

ENBRIDGE PIPELINES INC.

INTERVIEW

OF

TIM CHUBB

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Enbridge Pipelines Inc.

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Operations for Enbridge
Pipelines Inc.

Stephen M. Jenner, Ph.D. For National Transportation
Safety Board

Rick Gulstad, PE
and Karen Butler For U.S. Department of
Transportation Pipeline and
Hazardous Materials Safety
Administration

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TABLE OF CONTENTS

INTRODUCTIONS	3
QUESTIONS BY MR. JENNER	4
QUESTIONS BY MS. BUTLER	44
QUESTIONS BY MR. GULSTAD	70
QUESTIONS BY MR. JENNER	77
QUESTIONS BY MS. BUTLER	84
CLOSING BY MR. JENNER	85
CERTIFICATE	87

1 INTERVIEW OF TIM CHUBB, TAKEN AT 8:30 A.M.:

2 MR. JENNER: Good morning. Today is
3 Thursday, July 29th, 2010. My name is Stephen
4 Jenner, and I'm an investigator with the National
5 Transportation Safety Board in Washington, D.C. We
6 are currently in Edmonton, Canada at the Crowne
7 Plaza Hotel. We are here in regards to a pipeline
8 spill that occurred in Marshall, Michigan on July
9 26, 2010.

10 I'd like to first go around the room starting
11 on my left to have everyone introduce themselves.
12 So if I would please state your name and the
13 company that you're with.

14 MR. GULSTAD: Rick Gulstad. I'm an engineer
15 with PHMSA, Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety
16 Administration. [REDACTED]

17 [REDACTED]

18 MR. TOLLEFSON: Tyler Tollefson, senior legal

19 counsel, Enbridge Pipelines, Edmonton office.

20 MR. GOESON: I'm Curt Goeson. I'm control

21 centre supervisor with Enbridge Pipelines.

22 MR. CHUBB: Tim Chubb, control centre

23 operator with Enbridge Pipelines.

24 MR. JENNER: And, Karen?

25 MS. BUTLER: Karen Butler with PHMSA [REDACTED]

26 [REDACTED] he regional project

27 manager.

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1 MR. JENNER: Okay. Thank you.

2 We're going to start off talking today with

3 Tim Chubb.

4 QUESTIONS BY MR. JENNER:

5 Q MR. JENNER: Tim, just could you spell your

6 name for the record, please.

7 A It's Chubb, C-H-U-B-B.

8 Q All right. And you mentioned your title. Can you

9 just repeat that?

10 A Okay, control centre operator.

11 Q Yesterday we heard people calling themselves

12 operators. It's same --

13 A Same, yes.

14 Q -- same function?

15 A Yes.

16 Q Great. I'm just going to ask you a little bit

17 about your background and when you started and how

18 you got up to your current position. So can you

19 just start us off when you hired on at Enbridge?

20 A I'd have to do the -- do the math. It was in the

21 fall. This fall it'll be four years, so I guess

22 the fall of 2006 is when I started.

23 Q In what capacity?

24 A Operator 1 training, started out training.

25 Q Could you just briefly walk us through your

26 training experience.

27 A Training, I think I took about six months to train.

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1 You're set up with a senior operator just to learn
2 about the pipelines, and you go through your
3 training until you're qualified to operate by
4 yourself. I don't know what else you need to know
5 on that.

6 Q Did that go smoothly for you?

7 A It took me a little bit longer than anticipated,
8 but, it was -- yeah, it went smoothly.

9 Q Okay. And when did you begin -- when were you
10 qualified?

11 A I don't know the exact date. It would have been
12 the summer of '07 sometime. I don't know the date.

13 Q That's fine. All right, and have you worked
14 various consoles since then?

15 A For our grouping, there are two separate consoles
16 that we operate, and you just -- we switch back and
17 forth between the two consoles.

18 Q And what -- I know they have numbers, 6 As and Bs
19 and other numbers. Can you tell me which you have
20 operated?

21 A Okay. The two consoles, the one console is line 4
22 and 14. The second console is line 3, 6A, 6B, line
23 17, and the Stockbridge tank farm.

24 Q In the process of becoming familiar with the
25 different line, what is that process? How long
26 does it take, and how do you -- how do you become
27 familiar with it?

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1 A When I first started training, we would alternate
2 between the two lines, and then part way through my
3 training, we decided to just concentrate and line 4
4 and 14. So first I was qualified on 4 and 14 after
5 I'd been there for a while -- and, again, I'm not
6 sure on the time line. Then we started cross
7 training on lines 3, 6, 6, and 17.

8 Q Roughly how long does it take to become qualified
9 on the new line?

10 A On the new line, not as long as the initial
11 training because you are now familiar with
12 pipelines and how they react, so it's a lot quicker
13 to cross train on the second set of lines than it
14 is on the initial -- the initial training.

15 Q So you've been doing this for about four years now?

16 A In the fall, it will be four years.

17 Q How comfortable are you on day-to-day operations?

18 A I'm -- I am -- I'm comfortable with it, yeah.

19 Q Have you ever had to respond to any type of
20 incident, emergency situation, abnormal situation?

21 A Abnormal situations, yes. We receive calls from
22 the field that there's an odour call or some other
23 call where it requires us to shut down the lines
24 that operate on that right away that the call came
25 from.

26 Q So you've had to shut down lines in response to
27 problems on the line?

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1 A Yes.

2 Q Did that go according to training and according to
3 procedures? Did things go well --

4 A Yeah.

5 Q -- your response?

6 A Yeah. Yeah, they went well.

7 Q Okay, what I'd like to focus on now is just a
8 little more about your shift that began on Sunday.

9 A Okay.

10 Q And if you could just walk us through when you came
11 on shift, and there's typically a transition
12 period, a hand-over, and if I can just talk us
13 through that.

14 A Yeah, I -- I would have come in from my shift, and
15 we would have had our shift change. And the
16 lines -- all my lines were running except for 6B.
17 It had been shut down on the previous shift. So I

18 had maneuvers coming up, so I had planned and
19 prepared to -- for my maneuvers that were going to
20 happen.

21 Q Sorry to interrupt. Just what time did you come on
22 your shift?

23 A 10 after 6.

24 Q And that's local time?

25 A Local time, yes.

26 Q Very good. I'm sorry. Okay, so line -- all lines
27 running except 6B?

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1 A Yes. And I had some maneuvers coming up on some of
2 the lines that were running, and 6B was not
3 scheduled to start up until 0100, but that's MST.
4 That's pipeline time. So I had maneuvers on my
5 lines, so the shift -- the shift was going as
6 normal. And, yeah, it was a normal shift.

7 Q Okay. So these type of maneuvers for the other
8 lines, are these deliveries?

9 A I don't remember the specific maneuvers that I had
10 to do, but I know I did have deliveries on line 6A.
11 I had a delivery injection running on line 3. And
12 line 17, I believe, the last injection maneuver had
13 been completed just before I got on shift.

14 Q Okay. So line 6B is down you learned. And who did
15 you talk to to --

16 A Dave -- Dave Scott and I did the -- the shift
17 exchange.

18 Q Okay. Can you share the information particularly
19 about line 6B? Did he tell you anything about
20 that?

21 A For 6B, he -- they had -- originally the line had
22 been scheduled to run for longer than -- they had
23 shut it down -- I'm not sure exactly what time.
24 Somewhere around 1500, 1530 MST. It was scheduled
25 to have run a little bit longer than that, but
26 because the Stockbridge delivery had ended, they
27 decided to shut down the line on -- when the

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1 Stockbridge delivery ended. Originally it had been
2 scheduled to go even through Stockbridge and then
3 be shut down later.

4 MR. GOESON: You might want to explain
5 "even" --

6 A Okay, sorry, yes. I'm just used to these. We --
7 we had a delivery into Stockbridge, so we were
8 delivering into Stockbridge, and when that delivery
9 ends, the line was supposed to go even or it can go
10 past Stockbridge down into Marysville. We were
11 going to start a Marysville -- a Marysville
12 delivery.

13 I had shut down the line the day before on my
14 shift before. I had to start a Stockbridge
15 delivery, and we were currently delivering into
16 Sarnia. So on the shutdown, it just happened that
17 it worked out that as I turned into Stockbridge,

18 the Sarnia delivery had ended. So the next time
19 they were going to go even through Stockbridge, we
20 were going to turn directly into Marysville.

21 Does that all -- I just -- I don't know what
22 you know for terminology. Is that clear or --

23 Q Based on what I've previously heard, I think I'm
24 okay.

25 A Okay.

26 Q Bottom line for you is it's going to stay shut down
27 longer than they initially anticipated or --

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1 A When I had left for my shift, it was still -- the
2 Stockbridge delivery was supposed to end, and they
3 were going to continue to start the Marysville
4 delivery, and that had got switched by the time I
5 was in for my next shift.

6 Q Okay. And you're talking about the previous day?

7 A My previous shift.

8 Q Your prev -- you're right.

9 A Yeah.

10 Q So this is sort of carrying over from your previous
11 shift, and now you're saying --

12 A It had changed since I had been there last, yes.

13 Q Okay. The things that Dave told you about the
14 status of this, did that make sense to you?

15 A Yes.

16 Q So it was going to remain shut down and scheduled
17 to be restarted at 1 a.m.?

18 A Instead of 2 o'clock, yes.

19 Q Okay. So you're tending to other lines and doing

20 maneuvers there?

21 A Yes.

22 Q Anything else of interest with the other lines?

23 Did things go normal?

24 A Yeah, I was -- yeah, I was having -- I was having a

25 good shift up until the 6B startup.

26 Q Let's talk about the 6B startup. If you can walk

27 us through that. What's the process? Who do you

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1 talk to?

2 A Okay, for the 6B startup, I had been in contact
3 with my Sarnia operator just to let him know that
4 we were planning on starting up at 1 o'clock, and I
5 had also been in contact with my Griffith operator
6 to let him know the same.

7 Q Okay.

8 A We -- I talked to the -- to the two guys that I
9 have to talk to, and we -- in preparation, we had
10 opened valves to be ready to start pumping.

11 Q Do you open all the valves, or did they open some
12 valves?

13 A The Sarnia operator, he has to open up the
14 Marysville valves. I have to open up my
15 sectionalizing valves, and the Griffith operator,
16 he has to open up his injection valves and be ready
17 to give me boosters for the line, booster pumps out

18 of Griffith.

19 MR. GOESON: So just add there, Stephen,

20 when he says Sarnia and Griffith, that's not local.

21 That's not the local guys. That's still from the

22 control centre, just a different console. Because

23 they're still remote controlled. I just didn't

24 want you to get confused between local controlled

25 and remote control. They're still remote

26 controlled facilities, just another part of the

27 control centre.

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1 Q MR. JENNER: How do you talk to these other
2 guys?

3 A During the shift and well ahead of the startup, I
4 had actually walked across the room to go talk to
5 the Sarnia operator, but as 1 o'clock was
6 approaching, I called him on the phone and asked
7 him to please open up in preparation for the
8 startup.

9 Q Okay. So just to reflect, Sarnia opens the
10 Marysville valves?

11 A Yes.

12 Q And you open the --

13 A The sectionalizing valves or routine sectionalizing
14 valves. And those are just the valves that we
15 normally close on a shutdown. We don't close every
16 single valve on the line. We just have our routine
17 sectionalizing valves that we close under normal

18 operations.

