OIL SPILL
6/2/2010 6 P.M.
MOBILE, ALABAMA

Disclaimer: This transcript begins with the first mention of the topic and introductions.

(0:00:00.0)
MODERATOR: ***(0:00:00.0 audio unclear)*** is Cathy Jordan, with the latest in prayer.

CATHY: May we pray. Creator God whose spirit moved over the phase of the waters. Who gathered the seas into their places and directed the course of the rivers. Who sent rain upon the earth that it should bring forth life? We praise you for the gift of nature. Father it is through nature that we know you best. The blue, green energy at the shifting ocean waters. Strong wind and penetrating sun. This is your creation. We see and experience this natural world and we are thankful. You brought forth life onto this globe and entrusted us for the care of your creation. You made all things and have woven them together in an intricate tapestry of life. Teach us to respect the fragile balance of life and to care for all of the gifts of your creation. Help us to honor, respect and protect this life giving resource through our lifestyles. Show us how are everyday actions impact the earth and be able to recognize the consequences of our misuse. Deliver us from squandering resources, abusing our companion species and polluting the habitats that we share. Deliver us from the ***(0:01:28.2 audio unclear)*** of imagining ourselves free from the fade of your whole creation. Give us true reverence for the earth as your creation. Teach, encourage and strengthen us as we might be good examples of the wise stewardship of our marine resources. Today we come together with you in one another with the conviction that you have called us to love and to restore the earth. We are called in to covenant. Your covenant of faithfulness and love extends to the whole of creation. We pray for the scientist and the technicians as they work to resolve the oil lake and the issues surrounding it. With your loving kindness comfort those whose lives are affected by this oil lake. Protect the wildlife, the wetlands and the beaches. We pray for the healing of the earth that protects and presents our future generations with the joys of your creation. We glorify your name and praise you for we make this prayer through your name. Amen.

(0:02:44.2)
LADON: My name is LaDon Swann and I know all of us would like to offer our deepest condolences to the 11 lives that were lost on the Deepwater Horizon and the director of the Mississippi-Alabama

OIL SPILL
6/2/2010 6 P.M.
MOBILE, ALABAMA

Sea Grant Consortium. Sea Grant has a 30-year history serving coastal communities through applied research, education, outreach and extension. Two weeks ago, we hosted a group of Valdez or Alaskan colleagues who came down and shared their experiences with the Valdez oil spill with a group of coastal constituents in Mississippi and Alabama. Today's forum builds off that those meetings enrolls on the knowledge and experiences professionals from 21 federal and state agencies, research, universities, private sector and non profit organizations. Plans are already under way for the next phase of this essential public outreach and we welcome your input. Before hearing from our federal agencies who are sitting at the table who are on the front lines of the Deepwater Horizon oil spill I would like to share with you a few of my concerns and may be you share you share those as well. I worry that the coastal heritage we have enjoyed for so long will be changed forever. I worry that the damage to our coastal and marine environment with which our lives are intertwined may not be repaired in our lifetimes. A response to this technological disaster as individuals and organizations will be a true test of our character. Today's forum would certainly not calm the extreme visceral emotions that we feel. What we do promise is compassion, honesty and respect. Each of you who will treat professionals here tonight the same way. Before moving to the five stations prepared for you I want to thank everyone involved in organizing these forums. The experts which rather best answer your questions all that the ***(0:05:09.6 audio unclear)*** dressed in green, who are responsible from ensuring that these stations are conducted in professional manner. I also want to thank my Sea Grant staff who would never refuse to do whatever it takes to serve the public. What we are going to do is we are going to take 10 minutes and allow several federal agents to share where they are and what their role is in responding to the port of ***(0:05:46.4 audio unclear)*** spill. First person I would like to call on is Commander Bob Brady, United States Coast Guard; he is located here in Mobile.

