexavalent chromium?

Carol Allen (Participant): [02:33:26] I'll take that Az.

Damian Breen (Participant): [02:33:27] Go ahead Carol, you start and then I can add some.

Carol Allen (Participant): [02:33:32] Ok, well, I just wanted to mention about hexavalent chromium in particular. So in, as I mentioned in the presentation, health

effects, information about these different toxic metals is provided to us from a state agency called OEHA, and OEHA made a number of changes to their health effects information for different toxic compounds and in particular to hexavalent chromium. And that is new information about hexavalent chromium and the health effects of hexavalent chromium that have driven this to become a pollutant of, of note, the most the, most toxic pollutant that is coming from this facility. So while emissions of this compound may not have changed over time, what we know about the health effects of hexavalent chromium has changed. And what we've found out is that it is more toxic than we previously knew and or that we didn't envision before. And so we are finding now that this is something that we need to tackle. It's something the health risk assessment has identified. This is an area that we need to focus on. So that's where we're focusing our efforts, is getting this emissions of this highly toxic metal down as low as we possibly can. Damian?

Damian Breen (Participant): [02:35:14] Well one thing I wanted to say is that, you know, I don't want to leave folks with the impression tonight that we have done a study and that we are waiting for the time that we have in our regulation to- to do something about both the orders and the emissions here. We continue to work with the facility. We look at it through all of our enforcement tools. We will also be talking to our partners in city, county, state and federal government to see what additional actions we can take to ensure that we are trying to move as quickly as we can here. I know it is frustrating for people. It's frustrating for folks who live in these communities to see the long timelines in our regulation. So that's something, again, as I said, we'll be letting our board of directors know about. But I do want to let folks know that the Air District is committed to doing everything that we can to help, to try and get emissions reduced in the community quickly. And that includes going back to the facility and talking to them about the concerns that we've heard here tonight. I think one of the important parts of our process and something that is becoming more and more integral to the the Air District is having conversations like this where people open up and are honest to us about their concerns and let us know what they're experiencing, life on the ground.

Damian Breen (Participant): [02:36:45] That really does help us. And while we're not offering a lot of comfort or concrete answers here tonight, we're definitely hearing you, we'll definitely respond. We are going to try and put out a fact sheet to answer some of the questions and concerns that we've heard here tonight. And we'll post that on our

website and we'll give it to CBE so that they can also help to distribute it to people so that you know that we're coming back to you on the questions that you've asked.

Azibuike Akaba (Facilitator): [02:37:20] OK, quickly, we're supposed to check with CBE to see if we're going to continue the public comment period or we're going to go to the small groups, which will allow people to talk in the small groups breakout sessions. So I'm not sure, we're waiting to hear from Ernesto about, continue the public comment period or do we go to the small groups?

Anna Lee (Facilitator): [02:37:58] Ernesto this is Anna, Ernesto says let's stay in the large room and take more comments and questions. I'm going to post the website. I saw a question about where the information will be posted. I'm going to post that in the chat. Sorry about forgetting that.

Azibuike Akaba (Facilitator): [02:38:17] And I'll go with Anthony.

Anthony Bibiano (Participant): [02:38:24] All right, good afternoon. So my question, ultimately, I'm a bit confused, BAAQMD's mission is ultimately to improve air quality and improve our health. I think you guys stated that at the beginning, but. So the HRA just confirmed two things, which is community is hurting, and the second, the AB&I has been screwing us over for the past 100 years. That's what has been confirmed right here from the HRA. So my question is ultimately, what do you need from community? Be transparent. What do you need? Do you need one hundred thousand people to show up? Do you need two hundred thousand people to show up here to fix these problems? Because I think it's very simple. What do you need from us to do your job? Does it mean cutting funding? Does it mean voting people out of power? What are the answers we need? And if you don't know those answers? By all means, let's figure it out, but it's easier, way easier to be transparent and say we don't know the answers because I mean, what else can we do, you know? So from our end as a community, what do you need at the end of the day? That's what it comes down to. What do you need from us? Do you need us to show up? Because we've been calling we've been doing the things that you guys say and that the end of the day there's still people dying. And I appreciate Michael coming in and talking about how they're doing, their efforts to change and all that. Ultimately, what does it come down to? What do you need from us? Do we need to vote people out of power? What, what do we need to do to make sure

our health is protected? I think it comes down to that. And that's simple because it doesn't make no sense to have community expressing their stories, expressing everything and nothing still being done. So what do you need from us to protect our health?

Azibuike Akaba (Facilitator): [02:40:20] Thanks, Anthony. That's right on point. Lets see, Merika, and then I'll take oh, no first I saw Jasmine, then Merika and then Angela. Jasmine, you're on mute.

