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MEETING MINUTES FOR
THE BOARD OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY
OF THE
LOUISIANA ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION
HELD AT
LASALLE BUILDING
617 NORTH 3RD STREET
LABELLE ROOM
BATON ROUGE, LOUISIANA
ON THE 24TH DAY OF JUNE, 2020
COMMENCING AT 9:42 A.M.

REPORTED BY: ELICIA H. WOODWORTH, CCR

1 **Appearances of Board Members Present:**

- 2 R. L. Allain, II
- 3 Don Briggs - via Zoom
- 4 Yvette Cola - via Zoom
- 5 Paula Davis
- 6 Kenneth Havard - via Zoom
- 7 Travis Holley - via Zoom
- 8 Ronnie Johns
- 9 Jerald Jones
- 10 Heather Malone - via Zoom
- 11 Jan Moller - via Zoom
- 12 Stuart A. Moss
- 13 Secretary Don Pierson
- 14 David H. Toups - via Zoom
- 15 Dr. Woodrow Wilson, Jr. - via Zoom

16 **Staff members present:**

- 17 Samantha Booker
- 18 Tam Bourgeois
- 19 Kristin Cheng
- 20 Frank Favaloro
- 21 Brenda Guess
- 22 Richard House
- 23 Stephanie LeGrange
- 24 Joyce Metoyer
- 25 Robin Porter
- 26 Deborah Simmons
- 27 Hud Usie
- 28 Anne Villa
- 29 Shawn Welcome
- 30 Melody Woodworth



1 MR. JONES: Ladies and gentlemen, we will
2 call the meeting of the Board of Commerce & Industry to
3 order. This is the June 24th, 2020 meeting. It's good
4 to see everyone today. This is the first full agenda
5 meeting we have had since the COVID pandemic reached our
6 state, and just I want to take just a personal moment --
7 I just want to take a personal moment to remind everyone
8 that we've -- a lot of us have had friends or families
9 that have been affected by all of this, and I would ask
10 that you keep our communities, our state and our nation
11 in your prayers as we heal both physically, culturally,
12 spiritually and we get past all of this back to a life
13 that looks a little bit more like it did before all of
14 this began.

15 So let's take a moment of silence and ask
16 that you lift your families up in prayer.

17 (A moment of silence is observed.)

18 MR. JONES: Thank you very much.

19 Good to see everyone today. We are
20 attempting to do our meeting through Zoom, and so from a
21 technology standpoint that we're going to do things just
22 a little bit different, like she's sending me a sign
23 right now that I've got to speak louder, and no one has
24 ever told me to speak louder. Ever.

25 So people, Board members here in person,



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1 when we speak into the mic, apparently put your mouth
2 right on the mic, just like Steven Tyler does. Okay?
3 And for those of you who are too young, that was an
4 Aerosmith allusion. So speak right into the mic.

5 We need to -- I'm going to need to read a
6 certification in a minute, but I'm going to give you
7 some instructions right now. Speak directly into the
8 mic. When we do comments through the meeting, we will
9 have people who are here in the meeting room do comments
10 first, then we will then go to the people who are
11 participating through the Zoom ap. So we will have an
12 opportunity for everyone to speak. Be patient with me
13 as we work through this. I've never done this before,
14 so if I make any mistakes, just be patient. We'll get
15 them corrected.

16 Before we go any further, I have a
17 certification that we need to put on the record.

18 In accordance with Executive Proclamation
19 JBE 2020-75 issued by Governor John Bel Edwards on June
20 4th, 2020, the Board of Commerce & Industry is providing
21 for attendance at a Board meeting, which will only
22 contain business deemed central government business via
23 teleconference or videoconference as allowed during the
24 pendency of the COVID-19 health emergency.

25 Pursuant to Section 2C of JBE 2020-75, the



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1 Board of Commerce & Industry will provide attendance for
2 the 9:30 meeting on Wednesday, June 24, 2020 via Zoom,
3 and in a manner that allows for observation and input by
4 the members of the public, as set forth in the notice
5 posted on June 8th, 2020. The Board of Commerce &
6 Industry would otherwise be unable to operate due to
7 quorum requirements.

8 So with that said, we will call the roll.
9 Again, members here, please speak directly into your mic
10 so that the record can be clear.

11 MS. SIMMONS: Good morning.

12 Dr. Shawn Wilson.

13 (No response.)

14 MS. SIMMONS: Don Briggs.

15 (No response.)

16 MS. SIMMONS: Representative Paula Davis.

17 MS. DAVIS: Here.

18 MS. SIMMONS: Mayor Toups.

19 MR. TOUPS: Present on Zoom.

20 MS. SIMMONS: Yvette Cola.

21 (No response.)

22 MS. SIMMONS: Rickey Fabra.

23 (No response.)

24 MS. SIMMONS: Manuel Fajardo.

25 (No response.)



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1 MS. SIMMONS: Stewart Moss.
2 MR. MOSS: Here.
3 MS. SIMMONS: Jerald Jones.
4 MR. JONES: Here.
5 MS. SIMMONS: Heather Malone.
6 MS. MALONE: Here, Zoom.
7 MS. SIMMONS: Senator Ronnie Johns.
8 MR. JOHNS: Here.
9 MS. SIMMONS: Kenneth Havard.
10 (No response.)
11 MS. SIMMONS: Jan Moller.
12 MR. MOLLER: Here, Zoom.
13 MS. SIMMONS: Senator Allain.
14 MR. ALLAIN: Here.
15 MS. SIMMONS: Representative Bishop, Stuart
16 Bishop.
17 (No response.)
18 MS. SIMMONS: Secretary Don Pierson.
19 SECRETARY PIERSON: Here.
20 MS. SIMMONS: Scott Richard.
21 (No response.)
22 MS. SIMMONS: Darryl Saizan.
23 (No response.)
24 MS. SIMMONS: Daniel Schexnaydre.
25 (No response.)



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1 MS. SIMMONS: Ronnie Slone.

2 (No response.)

3 MS. SIMMONS: Travis Holley.

4 MR. HOLLEY: Present via Zoom.

5 MS. SIMMONS: Dr. Woodrow Wilson.

6 DR. W. WILSON: Present here Zoom.

7 MS. SIMMONS: I think we have a quorum.

8 MR. JONES: We do have a quorum. Thank you
9 very much.

10 Again, as a matter of housekeeping, I would
11 ask each of you to put your telephones, iPads on mute so
12 that they don't interfere with the Zoom communications.

13 All right. With that said, let's get into
14 the agenda. We have before us the minutes from the
15 February 21, 2020 Board of Commerce & Industry meeting.
16 I would entertain a motion to approve.

17 MR. ALLAIN: So moved.

18 MR. JONES: We have a motion.

19 MR. MOSS: Second.

20 MR. JONES: We have a second by
21 Representative Moss.

22 Any questions or comments from the Board?

23 (No response.)

24 MR. JONES: Any questions or comments from
25 the public?



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1 (No response.)

2 MR. JONES: There being none, all in favor,
3 say "aye."

4 (Several members respond "aye.")

5 MR. JONES: Any opposed?

6 (No response.)

7 MR. JONES: And I understand I need to do
8 all votes by rollcall; is that correct?

9 MS. SIMMONS: I think this one will be okay.

10 MR. JONES: Let's do it this way: All in
11 favor, say "aye."

12 (Several members say "aye.")

13 MR. JONES: Is there any opposed to the
14 motion?

15 (No response.)

16 MR. JONES: Because I will tell you this,
17 when we go down to the main parts of the agenda, we will
18 do rollcall, so we've got to be clear on that.

19 All right. Quality Jobs Program.

20 Mr. Favaloro is stepping in, I understand.

21 MR. FAVALORO: Yes, sir.

22 MR. JONES: Please lead us through it.

23 MR. FAVALORO: We have one deferral,
24 20180261, Shintech Louisiana, LLC.

25 MR. JONES: I would entertain a motion to



1 defer 20180261, did you say?

2 MR. FAVALORO: Yes, sir.

3 MR. JONES: Shintech Louisiana. I'll
4 entertain that motion.

5 MS. DAVIS: I move.

6 MR. JONES: We have a motion.

7 And a second?

8 MR. MOSS: Second.

9 MR. JONES: We have a second from
10 Representative Moss.

11 Any discussion from the Board?

12 (No response.)

13 MR. JONES: Any discussion from the public?

14 (No response.)

15 MR. JONES: We'll have a rollcall vote.

16 MS. SIMMONS: Don Briggs.

17 MR. BRIGGS: Yes.

18 MS. SIMMONS: Representative Paula Davis.

19 MS. DAVIS: Yes.

20 MS. SIMMONS: David Toups.

21 MR. TOUPS: Yes.

22 MS. SIMMONS: Yvette Cola.

23 (No response.)

24 MS. SIMMONS: Stuart Moss.

25 MR. MOSS: Yes.



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1 MS. SIMMONS: Jerald Jones.
2 MR. JONES: Yes.
3 MS. SIMMONS: Heather Malone.
4 MS. MALONE: Yes.
5 MS. SIMMONS: Ronnie Johns.
6 MR. JOHNS: Yes.
7 MS. SIMMONS: Jan Moller.
8 MR. MOLLER: Yes.
9 MS. SIMMONS: Senator Allain.
10 MR. ALLAIN: Here. Yes.
11 MS. SIMMONS: Secretary Pierson.
12 SECRETARY PIERSON: Yes.
13 MS. SIMMONS: Mr. Travis Holley.
14 MR. HOLLEY: Yes.
15 MS. SIMMONS: And Dr. Woodrow Wilson.
16 DR. W. WILSON: Yes.
17 MR. JONES: All right. That item is
18 deferred.
19 Lead us through the rest.
20 MR. FAVALORO: That leaves us with five
21 Quality Jobs applications: 20170471, ControlWorx, LLC
22 in East Baton Rouge Parish; 20170648, Fuji Oil New
23 Orleans, LLC in Jefferson Parish; 20180087, LaSalle
24 Lumber Company in Lasalle; 20190154, Sleep Management,
25 LLC in Lafayette; and 20180282, Thomas Pump & Machinery



1 in St. Tammany.

2 MR. JONES: I would entertain a motion to
3 approve these Quality Jobs applications.

4 MR. MOSS: So moved.

5 DR. W. WILSON: So moved by Dr. Wilson.

6 MR. JONES: We have a motion from Dr.
7 Wilson; second from Representative Moss.

8 Any questions or comments from the Board?

9 (No response.)

10 MR. JONES: Any questions or comments from
11 the public?

12 (No response.)

13 MR. JONES: Rollcall vote.

14 MS. SIMMONS: Don Briggs.

15 MR. BRIGGS: Yes.

16 MS. SIMMONS: Paula Davis.

17 MS. DAVIS: Yes.

18 MS. SIMMONS: David Toups.

19 MR. TOUPS: Yes.

20 MS. SIMMONS: Stuart Moss.

21 MR. MOSS: Yes.

22 MS. SIMMONS: Jerald Jones.

23 MR. JONES: Yes.

24 MS. SIMMONS: Heather Malone.

25 MS. MALONE: Yes.



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1 MS. SIMMONS: Senator Ronnie Johns.
2 MR. JOHNS: Yes.
3 MS. SIMMONS: Jan Moller.
4 MR. MOLLER: I'm sorry. Yes.
5 MS. SIMMONS: Senator Allain.
6 MR. ALLAIN: Yes.
7 MS. SIMMONS: Secretary Pierson.
8 SECRETARY PIERSON: Yes.
9 MS. SIMMONS: Mr. Thomas Holley.
10 MR. HOLLEY: Yes.
11 MS. SIMMONS: Dr. Woodrow Wilson.
12 DR. W. WILSON: Yes.
13 MS. SIMMONS: Yes passes.
14 MR. JONES: Okay. We can move to the
15 Quality Job renewals.

16 MR. FAVALORO: There are nine Quality Jobs
17 renewals: 20141243, Cajun Ready Mix Concrete, LLC;
18 20150970, Crying Eagle Brewing Company, LLC; 20150189,
19 Epic Piping, LLC; 20140931, Integrico Composites of
20 Louisiana, LLC; 20150912, Laitram, LLC; 20151124, Mosaic
21 Fertilizer, LLC; 20151125, Mosaic Fertilizer, LLC;
22 20151210. Plastipak Packaging, Inc.; and 20140903,
23 Vantage Health Plan, Inc. and Affinity Health Group,
24 LLC.

25 That concludes the renewals.



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1 MR. JONES: Entertain a motion to approve
2 those renewals.

3 Motion from Senator Davis; second from
4 Senator Johns.

5 Any comments or questions from the Board?

6 We have a question from someone
7 participating by Zoom.

8 Okay. We do not have a question from
9 someone participating by Zoom on this motion.

10 Rollcall vote.

11 MS. SIMMONS: Don Briggs.

12 MR. BRIGGS: Yes.

13 MS. SIMMONS: Paula Davis.

14 MS. DAVIS: Yes.

15 MS. SIMMONS: Mayor Toups.

16 MR. TOUPS: Yes.

17 MS. SIMMONS: Stuart Moss.

18 MR. MOSS: Yes.

19 MS. SIMMONS: Jerald Jones.

20 MR. JONES: Yes.

21 MS. SIMMONS: Heather Malone.

22 MS. MALONE: Yes.

23 MS. SIMMONS: Senator Johns.

24 MR. JOHNS: Yes.

25 MS. SIMMONS: Jan Moller.



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1 MR. MOLLER: Yes.
2 MS. SIMMONS: Senator Allain.
3 MR. ALLAIN: Yes.
4 MS. SIMMONS: Secretary Pierson.
5 SECRETARY PIERSON: Yes.
6 MS. SIMMONS: Mr. Holley.
7 MR. HOLLEY: Yes.
8 MS. SIMMONS: And Dr. Woodrow Wilson.
9 DR. W. WILSON: Yes.
10 MS. SIMMONS: Passes.
11 MR. JONES: Go ahead. The motion carries.
12 I'm sorry. I do need to declare that, don't I?
13 MR. FAVALORO: We have a change in company
14 name only. We ask that we vote on these individually.
15 It's basically one company with a name change catchup
16 from the time of application to current. Housekeeping
17 item.
18 MR. JONES: Okay. Do you want to read them?
19 MR. FAVALORO: Yes, sir.
20 20180119, Citadel Completions, LLC, current
21 name, to new company name, Rampart Completions, LLC,
22 Calcasieu.
23 MR. JONES: Motion to approve.
24 MS. DAVIS: So moved.
25 MR. JONES: Motion from Representative



1 Davis; second from Dr. Wilson.

2 Any questions or comments from the Board?

3 (No response.)

4 MR. JONES: Any questions or comments from
5 the public?

6 (No response.)

7 MR. JONES: There being none, rollcall vote.

8 MS. SIMMONS: Don Briggs.

9 MR. BRIGGS: Yes.

10 MS. SIMMONS: Representative Davis.

11 MS. DAVIS: Yes.

12 MS. SIMMONS: David Toups.

13 MR. TOUPS: Yes.

14 MS. SIMMONS: Stuart Moss.

15 MR. MOSS: Yes.

16 MS. SIMMONS: Jerald Jones.

17 MR. JONES: Yes.

18 MS. SIMMONS: Heather Malone.

19 MS. MALONE: Yes.

20 MS. SIMMONS: Senator Johns.

21 MR. JOHNS: Yes.

22 MS. SIMMONS: Jan Moller.

23 MR. MOLLER: Yes.

24 MS. SIMMONS: Senator Allain.

25 MR. ALLAIN: Yes.



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1 MS. SIMMONS: Secretary Pierson.
2 SECRETARY PIERSON: Yes.
3 MS. SIMMONS: Mr. Holley.
4 MR. HOLLEY: Yes.
5 MS. SIMMONS: Dr. Woodrow Wilson.
6 DR. W. WILSON: Yes.
7 MR. JONES: Motion carries.
8 Next.
9 MR. FAVALORO: 20180199, Rampart
10 Completions, LLC to Citadel Completions, LLC in
11 Calcasieu.
12 MR. JONES: Entertain a motion to approve.
13 MS. DAVIS: Motion to approve.
14 MR. JONES: Motion from Representative
15 Davis.
16 Second?
17 MR. MOSS: Second.
18 MR. JONES: Second from Representative Moss.
19 Any questions or comments from the Board?
20 (No response.)
21 MR. JONES: There being none, any questions
22 or comments from the public?
23 We have a question from the public? Do we?
24 Whoever is trying to ask the question, you
25 may be muted. You may need to unmute your...



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1 Apparently we're trying to get a question
2 from a Zoom participant, but it is not transmitting for
3 some reason.

4 Whoever is asking the question, if you have
5 the ability to send an e-mail to -- I'm sorry -- or type
6 it into the chat in the Zoom application and we'll try
7 to get that answered as quickly as we can.

8 MS. BOOKER: She's unmuted now.

9 MR. JONES: Okay. Is there a question?

10 MR. HAVARD: Yes. Okay. Thank you. This
11 is Kenny Havard.

12 MS. SIMMONS: He's a Board member.

13 MR. JONES: Welcome.

14 Mr. Havard, did you have a question or are
15 you just joining the meeting?

16 MS. SIMMONS: I think he just joined the
17 meeting.

18 MR. JONES: Do we have a question from a
19 member of the public?

20 (No response.)

21 MR. JONES: Okay. We do not.

22 All right. Rollcall vote.

23 MS. SIMMONS: Don Briggs.

24 MR. BRIGGS: Yes.

25 MS. SIMMONS: Paula Davis.



1 MS. DAVIS: Yes.
2 MS. SIMMONS: Mayor Toups.
3 MR. TOUPS: Yes.
4 MS. SIMMONS: Stuart Moss.
5 MR. MOSS: Yes.
6 MS. SIMMONS: Jerald Jones.
7 MR. JONES: Yes.
8 MS. SIMMONS: Heather Malone.
9 MS. MALONE: Yes.
10 MS. SIMMONS: Senator Ronnie Johns.
11 MR. JOHNS: Yes.
12 MS. SIMMONS: Kenneth Havard.
13 (No response.)
14 MS. SIMMONS: Jan Moller.
15 MR. MOLLER: Yes.
16 MS. SIMMONS: Senator Allain.
17 MR. ALLAIN: Yes.
18 MS. SIMMONS: Secretary Pierson.
19 SECRETARY PIERSON: Yes.
20 MS. SIMMONS: Mr. Holley.
21 MR. HOLLEY: Yes.
22 MS. SIMMONS: And Dr. Woodrow Wilson.
23 DR. W. WILSON: Yes.
24 MR. JONES: Motion carries.
25 We have a change in physical location.



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1 MR. FAVALORO: One change in physical
2 location: 20131105, Gulf Crane Services, Inc., previous
3 address is 1244 Wall Road, Broussard, Louisiana 70518 in
4 St. Martin Parish. The new address is 115 Charbonnet
5 Road, Duson, Louisiana 70529. And it should say
6 Lafayette Parish not St. Tammany.

7 DR. W. WILSON: So moved by Dr. Wilson.

8 MR. JONES: We have a motion by Dr. Wilson.

9 Do we have a second?

10 MS. DAVIS: Second.

11 MR. JONES: Second from Representative
12 Davis.

13 Any questions or comments from the Board?

14 (No response.)

15 MR. JONES: Any questions or comments from
16 the public?

17 (No response.)

18 MR. JONES: There being none, rollcall vote.

19 MS. SIMMONS: Mr. Briggs.

20 (No response.)

21 MS. SIMMONS: Paula Davis.

22 MS. DAVIS: Yes.

23 MS. SIMMONS: David Toups.

24 MR. TOUPE: Yes.

25 MS. SIMMONS: Stuart Moss.



1 MR. MOSS: Yes.
2 MS. SIMMONS: Jerald Jones.
3 MR. JONES: Yes.
4 MS. SIMMONS: Heather Malone.
5 MS. MALONE: Yes.
6 MS. SIMMONS: Senator Johns.
7 MR. JOHNS: Yes.
8 MS. SIMMONS: Kenneth Havard.
9 MR. HAVARD: Yes.
10 MS. SIMMONS: Jan Moller.
11 MR. MOLLER: Yes.
12 MS. SIMMONS: Senator Allain.
13 MR. ALLAIN: Yes.
14 MS. SIMMONS: Secretary Pierson.
15 SECRETARY PIERSON: Yes.
16 MS. SIMMONS: Mr. Holley.
17 (No response.)
18 MS. SIMMONS: And Dr. Woodrow Wilson.
19 DR. W. WILSON: Yes.
20 MR. JONES: Motion carries.
21 Now we have to the Restoration Tax
22 Abatements.
23 Mr. Favaloro, you'll be leading us through
24 those as well?
25 MR. FAVALORO: Yes, sir.



1 I have 29 Restoration Tax Abatement
2 applications, 24 of which are for the same company.
3 20170258, Brown & Taylor Development, LLC in
4 Caddo Parish; 20190216, CKCC Bell in Jefferson. The
5 following 24 are in East Baton Rouge Parish: 20190032,
6 GCHP - Progress Park, LLC; 20190033, GCHP Progress Park,
7 LLC in East Baton Rouge --

8 MR. JONES: Mr. Favaloro, I'm going to stop
9 you right there. Make sure that we all understand, so
10 that the Board members can at least keep all of this in
11 context, these 24 are -- explain what's going on here.
12 Why there are 24 separate applications under one company
13 name?

14 MR. FAVALORO: Under the Restoration Tax
15 Abatement program, you're allowed to have one structure
16 apply at a time. This is multiple structures in the
17 same area.

18 SECRETARY PIERSON: This is the affordable
19 housing project.

20 MR. FAVALORO: Yes, sir.

21 MR. PIERSON: Don Pierson. Just for
22 clarification, this is an affordable housing project, so
23 each one of those represents a unit for housing.

24 MR. JONES: Very good. Go ahead.

25 MR. FAVALORO: I can't remember where I left



1 off.

2 So 20190034, GCHP - Progress Park, LLC; 2019
3 0035, GCHP Progress Park; 20190036; 20190037; 20190038;
4 20190039; 20190040; 20190041; 20190042; 20190043;
5 20190044; 20190045; 20190046; 20190047; 20190048;
6 20190049; 20190050; 20190051; 20190052; 20190053;
7 20190054; 20190055.

8 Then we have 20190068, HOMEWORK LLC in
9 Orleans Parish; 20161410, M.S. Rau Antiques, LLC in
10 Orleans; and 20180425, Mo's Art Supply Store in Orleans.

11 That concludes the new applications.

12 MR. JONES: Thank you, Mr. Favaloro.

13 Entertain a motion to approve.

14 MS. DAVIS: Motion to approve.

15 MR. JONES: I have a motion to approve. Do
16 we -- excuse me. A motion from Representative Davis,
17 and second from Representative Moss.

18 Any questions or comments from the Board?

19 (No response.)

20 MR. JONES: Any questions or comments from
21 the public?

22 Yes. If you come to the front so we can
23 hear you, please. Thank you.

24 Pull the mic very close and give us your
25 name and your address, please.



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1 MS. BURKE: Okay. My name is Simone Burke,
2 and I'm representing Mo's Art Supply for the building at
3 2525 Bienville in New Orleans. The application has been
4 a little complicated due to a typo by the assessor's
5 office.

6 Prior to us purchasing the building, it was
7 owned by several different churches, and so there was no
8 property tax associated with this location. And I
9 believe that a zero was added to the assessment before
10 we purchased it, which reflected \$1,670,000 value, which
11 was then amended when we purchased the building by Lisa
12 Ross, who I think handles most of the RTA applications
13 for the Orleans Parish Assessor's Office.

14 It was then amended again to reflect more
15 accurately the value of the improvements versus the
16 land. However, all of these were done post-renovation,
17 and so we're still in a bit of a conundrum to try to
18 establish the pre-renovation value that the property
19 should be frozen at because of this weird typo
20 situation.

21 So I'm not sure what number you are basing
22 this application on, and I'm wondering whether it needs
23 to be revisited as far as where to freeze.

24 MR. JONES: Okay. Based upon the record in
25 front of me, it looks as though the investment is



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1 60,000 -- this is Mo's Art Supply Store; right?

2 MS. BURKE: Mo's Art Supply.

3 MR. JONES: Mo's Art. I'm sorry.

4 The investment of \$60,000, a first year tax
5 exemption of \$1,386. That's all the information I have
6 in front of me.

7 MR. FAVALORO: That's the information on the
8 application, yes, sir.

9 Are you talking about the initial
10 investment?

11 MS. BURKE: So the application was made
12 using this number of the 402 on the building, and the
13 722 on the land, and then I submitted to Becky Lambert
14 the revised assessment, which just happened recently,
15 which she said she would put in the record, which
16 reduced the building value to 233 instead of 402.

17 However, both of these were post-renovation
18 values, not pre-renovation, so we're not really reaping
19 the benefit of this program because there's never been
20 an accurate pre-renovation established.

21 MR. JONES: Let me ask this: Would it be
22 appropriate to defer this matter and let's try to get
23 this issue resolved and take this particular item up at
24 the August meeting?

25 MR. FAVALORO: That would be appropriate if



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1 you wish to.

2 MR. JONES: Would that be -- that way we
3 don't act on the abatement today, and that way we ensure
4 that the numbers reflect what reality should be and you
5 can work with Ms. Lambert to get that resolved between
6 now and the August meeting. Would that be satisfactory?

7 MS. BURKE: It is. And just so I'm clear,
8 I'm not going to have a property tax bill generated
9 until this is resolved? Because I haven't gotten one
10 yet.

11 MR. JONES: Unfortunately we do not control
12 the tax assessor of Orleans Parish, so I can't make that
13 promise to you, but that is something that I would be in
14 contact with him about, let them know that this matter
15 is still pending, but should be resolved at the August
16 meeting.

17 MS. BURKE: So I should be in touch with
18 Becky to get this resolve?

19 MR. JONES: I think that's correct.

20 MS. BURKE: Okay.

21 MR. JONES: Thank you for that.

22 Any other questions for us while you're here
23 today? Any other questions for us?

24 MS. BURKE: No, sir.

25 MR. JONES: Thank you very much.



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1 And then let's -- I would entertain a
2 substitute motion to defer Mo's Supply Store,
3 Application 20180465. Entertain a motion to defer.

4 MS. DAVIS: So moved.

5 MR. JONES: I have a motion from
6 Representative Davis.

7 MR. MOSS: Second.

8 MR. JONES: Second from Representative Moss.
9 Rollcall vote.

10 MS. SIMMONS: Don Briggs.

11 (No response.)

12 MS. SIMMONS: Paula Davis.

13 MS. DAVIS: Yes.

14 MS. SIMMONS: Mayor Toups.

15 MR. TOUPS: Yes.

16 MS. SIMMONS: Stuart Moss.

17 MR. MOSS: Yes.

18 MS. SIMMONS: Jerald Jones.

19 MR. JONES: Yes.

20 MS. SIMMONS: Heather Malone.

21 MS. MALONE: Yes.

22 MS. SIMMONS: Senator Johns.

23 MR. JOHNS: Yes.

24 MS. SIMMONS: Kenneth Havard.

25 (No response.)



1 MS. SIMMONS: Jan Moller.

2 MR. MOLLER: Yes.

3 MS. SIMMONS: Senator Allain.

4 MR. ALLAIN: Yes.

5 MS. SIMMONS: Secretary Pierson.

6 SECRETARY PIERSON: Yes.

7 MS. SIMMONS: Mr. Holley.

8 MR. HOLLEY: Yes.

9 MS. SIMMONS: Dr. Woodrow Wilson.

10 DR. W. WILSON: Yes.

11 MR. JONES: Motion to defer carries.

12 Now we will go back to the main motion on
13 the remainder of the applications. We have a motion and
14 a second to approve those. I'll go back and be sure
15 there are no further questions and comments concerning
16 the remaining applications.

