

Excerpted quotes by ADEC Commissioner Jason Brune, from his comments at the Prince William Sound Regional Citizens' Advisory Council Board of Directors meeting

May 2, 2019

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Commissioner Brune echoes Governor Dunleavy's #1 priority to show that "Alaska is open for business"

"I was also very excited at his [Gov. Dunleavy's] desire to show that Alaska is open for business. One of the directions that he gave us is to really look at the statutory authority that we have and the regulations that surround the things that you do and to make sure that what we're doing -- the role of DEC and my role as commissioner is to do nothing more or less than what the legislature has given us the authority to do." [\(5:10-17\)](#)

"The most important thing I've already mentioned. That's doing everything we can to show that Alaska is open for business, to show that we have the highest environmental ethic in the world when it comes to protecting our resources and the beautiful environment that we have, but to also show that we need economic opportunities." [\(15:1-6\)](#)

"When you make things complex and you make things 49 pages, for regs for a c-plan [contingency plan], that influences your investment climate." [\(40:21-24\)](#)

"We're working to provide economic opportunities for future generations of Alaska, a lot of those economic opportunities in Alaska are based on natural resource extraction, be it fishing, oil and gas, mining, timber and so ensuring that those different perspectives are understood is vital to providing those opportunities for our children." [\(42: 18-24\)](#)

"The things that DEC or ADF&G or DNR put in place are too onerous for them [permit requestors] so they stop. Every single day we're saying no. Every single day the scientists that work for DEC are working with these folks who are trying to get these permits, telling them what is -- what's acceptable and what isn't." [\(60:19-24\)](#)

Commissioner Brune thinks that existing contingency plans [c-plans] have overreached legal statute or are unnecessary

“We need to make sure that my team works to produce scientifically-based, legally defensible and timely permits for the folks that are trying to -- that need them in this state. So we've made it a point of looking at the statutes and the regs that govern what it is we do and the Governor asked every one of his commissioners to look to determine are there things that you're doing that aren't based in statute, that aren't based in regs. One of those, of course -- this is where I know some of you have already given me grief about this -- was we need to look very closely at c-plans. We need to make sure that they're appropriate, appropriate for industry, appropriate for organizations like the RCAC's, appropriate for the conservation community and where there are things that are not based in law or that are not based in the regs, we need to look together at them and have work groups to make sure that things that we might want in them that aren't in the regs or statute right now, well, maybe we should propose changes. But things that are in there that are overly onerous that aren't protecting human health and the environment, we need to look at those as well and we need to work together to try to come to the right decision to show that Alaska is open for business.” [\(5:20-6:19\)](#)

“I want ideas from you as well. I mean, that's not just for the elimination, if there are additional regs that -- there's a lot of things in these c-plans that don't have the foundation in regs. Well, propose those as additions.” [\(35:9-13\)](#)

Commissioner Brune suggests the statutes and regulations put into place after the Exxon Valdez oil spill have become stale

“We're going to look at them [the regulations] and we're going to determine whether it's -- some things that are in there are just outdated, some things are unnecessary, they're not protecting human health and the environment.” [\(19:7-11\)](#)

“Some of these things that we require on the books, the technology has taken away the need to even have that.” [\(25:11-13\)](#)

“I'm not going to be proposing that we eliminate things that are protecting and ensuring safe movement of oil. I am going to be looking at the things that are duplicative, that are unnecessary, that aren't protecting human health and the environment.” [\(57:10-14\)](#)

Commissioner Brune refers to recommended changes but avoids giving examples

“Some of the examples [of recommended changes] that have been given -- I mean, I'm -- I can't come up with any right now but, I mean, some of the regs that we put forward for potential changes, I don't have that list in front of me but did come from input that we received in those processes.” [\(17:4-8\)](#)

“I have heard from industry, I've heard from environmental organizations and I've heard from people that are on my team that the c-plans -- and I'm not saying the ones that are in Prince William Sound are this way -- but some c-plans have gotten unruly.” [\(18:7-11\)](#)

“We have identified the list of regs that we think can be improved. The State of Alaska -- the different departments were asked to do that by the Governor. We put a list of about a hundred came forward from the different agencies around -- I think 35 or 40 of them came from DEC.” [\(29:6-11\)](#)

We appeal to Commissioner Brune’s commitment to protect the environment of Alaska

“We have a responsibility to make sure that the economy of Alaska is protected and economic development and environmental protection are not mutually exclusive. Those two things we've proven can co-exist. We've also proven in 1989 that you can really screw things up. So we need to make sure we're doing it right.” [\(15:21-16:2\)](#)

“We can, we do and we should have the highest environmental standards in the world, based in statute.” [\(47:17-18\)](#)

“We don't ever want to put one industry over another. I'm of the opinion that in this state, we've proven that things can co-exist. We need to make sure things are -- proper precautions are put in place to ensure that they do co-exist.” [\(56:14-18\)](#)

PRINCE WILLIAM SOUND REGIONAL
CITIZENS' ADVISORY COUNCIL (PWSRCAC)

BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING

MAY 2, 2019

VALDEZ, ALASKA

1 PRES. AMANDA BAUER: All right. Next is Item M which is
2 the introduction and remarks by the new ADEC commission --
3 commissioner, Jason Brune. I assume we all know what ADEC is.

4 COMM. JASON BRUNE: Yeah, what is it? Good afternoon,
5 everyone. I am honored to be here today and a lot of old
6 friendly faces and a lot of new ones that I look forward to
7 get -- to know all of you. I -- I'll give a little background
8 about myself and then open it up to questions. I want to let
9 you know that the work you do is so incredibly important and
10 it's why I'm in Alaska to start with.

11 My brother moved up here in the early nineties and he was
12 setting up the resource and apprenticeship program for
13 students with the BLM as a Vista volunteer and this was
14 creating internships with state and federal agencies for
15 teaching Alaskans and Alaska Natives about land management and
16 bringing Alaskans here. Well, they called me up during my
17 freshman year at Carlton College and said we had someone just
18 back out -- this was in 1992 -- would you like to have a
19 internship with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service working on
20 oiled sea otters that -- and the sea otter program and I took
21 them up on it. And I was from Omaha, Nebraska originally and
22 it was a life-changing experience and, having seen, obviously,
23 a couple years after the fact the devastation of the spill and
24 the impact that it had -- had a -- like I said, a very

1 profound impact on me.

2 Eventually, I graduated from Carlton with a bachelor's
3 degree in biology. I came up here to Alaska Pacific
4 University to work on my master's in environmental science. I
5 finished all of the course work. I just never finished my
6 thesis so I don't have my master's. I'm one of those ABT's,
7 all but thesis, but while I was going to APU, I worked for the
8 U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. I worked on a Prince William
9 Sound primary journal database. I read all about the spill
10 and all about the pre-conditions and what happened and the
11 research that had been done up to that point with the spill.

12 Eventually, I worked at the university and at the
13 Resource Development Council and during that time, I became a
14 member of the Trustee Council Public Advisory Committee and I
15 served a number of you in that capacity and I think this goes
16 to, really, the importance of what Jane was saying earlier and
17 what Betsi and I have had a chance to talk about since then,
18 the importance of youth education and the profound impact that
19 that had on me, just that one internship. It changed my life
20 and I'm up here now working as the Commissioner of DEC.

21 So the work you do, the importance of what the -- the
22 different representations on the Prince William Sound RCAC can
23 do to work with industry, to partner with industry to make
24 sure that we're setting the standard for how a development can
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1 be done right and how we need to ensure that the safe movement
2 of oil is done in this state and to hold them accountable and
3 at the same time, to hold ourselves accountable. We can't
4 have high standards for industry if we don't have high
5 standards for ourselves and so that's one of my biggest
6 environmental ethics is that we have to hold ourselves
7 accountable when we're out on boats or when we're camping,
8 that we're packing out what we're pack -- what we packed in.
9 So that's one of my environmental ethics.

10 Of course, after I worked at RDC, this is where a little
11 controversy comes into my background. A lot of you have
12 talked to me about this. I did work for Anglo American which
13 was one of the partners on the Pebble Partnership. I worked
14 for them as the head of government and public affairs for 2-
15 1/2 years. When they pulled out of that project, they took my
16 job with them so I was left unemployed for a few months and,
17 eventually, I became the land manager/senior director of land
18 and resources for CIRI, an Alaska Native Corporation, and I
19 learned at that point and I fostered very strong relationships
20 with the village corporations, with the tribes, with the
21 conservation community. Of course, very important to
22 understand the impacts that development can have on Alaska
23 Native corporation land and -- both positive and negative, and
24 so when Governor Dunleavy called me up and offered me the
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1 opportunity to work in his administration and the background
2 that I had, having been a scientist, having worked for the
3 government, for the private sector as well as for an Alaska
4 Native corporation and the relationships that I had built and
5 prided myself on and making sure that the different
6 perspectives are heard from the many different stakeholders
7 that are represented by RCAC and just in Alaska in general
8 before making decisions, I was really excited at that
9 opportunity.

10 At the same time, I was also very excited at his desire
11 to show that Alaska is open for business and so one of the
12 directions that he gave us is to really look at the statutory
13 authority that we have and the regulations that surround the
14 things that you do and to make sure that what we're doing --
15 the role of DEC and my role as commissioner is to do nothing
16 more or less than what the legislature has given us the
17 authority to do. And at times, of course, it's not the
18 legislature, it's Congress because we have primacy over
19 programs that -- like the Clean Air Act and the Clean Water
20 Act. So we need to make sure that my team works to produce
21 scientifically-based, legally defensible and timely permits
22 for the folks that are trying to -- that need them in this
23 state.

