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STATE OF LOUISIANA  
BOARD OF COMMERCE & INDUSTRY  
RULES COMMITTEE MEETING  
INDUSTRIAL AD VALOREM TAX EXEMPTION PROGRAM RULES  
BEING HELD ON WEDNESDAY, JULY 10, 2024  
AT THE LOUISIANA STATE CAPITOL  
900 North Third Street  
SENATE COMMITTEE ROOM A/B  
Baton Rouge, Louisiana

REPORTED BY: KELLY S. PERRIN, C.C.R.

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<p>1 APPEARANCES:</p> <p>2 BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:</p> <p>3 CHAIRMAN JERALD JONES</p> <p>4 STUART MOSS</p> <p>5 LETICIA A. "LETTI" LOWE-ARDOIN</p> <p>6 CHARLES "ROBBY" MILLER, JR.</p> <p>7 KYLE POLOZOLA</p> <p>8 STAFF MEMBERS PRESENT:</p> <p>9 ROBIN PORTER</p> <p>10 ANNE G. VILLA</p> <p>11 DEBORAH SIMMONS</p> <p>12 FRANK FAVALORO</p> <p>13 KRISTIN CHENG JOHNSON</p> <p>14 HUD USIE</p> <p>15 TEDRA CHEATHAM</p> <p>16 BRENDA GUESS</p> <p>17 PETER JOHNSON</p> <p>18 SPEAKERS FROM THE PUBLIC:</p> <p>19 TOM BARRETT, DISTRICT ATTORNEY, CAMERON PARISH</p> <p>20 SCOTT LAVERGNE, ASSESSOR, CAMERON PARISH</p> <p>21</p> <p>22</p> <p>23 REPORTED BY: KELLY S. PERRIN, CCR</p> <p>24</p> <p>25</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Page 3</p>	<p>1 Stuart Moss?</p> <p>2 MR. MOSS:</p> <p>3 Here.</p> <p>4 MS. SIMMONS:</p> <p>5 Chairman, we have a quorum.</p> <p>6 CHAIRMAN JONES:</p> <p>7 Thank you very much. Committee Members,</p> <p>8 I believe you've been provided a copy of the</p> <p>9 minutes. Do we have a motion?</p> <p>10 MR. MOSS:</p> <p>11 So moved.</p> <p>12 CHAIRMAN JONES:</p> <p>13 I have a motion from Mr. Moss to approve,</p> <p>14 second from Mr. Miller. Any questions or</p> <p>15 comments from the Committee?</p> <p>16 Hearing none, any comments from the</p> <p>17 public?</p> <p>18 Hearing none, all in favor, say aye.</p> <p>19 ALL:</p> <p>20 Aye.</p> <p>21 CHAIRMAN JONES:</p> <p>22 Any opposition?</p> <p>23 Hearing none, the minutes are approved.</p> <p>24 All right. Next on the agenda, just for</p> <p>25 those of you who have not been in our previous</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Page 5</p>

1 couple of meetings, at the last meeting, we  
 2 had asked Industry to present its proposed or  
 3 its recommended changes to the ITEP program,  
 4 and it was a good meeting, good presentation,  
 5 a lot of information exchanged. We provided  
 6 that information to LED staff and then asked  
 7 the LED to review and then come, be prepared  
 8 to come today to make a presentation as to the  
 9 world, the ITEP world, as it sees it going  
 10 forward. And let me -- and I'm speaking as  
 11 Chairman, I have not had this conversation  
 12 with any of the Committee Members at this  
 13 point, but as I've told a number of people, we  
 14 are still early on in this process.

15 One of the things that I am going to be  
 16 asking for or asking the Committee to approve  
 17 at the end of this meeting is that -- we've  
 18 heard from Industry. Today, we'll hear from  
 19 LED. I know there are a number of  
 20 stakeholders who have interests in this. I'm  
 21 going to ask that you get any comments that  
 22 you have on the ITEP -- proposed ITEP process  
 23 moving forward to LED by probably the next  
 24 week or so with the idea that, at the next  
 25 meeting, I want to hear from the remaining

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1 stakeholders.

2 I'm going -- if you have a wholesale --  
 3 if you want to rewrite ITEP, that's fine, but  
 4 my preference is that you limit your comments  
 5 and the preparation of your comments that will  
 6 be sent to LED to specific provisions if you  
 7 have recommendations on, we want to consider  
 8 those, we want to hear those. None of us hold  
 9 the key to truth and wisdom on these issues,  
 10 so we believe that the more we hear from those  
 11 who are engaged in this process, the better.  
 12 So I will remind you at the end of this  
 13 meeting, but we're going to be looking for  
 14 those comments.

15 And at the next meeting, we will be  
 16 hearing from the remaining stakeholders.  
 17 Then, the fun begins. Once we have the table  
 18 set with that kind of data, Industry, LED, and  
 19 the remaining stakeholders, then the work of  
 20 this Committee will begin trying to figure out  
 21 what this is going to look like moving  
 22 forward. Does that make sense to the  
 23 Committee?

24 Great. All right. With that, I'm going  
 25 to turn to Ms. Villa or Ms. Porter.

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1 MS. VILLA:  
 2 Good afternoon, Anne Villa, Deputy  
 3 Secretary for Louisiana Economic Development.  
 4 Before Robin gets started, our Executive  
 5 Counsel, I just wanted to sincerely thank all  
 6 of you, all of you behind me, all of you that  
 7 are out there watching, thank you all very  
 8 much for your very thoughtful and deliberate  
 9 comments that have been provided to LED and  
 10 our ITEP team. There's been lots of work that  
 11 we have been doing behind the scenes with our  
 12 State economic competitiveness team, with our  
 13 ITEP team, with legal, and with the  
 14 administration. So I just wanted to thank you  
 15 all for doing that.

16 I think that as Robin goes through the  
 17 presentation, you'll see that we are really  
 18 taking a fresh look at the ITEP administration  
 19 of it from LED's perspective, and we really  
 20 feel as though we are going to present a more  
 21 streamlined approach to the application  
 22 process and subsequent reporting requirements  
 23 that are going to be filed, and it will be a  
 24 much easier process for Industry. So we are  
 25 looking forward to receiving your comments on

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1 the presentation. So with that, I'll turn it  
 2 over to Robin.

3 CHAIRMAN JONES:  
 4 Thank you, Ms. Villa. Any questions from  
 5 the Committee for Ms. Villa?

6 Hearing none, Ms. Porter, please, you  
 7 have the conn.

8 MS. PORTER:  
 9 Thank you very much. Good afternoon.  
 10 Again, I'm Robin Porter, Executive Counsel  
 11 with LED here to discuss our proposal for  
 12 changes to the ITEP rules. Again, this is not  
 13 a final promulgated rule, so we are just at  
 14 the beginning of this process.

15 Next slide. So in the beginning, I'm  
 16 going to talk a little bit about the authority  
 17 and philosophy, of course. You know, lawyers  
 18 like to talk about authority. So, anyway, the  
 19 Constitution, Article VII, Section 21 is the  
 20 authority for the ITEP program. It provides  
 21 the C&I Board with the approval of the  
 22 Governor to enter into contracts for ad  
 23 valorem tax exemptions on terms and  
 24 conditions, as the Board with the Governor's  
 25 approval deems to be in the best interest of

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<p>1 the State. And the philosophy behind the 2 program is design -- or the framers thought it 3 would be to design and encourage manufacturing 4 investment that would have a positive return 5 for its value. There seems to be a disconnect 6 though from what the framers may have thought 7 and what the program is actually formed into 8 at this point.</p> <p>9 Based on feedback from various 10 stakeholders, it's perceived that the program 11 is cumbersome, bureaucratic, and lacks 12 uniformity. So I don't think that welcomes 13 and/or encourages manufacturing investment. 14 So what we want to make sure that we do when 15 we talk about streamlining the process, we 16 want to streamline and continue to provide 17 significant revenues for the local government.</p> <p>18 So while the ITEP review and approval 19 process needs refinement, the following 20 provisions are going to remain and align with 21 the 2024 Executive Order: The 80 percent 22 exemption five-year initial contract with an 23 option to renew for the additional five years, 24 93 percent exemption of Mega projects, local 25 government consideration, and applications for</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Page 10</p>	<p>1 And this is just for ITEPS. So imagine 2 what's going on if they have QJ, they have to 3 remember those deadlines as well. It's being 4 done, but why force that if you don't have to. 5 So next, so our proposal is to reduce from a 6 15-step process to a 9-step process. And 7 we'll just leave that up as I go through each 8 box, okay. First being the project 9 application, so that's a combination of the 10 advance notification and the application. 11 It's project specific with startup, new or 12 addition. All applicants are to file 13 front-end applications, so that's what this 14 actually means is front-end applications. And 15 it's going to be submitted prior to the 16 beginning of construction.</p> <p>17 And what the outcome is, is fewer 18 required forms and attachments. It's 19 resulting in a shortened review time and 20 process and greater focuses on the estimates 21 and attestations. So no advance is a hybrid. 22 Project application is the advance and the 23 application hybrid.</p> <p>24 Next box, LED review followed by LDR and 25 LWC review. So the project applications still</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Page 12</p>
<p>1 tax exemptions with the following shall not be 2 considered or approved, the MCAs, maintenance 3 capital, required environmental capital 4 upgrades, and replacement parts, unless those 5 required in rehabilitation or restoration of 6 an establishment.</p> <p>7 So here is the current ITEP process, 8 which is a 15-step process, and it involves 9 excessive amounts of forms and various 10 deadlines, forms that currently exist and have 11 to be done individually, the advance, the 12 application, the AFC, the PCR, the project 13 extension request, change in location, change 14 in name, full transfer, partial transfer, 15 contract closure, certificate of compliance, 16 renewal apps, additional payment request, 17 which is tied to the AFC if increased in the 18 investment, Annual Project Status Reports for 19 the front-end apps, annual report for the 20 pre-executive order, and special requests. 21 Now if you cobble that with the fact that you 22 have phased applications, these forms for each 23 phase and application are required to be filed 24 and the company has to be concerned and 25 remember what the deadlines are.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Page 11</p>	<p>1 will be submitted by the deadline as posted on 2 the BC&amp;I website. That means if you want to 3 make it to the next agenda, you have to file a 4 project application by that deadline. It's 5 going to be reviewed by the staff first in, 6 first out. And you have two weeks 7 simultaneously, as the staff's reviewing the 8 project application, will have the two-week 9 deadline for LDR and LWC for review. And then 10 the project applications receiving no 11 objections from both agencies move forward to 12 the Board for presentation.</p> <p>13 And when you look at the LWC is the new 14 piece here, it makes it more definitive about 15 what the manufacturing is. They're going to 16 assign that NAIC code so the administrators 17 are not, I would say, subjectively trying to 18 make a determination by what manufacturing is. 19 It makes it more definitive. So the outcome, 20 again, is more objectivity and eligibility for 21 the criteria, less subjectivity, more of a 22 whole project. We're looking at project 23 focused, okay.</p> <p>24 Board consideration, LED presents project 25 applications to the Board for consideration.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Page 13</p>

<p>1 So the project application will be submitted 2 to the Board for consideration and approval. 3 The local ITEP Committee Consideration, I 4 wanted to take time to talk about this and to 5 reiterate what's in the Executive Order 6 because of the feedback that we have received 7 from the stakeholders, which again, I publicly 8 like to say I appreciate and welcome. And but 9 most of those comments that came from the 10 local stakeholders was about the local ITEP 11 Committee Consideration. 12 So LED transmits or will transmit the 13 approval of the project application to the 14 Committee Members via email within three 15 business days for the approval. The date 16 transmitted begins a 45-day notice period to 17 conduct the meeting. So if you recall, in 18 Section 6 of the Executive Order, that 19 provides that the 15-day notice period starts 20 once the 3-day application approval notice is 21 sent because -- however, the local committee 22 has the option to respond to the public 23 meeting or not. Therefore, LED will just wait 24 that 45-day period. And then if we receive 25 something, you know, we'll note it. If not,</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Page 14</p>	<p>1 approval decision made by BC&amp;I. 2 Okay. So for the contract portion, this 3 is the -- again, this isn't changing. It's a 4 five-year initial contract, the 80 percent 5 exemption or 93 percent for the Mega project. 6 Upon completion of the 45-day period, ITEP 7 contract is sent for signatures, all parties. 8 If provided, the local ITEP Committee decision 9 via resolution will be transmitted with the 10 ITEP contract for the Governor's 11 consideration. 12 Now, the next box is the Annual Project 13 Property Report, APPR. This is a combination, 14 if you recall, I talked about all of the 15 different various forms in the beginning that 16 has to be filed. This form is a combination 17 of the Annual Project Status Report that has 18 to be filed currently, the front-end, the 19 phase applications for each phase. You have 20 phase A, B through, you have to continue to 21 file the applications for those phases along 22 with currently with PCRs AFCs for each of 23 those. This is all rolled into the Annual 24 Project Property Report, the Affidavit of 25 Final Cost, Project Completion Report as well.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Page 16</p>
<p>1 if we don't receive anything from the locals, 2 then we'll send the approval application to 3 the Governor and parties to sign. So instead 4 of having -- we just combined the 45-day 5 period. 6 Okay. And just to go through the process 7 again, the local ITEP Committee shall consists 8 of the Parish President or the President of 9 the Police Jury, the President of the School 10 Board or the Superintendent of the School 11 Board as elected by the School Board, the 12 Sheriff or his designee, and the Mayor if the 13 project is located within the municipality. 14 Ex Officio Nonvoting Members may include the 15 Assessor, the Parish's highest ranking 16 economic development staff, members of the 17 local economic development organization, or if 18 no economic organization exists, a 19 representative from the regional economic 20 development district. The local ITEP 21 Committee may choose to assign coordinating 22 duties to the EDO of their choosing. 23 Consistent with the current practice, locals 24 still shall have the option to take no action; 25 thereby, automatically opting into the</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Page 15</p>	<p>1 And another thing that we indicated would 2 be great is to have one deadline. Everybody 3 knows when their taxes are due, you know that 4 date. Our companies know when that LAT 5, if 5 LAT 5 forms are required to be submitted to 6 the Assessor. So the date for submission of 7 this APPR would be we chose March 31st for a 8 prior calendar year. 9 The form shall be submitted as 10 attestation to property placed in service for 11 every year in the construction period. Any 12 year property placed in service receives, of 13 course, the five years of 80 percent exemption 14 or the 93 percent exemption for Mega projects 15 with an option to renew for an additional five 16 years. Any years without property being 17 placed in service shall provide -- still needs 18 to be filed by that date and is providing a 19 status on the project construction. So we'll 20 know, you know, what's going on with the 21 project, if it needs to be filed by March 31st 22 if you have assets in service. And if you do 23 not have assets in service, it still needs to 24 be filed to keep us appeased of what's going 25 on with the project.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Page 17</p>

