

Highlights of recent Raytheon meeting

TO THE EDITOR:

The Sunday MetroWest Daily News article about the Oct. 3 Raytheon PIP meeting prompts the following:

1) It was a formidable task for Raytheon to present so much new information about three major areas of their site investigation. Bob Luhrs struck an excellent balance and provided detailed visuals and clear explanations. It was also helpful that Raytheon's team of consultants was present to respond to the audience's questions and to demo their new Web site.

2) Raytheon's consultants at ERM have established a comprehensive Web site to provide access to all documents related to

this site cleanup. The url is www.ermne.com. When prompted, the username is 'raytheon' and the password is 'wayland.'

3) Sunday's newspaper also described increases in Big Dig spending. The turnpike is hiring 50 new employees and buying new SUVs and other vehicles. In contrast, the Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) laid off 50 employees last week while approximately 40 more DEP jobs were saved from the axe only by colleagues agreeing to take furloughs. All DEP Technical Assistance Grants have been eliminated. Hazardous waste sites are scored according to the severity of contamination. A site scoring 550 is eligible for Tier 1A classification. The Raytheon site score is now more than 750, yet the DEP is unable to provide the oversight outlined in their regulations.

4) Raytheon is diligently working to assess site issues and propose solutions, Raytheon has funded the town's Licensed Site Professional (Ben Gould of CMG Environmental) who provides independent review of all project data and reports, and we still have DEP PIP (public involvement) regulations and the agency's attention (albeit limited by their dwindling budget) to protect our drinking water. We also have residents in town such as Conservation Commissioner Andy Irwin who dedicate personal time and expertise to this enormous project. Other towns with Tier 1 sites are not so positioned to respond to their particular circumstances.

Thanks to everyone who attended last Thursday's Raytheon meeting. More PIP meetings are expected as data and analyses are available and as Raytheon moves forward in the permitting and cleanup process. The town recognizes and appreciates Raytheon's corporate commitment to our community and the purposeful communication we have established.

Linda L. Segal

VICE-CHAIRMAN, BOARD OF
SELECTMEN
WAYLAND