BOB: Good Evening. Captain Drelling is actually the incident commander. As you can imagine he is kind of short on time so he sent as his representative. I am a reserve officer. I have lived in Mobile for 17 years. I am a Mobile resident now and I have done various things within the Coast Guard started out in aviation. I went to the strike teams that are also here. It is kind of a Hazmat teams. I am actually over in sector New Orleans, and that is my reserve job over there. I have been activated for this response. I

just wanted to take some time to let you know what our command structure is. What are our response objectives are. Our strategies and then the tactics we plan on employing. The National ***(0:06:57.5 audio unclear)*** commander is Admiral Thad Allen, you have probably seen him on TV and then below him we have an area command which is Admiral Mary Landry she is also been on the TV quite a bit. Then we have three unified commands. There is one in Houston that is responsible for the dispersions and what occurs out on the source of the spill and there is the unified command in Houma, Louisiana, primarily responsible for offshore skimming and the state of Louisiana. There is the unified command in Mobile which is responsible for Mississippi, Alabama and Florida. The unified command is not just the Coast Guard. On the federal side there is the Coast Guard, the EPA, Department of Interior. The states all have a representative there Mississippi, Alabama and Florida. There is the BP who is the responsible party and a number of nine governmental agencies in the National Guard. All totaled right there is about 7,600 people working roughly fourteen hours a day and it is a 24-hour day operation. Response objectives, we are going to have a little trouble meeting this one but the objective was for no oil to reach the shore. It has been a little bit some as come on shore on Petit Bois some has come on shore at Dauphin Island but not in large quantities and so far they have been able to clean it up for a week quickly. Our strategies we have been employing right now we are trying to attack the oil offshore as far offshore as we possibly can with the large sea-going skimmers and then ensure as it approaches the shore we are trying to get them with the smallest skimmers. From there the different states is slightly different tactics on where they want the oil to go, but they are all somewhat similar and they are following their area contingency plans that they designed in the way ahead of the spill. Mississippi's idea is to funnel it to the beaches. I started out in Mississippi, so I know their plan a little bit better, but Alabama I believe is a similar and bring the oil in the barrier islands and then they clean it up from there. The ideal thing is for it to never hit the barrier islands, skimming off before it gets there, but the idea is you get it on the beach and clean the beach fairly easily. The last thing we want to protect the sensitive areas in the marshes above all. Right now we have about 990,000 feet of boom. We are doing daily over flights to try and locate the oil. I was fortunate enough to go on the Mississippi National Guard Flight. The aircraft in about an hour’s time they overflew the Mobile area. We overflew all the boom and with forward looking

infrared and TV that can magnify it. We could look down in all the boom, identify which boom was broken, which boom may have deflated which boom was in somehow in need of repair. They set that up for repair, and then we get out and take care of that. Several flights a day aerial surveillance 30-50 miles offshore, the next thing we have our shoreline clean up and assessment teams, and when oil does hit the beach these teams go and they begin to clean up the oil. It goes to various sources. Some of it will go be disposed of and that is still a little bit of an issue on where it is actually going to end up, and I do not have that answer right now. Some of it goes to the lab to be analyzed so that they are sure that it is actually coming from the spill. Again, just to kind of review it, the idea is to get it as far offshore as we can but if it does hit the shore we are prepared to combat it. That is about it. Thank you very much.

(0:11:55.1)
LADON: We are trying to keep this brief. I want you to understand that we are going to have breakouts, and they are scattered around. Ann Weaver our chief ***(0:12:02.9 audio unclear)*** will discuss where those are in just a second. Our next speaker is homegrown. Bob Dickey lives on Dauphin Island. I have known him since I have moved here in 2000. I have been here 10 years, Bob, so I call it the FDA shellfish seafood labs, seafood safety lab, he will correct me here in a second. Dr. Dickey is going to talk about FDA's role in responding in oil spill in terms of seafood safety.

BOB DICKEY: Good evening, everyone. My name is Bob Dickey. I have lived on Dauphin Island for about 24 years. I am currently the director of the FDA seafood science and technology lab down there. For the past 8 months I have been in Washington on temporary duty when the Deepwater Horizon blew on April 20, I was in Washington, and I was enrolled to generate to help the organize the FDA response test .The FDA's role in the response to the Deepwater Horizon tragedy is seafood safety. FDA operates safety programs for all fish and fishery products under the provisions of the Federal Food and Drug Cosmetic Act and in that role we have reached out to our federal colleagues and to our state colleagues. We have been coordinating very tightly with NOAA, with EPA, with CDC in developing a protocol for the assurance of seafood safety when seafood fishery areas are reopened. The process is as fairly straightforward, there is a lot of detail and in between the lines materials that have to be worked out between the different agencies