17 Any questions or comments from the Board?

18 (No response.)

19 MR. JONES: Any questions or comments from
20 the public?

21 (No response.)

22 MR. JONES: Seeing none, all in -- wait. We
23 do have a question from a Zoom participant.

24 If you are a Zoom participant and have a
25 question, please let us know now.



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1 (No response.)
2 MR. JONES: None.
3 Okay. Rollcall vote on the remaining
4 applications.
5 MS. SIMMONS: Don Briggs.
6 MR. BRIGGS: Yes.
7 MS. SIMMONS: Representative Davis.
8 MS. DAVIS: Yes.
9 MS. SIMMONS: David Toups.
10 MR. TOUPS: Yes.
11 MS. SIMMONS: Stuart Moss.
12 MR. MOSS: Yes.
13 MS. SIMMONS: Jerald Jones.
14 MR. JONES: Yes.
15 MS. SIMMONS: Heather Malone.
16 MS. MALONE: Yes.
17 MS. SIMMONS: Senator Johns.
18 MR. JOHNS: Yes.
19 MS. SIMMONS: Kenneth Havard.
20 MR. HAVARD: Yes.
21 MS. SIMMONS: Jan Moller.
22 MR. MOLLER: Yes.
23 MS. SIMMONS: Senator Allain.
24 MR. ALLAIN: Yes.
25 MS. SIMMONS: Secretary Pierson.



1 SECRETARY PIERSON: Yes.

2 MS. SIMMONS: Mr. Holley.

3 (No response.)

4 MS. SIMMONS: And Dr. Woodrow Wilson.

5 DR. W. WILSON: Yes.

6 MR. HOLLEY: Yes.

7 MR. JONES: And let's note for the record
8 that she did not vote on this matter, but Board member
9 Yvette Cola had recused herself from any action on the
10 GCHP - Progress Park applications, all 24 of those, she
11 had recused herself from that and did not participate in
12 the discussion or the vote. So let the record be clear.
13 Thank you.

14 MR. FAVALORO: There are two Restoration Tax
15 Abatement renewal applications: 20130119, Jackson Group
16 Investments, LLC, East Baton Rouge; and 20131360, STR
17 One, LLC in East Baton Rouge.

18 That concludes the renewals.

19 MR. JONES: Entertain a motion to approve.

20 I have a motion to approve from Senator
21 Johns, a second from Senator Allain.

22 Any questions or comments from the Board?

23 (No response.)

24 MR. JONES: Any questions or comments from
25 the public?



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1 (No response.)
2 MR. JONES: Seeing none, rollcall vote.
3 MS. SIMMONS: Don Briggs.
4 MR. BRIGGS: Yes.
5 MS. SIMMONS: Representative Davis.
6 MS. DAVIS: Yes.
7 MS. SIMMONS: Mayor Toups.
8 MR. TOUPS: Yes.
9 MS. SIMMONS: Stuart Moss.
10 MR. MOSS: Yes.
11 MS. SIMMONS: Jerald Jones.
12 MR. JONES: Yes.
13 MS. SIMMONS: Heather Malone.
14 MS. MALONE: Yes.
15 MS. SIMMONS: Senator Johns.
16 MR. JOHNS: Yes.
17 MS. SIMMONS: Kenneth Havard.
18 MR. HAVARD: Yes.
19 MS. SIMMONS: Jan Moller.
20 MR. MOLLER: Yes.
21 MS. SIMMONS: Senator Allain.
22 MR. ALLAIN: Yes.
23 MS. SIMMONS: Secretary Pierson.
24 SECRETARY PIERSON: Yes.
25 MS. SIMMONS: Mr. Holley.



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1 MR. HOLLEY: Yes.

2 MS. SIMMONS: Dr. Wilson.

3 DR. W. WILSON: Yes.

4 MR. JONES: Motion carries. Thank you very
5 much.

6 I'm sorry we do have a Zoom question after
7 the vote. Zoom question.

8 We cannot hear the question either.

9 ZOOM PARTICIPANT: Okay. Well, I'm
10 objecting to the grant exemptions to Genesis Baton
11 Rouge, LLC, Genesis Crude, Georgia Pacific --

12 MR. JONES: Thank you very much, but we're
13 not on that item of the agenda yet.

14 ZOOM PARTICIPANT: But I expect that these
15 are not creating long-term jobs and are not within the
16 spirits of the ITEP exemption, which isn't unusual, but
17 I would vote that you would not approve those. Thank
18 you.

19 MR. JONES: Thank you very much, but we are
20 not on that item on the agenda, and I would ask for
21 those Zoom participants that you limit your comments to
22 the item that we are on at the time in the meeting.
23 You'll have plenty of opportunity to speak, but just
24 let's keep us focused on what's on the agenda. That
25 means you may have to listen very carefully to what



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1 we're talking about, but let's keep on point.

2 All right. We have a Specific Request under
3 the Tax Abatement program.

4 MR. FAVALORO: Yes, sir.

5 Transfer of Ownership, 20141472, Slumber
6 Corners Master Tenant, LLC to the new owner of EHP NOLA
7 Hotel, LLC in Orleans Parish.

8 MR. JONES: Motion to approve that transfer
9 of ownership.

10 DR. W. WILSON: So moved by Dr. Wilson.

11 MR. JONES: I have a motion. Need a second.

12 MS. DAVIS: Second.

13 MR. JONES: Second from Representative
14 Davis.

15 Any questions or comments from the Board?

16 (No response.)

17 MR. JONES: Any questions or comments from
18 the public?

19 (No response.)

20 MR. JONES: There being none, rollcall vote.

21 MS. SIMMONS: Don Briggs.

22 MR. BRIGGS: Yes.

23 MS. SIMMONS: Paula Davis.

24 MS. DAVIS: Yes.

25 MS. SIMMONS: Mayor Toups.



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1 MR. TOUPS: Yes.
2 MS. SIMMONS: Stuart Moss.
3 MR. MOSS: Yes.
4 MS. SIMMONS: Jerald Jones.
5 MR. JONES: Yes.
6 MS. SIMMONS: Heather Malone.
7 MS. MALONE: Yes.
8 MS. SIMMONS: Senator Johns.
9 MR. JOHNS: Yes.
10 MS. SIMMONS: Kenneth Havard.
11 MR. HAVARD: Yes.
12 MS. SIMMONS: Jan Moller.
13 MR. MOLLER: Yes.
14 MS. SIMMONS: Senator Allain.
15 MR. ALLAIN: Yes.
16 MS. SIMMONS: Secretary Pierson.
17 SECRETARY PIERSON: Yes.
18 MS. SIMMONS: Mr. Holley.
19 MR. HOLLEY: Yes.
20 MS. SIMMONS: Dr. Woodrow Wilson.
21 DR. W. WILSON: Yes.
22 MS. SIMMONS: And, Ms. Cola, are you there?
23 MS. COLA: Yes. I'm here.
24 MS. SIMMONS: All right. Thank you.
25 MR. JONES: All right. Motion carries.



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1 Thank you very much, Mr. Favaloro.

2 MR. FAVALORO: Thank you.

3 MR. JONES: We are now moving to Enterprise
4 Zone applications. Ms. Metoyer, how are you?

5 MS. METOYER: I'm well. How are you?

6 MR. JONES: I'm well. Thank you.

7 Get as close to that mic as you can.

8 MS. METOYER: Okay.

9 I have 15 new applications.

10 MR. JONES: Stay close to it. Thank you.

11 MS. METOYER: 24141614, Associated Grocers,
12 Incorporated, East Baton Rouge Parish; 20170002, C&C
13 Marine and Repair, LLC, Plaquemines Parish; 20160706,
14 Cleco Power, LLC, St. Mary Parish; 20180192, Clint N.
15 Sandefer, DDS, LLC, Livingston Parish; 20141441, Florida
16 59, LLC, St. Tammany Parish; 20180296, Martco, LLC,
17 Natchitoches Parish; 20170513, Morris P. Hebert,
18 Incorporated, Terrebonne Parish; 20161638, Ochsner
19 Clinic Foundation, Jefferson Parish; 20170423, Ochsner
20 Clinic Foundation, East Baton Rouge; 20170424, Ochsner
21 Clinic Foundation, Jefferson Parish; 20170459, Southwest
22 Louisiana Hospital Association, Calcasieu Parish;
23 20170462, Southwest Louisiana Hospital Association,
24 Calcasieu Parish; 20161161, Sunrise Hospitality,
25 Lafayette Parish; 20180104, Westport Linen Services,



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1 LLC, Orleans Parish; and 20180461, YoungWilliams,
2 Bossier Parish.

3 MR. JONES: Thank you.

4 Entertain a motion to approve.

5 I have a motion from Senator Johns. Do I
6 have a second?

7 MS. DAVIS: Second.

8 MR. JONES: Second from Representative
9 Davis.

10 Any questions or comments from the Board?
11 (No response.)

12 MR. JONES: Any questions or comments from
13 the public?

14 Come forward, please.

15 Please speak very close into the microphone
16 and give us your name and address and address your
17 question.

18 MR. MULLER: Wes Muller, 823 White Pine
19 Drive, Ponchatoula, Louisiana 70454.

20 My question regarding the Enterprise Zone
21 applications, can you explain why some of the -- on the
22 chart of the meeting agenda, why some of the investments
23 are listed as zero? Can you explain why some of the
24 investments for State and Local are all listed as zero?

25 MS. METOYER: The State and Local column?



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1 MR. MULLER: Correct.

2 MS. METOYER: This is for a rebate. That's

3 not their investment amount. In Enterprise Zone, you

4 can only have jobs. You don't have to have a project

5 and a building or anything. You can just have jobs.

6 MR. MULLER: Thank you.

7 MR. JONES: Did that answer your question?

8 MR. MULLER: Yes.

9 MR. JONES: Thank you very much.

10 Any other questions or comments?

11 (No response.)

12 MR. JONES: We have a motion and a second.

13 Rollcall vote.

14 MS. SIMMONS: Don Briggs.

15 MR. BRIGGS: Yes.

16 MS. SIMMONS: Paula Davis.

17 MS. DAVIS: Yes.

18 MS. SIMMONS: David Toups.

19 MR. TOUPS: Yes.

20 MS. SIMMONS: Yvette Cola.

21 (No response.)

22 MS. SIMMONS: Stuart Moss.

23 MR. MOSS: Yes.

24 MS. SIMMONS: Jerald Jones.

25 MR. JONES: Yes.



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1 MS. SIMMONS: Heather Malone.
2 MS. MALONE: Yes.
3 MS. SIMMONS: Senator Johns.
4 MR. JOHNS: Yes.
5 MS. SIMMONS: Kenneth Havard.
6 MR. HAVARD: Yes.
7 MS. SIMMONS: Jan Moller.
8 MR. MOLLER: Yes.
9 MS. SIMMONS: Senator Allain.
10 MR. ALLAIN: Yes.
11 MS. SIMMONS: Secretary Pierson.
12 SECRETARY PIERSON: Yes.
13 MS. SIMMONS: Mr. Holley.
14 MR. HOLLEY: Yes.
15 MS. SIMMONS: Dr. Woodrow Wilson.
16 DR. W. WILSON: Yes.
17 MR. JONES: Motion carries. Thank you very
18 much.
19 Next.
20 MS. METOYER: I have one termination:
21 20140904, Affinity Health Group, LLC, Ouachita Parish.
22 The existing contract period is 5/19 of '14 to 5/18 of
23 2019. The requested term date is 11/20/2016, and the
24 program requirements have been met, no additional jobs
25 are anticipated.



1 MR. JONES: We have a motion to approve this
2 termination.

3 MR. JOHNS: So moved.

4 DR. W. WILSON: So moved by Dr. Wilson.

5 MR. JONES: Senator Johns, second, from, I
6 think that's Dr. Wilson.

7 DR. W. WILSON: Yes.

8 MR. JONES: Any comments or questions from
9 the Board?

10 (No response.)

11 MR. JONES: Any comments or questions from
12 the public?

13 (No response.)

14 MR. JONES: There being none, vote, please.

15 MS. SIMMONS: Mr. Briggs.

16 MR. BRIGGS: Yes.

17 MS. SIMMONS: Ms. Davis.

18 MS. DAVIS: Yes.

19 MS. SIMMONS: Mr. Toups.

20 MR. TOUPS: Yes.

21 MS. SIMMONS: Ms. Cola.

22 MS. COLA: Yes.

23 MR. SIMMONS: Mr. Moss.

24 MR. MOSS: Yes.

25 MS. SIMMONS: Mr. Jones.



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1 MR. JONES: Yes.

2 MS. SIMMONS: Ms. Malone.

3 MS. MALONE: Yes.

4 MS. SIMMONS: Senator Johns.

5 MR. JOHNS: Yes.

6 MS. SIMMONS: Mr. Havard.

7 (No response.)

8 MS. SIMMONS: Mr. Moller.

9 MR. MOLLER: Yes.

10 MS. SIMMONS: Senator Allain.

11 MR. ALLAIN: Yes.

12 MS. SIMMONS: Secretary Pierson.

13 SECRETARY PIERSON: Yes.

14 MS. SIMMONS: Mr. Holley.

15 MR. HOLLEY: Yes.

16 MS. SIMMONS: Dr. Woodrow Wilson.

17 DR. W. WILSON: Yes.

18 MR. JONES: Motion carries.

19 MS. METOYER: We have one Census Tract/Block

20 Group Change Resolution. It's for East Baton Rouge

21 Parish, and the existing census tract and block group is

22 36.01/3. The proposed new census tract block group is

23 36.01/1. The resolution change number is 54412, and

24 it's to pursue economic development activities conducive

25 to business development.



1 MR. JONES: And for clarity, this is a
2 request coming from East Baton Rouge Parish; is that
3 correct?

4 MS. METOYER: Yes, sir.

5 MR. JONES: Thank you very much.

6 All right. Entertain a motion to approve.

7 MS. DAVIS: Motion to approve.

8 MR. JONES: Motion from Representative Moss;
9 second from Representative -- excuse me. Motion from
10 Representative Davis; second from Representative Moss.

11 Any questions or comments from the Board?

12 (No response.)

13 MR. JONES: Any questions or comments from
14 the public?

15 (No response.)

16 MR. JONES: There being none, let's have a
17 vote.

18 MS. SIMMONS: Mr. Briggs.

19 MR. BRIGGS: Yes.

20 MS. SIMMONS: Representative Davis.

21 MS. DAVIS: Yes.

22 MS. SIMMONS: Mayor Toups.

23 MR. TOUPS: Yes.

24 MS. SIMMONS: Yvette Cola.

25 MS. COLA: Yes.



1 MS. SIMMONS: Stuart Moss.
2 MR. MOSS: Yes.
3 MS. SIMMONS: Jerald Jones.
4 MR. JONES: Yes.
5 MS. SIMMONS: Heather Malone.
6 MS. MALONE: Yes.
7 MS. SIMMONS: Senator Johns.
8 MR. JOHNS: Yes.
9 MS. SIMMONS: Kenneth Havard.
10 (No response.)
11 MS. SIMMONS: Jan Moller.
12 MR. MOLLER: Yes.
13 MS. SIMMONS: Senator Allain.
14 MR. ALLAIN: Yes.
15 MS. SIMMONS: Secretary Pierson.
16 SECRETARY PIERSON: Yes.
17 MS. SIMMONS: Mr. Holley.
18 MR. HOLLEY: Yes.
19 MS. SIMMONS: Dr. Woodrow Wilson.
20 DR. W. WILSON: Yes.
21 MS. SIMMONS: Thank you.
22 MR. JONES: Motion carries.
23 MS. METOYER: This concludes Enterprise
24 Zone.
25 MR. JONES: Thank you very much.



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1 MS. METOYER: Thank you.

2 MR. JONES: All right. We have reached the
3 end of Session 1; is that correct, Mr. Favaloro?

4 MR. FAVALORO: Yes, sir.

5 MR. JONES: Okay. If we have anyone who is
6 outside the room that has issues before the Board
7 concerning the Industrial Tax Exemption Program, now is
8 the time to join us in the big room. If you do not have
9 any matters on ITEP and we need the room, we may have to
10 ask you to move to the overflow room, but that does not
11 appear to be a need at this time.

12 If you just give us just a minute to make
13 sure we have everyone in attendance that needs to be
14 here or wants to be here.

15 All right. I think we're ready to begin the
16 second session dealing with Industrial Tax Exemption.

17 Let me do this for the record, because I'm
18 not sure how many of those are on the agenda, but Board
19 member Travis Holley has asked to recuse himself from
20 all matters related to Air Products, Inc. on the agenda,
21 and so that means he will not be participating in the
22 discussion nor participating in the vote on those
23 matters.

24 Similarly, the Chair will be recusing
25 himself of all matters relating to Hexion, which means I



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1 will still be facilitating the meeting, but I will not
2 speak as a pro or a con versus the matter, and neither
3 will I be voting in the Hexion -- any matters dealing
4 with Hexion.

5 All right. With that housekeeping matter in
6 place, let's move to the Pre-EO Industrial Tax
7 applications.

8 MR. USIE: We have five Pre-EO new
9 applications: 20161510-A, Epic Piping, LLC, Livingston
10 Parish; 20141610, Marathon Petroleum Company, LP, St.
11 John the Baptist Parish; 20161492-A, Po Pack
12 International, LLC, East Baton Rouge Parish; 20150156-C,
13 Sasol USA Corporation, Calcasieu Parish; 20150966-B,
14 W.R. Grace & Co., Calcasieu Parish.

15 MR. JONES: In accordance with some
16 discussion we had at our, I think it was our February
17 meeting, we're adopting a new practice on pre-EO
18 applications, and we're going to ask that a
19 representative from each one of these come to the
20 microphone and give us an update on what's been done on
21 the original advance notification and what the project
22 is looking forward to as far as future development under
23 that advanced notification.

24 So if we could have a representative from
25 Epic Piping in Livingston Parish. Is someone here?



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1 MR. DIGRE: This is Peter Digre. Are you
2 asking me to speak? It's hard to hear.

3 MR. JONES: No, not yet.

4 Do we have someone here from Epic Piping
5 here in the meeting room?

6 If you state your name and your address and
7 your position with the company.

8 MR. MICHAUD: Good morning. My name is --

9 MR. JONES: Please pull the mic as close to
10 your mask as possible.

11 MR. MICHAUD: My name is Armand Michaud. My
12 address is 1979 Longwood Drive, Baton Rouge, Louisiana.
13 I'm the Corporate Controller and Director of Accounting
14 for Epic Piping.

15 MR. JONES: Give us an idea of what has been
16 appreciated under the original advance notification and
17 then what the project is looking forward to as far as
18 future development.

19 MR. MICHAUD: Yes, sir.

20 So under our original application, the total
21 project was approximately \$45-million for our pipe
22 fabrication facility in Livingston Parish. The
23 application before you today, the dollar amount is about
24 \$1.9-million, and it basically encompasses wrapping up
25 and completing our project within our pipe fabrication



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1 facility there. The lion's share of it was ground
2 stabilization to increase our pipe and fitting laydown
3 yard. Our project, our initial shop opened in '17. We
4 had the flood in '18, which sort of delayed some of that
5 stabilization in some of the perimeter areas of our
6 property, and so that's the lion's share of these
7 dollars, along with some additional equipment to that,
8 you know, that just kind of finishing up the entire
9 project.

10 MR. JONES: Okay. Do you anticipate any
11 future work under that original advance notification?

12 MR. MICHAUD: Under the original advance,
13 no, sir. This sort of wraps us the original project.
14 Now, you know, our management team, we're always looking
15 to offer new business lines, new business products to be
16 able to grow the scope of our of throughput at our
17 facility, so, you know, we're never shy to grow, but
18 under this original application, no, sir, this sort of
19 wraps that original project up.

20 MR. JONES: That's very helpful information.
21 We appreciate it. Thank you for your investment in
22 Louisiana.

23 MR. MICHAUD: Yes, sir. Absolutely.

24 MR. JONES: Thank you very much.

25 MR. MICHAUD: Thank you.



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1 MR. JONES: Any questions for Epic Piping?
2 We do have a question from the public.

3 I'm not hearing a question.

4 MR. LEDOUX: Good morning, Board. Can you
5 hear me? This is Neil Ledoux testifying on behalf of
6 SPLC.

7 MR. JONES: I can hear you, but, I can't
8 understand you. If you could speak a little louder and
9 slower that would be helpful.

10 MR. LEDOUX: Okay. Let me get close to my
11 mic here.

12 MR. JONES: Perfect. Go right ahead.

13 MR. LEDOUX: Okay. Good morning. As I
14 said, my name is Neil Ledoux, and I'm testifying on
15 behalf of the SPLC Action Fund.

16 The SPLC Action Fund works to protect and
17 promote civil rights in the South, and we are here today
18 because we believe that the decisions you are making
19 today about these exemptions are not simple economic
20 matters. They go to the heart of the responsibility
21 that all of us individuals and businesses share to
22 ensure that our public institutions have the resources
23 and capacity to perform their essential functions and
24 provide the people of Louisiana the opportunity for a
25 meaningful quality of life.



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1 Approval of these tax exemptions would cost
2 local governments and local school districts
3 \$1.5-billion in revenue over the next 10 years. These
4 funds are more important than ever to support the
5 education of Louisiana students and essential for public
6 services. Louisiana's school districts and local
7 governments are already facing difficult funding
8 decisions due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Given the
9 pandemic and Louisiana's poor ranking on education, now
10 is not the time to divest from education.

11 And just as a couple of high points I'd like
12 y'all to consider is that Louisiana is facing harsh
13 revenue shortfalls due to the COVID-19 recession at a
14 time when students need supports and services to meet
15 their educational, nutritional, health and mental health
16 needs. For many students, school is one of the few
17 places they're able to access meals and critical health
18 and mental health services, and as you-all know, city
19 sales tax have and are and will be decreasing.

20 Louisiana's schools are also face additional
21 costs for education because of the school closures that
22 have occurred. The Learning Policy Institute estimates
23 that schools across its state will face an additional
24 \$500-million in cost for education due to COVID-19
25 school closures. These include the costs for distance



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1 learning, expanded learning time and food service, and
2 Louisiana already ranks among the bottom of all states
3 in funding the level of investment that we make in K
4 through 12 public education. These tax exemptions
5 devastate K through 12 education for years to come and
6 send a message to our children about their futures.

7 The SPLC Action Fund is categorically
8 opposed to these tax exemptions that would put corporate
9 interests above the future of Louisiana's children. We
10 respectfully ask the Board to reject these tax
11 exemptions that divest from our children and the future
12 of our state. Thank you, Board.

13 MR. JONES: Thank you very much.

14 Any other questions or comments?

15 MR. BRIGGS: This is Don Briggs. Again,
16 tell me who you represent.

17 MR. MICHAUD: Is that addressed to me?

18 MR. JONES: No. This goes back to --

19 MR. LEDOUX: I'm making this comment on
20 behalf of SPLC Action Fund. We're an organization that
21 supports civil rights in the South.

22 MR. JONES: The acronym of your
23 organization, what does that stand for?

24 MR. BRIGGS: Action Fund?

25 MR. JONES: What does the acronym stand for?



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1 MR. LEDOUX: The acronym stands for the
2 Southern Poverty Law Center.

3 MR. JONES: Thank you very much.
4 Any other questions or comments?

5 We do have another question.

6 MR. DIGRE: Yes, Mr. Chairman. This is
7 Peter Digre. I have another comment and question.

8 MR. JONES: Go right ahead, please.

9 MR. DIGRE: Yes. I, in particular, am
10 asking the Board to oppose tax exemption application of
11 Marathon Petroleum Company, and let me explain why.
12 They are a major industry in St. John the Baptist
13 Parish. St. John the Baptist Parish is number one in
14 the entire state and among the top three or four in the
15 entire country in terms of deaths from COVID-19.
16 Studies by Tulane and Harvard and others have indicated
17 very clearly that the chemical pollution and the
18 particulate matter pollution from companies like
19 Marathon weakens peoples' lungs and is leading to this
20 extraordinarily high level of deaths St. John the
21 Baptist Parish. And, of course, this is causing
22 enormous stress on government at all levels.

23 Therefore, I ask that the Board, in this
24 time of pandemic, vote no, and I would ask Marathon to
25 withdraw this request as a good public citizen so they



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1 do not undermine the care and services that the parish
2 and the schools and law enforcement and others in St.
3 John the Baptist Parish provide.

4 Thank you for this opportunity,
5 Mr. Chairman.

6 MR. JONES: Thank you for your comments.
7 Any other questions or comments?

8 (No response.)

9 MR. JONES: All right. Any other questions
10 or comments specifically for Epic Piping?

11 (No response.)

12 MR. JONES: There being none, thank you very
13 much. Appreciate you being here today.

14 MR. MICHAUD: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.
15 Thank you, Board.

16 MR. JONES: Now, do we have a representative
17 from Marathon Petroleum?

18 And if you will, state your name and your
19 position with the company and, again, pull the mic as
20 closely to your mask as possible, please.

21 MR. Good morning, Board. My name is Dan
22 Wortmann, and I live at 19112 Bellerive Court in Baton
23 Rouge. I am the Division Controller for the Marathon
24 refinery in Garyville in St. John the Baptist Parish.

25 MR. JONES: As we discussed with the earlier



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1 representative from Epic Piping, we're interested in
2 knowing what Marathon has done since the original
3 advance notification on this project and what you are
4 looking forward to as far as future development.

5 MR. WORTMANN: Yes. Thank you for the
6 opportunity for me to speak today.

7 I think kind of the question is, you know,
8 it is \$60-million, and it does span out to 2027. What
9 this program is, is it's not a margin and a hamster for
10 the refinery, it has no return on investment. It is a
11 safety program. So it's SIS, Safety Instrumented
12 System, which basically means if we have an event, if
13 there's a weather event, if it gets down to 16 degrees,
14 like it did 18 months ago. These systems help us
15 protect -- and, really, in this order, it really
16 protects our people, it protects the environment and the
17 community from a release, and then protects, thirdly,
18 the equipment. So that's really the intent of this
19 project. Sixty-million is, like I said, it's -- there's
20 no impact on the bottom line. It's really to
21 protect the people, the environment, the community and
22 also the assets in that order.

23 As far as the duration, you know, we're
24 talking about out to 2027. You know, we are a 24/7
25 operation, and we do plan shutdowns anywhere from a



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1 range of three to sevens years, so we do need to stage
2 this project and the scope of work on the units that are
3 planned to be shut down at a certain interval. So
4 that's why the duration is a little bit longer than
5 normal.

6 MR. JONES: Okay. Do you anticipate any
7 future development or work under the original advance
8 notification on this ITEP?

9 MR. WORTMANN: No. The scope that is
10 identified here of the max 60-million would cover that.

11 MR. JONES: And that will be it?

12 MR. WORTMANN: Yes.

13 MR. JONES: Okay. Great.

14 Any other questions or comments for the
15 representative from Marathon?

16 We do have a question from someone
17 participating by Zoom.

18 MR. MOLLER: This is Jan Moller.

19 MR. JONES: This is a Board member then.
20 I'm sorry.

21 MR. MOLLER: I just have a quick question
22 about the timing. I mean, this application, the advance
23 was put in at least four years ago, and if these are
24 important environmental upgrades and safety upgrades,
25 why did it take so long to go from an advance to



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1 completion?

2 MR. WORTMANN: I mean, part of the scope did
3 change. I mean, technology is continuing to change, and
4 it was also scheduling with our shutdowns. I mean, you
5 know, some of these units do run five to seven years,
6 like I said, and it was just a scheduling of when the
7 work would be done.

8 MR. JONES: Let me ask it this way: Was the
9 work that you're doing now, was it contemplated at the
10 time of the original advanced notification?