19 Q And then who's opening the injection valves?

20 A The Griffith operator.

21 Q Great. Thank you.

22 A Okay, so I had started to open up my sectionalizing

23 valves, and one of my -- my -- sorry, I have to get

24 this clear. I opened up my routine sectionalizing

25 valves and had noticed that one of my

26 sectionalizing valves was comm. fail. I'll let

27 you -- I'll give you a second.

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1 Q One of your sectionalizing valves was --

2 A Comm. fail, the communications had failed to that
3 valve.

4 Q Comm.?

5 A Comm. fail. C-O-M-M fail.

6 Q And is that an alarm?

7 A There is an alarm for it, but when you look at your
8 display, it's a valve that has a gray box around
9 it. So when you look further into that valve, you
10 can tell that the alarm comes up as a comm. failed
11 valve.

12 Q Okay. What is the location of that --

13 A That one is downstream of Marysville -- or, no,
14 downstream of Marshall. I believe it was 632, but
15 without looking at the display, I'm -- I couldn't
16 say for sure.

17 Q Is 632 a valve number?

18 A Mile post number.

19 Q Mile post?

20 A Yes.

21 Q 632. And so tell me about the comm. fail. What

22 does that mean?

23 A It just means that we don't have communication with

24 the valve, so we don't know the exact status on the

25 valve. It was showing open, but with the comm.

26 fail, we cannot be assured of -- of the actual

27 position of the valve.

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1 Q Okay. When it's working properly, is it a colour
2 change?

3 A It's a green valve. It means that the valve is
4 open.

5 Q Okay.

6 A And this was a green valve with a gray box.

7 Q And you noticed that pretty quickly?

8 A Yes. Yeah.

9 Q Okay.

10 A And there's also a blue line that comes across on
11 our line display that's associated with the same...

12 Q And I'm sorry. You mentioned an alarm. Is there
13 an actual alarm that goes on your screen?

14 A Yes, there is, but it -- the valve had been comm.
15 out from before I got there, so the alarm had
16 already been cleared. But by looking at the
17 display, I knew that the -- to -- that I had to

18 check into it.

19 Q Okay. So right now, it doesn't necessarily mean

20 anything is wrong; you were just not getting

21 information either way?

22 A Yes. So with that valve, I called the shift lead

23 to let him know that I was starting up with a comm.

24 failed valve.

25 Q Okay.

26 A And with the comm. failed valve, we put the two

27 stations upstream of the comm. failed valve into

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1 comm. out limits.

2 Q And you'll describe that to me.

3 A Yeah. So with the comm. out limits, those are the

4 safe pressures as determined by engineering that we

5 can get up to, and in case that valve is closed,

6 that we don't over pressure that section of line.

7 Q Okay, thank you. Okay, so starting up with a comm.

8 fail valve is practice, but other measures have to

9 be taken?

10 A Yes. Yeah, there's extra measures that we have to

11 take into consideration when we do that, yes.

12 Q Okay. And this is -- okay, so this is now a comm.

13 out limits?

14 A Comm. out limits, yes. We have to enable our comm.

15 out limits, and that restricts us from opening up

16 our discharge value -- or discharge set points

17 above our safe discharge limits.

18 Q And what is the process for doing this?

19 A You phone the shift lead. You talk about the valve

20 and whether or not the valve had failed, if you'd

21 seen the valve fail or if it was already failed.

22 With it, the shift lead will watch our startup

23 until we get pressures through that area, and then

24 we're able to disarm the comm. out limits and

25 continue normal operation.

26 Q So you're in communications with a shift lead?

27 A Yes.

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1 Q What's the name of this person?

2 A I believe it was Darin that I had called on the
3 comm. out valve.

4 Q Now, does he go over to your console or --

5 A No. He will watch the startup. They have the --

6 our displays up front where the shift leads are,
7 and typically they just watch from there. They ask
8 us -- they ask us a few questions, and if they're
9 okay with it, we will continue with the startup.

10 Q And just in terms of time frame, how -- how long

11 does it take for you to call him and make this
12 decision and then start things up?

13 A In this case, it was -- it was very quick and

14 simple. I -- I had told him that it was comm. out.

15 I had sent a -- my last command I had sent was an

16 open command and that the valve did show open, but

17 it was in comm. out limits. So I had enabled my

18 comm. out limits, and we were good to go with

19 that -- with that -- that aspect of it.

20 Q So a matter of minutes is --

21 A Oh, not even.

22 Q Oh, I see.

23 A Less -- less than, yeah.

24 Q Okay, I'll let you continue.

25 A And then I enabled that. And looking at my line,

26 the Niles station had already been isolated in

27 preparation for a pig passage. We had two pigs in

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1 the line that were downstream of La Porte station
2 and were headed to Niles station.

3 So the station is isolated so that the pigs
4 will bypass the station and don't get directed into
5 the station. So with the Niles station being
6 isolated, I knew I was not able to start a unit at
7 Niles during -- during my startup.

8 Q Okay.

9 A And that -- that's abnormal for line 6B typically
10 on the startup. We'll start up out of Griffith
11 with a unit. We'll skip the La Porte station, and
12 our next station will be the Niles station. So
13 this was -- I knew right away that this was not
14 going to be a normal -- a normal line 6B startup.

15 Q Okay. So all right.

16 A What else did I do? So, yeah, I'd warned the shift
17 leads about the comm. out valve. I knew we had

18 flow into Marysville, and my Griffith operator was

19 ready. So then I was ready to start up the line.

20 So for the startup, I asked the Griffith

21 operator to start my booster pumps at Griffith.

22 Once I knew those booster pumps were on, I started

23 a single unit at Griffith.

24 Q All right.

25 A As the pressure came into La Porte, I started a

26 second unit at La Porte -- or I guess I shouldn't

27 word it that way. I started a unit at La Porte.

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1 It was the second unit I started.

2 Q Okay.

3 A And then not being able to start up a unit at
4 Niles, I had the Niles station schematic up to
5 watch the pressure changes come through Niles
6 station.

7 Q I'm sorry. Can you repeat that. You can't start
8 at Niles, so --

9 A Okay, yeah, I -- I don't have a unit available to
10 start at Niles, so I had the station schematic up
11 on one of the side screens just so I could watch
12 the pressure as it came through Niles station.

13 Q All right.

14 A And then I'm not sure on the exact sequence. I
15 believe I went back up and started a second unit at
16 Griffith because without the Niles station, I
17 needed -- I knew I needed more horsepower upstream

18 to -- to bring the pressure through Niles station.

19 Q All right.

20 A So as I watched the pressures build through Niles,

21 I was then able to start a small -- the small unit

22 at Minden station.

23 Okay, so I -- I had enough pressure at Min --

24 well, I had very little pressure at Minden station.

25 I actually started the unit there early. The

26 reason I did that was to avoid excessive pressures

27 in the Niles station since I wasn't able to run a

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1 unit there.

2 So I had my units on, and we'd been running,
3 and we were getting close to ten minutes. We have
4 a ten-minute rule for starting pumps to see
5 pressures downstream.

6 So as I was approaching my ten-minute rule, I
7 had called to the shift leads, and this time I'd
8 talked to Aaron. Then I told him that we were
9 approaching our ten-minute rule and that I hadn't
10 seen a significant pressure change downstream.

11 Q So just to recapture this, the ten-minute rule
12 means within ten minutes, your pressures should be
13 normal?

14 A Yes, but with the ten-minute rule, there's also
15 extended time on the ten-minute rule that includes
16 drain-up from shutdowns, and we also had some
17 drain-up into Marysville from when we had opened up

18 the valves.

19 So Aaron came over, and he was watching this
20 with me. And Aaron and my shift mate, they started
21 calculating my extra allowable time for the -- for
22 the drain-up.

23 Q How are they doing these calculations?

24 A They went back and looked at the -- the track -- or
25 our track that we run every two hours, our CMT
26 track, and they found (ph) up the drain-up from the
27 shutdown from Stockbridge into Sarnia as well as

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1 the drain-up on the shutdown into Stockbridge and
2 also the amount of oil that had drained up into
3 Marysville when we opened the valves in preparation
4 for the startup. And they had come up with 22
5 minutes. I'm pretty sure it was 22 minutes. That
6 number sticks out.

7 Q About how long did it take for them to do these
8 calculations?

9 A Couple minutes.

10 Q Okay.

11 A So with that new information, we -- we decided to
12 go an extra 22 minutes for our startup. So as
13 we're approaching the end of the 22 minutes, the
14 decision was made to shut down the line.

15 Q Whose decision was that?

16 A Okay, how do I -- I was -- of course, we were
17 approaching the end of the time, so I said, Aaron,

18 we're getting to our time. We're going to shut

19 down. And he said, Yeah, shut down.

20 Q All right.

21 A So on our shutdown, we closed off into Marysville.

22 We had closed our routine sectionalizing valves and

23 knocked off our boosters at Griffith and -- and

24 closed up.

25 Q Did that go as normal, the shutdown process?

26 A As norm -- yeah, yeah, it was -- it was -- it was a

27 normal shutdown, yes.

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1 Q Okay. And how long is this shutdown process?

2 A Probably just over a minute. It -- fairly short.

3 Q And the feedback you were getting from the system,

4 no alarms, alerts?

5 A We -- we did have MBS alarms. I didn't mention

6 this earlier. For the startup, we did have MBS

7 alarms, so I called our MBS guy, and he was already

8 looking into the -- into the -- into the MBS

9 alarms.

10 Q All right. Just talk about that. What were the

11 MBS alarms related to?

12 A They relate to a section of a pipeline where the

13 model picks up an imbalance, and they're divided

14 into 5-minute, 20-minute, and 2-hour alarms. And

15 I'm not -- not an MBS guy, but it just refers to

16 the amount -- the amount of the imbalances

17 depending on which alarm you get.

18 Q So you talked to an analyst about it?

19 A Yes. Yeah.

20 Q Do you remember his name?

21 A Jim. Jim was on that night.

22 Q Okay. And what was your conversation about the MBS

23 alarm?

24 A It was very short because I was trying to start up

25 my line. I just phoned him and told him that I was

26 receiving MBS alarms, and he was going to look into

27 it -- or he was looking into it.

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1 Q Did he get back to you?

2 A Yeah, he had actually -- he had talked to the shift

3 leads, and he had come over to my console to take a

4 look as well to see -- to see what was happening.

5 And because he had questions for me because Niles

6 station was bypassed, so that -- I don't know

7 exactly how it affects his -- his model, but he --

8 that's -- he came over to see what was abnormal or

9 what was different on my line than what he expected

10 or what his model was picking up so that he could

11 see what was happening on the line and check with

12 his -- cross-check with his model.

13 Q So when he came to your console, what was your

14 conversation, and what were his actions?

15 A I really didn't talk to him a whole bunch. He

16 just -- he looked at my model, and he -- he said,

17 "Oh, you didn't tell me that Niles was isolated."

- 18 I'm like, "Yeah, we're expecting pigs." I don't
19 remember exactly, but that was one of the things.
20 And I -- he looked at my -- looked at my model.
21 Q All right. And did he -- did he give you a --
22 A He gave me feedback that things looked fine.
23 Q And when did this occur in the process? This is
24 during the startup?
25 A During the startup, yeah, we started receiving
26 alarms.
27 Q Can you just -- more specifically in the first

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1 minute? In the first 10-minute block? In the
2 22-minute block?