so that we operate seamlessly. However, the general sequence of the actions that will take place in terms of seafood safety are that once the oil is detected over an area of fishery, fisheries are automatically shut down by NOAA. They have the legislative, the statutory authority to do that. When the oil is no longer detected in the water and on top of the water then the agencies will go in and start sampling the seafood and running them through a variety of different in analysis to assure that there are no residues of petroleum left in the seafood tissues. Then they will be considered for reopening by NOAA in consultation with the FDA and EPA to assure seafood safety. The FDA has also implemented a surveillance program to assure that no tainted product is currently on the market and that testing will begin very shortly. There is no reason for us to believe that there is contaminated seafood on the market at this time because we have seen no commercial landing of seafood from areas that have been closed by NOAA. Just to give you quick short picture of the extraordinary coordination effort that is taking place between these different agencies from Washington and into the field. Every one of our agencies have representatives at the National Incident Command Center in Fort McNair, Maryland. This is the Coast Guard's national incident command center where Thad Allen is located. Of course we have our field operation centers. We also have representatives from each of our agencies present in those locations as well so that we coordinate bring in the science, social sciences, the wildlife sciences, the seafood sciences to assist the Coast Guard in their response activities. We can go into this in a little bit more detail if you have any questions on seafood safety issues that might concern you. I will be in the Wildlife and Fishery session and we will be glad to address them then. Thank you.

(0:16:33.7)
LADON: Can you hear okay? Mike Shelton. Our next speaker is Stan Meiburg. He is the acting director for region 4 EPA in Atlanta.

STAN: LaDon, thank you very much for the introduction and for those of you who may not be versed in all the arcane aspects with how government agencies are organized. EPA is divided into 10 regions and Region 4, for which I am the acting regional administrator, covering eight states including the states of Florida, Mississippi and Alabama. On this particular spill we worked very closely with our colleague agency Region 6, which covers Louisiana and Texas. What I want to do tonight is provide you with an overview of EPA's response activities here in the affected Gulf Coast region

and to summarize some of our environmental objectives, but I do want to echo what LaDon said at the beginning first of all and to extend our deepest condolences to families who lost loved ones during the explosion of the Deepwater Horizon and to those who were injured in the explosion of the horizon as well as to express our concern for all of the citizens of the Gulf Coast whose lives had been adversely affected by the spill. We realized that the effects of the spill can last for years and that will require the best efforts of all of us in government and in the private sector to make sure that these are addressed. I also want to acknowledge the work of our fellow federal, state and local partners in helping to combat these spills for their ongoing efforts. As Commander Brady noted, the Coast Guard is the lead federal agency that is a formal designation under the Oil Pollution Act. The Coast Guard as the lead federal agency in this response but all of these as federal agencies worked together in a unified command to help bring our different talents to bear and support that. We have also worked closely with the Gulf of Mexico program, which is located over at the Space Center in Mississippi, and the director, Bryon Griffith, is here with us tonight. The Gulf of Mexico Program provided a great overview of activities in the Gulf for many years and something we are proud to support. I also have two staffs who are here from the Unified Command Center here in Mobile who are here with me tonight, Terry Stilman and Larry Cseh, and they will be in the breakout sessions later this evening as well. I do think it is fair to note that this oil spill is one of the great environmental challenges of our time and that tens of thousands of federal responders are at work and tried to focus on this crisis, but what I want to do here tonight is just give a brief overview of EPA's air and water sampling activities and then to talk a little more depth about EPA's role in actions on oil dispersants. First of all, let us talk about air quality monitoring, we in the states of Alabama and Mississippi and Florida are operating a network of fixed air quality monitoring stations here in the Gulf region. As well as some additional specialized, monitoring and sampling equipment, for example we have a twin-engined aircraft called the ASPECT Aircraft that we have sent on flight pass to the technical chemical constituents associated with the spill as well as to monitor for particulate matter, a pollutant that occurs during burns. We have also brought in two trace gas analyzer vans, or taga vans as we call them in bureaucratise which has special equipment as well to do real-time sampling and analysis and which can detect a wide range of chemical contaminants. These mobile vans have been used at

