

## Public Questions, Answers, and Comments

### Government and Academic Representatives in Attendance:

*Greg Grabas, Environment Canada*  
*Susan Humphrey, Environment Canada*  
*Jennifer McKay, Environment Canada*

*Michelle McChristie, Ministry of the Environment and Climate Change*  
*Drew Stajkowski, Ministry of the Environment and Climate Change*

*Marilee Chase, Ministry of Natural Resource and Forestry*

*Samuel Pegg, Lakehead University*  
*Rob Stewart, Lakehead University*  
*Jim Bailey, Lakehead University*

### **Bruce Hyer, MP Thunder Bay**

It is kind of a double comment. The first comment is "Thank you Jim, Michelle and everybody else for a job well done". This is a good news story. It is exciting and I am really glad that I am here. That was a wonderful presentation and I even understood it all so it was nice and clear. You mentioned the National Marine Conservation Area (NMCA) and how things seem to be moving slowly. I have received recently a request from a township or two and a few other people about the NMCA. Those of you who are near CPAC, that is the government television channel, next Friday (May 15, 2015) around noon I am going to be asking the Prime Minister some hard questions. He promised a lot of things back in 2007 here in Nipigon and a lot of them haven't happened. So I am going to be asking that question next week so if your near your TV next week tune in and lets see if I can get things moving a bit.

### **Rob Swainson, Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry (retired) (difficult to hear)**

You had mentioned that there might be funding in the future for Nipigon fish work. I just want to know what kind of assurances there are in place for fish monitoring, habitat restoration, or monitoring the populations

### **Michelle McChristie, Ministry of the Environment and Climate Change**

I will just answer that from the provincial side. So we still have the same amount of money for Great Lakes work and Marilee and I are still kind of championing efforts in this area so when Marilee and I were talking about this before we actually thought that this might make more opportunities. Now if you want to apply for funding for a project it does not necessarily have to be tied to the Area of Concern; for example, now you don't have to link it to a beneficial use impairment or an action identified in the Stage II report. Now, if were just about any project that was going to improve habitat for fish on Lake Superior I don't see why it would not be considered. It would still have to be evaluated among any other funding application that comes in but I think we have a little bit more freedom going forwards since it does not have to be specifically linked to the beneficial use impairments from the Stage I report.

**[Rob Swainson]** It was priority before and now it won't be.

*[Jim Bailey]* Marilee, Do you have anything to add to that from the Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry?

### **Marilee Chase, Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry**

It was priority before; I'm just speaking in terms of the Canada-Ontario agreement (COA) now that it is listed in the agreement what has to be done in each of the AOCs. So right now there is not a lot left to be done in the Nipigon AOC just what has been tied to the AOC. But if you want to

tie your project to, for example rehabilitation of walleye, there is a greater opportunity to apply than just the AOC. Having said that, maybe if you just did apply for COA funding this year and they were able to get three projects funded out of the AOC pot. Cause technically it is still an AOC. But had those projects been written up a different way it is quite possible they would have been funded from another source.

**Greg Grabas, Environment Canada** *(difficult to hear)*

Just to add to that, there are a number of environmental programs that we run. There are monitoring programs that go on around Lake Superior they are going to continue. As well there are other application-based programs where you can apply for funds to improve the environment. Let's face it; if it is an advantage to the environment it is an advantage to fish. Those are application-based. You may say that it is not a priority. Well if you put in strong applications and the rationale to show why it is still a priority then that's how funding is secured. On top of that investment is still occurring. Environment Canada and the provincial government as well are putting money towards Nipigon's wastewater treatment plant and it is going to continue over the next couple years too so the investment is still occurring. There may not be an area of concern but that investment will still be there. We want the folks who have put in all this great work to continue on with it and they know what funds are coming.

*[Jim Bailey] Jennifer or Susan, anything to add to that from Environment Canada.*

**Jennifer McKay, Environment Canada**

I thought he said it perfectly.

**Michelle McChristie**

Only thing I will add to that is that the Great Lakes Guardian fund offers \$25,000 per project so Nipigon received funding through it and the Red Rock Indian Band also received funding through it. The most important thing when putting in an application or considering a project is talk to someone like myself, Marilee or Greg and find out what the words are that you need to write in that project to make it fit with the priorities because we are the ones who pour over the wording in the Canada-Ontario Agreement and the Great Lakes Water Quality Agreement and anything you do to help fish is going to be priority but you need to use the right words to ensure funding.