3 A I don't think they were initially. Probably five
4 minutes in is when they started. I...

5 Q Approximately.

6 A Yeah.

7 Q Okay. But during the first ten minute --

8 A Yes. Yeah.

9 Q Okay. So we'll go back to the shutting down the
10 line.

11 A Okay.

12 Q So you did the 22. Your -- a minute later, your
13 line is shutting down?

14 A Yeah. Yeah, we're shutting -- yeah, we're -- as
15 soon as we got up to our time, we started shutting
16 down, but you can't just knock off all your pumps.
17 I knocked off a pump and reduced pressures, and

18 then I was -- I was able to. We shut down -- we
19 shut down pumps. But I only had -- I only had four
20 pumps on, so a minute would probably even be long
21 for that one. I'm thinking -- yeah, it was
22 definitely under a minute, but I don't know how
23 long it would have taken to even knock pumps off
24 and then to get valves closed and close up.

25 Q Okay. So you guys have a situation where the
26 pressures weren't where you thought they should be.
27 You shut down the line?

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1 A Yes.

2 Q And so now what happens?

3 A I -- I was -- I had other things to do with my
4 line, so basically the shift leads took over, and
5 they -- then they -- they did talk to me a bit, and
6 they would have been talking to MBS just to see
7 where the -- if there was a problem or where the
8 issue was just to see what -- what was happening
9 with the line.

10 Q Okay. And they're working this for a period of
11 time?

12 A Yeah, it was -- I don't remember exactly what time
13 we got shut down, but it was -- I think it was
14 4:30ish before we tried to start up again. So it
15 would have been well over two hours that they --
16 they were analyzing data and pressures to see what
17 was going on.

18 Q Was this done at your console or --

19 A No, this was up at the shift leads, yeah.

20 Q So two hours, it's quite a good portion of time?

21 A It was -- yeah, it was over two. I -- I can't get

22 any closer than that right now.

23 Q No, no, I'm just saying that they're away for a

24 pretty good --

25 A Yes.

26 Q -- pretty good block of time?

27 A Yes.

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1 Q And you're attending to other lines?

2 A Yeah, I had other lines and other maneuvers to --

3 to -- to attend, yes.

4 Q Overall, besides 6B, how -- did you have a busy

5 workload? A normal workload? Slow?

6 A Probably a normal -- a normal workload until

7 shortly after 3 o'clock, probably 3:30 MST. We

8 have a whole bunch of work that's going on on 6B.

9 So about -- I want to say about 3:30 the guys from

10 the field would have started calling in for their

11 work for the day on the line. So then it gets --

12 it gets really busy answering the phones and

13 attending to your lines.

14 Q Approximately what time was the line shut down?

15 A I want to say 1:45, but I really -- I don't know.

16 Q Approximate time is just fine.

17 A Okay.

18 Q On we're still on MST?

19 A Yes. Yes.

20 Q So the 3:30 period is during that two-hour block of

21 time when they're analyzing?

22 A They're analyzing things, yes.

23 Q You're attending to your normal operation?

24 A Yes.

25 Q And there was a -- did they report back to you with

26 their conclusions?

27 A Yeah.

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1 Q And when was that that they talked to you again?

2 A I don't know for sure. Sometime -- I'm going to go

3 with sometime after 4 o'clock probably, 4 or 4:15.

4 I'm not sure because we -- I -- I'm not even sure

5 when we started up again. I think it was about

6 4:30, but -- so it would have been 15 minutes to

7 half an hour before we had decided to restart the

8 line.

9 Q Did they tell what they thought the problem was?

10 A Because we had -- we weren't able to by -- or we

11 weren't able to use Niles station because of the

12 bypass, that we needed more discharge pressure out

13 of Minden just to break the frictional loss, the

14 line loss into Marshall to even get -- to get

15 enough pressure into Marshall to see a -- to see a

16 significant pressure change.

17 Q Okay. I'm just going to ask you to -- the

18 rationale was because Niles station was down, and

19 you had to bypass it?

20 A Yeah.

21 Q Then --

22 A That we needed -- I -- I'm not sure on this. I

23 think the pressure was 320 pounds discharge out of

24 Minden before we'd even see pressure into Marshall

25 because of the line friction loss.

26 Q So it's sort of revolving around the Niles station

27 being down that it -- that has consequences for

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1 pressures on other points of your line?

2 A Yes. It's definitely a contributing factor, yes.

3 Q Right. You have to adjust for that?

4 A Yes.

5 Q And that more or less was their conclusion that we

6 have to account for Niles station being down?

7 A That we have -- yeah, we had to be able to get more

8 discharge pressure out of Minden station. So

9 either -- yeah, if you had Niles, it would

10 definitely help or to get more horsepower upstream

11 to bring the pressures into Minden to get the

12 pressures to Marshall to overcome the line friction

13 loss.

14 Q And that's pretty much what they told you, and did

15 that seem reasonable to you?

16 A Yes. Yeah.

17 Q Okay.

18 A Because like I'd stated earlier, normally we skip
19 La Porte, and you go to Niles to start up that line
20 just to transfer your pressures through and for a
21 nice startup, and I didn't have Niles available to
22 me on this startup.

23 Q Okay. Okay. So this is now after 4 o'clock, and
24 they're just -- so you're -- are you being told to,
25 look, we're going to restart the line?

26 A Yeah, we're going to give 'er another try, yeah.

27 Q All right. And if you could walk me through that,

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1 please.

2 A It would be the same process as we did before. We
3 still -- we had the Sarnia operator to open up. I
4 opened up my routine sectionalizing valves and
5 informed the Griffith operator that we're going to
6 try again.

7 Q Okay. All right.

8 A So it would have been another startup with -- the
9 Griffith unit and then La Porte unit, bring on
10 another Griffith unit. We waited longer this time
11 to start -- start the Minden unit because we -- the
12 first time, initially, I was worried about the
13 pressures into Niles, but after I tried to start it
14 up the first time, I realized that that wasn't as
15 big of a concern, so we waited a lot longer to get
16 the Minden unit on.

17 And this time -- I can't remember if we

18 started the small one again first or if we just
19 went to the big one, but we got the line up and
20 running again up to Minden, and out of Minden, we
21 were only able to get -- I'm guessing it was about
22 280 pounds, and we were still looking for that 320
23 pounds of discharge out of Minden.

24 So we -- we opened up some more set points to
25 try to get the pressure up to 320 discharge at
26 Minden, and we couldn't get it, so we tried to
27 start another unit at La Porte, and that unit was

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1 unavailable to us.

2 So, again, we hit our ten minutes at Minden.

3 We didn't have enough pressure, and we shut down,

4 and we were waiting to get guys in the field to

5 check on unit statuses to see what was going to

6 happen. And by then, it's already -- we had shut

7 down, and it's very close to the end of my shift,

8 so they're still discussing this. And then my --

9 my relief showed up for my -- my shift exchange.

10 Q Okay. I'm sorry to ask you this, but why La Porte

11 was not available?

12 A There -- we -- at La Porte, we have three bigger

13 units and then a smaller unit. I'm not exactly

14 sure what the horsepower is, but it would be three

15 large units and probably a half head, so the fourth

16 unit would probably be half as big as the first

17 three. And we were trying to get that unit on, but

18 that unit had equipment problems with it, so we

19 weren't able to use it.

20 Q You were -- that had equipment problems for some

21 time, not just --

22 A Yes. It was -- the shift lead asked me if we're

23 able to use it, and I -- I didn't think that we

24 were, but we wanted to -- to see if we could get a

25 start to it to -- to see if it would start, but it

26 never -- it -- there was problems there. It

27 wouldn't start.

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1 Q So this is the smaller unit?

2 A The small unit at La Porte.

3 Q But is there an option to use one of the bigger

4 units?

5 A Not with power -- power limitations that we have at

6 that station. Only allowed to use so much power at

7 that station.

8 Q I see. So here we are. The ten minutes are

9 approaching, the ten-minute limit. You're not

10 getting the pressure, enough pressure that you need

11 to see?

12 A Yeah. So then we -- we just shut down. We weren't

13 going to be able to get the pressure that we

14 thought we needed to get into the -- into Marshall.

15 Q And this -- just clock time is approaching --

16 A We -- okay, it's just a guess. We started up at

17 about 4:30. We would have got our units on. We

18 would have had Minden on for about 10 minutes, and
19 then we would have shut down. So it probably took
20 us 15, 20 minutes because it was a lot quicker
21 startup at the top part of the line because there
22 was more pressure in the line for the startup.

23 Q The 15, 20 minutes, it's after the 4:30?

24 A Yes.

25 Q Okay. To shut down, so --

26 A Yeah, and then we shut down, and that was -- yeah.

27 Q So 4:45, 4:50?

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1 A Sure, yeah.

2 Q Okay. So now it's shut down, and I guess according

3 to procedure, things went okay for the shutdown

4 process?

5 A Yes, for the startup, for the shutdown, yeah.

6 They -- the -- the pumps that we got on, everything

7 was normal.

8 Q Okay. So what's -- what were the discussions at

9 the shutdown time?

10 A The shutdown, that we still needed more horsepower

11 upstream to get the Minden discharge up to 320 to

12 break the friction loss into Marshall.

13 Q Who's now working this problem?

14 A Again, the shift leads, they came up with that

15 320-pound discharge that we needed out of Minden

16 using a line-loss calculator. It's a tool that

17 they have to figure this -- these numbers out. And

18 we were getting personnel in the field out to the

19 stations to -- to see what else could be done.

20 Q And so you're making these phone calls?

21 A No.

22 Q No?

23 A The -- I was -- I was really busy at that time.

24 I'm not sure who was making all the calls because I

25 was calling the guys in the field. Of course, I

26 had to call them all again before we did this

27 startup, and then after we shut down, call them

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1 again to say, Look, we're shut down. You guys can
2 get back to your work.

3 Q Now, who are the people in -- not names, but are
4 they affiliated with a particular station?

5 A Most of the guys that I was calling, they're not
6 with a station. They're out there to do work on
7 the pipeline. The other fellows that were going
8 out to the station, yes, they are associated
9 with -- they -- associated with stations, but I'm
10 not even sure if these were the guys that are
11 associated with that station or if it was the
12 on-call guy that's associated with a region or an
13 area that he takes care of.

14 Q So after the second shutdown --

15 A Yes.

16 Q -- the calls to the field, what are they asking
17 these people to do?

18 A To go to the station and to look and see -- like, a
19 report, if there was another unit that we could get
20 on, if there was another guy that was going to
21 Marshall to check things out just to see if he
22 could see any problems there. The one fellow was
23 going out to Niles station because he was already
24 expecting the pigs to be through so that he could
25 return the station to us for -- to run -- to pump
26 on the line.

27 Q Okay. Like, the person going to Marshall, what is

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1 he going to do? Do you know? When he gets there,
2 what is he going to look for?

3 A I can't remember why he was going, if he was going
4 in preparation for the -- I don't remember why. I
5 don't remember why he was going there. Somebody
6 called him out just to check out because we were
7 having problems or if he was on his way there for
8 another reason. I'm not -- not sure.

9 Q Okay. So these people are -- some of them were
10 already scheduled to go to these locations?

11 A Some of them were, yes.

12 Q And others are just being alerted to do so for this
13 reason?

14 A Or there are other guys that that's the first thing
15 they do in the morning when they -- their first
16 business is they go to their station, make sure
17 everything looks good from the night before before

18 they continue on their day. So there's many --

19 many reasons they'd be out there.

20 Q Okay. And once they get there, they'll look --

21 they'll do what they need to do. Do they call back

22 to you guys?

23 A If they show up at their station in the morning and

24 everything is normal, we usually don't hear from

25 them. If they go out there and there's a problem,

26 they'll let us know, or if we call them out for a

27 problem, they'll report to us to say, no,

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1 everything is fine, or, yes, we have an issue.