1 And the outcome there is reducing and  
 2 combining existing forms while collecting the  
 3 same project information, better aligns timing  
 4 of the Annual Project Property Report filing  
 5 with other taxing authority deadlines. That's  
 6 that March 31st deadline.  
 7 The renewal application, you know,  
 8 basically the same is option to renew for an  
 9 additional five years of 80 percent exemption  
 10 or 93 for the Mega projects. The APPR is  
 11 required to be filed for all project  
 12 construction years in order to renew. It goes  
 13 to the Board for consideration. LED presents  
 14 the renewal application to BC&I for  
 15 consideration and the renewal contract,  
 16 another five-year renewal, 80 percent, 93 for  
 17 Mega.  
 18 Upon the Board approval, ITEP contract is  
 19 sent for signatures to all parties. And just  
 20 as the current ITEP Rule 529 provides that the  
 21 Board shall have the option of submitting a  
 22 Board approved renewal app to the local ITEP  
 23 Committee for approval, that will be the same  
 24 option here.  
 25 All right. So in summary, our proposed

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1 changes requires all exemptions to be applied  
 2 for preconstruction. So creates more  
 3 objectivity, eligible criteria, and a less  
 4 cumbersome path from project conception to  
 5 contract issuance. It reworks existing  
 6 processes to be more easily understood. It's  
 7 not as cumbersome. You don't have as many  
 8 deadlines that you have to try to remember.  
 9 It's that one deadline March 31st, and you  
 10 have that all of the other forms rolled up  
 11 into that one form, reduces the total number  
 12 of required forms and attachments, and then  
 13 better aligns the timing of the Annual  
 14 Property Project Report filing with other  
 15 taxing authority deadlines.  
 16 CHAIRMAN JONES:  
 17 Thank you, Ms. Porter. And for those of  
 18 you in the audience or may be listening  
 19 online, I know you're asking, can we get a  
 20 copy of that, and this will be supplied on the  
 21 LED website; is that right?  
 22 MS. PORTER:  
 23 Yes.  
 24 MS. JOHNSON:  
 25 It's already there.

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1 CHAIRMAN JONES:  
 2 Fantastic. Great. I have some  
 3 questions, but I'm going to first defer to the  
 4 Committee. Do you have any questions for  
 5 Ms. Porter or Ms. Villa or anyone else?  
 6 Mr. Miller, would you say that loudly,  
 7 please?  
 8 MR. MILLER:  
 9 The form, the project application form,  
 10 it has a lot of information, is it actually  
 11 the same amount of information that the  
 12 multiple forms were, just consolidated in one,  
 13 or is it actually less information collected  
 14 but fills the job?  
 15 MS. PORTER:  
 16 The project application is a hybrid, so  
 17 it's going to be a portion of the description  
 18 of the project that's in advance, but it's  
 19 more descriptive. That's a part of the  
 20 application. So I guess you're going to have  
 21 to describe in basically entirely what your  
 22 project is upfront. That's a part of the  
 23 project application.  
 24 So just like with the front-end, you need  
 25 to know what your project is. Where advance,

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1 it's descriptive, but with the -- and,  
 2 therefore after, it's more of a description on  
 3 the application, this would be more of  
 4 definitive project description in the  
 5 application, okay, if I explained that  
 6 properly.  
 7 MR. MILLER:  
 8 And then on the reporting side, you  
 9 mentioned the Annual Project Property Reports  
 10 --  
 11 MS. PORTER:  
 12 Yes.  
 13 MR. MILLER:  
 14 -- you mentioned similar to the LAT 5  
 15 deadline, which sounds pretty appropriate.  
 16 MS. PORTER:  
 17 Yes.  
 18 MR. MILLER:  
 19 Would there be a possibility that the LAT  
 20 5 could serve as the -- just instead of  
 21 creating -- basically, it's the same  
 22 information.  
 23 MS. JOHNSON:  
 24 I think we were looking at trying to get  
 25 them to kind of mirror each other.

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1 MR. MILLER:  
2 So you don't do it one way on the LAT 5  
3 and another way on our form that the LAT 5  
4 could actually be attached? Yes --  
5 MS. PORTER:  
6 Actually -- okay.  
7 MR. MILLER:  
8 -- there is an easier way to do it.  
9 MS. PORTER:  
10 We'll certainly take that under  
11 consideration.  
12 MR. MILLER:  
13 If I'm adding the same exact form to two  
14 different places, it's a lot easier to  
15 realigning it to make it work when there's  
16 just another form.  
17 MS. VILLA:  
18 Yeah.  
19 CHAIRMAN JONES:  
20 Mr. Miller, just real quick, Ms. Cheng,  
21 could you state your name?  
22 MS. JOHNSON:  
23 I'm sorry, Kristen Johnson.  
24 CHAIRMAN JONES:  
25 I'm sorry, Mrs. Johnson actually. I

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1 wasn't invited to the wedding, so I'm sorry,  
2 Mrs. Johnson.  
3 MS. JOHNSON:  
4 ITEP Program Administrator at LED.  
5 CHAIRMAN JONES:  
6 Thank you very much. All right. Go  
7 right ahead.  
8 MR. MILLER:  
9 All right. I think I'm good right now.  
10 I may come back later.  
11 CHAIRMAN JONES:  
12 Question, Mr. Polozola?  
13 MR. POLOZOLA:  
14 So in the project application hybrid  
15 model that goes in here, the locals would  
16 still get advance notice, but just at the same  
17 time that the project is applied for, correct?  
18 MS. JOHNSON:  
19 Yeah. Well, it still has to be prior to  
20 any construction.  
21 MR. POLOZOLA:  
22 Right.  
23 MS. JOHNSON:  
24 So it would be prior to any of the  
25 project occurring, so the locals would have

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1 notification of it.  
2 MR. POLOZOLA:  
3 Okay.  
4 MS. PORTER:  
5 It's important that we have -- that was a  
6 feedback that came back, you know, they are  
7 used to seeing what's in their backyard. And  
8 that was a concern about stating that there  
9 would be no advance, they still would want to  
10 know. So we would see that they would have at  
11 least a portion of the information that would  
12 be included on the advance now, because as you  
13 know, the application is not visible until  
14 it's on the Board agenda. So we would make  
15 sure that the information would be extracted  
16 so that the locals could see what they would  
17 have in their backyard.  
18 CHAIRMAN JONES:  
19 Okay. And I'm sorry, I'm trying to --  
20 obviously, y'all thought about this more than  
21 I have because y'all have developed a good  
22 presentation.  
23 MS. PORTER:  
24 And we're still thinking.  
25 CHAIRMAN JONES:

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1 And we all are.  
2 MS. PORTER:  
3 Yes.  
4 CHAIRMAN JONES:  
5 That's a point that shouldn't be passed  
6 over too quickly because we are.  
7 MS. PORTER:  
8 Right.  
9 CHAIRMAN JONES:  
10 This is a work in progress. But I'm  
11 trying to get in my mind, the application is  
12 filed and the information would be transmitted  
13 immediately to the locals, is that what you're  
14 saying, upon receipt of the application?  
15 MS. PORTER:  
16 No. No.  
17 CHAIRMAN JONES:  
18 Okay.  
19 MS. PORTER:  
20 Typically, they go into Fastlane. You  
21 can go in the Fastlane and see it.  
22 MS. JOHNSON:  
23 Well, right now, we don't -- I mean --  
24 CHAIRMAN JONES:  
25 I'm not talking about what we're

Page 25

7 (Pages 22 - 25)

1 proposing right now. My question is, what  
 2 will the locals get and when in the process,  
 3 is what I'm trying to clarify in my mind? May  
 4 be the same question Kyle asked, but I just  
 5 missed it.  
 6 MS. JOHNSON:  
 7 They don't officially get notice until  
 8 after.  
 9 CHAIRMAN JONES:  
 10 After what?  
 11 MS. JOHNSON:  
 12 Board approval.  
 13 CHAIRMAN JONES:  
 14 Okay.  
 15 MS. JOHNSON:  
 16 However, it would still be, you know,  
 17 viewable --  
 18 MS. PORTER:  
 19 Yeah.  
 20 MS. JOHNSON:  
 21 -- like advances are currently via  
 22 Fastlane.  
 23 MS. PORTER:  
 24 Right.  
 25 CHAIRMAN JONES:

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1 Okay. Is there any reason not to give  
 2 the locals a view of that application before  
 3 Board approval?  
 4 MS. VILLA:  
 5 Yeah, they will. So I think what Kristen  
 6 is trying to describe, and I'm sure she's  
 7 going to correct me if I'm incorrect. But  
 8 right now, because I had to get over this as  
 9 well, honestly --  
 10 MS. PORTER:  
 11 Yes, she did.  
 12 MS. VILLA:  
 13 -- is the advance, I understand the  
 14 importance of the advance notification, that  
 15 when an advance is filed, it becomes  
 16 information that locals can see; that, oh,  
 17 there's a project, and it looks like it's  
 18 going to start at this date. Right now,  
 19 that's a separate form. That information will  
 20 still be part of the project application, and  
 21 it's going to be accessible by the locals  
 22 prior to it going to the Board.  
 23 That will be part of the public  
 24 information that you'll be able to see, and  
 25 the public will be able to see, and the locals

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1 will be able to see before the application is  
 2 complete. That's a form that we'll develop  
 3 and we'll put those as public information that  
 4 can be seen at the time that it's filed.  
 5 MS. PORTER:  
 6 Correct, public information.  
 7 MS. VILLA:  
 8 And so we can trigger those specific  
 9 fields that are visible to the public and  
 10 visible to the Assessors until the complete  
 11 application is ready to present to the Board;  
 12 at which time, when it's placed on the agenda,  
 13 the whole application all becomes public,  
 14 correct.  
 15 MS. PORTER:  
 16 Yes.  
 17 MS. VILLA:  
 18 Okay.  
 19 MS. PORTER:  
 20 The important point was public  
 21 information.  
 22 MS. VILLA:  
 23 Yeah.  
 24 CHAIRMAN JONES:  
 25 Okay. This is what I'm struggling with

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1 just a little bit. I understand that it's  
 2 available and accessible.  
 3 MS. VILLA:  
 4 Uh-huh.  
 5 MS. PORTER:  
 6 Yes.  
 7 CHAIRMAN JONES:  
 8 But most public officials, and I don't  
 9 think Robbie is sitting at his computer every  
 10 day and going, okay, I'm going to go check  
 11 LED's website and see who's coming into my  
 12 Parish today.  
 13 MS. VILLA:  
 14 Right. Right.  
 15 CHAIRMAN JONES:  
 16 So my question is, is there any reason  
 17 why that application upon receipt can't be  
 18 sent to the locals upon receipt? Is there a  
 19 reason it can't be or shouldn't be?  
 20 MS. VILLA:  
 21 It would just have to be programmed to do  
 22 such. Like, who's the -- is it going to go to  
 23 the ITEP Committee? There's going to have to  
 24 be a designee. Those are --  
 25 CHAIRMAN JONES:

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1 Those are all issues we can work through.  
 2 MS. VILLA:  
 3 Yeah.  
 4 MS. PORTER:  
 5 So I think what you're saying, Gerry, is  
 6 if anything, probably to go back and think  
 7 about --  
 8 MS. VILLA:  
 9 The notification.  
 10 MS. PORTER:  
 11 Yeah. Proactively, you're saying  
 12 proactively sending something versus --  
 13 MS. JOHNSON:  
 14 I'm sorry. My question is, are you  
 15 wanting it to be sent at that point and have  
 16 them consider it then before BC&I?  
 17 CHAIRMAN JONES:  
 18 That's a fair question, fair question. I  
 19 don't know the answer.  
 20 MS. PORTER:  
 21 Yeah, because we talked about --  
 22 CHAIRMAN JONES:  
 23 I don't know the answer to the question.  
 24 MS. PORTER:  
 25 Yeah.

1 CHAIRMAN JONES:  
 2 But where I'm getting is, is I'm wary of  
 3 the public accessibility versus public notice.  
 4 That's two different things in my world. And  
 5 I get it, if anybody can go look at the  
 6 website and see what's on there, but yet we're  
 7 basically moving the burden to the locals to  
 8 police the LED website to be sure to see  
 9 what's coming their way.  
 10 It would seem to me, and I'm not married  
 11 to anything at this point because this is a  
 12 work in progress, but it seems to me that it  
 13 would make sense for, if we're trying to serve  
 14 the purpose of the advance notification, the  
 15 advance notification with the application,  
 16 that we go ahead and provide that document to  
 17 the locals upon receipt. And if -- but if  
 18 there's a reason that can't be, shouldn't be,  
 19 is too administratively difficult, then  
 20 educate me.  
 21 MS. VILLA:  
 22 Just brainstorming here since we're  
 23 having this open dialogue --  
 24 CHAIRMAN JONES:  
 25 Yeah.