24 So we've made it a point of looking at the statutes and
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1 the regs that govern what it is we do and the Governor asked
2 everyone of his commissioners to look to determine are there
3 things that you're doing that aren't based in statute, that
4 aren't based in regs and one of those, of course -- this is
5 where I know some of you have already given me grief about
6 this was we need to look very closely at C-plans and that's
7 not saying we're going to get rid of C-plans at all. We need
8 to make sure that they're appropriate, appropriate for
9 industry, appropriate for organizations like the RCAC's,
10 appropriate for the conservation community and where there are
11 things that are not based in law or that are not based in the
12 regs, we need to look together at them and have work groups to
13 make sure that things that we might want in them that aren't
14 in the regs or statute right now, well, maybe we should
15 propose changes. But things that are in there that are overly
16 onerous that aren't protecting human health and the
17 environment, we need to look at those as well and we need to
18 work together to try to come to the right decision to show
19 that Alaska is open for business. Our children need the jobs.
20 Our economy needs the jobs. So we need to make sure that
21 we're not rushing projects through, we're not rubber-stamping
22 C-plans but we're -- or other permits but we're working
23 together to make sure that what we do is good for them and
24 good for the environment.

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1 I think it's incredibly important also, Alaska has more
2 coastline than the rest of the United States does combined.
3 So when we're talking about the anniversary, the 30th
4 anniversary, of the spill, we issued a press release and we
5 did mention the importance of the RCAC's in our press release
6 and the input that you give us and how important it is. I
7 also want to -- I think it's important to recognize the huge
8 gains that have been made. Yes, some of them -- my wife works
9 in safety and she taught me that many safety lessons are
10 written in blood meaning that someone had to die for that
11 safety lesson to have been incorporated into day-to-day
12 operations. Well, many environmental lessons are written in
13 oil. So should the things that we've put in place now have
14 been in place back before 1989? Absolutely. But we've
15 learned our lessons, hopefully, and with -- yesterday I had
16 the great opportunity to go onto a tug, to get tour of the
17 SERVS facility, to go up to the VMT. I also got a chance to
18 go onto one of Conoco Phillips's -- as was -- Monty mentioned
19 earlier, one of their amazing boats and to see it firsthand so
20 I understand what -- what's being done and what impact,
21 obviously, DEC can have.

22 We have made tremendous strides in making sure that there
23 are escorts, that there are -- that there's boom deployed,
24 that there's response vessels that are out there. When I was
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1 on the public advisory committee, we got to go and look a lot
2 -- at a lot of the lingering oil, at a lot of the impacted
3 species. We talked about the gulf ecosystem monitoring
4 projects that had been -- that were being worked on and
5 understanding that the science needs to be the foundation but
6 also the preparedness. We need to be prepared and we never
7 want to see something like we saw with the Valdez oil spill
8 ever happen again. So it was great to hear the presentations
9 that were given by the tankers and the -- Alyeska, about the
10 work that they're doing and the great questions that came from
11 this group.

12 I'd be remiss if I didn't say that I have an amazing team
13 at DEC that were there before I even got there so Denise Koch
14 is here. She is the head of the SPAR program. She has a
15 great team working with her as well in Graham and Anna in
16 Valdez, we have Anna and Melissa, Ron and Pete and working
17 with you and getting your ideas to make sure that -- and
18 working with industry as well to make sure that we are
19 prepared and we are ensuring something like that will never
20 happen again.

21 I believe that's about all the notes that I wanted to
22 discuss but I'm, again, honored to be here. I look forward to
23 working closely with you over the next four years and I drive
24 by where that new sign is every day on my way to work so I
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1 will stop by and say hi on a regular basis and I'm happy to
2 open the floor up to any questions you may have.

3 PRES. BAUER: Thank you. Does anyone -- Bob Shavelson.

4 MR. BOB SHAVELSON: Well, I really appreciate you coming
5 here, Jason, and, you know, we talked the other day and you
6 mentioned that, you know, you've served on a lot of nonprofit
7 boards and I've been on a few myself and I truly think that
8 this end of the units as partner organization in Cook Inlet
9 are unique not just the United States, I think in the world
10 and I know sometimes there's tensions but I think those
11 tensions are necessary because I think just due to the
12 organization's history, its successes are well noted.

13 But I've got a couple questions. I'll just ask one now
14 but, you know, when we talk about the mission of DEC -- and
15 I'll have to read it a little bit but the verbs are, you know,
16 you'll conserve, improve and protect and there's really no
17 wiggle room in there for any diminution in environmental
18 protection. It's to maintain the environment or to make it
19 better and you talk a lot about making sure things are based
20 on statute and things like that but immediately, you know,
21 whether this is coming from the Governor's office or you're
22 initiating it but we've seen discussions about rolling back
23 the Ocean Rangers program. We saw reduced monitoring around
24 the PFAS chemicals which are contaminating groundwater across
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1 our state and, of course, on the day the governor took office,
2 he took the climate change information off the website and
3 pretended that it's not an issue for Alaska. So that seems to
4 run directly counter to me, to the mission of DEC. So my
5 question is what are the top one, two or three things that
6 you're going to do that are actually going to advance
7 environmental protection rather than erode it?

8 COMM. BRUNE: Thank you, Bob. So Bob and I have known
9 each other for a long time and Bob told me he was going to
10 give me a softball.

11 MR. SHAVELSON: That is.

12 COMM. BRUNE: That's a -- I appreciate the softball. If
13 that's a softball, I'd like to see a hard question. Your
14 concerns, your questions, are very legitimate. I think the --
15 I want to address each one of those issues that you brought up
16 and then I'll talk about my priorities and the priorities that
17 the Governor has put in place.

18 First of all, the Ocean Rangers program, we are of the
19 opinion that the Ocean Rangers program has -- while it was
20 very needed, the bang for the buck that we get for that
21 program is not what we should. If it was a regular general
22 funded program, we would no longer have it. That said, there
23 is technology out there that we will be and we're working on a
24 -- not just a full elimination of the program. We've
25

1 committed to working with the members of the legislature and
2 the industry during the interim to use technology to tell us
3 when there is some valves open that might have discharges
4 going on to look at the air emissions that are there and to
5 create a better program, not someone -- something where we
6 have, for the most part, 90 percent of the Ocean Rangers are
7 non-Alaskans. So they are marine engineers from -- that are
8 retired that are coming up on boats and on the cruise ships
9 and the -- it's a nice gig for them.

10 The -- in 11 years, there were six NOV's, notice of
11 violations, that came from Ocean Ranger efforts. In that same
12 time, DEC staff and self reporting has led to around 250
13 NOV's. So the bang for the buck for the program, for the
14 Ocean Ranger program, is not there but we are committed to --
15 it's still going to go on this summer. Ocean Rangers will be
16 on all the ships through this -- the end of the season but
17 we're committed to working and if there is input from the RCAC
18 -- I know that's a little outside of your purview but if there
19 are -- obviously, we heard this morning that there are cruise
20 ships that are going to be coming to the Sound this year. So
21 if there are suggestions that the RCAC or any of you have,
22 we're looking to make that program better.

23 With respect to PFAS, that's a really great question,
24 Bob, and it's one that we take very seriously. The -- when I
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1 was out at ECOS -- ECOS is the Environmental Council of
2 States. It is a group of all of the commissioners of similar
3 organizations to DEC from every state. A number of those
4 states are doing nothing for PFAS. A number of those states
5 are going way out ahead of what the EPA is doing. The
6 previous administration had a series of regs that they had
7 proposed but they did not finalize. The EPA made a commitment
8 recently that they were going to be working on the development
9 of a maximum contaminant level process and we felt it was best
10 to make sure we were not rushing to judgment, that we were
11 looking at the science that was there and that we would be
12 inconsistent with the EPA was doing.

13 We already are more -- we have more requirements and regs
14 on PFAS than, I think, 45 of the states. We have a 400 parts
15 per trillion cleanup level for groundwater. Most states don't
16 even have that but we did decide to pause the regulations that
17 had been contemplated on PFAS until we know more, until we see
18 what the EPA is going to be doing and so that we're -- right
19 we are consistent with what the EPA wants to do.

20 With respect to climate change, that decision to take
21 that website down was made outside of consulting with me.
22 That said, DEC has -- and I personally, I'm not a head in the
23 sander. I recognize that in Alaska, we have glaciers that are
24 melting. We have increased fire risk. We have spruce bark
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1 beetle. As a biologist, I did a lot of work on spruce bark
2 beetle. Their populations are moving north because our
3 winters aren't as strong as they used to be. They -- their
4 life cycles have gone from two years to one year sometimes.
5 You're seeing -- and so you've seen a northward migration of
6 the beetles. You're seeing not just in the southern Kenai but
7 when I was a CIRI land manager, there's significant land up in
8 the Matanuska-Susitna Valley that has been impacted and right
9 now, that's a huge fire risk. So climate change impacts,
10 coastal erosion are happening in Alaska. Whether or not
11 they're anthropogenic causes or natural causes, I think we
12 need to stop debating that. The reason for it happening
13 doesn't matter in Alaska, the fact is it is happening and we
14 need to make sure we're putting appropriate mitigation
15 measures in place.

16 The climate action leadership team along with a number of
17 other climate groups have done a very good job about talking
18 things to death for years, not taking any action. I think
19 that one of my goals is to let's actually make some action
20 plans. And so I am talking about that with my team and with
21 the Governor's office and more to come on that. I recognize
22 your concerns, Bob, about that being taken down but that's not
23 to say that it's not an issue that's -- that we're not
24 contemplating.