2 Q While you were still on duty, did any of them call

3 back to say --

4 A The phones were ringing off the hook, and I was

5 answering some; my pod mate was answering some; the

6 shift lead was answering some. It was busy because

7 everybody wanted to know what was happening because

8 the line got shut down again.

9 Q Oh, I see. Do you know the nature of these --

10 these --

11 A Lots of them are just the guys that -- like I had

12 said, they call -- start calling in at 3:30, and

13 they have scheduled work that they're -- they're

14 attempting to do on the pipeline, so we have to be

15 in contact with them. We have to phone them every

16 time we start up or shut down the line just to let

17 them know that there will be transient pressures or

18 possibility of transient pressures on the line so
19 they can -- depending on the nature of their work,
20 they can get off the line just in case there's an
21 incident that they're -- they're clear from the
22 line.

23 Q I see. But in terms of the phones, as you said
24 phones ringing of the hook --

25 A Well, it's --

26 Q Yeah, I know. Just it was busy?

27 A It's an expression. It was busy, yeah.

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1 Q Sure, I understand that. But none of them were
2 calling to report an emergency?

3 A No. No, nobody -- no, I did not receive a call
4 like that.

5 Q Okay. They're calling for informational purposes?

6 A Yeah, plus we had the pig trackers out there, so
7 I'm trying to keep in contact with them to let them
8 know when the line is running and when it isn't so
9 they can keep track of the pigs continuing down the
10 line.

11 Q Okay. So we're now around the 5 o'clock hour local
12 time?

13 A 5 o'clock MST.

14 Q 5 o'clock MST so --

15 A So it'll be getting to 6 o'clock local. That's
16 our -- that's our shift change.

17 Q So before your shift change --

18 A Yes.

19 Q -- is there anything else going on that you're

20 involved in in terms of the shutdown?

21 A No. We -- we shut down. We closed off basically

22 as normal. The only thing that's not normal is we

23 don't have pressures downstream of Minden.

24 Q Have you ever -- I know every situation is a little

25 unique --

26 A Yes.

27 Q -- but have you ever experienced anything similar

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1 with similar results?

2 A Not with a leak. I've had other startups where we
3 start up; we have a column sep. We start up; we
4 use our ten-minute rule; and we -- we shut down
5 because the pressures aren't doing what we expect
6 them to do. We've shut down; we've analyzed it;
7 and then we've been given the okay to start up
8 again. And on the second startup, pressures come
9 in, everything fills in, and it's a -- and then
10 it's normal from then on.

11 Q And in these situations that you're describing, the
12 second time you start up --

13 A Yeah.

14 Q -- things work?

15 A Things work, yeah, just like they're supposed to,
16 yes.

17 Q So this is the first time for you that you would

18 start up a second time --

19 A Second time.

20 Q -- and things don't work?

21 A And things didn't work, yes.

22 Q Okay. Are you hearing conversations between the

23 leads and analysts about what --

24 A Some of it that took place around my console I did.

25 Anything else that happened up at the front, no,

26 I -- I -- I don't hear it. It's all the way across

27 the room. I -- I don't hear it. I just get what

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1 they -- what they bring back to me.

2 Q And from what your hearing or understanding the

3 conversations, what is the focus? What are they

4 thinking the problem is?

5 A Well, we're wondering why we're not getting

6 pressure into Marshall station. But with

7 everything that's coming back, we have -- we have

8 an explanation for why the pressures are not

9 getting there.

10 Q Was some of the discussion, any of it, about there

11 may be a rupture on the line; there may be a leak?

12 A That always comes into play when you don't see the

13 pressures, but we -- we were able to rationalize

14 why -- why we weren't seeing the pressure changes.

15 Q I see. And when you're coming up with these

16 explanations, is everyone on -- agreeing, or were

17 some of you saying, "Well, maybe we should consider

18 this or consider" -- I mean, I know there's a lot

19 of brainstorming --

20 A No, they all -- they -- it all -- no, there's many

21 different situations that come up, but we were able

22 to come back to the, no, we're -- we just -- we

23 need a little bit more pressure, and we'll be able

24 to get that column together, and everything will be

25 fine.

26 Q Okay. Now, if you, on your own, wanted to explore

27 the possibility that there's a release, a leak,

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1 what measures could an operator have taken beyond

2 what was already examined?

3 A Could have went back and looked at the shutdown

4 pressures and see what happened on the shutdown.

5 Q What would that have told you?

6 A It may not have told me anything. It may have

7 shown a drop after the shutdown, or it may have

8 shown steady pressures after the shutdown. So it

9 may have told me everything was fine, or it may

10 have brought up other -- other things for me to

11 look at or consider.

12 Q I'm throwing hypotheticals right now that -- and I

13 understand that their situation. There's lower

14 pressure, and there's explanations, and that at the

15 time made perfect sense?

16 A They seemed reasonable, yes.

17 Q Right. And looking at it from Monday morning

18 quarterback, if you want to explore the possibility
19 of maybe there's a leak, then I'm just trying to
20 understand the process for taking it in a different
21 direction. What information do we need to examine
22 to see if there's a leak?

23 And so I'm just trying to get details of what
24 numbers you could look at, you know, compare if
25 that makes sense. You're looking at some numbers,
26 and that justifies everything that's happening, and
27 if you wanted to say, well, maybe there's a leak

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1 going on, what data can be looked at to help take
2 you down that road?

3 A There are pressure trends that we could look at.

4 Q Okay. And that's -- walk me through that. Is that
5 something you pull up on your screen?

6 A Yes.

7 Q Okay.

8 A Yeah, you can pull up pressure trends on your
9 screen and take a look back and see what happened
10 or see what the pressures were telling you.

11 Q And what would you look for in the pressure trends?

12 A I would look for a sudden drop in pressure.

13 Q Did anyone throw out the -- and I understand that
14 everything is making sense, you know, what you're
15 doing because it's such a rare instance when there
16 is a problem, so I understand that.

17 A I did not look at pressures, and I -- I cannot say

18 if anybody else did or not.

19 Q Okay. Is the pressure trends part of -- we
20 mentioned the term "leak detection system." Is
21 that part of a leak detection system?

22 A It's -- I don't know how the MBS works. It might
23 be tied into that. I don't know. But there are
24 separate trends that we can look at.

25 Q Okay. So what would prompt an operator to look at
26 these pressure trends?

27 A If you had an incident or -- if you had an incident

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1 to look into it or something that didn't look
2 normal, you -- you might look into these pressures.

3 Q Is it -- is this -- I mean, again, abnormal
4 situations, leaks are very rare, so it's probably
5 pretty rare that you have to look at these trends.

6 Have you done that in the past?

7 A Yes, I have.

8 Q Okay.

9 A Yeah, we had an incident with a pig, and I went
10 back and trended the pressures to see when -- when
11 the pump went through.

12 Q So the incident with the pig -- I won't ask for
13 details, but there were pressures that weren't
14 normal? I'm just guessing and --

15 A The pig never ended up in the trap when they
16 expected it to, so I went back and trended
17 pressures to see when there was a pump, and we

18 found out that it was hooked on a valve. It got

19 caught up on a valve somewhere else upstream.

20 Q Okay. And when you look into pressure trends, are

21 you getting raw data numbers, or are you getting a

22 diagram, a schematic?

23 A There's -- you can look at just raw numbers, or

24 there is pressure trends, a line that deviates

25 either up or down depending what the pressures are

26 doing.

27 Q Okay, I like looking at pictures, so would it show,

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1 like, a downward --

2 A Yeah.

3 Q -- smooth downward trends?

4 A Well, it depends on the extent of the rise or fall

5 in the pressure depending what the graph would look

6 like because it is over time. It's pressure over

7 time, so depending how quickly and how dramatic it

8 was would depend what the line looked line.

9 Q Now, all during this time, you hadn't mentioned any

10 alarms coming in.

11 A There were -- we still had the MBS alarms were

12 coming in and out, but I knew the MBS guy was

13 looking at them. He was involved looking at his

14 end of things the whole time that we were

15 investigating to see what happened.

16 Q Did these alarms get cleared?

17 A Some of them would clear and go back, yeah.

18 Q Okay. Okay, so those were being examined, looked
19 into at the time?

20 A Yes.

21 Q And is it the procedure when you get an MBS alarm
22 to contact the analyst?

23 A The -- the shift lead and the analyst, yes.

24 Q Okay. So if you can just finish off your shift.

25 You -- it's coming time for the shift change, and
26 what's -- who's coming on board, and what are you
27 guys talking about?

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1 A Greg is coming in, and I'm explaining the maneuvers
2 that are happening on the other lines, what's
3 happening today, and then attention is swung over
4 to line 6B, that we're having problems starting it
5 up.

6 Q About what time was this discussion are you -- are
7 you handing --

8 A I'm going to say 10 after 6 local. I don't -- I
9 don't know the exact time.

10 Q Is the official time about 7 for the shift change
11 and your official shift on record? When --

12 A No, everybody in the room does shift change at a
13 different time. It usually happens between 6 and
14 6:30 local. There are guys that come in earlier;
15 there are guys that show up later.

16 Q Right.

17 A It's -- it's not standard. It's -- you come in

18 there; you're there for about 12 hours. Hopefully
19 your partner comes in to relieve you within that 12
20 hours and...

21 Q From others we've talked to, it sounds like there's
22 a little play?

23 A There's a little play, yes, for sure.

24 Q Okay. And so you got Greg up to date with the
25 status of other lines and this line?

26 A Yeah.

27 Q Okay.

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1 A And I told him the line is not running. They're
2 expecting to try to start it, trying to see what we
3 can do with this line, see if we can get it going.
4 And the shift leads were still meeting, so the
5 shift leads would probably come back and tell him
6 what the plan was.

7 Q Did the shift leads ever come back before the
8 conclusion of your shift?

9 A They were back and forth since we -- since I called
10 them on the initial startup that we were getting
11 close to our ten minutes, and it doesn't quite look
12 right. They'd been back and forth the whole time.

13 Q Right. But by the time you handed over the shift,
14 they were still trying to figure out what to do
15 next?

16 A Plus they were doing their rundown with the new set
17 of shift leads coming in.

18 Q I see. I see.

19 A Right? The shift leads have their -- their rundown

20 with the new shift lead as well.

21 Q So everyone sort of transitions at the same time

22 and hands things over, shift leads and --

23 A You have about a half an hour where the whole room

24 takes to shift over, yes.

25 Q Okay. Terrific. Extremely helpful. We appreciate

26 that. Do you want a break? We've got other

27 people --

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1 A I could probably use a bathroom break.

2 Q Absolutely. We'll take a break, and when you're

3 ready to come back, we'll continue.

4 A Okay.

5 MR. JENNER: Thank you.

6 (BRIEF ADJOURNMENT)

7 QUESTIONS BY MS. BUTLER:

8 Q MS. BUTLER: Now that we're officially back

9 on the record, the particular comm. valve outage

10 that you had with your -- I believe that was with a

11 sectionalizing valve; is that correct?

12 A Yes, it was a sectionalizing valve, yes.

13 Q So does that comm. error ever clear, or did it stay

14 in process the whole time you were on your shift?

15 A The whole time it was -- it was comm. the whole --

16 comm. out the whole time.

17 Q Okay. Were you experiencing any other comm. errors

18 on your particular console that come to mind?

19 A Specifically I can't say, but I do believe that

20 between -- I have four lines there, so I know that

21 there were other lines that definitely had comm.