1 MS. VILLA:  
 2 -- from a programmatic standpoint, from a  
 3 system standpoint, I would probably suggest  
 4 that this is done on a weekly basis instead of  
 5 something being received every day in  
 6 someone's inbox potentially, especially from  
 7 these parishes that have a lot of volume  
 8 around manufacturing projects, is that there's  
 9 a weekly report that we issue and that's  
 10 automatically sent out. Because you have a  
 11 tendency to start getting things in your inbox  
 12 and you're just going to discard it.  
 13 MS. PORTER:  
 14 And you don't see it.  
 15 MS. JOHNSON:  
 16 I will say, currently, when things are  
 17 received, the Assessors are copied via  
 18 Fastlane, but it's not, you know, every single  
 19 local body.  
 20 CHAIRMAN JONES:  
 21 Right.  
 22 MS. JOHNSON:  
 23 I'm not -- I think we need clarification  
 24 on who exactly --  
 25 CHAIRMAN JONES:

1 Okay. I've got folks who want to speak  
 2 here.  
 3 MS. JOHNSON:  
 4 Okay.  
 5 CHAIRMAN JONES:  
 6 Mr. Miller first.  
 7 MR. MILLER:  
 8 I think your point, Gerry, is definitely  
 9 founded. Big reason why I think we're here is  
 10 because the local notification has gone away.  
 11 If you go way back into the '80s, there was  
 12 always a local notification. We didn't have  
 13 all the electronics for all you young people  
 14 that don't know what it's like without the  
 15 internet, and I think that's what caused some  
 16 of the grief that we have had over the last  
 17 ten years roughly. The email weekly is  
 18 probably not a bad option.  
 19 But the -- is that the -- back to  
 20 Mr. Jones, I guess it's more discussion, is  
 21 that the notice that the Committee has to get  
 22 together or is it just so we kind of know  
 23 what's coming. And the Assessors, you could  
 24 ask the Assessors to send it to everybody.  
 25 But the reality of who has to make the

1 decision, that goes to the Parish President,  
 2 their Committee.  
 3 MS. VILLA:  
 4 Right.  
 5 MR. MILLER:  
 6 In our Parish, I'll tell you, it needs to  
 7 come to the Parish President or the Police  
 8 Jury, but it ought to be a staff around. Not  
 9 to knock Police Jury governing authority,  
 10 Police Jury President is usually a part timer,  
 11 not to knock him, but you need an  
 12 administrator sitting in the office to work on  
 13 getting that. And we'll get to that.  
 14 MS. PORTER:  
 15 That's something that we certainly can  
 16 take back and work through.  
 17 MS. VILLA:  
 18 Right.  
 19 CHAIRMAN JONES:  
 20 Mr. Moss, did you have a question?  
 21 MR. MOSS:  
 22 Yeah, I did, just a comment. I think  
 23 over the past five years that I've sat here,  
 24 that we've always struggled getting the Parish  
 25 or the Sheriff's Office or someone doesn't

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1 like to respond or just doesn't respond, maybe  
 2 they don't see the notice like Robbie is  
 3 talking about also. I would like to see them  
 4 get this right away because we keep pushing  
 5 and pushing for, we represent y'all, the  
 6 Parish, municipality, or whatever it is. If  
 7 we don't have your feedback, then all of a  
 8 sudden, we're the bad guys in this situation.  
 9 MS. VILLA:  
 10 Right.  
 11 MR. MOSS:  
 12 We want y'all to be part of this  
 13 organization and part of this decision and we  
 14 have to have it immediately; well, not  
 15 immediately, but within that time frame. And  
 16 I think that I would go with Gerry's comments,  
 17 I would consider getting it out pretty  
 18 quickly, because that way, it has time. Now,  
 19 if they fail to respond, we're back to the  
 20 same square that we were before this proposal.  
 21 MS. VILLA:  
 22 Right. And I think the notification that  
 23 the application has been received by the  
 24 Department, because we're going to have to vet  
 25 through the application process, okay, have to

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1 vet through the application to begin with.  
 2 But having a weekly report that goes out and,  
 3 you know, public information that we can do  
 4 various ways, we can send it out to those who  
 5 opt in to receive it.  
 6 MR. MOSS:  
 7 Right.  
 8 MS. VILLA:  
 9 We can also post it on our website so  
 10 that you can kind of see advance or within the  
 11 system, have that information readily  
 12 available to those in the public that are  
 13 interested.  
 14 CHAIRMAN JONES:  
 15 I guess the reason I'm focusing on this  
 16 specific issue right now is that it --  
 17 everybody is trying to figure out how to make  
 18 this 45-day window work. I get that.  
 19 MS. PORTER:  
 20 Yes.  
 21 CHAIRMAN JONES:  
 22 And I know that there's -- I think  
 23 there's some relatively easy solutions, but  
 24 that's not my job. That's the -- each Parish  
 25 is going to have to make its own

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1 determination.  
 2 MS. VILLA:  
 3 Right.  
 4 CHAIRMAN JONES:  
 5 But I think one way to ease into that is  
 6 rather than wait until Board consideration to  
 7 start, to give them the information so that  
 8 and then, immediately, the 45 days starts  
 9 running, if they have the application upon our  
 10 receipt of it or shortly within the receipt,  
 11 the LED's receipt of it, at least they know  
 12 what's going on.  
 13 MS. VILLA:  
 14 Exactly.  
 15 CHAIRMAN JONES:  
 16 And now the 45-day clock doesn't start  
 17 running until Board consideration.  
 18 MS. VILLA:  
 19 Right.  
 20 CHAIRMAN JONES:  
 21 But yet, they've got it.  
 22 MS. VILLA:  
 23 Right.  
 24 CHAIRMAN JONES:  
 25 And they do with it what they wish. They

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1 can start talking. They can start meeting  
 2 among themselves. They can do whatever they  
 3 want to in that interim period of time between  
 4 the application and the time that the 45-day  
 5 clock starts running, but that may give them  
 6 more flexibility, if you will, to ameliorate  
 7 the 45 days. That's where I'm going with that  
 8 concept.  
 9 MS. VILLA:  
 10 Right.  
 11 MS. PORTER:  
 12 Okay.  
 13 MS. VILLA:  
 14 Yeah.  
 15 CHAIRMAN JONES:  
 16 And now whether they choose to do  
 17 something with it, that's their call, but at  
 18 least they have the information.  
 19 MS. VILLA:  
 20 Okay.  
 21 CHAIRMAN JONES:  
 22 And so that's -- I just ask --  
 23 MS. PORTER:  
 24 Okay.  
 25 CHAIRMAN JONES:

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1 If there's not -- where I was going with  
 2 my question, if there's not a reason to do it,  
 3 whether it be systemic or otherwise, if we can  
 4 figure out something like that, that makes  
 5 sense to me at least.  
 6 MS. VILLA:  
 7 Yeah. Yeah.  
 8 MS. PORTER:  
 9 Okay.  
 10 MS. VILLA:  
 11 Yeah, me too.  
 12 CHAIRMAN JONES:  
 13 Okay.  
 14 MS. PORTER:  
 15 Yes, Anne was very, very cold initially.  
 16 She was. She was --  
 17 CHAIRMAN JONES:  
 18 I'm sorry?  
 19 MS. PORTER:  
 20 -- obviously until you guys had a  
 21 conversation.  
 22 MS. VILLA:  
 23 We haven't. We haven't.  
 24 MS. PORTER:  
 25 She only became -- she became warm, you

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1 know, when we started to talk about --  
 2 MS. VILLA:  
 3 Getting rid of the advance notice,  
 4 obviously, gave me a little bit of heartburn  
 5 in the beginning. But, you know, I think it's  
 6 kind of like when you eat something for the  
 7 first time, you may not like it, but you keep  
 8 eating it and you eventually, oh, I think I  
 9 like it. And that's kind of what -- it took  
 10 me a minute to get these two -- this  
 11 particular -- because it's something we have  
 12 all lived with, right, for a very long period  
 13 of time.  
 14 And but, no, I think it's a great  
 15 improvement to how we're administering today.  
 16 I think that the process is more streamlined.  
 17 I mean, you saw it, it's a 15 at minimum step  
 18 process that's going through, but behind that  
 19 is multiple forms that have to be completed  
 20 and deadlines that have to be met. And when  
 21 you miss a deadline, you get penalized and,  
 22 you know.  
 23 So trying to come up with it -- and it's  
 24 the ITEP team, these are guys who are doing it  
 25 every day. And they're like, look, we can

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1 really streamline this. And so I think what  
 2 we have presented to you all is a more  
 3 streamlined approach, less bureaucratic, less  
 4 burdensome for Industry --  
 5 MS. PORTER:  
 6 And the administrators.  
 7 MS. VILLA:  
 8 -- and the administrators and the forms.  
 9 So I think that we were able to consolidate,  
 10 you know, a lot of processes into very  
 11 specific processes in the beginning that lead  
 12 to specific deadlines; one date, not multiple  
 13 dates. So, yeah, I think it's a great  
 14 approach to it. But it's like every process,  
 15 there are improvements that can be made and  
 16 comments that we welcome and look forward to  
 17 hearing from everybody.  
 18 MS. PORTER:  
 19 Yes.  
 20 CHAIRMAN JONES:  
 21 Well, again, we're pretty early in this  
 22 process. So I mean, that's what the point of  
 23 this is, but -- and I should have said this  
 24 from the outset, I love the direction you're  
 25 going. Whether we're there yet or not, we'll

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1 see. But I think that you're -- what you are  
 2 trying to accomplish in this, I think, is  
 3 exactly at least from this Committee Member's  
 4 perspective the direction I wanted to see ITEP  
 5 go --  
 6 MS. VILLA:  
 7 Yeah.  
 8 CHAIRMAN JONES:  
 9 -- is, let's make this at least as  
 10 administratively streamlined as possible. And  
 11 then we can, you know, we can figure out, as  
 12 we work through the process, we'll figure out,  
 13 okay, what works and what doesn't work, but I  
 14 think you're on the right track.  
 15 Mr. Moss?  
 16 MR. MOSS:  
 17 Thank you, sir. Generic open question,  
 18 have y'all, the ladies right here, have y'all  
 19 received any pushback yet or any comments  
 20 about having the local ITEP Committee?  
 21 Because I've heard some that are opposed to it  
 22 being forced to have a Committee put in place.  
 23 And, Kyle, and I just spoke to him, he said  
 24 he's heard more about it also.  
 25 MS. PORTER:

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1 I -- the feedback, again, I think  
 2 everyone who did provide feedback, I didn't  
 3 receive any indication that they didn't really  
 4 want to form one, but they had questions about  
 5 administratively how does this work, what if  
 6 we want the Superintendent, but he really  
 7 doesn't want to do it? And, you know, those  
 8 questions, do we have to -- I heard a question  
 9 about, okay, we have those chosen as part of  
 10 the ITEP Committee, but do we have to get a  
 11 resolution from our organization to act at  
 12 that Committee?  
 13 And that's -- Robbie, you and I were  
 14 talking about the Home Rule Charter, I tried  
 15 to provide some guidance there, but they are  
 16 very -- those are the 90 percent of questions  
 17 that I received. So it's still kind of how  
 18 they are going to work that out.  
 19 CHAIRMAN JONES:  
 20 Let me back up. I know, in visiting with  
 21 you, that you have, and you talked about it  
 22 this morning -- or this afternoon that you had  
 23 been getting feedback.  
 24 MS. PORTER:  
 25 Yes.

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1 CHAIRMAN JONES:  
 2 Talk to me about the outreach that LED  
 3 has done and give me -- you don't have to name  
 4 everybody but an indication of kind of the  
 5 folks you've been hearing from.  
 6 MS. PORTER:  
 7 The Assessors. I made personal phone  
 8 calls to Assessors, LMA, Police Jury  
 9 President, talked with them basically to let  
 10 them know that this was not -- Sheriffs also  
 11 to let them know that we are in the beginning  
 12 stages. Their feedback, number one, was,  
 13 thank you for the call and letting us know  
 14 that this is the beginning stage and we have  
 15 the ability to provide input and this is not  
 16 the absolute;  
 17 Two, how do we work this ITEP Committee?  
 18 We're -- the main concern is making sure that  
 19 they're doing what the State expects them or  
 20 what the Governor expects them to do;  
 21 Three, I've heard, why do we even need to  
 22 do it if the Governor is going to make the  
 23 decision anyway, you know, why even put it  
 24 together if he has the final say? So that's  
 25 what I'm hearing, very good feedback, Gerry,

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1 definitive, but they do have questions.  
 2 CHAIRMAN JONES:  
 3 So the proposal that y'all have put forth  
 4 today, are those comments incorporated at  
 5 least conceptually --  
 6 MS. PORTER:  
 7 Conceptually.  
 8 CHAIRMAN JONES:  
 9 -- into this document?  
 10 MS. PORTER:  
 11 Conceptually. If you recall, we want  
 12 more time to --  
 13 CHAIRMAN JONES:  
 14 No, I -- yeah, that's my next question.  
 15 MS. PORTER:  
 16 Yes.  
 17 CHAIRMAN JONES:  
 18 That's my next question I want to get to.  
 19 I know that at the last meeting, Industry gave  
 20 us a presentation of their concepts. So  
 21 question one about this, and I don't know how  
 22 to ask the question, so just take it in the  
 23 spirit I intend it. To what extent does what  
 24 you, what LED has proposed today, to what  
 25 extent does it differ or is distinguishable

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1 from what Industry has suggested? You  
 2 understand what I'm asking?  
 3 Did you adopt some of the things that  
 4 Industry has suggested or did you ignore it?  
 5 Did you --  
 6 MS. PORTER:  
 7 No, it wasn't ignored. I think the  
 8 advance, if I'm not mistaken, you guys --  
 9 MS. JOHNSON:  
 10 Right. They were saying that was  
 11 duplicative because they were filing at the  
 12 same time as the application. So by --  
 13 MS. VILLA:  
 14 Combining.  
 15 MS. JOHNSON:  
 16 -- combining them, that gets rid of  
 17 the --  
 18 MS. VILLA:  
 19 Duplicate.  
 20 MS. PORTER:  
 21 Duplication.  
 22 MS. JOHNSON:  
 23 -- duplicate, yeah.  
 24 MS. PORTER:  
 25 I think I also heard, we need it more

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1 project driven, which is why we indicated that  
 2 you have all front end, the forms they talked  
 3 about, the different deadlines, which is why  
 4 we did the APPR, you know, and encumbered all  
 5 the forms into one and had that one deadline.  
 6 So, yes, we did take that under consideration.  
 7 CHAIRMAN JONES:  
 8 Was -- and, again, this may be an unfair  
 9 question, but was there anything in the  
 10 Industry proposal that LED disagreed with;  
 11 that you said, that won't work or we don't  
 12 like that?  
 13 MS. JOHNSON:  
 14 Well, it was the fact that the Executive  
 15 Order still said that MCAs and environmentally  
 16 required upgrades and those items wouldn't be  
 17 eligible, so we -- and they wanted to include  
 18 those. So I mean, we're not --  
 19 MS. VILLA:  
 20 We're not going to go against the  
 21 Executive Order.  
 22 MS. PORTER:  
 23 Right.  
 24 CHAIRMAN JONES:  
 25 I understand. I understand. Anything

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1 else besides those asks?  
 2 MS. VILLA:  
 3 I think the other thing was there was a  
 4 lot of confusion around the Mega projects not  
 5 being a part of the Executive Order.  
 6 MS. PORTER:  
 7 Yeah.  
 8 MS. VILLA:  
 9 And so we wanted to ensure, you know,  
 10 that they were still part of the rules because  
 11 it is still very important. So that was  
 12 another consideration that we had that was a  
 13 lot of feedback, I think, that the team  
 14 received.  
 15 MS. PORTER:  
 16 Uh-huh.  
 17 CHAIRMAN JONES:  
 18 So I guess what I'm trying to do in my  
 19 questioning, and I'm not being very -- I'm  
 20 being inept at it, I'm afraid. I'm trying to  
 21 understand how far apart LED and the Industry  
 22 proposal is. I'm trying to get a feel for  
 23 that. Because what I'm -- and this is my  
 24 perception. My perception is, obviously,  
 25 you're on the same page on streamlining.