1 The top goals now -- you asked what the top -- my top
2 three goals are. Well, I think to -- my No. 1 would be to
3 build relationships like we are to when you're making
4 decisions that impact Alaska, it's important to understand
5 different perspectives, to hear the local people's
6 perspectives. I -- one of my biggest messages has been local
7 solutions for local problems and so we don't want the EPA to
8 come in and tell us what to do, we want to be able to try to
9 solve those problems. So I think getting that local input's
10 one of my main goals.

11 No. 2, holding ourselves personally accountable. That's
12 part of that local -- as you heard me say earlier, the
13 environmental ethic that I have is one founded on making sure
14 that we're doing the right thing ourselves, not just holding
15 industry to a very high standard but holding ourselves. When
16 we go out in fishing boats and we're dumping raw sewage in
17 areas that we are fishing in but yet if an industry were to do
18 that and we'd cry over that, you know what, we need to hold
19 ourselves to that high standard. If we see a sheen on the
20 back of our fishing boats or our recreational boats when we're
21 going out, do something about it. Hold ourselves to a high
22 standard. If we were to see -- if industry were to see such a
23 sheen, I guarantee you they would stop their boats and they
24 would look where is that coming from.

1 And then, of course, the -- I think the most important
2 thing I've already mentioned. That's doing everything we can
3 to show that Alaska is open for business, to show that we have
4 the highest environmental ethic in the world when it comes to
5 protecting our resources and the beautiful environment that we
6 have but to also show that we need economic opportunities.

7 The things we use in our lives, the way I got here, I flew on
8 a plane. That plane needed hydrocarbons to get here. It
9 needed mining to get here. The book that I have needs paper,
10 needs trees. So we can choose to develop those resources in
11 other parts of the world where they don't have the
12 environmental ethic that we have, where they don't have the
13 laws that we have or we can do it here and ensure they're
14 doing it right, ensure that we're having things like the
15 vessel, the prepare -- oil spill preparedness that we have
16 here, that we're having double-hulled tankers and that we're
17 having the ship escorts.

18 We -- if we say no to those opportunities -- and I know,
19 Bob, you're going to say it's not your mission to do this but
20 in the mission of DEC, there -- I won't read it but the word
21 economic is in there. So we have a responsibility to make
22 sure that the economy of Alaska is protected and economic
23 development and environmental protection are not mutually
24 exclusive. Those two things we've proven can co-exist. We've

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1 also proven in 1989 that you can really screw things up. So
2 we need to make sure we're doing it right.

3 That is probably the most long-winded answer to a very
4 long-winded question, Bob, but I -- I've known Bob for years
5 so it's -- I'm just -- we have a history of giving each other
6 grief so -- anyway, thank you for the question, Bob.

7 PRES. BAUER: Oh, Rebecca?

8 MS. REBECCA SKINNER: Thank you. So I'm here
9 representing the Kodiak Borough but I also work with a group
10 of fishermen, trawlers, and so from a commercial fishing
11 standpoint, there's obviously a lot of regulations in place.
12 Trawlers deal with a lot of by-catch issues so I understand
13 the tension between wanting to have a functional industry
14 while also having adequate environmental protections in place
15 and when President Trump came out with the executive order to
16 reduce regulations, a lot of the agencies reached out to
17 industry and asked for suggestions as to what regulations
18 might be duplicative or unnecessary. So to kind of taking
19 that as an analogy, in your process at looking at the
20 regulations and the laws, have you outreached to industry to
21 get their suggestions and then can you give us examples of
22 what some of those -- the suggestions you might have received?

23 COMM. BRUNE: Sure and -- absolutely and so my outreach
24 has not just been to industry. I have talked to industry but
25

1 I've also talked to environmental organizations. I've talked
2 to tribal organizations and we cannot make these changes
3 without input from the people that we work for, Alaskans. And
4 so some of the examples that have been given -- I mean, I'm --
5 I can't come up with any right now but, I mean, some of the
6 regs that we put forward for potential changes, I don't have
7 that list in front of me but did come from input that we
8 received in those processes and so if you have ideas, please
9 let me or my staff know. This is not going to be something
10 that's done in the dark of the night. Any reg change that is
11 made will require public input and I will demand that input
12 and will ensure that -- I can't guarantee that everything
13 we're going to do everyone's going to be happy with but I can
14 guarantee you -- and this is my history -- that everything --
15 every opportunity that we can have to hear input, I'll be
16 listening and I'll be understanding your perspective. So --
17 and I'll get you examples after when I can look them up.

18 PRES. BAUER: Thanks and just to kind of tag onto that
19 for a second to -- I believe earlier you said maybe having
20 work groups to work on that and we would definitely be
21 supportive of that. We would hope to be able to participate
22 in any work groups that may come about for our pertinent
23 issues that would have to do with that.

24 And you also mentioned that you wanted to make sure
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1 everything was legally defensible and, you know,
2 scientifically based and I'm just curious if I'm to believe
3 then that -- past commissioners have put a lot of stuff in the
4 C-plans that aren't scientifically based or legally defensible
5 and you're talking about removing them from C-plans.

6 COMM. BRUNE: So it's a great question and it's one that
7 I'm learning a lot about but I have heard from industry, I've
8 heard from environmental organizations and I've heard from
9 people that are on my team that the C-plans -- and I'm not
10 saying the ones that are in Prince William Sound are this way
11 but some C-plans have gotten unruly. They've gotten like NEPA
12 documents where a NEPA doc -- National Environmental Policy
13 Act -- the environmental impact statements have gotten so big
14 that the public can't understand them and so they -- and,
15 generally, you start out -- a lot of C-plans are started by
16 looking at the most recently-approved C-plan and so that's the
17 foundation for a new C-plan and there might be a couple of
18 great things to add, couple of great ideas that then get added
19 to that and then the next area that wants to do a C-plan takes
20 that as the foundation and more and more, those things are
21 great ideas but they weren't -- there's no foundation in law
22 but they were good ideas that were added and so I don't think
23 -- I won't say that previous commissioners added things that
24 weren't based on law. I think they were good ideas but we
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1 really need to make sure that what is going into them, there
2 is a foundational -- a foundation on line. If it's not in
3 line, it should be. Maybe we should introduce statutes that
4 add those requirements but, looking at those, sometimes it
5 takes a fresh perspective to look at a C-plan, to look at a
6 permitting process, to look at anything to understand if
7 that's the right approach. And so what we're doing is we're
8 going to look at them and we're going to determine whether
9 it's -- some things that are in there are just outdated, some
10 things are unnecessary, they're not protecting human health
11 and the environment and most of it's probably going to be
12 consistent with the way it's been done.

13 PRES. BAUER: Thanks and just to follow up, I have to put
14 the plug in for us, especially on the scientific side, you
15 know, we have often found that science is as good as whoever's
16 paying for it and so that's a concern for us. You know,
17 immediately -- well, a couple years after the Exxon Valdez,
18 you know, a group of scientists came out and said the Sound
19 was great. They were paid for by Exxon and so I just want to
20 put the plug in that the group is probably going to be timid
21 and have a lot of questions going forward with all of it just
22 because of those sort of experiences that we've had before.

23 COMM. BRUNE: I think that's incredibly fair and I
24 recognize that. I also recognize, having worked for the
25

1 federal government, that there are agendas even with federal
2 agencies and scientists that work on things. If -- I've had a
3 couple of PI's that have worked on projects that were funded
4 that didn't publish their studies because their results didn't
5 gel with what they thought they were going to see and that's
6 not appropriate either.

7 So the -- a lot of good science has been funded by
8 industry. Your point is well said, of course, with the Sound
9 but a lot of what we know on the North Slope, for example, is
10 thanks to science that's been funded by industry. And I also
11 know, having been on the Sea Life Center Board for 11-1/2
12 years that a lot of the science that they do there is funded
13 by industry. So I think it's important to make sure that a
14 peer -- a fair peer review process has looked at science and
15 that you -- yeah, you should scrutinize any study that's done
16 regardless of where the source of that funding came from.

17 PRES. BAUER: Thank you. Jim Herbert, I believe you were
18 next.

19 MR. JIM HERBERT: Thank you. Commissioner, thanks so
20 much for being here. I also see you've got the rank and file
21 of DEC employees locally turned out too and I want you to know
22 we are very happy to have that presence in town and they do
23 good work. So thank you for that.

24 I also think it was great for you and Ms. Koch to be able
25

1 to do the tour and see some of the things. Nothing like being
2 in the real world instead of reading about it or having a
3 windy person like me telling you a story in a bar.

4 It was mentioned a few times what the mission of DEC was
5 and for the good of the order, I happen to write it down and
6 I'd just like to read it into the record if I could. The
7 mission of DEC is conserving, improving and protecting
8 Alaska's natural resources and environment to enhance the
9 health, safety, economics and social well-being of Alaskans
10 and I think that's a pretty admirable target for any agency to
11 shoot at and is very much aligned with the work that we do
12 here.

13 To echo what we just heard from Madam President, myself,
14 I'm a chair of the OSPR committee. We deal with C-plans, for
15 example, and we, through the Board, would definitely be
16 interested in helping or participating in any work group that
17 affects those particular rules and regs. I understand, as
18 commissioner, you're dealing with regulations that affect
19 things from Metlakatla to Utqiagvik probably all the way to
20 Attu-Hyder. You know, it's the whole thing. So we are
21 focused on a particular narrow -- that's our mission under
22 OPA-90. I know you're dealing with lots of other things so I
23 appreciate that but to echo the collaborative process, I think
24 perhaps you know from some of your staff that this
25

1 organization really went to bat for the SPAR program when
2 cuts, really big cuts, were in the works. We know the
3 importance of DEC. That and the Coast Guard are the reason
4 that certain aspects of the protections are in place, the
5 carrot and stick, but also even in the event, heaven forbid,
6 that there were diminutions of some of this stuff, you heard
7 from the tanker folks they're dealing with regulations
8 worldwide, IMO type stuff, all this ballast treatment and
9 stuff. It just doesn't spring from a local thing. These
10 folks are complying with worldwide regulations. So I doubt
11 they're going to back off from some of their well-developed
12 and meaningful programs. I'm sure that's understood.