*[Jim Bailey] Rob, you made your point about the funding and it is an excellent point. We will come back for other questions as well. Anybody else?*

**Wayne Young, PAC Member**

First of all I would like to publicly thank the authors of the draft report. It wasn't the members of the RAP that produced that report. It got produced and I want to congratulate the authors of that report. It was well written and very comprehensive. You talked before Michelle of about 4 feet of reports well it got synthesized down into a nice sized report. I am a member of the PAC and I support the delisting really with two caveats that we still have to wrestle with: the Red Rock Waste Treatment Plant. It is still "yes"/"maybe"/"yes, for sure". Do we wait to delist it until shovels are in the ground? That is going to be an issue that I think we need to wrestle with. When are we certain that the waste treatment plant is going ahead? Maybe I need to talk to Gary *[Red Rock Mayor Gary Nelson]* and just get that commitment. The second caveat, and I have been mulling this one over, is that I think one of the conditions of delisting is that in five years from the delisting date we get together in this room again and talk about: Rob – did we get enough funding, did we do the monitoring that we're supposed to, is the base still delisted. I think another presentation about what we have done in 5 years from the delisting just to make ourselves really feel good that it is still delisted. I would like to see a formal process and I guess challenge all the RAPs that five years from delisting that they would reconvene a public meeting like this and talk about have we monitored, have we funded, is there any changes and make that a formal process.

*[Jim Bailey] Thank you very much Wayne. Gary or even Kal would you like to respond? Are the funds there for secondary treatment in Red Rock, timeline, etc.? Would you care to comment?*

**Kal Pristanski, Township of Red Rock** *(difficult to hear)*

Probably the biggest hurdles are we now have to sign a funding agreement from the government *[inaudible]* that is for \$4.5 million dollars each to go ahead. We heard that as of December of last year we could now start accruing expenses *[inaudible]* We will be advertising for a management consultant very shortly *[inaudible]* and design and it will be tendered and plan to begin construction next spring.

*[Jim Bailey] If you couldn't hear a bit of that - two commitments: one for \$4.5 million from the province, one for \$4.5 million from the federal government. And a timeline of...?*

**[Kal Pristanski]** We have until 2019 in the agreement, but we expend completion at the end of 2017.

*[Jim Bailey] End of 2017 for completion. Thank you very much.*

*They have until spring of 2019 to complete the project but they expect the end of 2017 for completion.*

**Gerald Winedrick, Public** *(unknown name spelling)*

I'm a little concerned about too this lagoon in Nipigon and it has to do with the flood of 1959. I'm not sure anyone remembers. The CPR culvert backed up the water so bad two houses fell into that ravine by the dentist's office, across from the tracks. Also, all those buildings along the lagoon there are cracking and at some point may fall into the ravine. If they open up those break walls, apparently I think. I haven't been getting the Gazette for about 8 months. They want to open up a better flow through the lagoon like it was in the past. It may take out the downtown street, have you even considered that.

*[Jim Bailey] Perhaps we will give Richard a moment to respond to that.*

**Richard Harvey, Mayor of Nipigon**

Yes. That work already has actually being completed just so you know. A decision has been made. You have to understand the history of the Nipigon Lagoon starts in 1909 when the Nipigon River was diverted for the CN tracks. It wasn't CP it was the CN tracks. They diverted the Nipigon River and let it flow down. That basically destroyed the Nipigon Bay walleye population by destroying a lot of habitat, but more so it created an oxbow and that created a problem. When the flooding of 1959 took place and throughout those times it had to do with stormwater management issues not anything about the flow. In reality it was connected to that since 1909 continually everybody tried different things to fix it. My theory is that a bunch of guys sat around a coffee shop and they said what's going to work and they came up with best idea to fix the problem were dealing with now and they got that addressed and created another problem. Then they went and did something else.

