

In Re: Boone Dam and Reservoir

PUBLIC MEETING

July 30, 2015

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TENNESSEE VALLEY AUTHORITY
PUBLIC MEETING - IN RE: BOONE DAM AND RESERVOIR

July 30, 2015
5:30 p.m.
The Millennium Centre
2001 Millennium Place
Johnson City, Tennessee

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1 * * *

2
3 MR. TAYLOR: Good afternoon. My name 17:04:38
4 is Wilson Taylor and I work at TVA, serve as TVA's 17:27:31
5 ombudsman. And I want to first of all thank you. 17:27:39
6 for your attendance here this afternoon. 17:27:39

7 A couple things before we start. We're 17:27:39
8 going to have a question-and-answer period in just a 17:27:39
9 moment. So what I'd like for you to do is, if you 17:27:39
10 could help us, from a safety standpoint, as you come 17:27:41
11 to the microphone, if you're going to make some 17:27:41
12 comments -- or as you leave the microphone, we would 17:27:41
13 appreciate it if you would watch the path and keep 17:27:41
14 your eyes on the path and be safe so that no one 17:27:43
15 gets injured during the meeting tonight. So if you 17:27:45
16 could help us with that, I would appreciate it. 17:28:11

17 The purpose of the session tonight is 17:28:13
18 for you, members of the public here, to give TVA 17:28:18
19 updates on Boone Dam, and subsequent to that update, 17:28:23
20 we want to answer your questions as best we can. So 17:28:27
21 I'm going to come back a little bit later and talk 17:28:32
22 to you about the process that we'd like to use 17:28:33
23 tonight in terms of getting the questions and 17:28:37
24 comments from you and allowing TVA leaders to 17:28:41
25 respond to that. 17:28:42

1 But before I do that, I'd like John 17:28:45
2 McCormick to come to the stage and give us an update 17:28:47
3 and overview of where we are on the dam. 17:28:47
4 John? 17:28:47
5 MR. MCCORMICK: Good evening, everyone. 17:28:47
6 Thank you, Wilson. This is a little different 17:29:01
7 format than the last time we met. I hope it's a 17:29:06
8 little better. Maybe you can get your questions 17:29:08
9 asked and we can have a good exchange of information 17:29:11
10 today. So I recognize that I don't have to really 17:29:12
11 go into detail about the details of Boone, the 17:29:12
12 history, but I am going to step back just for those 17:29:15
13 that may not have heard it the first time. And once 17:29:20
14 again, thank you all for being here. 17:29:24
15 So I need to start out by letting us 17:29:27
16 know which part of the dam we're speaking to. So 17:29:29
17 Boone Dame -- I hope I can do this well -- and I'm 17:29:32
18 looking on this -- on your left-hand screen over 17:29:34
19 here. We are not discussing this concrete section 17:29:37
20 right here. It is all about this earthen dam 17:29:41
21 section that runs right along here. So I want to 17:29:44
22 tell you that because I know we got a little 17:29:47
23 confused in previous meetings and previous times 17:29:48
24 that we had met. And people thought it was this, 17:29:49
25 and it's actually the earthen dam. 17:29:52

1 I want to take us back, though. I want 17:29:55
2 to take us back to preconstruction of the dam, take 17:29:59
3 us back into 1948, prior to the dam as being built. 17:30:03
4 To give you-all a picture of what this area looked 17:30:03
5 like prior to building the dam, so if we were 17:30:06
6 sitting here the earthen dam we're speaking to 17:30:09
7 would be sitting just in this area right here. And 17:30:11
8 as you can see, there's actually quite a bit of 17:30:12
9 runoff that goes into the river, and the concrete 17:30:15
10 section would be in this section and we'd be looking 17:30:17
11 -- this would be the -- all reservoir on this side. 17:30:21
12 For those that are familiar with the area -- and the 17:30:22
13 reason I'm going into detail, I'm going to explain 17:30:24
14 on some slides a little bit more about what we have 17:30:24
15 found with respect to the underground -- underneath 17:30:29
16 the earth. 17:30:31
17 This is where the water tower was -- or 17:30:33
18 is, and then the visitor's center is up in this 17:30:37
19 neighborhood up here. Before I leave that slide, 17:30:42
20 the constructors and designers that built this dam 17:30:46
21 back in 19 -- you know, 1950 time frame, they had 17:30:49
22 encountered a very highly irregular bedrock, and 17:30:55
23 that's call karst. Karst geology, for those that -- 17:31:01
24 for as a repeat, the karst geology is where we have, 17:31:05
25 after millions of years, rock actually dissolves and 17:31:07

1 water finds its way through the cracks and crevices 17:31:11
2 that are formed. 17:31:13

3 This picture on the right is actually 17:31:15
4 part of the construction of Boone Dam. And right 17:31:18
5 there -- and I'm sorry for you guys on that side of 17:31:21
6 the room, I'll try to go over on that side for a 17:31:21
7 second too -- right here is actually a fellet 17:31:21
8 (phonetic). And actually, if you look east, it's 17:31:26
9 right there on that side. What they did -- and this 17:31:30
10 is very common in this time -- in this era to build 17:31:33
11 a dam and construct it the way they constructed it. 17:31:36
12 What they did, they actually cleaned out those 17:31:38
13 pinnacles and brought in fresh clay, and then packed 17:31:43
14 that fresh clay by hand. And they cut a trench, and 17:31:43
15 that trench underneath, they actually packed it all 17:31:46
16 in. And then after they filled it in, they actually 17:31:49
17 took grout and they grouted a grout curtain the 17:31:52
18 length of the trench. And that went the whole 17:31:55
19 entire length of that earthen dam that I showed you 17:31:59
20 previously. 17:32:00

21 Just to give you an idea of 17:32:03
22 preconstruction, we're talking 60 years ago we did 17:32:07
23 this and this dam lasted, and lasted very well for 17:32:12
24 60 years. Engineers and dam designers today and 17:32:15
25 geotechnical engineers would not utilize the type of 17:32:19

1 construction that was done here in today's 17:32:21
2 standards. 17:32:22

3 Please fast forward to October of 2014. 17:32:27
4 This sink hole that you see in front of you to the 17:32:30
5 left, our robust dam safety program is what found 17:32:37
6 this sink hole. We have five different types of 17:32:40
7 inspections we perform on our dams, not just Boone, 17:32:43
8 all 49 projects, all 87 dams we have along the 17:32:48
9 Tennessee River. 17:32:49

10 The first inspection is actually a 17:32:51
11 formal inspection which was done within a five-year 17:32:53
12 period. Then we did what we call an intermediate 17:32:54
13 one, which was done on a yearly period, and then we 17:32:56
14 have informals that are done on a monthly basis. We 17:33:00
15 train all of our employees, those that work at the 17:33:01
16 dam and those that work around the dam, to notice 17:33:03
17 anything that's abnormal. And that's how we found 17:33:07
18 that sink hole back on October 20th of 2014. 17:33:10

19 Six days later, with heightened 17:33:13
20 awareness and heightened inspection, we found the 17:33:18
21 seepage. So in East Tennessee, sink holes are not 17:33:22
22 uncommon; seepage is uncommon. That forced our dam 17:33:26
23 safety program to initiate to another level and 17:33:27
24 bring our dam engineer, dam safety engineers, into 17:33:31
25 play. 17:33:33

1 We recognize that this could be very 17:33:35
2 complex. We have some very brilliant engineers in 17:33:39
3 our organization, but we reached out to some of the 17:33:42
4 industry experts that recognized that there are 17:33:44
5 other dams that were experiencing the same type of 17:33:46
6 an issue, so we actually reached out to get some of 17:33:49
7 the best in the world to help us to identify what 17:33:51
8 our risks were and also identify what opportunities, 17:33:54
9 what can we do, what are the different options to 17:33:55
10 actually repair this dam. And I'll go into a little 17:33:58
11 more detail about that. 17:34:00

12 One of the first things we did was to 17:34:03
13 bring the risk down. My biggest job is to ensure 17:34:07
14 the safety of the public that is downstream of our 17:34:11
15 dams, is to ensure the safety of our employees that 17:34:16
16 work on that dam. So one of the first things we did 17:34:19
17 to take pressure off that dam, recognizing potential 17:34:22
18 consequences downstream, was to take that dam down 17:34:25
19 to the level it is today, which is between 1350 and 17:34:30
20 1355, which is about 10 feet below our normal winter 17:34:34
21 pool. We assigned inspectors full time to our 17:34:39
22 facility. We instrumented, we used some of the best 17:34:41
23 technology that is out there, and we actually were 17:34:41
24 able to put instruments and monitors so that we 17:34:49
25 could actually map exactly what is going on 17:34:49

1 underneath the earth. 17:34:50

2 And if you guys remember from the first 17:34:54

3 meeting we had, we're still talking about having to 17:34:56

4 understand what is going on hundreds of feet below 17:35:00

5 the surface that you're standing on. We also put in 17:35:02

6 surveys, and that's what this is right here. We're 17:35:05

7 actually -- so not only are we looking at pressures 17:35:05

8 on the dam, but we were also looking for any 17:35:09

9 potential movement of the dam. 17:35:12

10 Since the last time we met back in 17:35:15

11 November, since November we have actually -- we have 17:35:16

12 actually drilled and bored about one mile length of 17:35:21

13 bores into the dam, 52 different bore sites. We put 17:35:26

14 84 instruments in our dams so we can get a picture 17:35:31

15 of what does it look like in the subsurface. 17:35:34

16 These little dots that you see, the red 17:35:37

17 dots that you see, are all where we actually have 17:35:41

18 drilled into the dam. And I want to just keep this 17:35:45

19 in your mind, I want you to just remember this for 17:35:47

20 future slides, this area right in here, which is on 17:35:52

21 the downstream side of the dam. We injected dye -- 17:35:56

22 we did seven different dye tests, so we're actually 17:35:59

23 injecting dye to see where it would be picked up on 17:36:01

24 the different monitors, and that gave us an idea of 17:36:04

25 which way the water was moving and where things were 17:36:04

1 happening underneath the subsurface. 17:36:06

2 That area that I just spoke to, that I 17:36:10

3 pointed out, is actually what we call the right rim, 17:36:15

4 or the east rim. And what we found is, here's the 17:36:18

5 reservoir, and the blue is actually representing 17:36:21

6 water flow. Let me stop and back up for a minute. 17:36:21

7 One of the leading causes of failure of an earthen 17:36:25

8 dam is piping. And piping doesn't mean that there 17:36:30

9 was a pipe that went from one side to the other. 17:36:31

10 And it's actually a natural phenomenon where 17:36:34

11 actually water can pass through rock from one side 17:36:37

12 of the reservoir to the other. So when you hear us 17:36:37

13 refer to as piping, there isn't actual physical 17:36:41

14 piping. The erosion caused the piping that let us 17:36:42

15 go from upstream to downstream. 17:36:45

16 What we found in March -- if you guys 17:36:48

17 recall, we had a pretty wet -- as a matter of fact, 17:36:51

18 the last time we had a big meeting it snowed about 8 17:36:56

19 inches. And while we were -- with all that rainfall 17:36:57

20 and all that snow, what we found was right here, 17:37:00

21 this red, is representing rain. It's actually 17:37:02

22 representing surface water hitting the ground. And 17:37:04

23 what we found, with all our instrumentation, was 17:37:08

24 that the water -- if you look at the red lines that 17:37:10

25 are in there, is actually -- water was actually 17:37:11

1 coming on this side of the dam and actually back in 17:37:15
2 the reservoir. 17:37:16

3 So the best way for me to describe it, 17:37:18
4 over millions of years you'll find these voids and 17:37:20
5 caverns and cracks that exist in the subsurface. 17:37:23
6 And as -- imagine them being imaginary tanks under 17:37:25
7 the ground. And as the tanks are filling up with 17:37:28
8 surface water from rain water, it actually forced 17:37:31
9 water back in a direction of the reservoir. 17:37:34

10 So this leads us to what our fix is. We 17:37:40
11 looked at many, many options, and many options -- we 17:37:42
12 have to look at many options. We're required by law 17:37:45
13 to look at many options in our environmental review. 17:37:47
14 So our recommended fix, our long-term repair, is 17:37:52
15 actually inserting a concrete cut-off wall into our 17:37:57
16 earthen dam. That earthen -- that concrete wall is 17:38:00
17 going to be done in three stages. 17:38:03

18 The first stage -- I know this is a 17:38:06
19 very, very busy slide, and I know these are very 17:38:10
20 good pictures to see close up -- but for me, I like 17:38:11
21 to take a look -- see and look at where the drill 17:38:12
22 rig is on the top of the crest of the dam and what 17:38:18
23 it's going to look like as we go through stage 1. 17:38:20

24 So stage 1 is actually going to require 17:38:23
25 us to do multiple columns in multiple rows down the 17:38:28

1 earthen embankment, the entire length of the earthen 17:38:29
2 embankment, from the concrete structure all the way 17:38:29
3 over past that beach area into the eastern right 17:38:34
4 rim. 17:38:37

5 If you think about the numbers, you're 17:38:38
6 looking somewhere in the magnitude of about 500 17:38:42
7 borings that will be done as a result of this 17:38:43
8 low-mobility grout that we'll be inserting. So what 17:38:45
9 does low-mobility grout mean? We will drill down 17:38:46
10 into what we call this epikarst. This region right 17:38:50
11 here is the epikarst. It's where the soils mix with 17:38:52
12 these tentacles and we watch it drill down into the 17:38:53
13 epikarst and we'll insert this low-mobility grout. 17:39:00

14 Low-mobility grout would be if you had 17:39:02
15 toothpaste and you had cold toothpaste and you 17:39:02
16 squirted it out. That's sort of what it looks like. 17:39:08
17 It doesn't go anywhere. We drill the holes and we 17:39:08
18 actually form a wall with that cold toothpaste, so 17:39:13
19 to speak. 17:39:15

20 One thing I want to tell you about stage 17:39:18
21 1, we are going to learn so much about this whole 17:39:21
22 process and getting into a better time frame, as we 17:39:24
23 go through this stage 1. 17:39:26

24 Stage 2, once again requiring us to put 17:39:31
25 multiple borings into the earthen dam. In this 17:39:34

1 case, it will be about three earthen -- multiples 17:39:35
2 across the entire length of the dam. This one's 17:39:39
3 going to go down a little deeper. It is going to go 17:39:42
4 down in some areas as far as 250 feet to 300 feet 17:39:46
5 down into competent bedrock. 17:39:48

6 So looking over here, guys, it's going 17:39:48
7 to go down in this direction to low-mobility grout. 17:39:52
8 Low-mobility grout, think about a glass of chocolate 17:39:54
9 milk. That's what the consistency is like. So as 17:39:56
10 we pour it in, it'll actually just find its way into 17:39:59
11 every crack and crevice and it'll harden up. And 17:40:01
12 once again, the intent is to stop this water flow in 17:40:06
13 this direction. 17:40:07

14 The third and final phase is putting in 17:40:10
15 this concrete or what -- that's our main concern, 17:40:15
16 concrete cut-off wall. The engineering term is 17:40:17
17 composite seepage barrier. So when you hear them 17:40:20
18 say it's -- I just think of concrete cut-off wall. 17:40:21
19 I'm a mechanical engineer, not civil. I think in 17:40:23
20 easier terms than those guys do. 17:40:26

21 This wall is probably going to be 17:40:27
22 somewhere in the neighborhood of -- from the top of 17:40:30
23 the crest down potentially as deep as 250 feet. 17:40:35
24 It'll be multiple feet thick. And once again, it'll 17:40:38
25 run the entire length of the earthen dam, from the 17:40:41

1 concrete section all the way through where the beach 17:40:44
2 area is. 17:40:47

3 This completed project, we have done 17:40:51
4 benchmarking, we have looked at many dams that are 17:40:53
5 -- that have gone through this type of repair, and 17:40:54
6 the benchmark duration for this type of work is 17:40:57
7 between five and seven years to perform. 17:41:02

8 UNIDENTIFIED AUDIENCE MEMBER: 17:41:02
9 Unacceptable. 17:41:02

10 MR. MCCORMICK: So it's also going to 17:41:08
11 cost somewhere in the neighborhood of between 200- 17:41:11
12 and \$300 million to install. 17:41:14

13 UNIDENTIFIED AUDIENCE MEMBER: You're 17:41:14
14 going to pay for it. 17:41:14

15 MR. MCCORMICK: But I will tell you this 17:41:16
16 is a permanent repair for this reservoir. This is 17:41:21
17 doing it right. 17:41:24

18 Let me go back to this. My confidence 17:41:28
19 level is very high. And the reason for that is, the 17:41:33
20 people we have working on this are the same people 17:41:34
21 that just worked at Wolf's Creek, which is an Army 17:41:34
22 Corps of Engineers dam, Center Hill Dam, which is an 17:41:40
23 Army Corps of Engineers dam, and these folks have 17:41:40
24 experience with multiple TVA dams. So the team that 17:41:46
25 we have doing this is a very good team. 17:41:50