Jasmine Gonzalez (Participant): [02:40:46] I don't think I raised my hand.

Aneesh Rana (Facilitator): [02:40:49] Ok, Merika, and then Angela.

Merika Reagan (Participant): [02:40:56] Hi, this is Marika Reagan. I am a San Francisco native that moved to Oakland dodging high rent. I've heard a couple of times and read in the comments, people are saying, like, what is the point of the workshops? And I just wanted to make a comment that I think the point of the workshops is to give the community a space blow off steam so AB&I can go back to business as usual. And, you know, one comment that stood out to me was, how are these workshops stopping us from dying? From what I can see, they are not. So until until the thing is shut down, having- having these conversations to blow off a little steam and shut people up seems to be the plan. That's my comment.

Azibuike Akaba (Facilitator): [02:41:53] Ok, thank you. Angela?

Angela (Participant): [02:41:57] Yeah, thank you. I just want to- this is not necessarily a comment for the panel, but for like all the- my East Oakland neighbors that are advocating for our clean air because BAAQMD and well, not just BAAQMD, but they will have you folks will have you think that East Oakland does not care about our community and that we don't speak up and speak out. So I'm so very glad that, that folks are here and the conversation does not stop here because CBE has a community meeting. You could reach out to me personally Angela at CBE cal dot org because yeah this, this conversation has happened because we have persisted as community members and spoke up and gotten notice, because unfortunately, what happens in the, the bureaucracy of things is that we have to as community members that are impacted, we

have to keep speaking up and speaking up. And it's, it's a horrible, it's a horrible process, but unfortunately, that's- that's what we've done and so thank you for, this is not over, but thank you for, for speaking up on behalf of our air. I am so glad to be here among family. Even though AB&I is here.

Azibuike Akaba (Facilitator): [02:43:48] Thank you, Angela, and yeah, this is definitely important and your- CBE's persistence and participation and bringing all these people, the outreach, the successful outreach is important for us. It's not going to end today. We're not going to solve any problems here at the workshop. The main purpose is to disseminate information and gather questions and comments. I will refer to Mykela next and then Jennifer, or Maria and then Jennifer. Mykela?

Mykela Patton (Participant): [02:44:34] Hi again. Yeah, I just wanted to say that, you know, like over the last year, obviously, like nothing is what we thought it would ever be. You know with COVID, and then with the continued abuses of black Americans and African-Americans by the police and just continued structural racism. And all I want to say is that the only real way, you know in the environmental movement we talk a lot about, like a just transition or transition forward visioning futures. And that's all great. But in my experiences over the past year, it's still business as usual, just putting kind of like a fancy name on it or, you know, having more POC in your meetings. But the only way things are actually going to change is transitioning the money and the funds that it takes to really support East Oakland, because that that's the only way.

Mykela Patton (Participant): [02:45:32] For years, for decades, for centuries, as I presented, East Oakland was just forgotten. No city resources, no funding, no infrastructure, nothing. No hospitals and clinics, pharmacies, nothing. And the way is not just going to be closure windows by air purifier. We need money. We need support. There's no reason that the Air District should be looking in February for an environmental justice and community engagement officer paying one hundred K plus to two hundred K. That's ridiculous because I know for sure everything that they could have said, CBE and community has already told you a million times. So if that's how much they're getting paid every single year, why is that money not going into community or directly to residents to help build out that program, to give people air purifiers, or to put air filtration systems in schools or marginalized communities, or building resilience centers?

Azibuike Akaba (Facilitator): [02:46:35] Those are great, those are great questions I'm going to defer to our executive branch. Veronica, would you like to answer that question?

Veronica Eady (Participant): [02:46:51] So sure, so Azibuike or Mykela, the question was, why is it that we are hiring an environmental justice officer rather than putting that money into the community?

Azibuike Akaba (Facilitator): [02:47:07] Yes, that's the question. And also, can we put money into the community? Essentially that's it.

Veronica Eady (Participant): [02:47:15] Ok. And thank you for that question, and I think it was Mykela who asked that question. Let me just say a couple of things. I mean, one is that we hiring a- an environmental justice officer because while we have a community engagement staff that's really skilled in a community engagement and you've met some of them here tonight, we'd like to intentionally provide the resources, provide the guidance to our community engagement staff and our other staff to pivot towards environmental justice, to ensure that our staff understands environmental justice, is furthering environmental justice, and we also want to look through our rules and our programs so that those programs that we have are again sort of pivoted towards environmental justice so that we're doing a better job. And, you know, I see these critical comments and these are some of the things that we need to focus on. So that's one thing in terms of having funding for indoor air filtration and programs that are really going to ease the impact on the community, we have a couple of programs that we are seeking to develop. And one is a community benefits fund that would take some of our penalties and revenues like that that we collect so that we're able to put them back into the community. So we're definitely going to talk about what we've heard today and talk about indoor air filtration and things like that.

