

In The Matter Of:
State of Louisiana
Board of Commerce & Industry

Meeting
September 24, 2021

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STATE OF LOUISIANA
BOARD OF COMMERCE & INDUSTRY

The above-entitled meeting was held at
the LaSalle Building 617 North 3rd Street,
Floor 1 - LaBelle Room, Baton Rouge,
Louisiana, beginning at 9:33 a.m., on
September 24, 2021.

BEFORE:
Lori B. Overland
Certified Court Reporter
In and For the State of
Louisiana

A P P E A R A N C E S

BOARD MEMBERS:

Jerald Jones, Chair
Travis Holley
Rickey Fabra
Mayor David Toups
Stuart Moss
Ronnie Slone
Secretary Don Pierson
Yvette Cola
Dr. Woodrow Wilson
Jan Moller
Dr. Beverly Thompson
Representative Vincent St. Blanc
Sandra McQuain
Don Briggs
Senator R.L. Allain, II

STAFF:

Deborah Simmons
Anne Villa
Frank Favaloro
Robin Porter
Richard House
Tam Bourgeois
Stephanie LeGrange
Hud Usie
Kristin Cheng
Michaela Adegbe
Melanie Lockwood
Shawn Welcome
Becky Lambert
Brenda Guess

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I N D E X

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EXHIBITS:

None

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1 * * * * *

2 MR. JONES:

3 Good morning, everyone. It's good
4 to see everyone here for the September
5 meeting of the Board of Commerce and
6 Industry. I know the last few weeks have
7 been difficult for a number of our fellow
8 citizens, friends and family, and I know
9 that you, as I, will keep all those
10 people that are still dealing with so
11 much, not only in -- those that were in
12 the path of Ida, but even those that are
13 still dealing with the effects of Laura.
14 And I just hope you will continue to pray
15 for those people that they have strength
16 and patience and pray, frankly, that the
17 government will do what it needs to do
18 that -- to take whatever barriers that
19 are in the way out of the way, because we
20 need to get where we need to be, get our
21 state going again. But I -- I'm -- as
22 I've thought and watched what Ida was
23 doing, the -- the -- as bad as it was, we
24 were blessed in so many ways. It could
25 have been so much worse and we're

1 grateful for that. But it's good to see
2 everyone here today.

3 One point of order for everyone, I'm
4 not wearing a mask. I've asked
5 permission of my fellow folks up here,
6 because I'm going to be speaking so much.
7 But when you come to the mic or board
8 members, when you speak into the mic,
9 please remove your mask. It helps the
10 Court Reporter who is doing a verbatim
11 transcript of the meeting and if you
12 remove your mask, it makes it more -- the
13 annunciation more clear, easier for her
14 to understand. So we appreciate that
15 very much. And also be sure to speak
16 into the mic. Don't be afraid of them.
17 They don't bite, you know, so be for sure
18 to speak into the mic.

19 All right. Anything else?

20 (No response.)

21 MR. JONES:

22 Let's go ahead and have our roll
23 call, and we'll get going.

24 MS. SIMMONS:

25 Good morning. Dr. Shawn Wilson.

1 (No response.)

2 MS. SIMMONS:

3 Don Briggs.

4 MR. BRIGGS:

5 Here.

6 MS. SIMMONS:

7 Representative Vincent St. Blanc --

8 MR. ST. BLANC:

9 Here.

10 MS. SIMMONS:

11 -- proxy for Representative Davis.

12 David Toups.

13 MR. TOUPS:

14 Here.

15 MS. SIMMONS:

16 Yvette Cola.

17 (No response.)

18 MS. SIMMONS:

19 Don McInnis.

20 (No response.)

21 MS. SIMMONS:

22 Rickey Fabra.

23 MR. FABRA:

24 Here.

25 MS. SIMMONS:

1 Manual Fajardo.

2 (No response.)

3 MS. SIMMONS:

4 Stuart Moss.

5 MR. MOSS:

6 Here.

7 MS. SIMMONS:

8 Jerald Jones.

9 MR. JONES:

10 Here.

11 MS. SIMMONS:

12 Senator Rick Ward.

13 (No response.)

14 MS. SIMMONS:

15 Kenneth Havard.

16 (No response.)

17 MS. SIMMONS:

18 Jan Moller.

19 MR. MOLLER:

20 Here.

21 MS. SIMMONS:

22 Senator Allain.

23 MR. ALLAIN:

24 Here.

25 MS. SIMMONS:

1 Representative Stuart Bishop.

2 (No response.)

3 MS. SIMMONS:

4 Secretary Don Pierson.

5 MR. PIERSON:

6 Present.

7 MS. SIMMONS:

8 George Nassar.

9 (No response.)

10 MS. SIMMONS:

11 Darrel Saizan.

12 (No response.)

13 MS. SIMMONS:

14 Ronnie Slone.

15 MR. SLONE:

16 Present.

17 MS. SIMMONS:

18 Travis Holley.

19 MR. HOLLEY:

20 Here.

21 MS. SIMMONS:

22 Dr. Woodrow Wilson, Jr.

23 MR. WILSON:

24 Present. Present.

25 MS. SIMMONS:

1 Sandra McQuain.

2 MS. MCQUAIN:

3 Here.

4 MS. SIMMONS:

5 Dr. Beverly Thompson.

6 MS. THOMPSON:

7 Here.

8 MS. SIMMONS:

9 We have a quorum.

10 MR. JONES:

11 Thank you, Ms. Simmons.

12 And now, you've all received the
13 minutes from our June 28th meeting. I
14 hope you've had an opportunity to review
15 them. I would accept a motion to approve
16 them. We have a motion from Mr. Moss,
17 second from Mr. Slone. Any questions or
18 comments from the board about those
19 minutes?

20 (No response.)

21 MR. JONES:

22 Any questions or comments from the
23 public?

24 (No response.)

25 MR. JONES:

1 Hearing none, all in favor say, aye.

2 (All indicated aye.)

3 MR. JONES:

4 Any opposition?

5 (No response.)

6 MR. JONES:

7 Hearing none, the motion carries.

8 Now, let's move to our Quality Jobs
9 Program. Ms. Adegbe, would you lead us
10 through that, please?

11 MS. ADEGBE:

12 Good morning.

13 MR. JONES:

14 Good morning.

15 MS. ADEGBE:

16 I have five new applications.
17 20200094, Bercen Chemicals, LLC,
18 Livingston Parish. 20190337,
19 ControlWorks, LLC, Ascension Parish.
20 20190225, Formosa Plastics Corporation,
21 Louisiana, East Baton Rouge Parish.
22 20210146, KIK International, LLC,
23 Calcasieu Parish. 20190206, Venture
24 Global LNG, Inc., Cameron Parish. This
25 concludes new applications.

1 MR. JONES:

2 Thank you, ma'am. We'd entertain a
3 motion to approve.

4 MR. WILSON:

5 So moved.

6 MR. JONES:

7 Motion from Dr. Wilson. Second from
8 Mr. Moss. Any questions or comments from
9 the board?

10 (No response.)

11 MR. JONES:

12 Hearing none, any questions or
13 comments from the public?

14 (No response.)

15 MR. JONES:

16 Hearing none, all in favor say, aye.

17 (All indicated aye.)

18 MR. JONES:

19 Any opposition?

20 (No response.)

21 MR. JONES:

22 Hearing none, motion carries.

23 MS. ADEGBE:

24 I have two renewal applications.

25 20141379, Enquero, Inc, Lafayette Parish.

1 20161392, Republic National Distributing
2 Company, Orleans Parish. This concludes
3 renewal applications.

4 MR. JONES:

5 Great. Motion -- entertain a motion
6 to approve.

7 MR. TOUPS:

8 So moved.

9 MR. ST. BLANC:

10 Second.

11 MR. JONES:

12 Okay, Mr. Toups. Second from Mr.
13 St. Blanc. Any questions or comments
14 from the public -- excuse me, from the
15 board?

16 (No response.)

17 MR. JONES:

18 Hearing none, any comments from the
19 public?

20 (No response.)

21 MR. JONES:

22 Hearing none, all in favor say, aye.

23 (All indicated aye.)