1 Once again, we looked at many options 17:41:51
2 before we picked this option. And this option was a 17:41:53
3 very robust option. Our intensive research, our 17:41:58
4 intensive investigation, comprehensive and thorough, 17:42:02
5 has led us to this being the best option for us to 17:42:02
6 proceed with. 17:42:05

7 One of the things that has to happen 17:42:09
8 before we can even do any construction work is to do 17:42:12
9 an environmental review. It's called NEPA. The 17:42:15
10 NEPA process on this has already been done. Our 17:42:15
11 expectation is that NEPA process be finished in the 17:42:20
12 beginning of 2016, and heavy construction will begin 17:42:26
13 in early 2016. We say a five- to seven-year window 17:42:31
14 for this, our team is looking for a five-year window 17:42:35
15 to make this happen. 17:42:37

16 I can't emphasize this enough, and I've 17:42:40
17 said this over and over again, my greatest priority 17:42:44
18 is for those downstream. It's for all the folks 17:42:47
19 that play in the playgrounds, it's folks in 17:42:50
20 communities and homes that live downstream, and it's 17:42:51
21 for all the industry that is downstream of this dam. 17:42:58
22 We have met with homeowners, marina owners. We have 17:43:00
23 met with folks in the communities. We have met with 17:43:04
24 EMAs, industry leaders, the industry. And we 17:43:10
25 actually listened to you at our last meeting. The 17:43:13

1 last meeting, a lot them wanted to talk about 17:43:14
2 getting access on the reservoir, and that's what 17:43:18
3 this is about. And I know you need to ask more 17:43:19
4 questions about this as we go through the 17:43:22
5 question-and-answer period. 17:43:24

6 But just to give you an idea, is if you 17:43:27
7 look at 22R, a boat ramp and a beach. If you look 17:43:27
8 at Devault Bridge, a boat ramp will be installed. 17:43:27
9 If you look at Pickens Bridge, a boat ramp will be 17:43:33
10 installed. We're also working with the TWRA. We 17:43:39
11 recognize that we got to make sure we have good 17:43:42
12 habitat for aquatic life. So we're working with 17:43:44
13 TWRA to ensure that we have -- I know we caught some 17:43:48
14 good fish this year, but we want to make sure that's 17:43:50
15 sustainable as we move forward. 17:43:53

16 One of the most important things that 17:43:55
17 we've done, though, is we know that every time that 17:43:56
18 I'm here visiting I see people bass fishing, I see 17:43:59
19 boats on the water, we recognize that this water 17:43:59
20 level is lower than it's been. So we went out and 17:44:00
21 we marked the area with buoys. We barricaded those 17:44:05
22 areas that we know that are already -- present a 17:44:11
23 problem for boater safety. 17:44:13

24 We're going to do our best to keep you 17:44:17
25 informed and be as transparent as we can be as we 17:44:21

1 move forward. So you can follow us on our website 17:44:25
2 or you can follow us on Twitter. And that's it for 17:44:35
3 my formal presentation. 17:44:37

4 Wilson? 17:44:39

5 MR. TAYLOR: Thank you, John. Rebecca 17:44:39
6 Tolene and John Kammeyer are going to John up on 17:44:39
7 stage here. We're going to start our 17:44:39
8 question-and-answer period. 17:44:39

9 I mentioned earlier that Michael was 17:45:01
10 going to help us to respond to as many questions as 17:45:04
11 possible, so what I'd like to do is sort of explain 17:45:06
12 how we can be most effective doing that. First of 17:45:08
13 all, we have a court reporter that's capturing the 17:45:11
14 comments and the responses tonight. And so if you 17:45:15
15 want to give your name when you come up, you can 17:45:17
16 give your name for the record. Also, if you would, 17:45:20
17 make sure you speak directly into the microphone so 17:45:25
18 that our court reporter can capture your comments 17:45:26
19 completely. 17:45:28

20 So when you come up, you will have three 17:45:30
21 minutes to make your comments or to ask your 17:45:33
22 question, and we would like to invite you to ensure 17:45:36
23 that you abide by the three minutes because what we 17:45:40
24 want to do is get as many people as possible to the 17:45:44
25 microphone to ask their question or to make their 17:45:46

1 comment. 17:45:46

2 Now, once your time is up, you can 17:45:48

3 certainly come back to the microphone to ask a 17:45:53

4 subsequent question or make a subsequent comment. 17:45:53

5 Tonight our TVA leaders will tell you what we know. 17:45:58

6 For those questions that we do not have an answer 17:46:01

7 for, we're taking those -- that information down and 17:46:04

8 we will respond to those questions on our website. 17:46:07

9 We'll find an answer, put that information on the 17:46:10

10 TVA website, the Boone website. 17:46:14

11 Later on this evening, when we're done 17:46:15

12 here at 7:30, TVA staff will remain in this room to 17:46:20

13 answer any specific questions you might have in 17:46:21

14 regards to your personal situation. So if you don't 17:46:23

15 get a chance to come to the mic or you just have a 17:46:26

16 personal question you want to ask, TVA staff will be 17:46:27

17 in the room to answer those questions when we're 17:46:31

18 done here. So what I'd like you to do at this point 17:46:34

19 is to go ahead, folks, and come to the microphone 17:46:36

20 and we can begin the question-and-answer process. 17:46:41

21 MR. WEST: My name is Scott West and I 17:46:50

22 want to say one thing, that the five-to-seven years 17:46:54

23 is unacceptable. Great projects in this country 17:46:59

24 have been done -- and let's put things in 17:47:03

25 perspective. The Empire State Building in New York 17:47:09

1 City was built in one year and 45 days. The Hoover 17:47:15
2 Dam, the largest dam in this country, was built in 17:47:20
3 five years. The San Francisco Bridge, four years. 17:47:29
4 And you guys can't fix a water leak in five to seven 17:47:35
5 years? Unacceptable. 17:47:39
6 MR. TAYLOR: Just a minute, please. 17:47:39
7 We're going to see if we're going to have a 17:47:47
8 response, any response from TVA. 17:47:52
9 All right. Thank you, sir. 17:47:55
10 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: I have a simple 17:47:56
11 question. Can we depend on the level of the lakes 17:48:03
12 staying between 1350 and 1355? 17:48:08
13 MR. MCCORMICK: Just as I -- just as I 17:48:09
14 sat down I recognized one of the keys things I did 17:48:12
15 not mention was where the water levels were going to 17:48:14
16 be during this remediation, so I will state this 17:48:16
17 again. My number one priority is for the safety of 17:48:20
18 those downstream and for the safety of those working 17:48:23
19 on the project. So right now all our indication is 17:48:25
20 that that level will stay where it is, between 1350 17:48:30
21 and 1355, during this whole remediation process. We 17:48:35
22 will be evaluating through our different stages, and 17:48:37
23 if there's an opportunity to do so, make incremental 17:48:37
24 increases. I promise you, you will be the first to 17:48:41
25 know. 17:48:42

1 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Thank you. Thank 17:48:42
2 you. 17:48:43
3 MR. MCCORMICK: You're welcome. 17:48:46
4 MS. LEWIS: My name is Leigh Lewis. 17:48:48
5 I've got a quick question. If they didn't have 17:48:52
6 enough sense when they built this thing that you 17:48:57
7 don't put or try to fill in an existing water flow, 17:49:00
8 where's all the water runoff that's going to come 17:49:05
9 whenever it rains going to go now? Because you're 17:49:08
10 going to block all its paths. It's going to make a 17:49:13
11 new one. 17:49:15
12 MR. MCCORMICK: So one of the things -- 17:49:18
13 one of the reasons why I wanted to mention the right 17:49:20
14 rim and the importance of us finding the impact of 17:49:26
15 the right great rim, bringing that cut-off wall, 17:49:27
16 you're absolutely correct, is going to change flow 17:49:30
17 in the bedrock or in the rock underneath the dam. 17:49:37
18 No question around it. What we want to make sure is 17:49:41
19 that -- sink holes are going to continue. We know 17:49:44
20 it's going to continue. What we want to make sure 17:49:48
21 is we can take the reservoir out of the picture. We 17:49:52
22 have different options. We can do it faster. And 17:49:55
23 you can find yourself in that very same position, 17:49:58
24 where when we have a sinkhole we'd be in the same 17:49:59
25 position as we are today. It is not a permanent or 17:50:03

1 long-term repair, where this is a long-term repair. 17:50:07
2 It puts in a position to deal with sink holes that 17:50:09
3 come up and not have to take that reservoir, that 17:50:09
4 one, down. 17:50:09

5 So I'll tell you this. The water level, 17:50:12
6 it is so important to me to get that water level 17:50:17
7 back up because I need that water level. It is part 17:50:19
8 of my integrated system for running that river. And 17:50:23
9 so it is just as important to me to get that water 17:50:24
10 level up as much as it is to you. So what we do 17:50:28
11 know is we won't take -- the reservoir will be out 17:50:28
12 of play. There will not be piping issues as we move 17:50:32
13 forward. 17:50:33

14 MS. LEWIS: But you've made no plans for 17:50:37
15 the runoff that's going to back up? 17:50:39

16 MR. KAMMEYER: The principal issue here 17:50:45
17 is the water coming underneath it, underneath the 17:50:45
18 embankment. It's not through the embankment, it's 17:50:47
19 underneath it. And what this cutoff wall does, is 17:50:47
20 it goes down into the embankment, through the 17:50:47
21 embankment, into the cars, into the foundation. It 17:50:53
22 stops all flow, all seepage flow, from the reservoir 17:50:56
23 to behind the dam, and therefore it allows us to 17:51:00
24 raise the reservoir back up. 17:51:03

25 MS. LEWIS: What about behind it? 17:51:05

1 MR. KAMMEYER: Behind it, we will 17:51:06
2 address that after we fix the primary -- 17:51:07
3 MS. LEWIS: Ah, so we aren't done. It's 17:51:10
4 five years plus and we still may wind up getting 17:51:14
5 bigger problems. 17:51:15
6 MR. KAMMEYER: No. 17:51:18
7 MS. LEWIS: That's all I needed to know. 17:51:18
8 MR. KAMMEYER: No, no, no, not at all. 17:51:18
9 Don't walk away like that. That is a wrong 17:51:18
10 takeaway. That's the wrong takeaway. Please. 17:51:22
11 MS. LEWIS: Oh, okay. 17:51:22
12 MR. KAMMEYER: We're fixing the main 17:51:23
13 problem. You want the reservoir back? 17:51:26
14 MS. LEWIS: I would. I would like my 17:51:28
15 water view back, yes. 17:51:29
16 MR. KAMMEYER: Yes. So we're going to 17:51:31
17 fix the main problem and that's the embankment. 17:51:31
18 Yeah, there are other issues, but we're going to 17:51:35
19 make the main thing the main thing. We're going to 17:51:35
20 fix that embankment, we're going to get you your 17:51:38
21 reservoir back, and we have a good schedule. Some 17:51:41
22 people don't always happen to like that schedule, 17:51:42
23 but it actually is pretty aggressive. We're going 17:51:42
24 to get the reservoir back for you and then the other 17:51:48
25 problems we'll do afterwards. We'll make the main 17:51:50

1 thing the main thing. 17:51:53

2 MS. LEWIS: Okay. 17:51:53

3 MR. TAYLOR: Thank you. 17:51:56

4 MS. HOGAN: Good evening. My name is 17:51:56

5 Norma Hogan and I have maybe a more personal 17:51:59

6 question, because by the time the lake comes back up 17:52:04

7 I probably won't be able to get down there to use it 17:52:08

8 due to my age. But my question is, the greenery 17:52:13

9 that has grown behind everybody's house out to the 17:52:15

10 riverbed now is about 6 foot high and it's only been 17:52:20

11 about three months' growth. My question is, since I 17:52:23

12 own out to there, is it my responsibility to get 17:52:27

13 somebody to come and cut that and am I allowed to do 17:52:31

14 that or is that going to be something TVA's going to 17:52:35

15 take care of for me? 17:52:38

16 MS. TOLENE: So if you own riverbed in 17:52:40

17 front of your house, which many of you do, because 17:52:42

18 as you know most of what TVA owns on Boone is below 17:52:47

19 this rank. If you own that shoreline, you certainly 17:52:50

20 have the right to mow there. TVA is currently 17:52:53

21 looking at options and we're starting to hear 17:52:54

22 comments come in about what your primary concerns 17:52:57

23 are, how we can help and work with you. I don't 17:53:01

24 have a specific plan today on dealing with greenery, 17:53:04

25 but we'll be talking to you as we move along. But 17:53:06

1 if you're a private owner and you want to go ahead 17:53:06
2 and take care of that, you have the right to do so. 17:53:10
3 MS. HOGAN: What about the trees and 17:53:12
4 everything else that's going to grow up there over 17:53:15
5 this five-year span? We cut those down and have the 17:53:20
6 expense of taking care of all of that? 17:53:21
7 MS. TOLENE: So you have the right to do 17:53:23
8 so. I will say that we are looking at options in 17:53:24
9 helping you do that, we're just not there yet. But, 17:53:25
10 you know, we're -- we are digesting your comments 17:53:29
11 and your priorities with trying to come up with 17:53:31
12 plans as well, and we'll be talking to you kind of 17:53:32
13 over the next few months as we develop that. 17:53:37
14 MS. HOGAN: Okay. Can I make a path out 17:53:38
15 there and put gravel on the lake bed to get out to 17:53:42
16 the river bed so when my grandkids come they can use 17:53:45
17 it and utilize it? 17:53:45
18 MS. TOLENE: So any obstruction, any 17:53:48
19 addition to that property -- to that fronting 17:53:51
20 property, would require a permit. And we've waived 17:53:54
21 all fees for that permitting process, so I would 17:53:58
22 encourage you to reach out and -- 17:54:00
23 MS. HOGAN: Okay. Thank you very much. 17:54:03
24 MR. TAYLOR: Thank you. Next question? 17:54:04
25 Yes, sir. 17:54:06

1 MR. BARRETT: It's a very sentimental 17:54:09
2 person problem -- personal situation I'm in, and the 17:54:13
3 question I'm going to ask is -- my name is Buff 17:54:15
4 Barrett. And me and my wife spent several years 17:54:21
5 deciding on where we're going to retire and spend 17:54:23
6 our senior years, our golden years. So I grew up in 17:54:31
7 this area, southwest Virginia, and we picked Boone 17:54:32
8 Lake. It's a beautiful lake, very sociable lake, 17:54:32
9 friendly people, great place to live. Moved there 17:54:39
10 last March. We had a wonderful, wonderful season on 17:54:44
11 the lake, just a wonderful year until October. And 17:54:49
12 that's about the same time my wife was diagnosed 17:54:55
13 with cancer. And she's had the surgery, she's doing 17:54:57
14 fairly well now after going through chemo. 17:54:57
15 And when she got word of the press 17:55:01
16 release that you guys did earlier with the press, 17:55:04
17 the news, before you let us in on what was going on, 17:55:08
18 it just deflated her totally. She just sank to the 17:55:13
19 floor, let's sell, let's move today, let's go, get 17:55:16
20 out of here. I said, well, we've got to take time 17:55:19
21 to think about this a little bit because there may 17:55:22
22 be hope. But now I hear again five to seven years, 17:55:27
23 we're retired, I'll be in assisted living, somebody 17:55:31
24 will be feeding me gruel before you get this lake 17:55:37
25 back probably. 17:55:37

1 And they built the dam, they built this 17:55:40
2 whole facility in two years, and you're telling us 17:55:44
3 it's going to take five to seven years to repair and 17:55:46
4 get it back to where it was before? This is just 17:55:48
5 totally unacceptable to me in my situation. And my 17:55:53
6 poor wife, you know, we're just heartbroken and I 17:55:57
7 just wish you could tell us you're going to have a 17:56:01
8 better time frame, you're going to do overtime, 17:56:03
9 you're going to do everything you can. But in the 17:56:06
10 previous months, it's taken 10 months to get where 17:56:11
11 we are right now, to say you found this and you're 17:56:14
12 going to do this. You've done 10 months. It took 17:56:14
13 two years to build the facility and have it up in 17:56:19
14 operation. 17:56:19
15 And can you possibly tell me it could be 17:56:22
16 less than five to seven years? 17:56:27
17 MR. KAMMEYER: We're going to do 17:56:29
18 everything we can. We really appreciate everybody's 17:56:31
19 issue here. This is not easy. It's not easy for 17:56:35
20 us. We know it's not easy for you. We sympathize 17:56:36
21 with this. We're going to do everything we can to 17:56:39
22 be as fast as we can as long as we can do it safely. 17:56:42
23 We're going to keep the downstream people in mind, 17:56:45
24 we're going to keep the dam safe, we're going to 17:56:48
25 keep our employees safe. The reason the schedule is 17:56:52

