

DATE: OCTOBER 4, 2019

TIME 1:35 p.m.

INTERVIEWER: KEVIN GREENE AND TOM BEERS
EAGLE INTEL SERVICES

CONTRACTOR: NORTH CAROLINA GENERAL ASSEMBLY AND SUBCOMMITTEE
ON THE ACP

PARTIES PRESENT: KEVIN GREENE
TOM BEERS
BILL LANE, DEQ
BRIDGET MUNGER, DEPT. OF PUBLIC SAFETY
DREW HARGROVE, DEQ

1 KEVIN GREENE: Today's date is October 4, 2019. My name is Kevin Greene, and I
2 am with Eagle Intel Services and we have been contracted by the North Carolina General
3 Assembly and Subcommittee on the ACP to gather facts and report those facts back to the
4 Committee. We are recording this interview today and I would like to have each person present
5 to state your name, position and that you acknowledge that we are recording this interview. And
6 I will start with Tom.

7 TOM BEERS: Tom Beers, I'm an investigator with Eagle Intel Services and I
8 understand that this is being recorded today.

9 BILL LANE: Bill Lane from DEQ and I understand that this is being record.

10 BRIDGET MUNGER: Bridget Munger with the Department of Public Safety. I
11 understand this is being record.

12 DREW HARGROVE: Drew Hargrove with DEQ. I understand it is being recorded.

13 KEVIN GREENE: Thank you all and I believe that Mr. Lane would like to add
14 something.

15 BILL LANE: Yes, thank you. We are starting this interview at 1:35 p.m. By
16 agreement of the parties this interview will take no more than an hour, so we will be concluding
17 this interview no later than 2:35 p.m. Again, by agreement of the parties the questions to be
18 asked will be related to Ms. Munger's official duties related to the 401 water quality certification
19 for the Atlantic Coast Pipeline and not any other projects that she has worked on or anything in
20 her personal life.

21 KEVIN GREENE: Thank you very much. We will start by, if you would, just give us a
22 brief background of your time at DEQ. When you started and the position that you served in?

1 BRIDGET MUNGER: I started with DEQ in August, 2006 as a communication
2 specialist, III with the Division of Soil and Water Conservation. That division was later moved
3 out of the agency. Before that happened, I accepted a position with the Division of Water
4 Quality, I worked as a federally funded external outreach identification coordinator for the State.
5 And that would have been February 1, 2008, when I switched jobs there. What followed was
6 various reorgs not particularly official reorgs, but within the communications job for the
7 Department and eventually I ended up as a PI for two divisions. The Division of Energy Mineral
8 and Land Resources as well as the Division of Water Resources and eventually I became the
9 Deputy Communication's Director for the Department.

10 KEVIN GREENE: OK. And during the time frame of primarily 2017 and early 2018
11 what position did you have at that time.

12 BRIDGET MUNGER: Deputy Communication's Director. That promotion came about
13 mid-point at that, but I had already assumed the duties. I was working as the lead for both of
14 those very busy divisions.

15 KEVIN GREENE: O.K. Yeah, we found that out. And can you give us an idea of what
16 you did in that position as Deputy Communication's Director?

17 BRIDGET MUNGER: Each part of the work would be public information requests,
18 taking in requests, doing the research, working with subject matter experts, permitting staff to
19 respond to those. We get a very high volume of those at DEQ. Responding to media inquiries,
20 writing press releases, web site content, maintaining that sort of thing. Developing outreach
21 materials, education outreach materials, power points and just serving as a general
22 communication consultant for staff when they are writing reports. That sort of thing.

1 KEVIN GREENE: OK. And can you give us a hierarchy of who you answer to or did
2 you supervise any employees? So two questions there.

3 BRIDGET MUNGER: So in that position, you sort of serve two masters. You answer to
4 the Director's that you are serving as a PI, oh, but you also report to a Communications Director
5 at the Department level or to a Deputy Communications Director then a Communications
6 Director.

7 KEVIN GREENE: OK. So in 2017, within the Division of Water Resources, who was
8 your immediate boss or supervisor?

9 BRIDGET MUNGER: Honestly, I believe it was Linda Culpepper. There was a
10 transition in leadership and I am not sure what that date was.