22 valves that were in and out during my shift.

23 Q Okay.

24 A On 6B, I -- I believe the valve down by Leonard had

25 gone comm. in and out during the shift.

26 Q Okay. Normally when you have a comm. error like

27 that, are there some reasonable explanations for

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1 that, like, based on your experience?

2 A We do have valves that seem to go comm. out more

3 regularly than other valves, so it is something

4 that we deal with every shift.

5 Q Okay, when you deal with this every shift, do you

6 guys frequently write those up? Do they put them

7 in your FacMan or whatever it is you call it?

8 A Yes. Yeah, they're reported in FacMan there.

9 Q Do you know if this one was reported in FacMan?

10 A I don't remember.

11 Q Okay. Would that be something that you would

12 normally do, or would that be something that

13 somebody else on the shift is required to do?

14 A Typically it would be the operator sitting at the

15 desk.

16 Q Okay. Have you ever known of anything that was

17 experienced simultaneously across different

18 consoles? So, for example, have you known where
19 there was, like, comm. outages for you and other
20 consoles in the room were experiencing something
21 similar?

22 A Yes.

23 Q Forgive me, but I have to take notes, so I'm not --

24 A Yeah, see, I just can't see when you're writing.

25 That's -- that's the difference.

26 Q That's right. That's right. That's exactly right.

27 And the NTSB person that's sitting in front of you

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1 is much smoother than me, so I apologize.

2 A Well, I can just -- I can watch. I can see when

3 he's busy and when he's not.

4 Q There you go.

5 In any event, based on that -- okay, so, yes,

6 there's probably been some communication issues

7 that have hit on some consoles. On this particular

8 day, was there anything that stood out to you on

9 some of the other consoles? Like, you've mentioned

10 that you had to get assistance to close valves in

11 other particular stations from other consoles. Do

12 you have any knowledge of any issues going on with

13 them?

14 A Not at -- not at the time that I was having them,

15 and with line 6B, it doesn't share a direct

16 right-of-way with another line, so the chances of

17 somebody else having communication problems in the

18 same area for 6B, very, very rare.

19 There are other lines -- I know the main lines

20 1, 2, 3, 4, 13, there are valves that if I lose

21 comm. to that valve, I'm expecting that the other

22 lines lost it as well. But with 6B, doesn't really

23 share a right-of-way, so it's one of those things

24 that would just about never happen.

25 Q Okay. And this next question is in regards to the

26 previous things that you made, and I'm just trying

27 to clarify because someone was gracious in the room

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1 to clarify a little bit, and I just don't think I
2 caught it all. So this will be a bit of a repeat.

3 A Okay.

4 Q We were talking about you'd been in contact with
5 the Sarnia operator and the Griffith operator and
6 that they were scheduled to start up around 1
7 o'clock a.m. pipeline time, and that the -- they
8 have been -- they were preparing, so they were
9 opening valves to get ready to start -- that Sarnia
10 had opened up the pipeline valve, I think, at
11 Marysville, Sarnia contact. And then someone in
12 the room was gracious enough and said those are
13 remote. They're done from another console, a
14 different operator. What console was that?

15 A Okay, for the Sarnia -- for the Marysville valve,
16 it's the Sarnia operator, and he's all the way
17 across the room from me.

18 Q And (INDISCERNIBLE) the console in a number, or do

19 you just call it the Sarnia console?

20 A It is a numbered console. I don't know what the --

21 what the -- what the number of the console would

22 be.

23 Q Okay, and then you --

24 MR. GOESON: Karen, sorry, it's Curt. We

25 just refer to that grouping of consoles, and

26 they're two as a Sarnia group.

27 MS. BUTLER: So that's group two. Okay,

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1 thank you so much.

2 MR. GOESON: Sorry, it's the Sarnia group.

3 It's not group two.

4 MS. BUTLER: Okay.

5 MR. GOESON: It's the Sarnia group, and it

6 has two consoles in it.

7 MS. BUTLER: Okay. All right.

8 Q MS. BUTLER: And then you mentioned that

9 Griffith had to open some injection pump valve, but

10 I take it that the Griffith injection pump valve,

11 that's actually at the station; is that correct?

12 Is that a field person, or are you also doing that

13 from a console in the room?

14 A From a console in the room, but he -- his console

15 is adjacent to mine, so I can -- I just look at him

16 and ask him to open up his valves and be ready for

17 when I asked for boosters.

18 Q Okay. And so is that in the same grouping, then,

19 as your console?

20 A No.

21 Q Okay.

22 A He's the grouping next to my grouping.

23 Q Which is which group? What's it called?

24 A My group, I'm group 1, and group 1 exists on the

25 console that I was operating, lines 3, 6A, 6B, 17,

26 and Stockbridge. The other half of group 1 is

27 lines 4 and 14. And we sit back-to-back.

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1 Q Forgive me for not asking that clearly. What I'm

2 after is --

3 A Yeah.

4 Q -- what is the group name or number that Griffith

5 injection pump valves are associated with?

6 A Griffith, Hardisty.

7 Q Thank you. Okay, and how -- do you know, does that

8 have two consoles also, or is that a --

9 A Yeah.

10 Q -- one-console group? Okay.

11 A Yes, it's two -- the one side is the Griffith side,

12 and then the other side is the Hardisty, Kerrobert

13 side.

14 Q All right, gotcha. Okay, so on your screens that

15 you look at, is there anything that communicates

16 back to you the positions of those valves that they

17 have to put in the proper position?

18 A It's not a typical display that I would have up,
19 but, yes, I can grab that information. I can grab
20 that information if I need it, but it's not a
21 typical display that I have up.

22 Q Okay, so since it's not a typical display that you
23 have up, my next issue is if they issue, say, an
24 open command and the valve, say, in their console
25 has a comm. fail and it doesn't open, do they have
26 to just communicate that back to you, or is there
27 an alarm log that that would trigger in, and you

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1 would see that alarm log?

2 A The alarms that I typically see will show the valve
3 in travel open, and then it will tell me when the
4 valve is open. I trust him that he -- he's
5 watching his valve go open. Usually right before I
6 start up, I check with him and say, "Are you
7 ready," or, "You're ready to go." And then that's
8 for him to look through his stuff and go with
9 his -- go with his information if he's ready to go
10 or not.

11 Q Okay, so let me ask this slightly differently. I
12 apologize for not doing it well the first time.
13 And that is when he opens the Griffith valve, and
14 the valve goes into travel, but it doesn't make the
15 state he's requested -- so it doesn't make the open
16 in this example. So it doesn't make the open
17 state, so it's stuck in travel, would you see an

18 alarm on your console that says Griffith valve "X,"

19 whatever the number is, stuck in travel or in

20 travel state or didn't make "B" open sequence,

21 something? Would you see an indicator in your

22 alarm log on that valve?

23 A I can't say for sure, but my -- my answer would be

24 no, I would not know that.

25 Q Okay.

26 A That'd be up to him to -- to -- that would come up

27 on his side.

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1 Q Okay. All right. Thank you for that.

2 And I assume that that would be similar to the
3 valves at Marysville, right, or is Marysville
4 somehow different from Griffith?

5 A It should be the same. Those valves are included
6 within the terminal, so they're not valves that I
7 typically get -- that I will receive alarms for or
8 that I typically see. If I want to see those
9 valves, I have to look much deeper than is normal.

10 Q Okay. All right.

11 MR. GOESON: So just -- if it's okay --
12 it's Curt here, Karen. I'll just add a couple two
13 cents here. Again, just for clarity, because I
14 think I know what you're asking, the environments
15 that the individuals operate, we refer to them as
16 "environments." So there's an environment
17 associated, for example, with line 6A and 6B, okay,

18 and that's -- that's really IT talk.

19 And it -- the Griffith operator that you refer
20 to, he's operating another environment, so they
21 don't typically share alarms. Alarms are
22 associated with environments.

23 MS. BUTLER: Yeah, okay, but --

24 MR. GOESON: So but that said, there are a
25 set of valves, usually your injection and delivery
26 valves, that they both see the status of. I just
27 wanted to clarify that. The other valves beyond

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1 that, they don't -- pipeline guys don't see.

2 MS. BUTLER: Okay, to just follow up on
3 that just a touch, and then I promise we'll get
4 back to the interview and not into the technical
5 details, so forgive me for this, but I want to make
6 sure I have a clear understanding before I ask my
7 next question so I don't trouble you some more, and
8 that is, you know, a lot of companies will create
9 dummy points so to speak. It may be in a different
10 environment, but when that particular environment
11 has a certain element happen, then they will pass
12 an exchange point, or they'll pass it to the
13 central location, and that, in turn, will then have
14 some programming behind the scenes that triggers
15 another environment alarm. And so there's a
16 potential handshake even though the environments
17 are different, if that makes a little sense?

18 MR. GOESON: Yeah, and that makes perfect

19 sense.

20 MS. BUTLER: Okay, so I just want to make

21 sure that what you're telling me, Curt, is that

22 there really isn't that type of exchange. There's

23 no dummy points or environmental sharing alarms

24 going on here.

25 MR. GOESON: No. What I'm saying is for a

26 normal -- for normal operation, for low-severity

27 alarms, there is typically no sharing. On your

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1 point about if we get into some -- you know, how we
2 talked about yesterday kind of different
3 severities --

4 MS. BUTLER: Right.

5 MR. GOESON: -- if we get into a high
6 enough severity, I belie -- that's where we start
7 sharing.

8 MS. BUTLER: Okay, thank you.

9 MR. GOESON: Okay.

10 Q MS. BUTLER: Okay, so now I'm a little bit
11 clear, and I can be a little more educated in how I
12 ask this next question, which is the -- you said
13 there was a green valve with a gray box because
14 that's how it shows a comm. alarm, that there had
15 been a blue line also come across the screen. An
16 actual alarm had been cleared before you got on
17 shift if I understood that right. Is that --

18 A It would have been -- it -- the alarm would have

19 been answered, but cleared, no.

20 Q Okay, thank you. So the alarm was --

21 A Acknowledged.

22 Q -- acknowledged to be fair?

23 A Yes.

24 Q Okay. All right. So the alarm was acknowledged by

25 someone that was previously on shift. Was that

26 Dave?

27 A I don't know. I can't say that.

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1 Q Okay. Okay. All right. So let me talk to your
2 previous shift. In your previous shift, was this
3 same valve in comm. alarm?

4 A I don't remember.

5 Q Okay.

6 A It really sticks out from the shift where I tried
7 to start up because that's one of the things that I
8 noticed before I was going to start up the line.
9 If the line is already running and the valve goes
10 comm. out, we're not as worried about it because we
11 know we have flow through the valve. The valve is
12 obviously open.

13 Q Right.

14 A When it really -- when it's an issue is when the
15 line is not running, and we don't have the status
16 on the valve.

17 Q Gotcha. Is this particularly one of those valves

18 that we periodically talk about you have more

19 trouble with than others?

20 A This -- the one that was out -- I can't...

21 Q Okay, let me rephrase the question.

22 A No, no, I understand the question. I just can't

23 remember right now if it's typically -- I don't

24 th -- I don't think it is, but I -- I can't say for

25 sure.

26 Q Okay, well, let me ask it this way: Have you --

27 has this particular valve experienced a comm.

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1 failure while you've been on shift before that you

2 remember?

3 A Yes.

4 Q Okay. All right. Thank you for that.

5 Okay, so we'll move on a little bit off of

6 that kind of topic. When you guys had these comm.