1 what it is, is it's a complex job. It's not as 17:56:56
2 simple as building a building. 17:56:58

3 MR. BARRETT: But they built the 17:57:00
4 facility, the whole dam, in two years. 17:57:03

5 MR. KAMMEYER: I understand. I 17:57:03
6 understand. But what we're basing this on is other 17:57:04
7 organizations, like the Corps of Engineers. The 17:57:05
8 Corps of Engineers just finished Center Hill Dam 17:57:05
9 over in the center part of Tennessee, just 17:57:11
10 finished earlier this year. We've been out there, 17:57:12
11 we walked down. The Corps of Engineers has been 17:57:16
12 great. They've given us all their drawings and 17:57:18
13 specs, they've given us their lessons learned. 17:57:22

14 Center Hill Dam is about -- the 17:57:23
15 embankment there is about the same length as Boone, 17:57:26
16 so 1,000 feet, about the same depth; very, very 17:57:29
17 comparable. We have a little more geology issues, a 17:57:29
18 little more tougher challenges than they had. And 17:57:34
19 that project took ten years, ten years from start to 17:57:37
20 finish. Seven years, seven years of heavy 17:57:39
21 construction to build this cutoff hole that's in the 17:57:42
22 ground. It took seven years. 17:57:42

23 And we've taken their schedules, we've 17:57:42
24 taken their lessons learned, and we've boiled that 17:57:43
25 down, cut it down to five years. My team is 17:57:50

1 comfortable we can do it in five years, but we 17:57:53
2 haven't started. So there are challenges and so 17:57:56
3 we're kind of being a little cautious here that we 17:57:57
4 don't know what we don't know. We could find things 17:58:00
5 that we don't know, and it may end up being a little 17:58:02
6 longer, but we're confident we can do it in five 17:58:03
7 years. I know that's not good news, but that is -- 17:58:07
8 it's about half of what it took the Corps, a little 17:58:10
9 more cutting new ground. They had to start from 17:58:14
10 ground zero. We get to start where they finish. We 17:58:17
11 get to stand on their shoulders and do it better. 17:58:20
12 But it's still not a great story. But that's where 17:58:23
13 we're at, that's the reality. 17:58:24
14 And we're going to be working hard. 17:58:26
15 We're going to be working 24 hours a day. We're 17:58:26
16 going to work five-and-a-half shifts straight 17:58:30
17 through, six days, 24 hours a day. On the weekend 17:58:34
18 we'll be tearing down the equipment and rebuilding 17:58:34
19 it so we can start it again next Monday, 24 hours a 17:58:38
20 day. We're not doing this thing slow. We're going 17:58:40
21 to take these three stages and try to combine them 17:58:42
22 so that we hit overlap and speed things up. 17:58:46
23 But the best we can say today, five 17:58:49
24 years, assuming we don't have problems. And we 17:58:52
25 still have to get the environmental evaluation done. 17:58:55

1 The kind of rules and the environmental evaluation 17:58:55
2 that we're required to do didn't exist when the dam 17:59:00
3 got built. We've been working on that all year. We 17:59:04
4 won't get it done until January, so we can't really 17:59:06
5 start the main construction until after January. 17:59:08
6 But the clock starts today. Our five years starts 17:59:12
7 today. But we can't do the heavy construction until 17:59:13
8 we do the NEPA review. 17:59:15

9 MR. BARRETT: But you knew we had this 17:59:18
10 problem before. Why didn't you do the NEPA review 17:59:19
11 in this 10-month span -- 17:59:21

12 MR. KAMMEYER: Got to have a fix, you 17:59:22
13 got to have a fix. You got to figure out what the 17:59:25
14 problem is and find the root cause. If you want 17:59:27
15 something fixed right, you've got to do it right. 17:59:29
16 And that means finding out what's driving it and 17:59:30
17 setting yourself up with success. One of the 17:59:33
18 biggest challenges on this project is the limited 17:59:36
19 space we have and the amount of equipment. We'll 17:59:39
20 have almost 200 people next year working in that 17:59:42
21 little area on top of each other so that we can 17:59:46
22 speed this thing up. That's how close, how 17:59:48
23 well-managed this thing is going to be done. It's 17:59:51
24 not a simple project. I wish it were. I wish it 17:59:55
25 were just as simple as, you know, filling a few 17:59:55

1 holes and marching on. It's not. There's only 17:59:58
2 three companies in the whole world that can do this 18:00:02
3 kind of work. 18:00:03
4 MR. TAYLOR: So if we could get the next 18:00:06
5 speaker, because we can come back to that, but I'd 18:00:08
6 like to give everybody a chance if we could, sir. 18:00:11
7 Thank you. 18:00:13
8 MR. MACKINS: Hi. My name is Sewell 18:00:13
9 Mackins. I've got some easier questions for you. 18:00:20
10 First one is, is this presentation that you've made, 18:00:22
11 is it online? Can we go online and get that 18:00:25
12 presentation? 18:00:26
13 MR. MCCORMICK: Yes. 18:00:29
14 MR. MACKINS: There's no handouts here, 18:00:30
15 right? 18:00:30
16 MR. MCCORMICK: No. 18:00:31
17 MR. MACKINS: Okay. Second one is, are 18:00:31
18 going to ensure that this is going to work, what 18:00:32
19 you're planning for the five to seven years? And 18:00:34
20 the reason I ask that question is, you know, about 18:00:36
21 two years ago, '13, '14 time frame when they drew 18:00:39
22 the lake down they drew it down an extra 10 feet or 18:00:43
23 more, right, to the 1954 level so that they could do 18:00:47
24 some work on the dam itself, that don't do anything, 18:00:50
25 did it, to cause this seepage? I mean, you know for 18:00:54

1 sure that's the problem? 18:00:57

2 MR. KAMMEYER: No, no, not at all. In 18:00:58

3 answer to your question -- first question, about are 18:00:58

4 we sure, yes. There are, in fact, faster fixes. To 18:01:04

5 be honest with you, there are things that we could 18:01:06

6 do to return the dam to service faster, but they're 18:01:09

7 not as reliable and they're not as sure as this. 18:01:13

8 This is the right fix. This is the fix that you get 18:01:15

9 the long-term confidence that you don't have to do 18:01:18

10 this again. 18:01:20

11 MR. MCCORMICK: To answer when we 18:01:20

12 brought down the level, 1954 was actually -- on the 18:01:20

13 spillway, so it was a cable replacement, and that's 18:01:23

14 probably every 20 to 30 years we have to do 18:01:32

15 something along that lines. 18:01:33

16 MR. MACKINS: I mean, it's just a 18:01:35

17 coincidence that year, and then next year they found 18:01:38

18 -- okay. 18:01:40

19 MR. MCCORMICK: Not related. 18:01:42

20 MR. MACKINS: And now the last question 18:01:42

21 you won't like it, is this all going to be done by 18:01:43

22 government, or is this -- have you went out to 18:01:45

23 private contractors and -- to get a bid on doing 18:01:48

24 this -- the work that you're talking about to let 18:01:50

25 them do the work? 18:01:52

1 MR. KAMMEYER: Private contractors. 18:01:54

2 MR. MACKINS: You're a private 18:01:55

3 contractor? 18:01:55

4 MR. KAMMEYER: No, no, it will be done 18:01:57

5 by private contractors. 18:01:57

6 MR. MACKINS: Okay, okay. 18:01:57

7 MR. KAMMEYER: Like I said, there's 18:01:57

8 three companies in the world that do this kind of 18:01:59

9 work. We'll have one of them do it. 18:02:04

10 MR. MACKINS: Okay. Thank you. 18:02:05

11 DAVID: Hi, my name is David. Sorry, I 18:02:08

12 got here late -- so if you can answer some of my 18:02:10

13 questions. But I've got more technical questions. 18:02:11

14 I'm trying to make sense of the time line. You just 18:02:13

15 say five to seven years, correct? Like, you 18:02:16

16 mentioned Center Hill Dam, that took -- correct me 18:02:19

17 if I'm wrong, but that was actually three separate 18:02:22

18 diaphragm walls, one like 2700 feet, one 700 feet, 18:02:27

19 one 800 feet. Wolf Creek was -- I mean, that's like 18:02:30

20 a mile-long dam, which is like four times as long as 18:02:33

21 Boone, right? That started in 2008, it got finished 18:02:35

22 in 2013, which is -- six years, five, six years, 18:02:35

23 something like that. So is there something 18:02:40

24 different about the geology here that we're 18:02:42

25 expecting so long? I get -- after talking with 18:02:42

1 y'all at the other one, but wasn't expecting that 18:02:51
2 long, I guess. 18:02:52

3 MR. KAMMEYER: No, I understand. Some 18:02:54
4 of your numbers are a little bit off. The Wolf 18:02:57
5 Creek, I didn't reference that detail because it is 18:02:59
6 about four times longer to Boone. But Center Hill 18:03:04
7 is 1000 feet, it is the same length as Boone, a 18:03:04
8 little bit deeper, and it took them seven years -- 18:03:04
9 when they started, seven years, when they started 18:03:04
10 the grouting, to when they finished the cut-off wall 18:03:04
11 earlier this year, was seven years. I've been 18:03:13
12 there. I've talked to the resident engineer -- I 18:03:13
13 know -- 18:03:13

14 DAVID: When I was reading about it, I 18:03:13
15 read that it took like a three phase -- it involves 18:03:13
16 three different walls across different areas of 18:03:13
17 embankment. So I just wondered if that's the whole 18:03:30
18 10-year thing or maybe I'm -- maybe I'm just -- 18:03:32

19 MR. KAMMEYER: Start to finish, 10 18:03:34
20 years. Same thing with Wolf Creek, start to -- they 18:03:36
21 finished in 2013, they started in 2003. But because 18:03:40
22 of the requirements these days, when the Empire 18:03:42
23 State Building was built, you didn't have to do NEPA 18:03:45
24 reviews. 18:03:46

25 DAVID: Yes. 18:03:46

1 MR. KAMMEYER: So there's a three-year 18:03:47
2 period there before -- 18:03:47
3 DAVID: -- review, so when it started. 18:03:50
4 Okay. 18:03:50
5 MR. TAYLOR: Thank you. 18:03:53
6 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: I have more of a 18:03:55
7 economic and environmental question. It's a little 18:03:59
8 bit different than anything anyone else has 18:04:02
9 referenced. Is Boone Dam, would it be considered a 18:04:06
10 high-cost/low-value dam? How -- like, is it 18:04:10
11 something that is primarily for recreation or is it 18:04:14
12 something that is actually going to pay off when 18:04:16
13 you're talking about 300,000 -- you know, \$300 18:04:17
14 million, is that really going to pay off in the long 18:04:22
15 run with the amount of energy that it produces? 18:04:26
16 MR. MCCORMICK: The question is a very 18:04:28
17 good question. And that dam does not produce the 18:04:31
18 electricity, as you said, to recover or to return on 18:04:31
19 that investment. What we have done is done a study 18:04:38
20 about what would happen -- one of the options we 18:04:39
21 looked at was ones that do nothing, just leave it 18:04:42
22 right where it is, 1350 to 1355. That's what we 18:04:43
23 always have to do, you always have to do the 18:04:43
24 do-nothing phase. The other one we looked at was 18:04:48
25 taking the dam down and just taking it down totally. 18:04:51

1 Once again, significant economic impact 18:04:56
2 to this region if we did that. Part of what the TVA 18:05:00
3 Act is about is economic development. So if the 18:05:03
4 decision was made to repair this dam or remediate 18:05:07
5 this dam, recognizing a return on investment will 18:05:08
6 not be -- 18:05:10
7 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: So there's a huge 18:05:11
8 movement to remove dams like this out West, 18:05:17
9 primarily because of environmental issues. And I 18:05:18
10 realize there's a room full of people that have a 18:05:20
11 property value to worry about, but they're only 18:05:22
12 going to be there for around 20 years. So when you 18:05:25
13 think long term, 100 years, a few generations away, 18:05:26
14 is this really going to be worth fixing? 18:05:31
15 MR. MCCORMICK: Absolutely it is. 18:05:34
16 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: For -- primarily 18:05:35
17 for property value? 18:05:37
18 MR. MCCORMICK: Aquatic life, for 18:05:39
19 downstream, for industry, for the folks that live in 18:05:43
20 this part of the state. 18:05:46
21 UNIDENTIFIED AUDIENCE MEMBER: Flood 18:05:46
22 control. 18:05:48
23 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Okay. Thank you. 18:05:49
24 MR. MCCORMICK: Thank you. 18:05:53
25 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: I'm (inaudible). 18:05:53

1 I'm just here -- I wanted to find out again about 18:05:57
2 the growth on the lake bed. If we remove it, what 18:06:04
3 do we do with it? And if we do it, is everybody 18:06:08
4 else compelled to do it? Because it's pointless if 18:06:14
5 one owner cleans it up and the others don't. We'll 18:06:17
6 have trees within two years. 18:06:20

7 The other question is, in my mind it 18:06:27
8 doesn't affect me personally, but I have been on the 18:06:31
9 lake, on the main stream, and seen boats 30 foot up 18:06:38
10 in the air. Are these people going to be reimbursed 18:06:43
11 for their boats that they can't get down? It's just 18:06:48
12 really sad to see that, that people have lost this, 18:06:51
13 with our TVA being open and honest in October when 18:06:55
14 they realized it was a problem. 18:07:04

15 MS. TOLENE: So let me start with growth 18:07:06
16 and then we'll talk about boating folks as well. So 18:07:08
17 the growth, we'll be working with you on it. I 18:07:13
18 understand what you're asking. I think about what 18:07:16
19 you do with the -- what you pull out. What we're 18:07:18
20 doing now is a couple of things. We're talking 18:07:21
21 about options to help plant owners with growth. On 18:07:22
22 the other side of that, we're working with TWRA to 18:07:28
23 talk about putting some of the right kind of growth 18:07:29
24 in, so for fish nurseries and things like that if 18:07:32
25 the water comes back. So we're working on those 18:07:34

1 plans. We'll be coming out and communicating a path 18:07:36
2 forward for land owners on that in the near future. 18:07:40
3 Let me tell you the -- you know, we are 18:07:42
4 also digesting the five- to seven-year period in our 18:07:48
5 organization, and so that has changed some of our 18:07:48
6 dynamics as we've talked to you about things like 18:07:51
7 growth and boats. So on boats, we're also talking 18:07:55
8 to people -- I know some of you have already taken 18:07:56
9 your boats out, right, you've worked with private 18:07:59
10 contractors and other folks to take some boats out. 18:08:02
11 Some of those boats are going to be very difficult 18:08:04
12 to get out, so I have a couple project managers 18:08:07
13 looking at options to see what we can do out there. 18:08:10
14 Again, part of my problem is I'm going 18:08:13
15 to have to have property permissions to come on and 18:08:15
16 help you guys do these kind of things, so we're 18:08:17
17 working through those legal issues and talking about 18:08:18
18 the options. So I think -- I know this is not what 18:08:22
19 you want to hear today, but I can tell you there's 18:08:24
20 more to come on the specifics of that as we now know 18:08:26
21 the time line. 18:08:28
22 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Thank you. 18:08:31
23 MR. CARTER: My name is Steve Carter, 18:08:33
24 and a couple of questions. Has anybody, 18:08:35
25 Mr. McCormick, considered building a new dam and 18:08:39

1 what the feasibility of that is? 18:08:41

2 MR. MCCORMICK: That was one of the 18:08:42

3 options. Feasibility, time line, you can absolutely 18:08:47

4 build another dam. The time line -- I don't know if 18:08:47

5 I can get into all the specifics, but that was one 18:08:50

6 of the options we looked at. Once again, the option 18:08:53

7 we looked at is the best option to do. 18:09:00

8 UNIDENTIFIED AUDIENCE MEMBER: So what's 18:09:00

9 the answer? Did you -- 18:09:01

10 MR. CARTER: Why not do a dam? 18:09:02

11 UNIDENTIFIED AUDIENCE MEMBER: Why not 18:09:02

12 build a dam? You did the first one in two years. 18:09:06

13 MR. MCCORMICK: You still won't build a 18:09:09

14 dam in a less time period. You will not do it. 18:09:12

15 MR. CARTER: But is a new dam that you 18:09:15

16 would include this earthen dam, you would extend the 18:09:18

17 dam, then you would have a more secure dam. It 18:09:23

18 would help you with maybe the cost, electricity, 18:09:25

19 generating funds for you. Is a new dam not the best 18:09:29

20 thing to do since you're doing such a long project? 18:09:32

21 Five to seven years, you know, as the gentleman 18:09:37

22 stated, look at what was built -- and I understand 18:09:40

23 -- I was in the military 22 years, I understand 18:09:42

24 government projects and programs tremendously, more 18:09:45

25 than most. But if we take, enhance something that's 18:09:48

1 feasible, that's long-lasting -- and I understand 18:09:51
2 yours is long-lasting. 18:09:55