11 MR. WORTMANN: Yes. You know, corporate
12 always does come up with some standards. You know, an
13 event might happen at our sister refineries that says
14 "Hey, you know, you want to enter a generic, just a
15 slight tweak difference as far as, you know, what you're
16 doing," but, you know, the concept is still there to
17 "Hey, you know, we want, you know, when it gets down 16
18 degrees and we lose power for our facility, that this is
19 a system that will successfully shut down in sequential
20 order of the units." Okay? So this really helps us,
21 like I said, protecting the people and the environment,
22 you know, as far as this program.

23 MR. JONES: So is it correct to say that
24 safety improvements was contemplated in the original
25 advanced notification, the engineering may have changed



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1 between then and now --

2 MR. WORTMANN: Correct.

3 MR. JONES: -- but the concept with the
4 upgrade was always there?

5 MR. WORTMANN: Yes, correct.

6 MR. JONES: I don't mean to put words in
7 your mouth, but I'm trying to make sure I understand.

8 All right. We have -- Board member Moller,
9 is there any other questions from you?

10 (No response.)

11 MR. JONES: I'm hearing none.

12 All right. We have a request to speak from
13 Lady Carlson with Together Louisiana concerning
14 Marathon.

15 Ms. Carlson, if you will state your name and
16 address for the record, please.

17 MS. CARLSON: Do I have to leave the mask on
18 to speak?

19 MR. JONES: You do not, but if you'll pull
20 that microphone as close as you can, please.

21 MS. CARLSON: My name is Lady Carlson. I'm
22 with Together Louisiana. My address is 2640 LaSalle.
23 It's Baton Rouge, Louisiana 70806.

24 And, Mr. Jones, I want to start off really
25 by reflecting on the way you opened this meeting. You



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1 opened with reflexion to people that have died because
2 of virus, and now we're sitting here dishonoring their
3 memory by saying we're going to give tax exemptions to
4 companies -- that we're giving tax exemptions to
5 companies, our local governments are hurting. As you
6 well remember and this Board remembers, these
7 applications for Marathon were rejected by the local
8 taxing bodies right before Christmas, and so to say now
9 we want to give them an exemption when our local taxing
10 bodies really are hurting worse than they were last
11 year, I think, number one, is disgraceful.

12 Number two, have you done a cost benefit
13 analysis? Do we know the cost benefit to this? Is it
14 going to benefit in the long run those local taxing
15 bodies? And if you haven't done a cost benefit
16 analysis, then I think that needs to be done before we
17 do these exemptions.

18 Thank you.

19 MR. JONES: Thank you four your comments
20 Lady Carlson.

21 Any other comments or questions?

22 We have someone from Zoom.

23 MS. MO: Hi. My name's Christy Mo. I want
24 to second what Peter said earlier about not granting the
25 tax exemption to Marathon. Marathon is releasing a lot



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1 of pollution in St. John the Baptist Parish and is
2 already receiving a lot of tax breaks, and St. John
3 currently has the highest per capita death rate from
4 COVID and would be further hurt by more tax breaks from
5 the industries there. It will prevent St. John from
6 getting the funding they need to improve the health and
7 wellbeing of its residents.

8 MR. JONES: Thank you for your comments.

9 Any other questions or comments concerning
10 Marathon?

11 (No response.)

12 MR. JONES: All right. Let's move on.

13 Do we have someone here from Po Pack
14 Internation.

15 MS. SOYCHAK: Hi. This is Elizabeth
16 Soychak. I'd like to comment as well, please.

17 MR. JONES: Okay. I'm sorry. We have
18 several more Zoom questions. I'm sorry. I'm just
19 getting word of that. Forgive me.

20 Go right ahead.

21 MS. SOYCHAK: Okay. Thank you very much.

22 Yes. I agree with what the gentleman said
23 earlier in terms of giving these tax breaks right now to
24 corporations in the State of Louisiana when there is
25 going to be a fiscal crisis that's very large that's



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1 coming over the next few years and the State cannot
2 afford to give these corporations these exemptions when
3 schools need this money now. And, in particular, with
4 Marathon in St. John the Baptist Parish, these people
5 are dealing with an enormous health crisis as having the
6 highest rate of COVID-19 in the nation and per capita
7 due to, in part, the industrial pollution that is there,
8 and they should not have to bear this burden financially
9 as well.

10 So please do not -- please do not grant
11 these exemptions, especially to Marathon.

12 Thank you very much.

13 MR. JONES: Next question from a Zoom
14 participant.

15 ZOOM PARTICIPANT: (Inaudible.) I live in
16 St. John that Baptist Parish.

17 MR. JONES: We cannot hear you. Please
18 speak closer -- please get closer to your mic and speak
19 clearly and slowly.

20 MS. ANNETTE: I'm sorry. I didn't
21 understand what you said.

22 MS. BOOKER: Please get closer to your mic
23 and speak slowly and clearly. We can't hear you.

24 ANNETTE: Good morning. My name is Annette
25 (inaudible.) I am a citizen of St. John the Baptist



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1 Parish and have been for a number of years. I am
2 respectfully requesting that you deny the exemptions
3 from Marathon.

4 As you know and as has been stated several
5 times that this area was hard hit by COVID, and we are
6 trying desperately to overcome this disease in this
7 area.

8 Not only that, it's a mere fact that
9 Marathon, even though (inaudible) to the citizens here
10 in St. John the Baptist Parish, say that 74 percent of
11 their assets are (inaudible) tax roll. So the money
12 that will come from them paying taxes can help the
13 citizens in St. John the Baptist Parish help to overcome
14 many of these (inaudible), specifically our school
15 system.

16 Our school system is suffering, and if there
17 was any representation on that Board from St. John the
18 Baptist Parish, I and the citizens here in St. John the
19 Baptist Parish would love (inaudible) to take a careful
20 look at what's really going on here. The money is
21 needed for so many areas. Our education system is
22 suffering and is suffering in misery.

23 Has there been a cost benefit analysis? I
24 don't know. I really don't know.

25 What concerns me also (disconnection.)



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1 MR. JONES: We've lost the question.

2 MS. ANNETTE: Am I back on?

3 Decisions are made in Baton Rouge for
4 parishes around the state, and what goes on there, I
5 really don't know because those decisions are made with
6 not one iota (inaudible) with how the citizens in the
7 parish are affected.

8 It is -- I think it's incumbent upon you as
9 the Board to really look at the needs of the area and
10 not just the business. Don't think we don't appreciate
11 the business. We truly do, but everybody needs to be
12 treated fairly, and that is not happening. Everybody.
13 I have to pay my taxes. I think businesses should pay
14 their taxes as well.

15 Thank you. I appreciate your time.

16 MR. JONES: Okay. Thank you for those
17 comments.

18 Do we have another?

19 MS. BOOKER: Christy?

20 MS. MO: I've already spoken.

21 MR. JONES: Anyone else?

22 MR. SULLIVAN: Yes. Hello?

23 MR. JONES: Hello.

24 MR. SULLIVAN: Can you hear me?

25 MR. JONES: Yes, we can. Please speak.



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1 MR. SULLIVAN: This technology is rather
2 confusing to an old man like me.

3 MR. JONES: I understand.

4 MR. SULLIVAN: (Inaudible) Sullivan with the
5 First Unitarian Universalist Church of New Orleans, and
6 I would like to comment on all of the tax exemptions,
7 but particularly Marathon.

8 It seems to me that the political duty of
9 the government of the State of Louisiana to assure the
10 wellbeing of the people. Fiduciary duties are not the
11 duty of the government. Exemptions are no longer needed
12 at all, but it is especially egregious to tolerate
13 illegal exemptions as in the case of Marathon, which is
14 demanding the right not to support this very threatened
15 locality in which it is located.

16 Morality must predominate over legality as
17 we have proved in Louisiana by abolishing slavery and
18 segregation. So I hope the Board will honor its
19 political duty.

20 Thank you.

21 MR. JONES: Thank you very much.

22 Any other comments?

23 And if the representative from Marathon will
24 come back to the mic, please.

25 MS. BOOTH: Hello. Can you hear me?



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1 MR. JONES: Yes. Go right ahead.

2 MS. BOOTH: My name is Vicki Booth. I
3 retired from Centers for Disease Control and Prevention
4 last year and I have been working with some of the
5 Cancer Alley parishes and I want to second some of the
6 things that have been said earlier.

7 P.M. -- Marathon Refinery is the ninth
8 largest emitter of fine particulate matter in the State
9 of Louisiana, and they've recently applied for a permit
10 that if granted, they would be the fifth largest.

11 For those of you that aren't familiar with
12 fine particulate matter, worldwide it's responsible for
13 over four-million deaths a year, and in the United
14 States it's responsible for over 100,000 deaths per
15 year. And as was already mentioned, St. John the
16 Baptist Parish had the highest COVID-19 death rate in
17 the nation for about a month after the data was being
18 collected, and it remains as having the highest death
19 rate in the State of Louisiana.

20 I would also bring to the attention of all
21 of the members today that children in St. John the
22 Baptist Parish have more than almost three times the
23 asthma rates and the asthma hospitalization rates as the
24 State of Louisiana and as the entire nation. So I would
25 urge you, the response for the parish with the highest



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1 death rate in the nation by the State of Louisiana has
2 been -- and by local officials has been sorely lacking,
3 and you guys are in a position to deny these tax
4 exemptions so that that money can go to help these
5 people that have suffered from some of the highest and
6 worst air pollution in the entire country itself.

7 Thank you.

8 MR. JONES: Thank you for your comments.

9 Any other comments?

10 MS. BOOKER: Yes.

11 MR. BAGERT: Hi. This is Broderick Bagert
12 with Together Louisiana. I want to speak as well to the
13 Marathon exemption.

14 There's a lawsuit that's determined the
15 criteria that's constitutionally provided for for any
16 entity of the state, including this Board, to provide a
17 thing of value for a valid public purpose. It's got
18 three parts. It says you have the authority -- that you
19 have to have the authority to provide that thing of
20 value. It says that there has to be a objective,
21 demonstrable and reasonable expectation of receiving at
22 least equivalent value in exchange for the expenditure
23 or transfer of public funds, and I think the tax
24 exemption is that. And it says that the thing of value
25 cannot be gratuitous. That means it has to be actually



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1 incentivizing something. It cannot be provided for
2 something that would happen without it.

3 We have an exemption request here for
4 something that's environmentally required, that's
5 already completed, and, to our knowledge, no cost
6 benefit analysis has been conducted. There is no
7 demonstrable, objective and reasonable expectation
8 because there has been no formal or even, as far as we
9 can tell, informal analysis on whether or not this thing
10 of value that this tax exemption represents is
11 gratuitous and provides more value than it's given.

12 In fact, it's almost certain it does not do
13 that, but the thing it's meant to the incentivize
14 already has been completed. So our question to the
15 Chair of this Board, Mr. Jones, is has this Board or LED
16 conducted a specific cost benefit analysis on this
17 exemption to determine whether or not it is gratuitous
18 and whether or not it provides for an equivalent value
19 and the loss of revenue in terms of the benefit that's
20 happening. Has that analysis been conducted?

21 MR. JONES: Thank you for your comments.

22 Next question.

23 MR. BAGERT: It's a question, not a comment.

24 MR. JONES: I'm sorry, but the Board does
25 not answer questions. You're here to observe the



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1 meeting and provide your comments, not to cross-examine
2 the Board.

3 Next question or comment.

4 Next question.

5 ZOOM PARTICIPANT: Yes. This is (inaudible)
6 speaking. I am urging you to listen to the voice of the
7 representative from St. John that called in earlier and
8 also to all of the other residents that are asking you
9 to deny the request for Marathon Petroleum for this tax
10 exemption. Given the conditions that residents in St.
11 John are facing today, it would be like a slap in the
12 face of the community that is suffering so tremendously
13 under those conditions, and it would be just absolutely
14 immoral to take away urgently-needed funds to help the
15 community deal with the crisis they are in if you grant
16 the tax exemption for Marathon.

17 Thank you.

18 MR. JONES: Thank you for your comments.

19 Next comment.

20 MS. BOOKER: We've got one more.

21 MR. JONES: Thank you very much. I had one
22 question for -- forgive me. Your name?

23 MR. WORTMANN: Dan Wortmann.

24 MR. JONES: Mr. Wortmann, I appreciate it.

25 Marathon has enjoyed previous ITEP benefits



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1 prior to this application --

2 MR. WORTMANN: Correct.

3 MR. JONES: -- is that correct?

4 MR. WORTMANN: Correct.

5 MR. JONES: Have those ITEP exemptions
6 rolled off and has the tax -- has Marathon begun paying
7 taxes to St. John the Baptist Parish?

8 MR. WORTMANN: Correct. The Grassroots
9 facility was built in 1976, so obviously as those
10 10-year exemptions rolled off, we continued to build the
11 asset base and to pay taxes as applicable.

12 MR. JONES: Do you have any idea of what
13 your tax burden to St. John the Baptist Parish is today?

14 MR. WORTMANN: Yes, I do.

15 MR. JONES: Could you tell us?

16 MR. WORTMANN: It was in the \$50-million
17 range. Fifty, 52, 55-million for property tax.

18 MR. JONES: For property tax?

19 MR. WORTMANN: Yes.

20 MR. JONES: Not counting sales taxes?

21 MR. JONES: That's sales -- fifty-five is
22 for property and inventory tax. Sales and use tax would
23 be another -- about another 12. And that depends upon
24 the year too. That will fluctuate. When we have a
25 plant shutdown, those numbers would increase.



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1 MR. JONES: Twelve million?

2 MR. WORTMANN: Yes.

3 MR. JONES: Okay. Is there a ITEP
4 application that is about to roll off the roles?

5 MR. WORTMANN: I do not have that
6 information in front of me. I assume there would be.
7 You know, we have capital budget items all the time, so
8 I would assume, 11 years ago, 10 years ago we would have
9 had something that was invested in and it would roll
10 off.

11 MR. JONES: So if the Board of Commerce &
12 Industry 10 years ago or 25 years ago or 50 years ago
13 had made the decision not to grant these exemptions,
14 those tax revenues would no longer be available to St.
15 John the Baptist Parish; is that correct?

16 MR. WORTMANN: Right, correct.

17 MR. JONES: Thank you.

18 Any other questions or comments?

19 (No response.)

20 MR. JONES: There being none, Mr. Wortmann,
21 I appreciate your time today.

22 MR. WORTMANN: Thank you.

23 MR. MOLLER: This is Jan Moller. I'm just
24 wondering, is there any elected official from St. John
25 Parish on this call or in the audience? I'm curious



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1 because I know the local authorities down there have,
2 you know, voted against some of the tax -- the ITEPS
3 that have been sought under the 2018 rules, and I just
4 wonder if there's been any -- if any of the elected
5 bodies down there have taken a position on this.

6 MR. JONES: Mr. Moller, there's no one here
7 in the room.

8 MR. MOLLER: Okay.

9 MR. JONES: Thank you.

10 Do we have someone here from Pod Pack
11 International?

12 Thank you. If you would, pull the mic up to
13 your mask as closely as possible, then state your name
14 and your position with the company.

15 MS. HART: This is Kari Hart with Advantous
16 Consulting. I'm the Senior Manager here representing
17 Pod Pack.

18 MR. JONES: Okay. Speak a little bit louder
19 if you don't mind. Thank you.

20 Okay. We need to get an idea of what has
21 been done under the original advance notification and
22 how the project will proceed from here.

23 MS. HART: Sure.

24 This project was for the move to a larger
25 facility that would allow Pod Pack to expand their



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1 manufacturing operation and additional packaging line.
2 So the application that you have before you is the final
3 application under this project.

4 MR. JONES: So there will be no further
5 development on this advance notification; is that
6 correct?

7 MS. HART: That's correct.

8 MR. JONES: Great. Thank you very much.

9 Any questions or comments?

10 Yes, we have some Zoom questions.

11 Go right ahead.

12 MR. GRAY: Hi. My name is Marion Gray. I'm
13 the Executive Vice President/Chief Financial Officer of
14 Pod Pack International also representing the company and
15 would be happy to address any additional questions the
16 Board may have on this matter.

17 MR. JONES: Thank you for your attendance.

18 Any other questions or comments concerning
19 Pod Pack International?

20 (No response.)

21 MR. JONES: There being none, thank you very
22 much.

23 MS. HART: Thank you.

24 MR. JONES: Do we have a representative here
25 from Sasol?



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1 Thank you for being here, would you state
2 your name and position with the company, please?

3 MR. THOMAS: Yes, sir. Good morning. Good
4 morning, Chair and Board members. My name is Mike
5 Thomas. I normally don't get --

6 MR. JONES: Get as close to the mic...

7 MR. THOMAS: My name is Mike Thomas. I am
8 Sasol's Senior Vice President for North American
9 operations, and I want to thank you for the opportunity
10 to talk to you today.

11 Before I begin my testimony, let me tell you
12 a few things that you're going to hear. I'm going to
13 cover -- I'm going to give you quite a bit of
14 information about the things that Sasol has going on in
15 Southwest Louisiana, but one of the clear messages I
16 hope you get from this is the return on investment for
17 the State of Louisiana. You're going to hear and you're
18 going to hear the details behind the two-to-one return
19 on investment for the State of Louisiana benefitting
20 both the State and the residents of our state.

21 So let me begin. Let me give you a little
22 bit of information about our company. I've been here
23 before, and I think you may know some of these things,
24 but Sasol is an international chemicals and energy
25 company that employs about 31,000 people in 30



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1 countries. Sasol has been in Southwest Louisiana since
2 2001, so about 20 years. Today, we have about 1,200
3 employees working in Southwest Louisiana, about four of
4 those were at -- the facility we had before our project,
5 we've added over 800 employee with the project that I am
6 describing to you today.

7 In chemical plants like ours, not only do we
8 have our direct employees, we have contractors that make
9 up a large share of our workforce as well. We have an
10 additional 1,000 Louisiana contract employees supporting
11 our operations daily, every day, contractors that are
12 generally employed by major Louisiana firms like Turner
13 Industries. This is in addition to the Works
14 contractors that have built our project, which have been
15 many thousands of people more than that.

16 So it's interesting when I stop and think
17 about this. So our project, the project we have been
18 building for years now, the project that we've been
19 building for years now, we will have spent, when we're
20 done, nearly \$13-billion. We're nearly complete. We're
21 not quite complete yet. The plant consists of seven
22 operating units, seven individual plants and all of the
23 infrastructure that it takes to build seven individual
24 plants. It's a world-scale operation. They're
25 world-class plants.



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1 I'm pleased to report just last week we
2 started up two of these seven units. We have one more
3 to go, and we hope to have that done in the third
4 calendar quarter of this calendar year.

5 So I'm here to do a few things, both to talk
6 about the project and the things that we've been doing,
7 and this project, because of it's magnitude, is the
8 largest project that Sasol has ever built, in modern
9 history anyway. In the State of Louisiana. We chose
10 the State of Louisiana to build this project, and we're
11 quite happy that we've done so.

12 So I'm here to do a few things. I'm here to
13 thank you, thank you for the support that we've gotten
14 from the State of Louisiana, from the residents of
15 Louisiana, and I'm here to advocate for approval of
16 Sasol's ITEP application. I'm also here to answer any
17 questions you may have for me.

18 So about seven years ago -- this has been a
19 very long project. About seven years ago, Sasol and the
20 State of Louisiana entered into a public-private
21 partnership to invest in the state's future, and as I
22 said before, in short, Sasol agree to make the largest
23 capital investment in history in the State of Louisiana
24 and create hundreds of jobs, and in return, the state
25 agreed to an opportunity to qualify for a 10-year, 100



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1 percent abatement of property tax. And as you would
2 expect, with any good business agreement, we would
3 expect that the terms of the agreement would be
4 beneficial to both parties. And as I've mentioned, with
5 the return on investment with this, we're pretty sure
6 that that happened.

7 So these projects are difficult under the
8 best of circumstances, and certainly what we do today
9 does not make this any easier. The circumstances, the
10 state of COVID with the precautions we take here today
11 is simply an example of how these things are
12 complicated.

13 So, like with all of these things, we review
14 numbers. We've been working on this a long time. We
15 contemplate many different things, we forecast what
16 we're going to do and how we're going to do it, when
17 it's going to spend, how long it's going to take. Due
18 diligence was executed. We mitigate more things than
19 you can possibly imagine with regards to a project with
20 the complexity of ours, and we are very happy to report
21 on the progress that we have been making.

22 So what I can tell you today is that the
23 benefits of this project achieved so far, even before we
24 are done, has already outpaced what was originally
25 envisioned in the Sasol/State of Louisiana agreement.



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1 Let me give you some examples. So we have
2 delivered. We have hired more than 800 new direct jobs.
3 We have created more than 800 new direct jobs in
4 Southwest Louisiana. Ninety-four percent of those are
5 residents -- are Louisiana residents with an average
6 annual salary of \$80,000 per year plus benefits. Those
7 people pay taxes. We've delivered more than 6,500
8 construction jobs average over this period of time.
9 We've delivered more than \$4.3-billion of spend with
10 Louisiana businesses. We've delivered more than
11 \$190-million -- \$190-million in local sales and use tax
12 payments to the state and to the parish where we reside.
13 We've delivered more than \$40-million of infrastructure
14 improvements mostly in the City of Westlake, that
15 includes infrastructure that's already speared the
16 traditional economic growth and ripples from other
17 industries. Despite ITEP, Sasol will pay \$28-million in
18 property taxes even through the exemption period.

19 So before I close, one forecast I will leave
20 you with, as you know, plant like ours are here for
21 generations. It will be here in 2057. I am certain of
22 that. I am certain I will be long gone by then. At
23 that point in time, which is not long in the lifespan of
24 a plant like ours, we will have paid well over a billion
25 dollars of property taxes to the State of Louisiana by



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1 that time alone.

2 So as I said before, any good business
3 agreement should benefit both parties. We certainly are
4 sure that we have provided our side of this deal, and we
5 hope to demonstrate to you one day that it does. So the
6 state has made a great investment. The returns are
7 already there.

8 On behalf of our more than 2,000 Louisiana
9 employees and contractors in the Lake Charles area and
10 our more than 30,000 employees globally, we thank you.
11 And that concludes my comments.

12 MR. JONES: Thank you, Mr. Thomas, for that
13 very thorough report.

14 Any questions or comments concerning Sasol?
15 Yes, sir, Senator Johns.

16 MR. JOHNS: Thank you, Mr. Thomas, for being
17 here. I hope you can hear me.

18 So as I remember, the initial investment was
19 less -- projected investment was going to be less than
20 13-billion, and then it ended up being about 13-billion,
21 so y'all actually invested more into Calcasieu Parish
22 than you originally had committed to if I'm not
23 mistaken.

24 MR. THOMAS: Yes, sir, that's correct. Our
25 original estimated cost of the project, the original



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1 benefits to the State of Louisiana were estimated upon
2 was \$8.9-billion. The current cost estimate of the
3 project will be closer to 13-billion, and clearly
4 the other things that are different from the original
5 expectation are that we have hired more people than we
6 expected, the project has run longer than we expected,
7 and, therefore, the benefit to the State of Louisiana is
8 greater than what we originally anticipated it to be.

9 MR. JOHNS: And all of this has been done
10 with the blessing of the local public entities back in
11 Calcasieu if I'm not mistaken.

12 MR. THOMAS: Yes, sir. We have put a
13 tremendous amount of effort into working cooperatively
14 with our near neighbors, with our more distant
15 neighbors, with the local authorities, with all
16 agencies. Again, we began this project realizing that
17 we need to maintain a -- we need to be sustainable. We
18 need to have something that is good for the State of
19 Louisiana, that is good for the citizens of Southwest
20 Louisiana, that provide jobs and opportunity to those
21 people there, and we are quite confident that we've
22 delivered on those. We've partnered with local training
23 institutes, community colleges to be able to train and
24 upscale the local workforce to be able to take advantage
25 of the economic boom that has come into Southwest,



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1 Louisiana, of which we were amongst the first.

2 MR. JOHNS: Well, we want you to know that
3 the State of Louisiana welcomes the investment that you
4 have made, we thank you for it and we welcome those
5 jobs. And I will tell you that Sasol has put Southwest
6 Louisiana on a worldwide map, and no matter where I go
7 around this country, people say "Oh, that's where Sasol
8 is; right?" I say "Yeah."

9 Thirteen-billion dollars raises a lot of
10 antenna. So thank you for being there, and thank you
11 for your investment.

12 MR. THOMAS: Thank you.

13 MR. JONES: Mr. Thomas, one question. Given
14 the work that has been done under the original advance
15 notification, do you anticipate any additional projects
16 to come before this Board under that original advance
17 notification past what you have here on this
18 application?

19 MR. THOMAS: Yes, sir, we do. So as I
20 mentioned, we are almost done with the project, but
21 we're not done yet. Therefore there will be at least
22 one more -- I will sit before you at least one more time
23 as we finish the project. So the remaining spend for
24 our project that is not yet captured under this current
25 applications is about \$2.5-billion.



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1 MR. JONES: For each of those trains or
2 project extensions, were they contemplated in the
3 original advance notification?

4 MR. THOMAS: Yes, sir, they were.
5 Everything we are doing with the project are the things
6 that we originally scoped and included in the original
7 application.

8 MR. JONES: How did the numbers expand? Why
9 did the investment end up being so much larger than you
10 originally estimated?

11 MR. THOMAS: There are many factors,
12 Mr. Chair, but let me try to explain a few of them to
13 you.

14 So projects like these, as I mentioned
15 before, are very complicated to begin with. They are --
16 and they require the efforts by thousands and thousands
17 of people. So you can imagine that one of the largest
18 expenditures of projects like these are the workers, are
19 the employees of those Louisiana Works contractors that
20 build our plant. Well, we underestimated the amount of
21 labor it would take to build the plant. We
22 underestimated the rate at which they can get the job
23 done. Therefore, the reason -- the primary reason that
24 the project increased in cost was it went longer, we
25 kept those thousands of people on our payroll longer and



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1 that comes at a cost.

2 MR. JONES: I understand. Thank you very
3 much.

4 Any other questions or comments?

5 We have some Zoom questions.

6 Go right ahead.

7 MR. DIGRE: Yes. Thank you. Just out of
8 curiosity -- this is Peter Digre again. To the Sasol
9 representative, just my simple grocery store math says
10 that those 78 jobs are being offset at the cost of about
11 1.8-million for each of their creation. Certainly
12 government could do a better job than that in terms of
13 preserving that 138-million. The impact on jobs would
14 be much, much greater.

15 Why does it -- why does the tax offset, tax
16 exemption only yield 78 jobs at a cost of 1.8-million a
17 piece?

18 MR. JONES: I will answer that the tax
19 offset is not directly correlative to the number of
20 jobs.

21 MR. DIGRE: So what economic benefit is
22 there in this then if it's so inefficient in creating
23 jobs? And thank you for the opportunity to comment.

24 MR. JONES: You're welcome.

25 If you would like to answer the question,



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1 Mr. Thomas.

2 MR. THOMAS: I'd be happy to, Mr. Chair.

3 So thank you for the opportunity to answer,
4 and it really allows me to explain one of the realities
5 of projects like ours, which is that they take a long
6 period of time. And actually the jobs that are
7 associated with the expenditure that we are applying for
8 today were hired in the past. They were hired year two,
9 three or four of this, so they've actually been on our
10 payroll longer than simply the 78 that are reflected in
11 the small sliver that we hired this year.

12 The way the mechanics of the application
13 work is, we include the number of people we hire just in
14 the period of time. It does not reflect the hundreds of
15 people that we've hired leading up to this, which are
16 the people who are running, maintaining and will stay
17 with this site going forward.