Veronica Eady (Participant): [02:49:05] But it's important to note that Jack Broadbent, our executive officer, realizes that we need to do better in providing resources to the communities. So the Community Benefits Fund, which is under development now, is something that's going to be able to support the community. I would love to have another venue where we can take comments and take really advice from that

community as we're developing that fund, as we're developing other ways that we're engaging the community on an ongoing basis. And a vehicle for that is community convenings that we're now having once a month that are chaired by our two co-chairs of the board's equity committee. So that's Davina Hurt from the Belmont City Council and Tyrone Chu, who's worked for the city of San Francisco in the Public Utilities Commission. So our next community convening is going to be on May 26th, and we're going to be sending out a notice for that and post it on our website. And so I would hope that some of the- Mykela and some of the other folks who have put out some comments will consider coming to that and speaking directly to our board members who chair our equity committee.

Azibuike Akaba (Facilitator): [02:50:38] Ok, thank you, Veronica and Maria? You're on mute, Maria.

Maria Dominguez: [02:50:48] Good evening, I'm Maria Dominguez from the Alameda County Public Health Department and the Health Equity Policy and Planning Unit. And well, I want to share that for Cal Fire statistics in 2020, we have close to 8000 wildfires and in 2021 we're already over 1500. Just this morning, the National Weather Service of the Bay Area issued red flag warnings from 11:00 p.m. to 6:00 a.m. Monday for the North and East Bay Hills. My question is, and this really is a question that came from since last year from Communities for a Better Environment, CBE, and they have approached our public health department and we are actively also exploring this, but my question this evening is what other mechanisms will BAAQMD explore to ensure that the most impacted residents, Alameda County, have immediate forms of relief, immediate forms of relief, as we anticipate even earlier fire seasons and dry seasons in California due to climate change? And I mean, it's a matter of, who knows right? But we can anticipate this. All the science tells us. And so what immediate forms of relief? That is what I'm taking away from this evening. Thank you.

Azibuike Akaba (Facilitator): [02:52:04] Thank you, Maria. So that's a pertinent question, and I would like to see if the executive people can take a stab at it?

Damian Breen (Participant): [02:52:15] Yeah, I can try that one Azibuike. So the Air District this year has begun a pilot program to distribute air filters, and what those air filters do is they can take a room or a couple of rooms in a home and clean them of

things like particulate smoke. We're running a pilot program that seeks to provide these pieces of equipment to those who are most impacted by asthma and COPD. And we're doing that through a partnership with the ramp group that will distribute about 1500 of these devices to members and residents throughout the Bay Area. Now, it's a pilot program, and the reason it's a pilot program is we don't have the level of funding. We would love to expand that particular program. And we are working through our legislative branches to look for federal and state monies to expand that particular program. In addition to that, the Air District ran some legislation a couple of years ago to provide for air filtration and emergency air filtration in shelters where folks go when there is fire, fire damage. And we have been told by the California Air Resources Board that we're going to get an award of a couple of million dollars to start retrofitting buildings with better filtration so that folks can go to shelters and that there will be better places to breathe. And then we've got a partnership with the American Red Cross for emergency centers to distribute more of that equipment. So those are some of the steps that we're taking immediately.

Damian Breen (Participant): [02:54:07] Now, the unfortunate thing is because of the huge scope and scale of these wildfires, we don't have enough money in those programs. So that's one of the things that we are doing that we're trying to push through our legislative arms, through our members of our board, through the political elements that we have and the folks that we work with to get more money for those programs. But those are some of the things that we're doing. We're also trying to provide information to folks through our education and outreach campaigns so that they know the steps that they can take themselves, like during these events. Unfortunately, many times the best thing that you can do is to stay in your home and close your windows. You know, those are some of the things that you can do to protect yourself. We wish we had better answers and we wish we had more of this technology that we could provide to everybody to help them. But that's- those are some of- some of a long list of things that we're trying to do to help immediately.

Azibuike Akaba (Facilitator): [02:55:13] Oh, yeah, just checking in with CBE because we're almost at the time mark to end this workshop, but there's a lot of interests involved. There's a lot of comments and things like that. So what would you guys like to do? Would you like us to take more questions, let the audience know we're extending this, or would you like to close it up and then we can respond in writing to all the

questions and maybe we need another workshop so that people can, you know, express their issues.