3 MR. MCCORMICK: We'll do our best to get 18:09:58
4 it on the website and give you an idea -- figure out 18:10:00
5 how we can -- let you see what that looks like. I'm 18:10:01
6 looking over at my team over there. I'll just tell 18:10:04
7 you, we evaluated all those options, and the option 18:10:04
8 that we picked is actually the best option for us to 18:10:09
9 pick. 18:10:19

10 MR. KAMMEYER: And one of the things to 18:10:19
11 draw into that is the concrete portion of the dam. 18:10:19
12 That's the significant part and that's healthy. 18:10:19
13 It's got the powerhouse, the concrete in it is 18:10:19
14 healthy. The issue we're talking about is the 18:10:19
15 embankment, so we wouldn't want to abandon the 18:10:21
16 concrete and we have to tie into -- 18:10:25

17 MR. CARTER: Understand. 18:10:26

18 MR. KAMMEYER: And the problem is not 18:10:28
19 the embankment. You see, the problem is not our 18:10:29
20 clay embankment -- or our foundation. So we would 18:10:30
21 have -- whatever we do to the foundation, we'd have 18:10:32
22 to do it wherever we put it. And to put it next to 18:10:36
23 the current foundation, the current embankment and 18:10:36
24 build a new one would take significantly longer and 18:10:41
25 cost significantly more. 18:10:45

1 So things are not the same as they used 18:10:45
2 to be. You can't go in a farmland and you can put 18:10:45
3 something up. Now we don't have that room to do 18:10:45
4 that. 18:10:53

5 MR. CARTER: I understand what you're 18:10:54
6 saying there. One of the other things, the lady 18:10:58
7 took over one of my questions because this is it, 18:11:01
8 does the TVA have any plans to raise the lake level 18:11:02
9 in the near future -- near future -- so property 18:11:08
10 owners can get their own personal watercrafts out? 18:11:12
11 In October, never notified that it wasn't coming 18:11:21
12 back up. If somebody would have told us then, we 18:11:24
13 could have got them out. That was unacceptable on 18:11:29
14 TVA's part. Unacceptable. 18:11:31

15 MR. TAYLOR: Okay. So I think Rebecca 18:11:32
16 talked about what the team is looking at, two 18:11:34
17 project managers are looking at, assisting with 18:11:37
18 those folks. 18:11:39

19 MR. CARTER: But there's thousands and 18:11:40
20 thousands of watercraft that are stranded -- 18:11:44

21 MR. TAYLOR: I understand that, but I 18:11:45
22 think -- we're not going to answer that question 18:11:47
23 tonight, probably. So what I'd like to do is go to 18:11:48
24 the next question. 18:11:50

25 UNIDENTIFIED AUDIENCE MEMBER: Answer 18:11:50

1 his question. 18:11:50

2 AUDIENCE: Answer it. 18:11:51

3 MR. TAYLOR: Well -- 18:11:59

4 MR. MCCORMICK: So you ask about 18:12:00

5 bringing the water level up. So I will not bring 18:12:02

6 the water level up until I know that we can safely 18:12:02

7 bring that water level up. And right now we don't 18:12:07

8 even know exactly what's going to happen with the 18:12:09

9 contractor. So I'll tell you this, until we know 18:12:13

10 for sure, I am not raising that water level. I will 18:12:16

11 not -- 18:12:16

12 MR. CARTER: The thing I ask you, 18:12:17

13 Mr. McCormick, did we not know that we had a water 18:12:21

14 seepage before October? I tell you, the people that 18:12:26

15 fish out there, like myself and other people, we 18:12:27

16 knew you had a problem two or three years ago. 18:12:31

17 You-all knew you had a problem two or three years 18:12:32

18 ago. Safety didn't bother you then, why does it 18:12:32

19 now? 18:12:35

20 MR. MCCORMICK: I have to disagree with 18:12:36

21 you. The seepage -- there was no seepage that was 18:12:36

22 at Boone Lake that was in that -- that was in that 18:12:40

23 river. So once the seepage was discovered, we 18:12:43

24 quickly acted on it. So I will tell you, our dam 18:12:43

25 safety program is as robust as it gets, and we acted 18:12:43

1 -- it acted -- we acted perfectly. Our process and 18:12:48
2 the team we have in play was perfect. 18:12:57

3 MR. TAYLOR: So what's our next 18:12:57
4 question? We can come back to that. 18:13:01

5 STEVEN: Steven (inaudible.) Next 18:13:01
6 question. The homes that are for sale or might be 18:13:08
7 sold in five to seven years that have their boats on 18:13:12
8 their lifts, based on the previous dams that have 18:13:15
9 had these issues before, have y'all been in 18:13:16
10 discussion with them on who's responsible for those 18:13:20
11 boats? Because you're going to sell a house, but 18:13:22
12 technically you're going to have leave your own boat 18:13:25
13 for five to seven years in care of the new owner. 18:13:28
14 Has that been addressed with the previous home 18:13:31
15 owners on the other lakes? 18:13:32

16 MS. TOLENE: So what I can tell you is, 18:13:34
17 I think that would be a private matter to handling a 18:13:37
18 contract between the sellers. When I look at what 18:13:40
19 entities have done on other lakes, they've not 18:13:44
20 decided to deal with these issues, they've not done 18:13:46
21 some of the things we're thinking about doing, you 18:13:49
22 know, with our marina owners and possibly with our 18:13:51
23 landowners. They have chosen not to do those 18:13:54
24 things. So we are thinking about doing, when we're 18:13:56
25 in those areas, than I can find any other benchmark. 18:14:00

1 STEVEN: And I agree with him too. This 18:14:03
2 is a business and profession that y'all do. I was 18:14:07
3 amazed that none of the homeowners were mailed 18:14:11
4 anything stating that the lake might not come back 18:14:14
5 up. My understanding was you were only bringing it 18:14:17
6 down to see what was going on, assess it or 18:14:20
7 whatever, and then it just came out that it's not 18:14:24
8 coming back up, so a lot of people did not remove 18:14:26
9 watercraft because they usually leave it out there 18:14:26
10 all year long. I don't think it was any of my 18:14:32
11 responsibilities to understand the disparity of what 18:14:32
12 might happen with the dam, to think we needed to 18:14:36
13 remove our boats. I would have thought TVA would 18:14:39
14 have took that responsibility and let us know that. 18:14:39
15 So now you got homeowners that are 18:14:43
16 leaving houses with watercraft, that might be moving 18:14:47
17 out of state or somewhere else, that they've just 18:14:48
18 got to leave a boat behind that they're still 18:14:49
19 financing that's going to be paid off by the time 18:14:51
20 it's done. 18:14:53
21 MR. MCCORMICK: So I remember that you 18:14:55
22 and I had this conversation about your house, you 18:14:57
23 sold your house and the boat stayed. So I will tell 18:14:59
24 you, you're right. I mean, as far as notice, we 18:15:03
25 gave notice that we were taking the water level 18:15:04

1 down. Not only did we do it once, we did it twice, 18:15:04
2 because originally we took it down to winter pool, 18:15:08
3 right? And then after winter pool, we realized we 18:15:09
4 had to take it down even further. We accelerated 18:15:10
5 our -- we accelerated that drawdown. But we didn't 18:15:17
6 understand, we didn't know at that time. 18:15:20

7 And I will tell you again, I just -- I 18:15:22
8 can't emphasize this enough, I cannot bring that 18:15:24
9 water level back, I will not bring that water level 18:15:28
10 back, because of the safety of those folks that are 18:15:29
11 downstream clearly outweigh anything I would do to 18:15:30
12 bring that water level up to cause more damage, to 18:15:36
13 cause potential impact downstream, or even cause 18:15:39
14 this project to go even longer than five to seven 18:15:40
15 years. 18:15:41

16 So I recognize, I understand it is an 18:15:43
17 issue and I say this again, I want that water level 18:15:47
18 up as much as you do. And I can't do that and tell 18:15:50
19 that fellow with the environmental question that my 18:15:52
20 flood control, I don't have it right now. So I can 18:15:57
21 use South Holston, I can use Wautaga, but I've lost 18:16:02
22 my flood control. So I want it up just as bad as 18:16:06
23 you do. And I recognize you down there sitting 18:16:06
24 there. Rebecca's going to do her best to try to 18:16:06
25 work with what can we do if there's an option to do 18:16:07

1 it. And in some cases, if some boats can get out of 18:16:15
2 there, it would too extensive or impossible for us 18:16:17
3 to get them out. So she's working on this and we'll 18:16:20
4 do our best to do it. But I will just tell you, I 18:16:22
5 feel bad that we can't bring the water level up, but 18:16:23
6 I know that we can't do that. 18:16:30
7 UNIDENTIFIED AUDIENCE MEMBER: Can you 18:16:30
8 do that for a short period of time? 18:16:30
9 STEVEN: Do y'all know of companies that 18:16:30
10 can do that? 18:16:31
11 MR. MCCORMICK: Cannot do that. 18:16:31
12 STEVEN: Do y'all -- 18:16:31
13 MR. MCCORMICK: I will tell you, every 18:16:31
14 expert that we have tells us do not bring that water 18:16:34
15 level up. And I will tell you, they're a lot 18:16:35
16 smarter than I am. 18:16:36
17 STEVEN: Do you know of companies that, 18:16:37
18 if you privately want to do it -- 18:16:40
19 MR. MCCORMICK: So it's interesting. In 18:16:40
20 our previous -- we did this in three stages. So 18:16:42
21 this morning we had a meeting that went on to 18:16:44
22 stakeholders, then we went with the marina owners, 18:16:44
23 and then we went with the press, and then we're 18:16:45
24 meeting with you-all tonight. And there was a 18:16:48
25 person that was in the one meeting that said he had 18:16:50

1 someone that actually has the ability to do that 18:16:52
2 unless they're on a cliff. If it's on a cliff, you 18:16:53
3 can't get to their boat. So actually he was meeting 18:16:57
4 with some of Rebecca's team, and what they're trying 18:17:00
5 to do is figure out a way to do this. 18:17:01
6 MS. TOLENE: We have a couple of 18:17:02
7 operators out now, trying to operate. Some of them 18:17:06
8 may be here tonight, but a couple of operators that 18:17:07
9 are out (inaudible) doing that. 18:17:08
10 STEVEN: When say cliff, what do you 18:17:09
11 mean? The majority of everyone is at the top of a 18:17:09
12 cliff. 18:17:14
13 MS. TOLENE: That's right, that's the 18:17:14
14 problem. So they're doing what I would think of as 18:17:17
15 kind of the -- kind of what they can. We're 18:17:17
16 starting to look at options around more elevation 18:17:20
17 and see what we can do. But we can certainly view 18:17:23
18 their names and talk to them about they can do. And 18:17:24
19 in the meantime if you want to (inaudible) we'll do 18:17:26
20 that. 18:17:28
21 Will somebody on my team find him this 18:17:28
22 evening, please? 18:17:32
23 UNIDENTIFIED AUDIENCE MEMBER: We all 18:17:32
24 need that. 18:17:33
25 MS. TOLENE: Okay. 18:17:33

1 UNIDENTIFIED AUDIENCE MEMBER: Put it 18:17:34
2 online. Put that information out there. 18:17:36

3 UNIDENTIFIED AUDIENCE MEMBER: What 18:17:36
4 about the rest of us? Put it online because a lot 18:17:36
5 of us need that information. 18:17:38

6 MR. BECKET: Hi. My name's Kevin 18:17:38
7 Becket. My current concerns is somewhat different 18:17:38
8 that everyone else's at the moment. I've heard talk 18:17:47
9 about help with marinas and the economic problems 18:17:50
10 and solutions that we have and you're putting in 18:17:50
11 place. I currently have an apartment complex 18:17:56
12 that's based on Boone Lake. And whereas when the 18:18:00
13 lake was up, it was a hundred percent full. I'm 18:18:03
14 current at 50 percent occupancy. And after the 18:18:04
15 announcement today, I'm almost sure I'm going to 18:18:09
16 lose more. So my question is not for a handout or 18:18:13
17 help, what I would like to do is possibly have a 18:18:17
18 subcontract that you could place your workers, of 18:18:19
19 the 200 that would be on top of each other working. 18:18:23
20 I'm just asking that it's possible that we set up 18:18:33
21 some kind of contractual agreement for housing for 18:18:35
22 your workers. That will help me and you. 18:18:38

23 MR. KAMMEYER: So what was your name 18:18:39
24 again? 18:18:39

25 MR. BECKET: Kevin Becket. 18:18:42

1 UNIDENTIFIED AUDIENCE MEMBER: We've got 18:18:43
2 a couch they could rent. 18:18:45
3 MR. TAYLOR: Thank you. 18:18:45
4 MR. BECKET: That's it. I mean -- 18:18:47
5 MR. KAMMEYER: We'll get with you. 18:18:50
6 MR. BECKET: All right. Where do I need 18:18:51
7 to give this? It's on here too. 18:18:51
8 MS. TOLENE: I think back of the room or 18:18:52
9 there may be a basket outside that -- but we'll talk 18:18:52
10 to you. 18:18:52
11 MR. BECKET: Thank you for you time. 18:18:58
12 MR. THOMAS: Hello, my name is Ray 18:18:58
13 Thomas. I'm not interested in the seepage. I'm a 18:19:03
14 professional real estate appraiser. I serve on a 18:19:03
15 national committee and I have appraisers who call me 18:19:09
16 asking what we're going to do, who much less 18:19:12
17 homeowners that are asking what are we going to do. 18:19:17
18 And, John, I'm sure you got a project manager that's 18:19:20
19 going to come and look and help me to set these 18:19:24
20 people because you're talking about the financial 18:19:26
21 pocketbook of good old East Tennessee people. This 18:19:30
22 gentleman came here to retire, and for a lack of 18:19:35
23 other words, he's been screwed. 18:19:37
24 So, I mean, I've got homeowners that 18:19:40
25 call me daily saying please come out and appraise my 18:19:45

1 property because I paid 600,000 for it because of 18:19:48
2 location and it was located on the lake and now they 18:19:51
3 don't have a lake. So tell me what to do. 18:19:58

4 Thank you very much. 18:20:04

5 MR. CONNICK: My name is Joel Connick 18:20:07
6 and I live on Boone Lake as well. And as a property 18:20:15
7 owner I'm obviously concerned about the economics of 18:20:18
8 my home. But going back to the five-year window, 18:20:22
9 that seems like a staggering amount of time, and I 18:20:26
10 understand this is a huge project, but my question 18:20:29
11 for you is, are you being limited by resources in 18:20:33
12 that window? In other words, if you had an 18:20:36
13 unlimited budget, could you do it faster, or is the 18:20:39
14 physical space make it impossible, or is there some 18:20:41
15 process I don't understand that causes it to take so 18:20:44
16 long? And could you just help me understand that, 18:20:47
17 why exactly it is such a long process? 18:20:51

18 MR. KAMMEYER: Good question. Thank 18:20:53
19 you. It's not the resources. We're not resource 18:20:54
20 limited. Whatever money my team would ask for to 18:20:59
21 get this done as quick as we could, we would have 18:21:03
22 gotten that money. I can assure you of that. TVA 18:21:05
23 is taking this very seriously. The size of the dam, 18:21:09
24 the depth of the drilling, and the close proximity, 18:21:09
25 these holes we have to drill, what John was talking 18:21:14

1 about, high-mobility grout, the low-mobility grout, 18:21:15
2 the spacing on those holes potentially are 5 feet 18:21:20
3 apart, 5 feet this way, 5 feet that way; very, very 18:21:24
4 close together. Very little lay down space. 18:21:27

5 We got two major challenges on the job. 18:21:30
6 One is the space. A lot of equipment to go into, 18:21:30
7 you know, 10 pounds into a five-pound box. And a 18:21:35
8 complicated geology is unique in the sense that the 18:21:38
9 karst there, the karst is at an angle. So we may 18:21:42
10 not be able to use the larger pieces of equipment 18:21:46
11 that the coreax can use to do Wolf Creek, to get 18:21:48
12 that done in seven years. We may not be able to use 18:21:51
13 that. So it's a real technical challenge that we'll 18:21:54
14 have to get into next year. That's why we have a 18:21:58
15 range. I know as bad as it sounds, five years is 18:22:03
16 pretty aggressive. I know nobody likes to hear 18:22:04
17 that, but that's what it is. But space is a big 18:22:07
18 thing. 18:22:07

19 And dam safety is an issue. We can't go 18:22:10
20 in there -- even if we could fit the equipment, we 18:22:11
21 can't go in there and pump grout in multiple 18:22:13
22 locations at a high rate and not potentially cause 18:22:18
23 high core pressure. You know, water pressure deep 18:22:19
24 underneath the dam can cause instability. You've 18:22:23
25 got to factor in dam safety while you're doing the 18:22:26