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1 MS. PORTER:  
 2 Yes.  
 3 CHAIRMAN JONES:  
 4 And I think that there may be some  
 5 differences, but as a general rule, figure out  
 6 how to streamline. Obviously, the EO  
 7 directive on MCAs, environmental, et cetera,  
 8 et cetera, et cetera, you are observing that.  
 9 MS. PORTER:  
 10 And no advance.  
 11 CHAIRMAN JONES:  
 12 No advance, but that's part of the  
 13 streamlining --  
 14 MS. PORTER:  
 15 Okay.  
 16 MS. VILLA:  
 17 Right.  
 18 CHAIRMAN JONES:  
 19 -- in my world.  
 20 MS. PORTER:  
 21 Right.  
 22 CHAIRMAN JONES:  
 23 Because that is what this -- where we are  
 24 going to be, I think, is once we hear at our  
 25 next meeting from the remaining stakeholders,

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1 whomever they may be, having that -- that's  
 2 the reason I want to hear specific  
 3 suggestions, because we're going to have to  
 4 then start saying, okay, this is something  
 5 that we like that Industry has proposed, this  
 6 is something, LED, that we like.  
 7 MS. PORTER:  
 8 Okay.  
 9 CHAIRMAN JONES:  
 10 And we're going to have to figure out how  
 11 to make that into an amalgam of a set of  
 12 rules, and it's this Committee's job to pick  
 13 and choose.  
 14 MS. PORTER:  
 15 Right.  
 16 MS. VILLA:  
 17 Right.  
 18 CHAIRMAN JONES:  
 19 And so I need to start understanding  
 20 where the distinctions lie.  
 21 MS. PORTER:  
 22 Okay.  
 23 CHAIRMAN JONES:  
 24 Does that make sense?  
 25 MS. PORTER:

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1 It makes sense.  
 2 CHAIRMAN JONES:  
 3 Because if I don't understand where the  
 4 distinctions lie, it's going to be difficult  
 5 for me to say -- because I'm not in the weeds  
 6 on this stuff; you guys are, and I recognize  
 7 that. But we're going to need to understand  
 8 where Industry and LED differ. Similarly, I'm  
 9 going to need to know where the other  
 10 stakeholders may differ from LED and/or  
 11 Industry because I want to see that panoply of  
 12 positions, at least as this Committee Member  
 13 is. And only then can we then say, okay, I  
 14 like this, I like this --  
 15 MS. PORTER:  
 16 Okay.  
 17 CHAIRMAN JONES:  
 18 -- how do we meld it together into a  
 19 workable system? Does that communicate?  
 20 MS. JOHNSON:  
 21 Uh-huh.  
 22 MS. PORTER:  
 23 Yes.  
 24 MS. VILLA:  
 25 Uh-huh.

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1 CHAIRMAN JONES:  
 2 Okay. All right. And so I know, Robin,  
 3 you told me earlier y'all had not prepared any  
 4 kind of redline against the old rules.  
 5 MS. PORTER:  
 6 Right.  
 7 CHAIRMAN JONES:  
 8 Is that something you're working on or is  
 9 that something that I should not be wishful  
 10 for?  
 11 MS. PORTER:  
 12 Oh, you should be wishful. Yeah, of  
 13 course.  
 14 CHAIRMAN JONES:  
 15 Okay.  
 16 MS. PORTER:  
 17 Of course.  
 18 CHAIRMAN JONES:  
 19 Okay. All right. Because I -- I can't  
 20 get away from my training and that's -- words  
 21 still mean something.  
 22 MS. PORTER:  
 23 Absolutely.  
 24 MS. VILLA:  
 25 Right. And we could only take it,

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1 obviously, to a certain point without  
 2 consideration by the Rules Committee as to how  
 3 we want to proceed on these other potential  
 4 improvements. So, yes, we're working the  
 5 rules, at the same time, redlining as we go,  
 6 but we're not ready at all to present those.  
 7 CHAIRMAN JONES:  
 8 No, no, and I get that. I get that.  
 9 MS. VILLA:  
 10 Okay.  
 11 CHAIRMAN JONES:  
 12 But I want the Committee to understand  
 13 that what I foresee happening at least, and  
 14 I'm open to suggestions if there are better  
 15 ones, but what I foresee happening is that at  
 16 the meeting where we vote on these for  
 17 accepting or rejecting these rules, it will be  
 18 a redline and a clean copy.  
 19 MS. VILLA:  
 20 Right.  
 21 CHAIRMAN JONES:  
 22 I want the record to be clear what we're  
 23 changing. I want everybody to understand what  
 24 we're proposing to change. I'm going to want  
 25 the Board of Commerce, the entire Board, to be

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1 crystal clear on what we're changing so they  
2 can look at a document and say that's -- and  
3 then they're going to want a clean copy to see  
4 how it reads, you know, without all the  
5 distractions.  
6 MS. VILLA:  
7 Yeah. And one thing that I'd like to  
8 add, Gerry, as well and for, you know, the  
9 Rules Committee Members is, now that we've  
10 obviously gone through the presentation, it's  
11 now public information, is I want to hear from  
12 Industry, I would want to hear from  
13 businesses, specifically manufacturers,  
14 specifically who take and who use this  
15 incentive, this abatement, I'd like to hear  
16 from them what they think.  
17 CHAIRMAN JONES:  
18 Absolutely.  
19 MS. VILLA:  
20 So I very much encourage everyone who is  
21 out there listening, whether here in the room,  
22 is to really give us that feedback of what you  
23 think. Because I really feel from an  
24 Industry's perspective, if I were sitting as  
25 the CFO and in the CFO seat, that's basically

1 what I told my team, if I was back in private  
2 sector, I would greatly appreciate this  
3 process because it gives me defined forms that  
4 need to be filled out at specific deadlines,  
5 so I know when and what I need to do before my  
6 project starts. And then every year, I need  
7 to file a form. So it's a very easy process  
8 to follow.  
9 So that's what got me from cold to  
10 putting my seat back where I was previously at  
11 LED and saying, this is just -- should be  
12 welcomed by the businesses that are  
13 participating in the program.  
14 CHAIRMAN JONES:  
15 And it goes to my earlier comments before  
16 we really started this discussion is what I'm  
17 going to be looking for and what the  
18 Committee, I think, is going to want is any  
19 other stakeholders. And if you don't know  
20 whether you're a stakeholder, you are, you  
21 know. Stakeholder means people that bother to  
22 listen to these Committee hearings and are  
23 concerned about how this program works.  
24 MS. VILLA:  
25 Right.

1 CHAIRMAN JONES:  
2 And, again, I want -- what I'm going to  
3 be asking for is those comments probably  
4 within the next week or ten days presented to  
5 LED. You don't have to go -- you don't have  
6 to prepare this kind of presentation. Just  
7 give us your ideas, give us your concepts.  
8 MS. VILLA:  
9 Yeah.  
10 CHAIRMAN JONES:  
11 And if you've taken the time or effort to  
12 look at specific provisions of the rules and  
13 you want to provide a redline, that's fine,  
14 but don't feel like you have to do the whole  
15 rules. Just give me what you're interested  
16 in.  
17 MS. VILLA:  
18 Right.  
19 CHAIRMAN JONES:  
20 And one of things, guys, we're going to  
21 have to address because I think we heard it at  
22 the last meeting from Mr. Waguespack and  
23 others, that how this local group works.  
24 We're going to have to get some thought to  
25 help, because I don't want to be presumptuous

1 and I don't want to be patronizing, but some  
2 Parishes deal with this all the time.  
3 MS. PORTER:  
4 Yeah.  
5 CHAIRMAN JONES:  
6 They see manufacturing projects in their  
7 jurisdiction fairly regularly. Some see it  
8 once every ten years, unfortunately. They  
9 would love to see more, but they don't. And  
10 for us to expect everybody to be able to  
11 respond on a dime -- that's the reason for the  
12 45-day thing is troubling to me. For us to  
13 expect them to be able to respond on a dime  
14 is, I think, unrealistic.  
15 And so I want us to, as a Committee and  
16 as LED as well, to help, we've got to start  
17 thinking about how to help them help  
18 themselves, get that community in place. I  
19 think there are some paths forward that may  
20 work in some Parishes, may not work in other  
21 Parishes. We can't do a one size fits all,  
22 but I think we can get some recommendations  
23 and suggestions about how to do this  
24 mechanically --  
25 MS. VILLA:

1 Okay.  
2 CHAIRMAN JONES:  
3 -- so that they can respond in a timely  
4 manner because the Executive Order says, we  
5 still want to hear from you.  
6 MS. VILLA:  
7 Right.  
8 CHAIRMAN JONES:  
9 Now, we've got to figure out how they can  
10 do that within the confines of the Executive  
11 Order.  
12 Okay. Any questions from the Committee?  
13 Mr. Polozola?  
14 MR. POLOZOLA:  
15 I'm going to -- so I'm a pretty new Board  
16 Member, so some of this stuff (inaudible).  
17 This my question though, you know, in your new  
18 hybrid project application module, you're  
19 talking about fewer forms, shortened review  
20 process with a greater focus on estimates and  
21 attestations.  
22 MS. VILLA:  
23 Yeah.  
24 MR. POLOZOLA:  
25 And so my question is, how -- so if you

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1 have a big project, how do you handle now and  
2 how do you envision handling changes? You  
3 know, changes to the estimates, project gets a  
4 little bit bigger, gets more expensive, how is  
5 that handled now and how do you envision that  
6 changing during this new streamlined process?  
7 You know, is there some grace or fluidity to  
8 the process with a manufacturer that's  
9 applying for this?  
10 MS. JOHNSON:  
11 So, currently, we already understand that  
12 the costs are estimated. And as long as the  
13 project scope doesn't change, we allow it.  
14 You know, we understand that dollar values,  
15 you know, project costs run over.  
16 I think the problem right now is that  
17 people really box themselves into a project  
18 description. And when they add something that  
19 wasn't originally, you know, part of the  
20 planned project, that's where we've kind of  
21 had issues. I think the project application  
22 is more of a -- is going to be a little more  
23 broad, I would say, and allow for proper -- I  
24 don't -- I don't know exactly how to say --  
25 I'm not saying that it just allows everything,

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1 but allows for --  
2 MS. VILLA:  
3 More variations.  
4 MS. JOHNSON:  
5 Yeah.  
6 MS. PORTER:  
7 It kind of opens the scope.  
8 MS. VILLA:  
9 Right.  
10 MR. POLOZOLA:  
11 Do y'all have procedures, if you will,  
12 kind of guidelines whether they're in the  
13 written rules or in sort of internal -- I know  
14 I do a lot of work in the front of the Office  
15 of Conservation, and there's a lot of  
16 unwritten -- well, they're written, but  
17 they're -- internal policy memorandum and  
18 guide their decision making --  
19 MS. VILLA:  
20 Yeah.  
21 MR. POLOZOLA:  
22 -- for (inaudible) or something like that  
23 --  
24 MS. VILLA:  
25 Right.