11 KEVIN GREENE: OK. And then you said that you had someone else that you would
12 answer to, beyond that?

13 BRIDGET MUNGER: Yes, at the Department level.

14 KEVIN GREENE: And who would that be?

15 BRIDGET MUNGER: Doug Heyl, headed up communications. And after he arrived,
16 within a matter of a few months, Megan Thorpe came on board to serve as Communication
17 Director. He served as Communications Director/Deputy Secretary for Public Affairs. Then
18 Megan Thorpe came on Board and took over the premier of Communications Director role.

19 KEVIN GREENE: Alright. And we will start with your role as it pertains to specifically
20 the Atlantic Coast Pipeline Project. Can you just give us a brief summary of that role of your
21 duties and responsibilities and what may have taken place during that time period of the
22 permitting process, specifically, as it relates to the Division of Water Resources?

1 BRIDGET MUNGER: So, my role involved assisting with placing public notices, to a
2 degree. When a draft permit might be ready for review and honestly, I don't remember the
3 details of that - but typically, it would be a public notice being posted announcing a public
4 comment period. Attending public hearings, in case media showed up; our staff don't prefer it,
5 they really don't want to talk on camera, so we run interference for them. So, being there for
6 media inquiries and of course if reporters were to call about the project, direct them in the right
7 place. Or if I have the information, answer it. And for some of the community meetings I also
8 got information from cultural resources. That particular project carried across different
9 programs. So for example, fact sheets that talked about they crossed Indian burial grounds. So
10 the fact sheets for information on the project.

11 KEVIN GREENE: OK, alright. And how closely did you work with the people making
12 the decision for the permit?

13 BRIDGET MUNGER: I didn't work closely with those people.

14 KEVIN GREENE: Would they reach out to you regarding like obviously the public
15 hearings? Is that something that was your function to arrange those public hearings?

16 BRIDGET MUNGER: With that particular program, they were pretty self-sufficient in
17 terms of public hearings. They had a lot of experience and I do not recall if I actually set up the
18 public hearings. Over the years, honestly, I set up a lot of public hearings. Those do not stand
19 out to me.

20 KEVIN GREENE: I am sure. Well was there anything with in the ACP permitting
21 process that stood out to you that was a duty that you had? That you recall? That was significant
22 or a contribution to?

1 BRIDGET MUNGER: I would say that as with any big project, just making sure that the
2 public and the public comment period, the inquiries people got all the information they were
3 looking for, for public servants and that is who we work for.

4 KEVIN GREENE: So you dealt a lot with the media. Requests for information and I
5 guess interviews? Did they want to interview people?

6 BRIDGET MUNGER: I don't remember. Some reporters call for interviews. Some
7 call for background information. I know that on occasion, I would get a call from reporters
8 asking if a permit had been issued and I would tell them that I would check to try to find out the
9 status and I would let them know.

10 KEVIN GREENE: Do you recall any specific instances where there were topics that
11 reporters would ask routinely about on the ACP?

12 BRIDGET MUNGER: There was a lot of interest in the project. So if you were a
13 County Reporter and the pipeline was going to impact you County, you might want to know if an
14 erosion sediment control plan was approved. So they would call and ask that. The pivotal
15 permit was the water permit. Has that been issued? And I would confirm where we were in the
16 process and let them know.

17 KEVIN GREENE: OK. Did you attending any of the staff meetings when they were
18 discussing the project?

19 BRIDGET MUNGER: If I did, no, I don't think so. I don't recall being in one of those
20 meetings. You mean permitting stuff?

21 KEVIN GREENE: Correct, yes ma'am, or Department staff discussing the Atlantic
22 Coast Pipeline.

1 BRIDGET MUNGER: In PIO meetings, I might talk about when I would draft a press
2 release. Communication stuff, but that would a round robin setting where we go by division and
3 these were not communications meetings called to talk about the Atlantic Coast Pipeline.

4 KEVIN GREENE: OK. I am going to show you, since it involves press, this is an email
5 that was pulled off the public server for the files regarding. It is an email dated October 24, 2017
6 and I think it is a response to Elizabeth Outz that you may have given regarding the Atlantic
7 Coast Pipeline. I will show you this.

8 BILL LANE: Just take your time...

9 KEVIN GREENE: Just kind of review that and basically just summarize what the
10 request is and what the response was.

11 BRIDGET MUNGER: OK, what is the question?

12 KEVIN GREENE: Can you summarize what the question was, what they were seeking
13 and your response or what you may have provided?