24 MR. JONES:

25 Any opposition?

1 (No response.)

2 MR. JONES:

3 Motion carries.

4 MS. ADEGBE:

5 Three change of company name.

6 20140785, current company name CSRA, LLC.

7 New company name, General Dynamics

8 Information Technology, Inc., Bossier

9 Parish. 20150027, current company name

10 USA Rail Terminals, LLC. New company

11 name, USA Rail Terminals, LP, West Baton

12 Rouge Parish. 20141117, YCI Methanol

13 One, LLC is the current company name.

14 New company name, Koch Methanol St.

15 James, LLC, St. James Parish. This

16 concludes change of company name.

17 MR. JONES:

18 Thank you. For the record, the

19 Chair will be recusing himself from any

20 action on 20141117, YCI -- YCI Methanol

21 One to Koch Methanol St. James.

22 Otherwise, I will be facilitating the

23 votes. So any question -- excuse me.

24 Any motion from the board? I have a

25 motion from Mr. Moss to approve.

1 MR. WILSON:

2 Second.

3 MR. JONES:

4 Second from Dr. Wilson. Any
5 questions or comments from the board?

6 (No response.)

7 MR. JONES:

8 Hearing none, any comments from the
9 public?

10 (No response.)

11 MR. JONES:

12 There being none, all in favor say,
13 aye.

14 (All indicated aye.)

15 MR. JONES:

16 Any opposition?

17 (No response.)

18 MR. JONES:

19 There is none. Motion carries.

20 MS. ADEGBE:

21 One change of project physical
22 location. 20141243, Cajun Ready Mix
23 Concrete. Previous address, 7950 Airline
24 Highway, Baton Rouge, Louisiana 70815,
25 East Baton Rouge Parish. New address

1 5379 Adams Avenue, Baton Rouge, Louisiana
2 70805, East Baton Rouge Parish. This
3 concludes change of project physical
4 location.

5 MR. JONES:

6 Do we have a motion to approve? Mr.
7 Slone. Second from Dr. Wilson. Any
8 questions or comments from the board?

9 (No response.)

10 MR. JONES:

11 Any comments from the public?

12 (No response.)

13 MR. JONES:

14 Hearing none, all in favor say, aye.

15 (All indicated aye.)

16 MR. JONES:

17 Any opposition?

18 (No response.)

19 MR. JONES:

20 Hearing none, the motion carries.

21 MS. ADEGBE:

22 This concludes Quality Jobs.

23 MR. JONES:

24 Thank you. I appreciate your help
25 this morning.

1 MS. ADEGBE:

2 Thank you.

3 MR. JONES:

4 All right. Restoration tax
5 abatement. Good morning, Ms. Lambert.

6 MS. LAMBERT:

7 Good morning. I have one new
8 application. This is for 20170334, PCA
9 Investments, LLC, in Orleans Parish.
10 This concludes new applications.

11 MR. JONES:

12 Great. Entertain a motion. Motion
13 to approve, Mr. Slone. Second from Mayor
14 Toups. Any questions or comments from
15 the board?

16 (No response.)

17 MR. JONES:

18 There being none, any comments from
19 the public?

20 (No response.)

21 MR. JONES:

22 And, Ms. Simmons, for the record,
23 Ms. Cola has arrived.

24 MS. SIMMONS:

25 Thank you.

1 MR. JONES:

2 Good to see you this morning.

3 All in favor say, aye.

4 (All indicated aye.)

5 MR. JONES:

6 Any opposition?

7 (No response.)

8 MR. JONES:

9 There is none, motion carries.

10 Thank you.

11 MS. LAMBERT:

12 We have three renewals. The first
13 one is 20140962, I-10 @ Causeway, LLC in
14 Jefferson. 20120814, KM Group, LLC in
15 Ouachita. 20130833, S & A Holdings, LLC,
16 in Jefferson. These are the renewals.

17 MR. JONES:

18 Great. Entertain a motion. Motion
19 from Dr. Wilson. Second from Mr. Briggs.
20 Any questions or comments from the board?

21 (No response.)

22 MR. JONES:

23 Any comments from the public?

24 (No response.)

25 MR. JONES:

1 There being none, all in favor say,
2 aye.

3 (All indicated aye.)

4 MR. JONES:

5 Any opposition?

6 (No response.)

7 MR. JONES:

8 There is none. Motion carries.

9 MS. LAMBERT:

10 And there's one other business item
11 and that's a change in company name only.
12 20190068, HOMEWORK, LLC is the former
13 name. The new name is William and Andrea
14 Hufstader. This concludes the
15 restoration tax abatement agenda.

16 MR. JONES:

17 Motion to approve? Motion from Dr.
18 Thompson. Second from?

19 DR. WILSON:

20 Second.

21 MR. JONES:

22 Second from Dr. Wilson. Any
23 questions or comments from the board?

24 (No response.)

25 MR. JONES:

1 Any comments from the public?

2 (No response.)

3 MR. JONES:

4 Hearing none, the motion -- all in
5 favor say, aye.

6 (All indicated aye.)

7 MR. JONES:

8 Any opposition?

9 (No response.)

10 MR. JONES:

11 The motion carries. Thank you, Ms.
12 Lambert.

13 Mr. Favaloro, I understand you're
14 standing in for Ms. Metoyer today?

15 MR. FAVALORO:

16 Yes, sir. Good morning, everyone.

17 MR. JONES:

18 Good morning. It's good to have you
19 with us today.

20 MR. FAVALORO:

21 Thank you. I have 12 new
22 applications for the Enterprise Zone
23 Program. 20180310, Chalmette Refining,
24 LLC in St. Bernard. 20180045, Hunt
25 Forest Products, LLC in Grant. 20180321,

1 Ochsner Clinic Foundation in Jefferson.
2 20180327, Ochsner Clinic Foundation in
3 Jefferson. 20180330, Ochsner Clinic
4 Foundation in Jefferson. 20180331,
5 Ochsner Clinic Foundation in Jefferson.
6 20180333, Ochsner Clinic Foundation in
7 East Baton Rouge. 20180334, Ochsner
8 Clinic Foundation in Jefferson.
9 20180339, Ochsner Clinic Foundation in
10 Orleans. 20180460, Ternium USA, Inc. in
11 Caddo. 2018044, The NeuroMedical Center
12 in East Baton Rouge. And 20200076,
13 Woodbriar Senior Living, LLC in
14 Vermillion. That concludes the
15 Enterprise Zone New Applications.

16 MR. JONES:

17 Entertain a motion. Motion by Mr.
18 Briggs. Second by Mr. Slone. Any
19 questions or comments from the board?
20 (No response.)

21 MR. JONES:

22 Any comments from the public?
23 (No response.)

24 MR. JONES:

25 Hearing none, all in favor say, aye.

1 (All indicated aye.)

2 MR. JONES:

3 Any opposition?

4 (No response.)

5 MR. JONES:

6 Hearing none, the motion carries.

7 MR. FAVALORO:

8 There were three contract
9 termination requests. 2016 -- 20160947,
10 RBNP Acquisitions, LLC in Ascension.
11 Existing contract period 9/1/17 through
12 8/31/22 requested termination date of
13 12/31/20. Program requirements have been
14 met. No additional jobs are anticipated.
15 20160863, Trust Hotel Group, LLC in
16 Calcasieu. Existing contract period
17 4/1/17 through 3/31/22. Requested
18 termination of 12/31/19. Program
19 requirements have been met. No
20 additional jobs are anticipated.
21 20150942, Blake Management Group, LLC in
22 Lafourche. Five -- existing contract
23 period 5/11/15 through 5/10/20.
24 Requested termination 5/10/18. Program
25 requirements have been met. No

1 additional jobs are anticipated. That
2 concludes the early termination requests.

3 MR. JONES:

4 All right. Entertain a motion.
5 Motion from Mr. Moller. Second from Dr.
6 Wilson. Any questions or comments from
7 the board?

8 (No response.)

9 MR. JONES:

10 Any comment -- any comments from the
11 public?

12 (No response.)