18 Again, to remind you, we will have hired
19 over 800 employees here in Louisiana for this job. In
20 the recent time, we've hired 78. We hired the majority
21 of those earlier because it takes time to train and get
22 them qualified to run our plants.

23 MR. JONES: Any other questions or comments?
24 Secretary Pierson.

25 SECRETARY PIERSON: Would you just please



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1 also comment that when we talk about the jobs the belong
2 to Sasol, please illuminate the lanes for the
3 contractors that basically have almost permanent
4 employment to maintain and do certain operations at that
5 plant related to the plant, and then the indirect jobs
6 that flow throughout the economy. This is actually a
7 tremendous number of jobs that are not even reflected in
8 the conversation so far I don't believe.

9 MR. THOMAS: Yes, Mr. Secretary. Thank you.
10 I'd be happy to describe that.

11 So in an operation like ours, a chemical
12 operation as it is, we relied on many contractors to
13 maintain and do other activities at the plant every day.
14 And typically those are the same employees for the
15 contract firms, like Turner Industries, that report to
16 work at our plant every day. They do the maintenance at
17 our plant, they do other things like that at our plant.
18 To an outsider, they would look like another Sasol
19 employee. And they work here for years, which is
20 typical of how it works within our industry and with our
21 company.

22 So we have -- because of that, that's the
23 direct impact, so to speak, of the people who work
24 there, but because of the wages that we pay, and I've
25 told you what they were, on average about \$80,000 of



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1 base pay, plus benefits our employees make. Now, those
2 people spend their money in the community, and that has
3 a tremendous multiplying effect for the other people in
4 the community at grocery stores, at shops, at the car
5 dealerships, wherever it may be. It typically tends to
6 be in the multiplier area of four, five, sometimes six
7 numbers of indirect jobs, jobs out in the community for
8 every job we have in our facility because they pay as
9 well as they do.

10 SECRETARY PIERSON: Thank you.

11 MR. JONES: Thank you, Mr. Thomas.

12 Any other questions or comments?

13 We have additional Zoom questions. Okay.

14 MR. BAGERT: This is Broderick Bagert with
15 Together Louisiana. This is an enormous thing of value.
16 It's \$138-million only in the first year of the
17 exemption. Over the life of the exemption, our estimate
18 is that it's \$1.2-billion in public resources. No cost
19 benefit analysis appears to have been conducted, no
20 analysis appears to have been conducted to determine
21 whether or not this exemption is needed and whether it's
22 needed in its entirety. There's been no but-for
23 analysis conducted, that means there is no rational and
24 reasonable and objective grounds by which this Board can
25 make a determination whether 1.2-billion in public



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1 resources is good value for money.

2 Without conducting an analysis, a formal,
3 written, public analysis that has revealed and released
4 publically and open to scrutiny, we think that the
5 approval of this exemption is unconstitutional because
6 it doesn't meet the standard of the Cabela suit to
7 determine whether and under what conditions public
8 bodies can approve things of value for private entities.
9 Not meeting that standard means it should not be
10 approved.

11 Thank you.

12 MR. JONES: Thank you for your comments.

13 Any other comments?

14 Lady Carlson.

15 Thank you, Mr. Thomas. You can go back to
16 your seat.

17 MS. CARLSON: My name is Lady Carlson. I'm
18 with Together Louisiana. My address is 7640 LaSalle,
19 Baton Rouge, Louisiana 70806.

20 And, again, the company has done a study,
21 but has the state done a study? And I think that's
22 important to recognize. Is the state studying the
23 exemptions? Sasol is one of a property-rich company in
24 Calcasieu, and, yet, Calcasieu pays some of the -- a lot
25 of their property is not on the tax rolls, and Calcasieu



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1 and Lake Charles has some of the highest millage in the
2 state, and so we think that when you don't -- if you
3 exempt these taxes, somebody has to pay it, and that
4 "somebody" is us. And we are in the middle of a
5 pandemic where our people, our economies are shattered,
6 and to keep giving away money like this is ludicrous.
7 It does not make sense to keep giving away our money
8 when we need it so desperately. And so we're asking you
9 to deny this exemption. There's a lot of property that
10 Sasol should have on the tax rolls that they don't have,
11 and so, again, we ask you to deny it.

12 Thank you.

13 MR. JONES: Thank you, Lady Carlson.

14 Appreciate your comments.

15 Do we have additional Zoom questions?

16 MS. MO: Hi. This is Christy again. I just
17 want to request --

18 MR. JONES: I'm sorry. Please give me your
19 full name for the record.

20 MS. MO. This is Christy Mo.

21 MR. JONES: Thank you.

22 MS. MO: I want to request that the comments
23 that are being put into the chat be submitted into the
24 official record and also read out loud because there
25 have been a lot of people who are opposing Sasol and



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1 Marathon and the other tax exemptions. I actually
2 haven't seen a single person in support of any of these
3 exemptions.

4 MR. JONES: Thank you for your request, but
5 we're not -- we have formalized how to address the
6 Board. Private chats, even on Zoom, are not properly
7 addressing the Board. It would be just as if people in
8 the audience were whispering to one another if we were
9 to somehow put that on the Board. We will not do so.

10 If you want to make comments to the Board,
11 you can do so through the Zoom app by talking to the
12 Board, not to one another. Thank you.

13 Next question, next comment.

14 (No response.)

15 MR. JONES: Okay. Do we have someone here
16 from W.R. Grace & Company.

17 As you approach the mic, please get as close
18 to your mask as possible, speak loudly. Give us your
19 name and your position with the company.

20 MR. BRODERICK: My name is Jesse Broderick
21 with Sumit Credits and we represent W.R. Grace and
22 assist them -- we assist them with their incentive
23 programs and specifically the ITE applications.

24 This particular application is the last
25 application. As there's a process and a procedure for



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1 these programs, the company filed in ITE application
2 that was approved and a contract was put in place there
3 for the entire project that encompasses 235-million in
4 investment.

5 The company is building a brand new catalyst
6 plant right next to their existing plant in Sulphur,
7 Louisiana. As part of the ITEP process, when you have
8 assets go in service before the final project and plant
9 goes in service, you actually have to file a new
10 application that comes before the Board, and that's what
11 this is. This is the 2019 assets that were placed in
12 service.

13 The big project, the final project is
14 scheduled to be -- is done. It is scheduled to be
15 finally complete and go into commissioning at the end of
16 the month, and that will complete their project. So
17 they're done with their project. You should not see any
18 future applications for W.R. Grace under the old rules.

19 MR. JONES: At least under the old rules.

20 MR. BRODERICK: Correct.

21 MR. JONES: Thank you. We want you to
22 continue to invest.

23 All right. Any other questions or comments
24 for W.R. Grace?

25 MR. JOHNS: May I say something?



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1 MR. JONES: Of course.

2 MR. JOHNS: Thank you for being here. I'm
3 very familiar with W.R. Grace. I live there right in
4 Sulphur. I just want you to know your company's
5 reputation is impeccable. It's been one of the better
6 employers in Southwest Louisiana for many, many, many
7 years. So we thank you for you for those long-term jobs
8 that y'all have created. I call y'all the quiet company
9 over in Calcasieu Parish.

10 MR. BRODERICK: Well, thank you very much.
11 And I will say that Jennifer Cousté, the comptroller,
12 was attempting to get on Zoom. I don't know if she made
13 it, but she was hoping to be on the Zoom meeting in case
14 there were any specific questions for the company.

15 MR. JOHNS: Thank y'all for taking care of
16 your business.

17 MR. BRODERICK: Thank you.

18 MR. JONES: Thank you, Mr. Broderick.

19 Ms. Carlson, you wanted to speak?

20 MS. CARLSON: Lady Carlson, 7640 LaSalle,
21 Baton Rouge, Louisiana 70806, and I'm with Together
22 Louisiana.

23 No analysis has been done to determine
24 whether this exemption is needed or not, and the
25 economic activity that will be described. And so we



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1 think to accept this application is unconstitutional
2 because no analysis was done, that we are urging you,
3 again, to deny it.

4 And I feel like a broken record. We are in
5 the middle of a pandemic. Our local governments are
6 suffering, our families are suffering. And when one
7 group doesn't pay taxes, another group has to, and that
8 tends to fall on the backs of poor and middle income
9 families.

10 And I would just say this: The United Way
11 has a report called ALICE, and it documents the number
12 of people in each parish and each town that are the
13 working poor, and so we'd like to see something done
14 where you're saying to companies let's start thinking
15 about the working poor, our schools are in terrible
16 shape, we don't know the impact of what the pandemic
17 will do to school taxes. Please deny this exemption.

18 Thank you.

19 MR. JONES: Thank you, Ms. Carlson.

20 Any other questions or comments?

21 Mr. Broderick.

22 For those of you who on are Zoom, the delay
23 is we have to disinfect the speaker's table, microphone
24 and chair between each speaker.

25 MR. BRODERICK: Sorry. I just want to make



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1 one additional comment for the record, and that is that
2 we have been working in Calcasieu Parish on a number of
3 exemption contracts and they've gone before the police
4 jury and have gone before the school board and those
5 have all been approved. So I just want to make a note
6 that the locals in Calcasieu Parish have been approving
7 ITEP applications, and so from that standpoint, the
8 locals in Calcasieu are supporting the ITEP. I don't
9 know what Baton Rouge thinks, but the locals in
10 Calcasieu support it.

11 MR. JONES: Thank you, Mr. Broderick.

12 Any other questions or comments?

13 (No response.)

14 MR. JONES: Okay. I believe we have a
15 motion and a second on -- we do not yet have a motion.
16 All right. Thank you. Thank you for keeping me
17 straight, Ms. Simmons.

18 I have a motion from Senator Johns to
19 approve these five Pre-EO applications.

20 Do I have a second?

21 MR. MOSS: Second.

22 MR. JONES: Second from Representative Moss.

23 Any further comments or questions from the
24 Board?

25 (No response.)



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1 MR. JONES: There being none, any further
2 comments or questions from the public?

3 We have one comment or question from the
4 public.

5 MS. MANALE: This is Jodie Manale at 812
6 Navy Street in Metairie, Louisiana. I'm speaking to
7 support the comments of Broderick Bagert and the other
8 person who spoke from Together Louisiana.

9 I would just like to say, this reminds me of
10 living in a third-world country where companies are
11 allowed to come in and exploit the resources and the
12 people of that country without paying anything into the
13 infrastructure of the area, and I think the time for the
14 free ride is over. I believe in economic development; I
15 support economic development. My son and his family
16 live in Lake Charles, so I know Sasol is having a big
17 impact there, but I oppose to any enterprise getting
18 such huge industrial tax exemptions so many times more
19 than any other state in the nation grants because this
20 is undermining the cost our ability as Louisianians to
21 have good roads, good schools, well-staffed government
22 resources, police protection, fire protection and all of
23 that. And I think it's time for your Board to stop
24 rubber stamping all of these applications, particularly
25 since you don't seem to have any mechanism in place for



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1 accountability once the exemptions are granted. So I
2 oppose the approval of Sasol's application. Thank you.

3 MR. JONES: Thank you for your comments.

4 Any other comments?

5 Next. Now.

6 MS. DANIEL: Hello. Can you hear me?

7 MR. JONES: Yes.

8 MS. DANIEL: Oh, wow. Okay. So for what my
9 first question is --

10 MR. JONES: Excuse me, but I need your name
11 for the record, please.

12 MS. DANIEL: Sorry. This is Anne Daniel.
13 My zip code is 70119. I'm in New Orleans. I'm a
14 citizen of Louisiana.

15 I want to make sure you're not going to
16 approve all five at once because each one is different.
17 And it seems like there was plenty of dissent on
18 Marathon and Sasol, and those should be looked at
19 separately. And then, also, there should be a cost
20 benefit analysis for each of those.

21 There should be local parish representation
22 on this Board for, you know, any parish that's being
23 affected, and if we can take the time to read all of the
24 comments of the public, I think the Board can take the
25 time to read all of the comments before you vote.



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1 Thank you.

2 MR. JONES: Thank you for your comments.

3 Any other comments?

4 (No response.)

5 MR. JONES: There being none, there is a
6 motion before the Board and a second.

7 MR. MOLLER: There is one more person --

8 MR. JONES: I'm sorry. Go right ahead.

9 MR. HARMER: Hi. Yes. My name is Josiah
10 Harmer. I'm a student at Louisiana State University. I
11 live at 4040 Burbank Drive in Baton Rouge 70608. I just
12 want to comment on the five collectively and some of the
13 arguments that have been made.

14 So the purpose, as I understand it, for
15 ITEP, of the policy, is to create construction jobs and
16 generally to promote the wellbeing of the state through
17 that policy. So businesses pay taxes as a cost of doing
18 businesses everywhere in every state, and the fact
19 that -- the simple fact that they employ people has been
20 used I think specifically by Sasol, the Sasol
21 representative, to -- as an argument for this specific
22 exemption, which the two are completely unrelated;
23 right? Creating jobs is a simple, you know, you do that
24 anywhere, but this specific exemption is about creating
25 construction jobs.



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1 So if there's no evidence before this Board
2 that these tax exemptions specifically are not adding
3 value to the state and no evidence that they're really
4 useful and they're a lot of concerned citizens that are
5 opposed to them, it seems to me that (disconnection).

6 MR. JONES: We've lost contact. We've lost
7 contact. Is he --

8 MR. HARMER: Yes. Sorry. Can you hear me?

9 MR. JONES: I can hear you now.

10 MR. HARMER: Yeah.

11 -- does not satisfy the purpose of the ITEP
12 policy, and I think that that has been repeated time and
13 time again.

14 And I'd like that to echo all of the people
15 who have said that, you know, that it simply doesn't
16 advance any objective related to the wellbeing of the
17 citizens of Louisiana and must be seen as such, and I
18 think that is frankly embarrassing.

19 And that's all I have. Thank you.

20 MR. JONES: Thank you for your comments.

21 Any other comments for the Board?

22 Please speak.

23 ZOOM PARTICIPANT: Yes. This is

24 (inaudible). Zip code is 70115.

25 I also want to comment on the Sasol in



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1 support of what the previous comments have said. Our
2 Louisiana tax exemptions are off the chart. They have
3 been off the chart compared to tax exemptions that are
4 granted anywhere else in the country, and we have not
5 seen any benefits. We are at the bottom in so many
6 categories if you look at health or environment. These
7 companies come in, they exploit our resources, they
8 create toxic air and water, and we grant them tax
9 exemptions for doing that. It is just outrageous and it
10 has to stop. So please vote no on Sasol. Add my voice
11 there too.

12 Thank you.

13 MR. JONES: Thank you for your comments.

14 Any other comments?

15 Please speak.

16 MS. BOOKER: That's it.

17 MR. JONES: That's all.

18 We have a motion and a second.

19 All in favor, say "aye."

20 Excuse me. Scratch that. I'm sorry. We're
21 doing rollcall votes. Forgive me.

22 MS. SIMMONS: Don Briggs.

23 MR. BRIGGS: Yes.

24 MS. SIMMONS: Representative Davis.

25 MS. DAVIS: Yes.



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1 MS. SIMMONS: Mayor Toups.
2 MR. TOUPS: Yes.
3 MS. SIMMONS: Yvette Cola.
4 MS. COLA: Yes.
5 MS. SIMMONS: Stuart Moss.
6 MR. MOSS: Yes.
7 MS. SIMMONS: Jerald Jones.
8 MR. JONES: Yes.
9 MS. SIMMONS: Heather Malone.
10 MS. MALONE: Yes.
11 MS. SIMMONS: Senator Johns.
12 MR. JOHNS: Yes.
13 MS. SIMMONS: Kenneth Havard.
14 MR. HAVARD: No.
15 MS. SIMMONS: Jan Moller.
16 MR. MOLLER: No.
17 MS. SIMMONS: Secretary Don Pierson.
18 SECRETARY PIERSON: Yes.
19 MS. SIMMONS: Mr. Travis Holley.
20 MR. HOLLEY: No.
21 MS. SIMMONS: Dr. Woodrow Wilson.
22 (No response.)
23 MS. SIMMONS: We have a majority.
24 MR. JONES: What is the final vote count?
25 DR. W. WILSON: Yes.



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1 MR. JONES: That's Dr. Wilson.

2 DR. W. WILSON: Yes.

3 MR. JONES: Final vote count.

4 MS. SIMMONS: We have seven yeses and three
5 noes.

6 MR. JONES: Seven yeses and three noes, but
7 the motion carries.

8 Next item on the agenda, please.

9 MR. USIE: Next we have Post-EO 2017 rules,
10 six new applications: 20180030-A, Cortec, LLC, West
11 Baton Rouge Parish; 20180072-A, Cortec, LLC, Terrebonne
12 Parish; 20161891, Inferno Manufacturing, Caddo Parish;
13 20161891-A, Inferno Manufacturing, Caddo Parish;
14 20180120, Reliant Technologies, Incorporated, West Baton
15 Rouge Parish; 20170067-I, WestRock CP, LLC, Jackson
16 Parish.

17 MR. JONES: These are all applications that
18 were submitted to LED following the Governor's Executive
19 Order of 2017.

20 MR. USIE: 2017.

21 MR. JONES: And so do we have a motion to
22 approve? I'll entertain a motion to approve.

23 MS. DAVIS: Motion to approve.

24 DR. W. WILSON: So moved, Dr. Wilson.

25 MR. JONES: We have a motion from



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1 Representative Davis -- forgive me -- and a second from
2 Dr. Wilson in Caddo Parish.

3 Any question or comments from the Board?

4 (No response.)

5 MR. JONES: Any questions or comments from
6 the public?

7 (No response.)

8 MS. SIMMONS: There being none, rollcall,
9 please, Ms. Simmons.

10 MS. SIMMONS: Mr. Briggs.

11 MR. JONES: Ms. Simmons would you put your
12 mic a little closer to your mouth, please?

13 MS. SIMMONS: Mr. Briggs.

14 (No response.)

15 MS. SIMMONS: Ms. Davis.

16 MS. DAVIS: Yes.

17 MS. SIMMONS: Mayor Toups.

18 MR. TOUPS: Yes.

19 MS. SIMMONS: Yvette Cola.

20 (No response.)

21 MS. SIMMONS: Stuart Moss.

22 MR. MOSS: Yes.

23 MS. SIMMONS: Jerald Jones.

24 MR. JONES: Yes.

25 MS. SIMMONS: Heather Malone.



1 MS. MALONE: Yes.
2 MS. SIMMONS: Senator Johns.
3 He just left.
4 Kenneth Havard.
5 (No response.)
6 MS. SIMMONS: Jan Moller.
7 MR. MOLLER: Yes.
8 MS. SIMMONS: Secretary Pierson.
9 SECRETARY PIERSON: Yes.
10 MS. SIMMONS: Mr. Holley.
11 MR. HOLLEY: Yes.
12 MS. SIMMONS: An Dr. Woodrow Wilson.
13 DR. W. WILSON: Yes.
14 MR. JONES: Motion carries.
15 Next item on the agenda.
16 MR. USIE: Next we have Post-Executive Order
17 new applications for the 2018 rules. We have 34. Six
18 companies have requested deferrals. The first is
19 20190367, Savoie's Sausage and Food Products, Inc., St.
20 Landry Parish, and five of the Folger Coffee Company in
21 Orleans Parish. They're 20170466, 20170467, 20180298,
22 20190391, and 20190392.
23 MR. JONES: So first I would entertain a
24 motion to defer these six applications.
25 We have a motion from Representative Davis;



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1 second from someone on Zoom.

2 MR. MILLER: Jan Moller, I second.

3 MR. JONES: Thank you very much.

4 Any questions or comments from the Board?

5 (No response.)

6 MR. JONES: Any comments from the public?

7 (No response.)

8 MR. JONES: There being none, all in
9 favor -- I'm sorry. We do have a question from the
10 public.

11 MR. BAGERT: Yeah, just for clarification,
12 the five Folgers, what was the other -- this is
13 Broderick Bagert from Together Louisiana.

14 MR. JONES: Sure.

15 MR. BAGERT: So what was the sixth
16 application. We saw Folgers. What was the other one?

17 MR. USIE: The other one is 20190367,
18 Savoie's Sausage.

19 MR. BAGERT: Okay. Thank you very much.

20 MR. JONES: There being no further comments,
21 all -- rollcall vote, please, for deferral.

22 MS. SIMMONS: Mr. Briggs.

23 (No response.)

24 MS. SIMMONS: Ms. Davis.

25 MS. DAVIS: Yes.



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1 MS. SIMMONS: Mayor Toups.
2 MR. TOUPS: Yes.
3 MS. SIMMONS: Yvette Cola.
4 (No response.)
5 MS. SIMMONS: Stuart Moss.
6 MR. MOSS: Yes.
7 MS. SIMMONS: Jerald Jones.
8 MR. JONES: Yes.
9 MS. SIMMONS: Heather Malone.
10 MS. MALONE: Yes.
11 MS. SIMMONS: Senator Johns.
12 (No response.)
13 MS. SIMMONS: Kenneth Havard.
14 MR. HAVARD: Yes.
15 MS. SIMMONS: Jan Moller.
16 MR. MOLLER: Yes.
17 MS. SIMMONS: Secretary Pierson.
18 SECRETARY PIERSON: Yes.
19 MS. SIMMONS: Travis Holley.
20 MR. HOLLEY: Yes.
21 MS. SIMMONS: Dr. Wilson.
22 DR. W. WILSON: Yes.
23 MR. JONES: Thank you very much.
24 Go right ahead.
25 MR. USIE: 20190019, ASH Industries,



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1 Lafayette Parish; 20180501, Alliance Compressors, LLC,
2 Natchitoches Parish; 2020200128, Borne Technologies,
3 Ascension Parish; 20190003, C&C Marine and Repair, LLC,
4 Plaquemines Parish; 20180516-A, Centric Pipe, LLC,
5 Bossier Parish; 20190030, Community Coffee Company, LLC,
6 Jefferson Parish; 20190082, Etheredge Electric Co, LLC,
7 Calcasieu Parish; 20180373, GUILDCO, LLC, St. Landry
8 Parish; 20190188, Gulf Island Shipyards, LLC, Terrebonne
9 Parish; 20190283, Gulf Island Shipyards, LLC, Terrebonne
10 Parish; 20180090, Gulf Island Shipyards, LLC, Terrebonne
11 Parish; 20180403, Indorama Ventures Olefins, LLC,
12 Calcasieu Parish; 20190026, International Mezzo
13 Technologies, East Baton Rouge Parish; 20190173, Jackson
14 Hardwood, LLC, East Feliciana Parish; 20180498, K&B
15 Machine Works, LLC, Terrebonne Parish; 20170492-A,
16 Louisiana Sugar Cane Cooperative, Inc., St. Martin
17 Parish; 20190120, MK Environmental, Inc., Caldwell
18 Parish; 20180296, Martco, LLC, Natchitoches Parish;
19 20190393, Martco, LLC, Natchitoches Parish; 20190093,
20 Neighbors, LLC, Ouachita Parish; 20180301, Packaging
21 Corporation of America, Beauregard Parish; 20190031,
22 Packaging Corporation of America, Beauregard Parish;
23 20180500, Peppers Unlimited of Louisiana, Inc., St.
24 Martin Parish; 20200068, REG Geismar, LLC, Ascension
25 Parish; 20180261, Shintech Louisiana, LLC, Iberville

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1 Parish; 20190015, TDC, LLC, Calcasieu Parish;
2 20180533-A, W.R. Grace & Co., St. Charles Parish; and
3 202000010, Weyerhaeuser NR Company, Livingston Parish.

4 And that concludes the 2018 applications.

5 MR. JONES: Entertain a motion to approve.

6 MS. DAVIS: So moved.

7 MR. JONES: We have a motion from

8 Representative Davis to approve.

9 Do we have a second?

10 MR. MOSS: Second.

11 MS. SIMMONS: We have a second from

12 Representative Moss.

13 Any questions or comments from the Board?

14 (No response.)

15 MR. JONES: Any comments from the public?

16 Lady Carlson.

17 MS. CARLSON: Lady Carlson, 7640 LaSalle,

18 Baton Rouge, Louisiana. And I want to be sure, so

19 you're approving all of these applications, all of these
20 exemptions?

21 MR. JONES: There is a motion on the floor,
22 yes, ma'am.

23 MS. CARLSON: To approve them?

24 MR. JONES: Yes, ma'am.

25 MS. CARLSON: And so I would just like to



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1 say, again, we're giving away money we need, and I know,
2 Mr. Jones, you're getting tired of hearing me, but this
3 is money we're giving away in exemptions. When one
4 group doesn't pay taxes, another group does, and so just
5 as you do this, realize that you are now saying that the
6 millages in these communities can go up and that the
7 middle, poor citizens are going to replace the money
8 that you're giving away. So I just want to put that in
9 there.

10 Thank you.

11 MR. JONES: Two things, Ms. Carlson. Number
12 one, I'll never tire of hearing from you. Ever. Number
13 two, we simply have a disagreement. I don't agree with
14 everything you say; I don't agree with everything that
15 you contend. I go back to my comments earlier with
16 Marathon, somebody back in 1976 sitting on this Board
17 decided to grant Marathon an exemption. As a result,
18 St. John the Baptist Parish is getting over \$50-million
19 a year in tax revenue from that facility. So there are
20 moneys coming into and will be come going into
21 governmental entities today and in the future because of
22 the investments the State of Louisiana is making through
23 this program.

24 Y'all don't agree with me; I don't agree
25 with y'all, but I will defend to my death your right to



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1 stand before this Board and make your points because I
2 think at some point in time you may change my mind, but
3 it's not going to be today.

4 MS. CARLSON: But, sir, with Marathon,
5 you're giving them an exemption for something that's
6 required by law. The improvements they're making in the
7 air quality is required by law, and so that should be --
8 that should be the cost of doing business. I don't get
9 an exemption because I improve my house, and so I think
10 the same should apply.

11 MR. JONES: Thank you for your comments.

12 MS. CHENG: I do want to note -- this is
13 Kristen Cheng, ITEP Program Administrator -- these are
14 under the 2018 rules and still do need to go to the
15 local bodies for approval.

16 MR. JONES: So these will be going to the
17 locals?

18 MS. CHENG: Yes, sir.

19 MR. JONES: Excellent point, Kristen. Thank
20 you very much.

21 Yes, sir. I had another -- somebody else
22 has a question or comment.

23 MR. GUILLORY: Hi. My name is Dexter
24 Guillory.

25 MR. JONES: Put it up a little bit closer,



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1 Mr. Guillory.

2 MR. GUILLORY: Dexter Guillory. My
3 company, which is a family-owned company, was on this
4 last list of the people putting application, GUILDCO.

5 I guess my question is, because of the
6 delays of no one's fault, the St. Landry Parish
7 Assessor's Office would like some -- I guess some
8 clarification so that they can honor our property tax
9 freeze, and they're losing patience. How quickly can we
10 get at least something from you guys sent to the parish
11 so that we can go forward with this tax exemption
12 freeze?

13 In short, we spent three and a half million
14 dollars, and the only thing we're applying for -- can
15 take use of is the property tax freeze, which will be
16 about \$10,000 a year from us. Because we're seasonal,
17 we're not requesting anything at this time for cost
18 sharing of training or any of those type items.

19 MR. JONES: I understand. Thank you,
20 Mr. Guillory. As Ms. Cheng just mentioned, what will
21 happen next is the local taxing authority, your sheriff,
22 your parish council or parish police jury, if you're
23 facility is in a municipality, the municipality, they
24 will -- and the school board will all have to approve
25 this before it goes to the tax assessor.



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1 MR. GUILLORY: Okay. Thank you very much.