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1 MR. POLOZOLA:  
2 -- in this process. But their internal  
3 procedures, I guess, that manufacturer would  
4 be nice -- it would be nice to know so that  
5 when they're formulating the application, they  
6 can make a good application, you know, so  
7 that -- I mean, I think that's part of the  
8 efficiency, because if something changes down  
9 the line, they're hand strung, you know.  
10 MS. VILLA:  
11 Right.  
12 MR. POLOZOLA:  
13 That's exactly what I think the Governor  
14 doesn't want to see as much of.  
15 MS. VILLA:  
16 Right.  
17 MR. POLOZOLA:  
18 I think he wants to see the Department  
19 cooperating with this and the process moving  
20 according to the spirit of what it's intended  
21 for, you know. So I guess my question is,  
22 what guides you and is that something that's  
23 shared with people who apply?  
24 MS. PORTER:  
25 There's currently, and correct me if I'm

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1 wrong, Kristen, the attestation clause whereby  
 2 the company attests to or affirms what the  
 3 specific project is, so that -- because we --  
 4 they know better what it is than we do. So,  
 5 you know, they are required to attest to the  
 6 fact that it's manufacturing, attest to the  
 7 fact of how is it manufacturing, and, you  
 8 know, what's a part of the project itself, so  
 9 that helps and guides us through that process.  
 10 They know better than, you know, clearly, that  
 11 we do. So -- is there anything you want to  
 12 add to attestation?  
 13 CHAIRMAN JONES:  
 14 Let me ask -- I'm sorry. Did I cut you  
 15 off?  
 16 MS. PORTER:  
 17 Well, no. No, you didn't, Gerry.  
 18 CHAIRMAN JONES:  
 19 Actually, I did, so I apologize. But let  
 20 me go to Mr. Polozola. And I think this is  
 21 something that I've had people ask me these  
 22 questions and I just don't know the answer to,  
 23 what is the purpose of the estimate, putting  
 24 the estimate in the application of the  
 25 project? I'm going to go build a

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1 manufacturing facility that's going to make  
 2 widgets, and I estimate it's going to cost  
 3 \$500 million, what is that number used for?  
 4 MS. VILLA:  
 5 Well, we have application fees, first  
 6 off. And the application fee is based upon  
 7 the benefit to be received by the applicant.  
 8 So an estimated dollar amount is used for that  
 9 purpose, as well as it puts on notice to the  
 10 community of what type of project is going to  
 11 be coming to your community.  
 12 CHAIRMAN JONES:  
 13 That's legitimate.  
 14 MS. VILLA:  
 15 So I think that's two main purposes  
 16 around there.  
 17 CHAIRMAN JONES:  
 18 What else do they use it for today?  
 19 MS. JOHNSON:  
 20 The amount of exemptions.  
 21 MS. VILLA:  
 22 Yeah, that's what I was talking about.  
 23 Yeah.  
 24 CHAIRMAN JONES:  
 25 I'm sorry?

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1 MS. VILLA:  
 2 So the amount of the exemption, the  
 3 estimate, you know, the capital expenditure  
 4 goes into the amount that's going to be  
 5 abated. And that's what I was referring to  
 6 when I said, it lets the locals know what is  
 7 potentially coming and what the potential  
 8 abatement could be.  
 9 CHAIRMAN JONES:  
 10 Okay. So let's -- excellent point.  
 11 That's really where I want to go. The  
 12 estimate gives you the ballpark.  
 13 MS. VILLA:  
 14 That's right.  
 15 CHAIRMAN JONES:  
 16 The abatement is based on --  
 17 MS. VILLA:  
 18 The actual --  
 19 CHAIRMAN JONES:  
 20 -- the assessment; not the estimate.  
 21 MS. VILLA:  
 22 That's correct.  
 23 CHAIRMAN JONES:  
 24 So the estimate doesn't determine the  
 25 abatement. It just tells the locals, you've

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1 got a project of this size or this size, big  
 2 project or little project, that's all it  
 3 really does.  
 4 MS. VILLA:  
 5 Right.  
 6 CHAIRMAN JONES:  
 7 My impression right now is that somehow  
 8 these estimates are being presently used and  
 9 it's somehow limiting the ability of the  
 10 project.  
 11 MS. JOHNSON:  
 12 That's incorrect. No one is tied to a  
 13 value. It's the project scope that's provided  
 14 in the project description.  
 15 CHAIRMAN JONES:  
 16 So it's the --  
 17 MS. JOHNSON:  
 18 Yes.  
 19 CHAIRMAN JONES:  
 20 To Mr. Polozola's point, where we need to  
 21 perhaps assist Industry is with how to develop  
 22 a scope of your project.  
 23 MS. JOHNSON:  
 24 Correct.  
 25 CHAIRMAN JONES:

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1 The estimate is an estimate.  
2 MS. VILLA:  
3 That's right.  
4 CHAIRMAN JONES:  
5 And recognizing all the things that can  
6 happen, that estimate is worth nothing more or  
7 less than just to give everybody a concept.  
8 MS. PORTER:  
9 Right, and which is a part of that  
10 attestation.  
11 CHAIRMAN JONES:  
12 Right, I agree and --  
13 MS. PORTER:  
14 When you attest to it --  
15 CHAIRMAN JONES:  
16 And I'm not going to swear under -- I  
17 will swear under penalty of perjury that I  
18 estimate this is going to cost \$500 million.  
19 MS. PORTER:  
20 No, I'm talking in the scope.  
21 CHAIRMAN JONES:  
22 But my scope, okay, my scope --  
23 MS. PORTER:  
24 Yes.  
25 CHAIRMAN JONES:

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1 -- I understand. You should not -- as  
2 Scripture says, you should not set out on a  
3 trip unless you know where you're going, you  
4 know.  
5 MS. PORTER:  
6 Yes.  
7 CHAIRMAN JONES:  
8 So, yeah, your project ought to be your  
9 project.  
10 MS. PORTER:  
11 Correct.  
12 CHAIRMAN JONES:  
13 And it's not going to turn into making  
14 widgets to making wadgets and we're not going  
15 to do that.  
16 MS. PORTER:  
17 Right.  
18 CHAIRMAN JONES:  
19 So I get all that.  
20 MS. PORTER:  
21 Right.  
22 CHAIRMAN JONES:  
23 So the estimates at the end of the day  
24 are really just --  
25 MS. JOHNSON:

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1 Estimates.  
2 CHAIRMAN JONES:  
3 They don't serve any purpose other than  
4 to tell us what ballpark we're playing in.  
5 MS. JOHNSON:  
6 Right. And so then when something actual  
7 is filed, which would be on the Annual Project  
8 Property Report, I think it's a kind of a tool  
9 we use to compare almost. Again, not tied to  
10 a dollar value but, you know, if the dollar  
11 value -- if the cap X, you know, doubles, it's  
12 kind of a red flag to say, hey, why did this  
13 double? Did your project remain the same? Is  
14 it just because --  
15 MS. VILLA:  
16 Costs.  
17 MS. JOHNSON:  
18 -- your costs ran over?  
19 CHAIRMAN JONES:  
20 Okay. But that's an important point,  
21 because the -- now, maybe the process that  
22 you're suggesting now will change this, but I  
23 know that projects begin and they come to LED  
24 before they begin permitting.  
25 MS. JOHNSON:

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1 Right.  
2 MS. PORTER:  
3 Yes.  
4 CHAIRMAN JONES:  
5 Before they begin raising money, perhaps.  
6 They want to -- they need to know, am I going  
7 to be welcomed in the State of Louisiana, yes  
8 or no; is the government going to consider me  
9 for an incentive, yes or no; and that's  
10 usually one of the first questions they want  
11 answered rather than one of the last ones.  
12 Okay.  
13 So to your point, Ms. Johnson, I need  
14 affirmation as well, to your point, I may  
15 start this project with the idea that I'm  
16 going to build a \$500 million building. But  
17 by that time I get through my permitting and I  
18 realize, oh, my gosh, I've got 500 acres of  
19 wetlands I've got to mitigate at a cost of  
20 10,000 an acre, you know; and now, all of a  
21 sudden, my cost is -- it could -- it's not  
22 unusual for a project --  
23 MS. JOHNSON:  
24 Right.  
25 CHAIRMAN JONES:

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1 I worked on one project that the  
2 estimate, the initial estimate was  
3 \$750 million and it ended up being \$1.85  
4 billion.  
5 MS. VILLA:  
6 Yeah.  
7 CHAIRMAN JONES:  
8 Now either they were really bad at  
9 estimating or things changed in the project.  
10 MS. VILLA:  
11 Yeah.  
12 CHAIRMAN JONES:  
13 And what I don't want to see happen, and  
14 I get it that we need to know what the scope  
15 is, but I don't want bad estimating to be a  
16 problem because an estimate is only an  
17 estimate.  
18 MS. VILLA:  
19 Exactly right.  
20 CHAIRMAN JONES:  
21 Okay.  
22 MR. POLOZOLA:  
23 So in that scenario where you had the  
24 project costs estimated tremendously well  
25 beyond, how is that handled?

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1 MS. VILLA:  
2 Yeah, that's been in place for a very  
3 long time. So it's not anything unusual for  
4 the applicant, because we've seen that happen  
5 and we've had to bill them the difference.  
6 CHAIRMAN JONES:  
7 Okay. Mr. Miller?  
8 MR. MILLER:  
9 So to switch focus a little bit to the  
10 project description, so we're going -- we put  
11 in our, whatever form it is to say that we're  
12 going to build widgets and spend \$100 million.  
13 And while we're working on our prototype, we  
14 realize that one of the, what we thought was  
15 trash has become a gidget instead. So if we  
16 add some manufacturing to get this, we can  
17 make it at \$150 million. Now, I've changed my  
18 scope because I'm manufacturing a widget and a  
19 gidget, how do we handle that? How do we  
20 handle it today, and how do we handle it in  
21 the new form?  
22 MS. VILLA:  
23 So I guess my question is, are you adding  
24 anything to the manufacturing process to now  
25 manufacture a gidget versus a widget?

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1 MS. JOHNSON:  
2 As long as the project scope remains the  
3 same, it's still eligible because that's  
4 what -- the project is what applied for the  
5 exemption.  
6 MS. VILLA:  
7 Project based.  
8 MS. PORTER:  
9 Yeah, project driven.  
10 CHAIRMAN JONES:  
11 Good.  
12 Mr. Miller?  
13 MS. VILLA:  
14 And the good accountant in me would also  
15 say that, for whatever reason, if you hadn't  
16 maxed out your application fee, and your  
17 project costs now is more than what you  
18 originally anticipated and the application fee  
19 should have been the max versus the min, then  
20 LED will bill you for the max. Because at the  
21 end of the day, the application fee is based  
22 on the benefit to be received by the  
23 applicant, and we do that today, right?  
24 MS. JOHNSON:  
25 Right.

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1 MR. MILLER:  
2 I'm going to make them both because of  
3 the --  
4 MS. VILLA:  
5 But it's the same machinery you're using?  
6 You're not --  
7 MR. MILLER:  
8 No, you probably have to add some  
9 machinery.  
10 MS. VILLA:  
11 Okay. So then you need to add -- because  
12 it's going to be another project, because now  
13 you have --  
14 MR. MILLER:  
15 Well, it's all being built at the same  
16 time because I can do --  
17 MS. VILLA:  
18 That's fine, but it's a different piece  
19 of equipment. Sounds like it's a different  
20 piece of equipment.  
21 MR. MILLER:  
22 It could be, yeah. And in my thought, I  
23 was saying, yes, it's different, so it would  
24 be a different project.  
25 MS. VILLA:

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1 So I think if it's a different --  
 2 MR. MILLER:  
 3 And I see a whole bunch of heads bouncing  
 4 around back there.  
 5 MS. VILLA:  
 6 I think it's a case we need to know what  
 7 actually is going to occur. So if there is a  
 8 different piece of equipment that wasn't part  
 9 of the process to begin with, and now it's --  
 10 MR. MILLER:  
 11 But I've already started.  
 12 MS. VILLA:  
 13 Hang on a second. But you're going to  
 14 have a new product derivative and you have  
 15 this piece of equipment, then I think it's a  
 16 different project because you have a new  
 17 product that you're producing, but you didn't  
 18 produce before. So that wouldn't be like a  
 19 miscellaneous capital addition or anything  
 20 like that.  
 21 MR. MILLER:  
 22 No, it's a new -- it's a --  
 23 MS. VILLA:  
 24 It's a new -- so you have to -- it didn't  
 25 sound like it was a byproduct to me. It

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1 sounded like you had to use another piece of  
 2 equipment.  
 3 MS. JOHNSON:  
 4 It sounds like there was a byproduct and  
 5 then he found a use for the byproduct --  
 6 MR. MILLER:  
 7 That's right.  
 8 MS. JOHNSON:  
 9 -- and there was another project. So  
 10 that would --  
 11 MS. VILLA:  
 12 Be another project.  
 13 MS. JOHNSON:  
 14 -- be another project, another contract.  
 15 MS. VILLA:  
 16 You have more assets.  
 17 MR. MILLER:  
 18 Even though it's going to be inside the  
 19 same building?  
 20 MS. JOHNSON:  
 21 Currently, there are multiple contracts  
 22 at --  
 23 MS. VILLA:  
 24 Same sites.  
 25 MS. JOHNSON:

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1 -- same sites.  
 2 CHAIRMAN JONES:  
 3 Yeah, that's -- I got a yes and a no.  
 4 MS. VILLA:  
 5 That's why we look at it on a case by  
 6 case basis.  
 7 CHAIRMAN JONES:  
 8 All right. So with this new process, I  
 9 want to walk back through the Annual Project  
 10 Property Report. I want to be sure I  
 11 understand how you perceive that working. Let  
 12 me tell you what I understand, what I think I  
 13 understood you to say and you tell me if I'm  
 14 on the right track or not. The way I  
 15 understood you to explain it is that this APPR  
 16 will be filed every March 31st will take the  
 17 place of all these other forms that have been  
 18 filed throughout the year.  
 19 MS. PORTER:  
 20 Yes.  
 21 MS. JOHNSON:  
 22 Yes, sir.  
 23 CHAIRMAN JONES:  
 24 And when the Project Status Report,  
 25 Phased Applications, the Affidavit of Final

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1 Costs, this APPR will replace all of those.  
 2 MS. JOHNSON:  
 3 Yes, sir.  
 4 MS. PORTER:  
 5 That's what we propose.  
 6 CHAIRMAN JONES:  
 7 I'm sorry?  
 8 MS. PORTER:  
 9 That's what we propose, yes.  
 10 MR. MILLER:  
 11 The deadline?  
 12 CHAIRMAN JONES:  
 13 March 31st of every year.  
 14 MS. JOHNSON:  
 15 Yes, we have been encountering -- with  
 16 front-end applications currently under the  
 17 current process, as assets go into service  
 18 when they're operational or usable, they're  
 19 required to file Phase Applications, you know,  
 20 by March 31st. However, people don't  
 21 understand that or, you know, didn't file  
 22 their Annual Project Status Report for us by  
 23 December 31st, so a lot of people are missing  
 24 deadlines; therefore, missing out on exemption  
 25 on parts of their overall project. By

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1 requiring something to be filed every single  
2 year, I think that would remove that confusion  
3 just so that, you know, whether you have  
4 something operational or usable or not, you're  
5 filing something.  
6 MS. PORTER:  
7 Each year.  
8 CHAIRMAN JONES:  
9 That, again, I've slept since then, but  
10 my memory from what Mr. Leonard presented at  
11 the last meeting is that Industry proposed  
12 something very similar to this.  
13 MR. LEONARD:  
14 Correct.  
15 CHAIRMAN JONES:  
16 Is that --  
17 MS. JOHNSON:  
18 I think my understanding was anything  
19 they had done in the previous year would be  
20 filed annually, but this would be specific to  
21 the project application to which you're  
22 filing.  
23 CHAIRMAN JONES:  
24 So each application would have a separate  
25 filing?