Anna Lee (Facilitator): [02:55:56] Yeah and Az I'll just mention that I think we have someone who has a hand raised that we haven't had before, a phone number, so I would, I would recommend we take that person's comment if we do- if we do close out.

Azibuike Akaba (Facilitator): [02:56:16] But can you check with Ernesto to make sure if they want to extend it or not?

Anna Lee (Facilitator): [02:56:22] Yeah, I just got a-

Ernesto Arevalo (Facilitator): [02:56:26] 15 more minutes.

Anna Lee (Facilitator): [02:56:28] OK.

Azibuike Akaba (Facilitator): [02:56:29] OK. The audience is informed we're going to extend this public comment period for 15 more minutes based on the guidance from CBE and we'll take the questions that people who haven't asked questions. So I'll start off with the person, Margie Lewis, number twenty two, and then we'll go to the phone number. And I don't want to repeat the number, but we'll go next. So, Margie?

Margie Lewis (Participant): [02:56:58] Yes. Thank you for taking this. This is a major health emergency. So to me, a major health emergency, your own study is proving it, you've, Carol, has already said that they understand now the super dangers of hexavalent chromium. So it's a major health emergency. Therefore, that should supersede any time and rules and regulations, and AB&I must be shut down. That's the first thing, for fire damage, for everything, that source in our air must be shut down. And yes, I agree. We need money. The community needs money. They need air filters. They need places to go for when the wildfires start raging. Yes, all of that needs to happen. And it doesn't mean that it won't happen. But the first thing that needs to happen and that can happen is AB&I must be shut down and then they can be looking at all the solutions that they want. But we cannot allow in this major health emergency and, factor COVID in there, and factor the upcoming fire damage. We can not allow our air to be polluted anymore. And this is a way to stop it. It's not a mystery. It's obvious. And so

that must supersede all the rules, all the regulations, the major health emergency, shut them down and work on everything else and community will work with you.

Azibuike Akaba (Facilitator): [02:58:42] Thank you very much. The phone number? You're on mute.

Cecelia Cunningham (Participant): [02:58:59] Ok. Good afternoon, everyone. My name is Cecelia Cunningham, and I would like to know this. If ABI would move, walk away from East Oakland, I feel this way, if they leave, ABI should be accountable. But what's happening here in East Oakland, because we have too many health risk assessments going on right now and I feel that they should put money within our community. To help our people, because we have a lot of people out here that need a lot of help. And only way to get this done, the funds, whatever funds we can get, we need to put it within our community. It needs to go to the community to help those people that's in need. They are in dire need because they health is impaired. Without help, you can't do nothing. So something will have to be done now as soon as possible. Thank you.

Anna Lee (Facilitator): [03:00:20] Thank you for your comments. So now we'll go to Lisa Danz.

Lisa Danz (Participant): [03:00:31] Hi, I would actually like to pass my time to Esther Goolsby, who was trying to raise their hand and wasn't able to make the raise hand button work.

Anna Lee (Facilitator): [03:00:40] Oh, OK. I appreciate that. Thank you, Lisa, for making space. Esther?

Esther Goolsby (Participant): [03:00:47] Thank you, Lisa. So one of the things I wanted to say and just to add to the conversation around the health of the community and what we should get compensation for. So because I have COPD and asthma, my medicine is over three hundred dollars a month. I know we're talking about the government providing air filters, and I know we're doing the work with the community for the last 10 years, we also made what is called a healthy development guideline that helps with development in the areas where community made these guidelines of what

we wanted to happen in the neighborhoods that we live in. Because, again, we talk about environmental injustices, environmental racism in the planning processes, nobody is thinking about the communities that's there. The other thing that I wanted to talk about. Again, and I know I heard it. [unintelligible 03:02:02-03:02:04] that is a full injustice because we're talking about a corporation [unintelligible 03:02:15-03:02:18].

Esther Goolsby (Participant): [03:02:20] And I think next time we have a workshop, we should actually have some accurate maps. [unintelligible 03:02:27-03:02:32]. I have been told so many different things from the Air District [unintelligible 03:02:37], which is a lie. When the wildfires happen, [unintelligible 03:02:44] came all the way here. And I know a lot of people is on this call because they care about what they can't see that's in the air because you smell it. And we have to continue to advocate, we have to continue to advocate. for everyone to understand what they're breathing. And I don't know how much you heard of that. I see that I was breaking up.

Anna Lee (Facilitator): [03:03:09] I thought it was me, sorry. Esther I did-

Damian Breen (Participant): [03:03:15] I was gonna say-

Anna Lee (Facilitator): [03:03:16] -did you have more to say?