2 MR. JONES: Thank you, sir. Appreciate your
3 time with us today. Appreciate your investment.

4 Yes, sir.

5 MR. SPENCE: My name is Hartie Spence with
6 ASH Industries in Lafayette, Louisiana, one of the
7 contracts, one of the ones that's up for a vote. I can
8 sit here and let the contract pass, but I can't stay
9 silent anymore.

10 I started my business 30 years ago in
11 Lafayette with me and my dog sitting on a couch next to
12 a machine, and now I have 71 employees. I have been
13 working real hard to expand our business. We're in the
14 poorest section of Lafayette.

15 I'd like to debate anybody who say that
16 we're not giving back to the community. I debate
17 anybody to tell me that we're not giving Louisiana the
18 critical jobs that are necessary to keep Lafayette alive
19 in a time where we're really disparate.

20 Our employees are our neighbors. They're
21 the poorest people in Lafayette. We bring them in
22 without any skills, we educate them. We do our best to
23 promote them. We educate them in business and money
24 where they can use it in their home and to improve in
25 their jobs. We do everything we can to help each other



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1 out no matter where they come from or what their
2 background is.

3 In the last few years, our business has used
4 the ITEP program to expand our business 50 percent since
5 2016, and we will continue to expand our business. We
6 have plans to triple the physical size of our plant in
7 the next three years. And this monkey business about
8 not contributing to infrastructure is a bunch of bunk.
9 We're buying thousands of dollars of electricity on a
10 monthly basis that's poured back into the economy.

11 Louisiana needs one thing, and that's more
12 jobs. We need to put people to work because without
13 jobs, we can't survive, and this ITEP program makes it
14 possible.

15 This week and this month, we're moving in
16 almost a million dollars in equipment that we'll put on
17 another contract to bring back to the ITEP program.
18 We're taking Louisiana plastic made with Louisiana
19 plants from Louisiana oil and we're building parts for
20 companies all over the United States and we're taking
21 cash from California, New England and every other state
22 in the nation for medical, consumer and industrial
23 products and we're using our resources to brig money
24 back that we need to survive.

25 So I'm very grateful for the program. I'm



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1 going to have to go back to the local area and fight for
2 their approval, which I also think is ridiculous, but
3 I'm going to get it because local people believe in
4 local investment and they understand what we're doing
5 for them. We're taking small bits of money and are
6 multiplying that effect. Nobody is giving us money and
7 the money is not disappearing and the money will not
8 have to come from anybody else because we're creating
9 money.

10 Thank you very much.

11 MR. JONES: Thank you for your investment.
12 Appreciate your comments.

13 Any other comments before we vote?

14 (No response.)

15 MR. JONES: We do have a motion and a
16 second; right?

17 MS. SIMMONS: Yes, we do.

18 MR. JONES: Okay. Let's have a rollcall
19 vote.

20 MS. SIMMONS: I need all of the Board
21 members to please unmute your phones at this time so
22 that we can get your vote on record. Thank you.

23 Mr. Briggs.

24 MR. BRIGGS: Yes.

25 MS. SIMMONS: Ms. Davis.



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1 MS. DAVIS: No response.
2 MS. SIMMONS: Mayor Toups.
3 MR. TOUPS: Yes.
4 MS. SIMMONS: Yvette Cola.
5 MS. COLA: Yes.
6 MS. SIMMONS: Stuart Moss.
7 MR. MOSS: Yes.
8 MS. SIMMONS: Jerald Jones.
9 MR. JONES: Yes.
10 MS. SIMMONS: Heather Malone.
11 MS. MALONE: Yes.
12 MS. SIMMONS: Kenneth Havard.
13 (No response.)
14 MS. SIMMONS: Secretary Pierson.
15 SECRETARY PIERSON: Yes.
16 MS. SIMMONS: Mr. Holley.
17 MR. HOLLEY: Yes.
18 MS. SIMMONS: Dr. Wilson.
19 DR. W. WILSON: Yes.
20 MR. JONES: Motion carries.
21 MR. MOLLER: My name was not called. This
22 is Jan Moller. I vote yes.
23 MS. SIMMONS: I'm sorry, Mr. Moller. I
24 missed your name.
25 MR. JONES: Thank you, Mr. Moller.



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1 All right. Next item on the agenda, please,
2 Mr. Usie.

3 MR. USIE: Next we have 67 renewal
4 applications, two of which are requesting deferral.
5 Those two are 20131327, Folger Coffee Company, Orleans
6 Parish, and 20141383, Folger Coffee Company, Orleans
7 Parish.

8 MR. JONES: Just those two?

9 MR. USIE: Just those two.

10 MR. JONES: So I would entertain a motion to
11 defer the Folger Coffee Company renewal applications.

12 MR. MOSS: So moved.

13 MR. JONES: I have motion from
14 Representative Moss.

15 Second? Do we have a second?

16 MS. DAVIS: Yes.

17 MR. JONES: Second from Representative
18 Davis.

19 Rollcall vote -- excuse me. First, any
20 comments from the Board?

21 (No response.)

22 MR. JONES: Any comments from the public?

23 We do have a Zoom participant.

24 Please speak. Please make your comment.

25 (No response.)



1 MR. JONES: All right. It appears to have
2 lost interest in the comment.

3 Okay. Let's move on, Mr. Usie.

4 MR. USIE: We have 65 timely renewals. Do
5 you want me to read them all individually?

6 MS. SIMMONS: You need to vote on the
7 deferrals.

8 MR. JONES: Oh, I'm sorry. Thank you, Ms.
9 Simmons. I appreciate that.

10 We need a rollcall vote on the deferral of
11 the two Folger Coffee Company applications.

12 MS. SIMMONS: Mr. Briggs.

13 (No response.)

14 MS. SIMMONS: Ms. Davis.

15 MS. DAVIS: Yes.

16 MS. SIMMONS: Mr. Toups.

17 MR. TOUPS: Yes.

18 MS. SIMMONS: Yvette Cola.

19 MS. COLA: Yes.

20 MS. SIMMONS: Stuart Moss.

21 MR. MOSS: Yes.

22 MS. SIMMONS: Jerald Jones.

23 MR. JONES: Yes.

24 MS. SIMMONS: Heather Malone.

25 MS. MALONE: Yes.



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1 MS. SIMMONS: Kenneth Havard.
 2 MR. HAVARD: Yes.
 3 MS. SIMMONS: Jan Moller.
 4 MR. MOLLER: Yes.
 5 MS. SIMMONS: Secretary Pierson.
 6 SECRETARY PIERSON: Yes.
 7 MS. SIMMONS: Mr. Holley.
 8 MR. HOLLEY: Yes.
 9 MS. SIMMONS: Dr. Woodrow Wilson.
 10 DR. W. WILSON: Yes.
 11 MR. JONES: Motion carries. Those two items
 12 are deferred.
 13 Now, Mr. Usie -- I'm sorry.
 14 There's nothing before the Board right now
 15 to comment on. There'll be opportunity for comments as
 16 we move through these applications.
 17 Go right ahead, Mr. Use.
 18 MR. USIE: We have 33 renewals for Genesis
 19 BR, LLC all in East Baton Rouge Parish, 20150540,
 20 20150545, 20150546, 20150547, 20150548, 20150549,
 21 20150550, 20150551, 20150552, 20150553, 20150555,
 22 20150556, 20150557, 20150558, 20150561, 20150563,
 23 20150565, 20150566, 20150569, 20150570, 20150571,
 24 20150573, 20150574, 20150575, 20150577, 20150578,
 25 20150579, 20150580, 20150581, 20150582, 20150583,



1 20150586 and 20150588. Again, those are all Genesis BR,
2 LLC in East Baton Rouge Parish.

3 MR. JONES: Before we move on, let's deal
4 with these. Are these the same ones that were deferred
5 from the last meeting?

6 MR. USIE: Correct.

7 MR. JONES: Correct.

8 MR. USIE: We have the Genesis Crude Oil
9 next up that were also deferrals.

10 MR. JONES: Let's go ahead and include those
11 in the discussion point that I want to cover right now.

12 MR. USIE: So we have 16 Genesis Crude Oil,
13 LP, all in East Baton Rouge Parish, 20150535, 20150536,
14 20150537, 20150538, 20150539, 20150554, 20150559,
15 20150560, 20150562, 20150564, 20150584, 20150585,
16 20150587, 20150589, 20150590, 20150591.

17 MR. JONES: Okay. Thank you very much.

18 At the last meeting, these matters were
19 before the Board for consideration, and by one of our
20 Board members, Parish President Havard raised the
21 question of whether and how these applications met the
22 requirement of manufacturing under the state statute and
23 rules.

24 I know that we have posed that question to
25 the company, and, Secretary Pierson, did you have a



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1 comment?

2 SECRETARY PIERSON: (Inaudible.)

3 MR. JONES: Well, I believe we have somebody
4 from the company; is that right?

5 Mr. Fudickar, would you come forward,
6 please.

7 MS. CHENG: Chairman Jones, we also have a
8 public comment that was submitted regarding these. Do
9 you want me to read it?

10 MR. JONES: Let's go -- go ahead. We had a
11 comment that was submitted prior to the meeting pursuant
12 to our new Open Meeting rules. So let's go ahead and
13 pose that question.

14 MS. CHENG: This was from LaMont Cole, EBR
15 Metro Councilman District 7. He writes, "Dear Secretary
16 Pierson, Chairman Jones and Members of the Board of
17 Commerce & Industry, we are writing about 49 requests
18 for renewal of Industrial Tax Exemptions by Genesis BR,
19 LLC and Genesis Crude O, LP for consideration at the
20 Board of Commerce & Industry meeting June 24th, 2020.

21 Has the Board of Commerce & Industry
22 specifically determined that these establishments meet
23 the constitutional definition of manufacturing, and if
24 so, which of the companies' activities constitute
25 manufacturing?



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1 According to the company's website, Genesis
2 BR and Genesis Crude Oil are pipeline companies which
3 own and operate petroleum pipelines. These renewal
4 requests would remove \$143-million in property for the
5 taxable rolls from East Baton Rouge Parish for another
6 five years costing local entities about \$7-million in
7 lost ad valorem revenue.

8 LaMont Cole, Metro Councilman District 7.

9 MR. JONES: Thank you for the comments,
10 Councilman Cole.

11 The specific question that was raised by Mr.
12 Cole is fine, but more importantly the Board member,
13 Parish President Havard raised the same question at the
14 last meeting, and so we have a company representative.

15 So can state your name and your position
16 with the company and let's address this question on the
17 manufacturing nature of your work.

18 MR. FUDICKAR: My name is Robert Fudickar.

19 MR. JONES: A little bit closer to the mic.

20 MR. FUDICKAR: My name is Robert Fudickar,
21 and I've been requested to represent Genesis in this
22 matter under the Commerce & Industry Board.

23 MR. JONES: You're going to need to speak a
24 little bit louder, and actually pull the mic up to you.

25 There you go. Much better. Thank you.



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1 So this question of manufacturing by
2 Genesis, help us understand that.

3 MR. FUDICKAR: Yeah, you bet.

4 So upon the last meeting where Board Member
5 Havard asked, I think he received this explanation, but
6 I'll be glad to read it in for the record.

7 MR. JONES: Please do.

8 MR. FUDICKAR: The barrels of crude oil
9 delivered at our facility are delivered through our Port
10 Hudson facility via barge, pipeline or truck or to our
11 Scenic station facility via railcar. The crude oil
12 delivered to our facilities can originate from locations
13 around the United States and Canada. Crude oil grades
14 refer to the chemical components of the crude oil,
15 specifically the sulfur content, the gravity and the
16 viscosity of crude oil.

17 The products that can be manufactured from
18 crude oil vary based on the components of the crude oil.
19 Therefore, it is advantageous to the refining process to
20 obtain crude out with varying components to create the
21 best possible crude oil solution to then further
22 process.

23 Once received at our facilities, the
24 different grades of crude oil are then blended,
25 combined, mixed in our tanks to manufacture homogenous



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1 feedstock that has the appropriate specifications to be
2 able to physically ship on pipeline and further
3 manufactured at a refinery into certain petroleum
4 products.

5 There are physical limits on both the
6 pipelines that deliver the crude oil solution to the
7 refinery from our facility and the refinery itself
8 requires a specific blend of crude oil that we
9 manufacture at our facility.

10 Once blended to crude oil feedstock is then
11 moved out of our storage tanks and shipped via pipeline
12 to the refinery of our customer. Once delivered to the
13 refinery, the product is further manufactured to
14 continue the downstream process.

15 Through the process at our facility, the
16 local refineries are able to physically acquire crude
17 oil feedstock with the specifications, chemical
18 components that will facilitate the most sufficient
19 production from their facility.

20 And, to our understanding, that has been
21 delivered to the Board.

22 MR. JONES: Mr. Havard, are you still
23 participating by Zoom?

24 MR. HAVARD: Yes, I'm listing.

25 I guess my specific question is are all of



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1 these exemptions at one location?

2 MR. FUDICKAR: No. They're various
3 locations.

4 MR. HAVARD: It just says East Baton Rouge,
5 but I don't see the addresses.

6 MR. FUDICKAR: I don't have them
7 specifically. It may be on the application.

8 MS. CHENG: These specific contracts are at
9 the same location, yes.

10 MR. FUDICKAR: Well, because there're
11 actually two --

12 MR. HAVARD: I guess my question is, are
13 you -- I understand the production of blending, but are
14 you doing it at every location that you are requesting,
15 you know, the exemption for manufacturing or is some of
16 these locations actually just pipelines or transport
17 companies?

18 MR. FUDICKAR: Actually, there are no
19 pipeline costs accrued.

20 MR. HAVARD: Like a tank farm, for example,
21 of a plant. Inside the plant itself, I can see where it
22 would be considered manufacturing where you're blending
23 and maybe storage even, but outside the gates, when
24 you're, you know, transporting it via pipeline or
25 loading it on a tractor/trailer or whatever the



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1 transport vehicle might be, whether barge or whatever, I
2 don't -- that's not part of the manufacturing process.
3 It's part of the district transportation network. And
4 is -- most pipeline companies are, you know, they're
5 regulated by the department of transportation because of
6 that, DOTD regulations, that are because they're a
7 transport company, not a manufacturer.

8 MS. CHENG: Mr. Havard, these are all -- all
9 ITEP contracts are site-specific, and the assets cannot
10 leave the specific site, the actual address that's on
11 the application. So this is specific to the site that
12 is on the application, and these would be all at the
13 same facility, if that answers your question.

14 MR. HAVARD: I couldn't quite hear you. I'm
15 having trouble hearing.

16 MS. CHENG: Sorry. These are site-specific
17 contracts, and all assets have to be on site and cannot
18 leave the facility and must be used in the manufacturing
19 process. So they do not leave and are not part of the
20 pipeline.

21 MR. HAVARD: Okay. Well, just specifically
22 just give me an example of one location in Baton Rouge
23 that where you do the blending.

24 MS. CHENG: I don't have the renewal
25 application in front of me.



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1 MR. JONES: Mr. Fudickar, can you help us
2 with that?

3 MR. FUDICKAR: I don't have those particular
4 addresses in front of me, no. I can tell you generally
5 there's a Scenic station facility and there's a Port
6 Hudson facility among other -- the blending sites. The
7 blending occurs up and down.

8 MR. JONES: Mr. Havard?

9 MR. HAVARD: Yes. Do you blend at the Port
10 Hudson facility?

11 MR. FUDICKAR: We blend virtually everywhere
12 that we move it because it comes and goes from certain
13 grades and a certain -- what we look for in certain
14 viscosities for the -- whether it's the sulfur content,
15 the gravity, and so it's a virtual process. It blends
16 per customer need at the end user, but, yeah, we do both
17 at the Scenic station and Port Hudson. Excuse me.

18 MR. HAVARD: Okay. And can you just explain
19 the process to me a little bit? Because I know that,
20 you know, the trucks, when they leave the oil, you know,
21 the field and they deliver to Port Hudson, they are
22 offloaded there at that facility, and what happens at
23 that point?

24 MR. FUDICKAR: Well, full disclosure, I'm
25 not a chemical or a petroleum engineer, so I would be



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1 remiss in tell you I understood the process personally,
2 but we can get that information for you.

3 MR. MOLLER: This is Jan --

4 MR. HAVARD: That was pretty much the
5 information I was asking for today so we would have it
6 for this meeting so we can make a decision on if it's
7 truly manufacturing or it's just a distribution network.

8 MR. JONES: Just one second, Mr. Havard. We
9 have a comment from Secretary Pierson.

10 SECRETARY PIERSON: Thank you, Mr. Havard,
11 for posing the question in our last meeting, and due to
12 your appropriate questioning, the staff did do the
13 research relative to this definition. Certainly the
14 definition that was read into the record spoke to the
15 process by where oil is not oil. Oil is lots of
16 different kinds of oil with lots of different
17 viscosities, lots of different sulfur content, et
18 cetera, et cetera, and what this company does in its
19 blending process is to provide to the end user a
20 different product than that raw crude that came in the
21 point of entry.

22 So we feel like the definition of their
23 activities delivered does constitute manufacturing in
24 that sense, and certainly there have been a number of
25 other blending operations historically permitted to



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1 utilize the ITEP program.

2 I think it's important to note that the
3 company testifies through Louis Dicole (spelled
4 phonetically) that construction costs, the pipeline in
5 this are not a part of the exemption, and only the
6 facility assets which are actually performing the
7 manufacturing process here are the ones that are
8 proposed.

9 You're seeing an unusual number of these
10 because in the past it was an available option to get an
11 exemption on miscellaneous capital additions when we
12 entered into those contracts. That practice is no
13 longer possible, part of the reforms enacted by Governor
14 John Bel Edwards.

15 I did hear a comment earlier in this meeting
16 relative to, "Geez, it's a Pipeline Company. They
17 probably don't have any employees," but that was an
18 incorrect statement again, and if we look at Genesis, we
19 will find that they have approximately 375 employees in
20 the state today.

21 So as the Board contemplates this, I just
22 wanted to bring those points to the discussion that we
23 have a significant employer paying a great rate of
24 salary, which then multiplies into a lot more jobs
25 across the state and that they're seeking to renew the



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1 opportunities that were afforded to them a number of
2 years ago. And that appropriately we would question
3 these things, but in this case, we feel like they do
4 continue to meet the definition of manufacturing, and we
5 hope that we've cleared up that issue that was publicly
6 brought forward by Mr. Havard.

7 MR. HAVARD: I'll just make one more
8 comment.

9 I'm reading from Genesis' own web page here.
10 The second line, second sentence in their opening
11 statement, they -- "Genesis provides midstream energy
12 infrastructure and logistics to move product to the
13 market in the most efficient and cost-effective manner,"
14 and that then it says where all they're located. And
15 then also it says "We have a variety of opportunities
16 across multiple divisions including marine, well
17 operations, trucking and pipeline operations. We have
18 the newest and most advanced trucks, barges and ships in
19 the industry."

20 So, I mean, just reading it, it looks like
21 it's a transportation company.

22 MR. MOLLER: This is Jan Moller. I just
23 wonder, you know, when Genesis said that they're only
24 seeking the exemption on the portion of their operations
25 that are actually manufacturing, what steps does the



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1 department take to verify that? Does somebody go out
2 and look at the operation or is this -- you know, do we
3 just take their word for it?

4 MS. CHENG: Site inspections are done for
5 all ITEP contracts. I believe this was done prior to
6 back before either Hud or I were actually here, but when
7 the manufacturing process was questioned prior to their
8 initial contract even being approved, the previous
9 project or program administrator went and did a site
10 inspection.

11 MR. MOLLER: So under the previous rules,
12 every time somebody submitted an MCA, because these are
13 MCAs, somebody from LED went out to inspect and make
14 sure that it actually covers manufacturing; is that...

15 MS. CHENG: Not before all of them, but when
16 we get applications that have manufacturing processes
17 that are not clear to us that are clear to us
18 manufacturing, we do set up site inspections. Like if,
19 per se, like Mr. Havard just said he read on their
20 website, it did not seem like a manufacturing company,
21 we would go set up a site inspection and ask them to
22 show us their manufacturing process.

23 MR. MOLLER: So this was done prior to this
24 meeting on this set of renewal applications?

25 MS. CHENG: Done before the initial contract



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1 was...

2 MR. MOLLER: But the questions weren't
3 raised before the initial contract. The questions were
4 raised in February; correct?

5 SECRETARY PIERSON: The legal definitions
6 were met, which is how the initial contract was executed
7 on behalf the state by the Commerce & Industry Board, so
8 as a renewal, if they continued to do the same
9 processes, which we have the confirmed status of the
10 company to do, and. Again, when you look at Genesis,
11 yes they're a transportation company. They have barges,
12 they have trucks, they have all kinds of railcars.
13 That's not what they're seeking the exemption on here.
14 The exemption is for those assets that are actually
15 performing the manufacturing process.

16 MR. MOLLER: I understand that. Maybe I'm
17 not making myself clear. Has anybody from Louisiana
18 Economic Development gone out to inspect Genesis to make
19 sure that they are claiming the -- asking for an
20 exemption on the actual portion that is manufacturing to
21 verify their claim?

22 MS. CHENG: Not anyone that's here today.

23 MR. MOLLER: So we just don't know?

24 MR. USIE: Whenever they sought exemption --
25 this is Hud. Whenever they sought their first exemption



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1 for the initial five years, the previous program
2 administrator did do a site inspection, but five years
3 later, they're now up for renewal, so there was no need
4 to do another inspection when the questions were already
5 cleared up.

6 MR. MOLLER: Okay. Is there a paper record
7 created when such a site inspection takes place?

8 MR. USIE: We would have to look at the
9 actual physical file. We've changed FastLane systems
10 since then, so there might be a record from the previous
11 administrator in that physical file, but we would have to
12 pull it to know for sure.

13 MR. MOLLER: Okay. Thank you.

14 MR. JONES: Any other questions or comments?
15 We do have some Zoom questions.
16 Please speak.

17 MS. COLA: Hi. This is Yvette Cola. Can
18 you hear me?

19 MR. JONES: Yes, we can. Thank you.

20 MS. COLA: It's extremely hard to gather and
21 to hear all of the exchange that's going on in Zoom, so
22 I've been trying to listen carefully.

23 I just want to make sure I understand what I
24 think I heard correctly. The question on the table was
25 if an inspection had been conducted on Genesis to



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1 confirm that they are indeed manufacturing a product,
2 and I just want to make sure I heard correctly that an
3 inspection was done initially when they were first
4 approved, but nothing to verify production thereafter;
5 is that correct?

6 MR. USIE: That is correct. Kristen and I
7 were not there in person at that time. It was the other
8 previous ITEP administrator that would have done that at
9 the time the company sought their initial contract.

10 MS. COLA: Okay. I'm sorry. It's still
11 very hard to understand everything. I just want to ask
12 one other question.

13 So at the initial inspection, it was
14 determined that Genesis was manufacturing a product?

15 MR. USIE: Correct. They would not have had
16 an approved contract if it was not verified at that
17 time.

18 Mr. Moller also asked for --

19 MS. COLA: I'm sorry to interrupt you.
20 Honestly it's just so hard to understand. Can you lead
21 with a yes or a no for me. I couldn't --

22 MR. USIE: Well, it's not an easy yes or no
23 question. I apologize. Can you hear me now at this
24 volume?

25 MS. COLA: I can hear you, but it's really



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1 muffled and extremely hard, so just bear with me.

2 MR. USIE: So, yes, an inspection was done
3 at the initial time they sought the ITEP exemption, but
4 another inspection has not been done since they applied
5 for a renewal.

6 MS. COLA: Okay. And after that initial
7 inspection, did you say -- I'm sorry. I just can't
8 quite understand everything. Did you say that it was
9 determined that manufacturing was being done?

10 MR. USIE: Yes, correct.

11 MS. COLA: Okay. Thank you. Thank you.

12 MR. JONES: Additional questions from Zoom
13 participants?

14 MS. RANDALL: May I speak? This is Kathleen
15 Randall.

16 MR. JONES: Please do.

17 MS. RANDALL: Can you hear me?

18 MR. JONES: Yes. Please speak.

19 MS. RANDALL: Thank you. My name is
20 Kathleen Randall. I'm a resident of East Baton Rouge
21 Parish, 19535 Cape Hart Drive, Baton Rouge. The ZIP
22 code is 70809.

23 I would like to thank Mr. Havard for raising
24 this issue initially about whether or not this company
25 is a manufacturing company. I would like to thank



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1 Mr. Jan Moller for raising the questions about whether
2 or not proper inspections and analysis has been made to
3 determine whether it is truly manufacturing a product.
4 I think this is an innovative way of approaching giving
5 Industrial Tax Exemption to a company that is not
6 primarily -- and I emphasize "primarily" -- involved in
7 manufacturing a product. And I understand the niceties
8 of the blending process, although, of course, not being
9 a petroleum engineer, I can't really follow it
10 completely, but the crude oil that the Genesis
11 representative mentioned comes from all over the United
12 States, he said. It wasn't manufactured here. It may
13 have been blended here, and I believe that insufficient
14 inspection has been given to the concept of whether or
15 not blending is manufacturing.

16 The ITEP rules are specific about a
17 manufacturing process. They have to meet the
18 constitutional requirements of being a manufacturer.
19 And the ITEP process is also geared toward creating
20 jobs, and we note on this application it's for the
21 creation of 11 new jobs and we don't even know whether
22 or not they're considered manufacturing rather than
23 blenders.

24 I would suggest that this Board defer this
25 consideration until enough information has been garnered



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1 by the company and by the staff to address the question
2 of is this truly, a, a manufacturer, and, b, in the best
3 interest of the State of Louisiana, 11 employees is not
4 a lot for such a big international transportation,
5 slash, manufacturing, quote, unquote company.

6 Those would be my comments, and thank you so
7 much for letting us participate in this hearing.

8 MR. JONES: Thank you for your
9 participation. Thank you for your comments.

10 Other comments?

11 MR. HARMER: Hello. Yes. Can you hear me?

12 MR. JONES: Yes. Please speak up.

13 MS. HARMER: This is Josiah Harmer again
14 from East Baton Rouge Parish. I am not going to attempt
15 to speak to the petroleum or the manufacturing side of
16 this question, but I would like to relay a personal
17 experience that is directly relevant this exemption and
18 its costs.

19 So I volunteer as a CASA, a Court-Appointed
20 Special Advocate in East Baton Rouge. I represent the
21 needs of a child in Baton Rouge juvenile court, and I'll
22 preserve confidentiality that that child's being taken
23 care of by a single grandparent, who is a teacher and
24 now that COVID has happened is also earning money in
25 their spare time as it a tutor. Just absolutely a



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1 wonderful, kind human being who has taken on this
2 grandchild from a mother who was mentally ill, homeless
3 and refusing prenatal care, and the child was taken into
4 the custody of the state.

5 Now, from my developed relationship with
6 this person, I understand, you know, what the cost will
7 be in terms of real human lives if teachers' salaries
8 are cut, if these employees are not paid what is already
9 kind of an unreasonably low salary and in an already
10 struggle public school system, you know, that when these
11 exemptions happen, they are directly connected --
12 directly connected -- to the ability of the state to pay
13 such salaries. And your actions today are connected to
14 her salary and the ability of public schools to serve
15 citizens of Louisiana, amongst other public services, in
16 East Baton Rouge Parish.

17 That's all I have. Thanks for letting me
18 participate.

19 MR. JONES: Thank you for your comments.
20 Additional comments from Zoom participants?
21 Please speak up. Please speak up.

22 MR. DIGRE: Yeah. This is Peter Digre. My
23 question is about the Folgers one for later.

24 MR. JONES: I'm sorry. For Folgers, which
25 has already been deferred, so we will not be addressing



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1 Folgers today.