remote locations one was operating yesterday for example between Stennis and Pascagoula, and the results of the air monitoring analysis are available on EPA's website www.epa.gov. In addition, we are also monitoring using portable equipment for particulate matter, hydrogen sulfide and total volatile organic compounds or hydrocarbons, which may be associated with oil or with the in situ burns. We are also monitoring ozone levels and other specific organic compounds, such as Toluene, Benzine and Xylene. Finally, we are coordinating information from state monitors and analyzing and tracking this information daily to note any unusual readings that may have occurred. To date I am pleased to report that all of our on shore sampling has not identified levels of air pollution above what we usually see in the Mississippi, Alabama, Florida area at this time of year. But, we are going to continue to do this monitoring with our state partners and to investigate reports of odors or other unusual air events. On the water quality side, EPA teams have conducted about 3-4 weeks ago nearshore and estuarine monitoring activities in order to establish a baseline information along the Gulf Coast working together with our state partners. Again, I emphasize that this is sort of beach and shoreline and the estuarine things, we do not do deep water kind of monitoring. We do not have the equipment for that. But, we are continuing to watch the situation right here on your shore. We are especially concerned about it because of the reports as the commander indicated that we have oil impacts here in Petit Bois in Dauphin and some other locations I gathered today here. Happily the quantities of this have not been very large, but we are concerned about it, and today we began to do additional sampling and testing in these near shore in estuarine waters to more fully assess water quality. This is occurring just as we have been doing over at Louisiana, where the impacts have been more significant in the last few weeks. The sampling will enable us to analyze the sediment water and sediment samples to detect the chemicals found in oil as well as chemicals found in the dispersants that have been used in the oil spill response. That is in logical transition to my next point to talk some about the dispersants and what that means. I’m sure you read in the newspaper that in responding to the spill, the government just had to make some very difficult decisions especially including the use of dispersant chemicals to help break up the oil and speed up its natural degradation. So when this crisis first occurred the federal on-scene coordinator in the Coast Guard gave BP the authorization to use approved dispersants on oil on the surface of the water and the reason for this was to try

to mitigate the impact of oil on shorelines at especially on fisheries, nurseries, wetlands and other sensitive environments. Dispersants contain a mixture of chemicals that when they are applied directly to spilled oil can break down the oil into smaller drops that can sink below the water surface and be more naturally degraded. This form they plume or a cloud or droplets suspended in the water which can mix vertically and horizontally and be more naturally diluted and degraded but through naturally occurring bacteria. What we have here, really, is an unprecedented event for a couple of reasons. BP has been using dispersants in a way that we have really never seen before. There are two reasons for that: one is the sheer quantity of the dispersants that had been used approximately a million gallons of these have been applied about three-quarters of that on the surface and about a quarter of that underneath the surface again at a very new approach to eject these dispersants directly underwater 5,000 feet down at the site of the spill in the hopes that this would cause the oil to break up more finely as it rose to the water column. Again, this is an unprecedented approach, and we have been requiring BP to collect and to monitor ourselves information from each of these subsurface applications, and we analyze these data each evening jointly by EPA and the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, or NOAA, to determine whether this could be continued. Now, the good news we have is that since these subsurface information or application was begun, the information we have is that dissolved oxygen levels and the biological tests we have been applying had been within normal ranges, and this is encouraging. But it is also true that this is not like you have a good solution and a bad solution. What you have is a couple of bad solutions, and you are trying to do risk management and figure out which is the least bad solution because these things do have environmental trade-offs. The surfaces uses I mentioned can increase environmental risks that are posed by spills to shorelines and sensitive areas, but the dispersants when used in this way normally break down over the period of a couple of weeks. However, there is a lot we do not know about the long-term effects of the dispersants on aquatic life and aquatic environment, and that is why the EPA and the Coast Guard are requiring BP to implement a sampling and monitoring plan to detect any adverse environmental effects that may outweigh the anticipated benefits of these dispersants. EPA is very much still deeply concerned about things we do not know. Particularly on the long-term effects, which are very hard to judge on aquatic life. We do want to make sure