So the process we did this time with the funding from the different agencies here today that are willing to help us out. Nipigon took it on as a very real concern because of exactly those issues to make sure they are done right and because we knew of the structure we had there. We hired on of the top hydrological engineering firms in the world to sit down and look at what happened to do the computer modeling. So instead of looking at just one issue, we wanted to try and look at every possible issue that could happen there because that is what can happen when you look at one thing. So with multiple open houses and those concerns have all been addressed - not by guys sitting around a room but by dropping things in the river and monitoring where they went. By doing the computer modeling on it to looking at every aspect to make sure that every foreseeable concern was dealt with. We had continuing issues going back to 1909 that had to be addressed. The solution is what we came up with. Something I am excited to see and a lot of people know that I'm very committed to the lagoon and am at the water half the time with my dive gear cause it's a cool place to dive. We are seeing really positive stuff happening there. Even just getting into

the flow there, if you go along the bank of what is front street and that Nipigon town area you see that it had firmed up by that small amount of flow that is there, exactly what they have said was going to happen. I want to reassure people that this was not something undertaken on a whim. It was 2006 that we had first discussion down at the loop because we had this idea and it took until last fall to move ahead because we wanted to make sure it was that well. All those things were addressed.

*[Jim Bailey] Richard, thank you very kindly. Were taking notes here there may be a little further discussion required. We appreciate the question. Any other questions or comments?*

### **Jim Garriock, Public**

I lived in Shuniah and I've got a summer camp at Cypress Bay so I am kind of on either side of the Area of Concern. I want to say thanks for all the work that you have done to get things cleaned up to where they are but my comment would be the funding for the wastewater and sewage treatment in both towns. Michelle seems to think that will happen soon. I wouldn't close the door on this until the shovels are in the ground and we are well under way. Through my working career I would not cross out a project until all the 'i's were dotted and the 't's were crossed and I don't think your ready yet.

*[Jim Bailey] So you are talking specifically about getting the Red Rock plant done.*

**[Jim Garriock]** Yes and all this mention of the stormwater management for Nipigon. I don't know where that stands in terms of funding or anything like that.

### **Greg Grabas**

The stormwater management plan is actually not part of the remedial action plan. This is an additional investment beyond that. It was never part of the plan.

**[Jim Garriock]** Stormwater management was mentioned in the text here.

**[Greg Grabas]** I'm just letting you know that it wasn't. It was in the text but it was part of ongoing monitoring

*[Jim Bailey] So some debate over whether it was in the text or not. Jim, if you left your email maybe we could clarify what the timelines were, how many dollars were spent or plan to be spent. Maybe were not going to solve all the points you raised but maybe we can provide some more clarification. And we take your point about the plant on the Red Rock side.*

**[Jim Garriock]** I just know how things go in today's world. Promises don't always bear fruit.

[Jim Bailey] Point taken.

### **Greg Grabas**

I just want to clarify, and I may need some help from my colleagues here, as far as the water treatment plant goes a lot of the problems in the bay were water quality and sediment related so this impacted organisms and the water quality. We have met our goals as far as the water quality and benthic organism without the upgrades. This has been brought up and I know folks may be concerned. I just want to point out that we have met those goals, despite not having it done, and this is just more icing on the cake. That is why we want to move towards delisting. You talk about not wanting to wrap up the project until everything is done, well we have met the goals so that is the reason we are wanting to wrap up the project. It's like if you have a dozen tomatoes, you get your tomatoes you are happy, and there is still a dozen on the plant. That's fine. That's what we have here. Environmental monitoring and investment will continue

*[Jim Bailey] So Greg you are making the point from the Environment Canada side that, clear point - finish the plant, but we are going above and beyond.*

### **Jim Garriock**

Why was it part of the part of the discussion then, why was it up on the screen.

### **Greg Grabas**

Cause when there were environmental issues in the bay we had a deal with wastewater in the bay. They wanted to get at and they saw environmental gains in the goals that we wanted to see. That was just a list of things that we said we needed to do to improve the water.

*[Jim Bailey] I think both parties have made their points clearly. Any other questions, I think we will try to take a few new comments.*

### **Jim McCullough**

I just have a quick comment. At 5-mile point near the Red Rock mill, you used to be able to walk across there it was so thick with sediment when I used to go out there until they put in the treatment. That sludge was so thick out there but after they put the secondary treatment in during the 1990s that really cleaned up that area. That was a big cleanup behind the Red Rock mill getting all that sediment out.