13 MR. JONES:

14 Hearing none, all in favor say, aye.
15 (All indicated aye.)

16 MR. JONES:

17 Any opposition?

18 (No response.)

19 MR. JONES:

20 There is none. Motion carries.
21 Thank you, sir.

22 MR. FAVALORO:

23 That concludes Enterprise Zone.

24 Thank you.

25 MR. JONES:

1 Thank you, Mr. Favaloro.

2 Good morning, Ms. Cheng, Mr. Usie.

3 MS. CHENG:

4 Good morning.

5 MR. JONES:

6 Help us through the industrial tax
7 exemptions, please.

8 MS. CHENG:

9 I have two pre-executive order
10 applications. 20161546A, International
11 Paper Company in DeSoto Parish. And
12 20141117C, YCI Methanol One in St. James
13 Parish.

14 MR. JONES:

15 Again, the Chair will be recusing
16 himself from 20141117, YCI Methanol One,
17 LLC. Otherwise, we'll be facilitating
18 any action on that application.

19 Entertain a motion. The motion to
20 approve, Mr. Moss. Second from Mr.
21 Slone. Any questions or comments from
22 the board?

23 (No response.)

24 MR. JONES:

25 Any comments from the public?

1 (No response.)

2 MR. JONES:

3 Do we have any representatives from
4 International Paper that can tell us
5 about where we are on the app -- on this
6 application and what the future holds?

7 MR. BRODERICK:

8 My name is Jesse Broderick. I live
9 in Livingston Parish. I'm a consultant
10 with Sumit Credits. I represent
11 International Paper. They apologize for
12 not being able to be here in person.
13 Their company policy still does not allow
14 them to travel, otherwise, they would be
15 here in person.

16 For this particular application, it
17 does represent the very last application
18 that you will see under the pre-executive
19 orders for International Paper. It was
20 the completion of a project under an
21 advance that they had filed a
22 pre-executive order, and so this -- this
23 -- this does represent the last part of
24 that -- that investment.

25 MR. JONES:

1 Thank you. Any questions from the
2 board?

3 (No response.)

4 MR. JONES:

5 Thank you very much.

6 And do we have a representative from
7 YCI Methanol One? I'm going to ask you
8 to introduce yourselves and your position
9 with the company and make what comments
10 you want to make today.

11 MR. HOSS:

12 Good morning, Chairman and Members
13 of the Board. My name is Mark Hoss. I'm
14 the Vice President of Manufacturing and
15 Site Manager for Koch Methanol in St.
16 James, Louisiana. I'm grateful for the
17 opportunity to speak to you today. I'd
18 be remiss if I didn't start by
19 recognizing Louisiana -- Louisiana's
20 greatest asset and that's her people, who
21 time after time, step up in moments of
22 crisis and tragedy like we've just seen.
23 Though the impacts of Hurricane Ida will
24 be with us for a long time, we'll get
25 through this, if we work together.

1 I'd like to take this opportunity to
2 publicly recognize and thank our
3 dedicated first responders. You've
4 talked about the impacts of Hurricane
5 Ida. And without our first responders,
6 we would be in a much more difficult spot
7 right now. So definitely thanks, and
8 hats off to all the folks that are first
9 responders helping us through this
10 crisis.

11 Last year, George, with Koch
12 Companies public sector, gave this board
13 background on Koch Methanol St. James and
14 how and why we decided to locate and
15 build a world class chemical
16 manufacturing facility in Louisiana.
17 There's no need for me to take up your
18 time today going back through that, but
19 I'd like to focus on where we're at today
20 and give you an update.

21 You might recall that Koch
22 Industries involvement in this project
23 began as a minority investor in YCI
24 Methanol One. In December of 2020, Koch
25 acquired 100 percent of the company and

1 adopted a new name that we spoke about
2 earlier, Koch Methanol St. James. And
3 that reflects our strong connection to
4 the community there in St. James,
5 Louisiana.

6 On July 15th, 2021, we became fully
7 operational, commercially producing
8 methanol. Currently, we have
9 approximately 100 employees at the
10 facility, making an average annual salary
11 of over \$100,000 a year. About 20
12 percent of your employees are residents
13 of St. James Parish, something that we're
14 really proud of. I'm sure you're pleased
15 with -- that we're up and running, just
16 like we are, but we're ask -- might be
17 asking what impact did we have and what
18 kind of impact will we have on the
19 economic well-being of St. James Parish
20 and the State of Louisiana.

21 Since we broke ground in 2017, we've
22 sought out and done business with about
23 100 Louisiana contractors, names that you
24 might be familiar with; Brown and Root,
25 MMR, ControlWorks, that was spoke about

1 earlier, and -- and many others.

2 During the construction phase, which
3 spanned about five years and involved
4 over five million contractor man hours,
5 there was support for 2,500 jobs per
6 year, both direct and indirect jobs. 610
7 million of labor income, and 72 million
8 of state and local taxes. Overall, in
9 our operational state, Koch Methanol St.
10 James is estimated to annually support
11 300 jobs, both direct and indirect. \$25
12 million in labor income and three million
13 in state and local taxes. Over the next
14 20 years, even with the ITEP tax
15 abatement in place, Koch Methanol St.
16 James will pay the taxing authorities in
17 St. James Parish nearly \$110 in property
18 taxes.

19 I think these are meaningful
20 contributions to our state and local
21 economy and I hope that you'll agree with
22 that.

23 But our support goes beyond
24 providing good jobs and tax revenue to
25 Louisiana and St. James Parish. We also

1 strive to be great community members. To
2 show that, we voluntarily joined the
3 parishes emergency response brigade in
4 providing mutual aid to other industrial
5 facilities in the area, which enhances
6 safety in our area. We're involved in
7 and have contributed to the parishes
8 summer programs for STEM education,
9 something that is very important in Koch
10 Industries. We've also contributed to
11 charitable causes throughout the parish
12 and will continue to do so. Some
13 examples are the Baton Rouge Food Bank,
14 the River Parish Community College, the
15 4H summer camp, a Veteran's Day event
16 coming up here in November and a fire
17 department computer aided system to
18 enhance their dispatch.

19 Last year, we contributed to the
20 Community Foundation of Southwest
21 Louisiana to provide relief to victims of
22 Hurricane Laura.

23 Additionally, after the devastating
24 impact of Hurricane Ida on our community,
25 we've been working very closely with St.

1 James Parish and our Fifth District
2 Councilman, Clyde Cooper, to help our
3 neighbors by donating tarps, ice and
4 other necessities. Just last week, our
5 employees came together to cook and
6 provide donations of food, cleaning
7 supplies and paper products donated by
8 Georgia-Pacific, another Koch Company.
9 Any good business agreement should
10 benefit both parties.

11 I trust that what I have touched on
12 today demonstrates that Louisiana's
13 investment in Koch Methanol St. James is
14 a good one. The returns are already
15 there. And on behalf of our 100
16 employees out there at the site, I want
17 to thank you and the LED Board for your
18 dedicated commitment and leadership.

19 Thank you.

20 MR. JONES:

21 Thank you, Mr. Hoss. Any questions
22 or comments for Mr. Hoss?

23 (No response.)

24 MR. JONES:

25 Do you have any further comments?

1 MR. HOSS:

2 No, sir. I'm good.

3 MR. JONES:

4 Thank you very much. Thank you.

5 All right. We have two items on the
6 agenda here. Do we have a motion?

7 Motion to approve Mr. Slone. Second from

8 Dr. Wilson. No questions or comments

9 from the board. Any comments from the
10 public?

11 (No response.)

12 MR. JONES:

13 Hearing none, all in favor say, aye.

14 (All indicated aye.)

15 MR. JONES:

16 Any opposition?

17 (No response.)

18 MR. JONES:

19 Hearing none, the motion carries.

20 MS. CHENG:

21 We have 21 Post-EO 2018 rules
22 applications, but we have seven
23 applications requesting deferral.

24 MR. JONES:

25 Okay.

1 MS. CHENG:

2 That's 20210383, 1,4 GROUP, INC. in
3 Ascension Parish. 20200094, Bercen
4 Chemicals, LLC in Livingston Parish.
5 20200422, Bueche PV1, LLC in West Baton
6 Rouge Parish. 20210013, C & C Marine and
7 Repair, LLC in Plaquemines Parish.
8 20200433, CF Industries Nitrogen, LLC in
9 Ascension Parish. 20200220, Gravois
10 Aluminum Boats, LLC in St. Mary Parish
11 and 20190057A, Stupp Brothers, Inc. dba
12 Stupp Corporation in East Baton Rouge
13 Parish.