14 BRIDGET MUNGER: It looks like she is looking for data on 401 certifications that had
15 been applied for historically and whether or not they were approved. That is what I would take
16 from this and my responses are referring her to a very large online data base known as Laser
17 Phish where the 401 unit stores all their program files.

18 KEVIN GREENE: OK. Was there a denial spreadsheet?

19 BRIDGET MUNGER: Excuse me, it's a publically accessible database. That is
20 important.

21 KEVIN GREENE: We are familiar with it. Was there a denial spreadsheet provided?

22 BRIDGET MUNGER: I don't recall. I don't recall if there was a denial spreadsheet. I
23 would typically refer someone, a reporter, anyone, to a project file, on Laser Phish, that would be

1 labelled by the project number. And I, quite frankly, it wasn't my job to go in and dig out all
2 that information.

3 KEVIN GREENE: Right.

4 BRIDGET MUNGER: This was a convenience to be able to say here is the file. It is the
5 equivalent of a paper file review, just easier for the requester.

6 KEVIN GREENE: Alright, I think, let's see. Well. I think she is asking here, she had
7 interviewed a former North Carolina DEQ regulator, who said outright denials of major 401's
8 are pretty unusual. Do you know who she talked to?

9 BRIDGET MUNGER: I don't.

10 BILL LANE: Can she see the

11 KEVIN GREENE: Yes, I'm sorry.

12 BRIDGET MUNGER: No, I don't know who she talked to.

13 KEVIN GREENE: OK. Do you recall speaking or communicating with the particular
14 person?

15 BRIDGET MUNGER: Not this particular exchange. I know who Elizabeth Outz is, but
16 I do not remember that exchange.

17 KEVIN GREENE: OK and is she with a paper, or magazine? What's her position?

18 BRIDGET MUNGER: At that point, I think that she was with South East Energy News.
19 No, or something Energy News. Some sort of publication that focused on energy. I think she
20 was a freelancer.

21 KEVIN GREENE: OK. I figured with that Icloud account that she probably was. I
22 couldn't figure that out. Thank you.

1 What were some of the major - she contacted you about that, and I have kind of alluded
2 to this question, but was there one particular topic that most of the press wanted to know about
3 during the ACP process?

4 BRIDGET MUNGER: No.

5 KEVIN GREENE: No, nothing?

6 BRIDGET MUNGER: No.

7 KEVIN GREENE: OK.

8 BRIDGET MUNGER: No, I mean, I don't really recall that, so.

9 KEVIN GREENE: OK, Do you recall anything being unusual regarding the ACP
10 permitting process that you would have to respond to.

11 BRIDGET MUNGER: No, unusual? No.

12 KEVIN GREENE: OK, Everything was normal.

13 BRIDGET MUNGER: Yes.

14 KEVIN GREENE: And you said that you were not sure if you actually set up the
15 hearings, the public hearings or not. Do you remember there being a listening session for
16 Environmental Justice?

17 BRIDGET MUNGER: Yes.

18 KEVIN GREENE: Did you set that up.

19 BRIDGET MUNGER: I did set those up, yes.

20 KEVIN GREENE: OK, what do you recall about that particular session and do you
21 recall when it took place?

22 BRIDGET MUNGER: What do I recall about them?

23 KEVIN GREENE: How it came to be? What initiate it?

1 BRIDGET MUNGER: I think in large part it was because many of the public comments
2 we received and many of just the contact we got from community organizers indicated they
3 wanted more information. They were concerned about the impacts of the project to their
4 communities and they wanted to be heard and we felt it was very important that they be able to
5 have that chance. So we decided to go further than was required under I guess Administrative,
6 whatever the rules are that apply there, and hold these listening sessions. So that is what we did.

7 KEVIN GREENE: OK. What, can you define what Environmental Justice, what that is?

8 BRIDGET MUNGER: I doubt that I would give the text book or legal definition that
9 perhaps you or my friends here are familiar with. What it means to me is a mindfulness, in terms
10 of permitting, the location of industrial facilities, any of the impacts associated with it. Being
11 very mindful of a location in a community. Making sure that there is not a vulnerable or at risk
12 population that is impacted inordinately. Inordinately, if I have said that correctly, That's
13 maybe the cliff notes.