13 One worry -- I would tell you this in private but I'll
14 tell you in public -- is that it's easy to change --
15 relatively easy to change statutes. To change the underlying
16 -- or, excuse me, to change regulations --

17 COMM. BRUNE: Regulations, yes.

18 MR. HERBERT: -- to change the underlying laws and
19 statutes that were derived from legislative intent, much more
20 difficult, and the worry is that a batch of simplified
21 regulations could get pushed through on short notice perhaps
22 with not as much public scrutiny would be a worry. Sounds
23 like what you're telling us is that that's not the way you
24 operate, you do want that input from various shareholders,
25

1 stakeholders and, in the long run, want a fair process. Okay?
2 So, again, that ties in with a request to be party to all
3 this.

4 And, you know, I like what you say about industry and
5 individuals' need to be accountable. As a simple example,
6 when my kids were young, they got behind the whole seatbelt
7 thing right away and if, heaven forbid, one of the drivers of
8 the car did not have the seatbelt on, holy hell was raised.
9 You're not driving until your seatbelt's on. It became a
10 norm, the accountability. They weren't necessarily driven by
11 the law, they had a behavior that had been cultivated.

12 COMM. BRUNE: Wow, yup.

13 MR. HERBERT: So -- however, without the regulations in
14 place, it would be hard for you to come after me and write me
15 a ticket for that lack of seatbelt even was the prudent thing
16 to do. So where we get into those regulations, one of the
17 perhaps difficulties is you want to be sure everyone perhaps
18 has a level playing field but now we need to have enforcement.
19 You and I probably will agree we got lots of rules but if
20 they're not enforceable, then it's kind of almost a moot
21 point. So that kind of gets into the Catch-22. You need
22 enough people to -- eyes on the ground to advocate a stick to
23 tap someone on the head or a carrot to reward them and if the
24 regulations get too soft, then this may go away.

1 But, again, thank you to you and your staff. The working
2 relationship that this organization has had with you and the
3 Coast Guard is the reason we have -- and, of course, industry,
4 of course, is the reason we have the protections for the Sound
5 and we value that. Thank you, sir.

6 COMM. BRUNE: Thank you, Jim. First of all, thank you
7 for your comments about our staff. I did forget to mention
8 Craig. He's amazing, the -- my bad. The team really is the
9 foundation of DEC and of what I do and I'm so lucky to have
10 them and with respect to the budget, I will be very honest.
11 Obviously, we have a large revenue and expense disparity, \$1.6
12 billion, and so that's been my boss's directive, that we need
13 to make sure that we need to make sure that we are spending
14 what we bring in. So one of the emphasis areas that I had
15 with the Governor was we need to make sure that the regulatory
16 agencies' budgets are kept as whole as they possibly can be
17 and SPAR's budget, I do appreciate the efforts and the RCAC
18 made in going down to Juneau and advocating for us.
19 Obviously, we can't advocate for ourselves but I do appreciate
20 that and the SPAR budget was effectively kept whole -- well,
21 thus far. They're still working in Juneau.

22 To your statement about wanting to a party in anything we
23 do with respect to the regs, absolutely. I welcome that. I
24 invite that. The regs governing C-plans right now, I believe,
25

1 are 49 pages long and if -- they're onerous to read, to be
2 very honest, and that's not to say that they are not necessary
3 but they're very lengthy. So I think they deserve a fresh
4 look and I'm excited that you're willing and you're committing
5 folks from this group and I'm -- I invite that to participate
6 in re-looking and giving them a fresh set of eyes.

7 And then to your point about enforceable, absolutely. If
8 you don't -- if you have laws that are on the book, regs,
9 statutes, and you're not enforcing them, there's no reason to
10 have them and so that's another reason to look at these
11 things. I mean, some of these things that we require on the
12 books, the technology has taken away the need to even have
13 that. There are certain things that we require that aren't
14 even in -- even a consideration anymore. So enforceability
15 and having and making sure that we have that appropriate stick
16 to ensure that there's follow-through on what the regs and the
17 statutes are is incredibly important so I appreciate you
18 bringing up that point. Thanks for your comments, Jim.

19 PRES. BAUER: Mako.

20 MR. MAKO HAGGERTY: Thank you and thanks for being here.
21 This is -- provides us all with an opportunity to see what --
22 what's new in our future. So I appreciate you showing up
23 here. I'd kind of like to follow along the same lines that
24 Jim had and I've got a -- kind of a list here. First of all,
25

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1 I hope we can count on your support for the SPAR funding.
2 That's something that, as a group, we worked hard to put
3 together and the revenue stream for that and we hope that --
4 or I certainly hope that you would continue to advocate for
5 the SPAR funding, that the -- it's an organization that means
6 a lot to us.

7 What -- and, again, following along Jim's line, I have
8 worries too and one of those worries is, as a, you know,
9 philosophy, I suppose, is it -- there are times that
10 efficiencies trump robust programs and so I'm concerned that
11 in an effort to be more efficient, we lose some of the muscle
12 that's in some of these programs and that's just, you know, a
13 way of looking at things. I don't know where that takes us,
14 necessarily, but I -- but it is a concern.

15 And Senator Sullivan just recently sponsored a bill and
16 it got passed and the president signed it. It's the Clean
17 Oceans Act and so this goes into our own behavior, how do we
18 behave. Well, last night at the hotel, I went to get a glass
19 of water in my room and it was a plastic cup wrapped in a
20 piece of plastic bag like this right here and, you know, I'd
21 prefer to drink out of glass but the whole idea is I can limit
22 the amount of plastic that I have in my life and that's what
23 the Clean Oceans Act is all about anyways, reducing the amount
24 of plastic going into the ocean.

1 I work hard to eliminate the amount of plastic that's in
2 my life but it really helps when there's statutes that reduce
3 the amount of plastic that's available to us also. So I'm
4 just saying that it's a two-part series. Yes, I can control
5 my -- or I can modify my behavior but it's nice when I get a
6 little bit of support from the government on that.

7 Question, I understand that the DEC is monitoring the air
8 quality of -- down in Juneau with the cruise ships --

9 COMM. BRUNE: Mm-hmm.

10 MR. HAGGERTY: -- and I fully support that because I
11 think that's real important, especially -- well, it's
12 important everywhere and I'm wondering if DEC would share that
13 data with us when those -- when that data comes in because if
14 we're going to increase the number of cruise ships in this
15 area, it would really be good for us to know exactly what kind
16 of data you've collected. Thank you.

17 COMM. BRUNE: So thank you for the question. Absolutely
18 we'll share the data with you. I think that that's an easy
19 commitment to make. I don't think I'm precluded from saying
20 that, am I?

21 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: (Indiscernible - away from
22 microphone).

23 COMM. BRUNE: So absolutely. I think it's important to
24 take those kind of learnings from different areas, especially
25

1 around the state, and apply them to other communities. So I'm
2 more than happy to do that. With respect to SPAR funding,
3 absolutely, that's in statute. That's -- I don't see that
4 going anywhere so just to alleviate any concerns you might
5 have there.

6 You said efficiencies oftentimes trump robust programs.
7 It -- it's a fair point but I think that sometimes you create
8 a lot of unnecessary things and it's -- we just need to look
9 at the processes and having a fresh set of eyes will determine
10 -- and with your input -- some of those programs whether or
11 not. And then with respect to plastic, you made me feel very
12 guilty but I will say I filled out my Dr. Pepper bottle three
13 times with water today so I'm at least reusing it but your
14 point is well said and we have to start with ourselves. So
15 thank you for pointing that out.

16 PRES. BAUER: Wayne.

17 MR. WAYNE DONALDSON: Well, thank you, Commissioner, for
18 coming to speak with us. This morning, we passed our FY-20
19 budget and in there was a new salary schedule for staff and I
20 know this probably as a state worker, you're probably
21 underpaid so I wish we could include a salary schedule for you
22 too.

23 My question has to do with our FY-20 budget and hearing
24 now about the possible revision to some regulations that DEC
25

1 has at control C-plans and I'm wondering how that process and
2 time line might occur so that we can plan our budget
3 accordingly to whatever involvement we may have. In other
4 words, do you see the bulk of this work happening in the state
5 FY-20 year or the FY-21 year?

6 COMM. BRUNE: So it's a great question. We have
7 identified the list of regs that we think can be improved.
8 The State of Alaska -- the different departments were asked to
9 do that by the Governor. We put a list of about a hundred
10 came forward from the different agencies around -- I think 35
11 or 40 of them came from DEC. There is no way that we can
12 implement all of those potential changes at once. So we are
13 in the process of prioritizing them, of determining which ones
14 we want to elevate first. We probably won't get to all of
15 them. I would imagine the C-plan reg changes are going to be
16 high on the list but I don't imagine that's going to be a
17 expeditious process and so I would -- you know, I'm
18 committing, obviously, to working with the RCAC's and getting
19 that input I would imagine from the budgetary perspective. It
20 will be this fiscal year and probably some of the next fiscal
21 year where we're going to be looking at the C-plan
22 regulations.