14 MR. JONES:

15 Okay. Let's entertain a motion for
16 deferral of these seven that Ms. Cheng
17 has noted. Mayor Toups' motion. Second
18 from Ms. Cola. Any questions or comments
19 from the board about these deferrals?

20 (No response.)

21 MR. JONES:

22 Any comments from the public?

23 (No response.)

24 MR. JONES:

25 Hearing none, all in favor say, aye.

1 (All indicated aye.)

2 MR. JONES:

3 Any opposition?

4 (No response.)

5 MR. JONES:

6 Hearing none, the motion carries.

7 Those items are deferred to the next
8 meeting in October.

9 MS. CHENG:

10 The remaining applications are
11 20200538, AIRE Louisiana, LLC in St.
12 Landry Parish. 20210362, Coca-Cola
13 Bottling Company United Gulf Coast, LLC
14 in East Baton Rouge Parish. 20200219,
15 Graphic Packaging International, LLC in
16 Ouachita Parish. 20200021, International
17 Mezzo Technologies, East Baton Rouge
18 Parish. 20210121, LACC, LLC US,
19 Calcasieu Parish. 20190413, Louisiana
20 Plastic Industries, Inc., Ouachita
21 Parish. 20200092, Metalplate
22 Galvanizing, LP, Jefferson Davis Parish.
23 20190509, Peppers Unlimited of Louisiana
24 -- Louisiana, Inc., St. Martin Parish.
25 20210109, Shell Catalyst and

1 Technologies, LP, West Baton Rouge
2 Parish. 20210261, Shell Chemical, LP,
3 Ascension Parish. 20190485, Stuller,
4 Inc., Lafayette Parish. 20170227, W.R.
5 Grace & Co. Conn dba Grace Davison,
6 Calcasieu Parish. 20210139, W.R. Grace &
7 Co. Conn, Calcasieu Parish. And
8 20180053B, W.R. Grace & Co., St. Charles
9 Parish.

10 MR. JONES:

11 Thank you. Do we have a motion?

12 MR. MOSS:

13 So moved.

14 MR. JONES:

15 We have a motion from Mr. Moss to
16 approve. Second from Mr. Briggs. Any
17 questions or comments from the public --
18 excuse me, from the board?

19 MR. PIERSON:

20 Mr. Chairman?

21 MR. JONES:

22 Yes.

23 MR. PIERSON:

24 As we proceed, we do have a very
25 important retention program that's -- for

1 one of the companies here, Graphic
2 Packaging. And I'd like to afford the
3 board the opportunity to understand the
4 important investment they've made in
5 northeast Louisiana.

6 MR. JONES:

7 Excellent. Do you have a
8 representative --

9 MR. PIERSON:

10 When is the appropriate time to
11 bring forward a representative?

12 MR. JONES:

13 Let's -- let's do it now. Do we
14 have a representative from Graphic
15 Packaging? Thank you for being here.
16 Would you please introduce yourself and
17 your position with the company? We
18 welcome your comments.

19 MR. JOHNSON:

20 Thank you. My name is Andy Johnson.
21 I'm the Vice President of --

22 MR. JONES:

23 Pull the mic a little bit closer to
24 you. Thank you.

25 MR. JOHNSON:

1 It won't bite.

2 MR. JONES:

3 Yeah.

4 MR. JOHNSON:

5 My name is Andy Johnson and I'm Vice
6 President of Government Affairs for
7 Graphic Packaging.

8 MR. SUSSMAN:

9 And I'm like Mike Sussman. I'm the
10 resident mill manager for the West Monroe
11 mill in Ouachita Parish.

12 MR. JOHNSON:

13 Just a little background on our
14 company. At Graphic Packaging, we're a
15 manufacturer of paperboard and folding
16 cartons for food, beverage and food
17 service products. We make beer packaging
18 here in the upstate Louisiana, and soft
19 drink packaging and other packaging for
20 essential products. And yes, beer is
21 essential and I think that's proven out
22 through the pandemic, it's very
23 essential. Life's pretty busy.

24 So we -- in Ouachita Parish, we have
25 a paper mill and we also have a carton

1 generating plant. These two facilities
2 are the largest of their kind in the
3 world and the carton manufacturing
4 facility was just built and -- and put in
5 place here within the last few years.

6 Our program that we're talking about
7 today is in regards to a natural disaster
8 that happened at our mill. A tornado
9 went through our wood yard and destroyed
10 some of the conveyance systems. What we
11 have in the wood yard is piles of raw
12 logs that go through a chipper and that -
13 - those chips are then conveyed over to a
14 large pile and that goes into -- it feeds
15 our mill. When the tornado came through,
16 it destroyed parts of that conveying
17 system and we needed to rebuild that
18 conveying system and that's what this
19 discussions about.

20 I would like to ask Mike to talk a
21 little bit about the -- the work that was
22 done to get our wood yard back up and
23 running.

24 MR. SUSSMAN:

25 Thanks, Andy. So on April 12th,

1 Easter Sunday --

2 MR. JONES:

3 Just pull -- pull the mic up to you.

4 MR. SUSSMAN:

5 On April 20th -- I'm sorry, April
6 12th, Easter -- Easter Sunday on -- at
7 11:46 a.m., we had a natural disaster
8 come through with a -- a tornado and it
9 took out this conveyer, a vital part of
10 the conveying system for the facility.
11 This conveying system had been there for
12 a long time and was in fine shape and had
13 many years of life left in it, and
14 unfortunately, a tornado does a lot of
15 destructive damage. Fortunately, the
16 community and -- and nobody was injured
17 in our facility and the community was
18 very responsive. In a matter of two
19 days, we were able to restore 100 percent
20 of our operations.

21 The key to it though is that our
22 community has a lot of infrastructure to
23 it and we're able to build a process of
24 conveying chips through using trucking,
25 while not very responsible on a -- on a

1 cost mechanism, we had to do it. And
2 that is how we ran for six months at --
3 at \$1 million a month rate of operational
4 work. At that same time, we were able to
5 rebuild that conveyor for roughly around
6 \$6 million and get back online. And I
7 thank the community. I thank that we
8 have the infrastructure exists in
9 Louisiana and the people in Louisiana to
10 be able to help us through that moment
11 and get through that and get back to our
12 normal operations six months later.

13 Thank you.

14 MR. JONES:

15 Thank you. Appreciate that.

16 MR. JOHNSON:

17 Thank you. We're -- let us know if
18 you have any questions.

19 MR. JONES:

20 Any questions from the board?

21 (No response.)

22 MR. JONES:

23 I don't believe so. Thank you very
24 much.

25 MR. JOHNSON:

1 Thank you.

2 MR. JONES:

3 All right. Appreciate you being
4 here. Thank for being back in service.

5 MR. JOHNSON:

6 Okay.

7 MR. JONES:

8 All right. We have a motion and
9 then a second. Any other questions or
10 comments from the board?

11 (No response.)

12 MR. JONES:

13 Hearing none, any other comments
14 from the public?

15 (No response.)

16 MR. JONES:

17 All in favor say, aye.

18 (All indicated aye.)

19 MR. JONES:

20 Any opposition?

21 (No response.)

22 MR. JONES:

23 There is none. The motion carries.

24 MS. CHENG:

25 We have 22 timely renewals with two

1 companies requesting deferral. 20170187,
2 ASH Industries, Inc., Lafayette Parish
3 and 20160175, Hood Container of
4 Louisiana, LLC, West Feliciana Parish.

5 MR. JONES:

6 All right. We have these two
7 requested deferrals, Hood Container and
8 ASH Industries? Do I have a motion to
9 approve that deferral? Mr. Slone.

10 Second from Ms. Cola. Any questions or
11 comments from the board?

12 (No response.)

