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ALASKA OIL SPILL COMMISSION

August 11, 1989

Kodiak Meeting

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1 MR. PARKER: We'll have several meetings
2 continuing in September and October on the same theme,
3 we'll also have some workshops in October on the tanker
4 operations, on response, on the institutions that
5 govern the whole transportation of oil. The last stage
6 of our operations developing recommendations which will
7 be contained in the report that we'll make to the
8 legislature on January 8. After we present that we
9 still are in operation until February 15, which time
10 will be used taking our recommendations once again to
11 the communities. In addition to the affected
12 communities we will have hearings in Juneau and also in
13 Anchorage, possibly some other places in Alaska. On the
14 report we'll also plan to have hearings in the
15 westcoast terminals where Valdez shipments, and San
16 francisco, Longbeach, or Los Angeles whatever. Then
17 hearings also in Washington D.C. And we'll give the
18 results of those hearings to the legislature and the
19 governor and the congress on February 14, so in essence
20 we'll be making two reports. First report and then the
21 second report which will contain the results of six
22 weeks of Secure Republic put on our recommendations. Do
23 you want to say anything?

23 MS. HAYES: Well, I guess I'd just like to add
25 an idea for your benefit of the way that we use the in-

1 formation that we've been gathering from the public at
2 our public meetings. What we have found in the
3 communities that we've been in have been very moving
4 stories of peoples actual response and actual people
5 sized problems the people have either solved or things
6 that they've experienced. And that's helped the last
7 few weeks shape the kind of studies we want our
8 consultants to be working on. One example is the way
9 the community strategy for dealing with this unexpected
10 spill, unexpected influx of people and money into their
11 communities, or substitution of one economy for another
12 economy. And we've used the experiences that we've
13 heard from Valdez, and Cordova, and from Seward and
14 Homer, and Kenai, to help shape the way our consultants
15 would be working and writing those stories up. And
16 hopefully we'll be able to provide enough documentation
17 for communities that are affected with any kind of
18 event like this, of guidelines they can do to achieve
19 certain goals. Another project that we've worked on
20 since we've been talking to the public and getting an
21 idea of the things that people have been concerned with
22 or faced with has been the economic impacts that
23 haven't been, aren't easily identified as something
23 that Exxon isn't going to reimburse people for. So
25 again learning more about the types of problems that

1 have been gendered by the spill and also by having the
2 type of impact in some communities has been as though
3 the entire pipeline construction process has been
4 concentrated in just the sound for one summer so far.
5 And so I wanted you to realize that the information
6 that we are getting at the public meetings is
7 definitely being rolled into what the commission is all
8 about. And definitely change our ideas about what we
9 think the recommendations will be come out of the
10 commission. So I'd encourage you to come forward with
11 the stories that you have to tell us and we're very
12 interested in hearing what they are.

13 MR. PARKER: Okay, thank you Meg. The
14 commission plans to, has been encouraging the oil
15 Mayors in our discussions with them to develop as much
16 economic background as possible. And also to detail the
17 social problems that have been created in relation to
18 the spill, they were doing that anyway. We encourage
19 them to continue their efforts to the limit of their
20 capabilities and urge the state agencies to do the same
21 and we will do case studies on individual communities
22 and the effect of the spill on them to explain that we
23 are able to also. So, who would like to come talk to
23 us first? Before we set up for the public testimony,
25 that mike down there should just come up here. You

1 might be more comfortable if people would just take to
2 the table. This seems a little ominous down there than
3 it is up here, so whoever wants to testify first, just
4 come to the table. Yeah.

5 MR. BRUNHOFF: I gather we are on the air on
6 public radio right?

7 MR. PARKER: I see a nod from the back of the
8 room, we are in fact on the air.

9 MR. BRUNHOFF: My name is Fritz Brunhoff. I'm
10 a Kodiak resident, my profession is a construction
11 worker, and I don't have something written here for the
12 oil coalition. I would like to express that I think in
13 the future, that one of the things that we need to do
14 is have the oil companies set aside funds and
15 mechanical methods of cleaning up an oil spill. And an
16 independent contractor that is not affiliated with the
17 oil companies should be hired. A bid should be put out
18 so that this company whether it is on a two year
19 contract basis or a five year, would have an
20 independent attitude toward cleaning up the oils, their
21 responsibility as a company. Most companies that would
22 get involved would. Their reputation depends on how
23 they respond, and I think they would have a much
23 greater incentive and maybe moral attitude towards
25 responding to an oil cleanup. Whereas sometimes oil

1 companies, I can't say this for sure, may have less of
2 an attitude towards something that happens when you
3 deal with corporations. Sometimes what happens is your
4 dealing with an inanity, something that doesn't have
5 actual moral characters, or concerns. And that's
6 something I would like to see as we develop a system
7 for oil cleanup and prevention. That it is dealt with
8 through an independent contractor or body separate from
9 the oil companies, so that they are not influenced by
10 that, which is easy to do. This country, this world is
11 very dependent upon oil products. A lot of people don't
12 realize how far oil products go into our daily basic
13 livelihoods and, just functioning. So that's what I
14 would like to see.

15 MR. PARKER: Okay thank you. Meg.

16 MS. HAYES: Mr. Brunhoff, we have been, many of
17 us on the commission have been schooled quite intensely
18 in the last couple of months about the way the
19 existing process works with the federal on scene
20 coordinator located in Valdez advising Exxon. Do you
21 think the person, the entity, this independent group
22 that you are talking about, would be reporting to a
23 specific federal or state agency, or do you? How do you
23 see the lines of authority go, are you suggesting
25 taking Exxon out of loop, and going directly with

1 somebody like VECO?

2 MR. BRUNHOFF: Well, no. I don't. Well Gosh, I
3 haven't thought about that in a great deal since. What
4 I'm saying right here is maybe I'm incorrect. I'm not
5 looking at the future, not right now at Exxon. A future
6 oil spill, it could be BP, you know it could be any
7 other company that is going in and taking oil out of
8 Valdez. It could also be on the East Coast or down
9 south in California. The coast guard which have always
10 been here in Kodiak, a very wonderful body, I think. I
11 think Admiral. Robins stated at least what I read in
12 the paper in the Anchorage news today. He's kind of
13 locked into the position where he is a coordinator, not
14 a commander. Which restricts his ability a great deal,
15 I think that an independent body, or a contractor does
16 need to answer to either each state, as far as how they
17 are set up, and how they are ready to respond. If they
18 do not respond correctly, then they become liable as
19 well. So as far as on a federal level I couldn't say, I
20 have not been able to study that closely. I strongly
21 feel that the different states, like here at borough or
22 in certain areas they call counties. I think that those
23 bodies should also have input on how it is done, and
23 how it is controlled, or how it's answerable like being
25 a resident here in Kodiak. You know Kodiak Island

1 Borough has been strapped by this situation, we've
2 totally overtaxed our borough the personnel that are
3 available, we don't have the funds available right now
4 to deal with a situation like this, and I see a lot of
5 them every day, and they are doing all they can. One of
6 the problems I see, that I think would be cured by
7 independent contractor. Exxon, they rotate people, they
8 go home, get a rest, they come back. The people here in
9 the borough, the local residents, we don't get a rest.
10 We have to deal with it every day. I think an
11 independent contractor, if they were responsible, then
12 they could come in and relieve the different people of
13 some of these responsibilities rather than like Drum
14 Selby, or Bob Brody have been putting in incredible
15 hours, just on their normal job. Also to be able to
16 deal with a disaster situation like this, than an
17 independent contractor could relieve some of that, then
18 the borough, or the city, or that state, could just
19 oversee it with a coalition that would continue to
20 exist. Possibly even they would be able to step in
21 rather than the borough, but with their guidance and
22 input manage that, so you don't stress any one agency
23 out, which we're doing a tremendous job of doing, or
23 Exxon has or whomever.

25 MR. PARKER: Yeah, you've brought up one of the

1 most important and most difficult test that we are
2 going to have to cope with in our recommendations. The
3 legislature laid the base with its bill establishing an
4 oil spill response corps, or a lot of possibilities. As
5 you remember the independent contractors, many of them
6 are setup to handle oil spill response in the rest of
7 the state except for Valdez in the period of the late
8 seventies and early eighties in response, so they were
9 the backbone of the contingency plans develop or the
10 off shore oil development. And as off shore oil
11 development kind of faded away by those those
12 independent contractors, most of them starved out. They
13 had to mothball their equipment and go on bearing
14 minimum staffs, and that was brought out at a Coast
15 Guard simulation on an oil spill in the Seward
16 Peninsula in May of 1988. So whatever we do with
17 independent contractors, we have to figure out a way of
18 keeping them alive in the interim between spills when
19 they are not working.

20 MR. BRUNHOFF: Right. That's why I'm saying I
21 think that the oil companies that are involved in the
22 Alyeska system should be putting up the equipment and
23 the money so that these companies, or company that have
23 this contract do not go into that situation, do not get
25 strapped financially. Obviously, we've learned from

1 this oil spill that letting something kind of slip back
2 into the weims, to become dormant was a very incorrect
3 thing to do. Although it is going to cost the oil
4 companies money. I think Exxon, from what they've
5 spent, can see that an ounce of prevention is well
6 worth its while down the road. Even though maintaining
7 these companies and look at like ~~rent a deer~~ ^{Red O'Daire}, the
8 gentlemen that has gone out for oil fires. He's an
9 independent contractor, and they pay him top dollars.
10 It is the same situation. You have an oil spill like
11 this, you have people that are trained, they are ready,
12 that have the facilities to work with, the machinery,
13 and the technology, which is obviously, we are way
14 behind in. If the oil companies put the money up for
15 the studies, they can do it within themselves, and
16 transfer it to an independent contractor, whatever.
17 Then you have a company that has an incentive. They can
18 go out there and they are on a basic financial backing
19 of X number dollars per month. Okay if an oil spill
20 happens, they will get so much needed created
21 incentive. Okay, if an oil spill happens, its ten
22 thousand gallons, pays a million dollars, you can clean
23 it up within a five day period. Its like what rent a
23 deer has done, when push comes a shove, and they can't
25 figure out themselves, they go to someone that can do

1 it, that's independent. Those people tend to be
2 footloose and fancy free. They don't cater to any
3 particular company. As far as in the oil business goes,
4 but when they are in trouble, they go to people like
5 that, and I think that is what we need to see happen
6 with oil spills, not only in Alaska, but in our entire
7 nation, and world wide.

8 MR. PARKER: Okay, I think the main thing is
9 that you have to have an immediate response from a
10 highly trained group that can be on the scene
11 immediately, and then if it gets away from you, like
12 this one did, you've got to have larger backup
13 organization which the oil spill response corps has
14 envisioned. You know the problem, we had that backup
15 organization in place, but some of it, as in Cordova
16 had to just go out on its own, without any assurance of
17 any liability, and do it on its own. I think the next
18 time having those elements, from the fishing
19 population. people who can operate boats, and have been
20 trained how to set booms and everything ready to go is
21 of the utmost importance.

22 MR. BRUNHOFF: I think that is one of the great
23 deficiencies in this situation, the fishermen here in
23 Alaska weren't trained to work with booms, but they
25 know the waters, and they know how to work with their

1 own mechanisms. It is like one step away from what they
2 normally do. They didn't facilitate or draw on that
3 resource, they tried to rearrange it, which I think was
4 a major mistake. I could be incorrect, I'm not a
5 professional by any means. Again, one of the things
6 that I think that happened during the onset of the
7 oilspill, and within the first three to seven days
8 afterwards, you have the state government, different
9 agencies that are involved, the federal government, the
10 Coast Guard. Political systems, different agencies,
11 they have certain things they are allowed to do, they
12 have very set guidelines they can deal in, so what you
13 have is like a lot of people said, you have a lot of
14 chiefs, and not enough indians. You have a lot of
15 input, you had a lot of people saying you got to do
16 this, but well, I'm not sure I can make that decision.
17 With an independent contractor that is set up, his
18 responsibility is that if there is an oil spill, he
19 cleans it up. He responds immediately. He doesn't have
20 to get direction from the Coast Guard, he doesn't have
21 to get direction from the state, a borough, the federal
22 government or any other entity. He has responsibility,
23 he's contracted to do it. He responds immediately, it's
23 his responsibility. Their system is set up, and he
25 doesn't need input. I'm in construction.

1 I don't need someone to tell me how to build a home, or
2 building. If they want to hire me, it's based on my
3 past reputation. I'll go out and I'll build a home. If
4 I do it incorrectly, if I make mistakes, then they can
5 approach me, and say okay we have a problem here, but
6 they say do it, and I do it. I think that's what we
7 need to see, and I think through an independent agency,
8 an independent contractor, we would eliminate that
9 situation which I think was a great deal of some of our
10 problems that happened.

11 MS. HAYES: Uh, I noticed...for the audience I
12 noticed on the list that there at least some agency
13 people here, and I would...I noticed that everybody has
14 said they wouldn't like to testify, but I'd sure
15 appreciate somebody from an agency, or federal agency
16 coming forward to explain to us how the Mac group has
17 worked in Kodiak, if there is anybody willing to do
18 that. Because I'm concerned a little bit about having
19 someone who may not be real familiar with an area. I
20 think your point about the fishermen here knowing the
21 most about their waters I think is a real good point.
22 But I think that I'd like to see the State, the Federal
23 Agencies, or the landowners or some group of people
23 that have some local expertise, that would be willing
25 to advise this group that's putting it together. So

1 that we don't have some cowboy from Louisiana coming up
2 sort of thinking that they can show how to do it in
3 Kodiak.

4 MR. SCHRAM: Okay, can you rephrase that again
5 just slightly. The specifics of what you are asking.
6 Arnie Schram with DEC.

7 MS HAYES: Okay, when we've been in the other
8 communities, we've talked to the MAC groups...have come
9 forward and given us a little bit of information about
10 how they were..we understand how they were put together
11 as an advisory to the Federal Hansan Coordinator. But
12 I'm curious about what kind of experiences been in
13 Kodiak, whether you've...whether that process has gone
14 smoothly here and when it was developed, and whether
15 this would be helpful in Mr. Brunhoff's suggestion
16 about having an independent contractor.

17 MR. SCHRAM: Okay. The Inner Agency Group does
18 have some real value in that it brings a lot of
19 different types of resource people together in one
20 place to resolve problems. It's also a source of
21 confusion of course. There's so many agencies that have
22 an interest. Some agencies concern with bird population
23 for example, would not choose to use a particular type
23 of technique in an area that might be very effective
25 for cleaning oil. An example would be a snare. Snare's

1 could conceivably catch a bird, however had they been
2 apploid affectively at the outset of the spill a lot of
3 the oil out there would not be bouncing along from
4 beach to beach in the Kodiak zone. The Inner Agency
5 Groups also can confound the effort. In this situation,
6 one of the big problems was with our Inner Agency
7 Group...it is an advisory group to the Coast Guard, and
8 it is strongly dominated by the Coast Guard. It doesn't
9 have total flexibility with which to make
10 recommendations. In one instance we recommended a high
11 priority for cleanup onto Tugiak Island. That was
12 summarily removed from the priority listing. It wasn't
13 that it wasn't acted upon, it was just removed from the
14 priority list arbitrarily.

15 MS. HAYES: That was a decision made by the
16 Federal.....

17 MR. SCHRAM: That was a decision made somewhere
18 in the federal organization, Which of course is within
19 their rights. They're setting the rules, and they can
20 operate any way they choose, and they can regard or
21 disregard our advice. I think that perhaps the best
22 way, in a future situation to do this, would be to put
23 together one agency from the ground up, as quickly as
23 possible. With representatives from all the agencies
25 that existed as one entity, and not as many separate

1 entities that always have some room for confusion and
2 disagreement between them, whether State, Federal, or
3 whatever. And give them some authority to continue, to
4 pursue the cause of treating the spill, without the
5 potential for those conflicts.

6 MR. BRUNHOFF: Maybe that person, or that
7 entity could man either governing body over like an
8 independent contractor, or is that a ...how do you feel
9 about that?