1 I think if they haven't filed, we  
2 wouldn't even be bringing it to you.  
3 CHAIRMAN JONES:  
4 So the renewal, that would be a renewal  
5 -- they haven't earned the right to renew  
6 because they didn't file the form.  
7 MS. JOHNSON:  
8 That's what we're --  
9 CHAIRMAN JONES:  
10 So the form has become pretty important,  
11 but it's only one form versus --  
12 MS. PORTER:  
13 It's one form versus all the --  
14 MS. JOHNSON:  
15 Exactly.  
16 MS. PORTER:  
17 Yes.  
18 CHAIRMAN JONES:  
19 Okay. I'm wrapping my head around it.  
20 Okay. Okay. All right. That's all I've got,  
21 guys.  
22 Any other questions from the Committee?  
23 MR. MOSS:  
24 I do.  
25 CHAIRMAN JONES:

1 MS. JOHNSON:  
2 Yes.  
3 MS. VILLA:  
4 Yes.  
5 CHAIRMAN JONES:  
6 Okay. Got it. Okay. Renewal  
7 application, APPR is required to be filed for  
8 all project construction years in order to  
9 renew. So you're saying that the timely  
10 filing of the APPR has become a condition to  
11 renew, is that your concept?  
12 MS. JOHNSON:  
13 Yeah. Because right now, you have to  
14 have your AFC and PCR filed before you can  
15 renew.  
16 CHAIRMAN JONES:  
17 So this -- so, basically, we get to the  
18 end of the five years if -- now, I'm sitting  
19 at the Board level, you'll come to me and say,  
20 okay, Board, ABC company has -- they're up for  
21 their -- filed their, timely filed their  
22 renewal application, and your only report to  
23 me will be they have timely filed all APPRs  
24 during the initial term; is that --  
25 MS. JOHNSON:

1 Mr. Moss, there you go.  
2 MR. MOSS:  
3 I know this isn't in the specific rules  
4 and everything, but there was a question, and  
5 I do wish to point out since it is a very hot  
6 topic in Louisiana. I have six of the people  
7 from Cameron Parish with us here today from  
8 the DA, to the Court and the Sheriff, they're  
9 all here. And when you're dealing, and that's  
10 in Southwest Louisiana, which is where I'm  
11 covering, so there was a question posed the  
12 other day to me which had me question, and I  
13 spoke to you about it, Ms. Porter, but I would  
14 like to put it on the record.  
15 MS. PORTER:  
16 Yes.  
17 MR. MOSS:  
18 Is there anything that the Governor's  
19 Office or the State could look to do to such a  
20 small parish with limited amount of funds as  
21 far as trying to help offset some of the costs  
22 that they're going to incur for extra police,  
23 extra teachers, extra fire department, just  
24 anything down there?  
25 And then the infrastructure when you're

1 having a Mega project like Venture Global or  
 2 one of those coming up down there, what could  
 3 the Governor's office or the State possibly do  
 4 to help offset these charges? Yes, they're  
 5 getting 20 percent, I understand.  
 6 MS. PORTER:  
 7 I was about to ask that, right.  
 8 MR. MOSS:  
 9 They're getting the 20 percent. But when  
 10 you're dealing with a parish of 5,000 people  
 11 or less, they have limited resources.  
 12 MS. VILLA:  
 13 Right.  
 14 MR. MOSS:  
 15 So, yes, do they appreciate the projects?  
 16 Absolutely, and it's putting people to work.  
 17 But at the same time, it's draining their  
 18 coffers for five to ten years before they  
 19 really start recouping any of that 80 percent  
 20 back. The 20 percent is appreciative, but  
 21 what can we do to help them? And that's  
 22 something that I don't think is going to be  
 23 just generic to Cameron Parish, but right now  
 24 out further with the Biden pause on all the  
 25 LNG facilities, you know, their epicenter is

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1 right there. That's them, and they're dealing  
 2 with all these projects and they've got a  
 3 couple on hold.  
 4 And so when this pause gets lifted, and  
 5 I'm saying that out loud, when that pause gets  
 6 lifted --  
 7 MS. PORTER:  
 8 Right.  
 9 MR. MOSS:  
 10 -- then we need to see what we can do to  
 11 possibly help these people.  
 12 MS. PORTER:  
 13 Okay.  
 14 MR. MOSS:  
 15 And I'd like -- I know you've got to  
 16 bring it back to the Governor's office, but  
 17 I'd just like it on record that, love the  
 18 employment, love the expansion of jobs and  
 19 wages, but how do we help protect them because  
 20 --  
 21 MS. VILLA:  
 22 Until such time that they start receiving  
 23 the coffers.  
 24 MR. MOSS:  
 25 Yes, ma'am.

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1 MS. VILLA:  
 2 Okay. Thank you.  
 3 MS. PORTER:  
 4 Appreciate the feedback.  
 5 CHAIRMAN JONES:  
 6 Mr. Miller?  
 7 MR. MILLER:  
 8 A little bit on that same note because it  
 9 really does match, especially the LNGs, I  
 10 presume they're Mega projects. What's the  
 11 definition? You know, I'm sure I probably  
 12 should know it, but I don't.  
 13 MS. VILLA:  
 14 So that is one thing that we're  
 15 contemplating, because the definition -- first  
 16 off, the Mega language, there's no more jobs  
 17 associated with it in ITEP. So I believe the  
 18 previous language was 500 million, 500 jobs,  
 19 if I'm not mistaken; I can be, but I think we  
 20 followed the same rule that LED has as far as  
 21 a Mega project fund use, which is 500/500.  
 22 But those were all things that were decided  
 23 many, many, many years, if not decades ago.  
 24 MR. MILLER:  
 25 Although 500 sounds like a lot, in

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1 today's world --  
 2 MS. JOHNSON:  
 3 It's actually only 100.  
 4 MS. VILLA:  
 5 One hundred jobs?  
 6 MS. JOHNSON:  
 7 No, 100 million.  
 8 MS. VILLA:  
 9 One hundred million. Oh, in this --  
 10 okay, that's the other program. But so we're  
 11 looking at that, right, to determine what's  
 12 the best, you know, term of Mega, what's going  
 13 to constitute a Mega project.  
 14 MR. MILLER:  
 15 Because on --  
 16 MS. VILLA:  
 17 I mean a Mega project in one parish could  
 18 be 50 million.  
 19 MR. MILLER:  
 20 Yes, true.  
 21 MS. VILLA:  
 22 Exactly.  
 23 MR. MILLER:  
 24 And on the LNG, it's not -- even though  
 25 it qualifies as a Mega project, it's not

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1 20 percent, it's seven.  
2 MR. MOSS:  
3 I was looking --  
4 MS. VILLA:  
5 Right. That's exactly right.  
6 MR. MILLER:  
7 So it changes it dramatically.  
8 MS. VILLA:  
9 Yeah. So we are looking to define what's  
10 going to constitute a Mega project.  
11 MR. MILLER:  
12 Thank you.  
13 CHAIRMAN JONES:  
14 Since we're going there -- before I do  
15 that, Ms. Ardoin?  
16 MS. ARDOIN:  
17 Sure. Yes. Okay. So I am new to the  
18 Committee, just as Mr. Polozola, so if I  
19 should know this, I apologize. But are we  
20 adding LWC or have they always been involved?  
21 MS. PORTER:  
22 Adding.  
23 MS. ARDOIN:  
24 Can you help me understand?  
25 MS. JOHNSON:

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1 We're adding it because this is a program  
2 for manufacturers. And right now, the NAICS  
3 code is self-reported and there's no way for  
4 us to verify that that's their actual NAICS  
5 code or what's assigned by LWC, so that would  
6 help us.  
7 MS. ARDOIN:  
8 So they're basically checking the code?  
9 MS. JOHNSON:  
10 Right.  
11 MS. PORTER:  
12 Yes.  
13 MS. ARDOIN:  
14 Thank you.  
15 CHAIRMAN JONES:  
16 I'm so glad you asked that question  
17 because it raised another question for me. As  
18 --  
19 MS. ARDOIN:  
20 Sorry.  
21 CHAIRMAN JONES:  
22 No, no, no. These are things that we  
23 need to hash out here.  
24 MS. PORTER:  
25 Right.

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1 CHAIRMAN JONES:  
2 So you've got NAICS codes, but you've  
3 also got the constitutional definition of  
4 manufacturing, which as painful as it is to  
5 read, it's still there. And to me, it's  
6 possible that you may not have a manufacturing  
7 NAICS code, but yet could somehow be --  
8 MS. VILLA:  
9 Correct.  
10 CHAIRMAN JONES:  
11 -- to me, the definition of manufacturing  
12 under the constitution.  
13 MS. VILLA:  
14 Right.  
15 MS. JOHNSON:  
16 I don't think the idea is to exclude them  
17 if they don't have a manufacturing NAICS code,  
18 it's more of a verification.  
19 CHAIRMAN JONES:  
20 It's a shortcut. I get it.  
21 MS. JOHNSON:  
22 Right.  
23 CHAIRMAN JONES:  
24 And I agree with that, frankly. I think  
25 it's a good idea. But my question becomes,

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1 assuming -- I've had in my -- my mental model  
2 has been, if you've got an entity that doesn't  
3 have a manufacturing NAICS code, but yet they  
4 somehow believe they fit the definition of  
5 manufacturing, then theoretically they could  
6 come to the Board, make the case, and let the  
7 Board decide. Now the problem with that is,  
8 it obviously adds some subjectivity to the  
9 process. And as I've told you all, I want to  
10 minimize subjectivity to the degree we can.  
11 MS. PORTER:  
12 Yeah.  
13 CHAIRMAN JONES:  
14 But I don't know any other way to thread  
15 that needle. Has anybody smarter than me  
16 figured out a better way?  
17 MS. JOHNSON:  
18 I mean the Board can specifically state  
19 which NAICS codes they want included.  
20 CHAIRMAN JONES:  
21 No, what I'm saying is they may not have  
22 a NAICS code, but yet they may believe they  
23 fit the definition of --  
24 MS. JOHNSON:  
25 Right.

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23 (Pages 86 - 89)

1 MS. PORTER:  
 2 Of manufacturing.  
 3 CHAIRMAN JONES:  
 4 -- of manufacturing. And so it's their  
 5 job to come in then and prove or make the case  
 6 to the Board of Industry that they should be  
 7 considered a manufacturer.  
 8 MS. VILLA:  
 9 Yeah. We have had that happen today  
 10 where they don't have an assigned NAICS code  
 11 or they didn't provide a NAICS code of a  
 12 manufacturer, but there's a component of their  
 13 operation that is manufacturing. So that  
 14 component of their operations is eligible for  
 15 an abatement.  
 16 CHAIRMAN JONES:  
 17 Okay. All right.  
 18 MS. VILLA:  
 19 So we deal with that today.  
 20 CHAIRMAN JONES:  
 21 Okay. Okay. We're on the same page  
 22 then. Okay. Now, I forgot my -- oh, no, no.  
 23 Okay. Good. So you've got Mega projects. On  
 24 the other end of the spectrum, you've got  
 25 small projects.

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1 MS. VILLA:  
 2 That's right.  
 3 CHAIRMAN JONES:  
 4 And I personally believe, as y'all have  
 5 heard me say it to your group, is I would  
 6 rather than have one facility with 800 jobs, I  
 7 would rather have ten facilities with 80 jobs  
 8 or 80 facilities with ten jobs each. Because  
 9 to me, the smaller the manufacturing facility  
 10 you have, the more of those you have, the more  
 11 diversity you have in your economy, and the  
 12 less likelihood that all of those are going to  
 13 shut down at the same time.  
 14 MS. VILLA:  
 15 Totally agree.  
 16 CHAIRMAN JONES:  
 17 So I would like to see us consider the  
 18 possibility for a small project, what I'm  
 19 going to call, euphemistically, the mom and  
 20 pop projects. They may only be a \$10 million  
 21 manufacturing facility, but they're going to  
 22 produce five or six jobs, but that extra  
 23 20 percent might be really important to them  
 24 to be able to make the financial model work.  
 25 I would love to be able to see at least the

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1 opportunity for them to go to the locals and  
 2 make the case.  
 3 Let the locals decide, I get that, but  
 4 let the locals decide whether they want to  
 5 grant an extra 20 percent exemption. I'm  
 6 going to put that on the table.  
 7 MS. JOHNSON:  
 8 I just want to point out that, that would  
 9 be pulling jobs, and jobs --  
 10 MS. VILLA:  
 11 Aren't part of the --  
 12 MS. JOHNSON:  
 13 We aren't pulling job compliance back  
 14 into it for us to be able to verify the sizes  
 15 of these companies.  
 16 CHAIRMAN JONES:  
 17 All depends on how you write it. All  
 18 depends on how you write it.  
 19 Mr. Miller?  
 20 MR. MILLER:  
 21 As local government, I appreciate that  
 22 input. And for the most part, I'll say that  
 23 the ugly word, pilot, and they can do a pilot  
 24 and do whatever they want to do with it.  
 25 MS. VILLA:

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1 And I don't think that's an ugly word to  
 2 use, quite frankly.  
 3 MR. MILLER:  
 4 I know, but sometimes it gets a little --  
 5 MS. VILLA:  
 6 No, I think that's another tool that, as  
 7 economic developers, we have in our toolbox.  
 8 Because, you know, as someone a lot smarter  
 9 than me explained to me, the purpose of a  
 10 pilot, Anne, is that it can go beyond the ten  
 11 years.  
 12 MR. MILLER:  
 13 Right.  
 14 MS. VILLA:  
 15 It can go to industries that aren't  
 16 manufacturers. And if we truly want to  
 17 diversify our economy in the State of  
 18 Louisiana, there's other industries besides  
 19 manufacturing. They have a great multiplier,  
 20 don't get me wrong, but the pilot has a  
 21 specific purpose. So as an economic  
 22 developer, we need to use it when it works  
 23 better in that for that specific project than  
 24 this does.  
 25 MR. MILLER:

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1 And I'll tell you, the truth of the  
 2 matter is, it became much more popular in  
 3 2016.  
 4 MS. VILLA:  
 5 I totally understand. Yeah.  
 6 CHAIRMAN JONES:  
 7 Okay. What happened in 2016? I missed  
 8 it.  
 9 MR. MILLER:  
 10 The previous administration.  
 11 MS. VILLA:  
 12 Yeah, so I don't consider -- so the point  
 13 is, I don't think any of us consider it an  
 14 ugly word.  
 15 MR. MILLER:  
 16 Okay. Thank you.  
 17 CHAIRMAN JONES:  
 18 All right. And, look, I don't disagree  
 19 with any of that discussion.  
 20 MS. VILLA:  
 21 Yeah.  
 22 CHAIRMAN JONES:  
 23 But, again, to your point of having  
 24 putting as many bullets in your belt as  
 25 possible, I'd like to have both hands.