14 KEVIN GREENE: Sounds good to me. Thank you. Is that standard or was that
15 abnormal practice in major projects?

16 BRIDGET MUNGER: Was what a major?

17 KEVIN GREENE: To have a public listening sessions regarding Environmental Justice?

18 BRIDGET MUNGER: No, it was not a standard practice. In this particular instance, we
19 decided to do it because there were requests for it and, as I said before, I take the public service
20 part of this very seriously and try to be responsive.

21 KEVIN GREENE: OK

22 TOM BEERS: When you say "we request it" who at DEQ would have made that request
23 for you to do that?

1 BRIDGET MUNGER: I don't recall.

2 TOM BEERS: Would you have taken it on your own initiative to do that? Or would
3 there be someone above you in your chain of command that would have said "let's do this"?

4 BRIDGET MUNGER: I think in the case of these, that I in part suggested that we should
5 do it.

6 TOM BEERS: Was there any push back because it's not a requirement for the permit?
7 Or do you remember any discussions to that extent?

8 BRIDGET MUNGER: No, there was, no there was support for doing these listening
9 sessions.

10 TOM BEERS: Across the Board at the reading process.

11 BRIDGET MUNGER: Yes, yes, there was an absolute goal of transparency in this
12 project and that included the best public engagement that we could achieve and that is what we
13 were trying to do.

14 TOM BEERS: Do you believe those efforts to be that transparent delayed the review
15 process of the 401 permit in any way?

16 BRIDGET MUNGER: No.

17 KEVIN GREENE: Where you involved in each time there was a notice for a request for
18 additional information to the Applicant. Would that be published in any way?

19 BRIDGET MUNGER: I'm not. I keep speaking as though, I still work here. I was not
20 involved in that part of the process. No.

21 KEVIN GREENE: When decisions were made, specifically, the 401 water permit, or
22 certification, it was your duty to do a public or press release on that?

1 BRIDGET MUNGER: We did not always to press releases on each development in the
2 permitting process. I do not really recall when we did the actual press releases. I know that
3 there was done at the end of that and that's what I recall. That one. But, can you ask me the
4 question again, I go off track there.

5 KEVIN GREENE: OK. You just said there was a press release involved at the end of
6 that and when you said "end of that" is that the 401 permit?

7 BRIDGET MUNGER: Yeah, at the end of that particular permitting process. Correct.

8 KEVIN GREENE: Were you involved in that particular press release?

9 BRIDGET MUNGER: Yes, yes. It was my division.

10 KEVIN GREENE: It was your division. Were you involved in it in the capacity of
11 working with the Governor's office and their press or their PIO?

12 BRIDGET MUNGER: No.

13 KEVIN GREENE: In doing a release?

14 BRIDGET MUNGER: No.

15 KEVIN GREENE: OK. Who would have reviewed the press release, within the
16 Department?

17 BRIDGET MUNGER: Again, without remembering the day to day specifics of then, it
18 would have been a subject matter expert, maybe the Program Supervisor for accuracy is standard
19 procedure. I am not an engineer. So subject matter expert and it is typical just for a Director to
20 be able to see any press release going out of Division Director. That is why they are the Director
21 and then it would be given to the Department Communication's Office for review. So your top
22 Communication's Director reviews.

23 KEVIN GREENE: And at the time would be Doug Heyl?

1 BRIDGET MUNGER: Honestly, I do not know if Megan was on Board with DEQ at
2 that point or not. So, if Megan was here it would have gone to Megan.

3 KEVIN GREENE: OK. And if she wasn't, who was prior to her?

4 BRIDGET MUNGER: There was an acting Communication's Director, Jamie Krizter.
5 But I think Jamie was gone by then. Jamie was gone by then.

6 KEVIN GREENE: Jamie Kritzer?

7 BRIDGET MUNGER: Yeah, Jamie was gone by then.

8 BILL LANE: Spelling is K-R-I-T-Z-E-R.

9 KEVIN GREENE: Kritzer. Thank you. Were you ever present during any meetings,
10 whether it was with staff or the Division or the Department where they were expressing any
11 concerns over the permitting process itself?