10 MR. SCHRAM: I think it would have to answer to
11 elected officials somewhere along the line.

12 MR. BRUNHOFF: Yeah, I agree with that.

13 MR. PARKER: I think that making that kind of
14 tie is very possible. One thing that all the MAC
15 Groups, and all the communities have identified is the
16 kind of tension that Arnie just spoke to, which is
17 pretty well dictated by the different missions which
18 agencies are given and the fact that the Federal On
19 Scene Coordinator is a coordinator and not a commander.
20 We had a lot of discussion about this in Cordova
21 yesterday with the Congressman, and the Congress is
22 obviously moving towards a strong Federal Commander.
23 That's what their thinking is at the moment...and uh,
23 other uh, this is the best way to go. Needs a great
25 deal more debate based upon what we've learned in all

1 the communities from the Exxon-Valdez operation,
2 because there were also a good deal of discussions
3 about the problems of having a federal commander who
4 had authority over, and could in fact set aside both
5 State and local regulations when they were a problem in
6 cleaning up an oil spill, and I don't think Congress is
7 prepared to move that far, and if their not, why gets
8 you back to the problem with state and local
9 regulations do interfere with oil spill cleanup as
10 Arnie just defined. Or if indeed within the Federal
11 structure...if the Feds have a problem, why uh, between
12 themselves, why uh, how do you override it. So that, I
13 think you know, there is certainly a role for the
14 independent contractor on this. The danger being, if
15 we're good enough in preventing oil spills, he may
16 starve to death between spills, so we have to figure
17 out some way of keeping him in place in response the
18 same way we do fire departments. There's obviously a
19 strong role for having a strong corps of people who
20 know how to work on the water and who have had at least
21 some initial training in setting booms. Who's going to
22 run all this is going to be a tough call, but we're
23 going to rely, as Meg said on the input from those of
23 you who have been involved in this and working it, so
25 we can make our recommendation from the...having all

1 the information possible available to us.

2 MR. BRUNHOFF: If I can make a comment there,
3 um, and I agree with you in certain aspects. In every
4 area that you're going to have an oil spill, its on a
5 shoreline. In every area that you have a shoreline, you
6 have some sort of fishing industry. So always, if you
7 do not have all the facilities, or equipment there, you
8 have another resource to draw on. I think that is
9 what's failed very drastically here in this oil spill.
10 It's a system that's already setup and it functions on
11 its own. You could easily instead of catching fish,
12 catch oil. Okay, an Independent contractor could
13 coordinate that by staying with that basic system, and
14 I think you are very correct. I think that independent
15 contractor needs, like Arnie said...it has to be
16 responsible to a body, but again I think like we had
17 this time. Too many chiefs...so if a body can be formed
18 that represents all the different agencies, and their
19 concerns. The independent contractor is responsible to
20 them, and how they perform or do not perform. I think
21 you'd resolve a great deal of problems that we've had
22 this time.

23 MR. PARKER: Okay, thank you Fritz.

23 MR. BRUNHOFF: Thank you.

25 MR. PARKER: Thank you Arnie.

1 MR. SCHRAM: My pleasure, good to meet you.
2 MR. PARKER: Okay, next uh...Forest Gould.
3 MR. GOULD: I need to ask you...is this mike
4 on?
5 MR. PARKER: Yeah, that mike is on.
6 MR. GOULD: I just need to ask you, so I don't
7 get too far outside...I want to make sure I don't get
8 too far outside the scope of this commission. Is
9 economic impacts of this spill within your scope?
10 MR. PARKER: Oh, very much so, come on up. We
11 don't get into the nuts and bolts of the claim
12 settlements, but we do have a great interest of the
13 overall economic impact of the spill.
14 MR. GOULD: It's kind of in the area of claims
15 settlements, I can make it real brief here though. I'd
16 like to address...I'm a Kodiak fisherman and boat
17 owner, and I own a salmon seine boat, but I'm one of
18 the people that has been totally excluded from Exxon's
19 claim compensation. I'm not the only one by any means,
20 there's a lot of crewmen also who are in the same
21 category. I believe their current system for
22 determining who is in the claim system is woefully
23 inadequate just like their response to the oil spill I
23 believe was woefully inadequate. I don't know, I just
25 uh, I believe they need to take a real serious look at

1 who, rather than...or take at who was historically
2 involved in the fisheries, rather than just...they've
3 chose to deal with permit holders and as a result of
4 that the permit holders have not necessarily put the
5 people on their claims who would have been the people
6 in the actual fisheries. Who actually fishes is
7 determined by the riggers of the fishery. As a result
8 of the oil spill, and of having a paper fishery, we've
9 ended up with people who should be compensated not
10 being compensated, and other people receiving
11 compensation who wouldn't have even been involved in
12 the fishery if we had of actually fished.

13 MR. PARKER: I talked that over with several
14 people this morning before we left Anchorage in
15 response to the article that was in this mornings daily
16 news on that subject, and my best advice right at this
17 moment is that we pull together very quickly a group
18 from the affected communities and get advice from the
19 limited entry commission and fish and game the people
20 who have historically regulated both the taking and
21 economic side of the fishing industry, and set them
22 down with Exxon's claims people, and I'd say it
23 shouldn't take more than a good, solid one day workshop
23 if you've got everybody at the table very quickly.
25 Because obviously the situation as I understood it does

1 need resolving quickly and has to be done. We can only
2 give advice on this, but that's the best advice I've
3 been able to think of on one mornings reaction to what
4 I heard about it.

5 MS. HAYES: I think this is the kind of thing
6 Mr. Chairman, that we ought to include in our report
7 when we discuss the types of economic impacts that
8 weren't reimbursed by Exxon. For your information,
9 we're forward looking. We're trying to figure out some
10 schemes that will work better for the future if another
11 one of these events happens, and so if prevention
12 measures fail, and we do have another oil spill, I'm
13 giving some guidelines for possible Legislation would
14 be one of the things we'd be looking at.

15 MR. PARKER: I think your point, who
16 historically has been in the fishery is the strongest
17 one. There certainly must be a reasonable way of
18 determining that. We all know there's a lot of people
19 involved in the fisheries who are not permit holders.
20 So I think that's what we've got to address very
21 quickly, so I'll certainly...I discussed it with the
22 oil spill coordinating office this morning, and I'll
23 certainly follow it up with more discussions with them,
23 and with other agencies, other state agencies concerned
25 with fisheries in the state, to see what their thoughts

1 are on it.

2 MR. GOULD: Okay, thank you.

3 MR. PARKER: You bet.

4 MS. HAYES: Thanks very much.

5 MR. PARKER: Okay, Mike Milligan. Hello Mike.

6 MR. MILLIGAN: My name is Mike Milligan, I was a

7 crewman during the 1987 glacier bay up in Cook Inlet.

8 I'm a crewman on a salmon boat here. I'm also a vessel

9 owner, and father of five here in Kodiak. We've been

10 economically impacted as well as anyone, but I have

11 some impressions that I'd like to share with you. In

12 1907 Leffingwell, a man named Leffingwell surveyed the

13 Arctic Coast for the U.S. Geological survey. He was the

14 person that discovered the Geological formations that

15 led them to believe that there would be oil at Prudhoe,

16 and about a mile from his cabin on Flatsman Island,

17 Exxon has a well. It's currently capped right now. I

18 mention this because I see this commission as kind of a

19 survey, a pioneer commission, that hopefully is paving

20 new ground I think as we sit here in this multi-million

21 dollar auditorium that was built with oil money. I

22 think we've reached the point where the honeymoon is

23 over with the oil industry in Alaska, but definitely

23 not the marriage. Things that I'm hearing from the

25 commission, and what I'm hearing from people are total-

1 ly of a defensive nature looking to the Exxon-Valdez,
2 to the Glacier Bay. Trying to prevent the same
3 scenarios from repeating themselves. And I would like
4 to see the commission work more towards establishing
5 state of the art legislation that would probably be
6 used as a guideline for the rest of the country. We get
7 so much of our oil spill, or oil legislation, a bulk of
8 it comes out of the Gulf of Mexico, Texas, Oklahoma,
9 Louisiana, from an industry that saw most of its growth
10 in the 1920's. Alaska is at a point, and America is at
11 a point where I think that if we would look more to the
12 future, we could begin to address some of the issues
13 that aren't just going to effect a few thousand people
14 in Kodiak or a few thousand people in the Gulf of
15 Alaska, but are beginning to effect the Earth. They
16 wouldn't surprise me at all to hear that the pipeline
17 just broke. There's a lot of sulfur. Most of our oil is
18 very low grade oil. It's very new oil. It wouldn't
19 surprise me at all to hear that the pipeline just
20 broke, and there's oil gushing all over the North
21 Slope, or anywhere along the terminal. So far during
22 this oil spill the most effective means we've had to
23 remove the oil out of the water has been to let it
23 evaporate. We've removed most of the toxic substances
25 out of the oil by letting it sit there and evaporate.

1 And that of course is no longer a problem for the
2 people of Alaska, its just been added to the
3 atmosphere. What I'm afraid is that the commission
4 could end up being such a defensive mode is that it
5 could end up making the world safe for oil spills. I
6 really don't want to see anymore oil spills. I think
7 it's obvious that we can't depend on that anymore, but
8 when you have a dozen tankers idling outside of engine
9 broke entrance, and the oil is spreading throughout the
10 sound, and it's on its way to Kodiak, I think there is
11 better pressures that we can put on the oil industry.
12 And I think that if Alaska can take a look to the
13 future, and making the oil industry an ecologically
14 viable as possible, I think that it will streamline the
15 oil industry world wide. And it will definitely
16 streamline it on a national basis. I'd like to
17 encourage the commission to look at it on that broader
18 sense.

19 MR. PARKER: Well thank you, you've touched the
20 chairman at least, on a spot that is close to his
21 heart. Before the Alyeska terminal opened up, the State
22 of Alaska did make an effort which I shared at that
23 time, with the tanker standards task force to
23 substantially upgrade the tankers that were going to
25 operate from Valdez. Because it was very clear to us

1 that the existing situation was not going to upgrade
2 them, neither the industry, nor the Coast Guard was
3 going to make an effort to ensure that the tankers
4 operating from Valdez were at the top of the state of
5 the art. We took that effort in four years a long way.
6 Through the port administration, through half of the
7 Carter Administration, and almost...we achieved some
8 successes, in that the system which began operating at
9 Valdez was probably quite a bit better than it would
10 have been had we not gone into operation, had the State
11 not put pressure on the Federal Government and on the
12 Valdez shippers. The system that began at Valdez, has
13 obviously to everyone, in the twelve years eroded away.
14 And the result was the Exxon-Valdez spill, but that was
15 not the best system that we were aiming for. The
16 improvements in tanker holds and tanker navigation, and
17 tanker power plants and most important in the way in
18 which tankers are crewed and operated, and indeed the
19 management which is brought to them by their respective
20 companies. We didn't get as far as we wished to go on
21 those. We thought we were riding high in the Carter
22 Administration, the President appointed the task force
23 chaired by his closest confident Burt Lance who headed
23 the office management and budget at that time. And by
25 Brock Adams, his secretary of transportation, and we

1 thought we were really going to get double bottoms at
2 least, if not double hulls. And get redundancy built
3 into the tankers, because that is what oil tankers
4 lack, is redundancy in their operations, so that if
5 something fails there is nothing there to replace it.
6 The Coast Guard disagrees with me adamantly on this,
7 and we've already had some fairly tough discussions
8 about it. When I said, you know, the basic principle
9 under which the oil tanker is constructed is the
10 cheapest possible hull to carry the maximum amount of
11 oil possible with the cheapest possible power plant, and
12 the least redundancy, and the smallest crew that you
13 can get by with. The Coast Guard Admiral before us at
14 that time took some umbrage at that, but I'll still
15 stand by that particular statement, that is what has
16 driven the industry ever since the economics of oil in
17 the long haul from the Persian Gulf to Europe and the
18 East Coast of North America began to be the driving
19 force behind tanker design. What happened then was that
20 one of those unfortunate accidents of history, Burt
21 Lance had a little banking scandal and went back to
22 Georgia and was no longer the President's closest
23 advisor. Broch Adams had some problems with the
23 President, and didn't have the power at the White House
25 he had, and the Coast Guard and the State Department

1 went to the Oval Office and said we need one more try
2 with the International Maritime Organization on
3 International Standards. And went to London in 1978 and
4 didn't do very well, I thought they did well. I didn't
5 think they did, but we didn't get the improvements that
6 we wanted at that time. But, the one reason for being
7 in this commission, and the strongest reason for being
8 that we identified at our first meeting was prevention.
9 That means improving the tankers, and the crews that
10 operate them to the maximum that we can identify as the
11 state of the art right now. After that long speech I'll
12 give my colleague a chance to say something.

13 MS. HAYES: Mr. Milligan, I'm sorry, at the
14 beginning did you say you were a crewman on the Glacier
15 Bay?

16 MR. MILLIGAN: No, I was a crewman on a salmon
17 boat in Cook Inlet.

18 MS. HAYES: Okay, so you were affected by that
19 spill too.

20 MR. MILLIGAN: Yes.

21 MS. HAYES: Also, I wanted to make sure that I
22 understood your charge to the commission. You
23 said...you made the analogy about...by looking at this
23 beautiful auditorium that the honeymoon is over but the
25 marriage isn't... are you suggesting that we sue for

1 divorce...are you suggesting that we have a re-
2 examination of our energy policy?

3 MR. MILLIGAN: I don't think we'd be able to
4 sue for divorce. I don't think it's an option, and as
5 you know, there's a lot of oil potential up here and
6 all of its not on State land. Most of its on Federal
7 land. No, I...It would be nice if we could, but I think
8 we're going to have to except the fact that the United
9 States just uses a lot of oil, and as long as there is
10 a lot of it in Alaska, we're going to have an oil
11 industry here whether you like it or not. I just hope
12 that the commission looks at the broader sense. If
13 they're going to decide that they don't want tankers at
14 all and they're going to build a pipeline through
15 Canada, I want to see the stacks on the stripping
16 plants in the McKenzie River closely monitored.
17 Those...all spills aren't in the water, all spills
18 aren't oil...oil related from the oil industry. What I
19 would like to see in the long run is Federal
20 regulations that regulate national oil companies
21 abroad. I don't want to see Exxon spilling oil in
22 Indonesia any more than they spill it in Prince
23 Williams Sound. The potential I see for this commission
23 in this State, in the Country, is to very firmly affect
25 the oil industry world wide. I think a lot of the oil

1 industry will be receptive to this too. They want to
2 have a clean business also. MR. PARKER: Well thank
3 you for that, we'll do our darndest. I uh...Glacier
4 Bay, any thing else you'd care to share with us on
5 Glacier Bay? We're going to investigate that after math
6 of Glacier Bay just to compare what went on after that,
7 and to see whether it stimulated anything that led up
8 to Exxon-Valdez and so forth.

9 MR. MILLIGAN: Part of the...I think if, uh, we
10 hadn't had such a rosy salmon season following the
11 spill, I think a lot of us up in the inlet would had
12 done a better job raising the stink and probably would
13 have been able to put more things in place that maybe
14 would have prevented this one. Right after the spill,
15 this spotter pilot for our salmon group was one of the
16 first people to report the spill. The tanker had holed
17 itself in the lower inlet, and ran all the way up the
18 inlet dripping oil. I'm not really clear exactly what
19 happened at the dock, but nobody really knew about it
20 until our spotter pilot called it in to the department.
21 I flew over that spill with the spotter pilot I think
22 about two days after the spill we were looking for
23 salmon. What impressed me was seeing the curve of the
23 globe off in the distance, and oil practically
25 everywhere you could see, and you here on the news that

1 they've got a skimmer on it. To hear that there is a
2 skimmer on it might sound good in the news paper, but
3 when you see it, it's kind of like seeing somebody at
4 the end of a gymnasium with a vacuum cleaner telling
5 you they're cleaning up the gym you know. We definitely
6 need more skimmer capacity, but I...at any rate. I'd
7 like to thank you guys for taking your time, I see in
8 here that you're not getting paid, so anyway.

9 MS. HAYES: Thanks very much.

10 MR. PARKER: Well, I can't think of a better
11 use for our time, at least this year. Thanks again.
12 Okay, Pat McClain.