13 MR. JONES:

14 Hearing none, any comments from the
15 public?

16 (No response.)

17 MR. JONES:

18 Hearing none, all in favor say, aye.

19 (All indicated aye.)

20 MR. JONES:

21 Any opposition?

22 (No response.)

23 MR. JONES:

24 Motion carries. Those items are
25 deferred until our October meeting.

1 MS. CHENG:

2 20151952, Alliance Compressors, LLC,

3 Natchitoches Parish. 20170138, Bancroft

4 Bag, Inc., Ouachita Parish. 20160873,

5 Blueline Manufacturing, Inc., Lafayette

6 Parish. 20160707, Champion X, LLC, St.

7 John the Baptist Parish. 20160762,

8 Champion X, LLC, St. John the Baptist

9 Parish. 20160768, Champion X, LLC, St.

10 John the Baptist Parish. 20151308,

11 Folger Coffee Company, Orleans Parish.

12 20151309, Folger Coffee Company, Orleans

13 Parish. 20170137, Hunt Forest Products,

14 LLC, Grant Parish. 20150274,

15 International Paper Company, Desoto

16 Parish. 20150 -- sorry, 20152035,

17 Mechanical Equipment Company, Inc., St.

18 Tammany Parish. 20160661, Nalco

19 Production, LLC, West Baton Rouge Parish.

20 20160707PT, Nalco Production, LLC, St.

21 John the Baptist Parish. 20160762PT

22 Nalco Production, LLC, St. John the

23 Baptist Parish. 20160768PT, Nalco

24 Production, LLC, St. John the Baptist

25 Parish. 20120058B, Shintech Louisiana,

1 LLC, Iberville Parish. 20121255, SE
2 Tylose Louisiana, LLC, Iberville Parish.
3 20141070, Shintech Louisiana, LLC,
4 Iberville Parish. 20130358A, Shintech
5 Louisiana, West Baton Rouge Parish, and
6 20140886A-PT, The Folger Coffee Company,
7 Orleans Parish.

8 MR. JONES:

9 All right. Thank you, Ms. Cheng.
10 Motion from Dr. Wilson to approve.

11 Second from Mayor Toups to approve. Any
12 questions or comments from the board?

13 (No response.)

14 MR. JONES:

15 Any comments from the public?

16 (No response.)

17 MR. JONES:

18 All in favor say, aye.

19 (All indicated aye.)

20 MR. JONES:

21 Any opposition?

22 (No response.)

23 MR. JONES:

24 There is none. The motion carries.

25 MS. CHENG:

1 We have two late renewals.
2 20140999A, Del Corporation, Lafayette
3 Parish. The initial contract expired
4 12/31/2020. The late renewal was
5 requested 7/7/2021. And we have
6 20130067, Morehouse BioEnergy, LLC, in
7 Morehouse Parish. The initial contract
8 expired 12/31/2020. Late -- late renewal
9 was requested 7/22/2021.

10 MR. JONES:

11 Motion? Do I have a motion? Motion
12 to approve, Mr. Moss. Second Mr. Slone.
13 Any questions or comments from the board?
14 (No response.)

15 MR. JONES:

16 Any comments from the public?
17 (No response.)

18 MR. JONES:

19 Hearing none, all in favor say, aye.
20 (All indicated aye.)

21 MR. JONES:

22 I'm going -- I'm going to redraw --
23 I'm going to withdraw that. See, ya'll
24 have been so quiet today. Every once in
25 a while, I throw a wrench, just to make

1 sure you're paying attention. We
2 actually have two late renewals here, so
3 as a result, we have to deal with
4 penalties or potential penalties for
5 these.

6 The first one, Del Corporation, do
7 we have a representative from Del
8 Corporation? Come up forward, please.
9 And he's going, I wish you would have
10 just moved on.

11 Thank you, sir. I appreciate you
12 being here. Will you state your name and
13 position with the company. And really
14 what we're interested in is what led to
15 the -- to the late renewal?

16 MR. LADNER:

17 Dale, I'm sorry. Dale Ladner, I'm
18 the corporate secretary. And the blame
19 stops with me. I just honestly did not
20 know it was required. I thought it was a
21 ten year exemption from the start. I
22 know we had already gotten a five year
23 exemption signed by the Governor, but I
24 just assumed it was an automatic renewal.
25 I honestly did not know.

1 MR. JONES:

2 Understood. Understood.

3 MR. LADNER:

4 I'm willing to take whatever.

5 MR. JONES:

6 And -- and what our -- what our
7 practice normally is on late renewals,
8 due -- the ITEP program is -- is very
9 special for our state. Very valuable, we
10 believe, not only to the industry, but
11 also to the -- important to the taxpayers
12 and the local governments. And so the
13 board has historically looked at late
14 renewals as a significant issue. And
15 that's the reason we ask members to come
16 to make sure -- because also, we want to
17 understand if there's something we're
18 doing wrong, we need to know that. But
19 by and large, your story is not the first
20 one we've heard much like it. It
21 happens. We understand. But at the same
22 time, it's -- it's been at least the
23 custom of this board to impose some level
24 of penalty for -- for the late renewal.

25 MR. LADNER:

1 Oh, I understand.

2 MR. JONES:

3 Any questions for --on this one?

4 (No response.)

5 MR. JONES:

6 Again, our custom has been a one
7 year penalty for -- excuse me, yeah, a 20
8 percent penalty for each year of -- of
9 lateness. This one is six months so the
10 normal practice would be a -- a one year
11 penalty on the renewal. Do I have a
12 motion to that effect? Dr. Wilson. A
13 second from Mr. Moller. Any questions or
14 comments from the board about that?

15 (No response.)

16 MR. JONES:

17 Hearing none, any comments from the
18 public?

19 (No response.)

20 MR. JONES:

21 Hearing none, all in favor say, aye.

22 (All indicated aye.)

23 MR. JONES:

24 Any opposed?

25 (No response.)

1 MR. JONES:

2 Motion carries. Basically, the --
3 the renewal is approved with a one --
4 with a one year penalty.

5 MR. LADNER:

6 Does the one year come at the
7 beginning or the end of the year?

8 MR. JONES:

9 Is that --

10 MS. CHENG:

11 It's at the end.

12 MR. JONES:

13 At the end.

14 MS. CHENG:

15 Your extension would end one year
16 earlier.

17 MR. LADNER:

18 Thank you very much.

19 MR. JONES:

20 Excellent question.

21 MR. LADNER:

22 Thank you, sir.

23 MR. JONES:

24 Thank you, sir.

25 And do we have someone here from

1 Morehouse BioEnergy?

2 Thank you. And again, if you would
3 state your name and your position with
4 the company and explain to us what
5 happened.

6 MS. PULLIN:

7 Good morning. My name is Becky
8 Pullin. I'm the Director of Finance for
9 Drax Biomass, a parent company for
10 Morehouse BioEnergy.

11 We have engaged Didier Consultants
12 within the past year to manage our
13 contracts with the LED and this one was
14 not on our list in Fast Lane on the
15 portal. And we were made aware that we
16 were late whenever the Assessor's Office
17 called us and asked if we needed to put
18 that back on the roll in June of this
19 year. So as soon as we were made aware
20 that it was late, then we called Didier
21 and we got the renewal taken care of --
22 or we got the application in.

23 MR. JONES:

24 So it -- it was not on Fast Lane.
25 What does that mean?

1 MS. BOATNER:

2 Rhonda Boatner, Didier Consultants.

3 When we were engaged to manage the
4 incentives for Drax and the Morehouse
5 facility, Becky went into LED's system,
6 Fast Lane Next Gen and uploaded or
7 downloaded the -- the listing of all of
8 their active contracts, and she
9 transitioned those to us and we've since
10 been managing them. And she did not have
11 access to this one contract, for whatever
12 reason. There are some glitches in the
13 system -- and this has happened in the
14 past. In fact, at the August 2019
15 meeting, there was a similar case where
16 there -- they -- this -- you don't have
17 access to your own information. And so
18 she was not able to pull up the complete
19 listing and, therefore, this renewal is
20 late because it was not in the system for
21 her to be able to access.