12 BRIDGET MUNGER: Concerns about the process?

13 KEVIN GREENE: The process.

14 BRIDGET MUNGER: No,

15 KEVIN GREENE: Do you know when the 401 was, I guess, Certified, or when it was
16 given?

17 BRIDGET MUNGER: Approved.

18 KEVIN GREENE: Approved.

19 BRIDGET MUNGER: I, honestly, I don't remember the exact date. I know, it was, I
20 believe the end of January, but I do not recall the exact date. Sorry.

21 KEVIN GREENE: OK. Prior to that, when did you have any knowledge about when it
22 was expected to be approved?

1 BRIDGET MUNGER: Well, in any sort of substantial permit, you might hear in a casual
2 comment that it will be finished by - we expect it to be ready by such and such date. But No, I
3 do not remember specific references to when it was going to be or no. It would be ready when it
4 was ready, was my take on this.

5 KEVIN GREENE: OK. Were you ready to prepare or did you have a draft press release
6 prior to the issuance?

7 BRIDGET MUNGER: I don't recall if I had a draft, but the nature of my job is to be
8 ready to knock out a press release whenever it is needed, fast.

9 KEVIN GREENE: OK. Do you want to go over?

10 TOM BEERS: Yeah, so are you familiar with the Hearing Officer's Report that is
11 required in certain 401 Certificates?

12 BRIDGET MUNGER: I know what one is, yes.

13 TOM BEERS: In this ACP, do you remember there being a Hearing Officer's Report
14 that was approved? This is actually one, I will show you. I will tell you know, there was, in
15 fact, one.

16 BRIDGET MUNGER: I'm sorry. Did I know there was one?

17 TOM BEERS: Yeah, you were aware of it in this case there was.

18 BRIDGET MUNGER: Yes, yes, yes, it's a requirement.

19 TOM BEERS: Right, so that's the Hearing Officer's Report and it's dated January 22, I
20 believe. Do you understand the purpose of the Hearing Officer's Report and what it does and
21 how it affects the issuance of a 401 Certification?

22 BRIDGET MUNGER: Do I understand the purpose?

1 TOM BEERS: Yes, OK, can you describe that? What's the purpose of that report and
2 how it affects the.

3 BRIDGET MUNGER: For an experienced and qualified individual who serves as the
4 hearing officer to have thorough knowledge, front to back, of a project from all of our subject
5 matter experts, referencing research and data and public comments and feedback and everything
6 they have learned about a project to make a recommendation a recommendaton on whether or
7 not an approval or a permit should be issued and they summarize this - again speaking to
8 transparency, this summarizes everything that has happened in this process for any member of
9 the public to be able to review. If they have questions and it is prepared for the Director of the
10 appropriate division.

11 TOM BEERS: OK. Do you remember the review process for this particular Hearing
12 Officer's Report?

13 BRIDGET MUNGER: I was not involved in the review process.

14 TOM BEERS: Not at all?

15 BRIDGET MUNGER: I don't, if I was, I don't remember.

16 TOM BEERS: OK. There was some emails.

17 BRIDGET MUNGER: I might have done. This is like reviewing a white paper, if you
18 are communication's expert. You don't make substance changes. You might fix dates, so they
19 were in an associated press style. You don't do that kind of editing. I might have looked at this
20 for formatting or something. But I don't really remember.

21 TOM BEERS: OK. I am just going to refer you to an email. If I could find it.

22 BRIDGET MUNGER: It's right there.

1 TOM BEERS: OK. This email dated January 5, this is from Brian Wrenn to you
2 indicating that you have had some communications about this Hearing Officer's Report.

3 SIRI: Beep. Sorry, I couldn't quite hear you. Could you repeat what you said?

4 TOM BEERS: What the heck. Why did it do that?

5 KEVIN GREENE: For the record, that was not Ms. Munger.

6 TOM BEERS: That was Siri on my phone.

7 BRIDGET MUNGER: Yeah, that was not me.

8 TOM BEERS: It looks like January 4th.

9 BRIDGET MUNGER: OK, so this is going in the other direction.

10 TOM BEERS: Exactly.

11 BRIDGET MUNGER: OK, OK.

12 TOM BEERS: This is Brian responding back to you.

13 BRIDGET MUNGER: OK. Let me start over, so that I can read it in the proper order.
14 That was a little confusing.

15 TOM BEERS: These are confusing how they are printed off the web site. They are
16 backwards.

17 BRIDGET MUNGER: OK.

18 TOM BEERS: OK. You just read those emails. I think on January 4th and 5th, 2018. So
19 can you describe the communication with Brian Wrenn about the Hearing Officer's Report.