Damian Breen (Participant): [03:03:18] Well, I was going to just say, Esther, if you want to put your comments in the chat or if you want to submit them in writing, we'll also make sure that we answer back to you.

Anna Lee (Facilitator): [03:03:30] If we still have time to, because we're going to eight forty five Esther, We can take you again a little bit later. If your internet gets better. Thank you, Esther. So I did hear in Esther's comment something about wildfires and there was a question in the chat about air monitoring, I don't know if there's someone from our Meteorology and Measurements group and just also Maria Domínguez, who brought up the questions about wildfires. So I wondered if if someone wanted to talk about air monitoring and the actual pollution versus what's been modeled.

Jerry Bovee (Participant): [03:04:23] I can go ahead and take that Anna. With the Air District, and I know this is not the answer you'll probably want to hear, but the Air District

operates an extensive air monitoring network throughout the Bay Area where we try to measure the PM two point five, measure the PM and other criteria and toxic air pollutants that make it within that are here in the Bay Area. It's primarily used for us to, to set policy and determine where we are at trying to comply with the National Energy and Air Quality Standards. We do pick up the pollution that's contributed from the wildfires and so you will see the spikes. Also, the EPA now has on their air now network now incorporates Purple Air monitors into that system, which is a very, very useful tool. And I think we could probably put the link to that in the chat. When there is wildfire smoke incidents, you can look at, look at that mapping that they have on their website. And you can actually it really provides a better, more extensive layer of of of indicators of what the air quality is in the individual areas. And those Purple Air monitors are used extensively throughout the Bay Area and they're owned by private citizens and and organizations. So it actually provides really, really good context as to how good the air is at a particular time during these wildfire events.

Anna Lee (Facilitator): [03:06:16] Ok, thanks, Jerry. So we'll go to Cesar Dash-he's still [unintelligible 03:06:23-03:06:24]. Please feel free to unmute yourself. Cesar, are you still there? OK. Well, how about Josh Beth? Feel free to unmute yourself.

Josh Beth (Participant): [03:06:50] Hello again, I just wanted to say, you know, I just did a really quick search, I plugged in Clean Air Act funding for cleanup and I'm getting tons of links, technology, advancement, funding, opportunity, and I haven't dug in. But I would think that with a little creativity, the money could be found. And I think two things. One is that if ABI wants to be the responsible, step up and be the responsible good community member that it purports to be, find the money. You know, whether it's your existing funds or you make connections with government officials, we all pay our taxes. And this government has money to bomb people all over the world. We have money to clean up our air, find the money. Don't keep hiding behind it's too expensive, it's going to cut too much into our profit margin. You've been here one hundred years making money. You know, you have to leave. You just need to clean it up, own up, take responsibility, find the money. The money's there. Thank you.

Anna Lee (Facilitator): [03:07:58] Thank you, Josh Beth, actually, that question came up a bit about funding for East Oakland community, but- and funding for technology. I

also saw a question about rebates and other kind of incentives that the Air District has. So I'm going to punt that. I see Damian?

Damian Breen (Participant): [03:08:24] Yeah. So what Veronica answered kind of I think about some of the work that we have going on in the community. One thing I wanted folks to also know is that we do have funding and we do have technology programs, but they are not- And some of them are concentrated on industries, but it's generally to look at technologies to reduce greenhouse gases. One of the things about East Oakland and West Oakland is a lot of the air pollution that is additive to the health impacts there comes from mobile sources. So on average, the Air District each year has about one hundred and forty million dollars now over the last couple of years, actually. And what we do is we take that funding and we try and reduce the emissions from things like trucks and construction equipment that adds toxic diesel particulate matter in communities. So we have been investing that funding. We continue to do it and we do it across the Bay Area and we do it based on maps that are made up by the state of California, CalEnviroScreen maps that show the zip codes that are most impacted in terms of a number of factors, including air pollution. So we are investing in emissions reductions, but they tend to be, the funds tend to come from taxes and fees that are put on vehicles. And where we're limited in terms of the funding that we have is monies that we can put into stationary sources of air pollution and the things that we can do to help clean them up. And as I talked about earlier, we are trying to lobby aggressively to change that. But where we're concentrated on now is on some of the other things that are impacting East Oakland.

Anna Lee (Facilitator): [03:10:24] So Marina Munoz is the last hand I have and we probably have time for one more after Marina so we can do some closing slides. So, Marina, please and Mona, could we do four minutes?