that the dispersants that are being used are as non-toxic as possible. Because of this, EPA and the Coast Guard have issued an order to BP to eliminate if it is at all operationally possible. All of these surface dispersant applications. Again, as of now, our subsurface (the ones down 5,000 feet) do not seem to appear to have in any adverse or significant ecological impact, but we are still directing BP to find an alternative less toxic dispersant. BP has argued that one was not available but we have determined that BP's analysis on this is insufficient. In addition we are performing our own scientific verification of the data that BP presented, and we are conducting a separate scientific analysis to determine whether a less toxic alternative is available at a needed volume. Now, EPA for the moment and especially during this current operation when they are trying to sheer off the vent pipe above the blowout prevention, EPA and the Coast Guard will continue to allow BP to use undersea dispersant at a maximum of 15,000 gallons per day provided that it is accomplished by rigorous testing. BP has agreed to that limit throughout the duration of that procedure they are now taking on. In addition, EPA administrator Jackson has issued a directive to BP again on May 26th to keep surface spray of dispersant to an absolute minimum, and we expect BP to comply with this directive. In addition, we are also demanding that further analysis be conducted on other options as EPA continues to apply our own science. And finally, EPA and the Coast Guard reserve the authority to discontinue or to require BP to discontinue the use of underwater dispersants. That is a quick summary on the dispersant issue. We are looking ahead a little bit to future research that one of the things this event has told us is that there is a lot, as I mentioned, that we do not know. Our own research program on this is pretty modest. The administration is requesting some supplemental funds for additional dispersant research associated with the spill and if we receive these funds we expect to engage a number of institutions with knowledge and expertise to assist us. We are also going to further our own research efforts to include other innovative approaches to spill remediation. Just to summarize now a little bit of next steps. The BP oil spill is a massive and a potentially unprecedented environmental disaster, but we are also aware that it is already a significant human impact as well to the lives and livelihoods of countless people in the Gulf Coast, including many of the people I am sure who are here this evening. EPA is going to continue working alongside many state federals and state agencies to implement emergency oil spill responses to oversee BP's actions. BP is the responsible party

under the Oil Pollution Act but we expect to be overseeing carefully their work. We are also now at EPA preparing for a potential support role shoreline assessment and clean up operations. We are also going to continue to provide full support to the Coast Guard and the unified command and to monitor, identify and respond to potential public health and environmental issues. So as all with the local communities along the Gulf Coast assess the impact of the spill on their economies EPA and partnership with other federal, state and local agencies as well as other community stakeholders, we will do all we can to assist and to response to these terrible events. Thank you very much.

(0:30:01.6)
LADON: The next speaker has been a friend of mine since I moved down here. Buck Sutter used to be the deputy regional administrator for NMFS in Saint Petersburg. He is the NOAA regional collaboration team coordinator. I have a good pleasure of working with him. He is also taking on additional responsibilities in the Gulf as a response to the oil spill.

BUCK: Thank you, LaDon, and thank you for coming tonight. The main purpose that we really would like to accomplish tonight more than anything else is to spend time with you in these breakout rooms and answer your specific questions. I just want to give a very brief overview of what NOAA or National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration's involvement is with the spill. I have been involved in the Gulf of Mexico since 1980 as a Fishery Scientist and for the administration side of things. As soon as we saw what happened with the spill was announced the first phone call that I made was to LaDon, to realize that this is going to have a huge impact on the people who live on the coast. The next call was to Bryon Griffith because we all realized that one federal agency, one state agency, one university is not going to be able to really handle all the diverse things that are going on with this events. It is going to be in partnership. The reason that we wanted to have these meetings tonight more than anything was to let people know what is going on. There is a lot of confusion. There is a lot of sense that the government really does not know what is going on. The only way to help combat some of those is to sit here before you and say this is what we know and ask us questions. If we do not know we will get back to you, and I think that is really the whole point of tonight. So I really appreciate Sea Grant, LaDon and his staff, and a lot of the other NOAA folks that are here tonight helping get