20 BRIDGET MUNGER: In summary, it just sounds like he is still working on it and fine
21 tuning it and it's going through a review process internally.

22 TOM BEERS: So how are you involved with the process? Why are you asking to have
23 it sent to you? If that is in fact what you did?

1 BRIDGET MUNGER: There could be a number of reasons why it would be sent to me.
2 Someone may have asked for me, asked for it, asked me for it.

3 TOM BEERS: That is the question. Did someone ask you to get that from Brian Wrenn?
4 Do you recall that?

5 BRIDGET MUNGER: I don't recall that. No, I don't. But when these, when we review
6 documents, there could be quite a few people who would be involved in that process so I don't
7 recall the specific communications or who asked me for the copy. I am sorry.

8 TOM BEERS: There is another email there that may refresh your recollection. This
9 email, above January 5th at 9:17, this is Brian Wrenn. He is indicating that Secretary's Office
10 has to have it reviewed. Do you recall that?

11 BRIDGET MUNGER: I can read what is here in the email.

12 TOM BEERS: Yeah, I am asking for your recollection:

13 BRIDGET MUNGER: But I don't remember that instance.

14 TOM BEERS: You don't recall if the Secretary's Office asked you to get this report.

15 BRIDGET MUNGER: No, in fact, I mean, I don't know if he is the one who is first
16 sharing that there. So, I don't. I'm sorry.

17 TOM BEERS: OK. So, in this email, Brian Wren does in fact, as he said, he was going
18 to send it to Jeff Poupart. Is that his Supervisor? Do you know who that is?

19 BRIDGET MUNGER: mhhm.

20 TOM BEERS: And cc'd you, the Hearing Officer's Report.

21 BRIDGET MUNGER: Is this one going backwards too? Let me just get my bearings
22 here. OK. It's the same email here.

1 TOM BEERS: Yeah, it's because its, I think it is the way the website stores them. They
2 are from multiple people, so they all have duplicates involved.

3 BRIDGET MUNGER: OK. The very last one does not clearly show who it's to and who
4 it's from.

5 TOM BEERS: Which one is it, well they are not all pertinent. I am just asking. So one
6 of them. This is the one I am talking about. You received this from Brian Wrenn. He cc'd you
7 this Hearing Officer's Report. I just want to know if you recall why, who asked you to get it
8 and what you did with it and what is the reason for you to get the report?

9 BRIDGET MUNGER: And so again, he is courtesy copying me there so it is not unusual
10 to courtesy copy a communication specialist or anybody else you may think would be interested
11 in a document, but also - so you are asking me again, can you just, are again asking me if
12 someone in particular requested it from me.

13 TOM BEERS: Yes exactly.

14 BRIDGET MUNGER: No, I do not recall that.

15 TOM BEERS: OK. Here is something else. This is a little later in time, but it is the next
16 time we see you emailing anything related to this. And here you are sending this Hearing
17 Officer's Report out.

18 BRIDGET MUNGER: OK

19 TOM BEERS: So it looks like you at least had a copy of it for some time now.

20 BRIDGET MUNGER: OK. (under breath reading... here for review) Is this the same
21 thread, I'm looking at?

22 TOM BEERS: No, No.

23 BRIDGET MUNGER: OK.

1 TOM BEERS: But here you are sending on the 22nd, Can you read that email to see.

2 BRIDGET MUNGER: I'm trying to figure out, I want to start over here.

3 TOM BEERS: Let's make sure we are looking at the right one.

4 BRIDGET MUNGER: And I particularly want it in the right order.

5 TOM BEERS: The one from you.

6 BRIDGET MUNGER: OK

7 TOM BEERS: And there is an attachment, the Hearing Officer's Report.

8 BRIDGET MUNGER: OK

9 TOM BEERS: And who is it being sent to?

10 BRIDGET MUNGER: Sent to Karen Higgins.

11 TOM BEERS: From – To?

12 BRIDGET MUNGER: I'm sorry.

13 TOM BEERS: I don't want to confuse you. Just read.

14 BRIDGET MUNGER: You are making me nervous.

15 TOM BEERS: I am sorry.

16 BRIDGET MUNGER: Coming across the table *laughing.

17 TOM BEERS: I was trying to direct you to the

18 BRIDGET MUNGER: That is an email to Shelia Holman and Doug Heyl.

19 TOM BEERS: And can you tell me why you were sending it to them.

20 BRIDGET MUNGER: So that they would have a copy of it.

21 TOM BEERS: Just a copy or was there a request from them to get this?

22 BRIDGET MUNGER: There may have been a request. I don't remember the incidents

23 of them making a request. I don't remember if someone else asked me to send it.