2 MR. DIGRE: Thank you.

3 MR. JONES: You're welcome.

4 Next comment.

5 MR. MORELAND: Hello. This is Rich
6 Moreland.

7 MR. JONES: Can you take us off the speaker,
8 please? Please speak directly into your telephone or
9 your computer.

10 MR. MORELAND: Hello?

11 MR. JONES: Much better. Thank you.

12 MR. MORELAND: Okay. This is Rich Moreland.
13 I live at 1723 Blouin Avenue in Baton Rouge 70808.

14 I have another question to raise about this
15 and the 48 other Genesis applications. I'm trying to
16 figure out why there is so many of them. I noticed that
17 they're all under \$5-million. Apparently that makes the
18 difference in whether a company has to give advance
19 notice of their application, but I'm wondering whether
20 it has other advantages, like decreased scrutiny or
21 falling under the 2015 application date before Governor
22 Edwards' Executive Order. We seem to have no written
23 record of any specific analysis of its status as a
24 manufacturing company.

25 Can someone on the Board please explain to



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1 the public what the advantage of keeping all of these
2 under \$5-million might be?

3 MR. USIE: The reason for the under
4 5-million is they were all miscellaneous capital
5 addition projects and they are not required.
6 Miscellaneous capital additions were not required to
7 file an advance notification like other applications.

8 MR. MORELAND: Is there an advantage -- my
9 question session is whether there is an advantage in
10 keeping -- taking these applications apart and putting
11 all of them at or under \$5-million?

12 MS. CHENG: No. They just did not have to
13 file an advanced notification, and the cap was at
14 \$5-million. So if they can separate it out into
15 separate projects that were \$5-million, they could file
16 however many applications they wanted under \$5-million.
17 There was no advantage or disadvantage to it.

18 MR. MORELAND: I guess to me as a citizen,
19 if I tried to do this on an expense report by filing 49
20 different expense reports for a trip I take that, you
21 know, I wouldn't dream of it costing as much as these
22 exemptions do, but that would seem at least fishy to my
23 superiors. Is this something that the Board of Commerce
24 & Industry is used to approving?

25 MS. CHENG: Well, this practice is no longer



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1 allowed as of 2016 when the Governor issued his
2 Executive Order. Now you would see this as a whatever
3 40 -- how many is that -- whatever that added together
4 times five is, one application for a larger investment
5 amount. That's what it would be in front of you instead
6 of 33 applications at \$5-million.

7 MR. MORELAND: Yeah. There's 49, I believe.

8 I suspect that I'm not the only one who
9 finds this a questionable business practice both for the
10 company and for the Board of Commerce & Industry to be
11 giving away so much money to reward.

12 MS. CHENG: Well, this is an exemption, and
13 they would just not be paying taxes -- property taxes on
14 those assets that they're seeking exemption on.

15 MR. JONES: All right. Thank you for your
16 comment.

17 Next question or next comment?

18 MR. BAGERT: Yes, this is Broderick Bagert
19 with Together Louisiana. I just want to address two
20 things.

21 First, the point that Greg (sic) Moreland
22 raised, so the rule in place when these were applied for
23 stated that miscellaneous capital additions can be
24 applied for for accumulations of capital assets under
25 5-million. What this applicant has done is to take



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1 accumulations of capital assets of 143-million and break
2 them into 49 parts. And going along with that, not only
3 originally, but now violates the intent of that why
4 prohibit or put a cap if you -- on the accumulation if
5 they allow the accumulation to become 49 accumulations.

6 Second, the constitution prohibits this
7 Board from granting Industrial Tax Exemptions to any
8 company that's not a manufacturer. The Governor in his
9 Executive Order are reiterating the importance of this
10 stating "I will not approve contracts unless the Board
11 of Commerce & Industry" -- now, that's not LED. That's
12 Board of Commerce & Industry -- "has specifically
13 determined that the establishment meets the
14 constitutional definition of manufacturer."

15 The staff is presuming the property being
16 exempted is related to manufacturing by virtue of the
17 fact that the exemption was granted, but that is a beg
18 to question. What is under contention is, is it in fact
19 manufacturing and is it manufacturing on a scale
20 significant enough, that is to say that the 49
21 properties that's dedicated to manufacturing is
22 substantial enough to meet the constitutional
23 definition.

24 So the Board has an obligation here
25 specifically to determine whether the activity is



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1 manufacturing, as was raised four months ago, and no
2 analysis or inspection has been conducted in the interim
3 to determine whether or not that the agreed-to which the
4 property being exempted constitutes manufacturing under
5 constitutional definition.

6 That is a big problem, and it's a problem
7 because when questions are raised to what degree of the
8 properties' being exempted is actually manufacturing,
9 the answer from staff cannot be "Well, we presume all of
10 it because it would be illegal to do something
11 otherwise."

12 What we're saying is "Hey, this really might
13 be illegal because it sure doesn't look like this is a
14 manufacturing company to any substantial degree." And
15 so to presume the very question that's under discussion
16 by members of this Board and members of the public, when
17 \$5-million in additional subsidies from the public are
18 at stake just seems irresponsible. It would seem now,
19 having deferred this for four months, that the
20 obligation of this Board at least to defer the matter
21 and have an analysis be conducted as the Governor
22 required or to reject them outright since that analysis
23 has not been conducted.

24 Thank you.

25 MR. JONES: Thank you for those comments.



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1 Any additional comments?

2 Please speak. Please speak.

3 MS. WASHINGTON: Thank you. I am Alice
4 Washington, a resident of East Baton Rouge Parish, and
5 I'm also a social worker.

6 So many have already cited many of the
7 concerns that I have about the Genesis project, and
8 they've done a fine job of clarifying to what these
9 concerns should be and what you should consider in you
10 evaluation as well. But I want to speak to you quickly
11 just about what I see through the prism of a social
12 worker's eyes when I look at not just the Genesis, all
13 of these exemptions.

14 As a social worker, when I see monies going
15 away from the city, the state, the parishes, I worry
16 because I am so aware of so many needs in our school
17 systems and, of course, our governing bodies that it
18 pains me when I se us making decisions to grant
19 exemptions when they're not constitutionally sound and
20 they're not deserving. I realize that many will be
21 deserving, but I see some in the Genesis product project
22 that are clearly not so.

23 First of all, as has been noted, this
24 doesn't appear to be a manufacturing company. I did
25 some research and I looked at them and their own



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1 definition of themselves. They're calling themselves an
2 infrastructure and logistics service. That seems to me
3 to be a move-and-store-type of company. And they are
4 not considered by many to be a manufacturing company,
5 and that is a constitutional requirement that they be
6 so.

7 Now, perhaps, even if they are, there's so
8 many reasons why you need to look very carefully at
9 every dollar that you decide to approve, and look at
10 especially if it's not legal, if it's not constitutional
11 or outside of the rules, but we need to consider the
12 dollars that are leaving our state because it means
13 there will not be the resources that we need to support
14 our schools and our other bodies and entities that need
15 the funds for services in our cities and in our
16 parishes.

17 Thank you.

18 MR. JONES: Thank you for your comment.

19 Any other comments from the public?

20 One more. Please speak. Please speak.

21 MR. LAWSER: All right. Can you hear me
22 now?

23 MR. JONES: Yes.

24 MR. LAWSER: Thank you. My name is Joel
25 Lawser (spelled phonetically). I am concerned that you



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1 have a large number of applications and a very, very
2 conclusive statement from the company or the entity
3 itself regarding whether it meets the manufacturing --
4 the definition of manufacturing establishment. That
5 definition would have to be met for each of the 40 --
6 however many, for each of the applications, and for each
7 of them, they would have to meet the constitutional
8 definition.

9 It doesn't appear that there's any record
10 evidence, and your decisions have to be made on the
11 record. It does not appear that -- I can't find any
12 record evidence that this is in fact, these applications
13 are in fact related to the blending operation. It's --
14 you know, most of the project descriptions simply say
15 general expansions, additions and improvements.

16 I don't know how you would parse that out
17 between them any manufacturing, if it is in fact
18 manufacturing between the blending element and the
19 storage element. Storage clearly is not manufacturing.

20 So the Supreme Court and the courts have
21 taught us at we need to construe our -- you, the Board,
22 needs to construe its authority narrowly because this is
23 an exception to the rule, the constitutional rule that
24 everybody has to pay taxes basically, and you have to
25 have a record of decision on each of these facilities --



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1 on each application. The record has to contain evidence
2 that proves that this particular application is tied to
3 a manufacturing process or facility. And it's not
4 evident from the public record that I can find, nor is a
5 conclusory statement that "Yes, well, we have petroleum
6 engineers and (inaudible) and we do do blending,"
7 whatever that means.

8 If their blending is in fact simply, you
9 know, taking materials from different pipes and sending
10 them at the same time and through a single pipe to a
11 facility, I really highly doubt that that is
12 manufacturing under constitutional definition of the
13 Supreme Court.

14 So I would very much like to hear more
15 information about the process itself and how these
16 different applications relate to that manufacturing
17 process, specific information, and I would like you guys
18 to consider each one of those applications and go
19 through them before granting them and not grant them in
20 globo or altogether.

21 I think in the absence of that, I believe
22 that you will have violated the procedural and fiduciary
23 responsibilities y'all have to us, the citizens.

24 So I'm going to pause and ask that maybe the
25 facility spokesperson can explain what blending is in a



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1 manner that's going to clear up some of this, and then
2 sigh tie in each of those particular applications to
3 that, but at the absence of that, either defer it and
4 ask for more information as it relates to each specific
5 application and create a record and create a reason for
6 the decision if you are going to be fronting these and
7 if where you're going to be granting any Industrial Tax
8 Exemption the public deserves to know why you did. And
9 so that we would ask that you create a reason for
10 decision. And my name is Joel Lawson. I'm also a
11 member of Together Louisiana, Together Baton Rouge.

12 Can you answer that, please?

13 MR. JONES: Thank you for your comments.

14 Any other comments?

15 (No response.)

16 MR. JONES: There are no further comments.

17 At this time -- forgive me. Mr. Fudickar,
18 do you have any further comments?

19 MR. FUDICKAR: No.

20 MS. CHENG: Chairman Jones?

21 MR. JONES: Yes, ma'am?

22 MS. CHENG: I did want to state for the
23 record that staff was prepared to -- staff was prepared
24 with the manufacturing process, we got that from the
25 company because that's what was requested from



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1 Mr. Havard at the February meeting. We weren't --
2 that's what we had. We weren't requested to go do a
3 site inspection, but if that's what y'all would like.

4 MR. JONES: I understand. I think it is
5 clear that we have a cup flounce of situations here that
6 are creating concern for a number of people. Frankly,
7 me included. You've got a number of individual
8 applications that are no longer allowed by the rules.
9 They are appropriate because they were under an original
10 approval that allowed for breaking them out into several
11 applications, but I think the net effect of breaking
12 them out is that each one does have to proven as an
13 individual manufacturing process, and so I think, rather
14 than act on these applications today, I think it is
15 appropriate that -- and, Mr. Fudickar, I think you need
16 to tell your client that these applications are under
17 intense scrutiny at the Board level, and there is going
18 to have to be considerable cooperation with the staff in
19 order to establish that each separate application is in
20 fact in and of itself a manufacturing facility otherwise
21 entitled to an Industrial Tax Exemption. And I would
22 suggest that we defer action on these until the August
23 meeting, but at the August meeting, I fully expect this
24 Board to act one way or the other.

25 So I think it would be appropriate to get



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1 with staff and affirmative determinations be made
2 concerning meeting the manufacturing requirement for
3 each separate application.

4 MR. FUDICKAR: Yeah, that shouldn't be a
5 problem. And I will mention that we would have been
6 definitely prepared if I would have had these additional
7 questions, but we answered the questions we had at the
8 time. So would be glad to cooperate and collaborate
9 with whatever team members need to be, and we'll
10 expedite at your level of expedition for this purpose.

11 MR. JONES: And I appreciate that. My
12 suggestion is that there may be additional questions in
13 August that we haven't thought of, that people haven't
14 thought of today. So my suggestion is that you
15 anticipate the unasked questions, much like the King
16 asked Joseph, I not only want you to interpret my dream,
17 I want you to tell me what I dreamed, then interpret it
18 for me.

19 MR. FUDICKAR: Yeah, I know that passage.

20 MR. JONES: Okay. Great. So I think your
21 client needs to anticipate these questions so that we
22 can be prepared to address the concerns that have been
23 raised at the August meeting.

24 So at this time, I would entertain a motion
25 to defer all Genesis matters that were read on the



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1 record earlier, both Genesis BR and Genesis Crude Oil.
2 I'm not going to read all of the numbers, but they were
3 the ones that were read in the record earlier by Mr.
4 Usie.

5 I think I have a motion from Representative
6 Moss.

7 Do I have an --

8 MS. COLA: Second from Yvette Cola.

9 MR. JONES: A second from Ms. Cola.

10 Any comments or questions from the Board?
11 (No response.)

12 MR. JONES: Any comments from the public?
13 Mr. Leonard.

14 MS. COLA: Second by Yvette Cola.

15 MR. JONES: We're about to have a rollcall
16 on that issue once Mr. Leonard makes his comments.

17 MR. LEONARD: Mr. Chairman, Members of the
18 Board, my name is Jimmy Leonard. I'm with Advantous
19 Consulting. Just a comment to make regarding
20 miscellaneous capital additions, which I would expect
21 many more renewals related to miscellaneous capital
22 additions coming before the Board in future Board
23 meetings.

24 Historically those applications were filed
25 not as individual manufacturing establishments or



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1 plants, but as component projects or related projects to
2 a manufacturing processes within the plant. So an
3 application was not necessarily standing alone as an
4 independent manufacturing establishment. It was being
5 presented as an accumulation of capital projects related
6 to a manufacturing facility.

7 MR. JONES: Thank you for that
8 clarification.

9 All right. Are we ready to vote on the
10 deferral? Rollcall vote, please, Ms. Simmons.

11 MS. SIMMONS: Mr. Briggs.

12 (No response.)

13 MS. SIMMONS: Mayor Toups.

14 (No response.)

15 MS. SIMMONS: Yvette Cola.

16 (No response.)

17 MS. SIMMONS: Stuart Moss.

18 MR. MOSS: Yes.

19 MS. SIMMONS: Jerald Jones.

20 MR. JONES: Yes.

21 MS. SIMMONS: Heather Malone.

22 MS. MALONE: Yes.

23 MS. SIMMONS: Kenneth Havard.

24 (No response.)

25 MS. SIMMONS: Jan Moller.



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1 MR. MOLLER: Yes.
2 MS. SIMMONS: Secretary Pierson.
3 SECRETARY PIERSON: Yes.
4 MS. SIMMONS: Mr. Holley.
5 (No response.)
6 MS. SIMMONS: Dr. Wilson.
7 DR. W. WILSON: Yes.
8 MR. HAVARD: My mute button was on. I would
9 like to vote yes.
10 MR. JONES: Thank you, Mr. Havard.
11 The Genesis applications for renewal are
12 deferred to the August meeting. Thank you.
13 All right, Mr. Usie. What's next?
14 MR. USIE: Next we have 20131321, Georgia
15 Pacific Consumer Operations, LLC, East Baton Rouge
16 Parish; 20150340, Mezco Fabrication, LLC, Lafayette
17 Parish. We have 13 for Sasol Chemicals (USA), LLC all
18 in Calcasieu Parish. They are: 20150765, 20150766,
19 20150767, 20150768, 20150769, 20150770, 20150771,
20 20150772, 20150773, 20150774, 20150775, 20150776 and
21 20150777; and 20151759 for Southern Recycling, LLC.
22 That on is in Orleans Parish.
23 And that concludes the timely renewals.
24 MR. JONES: I would entertain a motion to
25 approve the renewal applications that were just read



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1 off.

2 Do we have a motion?

3 MR. MOSS: So moved.

4 MR. JONES: We have a motion from
5 Representative Moss.

6 Do we have a second?

7 MS. COLA: Second for Yvette Cola.

8 MR. JONES: Second from Ms. Cola.

9 Any comments or questions from the Board?

10 (No response.)

11 MR. JONES: Any comments from the public?

12 (No response.)

13 MR. JONES: There being none, let's vote.

14 MS. SIMMONS: Mr. Briggs.

15 (No response.)

16 MS. SIMMONS: Mr. Toups.

17 (No response.)

18 MS. SIMMONS: Ms. Cola.

19 MS. COLA: Yes.

20 MS. SIMMONS: Mr. Moss.

21 MR. MOSS: Yes.

22 MS. SIMMONS: Jerald Jones.

23 MR. JONES: Yes.

24 MS. SIMMONS: Heather Malone.

25 MS. MALONE: Yes.



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1 MS. SIMMONS: Kenneth Havard.
2 (No response.)
3 MS. SIMMONS: Jan Moller.
4 MR. MOLLER: Yes.
5 MS. SIMMONS: Secretary Pierson.
6 SECRETARY PIERSON: Yes.
7 MS. SIMMONS: Mr. Holley.
8 MR. HOLLEY: Yes.
9 MS. SIMMONS: Dr. Wilson.
10 DR. W. WILSON: Yes.
11 MR. JONES: Motion carries.
12 MR. W. WILSON: Dr. Wilson was yes.
13 MR. JONES: Thank you. Thank you, Dr.

14 Wilson.

15 All right. We have now, Mr. Usie, the late
16 renewals.

17 MR. USIE: We have seven late renewals. The
18 first is 20150650, Cal-Chlor Fluids, LLC in Lafourche
19 Parish. Initial contract expiration date is 12/31/2019.
20 Late renewal request date is March 3rd of 2020.

21 MR. JONES: Do we have anybody here from
22 Cal-Chlor Fluids, LLC?

23 Please come to the table. Please get as
24 close to the mic as you can. Speak loudly and state
25 your name and your position with the company, please.



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1 MR. ZEHNDER: Jimmy Zehnder, Lafayette,
2 Louisiana. I'm the COO of the company.

3 MR. JONES: Great. We have a situation
4 where your renewal request came in late to LED. It was
5 due December of 2019, came in in March of 2020. Can you
6 explain the reason for the tardiness?

7 MR. ZEHNDER: It's like the dog at the mail.
8 The CPA didn't give us advance notice until the February
9 time. I contacted Didier Consultants and engaged their
10 services to help us from this point forward.

11 MR. JONES: Okay. So to make sure I
12 understand, and I'm just trying to get this clear on the
13 record, you did not realize it was due till the end of
14 2019?

15 MR. ZEHNDER: Correct.

16 MR. JONES: So then you've now hired a
17 consultant to assist with these filings in the future?

18 MR. ZEHNDER: That is correct.

19 MR. JONES: Okay. For the Board,
20 historically what we do, we have the options: We can
21 approve the five-year renewal, we can approve with a
22 penalty or we can deny that request for approval.
23 Historically when we have a late renewal request that is
24 less than a year, the penalty has historically been one
25 year.



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1 I would entertain a motion to that effect.

2 DR. W. WILSON: So moved, Dr. Wilson.

3 MR. JONES: We have a motion from Dr.

4 Wilson.

5 Do we have a second?

6 MS. COLA: Second, Yvette Cola.

7 MR. JONES: Thank you, Ms. Cola.

8 We have a motion and a second to approve the
9 renewal of Cal-Chlor with a one-year penalty.

10 Any questions or comments from the Board?

11 (No response.)

12 MR. JONES: Any comments from the public?

13 (No response.)

14 MR. JONES: There being none, let's vote.

15 MS. SIMMONS: Mr. Brigs.

16 (No response.)

17 MS. SIMMONS: Mayor Toups.

18 (No response.)

19 MS. SIMMONS: Yvette cola.

20 MS. COLA: Yes.

21 MS. SIMMONS: Mr. Moss.

22 MR. MOSS:

23 (No response.)

24 MS. SIMMONS: Jerald Jones.

25 MR. JONES: Yes.



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1 MS. SIMMONS: Heather Malone.
2 MS. MALONE: Yes.
3 MS. SIMMONS: Kenneth Havard.
4 (No response.)
5 MS. SIMMONS: Jan Moller.
6 MR. MOLLER: Yes.
7 MS. SIMMONS: Secretary Pierson.
8 SECRETARY PIERSON: Yes.
9 MS. SIMMONS: Mr. Holley.
10 MR. HOLLEY: Yes.
11 MS. SIMMONS: Woodrow Wilson.
12 DR. W. WILSON: Yes.
13 MR. JONES: The motion carries.
14 Thank you for being here today, and we'll
15 get it straight next time.
16 MR. ZEHNDER: Thank you.
17 MR. JONES: Thank you very much.
18 All right, Mr. Usie.
19 MR. USIE: Next we have 20131142, Gnarly
20 Barley Brewing, Tangipahoa Parish. Initial contract
21 expiration, 12/31 of 2019, late renewal date February
22 28, 2020.
23 MR. JONES: Do we have someone here for
24 Gnarly Barley Brewing?
25 (No response.)



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1 MR. JONES: Do we have someone here from
2 Gnarly Barley Brewing?

3 (No response.)

4 MR. JONES: Do we have anybody on Zoom
5 representing Gnarly Barley Brewing?

6 (No response.)

7 MR. JONES: Any requests to speak from Zoom
8 participants?

9 MS. BOOKER: No requests.

10 MR. JONES: Okay. Board members,
11 historically when we do not have someone here to explain
12 the late renewal, historically we have looked closely at
13 denying the request for renewal, and I would entertain a
14 motion to that effect.

15 MR. W. WILSON: So moved.

16 MR. JONES: Motion from Dr. Wilson.

17 Do we have a second?

18 MS. COLA: Second, Yvette Cola.

19 MR. JONES: We have a second from Ms. Cola.

20 Any questions or comments from the Board?

21 (No response.)

22 MR. JONES: Any comments from the public?

23 (No response.)

24 MR. JONES: Let's vote.

25 MS. SIMMONS: To the Board members, we still



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1 need you to unmute your phone so that we can record your
2 vote and so that everyone in this room can hear you.

3 MS. SIMMONS: Don Briggs.

4 (No response.)

5 MS. SIMMONS: Mayor David Toups.

6 MR. TOUPS: Yes.

7 MS. SIMMONS: Yvette Cola.

8 MS. COLA: Yes.

9 MS. SIMMONS: Stuart Moss.

10 MR. MOSS: Yes.

11 MS. SIMMONS: Jerald Jones.

12 MR. JONES: Yes.

13 MS. SIMMONS: Heather Malone.

14 MS. MALONE: Yes.

15 MS. SIMMONS: Kenneth Havard.

16 (No response.)

17 MS. SIMMONS: Jan Moller.

18 MR. MOLLER: Yes.

19 MS. SIMMONS: Secretary Pierson.

20 SECRETARY PIERSON: Yes.

21 MS. SIMMONS: Mr. Travis Holley.

22 Mr. HOLLEY: Yes.

23 Dr. Woodrow Wilson.

24 DR. W. WILSON: Yes.

25 MS. SIMMONS: Thank you.



1 MR. JONES: Motion carries.

2 Next, Mr. Usie.

3 MR. USIE: We have two for Intracoastal Iron
4 Works. The first is 2113497, Intracoastal Iron Works,
5 Inc., Lafourche Parish. Initial contract expiration,
6 12/31 of 2018, late renewal request date, March 13th of
7 2020. And the other is 20150605, Intracoastal Iron
8 Works, Inc., Lafourche Parish. Initial contract
9 expiration, 12/31 of 2019, late renewal request date
10 March 12th of 2020.

11 MR. JONES: Do we have anyone here from
12 Intracoastal Iron Works?

13 Please come to the table, please.

14 Would you state your name and your position
15 with the company, please?

16 MS. VIGUERIE: Thelma Viguerie.

17 MR. JONES: Pull that real close to your
18 mouth, please. You can pull it. It will move.

19 There you go.

20 MS. VIGUERIE: Themla Viguerie.

21 MR. JONES: Thank you, Ms. Viguerie.
22 And your position with the company?

23 MS. VIGUERIE: I am part owner.

24 MR. JONES: Okay. You understand that
25 we had late renewal applications filed? Can you explain



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1 to us what happened?

2 MS. VIGUERIE: It was just an oversight. I
3 didn't know it had expired until I was contacted by the
4 assessor's office in Lafourche Parish.

5 MR. JONES: Okay. Did they take the
6 property off the -- or put them back on the tax rolls?

7 MS. VIGUERIE: No. He said was going to
8 hold off until this meeting.

9 MR. JONES: I'm sorry. He said?

10 MS. VIGUERIE: He said he was going to hold
11 off on doing anything until after they had a decision on
12 it.

13 MR. JONES: Okay. Thank you very much.

14 So moving forward, I don't know if you have
15 any other applications that may be up for -- have you
16 taken any steps inside the company to ensure you don't
17 miss these kind of renewal applications in the future?

18 MS. VIGUERIE: Yes. We're going to set it
19 up on the computer to remind us.

20 MR. JONES: Very good. Thank you.

21 Now, Mr. Usie, we have two applications, one
22 is two years late and the other one is one year late?

23 MR. USIE: Right.

24 MR. JONES: Is that correct?

25 MR. USIE: That's correct.



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1 MR. ONES: And I understand you have
2 asterisk that said the jobs -- multiple applications
3 same site. These are two different applications and two
4 different projects at the site; is that correct?

5 MR. USIE: Two different projects, two
6 different contract numbers. The asterisk is just to not
7 double count the jobs.

8 MR. JONES: Got it. Okay. Thank you.

9 I would entertain a motion on the first one,
10 20140497, that would have a two-year penalty. And what
11 that means, Ms. Viguerie, is you would get three years,
12 three years remaining on the renewal, but you lose two
13 of them. And chances are -- what historically will
14 happen on the second application, you'll lose one year
15 of the renewal.

16 MS. VIGUERIE: All right.

17 MR. JONES: All right. But the Board still
18 has to vote, so we'll see.

19 We have some Zoom questions from a Board
20 member. Okay. Who is that?

21 Ms. Malone?

22 MS. MALONE: Yes. I was just wondering, it
23 states that there was zero investment on Project Number
24 20150605. Is that just an error or is there no
25 investment on that project?



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1 MR. USIE: That has to be an error when we
2 compiled the agenda. I'm sorry. Yeah. It has to be an
3 error from when we compiled the agenda.

4 MS. MALONE: Okay. Do we happen to know
5 what that is?

6 MR. USIE: We don't have the application on
7 hand, no.

8 MS. MALONE: Okay. I'll look and see.
9 Thank you.

10 MR. JONES: Thank you, Ms. Malone.
11 Any other questions or comments from the
12 Board?

13 (No response.)

14 MR. JONES: All right. Listen carefully.
15 I'm going to surprise y'all with a two-part motion. We
16 want to have a motion -- I would entertain a motion that
17 grants the renewal for 20140497 (sic) with a two-year
18 penalty, but within the same motion, grant the renewal
19 for 20150605, but with a one-year penalty.

20 DR. W. WILSON: So moved.

21 MR. JONES: We have a motion from Dr.
22 Wilson.

23 MR. MOSS: Second.

24 MR. JONES: We have a second from
25 Representative Moss.



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1 Any other questions or comments from the
2 Board?

3 (No response.)

4 MR. JONES: Any comments from the public?

5 (No response.)

6 MR. JONES: There being none, let's vote.

7 MS. SIMMONS: Don Briggs.

8 (No response.)

9 MS. SIMMONS: Mayor David Toups.

10 MR. TOUPS: Yes.

11 MS. SIMMONS: Yvette Cola.

12 MS. COLA: Yes.

13 MS. SIMMONS: Stuart Moss.

14 MR. MOSS: Yes.

15 MS. SIMMONS: Jerald Jones.

16 MR. JONES: Yes.

17 MS. SIMMONS: Heather Malone.

18 MS. MALONE: Yes.

19 MS. SIMMONS: Kenneth Havard.

20 (No response.)