1 work. There's a rate, a limit, that you can work 18:22:29
2 and there's a space limit. All those things 18:22:31
3 contribute to the five-year schedule. 18:22:34

4 MR. CONNICK: Thank you. And I guess as 18:22:36
5 a follow-up question, as you develop this process, 18:22:41
6 as you begin your work, continue your work, are you 18:22:43
7 going to post -- are you going to have a time line 18:22:45
8 online that says, we are here in process, this is 18:22:49
9 our new window, this is our extended window? 18:22:53

10 MR. KAMMEYER: Good question. I'm glad 18:22:53
11 you -- yes, absolutely. We're going to keep that up 18:22:53
12 to date. We're going to put that target up there, 18:22:53
13 that five-year target from today. And then as we 18:22:57
14 get into next year, and we actually start doing 18:22:57
15 drilling with the production side of the house, 18:22:57
16 we'll know a lot more, we'll update that schedule, 18:23:07
17 and we'll get back together. We'll have whatever 18:23:09
18 you need to have to let you know where we're at, but 18:23:11
19 we'll stay on top of it. 18:23:14

20 MR. CONNICK: Thank you. 18:23:14

21 MR. MCCORMICK: We're going to have a 18:23:15
22 community relations person that's going to be on 18:23:18
23 site up there, and that's -- they're a full-time job 18:23:19
24 just to inform about what's going on. 18:23:21

25 MR. CONNICK: Thank you. 18:23:23

1 MR. BRADY: Good evening. My name is 18:23:26
2 Pat Brady. I have a question, but I thought heard 18:23:30
3 someone over here -- make sure I heard it right. I 18:23:30
4 think it was John who said it -- y'all would be 18:23:31
5 working 24 hours a day? 18:23:37

6 MR. KAMMEYER: No, we will be. Right 18:23:39
7 now -- 18:23:39

8 MR. BRADY: You will be? 18:23:39

9 MR. KAMMEYER: We will be. Once we get 18:23:41
10 past this NEPA review and the project is turned on, 18:23:45
11 the first of -- early next year, 2016, when we bring 18:23:47
12 in the major contractor, that group will be working 18:23:51
13 24 hours a day, seven days a week, either doing 18:23:54
14 production work or maintenance on the equipment. 18:23:56
15 Right now we're doing the testing, we're doing the 18:23:59
16 set up, we're doing all that facilities work that 18:24:00
17 you have to do in order to do a project while we 18:24:03
18 wait for the NEPA review to be done. 18:24:06

19 So we're doing as much as we can. We're 18:24:07
20 doing the procurement side, we're going out for bids 18:24:09
21 next month on the -- base job, the engineering, the 18:24:11
22 construction, get all those pieces in place so that 18:24:16
23 when the evaluation's finished, we're ready to hit 18:24:18
24 the start button. 18:24:20

25 MR. BRADY: All right. That's great. 18:24:21

1 Due to the unfortunate time line, I'm glad to hear 18:24:25
2 that. My question is more to the temporary ramps, 18:24:30
3 I'll call them, that you talked about earlier, more 18:24:30
4 specifically the Devault Bridge location. I'd like 18:24:36
5 to know what was the driving force behind picking 18:24:39
6 that selection across Devault Bridge when we already 18:24:40
7 have a ramp in place on the other side of Devault 18:24:43
8 Bridge? 18:24:45

9 MS. TOLENE: Yeah, we've had quite a few 18:24:47
10 comments on that, so I know we have some concerns in 18:24:47
11 the community. Really, it was about the steepness 18:24:50
12 of the property, the property that TVA already owns 18:24:55
13 on the side they want build on being enough to 18:24:57
14 support the effort. Those were the two drivers. 18:24:58
15 But if you have specific concerns about Devault and 18:25:04
16 the things we could do that would lessen your 18:25:05
17 concerns about it, let's get together and talk about 18:25:09
18 that. I mean, I've had a couple of people just 18:25:11
19 express some concerns about that a little bit. 18:25:12

20 MR. BRADY: Well, I can get you more 18:25:15
21 than a couple of people -- 18:25:15

22 MS. TOLENE: Okay. 18:25:15

23 MR. BRADY: -- together to talk about it 18:25:15
24 because it is a major concern not only from the 18:25:19
25 traffic safety on Devault Bridge, but also boat and 18:25:25

1 water safety. And although the time line is not 18:25:28
2 good, we are counting on the lake being back one 18:25:32
3 day, so we don't want to do something that makes a 18:25:36
4 bad situation worse. And I personally think the 18:25:37
5 Devault Bridge location is not a good idea. 18:25:39

6 My question is have y'all talked to any 18:25:42
7 of the surrounding marina owners? They would be a 18:25:44
8 good in for access by EMS, boaters, and also 18:25:44
9 overincrease business to the marina. 18:25:47

10 MS. TOLENE: So we are talking -- I met 18:25:54
11 with marina owners today. We are talking about some 18:25:55
12 of those issues, and many pointed out the list of 18:25:56
13 why we're even looking at doing these. And I would 18:26:00
14 like to get more boaters in the water, I would 18:26:02
15 definitely like to be able to get emergency services 18:26:04
16 in the water, they need to be out there. But we can 18:26:07
17 -- we can talk further about Devault. 18:26:10

18 MR. BRADY: All right. Thank you. 18:26:15

19 MR. SELLS: Yes. My name's David Sells. 18:26:17
20 With the price of electricity as high as it is, 18:26:23
21 you're talking about \$300 million, where is that 18:26:25
22 money coming from? Who's paying for it? 18:26:27

23 MR. MCCORMICK: So we have our normal 18:26:28
24 operating budget, and that question actually was 18:26:30
25 raised multiple times today. So our normal 18:26:33

1 operating budget, we have contingency for different 18:26:34
2 things that happen. We also have -- we're in a 18:26:40
3 business planning cycle right now. When you're 18:26:42
4 looking at something that's going to happen over a 18:26:43
5 five-year period, it's easy for us to be able to use 18:26:47
6 our normal operating budget to just -- use -- 18:26:49
7 working in and out. 18:26:51
8 MR. SELLS: So no rate increases? 18:26:54
9 MR. MCCORMICK: No rate increase because 18:26:56
10 of what's going on here. 18:26:59
11 MR. SELLS: Okay. Thank you. 18:26:59
12 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Well, seeming you 18:27:00
13 guys can't get your time frame square, five to seven 18:27:05
14 years is quite a span of two years. I don't think 18:27:09
15 I've got a lot of trust in you in your 2- to \$300 18:27:11
16 million project costs. Now, TVA, I know, works with 18:27:16
17 Army Corps of Engineers and they just did a project 18:27:21
18 up in Kentucky for \$600 million on a 2- to \$300 18:27:27
19 million project to start with. So how can we have 18:27:32
20 faith that you guys are going to be able to even 18:27:33
21 make that 2- to \$300 million price tag? 18:27:39
22 MR. KAMMEYER: Are you interested in 18:27:42
23 getting the reservoir back or are you more concerned 18:27:43
24 about the money? What's your question? 18:27:45
25 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Both. I'd like 18:27:46

1 the reservoir back and have it done at a less cost. 18:27:50
2 But because you're adamant on your five to seven 18:27:54
3 years, I don't have a real good faith that you're 18:27:58
4 going to make your 2 to \$300 -- 2 to \$300 million 18:28:02
5 project. And what's that going to do to my electric 18:28:07
6 rates? 18:28:09
7 MR. KAMMEYER: We just told you that. 18:28:11
8 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: No, you didn't, 18:28:12
9 because you didn't say above your cost overrun. 18:28:15
10 Have you ever seen a government project that came in 18:28:18
11 on budget? 18:28:19
12 MR. KAMMEYER: All the time. We do all 18:28:21
13 of your projects on schedule on budget. I've got my 18:28:22
14 team, six years we've been doing this, haven't 18:28:26
15 missed a project yet. 18:28:26
16 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: And you've been 18:28:29
17 on cost all the time? 18:28:29
18 MR. KAMMEYER: That's correct. 18:28:30
19 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Well, very good. 18:28:32
20 So we can expect that this time? 18:28:34
21 MR. KAMMEYER: Absolutely. 18:28:36
22 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Thank you. 18:28:37
23 MR. TAYLOR: Thanks. 18:28:37
24 MR. MARTIN: My name's Bud Martin. I 18:28:40
25 live on the lake. Hopefully I'll ask a little 18:28:43

1 lighter, positive subject here. After tonight's 18:28:49
2 announcement there will probably be -- 18:28:55

3 MR. TAYLOR: Can you talk into the mic 18:28:55
4 so she can capture -- a little bit closer there? 18:28:55

5 MR. MARTIN: Yes, sir. After tonight's 18:28:57
6 announcement there will probably be quite a few 18:29:00
7 people that are re-establishing new shoreline 18:29:05
8 facilities, docks, boathouses, whatever, for five 18:29:09
9 years. The reason I decided to step up here was a 18:29:14
10 little comment that you made, Mr. McCormick, that 18:29:16
11 possibly later on we could increase the lake level 18:29:21
12 by -- incrementally. And my immediate thought at 18:29:26
13 that moment was that once we establish a new 18:29:29
14 shoreline, is it might tear us up pretty good to 18:29:34
15 have to move it up incrementally every so often. So 18:29:36
16 that was the only comment I really had. 18:29:37

17 MR. MCCORMICK: So I just need to go 18:29:39
18 back and just clarify. So the length of this 18:29:42
19 project as I sit here today, that lake level will be 18:29:45
20 between 1350 and 1355 for the duration of this 18:29:50
21 project. We will evaluate based on different 18:29:53
22 stages. And if the opportunity arises to do that, 18:29:57
23 we will give you very good notification if that were 18:30:00
24 to occur. But I will tell you right now, I think it 18:30:02
25 is very unlikely from where we sit today to see that 18:30:03

1 that water level come up with the next five to seven 18:30:06
2 years. Does that help? 18:30:10

3 MR. MARTIN: Yeah. Now, traveling 18:30:13
4 around the lake by boat, I see a lot of people 18:30:16
5 getting out and re-establishing, so on a positive 18:30:18
6 insight, if there is a lake there and it's usable, 18:30:18
7 if you get out and do it. 18:30:23

8 MR. KAMMEYER: Thank you for that. 18:30:25

9 MR. PATEL: I'm Vish Patel and I'm the 18:30:29
10 owner of the store across from Boone Lake, I own 18:30:32
11 Boone store. Would you please reconsider, you know, 18:30:36
12 along the marinas giving interest-free loans because 18:30:41
13 we are hurting really bad? 18:30:42

14 MS. TOLENE: So, I'm sorry, what? 18:30:43

15 MR. PATEL: It was in the news a few 18:30:46
16 weeks back that, you know, you guys would be giving 18:30:49
17 interest-free loans to marinas around the Boone 18:30:52
18 Lake. Would you consider us, because we were 18:30:54
19 hurting really bad right now? 18:30:55

20 MS. TOLENE: So what we are doing right 18:30:58
21 now is a pilot program with the seven loan -- seven 18:30:59
22 marinas, I'm sorry, because they are, you know, 18:31:02
23 directly and substantially dependent upon -- they're 18:31:06
24 basically dry and need the water to survive. We are 18:31:10
25 considering options to work with the community, so 18:31:12

1 we can talk further. Right now, though, if I can -- 18:31:15
2 just to be honest, I don't have a plan to, you know, 18:31:19
3 provide grants or loans to other back line 18:31:22
4 businesses or homeowners. 18:31:25

5 MR. PATEL: Yeah, because primarily -- 18:31:26
6 we will be paying on -- for our business, so -- and 18:31:30
7 also, you know, if construction starts, those 200 18:31:34
8 people can -- they make some kind of fuel contract 18:31:39
9 with us, something like that, you know? 18:31:41

10 MS. TOLENE: I will say there will be 18:31:41
11 benefits, I think, because of the -- 18:31:45

12 MR. PATEL: Because you understand we 18:31:45
13 are exactly across the road they will be coming in 18:31:45
14 anyways. Would you consider that? Would you 18:31:53
15 consider, you know, making contract with us, fuel 18:31:56
16 contract? 18:31:57

17 MR. TAYLOR: Fuel. 18:31:57

18 MR. PATEL: Fuel. Gas stations, we own 18:31:57
19 gas stations. 18:32:02

20 MR. KAMMEYER: I'm sure we'll be going 18:32:03
21 local. The constructor that's doing this work is 18:32:06
22 international. We'll be bringing them on next year. 18:32:11
23 But there'll be opportunity for a lot of local 18:32:13
24 business growth, new business, so yes, absolutely. 18:32:17
25 MR. PATEL: Yeah, because we are right 18:32:17

1 across so it would be convenient as well. Thank 18:32:21
2 you. 18:32:22

3 MR. TAYLOR: Thank you. 18:32:23

4 MR. HARRIS: Hi, I'm Steve Harris and 18:32:28
5 I'm also a real estate appraiser and I have been 18:32:30
6 fortunate over the years to own one of the boat 18:32:33
7 docks that you've talked about. And I own property 18:32:37
8 on the lake and have done development on the lake. 18:32:40
9 I think a lot of the people that are here tonight 18:32:43
10 are really concerned about their investment, just 18:32:47
11 getting down to the bottom line here. Has it been 18:32:48
12 considered at all -- the one gentleman that came up 18:32:52
13 earlier that talked about his wife that was sick 18:32:56
14 and, you know, he said, let's sell, you know, and 18:33:01
15 probably that's going to be the worse thing that can 18:33:05
16 happen to property values if we have these fire 18:33:06
17 sales. 18:33:07

18 Would it be possible for TVA to create a 18:33:15
19 buying service for these people who are in distress 18:33:20
20 in this where property values won't plunge? You 18:33:22
21 know, TVA, this gentleman that was in here and said, 18:33:22
22 I've got to sell, let's get out of here, you know, 18:33:22
23 if he sells at a below-market value, the next -- the 18:33:34
24 appraiser uses historic data. So we're going to 18:33:38
25 start to use that historic data. And it looks like 18:33:39

1 to me if TVA could create a buying service, at the 18:33:42
2 end of seven years, sell that property and recoup 18:33:49
3 the investment, keep the market value of the 18:33:53
4 properties on the lake up where they should be. 18:33:56

5 MS. TOLENE: So I can tell you we're 18:33:58
6 looking at all options including, you know, support. 18:34:02
7 I will say this. Every one of those projects or 18:34:06
8 programs are paid for by the rate payers throughout 18:34:09
9 the system, so we're constantly balancing that. We 18:34:15
10 will constitute to consider those types of programs 18:34:17
11 and other programs that help the community. I mean, 18:34:19
12 you know, this is a hard conversation tonight. It's 18:34:22
13 been a had conversation all -- you know, all three 18:34:23
14 of them. And all of us up here, I think I will 18:34:28
15 speak for us, we really would like to return lake 18:34:32
16 levels for property, for recreation, for my wildlife 18:34:36
17 out there, you know, those kind of things. So we 18:34:37
18 will continue to consider all options as we move 18:34:41
19 through, including the idea that you just provided 18:34:43
20 to us. 18:34:43

21 MR. HARRIS: Well, if I may, just 18:34:45
22 consider -- you know, that property value for this 18:34:47
23 gentleman could be established off the last year's 18:34:51
24 values. When lake waters come -- when the property 18:34:53
25 values increase, the lake's back up, the dam's 18:34:57

1 functioning like it's supposed to, resale of the 18:35:00
2 property, to me it seems that that wouldn't be a 18:35:02
3 great expense for TVA because you're going to 18:35:02
4 recapture your value. Plus, the homeowners, as the 18:35:02
5 other appraiser said, aren't going to get killed. 18:35:06
6 It'll hold the values at a price that they should be 18:35:13
7 held there. Food for thought. 18:35:20
8 MS. TOLENE: Thank you. 18:35:21
9 MR. KAMMEYER: Thanks. 18:35:21
10 STEVE: I'm Steve (inaudible). I live 18:35:27
11 on the lake. And I realize five years trying to 18:35:31
12 turn the lemons into lemonade, so the wheels of 18:35:31
13 bureaucracy, TVA, sure turn slowly if -- would TVA 18:35:40
14 consider, once the lake level comes up -- there is a 18:35:46
15 lot of boating season left from September to maybe 18:35:46
16 November, and you start dropping the lake right at 18:35:48
17 the beginning of September, would TVA consider 18:35:48
18 keeping the lake levels up higher until maybe the 18:36:01
19 beginning of November? And how would we as citizens 18:36:04
20 start the process of getting TVA to consider that 18:36:08
21 seriously? 18:36:09
22 It would certainly help alleviate the 18:36:16
23 severe economic impact that all the marinas and 18:36:18
24 everybody else is feeling because of the situation. 18:36:29
25 MR. MCCORMICK: So you're not going to 18:36:29