Another point is that they used to put the town sewer into the lagoon until they built the new plant in 1959, let's say. Ten to fifteen years later they are drinking the water out of the lagoon cause of the river that floods. So I am saying nature is wonderful. They give them a break with the RAP program and everything they are doing there, but Mother Nature will take charge. It is a powerful machine that will cleanup. Finish the work.

*[Jim Bailey] Thanks Jim, Finish the work, ok. Yes, Ray.*

### **Ray Dupris, Sr.**

I don't know the affects of secondary treatment environmentally because I haven't been part of that project. Why haven't we been thinking of tertiary treatment where you can drink the water and it's absolutely pure? I know a friend of mine from Red Rock who was in Nevada and they had the best tertiary treatment in the whole world. They drank that, and that was in that famous resort there in Nevada. They absolutely were able to drink that water. Are we looking to tertiary treatment because that would be the goal?

*[Jim] Ray that is an excellent point and I think we have some people who might be able to answer that either from the provincial side or the federal side.*

### **Michelle McChristie**

I don't know about the federal side, but right now it is just a policy that all sewage treatment plants are expected to have secondary treatment. So really, Ontario is catching up with that. The last remaining primary is ... I don't know if people know what these terms mean since we throw around "primary" and "secondary" terminology a lot. Primary means that you are really just removing solids and secondary means that added biological component. That is where you are removing organics. The plant in Red Rock right now still is a sewage treatment plant and it still has a biological component and there is still is organic reduction so it is a functioning sewage treatment plant. There is no raw sewage being discharged from the Town of Red Rock. The plant that they are looking at building would further improve sewage treatment but what they have right now isn't breaking the law. They are not violating any legal requirements; it just doesn't meet our policy standard, which is minimum secondary treatment. Tertiary treatment, as far as I understand, is a further reduction in nutrients or disinfection so the Nipigon plant has UV disinfection so you could consider that to be tertiary treatment. There is lots of jargon with the whole wastewater technology but the whole Nipigon plant is producing, for the size of the community it is serving, it's producing really high quality effluent. I don't know if you would necessarily drink it but it certainly wouldn't have any pathogens because of the UV disinfection at the end.

[Jim] Thank you, we will try to get back to you but we want to try to cycle through to any who hasn't asked a question yet.

**Chuck Hutterli, Public**

Outstanding job to get this close to delisting an Area of Concern. Do we know of any other areas that have been delisted and what are those results?

**Michelle McChristie**

On the Canadian side there is Wheatley harbor on Lake Erie [NOTE: Severn Sound and Collingwood Harbour on Georgian Bay have also been delisted]. There has only been one Area of Concern delisted on the American side and that's Deer Lake (on Lake Superior) [NOTE: White Lake on Lake Michigan, Presque Isle Bay on Lake Erie, and Oswego River/Harbour on Lake Ontario have also been delisted on the US side].

**[Chuck Hutterli]** And how is that carrying on?

*[Jim Bailey] They had a mercury contamination issue and they have delisted that area. What the process going forward is we aren't quite sure since it was just delisted in the past year.*

**[Michelle McChristie]** There would not be very much follow up since that delisting decision is very recent.

**[Chuck Hutterli]** It is encouraging to hear that if it does get delisted that there are municipal organizing such as your environment to take care of future environmental impacts such as railroad derailments spills.

**[Michelle McChristie]** Including any spills that happen in and around water.

**[Chuck Hutterli]** I am encouraged to see that.

*[Jim Bailey] So Chuck, basically what you are asking is should there be there a spill (oil, beads), what is there in place to deal with this?*

**[Chuck Hutterli]** Exactly.

*[Jim Bailey] So Greg, I know that this is not in the RAP cookie cutter but the question is raised. Do people want to address this, Michelle or anybody else?*

**Drew Stajkowski, Ministry of the Environment and Climate Change**

You are concerned about spills going to Lake Superior or any other water body. Our legislation under the EPA requires anyone under the direct control of that material when it is spill to remediate or clean it up and take care of any other environmental concerns associated with that spill. I know there is an ongoing issue with plastic beads and I do have a contact from CP. It is the responsibility and we do hold the party responsible to clean that up. We do have a lot of regulatory tools that we use to ensure that including orders. If the company cannot clean it up then we do have funds to address this, but to protect the taxpayers of Ontario we will go after the spillers. That's why when we give approvals they have to have assurances in place and things of that nature. The one with the plastic beads has reached \$1million, but I have been to some train derailments and the numbers are staggering. It doesn't take long to add up to a million dollars anymore.