21 MS. SIMMONS: Jan Moller.

22 MR. MOLLER: Yes.

23 MS. SIMMONS: Secretary Pierson.

24 SECRETARY PIERSON: Yes.

25 MS. SIMMONS: Mr. Travis Holley.



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1 MR. HOLLEY: Yes.

2 MS. SIMMONS: Dr. Woodrow Wilson.

3 DR. W. WILSON: Yes.

4 MR. JONES: Thank you. That motion carries.

5 Thank you, Ms. Viguerie. Thank you for

6 being here today.

7 MS. VIGUERIE: Thank you.

8 MR. JONES: All right. Next, Mr. Usie.

9 MR. USIE: 20140439, JMI Manufacturing, Inc.

10 in Lafayette Parish. Initial contract expiration, 12/31

11 of 2019, late renewal request date May 8th of 2020.

12 MR. JONES: Do we have anyone here from JMI

13 Manufacturing?

14 MS. BOOKER: Yes, on Zoom.

15 MR. JONES: I'm sorry?

16 MS. BOOKER: Yes, on Zoom.

17 MR. JONES: So we have representative here

18 participating by Zoom. Great.

19 Would that person identify themselves and

20 their position with the company.

21 Please.

22 (No response.)

23 MR. JONES: You may have your computer

24 muted.

25 MS. BOOKER: Alex, can you please speak?



1 Your computer is on mute.

2 MR. JONES: Are we having a technical
3 problem, people?

4 (No response.)

5 MR. JONES: Let's skip JMI Manufacturing
6 right now. Y'all try to work out the technical issues,
7 and let's take up Mammoth Properties, LLC.

8 MR. USIE: 20150619, Mammoth Properties,
9 LLC, East Baton Rouge Parish, initial contract
10 expiration 12/31 of 2019, late renewal request date
11 March 5th of 2020.

12 MR. JONES: Do we have anyone here from
13 Mammoth Properties?

14 Please come forward.

15 Thank you, sir. Please get as close to the
16 mic and speak loudly and clearly and give us your name
17 and position with the company.

18 MR. KELLY: My name is Kevin Kelly. I'm one
19 of the two owners of Mammoth Properties.

20 The building was built in 2015 specifically
21 for a company called Mezzo Technologies. It's a
22 manufacturing building. I'm also the President of
23 Mezzo.

24 Mezzo filed the paperwork back in 2015
25 because it's them on the lease, and Mezzo has no excuse.



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1 They just missed the filing deadline in December. We
2 filed all of our paperwork in March, and we have no
3 excuse for missing other than we missed, and we're in
4 that position right now too.

5 MR. JONES: As far as implementation of
6 controls to make sure that doesn't happen again -- I'm
7 sorry -- can you help me with that?

8 MR. KELLY: We do deal with the state on a
9 number of Quality Tax jobs programs. We're on the top
10 of our game usually. This was a relatively unusual
11 situation and we just missed it. This the only renewal
12 for that particular property, but, in general, I feel
13 like we have good controls in place and we just made a
14 mistake in this particular case.

15 MR. JONES: Okay. We're not here to beat
16 your or anything. Basically we try to use this process
17 to help everyone understand the importance of being on
18 top of this. Thank you very much. Appreciate it.

19 All right. We have a three-month delay that
20 would normally correlate a one-year penalty, so I would
21 entertain a motion to approve the renewal with a
22 one-year penalty.

23 Motion from Representative Moss.

24 Do we have a second? Do we have second?

25 MR. MOLLER: I'll second. Jan Moller.



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1 MR. JONES: Thank you, Mr. Moller.
2 We have a motion and a second.
3 Any questions or comments from the Board?
4 (No response.)
5 MR. JONES: There being none, any comments
6 from the public?
7 (No response.)
8 MR. JONES: Hearing none, let's vote.
9 MS. SIMMONS: Mayor Toups.
10 MR. TOUPS: Yes.
11 MS. SIMMONS: Yvette Cola.
12 MS. COLA: Yes.
13 MS. SIMMONS: Stuart Moss.
14 MR. MOSS: Yes.
15 MS. SIMMONS: Jerald Jones.
16 MR. JONES: Yes.
17 MS. SIMMONS: Heather Malone.
18 MS. MALONE: Yes.
19 MS. SIMMONS: Kenneth Havard.
20 MR. HAVARD: Yes.
21 MS. SIMMONS: Jan Moller.
22 MR. MOLLER: Yes.
23 MS. SIMMONS: Secretary Pierson.
24 SECRETARY PIERSON: Yes.
25 MS. SIMMONS: Mr. Holley.



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1 MR. HOLLEY: Yes.

2 MS. SIMMONS: Dr. Woodrow Wilson.

3 Dr. W. WILSON: Yes.

4 MR. JONES: That motion carries.

5 Thank you, sir. Appreciate you being here.

6 MR. BRIGGS: Don Briggs, I'll vote yes also.

7 MR. KELLY: Thank you very much.

8 MR. JONES: Reynolds Metals Company.

9 We'll come back to him.

10 MR. USIE: 20120080, Reynolds Metals
11 Company, Calcasieu Parish, initial contract expiration,
12 12/31 of 2019, late renewal request date April 17th of
13 2020.

14 MR. JONES: Do we have a representative from
15 Reynolds Metals Company?

16 (No response.)

17 MR. JONES: Representative from Reynolds on
18 Zoom?

19 MS. BOOKER: Yes.

20 MR. JONES: We do?

21 Please state your name and your position
22 with the company.

23 MR. MARSH: John Marsh, Manager of Property
24 Taxes.

25 MR. JONES: I'm sorry. Your last name?



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1 MR. MARSH: Marsh.

2 MR. JONES: Thank you, Mr. Marsh.

3 Can you explain to us what happened to
4 result in the late renewal?

5 MR. MARSH: Unfortunately it was just an
6 oversight on our behalf. Back when Alcoa Inc. separated
7 into two companies, Reynolds Metals came to Alcoa Corp,
8 and the internal control documents just mislabeled the
9 filing date. We actually had two ITE extensions that
10 were dues in 2019, and we're typically just on a
11 one-renewal-per-year rolling schedule, so we just had to
12 go in and update the records.

13 Thankfully the FastLane website was able to
14 identify the contract that we did miss, so appreciate
15 that.

16 MR. JONES: All right. Well, thank you very
17 much for that explanation, and it sounds like there are
18 controls in place to preclude that happening again; is
19 that right?

20 MR. MARSH: Absolutely.

21 MR. JONES: Great. Thank you.

22 Entertain a motion to approve the renewal
23 with a one-year penalty.

24 MR. MOSS: So moved.

25 MR. JONES: We have a motion from



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1 Representative Moss.
2 Do we have a second?
3 MR. BRIGGS: Don Briggs.
4 MR. JONES: Second from Don Briggs.
5 Any comments or questions from the Board?
6 (No response.)
7 MR. JONES: Any comments from the public?
8 (No response.)
9 MR. JONES: There being none, let's vote.
10 MS. SIMMONS: Don Briggs.
11 MR. BRIGGS: Yes.
12 MS. SIMMONS: Mayor Toups.
13 MR. TOUPS: Yes.
14 MS. SIMMONS: Yvette Cola.
15 MS. COLA: Yes.
16 MS. SIMMONS: Stuart Moss.
17 MR. MOSS: Yes.
18 MS. SIMMONS: Jerald Jones.
19 MR. JONES: Yes.
20 MS. SIMMONS: Heather Malone.
21 MS. MALONE: Yes.
22 MS. SIMMONS: Kenneth Havard.
23 MR. HAVARD: Yes.
24 MS. SIMMONS: Jan Moller.
25 MR. MOLLER: Yes.



1 MS. SIMMONS: Secretary Pierson.

2 SECRETARY PIERSON: Yes.

3 MS. SIMMONS: Mr. Travis Holley.

4 MR. HOLLEY: Yes.

5 MS. SIMMONS: And Dr. Woodrow Wilson.

6 DR. W. WILSON: Yes.

7 MS. SIMMONS: Thank you.

8 MR. JONES: That motion carries.

9 Thank you very much.

10 Let's move back to JMI Manufacturing. We
11 have someone from JMI through Zoom?

12 MS. BOOKER: Yes.

13 MR. JONES: Okay. Please state your name
14 and your position with the company.

15 MS. LATULAIS: My name is Alex Latulais
16 (spelled phonetically). I am the accountant at JMI
17 Manufacturing.

18 MR. JONES: Great. Thank you very much.
19 I'm glad we were able to get the technical issues
20 resolved.

21 Please explain to us what happened with the
22 late renewal.

23 MS. LATULAIS: Yes. We had a change in
24 ownership the beginning of 2019, so we were not aware of
25 the deadline, but going forward, we've made note of the



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1 deadline dates and we will make sure this does not
2 happen again.

3 MR. JONES: Very good. Thank you.
4 Appreciate your help there.

5 I would entertain a motion to approve the
6 renewal with a one-year penalty.

7 Motion from Representative Moss.

8 Do we have a second?

9 DR. W. WILSON: Second.

10 MR. JONES: Second from Dr. Wilson.

11 Any comments or questions from the Board?

12 We have a comment from Zoom. A Board member
13 or public? The public.

14 Please speak.

15 MR. LAWSER: My name is Joel Lawser. I was
16 trying to comment on the last one, but I couldn't. I
17 guess I wasn't quick enough or -- y'all have moved on
18 with the vote, so I apologize.

19 MS. BOOKER: He said he tried to make a
20 comment for the last one, but...

21 MR. JONES: Okay. All right. Thank you
22 very much.

23 Are we ready to vote? Let's go.

24 MS. SIMMONS: Don Briggs.

25 MR. BRIGGS: Yes.



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1 MS. SIMMONS: Mayor Toups.
2 MR. TOUPS: Yes.
3 MS. SIMMONS: Yvette Cola.
4 MS. COLA: Yes.
5 MS. SIMMONS: Mr. Moss.
6 MR. MOSS: Yes.
7 MS. SIMMONS: Jerald Jones.
8 MR. JONES: Yes.
9 MS. SIMMONS: Heather Malone.
10 MS. MALONE: Yes.
11 MS. SIMMONS: Kenneth Havard.
12 MR. HAVARD: Yes.
13 MS. SIMMONS: Jan Moller.
14 MR. MOLLER: Yes.
15 MS. SIMMONS: Secretary Pierson.
16 SECRETARY PIERSON: Yes.
17 MS. SIMMONS: Mr. Holley.
18 MR. HOLLEY: Yes.
19 MS. SIMMONS: And Dr. Woodrow Wilson.
20 DR. W. WILSON: Yes.
21 MS. SIMMONS: Thank you.
22 MR. JONES: Motion carries.
23 MR. USIE: I'd like to make one
24 clarification too, on the one that Ms. Malone inquired
25 about, the 20150605, Intracoastal Iron Works, Inc. with



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1 the zero investment and zero first-year depreciation.
2 Kristin was able to look it up in FastLane to get the
3 numbers. The total investment for that application is
4 228,374, and the first year renewal with depreciation
5 estimate is 4,299.

6 MR. JONES: Great. Thank you. That helps
7 clear up the record.

8 All right. We have some changes in
9 location.

10 MR. USIE: We have four changes in location:
11 Cypress Machine Shop, Inc., 20150456. Previous location
12 is 102 Jared Drive, Broussard, Louisiana 70518 in
13 Lafayette Parish. New location is 4530 Decon Road,
14 Youngsville, Louisiana 70592 in Lafayette Parish; LA3
15 West Baton Rouge, LLC, 20161942. Previous location, 30
16 degrees, 27 minutes, 58.3 seconds north, 91 degrees, 19
17 minutes, 4.78 seconds west. New location 568 Wilbert
18 Road, Port Allen, Louisiana 70767, and this is in West
19 Baton Rouge Parish; LA3 West Baton Rouge, LLC, 20170443.
20 Previous location 30 degrees, 27 minutes, 59.25 seconds
21 north, 91 degrees, 20 minutes, 1.90 seconds west. New
22 location 7809 Rosedale Road, Port Allen, Louisiana 70767
23 in West Baton Rouge Parish; LA3 West Baton Rouge, LLC,
24 20170504. Previous location 30 degrees, 28 minutes
25 21.10 seconds north, 91 degrees, 19 minutes, 5.31



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1 seconds west, and the new location is 6930 Rosedale
2 Road, Port Allen, Louisiana 70767, and this is also in
3 West Baton Rouge Parish.

4 MR. JONES: I'll entertain a motion to
5 approve these four changes in location.

6 MR. MOSS: So moved.

7 MR. JONES: Motion from Representative Moss.
8 Second from?

9 MR. MOLLER: Jan Moller.

10 MR. JONES: Mr. Moller.
11 Any questions or comments from the Board?
12 (No response.)

13 MR. JONES: Any comments from the public?
14 (No response.)

15 MR. JONES: There being none, let's vote.

16 MS. SIMMONS: Mr. Briggs.

17 MR. BRIGGS: Yes.

18 MS. SIMMONS: Mayor Toups.

19 MR. TOUPS: Yes.

20 MS. SIMMONS: Yvette Cola.

21 MS. COLA: Yes.

22 MS. SIMMONS: Stuart Moss.

23 MR. MOSS: Yes.

24 MS. SIMMONS: Jerald Jones.

25 MR. JONES: Yes.



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1 MS. SIMMONS: Heather Malone.
2 MS. MALONE: Yes.
3 MS. SIMMONS: Kenneth Havard.
4 MR. HAVARD: Yes.
5 MS. SIMMONS: Jan Moller.
6 MR. MOLLER: Yes.
7 MS. SIMMONS: Secretary Pierson.
8 SECRETARY PIERSON: Yes.
9 MS. SIMMONS: Mr. Holley.
10 MR. HOLLEY: Yes.
11 MS. SIMMONS: And Dr. Woodrow Wilson.
12 DR. W. WILSON: Yes.
13 MR. JONES: Thank you. Motion carries.
14 MR. USIE: We have five transfer of tax
15 exemption contracts for Bercen, Inc. a division of
16 Cranston Printworks Company, Contracts 20110151,
17 20130293, 20140295, 20170240, and 20160705, new owner,
18 Bercen Chemicals, LLC, Livingston Parish.
19 MR. JONES: Entertain a motion to approve.
20 Motion from Representative Moss.
21 Second from?
22 MR. TOUPS: Toups.
23 MR. JONES: Mayor Toups. Thank you, Mayor.
24 We have a motion and a second.
25 Any comments or questions from the Board?



1 (No response.)
2 MR. JONES: Any comments from the public?
3 (No response.)
4 MR. JONES: There being none, let's vote.
5 MS. SIMMONS: Mr. Briggs.
6 MR. BRIGGS: Yes.
7 MS. SIMMONS: Mayor Toups.
8 MR. TOUPS: Yes.
9 MS. SIMMONS: Ms. Cola.
10 MS. COLA: Yes.
11 MS. SIMMONS: Mr. Moss.
12 MR. MOSS: Yes.
13 MS. SIMMONS: Mr. Jones.
14 MR. JONES: Yes.
15 MS. SIMMONS: Ms. Malone.
16 MS. MALONE: Yes.
17 MS. SIMMONS: Mr. Havard.
18 MR. HAVARD: Yes.
19 MS. SIMMONS: Mr. Moller.
20 MR. MOLLER: Yes.
21 MS. SIMMONS: Secretary Pierson.
22 SECRETARY PIERSON: Yes.
23 MS. SIMMONS: Mr. Holley.
24 MR. HOLLEY: Yes.
25 MS. SIMMONS: And Dr. Wilson.



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1 DR. W. WILSON: Yes.

2 MR. JONES: Motion carries. Thank you.

3 Mr. Usie.

4 MR. USIE: We have 19 cancelations, five of
5 which are requesting deferral. The Phillips 66 Company,
6 20110054, 20120528, 20120529, 20120530 and 20120531.
7 These are all in Calcasieu Parish. The reason is that
8 the Calcasieu Parish Assessor contacted Kristen and I
9 this morning saying that the assessor's office is going
10 to work with the company to refund them the taxes that
11 were paid so that they could renew the contracts.

12 MR. JONES: Okay. So they're asking for a
13 deferral?

14 MR. USIE: Yes.

15 MR. JONES: First let's see if we have a
16 motion on the floor. I'm not going to entertain
17 questions until we have motions.

18 MR. MOSS: So moved.

19 MR. JONES: We have motion to approve to
20 defer.

21 Do we have a second?

22 We have a second from Dr. Wilson.

23 Now, do we have questions?

24 MS. BOOKER: From the company.

25 MR. JONES: From the company. Okay. Great.



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1 Zoom, please identify yourself and your
2 position with the company.

3 MR. CISNEROS: Hello. This is Chris
4 Cisneros. Can you hear me?

5 MR. JONES: Yes, we can. Thank you.

6 MR. CISNEROS: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

7 I would like to respectfully request that
8 the deferral be -- that the contract cancelation be
9 deferred until August. I am still working on getting a
10 refund from the assessor's office so that we can go
11 forward with the renewal. That's one of the
12 contingencies for doing it.

13 It's not the assessor's fault. It is my
14 fault. They're working as hard as they can, and I'm
15 trying to get the information as quickly as possible.

16 I would respectfully request that you defer
17 this cancelation until the August hearing so that I can
18 have a chance to -- another chance to work and get this
19 done. Thank you.

20 MR. JONES: Thank you for your comments,
21 Mr. Cisneros. We have a motion to that effect on the
22 floor.

23 Any comments or questions from the Board?
24 (No response.)

25 MR. JONES: Any other comments from the



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1 public?

2 (No response.)

3 MR. JONES: There being none, all in favor
4 say "aye."

5 Excuse me. Scratch that. We're doing
6 rollcall. Old habits are hard to break.

7 MS. SIMMONS: Mr. Briggs.

8 (No response.)

9 MS. SIMMONS: Mr. Toups.

10 MR. TOUPS: Yes.

11 MS. SIMMONS: Ms. Cola.

12 MS. COLA: Yes.

13 MS. SIMMONS: Mr. Moss.

14 MR. MOSS: Yes.

15 MS. SIMMONS: Mr. Jones.

16 MR. JONES: Yes.

17 MS. SIMMONS: Ms. Malone.

18 MS. MALONE: Yes.

19 MS. SIMMONS: Mr. Havard.

20 (No response.)

21 MS. SIMMONS: Mr. Moller.

22 MR. MOLLER: Yes.

23 MS. SIMMONS: Secretary Pierson.

24 SECRETARY PIERSON: Yes.

25 MS. SIMMONS: Mr. Holley.



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1 MR. HOLLEY: Yes.

2 MS. SIMMONS: And Dr. Wilson.

3 DR. W. WILSON: Yes.

4 MS. SIMMONS: Thank you.

5 MR. JONES: Motion to defer carries.

6 MR. USIE: Air Products and Chemicals, Inc.,
7 Contracts 20141421, 20141422 and 20141423. These are
8 all in Ascension Parish. LED requests cancelation due
9 to notification by the parish assessor of the removal of
10 the assets related to these contracts upon the site
11 being shut down. The company has been notified about
12 the cancelations.

13 Venture Global Calcasieu Pass, LLC,
14 20151141-A in Cameron Parish, and company requests
15 cancelation.

16 MR. JONES: And just to be clear on the
17 record, Board Member Holley, Travis Holley, will be
18 recusing himself for any consideration of the Air
19 Products and Chemicals contracts.

20 Other than that, do we have a motion to --

21 MR. MOSS: So moved.

22 MR. JONES: Motion from Representative Moss.

23 Do we have a second?

24 (No response.)

25 MR. JONES: Do we have a second?



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DR. W. WILSON: Second.

MR. JONES: We have a second from Dr. Wilson to approve these cancelations.

Any comments or questions from the Board?
(No response.)

MR. JONES: Any comments from the public?
(No response.)

MR. JONES: There being none, let's vote.

MS. SIMMONS: Mr. Briggs.

MR. BRIGGS: Yes.

MS. SIMMONS: Mr. Toups.

MR. TOUPS: Yes.

MS. SIMMONS: Ms. Cola.

MS. COLA: Yes.

MS. SIMMONS: Mr. Moss.

MR. MOSS: Yes.

MS. SIMMONS: Mr. Jones.

MR. JONES: Yes.

MS. SIMMONS: Ms. Malone.

MS. MALONE: Yes.

MS. SIMMONS: Mr. Havard.

MR. HAVARD: Yes.

MS. SIMMONS: Mr. Moller.

MR. MOLLER: Yes.

MS. SIMMONS: Secretary Pierson.



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1 SECRETARY PIERSON: Yes.

2 MS. SIMMONS: Dr. Wilson.

3 DR. W. WILSON: Yes.

4 MR. JONES: That motion carries.

5 Let's go over your special requests,
6 Mr. Usie.

7 MR. USIE: We have four special requests.
8 There is one requesting deferral. It is JMS
9 Foodservice, LLC, Contract 20140886-A.

10 MR. JONES: Entertain a motion to defer the
11 JMS Foodservice.

12 MR. MOSS: So moved.

13 MR. JONES: We have motion from
14 Representative Moss.

15 Second from?

16 MS. MALONE: I second. Heather Malone.

17 MR. JONES: Thank you, Ms. Malone.

18 Any comments or questions from the Board?
19 (No response.)

20 MR. JONES: Any comments from the public?
21 (No response.)

22 MR. JONES: There being none, let's vote.

23 MS. SIMMONS: Mr. Briggs.

24 MR. BRIGGS: Yes.

25 MS. SIMMONS: Mr. Toups.



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1 MR. TOUPS: Yes.

2 MS. SIMMONS: Ms. Cola.

3 MS. COLA: Yes.

4 MS. SIMMONS: Mr. Moss.

5 MR. MOSS: Yes.

6 MS. SIMMONS: Mr. Jones.

7 MR. JONES: Yes.

8 MS. SIMMONS: Ms. Malone.

9 MS. MALONE: Yes.

10 MS. SIMMONS: Mr. Havard.

11 (No response.)

12 MS. SIMMONS: Mr. Moller.

13 MR. MOLLER: Yes.

14 MS. SIMMONS: Secretary Pierson.

15 SECRETARY PIERSON: Yes.

16 MS. SIMMONS: Mr. Holley.

17 MR. HOLLEY: Yes.

18 MS. SIMMONS: And Dr. Wilson.

19 (No response.)

20 MR. JONES: That motion for deferral

21 carries.

22 MR. USIE: The first one we have s Hexion

23 Inc. They request the consideration of the below full

24 transfer of Contract Number 20140858 to Stonebriar

25 Commercial Finance, LLC with a 9/26/2017 effective date



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1 of change. The transfer request was e-mailed on 12/13
2 of 2017, however, the payment was not received until
3 1/25/2018. This was done in paper form. Forms are not
4 considered received until payment is submitted. Because
5 of this, it was beyond the three month time period
6 allowed per ITEP rules.

7 MR. JONES: Okay. And for clarity of the
8 record, I'll be recusing myself from any consideration
9 of this contract. However, I will continue to
10 facilitate the meeting for purposes of the
11 consideration.

12 Do we have a representative from Hexion?

13 MR. WHITTAKER: Yes.

14 MR. JONES: Would you state your name and
15 your position with the company, please?

16 MR. WHITTAKER: I'm Scott Whittaker from the
17 Stone Pigman Law Firm. Address is 301 Main Street,
18 Suite 1100, Baton Rouge, and I want to thank the Board.

19 The reason why this transfer is a special
20 request is because of a clerical error in delivering the
21 payment. That application itself was submitted timely,
22 but the payment was not mailed until after the deadline,
23 and for that, we apologize.

24 We've got here, this is -- the transferring
25 connection was a sale leaseback transaction. Hexion



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1 continued to operate the facility after the transaction
2 as it did before.

3 I've got letters here from Mert Smiley, the
4 Assessor for Ascension Parish, in support of the
5 transfer, as well as from the Ascension Economic
6 Development Corporation in support and the Louisiana
7 Chemical Association in support. I also got a letter
8 from BRAC just this morning, which I e-mailed to the
9 staff, in support of this contract name change and
10 transfer.

11 On the phone via Zoom is Rick Schumacher,
12 who is the Senior Vice President of Hexion in charge of
13 their global tax program, and he has some words for the
14 Board as well.

15 Rick Schumacher. Mr. Schumacher.

16 MR. SCHUMACHER: Hello.

17 MR. JONES: Yes, we can hear you.

18 MR. SCHUMACHER: My name, as Scott
19 mentioned, is Rick Schumacher. I am the Senior Vice
20 President of Tax for Hexion, Inc. Our address is 180
21 East Broad Street, Columbus, Ohio 43215. Thank you for
22 the opportunity to provide some comments.

23 As Scott previously mentioned, I am the
24 Senior Vice President of Tax, and as a representative of
25 Hexion's global tax affairs, I also apologize for the



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1 delayed payment. It was not meant to be disrespectful
2 in any way, shape or form.

3 Hexion's operated manufacturing facilities
4 in Louisiana for many years. We're currently operating
5 from three facilities in the state, employ a total
6 workforce of around 100 with an annual payroll of just
7 under 11-million.

8 Hexion's relationship with the Department of
9 Economic Development has been very good, and the
10 property tax incentives provided have played an
11 important part in our decision to construct our newest
12 facility in Louisiana wherein in 2015 and 2017. This
13 represented a combined investment of over \$60-million.

14 The transfer, as Scott mentioned, was a sale
15 leaseback financing. This is a tantamount to a bank
16 financing with the exception that the bank holds the
17 property title instead of the mortgage. As you may be
18 familiar with a lease, the property under the leaseback
19 reverts to the lessee, which is us, Hexion, upon payment
20 of a small amount at the end of the lease term.

21 I thank the Board for considering Hexion's
22 request, and we're happy to answer any questions.

23 MR. JONES: Is there a motion?

24 MR. MOSS: So moved.

25 MR. JONES: Motion to approve; is that your



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1 motion?

2 MR. MOSS: Yes, sir.

3 MR. JONES: Representative Moss made a
4 motion to approve.

5 Do I have a second?

6 Let me see if I have a second first.

7 MS. CHENG: You need to approve the special
8 request first before you can approve the transfer
9 because this is outside the three-month timeframe.

10 MR. JONES: I'm sorry. I'm not following
11 you.

12 MS. CHENG: Because this is a special
13 request, you have to approve the special request prior
14 to you considering the transfer.

15 MR. JONES: Okay. All right.

16 Then we have a motion to approve the special
17 request.

18 MR. BRIGGS: Don Briggs, yes.

19 MR. JONES: Don Briggs has a motion to that
20 effect.

21 Do we have a second?

22 MR. MOSS: Second.

23 MR. JONES: Second, Representative Moss.

24 Any comments or questions from the Board?

25 We have a comment or question from the



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1 Board? I can hear it.

2 MS. BOOKER: Yes.

3 MS. MALONE: Sorry. This is Heather Malone,
4 and my question may be better suited whenever we
5 consider approval, but I think this is more of a
6 question from an administrative standpoint.

7 Just looking at the dates of the change and
8 then the transfer request, I mean, it was several years
9 ago. Explain to me, I guess, why we're just now seeing
10 this, and with the delay and timing, I mean, you know,
11 have the assets been put on the tax roles? Explain that
12 process to me a little bit better.

13 MS. CHENG: We have confirmed with the
14 Ascension assessor that these assets have not been taxed
15 and that they've remained on the exempt roles. And it
16 was -- I think there was just a delay in -- there were
17 changes in staff at Mr. Whittaker's office that was
18 handling this and at Hexion's as well, and I believe
19 that's just why there was a delay in it coming to the
20 Board until this time.