23 With respect to staff salary schedules, one of the great
24 things, obviously, that I think I bring to this position is
25

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1 having been in the private sector and, knowing that,
2 regulatory agencies, nonprofit organizations compete with the
3 private sector. And if you want to have the -- those science-
4 based legally defensible permits in a timely manner that we
5 discussed, you are competing against them. I'll just leave it
6 at that. It's very important to recruit and retain people and
7 we -- unfortunately, we have a turnover rate at DEC of around
8 20 percent per year and that's something that I'm looking at
9 trying to positively influence and in a very difficult
10 financial situation that the state is in, that's very -- will
11 be very difficult to do. So I don't know what the answers are
12 but if any of you have suggestions, please let me know.

13 MR. DONALDSON: I just had one follow-up. So if the
14 contingency plans are high on the list for review, what sort
15 of a time line might -- could we maybe see regulations being
16 proposed for elimination and how long might that take once the
17 initial public notice is given that you plan to remove X
18 regulations?

19 COMM. BRUNE: How about I do this because I don't know
20 the answer to that, how about I come back to the next meeting
21 and I give you a time line?

22 MR. DONALDSON: Okay. Thank you.

23 PRES. BAUER: Dorothy.

24 MS. DOROTHY MOORE: Yes, again, I would like to echo my
25

1 fellow board members. Thank you for coming to talk to us and
2 I haven't been around in some of the same places you have so
3 I'd like to introduce myself to you.

4 When I was four years old in 1949, my folks decided to
5 move to Valdez. So you can figure out how old I am.

6 COMM. BRUNE: Twenty-three.

7 MS. MOORE: Yes. Uh-huh. I was a freshman in college
8 home for Easter vacation when the earthquake hit. I was
9 teaching to junior high students, had a person coming down
10 from Fairbanks, a seismologist, to talk about the 25th
11 anniversary of the earthquake when I woke up to hear that the
12 back --- Exxon Valdez had spilled oil and in 1989, we didn't
13 have all the stuff we have now so that we can hear what's
14 going on and, you know, where. It was a four-hour delay on
15 the thing in -- or on the -- on TV.

16 I retired from the school system here teaching government
17 and economics and there is no free lunch. There's no free
18 lunch anywhere. If you have a tuna fish salad, that tuna gave
19 his life for your -- no free lunch. Sitting on this board, we
20 have, in my opinion -- and no offense to anyone -- we have
21 dealt with C-plans up the ying-yang and every so often they
22 come in again and we have to go to a C meaning contingency,
23 not SEA, but most of the stuff on contingency plans that we
24 deal with on this board are with something that goes into the
25

1 water. And I understand that you are -- your division has to
2 deal with everything up the road here, everything all over the
3 state. And if I were drawing only personal things, everyone
4 would be recycling and composting their stuff from their
5 houses. We'd get rid of these water bottles that I also am
6 reusing but I can't -- as I sit on this board, I have to be
7 dealing with the C-plan -- or the -- oh, now I'm getting --
8 can't get words out but our mission statement, safe
9 transportation of oil. And those are the things that I would
10 like to either -- or our organization to help you work with or
11 just get a list of what you're thinking of doing. I know that
12 they are often very thick and I choose not to sit on a
13 committee that looks at C-plans just because it is lengthy and
14 I'd rather do policy anyway.

15 But I also would like to say as a citizen of Valdez, it's
16 been working with the boots on the ground, whether it be in
17 your office or whether it be in the industry, and those boots
18 on the ground people are very awesome. Thank you.

19 COMM. BRUNE: Thank you. I would agree, the folks that I
20 see, the boots on the ground here, the DEC staff, I would say
21 the folk -- seeing the emphasis on -- from Alyeska Pipeline
22 employee on making sure we do a -- we do it right, the safety
23 emphasis, the envir -- I mean, that was very impressive. The
24 discussion of, you know, you spill so much as a teaspoon, you
25

1 will be fired if you don't report that, that environmental
2 ethic did not exist 30 years ago. I still have relatives in
3 the Lower 48 that change their own oil and they throw the
4 spent oil on the road to keep the dust down. That disgusts me
5 but it happens. And so, yes, the people on the ground here,
6 they're -- I know that there's always work to be done but it
7 -- it's been impressive the two days that I've been here in
8 Valdez seeing the DEC staff and the Alyeska employees and the
9 Edison Swest folks and the Conoco Phillips employee on the
10 tanker that was out there, it's good. Can we do more?
11 Absolutely but working together and -- to ensure protection of
12 human health and the environment and economic opportunities,
13 we need to work together.

14 MS. MOORE: (Indiscernible - away from microphone) you
15 kill them all.

16 COMM. BRUNE: That's right.

17 MS. MOORE: We suffer.

18 PRES. BAUER: Shavelson?

19 COMM. BRUNE: Is this the softball?

20 MR. SHAVELSON: I think Robert was next.

21 PRES. BAUER: You want him to go first?

22 MR. SHAVELSON: Yeah, he wants to say something. I'd
23 call him.

24 PRES. BAUER: Okay. Go ahead, Robert
25

1 MR. ROBERT ARCHIBALD: Commissioner, thanks for coming.
2 I can well understand what things were like 30 years ago and
3 where we're at today and the need to look at things. When I
4 got my third assistant license, we were still looking at lap
5 and lead on steam engines. Today you don't even see it in the
6 book.

7 That being said, since Exxon Valdez spill, there's been
8 many, many good regs written for a reason and I certainly hope
9 that during this discussion of alleviating some of these,
10 there is a conversation with all the stakeholders about this
11 and the justification for getting rid of some of them and that
12 we can agree on that as an obsolete thing that is no longer
13 necessary. I think that's going to be an important
14 conversation.

15 And just to deviate just a little bit on cruise ships if
16 I may, there's a reason why they were talking about keeping a
17 major company out of the United States ports so I do not
18 believe that we can at all think that industry can police
19 themselves. So I think that's something you need to be very
20 cognizant of and thanks for showing up here.

21 COMM. BRUNE: I will tell you when I heard about what
22 they did in Glacier Bay, I was disgusted, to be very frank. I
23 was pissed off. So your point is very well said. What I'm
24 committed to doing with the money that comes from -- currently
25

1 for the Ocean Ranger program is, hopefully, developing a
2 better program that uses Alaskans, that uses technology, that
3 gives us more information and I think we can do that.

4 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Well, I certainly hope we stay in
5 communication on these changes and proposals.

6 COMM. BRUNE: No, absolutely, and I -- I'm sorry, I meant
7 to address that as well. Absolutely and I -- I mean, I've
8 made the commitment here, I've made it to many people, that I
9 will be bringing these potential reg changes to you. I want
10 ideas from you as well. I mean, that's not just for the
11 elimination, if there are additional regs that -- there's a
12 lot of things in these C-plans that don't have the foundation
13 in regs. Well, propose those as additions. I'm not
14 guaranteeing that we're going to ultimately incorporate them
15 but wouldn't it be better to have things that the foundation
16 of what's in a C-plan based in regs and statute rather than
17 not have that foundation? I think it's important that they
18 match up.

19 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Sure. Thank you.

20 PRES. BAUER: Donna?

21 MS. DONNAL SCHANTZ: I also want to thank you for being
22 here and bringing so many members of your team. I think that,
23 you know, really goes towards your first goal of building
24 relationships and we certainly want to continue that and work
25

1 with you more on this. I -- we have a lot to say on this but
2 I know we're running long and I just wanted to make a couple
3 of comments though and really start out by recognizing, we
4 recognize that Alyeska and the TAPS shippers do a great job,
5 they really do. You know, we have a world class system here.
6 I think we all recognize that but our role as advisors is to
7 always be looking for ways to improve. Even though you might
8 be the best or, you know, good, the best, there's always room
9 for improvement and that's part of what our role is is to, you
10 know, promote those.

11 So when you talk C-plans and, you know, they may be too
12 onerous or cumbersome or too much information, that isn't
13 something new to us. We've been hearing that, actually, from
14 industry for a number of years and, actually, the C-plans have
15 shrunk. There have -- there has already been some detail that
16 has been removed from the plans over the years and especially
17 the last I'd say, you know, five to eight years, I think we've
18 seen efforts to, you know, remove some. Some have been
19 approved, others have not and, you know, we look at the C-
20 plans as like an insurance policy. It's a contract between
21 industry and the state to protect the people and the
22 environment. And, you know, if you pull out some of that
23 detail, especially over time, you can see that that
24 commitment, you know, whatever that detail was, resources,

1 other commitment can go away and it's so important to have
2 that detail, you know, in those plans. And so I did bring
3 with me too -- I brought a copy of Alyeska's contingency plan
4 from 1978 and it looks really big but it's only eight pages
5 and the rest of it is all aerial photographs and it talks
6 about weather and describes different areas in the Sound and
7 the section on open water response is one paragraph. It's
8 four sentences, you know, and it just talks about, you know --
9 I could read it to you but, basically, I'll just -- you know,
10 talks about boom will be deployed to controlled the movement,
11 you know, of as much of the oil slick as possible. Additional
12 boom or additional teams may be required. They have one oil
13 slick team. And I'm not suggesting that you're talking about
14 going back to 1978 and one paragraph but I just want to
15 caution that we have to be very careful, a lot of that detail,
16 you know, there was a reason why people thought that was
17 important after the spill and the industry has been complying
18 for 30 years and, you know, now to say that it's too
19 burdensome or too onerous, we're going to need a little bit
20 more of an explanation before we're going to support doing
21 away with it but thank you.

22 COMM. BRUNE: Your point is well made and I appreciate
23 the reference to that earlier C-plan. No, I don't have any
24 intention to going back to that but this is where your input,
25

1 the input of industry, the input of the RCAC's, the input of
2 local stakeholders as well as the input of my team is going to
3 be incredibly important as we do -- as we work to shape those
4 potential reg changes that we may be making. But, as I said
5 to Robert and to a number of other people, I'm committed to
6 working with the RCAC's to understanding your perspectives as
7 we go forward on this.

