

what we learned on the border 2 weeks ago.

Earlier today, we addressed the Ukraine situation, and I am continually disappointed in the media in this country for not addressing the Ukrainian famine of 90 years ago. I don't know how you can report on this war between Ukraine and Russia and not talk about, depending on who is doing the counting, the 5 to 10 million Ukrainians who were starved to death by the Communist governments in 1932.

Even, at the time, the American press was shameless. We were in a situation in which a reporter for The New York Times, Walter Duranty, hid this great starvation from the American public and the Western world.

As a result, without the West being able to weigh in or the world being able to weigh in, about 5 to 15 million people, I am guessing more like 5 or 6 million, starved to death.

When we talk about why the Ukrainians are fighting so hard, how can you talk about that without talking about the history between the then-Communist Government of Russia and also the communists, quite frankly, who ran Ukraine at the time and the civilians who wound up starving to death?

You read first-person accounts of all the people dying. You realize how, 90 years later, that must still be something that everybody learns about in that country.

Like I said, one of the great disappointments is the mainstream media has not talked about it. Why don't they talk about it?

Is it because they didn't talk about it in 1932 because their reporters were so left of left, they apparently didn't want to embarrass the Soviet Union with what was going on? Is it because our reporters today are so left of left and so in love with leftwing governments that they don't want to embarrass them by pointing out the mass murder that they were responsible for 90 years ago?

In any event, I encourage all Americans to Google the Ukrainian famine and read some first-person accounts of what was going on down there. I encourage any members of the media who sometimes, I think, spend time on nonissues to educate the American public a little bit on what was going on between Russia and Ukraine 90 years ago this year.

Now, the final issue which we have to talk about, and I think is the most important issue of America under normal circumstances when our country is not being overrun at the southern border and when we are not facing world war in Ukraine, and that is the continuous policy, encouraged more by the Biden administration in their Build Back Better bill, another thing he is doing, to have a means-tested welfare program that discourages work and encourages the breakdown of the family.

Understand the qualifications, and there are over 80 means-tested programs, some of them more well-known.

One is food stamps; TANF, which is a cash grant; public housing; earned income tax credit; Pell grants. All of these programs are based on whether or not you are considered to be in poverty.

If you have a married couple in which both are working or one has a somewhat middle-class job, you will not be considered in poverty, and you are not eligible for these programs. But if you have a single parent who is not working or working a little bit, the government considers you in poverty.

Once you are in poverty, food stamps, TANF, public housing, which is a big one—I think they underestimate the draw that public housing has, and I can talk about that in a second. The earned income tax credit can easily be a check of \$6,000, \$7,000, or \$8,000 coming in every tax season. Pell grants, the opportunity for almost free college, something else that the average person doesn't get, but if you adopt that lifestyle, you get it.

It is not surprising that we have had, going back 70 years, such a shift in the way we raise children in this country, a shift from almost uniformly a mom and dad at home to a much higher percentage all the time without a dad.

I realize there are a few people out there who don't want a dad at home. I will mention one more time Black Lives Matter. On their website, when they were riding high about a year and a half ago, they were against the traditional nuclear family. Of course, the Marxists, Karl Marx himself, did not like the traditional family.

People sometimes think this has been a coincidence in which we have had a breakdown of the traditional family. In part, we have to remember that there are people who outright don't like the family.

In any event, I encourage this body, before they pass any more significant legislation, and I encourage the Republicans, if they ever get back in the majority again, to look at these programs and see, in a country in which we try to treat everybody equally, why we have these programs that, in essence, take money from the traditional family and send it to the nonnuclear family.

I have been approached by women a few times in my district wondering why their children have to take out big student loans and go 30 or 40 grand in debt, or maybe they had a sister without a husband in the house, and they get free college. I really can't understand why we are so prejudiced against the nuclear family.

But that is what we are in America today, and there is a lot of talk about equity or equality. We should talk about the degree to which we discriminate against nuclear families in this society and see what we can do about trying to put people more on an equitable basis.

That would be a good thing for the Republican Party to work on if they ever do get the majority back, and I hope they do. I think they will.

In any event, I would also hope our conservative think tanks, our conservative groups, do more to publicize the prejudice that is going on in this society against the nuclear family.

Mr. Speaker, I believe some fine Congressmen behind me are anxious to speak. I yield back the balance of my time.

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CRISIS AT OUR SOUTHERN BORDER CONTINUES

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 4, 2021, the Chair recognizes the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. PERRY) for 30 minutes.

Mr. PERRY. Mr. Speaker, I am joined here this evening by some of the other members of the Freedom Caucus to talk about what everybody is talking about or one of the things everybody is talking about, which is the unmitigated disaster, the calamity, the crisis at the United States southern border.

Today, Secretary Mayorkas was here on the Hill, and I think the term he used was that the border was effectively managed. Effectively managed, Mr. Speaker. I think maybe we are asking the wrong question because effectively managed seems very different in the minds of many Americans than apparently it does to the good Secretary.

It seems to me that just looking at the numbers—and I think we often-times talk too much in numbers—the toll is in real human lives, but we do need to talk about the numbers a little bit just to emphasize the scale.