21 MR. WHITTAKER: And if I may, this also was
22 caught up in the switch from the paper filing of the
23 application to the FastLane, the electronic filing, and
24 the paper filing was done right before the switchover
25 and it was misplaced by the staff of LED. And that did



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1 not come -- it didn't come to the attention of the
2 company for about a year that that had occurred until
3 after the actual sale leaseback transaction had
4 occurred. So that was the cause of that big gap between
5 the filing of the application in 2017 until the actual
6 filing in 2019 for the transfer -- I mean, for the
7 electronic filing in 2019, rather.

8 So we didn't do it twice. We had to correct
9 that.

10 MS. MALONE: Okay. And so how many years
11 are left on the contract?

12 MR. WHITTAKER: It comes up for renewal at
13 the end of this year.

14 MS. MALONE: Okay. Thank you.

15 MR. JONES: Any other comments or questions
16 from the Board?

17 (No response.)

18 MR. JONES: Any comments from the public?

19 (No response.)

20 MR. JONES: There being none, let's vote on
21 the special --

22 MS. BOOKER: Yes, sir, there is one.

23 I'm sorry. There is a question or comment
24 from the public.

25 MS. BOOKER: He just lowered his hand.



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1 Never mind. Sorry.

2 MR. JONES: All right. We have a vote on
3 the approval of the special request.

4 MS. SIMMONS: Mr. Briggs.

5 (No response.)

6 MS. SIMMONS: Mr. Toups.

7 (No response.)

8 MS. SIMMONS: To all of the Board members, I
9 need you to unmute your mic so we can hear your vote.

10 MS. SIMMONS: Yvette Cola.

11 MS. COLA: Yes.

12 MS. SIMMONS: Stuart Moss.

13 MR. MOSS: Yes.

14 MS. SIMMONS: Jerald Jones.

15 MR. JONES: Yes.

16 MS. SIMMONS: Heather Malone.

17 MS. MALONE: Yes.

18 MS. SIMMONS: Kenneth Havard.

19 (No response.)

20 MS. SIMMONS: Jan Moller.

21 MR. MOLLER: Yes.

22 MS. SIMMONS: Secretary Pierson.

23 SECRETARY PIERSON: Yes.

24 MS. SIMMONS: Mr. Holley.

25 MR. HOLLEY: Yes.



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1 MS. SIMMONS: And Dr. Wilson.

2 DR. W. WILSON: Yes.

3 MR. JONES. And, Ms. Simmons, I have removed
4 my vote, so we need to --

5 MS. SIMMONS: We need to remove Mr. Jones'
6 vote.

7 MR. BRIGGS: Don Briggs says yes.

8 MS. SIMMONS: Thank you.

9 MR. JONES: That motion carries.

10 So now we are -- there is -- do we have a
11 motion on the transfer itself?

12 MR. MOSS: So moved.

13 MR. JONES: Is that a motion to approve the
14 transfer?

15 MR. MOSS: Yes, sir.

16 DR. W. WILSON: So moved.

17 MR. JONES: We have a motion from
18 Representative Moss; second from Dr. Wilson.

19 Any comments or questions from the Board?

20 (No response.)

21 MR. JONES: Any comments from the public?

22 (No response.)

23 MR. JONES: There being none, let's vote.

24 MS. SIMMONS: Mr. Briggs.

25 MR. BRIGGS: Yes.



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1 MS. SIMMONS: Mr. Toups.
2 (No response.)
3 MS. SIMMONS: Ms. Cola.
4 MS. COLA: Yes.
5 MS. SIMMONS: Mr. Moss.
6 MR. MOSS: Yes.
7 MS. SIMMONS: Ms. Malone.
8 MS. MALONE: Yes.
9 MS. SIMMONS: Mr. Havard.
10 (No response.)
11 MS. SIMMONS: Mr. Moller.
12 MR. MOLLER: Yes.
13 MS. SIMMONS: Secretary Pierson.
14 SECRETARY PIERSON: Yes.
15 MS. SIMMONS: Mr. Holley.
16 MR. HOLLEY: Yes.
17 MS. SIMMONS: Dr. Wilson.
18 DR. W. WILSON: Yes.
19 MS. SIMMONS: Thank you.
20 MR. JONES: Motion carries.
21 Thank you Mr. Whittaker and Mr. Schumacher.
22 All right. What's next, Mr. Usie?
23 MR. USIE: Next we have Service Machine &
24 Supply, Inc., Application 20180110. It was approved by
25 the Board of Commerce & Industry at the June 28th, 2019



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1 meeting. Following which, Notice of Board Approval was
2 sent to the Lafayette City Parish Council, Lafayette
3 Parish School Board and Lafayette Parish Sheriff for
4 their consideration.

5 The Lafayette City Parish Council initially
6 denied this application within the 60-day allowed
7 timeframe. However, upon restructuring of the former
8 consolidated council, Service Machine & Supply and the
9 Parish Council jointly request that the Board reconsider
10 this application to be approved again, and,
11 subsequently, resend it to the local governing
12 authorities for reconsideration.

13 MR. JONES: So it was denied within the
14 60-day timeframe, but now they want us to send it back?

15 MR. USIE: Correct.

16 MR. JONES: For reconsideration?

17 MR. USIE: That's correct. And the contract
18 was issued initially saying that the Lafayette Parish
19 City Council had denied their portion of the exemption.
20 And now they have restructured that city parish council,
21 and they want to jointly request that they have the
22 opportunity to reconsider that denial and reverse -- I
23 guess possibly reverse it to approval.

24 MR. JONES: So what's happening here is both
25 the company and the parish council is asking for the



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1 opportunity to reconsider?

2 MR. USIE: Correct. Jointly requesting.

3 MR. JONES: Got it.

4 Entertain a motion to approve this special
5 request?

6 MR. BRIGGS: Don Briggs.

7 MR. JONES: Motion from Mr. Briggs.

8 Second?

9 Do we have a second?

10 MR. MOSS: Second.

11 MR. JONES: Second from Representative Moss.

12 Any questions or comments from the Board?

13 MS. MALONE: I just have a question. This
14 is Heather Malone again.

15 So, again, just looking at the timeframe of
16 when this happened, have any of the assets been placed
17 on the tax roles to date? Do we know?

18 MR. USIE: They would have just been billed
19 for them at the end of last year for the 20 percent.
20 That is not something that I have on me confirmed for
21 the 20 percent that they would have paid, but under the
22 2018 rules, they would always pay some portion of the
23 property tax.

24 MR. JONES: Up until the time it's approved.

25 MR. USIE: Up until then.



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1 MR. JONES: Ms. Malone, does that answer
2 your question?

3 MS. MALONE: It does, thank you.

4 MR. JONES: Any other questions or comments
5 from the Board?

6 (No response.)

7 MR. JONES: Any comments from the public?
8 Yes, there are comments from the public?

9 MS. BOOKER: Yes.

10 MR. JONES: Please speak.

11 MR. BAGERT: This is Broderick Bagert with
12 Together Louisiana.

13 A few meetings ago there was a request for a
14 reconsideration from a school board that had rejected an
15 exemption, but did so outside of the timeframe and they
16 were told rules were rules. What this request seems to
17 be doing is to say, okay, they did not get the results
18 they wanted, and now, either because of newly-elected
19 officials or because of a change in mind of those
20 officials, those companies get a redo.

21 What this can of worms would open is it
22 would say after a company has an exemption rejected,
23 plow your money into the next election and get the
24 majority vote, and if you can do that, then you can go
25 back in time and have a redo, which is not something



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1 that's provided for under the rules and not something
2 that should be provided for. It creates an incentive to
3 politicize this process.

4 One question we would have is why, for an
5 investment that's now a couple years old, the property
6 has not gone into the tax roles, if, in fact, it has
7 not? Is it because companies are not reporting their
8 property for years on end in the hopes of getting an
9 exemption down the line? And this would open up yet
10 another door to allow companies to try to use the
11 political process to get favorable elected officials in
12 placed and then once they do, to revisit the exemptions
13 that have been requested by duly-elected representatives
14 through this Board.

15 We think that's really bad policy and a can
16 of worms that's going to lead to an erosion of the trust
17 of this program and the politicization of this process
18 at the local level. So we would be opposed this and the
19 subsequent request to have a special process for
20 reconsideration once a company has managed to gin up a
21 change of officials to support something that was
22 previously rejected.

23 MR. JONES: Thank you for your comments,
24 Mr. Bagert.

25 Any other comments?



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1 We do have other comment from Zoom.

2 MS. COLA: This is Yvette Cola. I do have a
3 question regarding the -- was there a reason why the
4 sheriff changed his position with regards to this
5 application?

6 MR. JONES: Do we have anyone here from
7 Service Machine?

8 Do they have a representative here? Is
9 there a representative from Service Machine on Zoom?

10 (No response.)

11 MR. JONES: Do we not? Do we have a
12 representative or not?

13 MS. BOOKER: He is on. We're trying to get
14 him set up.

15 MR. JONES: While they're trying to fix the
16 technical issues there, Mr. Usie, do you know whether
17 originally the council and the school board and the
18 sheriff declined or was it just the council?

19 MR. USIE: We believe it's just the council
20 the denied it. The contract was issued, and I believe
21 the other two were approvals. The school board and the
22 sheriff approved it. The City Parish Council denied it.

23 MR. JONES: Okay. Ms. Cola, does that
24 answer your question?

25 MS. COLA: No. I'm sorry. I could not



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1 understand him.

2 MR. JONES: What we were saying was -- what
3 Mr. Usie said is that originally the sheriff approved
4 and the school board approved, but the parish council
5 denied.

6 MS. COLA: That, I understand. I guess I
7 was wondering was there a reason for the change in
8 position?

9 MR. JONES: Yeah. The only one that would
10 have changed -- that apparently has changed their mind
11 would be the parish council.

12 MS. COLA: The parish council?

13 MR. JONES: But we're assuming that by the
14 fact that they're asking for a redo.

15 MS. COLA: Okay. All right. Thank you.

16 MR. JONES: Does that answer your question?

17 MS. COLA: Uh-huh, it does.

18 MR. JONES: Great. Thank you.

19 Now, do we have a representative from
20 Service Machine?

21 MS. BOOKER: We're still having some
22 technical difficulties.

23 MR. JONES: Okay. Do we have any other
24 comments from the Board or the public on this issue?

25 MS. BOOKER: The public on Zoom.



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1 MR. JONES: We do have comments from the
2 public. Okay. Let's see if we can get them to speak.

3 MR. LAWSER: Thank you very much.

4 My concern is a procedural one.

5 MR. JONES: I'm sorry. I need a name,
6 please. A name.

7 MR. LAWSER: My name is Joel Lawser. I
8 spoke earlier with Together Louisiana, also appearing on
9 my own behalf.

10 My concern is a procedural one. If the
11 decisions of the Board are to be considered final and
12 you move to reconsider, reconsideration under the LAPA,
13 the Louisiana Administration Procedure Act,
14 reconsideration on any motion that was decided into any
15 court, you know, there are standards by which agencies
16 act; right, and there's standards by which we move
17 forward.

18 My concern is proceeding with a
19 reconsideration, I second that it will open the flood
20 door, the flood gate, but, most importantly, it would be
21 an action that's not authorized in the procedural
22 regulations, at least -- and forgive me if I'm wrong. I
23 haven't seen them. I mean, I've read the regulations.
24 I haven't seen the reconsideration. And, further, it
25 really is something that needs to be carefully



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1 considered, lest you open up the flood gates, that there
2 has to be some sort of, you know, consideration by the
3 agency, by your body about, you know, if we're going to
4 be granting reconsideration, under what conditions, what
5 showings people have to make in order to get that
6 reconsideration.

7 In the absence of that, I think moving
8 forward on this particular application, though I'm all
9 in favor of solar energy, would be -- personally --
10 would be an unauthorized act by -- and/or an
11 unauthorized rulemaking, the fact that we're rulemaking
12 because there is no current process for that.

13 That's my comment.

14 MR. JONES: Thank you, sir.

15 Any other comments?

16 MS. BOOKER: Comment from a Board member.

17 MR. JONES: Okay. Who is that?

18 MS. BOOKER: Ms. Malone.

19 MR. JONES: Ms. Malone.

20 MS. MALONE: Yes. So if I'm not mistaken,
21 we have already approved this application, and then it
22 was sent back to the local governing authorities;
23 correct?

24 MR. JONES: That is correct.

25 MS. MALONE: So do our rules allow for any



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1 kind of, you know, process for the local government to
2 go through since we've already approved it?

3 MR. JONES: I'm going to speak, and then I'm
4 going to look to the lawyers to correct me if I'm wrong,
5 but it's my understanding that, no, that the rules do
6 not allow for it. That's why it's coming before us as a
7 special request.

8 MS. MALONE: I understand. Okay. Thank
9 you.

10 MR. JONES: Is that fair, Mr. House, Ms.
11 Bourgeois?

12 I'm asking Ms. Bourgeois to come to the mic,
13 please, our attorney for the Board.

14 MS. BOURGEOIS: Good afternoon. Tam
15 Bourgeois for LED.

16 What the rules of the Board allow is that
17 anyone can appeal an action, a prior action of the
18 Board. So while you are absolutely correct there isn't
19 a procedure in place saying what steps might need to be
20 taken in order to do that, they've made this appeal,
21 which is before you right now for the Board to consider
22 whether or not you want to allow the locals to
23 reconsider their prior position on this application.

24 MR. JONES: Okay. So is this technically a
25 reconsideration by this Board or is it simply a decision



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1 to allow it to go back to the locals?

2 MS. BOURGEOIS: I would see it as a decision
3 by the Board to allow the locals to reconsider their
4 position because you've already approved the
5 application.

6 MR. JONES: Understood.

7 Any comments or questions from the Board?

8 MR. MOLLER: This is Jan Moller. I just
9 think we would be setting a very disturbing and
10 dangerous precedent if we allow this. You know, the new
11 governing body down there in Lafayette can set whatever
12 rules they want going forward, but I do not think we
13 should be allowing them to undo the decisions of the
14 previous entity that already decided on this.

15 MR. JONES: Actually, Mr. Moller, this is
16 one of those times I think you and I agree on where we
17 are on this because, much like Mr. Bagert said earlier,
18 once we start allowing the locals to reverse
19 themselves -- I could make an argument that the rules
20 were intended to provide opportunities for the company,
21 but, frankly, I think the bigger concern now is, as
22 Mr. Bagert explained earlier, is that what happens when
23 companies are allowed to, through the political process,
24 change membership and, therefore, change decisions? I
25 think that certainty needs to be a matter that swings



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1 both ways is my personal opinion.

2 MS. COLA: Hi. This is Yvette Cola, and
3 just to add a voice, I agree with both statements. I
4 think it's a very slippery slope to go down to undo
5 something that a prior governing body has had in place,
6 on a going forward basis, should they choose to do
7 something differently, I think that's a different
8 matter.

9 DR. W. WILSON: This is Dr. Wilson. I'd
10 like to concur with those sentiments as well. I think
11 we need to stick to the process that we had, not reverse
12 the decision based on what happened at the local level.

13 MR. JONES: Any further comments or
14 questions?

15 DR. W. WILSON: Do we need to make a motion,
16 chair?

17 MR. JONES: Right now we have motion, Ms.
18 Simmons, to approve the -- to approve. So if you wish
19 to send this back to the locals, your vote would be
20 "yes." If you wish to deny that, your vote would be
21 "no."

22 DR. W. WILSON: Okay.

23 MR. JONES: I'm sorry. Was there a
24 question?

25 (No response.)



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1 MR. JONES: There being no further comments
2 or questions, let's vote, Ms. Simmons.
3 MS. SIMMONS: Don Briggs.
4 MR. BRIGGS: No.
5 MS. SIMMONS: Mr. Toups.
6 (No response.)
7 MS. SIMMONS: Ms. Cola.
8 MS. COLA: No.
9 MS. SIMMONS: Mr. Moss.
10 MS. SIMMONS: No.
11 MS. SIMMONS: Mr. Jones.
12 MR. JONES: No.
13 MS. SIMMONS: Ms. Malone.
14 MS. MALONE: No.
15 MS. SIMMONS: Mr. Havard.
16 (No response.)
17 MS. SIMMONS: Mr. Moller.
18 MR. MOLLER: No.
19 MS. SIMMONS: Secretary Pierson.
20 SECRETARY PIERSON: No.
21 MS. SIMMONS: Mr. Holley.
22 MR. HOLLEY: No.
23 MS. SIMMONS: And Dr. Wilson.
24 DR. W. WILSON: No.
25 MS. SIMMONS: Did not pass.



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1 MR. JONES: Motion fails.

2 Next, Mr. Usie.

3 MR. USIE: Next we have South Alexander
4 Development I, LLC, Application 20180355 was approved by
5 the Board of Commerce & Industry at the October 31st,
6 2018 meeting. Following which, Notice of Board Approval
7 was sent to Livingston Parish, Livingston Parish School
8 Board and Livingston Parish Sheriff for their
9 consideration.

10 The Livingston Parish Sheriff initially
11 denied this application with the 60-day allowed
12 timeframe. However, Sheriff Ard has since changed his
13 mind on the decision. The Livingston Parish Sheriff and
14 South Alexander Development jointly request the Board to
15 reconsider this application to be approved and
16 subsequently resent to the local governing authority for
17 reconsideration.

18 MR. JONES: Well, essentially we have the
19 same situation as the previous one, is that correct?

20 (Interruption.)

21 MR. JONES: Mr. Usie, so essentially we have
22 the same situation as previous; is that correct?

23 MR. USIE: That is correct.

24 I do believe maybe if the company is on Zoom
25 or a representative is here. They had a clarification



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1 that they spoke about regarding the special request
2 directly to the Board, and the sheriff had given or
3 issued some type of guideline saying he approved it and
4 didn't want it sent back.

5 MR. JONES: Okay. I think we do have a
6 representative from the company.

7 MR. USIE: They could clarify.

8 MR. JONES: Thank you.

9 You probably know the drill by now. Get
10 close to the mic as you can and speak loudly and clearly
11 so everyone on the Zoom meeting can understand you.

12 MR. MANGUM: Philip Mangum, Development
13 Manager with South Alexander Development 1.

14 MR. JONES: Okay.

15 MR. MAY: We have now gotten approval from
16 the sheriff, and so it would only be -- it's the same
17 sheriff, so would we be sending it back to the same
18 sheriff who had initially denied it.

19 MR. JONES: What was the reason for the
20 sheriff's reverse in his position; do you know?

21 MR. MANGUM: I do not know. Robert Schmidt,
22 the President of our company, is available on Zoom and
23 could answer that question.

24 MR. JONES: Hello.

25 MR. SCHMIDT: Hello. This is Robert



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1 Schmidt.

2 MR. JONES: Yes, sir, Mr. Schmidt.

3 MR. SMITH: The sheriff has since changed
4 his mind after the initial 60-day period. We weren't
5 able to fully communicate the benefits of the project.
6 We were able to do so afterward, after that 60-day period,
7 and that is the reason for him changing his mind.

8 This was during the period of time where the
9 rules were in somewhat of a transition and I think that
10 there were questions all around and that is what led to
11 really a shortened period to fully discuss the project.

12 And I would also like to point out, and
13 Philip did so earlier, that this would not be a
14 different taxing authority. It's the same sheriff, and
15 originally two out of three of the taxing authorities
16 approved. So our request in writing was to allow for
17 the sheriff to reverse his original decision, which we
18 feel did not -- was not given enough time originally
19 given to the -- given the transitional period.

20 MR. JONES: Seems to me if we were to take
21 this action and send it back, it would have to go back
22 to all of the locals, not just a single local. It would
23 have -- there would have to be reconsideration by them
24 all.

25 MR. SCHMIDT: The locals haven't changed.



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1 So based on the project that was just before
2 this one, it is a slippery slope if we were to start
3 giving the opportunity to different taxing authorities
4 after an election to be able to reverse a decision over
5 a prior group. So this is an important distinction that
6 this is the same individual who originally denied the
7 exemption.

8 MR. JONES: Thank you for your comments.

9 Any other comments from the --

10 MR. MOLLER: I have a question. This is Jan
11 Moller.

12 If we were to allow this, would this
13 precedent work the other way? For example, if, you
14 know, the Sheriff of East Baton Rouge Parish wakes up
15 tomorrow and decides he doesn't think Exxon should have
16 a tax exemption, would he be allowed to petition this
17 Board and say, you know, "Hey, I've got a shortfall in
18 my budget. I'd really like some tax money, and I've
19 changed my mind on this thing that I agreed to last
20 year"?

21 Again, if we're going to go down that road,
22 you know, we could have that conversation, but I think
23 we would be setting a dangerous precedent.

24 MR. JONES: Thank you, sir.

25 Any other comments?



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1 MS. BOOKER: Yes.

2 MR. BAGERT: This is Broderick Bagert with
3 Together Louisiana.

4 The Board has considered an almost entirely
5 parallel circumstance to this at its February 21st
6 meeting when the police jury, I believe, in St. John the
7 Baptist Parish submitted their letter to deny the
8 rejection a few days after the 60-day period allotted.
9 Now, in fact, it's not parallel because that's an even
10 more immediate period where the same entity has just
11 indicated their preference, but outside of the 60-day
12 window allotted by the rules, and this Board determined
13 that they did not have that right because rules are
14 rules. It was affirmed assiduously "Rules are rules."

15 To approve this request would say rules are
16 rules for some, but the rules for others are not rules.
17 We think that's arbitrary and capricious and should not
18 be approved.

19 MR. JONES: Thank you.

20 Any other comments? Any other comments?

21 MS. CARLSON: I'd like to make a comment.

22 MR. JONES: Yes, ma'am.

23 MS. CARLSON: Lady Carlson, 7640 LaSalle,
24 Baton Rouge, Louisiana 70806.

25 I just want to say what's good for the



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1 gander is good for the goose. If you made a decision
2 and it was denied, to come back now and say "Well, I
3 changed my mind, so we're going to grant it," does not
4 make it -- it is capricious. And, again, what's good
5 for the gander is good for the goose.

6 We have rules with the St. John. If this
7 Board said we have rules and we can't break the rules
8 because then we start -- we set a precedent that we
9 don't want to set, and I think that's the same with this
10 application. You're starting a precedent then that we
11 can go back and say "Well, I thought about it, I changed
12 my mind, and so I want to grant it." So we would ask
13 that you deny the request.

14 MR. JONES: Thank you for your comments, Ms.
15 Carlson.

16 Any other comments?

17 We have a question from a Zoom participant?

18 MR. LAWSEY: This is Joel Lawser again.

19 I know that the applicant is asking for a
20 very specific relief that is likely outside of the
21 appeal period that was mentioned by the attorney for the
22 Board, and, you know, once appeal periods expire, you're
23 asking for any relief is suspect and would be -- would
24 constitute a new agency action. And I think that
25 secondly, and maybe most importantly, he's kind of



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1 wanting his cake and he wants to eat it too. He wants
2 you to allow him to submit evidence of the sheriff's
3 approval but not put it back to the local governments
4 for their approval because they would likely change
5 their mind, and so that's even more pernicious use of
6 the -- would be an even more pernicious use of your
7 Board's authority that you had just voted on. So I
8 think it should be denied.

9 MR. JONES: Thank you for your comment.
10 Anything further? Any other comments?

11 MS. BOOKER: Not on Zoom.

12 MR. JONES: Not on Zoom.

13 Any other closing comments?

14 MR. MANGUM: The motion will be to only go
15 back to the sheriff for approval?

16 MR. JONES: No. If there is a motion to
17 approve as you've requested, it would go back to all of
18 the local entities.

19 MR. MANGUM: In that case, we would like to
20 proceed with the certainty of the two out of three
21 approval and rescind this request.

22 MR. JONES: I'm not sure I understand your
23 request.

24 MR. MANGUM: We'd like to just rescind our
25 request for the additional approval of the sheriff and



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1 proceed with the approval we have in place with the two
2 out of three authorities.

3 MR. JONES: Okay. So you're asking the
4 Board to take no action at this time?

5 MR. MANGUM: That's correct, yes, sir.

6 MR. JONES: Okay. Then we just spent that
7 time needlessly. No problem. I'm picking at you a bit.
8 I'm sorry.

9 So no further action on South Alexander
10 Development.

11 All right. I believe we are at the end of
12 the itemized agenda. Excuse me just a minute. Let me
13 get the -- we are now down to Board elections. I'm
14 sorry.

15 Ms. Bourgeois.

16 MS. BOURGEOIS: I believe kind of the
17 thinking of the staff that maybe the recommendation
18 would be to defer the Board elections since this is our
19 first zoom, slash, in-person meeting, and maybe in
20 August might be a better opportunity to have more Board
21 members.

22 MR. JONES: Well, my concern right now is
23 we're woefully lacking on Board membership and not fully
24 represented, so I would think it would be a better idea
25 to defer them till the next meeting.



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1 Okay. Great.

2 All right. Any other business?

3 (No response.)

4 MR. JONES: Seeing none, Mr. Pierson, in
5 likeness.

6 SECRETARY PIERSON: I'll be very brief, sir,
7 as the hours grow very late.

8 We did have a greater-than-ordinary burden
9 today in that we had the April meeting that was deferred
10 till now so we've had several month's sort of stack up.

11 So thank you to all of the Board members who
12 worked overtime today and helped us get through this.
13 Thank you to the staff. We've tried to design an
14 environment that protects health and execute against
15 that. We've tried to design a blend of in-person and
16 participation by Zoom, and so all of this is a learning
17 curve for us, but I think it was very well-executed to
18 the degree that we can do it today. So I appreciate
19 your patience along the way where we did have a few
20 technical difficulties.

21 We still find ourselves under a very
22 significant cloud of COVID, and a lot of action is still
23 necessary for the general population in order to resolve
24 this crisis. Certainly we have assisted businesses
25 across our state with a robust resource page that's up



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1 at OpportunityLouisiana.com. It has everything up there
2 from SBA loan programs to LED's loan program that we've
3 stood up to help companies. And, also, soon, the Main
4 Street Grant Program will be posted there. We've also
5 initiated a strong effort to encourage e-commerce in our
6 state a number of other activities.

7 Thank you for moving things forward today
8 with the contracts and approvals that were necessary.
9 We continue to work with a lot of industry across the
10 state, and even though we are operating under an
11 Emergency Order and other things, there's still a great
12 deal of interest in locating in our state and we know
13 that efforts right now are needed more than ever as we
14 will be significantly impacted, many of our small
15 businesses, particularly those associated with the
16 tourism industry and the oil and gas industry, both sort
17 of singled out as having some major impacts.

18 Also, I would report to you LED devotes a
19 lot of energy against executing for the Resilient
20 Louisiana Commission, which I cochair with Ms. Terrie
21 Sterling, and some absolutely fantastic work is being
22 done there with the participation in 15 task force by
23 almost 300 people. So those reports are now being
24 compiled, and we anticipate the release of the document
25 in mid-July with a lot of strategies and approaches that



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1 are going help build a more resilient Louisiana so that
2 as the COVID crisis comes to a close, when it does, we
3 will emerge in a stronger state and be better prepared
4 and more resilient moving forward.

5 Those are my comments for today. I, again,
6 want to be brief, but available if you have any
7 questions.

8 MR. JONES: Thank you, Secretary Pierson.

9 And, again, thank you to all who joined in
10 person and those of you who joined by Zoom. Better
11 living through technology is going to become our mantra.

12 If there is no other business, I would
13 recognize a motion to adjourn.

14 MR. MOSS: So moved.

15 MR. JONES: Motion. I'm going to declare --
16 well let's -- everyone say "aye."

17 (Several members respond "aye.")

18 MR. JONES: We'll see y'all in August.
19 Thank you much.

20 (Meeting concludes at 2:09 p.m.)
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11 That the transcript has been prepared in
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17 That I am not related to counsel or to the
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