7 out limits --

8 A Yeah.

9 Q -- and you have a certain element by which they'll

10 allow you to start, I take it that the alarms are

11 automatically adjusted with those new limits, or do

12 your alarms just stay in place even though your

13 pressure has some type of limitation? Do you

14 understand what I'm asking, or did I do a bad job

15 on that one?

16 A Maybe just try again.

17 Q Okay, so what I'm asking is that there are some

18 alarms that controllers or you as an operator can

19 move, correct, alarm set point limits?

20 A Alarm -- well, they're not alarm set points.

21 Q Okay.

22 A We -- we are able to put in an alarm that says if

23 the pressure reads over this amount or if the

24 pressure falls under this amount, then we will

25 receive an alarm.

26 Q Okay. So are you allowed to move that all the way,

27 or are there certain alarms that you can't touch,

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1 like, for example, a high discharge or a high high?

2 Are there certain severity of alarms that you can't

3 do anything with; you can only change those that

4 help you monitor? Or did I misunderstand that?

5 A No, there are -- we -- if you exceed max discharge

6 or your high suction, then, yes, you do receive

7 alarms. And those I cannot -- I cannot manipulate

8 those at all.

9 Q Okay. In your training, do you remember anything

10 that talked to whether -- when you go into a comm.

11 alarm circumstance and thereby you have some comm.

12 output limits that come into effect that I think if

13 I understand the principle right, this is going to

14 change the pressure profile, so to speak, that

15 you're allowed to operate in to a safer limit based

16 on you're not really sure about that piece of

17 hardware and what's going on.

18 So on those comm. limits in your training, do
19 they ever explain whether or not when these new
20 limits come into play, if it automatically moves
21 some of your alarm set points that you can't touch?
22 A Okay, when we are in comm. out, there are -- it
23 restricts the way that we are allowed to change our
24 discharge set points. When you're not in comm.
25 out, we're allowed to use a relative set point
26 change. The comm. out restricts us from using a
27 relative set point command. We're only -- okay,

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1 relative and -- what -- if it's on relative change,

2 it's an --

3 MR. GOESON: Absolute.

4 A -- an absolute, so it only allows us to put in

5 absolute set point changes. And with that, we will

6 not be able to exceed the comm. out limit.

7 Q MS. BUTLER: Okay. But whether or not that

8 has also lowered, say, your alarm limit for while

9 you're operating in that mode, say, for high

10 discharge or high high, whatever your severity --

11 highest severity is, you may or may not know that;

12 is that a -- is that correct?

13 A No. No. There is -- when we go into comm. out,

14 the column, it actually gets highlighted in a green

15 background, so there -- you know for sure -- when

16 you're in comm. out limits, you know because it

17 shows up on your screen. It shows up with a green

18 background. Plus, if you tried to exceed your
19 comm. out limit, the program will not let you
20 exceed. You cannot raise your set point above the
21 comm. out limit.

22 Q Okay. So -- all right, I think I've got it.

23 So while you might not see that in your alarm
24 log or wherever your alarms are kept as a list, you
25 do have a visual representation of where you are?

26 A Yes.

27 Q Is that --

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1 A Yes.

2 Q Okay. All right. All right. When you do go into
3 comm. limits, is there something in the alarm log
4 that tells you you just went into that mode? Do
5 you know?

6 A Yeah, there is, but what it is specifically, I
7 don't -- I couldn't tell you right now.

8 Q That's fine. Okay. Is there anything that affects
9 discharge pressure set point besides this comm.
10 alarm limit? Like, for example, if there's
11 suddenly a pressure restriction on a particular
12 pipeline due to a bunch of anomalies they found on
13 a pig run and they know they haven't got them all
14 repaired yet so they've got to lower the pressure
15 on it, is there anything that automatically
16 restricts that pressure or changes your alarm
17 limits or tells you that that's in effect?

- 18 A No. What happens is the engineers send the new
19 limits to the shift leads, and the shift leads
20 manually input the new restrictions. So on my end,
21 if I go and open up my allowables, I can see the
22 new restrictions, but I cannot manipulate those
23 numbers.
- 24 Q Okay. Do you know, were there any restrictions on
25 this line at the time besides due to this comm.
26 alarm?
- 27 A I think I know where you're going with that. No.

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1 No, they're -- no, they're -- or wait. Was there?

2 Yes, the only restrictions we had were the

3 restrictions that the engineers had placed for some

4 of the work that was being done further downstream,

5 not in the area that we're talking about here.

6 Q Okay. All right. Okay. And I think the 6B, two

7 stations upstream, I think you made a comment went

8 into the comm. limits as well. Did I --

9 A I -- I physically did that. I enabled the comm.

10 out limits for the two stations upstream of the

11 comm. out valve.

12 Q Okay.

13 A I had to initiate that.

14 Q Is that standard procedure?

15 A Yes.

16 Q Okay, so it's standard procedure; right?

17 A Well, not standard in that it's something that

18 we -- that's always there, but if we do have a
19 valve that goes comm. out, that's one of the things
20 that allows us to start up with not knowing for
21 sure where that valve positioning is.

22 Q Okay.

23 MR. GOESON: Quite often, Tim, when they
24 say "standard operating procedure" --

25 A Yeah, that's why I'm getting --

26 MR. GOESON: -- they just refer to our
27 database, so that -- right? When people say SOP,

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1 standard operating procedure, she's not saying is
2 it a standard thing we do. She's just saying is
3 that a procedure.

4 A Yes, it's --

5 MR. GOESON: Is that correct, Karen?

6 A -- it's a procedural thing, yes.

7 MS. BUTLER: Yes.

8 A Yes, it is.

9 MS. BUTLER: I will definitely be more
10 careful about that in my next questions.

11 MR. GOESON: That's fine. We're just --
12 the SOP or the standard operating procedure isn't a
13 common term in our control centre.

14 MS. BUTLER: Okay.

15 MR. GOESON: It's procedure database.

16 MS. BUTLER: And I will make sure that I'm
17 very careful with that. So thank you for the point

18 of clarification on behalf of being patient with

19 me.

20 Q MS. BUTLER: So as we get through this, I

21 think I now get what's going on a little bit.

22 And then one of the other questions I had is

23 what else can cause a comm. out limit? Is there

24 anything else besides, say, not receiving the

25 proper status back from the valve?

26 A Okay, I -- okay, let me just ask you this: You're

27 asking me when I would enable the comm. out limits?

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1 Q Now --

2 A Okay.

3 Q -- when you get a communication outage indicator on

4 this particular type of valve, in your training, do

5 they tell you what can cause that?

6 A Well, yeah, it could be as simple as a power

7 outage. It could be some of the valves have a

8 radio transmitter on them. It could just be an

9 outage to that. It could be -- along with the

10 power problem, it could be -- if it's a valve, it

11 could be a battery pack to the valve. It -- it --

12 there's many things that could cause it.

13 Q Okay. And when you have a comm. outage, does that

14 automatically generate MBS alarms?

15 A No.

16 Q All right. So we talked about that -- we went a

17 little further on in this session, and one of the

18 things that got a little confusing to me is had

19 Niles actually been bypassed before you came on

20 shift?

21 A Yes.

22 Q Did the other controller -- you know, we got ready

23 to start up, and you had confirmed with him -- I

24 think you mentioned that you had exchanged

25 information so you were ready to go on the very

26 first startup. On the next shutdown, do you also

27 relay that type of information to him, and does he

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1 close valves both at those two locations?

2 A Yes.

3 Q Okay. And did you do that on this particular first

4 shutdown?

5 A Yes.

6 Q Okay. So when we start back up, did we communicate

7 again with them?

8 A Yes.

9 Q Okay. And what about on our last startup -- or

10 shutdown? I'm sorry.

11 A Yes.

12 Q Okay. So each time we had verbal conversations

13 with those two consoles?

14 A Yes.

15 Q Okay. All right. Thank you for that.

16 When you mention that you couldn't put the

17 smaller unit up -- I believe it was at La Hood if

18 I -- or La Porte, sorry.

19 A La Porte.

20 Q La Hood is our DOT secretary.

21 At La Porte, when you can't fit that small

22 unit up, does that have to do with power -- you

23 mentioned power limits. Is it because if you put

24 that up, it trips the power off, or is that

25 limitations, like, due to power efficiency?

26 A For the smaller unit, there was actually something

27 wrong with the smaller unit. I believe it was a

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1 check valve, but other than that, I don't know.

2 There was something mechanically wrong with the
3 small unit at La Porte.

4 Q Right, but I think you mentioned that we knew that
5 there was -- it was due to some type of power
6 limitation, and so when you said that -- when you
7 said a "power limitation," you just mean that
8 something is mechanically wrong with the
9 horsepower?

10 A No.

11 Q Is that -- okay, what do you mean?

12 A At La Porte, there are four units at La Porte
13 station.

14 Q Right.

15 A Three of them are big units, and I'm not sure the
16 exact horsepower rating. And then the fourth unit
17 is a smaller unit. It's probably a half head.

18 It's probably half as big as the other three units.

19 Q Right.

20 A So when we couldn't get the fourth unit on at

21 La Porte due to mechanical issues, we -- I was

22 asked if we could start one of the other two big

23 units, and I didn't think we'd be able to due to

24 power limitations. We could probably --

25 Q Okay, but when you -- when you say "power

26 limitations" in that context, what do you mean?

27 A We are only allowed to run so much power at

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1 La Porte station, and to run two big ones would
2 exceed the power that we're able to use at La Porte
3 station regulated by the power company.

4 Q Okay. And so is this an internal thing
5 regarding -- like, you're trying to save on power
6 factor billing, or is this -- so it's an efficiency
7 thing; you're watching your billing, and you're
8 trying to contain that to not go over a power
9 factor of a certain thing? Or is this physically
10 that the power isn't available to allow it to go
11 up?

12 A As far as I know, it is due to our power group.
13 They allot us so much power at each station to run
14 units. So other than that, I don't know if we
15 physically can't because of the power coming into
16 the station. I -- I -- I do not know.

17 Q Okay. So from your perspective, if that power

18 limitation had not been there, would you have put
19 up more horsepower there?

20 A That was -- that was the plan to try to start
21 another unit there, but we would run out of time
22 at -- we would run over our ten minute, so we were
23 shutting down. And then they were getting a plan
24 together. But by then, my shift had already ended.

25 Q Okay. All right. And so now I'm going to ask you
26 about the MBS alarm.

27 A Okay.

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1 Q You'd mentioned that you got various MBS alarms,
2 but what would be helpful for me is to understand,
3 like, if you got the five-minute ones or if you
4 ever hit the two-hour one. Or do you remember?

5 A I believe -- well, for sure I got a 5 and a 20, and
6 I believe I did get 2-hour alarms as well.

7 Q Now, from talking with the previous controller that
8 was on shift ahead of you, one of the things that
9 he clarified is, you know, they got an MBS alarm;
10 it was a 5-minute alarm. When I talked to the
11 analyst, then that was a column separation, and he
12 responded back to the operator with that or back to
13 the shift leader which eventually got back to the
14 operator with that information. So when you had
15 these 5- and 20-minute MBS alarms and possibly even
16 the 2-hour alarm, were you getting column
17 separation type of feedback as well or not?

18 A Yes.

19 Q Okay. Is that common?

20 A Yes. Yeah, we -- we receive MBS alarms that we get

21 an answer back that it's -- most of the time

22 it's -- it's a column sep. or a bad input, probably

23 a pressure, or there's -- there is a station bypass

24 where the -- the pressures are stagnant, and they

25 have to turn off a pressure to get the model to

26 pick the proper points to give us a proper --

27 proper reading.