13 MR. McCLAIN: My name is Pat McClain, and I'm a
14 Kodiak resident for approximately fifteen years, and
15 for the last three or four months I've been doing work
16 on Tugidak Island, which Exxon does not want to clean
17 up. I've been through many, many, many meetings with
18 them, and there's been a lot of promises made, but
19 they've never ever done anything on it. It is getting
20 very serious down there, I talked to some of my people
21 this morning, and in the last two days they've picked
22 up between, this is six people, they've picked up
23 between three and four thousand pounds of moose, and
23 dead birds, sea otters. It is a real serious problem
25 down there.

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MR. PARKER: What are they doing?

MR. McCLAIN: Well, Exxon has agreed to pick it up, and their boat, the Fish and Game boat has been picking things up. There's only one point on the island they can do it, and that's in the lagoon. Its called Pickup Point, and it's the only place on the whole Island you can land a boat safely. So its...proximity of getting around that island and working is just about impossible doing it in a boat. You have to do it from a land based operation. But it has killed everything on it, a lot of birds. They're saying a couple of thousand birds, I would say fifteen thousands birds have died down there, as much as they say the whole impact is. I've got pictures of piles of birds. Nine dead whales you can't talk about, that's kind of serious there. A person I wished he could be here today is John Garber, but he had to go to work for VECO so he could make enough money to live all winter. He lives on Tugidak year round, and I have a copy of his log here, that when the oil first hit, and when he was crying for help, and not getting anything but saying, "Yeah, we'll be on the scene." It never happened, and I don't know the reason why...I heard the reason that they weren't going to clean it up is that there was a Federal Guide order from the U.S. Attorney General's Office, because

1 of the dead whales, that there was a lawsuit over that.
2 So we could not talk about the whales. There's seals
3 molting down there that have oil all over them.
4 There's, everything's got oil on it, nothing's clean.
5 They're going to be leaving here now. This is what I
6 don't understand, they're letting them leave, what was
7 it, Admiral Youlst said that Exxon would do anything
8 that they told them to do. They just said they're
9 leaving on the fifteenth whether or not it is cleaned
10 up or not. It doesn't make sense. Tugidak is a very
11 critical are for fishing. Its got a crabber running
12 down there. There's a lot of crabbing going on. And it
13 is affecting everything. The way that island is
14 situated, the water swirls in that area, so you get a
15 lot of death down there. Plus, the crew that's working
16 down there were led to believe by me, through Exxon
17 that they were going to be paid, and Exxon denies that
18 they ever said a word about it. So they are still
19 working with no thought of getting a paycheck. I don't
20 believe in anything that Exxon says. I think they are a
21 bunch...very dishonest people. I believe that the
22 Federal Government should take this over and do it
23 right, clean it up. This oil is going to be here for a
23 long, long time. The oil that was from the French, it
25 took five years before it dissipated enough where they

1 got any life back. This water is a lot different from
2 that water over there. It is a lot colder, so it is
3 going to take much longer. I believe it will. Did I
4 miss anything?

5 MS. HAYES: Well, Mr. McClain when we were
6 chatting out in front when I was tardy coming in, you
7 said you left Fairbanks because you didn't like what
8 the pipeline was doing to the town. So after that, did
9 you come down here? Is that your migration?

10 MR. McCLAIN: Yes I did, I spent one year in
11 Anchorage, and then I came here.

12 MS. HAYES: When you came here did you
13 anticipate that you would be affected by the terminal
14 at Valdez?

15 MR. McCLAIN: No, I sure didn't. The reason I
16 left Fairbanks was because of all the influx of oil
17 people that ruin that town.

18 MS. HAYES: I guess I want to make a point of
19 that, because it is one of the reasons that I find the
20 stories from Kodiak so moving. That I understand, and
21 I've been long familiar with Cordova's plight about the
22 pipeline and the terminal, and well acquainted with
23 that communities intense feeling about oil pollution.
23 But I think that in some ways Kodiak is a more moving
25 situation because most people probably never expected

1 that Kodiak would be as impacted as it has been by what
2 happened up in Prince Williams Sound. I'm sure that
3 there's a lot of people who are looking a little
4 farther over their shoulder than they used to be. My
5 back yard just got a little bit bigger than it was
6 before.

7 MR McClain: Its not very comical, but at the
8 beginning of this, well it would never make it up this
9 far. They're going to contain it. They've got sweepers
10 down there. I think this cleanup up here is really a
11 farce, because they're not even trying to clean up the
12 big stuff there. They clean up tar balls, and with a
13 force of four hundred and some people, covering seven
14 thousand miles of beaches. That is just unreal. You
15 could work them night and day for ten years and they
16 couldn't get it. It needs a lot more people, and it
17 needs to be done right. I need the sweepers to pick
18 them up out here, and they haven't used one here, I
19 don't believe they have. If the Coast Guard let's them
20 get out of here, they'll never be back.

21 MR. PARKER: Yeah, the State has asked them to
22 stay at our teleconference, which some of you may have
23 heard of thursday last...thursday from a week ago from
23 yesterday, we strongly asked them to maintain a strong
25 presence over the winter. Yesterday in Cordova, the

1 subject was brought up again, and all three times, both
2 at our meeting with Otto Harrison, the head of the
3 Valdez office, skated off the question. Bill Stevens,
4 the president of Exxon yesterday in Cordova, skated off
5 whether they would really stay or not, and he did that
6 before in the congress, two weeks ago at the
7 congressional hearings. I would say that, based on
8 everything I have heard, both in our hearings, and in
9 the Congressional hearings, that there is not yet any
10 strong commitment to stay that I have heard. How about
11 you Meg, have you heard any strong.....

12 MS. HAYES: Anybody making reservations.....

13 MR. PARKER: Yeah, its been kind of skating
14 around it, and they've been asked very strongly. We
15 asked very strongly, the Congressman asked them very
16 strongly, but they have not committed yet.

17 MS. HAYES: Mr. McCLAIN I thought I understood
18 this process, and obviously I didn't. How come Exxon
19 has decided that you shouldn't be paid, your crew
20 shouldn't be paid for picking up oil. They say that we
21 were never hired, even though they sent me to their
22 claims office, and told me how to fill out the claim,
23 so we would be reimbursed. Then evidently, something
23 went wrong with that, and they just kind of kept
25 telling me, well, we've got to clean up the island

1 sooner or later, and you live there, you'll clean it
2 up. I was informed that if it was ever cleaned up, it
3 would be done by VECO. VECO does all cleanup.

4 MS. HAYES: Would you be willing to say for us,
5 what you think you're loosing this summer?

6 MR. McCLAIN: Well, I can tell you how much
7 I've borrowed this summer, I borrowed \$56,000 dollars
8 to do this on their promises.

9 MS. HAYES: I'm not familiar with the names of
10 all our islands, is this the same island that the
11 gentlemen from DEC identified as one that was targeted
12 by the local MAC group for cleanup.

13 MR. McCLAIN: Yes, its one of the Trinity
14 Islands, 110 miles south of here. Its a national
15 wildlife refuge. It is a beautiful little island,
16 except its not a very friendly island. Its not a place
17 to go...it blows hard, and it storms. It is one of the
18 best crabbing areas for dungeness, which they are
19 fishing now. It does have a nice lagoon in it, but you
20 can't bring a boat into it very easily at all.

21 MS. HAYES: Thank you very much.

22 MR. McCLAIN: Thank you.

23 MR. PARKER: Yeah, well keep on this, we heard
23 also that the Barons, there is no cleanup proceeding on
25 the Barons, and we'll do our best to keep the pressure

1 on to see that the Bird Islands, which are obviously
2 difficult of access...but which do need to be cleaned
3 are cleaned up. Okay, Laura Hughes.

4 MS. HUGHES: Well, Walter, you and I have been
5 doing this for twenty years, its not going to ever get
6 over is it?

7 MR. PARKER: Well, Alaska will continue
8 producing oil for the next hundred years unless we find
9 a new means of propulsion and heating, so, who can say.

10 MS. HUGHES: Who can say, you and I have to
11 keep meeting like this. I came to Kodiak three months
12 ago from Sitka. I lost my family in February, had
13 nothing to do, and I did a tremendous amount of
14 archealogical work as you know Walter, during the land
15 claims. I talked to Exxon, and they said if you come
16 up, then we'll give you a job. I feel they probably
17 have forgotten more about the archaeology of Kodiak
18 than anybody knows. I felt I could be very
19 constructive. I got here, and they found out that yeah,
20 I really did know more than anybody else, so I was not
21 welcome. I've just stayed, and tried to become part of
22 things, knowing that if this happened to southeastern,
23 we would expect this area to help us. We have had one
23 very positive thing that southeast villages took it
25 upon themselves, knowing that there is only about six

1 weeks left to gather food. To collect subsistence
2 foods, and Mayor Andy Lee, of Angoon arrived in Port
3 Graham last night with salmon seaweed and berries. And
4 it was kind of interesting that in the process of the
5 gathering, Angoon was able to close their police
6 department. Since then I've had calls from Hoonah, my
7 hometown Skagway, Haines, Kluckwan, Kake, the City and
8 Borough of Sitka, and Craig, that are all in the
9 process of collecting to send the food up here, which
10 is great, because there's... everything in the island
11 is dead. Walter, I went out looking for my native foods
12 myself, and everything was dead. I've eaten subsistence
13 foods all my life, and my health is not good, because
14 I'm not getting them. There is nothing here to eat, of
15 the type of food that we're used to. The thing that
16 bothers me, and I'd talked to your people four
17 different times when you told me that you had subpoena
18 powers, was please lift the gag order on these whales.
19 There's somewhere between twenty-four and twenty-eight
20 dead whales on these islands. In last nights paper
21 there was an article about a sow bear that had been
22 found dead at Uganik, was two yearling cubs, and there
23 was no evidence of any gunshot, fight or anything.
23 She's dead. We need to know what's killing these
25 animals. Kodiak has four times the bird and animal

1 death of Prince Williams Sound. According to Fish and
2 Wildlife, it has doubled since the start of this spill.
3 Mr. McClain who just spoke before me was talking about
4 the Shearwaters. I guess there's thousands and
5 thousands of dead Shearwaters on Tugidak. This is
6 unusual, because you usually can't kill those things
7 with an ax. The foxes are dying, the beaver. I've seen
8 two dead deer. We need to know , positively, is this
9 oil related, or is this Exxon's favorite statement.
10 It's a natural phenomena. We're still waiting to get
11 tests back on food stuff from the villages. I think
12 these are major concerns. Nobody's talking about what
13 we are going to do to replace these things, and I think
14 that's where the commission comes in. You have the
15 power to start something in progress for rebuilding.
16 Instead of everybody being so depressed and unhappy,
17 maybe we could get a little joy out of thinking that
18 next year we can rebuild. Bring baby birds from
19 someplace else and start over again, just to put it in
20 a nutshell. Also, they announced in the newspaper on
21 Monday I believe, that Kodiak has four hundred thirty-
22 one workers. There's three thousand miles of lightly
23 oiled beach. You have pictures of some of the light
23 oil. Four hundred thirty-one people can't do it, when
25 they've got nine thousand in Prince Williams Sound. The

1 village people aren't allowed to go out, the seiners
2 aren't allowed to go on the beaches although they are
3 extremely experienced. The set netters are being
4 rotated. The crews are being cut back. We don't
5 understand it, and maybe you can get some answers. I
6 ought to send that one to Bush so he can see what
7 happened to our national symbol.

8 MR. PARKER: Laura, Exxon sent a group out to
9 the villages on our last visit here. They were here
10 during the briefing. Have you heard anything of the
11 results of that group which was sent out to tell
12 everyone that there was no problem with contamination
13 of their subsistence resources. I haven't had any
14 feedback on their efforts.

15 MS. HUGHES: I talked to two people from
16 Ouizinkie just before I came to this meeting, they
17 still don't know if the food is okay, and they're not
18 eating it. In fact the two that I met with, Andy
19 Anderson, the head of the native organization, and Zack
20 Chuchunof, the Mayor. They're talking about taking
21 their boats, going to southeastern to get foods. Going
22 to Bristol Bay for seafood, or shellfish because I
23 guess they haven't had a red tide yet. No one is
23 convinced that the foods are safe to eat.

25 MR. PARKER: Okay, we uh.....

1 MS. HUGHES: I think we've been waiting for
2 three months for tests back from some laboratories, and
3 are still waiting.

4 MR. PARKER: Okay, well uh, we're going to ask
5 Exxon directly about that, but I'm interested about
6 getting as much information as I can on that particular
7 effort before I sit down with them again.

8 MS. HAYES: You've brought up a couple of
9 things that we've...that have echoed what other people
10 have said, although you put a new twist on it. I'm
11 going to have to think about this a little bit. One of
12 the observations that I made early on in our public
13 meetings was that it seemed that the state government
14 had funded a great deal of money for assessing the
15 damage to fish and wildlife populations, and actually
16 seemed almost skiddish about funding anything to deal
17 with the changes that the human population was
18 experiencing as part of the spill. You've pointed out
19 to me that these are related, but I will remind myself
20 to continue to ask Fish and Game, as well as DEC, the
21 great amount of money that is being spent on liability
22 assessment, and also on the claims that the state and
23 federal agencies will be making about what damages
23 incurred. I'll be asking also what kind of
25 questions...how they're going to use this information

1 for making management decisions. As you pointed out,
2 next year, hopefully, we can start doing something to
3 replace it. Not just merely limit the damage, but
4 hopefully beginning to have some scheme for bringing
5 some of these things back. Nobody has talked to us
6 about that yet, and I'm glad you brought it up. I'll
7 try to remember that.

8 MS. HUGHES: It has to be addressed, because
9 you could smell in the wind today the change in the
10 weather. Winter is coming. That was the fall smell
11 today. There's about six weeks left. The winter is
12 going to be extremely difficult. People don't have
13 food, they don't have money. Exxon has even done the
14 villages the favor of taking their driftwood down to
15 Oregon to turn it into presto logs, for another Exxon
16 subsidiary company of course. People need something to
17 look forward to, or they're never going to make it
18 through the winter. You and I have talked privately,
19 and at great length about the mental attitudes, and the
20 increase in Alcoholism, the increase in child abuse.
21 These are such critical concerns, and I do have to say
22 at this point...I would like to interject, and make
23 this part of the record. Thank God for Mike Harmon in
23 Juneau, this man is spending twenty three and a half
25 hours a day working on these problems. He's in constant

1 touch, and he's uplifted me so much morally, I just
2 can't tell you how I feel about this guy.

3 MR. PARKER: well, Mike and I have done a lot
4 of things together. I always go back to him when
5 something tough needs doing. He's been trying to get
6 here, he got weathered out on his last effort to
7 uh.....

8 MS. HUGHES: Yes, he slept in the airport, on
9 the floor....

10 MR. PARKER:and uh, he is still trying,
11 so. I'm very glad that Harmon is working in the oil
12 spill, coordinating office too.

13 MS. HUGHES: And I'd also like to compliment
14 DEC. This is really an outstanding group of people.
15 They try and elay our fears. They work hard...I think
16 the last time you were here Walt, they were working at
17 ten o'clock at night. They really try desperately to
18 make us understand that something really might be
19 edible, although they're not quite sure. They are just
20 great people to work with. It's nice to have them when
21 you are faced with the Gestapo tactics effects...that's
22 all I can say the last group of people that acted like
23 Exxon were the Gestapo.

23 MR. PARKER: Regarding your archaeology, Edgar
25 Blochford testified at Cordova yesterday that he was

1 able to get a reburial on one of the beach cleanups.
2 They washed out a burial sight, and he was able to get
3 them to have another burial, complete with necessary
4 religious rights, and I think he got that out of Exxon,
5 so uh.....

6 MS. HUGHES: That's very interesting.....

7 MR. PARKER: You might give Edgar a call.....

8 MS. HUGHES: I will, I'll call him tonight,
9 that's really good news. If there's any way at all the
10 commission can bring more state archaeologists in under
11 the Department of Natural Resources, we'd be very
12 grateful. Young Dave McMahan is here all by himself. A
13 fellow named Reager is coming in so Dave can take a few
14 days off. They've got a lot of...well, this is really
15 the archaeological heart of Alaska. This is Alaska's
16 Egypt. You can't walk ten feet without into something
17 of great value, and the pre-history is incredible. The
18 state has to cough up the money to get in more
19 archaeologists under DNR.