**Ed Wawia, Red Rock Indian Band**

I would like to see an ongoing comprehensive monitoring plan started immediately and I'd like to see it in writing to see that it's actually in place.

*[Jim Bailey] Is there a response to that? Ed is saying that he would like to see a comprehensive environmental program be put in place and the Red Rock Band would like to see this in writing. We talked this this afternoon. We did meet with the people from the band this afternoon but the people in this room might be interested in this.*

**Greg Grabas:**

The report is available online. I can sit here and tell you what's in it but it is much better written in the actual report in terms of ongoing monitoring. To build on that, if there is interest in additional monitoring then again there are other application-based funding tools that can be used to increase the monitoring. I mean it depends on what the actual program is and what the actual project is. I encourage you to take a look at the document. It is at the back of the document under ongoing progress.

*[Jim Bailey] So Greg what your saying is, the commitment, it's there, for the ongoing environmental monitoring?*

**Greg Grabas:**

Not in Nipigon Bay specially a post-delisting monitoring plan. But there has always been monitoring in Lake Superior and if there is a need to augment that then funding can be searched out.

*[Jim Bailey] And that report if anyone wants it is available right there on the front page, infosuperior.com, and it's about 80 pages long.*

**Wayne Young**

Its not often you get the opportunity to have in the same room the international, federal, and provincial people that created the RAP. The challenge, change that nightmare, we have is that say 6 months we go home and that's it. Michelle, you talked about how the government we've got lots of knowledge like 20 years, expertise commitment building trust, building equity, getting stuff done. That's the challenge I would put forward to the people who created us is how do we morph that experience and dedication into the future. If we delist we could just turn the light off and say good night we don't need you any more. How do we take that RAP committee and either continue on or morph it into something that looks at the continuing improving the quality of Nipigon Bay. I don't need an answer it is just a challenge to the people of the international community to continue the work that Betty and Dave and the other committee members have put towards this process. I don't need an answer.

**Michelle McChristie:**

But I have an answer. We took that point to heart when we brought up that point at a PAC meeting and I completely agree with you. One thing that Rob and I have been talking about as well as with my lake superior lakewide counterpart at Environment Canada is how can we continue the involvement of these public involvement groups into the lake superior program. Cause here is a group that gets it. How can we mutually benefit from the relationship we have now cause we have been working on lake superior. You could be interested in it. Dave's wearing the shirt so he might be keen; Betty has got hers on too. I'm kind of just leaving it with Rob and Jim to go around the north shore and talk to groups around the lake and also talk to first nation communities and other environmental organizations, like the group set up about environmentally mining in marathon. So we have got these clusters of keen, dedicated and well-informed individuals and we have to find out that we can work together. We don't want to waste people's time we want to give them meaningful information that but also making sure we are involving people in the process. The greatest benefit from this Remedial Action Plan process has been public involvement. I don't know of any similar models in government. Maybe in the healthcare field but I have worked in government for 16 years and never have I come across a model like this and we should build on it. I think that Rob and Jim will be helpful with this as it has been on their to-do list for the next year.

### **Rob Stewart, Lakehead University**

I would like to express that right from the beginning in 2008 with the MOECC and Environment Canada approached Lakehead University it wasn't the university convincing the government to let university in. It was the government seeing that if we want to connect with the community we need to work with students and the youth and the university as a neutral third party. They really trusted as an academic institution we would work with them and not criticize them like we normally do. That's blossoming here today. I hear two sides of it: I hear the taxpayer coming to the university and asking if the government isn't doing it then how do we account for our tax dollars. On the one hand you have people saying that the government can't do everything. Then on the other hand you have people who are saying when is it time for communities to embrace the capacity they have, apply for the funding that's becoming more and more available in these three agencies and lead projects themselves. Projects they know are important because they know they are indicators of their environment. Somehow balance this motivation for community people to get together. Maybe call on the university to help with proposal writing get funding, and trust that the governments are there still to support the carrying out of those projects. Now we can access the community capacity to do things that the government may not be permitted to address the particular issue. There are some emerging issues that I think communities are better situated to deal with quickly and responsively than perhaps the top-down model. I see the future, if we can keep this capacity moving, I trust in that capacity versus needing a safe guard there. This false sense of security you know that some agency from southern Ontario is always going to have to come up and solve these problems for us.