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1 Q Okay. All right. I'm typing another note here.

2 A Yeah.

3 Q On all of those possibilities on any of the MBS
4 alarms of the communications that you had with the
5 leak detection system or the MBS people, did they
6 ever say anything other than a comm. alarm with the
7 exception of you explained the bypass situation
8 when he came over and looked at your screen? Did
9 they ever raise any other possibilities?

10 A No. When I was talking to the fellow, it seemed
11 like it was -- it was a column sep. problem with --
12 and that's -- that's all that it was that I'm aware
13 of.

14 Q Okay. So if you were to, like, give me an estimate
15 for the time that you would have been under that
16 assumption with any leak alarms, is that, like,
17 until your second startup, or when would that have

18 changed to this bypass situation coming into play?

19 And it can be a rough idea. I'm not -- you know, I

20 just kind of want to understand --

21 A On the first startup, I didn't see any problem. As

22 far as I was concerned, it was a column separation.

23 On the second startup towards the end of it, I was

24 starting to wonder if it might be something else.

25 Q Okay, thank you. Okay.

26 Was there -- I kind of relate this to a term,

27 and maybe this is not something you traditionally

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1 use, so we'll put it in your words once we have a
2 chance to chat about it. I might relate all of
3 this confusion to being technical difficulties. I
4 might just say that we were having technical
5 difficulties, and we were trying to figure out what
6 it was in the control room that was causing this.

7 Was there any other type of technical
8 difficulty that you're aware of that was going on
9 even on your console or in the control room at
10 large at this time?

11 A Not that I'm aware of.

12 Q Was there anything going on with your tracking,
13 your CBT [sic] system?

14 A For CMT, it would be --

15 Q Sorry.

16 A -- it would be very difficult to pick anything off
17 on CMT because when I got in, the line was shut

18 down, so I did not run track on line 6B, so there
19 was nothing -- while I was there, there was nothing
20 on CMT to look at. Once I started up 6B and ran it
21 to run CMT, I'm expecting an imbalance because I
22 had started up and had moved oil out of Griffith,
23 but I didn't expect to receive the same amount of
24 oil into Marysville because I was having problems.
25 So the CMT would not have led me to believe that
26 there was a problem in this -- in this case.
27 Q Okay. So when you bypass the station due to a pig

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1 run, how does that get interfaced with CMT?

2 A It doesn't. They're -- they're completely
3 separate. There's no connection as far as I'm
4 concerned.

5 Q Okay, that's fine. And part of it is simply
6 because I don't, you know, get to be there and see
7 what you enter and exactly how that works, so...

8 A Okay.

9 Q There's some interface obviously between CMT and
10 the leak protection system, and as a result of
11 that, I was just trying to get a handle on whether
12 or not the bypass would have been an issue there as
13 well.

14 A I can't see it.

15 Q I think -- I think that that was all that I had
16 this go-around other than I wanted to know did
17 they -- after the leak -- this is after the fact,

18 after the leak has come into occurrence. Did they
19 have you, like the other controllers, go over drug
20 and alcohol test?

21 A We did. We went in for drug and alcohol testing,
22 yes.

23 Q All right. And on your abnormal operating
24 conditions training, when you're looking at things
25 that they specifically highlight for you, is comm.
26 alarms included?

27 A Yeah, it's one of the things that we go through,

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1 yes, in our training.

2 Q Okay, and is the change in limitation, when you

3 have the limitations, is part of that training?

4 A Yes.

5 Q Okay. And do they go through training on how the

6 pig bypassing a station may impact leak detection

7 alarms?

8 A I'm going to go with no.

9 Q Okay. Is there a lot of training on, like, column

10 separation alarms and how to manipulate and operate

11 around that?

12 A We do receive training on -- on comm. out

13 situations, yes.

14 Q The way that you communicate with, say, Griffith or

15 the other consoles, has that ever caused a problem

16 in the past?

17 A No.

18 Q Okay. And with that, I think there might be some
19 fatigue questions that other people may ask, so
20 I'll leave it back to them. This will be it for my
21 round.

22 A Okay.

23 MS. BUTLER: Thanks.

24 MR. JENNER: Before we go around, I just
25 want to clarify one question that was just asked.
26 I think the question and the answer may have not
27 jived up.

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1 A Okay.

2 MR. JENNER: Karen, I think your question
3 was did you receive training on column separation.

4 A Oh, and I said col -- yeah, no, yes, we did receive
5 on column separation. After I said it, I -- I
6 wasn't sure what I said there. Yes.

7 MS. BUTLER: Thank you for that.

8 MR. JENNER: Okay, we'll go around. Rick?

9 QUESTIONS BY MR. GULSTAD:

10 Q MR. GULSTAD: Yeah, just a -- I'm going to
11 ask you a few things. Just clarify a few things
12 you might have already said, but I didn't quite get
13 it. When you came on shift, what was passed on to
14 you from the -- from the previous controller? Did
15 he talk about the column separation issue or a
16 comm. out?

17 A No.

18 Q Nothing was passed on to you?

19 A Not specifically on that, no.

20 Q And then when you talked to the MBS analyst, how

21 close were you able to pinpoint where there was an

22 issue? I mean, within what sort of a distance? Or

23 I think you also mentioned that you had a -- the

24 comm. out was at a sectionalizing valve possibly

25 downstream of Marshall?

26 A Yes. The valve physically was downstream of

27 Marshall. I just cannot remember the exact mile

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1 post.

2 Q Okay. And when you get a comm. out, you're not
3 real sure what's going on there? There's just some
4 sort of a flag; is that right?

5 A It could signify -- well, it signifies that you're
6 not communicating with that valve. So the valve,
7 you don't know exactly what's happening at the
8 valve.

9 Q Okay. Between Marshall and Stockbridge, how
10 many -- do you know how much sectionalizing valves
11 there are that you -- that you can see from your
12 panel?

13 A I'd just be guessing, and if I had to guess,
14 probably six or eight. If I had the display up,
15 I'd be able to tell you exactly.

16 Q But the one in question, was that the closest one
17 downstream of Marshall?

18 A No.

19 Q It was somewhere in the middle?

20 A It was -- from what I remember, it was the --

21 Marshall -- it was second or third one downstream.

22 Q Okay. Once you shut down the system, you're

23 closing -- what locations would you close when you

24 shut down?

25 A My routine sectionalizing valves.

26 Q So would this valve that you were having a comm.

27 out, would that be one of them you'd close?

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1 A No, it definitely was not.

2 Q Would there have been some valves between Marshall

3 and Stockbridge that would have been shut down as

4 part --

5 A Yes.

6 Q -- of your routine?

7 A Yes.

8 Q And so Marshall -- was Marshall also -- was there

9 anything at Marshall closed?

10 A No, not that I could tell.

11 Q So upstream of Marshall, what would be the closest

12 valve to Marshall that you would have closed as

13 part of your shutdown?

14 A Okay, it's the -- the sectionalizing valve --

15 routine sectionalizing valve is -- I think it's

16 just upstream of Minden.

17 Q Okay.

18 A I think it's between La Porte and Minden.

19 Q Okay.

20 A But I -- I'd have to look at my display to -- to

21 tell you for sure.

22 MR. GOESON: The folks don't -- they don't

23 know the numbers. They just know the -- they're

24 differentiated on the display for them,

25 differentiated between a routine and an emergency

26 valve.

27 Q MR. GULSTAD: But on your screen -- I mean,

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1 you don't know the distance, but you know -- you
2 can see a physical location?

3 A It's flagged there. It's flagged as a routine
4 sectionalizing valve. It looks different than all
5 the other valves.

6 Q So then once you're closed down, there was some
7 pressure on the line. Would you have seen what the
8 pressure -- or would you have the capability of
9 seeing what the pressure is at certain points once
10 you're shut down?

11 A At specific points, yes, but in between where we
12 have transmitters, you don't know what the
13 pressures are there.

14 Q Okay, but -- so that sectionalizing valve, though,
15 up closer to Minden that you did close --

16 A Yes.

17 Q -- were you monitoring that pressure? Did you know

18 if it was decreasing?

19 A The pressures were -- were relatively steady.

20 They -- they weren't dropping or -- once we shut

21 down and closed the valves, they -- they were

22 relatively steady.

23 Q How about the sectionalizing valve downstream of

24 Marshall, did you see any pressure drop there at

25 all?

26 A Okay, sorry, the question again.

27 Q Okay, so upstream of -- or closer to Minden, that

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1 sectionalizing valve, you didn't see any pressure

2 decrease?

3 A No.

4 Q How about the closest spot downstream of Marshall,

5 did you see anything?

6 A The close -- the next one downstream is the

7 Stockbridge block valve, and when you close that,

8 you saw the change at Stockbridge, but you didn't

9 see a change anywhere else. The line was so thin

10 that the only place you could see a change was at

11 Stockbridge.

12 Q And was the pressure dropping there over time?

13 A No, it was -- no, it was stead -- the only time I

14 saw a change is when the valve was opened or

15 closed. Once it was opened or closed, it was

16 steady.

17 Q Okay. But, again, that sectionalizing valve

18 downstream of Marshall that you did close, you

19 weren't seeing any pressure drop there?

20 A No. No. I can't remember which way it worked.

21 When I opened the valve, the pressure changed and

22 then steadied, and when I closed it, it changed and

23 then it steadied. It was just directly when I

24 opened or shut the valve that it moved. Other than

25 that, it was perfectly steady.

26 Q So you had no indication that pressure was rapidly

27 decreasing that might have indicated a release in

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1 product --

2 A No.

3 Q -- or anything like that?

4 A No, nothing like that.

5 MR. GULSTAD: That's all I've got.

6 MR. JENNER: Okay, any -- Curt, any

7 questions?

8 MR. GOESON: No. Again, maybe just a

9 clarification point.

10 MR. JENNER: By all means.

11 MR. GOESON: Karen, it's Curt. You had

12 asked a question earlier about when pressure

13 restrictions get implemented, if the operator could

14 tell when those pressures were implemented --

15 MS. BUTLER: Right.

16 MR. GOESON: -- something along those

17 lines, and I just wanted to add that, you know,

18 that process when those -- when pressures are
19 changed for whatever the reason, they're
20 implemented, like Tim alluded to, through the
21 engineers and the shift leads. That's transparent
22 to the operators, so they just become the new
23 limits that they view, okay?

24 So I just wanted to clarify that. When they
25 come in, unless they've had some discussion about
26 it, they're just looking at a new set of high highs
27 and highs and lows and low low, okay?

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1 MS. BUTLER: So they don't -- they don't
2 receive any, like, e-mail or verbal note?

3 MR. GOESON: There's a -- there's a
4 process. There's a workflow process where -- when
5 the engineers create the new limits, it goes into
6 the fieldwork database, so there is records of that
7 change. It's just not necessary to effectively
8 operate to have -- to have that knowledge.

9 MS. BUTLER: Okay.

10 MR. GOESON: Okay? That's all.

11 MS. BUTLER: I would ask you one question.

12 You say it's not necessarily that they have that
13 knowledge to operate, but it would affect their
14 profiles; correct?

15 MR. GOESON: No, the -- not if -- typically
16 these changes are all within -- within a set of
17 parameters.

18 MS. BUTLER: Okay.

19 MR. GOESON: Yeah. If they're really -- if
20 they're a restrictive, there would be communication
21 regarding that.

22 MS. BUTLER: Thank you.

23 MR. GOESON: That's all I had to add.

24 MR. JENNER: Okay, we'll go around just for
25 follow-ups, and then -- I have just a couple
26 follow-ups, and then I'm going to change direction
27 just about off-duty things.