Marina Munoz (Participant): [03:10:43] [Comments interpreted] Hello, my name is Marina Munoz, I spoke earlier. We have been talking a lot about the subject matter, but we really need to concentrate on this factory that is bringing contaminants to our community, our children because in our schools that are nearby and we have to think about them, we have to think of them, our children. Also many people that are seniors are getting hurt with all this asthma. I would like to ask you if any of you has a child with asthma because they get really affected. I have two daughters who have asthma. And I

want to ask you if you have any relative, any child that has asthma to see how they really suffer. It's been many years that I've been working with CBE, with Ernesto, with [unintelligible 03:12:39] and I don't see anything, the clarity in what's going on. We need more courses with more workshops, more devices and things to measure what's going on in the environment. In fact there is an area where there is a crematorium and even if we try to plant organic, we do organic farming, we are- our plants, our vegetables are getting contaminated by the situation. So you should be doing more workshops and meetings like this. I don't know why you didn't do it. It's been years that we've been trying to have this conversation. I invite you to leave your office and come over when there's a smoke and come here and smell yourselves so you can see what really happens. I invite you to come over and really go through what we are going through. In my experience, one time I tried to do a study of that and my son had to pick me up and I was, because I was choking. I could not- imagine if I didn't get in the car, that moment I would have fainted at the moment right there and then. Do something for our community to spend our money in our community and just don't use it in the in wars and that kind of things. Our community is what's important. Thank you very much. Thank you.

Anna Lee (Facilitator): [03:15:20] Thank you very much, Marina. So I think I saw David Belle and Chewy, you lowered your hand, but I think if you still want to speak, we could take those you two as our final commenters. So, David, feel free to unmute yourself.

David Belle (Participant): [03:15:42] Hi, yeah, so I just wanted to say, this isn't like I just want to say really quick about basing, like your information that you have off of CalEnviroScreen that if that were to be true, then East Oakland and Oakland as a whole, any part of Oakland would be an extremely top priority, extremely, extremely, and immediately be a top priority because of how bad the air quality is here and how extensive it is. Because I, I do like I work in this line of work like everyone else here. I, I've seen the data, I've looked at it myself. I've taught I've taught people about this. I've talked to people about this. I've looked at this myself. I've gone over this myself, like I like it is concerning to have to see that every single time I go on there and sometimes it's like even worse than I would expect it for certain areas. Like sometimes it's just completely red for miles and miles. And if that were to be true that you guys are basing your information off of CalEnviroScreen, that I would think that we- that East Oakland would be a top priority for you to try to fix it as soon as possible. And it just seems as if it's just being neglected and it's just being kind of pushed to the side for years and years

and years. Even though there's all of this evidence, it's all of this data piling up, but nothing is being done about it. Thank you.

Anna Lee (Facilitator): [03:17:07] Thank you, David. So is there- Chewy, you put your hand down, so I'll pause here to have staff respond. I think there's there's someone who can speak about CalEnviroScreen and speak to what Marina was talking about.

Damian Breen (Participant): [03:17:31] Well, I can start on CalEnviroScreen, so as David said, we do recognize that there are significant issues in both East and West Oakland. What CalEnviroScreen does for us, and what the state uses it for, is it directs a lot of our incentive funding. And as I've explained earlier, we have invested quite a lot of that into cleaning up mobile sources of air pollution. What that means is over 50 million dollars of investment in to cleaning up equipment and in West Oakland and then about 50 plus million dollars in cleaning up the trucks that travel along the i-80 corridor. And what we've seen and through our efforts there is that we are slowly and steadily bringing down the pollution. And not only does it help with the incentives, but it also helps direct some of our enforcement resources into those areas. Now, the thing is, it's not coming down as quickly as we would like it to see, as we would like to see it. We are looking at East Oakland and maybe Veronica can talk a little bit more about this. We've got some new tools in our regulatory arsenal over over the last couple of years from the California legislature that allows us to focus on communities to get more granularity on what's happening in those communities, and then to look at different sources of air pollution and see what we can do within our authorities to reduce that air pollution. This, what we're doing tonight is just one slice of of larger kind of portfolio of regulatory actions that we're taking. So relative to CalEnviroScreen, we definitely understand that it is pointing at certain communities. We are looking at them and we are trying to bring our resources to bear, including the regulation and the work that we're talking about tonight. So it's something that we're building on. If that makes sense and as I said, we are looking at East Oakland going forward as a community of concern to see how we can better use the resources that we have to address air pollution in that community.

Anna Lee (Facilitator): [03:20:07] Thank you. Veronica, did you want to add any comments to that as well?