1 TOM BEERS: Yeah, I just want to know if you remember this. Why you were
2 reviewing this document and what you recalled about this.

3 BRIDGET MUNGER: So again, I think I mentioned before that it is not unusual for a
4 Hearing Officer's Report for any project to be reviewed. Not everyone who becomes an
5 engineer or an environmental specialist is a particularly talented writer. Some are better than
6 others. It is not out of the ordinary for that to be the case. Just to take a look at it. A lot of
7 times we do not have time to do it. But, I do not recall someone asking me to do this particular
8 thing. To take this action. I am not saying it did not happen because, clearly it did. But I would
9 be dishonest if I told you I recalled it.

10 TOM BEERS: OK. You don't recall even getting it at this time. After looking at this,
11 you know it happened, you just don't recall it.

12 BRIDGET MUNGER: I see the email, OK and it makes sense in the course of work, but
13 I.

14 TOM BEERS: Do you recall a conversation with Brian Wrenn where you said the
15 Secretaries office wants to review this Hearing Officer's Report.

16 BRIDGET MUNGER: No, I don't recall the conversation. *laughing* I am sorry, I just
17 don't.

18 KEVIN GREENE: And backing up to that particular email, it is being sent to Holman?
19 Is that correct?

20 BRIDGET MUNGER: Sheila Holman, yes.

21 KEVIN GREENE: And what is her position?

22 BRIDGET MUNGER: She was Assistant Secretary for the Environment, for the
23 Department.

1 KEVIN GREENE: For the Department.

2 BRIDGET MUNGER: She still is, I think. Yup.

3 KEVIN GREENE: OK. And also it is being sent to Doug Heyl who was working for the
4 Department as a PIO also.

5 BRIDGET MUNGER: No, Doug, no. Doug was the Deputy Secretary for Public
6 Affairs.

7 KEVIN GREENE: OK. And so in Holman's role, she would be supervising the
8 permitting process, overall?

9 BRIDGET MUNGER: That's my understanding.

10 KEVIN GREENE: OK. Alright. I just want to clarify that. So if she wanted it, would
11 it not go through channels instead of going outside of PIO to her?

12 BRIDGET MUNGER: Not necessarily, no. It is entirely possible for a project that she
13 would ask for it.

14 KEVIN GREENE: OK. OK.

15 BRIDGET MUNGER: There is not a check list or has to follow a procedure.

16 KEVIN GREENE: Alright. Did you have communications with the Governor's Office,
17 Public Affairs Officer's, individuals regarding the ACP.

18 BRIDGET MUNGER: No.

19 KEVIN GREENE: No.

20 BRIDGET MUNGER: No.

21 KEVIN GREENE: When the press release was written for the 401 Permit. I believe it
22 was 126 that was your press release? Or did not Governor's Office have input.

1 BRIDGET MUNGER: I probably would have done the first draft, because it is my
2 programs. But again, press releases are collaborative. I had no authority to draft a press release
3 in a vacuum on anything. It is a collaboration. So

4 KEVIN GREENE: And who would you collaborate with.

5 BRIDGET MUNGER: As I mentioned before, that subject matter experts, division
6 director to review to make sure you do not have something wrong. Make sure there are no typos
7 or bad dates and then it goes up the communications, you know, to whoever is involved in that
8 project.