20 MR. PARKER: Okay, I'll rely on my ex-DNR
21 colleague to contact some of her old colleagues and see
22 what we can do there.

23 MS. HUGHES: Even if they're interns. There's
23 quite a...interns are always available.

25 MR. PARKER: Yeah, we used a lot of interns on

1 the pipeline. Interns work hard, and still have lots of
2 enthusiasm.

3 MS. HUGHES: I thank you for coming.

4 MR. PARKER: Thank you Laura. Theodore Nyman.

5 MR. NYMAN: Hello.

6 MR. PARKER: Hello.

7 MR. NYMAN: MY name is Theodore Nyman. I am the
8 Secretary of the Kodiak Crewmembers Association. What I
9 brought here today was some information regarding what
10 the Kodiak Crewmembers Association has been doing in
11 the community to address some of the problems as
12 related to the oil spill. I've got a packet of
13 information which we have been distributing to local
14 crewmembers, and permit holder boat owners. Which I
15 think is pertinent to the oil commission, and also to
16 other members of the community. I would like to read
17 this cover letter. I've got two cover letters here I'd
18 like to read. It gives you a brief, well not a very
19 brief, but an overview of what the association has been
20 doing. Also contained in this packet are some of the
21 forms which I can make available to you as well...for
22 your analysis.

23 MR. PARKER: Okay, I'm sure the radio audience
23 will be interested in knowing what's in those letters,
25 so go ahead.

1 MR. NYMAN: Okay, The Kodiak Crewmembers
2 Association is forming, in part, to present an
3 organized, and unified body for negotiation of
4 crewmen's's claims with Exxon. Exxon is paying poultry
5 sums to permit holders and crews at this time. And at
6 this time, making no stipulations to deal with the
7 unemployed crewmember. Many crewmen who would normally
8 be working, building up a winter grub stake, are living
9 on limited means, and trying to cope with the expenses
10 of living in town, and not on the fishing grounds.
11 These people must receive interim claims. Fishing for
12 survival in a decent manner. To accomplish this, we are
13 compiling information from crewmen, and all fisheries,
14 who feel that they are affected by the Exxon-Valdez oil
15 spill. Included in this packet are some pertinent
16 questionnaires. The answers to which will be very
17 helpful in negotiation with Exxon. With this
18 information, we'll be able to paint an accurate picture
19 of the crewmembers situation, and hopefully facilitate
20 accurate and timely monetary settlements. The
21 information in the questionnaires may be highly
22 personal. I assure you that any who fill them out, the
23 information received will be held in the strictest
23 confidence among the officers and staff of the Kodiak
25 Crewmembers Association, KCA, used generally as statis-

1 tics or anonymously, and specific examples. Your input
2 will become and intrecal part of the package presented
3 to Exxon for settlement negotiation. We stress that all
4 the information submitted to the KCA be completed with
5 care and accuracy to ensure proper representation.
6 Green crewmembers, whether employed on a fishing vessel
7 or not, should also complete these forms. While their
8 cases may be harder to document, they too are an
9 important part of our fisheries. They represent a
10 significant part of the work force needed to harvest
11 all of Alaska's fisheries. Without them the fleet could
12 not operate at its current level. Cooperation for
13 unified front is the primary tool we have to use
14 against Exxon. Exxon certainly has a well research ed
15 plan for dealing with the impacted communities, and
16 splitting our forces seems to be foremost on their
17 agenda. KCA recognizes this, and is concerned in
18 establishing and maintaining a viable and organized
19 body to see this ordeal through to its conclusion. We
20 are working with groups such as the UFMA, the Seiners
21 Association, and the Kodiak Island and Alaska Native
22 Coastal Coalition. Contact with these groups has been
23 established, and our future cooperative efforts holds
23 much promise for attainment of fair compensation.
25 Included in our packet, are forms of intent, or consid-

1 eration to hire. To be used by crewmen, who have been
2 able to sign onto a boat this summer, due to the oil
3 spill. They should be presented to the appropriate
4 skippers and returned to us. Our legal counsel has
5 advised us that this information will be helpful in
6 mounting the Unemployed Crewmen's Case VS. Exxon.
7 Compiled with the remainder of the packets information
8 we'll be able to paint a clearer and broader picture
9 for Exxon of traditional crewmen's employment
10 opportunities. In addition, it would help the Kodiak
11 Crewmember's Association immensely, if local Liaisons
12 could be established between communities and our
13 headquarters in Kodiak. The liaison officer would be
14 responsible for form distribution, collection, and
15 forwarding to our Post Office Box. Also he, or she
16 could help us, or keep us abreast of any local
17 developments that may have a bearing on the outcome on
18 our present situation. as liaison officer, you may also
19 be asked to come to Kodiak for participation in
20 important negotiations in organizational meetings with
21 Exxon. Please make these forms available to crewmembers
22 in your area. They may be returned to the Kodiak P.O.
23 Box 8375 for processing. Thank you for your cooperation
23 on such complex and difficult issue. Signed James
25 Bouler, the chairman of the Kodiak Crewmembers Associa-

1 tion, Patrick Daily, Vice Chairman, and Theodore Nyman,
2 the Secretary. The second document I'd like to read, is
3 a brief explanation of the forms that we have in this
4 packet, and some filling out information. Precede?

5 MR. PARKER: Yeah, if you think it'll
6 contribute to.....

7 MR. NYMAN: Okay, I wrote this letter about a
8 week ago, and when I wrote it, I had the feeling that
9 Exxon was going to deal with the people who have fallen
10 through the cracks. Through this current claims
11 process. However, as in the Anchorage times today, they
12 have stipulated that they will not make any changes in
13 their policy to deal with unemployed crewmen at this
14 moment. we feel that if that is the case, unemployed
15 crewmen, and crewmen alike must join our organization,
16 and fill out the appropriate forms, so that we can, in
17 a worst case scenario, enter litigation with Exxon to
18 receive some compensation for you. What you need to do
19 in order to join our association is this. Fill out and
20 return a completed crewmen's questionnaire, a form
21 which documents your past fishing history. Make sure
22 this document is clear and concise, and that all the
23 questions are answered completely. Number two, fill out
23 and return a completed intent to hire form. The
25 importance of this is to convey to Exxon is that you

1 indeed would've found employment had there not been an
2 oil spill this summer. Please note on the form there
3 are two different choices for the boat owner. Quote,
4 "would have hired, would consider hiring". KCA feels
5 that the "would have hired" statement is better, and
6 would probably make your case stronger, however, "would
7 consider hiring" statement, also shows the boat owner's
8 intent, and will also be beneficial. Number three, pick
9 up and get filled out a boat owner, permit holder
10 questionnaire. This form is needed to document the
11 fishing industry's hiring processes, and the existence
12 of crewmember turnover. These forms need to be brought
13 to the boat owners, along with the intent to hire
14 forms, so that your case can be properly documented.
15 KCA will take this information, tabulate it, and make a
16 presentation to Exxon officials in the near future. The
17 KCA feels that it would be best to get the above
18 documentation to boat owner, permit holder
19 questionnaire, and the intent to hire form from the
20 same boat owner. This will provide continuity to your
21 file, and make the compensatory process easier, however
22 if this is not possible, having forms filled out by
23 separate boat owners will also be adequate. It is
23 important to convey to the boat owner, that when he
25 fills out these forms for you, he is in no way going to

1 place this current claim with Exxon in jeopardy. We
2 must work together with the boat owners, for it is in
3 both of our interests to attain compensation for all of
4 those involved in the commercial fishing industry. It
5 is the KCA's sincere hope that through this
6 documentation, the chances of attaining monetary
7 compensation for unemployed crewmen will be greatly
8 increased and come to pass in the near future. Also
9 included in this packet is a...its a not complete
10 mailing list of the KCA's current membership, and if
11 you just look down at, briefly that you'll see the
12 number of unemployed people that jump out at you.
13 Currently we have about, we're running about thirty-
14 five percent of our membership are unemployed. These
15 people are documented fishermen. They've participated
16 in fishing in Kodiak, and Alaska for the past, some of
17 them the past five or ten years, who are without jobs.
18 We feel that they need to be compensated somehow
19 because of this oil spill episode.

20 MR. PARKER: Okay, Meg do you.....

21 MS. HAYES: How long has your organization been
22 in existence?

23 MR. NYMAN: Our organization formed, originally
23 in the middle of June.

25 MS. HAYES: And these, the list of people that

1 you just showed us are people that are already members
2 of your organization?

3 MR. NYMAN: Yes maam., but this is not a
4 complete list, we've got approximately hundred fifty
5 names right now, and are in the process of collecting
6 these forms, which are at the following locations. If
7 you are a crewmen and haven't attended our meetings,
8 we're having another meeting, Sunday at 7pm at Tony's
9 Bar, the bar will be closed, and set up for a meeting.
10 we will have forms there, however if you can't make the
11 meeting, there are forms at the General Store in
12 Chiniak, in Bells Flats, the convenience store, you can
13 pick up forms there, also at the local watering holes,
14 the B&B, Tony's, and I believe that's it. Those are
15 places in town where you can go, and talk to the bar
16 maid, or to the clerk behind the counter, and ask them
17 for these forms, and get them filled out.

18 MR. PARKER: The bulk of your members that are
19 employed, are they fishing, or are they working the
20 spill?

21 MR. NYMAN: I'd say the bulk of them are, in
22 some capacity, working the spill, or else out on
23 charter.

23 MR. PARKER: Okay, anything else Meg? Okay,
25 thanks very much. You know as I said earlier, we'll do

1 what we can to get the...pull together a group to get
2 some action out of the state on this. I think it is a
3 very similar situation to what the oil Mayors faced,
4 when they tried to get an agreement with Exxon, on what
5 the reimbursement was going to be to the communities.
6 So we've been working that particular problem for three
7 months without a great deal of success, but we will
8 keep working this problem, as well as the mayors
9 problem to the limit that we can. Its an area where
10 everybody's pressure has got to be brought in so we'll
11 weigh in with everyone else, but I can't promise that
12 we have any magic solutions anymore than anyone else,
13 but we do have access to the powers that be in Juneau,
14 so we'll make them aware of our feelings on this.

15 MR. NYMAN: Okay, well I'll leave these forms
16 with you, and thank you for letting me address this
17 form.

18 MR. PARKER: Okay, next, Tricia Gartland. Come
19 on up.

20 MS. GARTLAND: I've prepared a statement, can I
21 read it?

22 MR. PARKER: Sure, go ahead, read it.

23 MS. GARTLAND: And I brought you this also.

23 MR. PARKER: Yeah, okay. Could you state your
25 name again? I'm not sure I got your last name.

1 MS. GARTLAND: My name is Tricia Gartland.
2 MR. PARKER: Gartland, okay.
3 MS. GARTLAND: A ten year resident of Kodiak
4 Island. On March 24, the Exxon Valdez, rammed into
5 Bligh Reef exposing eleven million gallons of crude
6 oil, and exposed the truth that this nation is grossly
7 unprepared to effectively contain and recover a spill
8 of this magnitude. The catastrophic nature of the
9 Prince William Sound oil spill has served to reveal the
10 shallowness and superficiality of so much of our daily
11 lives, our preoccupation with an enslavement of means
12 to a neglect of ends. During the first ten days of the
13 oil spill, the people of Kodiak received many confusing
14 messages. Alaskan's chief Oceanographer, Dr. Thomas
15 Royer, stated that the oil spill was in a direct
16 collision course with Kodiak Island. as we heard these
17 very words, we were reading in the Alaskan's
18 Fisherman's Journal, that Exxon had refused the help of
19 Marco Boat Builders in Seattle. Bill Lurch, head of
20 Marco's pollution control division is seattle, had
21 built twenty- four class V skimmers for the U.S. Navy.
22 Each one capable of recovering two-hundred gallons of
23 oil per minute. I quote Mr. Lurch, "We've offered to
23 help, but Exxon won't let us help." We fully recognize
25 that picking up the oil is relatively the easiest part

1 of the battle. The critical link, obviously, is some
2 place to offload this prodigious recovery. This is
3 probably the only spill in the world with thirteen
4 empty ships standing by. Totally equipped to receive
5 oil, even dirty oil laden with oil and debree. More
6 critically, the Navy was not able to provide much help,
7 since President Bush withheld Federal assistance until
8 two weeks after the spill. Consequently, twenty-two
9 class V skimmers stayed on stand-by for two weeks. If
10 the oil companies and leaders of this nation continue
11 to demonstrate this type of key stone cop response,
12 surely our welcome on this earth is numbered. I believe
13 denial has played a large part in Exxon's response. A
14 denial that a spill could ever occur, a denial that
15 there were resources available to respond to this
16 spill. A denial that this oil spill would reach and
17 pollute Kodiak Island. Once the oil escaped Prince
18 Williams Sound, it was only a matter of time before
19 Kodiak Island and the Alaskan Peninsula would serve as
20 a convenient, giant absorbent pad for the Nations
21 largest oil spill. On page 5 of Exxon's response plan
22 for Kodiak Island, Otto Harrison states that, through
23 teamwork, and continued cooperation with local
23 resident, our mutual goal can be accomplished. Had
25 Exxon truly listened to local residents, I believe the

1 impact on Kodiak Island would have been less severe.
2 But Kodiak Island was denied this environmental
3 respect. The Kodiak sane fleet working together with
4 our larger vessels, could have made a serious dent in
5 free floating oil recovery. Instead the smaller boat
6 sat in the harbor, and the larger vessels working the
7 Shelikoff Straits, had one containment vessel to
8 offload their recovery. I believe Kodiak Island was
9 denied a serious free floating oil recovery plan, and
10 had been continually neglected in its needs as an area
11 seriously impacted by this spill. As a local resident
12 who has watched Exxon's response since late March, the
13 Harrison memo came as no surprise. Once again a denial
14 that Kodiak was impacted and needed assistance past
15 September 15. Does Mr. Harrison believe that all the
16 oil remaining in the water, and on the beaches will
17 disappear on September 16? Wouldn't life be grand if it
18 did? The time has come for people of Alaska to begin to
19 take back our power, and make it visible through public
20 authority. Public authority, which has the oil spill
21 catastrophe demands, must rededicate itself to
22 democratic principles, amongst which it is now clear,
23 the maintenance of cultural and ecological integrity
23 must be given a position of the first rank. One of the
25 questions that has bounced around like a hot potato has

1 been, "Who will except the responsibility to see that
2 the job is done, and the job is done right?" To date, I
3 have not seen anyone truly except this responsibility.
4 I would like to see citizens advisory groups formed in
5 each affected community. Allow the people affected by
6 this spill, to have a say in monitoring the operation,
7 and provide advice and recommendations. We are already
8 seeing volunteer groups starting clean-up operations to
9 fill the large gaps Exxon will leave. An example is in
10 Morse Cove, around Port Dick. These people feel that
11 too much oil has been left for mother nature to clean
12 up. Hence, they will do it themselves without Exxon.
13 God bless them, and their tremendous spirit. a winter
14 task force is needed in Kodiak. The oil is continuing
15 to coat our beaches, marine mammals will continue to be
16 affected, and the oil spill is still in a dynamic
17 state. I feel the clean-up operation is far from over.
18 Exxon wants out, and I'm counting the days to when
19 Exxon will pull stakes and leave. If the clean-up
20 operation is placed on a local level, I feel all the
21 people who care will be allowed to participate. The
22 operations will be a lot more flexible, and our
23 community can ban together and begin to heal from this
23 tremendous disruption. I would like to see a more
25 direct communications begin between the State and the

1 people of Kodiak on an on going basis. This has been a
2 week link throughout the entire spill. This oil spill
3 is far from over, we all know this. If the people of
4 this state are allowed, we can begin to maintain a
5 cultural and ecological integrity. An integrity Exxon
6 does not have. An integrity which has been lacking
7 since March 24th.

8 MR. PARKER: You have the support of the
9 audience. You certainly have our support in some of
10 those points you made. Thank you for the history of
11 what went on at Kodiak from your viewpoint. Meg?