*[Jim Bailey] So you really would like to seek an avenue forward?*

### **Rob Stewart**

Absolutely. And I think if you look, academically speaking, at groups from around the world that are addressing emerging issues and environmental issues that are complex. There are these bottoms-up groups that are identifying other capacity and using it when needed to respond to issues. I think that is the 21st century approach.

*[Jim Bailey] One further point to Rob there, and Matthew I hope you don't mind me putting you on the spot, but your not really here to answer questions, but you have observed Areas of Concern around the Great Lakes. What does happen to the public groups on the American sides and the Canadian sides? What happens?*

### **Matthew Child, International Joint Commission (difficult to hear)**

A couple of things first of all, it is a very ordinary reaction when it comes to the end of an area of concern and it can get quite messy so this is a common experience. I agree with everything that's been said in that it comes down to communication. Now there is one thing that you might want to consider and this is how to control some of the partners that you have been working with. Considering having a very structured discussion of this situation. One suggestion is conceivably consider hiring someone to help you in the process of transitioning from a PAC to a, you know, stewardship or community group that will have continued involvement in the Nipigon Bay area. There has been a number of examples recently in the US side one was Deer Lake (Michigan) that didn't do this and the other one White Lake (Michigan) that did, where there was a modest amount of funding set aside for a consultant to help establish the organization and deal with some issues after delisting. This funding was to find out if they wanted to hitch wagons or wanted to go alone and how to incorporate as a non-profit. A number of options were considered and one was considered. I suggest structuring this transition.

### **Michelle McChristie**

We do have a formal agreement with Lakehead to do that and the Ministry of the Environment and Climate Change funds it.

### **Gerald Winedrick, Public (unknown name spelling)**

I operated a sewage vacuum truck for 12 years in this area; I'm operated towards Pass Lake, all the way towards Wawa and Hearst. I get insight and some very helpful information for the MOE. There are lagoons in southern Ontario that the taxpayers money. I was expected to develop my own lagoons all over this area. It was open business; any one can buy a truck. A lot of towns had sewage transfers and I had the keys to the gate. Dorian to this day does not have sewage transfers they just put it into Shuniah's dump, Red Rock's dump, Nipigon's dump, wherever they can put it. I emptied a tank, up north of Thunder Bay and my truck was finally full by the time I got to Geraldton. They wanted us to go to the next lagoon to dump our truck. That probably would have taken me a day and a half to get. This is how foolish they are. I was unloading my truck at an MNR dump in McDermitt and a conservation officer drove up and he said, "Do you know the trench is leaking into the creek". "No I did not know that" and you're telling me that now. I said, "you guys are sick, it's your dump, it's your sewage". That sewage reached McDermitt's drinking water before I even got back to the reserve to do more work. This is what has gone on in this area and it is disgusting. I was treated like Danger Dan. They probably spent \$250,000 on detective work, taping my phone, following me with unmarked cars just like I was Danger Dan. This is the way it's operated. They get my customer list cause the health unit wants to know whose tank we emptied and where we disposed of it. They give my customer list to a new business in Scriber. Meanwhile Marathon's dump is sitting over the aquifer. What's that town over in southern Ontario where cow poop got into their drinking water? Walkerton. Yes. Marathon's drinking water comes from how many wells, and the mill even had a bulldozer fall into the aquifer and they still haven't moved that thing. The Nipigon dump is over an aquifer that is probably meets Clearwater creek. There is another building over by 11 that is on sand points and most of the tanks and they aren't tanks because they are made from switch ties because there was an availability of ties from CN and they are on sand points. I told the Ministry about this. You should put a community dump in, even their aquifer their water table is really high. Finally they moved the dump out of town. But I had to tell them, here's the lake, here's the town, here's the garbage dump. And the water and this is what we are dealing with. They have given. I added it up: The Domtar lagoon \$25 million...