9 TOM BEERS: Were you aware of a mitigation fund being negotiated by the
10 Governor's Office with the ACP partnership?

11 BRIDGET MUNGER: There is a mitigation fund that is required. I don't know a lot
12 about.

13 TOM BEERS: A separate fund. Apart from the 401 permitting process. A separate
14 fund?

15 BRIDGET MUNGER: And so, I remember hearing a little bit about that. But I didn't
16 really understand what that was about and so, it was in the course of a PIO meeting. So

17 TOM BEERS: Where did you hear that, from what source?

18 BRIDGET MUNGER: Honestly, I am not sure who it was. It might have been Doug.

19 KEVIN GREENE: Did you get inquiries from the press regarding that issue?

20 BRIDGET MUNGER: No.

21 KEVIN GREENE: No?

22 BRIDGET MUNGER: No.

1 TOM BEERS: When you first heard about it was it during the course of the review of the
2 401 Permit Application?

3 BRIDGET MUNGER: I don't think so, no. I don't think so. I don't know the specific
4 dates, but as the Hearing Report was being finalized, following the regulations and the rules and
5 the laws that are laid out in the books, the determination was made and so I don't know why the
6 two would be involved. If I understand your question?

7 TOM BEERS: I just wanted to know if you knew about this mitigation fund. There is a
8 memorandum understanding that was signed by ACP partners and the Governor's Office and it
9 was announced right around the same time

10 BRIDGET MUNGER: I remember when it was announced. I do remember when it was
11 announced and I remember discussion about how Virginia had done something similar there and,
12 but I don't know details of it and I was not privy to discussions about it.

13 TOM BEERS: You weren't included in any prior meetings prior to announcement, you
14 were not included in any discussions about how this would actually affect the environmental
15 mitigation or how the press might be interested in this issue as it relates to the ACP?

16 BILL LANE: Maybe you can break that down a little bit.

17 TOM BEERS: Well I just want to, you were not involved in any discussions about this
18 prior? Is that correct?

19 BRIDGET MUNGER: I don't think so. No, they don't stand out.

20 TOM BEERS: OK.

21 KEVIN GREENE: Where did you learn that Virginia had the same fund?

22 BRIDGET MUNGER: I think there was media coverage of it.

23 KEVIN GREENE: OK. So it wasn't a PIO meeting where you guys discussed that?

1 BRIDGET MUNGER: No, no, there was media coverage of that. They were dealing
2 with the same project.

3 KEVIN GREENE: Right, so you didn't have a briefing after the fact as to how to handle
4 questions regarding the fund.

5 BRIDGET MUNGER: No, No, I don't think so, No.

6 KEVIN GREENE: Did you have an - after the 401 permit was issued, did you have a
7 briefing as to what questions may arise?

8 BRIDGET MUNGER: We may have had talking points on the permit, which again is
9 typical, because anything controversial you prepare talking points to be able to answer questions.
10 I recall that somewhat. It was not a very large document. It was just a few key points about this
11 issuance.

12 TOM BEERS: You weren't present during a meeting when people associated with the
13 ACP talked about potential uses of this fund during the negotiation of the fund?

14 BRIDGET MUNGER: I do not recall that.

15 TOM BEERS: You honestly don't recall that?

16 BRIDGET MUNGER: To be honest, I forgot, I don't have dementia but I hadn't even
17 thought about my meetings where I attended where the representatives were there until you just
18 said it. So, no, I don't recall that.

19 TOM BEERS: OK.

20 KEVIN GREENE: Do you have anything else?

21 TOM BEERS: I think this is going to be kind of important about that story. That is all
22 the questions I have.

1 KEVIN GREENE: Did anyone ever express any concerns to you within the Department
2 or outside the Department that the permitting process was dragging or being slowed or that there
3 were barriers being created.

4 BRIDGET MUNGER: No.

5 KEVIN GREENE: Did you have any discussions with anyone regarding how long the
6 process is taking or was taking at that time.

7 BRIDGET MUNGER: Not in that context. I, there were, I got reporter questions about
8 the process. For example, when do you think it will be finished. But no, not conversations as
9 though.

10 KEVIN GREENE: And how would you follow up on those questions.

11 BRIDGET MUNGER: That is still under review – that’s standard. For any permit, that
12 is kind of the talking point. Again, it’s ready when it’s ready.

13 KEVIN GREENE: OK. Anything unusual that you can think of regarding the ACP
14 process that was out of the norm.

15 BRIDGET MUNGER: No, No.

16 KEVIN GREENE: OK. I think we are done.

17 TOM BEERS: We are done early.

18 KEVIN GREENE: Alright.

19 BRIDGET MUNGER: Hey, I get to have lunch then.

20 TOM BEERS: It was so nice talking to you.

21 BRIDGET MUNGER: Yeah.

22 KEVIN GREENE: It’s 2:19 p.m. and we are going to turn our recorders off.