12 MS. HAYES: Well, there are several questions
13 that you raised that I want to ask you about. The
14 thirteen empty ships standing by. Those were the
15 tankers that were waiting to get into Valdez. And also,
16 at the end you said you thought there should be more
17 direct contact between the State and the people in
18 Kodiak. Could you describe for me what kind of contact
19 has gone on already, and what kind of problems you've
20 established, because you haven't had closer contact.

21 MS. GARTLAND: I don't feel hardly any contact
22 is made between the state and the people of Kodiak.
23 We've had one teleconference with the Governor, and
23 he's been here once. Certainly, in this situation,
25 there should be an ongoing communications between the

1 people of Kodiak, and the State. For we've had lots,
2 and lots, and lots of problems, and we've needed help
3 from day one.

4 MS. HAYES: Is there an OSCO office here, the
5 Oil Spill.....

6 MR. PARKER: Yeah.....

7 MS. HAYES: What's the name of it?

8 MR. PARKER: Oil Spill Coordinators Office.

9 MS. HAYES:Coordinators Office.....

10 MR. PARKER: General Sellers.

11 MS. HAYES: OSCO is like a Drug Store to me.

12 MS. GARTLAND: Yes, yes, yes, he's here.

13 MS. HAYES: Has he been providing help to you
14 in your problems.

15 MS. GARTLAND: Yes, but we've needed a lot of
16 help. Because, like you stated, Kodiak was an unusual
17 situation, in that it wasn't directly around the
18 terminal, and would ever have thought that Kodiak would
19 have been affected? Not many people.

20 MS. HAYES: The type of help that hasn't been
21 forthcoming, could you give me an idea, like is there
22 particular agencies that haven't been responsive, or
23 has it just been getting information back from them,
23 could you.....

25 MS. GARTLAND: I just feel that a lot more

1 support, a lot more pressure could have been put on,
2 for example, in the free floating oil recovery, there's
3 no reason why the Kodiak seine fleet was not out there
4 picking up the oil. Had we had more support and
5 pressure, quite possibly it could have happened, but it
6 never happened. So, examples like that. The tie par,
7 the tie par has been an on going battle since the
8 beginning. Had more pressure been put on possibly, we
9 could have used it more effectively.

10 MS. HAYES: I think that one of the great
11 tragedies of the Exxon oil spill, has been the
12 willingness of local people, and as many people have
13 pointed out, local fishermen who already know the
14 waters, to not be tapped effectively when their,
15 perhaps their usefulness was most appropriate. I
16 understand that under the new Alyeska spill plan, that
17 that group of volunteers is more effectively...is
18 anticipated to be more effectively used. And I also
19 understand that there is a legislation that was passed
20 last session that would set up, um, I don't know what
21 you'd want to call it, maybe local disaster groups.

22 MS. GARTLAND: Yes, well Senator McCowsky has a
23 marine oil terminus, citizens environmental oversight
23 counsel act, and that if it goes, will be a tremendous
25 help. I believe the Cordovan's in 77 had a proposal

1 which if it had gone, or maybe this wouldn't have
2 happened.

3 MS. HAYES: When we were in Cordova, we found
4 that the little fax sheet that Cordova has been
5 publishing all through the spill, has been very helpful
6 in trying to get good information out to local
7 residents. Was something like done here in Kodiak?

8 MS. GARTLAND: A local fax sheet?

9 MS. HAYES: Or some.....

10 MS. GARTLAND: Well we have our meetings,
11 Kodiak has a public...an oil spill meeting twice a week
12 now, and that's been most helpful. Thank you.

13 MS. HAYES: Thanks very much.

14 MR. PARKER: Thank you. Okay, Robert McCarry.

15 MR. MCCARRY: I lived and worked in Alaska for
16 close to ten years as a commercial fisherman. I'm a
17 little beefed with Exxon about a lot of different
18 things, maybe claims is one of them. I want more to be
19 addressed to the future to fish enhancement. They can
20 pull out September 15th, maybe there'll be oil on the
21 beaches, and we'll all clean it up, pull together.
22 What's going to happen to the future of my fisheries, I
23 want to see more done for the future of my fisheries.

23 MR. PARKER: I would hope that a lot of others
25 would too. I don't know if anybody has had a chance

1 at...either in Fish and Games Fred Devasion, or any of
2 the Aquaculture Associations. I know we're all
3 addressing this, so we'll try to run with that
4 statement. Not particularly the Oil Spill Commission,
5 but hopeful the whole...everybody interested in
6 Alaska's fisheries will. Okay, James Bolerud.

7 MR. BOLERUD: Afternoon, sir. Pleasure to have
8 you here.

9 MR. PARKER: Did I get your last name right?
10 Bolund.

11 MR. BOLERUD: Bolerud. A nice Norwegian name
12 for you today. I have a couple of statements I'd like
13 to read, and then possibly, a brief hand written spill
14 that I made here while I was sitting in the audience,
15 and I have a document here for you to glance over at
16 while I read this proposal. Okay. As an Alaskan, an
17 elected representative of a growing crewman's
18 association here are my viewpoints, both future and
19 present. I support the Borough's request for a bounty
20 system clean-up operation. I would like to add some
21 items to support this proposal. Exxon should be
22 responsible to post performance bonds at monthly
23 intervals, at a half a million dollars per month, or as
23 the bounty process takes off. This would accomplish two
25 things. Firstly, Exxon's public image would be protect-

1 ed. Secondly, it would keep the oil bounty machine
2 running smoothly. To add more substance to the issue, I
3 see no reason why these large mud boats and
4 incinerators could not be leased with option to buy to
5 the borough. A State-wide emergency task force team has
6 previously proposed by Senator Frank Mccowsky must be
7 implemented. I see no reason why these boats could not
8 generate revenues toward funding a State-wide cleanup
9 fleet. These boats could generate incomes year round in
10 a number of capacities. In this way the fleet could
11 sustain itself, when being not directly involved in a
12 clean-up. For example, five or so years from now,
13 should Alaska not experience another spill, these boats
14 could provide a fund for financing a clean-up effort
15 should one occur. Thank you.

16 MR. PARKER: Okay, thank you.

17 MR. BOLERUD: Do you have any comments on that?

18 MS. HAYES: Yes, Mr. Bolerud.....

19 MR. BOLERUD: Here's the document.

20 MS. HAYES: Just looking really quickly at
21 your...at this proposal about the oil bounty fishermen.

22 MR. BOLERUD: Right, that's the Borough...my
23 support.....

23 MS. HAYES: I don't know if anyone at the
25 borough has...was listening yesterday when we were in

1 Cordova. Commissioner Kelso said that DEC had gotten
2 the nod from the Governor to not only support with
3 money, but support with people in assistance, local
4 initiatives for the oil spill clean-up. You might
5 encourage the Borough

6 to approach that avenue. That might be something that
7 would be fruitful for this particular project.

8 MR. PARKER: Yeah, I thought the bounty system,
9 when the borough first proposed it, was in the best
10 traditions in the capitalist system. Why not go ahead
11 with it was my attitude at the time. So hopefully
12 things are moving.

13 MR. BOLERUD: Well, I brought the bounty system
14 issue to the table, personally myself, in several
15 public forums. I directed questions to the Coast Guard,
16 and to the borough, and to the whole panel of them
17 there, as to the reason why this system was not
18 implemented. I asked them questions like, was it an
19 insurance problem, is it a liability problem, what is
20 it that has to give here to get this is operation. They
21 would simply shrug their shoulders and give me no
22 answer at the time, was the response that I kept
23 consistently getting whenever I would bring this issue
23 to the public forum. I felt that it was kind of
25 sideline, put on the back burner, so to speak. I'd like

1 to reiterate on that a little bit, the little spill
2 that I have here. Exxon drug its feet since March 24.
3 The two fold reason for this. One, twenty years from
4 now, Exxon will say that the clean-up effort was not
5 effective, therefore that makes it non-cost effective,
6 so why should we have to pay for it? You guys should
7 have to pay us back, but we can't let you keep that
8 money that we gave you back in 1989, after all, we
9 suffered a great loss, and little effect on the
10 outcome. The input into to the effort has dictated the
11 failure because the inputees wanted it to fail, period!
12 So down the road, they could lay claim to the work of
13 mother nature, and use it as a scapegoat. Secondly,
14 after destruction of the fishery people, industry,
15 ect., Exxon could easily move in and purchase large
16 portions on Kodiak for little outlay. Additionally, the
17 federal front, they could push for the opening of oil
18 leases in the Shelikoff that the oil companies have
19 wanted to lay their hands on since they moved here in
20 the early 70's. Get Exxon out of Kodiak now.

21 MR. PARKER: Okay, thanks again Mr. Bolerud,
22 and, we're interested to see whether the State's
23 statement yesterday will result in going ahead with the
23 bounty system.

25 MR. BOLERUD: I just feel the need for speed,

1 so to speak in the issue. Because here we're going to
2 drag our feet for another month until September 15.
3 Split a wedge further into the economic structure of
4 this town by dividing these user groups, and these
5 personnel that utilize the fishery throughout our
6 entire copeleco here in Kodiak, not only the
7 subsistence guy here too. Here you've driven this
8 wedge, and the fall of the person that drove the wedge
9 is not important. The important thing is, is to remove
10 that wedge, put this system in action immediately, get
11 Exxon out of here, get their boats from them, utilize
12 their boats. Keep the effort going. Get everybody
13 employed. I mean we've been three months negotiating,
14 you said yourself, you've been negotiating for three
15 months, trying to get them to set up an emergency
16 relief status type of claim. They're just shutting the
17 door on it, they're only going to give up a hundred
18 fifty million dollars. I think was the figure that John
19 Peavey used this morning. Correct me if I'm wrong,
20 but...and this is just absolutely ludicrous, you just
21 have a situation where you super accelerated certain
22 groups of people, and then you've super decelerated
23 other groups by not even allowing them to compete
23 viably like they normally would during the course of a
25 summer here on the island. You haven't even let them

1 compete, and yet, you've decelerated them. Now, you've
2 told them that one week before, that your going to give
3 them some monetary compensation for the people that
4 went through the cracks. The next week, it comes down
5 from the high command that no monetary compensation
6 will take place for these emergency relief funds. So, I
7 mean, here's a two part deal, and you're just going to
8 let them keep going for another month. I say get them
9 out of here now.

10 MR. PARKER: When you say get them out of here
11 now, you mean, get who out?

12 MR. BOLERUD: Get Exxon completely out of here,
13 if they want to leave their claims office, fine. As far
14 as I'm concerned the claims situation is a joke. Its a
15 small monetary compensation for the loss of our ability
16 to compete, and our ability, so to speak, breath the
17 open air, and unwind during the summer. Its a lot of
18 mental anguish. I say just get them out of here, and
19 meet them in court if you want to sue them for your
20 claim. Get their clean-up operation out of here. Put it
21 into the hands of the borough. Make Exxon post a
22 performance bond for every month that this operation is
23 in progress, to keep it going, and that's it.

23 MR. PARKER: Okay, that's an interesting
25 alternative to offer them if they want to leave Septem-

1 ber 15 to put up that performance bond to cover winter
2 operations. I'll take that one under consideration.
3 Okay, Bryan Johnson.

4 MS. HAYES: For the audiences information, we
5 just were informed that the plane to supposed to take
6 us away today broke. I've never heard of a plane
7 breaking in Kodiak in the sunshine, maybe it decided it
8 wanted to stay.

9 MR. PARKER: It very may well be. When they say
10 the plane is broke, I don't want to enquire too much.
11 Especially an airplane you just got off of.

12 MS. HAYES: Yes.

13 MR. JOHNSON: My name is Bryan Johnson. I'm
14 trying to figure out what I'm going to say here. A
15 couple of people have already voiced some of the
16 feelings I've had, and one of it is that in the very
17 beginning, when we had the first oil spill meeting
18 here. There was a tremendous amount of energy, and a
19 tremendous amount of ideas that the community was
20 putting together, and coming up with just out of the
21 woodwork. There was...you could see that there was alot
22 you could do, and then when this Exxon and everything
23 started walking in, and usurped the control. Literally
23 taken the town, is what it feels like. I mean, all the
25 people in this town, when they need to do something,

1 they need to go ask Exxon. It feels like they almost
2 have to be asking permission every time they come up
3 with an idea, and it seems like there has been a lot of
4 ideas to come up. It has been sat on, and scrunched. It
5 just seems that the vitality, like you take the
6 vitality of a fishing community, and you look at the
7 structure of the organization that is already here when
8 you take five hundred sane boats, and hundred fifty,
9 two hundred tenders, just in the salmon fishery, the
10 canneries. The moving of parts, and equipment, and
11 organizing, and Fish and Game, and everything. That
12 there is a tremendous structure that is already here
13 that is used to dealing with the weather, and dealing
14 with the conditions, and its already here. The people,
15 you know all the expertise is here, as far as moving
16 people, and moving gear, and making things happen. It
17 seems like it has just been taken away from this
18 community. Its...you know...its the feeling
19 is...who...are we a democracy anymore, are we run by
20 Exxon. It has come up here a couple of times, people
21 ask where is the State? Well, I can't exactly say, you
22 know, name down incidence, but I've also felt, you
23 know, where is the State. Where is this iron...when we
23 go asking, we want to see things happen. Why can't we
25 see this in putting Exxon, so to speak, up against the

1 wall, and say you will do this, you will do that.
2 Instead of telling Exxon, it seems like Exxon is
3 telling everybody else what to do. I just feel like
4 maybe with the Governor, or something like this, we
5 want to see him here more. We want to see in the very
6 beginning, people were saying shut down the pipeline.
7 Get Exxon out of there, and just put them up against
8 the wall, and say, take care of this. Use a little bit
9 more weight. Throw the weight around a little. It seems
10 like Exxon is in control of everything. It seems like
11 everybody's even...State wise, and even with the Coast
12 Guard, I'm wondering who is controlling this whole
13 thing? The Coast Guard keeps telling us Exxon isn't
14 leaving, Exxon says it is leaving. We hear all of these
15 mixed things back and forth. I'm just wondering, who
16 really is pulling the strings for this whole thing? It
17 seems like a lot of little things where Exxon is
18 spending money in the community is just trice as
19 management. People make a little noise, give them a
20 little money to do something, and get them out of town,
21 get them out of the way. I'd really like to see them
22 being held a little bit more, they get this thing
23 cleaned up in the very beginning, they said. President
23 Bush said, no one is leaving until the Sound is cleaned
25 up. We've heard this, and it was quoted in the news-

1 paper a while back, where they said it is going to be
2 taken care of, and now we hear that it is not. When
3 they leave, whether they do or not, some organization
4 has got to step in and take it over, and they've got to
5 submit the bill for it. They've also... they sent...
6 you've probably seen the little pamphlets they've sent
7 around down South to all their card holders, saying
8 that there was no free floating oil as of May 20,
9 something like this. Only two percent of Alaskan Coast
10 which is ten percent of Prince Williams Sound is
11 affected. These are the things that they are telling
12 people down South. You talk to the family or friends
13 down South, and they say, oh, is Kodiak affected by
14 this whole thing? And it seems to me that's its a
15 whole...news...and P.R. thing. This is what the whole
16 thing is all about. I just came back from a three week
17 charter up on the north end of Ognak, we were doing
18 some clean-up work. We got in last night, and I've seen
19 lots of otters swimming in sheen. I've seen lots of new
20 dead birds coming in. We were with the seine group that
21 was drawing out of the spittoon so to speak, for three
22 week charter here. This thing is still dynamic, it is
23 still happening. When I hear all this demobilization
23 and all this wind- down stuff. I'm going, there's a lot
25 of work to do guys. I feel a lot of people in this

1 town, if they were...this actual community was managing
2 the whole thing, then a lot more would happen. Its just
3 like...in a lot of ways their hands are tied. Just
4 coming back to this seiner issue again, we're supposed
5 to be out there following tide lines with dip nets. We
6 follow all these tide lines in, and you go through the
7 kelp beds, and you dip out the kelp beds, and you watch
8 and you see the tideline go right up on a little bite.
9 The size of this stage. You're not supposed to go on
10 that beach and do anything. You sit there and that oil
11 lays. We didn't see a clean-up crew the whole time we
12 were up there. We saw miles, and miles and miles of
13 area that's impacted. Not one clean-up crew, and we're
14 told there is an adequate amount of clean-up effort
15 here. There's thousands of miles of coastline in this
16 area. I've been around this island many times. In the
17 mainland, and many of the other areas. I'm being told
18 that four hundred fifty, or five hundred people is
19 enough. They took forty thousand people to just to
20 start the clean-up in France. I was told by a Exxon
21 person a while back, where we have ten thousand people
22 working. It's still nothing close to the coast line
23 we're dealing with here. The main thing that I feel, is
23 that all the control has been taken away from the
25 communities. Sometimes I'm feeling it is taken away

1 from the State. We've completely lost control of our
2 situation here. Which sometimes I feel we can deal with
3 a lot better. When you've been in the situation like
4 where we were, I can't go up on this beach, and pick up
5 this oil, and I know that no one else is going to do
6 it. I guess I'd like to see if this ever happens again,
7 all the resources of the communities used. The
8 communities can hire their own experts. There's experts
9 everywhere, and everybody has a different opinion. Let
10 the oil company, or let Exxon, whoever, let them foot
11 the bill. Let the communities, and the state call the
12 shots in clean up effort.