1 like my answer. I'm just telling you. So managing 18:36:31
2 the whole river system is very -- once again, very 18:36:35
3 complex. And there are flood guides and guide 18:36:38
4 curves that I must follow. And it is important, it 18:36:41
5 is our reservoir operating system for study is 18:36:46
6 something that I cannot violate. So I hear what 18:36:49
7 you're saying about wanting to keep it up. Gosh, 18:36:51
8 I'd love to be able to say yes, we could do that. 18:36:53
9 But I can tell you, I can't put ourselves in a 18:36:55
10 position where I can cause flooding downstream. So 18:36:58
11 that is the reason why we bring the lake levels 18:37:01
12 down. We bring the lake levels down -- 18:37:02
13 UNIDENTIFIED AUDIENCE MEMBER: Who are 18:37:02
14 you going to flood, Eastman? 18:37:04
15 STEVE: It rains -- I mean, it certainly 18:37:06
16 rains very little in September and October. And so 18:37:07
17 I can understand why you don't bring it up until, 18:37:13
18 you know, April, but it rains very little in 18:37:16
19 September, October, and flood control, I don't quite 18:37:21
20 follow. 18:37:23
21 MR. KAMMEYER: One thing to consider is 18:37:25
22 right now we're five to seven years. We're going to 18:37:29
23 work really hard to do better than that, but until 18:37:32
24 we actually get started and start drilling in that 18:37:33
25 embankment, we're being a little cautious, you know. 18:37:35

1 So as we post information and as we make progress, 18:37:38
2 you know, it's unlikely that it will be August of 18:37:43
3 2020. I think it will be earlier. Our goal is to 18:37:45
4 do it earlier. So I don't think you should get too 18:37:47
5 worried about, you know, the two months after 18:37:48
6 August. Wait and see. See if we don't improve this 18:37:51
7 and give it to you back sooner. 18:37:53
8 STEVE: I'll give you five years. I 18:37:55
9 mean, if you say it's five years, I believe you. 18:37:56
10 But again, how would we start the process of, you 18:37:59
11 know, trying to get -- petitioning TVA to bring that 18:38:02
12 lake up for a longer period of time in September and 18:38:08
13 October? 18:38:11
14 MR. MCCORMICK: So if we opened up, if 18:38:13
15 we redid the reservoir operating study again, you 18:38:15
16 could actually lose level. So I will tell you, I 18:38:18
17 mean, this is not -- this is not an issue. I face 18:38:20
18 this issue on many, many, many of our reservoirs. 18:38:24
19 People want us to keep the lake level up, and 18:38:26
20 unfortunately you can't do that. When we do that, 18:38:29
21 we put ourselves at a higher risk. And I will ask 18:38:31
22 you this, just pay attention to some of the 18:38:34
23 flooding, some of the weird things that have been 18:38:34
24 happening in weather space. My job is to make sure 18:38:38
25 that we don't flood small towns out, and that's what 18:38:41

1 we won't do. 18:38:41

2 So I don't have the ability -- I do not 18:38:43
3 have the ability to go through and change the way we 18:38:47
4 operate and go outside our flood guides. So I know 18:38:50
5 that's not a good answer, but I will tell you that's 18:38:52
6 just -- that is the way it is. 18:38:54

7 STEVE: So there's no way, basically? 18:38:56

8 MR. KAMMEYER: At the moment there is 18:38:58
9 not. We would actually have to redo a complete 18:39:00
10 study. And I will tell you, there's a potential 18:39:02
11 that you could lose what you currently have. And 18:39:06
12 that's the thing that we did, was actually an 18:39:07
13 exceptional study with some of the greatest minds in 18:39:11
14 the area again, and checking that whole ecosystem 18:39:13
15 and what it did for us, so... 18:39:16

16 STEVE: Thank you. 18:39:17

17 MS. FULLER: I'm Martha Fuller. I'm 18:39:17
18 here representing Fuller Marine & Engineering, 18:39:23
19 Incorporated. We have already located -- relocated 18:39:28
20 some floating docks to water level where it is now, 18:39:33
21 where it is permissible and possible. And we have 18:39:36
22 the capability to possibly get your boat out of the 18:39:41
23 dock that it's in. The company is operated by Noel 18:39:45
24 Fuller, who is a registered professional engineer in 18:39:46
25 the state of Tennessee, and we have experience doing 18:39:52

1 this if anybody would want to follow up with us. 18:39:57

2 MR. KAMMEYER: Thank you. 18:40:01

3 MR. TAYLOR: Thank you, Martha. 18:40:01

4 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: I'm back. 18:40:06

5 MR. MCCORMICK: We have time. 18:40:08

6 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: As a follow-up 18:40:09

7 question somewhat related to that, as certain 18:40:13

8 property owners own to the center of the river, 18:40:18

9 others do not. What is permissible for the folks 18:40:21

10 who do not own to the center of the river on the 18:40:28

11 property line as far as parking, a pontoon boat, or 18:40:31

12 some other craft on the bank on TVA land or 18:40:37

13 property? 18:40:37

14 MS. TOLENE: So on the TVA land and 18:40:40

15 property, I think we can work with you on that and 18:40:43

16 you can call our office, we can tell you what you 18:40:47

17 can and can't do. The problem with Boone is a lot 18:40:49

18 of that property, you know, someone originally owned 18:40:50

19 it all the way down, and at sometime during the 18:40:52

20 history of residence they only sold down this far. 18:40:55

21 So then we have these private owners that, you know, 18:40:57

22 we can't find. Those are going to be hard 18:41:00

23 situations to negotiate those -- you know, to really 18:41:02

24 hide agreements. We're trying to think about ways 18:41:06

25 we're going to help people find people and make sure 18:41:09

1 to determine what the rights are. But a lot of 18:41:11
2 those are private-property issues that requires 18:41:15
3 courthouse searches and things like that. 18:41:16

4 So to the extent it's our property -- 18:41:18
5 and you can call our office and ask, we're always 18:41:21
6 there so we can help you find that out if it's ours. 18:41:23
7 It's going to be hard in some of these cases where 18:41:25
8 we have these private property owners. Now, with 18:41:27
9 that being said, who knows where those 18:41:28
10 private-property owners are, right, so at some point 18:41:34
11 we may just have to do something down there. But 18:41:34
12 let's talk it through with you in your individual 18:41:37
13 case because it is different all over Boone. 18:41:39

14 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Well, I 18:41:40
15 understand that, but if TVA does own the property, 18:41:43
16 is it okay? 18:41:45

17 MS. TOLENE: To what? 18:41:45

18 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: To park my 18:41:47
19 pontoon boat on your bank. 18:41:51

20 MS. TOLENE: So I think you'll need a -- 18:41:52
21 for a boat, I think it's okay. You know, if you're 18:41:53
22 going to build a structure, you're going to need to 18:41:55
23 kind of get a permit. 18:41:57

24 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Or a floating 18:41:57
25 dock, I need a permit, but if I'm just parking, I'm 18:41:59

1 okay? 18:42:00

2 MS. TOLENE: Yeah, we've done a lot of 18:42:02
3 temporary facilities and, you know, expediting those 18:42:04
4 permitting processes and not charging fees. So 18:42:04
5 yeah, come talk to us, let us see what we can do. 18:42:10

6 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Thank you. 18:42:11

7 MR. GRAM: My name is George Gram. 18:42:17
8 Since four or five dams were built as part of the 18:42:21
9 upper eastern project, roughly at the same time and 18:42:25
10 close together in geographic area, are there 18:42:30
11 indications the same type of karst-related problems 18:42:35
12 would apply to Holston, Watauga, Patrick Henry, 18:42:41
13 Cherokee? 18:42:44

14 MR. MCCORMICK: I'm looking over at my 18:42:46
15 team. So let me just tell you what we do. When we 18:42:48
16 have an event like this, we go back and we do what 18:42:51
17 we call an extended condition and we try to 18:42:53
18 understand any other dams that were built with that 18:42:56
19 type of foundation. So that's what we do. And we 18:42:57
20 do have other dams. 18:42:59

21 South Holston and Watauga is negative, 18:43:02
22 correct? 18:43:03

23 We'll also look at dams that were built 18:43:07
24 on that same era, for the same -- what was 18:43:09
25 acceptable engineering practices, constructing and 18:43:10

1 design practices. We will also make sure that, is 18:43:10
2 there another issue. So we've done extended 18:43:19
3 condition. And once again, our dam seeking program 18:43:22
4 is very robust with our inspections, so we have no 18:43:25
5 other indications that we have any issues going on 18:43:27
6 with South Holston or Watauga. 18:43:30

7 MR. GRAM: What about Patrick Henry? 18:43:31
8 They're immediately downstream. 18:43:32

9 MR. MCCORMICK: Yeah, they're roughly in 18:43:34
10 the same area. Floor packs of concrete dam, so a 18:43:34
11 little different, so no issues. 18:43:41

12 MR. GRAMS: Thank you. 18:43:42

13 MR. MCCORMICK: your welcome. 18:43:45

14 PAUL: Hi, my name's Paul (inaudible). 18:43:46
15 I'm a lake owner and a stranded boat owner as well. 18:43:52
16 You know, a less trusting soul listening to this 18:43:56
17 might start thinking, boy, this has all the makings 18:43:56
18 of a perfect real estate scam. Everbody's property 18:44:01
19 values are going to go to hell in a handbasket very 18:44:06
20 quickly. We're going to have speculators running 18:44:07
21 all over the county probably within a week. People 18:44:09
22 are going to be trying to lowball everybody and get 18:44:15
23 them out of there. 18:44:15

24 I think you should pay a lot of 18:44:18
25 attention to the gentleman -- the appraiser fellow, 18:44:21

1 that said you might to want about some sort of a 18:44:24
2 fund that helps keep property values low. Because 18:44:27
3 let's face it, by the time you get that going on, 18:44:29
4 half the people in this room are going to be dead. 18:44:32
5 So, come on. 18:44:50

6 MR. MCCORMICK: I'm not sure how you 18:44:51
7 follow up with that. 18:44:53

8 MR. COOK: Well, my name's Henry Cook 18:44:54
9 and I do have a -- it's a personal question and it 18:44:57
10 is on water levels. I'm an engineer and I designed 18:45:02
11 the stiff arm with a 70-foot walkway to give myself 18:45:08
12 plenty of room for the water to go down. And 18:45:12
13 actually last year, when you dropped it to 1347, I 18:45:16
14 still had about 3 foot of water. But, you know, 18:45:19
15 with all -- all of a sudden we heard, we're going to 18:45:20
16 drop the lake level. And I even heard like 1330. 18:45:23
17 So I took my dock and I moved it across and put it 18:45:28
18 on the sand bar on somebody's property I didn't even 18:45:31
19 know. Spent a lot of money to get my walkway down, 18:45:35
20 and we stopped at 1350. It might have had 5 foot of 18:45:36
21 water in it today and I would have had no issues 18:45:40
22 with the money I spent. 18:45:43

23 Now, I sent a question into your group 18:45:46
24 and I asked if it -- you know, if I could expect 18:45:50
25 that 13 to 1350 and they said, don't invest in 18:45:53

1 moving it back yet. So I anticipate that you might 18:45:58
2 have to drop it to put in these new ramps. If 18:46:03
3 you're going to go -- if you're not going to go 18:46:05
4 under 1350 putting in the new ramps, I can go back 18:46:07
5 and get my dock and I can bring it back in. But, 18:46:11
6 you know, at the same time I was told not to, so I'm 18:46:15
7 just looking for clarification on that. 18:46:16
8 MR. MCCORMICK: Our range is 1350 to 18:46:20
9 1355. And I think I explained this some before. 18:46:22
10 Dropping the lake levels too low is actually just as 18:46:23
11 dangerous to the dam. So 1350 to 1355 is where 18:46:23
12 we'll be. 18:46:32
13 MR. COOK: Okay. So you don't 18:46:33
14 anticipate dropping it -- 18:46:35
15 MR. MCCORMICK: I do not. 18:46:35
16 MR. COOK: Thank you very much. 18:46:38
17 MR. MCCORMICK: You're quite welcome. 18:46:38
18 MR. BURGER: My name's Bill Burger. My 18:46:40
19 wife and I own six properties on Boone Lake. With 18:46:45
20 that said, I'm one of your people that you're 18:46:47
21 probably looking at in the bankruptcy. Your two 18:46:52
22 real estate agents that spoke and we were told by a 18:46:59
23 couple of real estate agents that the property right 18:47:00
24 now would probably be in the 50 percent range. 18:47:06
25 That's what it was before the lake and the dam 18:47:09

1 situation come about. 18:47:11

2 With my age, I'm like many of my 18:47:16

3 neighbors here and that are not here. We won't even 18:47:22

4 probably be able to get down to the lake in the 18:47:25

5 five-to-seven-year period. But then our income -- 18:47:29

6 or in my wife and my's case, our retirement, just 18:47:36

7 went south. I know that's not a concern of y'all's. 18:47:45

8 MS. TOLENE: So I'll say that is a 18:47:45

9 concern of ours and we hear everyone in the room is 18:47:48

10 very concerned with this. We will continue to look 18:47:52

11 at options as we go forward, including some we heard 18:47:55

12 today. I will say I have seen this happen on other 18:48:00

13 projects, and the more we can move forward with this 18:48:04

14 project and the more people realize that this is a 18:48:08

15 five-to-seven-year project and we will have a 18:48:11

16 permanent fix to this situation in an area that has 18:48:13

17 a lot of karst geology, the more confidence we can 18:48:17

18 keep in that market. 18:48:18

19 And so we're looking at ways to do that 18:48:22

20 as well, is to help folks continue to have a 18:48:23

21 confidence in the market. I get that five years 18:48:26

22 seems like a long time. We all know real estate is 18:48:30

23 a long market, right? And so if we can help keep 18:48:32

24 confidence in the market by talking about the fix 18:48:34

25 we're going to do, the permanency of it, and the 18:48:36

1 fact that the lake is coming back, we're going to be 18:48:39
2 working to do that as well. 18:48:41

3 So we're going to be looking at 18:48:41
4 programs, but we're also going to be working, 18:48:42
5 trying to help everybody keep confidence in that 18:48:45
6 real estate market and the fact that we are bringing 18:48:46
7 this lake back, this lake is coming back. 18:48:48

8 MR. BURGER: Okay. By the time the lake 18:48:50
9 comes back, what I'm saying is, with my age group, 18:48:55
10 the likelihood of my wife and I being able to use 18:48:59
11 that lake are probably 75 percent that we won't be 18:49:05
12 able to. I think the second is one of the big 18:49:05
13 reasons we bought private properties to begin with. 18:49:12

14 MS. TOLENE: I hear what you're saying. 18:49:15

15 MR. BURGER: Do any of the folks within 18:49:17
16 this TVA organization own property on Boone Lake? 18:49:18

17 MS. TOLENE: Uh-huh. 18:49:18

18 MR. BURGER: They do? 18:49:25

19 MR. MCCORMICK: We do. 18:49:26

20 MR. BURGER: Okay. Thank you. 18:49:28

21 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Before you leave, 18:49:28
22 let me ask you one question. 18:49:30

23 MR. BURGER: Okay. 18:49:33

24 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: I was the guy 18:49:33
25 that was kind of talking about -- 18:49:33

1 MR. BURGER: I remember you, yes, sir. 18:49:33

2 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: If TVA bought 18:49:33

3 you's property today at market value, seven years 18:49:39

4 from now -- you know, GM, the United States bought 18:49:42

5 GM stock. And at the end of their period, they made 18:49:49

6 money. If you could get today's markets and sell 18:49:53

7 your properties, would seven years from now, if they 18:49:58

8 made a little money on it, would that bother you? 18:49:58

9 MR. BURGER: I probably wouldn't want to 18:50:00

10 even know by then. 18:50:02

11 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: That's the reason 18:50:05

12 -- that's the reason why that program was so 18:50:07

13 important to keep the property values up, people who 18:50:09

14 were going to sell would have a buyer, you know. 18:50:11

15 TVA wouldn't mind seven years from now 18:50:16

16 making a profit, would they? You're saying you're 18:50:19

17 gonna tell everybody how good this is, and you know, 18:50:22

18 it's five years, seven years, it's going to be a 18:50:25

19 situation where, you know, the markets will be 18:50:26

20 stable, well, if their buyer and the markets are 18:50:31

21 good and they make a little money and you settle out 18:50:33

22 today, that's -- 18:50:34

23 MR. BURGER: Why, sure. I love to 18:50:37

24 see -- 18:50:38

25 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: All right. So, 18:50:39

1 you know, the United States government did it, why 18:50:41
2 can't TVA do it? 18:50:45