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1 A Okay.

2 FURTHER QUESTIONS BY MR. JENNER:

3 Q MR. JENNER: From what we know now, the
4 comm. out situation, was that related to the
5 release?

6 A I would say no. It was another thing that I had to
7 worry about during my startup, but, no, it wasn't
8 directly related to the -- to the release.

9 Q Would it ever be in other situations? Are the two
10 independent that you wouldn't expect any release
11 of --

12 A The only way that it could cause a release is if
13 the valve was closed, and the pressure coming into
14 the valve created a rupture, but the pressure
15 never -- the increase in pressure never made it --
16 never made it to that valve, so it wasn't -- the
17 only way it could be a factor in this is as another

18 distraction.

19 Q Right. So I guess if you see a comm. out

20 situation, there's no reason -- there's no

21 technical reason to think that it's related to a

22 release in any way?

23 A No.

24 Q They're independent functions?

25 A Yes.

26 Q Okay, thank you.

27 In terms of changing directions, I just have

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1 some standard questions we asked everyone.

2 A Okay.

3 Q Let me ask you about your glasses. And you have a

4 situation with your eyes going on?

5 A Yeah.

6 Q Can you tell me a little bit about that?

7 A [REDACTED]

8 [REDACTED]

9 [REDACTED]

10 [REDACTED] I

11 [REDACTED]

12 [REDACTED]

13 And it's not just at work. It's everyday

14 life. When I go shopping, the whole works, it

15 affects me everywhere. [REDACTED]

16 [REDACTED] I've never had an issue as long as I've

17 [REDACTED].

18 Q Have you had experts look at this?

19 A I've -- we're still in the process. I've been in

20 [REDACTED] I've had a [REDACTED]

21 [REDACTED]

22 [REDACTED]

23 [REDACTED]

24 Q In your experience, does this affect your ability

25 to operate the SCADA?

26 A No. [REDACTED]

27 Q [REDACTED]

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1 A Yes.

2 Q -- on the day?

3 A [REDACTED]

4 Q Great, thank you.

5 How's your overall health besides that?

6 A It's good, yeah.

7 Q Good. Okay. Are you taking any prescription,

8 nonprescription medications?

9 A No.

10 Q Nothing for --

11 A No.

12 Q -- for allergies or anything like that?

13 A The [REDACTED] here and there. Other than that,

14 everything is good.

15 Q Good. Can you just run by your previous shifts

16 before that you worked prior to Sunday?

17 A Okay, I remember that Friday -- Friday was a busy

18 shift. We had power outage at Mokena on line 6A.

19 MR. GOESON: Stephen, did you just want to

20 know about shifts he worked?

21 Q MR. JENNER: Right, just the --

22 A Oh, okay. I had worked --

23 Q I didn't know if you were going there.

24 A I was going to tell you what I --

25 Q Oh, no, no, I'll save you from that.

26 A I worked -- I would have worked Wednesday, Thursday

27 days; Friday, Saturday, Sunday nights.

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1 Q So when -- so you had worked the previous Saturday,

2 Friday, Thursday, Wednesday?

3 A Started on Wednesday day -- Wednesday, Thursday

4 days and then switched to nights for Friday,

5 Saturday, Sunday.

6 Q Do you have scheduled days off?

7 A Yes.

8 Q Which are those?

9 A I actually came in for an overtime on the Sunday.

10 Somebody had called in sick or whatever. So Sunday

11 would have been a normal day off.

12 Q This Sunday that we're discussing right now?

13 A No, the Sunday before.

14 Q The prior, okay.

15 A Because the set before would have been my Monday,

16 Tuesday days; Wednesday, Thursday nights. I should

17 have had Friday, Saturday, Sunday, Monday, Tuesday

18 off, but I came in for an overtime on the Sunday.

19 And then I came in for my normal shift on Friday.

20 Q Okay. So this week, had you worked Saturday,

21 Friday, Thursday, Wednesday, Tuesday?

22 A No.

23 Q No, Tuesday off. And Monday --

24 A Monday off, and the Sunday was my overtime shift.

25 So that normally would have been a day off.

26 Q Okay. And how -- have you -- how rested do you

27 feel when you start your Sunday shift, this

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1 particular Sunday shift?

2 A I would have had a little bit less sleep than

3 normal, but I -- I felt fine when I came in and

4 felt fine during the shift.

5 Q What were your sleeping hours from Saturday to

6 Sunday?

7 A Okay, I would have got off Sunday morning, and I

8 would have had a nap in the morning, and then I

9 would have been up, and then I would have slept

10 another couple hours before I came in. Probably

11 two and a half hours before I came in.

12 Q Okay. And from Saturday to Sunday, when was your

13 sleep period? When you woke up Sunday morning,

14 what time would you have gone to bed Saturday?

15 A I would have went -- oh, Saturday?

16 Q Yeah.

17 A Okay, now you're --

18 Q Take your time.

19 A Friday night, Saturday. It would have been the

20 same thing. I would have had a nap in the morning,

21 and then I would have been up during the day, and

22 then I would have had probably two and a half again

23 or whatever in the afternoon before I came in.

24 Q Before you came in --

25 A For Saturday night.

26 Q Okay, Saturday night starts at --

27 A Well, Saturday night I come in for my shift at 6.

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1 Maybe I'm not understanding the question.

2 Q What time did you get off your shift on Saturday,
3 did your shift end on Saturday?

4 A Saturday morning, it would have been probably
5 around that 6:15, whatever in the morning.

6 Q Okay. So you come home. You take a nap?

7 A I watch a little -- I watch a little bit of TV.

8 Then I had a nap. Then I got up, continued on with
9 my day. And then I would have went to sleep again
10 at about 2 or whatever and got up at 4:15, 4:30 to
11 come into work.

12 Q Okay, that -- I have to keep in mind it's 12 hours
13 off.

14 A Yeah, exactly, yeah.

15 Q Okay. So naps are morning nap, and how long were
16 those?

17 A Probably half an hour to an hour.

18 Q Okay. So is that the way you like to handle it, a
19 couple periods of naps rather than, like, a block
20 of time to --

21 A Normally I'll get home in the morning. I'll watch
22 some TV, and then I'll -- I'll sleep, and then I'll
23 get up and come to work. This last weekend, I
24 just -- I wasn't able to sleep, and I would come
25 home. I'd have a nap for a bit. Then I'd get up,
26 get a few things done. And then by the time I laid
27 down and tried to get to sleep, I probably got two

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1 and a half hours again in the afternoon.

2 Q What period do you strive for?

3 A Usually if I can get four and a half hours of
4 sleep, that's -- I can't sleep longer than four and
5 a half hours at a time.

6 Q That's on the lower end. I mean, that's --

7 A Yeah. Oh, I just -- I -- my dad was the same way
8 working shift. He -- I just -- if I sleep more
9 than four and a half -- I can't. If I sleep, like,
10 for six hours, it was -- it was a big day.

11 Q Then that's the four-and-a-half-hour block of time?

12 A Yeah.

13 Q Okay. So when you take naps, you sort of divide it
14 up into two sections. Does that -- does that do it
15 for you, or is it --

16 A Most -- yeah, yeah. It -- I -- I don't -- when I'm
17 on shift, I don't sleep a lot. Then I find it

18 works better if I can get two little blocks of
19 sleep because I usually end up getting more sleep
20 that way than if I just try to sleep once because
21 I -- I just can't sleep that long.

22 Q Okay, yeah, everyone is a little different.

23 Do you -- when you do take naps and stuff, are
24 you -- are those solid?

25 A Yeah. Oh, yeah.

26 Q Do you wake up during those times?

27 A No. No, I'm out. And I sleep and that's why when

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1 I get up -- when I do wake up, there's no point in
2 trying to sleep anymore. I just -- I won't sleep.

3 Q Okay.

4 A When I'm out, I'm out and -- otherwise I'm up and
5 at it.

6 Q So no sleep problems that you're diagnosed with --

7 A No.

8 Q -- or snoring?

9 A No.

10 Q Good.

11 MR. JENNER: We'll pass it around back to

12 Karen.

13 FURTHER QUESTIONS BY MS. BUTLER:

14 Q MS. BUTLER: I actually think other than,

15 you know, the comm. out, we talked about the fact

16 it's not related to release in this case because if

17 the valve had been closed, you would have had other

18 indication of... So I think that we talked about
19 your fatigue-related questions, and it sounds to me
20 like you're just not a heavy sleeper for any solid
21 length of time normally.

22 Was there anything specific that you thought
23 was going on that could have caused this last week
24 to have less sleep?

25 A Except for that it was a shift during the weekend,
26 and there -- there was people out and doing things,
27 but if I'm -- if I'm ready to sleep, I lay down and

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1 I fall asleep. If I'm not, I just -- I don't

2 sleep. It's -- it's always been this way.

3 MS. BUTLER: I don't think there's anything

4 else that I've got on my list.

5 MR. JENNER: Okay, we'll pass it to --

6 MR. GULSTAD: Nothing else.

7 MR. JENNER: Curt?

8 MR. GOESON: No.

9 CLOSING BY MR. JENNER:

10 MR. JENNER: Okay, one more. Then I throw

11 an open-ended question. First I want to thank you

12 very much for being here and sorry for the

13 inconvenience for yesterday, but we do

14 appreciate --

15 A No, it's a process.

16 MR. JENNER: You've been a tremendous help,

17 so we appreciate that.

18 What we're here to do is to make the entire

19 system safer.

20 A Yeah.

21 MR. JENNER: And if there's anything that

22 you can think of, because we have a lot of

23 experienced people, and these things still happen

24 and for various reasons. If there's anything you

25 can think of now in terms of technology and rules

26 and procedures and operations that could make the

27 system safer, I'd love to hear from you.

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1 A I can't think of anything right off here.

2 MR. JENNER: Okay. If you do down the

3 line, please communicate to us --

4 A Okay.

5 MR. JENNER: -- and we appreciate that.

6 So, again, thank you for your time --

7 A Okay.

8 MR. JENNER: -- and your help, and we'll

9 finish the interview.

10 -----

11 INTERVIEW CONCLUDED AT 10:50 A.M.

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1 CERTIFICATE OF TRANSCRIPT

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3

4

5 I, the undersigned, hereby certify that the

6 foregoing pages are a true and faithful transcript

7 of the proceedings taken down by me in shorthand and

8 transcribed from my shorthand notes to the best of my

9 skill and ability.

10 Dated at the City of Edmonton, Province of

11 Alberta, this 9th day of August, 2010.

12

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18 C. L. Stabbler, CSR(A)

19 Court Reporter

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UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
NATIONAL TRANSPORTATION SAFETY BOARD

* * * * *

Investigation of: *

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ENBRIDGE OIL SPILL, *
MARSHALL, MICHIGAN *

Docket No.: DCA-10-MP-007

*

* * * * *

Interview of: Tim CHUBB

Date: 08 31 10

CHANGES TO STATEMENT

WITNESS NAME: Tim CHUBB

DATE OF STATEMENT: 08 31 10

PAGE	LINE	CHANGE	REASON
14	14-16	The alarm had not be cleared it was still active just not list of alarms to acknowledge	
18	22	Mendon station	
40	11+17	pump should be BUMAS BUMA	
57	1	...if it's not a relative change.	
74	13	steady.	