13 MR. PARKER: Thank you. I think that all of us
14 who've been through this in various ways, will come
15 away from the feeling that we don't want to ever be in
16 this particular situation again. Especially, not just
17 dealing with the actual oil, but dealing with a sense
18 of loss of control, which is strong in all of the other
19 communities. You've expressed it...today its the
20 strongest its been in Kodiak, for me. I felt it very
21 strongly in Valdez. Not so strongly in Cordova, Seward,
22 or Homer, but probably the strongest other than in
23 Valdez, is what I've heard here today. Meg?

23 MS. HAYES: I just was looking for my notes
25 from yesterday, because the Oil Spill Commission has

1 tried, like other people, to try to get some kind of
2 agreement, a commitment from Exxon to come back. What
3 we heard yesterday, we were members of the audience for
4 a change, rather than having to sit on the stage.
5 Commissioner Kelso announced that Exxon had agreed to
6 do what the U.S. Coast Guard required next year, after
7 the winter. That there was a certain level of
8 monitoring that was going to continue on. Also a
9 commitment to protect the key resources, such as
10 hatcheries, that people have worked so hard for. There
11 was a commitment, and I heard the Admiral with my own
12 ears say that if Exxon didn't do it, he would do it.
13 And he'd send them the bill. The other thing that was
14 encouraging, to this commission anyway, because it was
15 the first movement we had heard about that, was that
16 Commissioner Kelso said that the Coast Guard agreed to
17 determine what needed to be done next spring. Based on
18 consultation, and consentient with the State. The word
19 consentient, which I had to look up in the dictionary,
20 to make sure I understood it, implied more agreement,
21 or more consideration on what the State had requested
22 or required than anything I had heard before. On any of
23 the Commission meetings that we've held. Your point
23 about the State loosing control of this is one thing
25 that has troubled the Commission a great deal. It's

1 something that would take a great deal of legislation
2 expense to follow through. The people in Alaska are
3 always down on growing government. It may be necessary
4 to have some kind of special State organization, or
5 local organization, to deal with this kind of spill, if
6 we are to rest from private companies. The clean-up of
7 this kind of disaster.

8 MR. JOHNSON: To tell you the truth, if the
9 State was in charge, I'd feel more in control of it.
10 Exxon, where are they, who are they. Another thing,
11 that's fine next year, but what about now? Places we
12 took the small river boat, we'd go into little tiny
13 bites, and you could see down in the water, you can see
14 oil on the bottom, and you get more into in brackish
15 water, you see all this stuff plastered all over the
16 place, okay, fine, what's going to happen with this
17 stuff when it sits all winter long. We're being told
18 that the high energy beaches are going to pound it all
19 out, it's going to break down, it's going to eventually
20 end up in these small little catcher areas too. I
21 can't...you know...as far as stopping the whole clean-
22 up effort, the 15 of September. How many people in the
23 seine or fishing fleet are out hunting, and November,
23 and December, and going out fishing in January. Come
25 on, they're coming up with... it's just like in the

1 seine fleet like they told everybody they can't go out
2 with a rifle on the boat. That's sort of a lower forty-
3 eight thing maybe, but a rifle is part of your survival
4 equipment. If you end up piled up on the beach
5 somewhere, you're going to need that. These are the
6 kind of ways where you feel like just...everything
7 Alaska about this, or just Kodiak is being slowly taken
8 away. The things that have developed over common sense,
9 the way the fishing works is over common sense. You
10 just go out there, you look what needs to be done, you
11 do it. You don't have a bureaucracy, or somebody with a
12 piece of paper telling you, you can't do this, you
13 can't do that. You just go out and you do what needs to
14 be done. It's really hard to sit out there and see all
15 this crap on the beach and know that you can't go
16 out...you're not supposed to go out and deal with it.
17 It's going to have to sit there, and go through...you
18 know, there's been months, and months, and months of
19 arguments already. I was out for three weeks, I came
20 back, and heard some of the meeting on the radio today,
21 and I says, the same questions are being pushed.
22 Nothing has happened. Little concessions have been
23 given. Somebody told me this is like a battle, it's
23 like a war, you're dealing with something. Something
25 like that, you use every available resource, and we're

1 not using it. As a lot of people feel like they don't
2 really want to get this stuff cleaned up. This is just
3 a little show for the public. Sometimes I feel that way
4 when you don't use every resource. It's hard to sit
5 there and see all this oil on the beach, and know that
6 no one is going to go out there and pick that up. You
7 see this stuff getting baked on, you can see it running
8 down. Getting into things, you can see that right
9 around town. Next year when they come out, a lot of
10 this stuff is going to be buried even further, they're
11 going to say, just like somebody said earlier. Oh, look
12 what mother nature did. Also, one thing that we
13 noticed, when you sit there on the anchor, and after a
14 few good days of rain, you can see, when you go in
15 close to the source, sheen coming off the beach. As a
16 fisherman, I don't want to be sitting here doing this
17 next year. There isn't time...cut this crap about wait
18 until next year to do stuff. It's now, and I've been
19 saying this all summer long. Everybody out here has
20 been saying this all summer long. We're still having to
21 say it, and we're not seeing it. The time for, like we
22 said, since March and May, the time for talking is
23 over, we need to move. There's a lot we can do. Being
23 told you can't do this, you can't do that, there is a
25 lot we can do. The prime for everything is to clean up

1 the mess out there.

2 MR. PARKER: As I conveyed to Exxon on our last
3 meeting with them, and have conveyed to the Governor,
4 the worst possible scenario is that Exxon does leave
5 September 15, which I believe is still the plan. The
6 demobilization has started. Does leave only a minimal
7 presence here. Come next spring, if, in fact, nature
8 has not taken care of the oil, either by weathering,
9 evaporation, or burying, and its zero tolerance is
10 still in effect, and substantial fisheries, fishing
11 districts are still shut down, you know, it's going to
12 be a very bad political scene for all concerned. I've
13 urged Exxon to take that into consideration in viewing
14 their own considerable political future and stakes in
15 this State. As a seventeen percent owner of Prudhoe,
16 and other valuable oil properties in this State, it
17 would ^{behoove} ooz them to listen to their own P.R. and be a
18 good corporate citizen. We will have a teleconference
19 with all the communities on September 17, 7:30pm, which
20 is being broadcast by most of the public radio stations
21 in that area...August 17, did I say, sorry, August 17,
22 of which I think probably we will focus on beach clean-
23 up again. And I'll start it off with a brief report on
23 how I understand the status of beach clean-up at that
25 time, and then turn it over to the communities to re-

1 port in on what their views are at that time. I think
2 we'll follow up with another one, I think we'll have
3 them at two weeks intervals between them, and September
4 15, just to keep the pressure on so that at least that
5 if Exxon does leave, it won't be too easy for them.

6 MR. JOHNSON: One more question, if I run into
7 people who are sitting out, and they are tending log
8 booms, they're doing work, and they're all up in the
9 air when they'll be done, and they're all the same
10 feeling, there's lots of work yet to be done. Is there
11 something, or where would the state be, Exxon just
12 pulls out, and goes, they'll leave a void. There's a
13 lot of momentum here, and stuff that's already
14 happening. Could there be something set up, run by the
15 State, or whoever, or local governing bodies, paid for
16 of course, by Exxon, just to fill in that, and keep
17 things moving, instead of just stopping. There's a big,
18 you know, taking all this stuff apart and getting all
19 this equipment off of boats is going to take a lot of
20 time and a lot of energy. When that energy could be
21 spent in continuing on and doing what needs to be done.
22 We need like somebody, you know, if we throw them out,
23 or whatever, or they leave, something that takes over
23 from a more local level, State or local communities,
25 and manage that, and keep it going, there's stuff you

1 can do all winter long.

2 MR. PARKER: I'll take that up with Admiral
3 Robins, and Steve Provant, the State on-scene
4 coordinator, both the first of next week, and the...get
5 their answers to you at the September, at the
6 October...I'm getting...we'll get our months in shape,
7 the August 17 teleconference, the thing, is I asked
8 Exxon and the Coast Guard to give me their estimates of
9 what demobilization would cost, and what it would cost
10 to remobilize in the spring. Neither of them would
11 answer that particular question, but we have
12 asked...they have both replied to, in part, to twelve
13 questions we asked them on beach clean-up. D.C. doesn't
14 have their answers in, hopefully they'll have them in
15 in time for next weeks teleconference, so we can also
16 report on what the differing views of the world are
17 from the three major organizations. We asked EPA to
18 come to our beach clean-up party, and they refused to
19 come, that they had nothing to contribute. But I've
20 written them another letter, asking them to please
21 reconsider, that they do have something to contribute,
22 because their administrator, Mr. Riley showed up in
23 Prince Williams Sound last week, saying that
23 bioremediation is the answer. He was sure that
25 bioremediation will to the job, and since they have

1 that strong feeling, why, I think they something to
2 contribute to this discussion. We sent them the twelve
3 questions again, and to answer. On bioremediation, I am
4 not particularly convinced. One of the congressmen from
5 Louisiana pointed out that there was an effort made to
6 do some testing on bioremediation ten years ago, which
7 the official wildlife service wouldn't allow. I
8 remember bioremediation from the Santa Barbara spill,
9 in 1969, when there was a young lady from USC faculty,
10 who was pushing it as the answer at that time. So I
11 hope to pull together a history of what bioremediation
12 is all about, because it has been around for the last
13 twenty years, and is not something particularly new,
14 and I've heard what EPA, and Exxon have had to say
15 about it, and we'll check up on that. It seems strange
16 that we do have to go all the way to France for the
17 fertilizer, but, its been a strange summer so far, so
18 that is just another strange fact in a strange summer.

19 MR. JOHNSON: What, on this stuff, we keep
20 hearing about stuff that they've tried, and maybe in
21 the Gulf Coast of Santa Barbara is a lot different
22 conditions than here. How's this stuff going to work
23 with much colder weather?

23 MR. PARKER: To be fair to them, they said they
25 did a test plot down in Prince William Sound, and it

1 came out okay, so we'll check up on that too. What I
2 don't want, is...I guess where my resentment comes is
3 all of a sudden, bioremediation is sprung out of the
4 blue as the answer, just about the time it is
5 convenient for Exxon to have a reason for leaving
6 September 15, and that's where my uneasiness comes from
7 in this whole situation.

8 MR. JOHNSON: Everything they do in the Sound
9 ends up on our beach, so. It is a concern here too.

10 MR. PARKER: Okay, thank you. Next, Dolly Rift.
11 Yeah. Hello Dolly.

12 MS. DOLLY: Hi.

13 MR. PARKER: Things better since the last time
14 we talked?

15 MS. DOLLY: I've got a few more grey hairs.
16 More wrinkles under the eyes. I stayed up until 4
17 o'clock last night, because I realized that this was an
18 opportunity to try to put into words that...of all the
19 stress and everything that we've been up against, and
20 at that time, at 4 o'clock in the morning, beat and
21 tired and everything. I realize that there aren't any
22 words. Its hoping that there is that there is the
23 understanding, and I've met with you before, and I have
23 faith that you've probably read through a lot of the
25 things that I've said. It's kind of lengthy, and maybe

1 it's my urgency that the impact of what we're going
2 through so well understood. That we have all passed the
3 problems, and provide some answers. Because we've been
4 so saturated with the oil, that we understand the
5 problem so well, that we don't have the energy to find
6 any solutions, and we need help. I understand that
7 that's what your role is. Is to accumulate all this
8 information, and provide something that will work for
9 us.

10 MS. HAYES: That's what we're going to try to
11 do.

12 MS. DOLLY: Well, here goes.

13 MR. PARKER: Okay.

14 MS. DOLLY: "I wish at times, that this hold I
15 had to our environment would not let me go. Sometimes,
16 like right now, the burden seems too heavy. The birds,
17 the whales, the otters, the fish, the deer, on and on.
18 It's given so freely, so unselfishly, to provide us
19 with the richness. Sharing without taking. Now mother
20 nature gasps for breath, and gradually looses its
21 embrace to her children. She has grown to be a victim
22 to this oil. She bleeds uncontrollably, and we carry
23 the carcasses, wipe the rocks, and scoop what we can
23 out of the oil. I've listened to mother nature's
25 warnings, due to this creeping death. She's tried to

1 warn us, as she expresses the concerns of the carcasses
2 of the birds, the otters, the whales, ect. Silently we
3 listen, silently we cry, our anger has no place to go.
4 We are living within the window of opportunity of
5 Exxon. Mother nature lives within the same window. She
6 has no lawyers, no money, only evidence of death and
7 destruction. She has hidden nothing, and requested
8 little. Exxon pulled the shades on its windows, an
9 deposited enough sunlight to keep us surviving. We run to
10 the light, and find shadows. Continually living within
11 the shadows of the valley of this death. Mother nature
12 hides nothing. Her never ending trust to us to take
13 care of her. Bleeding, but still exposing her sunlight
14 for us. I look to my children's eyes for strength.
15 Continually searching for answers. Afraid of the truth,
16 but afraid more for our future. I can't run, there's no
17 place to run. No place to hide. I can't sleep in this
18 silence. I'm consumed by this oil. Not by choice. I
19 don't choose this walk, I have no choice. I was born of
20 this land, these waters. I've ingested the food, the
21 wisdom, the peace of mind that this environment has
22 given. I'm infested as mother nature is, and
23 suffocating, and gasping for breath. Putting a price to
23 our environment is comparable to putting a price on
25 human lives. There is no price. The silence reflects

1 the morning of mother nature. The carcasses reflect
2 man's addictive insistence to succeed, to broaden the
3 window of opportunity. We're tasting our desire to have
4 it all, and in our desire, are loosing it all. Mother
5 nature keeps trying to teach us, and we keep running to
6 the window of opportunity. I realize now the silence,
7 not only of mother nature, but of our people. Who dares
8 to look into the window of our environment? Who dares
9 to see what she has to show, and listen to her cries?
10 Who dares to protect her, and bury her dead? I've
11 listened. I've dared to see, dared to look. Here's the
12 reflection of what I've witnessed. The birds don't sing
13 anymore. The whales don't dance on the ocean. Baby sea
14 otters, looking for their mothers. Seagulls, having
15 their last meal on an oily shore, with many others to
16 follow. The morning breeze brings the smell death to
17 our nostrils. The night time brings still more silence.
18 Even our tears have grown silent. We die with this
19 silent day. Look for a bird, a whale, a bear, a deer,
20 anything to signify life. Capture the moment while you
21 can, tomorrow may bring more silence. What words can
22 you express our losses, and our fears? We have been
23 beaten, demoralized, and subdued to beggars, asking for
23 a parcel of bread to feed her children. Join us at her
25 table of mourning. Eat of the food and celebrate this