8 MS. SCHANTZ: Thank you.

9 PRES. BAUER: Okay. Bob.

10 MR. SHAVELSON: Well, I -- I'm going to take your bait,
11 Jason, that you asked that if we have any ideas on how we
12 could fund DEC and I think there's a very easy one and there's
13 a -- Senate Bill 14 is out there and that would remove the per
14 barrel deductible credit that we now have and that would get
15 us about the -- current estimates, over a billion dollars and
16 I would get those as just government handouts and subsidies
17 that distort our free market. So that might align with some
18 of your thinking but I don't know.

19 In any case, I think a lot about language and you're a
20 smart guy and I think that's what bothers me sometimes. And
21 some of the language I hear around this is, you know, these
22 rules -- the C-plan was onerous and they are a burden on
23 industry and when we use language like that, we're essentially
24 victimizing some of the largest corporations on the planet
25

1 and, you know, I think Wally Hickel had it right, we are the
2 owner state under Article 8. We own the resources. It's a
3 privilege, not a right, to develop for profit our resources
4 and I think we have to recognize that context there.

5 And we talked about this the other night but, you know,
6 you bring it up again, I'm all for personal accountability
7 sometimes but -- you know, and when we try to create a
8 comparison and we talk about fishing boats and dumping
9 pollution and in the context of talking about oil tankers, I
10 believe that that's a false equivalence and I sent you an
11 article about it and I hope you'll read it but it's an apples
12 and oranges comparison. I mean, we could have every fishing
13 vessel in Prince William Sound sink tomorrow and it wouldn't
14 have nearly the impact of a tanker running aground. So I
15 think it's important that -- and, to be fair, that we're clear
16 with how we communicate these things out there. So I'm trying
17 not to be too long-winded but my question is you mentioned
18 that you talk to environmental groups and you talk to industry
19 groups about the C-plan concerns. What are the top, you know,
20 two, three, four specific concerns you heard from industry and
21 other groups that are prompting this review? And let me just
22 say I have no problems with looking at rules that have been on
23 the books for awhile. I think it's healthy. I think it's an
24 opportunity to clean them up as long as we keep in mind that
25

1 there's not going to be some diminution in protection that
2 we're looking to improve.

3 COMM. BRUNE: So, first of all, to your suggestion of the
4 bill for funding things, I will say that we compete, as
5 Alaskans, for investment dollars and the cost of doing
6 business in Alaska is very expensive and the tax regime that
7 -- it's not purview at DEC. My mission is to protect human
8 health and the environment. That's the shortened version of
9 our mission, protect human health and the environment, but
10 when you're looking at increasing taxes when we already have a
11 high cost regime, that's not going to encourage new investment
12 in the state. So while it -- it's a -- an idea, it's likely
13 not an idea that my boss will endorse or I will recommend he
14 endorse. But I thank you for the recommendation.

15 With respect to specific concerns on the C-plan, Bob, I
16 have pages of notes that are not in this notebook. I can't
17 come up with them off the top of my head but I assure you that
18 they're -- like I said before, they're -- these proposed
19 changes are going to be made with input from the RCAC's and
20 they're not going to be made in a -- behind closed doors but I
21 know that -- I mean, just as a very generic issue, when you
22 make things complex and you make things 49 pages, that also --
23 that -- for regs for a C-plan, that influences your investment
24 climate as well and if you have things in there that aren't
25

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1 ultimately protecting human health and the environment, that
2 they're not doing things that are going to make sure we have
3 safe movement of oil or safe -- adequate preparation, you are
4 impacting the investment climate of the state.

5 So, again, none of these changes will be made behind
6 closed doors. They -- if they are proposed and there isn't
7 support from the RCAC's, of course, I know you will comment.
8 I know you individually will also comment, Bob, and that's --
9 we need to make sure we have that as part of the process.

10 MR. SHAVELSON: Well, thanks. I have to say it's a
11 little unusual to be driving a rule change without
12 understanding what some of the big drivers are, you know, if
13 the --

14 COMM. BRUNE: There's -- fair -- that's a fair point,
15 Bob. There's -- like I said, there's 35 to 40 different regs
16 that we contemplated that we've discussed with my team as
17 ideas and so we're evaluating them, we're prioritizing them.
18 It's five months into the job, Bob, so -- and there's all
19 sorts of other issues that have taken up a lot more of my time
20 than C-plans but that's just one that I knew that was
21 important to this organization. So I wanted to say that it is
22 a priority of ours but I think I've spent a lot more time
23 trying to get confirmed or dealing with PFAS and air quality
24 in Fairbanks and all sorts of other issues. So I will get up
25

1 to speed on what those are and when I come with the proposed
2 time line that I committed to earlier, I will come with
3 specific examples as well.

4 MR. SHAVELSON: Well, thanks and thank God you don't have
5 to deal with the lease for the Anchorage building. And I was
6 -- and I just want to reiterate what Amanda said and I'm
7 heartened to hear you talk about, you know, a worker for some
8 type of task force because I think that's where you're going
9 to get the expertise that comes from this group and other
10 folks and that's where I think you'll get the best product
11 coming out the end.

12 COMM. BRUNE: Absolutely.

13 MR. SHAVELSON: Thanks again for being here.

14 COMM. BRUNE: And including industry and including local
15 stakeholders as well --

16 MR. SHAVELSON: Absolutely.

17 COMM. BRUNE: -- so it's bringing them all together and,
18 again, I just think it's important to reiterate that as we're
19 working to provide economic opportunities for future
20 generations of Alaska, a lot of those economic opportunities
21 in Alaska are based on natural resource extraction, be it
22 fishing, oil and gas, mining, timber and so ensuring that
23 those different perspectives are understood is vital to
24 providing those opportunities for our children. So thank you.

25

1 MR. SHAVELSON: Thank you.

2 PRES. BAUER: Jane?

3 MS. JANE EISEMANN: Well, Jason, since I am older than
4 you are, I feel like I can be in an advisory position like
5 Donna said we are. So I just -- one comment that you made --
6 and maybe I heard it out of context but I -- it just -- you
7 know, you're talking about building relationships and if I
8 hadn't have met you the other evening and had a pleasant
9 evening just talking off the record and getting to know you a
10 little bit, if I would have heard you say this comment before
11 having that, then I wouldn't have a relationship with you that
12 would be very productive. And the comment that you made was
13 when we were talking about -- you were talking about your
14 personal thoughts on global climate change and such. You said
15 well, it's definitely a reality but the reason doesn't matter
16 and I kind of like -- that just knotted me up because how can
17 you mitigate a problem if you don't know what's causing it.
18 And then you can say, you know, scientifically backed, you
19 know, and so we still have dueling scientists on that but I am
20 of the ilk that we kind of know what is a major contributor to
21 this challenge that we're facing.

22 So I would maybe -- and if you feel that in your heart
23 that the reason doesn't matter, then keep saying it because at
24 least we know where you're coming from and that is important.

25

1 But on another note --

2 COMM. BRUNE: Can I real quickly respond to that?

3 MS. EISEMANN: Please.

4 COMM. BRUNE: Thank you for saying that. I think my --
5 what I was trying to say was that so much of the argument that
6 people have is based on whether it's anthropogenic or natural
7 and that bogs down the discussion. Rather than looking at
8 what's actually happening, if you want to focus on it -- and
9 you're -- listen, I absolutely believe that anthropogenic --
10 that humans are having an impact on climate change but so much
11 of the discussion is just we're not doing it, yeah, we are,
12 no, it's natural, it's the volcano, the volcano had more than
13 man has put into the environment for 23 years.

14 MS. EISEMANN: Mm-hmm.

15 COMM. BRUNE: It gets bogged down on that rather than
16 what's happening in Alaska. We're having significant coastal
17 erosion. The glaciers are melting. The spruce bark beetle is
18 moving. How can we stop that? Let's focus on solutions
19 rather than -- and so I get your point. You hear where I'm
20 coming from personally but -- you know, and I've also said on
21 the record that when it comes to climate change, I work for
22 the Governor. So what Jason Brune's personal perspective is
23 doesn't necessarily matter but science is absolutely important
24 and I'm not a head in the sander. I believe man has had an

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1 impact on it but I do appreciate the counsel and I think it's
2 a good point and I'll need to make sure I'm more clear when I
3 make statements like that. Thank you.

4 MS. EISEMANN: And I would assume that in your position,
5 you are somewhat of an advisory to our Governor as well
6 because he chose you to further his agenda perhaps but you
7 have some expertise in a field that he has --

8 COMM. BRUNE: For sure.

9 MS. EISEMANN: -- probably none but I can't say that for
10 sure because I'm not intimately aware of his background but
11 thank you for your honest response to that.

12 And then the other thing, you wanted -- you made it a --
13 you know, Alaska is open for business. It is but coming from
14 a sun-soaked Northern California clime 45 years ago, I would
15 frequently show up at a business that would say they're open,
16 no shirt, no shoes, no service. I don't have nothing on my
17 feet because I've been on the beach all morning and, you know,
18 the shirt I have and what's probably not be called a shirt but
19 you know what, I fixed it. I put some shoes on because I was
20 really hungry and I knew that whatever, I went into the local
21 A&W or whatever. So I think we have to be careful as a state.
22 Yes, we're open for business but it is on our terms and I
23 think that you, as our ADEC commissioner, you're in a unique
24 position to advise our Governor and all the people that are
25

1 making -- and industry for sure, you know, that, yeah, we're
2 open for business, we do want to do business for you but we
3 are open but it's on our terms.