22 MR. JONES:

23 Okay. I'm -- I'm sure within, you
24 know, the company's records there was
25 record of the contract.

1 MS. BOATNER:

2 There should be, yes. But we're --
3 we are told to use Fast Lane as a
4 resource and this previous case in August
5 of 2019, there was no penalty against the
6 company because they could not access
7 their own information in LED's system.

8 MR. JONES:

9 All right. Do we have -- I mean,
10 any -- any comments from the staff, as
11 far as that, any addition -- any
12 understanding or what happened on this
13 and how it did not show up in Fast Lane?
14 If you don't know, that's fine. I'm just
15 wondering if you happen to know what --
16 what the issue was.

17 MS. CHENG:

18 I mean, companies have to request
19 access to their projects, but I mean, you
20 should know what projects you have to
21 request access to them. I wasn't aware
22 that this was an issue with this project.
23 No.

24 MR. JONES:

25 Okay.

1 MS. BOATNER:

2 So we don't have to request access,
3 it's automatically populated, but there
4 are some that -- that data is not -- when
5 the -- when the system was brought
6 online, that some of the data didn't
7 migrate over, because we have some of our
8 clients that we've had for years that we
9 only have sporadic information or access
10 to their accounts and we have to request
11 access to the own -- our own information
12 that we have in their system. And so,
13 it's confusing because some things were
14 transferred over and some things were
15 not. And in Becky's case, most of her --
16 well, all of her contract were
17 transferred over and she had access to,
18 except for this one.

19 MS. PULLIN:

20 And I will add, if you don't mind,
21 the company transferred the corporate
22 office from Atlanta, Georgia to Monroe,
23 Louisiana in 2018, and the entire staff
24 changed. So we had to pick up all these
25 projects and -- and this was one of them.

1 So I don't know how it got missed in
2 getting this one added to the portal.

3 MR. JONES:

4 And I -- I'm scratching --
5 scratching my head on this one, because
6 I'm -- I'm -- I'm -- I feel like I'm --
7 I'd like to know a little bit more. What
8 I would like to do, if -- if -- with the
9 board's approval, I'd like to defer this
10 until the next meeting and so that we can
11 internally, LED, we can dig into this and
12 kind of figure out what happened maybe.
13 And I'm -- I'm not leaning one way or the
14 other on how the penalty -- penalty ought
15 to be assessed, but right now, I just
16 don't feel like I have all the
17 information. I don't feel like LED has
18 had an opportunity to try to dig into it
19 a little bit. So with -- with the
20 board's approval, I'd like a motion to
21 defer. Mr. -- Mr. Fabra. And Ms. Cola.
22 Any questions or comments on the deferral
23 of this matter until next month?

24 MR. TOUPS:

25 This is the deferral of the penalty?

1 MR. JONES:

2 This is --

3 MR. TOUPS:

4 It's already approved or --

5 MR. JONES:

6 Actually, it's the deferral of the
7 renewal which might or might not be
8 subject to a penalty --

9 MR. TOUPS:

10 Oh, okay.

11 MR. JONES:

12 -- depending on what we decide and
13 what we learn between now and next month.
14 Any other questions?

15 MS. BOATNER:

16 So let me just comment too, that
17 once the Assessor contacted Becky, we
18 immediately took action. She requested
19 access in the system then. She contacted
20 us. We requested access in the system
21 and then submitted the renewal.

22 MR. JONES:

23 Okay. I -- I've got to follow that
24 up. So when you -- when you requested
25 access, it all of sudden populated?

1 MS. BOATNER:

2 Yes.

3 MR. JONES:

4 Where it hadn't been there before,
5 then it was?

6 MS. BOATNER:

7 Correct. With all of the
8 information, the historical information.

9 Yes.

10 MR. JONES:

11 Okay. All right. Okay. Well,
12 again, the motion right now is to defer
13 so that we can kind of see what we can --
14 what's going on here. Any questions or
15 comments from the board? Mr. Allain?

16 MR. ALLAIN:

17 Yeah. We're not doing away with the
18 possibility of a penalty?

19 MR. JONES:

20 Not at all. Not at all.

21 MR. ALLAIN:

22 Okay.

23 MR. JONES:

24 We're not taking any -- we're not
25 taking any action at all. We will take

1 that action presumably at the next
2 meeting. And -- and the penalty is
3 potentially still on the table or -- or
4 it may not be, depending on what we
5 learn.

6 MS. BOATNER:

7 And in the meeting if you want to
8 reference where this was not -- this
9 similar case was not penalized, was
10 August 28, 2019.

11 MR. JONES:

12 Thank you, Ms. Boatner.

13 Any comments from the public?

14 (No response.)

15 MR. JONES:

16 Thank you very much for coming down.

17 Thank you very much.

18 MS. BOATNER:

19 Does she --

20 MR. JONES:

21 All right. All in favor of the
22 deferral say, aye.

23 (All indicated aye.)

24 MR. JONES:

25 Any opposition?

1 (No response.)

2 MR. JONES:

3 There being none, the motion to
4 defer carries.

5 MS. BOATNER:

6 One more question. Her office is in
7 Monroe. Will she be required to come to
8 the next board meeting or can I represent
9 her?

10 MR. JONES:

11 That's a fair question. From my
12 perspective, unless you have something
13 additional to add, I believe we have the
14 company's -- does the board have any
15 objection to -- no, that's fine.

16 MS. BOATNER:

17 Okay. Thank you.

18 MS. PULLIN:

19 Thank you.

20 MR. JONES:

21 Thank you both.

22 All right. Ms. Cheng, let's move
23 on.

24 MS. CHENG:

25 We have 19 change in name only

1 amendment requests.

2 MR. JONES:

3 Go right ahead.

4 MS. CHENG:

5 Brookfield District Energy USA, LLC.
6 Contracts 20121312, 20121314, 20121315A,
7 20121316, 20141346, 20151756 and
8 20151757. The new name on the contract
9 is CenTrio Energy South, LLC. And that's
10 in Orleans Parish. ETC Field Services,
11 LLC. Contracts 20130111, 20140685 and
12 20140686. The new name is ETC Texas
13 Pipeline, LTD in Lincoln Parish. ETC
14 Field Services, LLC. Contract 20141190.
15 The new name is ETC Texas Pipeline, LTD,
16 in Webster Parish. Praxair, Inc.
17 Contracts 20111020 and 20161405. New
18 name is Linde, Inc. in Calcasieu Parish.
19 Praxair, Inc. Contracts 20161409 and
20 20170516. New name Linde, Inc. in
21 Ascension Parish. And YCI Methanol One,
22 LLC. Contracts 20141117, 20141117A,
23 20141117B and 20141117C. New name Koch
24 Methanol St. James, LLC in St. James
25 Parish.

1 MR. JONES:

2 The Chair will be recusing himself
3 from actually three of these name change
4 -- name changes. The two ETC Field
5 Services entities that are moving from E
6 -- from ETC Field Services, LLC to ETC
7 Texas Pipeline. We have actually one,
8 two, three, four contracts there. And
9 then three -- the four contracts for YCI
10 Methanol One. I will be recusing, but
11 will be facilitating the meeting. Is
12 there a motion on these name changes? A
13 motion to approve from Dr. Wilson.
14 Second from Mr. Slone. Any questions or
15 comments from the board?

16 (No response.)

17 MR. JONES:

18 Hearing none, any comments from the
19 public?

20 (No response.)

21 MR. JONES:

22 Hearing none, all in favor say, aye.

23 (All indicated aye.)

24 MR. JONES:

25 Any opposition?

1 (No response.)

2 MR. JONES:

3 There is no opposition. Motion
4 carries.

5 MS. CHENG:

6 We have 14 requests to transfer --
7 transfer tax exemption contract. GEO --
8 GEO Specialty Chemicals, Inc. Contract
9 20161256 is being transferred to G20
10 Technologies, LLC in Morehouse Parish.
11 Georgia-Pacific Wood Products South, LLC.
12 Contracts 20120368, 20130719, 20140920,
13 20150703 and 20161077 are being
14 transferred to Interfor US, Inc. in
15 Beauregard Parish. Gulf Island
16 Shipyards, LLC. Contracts 20111134,
17 20121231A, 20140006, 20190164, 20190188,
18 20190283 and 20180090 are being
19 transferred to Bollinger Houma Shipyards,
20 LLC in Terrebonne Parish. And Juniper
21 Specialty Products, LLC. Contract
22 20161808 is being transferred to Juniper
23 Acquisitions, LLC in Calcasieu Parish.