Veronica Eady (Participant): [03:20:12] Sure. So I think what Damian is referring to is AB 617, and I mentioned that earlier, as Damien said, it is a law that requires us to look at local local sources of air pollution and working in partnership with the California Air Resources Board. That sort of set the mark for how that looks, how we do it, but also requires deep partnerships with the community. And so one of the reasons why we were so excited to be able to partner with CBE tonight is that East Oakland is one of our priority communities. And so in developing that partnership and really strengthening the partnership with CBE, that's one step that we would want to take in moving forward with East Oakland in designating that as one of the communities that we want to actively work in under AB 617. We will be having a public process later in the summer or later in the year so that we can again bring people together to be able to advise us on if and how we should move forward with designating East Oakland as an AB 617 community. There are some other communities that are also on the list of priority communities, but I hope you all will stay tuned and help us in developing our next designation. The other thing that I'll say is that with respect to AB 617, the Air District makes recommendations to CARB and CARB's board. The California Air Resources Board ultimately does that designation. But the way that the program is designed is that anybody can nominate a community. So if people living in East Oakland are interested in East Oakland being on that list, please talk to us. But you also have the opportunity for your voice to be heard with CARB. And the more voices that are heard, the stronger the proposal is and the better the chance of the community being designated.

Nate Miley (Participant): [03:22:40] And this is Nate Miley, I just want to say I've been supportive of East Oakland becoming one of those designated communities to. I support that real fundamentally.

Anna Lee (Facilitator): [03:22:53] So I see one more hand up, if you- I'd be happy to take it and this will be the final final speaker and then we'll go on to- we have a survey we'd like folks to fill out and then we'll have some closing from us as well as CBE. So the phone number, I think this might be Miss Cecilia, is that you?

Cecelia Cunningham (Participant): [03:23:25] Yes, I wanted to ask the person that's advocating for AB 617, is it have anything to do with any funds for East Oakland or what? Just how does that really work that this bill, Assembly Bill six one seven.

Anna Lee (Facilitator): [03:23:44] Great question.

Veronica Eady (Participant): [03:23:46] Anna I'll just quickly respond to that. This is Veronica Eady. Yes, there is funding with AB 617. So actually, regardless of whether or not East Oakland is on that list and of course, we hope that East Oakland will be on that list. There is funding from the California Air Resources Board for to support community based organizations, both those in AB 617 and those that aren't. So there is that funding opportunity. There are also incentive funding that I don't want to take up a lot of time that Damian could speak to that is available for technologies and [unintelligible 03:24:35] that or to bring newer technologies into the communities. So we have money that goes into AB 617 communities and other communities to kind of force cleaner technologies and then there is funding to implement the program. So I hope that-

Cecelia Cunningham (Participant): [03:25:01] Who wrote, excuse me, who wrote the bill? Who wrote this bill? [unintelligible 03:25:04] -wrote the bill?

Veronica Eady (Participant): [03:25:06] So the sponsor, the main sponsor was Cristina Garcia in the Los Angeles region. Cristina Garcia.

Cecelia Cunningham (Participant): [03:25:19] Thank you.

Veronica Eady (Participant): [03:25:19] You're welcome.

Anna Lee (Facilitator): [03:25:22] Thank you for your question, Miss Cecilia, so we're coming to the end of the workshop. Thank you all for hanging in with us. We're putting up a slide now that will go over related to workshop survey. But I did see Jack Broadbent. And just if you wanted to say anything, feel free to jump in.

Jack Broadbent (Participant): [03:25:47] Sure I can, if you'd like that, so I just, on behalf of the Air District, wanted to just thank everyone for coming out tonight. I want to assure everybody and I know Director Miley will probably also want to speak Anna, but I just want to assure everybody here today that your voice, your perspective, your experience and your comments tonight matter. We're here listening to you. We've heard it all. It's going to be fed into, allowing us to, one, understand better how we can better serve this community and then also, of course, look to how we can inform all of one-

everybody here. And as we move forward with finalizing the health risk assessment, requiring additional controls of AB&I, because there has been a long history of us requiring controls, and then being able to get those controls as soon as possible to lower the risk that AB&I poses to the community. I saw- you all are an integral part of that process. You have to all know that. And so I just wanted to thank you for your perspectives, like I said. And I also want to thank my staff for all being here tonight. You got to know, we we do care. We do. We're doing our best job-

Jack Broadbent (Participant): [03:27:25] I also want to thank CBE for co-hosting this with us. This is the first time we've done that. I want to express my appreciation Ernesto and CBE, for your patience and how we're, we're doing this. This is the first time we've, we've done this. So Anna I'm going to hand it back to you, but I do would like to offer the opportunity for Nate to also offer his comments and remarks.