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1 Because the truth is, not every bank likes the  
 2 idea of a local government owning the facility  
 3 during the pilot.  
 4 MS. VILLA:  
 5 Totally agree. Exactly.  
 6 CHAIRMAN JONES:  
 7 That's a financing issue.  
 8 MS. VILLA:  
 9 That's right.  
 10 CHAIRMAN JONES:  
 11 Some banks are okay with it, some banks  
 12 are not.  
 13 MS. VILLA:  
 14 Right.  
 15 CHAIRMAN JONES:  
 16 And so, to me, if you can have -- if a  
 17 pilot is an option, great.  
 18 MS. VILLA:  
 19 Right.  
 20 CHAIRMAN JONES:  
 21 If ITEP is an option and I can go to my  
 22 locals and convince them to waive the extra 20  
 23 percent, I would love for us to consider that  
 24 as a possibility.  
 25 MS. VILLA:

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1 Right.  
 2 CHAIRMAN JONES:  
 3 And, to me, from the Governor's  
 4 perspective, I heard throughout his campaign  
 5 small business, small business, small  
 6 business, and that's who I'm talking about  
 7 right now.  
 8 MS. VILLA:  
 9 That would be great. Totally agree.  
 10 MS. PORTER:  
 11 So, Gerry, for the small business, you're  
 12 saying a hundred percent exemption for ten  
 13 years?  
 14 CHAIRMAN JONES:  
 15 Potential with local approval.  
 16 MS. VILLA:  
 17 For the local to approve. Okay.  
 18 MR. MILLER:  
 19 The locals could actually propose it  
 20 maybe.  
 21 CHAIRMAN JONES:  
 22 I don't know, but I want us to think  
 23 about that --  
 24 MS. VILLA:  
 25 It's great feedback.

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1 CHAIRMAN JONES:  
 2 I want us to think about that because I  
 3 think it sends a message that, you know, we're  
 4 -- and the truth is, for the small -- the  
 5 smaller the entity, the less impact on the  
 6 locals that is going, at least in my -- and I  
 7 may be thinking about it wrong, but I want --  
 8 I want that idea to be out there, and it's a  
 9 bad idea. The Committee can vote it down, the  
 10 Board can vote it down, or the Governor can  
 11 vote it down, but I'd like us to consider  
 12 that.  
 13 MS. VILLA:  
 14 Okay. No, I mean that's -- I think  
 15 that's the purpose is that we get all the  
 16 great feedback ideas that we can bring forth  
 17 and go through. And one thing that I've just  
 18 heard just, you know, I don't think it was any  
 19 specific feedback just in discussions like we  
 20 all have with stakeholders is that that's one  
 21 thing that they feel or one small  
 22 manufacturers were greatly impacted by the  
 23 previous EO. And they feel as though they are  
 24 ones that are just like, I'm just not going to  
 25 deal with it, so I'm not going to go after the

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1 abatement. We should never have something so  
 2 burdensome that an applicant that's eligible  
 3 for something doesn't go out and get it.  
 4 CHAIRMAN JONES:  
 5 I agree. I agree.  
 6 MS. VILLA:  
 7 Yeah. Agreed.  
 8 CHAIRMAN JONES:  
 9 Right. Any other questions or comments  
 10 from the Board?  
 11 MR. MOSS:  
 12 I have one just to follow up on  
 13 something.  
 14 CHAIRMAN JONES:  
 15 Mr. Moss?  
 16 MR. MOSS:  
 17 Something to bring back when I sent back  
 18 and checked out notes from the meeting I had  
 19 with Kim Monti from the Cameron Parish Port  
 20 for the Governor on doing some type of help  
 21 back to the community, to the Parish or  
 22 whatever, some type of exemption or reduction  
 23 on the rate of the State sales tax, could they  
 24 exempt some of that possibly for that Parish  
 25 at that time that a Mega project or just one

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1 of the regular projects is going on? That  
 2 would be something the State could possibly  
 3 contribute. It's just a question, Ms. Porter.  
 4 I don't think anybody has an answer.  
 5 MS. VILLA:  
 6 Right.  
 7 MS. PORTER:  
 8 Right.  
 9 MR. MOSS:  
 10 But that was just an area where the State  
 11 would have control over that, it could be at  
 12 least exempted back to them.  
 13 MS. VILLA:  
 14 Oh, exempted back to them.  
 15 MR. MOSS:  
 16 Yes, ma'am.  
 17 MS. VILLA:  
 18 Okay. Okay. Thank you.  
 19 MR. MOSS:  
 20 And that would help with their payments  
 21 if the sales tax is there.  
 22 MS. VILLA:  
 23 Right.  
 24 MR. MOSS:  
 25 If we even reduced it, then they get more

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1 money into their coffers to help offset it.  
 2 Again, I'm not sitting up here representing  
 3 the whole State, but I'm facing Cameron Parish  
 4 right now with everything going on.  
 5 MS. VILLA:  
 6 Right.  
 7 MR. MOSS:  
 8 So we're trying to figure out what's best  
 9 for them. Because when these other LNGs come  
 10 on or whatever manufacturer they bring in,  
 11 it's going to be quite burdensome on them.  
 12 MS. PORTER:  
 13 Okay.  
 14 MR. MOSS:  
 15 That's it.  
 16 CHAIRMAN JONES:  
 17 Yes, sir. Anything else?  
 18 Okay. Here's where we are: What -- we  
 19 have our next meeting for this group. I  
 20 traded emails with Ms. Porter earlier in the  
 21 day as to what LED's availability is, and I  
 22 think the earliest that we can have LED  
 23 participate is August the 12th. And so I  
 24 would ask the Committee to take a look at your  
 25 calendars and see if August 12th is a -- so

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1 I'm hearing the morning of August the 12th.  
 2 Is that a possibility for the remaining  
 3 Committee Members?  
 4 MS. ARDOIN:  
 5 Yes.  
 6 CHAIRMAN JONES:  
 7 Is it?  
 8 MR. MOSS:  
 9 Yes.  
 10 CHAIRMAN JONES:  
 11 Ms. Ardoin, I know those sighs.  
 12 MS. ARDOIN:  
 13 It's fine. It's fine. Only week off  
 14 from teaching but, no, it's fine. It's fine.  
 15 CHAIRMAN JONES:  
 16 Don't worry. I don't want to take your  
 17 vacation away from you.  
 18 MS. VILLA:  
 19 No, I mean I don't want to -- I know that  
 20 y'all spoke earlier, but when is the next  
 21 Board meeting? Is the 20 --  
 22 CHAIRMAN JONES:  
 23 The 26th.  
 24 MS. VILLA:  
 25 The 26th or something like that?

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1 CHAIRMAN JONES:  
2 Toward the end of the month.  
3 MS. VILLA:  
4 So if we, I mean, considering potential  
5 conflicts, it sounds like, what about the  
6 following Monday or Tuesday of the following  
7 week? I mean, because then we'll still have  
8 -- no, that's still bad?  
9 MS. ARDOIN:  
10 That's a no go for me.  
11 MS. VILLA:  
12 Okay.  
13 MS. ARDOIN:  
14 The 12th is fine.  
15 MS. VILLA:  
16 Okay. Great.  
17 CHAIRMAN JONES:  
18 So the next meeting will be August 12th,  
19 which segues into --  
20 MS. PORTER:  
21 They're going to have to look for, you  
22 know, also availability.  
23 CHAIRMAN JONES:  
24 I'm sure there's a room some place in  
25 Baton Rouge.

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1 MS. SIMMONS:  
2 We have the LaBelle Room.  
3 MS. PORTER:  
4 Okay.  
5 CHAIRMAN JONES:  
6 Excellent.  
7 MS. VILLA:  
8 Perfect.  
9 CHAIRMAN JONES:  
10 Ms. Simmons comes to the rescue. Thank  
11 you.  
12 MR. MOSS:  
13 Mr. Chairman?  
14 CHAIRMAN JONES:  
15 Yes, Mr. Moss?  
16 MR. MOSS:  
17 Before you make your move for the next  
18 meeting to adjourn, I would like to take a --  
19 everybody in this room is important.  
20 Everybody's comments are important to us. But  
21 I probably stuck my neck out there some, and  
22 the DA sitting right in front of me would like  
23 to make a couple of comments to the Board if  
24 you would allow that?  
25 CHAIRMAN JONES:

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1 No, absolutely. Absolutely.  
2 MS. VILLA:  
3 He can come up.  
4 MR. MOSS:  
5 District Attorney Tommy Barrett for  
6 Cameron Parish, and he's got his whole  
7 entourage with him. Thank you, sir.  
8 MR. BARRETT:  
9 Mr. Moss, thank you.  
10 CHAIRMAN JONES:  
11 State your name and your position,  
12 please.  
13 MR. BARRETT:  
14 Yes, sir. Tom Barrett, District Attorney  
15 for Cameron Parish, appreciate the indulgence.  
16 Maybe I wasn't supposed to speak today, and  
17 I'll try to be back on the 12th. Excellent  
18 questions, commend your staff on what they've  
19 put together here. I have a lot of notes.  
20 I'll try to streamline it.  
21 One question, why local committees? I  
22 know some jurisdictions probably don't care  
23 what happens on ITEPs, but obviously Cameron  
24 does. So it is important to have this local  
25 Committee. I think the makeup, Cameron Parish

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1 is fine with the makeup. It's pretty  
2 consistent with what you had before, it just  
3 streamlines it, which is, again fine. But it  
4 is important to have local input --  
5 MS. PORTER:  
6 Yeah.  
7 MR. BARRETT:  
8 -- to the extent locals want to give  
9 input. They don't want to, you know, they  
10 don't have to hear from you, but I think it is  
11 important to have a voice. And although it is  
12 a recommendation, I trust that this Board and  
13 the Governor will, you know, listen to those  
14 recommendations, just like he's listening to  
15 Industry and probably your staff and why we're  
16 all here today to try to make this process  
17 better. So we appreciate that.  
18 The idea of notice, and that was a great  
19 point, and I had some notes. So to me, I see  
20 that it could be accomplished when the  
21 application is made, the jurisdiction, local  
22 is put a notice. Doesn't trigger any  
23 obligations to do anything, except that now we  
24 know and we can start considering what our  
25 options are or what we may want to do. But

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27 (Pages 102 - 105)

1 then when it gets to the Board's agenda and  
 2 the 45-day, keep that in place as well. But  
 3 the initial notice, that can be very simple,  
 4 just shoot those emails. Maybe put something  
 5 in your programming that the local  
 6 jurisdictions can sign up for notice. And so  
 7 those who want to be notified will be notified  
 8 immediately. Simple, to me, programming.  
 9 MR. POLOZOLA:  
 10 I have a question.  
 11 MR. BARRETT:  
 12 Sure.  
 13 MR. POLOZOLA:  
 14 So do you think that that would help  
 15 speed up the process for your Parish later in  
 16 that 45-day window?  
 17 MR. BARRETT:  
 18 Oh, absolutely.  
 19 MR. POLOZOLA:  
 20 Having the notice on the front-end, even  
 21 if it's just a heads up notice?  
 22 MR. BARRETT:  
 23 Sure.  
 24 MR. POLOZOLA:  
 25 Do you think it would maybe build

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1 efficiencies into the 45-day consideration  
 2 period?  
 3 MR. BARRETT:  
 4 In my opinion, yes, absolutely.  
 5 MR. POLOZOLA:  
 6 Okay.  
 7 MR. BARRETT:  
 8 All right. So, primarily, in Cameron  
 9 Parish, we have a Police Jury, we have no  
 10 municipalities. Everything -- the Police Jury  
 11 is seven members currently run the Parish, so  
 12 and they meet once a month. So 45 days, man,  
 13 boom, we're having special meetings just to  
 14 consider the 45 days. So if we can get notice  
 15 on the front-end, we can start having  
 16 conversations, whether it be at Police Jury  
 17 meetings or at other types of meetings, it  
 18 does, it would be very beneficial.  
 19 And, again, to me, if the system is set  
 20 up that we can sign in and we get notice in  
 21 that fashion so that the Board or your staff  
 22 is not guessing who may want to know in that  
 23 jurisdiction, that's just a suggestion of how  
 24 it eases the burden or obligation on your  
 25 staff to who's notified. We've told them who