1 day. My stomach aches with each bite I take of this
2 food. I continually write, trying to find the words to
3 explain. Feeble attempts made to reflect this day. My
4 legs tremble as I stand before this window of
5 opportunity with the shade pulled down. My heart beats
6 fast each day as it approaches Exxon's departure. Where
7 they leave us to bury our dead, to feed our children.
8 We're having to justify our existence in addition to
9 defending our environment. Demands made by Exxon,
10 exposing sensitivity to the environment that has
11 provided, not only for the people in the villages, but
12 Exxon as well. We have enjoyed the plentiful oceans,
13 skies, and wildlife, and had to turn our back while she
14 suffers. I'm sad, not so much for our loss, but for
15 Exxon's abilities to see our own umbilical cord to the
16 environment. Who will replace the loss to our oceans,
17 our skies, and our land? If Exxon can't understand the
18 lives that depend on this environment, then can they
19 understand the fact that these carcasses have been
20 aborted by the oil. Will Exxon be allowed to continue
21 to turn their backs, and pretend not to see? Who here
22 represents the native people? The people of Kodiak.
23 Where is their voice? Why are they kept silent, and
23 apart from these meetings? Are we so dispensable as the
25 whales, the birds, the fish, the deer, sea otter, and

1 many others who await their incineration? Who will
2 consider our fate? Who dares to protect the victims of
3 this oil? Will we be kept in our separate corners for
4 ever? We have been tossed to the winds and forgotten.
5 Do we fear in silence forever? Have you not realized by
6 now, the fate of our people as the earth crumbles
7 beneath our feet? I pray to my ancestors that have gone
8 before me, and look to God to find the words demanded
9 by you to define our losses. Realizing that these are
10 yours too. We're at the mercy of you who refuse to
11 accept the destruction and imbalance caused by this
12 oil. It will take great strength to recognize the
13 reflection in the mirror. Look in the mirror, and dig
14 deep within yourself. Don't create an image that isn't
15 there. Act on what you see. The environment is a
16 reflection of who we are. We can't ignore the
17 reflection we see. We have to live with it, today,
18 tomorrow, and forever. A sense we have time in
19 memorial. Additional whales have been reported on
20 Tugidak, bringing the present count of dead whales up
21 to twenty-five. These are recent deaths that have
22 occurred, due to the gag order, we are unable to
23 discuss this issue. Yet, realize that these deaths are
23 indicative of contaminants in the oil washing up on our
25 shores. We have continued to count birds, dead sea

1 otters, deer, fox, and numerous other carcasses in lieu
2 of the fact that we've been informed that the oil is
3 now weathered, and less toxic. The dead count on Kodiak
4 is three to four times that of Prince Williams Sound
5 area, yet we are continuously assured that the oil
6 continues to weather. No one is able to determine
7 without a doubt, that the oil non-toxic or hazardous.
8 Due to the fact the no one claims to have the expertise
9 to do so. We've had to rely on our own expertise of
10 understanding on what is normal, and what is not normal
11 within this environment. As the environment
12 deteriorates, we so to deteriorate. We realize that
13 given time, and due to the dependence on these waters,
14 we too may be victimized by the ingestion of this oil.
15 Never has there been an oil spill of this magnitude
16 within these currents, and waters. Never have the
17 experts had to deal with people who subsist so heavily
18 on the very waters who bleed this oil. No history has
19 been recorded on the effects to human beings concerning
20 regular consumption of food from the environment once
21 contaminated by oil of this nature. We therefore are
22 guinea pigs within a giant experiment, where facts are
23 made to fit the hypothesis made. In our frustration of
23 our loss, we fight an invisible enemy, and suffocate in
25 the air polluted with politics. We walked the quite

1 beaches, and pray for the few birds that have been able
2 to escape death another day. We look to the enormous
3 whales now rotting away against the shores, getting
4 beat up by the waves, as we are beat by the unknowns.
5 From time in memorial, the Aleuts, native people of
6 this island have made their livelihood from the water
7 and land. Fishing and hunting, and commercially
8 processing sea foods, and land foods for personal use,
9 and for barter, are rooted deeply within their culture.
10 They are experts in catching and processing salmon and
11 other sea foods. The traditional art of respect for
12 mother nature, animals and fish, and especially the
13 elder of the people. Who are in the highest regard is
14 the mainstay of the culture. Sharing of nature's bounty
15 with the less fortunate and needy, is an integral part
16 of the culture. These values are tied to their fishing
17 and hunting practices. The removal of a peoples way of
18 making a living, and completely undermining a major
19 cornerstone of their culture, is a highest price, short
20 of life, that a people can be asked to pay. This
21 situation represents culture, general side, or ethnical
22 side. The difficulty is to make Exxon, and his
23 counterparts aware of the people's deteriorating
23 situation, so that a just, and satisfactory resolution
25 will be affected once they are adequately informed. The

1 right to subsistence is secured under article one, sub
2 part two, of the international covenant on civil
3 unrights, which states in no case may a people beat
4 the pride of its own means of subsistence.

5 As well as article twenty three of the universal
6 declaration of human rights. A responsibility is given
7 to protect these rights reflected since time in
8 memorial. It's past time that the people outside of
9 Alaska heard the cries of the Alaskan people who are
10 living within the reality of this Exxon-Valdez oil
11 spill. As many of you are aware, the oil spill dropped
12 into our foods basket, March 24, 1989, and has
13 inflicted destruction, not only on our environment but
14 on many human lives. I am one of many human beings from
15 this Kodiak who have suffered demoralization, and
16 physical exhaustion due to the oil spill clean up
17 efforts witnessed. I'm a native Alaskan from this
18 island of Kodiak, who have spent all my life
19 understanding this environment, and using the knowledge
20 handed down by man's ancestors for hundreds of years to
21 live and care for these lands and oceans. I'm not rich
22 by monetary means, but I have become rich in knowledge
23 from the surroundings from which I depend on. My three
23 children look to me for my ability to subsist off these
25 waters, and learn from these lessons that mother nature

1 has taught us. We love this land. It has brought us
2 tools to survive, and prepare for future generations.
3 Now those tools have been broken, and we ask ourselves,
4 how are we to prepare for a future for our children,
5 and a strong foundation for our people. Subsistence has
6 been a reflection of who we are as a native people. As
7 people who subsist off these lands and waters. Many of
8 our lands have been taken away, or destroyed, which has
9 left us to find sanctuary in our subsistence lifestyle.
10 The environment is our bible from which we refer to,
11 and memorial to our ancestors. Many graveyards,
12 artifacts, and archaeological sites stand by these
13 waters, and echo the cries of our ancestors who are
14 witnessing the damage continue, as the oil keeps coming
15 on our front yard. My people have been fishing for oil
16 instead of fish. We're not fishermen. We have been
17 picking up carcasses, which are in the thousands, and
18 put them in a place referred to as the morgue, or oil
19 men. There is no burial for these victims, the only
20 burial rests in the empty bellies of our children and
21 our elders. Our archaeological sites have been exposed,
22 and many of the artifacts taken from the sanctuary, the
23 resting places are no longer sacred, no longer quiet.
23 They have been opened up, and are bleeding. Our past
25 has been exposed. Our present uprooted, and our future

1 lies at the mercy of Exxon, who promised to make us
2 whole. Grown men have cried, as children tried to
3 shoulder the pain of their losses. The elders wipe
4 rocks, and pick up the carcasses, trying to restore
5 their waters and lands so their great grand children
6 can enjoy the freedoms of their culture as they did. We
7 hold back our tears in fear our children will see, and
8 silently walk in the night, as we grow faint from
9 exhaustion. Our tears can be reflected in our eyes.
10 Deep within our souls we cry. Our land and waters have
11 been broken, and now our spirits have become broken,
12 our voices tremble, as we speak to the authorities who
13 promise to make us whole. I look to my grandfather, my
14 grandmother, who are buried on the hill of village of
15 old Karlak. I look to my ancestors who are buried in
16 this graveyard. I look for the strength to endure this
17 catastrophe. I pray for eyes to see, ears to listen, and
18 hearts to grasp for the real story of Kodiak Island.
19 The people have become the victims, and hold the truth
20 in their eyes. Exxon is going to abandon us, we are
21 having to be our strongest at our very weakest moment.
22 We are continued to pick up the carcasses, and wipe the
23 rocks with rags. Our children's bellies will grow
23 hungry this winter. Our elders will scavenge for
25 driftwood that has not been taken from our beaches to

1 warm themselves from the cold. They won't profit from
2 the tons of driftwood that will be taken outside by
3 Exxon to be made into presto logs. Who will remember us
4 when Exxon goes home? Where have all the birds gone?
5 The kelp beds are empty. The whales wash upon the
6 shores of our villages. The deer and many other species
7 that wait to meet their destiny. Who will replace our
8 losses? Who will feed our children? We have survived
9 for our children, and have nothing to feed them. Our
10 voices are kept from the ears of the ones who need to
11 hear. We have been made Exxon employees, and live on
12 the promise that they made to make us whole. We are
13 fishermen, fathers, mothers, elders, children, men and
14 women who are fighting for our lives. We are
15 suffocating to death in this oil that enters our
16 waters. Exxon and its counter parts have caused us to
17 be divided, and invaded our communities with our oil.
18 Their politics and promises. We want to live again. We
19 want to fish. We want to feed our children. We want our
20 environment restored, in order that we may survive, and
21 begin to reoperate from this catastrophe. I speak
22 from the eyes that I've seen that have witnessed the
23 destruction that continues to take place. I write with
23 the tears of the people who are wiping the rocks with
25 rags. I write for the future of my own children who

1 look to me for a place to hide from this oil. I speak
2 the truth for your ears to listen. I have no more to
3 loose but your willingness to hear our real story of
4 Kodiak Island.

5 MR. PARKER: Thank you, Dolly, that was a great
6 job. Really fine. Meg.

7 MS. DOLLY: I'd like to mention one thing. I
8 realize that there has been some concern of why the
9 villages are quiet. I want to emphasize that that quiet
10 means something. We are very concerned about the
11 subsistence, and our livelihoods. At the present time,
12 our only means of survival is to hang on to the jobs
13 that we have, and watch out for each other. Their
14 silence doesn't mean that they don't care, they do.
15 It's a big responsibility to try to encompass all the
16 fear that we are dealing with, and to hold that much
17 fear inside, and not be able to talk about it, is
18 unbearable. When you travel out, and you look at these
19 people, realize that even though they don't speak, they
20 are concerned, and they care, and they're very fearful,
21 and they're depending on you to understand our losses,
22 and what kind help we need.

23 MR. PARKER: Okay, thank you. Michael Savin.

23 MS. SAVIN: It's really Michelle.

25 MR. PARKER: Michelle, Okay.

1 MS. SAVIN: I am a resident, and a business
2 owner. I have been fearful for this town, my business,
3 and the way of life of this islands residence. I feel
4 the oil has ruined the economy, and the lives of the
5 people of Kodiak. I feel that Exxon, the Coast Guard,
6 and the State could have been more responsive. I thank
7 the borough, Mayor, the Seiners Group, the Tie Par
8 workers, the clean up crews of both land and sea, and
9 the Kodiak Island area native and coastal coalition.
10 Among many others, who have helped by their selfless
11 devotion in trying to get the oil off the land and out
12 of the water. I have been misled, lied to, ignored, and
13 given the run around by Exxon over my environmental and
14 human concerns. I feel that tie par works, let's use
15 it. The bioremediation, or bacteria fertilizer,
16 whatever you want to call it. It scares the hell out of
17 me. We must continue trying, as it will be we, the
18 people of Kodiak, who will remain with the oil on our
19 doorsteps. We must stick together, and help each other
20 to get the oil picked up and to continue surviving.

21 MR. PARKER: Okay, thank you. I'm uh...others
22 are concerned about bioremediation. Meg.

23 MS. HAYES: Thank you very much.

23 MR. PARKER: I have, uh, some people indicated
25 they want a copy of the transcript, or tape. Copy of

1 the tapes are available from our recorder back there,
2 Jim Psyches, I believe they are still eight dollars a
3 copy. Is that right Jim? Seven, okay, seven dollars a
4 copy. So anyone who wants tapes, simply contact him. I
5 have several maybe's, probably's, not sure's, so. I
6 will ask if anyone else now wishes to testify? Anyone
7 else? Yes.

8 MS. BURNS: Hi.

9 MR. PARKER: I'm glad you decided to.

10 MS. BURNS: Well, I was not sure. My name is
11 Lacey Burns, and we have a salmon perseine operation in
12 Kodiak. I'd like to read a letter that I wrote to the
13 editor of our paper here in town, and also to several
14 other newspapers and publications. We'd like to
15 enlighten Exxon, concerning a few of the serious
16 problems this community has experienced over the past
17 few months. Due to the double enemy as we now see it.
18 The oil spill, and Exxon's irresponsible management,
19 and lack of foresight. We have a salmon perseine, and
20 herring gill net operation here in Kodiak. Normally, by
21 this time of year, we're feeling relatively whole.
22 Spiritually, physically, emotionally, socially, and
23 economically. Contrary to John Herrington's now
23 laughable promise of Exxon will make you whole. You
25 presently have on your hands several hundred boat own-

1 ers, permit holders, hundreds of crew members, and
2 throngs of villagers, and community members who are
3 feeling the pinch, and who are not addressed fairly in
4 your claims process, who feel emotionally fried. Who
5 have had their lifestyle, hopes and dreams disrupted
6 this summer, and for probably years to come. Have lost
7 hope, and being able to work honestly this year to get
8 off Exxon's claims dole. Whether Exxon intentionally,
9 or unintentionally created this bogus operation is not
10 the issue. The reality is you did. Exxon's oil spill
11 nearly five months ago, has cost us dearly. It took
12 away our opportunity to make a living, and Exxon's
13 management of this crisis in Kodiak has created serious
14 discreptancies's by giving some, non-residents
15 included, the opportunity to work on top of a claim.
16 And others, the only other option, to sit through a
17 bleak summer. Even as the oil continued to pour down
18 the Shelikoff, to bombard our beaches, and to
19 ultimately, take our fishery from us. In retrospect,
20 what you have done, is to doubly deny us the chance for
21 employment. Your windows of opportunity did not include
22 room for impacted Kodiak residents. Especially the
23 salmon and herring fleet. An equal opportunity for
23 clean up work was not even offered. Even though the
25 beaches and waters are as seriously oiled in May, if

1 not worse. You did not take care of, and make whole
2 the impacted fishermen as you did in Prince Williams
3 Sound. Where every vessel was put on charter, where
4 they even had a salmon fishery.