people to the right rooms. And what happens if we do not know the answers to your questions? We are going to get your name, your phone number, address and so we can get the answers to you. We do not want people to walk away tonight scratching their heads saying "what in the heck did they waste my time coming to that meeting for". We are all too busy for that. I do think it is important to realize that NOAA is a very diverse agency. There is about 13,000 people and, as a science agency, we have been involved since two and a half hours after the spill happened. Started charting where and the trajectory of the oil spill using satellite and the National Weather Service has been huge in this as far as deterring wind patterns and huge number oceanographers to determine current patterns trying to determine not only where the oil is but where it is going to be 24-48-72 hours out so that we can start looking at potential impacts. On top of that NOAA also includes the National Marine Fisheries Service which is responsible for maintaining the stocks of fish also protective resources including sea turtles, marine mammals protecting those as well. As soon as we saw that the extent of the spill is going to take we implemented fisheries closures about a week and a half after the spill started. As precautionary for seafood safety and Bob did a great job talking about the seafood safety, and I know a lot of people have questions about that. So I encourage you to come to this room, and we will talk as much as you guys want to talk about seafood safety and what we are doing not only the oil itself but also with the dispersants. We have numerous vessels out there right now. First thing we did was there are vessels that go out and collect baseline data, water samples, bottom samples from the mud, fish samples, shrimp samples so we had an idea this is what it was like before the oil got here. We also have been working with the states for many years of getting historical data, so we have information of what has been going on along the coast here since the 1960s. A very methodical pattern in cooperation with the states of Alabama and Mississippi and Louisiana,, particularly. We mobilize all that information so that when the information does start coming in like it is now about the impacts we have something to compare it to. Right now our vessels are out there looking at these potential plumes that have been talked about in the press quite a bit. What does that mean, what did they look like, how big they are. Those vessels have not come back yet but their preliminary information we are getting from universities, like LUMCON and Louisiana and University of South Florida indicates that there are some plumes of oil which extend with the water in very dilute concentrations that

we need to find out what those really mean and how big they are. Those cruises are going on right now as we speak, and that information, as soon as we have it, will become available. We are also studying Loop Current, which is another part of the Gulf of Mexico that is a significant feature of the Gulf of Mexico is what warms a lot of the east coast as it loops through the warm waters of the Gulf and up to the east coast over and over towards Europe. There was a period of time three weeks ago that the Loop Current got very close to where the oil spill was, is now has gone down far down south in Florida but at one point there was a some oil in that, but has gotten pinched off and now is in a cold water jaier or so. But we are still monitoring that. As a matter of fact, the closures again were expanded today for fisheries so now about 37% of the Gulf of Mexico EEZ is now closed to fisheries. But we also have a plan with FDA and EPA on reopening those fisheries so that we know, obviously we want to be able to let people fish, work as soon as it is safe to do so. We will be talking about that more on the other room, but we do have a plan and it is already in place. As far as I know, there have been a lot of concerns in this area especially in Mississippi and Alabama about the sea turtles. We are doing daily aerial surveys and have since two or three days after the spill doing transects off of Louisiana and Mississippi and Alabama looking for whales, tortoises, other marine mammals and sea turtles. We have been documenting those numbers ever since that first day. So for 43 days, 44 days now, we have had that data and we are comparing it to what numbers we have seen in the past both for the numbers that are out there alive and the numbers that have been unfortunately have been stranded along the coast. Again, we are not in this alone right now. The cruise that is out there includes scientists from the West Coast, Scripps Institute has a submarine that actually could go to certain depths to take water samples and because of what the plume question is are so prominent on people's minds and that is the way that we are being able to do that. We also have scientists from other countries that are on there. Again, this is a situation we cannot use ourselves and look at it in a vacuum. EPA and NOAA, FDA, we all have to be talking to each other, and you the people who are impacted by this needs to know what we are doing and what we are talking about so that at least there is some sense of what is going on and that is really the whole purpose of why we are here tonight. Heard enough of us talking, I think now it is time to get into the question-and-answer part, and I think he is going to come how we are going to do that.