24 MR. JONES:

25 Do I have a motion on these

1 transfers? Motion by Dr. Thompson.

2 Second from Mayor Toups. Any questions

3 or comments from the board?

4 (No response.)

5 MR. JONES:

6 Any comments from the public?

7 (No response.)

8 MR. JONES:

9 Hearing none, all in favor say, aye.

10 (All indicated aye.)

11 MR. JONES:

12 Any opposition?

13 (No response.)

14 MR. JONES:

15 There is none. Motion carries.

16 MS. CHENG:

17 I have one cancellation of contract.

18 Marathon Petroleum Company, LP, 20180365.

19 The company requests cancellation. And

20 that's in St. John the Baptist Parish.

21 MR. JONES:

22 Okay. We have a motion to approve,

23 Mr. Moss. Second from Ms. Cola. Any

24 questions or comments from the board?

25 (No response.)

1 MR. JONES:

2 There is none. Any comments from
3 the public?

4 (No response.)

5 MR. JONES:

6 Seeing none, all in favor say, aye.

7 (All indicated aye.)

8 MR. JONES:

9 Any opposition?

10 (No response.)

11 MR. JONES:

12 Motion carries.

13 MS. CHENG:

14 That concludes ITEP.

15 MR. JONES:

16 Thank you all.

17 MS. CHENG:

18 Thank you.

19 MR. JONES:

20 All right. We now have some
21 information for -- for the board to
22 consider. Secretary Pierson, do you want
23 to handle that for us, please?

24 MR. PIERSON:

25 Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I'd like

1 to introduce a motion for board
2 consideration that would recognize the
3 impacts of Hurricane Ida's disaster,
4 further aggravated by the Tropical Storm
5 Nicholas.

6 In this pathway, we would be
7 following a precedent that's been
8 established in the aftermath of the
9 Hurricane Laura event. Essentially, and
10 I'll read the entire motion. What we're
11 doing is providing a 30 day extension of
12 current deadlines to help accommodate the
13 -- these impacted companies. So upon
14 consideration and request by the program
15 administrators and supervisors with
16 regard to deadlines for these programs
17 requiring approval or administration by
18 the Louisiana Board of Commerce and
19 Industry, including, but not limited to
20 Enterprise Zone, Quality Jobs,
21 Restoration Tax Abatement and the
22 Industrial Tax Exemption Program -- and
23 I'll call those BCI programs going
24 forward -- I make the following motion:
25 "Number one, for applications, compliance

1 documentation, and other contractual
2 documents, and ITEP local notices of
3 action to be filed with the department
4 for BCI Programs, during the pendency of
5 Proclamation Number 170 JBE 2021 (Section
6 2), deadlines are suspended from August
7 26, 2021, until September 24, 2021, or a
8 later date set by proclamation and,
9 thereafter, subject to an additional 30
10 day extension of deadlines. Nothing
11 herein affects the standing rules or
12 policy of the department with regard to
13 requesting extensions of deadlines for
14 BCI Programs. Furthermore, applicants
15 are encouraged to continue their program
16 related filings and such filings will
17 continue to be processed throughout this
18 time in order to avoid process delays to
19 the extent possible after the emergency
20 is lifted. All as specifically set forth
21 herein, I hereby enter this motion into
22 the record and move that this motion be
23 adopted by the board for all BCI
24 Programs.

25 MR. JONES:

1 Do we have a second? All right. We
2 have a second from Dr. Wilson. Any
3 questions or comments from the board
4 concerning this motion?

5 (No response.)

6 MR. JONES:

7 Any comments from the public?

8 (No response.)

9 MR. JONES:

10 All right. All in favor say, aye.

11 (All indicated aye.)

12 MR. JONES:

13 Any opposition?

14 (No response.)

15 MR. JONES:

16 There is none. The motion carries.

17 Do we have any other business for
18 the board? We have -- we have some
19 comments from Secretary Pierson in a
20 moment.

21 Good morning.

22 MS. VILLA:

23 Good morning.

24 MR. JONES:

25 Go right ahead, please.

1 MS. VILLA:

2 How are ya'll this morning? Anne
3 Villa, Undersecretary for LED. I wanted
4 to kind of bring forth to the board the -
5 - the discussion of the ITEP compliance.

6 The administrators, Hud and Kristin,
7 have been working throughout the past
8 several months on our compliance
9 reporting for Post-EO ITEP contracts and
10 we've begun the process that LED
11 anticipates will result in the board's
12 consideration of the affect of some
13 company's non-compliance on their Active
14 Post-EO ITEP contracts at this October
15 board meeting that's coming up next
16 month. So we thought it'd be helpful to
17 explain to the board in advance of that
18 meeting, what goes on -- goes into the
19 compliant -- the compliance review
20 process before it's going to reach you
21 for consideration.

22 So the ITEP rules call for a
23 provision in the Exhibit A, addressing
24 the penalty for failure to create the
25 requisite number of jobs and/or payroll

1 at the facility as it relates to the
2 projects subject to the exemption. The
3 Exhibit A, Section 601b4, includes
4 language that sets forth the following
5 process for company's who do not comply
6 with their jobs and payroll obligations.
7 LED notifies the company and the local
8 governmental entities of a company that's
9 in non-compliance for any given project
10 year and then LED gives the LDE's the
11 opportunity to make a recommendation to
12 the board of whether, and to what extent,
13 each local entity feels a company should
14 be penalized. LED will then present to
15 the board those ITEP contracts that are
16 out of compliance and whether -- I'm
17 sorry, and whether to the extent to which
18 the locals have weighed in on what the
19 potential penalties should be.

20 Alternatively, the local company --
21 the local company's and -- I'm sorry, the
22 locals and the company may forego this
23 process if the local entities and the
24 company can agree on, and the company
25 pays a default payment, in which case,

1 the company is deem -- deemed to be back
2 in compliance.

3 So at the upcoming October board
4 meeting, the board will be presented with
5 a handful of ITEP contracts that are not
6 in compliance with their Exhibit A's for
7 one or more of the following reasons:

8 The failure to maintain or create the
9 required jobs; the failure to maintain or
10 create the required payroll; and the
11 failure to properly report on required
12 jobs or payroll either at -- that --
13 either at all or that -- that were late.

14 So LED anticipates this to become a
15 somewhat regular part of the ITEP agenda
16 going forward. So what -- so what we'll
17 do is think through the recommendations,
18 potential penalties, but ultimately, the
19 penalty determination should be made on a
20 case by case basis and the company's will
21 have the opportunity to appear before you
22 to explain their circumstances, similar
23 to what they do whenever they consider
24 late renewals, you guys consider late
25 renewals.

1 So I just wanted to bring that forth
2 to you so that when it appears on the
3 agenda next month in October, we wanted
4 to kind of give you some background on
5 the processes that we've been following
6 at LED and what the administrators have
7 been doing in working with the companies
8 to determine compliance and then working
9 with the locals on that as well.

10 MR. JONES:

11 Thank you, Ms. Villa. I -- I have a
12 couple of questions. So for the October
13 meeting, we'll have the first batch of
14 company's which the -- which LED deems to
15 be non-compliant with -- with the rules?

16 MS. VILLA:

17 Correct.

18 MR. JONES:

19 And those companies will have been
20 notified prior to that time -- I presume
21 they know by now probably --

22 MS. VILLA:

23 Correct.

24 MR. JONES:

25 -- who they are already. But they

1 will be notified to appear at the meeting
2 to make whatever explanation. The -- the
3 penalties themselves, are they set by
4 regulations or -- or we -- will the board
5 be responsible for determining what those
6 penalties will be?