4 And then the other thing is just on a side, I just really
5 wish -- and it has nothing to do with our mission, per se --
6 is that I wish we'd be open for business for other kinds of
7 more sustainable energy solutions because I really don't feel
8 like where we're headed with our -- you know, and, hey, I use
9 oil like the rest of us but, anyway, I wish we could do
10 something that would be, you know, open for business and let's
11 start doing some things up here that are going to help the
12 people in Kivalina that are losing their shoreline and where
13 we're just going to move them inland, you know, 300 feet --
14 300 more feet. That doesn't help them. So, anyway, that's --

15 COMM. BRUNE: Thank you. On our terms environmentally,
16 absolutely, but, again, going back to the point that we are
17 competing against jurisdictions around the world for
18 investment dollars. As the Lower 48 has been booming for the
19 last four or five years, we've been in a recession and
20 predictability of our permitting regime, we have geological --
21 let's face it, our economy is a natural resource extraction
22 state so that's what's going to -- we don't have the
23 infrastructure, we don't have the highways, we don't have
24 other opportunities that are bringing in the Googles and the
25

1 manufacturing and that. We just don't and so we have amazing
2 geology. We have amazing natural resources and we're ranked
3 high in all those categories but when it comes to
4 predictability of our permitting regime in the Fraser
5 Institute annual study, we rank behind the Democratic Republic
6 of the Congo and that's not something I'm making up, that
7 shows that in the investment community, they don't trust the
8 predictability of our environmental permitting regime.

9 We need to have the highest standards in the world and we
10 need to make those standards predictable. If we don't have
11 things that are -- and we can't make things up that aren't
12 found -- based in statute. And that had been done. That's
13 the perception of Alaska. We don't want a certain project to
14 happen, we're going to create a new opposition to it that's
15 not based in statute and that reputation is impacting the
16 Alaskan investment climate. Again, going back to my formative
17 statement here, we can, we do and we should have the highest
18 environmental standards in the world based in statute. If
19 there are things that we want to add, we should make sure the
20 statutory authority is given them but we -- but those
21 companies that are looking at Alaska for that predictability,
22 that predictability will bring that investment here. If it's
23 not predictable, it's going to just add to uncertainty and
24 increased costs and they'll choose to go elsewhere, elsewhere

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1 to develop those resources that don't have the Clean Air Act,
2 the Clean Water Act. They don't have the spill response
3 opportunities that we put as a emphasis area. And so the
4 demand that we have as you have the increasing demand for
5 natural resources, it's going to be met from somewhere.

6 Where will it be met from? Will it be met from China?
7 From Chile? From South Africa where they don't have child
8 labor laws, where they don't have a Clean Air Act or a Clean
9 Water Act? I mean, this is why we need to have the highest
10 standards when it comes to the environment but we need to be
11 predictable and we need to try to lure that investment here.
12 So that's what I mean by open for business because by not
13 being open for business -- and when I worked for Anglo
14 American on the Pebble Project, I was a direct casualty of the
15 company thinking I could go invest elsewhere and actually
16 bring a project to fruition -- and this isn't making a
17 political statement about Pebble, this is making a statement
18 about they chose to go elsewhere because of the -- that lack
19 of predictability. We need to bring more predictable
20 standards in Alaska that protect our environment and that make
21 sure that they're doing it right but they know what they're
22 signing up for when they start.

23 PRES. BAUER: Thank you. Steve Lewis.

24 MR. STEPHEN LEWIS: Thank you for joining us today. I'm
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1 going to start with a technological suggestion for you with
2 respect to air quality monitoring. There was just a recent
3 industry news article about the Netherlands government having
4 put a drone in operation to monitor shipping missions in the
5 major harbors there in the Netherlands. Juneau ought to have
6 one of those. But I am going to counter a little bit or offer
7 my point of view. Let me just say that rather than
8 countering. After spending 45 years in industry and at
9 management level in industry, I think it's pretty obvious that
10 Alaska's open for business. We've got three of the majors
11 producing off the North Slope and their Alaskan operations are
12 consistently among their more profitable worldwide.

13 I've worked for the smaller operators on the Slope. I've
14 worked recently for a smaller operation that came to the state
15 primarily so that their investors could play the investment
16 benefits of the exploration tax credits. Yes, the change that
17 was pulled on them has driven that investment group out of the
18 state. However the resources that they were looking at are
19 still there and there are other people who have come in and
20 acquired those and are moving forward with developing them.

21 Let's look at the cost of ANS crude on the market versus
22 West Texas Intermediate. There's a \$10 a barrel premium
23 attached to ANS --

24 COMM. BRUNE: Mm-hmm.

1 MR. LEWIS: -- that covers the cost of operating in
2 Alaska. So I think that it's possible, if not probable, that
3 you have been presented with a industry twist on the scariness
4 of operating in Alaska and I don't quite buy that myself and
5 I'm saying that from having worked inside of that industry for
6 a long, long time.

7 But another thing that concerns me a little bit here --
8 and this is one that I hope that you will understand and
9 possibly take to heart -- in your comments here, you made four
10 statements specifically that are buzzword sort of things that
11 I've heard that came from in the industry. Those were open
12 for business, nothing more, nothing less, overly onerous,
13 learned our lessons. Those have become so emotionally fraught
14 that I think it'd really be good to just take them out of the
15 conversation. But the other thing I heard that kind of
16 concerns me the most is you made the statement that it's so
17 complex that the public can't understand. This group
18 represents the public. The power of this group is in the
19 voting of that constituency when they go to the ballot to
20 elect their government. I'd been elected by those people to
21 sit in the governmental operation, a government position.
22 They aren't stupid. They understand. They understand when
23 they think they're getting run over and I think it'd really be
24 a good idea to not denigrate their level or capabilities in
25

1 these conversations. And I -- that's really all I had to
2 offer. Thank you.

3 COMM. BRUNE: Thank you, Steve. I agree and that was not
4 my intention. Thank you for pointing that out. It wasn't to
5 denigrate them. I mean, obviously, the public was smart in
6 that they elected Governor Dunleavy and Governor Dunleavy
7 selected me so he ran on this mission of showing Alaska's open
8 for business and while that might be a buzzword, I get your
9 point, it is -- it was the will of the people to elect
10 Governor Dunleavy to try to put forward his agenda. But my
11 intention was not at all to imply that they were stupid. So
12 thank you for pointing that out.

13 When it comes to what we're seeing, yes, the three large
14 producers have made -- make a -- are producing a lot of oil in
15 Alaska, no question, but it costs three times as much to drill
16 a well in Alaska and takes a lot more time to get a permit --
17 and rightly so at some -- because we do it right but it costs
18 three times as much than it does in the Permian or the
19 Eagleford the different shale plates. We are competing
20 against that and the cost of getting another rig up here, the
21 cost of manpower, the cost of ice roads and the lack of
22 infrastructure, those are -- we haven't seen the boom that the
23 different shale plays have seen. And so I would, obviously --

24 (Interruption)

1 PRES. BAUER: Time for a break.

2 COMM. BRUNE: I would -- clearly, I think that's like the
3 music at the Oscars, when they want me to shut up, they turn
4 the music on and they, you know, so -- but I would say that
5 the restrictions, the requirements that we put in place, we
6 need to really look at those because they cost industry money.
7 That doesn't mean we should get rid of them. We need to take
8 a fresh look at them. We are not benefitting in the same way
9 that that industry -- and we're not seeing the huge
10 investments from that industry in Alaska for many reasons that
11 we're seeing in the Lower 48. So I'd like to see we have a
12 pipeline. That existing infrastructure is already there.
13 That is three-quarters empty and we have an opportunity to
14 responsibly develop oil on the North Slope in a way that's
15 better than anywhere else in the world and we should be doing
16 our best to try to bring those costs down and encouraging
17 investment there.

18 And then just to your point about air quality, I have
19 seen that drone in -- and I've read that. I think it's a
20 great idea. I've actually talked to my cruise ship team about
21 that because finding out what's in those emissions and using
22 the best available technology that we can to do that science
23 is a -- something we should be looking at and, in fact, it can
24 be done safer and it can give us more data. I think it's a
25

1 great recommendation and I appreciate you bring -- reminding
2 me of that. Thanks.

3 PRES. BAUER: All right. We've got two more placards up.
4 We're going to take these two and then we're going to wrap
5 this up here. So Robert Beedle?

6 MR. ROBERT BEEDLE: Thank you. Try and be quick here.
7 Yeah, thank you for coming. That's getting grilled and
8 hanging through here.

9 I have a business. I live over in Cordova and I'm kind
10 of concerned. Not knowing the -- any idea -- ooh, got her
11 good there -- change is coming. I too have a lot of regs.
12 Maybe we can talk about that. I spent a hour in DMV just
13 getting my boat registered. That doesn't include my other
14 ADF&G tag I got to get, the numbers I got to get, on and on.
15 I don't have wonderful people as crew do that stuff. I do it.

16 Speaking of that, there's -- we just seen a tour over
17 there in the VMT and getting to know some pretty amazing
18 people. They're there because they're damned good at what
19 they do and there is a lot of regs, 30 years of regs, and,
20 doggone it, they still have oopsies. Oil still hits the
21 water. They're doing their best. So it does concern me when
22 you talk about taking a few things out and stuff and not
23 knowing what they are yet, it's my -- I'm nervous. When
24 they're -- when oil hit the water in '89, my value went to
25

1 nothing. My home now, my whole livelihood's there. I'm doing
2 okay now but oil hits the water here, my value is -- who wants
3 to go there if there's no fishery? So I am -- I'm really
4 concerned. These regs, they're hard-fought, both sides,
5 industry and the public. So I -- when we go fish for halibut,
6 the International Halibut -- Pacific Halibut Commission, when
7 the resource -- they do their surveys and the resource is
8 going down, they have what they call a fast down and a slow
9 up. So as the resource comes back, they don't just give us --

10 COMM. BRUNE: Mm-hmm.

11 MR. BEEDLE: So I'm asking is slow down. Don't pull a
12 bunch of this stuff out that's been there. It's very
13 burdensome and onerous because if it isn't done right, I told
14 you the other night ANS crude when it's encased in steel --

15 COMM. BRUNE: Steel.

16 MR. BEEDLE: -- it's wonderful. There's bucks to be
17 made, employment, on and on and on, but as soon as it escapes,
18 it's toxic waste, very, very hazardous. It kills plants,
19 animals, environments, Level 1, economies. So this is all
20 really taken serous by everybody here. I don't want to trade
21 one industry for another. We have an industry in Cordova. I
22 think we're the -- I can't remember if it's the 15th or the
23 5th port --

24 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: That's something we should worry
25

1 about? I was wondering.