OIL SPILL
6/2/2010 6 P.M.
MOBILE, ALABAMA

(0:38:10.9)
LADON: Anyone who has ever organized an event realizes that there are two parallel tracks: one, for the program, and I think we have a very good program; second, is the process how the event runs, and I am very fortunate to work with Ann Weaver and all the folks, the Gulf of Mexico Program, the Mobile Bay National Estuary Program, Alabama Cooperative Extension System, our Sea Grant extension folks. I am probably leaving some out. They are here to ensure that the process part of this program runs as smooth as possible. Ann has worked real hard this week and last week. That is how much time that we have had to put this together to make sure that the process runs well and I am just going to share how is that going to take place.

ANN: Thanks LaDon and thank you all for coming. My name is Ann Weaver. I work for the NOAA Gulf office of the Coastal Service Center, and tonight I am going to give you some instructions about how the process is going to work. I share LaDon's concern about the residents about this area as a resident of Mississippi and want all of you to be able to get as much information as you can in the short time that we have together. We will be providing transcripts of all of tonight's questions in writing after the meetings so we will be recording what is happening in each of the rooms. To do that, we have to organize the way that we ask the questions. In each of the breakout rooms we are going to have several facilitators who will keep track of who raised their hands when and will bring you up to the microphone to ask your question. You all received a yellow sheet when you came in, and it will list which experts will be in which rooms. Again, this is to facilitate our ability to answer as many questions as possible. Each of the rooms is organized by issue type. We have the fish and wildlife room, which is located right here. We also have a monitoring and data room, which is if you leave this room and make a left into the rotunda the monitoring and data room will be on your left. From that rotunda you can also access the business and personal finance; it will be on your right towards the back. Technological disasters and mental health is also off the rotunda towards the front on the right. If you have questions about legal perspectives, directly behind us here straight back through the double doors is the legal perspectives room. There are several facilitators in each of the rooms, and they will organize the Q and A, the question-and-answer sessions. We request that all of the participants will follow the following ground

rules while you are in the breakout rooms. There are still a lot of unknowns. I think each person who spoke earlier said that there are a lot of unknowns. Please respect our experts when they tell you they do not know the answer to a question. We will have forms that you can fill out, where you can put your contact information and write down any questions that were not answered, and we will get back to you with the appropriate information on how to get your answer or with that answer. We ask that you silent your phones. I noticed earlier, I probably should have said that at the very beginning, but if you would not mind putting those on silent that would be very helpful. Please respect the participants who are asking a question and listen while they are asking a question. We would like to have only one conversation in the room at a time. Wait to be acknowledged by the facilitator before you ask the question. When you come up to the microphone you will have two minutes to pose your question. If you are approaching your two minute time limit your facilitator will let you know. You will get to only ask one question while you are at the microphone and then you will have to take another turn but you will be able to ask a follow on question so you will have one question and one follow on question. If you have more questions you will need to get back in line. Each issue room is set up with experts. Go to the ones that most interests you. You can sit in the same room all night long if you like, well until we close down the rooms but you can also rotate between rooms if you have questions for different experts in different rooms. So that is how this is going to function. We are going to take about 5 to 10 minutes for the experts to get to their rooms and the facilitators to get set up. Walk around the rotunda, look for the rooms that you are interested in and again we have Fish and Wildlife here, in the rotunda we have Monitoring and Data, Business and Personal Finance, Technological Disasters and Mental Health and then directly behind me through the double doors we have Legal Perspectives. So find the room that you are interested in going to and the facilitators in the rooms will answer any questions that you might have about how the process is going to work. Go ahead.

RESPONDENT: All of the experts in the rooms are listed under panel members so if you are interested in talking to a specific panel member please look on that list if they are there.

(0:44:40.7)

OIL SPILL
6/2/2010 6 P.M.
MOBILE, ALABAMA

LADON: Who asked? Thanks for asking that question. Yes. This morning the Coast Guard could not be there the whole time but Commander Brady will be here this evening, I think. Based on the questions that were asked this morning I think Commander Brady will be on the Fisheries session. There is a question back there.

RESPONDENT: ***(0:44:59.2 inaudible)***

(0:45:20.3)
LADON: Yes. BP was invited and they were not able to attend.

RESPONDENT: Do you know why?

(0:45:39.4)
LADON: Yes. I think they said that they were overextended right now. Okay, we are going to take our break now, and then we are going to reconvene within about the next 10 minutes.

END OF AUDIO.