7 MS. VILLA:

8 There could be recommendations that
9 come forth to the board when the locals
10 suggest them to --

11 MR. JONES:

12 From the local --

13 MS. VILLA:

14 Correct.

15 MR. JONES:

16 From the local governmental entities
17 that oversee --

18 MS. VILLA:

19 Right.

20 MR. JONES:

21 -- those contracts at their level?

22 MS. VILLA:

23 At that level.

24 MR. JONES:

25 Actually, they don't oversee them.

1 They approve them. Got it. All right.

2 Thank you, Ms. Villa.

3 Any other questions from the board
4 for Ms. Villa?

5 (No response.)

6 MR. JONES:

7 This will be simply another --
8 another item agenda going forward.

9 Whether they will be -- have compliance
10 issues at every meeting, we don't know.
11 It depends. But it will be a -- a slight
12 change in the -- the agenda and a little
13 bit more for us to consider.

14 MR. WILSON:

15 Excuse me. I have a question.

16 MR. JONES:

17 Dr. Wilson?

18 MR. WILSON:

19 How many non-compliances do we
20 currently have?

21 MS. VILLA:

22 We have about 256 contracts that
23 have reported -- we have 250 contracts
24 that have been approved by the board
25 Post-EO, and of those contracts, there's

1 multiple years that are required for
2 compliance. So we have a handful of
3 contracts right now that are
4 non-compliant that we feel that are going
5 to bring -- that we'll bring forward to
6 the board.

7 MR. WILSON:

8 And will those individuals be here
9 to explain why they're not in compliance?

10 MS. VILLA:

11 We're going to suggest that they be
12 here to explain their non-compliance to
13 the board, similar to like they do
14 whenever they're late on their renewals.

15 MR. WILSON:

16 Thank you.

17 MR. JONES:

18 Any other questions?

19 (No response.)

20 MR. JONES:

21 Good. Thank you, Ms. Villa. I
22 appreciate the information.

23 MS. VILLA:

24 Thank you.

25 MR. JONES:

1 Mr. Pierson?

2 MR. PIERSON:

3 Thank you, Mr. Chairman, for the
4 opportunity to make a few brief updates
5 to the board. Certainly your call out
6 for prayers for the impacted communities,
7 citizens, organizations across the state
8 is greatly appreciated.

9 We are, in a word, multitasking
10 right now. Certainly a lot of the COVID
11 impacts have not left us and we're still
12 on that front. We're also, of course,
13 with the not forgotten southwest
14 Louisiana so severely damaged by Laura,
15 and now dealing with the impacts of
16 Hurricane Ida and Tropical Storm Nicholas
17 that followed that.

18 For economic development, we were on
19 the call at 10:00 a.m. this morning where
20 the Governor continues to lead the United
21 Command Group that coordinates the
22 federal and state resources around
23 recovery. From an LED perspective, we're
24 very active in what we call "the fuel
25 cell" there, assisting refineries getting

1 back into service. Oh, by the way, that
2 takes liquid nitrogen, so if all your
3 power goes out, you can't get liquid
4 nitrogen. You can't restart the
5 refineries. But we -- those are the
6 kinds of issues that we've been engaged
7 in and played a catalyst role through the
8 Louisiana Business Emergency Operations
9 Center and -- and other features. And
10 so, any impacted area getting the fuel to
11 the pumps where it matters most, we've
12 got about two-thirds of the gas stations
13 that currently have both fuel and power.
14 Both are somewhat challenging, but the
15 refineries are coming back into service.
16 Their product, obviously, then goes to
17 truck RACs for distribution throughout
18 these impacted areas.

19 Another sort of measure of how
20 challenging the situation has been out
21 there, more than 50,000 requests for blue
22 roofs and the tarps associated with that
23 so that people can, you know, establish
24 their homes and remove the debris and go
25 on with their lives. (Inaudible) played

1 a critical role for us in housing and I'm
2 sure you've noted that the Governor has
3 been very active on that front.

4 Hopefully, this good weather that we're
5 experiencing right now, allow those crews
6 in the field that are trying to get those
7 blue roofs on to succeed and it's -- it's
8 just sort of one glimpse of -- of how
9 challenging it is for us in southeast
10 Louisiana right now.

11 Beyond that, we continue to recruit
12 business. We continue to work with our
13 existing industries for expansions.

14 Thank you for your support of a number of
15 those today. We're working with the U.S.
16 Treasury, stakeholders, anticipating that
17 we're going to have some robust funding
18 from the U.S. Treasury to the state's
19 small business credit initiative. This
20 will be sort of focused at the Louisiana
21 Economic Development Corporation, but we
22 have a big outreach going on now to be
23 able to meet the criteria that has not
24 yet been issued by the Treasury, but will
25 be. And we've experienced that in the

1 past. In late '09 and 2010, we received
2 a charge of funding that we did a great
3 job with, so we feel like the mechanisms
4 that we put in place with the Treasury
5 will be adopted quickly and move on to
6 help small businesses across our state.

7 We're also in pursuit of a -- you
8 may have seen that Congress has awarded
9 \$3 billion to the Economic Development
10 Administration. That's a subset from the
11 Department of Commerce. Our regional
12 headquarters is in Austin. And we're
13 working with a number of our communities
14 across the state to try to make sure we
15 achieve, for Louisiana, as much of that
16 funding that we can bring in and bring to
17 bear and assist our companies.

18 So a great deal of activity. I'm
19 happy to answer questions, but would also
20 like to point out and congratulate our
21 own, Mandy Mitchell, who has recently
22 been selected to lead the Lafayette
23 Economic Development Authority as their
24 new CEO. We'll miss her service, but
25 she's just going to be right down the

1 road and continue to be a part of the
2 team that takes care of the jobs and
3 investment growth in Louisiana. That's
4 all I have, sir.

5 MR. JONES:

6 Thank you, Mr. Pierson. Any
7 questions for Mr. Pierson?

8 (No response.)

9 MR. JONES:

10 Great. Thank you for your work.

11 Ladies and gentlemen, if you haven't
12 noticed, it's football weather, so
13 whichever team you might support, I hope
14 you have a great weekend. I'll entertain
15 a motion to adjourn. I have a motion and
16 a second. All in favor say, aye.

17 (All indicated aye.)

18 MR. JONES:

19 We are adjourned. Thank you very
20 much, ladies and gentlemen. Have a great
21 weekend.

22 THE MEETING CONCLUDED AT 10:35 A.M.

23 * * * * *

24

25

1 R E P O R T E R ' S P A G E

2 I, Lori B. Overland, Certified Court
3 Reporter, in and for the State of Louisiana,
4 the officer, as defined in Rule 28 of the
5 Federal Rules of Civil Procedure and/or
6 Article 1434(b) of the Louisiana code of
7 Civil Procedure, before whom this sworn
8 testimony was taken, do hereby state on the
9 Record

10 That due to the interaction in the
11 spontaneous discourse of this proceeding,
12 dashes (--) have been used to indicate
13 pauses, changes in thought, and/or talk
14 overs; that same is the proper method for a
15 Court Reporters's transcription of
16 proceeding, and that the dashes (--) do not
17 indicated that words or phrases have been
18 left out of this transcript;

19 That any words and/or names which could
20 not be verified through reference material
21 have been denoted with the phrase
22 "(inaudible)."

23

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Lori Overland, C.C.R.

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C E R T I F I C A T I O N

I, Lori B. Overland, Certified Court Reporter in and for the State of Louisiana, as the officer before whom this testimony was taken, do hereby certify that the above referenced individual to whom oath was administered, after having been duly sworn by me upon authority of R.S. 37:2554, did testify as hereinbefore set forth in the foregoing pages, that this testimony was reported by me in the stenomask reporting method, was prepared and transcribed by me or under my personal direction and supervision, and is a true and correct transcript to the best of my ability and understanding; that the transcript has been prepared in compliance with transcript format guidelines required by statute or by rules of the board, that I have acted in compliance with the prohibition on contractual relationships, as defined by Louisiana Code of Civil Procedure Article 1434 and in rules and advisory opinions of the board; that I am not related to counsel or to the parties herein, nor am I otherwise interested in the outcome of this matter.

Lori Overland C.C.R.

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