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1 is to be notified, so just some suggestions.  
 2 MR. POLOZOLA:  
 3 Okay.  
 4 MR. BARRETT:  
 5 And that accomplishes -- and I had a  
 6 point about the locals were not notified until  
 7 step four, which was at the Board. I just  
 8 thought that was a little late. Whether it's  
 9 for consideration or to be part of the  
 10 process, I think to be notified earlier just  
 11 helps. So we do appreciate those  
 12 considerations, those thoughts.  
 13 That was, for the most part, our input on  
 14 the submission to you today. What I wasn't  
 15 sure of and, you know, alluded to the  
 16 financial burden or the financial obligations.  
 17 And so I think the idea of small projects and  
 18 having the local government either being able  
 19 to recommend or to some degree say, yeah, we  
 20 will agree to waive that 20 percent, we think  
 21 that's a good idea; because, usually, if it is  
 22 a small project, however we define a small  
 23 project, it's probably going to have, I'll  
 24 say, some local flavor. It's going to have  
 25 somebody local. You're going to know the

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1 people in the community. They're going to  
 2 come to your Police Jury or your City  
 3 requesting that.  
 4 And those small projects, generally, will  
 5 not have the burden on your infrastructure  
 6 that a Mega or bigger project would have,  
 7 which leads me to Cameron Parish. We're  
 8 fortunate, in a sense, that we have three LNG  
 9 plants, approximately \$40 billion, with a B,  
 10 assessed value on our books that are not being  
 11 taxed, ad valorem taxed. Our Parish is solely  
 12 our Police Jury, School Board, Sheriff's  
 13 office, solely financed through ad valorem  
 14 taxes. We have no local sales tax. That is a  
 15 choice, historically, that our Parish has  
 16 made. So property taxes, obviously, are  
 17 important to us. There are some -- so it  
 18 creates a financial burden to us.  
 19 And when I say that, I'm the kind of guy  
 20 that, for instance, give you an example, our  
 21 contract with our waste disposal household  
 22 pickup once a week is a per price per  
 23 household pickup. Well, when we have one of  
 24 these Mega, I call them Mega projects, you  
 25 know, a \$10 billion project, we may have two

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1 to 3,000 people or RVs coming into our Parish  
 2 for temporary. They may be there a year, two  
 3 years. All of a sudden, we're paying for an  
 4 extra \$1,000 or 1,000 pickups. Doesn't seem  
 5 like much. But in a Parish of 5,000 people,  
 6 that's significant to us.  
 7 Just, for instance, Sheriff, we go from  
 8 500 traffic tickets a year to maybe 4,000.  
 9 That's revenue, but that revenue doesn't all  
 10 go to the Sheriff, but he's got to put more  
 11 personnel and more equipment out on the road  
 12 for traffic safety. And those are just some  
 13 for instances. It goes on and on. We have  
 14 more kids. They bring their kids with them  
 15 and they go to school.  
 16 So those are all things that add to our  
 17 burden, the local costs that is not shared at  
 18 the State level. So to the extent that there  
 19 could be something, again, this might be  
 20 beyond the scope of what you all are doing,  
 21 but I have a capture of the audience, so I'll  
 22 take the opportunity very briefly, that is a  
 23 huge burden, especially to someone, the  
 24 smaller the community, the smaller the  
 25 population, the bigger the burden. So to the

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1 extent that you have the smart people in the  
 2 room can figure out some recommendations or  
 3 some thoughts going forward of how to lessen  
 4 that burden, we would really appreciate it and  
 5 would like to be involved in those  
 6 conversations.  
 7 And, again, for instance or for example  
 8 would be our library. Our library is not  
 9 going to suffer from an increase in traffic  
 10 and so forth and so on, so maybe their  
 11 millages could be waived, be exempt; whereas,  
 12 maybe the Parish's general fund would not be  
 13 because the infrastructure and other things.  
 14 So maybe there would be an option to pick and  
 15 choose which millages would be exempt; maybe  
 16 your fire, your ambulance would not. Just the  
 17 thought that you could pick and choose or  
 18 somehow the locals could be involved in  
 19 picking and choosing what is exempt and what  
 20 is not. Again, just an idea. There are  
 21 smarter people than me that know more about  
 22 this than I do.  
 23 MR. POLOZOLA:  
 24 I have a question.  
 25 MR. BARRETT:

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1 Yes, sir.  
 2 CHAIRMAN JONES:  
 3 Wait. Mr. Miller first.  
 4 MR. MILLER:  
 5 Thank you for that information. I did  
 6 want to ask though, on the ad valorem, and  
 7 correct me if I'm wrong, Ms. Johnson, the land  
 8 is not --  
 9 MS. JOHNSON:  
 10 You're correct, land is not eligible.  
 11 MR. MILLER:  
 12 And so the value of that property where  
 13 the LNG plant was, was I'm sure, exceptionally  
 14 low prior to them buying it and building it.  
 15 Then, the land immediately went on the tax  
 16 rolls. What was that value increase? What --  
 17 actually, was the -- not the value increase, I  
 18 don't really care about that. What was the  
 19 dollar amount of the money that increased to  
 20 the --  
 21 MR. BARRETT:  
 22 And that's a great question. And what  
 23 I'd like to -- so this is important to us in  
 24 Cameron Parish, that is, I have my Sheriff,  
 25 Sheriff Savoie here, our Assessor Scott

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1 Lavergne, Port Director, our Superintendent,  
 2 as well as our Parish Administrator. So I'm  
 3 going to turn to my Assessor. Did you hear  
 4 that question?  
 5 MR. LAVERGNE:  
 6 No, I didn't. I'm sorry.  
 7 MR. MILLER:  
 8 So the -- and I'll ask it a little  
 9 differently because you pointed out a couple  
 10 of other areas. So, obviously, the  
 11 manufacturing piece of the facility is going  
 12 to be exempt for ten years, and then there  
 13 will be a huge add-on. But prior to that,  
 14 there's many parts of that, that are not --  
 15 part of the manufacturing that are not exempt.  
 16 And you did a new evaluation on them for like,  
 17 i.e. the land costs. The land went from  
 18 whatever it was with nothing there to now this  
 19 major facility.  
 20 The Port, I don't know if there's any --  
 21 I don't know if there are tonnage fees or  
 22 anything like that of them using the Port.  
 23 What is the increased revenue to the Parish  
 24 for the project while it's in the abatement  
 25 state?

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1 MR. LAVERGNE:  
 2 While it's in the abatement state?  
 3 MR. BARRETT:  
 4 You can have my chair. Thank you,  
 5 Gentlemen, unless you have a question.  
 6 MR. MILLER:  
 7 Thank you, sir. Appreciate you.  
 8 CHAIRMAN JONES:  
 9 Please state your name and position for  
 10 the record, please.  
 11 MR. LAVERGNE:  
 12 Scott Lavergne, Cameron Parish Assessor.  
 13 CHAIRMAN JONES:  
 14 Thank you.  
 15 MR. LAVERGNE:  
 16 Thank y'all for entertaining us today.  
 17 Yes, you do have some small amounts of value  
 18 that come on while it's in the abatement  
 19 stage; nothing compared to what the project  
 20 itself is.  
 21 CHAIRMAN JONES:  
 22 Well, no doubt.  
 23 MR. LAVERGNE:  
 24 And so it's just -- it's just a -- it's a  
 25 struggle. I mean it -- and so you have to

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1 remember, our Parish went from oilfield to  
 2 nothing. And so we're waiting, playing the  
 3 waiting game so that we can get the tax  
 4 dollars, ad valorem taxes from them. It's  
 5 slowly coming on, but not -- it's just making  
 6 up for what we lost.  
 7 So we haven't seen a big increase in our  
 8 tax base. You know, it's just a small one.  
 9 But like I said, the stuff that you did, the  
 10 little bit of inventory that you did, the  
 11 little bit of land value that you increased,  
 12 its nothing significant.  
 13 MR. MILLER:  
 14 Okay.  
 15 CHAIRMAN JONES:  
 16 Mr. Polozola?  
 17 MR. POLOZOLA:  
 18 We appreciate you all bringing these  
 19 issues to us. Thank you for doing that  
 20 because it is a burden and puts pressure onto  
 21 your Parish. And I don't know the answers,  
 22 but I think we're going to think about  
 23 solutions. I'm sure the staff will as well.  
 24 One thing that came to mind as y'all were  
 25 talking is, you know, in the Haynesville

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1 Shale, all this drilling and production  
 2 activity happens, DeSoto Parish, Sabine  
 3 Parish, Red River Parish, all other Parishes,  
 4 tremendous amount of pressure onto those  
 5 communities on the roads, the drainage  
 6 districts, all of that. I kind of, as we  
 7 consider this, and we're going to have another  
 8 meeting on August 12th, and we're going to  
 9 keep on going from there, so there's a lot of  
 10 opportunity to address issues like this.  
 11 And, of course, we can bring it to the  
 12 Governor's office, but I just kind of wonder,  
 13 like, coordinating and maybe inquiring, I see  
 14 the Representative is here, inquiring with the  
 15 other areas of the State that had these  
 16 issues, not to the extent that you're having.  
 17 These are huge projects in your Parish. But,  
 18 you know, there is a lot of activity and it's  
 19 been happening in those other Parishes. How  
 20 are they dealing with it?  
 21 MR. LAVERGNE:  
 22 Right.  
 23 MR. POLOZOLA:  
 24 Those royalties are going to private  
 25 property owners, you know, or the State is

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1 getting the royalty. What's happening in Red  
 2 River, DeSoto, Sabine and other Parishes that  
 3 are dealing with Haynesville Shale  
 4 proliferation? You know, I kind of wonder how  
 5 they've handled it? Is there something that  
 6 we can learn from their experience, you know?  
 7 MR. LAVERGNE:  
 8 I agree.  
 9 MR. POLOZOLA:  
 10 So just a thought, I don't have answers  
 11 right now.  
 12 MR. LAVERGNE:  
 13 Right. Right, of course.  
 14 MR. POLOZOLA:  
 15 Yeah.  
 16 MR. LAVERGNE:  
 17 We're all in this together, guys. That's  
 18 why we're here and we're going to keep coming,  
 19 and try to help in the process to streamline.  
 20 CHAIRMAN JONES:  
 21 Well --  
 22 MR. LAVERGNE:  
 23 And I do too, I think that streamlining  
 24 is a good thing overall.  
 25 MS. PORTER:

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1 Thank you.  
2 CHAIRMAN JONES:  
3 Thank you so much.  
4 MR. LAVERGNE:  
5 All right.  
6 CHAIRMAN JONES:  
7 Thank y'all for making the trip.  
8 MR. BARRETT:  
9 Yes, sir.  
10 MR. LAVERGNE:  
11 Yes, sir.  
12 CHAIRMAN JONES:  
13 All right. So we've got a meeting set  
14 for August the 12th. Again, I'm going to  
15 reiterate for the third time in this meeting,  
16 what I'm going to ask is any other  
17 stakeholders, whoever may be interested in  
18 this process, if you have specific input on  
19 the Industry proposal, what LED has proposed,  
20 an idea you have of yourself, any ideas  
21 related to what's been raised with the Cameron  
22 Parish problem, I'm going to call it Cameron  
23 Parish problem, do you have any suggestions on  
24 that, please submit them to LED. And the best  
25 way to do that, Robin, is how?

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1 MS. PORTER:  
2 It's ITEPcomments@LA.gov.  
3 CHAIRMAN JONES:  
4 ITEPcomments@LA.gov.  
5 MS. PORTER:  
6 Yes.  
7 CHAIRMAN JONES:  
8 I-T-E-P-C-O-M-M-E-N-T-S@LA.gov. Got it.  
9 Great. And so I'm going to ask you to do that  
10 within the next week, because what will then  
11 happen is we'll get that information to LED  
12 staff, they can review it. And then I'm going  
13 to ask that if you're willing and prepared and  
14 would like to, I would ask for you to be  
15 prepared to come at the next meeting,  
16 August 12th, and if you want to make public  
17 comments, I want to hear from you. Because  
18 the last thing I want anybody to say is,  
19 nobody heard me. I'm going to take away that  
20 excuse. You know, you can blame me for a lot  
21 of things I do wrong, but I'm going to give  
22 you an opportunity to be heard. And so the  
23 next meeting is an opportunity for any other  
24 stakeholders who wish to speak on the ITEP  
25 rules and their new evolution next --

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1 August 12th is your opportunity.  
2 Anything else for the good of the order  
3 from other Committee Members? Anything at  
4 all?  
5 Entertain -- I'm sorry? Time on  
6 August 12th is morning or evening -- or is  
7 morning or afternoon better?  
8 MR. MILLER:  
9 Morning is better.  
10 CHAIRMAN JONES:  
11 Morning is better for Robbie. Would 9  
12 o'clock on the 12th work? Okay. Anything  
13 else?  
14 I'll entertain a motion to adjourn.  
15 MR. MILLER:  
16 Motion.  
17 CHAIRMAN JONES:  
18 We have a motion from Mr. Miller. Second  
19 from Mr. Polozola. All in favor say, aye.  
20 ALL:  
21 Aye.  
22 CHAIRMAN JONES:  
23 Any opposition?  
24 There is none. The motion carries.  
25 Meeting is adjourned.

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1 R E P O R T E R ' S C E R T I F I C A T E  
2 I, KELLY S. PERRIN, a Certified Court  
3 Reporter, Certificate #23035, in good standing with  
4 the State of Louisiana, as the officer before whom  
5 this meeting was taken, do hereby certify that the  
6 foregoing 120 pages;  
7 That this testimony was reported by me in  
8 stenographic machine shorthand by Computer-Aided  
9 Transcription, transcribed by me or under my  
10 personal direction and supervision, and is a true  
11 and correct transcript to the best of my ability  
12 and understanding;  
13 That the transcript has been prepared in  
14 compliance with transcript format guidelines  
15 required by statute or by rules of the Board, that  
16 I have acted in compliance with the prohibition on  
17 contractual relationships, as defined by Louisiana  
18 Code of Civil Procedure Article 1434 and in rules  
19 and advisory opinions of the Board; that I am not  
20 of counsel nor related to any person participating  
21 in this cause and am in no way interested in the  
22 outcome of this event.  
23  
24  
25

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1 This certification is valid only for a  
2 transcript accompanied by my handwritten or digital  
3 signature and the image of my State-authorized seal  
4 on this page.

5 Signed:

6

7 KELLY S. PERRIN,CCR

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[& - actually]

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[educate - expenditure]

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[expensive - forms]

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