3 MS. TOLENE: I hear the program pitch, I 18:50:45
4 hear you. And I tell you -- 18:50:47

5 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Thank you. 18:50:47

6 UNIDENTIFIED AUDIENCE MEMBER: I'll sell 18:50:49
7 mine too. 18:50:51

8 UNIDENTIFIED AUDIENCE MEMBER: Me too. 18:50:51

9 MR. KIM: My name's William Kim. I've 18:50:54
10 been in the oil field for about 30, 40 years and we 18:50:59
11 can drill a well 15,000 feet in one year, drill it, 18:51:05
12 complete it, perforate it, having it making money 18:51:09
13 for us. Five to seven years, I've got five wells, 18:51:12
14 15,000 feet -- or seven wells, 15,000 feet making me 18:51:16
15 money. It should be a simpler solution to this 18:51:22
16 problem. I think y'all should look at other 18:51:22
17 options. 18:51:24

18 MR. KAMMEYER: I wish there were. 18:51:27

19 MR. KIM: There is. Thank you. 18:51:30

20 MR. NICHOLS: My name is Pete Nichols. 18:51:32
21 I just have a question for John, John McCormick. 18:51:36
22 And I know you've said no five times if not 15 about 18:51:42
23 raising the lake level. Is it conceivable that TVA 18:51:45
24 could consider -- and don't say no yet, let me 18:51:47
25 finish the question. 18:51:48

1 MR. MCCORMICK: I promise you I won't. 18:51:51

2 MR. NICHOLS: I want you to answer with, 18:51:52

3 We'll check it out. Is it conceivable that you 18:51:55

4 could raise the lake level for a window of seven to 18:51:56

5 ten days to allow the landowners to get the 18:52:00

6 thousands of water craft off the lake bed and then 18:52:04

7 lower it back down again? 18:52:10

8 MR. MCCORMICK: I know that's what you 18:52:12

9 want to hear and I -- 18:52:13

10 MR. NICHOLS: I don't even want you to 18:52:15

11 answer it now. I want you to come back with, I'll 18:52:17

12 check it out with the kings. 18:52:20

13 MR. MCCORMICK: I promise you I will 18:52:23

14 check it out with the kings. 18:52:26

15 MR. NICHOLS: Thank you. 18:52:26

16 MR. COLBERT: My name's Jim Colbert and 18:52:27

17 I have been a heavy fly fisherman and a trout 18:52:31

18 fisherman on the tail waters of South Holston and 18:52:35

19 Watauga for 30 years probably. And at one time 18:52:37

20 Watauga was very successful with some good trout 18:52:41

21 fishing. I know there was a fire in Elizabethton 18:52:43

22 that caused it to be set back for a period of time, 18:52:47

23 but I've talked to Bart -- some of them with TWRA, 18:52:49

24 and what we're noticing on the tailwaters now -- I 18:52:53

25 was down in Watauga, the river last night, and we've 18:52:56

1 got now a poplar venue for the striper fish. 18:53:03

2 There was two guys from Knoxville 18:53:06

3 actually with their big airboats up on river in 18:53:09

4 Watauga that's known nationally as a trophy 18:53:09

5 troutwater. And we're seeing so many stripers and 18:53:11

6 so many big fish and lake fish that's coming back up 18:53:18

7 in that area. And again, I've talked to and worked 18:53:18

8 with TWRA. They've been very helpful. We've worked 18:53:24

9 together -- this must have been about 28 years ago, 18:53:27

10 I was president at Trout Unlimited, following 18:53:30

11 another guy that we were successful to get a trophy 18:53:32

12 trout section in Watauga. 18:53:32

13 And there's been some rumors or rumors 18:53:36

14 of that that there might be a section being coming 18:53:40

15 out, you know, no longer be a trophy trout section. 18:53:45

16 So I would urge you, in the last -- all summer 18:53:46

17 you've been spilling out at Wilbur, and the Wilbur 18:53:52

18 -- the spilling out at Wilbur is just pushing it so 18:53:52

19 hard that there's so much volume in that river that 18:53:58

20 everything's coming in the lake and they're eating 18:54:01

21 the heck out of this trout. 18:54:02

22 And I know this isn't a big -- it's not 18:54:04

23 the big equation, you know, but it does affect 18:54:08

24 everybody. This hasn't been mentioned. I thought 18:54:08

25 it would be worth at least mentioning it while this 18:54:13

1 is happening. And if you could work closely with 18:54:15
2 your operator at Wilbur and what's going on, I know 18:54:17
3 they need it also for recreational uses for 18:54:21
4 kayaking. But all that water in that small river is 18:54:26
5 really affecting it and so is it in South Holston. 18:54:29
6 Do you have any comments or thoughts? 18:54:29
7 Has that been addressed or -- 18:54:31
8 MR. MCCORMICK: No. I know that in 18:54:33
9 Wilbur -- and I can't give you exact time frame, but 18:54:36
10 we did have a bunch of work that we were doing on 18:54:37
11 the units of Wilbur that may have caused some issue. 18:54:42
12 UNIDENTIFIED AUDIENCE SPEAKER: The last 18:54:42
13 300 days we've been working on the switchout at 18:54:45
14 Wilbur. That took all the units out of service. 18:54:46
15 MR. COLBERT: And that's killing it even 18:54:48
16 worse, you know. I mean, it's just causing -- we 18:54:51
17 got to keep certain lake animals, I think, or fish 18:54:55
18 in the lake, otherwise we're going to kill the 18:54:57
19 fishery. 18:54:59
20 MR. MCCORMICK: Yeah. So I don't know 18:54:59
21 the answer to it. I'll tell you we will look into 18:55:02
22 -- I believe as far as water passage, we're still 18:55:05
23 passing the same amount of water unless we've had 18:55:08
24 some flooding. So whether we're storing it or 18:55:10
25 taking it through the units, we're going to pass the 18:55:10

1 same amount of CFS -- 18:55:12

2 MR. COLBERT: Yeah, but you're doing it 18:55:12

3 -- it's the way you're doing it, it's every day, you 18:55:13

4 know, I mean, it's just hammered. Thank you. 18:55:18

5 MR. KAMMEYER: You're welcome. 18:55:19

6 MR. HOLT: My name is James Holt. 18:55:22

7 You've been talking about transparency and you've 18:55:24

8 talked about all these opportunities that you guys 18:55:25

9 are offering to review. Is it possible that you 18:55:31

10 publish on your website the opportunities that you 18:55:36

11 have looked at, the projected success of those from 18:55:40

12 your review, the time frame involved in those 18:55:45

13 opportunities, and the cost of things? It's not 18:55:48

14 that we don't think that your five- and seven-year 18:55:50

15 plans aren't credible, but your -- you're the 18:55:52

16 experts in that. But to be transparent, it might be 18:55:57

17 nice if you disclose what you've done for the last 18:56:00

18 couple of months. 18:56:00

19 MR. MCCORMICK: I actually believe in 18:56:02

20 the EA process you will see those options that are 18:56:07

21 available that we're going after. 18:56:07

22 MR. HOLT: With those time frames and 18:56:09

23 this big a cost, and -- to show us why you decided 18:56:14

24 that that's the answer you need to go and why you're 18:56:14

25 doing it. 18:56:15

1 MR. MCCORMICK: Absolutely. 18:56:17

2 MS. TOLENE: And I think that 18:56:18

3 (inaudible) will be coming up for a public comment 18:56:18

4 period, so we'll let you guys know when that's -- 18:56:23

5 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Yes, sir, please. 18:56:23

6 From Halloween to Thanksgiving should be the -- 18:56:23

7 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Gives America a 18:56:25

8 chance to see it. What environmental impact studies 18:56:31

9 need to be done? I mean, you know, if we had a dam 18:56:34

10 and we had a lake, it's not something new, it's just 18:56:38

11 that we're trying to get back to that again. 18:56:39

12 MS. TOLENE: I've tried all those 18:56:43

13 arguments too. Right? But the National 18:56:44

14 Environmental Policy Act requires us, because we are 18:56:48

15 making a change, a change to the federal action out 18:56:50

16 there, to do an environmental study of that. And so 18:56:53

17 we are doing environmental assessment. We are half 18:56:56

18 started on it and we exact to be done with it as 18:56:58

19 quick as possible. 18:56:58

20 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Well, (inaudible) 18:56:59

21 says that you're wasting 30 percent of the project 18:57:03

22 time on environmental impact studies, right? 18:57:07

23 MS. TOLENE: I don't think it's that 18:57:07

24 much. 18:57:07

25 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Well, I mean -- 18:57:07

1 okay. If you say you already started some of it, 18:57:13
2 okay, how many years is it going to take, two years 18:57:15
3 to -- 18:57:15
4 MS. TOLENE: For the environmental 18:57:16
5 study? 18:57:16
6 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Yeah. 18:57:16
7 MS. TOLENE: No, we'll be done by 18:57:18
8 January. 18:57:19
9 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: You'll be done by 18:57:19
10 January? 18:57:20
11 MS. TOLENE: Yes, with the environmental 18:57:21
12 study. 18:57:21
13 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: When did it 18:57:23
14 start? 18:57:27
15 MS. TOLENE: When did it start? A 18:57:27
16 couple months. 18:57:29
17 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: So about a year? 18:57:30
18 MR. MCCORMICK: So just bear in mind 18:57:31
19 that's the law. We have to do an environmental 18:57:34
20 assessment. 18:57:36
21 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: That's good. 18:57:37
22 Okay. Thank you. 18:57:40
23 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: A little 18:57:42
24 different perspective. We live below the dam and 18:57:45
25 I've just got a question about the risk associated 18:57:49

1 with the change that you're going to be 18:57:51
2 implementing. I realize that it's not something 18:57:54
3 that you guys do every day. So is there any risk 18:57:58
4 from a stability or security perspective downstream 18:58:03
5 during the construction phase of the project? 18:58:06

6 MR. MCCORMICK: So right now the dam is 18:58:08
7 1350 to 1355. It's very stable. And one of the 18:58:12
8 things that John talked about with respect to 18:58:12
9 construction -- I'll let him chime in in a minute, 18:58:15
10 but we also have to bear in mind dam safety comes 18:58:18
11 before. That's one of the reasons why I talk about 18:58:18
12 not bringing the water level up is for that very 18:58:21
13 reason. The second thing is, we've got to make sure 18:58:23
14 that while we're doing, while we're drilling into 18:58:25
15 that earthen embankment, that we're not causing some 18:58:29
16 instability. So we'll continue to monitor as we 18:58:29
17 move along. 18:58:29

18 So we have had success in other dams. 18:58:29
19 And like I said, we've monitored this when we had 18:58:35
20 this orientation more than we've ever had on that 18:58:38
21 dam. So as far as pressure or movement, we monitor 18:58:42
22 every single day. 18:58:44

23 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: So even though 18:58:45
24 you'll be creating new fractures and fissures and 18:58:49
25 everything else as you do your drilling, we'll 18:58:51

1 presume that, you know, those being close proximity 18:58:54
2 to one another, that they couldn't somehow adjoin 18:58:59
3 and then create the opportunity for a breach? 18:59:04

4 MR. KAMMEYER: There is risk in doing 18:59:06
5 the work. That's one of the reasons why it derives 18:59:07
6 the schedule. But it's also part of the reason 18:59:08
7 we're doing this test bearing program. So Monday 18:59:09
8 we're actually starting to drill, inject grout, not 18:59:12
9 in the crest, but down below to -- we'll be 18:59:12
10 injecting this low-mobility grout, looking for just 18:59:19
11 any kind of thing, instrumentated, automated, 18:59:22
12 checking to make sure we don't fracture rock, we 18:59:26
13 don't overcompress. So we're doing all those 18:59:29
14 testings away from the dam and then we'll move up on 18:59:31
15 the dam and do more testing. 18:59:31

16 That's part of what we're doing this 18:59:33
17 year while we do the NEPA -- excuse me, while we do 18:59:34
18 the environmental assessment, we're doing this 18:59:38
19 testing so that in between the contracting and 18:59:39
20 strategy, prepping for this, all that's being done 18:59:43
21 this year, so when we get the NEPA, we get the green 18:59:46
22 light, February, we can hit the ground running. 18:59:50

23 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Okay. Thank you. 18:59:53

24 MR. KAMMEYER: You're welcome. 18:59:55

25 MR. LONG: My name is Clyde Long. I had 18:59:57

1 a question about the lake level. 1350, you're 19:00:01
2 hoping to keep it there during the duration of 19:00:05
3 construction. There may be some unforeseen events 19:00:08
4 occurring, you know, that we mentioned about, you 19:00:08
5 have an emergency. If at all possible will we be 19:00:13
6 given any notice if you have to drop it down another 19:00:15
7 20 feet? That could strand another -- that could 19:00:18
8 strand hundreds of boats that are in the marina. If 19:00:22
9 we have a little bit of time, let's say you have to 19:00:23
10 drop it down another 20 feet, if we had a week or 19:00:29
11 two, we could get those boats out and then we'd be 19:00:29
12 sitting in the mud for another three years, if you 19:00:29
13 understand what I'm saying. 19:00:32
14 MR. MCCORMICK: I do. I will tell you 19:00:34
15 with certainty I am not dropping that water level 30 19:00:38
16 feet. 19:00:38
17 MR. LONG: I mean, if there was an 19:00:40
18 emergency and you foresaw that you had to take more 19:00:41
19 pressure off the dam, it would certainly help 19:00:45
20 everybody if we had a couple weeks to get our boats 19:00:47
21 out because they could be stranded for years, you 19:00:49
22 know, at that point. 19:00:51
23 MR. MCCORMICK: During our comprehensive 19:00:51
24 and investigation -- 19:00:53
25 MR. LONG: -- there's boats in the 19:00:53

1 marinas and things. 19:00:53

2 MR. MCCORMICK: I'm with you. So I 19:00:54

3 promise you if we were doing anything, we would 19:00:55

4 absolutely, positively give you notice. But I'm 19:00:55

5 telling you that we recognize that lowering that 19:00:56

6 lake level holds also negative impact right in 19:00:56

7 there. 19:01:04

8 MR. LONG: Right. I just, you know, 19:01:06

9 hoping that we could have some warning if you drop 19:01:07

10 it down -- 19:01:07

11 MR. MCCORMICK: If we do anything, I 19:01:10

12 promise you, you'll know about it. 19:01:11

13 MR. LONG: Another side -- another 19:01:13

14 question that's, you know, not -- I know it's low 19:01:15

15 priority, but you mentioned that you were going to 19:01:18

16 look at some things that could be done to the 19:01:19

17 shoreline to the exposed lake that is the bare 19:01:25

18 ground that is exposed that might, you know, improve 19:01:29

19 the quality of the lake. Maybe, you know, I don't 19:01:31

20 know if there's any kind of vegetation that can be 19:01:36

21 introduced. You know, obviously now the -- in the 19:01:38

22 Key West area they have mangroves, you know, and 19:01:43

23 they do great -- have great effect on stabilizing, 19:01:48

24 you know, the land down there. Is there any 19:01:52

25 vegetation that y'all -- I mean, anything you can do 19:01:53

1 that would improve and make the lake better when it 19:01:56
2 does come back? 19:01:57

3 MS. TOLENE: That's a -- yeah, that's a 19:01:58
4 great question. And one of the things that we're 19:01:59
5 doing -- I think if you entered and you walked up 19:01:59
6 the steps you saw the table there with folks from 19:02:03
7 both TVA and TWRA who are very focused on that. 19:02:08
8 What can we do? If you're interested as a private 19:02:10
9 land owner out there in doing something on your 19:02:12
10 shoreland that would help fish habitat, those types 19:02:16
11 of things moving forward, I definitely suggest you 19:02:16
12 stop at the table and talk to those folks. As we 19:02:21
13 develop those programs, we'll also put them out on 19:02:22
14 the web and let you know about them. 19:02:24

15 But one of my goals is when John is 19:02:27
16 ready to pull the water back up that we have things 19:02:30
17 in place, nurseries, fish habitat, that makes 19:02:32
18 fishing on Boone -- I mean, fishing on Boone this 19:02:32
19 year has been pretty good -- but if we can do those 19:02:38
20 things so that when the water comes back we've got a 19:02:40
21 great lake for fishing and come to, that would be 19:02:41
22 great. 19:02:42

23 MR. LONG: All right. And along the 19:02:43
24 lines of great fishing, you know, there's a complex 19:02:46
25 ecosystem, as we all know, and it's changed because 19:02:51

1 of the dropping of the lake. And, you know, a lot 19:02:54
2 of the ecosystems, based on the bait fish, you know. 19:02:58
3 And the bait fish might be okay for one or two 19:03:03
4 years, but if we're getting into three, four, five 19:03:03
5 years, you know, the whole -- 19:03:07
6 MS. TOLENE: System changes. 19:03:09
7 MR. LONG: Yes, it does. And the bait 19:03:10
8 fish may start dying off and then that's going to 19:03:13
9 kill the rest of the fishery. Have y'all been 19:03:16
10 studying that process? 19:03:16
11 MS. TOLENE: So right before I came in 19:03:18
12 here I was talking to one of our guys who works in 19:03:21
13 that area. That is one of the things, the fish 19:03:23
14 habitat improvement plan, that we're working on. 19:03:25
15 Because you're right, the ecosystem would change 19:03:28
16 over time, so what things could we do in the interim 19:03:31
17 to protect that system. So yes, we were looking at 19:03:35
18 those. 19:03:35
19 MR. LONG: Thank you. 19:03:40
20 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Is 1381 going to 19:03:43
21 be the level you're going to shoot for absolutely so 19:03:47
22 if a man wanted to get in there and do some work, is 19:03:49
23 that where it's coming back to? 19:03:49
24 MR. MCCORMICK: Our full summer pool is 19:03:53
25 1382, and that's what we'll be back to. 19:03:56