2 MR. BEEDLE: The -- there's a lot of product, a lot of
3 economy that goes through Cordova, a small little community.
4 A lot of people don't even know where it's at. So we really
5 appreciate what DEC does, what industry does. I need them but
6 go in there a little cautious. Don't be in a hurry and please
7 let other people in on your -- and, hopefully, we don't have
8 to wait until the next meeting to see what -- the changes that
9 are going to be proposed and stuff, you know? I mean, we all
10 have awesome technology. We can get e-mails and stuff but I'm
11 concerned.

12 I don't know what's coming and you talk about industry in
13 the Midwest, how it's -- they're fracking oil back there. You
14 know, I think their DEC or environmental don't do so good.
15 They got a lot of polluted groundwater. You know, when the
16 price of oil went down a little bit, it's a ghost town. My
17 brother-in-law went back there to work. There wasn't -- the
18 cost of getting oil out of the ground there, soon as the price
19 of oil went down, it shut down. So there -- there's a lot of
20 other rebuttals and things that come back so just I guess the
21 thing I really would like to get across is slow down, get
22 others' opinions and stuff. Don't change things that took 30
23 years to get here. It isn't all bad and these are good
24 people. Thanks.

25

1 COMM. BRUNE: Thank you. So I hope I've made myself
2 clear that, you know, when Bob asks me questions, when others
3 have asked me questions about specifics, I am going slow. I
4 think that the fact that something's not out on the street
5 right now should show that I'm committed to looking at this,
6 to talking to different people before we put something out
7 there. So your point is well said. I'm not going to rush
8 these through but I do think that we need to look closely at
9 them and I'm committed to working with you, working with this
10 room, with RCAC's to understand your perspectives and so
11 they're not being rushed. I think -- I hope I'm clear and
12 I've said a number of times that your input will be heard and
13 it won't be done in a dark room. When it comes to -- I
14 definitely agree with you as well that we're -- we don't ever
15 want to put one industry over another. I'm of the opinion
16 that in this state, we've proven that things can co-exist. We
17 need to make sure things are -- proper precautions are put in
18 place to ensure that they do co-exist.

19 Now, your example of North Slope -- you like it in steel.
20 I like it in my car and in my computer products, et cetera.
21 So, I mean, it's -- it -- we demand -- we have a demand for
22 these natural resources and we have an environmental ethic
23 that is second to none. The companies, Alyeska Pipeline,
24 Conoco Phillips, BP, Exxon, Tesoro -- or, sorry, Marathon,

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1 they don't want oil to be in the environment either because
2 that's dollars that they'll have to spend cleaning up and
3 dollars they won't get in selling it. They have as much of an
4 interest in ensuring safe development of -- and safe
5 transportation of ANS as we do. It's -- that is a philosophy
6 that I firmly believe. Nobody -- we -- they -- the people
7 that work in the industry, they fish. They breathe the air.
8 They go hiking. They don't want to see this any more than we
9 do. So I think to give you -- to, hopefully, put your mind at
10 ease, I'm not going to be proposing that we eliminate things
11 that are protecting and ensuring safe movement of oil. I am
12 going to be looking at the things that are duplicative, that
13 are unnecessary, that aren't protecting human health and the
14 environment and I'm going to need your input to help me
15 understand if I propose something that that's wrong.

16 But I hear you. I'm -- you know, you -- and then as far
17 as your regs for the fishing industry, I want to let you know
18 that I probably had more meetings with the fishing industry
19 about reducing regulatory burden than any other industry.
20 I've probably met with them twice as much as the oil industry
21 for suggestions that they have for how they can reduce their
22 regulatory burden. Just to -- just so you know, it's not just
23 the oil and gas industry that I'm meeting with. In fact, I
24 could -- I think I probably could say three times as much I've
25

1 met with the fishing industry than the oil and gas industry so
2 -- okay. Anyway --

3 MR. BEEDLE: Thank you.

4 PRES. BAUER: All right. And to close, Bob Shavelson.

5 COMM. BRUNE: This is the softball.

6 MR. SHAVELSON: I was going to shut up but you said one
7 thing that -- you know, I think I'm -- oh, I'm, along with a
8 lot of other folks in this state, was very alarmed to see the
9 billionaire Koch brothers coming in and influencing our
10 governor and the policies here -- particularly, our budget --
11 and so when I heard you talk about the Fraser Institute which
12 is a Koch brothers supported think tank, that concerns me
13 because I don't think it's a legitimate information source and
14 I hope that you would not cite it in the future because it --
15 it's so biased that I don't think it is real. So I just
16 wanted to say that and the other thing I'd just say is, you
17 know, we often hear -- and you said it today, you know, it's
18 so important, that predictability but predictability has to go
19 both ways. It's always predictability in getting a permit
20 but, you know, when you think about the fishermen and the
21 fishing families in Bristol Bay that have been fighting Pebble
22 Mine, for example, for 15 years, they want predictability,
23 they want their investments protected and, you know, I've
24 looked at hundreds and hundreds of permits in this state. I
25

1 have never, ever, ever seen a large mining, oil/gas project
2 permit denied in this state. Okay? It just doesn't happen.
3 You start the permitting process. It's call a permitting
4 process because it's designed to issue permits.

5 So I just wanted to get that out there and, particularly,
6 the Fraser stuff because that -- that's just a flashing red
7 light for me so -- anyway, thanks for coming in and I won't
8 prolong it anymore.

9 COMM. BRUNE: I will.

10 PRES. BAUER: Oh, good.

11 COMM. BRUNE: First of all, I will be honest that the
12 Fraser Institute study is one that the mining industry has
13 used for years. It's a survey of mining executives in
14 different jurisdictions around the world. If it's funded by
15 the Koch brothers, that was news to me. To me it's taking the
16 input of those companies that are making investments around
17 the world and determining where -- what are the best
18 jurisdictions for geology, for permitting, for predictability,
19 for safeness, for all sorts of different things. I -- I'm --
20 no idea that -- and I -- I'm not saying I doubt it but I was
21 not aware of that.

22 When it comes to that message that you've never seen a
23 permit that's been rejected, agencies like DEC are rejecting
24 permits on a daily basis. Our job is to work alongside of the
25

1 folks that want to do things in this state, to ensure that
2 what they're proposing matches the statutory requirements. If
3 they can't prove that they can, on a daily basis when we're
4 discussing these, we tell them they have to change it. So
5 every single day, permits for the fishing industry, oil and
6 gas industry, mining industry, community wastewater permits,
7 they're rejected on a daily basis because we're having that
8 back and forth with them. What you see at the end of the day
9 is a permit that the regulatory agencies have said is
10 consistent with the statutory requirements and the regulations
11 that govern that particular industry. So that is a -- it's a
12 great one-liner to continue to say but that's not what's
13 actually happening in practice with the regulatory agencies.
14 We're -- if they get there but oftentimes there are
15 requirements that are put in place that are too expensive or
16 that are -- I mean, you just won't hear from them anymore.
17 You never see -- you're right, you never see a permit that
18 says rejected. What you'll see is it just never -- it ends up
19 not being economic and they stop the process. The things that
20 DEC or ADF&G or DNR put in place are too onerous for them so
21 they stop but every single day we're saying no. Every single
22 day the scientists that work for DEC are working with these
23 folks who are trying to get these permits, telling them what
24 is -- what's acceptable and what isn't. So I think that

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1 that's a -- it's a misnomer and that -- the science that is
2 the foundation for these decisions and the statutes that are
3 foundation for these statutes are what drive the ultimate
4 decisions.

5 PRES. BAUER: All right.

6 COMM. BRUNE: You guys were absolutely more difficult
7 than the legislature was so I can assure you --

8 PRES. BAUER: Thank you.

9 COMM. BRUNE: -- but I appreciate the questions. I'm
10 committed to coming back on a regular basis, to hearing your
11 input, to -- and not just hearing it but to understand it and
12 to doing my best to incorporate your concerns and your
13 recommendations and I not only -- I'm not just saying this, I
14 want your input. So please, jason.brune@alaska.gov and
15 thanks again for the opportunity today.

16 PRES. BAUER: Yeah. Commissioner, thank you. You've
17 been very patient. The room, thank you for being very
18 patient. We've gone well over and -- but I think it was a
19 very healthy discussion so thank you, everyone, for the
20 patience. We're going to take a quick break. We're going to
21 come back at 3:20.

22 (Off record)

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TRANSCRIBER'S CERTIFICATE

I, Linda S. Foley, hereby certify that the foregoing pages numbered 2 through 59 are a true, accurate, and complete transcript of Prince William Sound Regional Citizens' Advisory Council (PWSRCAC) Board of Directors Meeting, May 2, 2019, Valdez, Alaska, transcribed by me from a copy of the electronic sound recording to the best of my knowledge and ability.



April 19, 2019

Linda S. Foley, Transcriber