5 Its obvious the Kodiak salmon season is
6 devastated by your spill, and you could see the
7 necessity to only put twenty seine boats in mid July,
8 as our openings were going down the tubes. These twenty
9 boats volunteered to democratically rotate so that
10 others could earn a living, and do something to take
11 care of the problem. That seems like a real simple
12 idea, but Exxon still doesn't get it. Your system of
13 irresponsible management has penalized the fishermen
14 who wanted to fish from April on, and keep their
15 lifestyle disrupted, as most herring and salmon boats
16 tried to do. Trying to get on a charter was a full-time
17 frustrating job, and also took you out of the fishery.
18 There were no lists, in fact, some boats moved
19 backwards in position for being hired. Your system
20 gave lucrative charters to some vessels in April and
21 May, and on who had nothing to loose from the closing
22 and cancellation of the herring and salmon seasons.
23 You lack the foresight to see that Kodiak circumstances
23 justified a massive clean up effort, just like Prince
25 Williams Sound's. Since April 13, we've been trying to

1 adjust to the effects of your spill through the mount-
2 ing pressure and stress. Herring fishing areas were
3 shut down. Prices for herring plummeted, we lost crew,
4 in May to VECO. Test boats were sent out in May, before
5 the Halibut opening, to see if we would even have an
6 opening. The herring fleet continued to fish in
7 unnatural circumstances in the face of many growing
8 problems right along side chartered vessels of the same
9 size, who had no qualms relating about the Exxon gravy
10 train. In May, John Herrington continued to deny that
11 our beaches were oiled, or that it would cause problems
12 for the salmon fishery. We continued to herring fish.
13 By the time the halibut announcement rolled around, the
14 entire mainland, some west side, and north end bays
15 were close. Not from harvest, but from the effects of
16 your spill. By June, we're under a tremendous strain. A
17 few of the chartered vessels who didn't have herring
18 permits, and didn't halibut fish, came off charters to
19 go salmon fishing with a good Exxon season in their
20 pockets, which would equal any good salmon year. By
21 June, we were to be ready for the regular salmon
22 openings, and were put on a one day notice, until the
23 twenty third of June. We had no choice, but to stay on
23 notice. We could not seek other employment. Exxon and
25 VECO had a file of hundreds of boats ready and willing

1 to clean up Exxon's mess. Yet, Exxon continued to push
2 for a normal harvest under their rules. With dirty fish
3 tenders, and John Herrington continued to invalidate
4 the seriousness of the oil. Seiners were told that
5 there were no openings for work of boats of their size.
6 By June, large vessels, and set-netters have negotiated
7 clean up work with Exxon, and yet Exxon still refused
8 to take a serious look at several hundred seiners that
9 are ideally suited to travel and clean up their own
10 waters. Finally, when the larger vessels started
11 whining about their contracts, the seiners could no
12 longer stand it, and unified, and ingeniously showed
13 Exxon how to clean up their own oil. Exxon responded to
14 hire twenty more vessels out of an idle fleet to show
15 us how serious they were about cleaning up our beaches.
16 So, by August 6, it was obvious to all of us how poorly
17 you've managed this crisis as the culprits of this
18 tragedy. And have compounded a disaster in March, into
19 a living nightmare in August for our community and
20 island. Your claims process tries to fit a variety of
21 people into your niche, and doesn't address the myriad
22 of circumstances which beset people, especially
23 fishermen who are inherently diverse, and have changing
23 seasons. Your hiring process has guaranteed some a
25 double season and a chance to upgrade substantially in

1 the same fishery, yet sets others back in the stone
2 ages economically. Instead of magnanimously trying to
3 help the communities and individuals involved, you
4 filled our lives with turmoil and uncertainty, by
5 disrupting us emotionally, socially, and economically.
6 Your policies have been successful in that respect. In
7 all tragedies, the true human spirit emerges in the
8 form of courage, dignity, honesty, pride, and in our
9 case, the love for our island and its wildlife. That
10 you can't take from us. We will be a stronger
11 community, even after you've pulled out, leaving us
12 holding the bag. Because you've taught us how to unify,
13 and showed us our strengths and weaknesses, which
14 included the danger of complacency. We need to look for
15 solutions by seriously perusing other alternative
16 energy sources, and by conserving fuel. We'll have to
17 make difficult choices to undue our dependency on oil,
18 and we won't forget the nations worst oil spill to
19 date. And, that's Lacey Burns, and Chris Burns.

20 MR. PARKER: Thank you Lacey. The dangers of
21 complacency are something else that we are going to
22 have to work on hard. Yet, it's easy to say that you
23 should be complacent, but you can't spend your life
23 prodding your government to do the right thing. To
25 watch over multi-national, to make sure they do the

1 right thing, which is what the government is supposed
2 to do. Hopefully, we'll find some middle road here,
3 where citizens don't have to spend all their time on
4 keeping the government up to snuff, but to me, it's the
5 hardest answer we're going to have to come up with. How
6 do you keep up from sliding into complacency, as we did
7 before. We came up to a peak, kind of at the opening of
8 the Valdez terminal, where things were working pretty
9 way, and then everything just dribbled away for twelve
10 years. We're going to be giving that a lot of thought.
11 Be listening closely to anybody who has any ideas on
12 how do you avoid complacency the next time around. So
13 there is no next time around. Anyone else? Okay, we
14 have, I believe, a young lady coming down here, then I
15 believe the gentleman in the middle there. Hi.

16 MS. AVITABILA: Hi. The job I do I see a lot
17 of.....

18 MR. PARKER: What's your name?

19 MS. AVITABILA: Lucia, Lucia Avitabila.

20 MR. PARKER: Okay, how do you spell that?

21 MS. AVITABILA: A-V-I-T-A-B-I-L-A.

22 MR. PARKER: Okay, thank you.

23 MS. AVITABILA: Okay, the job I do I see a lot
23 of oil spills. I see a lot of chemical spills. I see a
25 lot of pollution. I live in New York right now, and I'm

1 just going to tell you what's happened in Kodiak now,
2 isn't going to end with this. It's going to keep
3 happening, and maybe what I'm talking about is really
4 vague, because I'm not addressing the specific issue
5 that all you people are addressing. This is not the
6 last oil spill that is going to happen up here in
7 Alaska. And the reason is not because of Exxon, it's
8 not because of the Coast Guard, it's not because of
9 DEC, it's because we're blaming everyone else for
10 something that we all are apart of. I mean, how many of
11 us haven't bought Exxon gas? Really, I want to see, has
12 anyone here never bought Exxon gas.

13 MR. PARKER: Me.

14 MS. AVITABILA: Except for him. I mean, it's
15 something we're all going to have to deal with in the
16 future. I know I sound like a radical, but I'll tell
17 you I'm being a realist. Two hundred years ago, New
18 York Harbor didn't look anything like it looks right
19 now. It's a crying shame. When I got up here to Kodiak,
20 I had to come seventy five decibals down to talk to the
21 taxi driver, in a civil tongue. New York, it's a
22 beautiful place, as far as the people, believe it or
23 not. Environmentally, it's a mess. So is Newark, and so
23 are the areas around it. Pennsylvania is getting that
25 way, hazardous material dumping. This is not the last

1 oil spill you're going to see, and as this area grows,
2 you're going to start seeing more and more problems
3 arise. I know ya'll have the problems to deal with now,
4 as far as people getting paid, people getting work,
5 because you people have children and everything like
6 that, and someday I want to have children, but this is
7 not the last time this is going to happen. We all can't
8 keep looking for somebody else to make the decisions to
9 do this, and to do that. To find a better energy
10 source, to find a better way to...we all have to start
11 with ourselves, I'm being honest, because, if we don't,
12 in seventy five years, the lower forty eight is going
13 to be a mess, and it's going to start coming up here. I
14 don't have to tell you about the ozone depletion, all
15 that kind of stuff that's going on, but it's really
16 happening. Someday I'd like to have kids. If you throw
17 trash on the ground, if you drive your car where you
18 could walk maybe half a mile, or ten feet. If you do
19 things like that, if you, if you work on a boat...I
20 lived on a boat for two years, I know what goes on on a
21 boat. People here and there, oil goes over, this goes
22 over, oops, oops, you know. It's we have...we can't
23 keep blaming everybody else. In this instance, the
23 blame is getting put on a lot of people, but eventually
25 it has got to come back to ourselves. Our government is

1 run by ourselves. If we just sit back and say, well
2 they're going to take care of it, they're going to do
3 something about...we are them. We are the people who
4 are going to make a difference. Individually, we each
5 have to become our own private environmentalists. If we
6 don't, I don't think it's so much that we're history,
7 but I think our lives are going to be radically
8 altered, and the lives of our children, they're not
9 going to have places like Kodiak, they're not going to
10 have anything like this. Because it's all getting out
11 of control, because people are blaming everyone else. I
12 think it's time we take a look at ourselves as far as
13 what we're doing...I mean, I do the same thing, I mean,
14 I'm a hipocrite, you know. I'll take my car to work
15 instead of taking a subway, but you know, it's not the
16 last oil spill that's going to happen in Kodiak, and
17 complacency, as far as the government, only runs as far
18 as the complacency as ourselves. Like this man was
19 saying about complacency. I just wanted to say that.

20 MR. PARKER: Thank you Lucia. You're right,
21 everyone has to be a private environmentalist for it to
22 work. Meg, did you have anything you wanted to ask the
23 young lady?

23 MS. HAYES: I'll do it after the meeting.

25 MR. PARKER: I'll do it after the meeting. Sir.

1 By the way, I know some people who will only give us
2 about twenty five years, so your seventy five was
3 probably unenthusiastic.

4 MR. SHORT: My name is Darryl Short. I've been
5 a commercial fisherman in Kodiak for twenty years. This
6 summer I've been on charter for Exxon most of the
7 summer, so I feel like I'm unqualified to say a few
8 things about what went wrong. A lot of the things I've
9 got written down here have been covered, so I won't
10 repeat a lot of the stuff. It's just a couple of points
11 I think are important. One is psychological impact of
12 this I don't think has been adequately addressed from
13 the beginning. In case this should happen again, or any
14 emergency of this sort. I think it's imperative that
15 funds be established right away to take care of the
16 people that are involved, and to fund all of the
17 services that are involved with the psychology of the
18 people. Exxon has been confronted with this, and
19 they've refused to put any money out last I heard to
20 fund any of this. But it's pretty obvious from the
21 increase in suicides, and increase in domestic violence
22 this summer, that this community has been very strongly
23 affected by the events that are going on here. I want
23 to stress again, that there should be more local
25 control over what happens in an oil spill that, it's

1 obvious that a lot of the screw ups that have happened
2 this summer is because of a lot of local knowledge, and
3 people that have come from outside areas. Exxon seems
4 to have made a concerted effort to hire a lot of people
5 that have worked for them in the past from Louisiana,
6 and New Orleans, and other areas. This has been just
7 another one of their failures. I don't want to condemn
8 Exxon anymore, they're already condemned. They've been
9 a failure, and that's a fact as far as I'm concerned. I
10 just hope we can learn from this, and if this should
11 ever happen again do the right thing. One other
12 suggestion that I have is that the control thing is
13 very important. Like Brian said, the control has been
14 taken out of our hand, all the way around. Exxon has
15 usurped all the control from everybody apparently.
16 There hasn't been any strong influence from the State,
17 or the federal government to take this control from
18 them. They've made a really good effort at producing a
19 lot of good PR for themselves, but not at cleaning up
20 any oil. I would suggest that in case of another oil
21 spill, there be a definite control placed in the hands
22 of possibly a triumpherate, that's three people, one
23 from the Coast Guard, a knowledgeable local person, and
23 a State representative. That would have the absolute
25 control over the clean up. One of the biggest problem

1 of the clean up, is that there hasn't been anyone to
2 answer questions, and nobody that could make the big
3 decisions that needed to be made. That's about all I
4 have.

5 MR. PARKER: Your idea of a triumpherate, is an
6 interesting one. Certainly one we've used in a lot of
7 similar situations. We'll certainly take that into
8 account. The point you brought up on the psychological
9 impact. One of the things, from my perception, the
10 State did right when director of emergency services,
11 Herb Martin, it is per survey on Cordova, he picked up
12 that there were severe problems there, so he went and
13 hired a psychologist who specializes in treating entire
14 communities that are in an excited state of trauma.
15 People at Cordova were very thankful for this man spent
16 several days with them, and gave them a lot of
17 assistance, and getting over a very bad period, and
18 they...he was a tremendous help to them in that. The
19 outcome of that was that the director of emergency
20 services got in trouble with the legislature for not
21 hiring somebody from the university of Alaska. The
22 University of Alaska didn't have anybody that
23 specialized in providing that emergency psychological
23 services. There was very few people in the world who do
25 this. Because he was director of emergency services, he

1 knew where they were. That's the probably the reason,
2 because he got in trouble for doing the right thing, is
3 probably the reason why the other communities didn't
4 have the services of the same gentleman. I just bring
5 that up as one of the little side notes that...this
6 sort of thing that we pick up in our hearings.

7 MS. HAYES: I'd go along with Walt on that one.
8 In fact, One of the differences that's real obvious
9 from the type of emergency this fellow had dealt with
10 before, was that they were a clear point and time. An
11 earthquake, it happens, and when you know in a short
12 period of time what the damages. The destruction of the
13 wreck of the Challenger was an emergency, was a
14 disaster that happened. But you knew within a short
15 period of time what the damage was. It seems to me that
16 what happened here wasn't that kind of disaster. It's
17 the kind of disaster that the real damage might not
18 have been done yet. It may not be evident for years.
19 How people react to that, how they respond to it is
20 probably different than the kind of point and time kind
21 of disaster. It also seems to me that the Alaska
22 Legislature is nervous about dealing with psychological
23 problems, and in fact has had some fears that our
23 commission would go out and hire some of those
25 psychologists. We need to be sort of cognizant, and

1 aware of those kind of human needs that come up, and we
2 certainly would like to address that in our
3 recommendations for future events of this nature. To be
4 sure to have somebody on the spot when you can.

5 MR. SHORT: I think one of the tragedies that
6 happened from this oil spill, the oil spill is a big
7 enough tragedy by itself, but Exxon, the way they've
8 handled it, has compounded the tragedy, and has caused
9 just as much damage from the way they've handled it in
10 the local communities. I'm not talking about
11 environmental damage, of course, but psychological
12 damage.

13 MS. HAYES: Yeah, I agree with you. I was in
14 Fairbanks when the pipeline was being constructed, and
15 at that time our community, had a group of people that
16 they hired as socio-economic scientists. To chart the
17 progress of the community. What happened to the people
18 that lived there. I'm only regretful that somebody
19 hadn't done something similar for this one. We could
20 learn so much from them what happened, if somebody had
21 done that.

22 MR. SHORT: It seems like it's been pretty well
23 ignored from the things I've heard.

23 MS. HAYES: They spent a lot of money on Fish
25 and Game.

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MR. SHORT: Yeah.

MR. PARKER: Thank you, Darryl.

MR. SHORT: Thank you.

MR. PARKER: Anyone else? A young lady back there. Hello.

MS. CARLSON: My name is Julianna Carlson. I'm a Kodiak resident. Kodiak was a beautiful island, with clean air and water. With an abundance of birds, rare and unusual, and Alaskan animals. Kodiak was one of the two most economically viable communities in Alaska, because of our fisheries. The oil spill tragedy came to this great land, the last frontier, in the early spring of 1989. Exxon is, and has been here for a while, whatever their motives, this spill hasn't been cleaned up. Very little has been cleaned. Exxon is going now, September 15, or before, and hopefully now, we the people of Kodiak, and Alaska can determine our own destinies. The clean up effort needs to be determined by the people, not by outside groups, and not the guilty party. The who, what, when, and how, needs to be determined by the people through citizen advisory groups, and their representatives. The cost and reimbursment paid by the responsible parties. We need to have the finances and means now to dispose of the waste after Exxon leaves. We, the people of Kodiak, and

1 Alaska need to be involved in determining the methods
2 used in the clean up. Bioremediation studies indicate
3 that it is dangerous itself, and it doesn't detoxify
4 the heavier aeromatic hydrocarbons that are so
5 dangerous. Also the chemical Chorexit, I'm not sure of
6 my pronunciation, that is toxic itself, is being tested
7 now by Exxon. We need to carefully monitor and study
8 any of these new chemicals before we ever put them into
9 our waters, and possibly destroy more life. We, the
10 people of Kodiak need to decide, in a democratic way
11 who, what, how, and how many boats are chosen or
12 peoples to work on the clean up of the oil spill. As
13 the seine boats were chosen by the people of Kodiak,
14 and not the way the larger boats were chosen. We, the
15 people of Alaska, and Kodiak, can determine our
16 destinies and clean up the oil ourselves. We need to
17 look for other energy sources, and all of us need to be
18 environmentally conscious, and we need to be well
19 informed, and involved in the world. I think we are our
20 brothers keepers.

21 MR. PARKER: Thank you very much. It was
22 uh...Meg?

23 MS. HAYES: Thank you very much.

23 MR. PARKER: Anyone else? I'd like to thank the
25 people of Kodiak for coming and sharing their thoughts,

1 and very deep, obviously very deep feelings with us. I
2 most sincerely hope we can come through for you, and in
3 our recommendations chart out a better future. We'll
4 certainly give it all we've got. Meg?

5 MS. HAYES: Well, I agree with Walt. I'd also
6 like to remind the people in the audience that the Oil
7 Spill Commission will pledge to do our best to come up
8 with the recommendations that make sense. Not only to
9 prevent future disasters, but also to have a better way
10 of responding to them. I want to remind you that our
11 term is up February 15. In the long term, it's not the
12 Oil Spill Commission that is going to make any changes.
13 It's going to be the people that continue to demand
14 that the Legislature, both on the national, and the
15 federal level, do something to change the systems that
16 resulted in a spill like the Exxon-Valdez. We'll try to
17 do our best, if you'll try to remember to fight
18 complacency. To do your best in bringing those messages
19 home to people who can make the changes that need to be
20 done. Thanks.

21 MR. PARKER: Thank you again, Juli. This
22 hearing of the Oil Spill Commission is adjourned.

23 * * * END OF DAY * * *
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