1 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Okay. So we're 19:03:56
2 dead set on that number? 19:03:58

3 MR. MCCORMICK: Once again, that's part 19:04:00
4 of our -- you know, I talked about our flood guide, 19:04:02
5 right, or our operating guide, and our operating 19:04:04
6 guide is between 1362 and 1382. 19:04:07

7 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: All right. So 19:04:08
8 that's the number we're shooting for, there'll be no 19:04:12
9 variance? 19:04:12

10 MR. MCCORMICK: Absolutely. 19:04:15

11 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: All right. Thank 19:04:15
12 you. 19:04:15

13 MR. MCCORMICK: You're welcome. 19:04:15

14 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Any update on the 19:04:18
15 permits for the State to get those new access points 19:04:20
16 done? 19:04:21

17 MS. TOLENE: So we just checked on the 19:04:23
18 date. I think the -- oh, I'm sorry. The question 19:04:25
19 was about the permits for the new access ramps. I 19:04:29
20 know -- I think -- I'm going to say this, I think 19:04:30
21 this is correct, the key comment period is closed, 19:04:35
22 I'm not sure where the Corps is, but we expect those 19:04:37
23 probably within the next 30 to 45 days. I know you 19:04:41
24 guys kind of enjoy the fact that I have to get 19:04:45
25 permits too and have to go through this process. 19:04:46

1 But we are mobilizing so that we're ready to go to 19:04:48
2 get those permits and use them, so all of our 19:04:51
3 planning will be done and we'll be ready to move 19:04:53
4 dirt up there and get those ramps. 19:04:57

5 MR. CODA: I have a question. My name 19:05:02
6 is Ken Coda. I have a cottage on South Holston 19:05:07
7 River. Because the lake is going to be drawn down 19:05:10
8 for this five-to-seven time frame, is there a 19:05:15
9 concern in the areas that are going to be dry right 19:05:18
10 now with additional sinkholes? Now, I know you said 19:05:21
11 there's a possibility of other sinkholes, you 19:05:21
12 already have one identified. Is this going to be a 19:05:25
13 concern that the TVA will then monitor the entire 19:05:25
14 lake to see if we run into any of these? And I'm 19:05:31
15 concerned with, let's say, the bridge structures. 19:05:33
16 We've got, what, two or three -- well, two major 19:05:35
17 highways that cross the rivers. Is there any 19:05:39
18 concern there with the structures? 19:05:42

19 MR. MCCORMICK: Whenever a sinkhole is 19:05:43
20 identified, our first thing is to see is it a dam 19:05:46
21 safety issue? And that's what we look forward to. 19:05:49
22 So if it's something that's impacted -- or we're 19:05:51
23 going to impact another entity, TDOT, or whatever, 19:05:54
24 we would notify them when we recognize the 19:05:56
25 potential. But for us, we looked at a sink hole -- 19:06:00

1 and it was a sinkhole that was identified, but it 19:06:01
2 wasn't -- it was not a dam safety issue. And even 19:06:04
3 as we go forward -- now, they said putting in the 19:06:08
4 cut-off wall, I'll even grab sinkholes downstream. 19:06:12
5 It may have impact on other parts of what we do, but 19:06:12
6 it will not have an impact on our reservoir's core 19:06:12
7 source. 19:06:15
8 MR. CODA: Okay. But you will be 19:06:17
9 monitoring the entire lake? 19:06:19
10 MR. MCCORMICK: The entire lake, I'd say 19:06:22
11 not. I mean, that's not something we don't -- we 19:06:23
12 just -- most of the lake is owned by you-all. 90 19:06:28
13 percent of that is owned by you-all. So we'll look 19:06:29
14 to see if you have an issue -- 19:06:30
15 MR. CODA: We have to notify you? 19:06:32
16 MR. MCCORMICK: That's correct. 19:06:34
17 MR. CODA: Okay. Thank you. 19:06:38
18 MR. TAYLOR: Anyone else? 19:06:43
19 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: The additional 19:06:46
20 ramps -- 19:06:48
21 MR. TAYLOR: Could you come to the -- so 19:06:48
22 she can capture your question, please. Could you 19:06:50
23 come to the mic? 19:06:50
24 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Yes, sir. 19:06:50
25 MR. TAYLOR: Thank you. 19:06:50

1 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: The additional 19:06:58
2 ramps that you are proposing, like the one at 19:07:02
3 Devault Bridge mainly I'd be interested in, what 19:07:07
4 time frame are we looking at? 19:07:12
5 MS. TOLENE: Do you know -- 19:07:16
6 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: We'd be working 19:07:17
7 with Tennessee Wildlife Resources -- 19:07:19
8 MR. TAYLOR: Could you use the mic, 19:07:22
9 please? 19:07:23
10 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Sure. We'd be 19:07:24
11 working with the Tennessee Wildlife Resource Agency 19:07:27
12 on that ramp in particular. If we're able to get a 19:07:31
13 permit in 30 to 45 days, which is a hope, that we 19:07:37
14 would be ready for -- pretty quickly be ready 19:07:42
15 probably in 45 days. Pretty small project, actually 19:07:47
16 Devault Bridge, low parking lot, down in this draw 19:07:50
17 down zone, actually ramps going down into the water, 19:07:51
18 road going down to the parking lot, EMS will be able 19:07:59
19 to have access to that parking lot, you know, the 19:08:02
20 public as well. 19:08:03
21 But, you know, the section there on 19:08:06
22 South Holston, there's not a lot of TVA, TWRA land 19:08:08
23 up in there and so it is a problem not having a ramp 19:08:15
24 there. And then the other sides, you know, 19:08:17
25 definitely the first choice would go to the other 19:08:19

1 side where the ramp's always been. If you live up 19:08:25
2 there, you know, ramp as it is, it goes uphill, you 19:08:26
3 know, kind of goes up a way. We don't own all the 19:08:30
4 way to the center of the creek. There's an old road 19:08:30
5 bed that's there on the other side of the ramp. And 19:08:35
6 then when you get out to the bridge, I mean, it's 19:08:38
7 straight down to -- and, you know, you can't pull a 19:08:39
8 boat out much more than 40 to 50 percent grade. 19:08:45
9 So 60, 90 days from now, if -- now, like 19:08:49
10 my buddy up here, Mr. Kammeyer, if I get the permits 19:08:54
11 and all the things -- that kind of thing in order. 19:08:55
12 So we're looking at those 30 to 45 days out. 19:09:00
13 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Thank you. 19:09:02
14 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: How big a boat 19:09:03
15 are you talking about? 19:09:06
16 MR. TAYLOR: So the question is, how big 19:09:07
17 of what? 19:09:11
18 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: I mean, how 19:09:11
19 big -- 19:09:11
20 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: 20-foot ramp, 19:09:12
21 20-foot diagram. 19:09:13
22 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Are we going to 19:09:14
23 be able to -- 19:09:15
24 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: 20-foot wide ramp 19:09:15
25 there, so, I mean, don't know exactly -- the 19:09:20

1 houseboats, the big -- the big 80-footers, they're a 19:09:25
2 little bit tough, and Pickens is even tough -- 19:09:25
3 there's a pretty nice ramp over there. But -- so a 19:09:31
4 20-foot wide ramp, probably what we'll do is get to 19:09:37
5 the question about the lake drawdown or (inaudible) 19:09:40
6 it's pretty standard not to do that (inaudible) but 19:09:43
7 TWRA is kind of a world expert in putting ramps in 19:09:52
8 underwater like that, so you know, they'll pour the 19:09:54
9 ramp along the dry land and push and shove it into 19:09:58
10 the water so that we'll have that ramp underneath -- 19:10:01
11 underneath that. 19:10:05
12 MR. TAYLOR: Thank you. 19:10:07
13 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: I live in Piney 19:10:08
14 Flats on the lake, Piney Flats. And there's a 19:10:12
15 highway project that people are talking about that 19:10:15
16 connect Highway 357 and Airport Road, and would even 19:10:20
17 include a bridge over the Boone Lake. Is that -- 19:10:23
18 are you guys aware of that project and does your 19:10:26
19 time line have anything to do with that project? 19:10:29
20 MR. KAMMEYER: We're aware of the 19:10:31
21 project, but it's not -- 19:10:33
22 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: You wouldn't hold 19:10:36
23 the lake down, in other words, to make it easier to 19:10:37
24 build a bridge or something? 19:10:38
25 MR. KAMMEYER: No. 19:10:43

1 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: How old and 19:10:45
2 extensive were the passages underneath there? Were 19:10:49
3 they sizable, I mean, cavernous, or are they just 19:10:52
4 passages? 19:10:54
5 MR. TAYLOR: So the question was, how 19:10:55
6 big or -- you understand the question, John? 19:10:58
7 MR. MCCORMICK: Yeah. We actually had 19:11:00
8 some pictures, some cameras that were installed, and 19:11:06
9 I would say that we're drilling -- those bores are 19:11:10
10 about 3 inches, and I'm going to say, I don't know, 19:11:12
11 4 inches maybe in some cases or, what, higher? Give 19:11:18
12 me an idea, Scotty, so I can yell it out. 19:11:22
13 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: We have some of 19:11:23
14 our bore hole cameras that have shown some gaps in 19:11:26
15 the rock greater than feet. 19:11:28
16 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: So nothing you 19:11:31
17 can stand up in or anything, no caverns or anything? 19:11:33
18 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: No, nothing like 19:11:35
19 a cave. 19:11:36
20 MR. MCCORMICK: No, I got you. So, 19:11:37
21 yeah, we've actually visited some dams that actually 19:11:40
22 all they do is grout because they can't put a -- 19:11:44
23 they can't put a concrete cut-off wall because they 19:11:46
24 can't see the floor or they can't see the walls when 19:11:48
25 they stick cameras in them, and there's not the case 19:11:50

1 here. We have not run into any large caverns at 19:11:51
2 this point. 19:11:54
3 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Okay. Great. 19:11:54
4 Thank you. Sorry about the microphone. 19:11:55
5 MR. MCCORMICK: That's okay. 19:11:55
6 MR. CODA: I'm Josh Coda. I got a place 19:11:59
7 on the lake at Piney Flats. But, you know, you're 19:12:01
8 talking about the supplemental impact or the 19:12:02
9 supplement incomes or homeownerships, but what about 19:12:07
10 maybe supplementing our ability to put our boats in 19:12:10
11 at the marina? It would be a double positive for me 19:12:11
12 as a boat owner that now I have no place to put my 19:12:15
13 boat, but it could also be a grant to the marina 19:12:15
14 that that would hit us both in a positive way, where 19:12:21
15 I could put my boat and then TVA would give me a 19:12:23
16 grant to put my boat out. 19:12:26
17 MR. MCCORMICK: Thank you. 19:12:29
18 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Just one more 19:12:30
19 question. You were talking about Center Hill, 19:12:33
20 Cumberland Lake together, projects similar to the 19:12:33
21 one we're experiencing right now. I understand like 19:12:41
22 Dale Hollow, as the construction went on, they were 19:12:46
23 able to raise the lake level to a certain -- to make 19:12:50
24 it a more usable lake. And as time went by, you 19:12:54
25 didn't keep it down at the levels you deem 19:12:58

1 appropriate right now, that it was able to come up 19:12:59
2 and be more usable, more recreatable, more enjoyable 19:13:03
3 lake instead of reservoir use. 19:13:07
4 MR. MCCORMICK: Okay. So I will -- Dale 19:13:10
5 Hollow, I don't know Dale Hollow experienced what 19:13:12
6 you're speaking to. 19:13:15
7 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Well, maybe it 19:13:15
8 was Center Hill. Center Hill, pardon me. 19:13:17
9 MR. KAMMEYER: They kept the reservoir 19:13:19
10 down until they were finished the entire time. 19:13:20
11 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Kept down the 19:13:20
12 whole time? 19:13:25
13 MR. MCCORMICK: Yes, that's correct. 19:13:27
14 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Cumberland Lake 19:13:27
15 also? 19:13:27
16 MR. MCCORMICK: Yes, that's correct. 19:13:31
17 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: I think y'all 19:13:32
18 have done a good job and I think if we're all going 19:13:38
19 to suffer, then let's suffer together and do the 19:13:40
20 best we can to support; at the same time, let's get 19:13:45
21 that lake up as fast as you can, and don't let our 19:13:48
22 support go down. 19:13:50
23 MR. KAMMEYER: Thank you for that. 19:13:51
24 MR. TAYLOR: So it's 7:15. We have 15 19:13:59
25 minutes left. Any more questions or comments for 19:14:01

1 our TVA panel? 19:14:03

2 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Who got the 19:14:04

3 contract for the work? 19:14:06

4 MR. TAYLOR: The question is, who got 19:14:08

5 the contract for work? 19:14:10

6 MR. KAMMEYER: Right now we have a 19:14:12

7 contract with Bernard Stephens Nicholason (phonetic) 19:14:12

8 that's doing the test grouting program. Now, 19:14:13

9 they're one of those three world companies that can 19:14:18

10 do this work long-term, but we're going to bid it 19:14:20

11 back out to get a better price and to drive the 19:14:24

12 schedule. We'll be doing that here until the next 19:14:26

13 three to four months and be ready to go in January. 19:14:31

14 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Will there be 19:14:32

15 opportunities for local employment? 19:14:36

16 MR. KAMMEYER: Yes. The major contracts 19:14:38

17 will be taken up by this big company, but there'll 19:14:40

18 be opportunities for, like that gentleman was 19:14:40

19 asking, fuel, things like that, concrete supplies. 19:14:45

20 A lot of subcontracting will be done. Major 19:14:45

21 contracts will be done with the international firm. 19:14:51

22 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: What are those 19:14:52

23 companies' names? What are those companies' names? 19:14:55

24 MR. KAMMEYER: The company that's on 19:14:55

25 board now is Bernard and they're a sub, and their 19:14:58

1 partner is Nicholson. 19:15:04

2 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: I have one 19:15:05

3 question. What is your phone number? Would you 19:15:08

4 mind giving it to us? 19:15:09

5 MR. KAMMEYER: Not at all. My office 19:15:11

6 number -- 19:15:11

7 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: No, her, her 19:15:12

8 phone number. She's the one I'm interested in. 19:15:15

9 MS. TOLENE: So, I'm sorry? 19:15:17

10 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Where do I reach 19:15:19

11 you? 19:15:21

12 MS. TOLENE: Yeah. So do we have the 19:15:21

13 number that -- 19:15:22

14 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: If you'll just 19:15:22

15 call 865-632-6000, and we'll get you to the right 19:15:28

16 person. 19:15:28

17 MR. TAYLOR: So once again, 19:15:29

18 865-632-6000. 19:15:34

19 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: And what about 19:15:34

20 the lady who said she can get the boats out, what is 19:15:39

21 her phone number? Is she still here? 19:15:41

22 MS. FULLER: I'm still here. My 19:15:43

23 husband's name is Noel Fuller, N-O-E-L, like Merry 19:15:43

24 Christmas. Our phone number is 423-239-NOEL. 19:15:57

25 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Thank you for 19:15:59

1 that. 19:16:01

2 MR. TAYLOR: Thank you. Other comments? 19:16:04

3 Questions? 19:16:05

4 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Can she repeat 19:16:07

5 that number one more time? 19:16:11

6 MS. FULLER: 423-239-NOEL. 19:16:15

7 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Thank you. 19:16:17

8 MR. TAYLOR: 423-239-NOEL. 19:16:31

9 Anyone else? Anybody else? 19:16:32

10 So those who are waiting, I really thank 19:16:36

11 you for being here and everybody else who's already 19:16:39

12 responded for being here tonight. Again, TVA staff 19:16:42

13 will remain in here for a few minutes. We also ask 19:16:45

14 you to go to the Boone website if you want to make 19:16:48

15 some comments or ask another question. And we'll be 19:16:49

16 in here, the investigation, the FSafety program, 19:16:51

17 engineering and instruction team builder here in 19:16:52

18 this part of the room. The natural resources, 19:16:59

19 property, and questions, boats and marinas, will be 19:17:04

20 on this side of the room. 19:17:06

21 So final call for questions or comments 19:17:10

22 from the public. 19:17:10

23 Thank you, and be safe going home. 19:17:17

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C E R T I F I C A T E

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COUNTY OF KNOX

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