**[Michelle McChristie]** No, they paid for it themselves.

**[Gerald Winedrick]** It says it was federal and provincial grants.

**[Michelle McChristie]** No, it didn't say that.

**[Gerald Winedrick]** Then why did it say that?

**[Michelle McChristie]** It only said that there was federal and provincial money for the municipal treatment plants.

**[Gerald Winedrick]** But regardless, the MNR. Getting back to these sewage lagoons. I ended up with four competitors and I'm supposed to build all my disposal sites all the way to Wawa. The MNR could have spent \$40,000 and put trenches at every damn garbage dump they own but they were negligent and this is abuse. That is like telling someone who is doing house renovations or demolitions that he has to build his own garbage dump. Same thing. Same rhetoric.

*[Jim Bailey] Yeah. Ok...*

**[Gerald Winedrick]** Now let me finish, because this sewage ends up in streams...

**[Mayor Harvey]** We are meeting about the RAP.

*[Jim Bailey] I understand that, but let's give him a minute or two.*

**[Gerald Winedrick]** I'm glad your intervening Richard because I operated for twelve years. I used to go out to the Red Rock sewage plant every week and take a load of hot sludge. In twelve years

I never went to the Nipigon sewage plant to take one load. So, a sewage plant is only as good as their operators and their willful attitude to run the plant properly and be diligent. I never took one load from the Nipigon plant. OK? You want to shut me down. I'm done.

*[Jim Bailey] You know what we could do, and I hope you won't leave. I really do. There are maybe one or two people here and once we conclude the questions. There are one or two people that could sit down with you. I'm not saying that we are going to solve all of your problems tonight by any stretch of the imagination but perhaps a bit of dialog ongoing for that. Maybe some of this stuff could be resolved over time. Nobody is promising the world.*

**[Gerald Winedrick]** No, but I have seen a lot of dirty laundry all the way from Wawa to Hearst and there was no help from the MNR or the Ministry of the Environment.

*[Jim Bailey] Ok. I will introduce you to a couple of people after we get a couple more questions.*

### **Louis Martin**

I just want to say that as a citizen I think we should hold them to finishing Red Rock. Red rock was identified as a point of concern in 1989 and in 2016 it is still a point of concern. On page 37 it still says that work is active it says that it is "currently undergoing upgrades". I don't think that is correct. About the monitoring, on page 17 of the report it does say, "more monitoring is required". So that's in their own document.

*[Jim Bailey] I think we are going to wind it down. Maybe one or two last more questions.*

### **Chuck Hutterli**

We have a world-class lake here and I think we should try to keep the world-class nuclear organization that we have here intact and continue it. The world is probably looking at this as an example.

*[Jim Bailey] We should keep which intact?*

**[Chuck Hutterli]** The group.

*[Jim Bailey] Ok. Jamie Saunders, maybe we will make this the last hand in the air, but there are a number of individuals from Environment Canada, Ministry of the Environment, Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry, even the mayors of the couple towns, representatives of the band, lots of people to talk to. It doesn't mean we are shutting anybody down it's just that some people would probably like to move on.*

### **Jamie Saunders, EcoSuperior**

I just want to say that as far as I'm concerned. I have spent time in this area. I actually did a coop at the Red Rock mill way back in my early 20s. Now I work for EcoSuperior in Thunder Bay and we work closely with Michelle, and Jim and Robert and Greg on many of these different areas of concern and issues affecting the lake and one thing you said resonates with me as an employee of a not-for-profit organization that isn't government or university. We have developed an organization from the community level that does a lot of different things in Thunder Bay and the surrounding region that work to improve the water quality of lake superior. So I think moving forward with the RAP process we need to get away from saying, "RAP is done, where is our money going to come from?" and say, "As a community on the north shore of the Lake, how do we develop our own capabilities for promoting, maintaining, and ensuring that this resource is protected?" So again congratulations to the place you guys have here now to see the work done it's amazing.

*[Jim Bailey] So thanks everybody for coming. There are pens and cards around if you would like to scribble notes down. Also really clear thanks to both of towns for their support, for the Red Rock Band for hosting meetings over the last year or two, and getting involved also to*

*Environment Canada, the Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry, and the Ministry of the Environment and Climate Change for their support. Thanks everybody for coming. Doesn't mean it is over feel free to mix mingle, ask questions, and comment. Thank you.*