Anna Lee (Facilitator): [03:27:47] Ok, Director Miley, if you if you would like.

Nate Miley (Participant): [03:27:51] Sure if that's OK, thanks a lot. Yeah, I've listened for the last three and a half hours, I want to thank the CBE for cosponsoring tonight's workshop with the Air District. Definitely thank the Air District staff for being here. And I very much appreciate the fact that one hundred and six people are still engaged in this meeting this evening, it indicates how important this is to folks. You know, we do what we can do within the confines and the regulations that have been established. So that's why when someone asked if we could look at changing the regulations, tightening them, I want to explore that with the staff. People have asked about more funding and how we can target more resources to East Oakland, we'll be looking at that. We have done other things-

Nate Miley (Participant): [03:28:45] -done other things in the past, and we'll continue to do stuff, but it's been very beneficial to be listening tonight to everybody speak about this. And folks are right, you shouldn't have to wait five years to get redress. So I'll follow up with the staff. Once again, I just want to thank everyone for their participation this evening, in this workshop. It's been very fulfilling.

Anna Lee (Facilitator): [03:29:07] Thank you, so I'll turn it to Aneesh who's going to walk through a couple of slides and then we'll close.

Aneesh Rana (Facilitator): [03:29:15] Thank you, Anna. Thank you again, Jack, for your comments and supervisor director Nate Miley, just want to thank everybody again for joining us and participating in tonight's workshop. I know we went a little over, but it was really important that we gave everybody opportunity to speak and ask their questions and provide their comments. And a recording of this workshop will be available on our website, as well as responses to your questions provided. But before we wrap up and bring things to a close, I just wanted to share a couple of- some links and QR codes here to Survey Monkey, where we have a short workshop evaluation survey in both English and Spanish. We really value, the community engagement staff really values your feedback and actively uses, uses it to constantly improve our workshops. So we'd really appreciate it if you could spend a few moments to fill it out and let us know how we did.

Anna Lee (Facilitator): [03:30:22] And-

Aneesh Rana (Facilitator): [03:30:23] And then, and then I will pass it back to Anna and just put up one more slide with, with links to where you can find the materials and just reiterate that the comment, we will be accepting comments through June 8th and if you have any further questions, you can contact Carol Allen.

Anna Lee (Facilitator): [03:30:52] Thank you, Aneesh. So I just want to say a big appreciation to everybody who is here, I know this is an important issue and we want to continue to partner with the public and with CBE. I just want to say thank you to Ernesto the staff and the members and to our presenters. It was, it was one of our first workshops that we've done like this. And I just want to say thanks for giving us the important feedback about how to make this meeting accessible. I hope that you all will go to our website and you can get the recording there and feel free to get in contact with any questions moving forward. I just want to say thank you. This was kind of a almost like a trial run for us and something to build on and grow on. And we want to continue to continue that partnership and engagement with you all. I would like to pass it to Ernesto who can have the last word for our meeting, and then we will officially adjourn-adjourn.

Ernesto Arevalo (Facilitator): [03:32:06] Yeah. Thank you. Thank you for bravely asking questions and speaking from your experience and still being on tonight. I want to

share my appreciation for the Air District staff and the team InterEthnica for making this meeting logistically possible. And this was the first collaboration between the Air District and CBE. And I want to send a major thank you to the members of the congress of the Neighborhood Environmental Justice work group, for working with CBE to provide feedback on the flow and accessibility of tonight's meeting and a special shout out to presenters Mykela, Jasmine and Esther for sharing truth to power and grounding us in the most important of ways. This process does not end tonight. Please share what you learned with your neighbors, families, teachers and community groups. This is about the health of our community. Send in your comments. AB&I has been in East Oakland for over a century and have been able to operate in your residential neighborhoods due to a history of racist economic and planning practices. Tonight's workshop is not the solution to this history of environmental racism. We will have to hold AB&I and the Air District accountable to ensuring healthier neighborhoods. You can join CBE through the link posted in the chat of our sign up sheet and to the website, breathe free deep east, to stay updated on AB&I and other facilities of concern. The work does not stop because CBE also has a meeting on May 21st that you can join. There are unanswered questions on the health impacts of operations on AB&I workers, and that is just as concerning as many are part of our East Oakland community. We must take the findings of tonight's meeting seriously and consider the impact on generations of East Oaklanders. Thank you all for joining us. I wish you good night and a joyous Mother's Day, especially to all the mothers here fighting for their children, because tonight, the way that we show up is the language of our love. Thank you.

Anna Lee (Facilitator): [03:34:29] Thank you.

Unknown Speaker: [03:34:31] Thank you.