Effectively managed. For us, for Americans, we think we should have a sovereign country that has a border where the United States of America determines who gets to walk across the border and what the process is. Of course, that is obliterated right now. That is totally gone.

I think when the Secretary says that it is being effectively managed, I think that is in terms of the new left's version of the border of America, which is to allow it to be as open as possible, to be violated as many times as possible, and to make as efficient as possible those violations on a daily basis.

In other words, let's move across as many people as we can, legally or illegally, without regard to the safety of the country, without regard to the health of the country, without regard to the financial circumstances of the country. All of that stuff is out, quite honestly, without regard to the sentiment of the American people whom we all serve—our bosses.

In his mind, apparently, it is effectively being managed. Every time we allocate more money, the charge is it is to more effectively manage or secure our border. Ladies and gentlemen and Mr. Speaker, what that means under President Biden and Secretary Mayorkas and the left's reign across

America right now is that they are efficiently—and becoming more efficient at it—moving illegal aliens into our country, into our neighborhoods.

Maybe you say, Well, look, these are just people that are looking for a better life. Many of them are, that is true. We don't hate anybody. Every one of us wants to help. What comes with that? What comes with the wide open border?

Mr. Speaker, what comes with it is a record number of fentanyl overdoses, the leading cause of death for young people between the ages of 18 and 42 in America today. That is what comes across the border. MS-13 and the criminal element.

It is said that we need a humane policy. This is a humane policy? Mr. Speaker, I don't know whether you know this or not, but, unfortunately, a young National Guardsman died while trying to help people that were trying to cross the river, they seemed like they were struggling so he jumped in to help them. He lost his life.

I don't know if it is true, but it is reported that after those people came across or got across they were arrested for drug trafficking. When they found the young servicemember's body, it was with another person who happened to be an illegal alien that was trying to cross. Of course, it is not reported, but I think there are literally hundreds and hundreds of dead illegal aliens that have tried to cross the border in the last 14 months. How humane is that?

Human trafficking. We have passed numerous bills in this House of Representatives, Mr. Speaker, even since you have been here, about human trafficking. Yet, the taxpayers of our country are forced to finance the largest human trafficking operation the world has ever known. These are the same people paying the taxes.

Mr. Speaker, I went to the grocery store before I came here, I bought, I think, seven items: a loaf of bread, cheese, normal things—two little bags. It was \$50. These are the same people that are paying \$50 for the groceries for two little bags that have got to pay for all of this.

I have a regular-size car, it has about 292,000 miles on it, and it was \$75 to fill it up. We are telling them, under penalty of law, unless you pay for this you will go to jail, and you will lose your house if you don't pay your taxes.

Mr. Speaker, this is unconscionable. We are currently at 8,000 per day. There are 8,000 illegal crossings per day. We are here to talk about title 42, which is only going to at least double that—and that is according to this Department of Homeland Security. Double that.

There is already a crisis at 8,000 per day. I come from a town of about 2,000 people. Every day, four times that many people come across the border illegally and reside in the United States and take away and steal our opportunities. They steal the American opportunity for education, for safe streets, for a starting job—your first job out of high school. All of that is stolen.

Mr. Speaker, I would contend that Secretary Mayorkas should be arrested for violating the law because indeed he is violating the law. He is not enforcing the law. He swore an oath. It is in the law. People say we need new laws. Mr. Speaker, even members of your party are saying we need new legislation to combat this.

What is any legislation going to matter if the administration refuses to faithfully execute the laws of this land? It is listed right in the Constitution, Mr. Speaker. It is right in there. It is right in there. Faithfully execute the laws of the land. Yet, we have a President and we have a Secretary that refuse to do it.

Mr. Speaker, I am joined here by my great colleagues. I yield to the gentleman from Virginia (Mr. GOOD).

Mr. GOOD of Virginia. Mr. Speaker, I appreciate Mr. PERRY's leadership on this issue.

Secretary Mayorkas' testimony today in a hearing was that the border is secure. You have to ask yourself: What would an unsecure border look like as defined by this administration, by this President, and by this Democrat majority?

I wish the Democrats were with us across the aisle tonight to try to defend the indefensible. I wish the Democrats were here tonight to tell the American people why they are intentionally, willfully, and purposefully facilitating this border invasion.

Many of us thought the President would open the border, would rescind the policies that were making the border secure under the Trump Presidency, but most of us probably underestimated how effective he would be in facilitating the invasion at the border, to your point, some 7,000 to 8,000 a day now that we encounter, that we apprehend before we bus or fly them into the interior of the country.

Never in the history of the country has our own President done more to intentionally harm the United States than what this President has done in his first 16 months. If we secured the border now—if today we secured the border, we have done irreparable, untold harm to the country that will only be shown in the next days, weeks, months, and years ahead.

We have got 2,000 criminal aliens a day evading apprehension. Think about this. This administration's policies are welcoming these illegal aliens into the country, giving them their free phones, free transportation, free education, social services, and healthcare, and releasing them into the interior of the country wherever they want to go without even a day to appear in court.

Why are the 2,000 a day avoiding apprehension? Those are the ones with the criminal backgrounds, the terrorist ties, trafficking drugs, trafficking humans, children, and what have you, who don't want to be captured, don't want to be apprehended.

This administration admits that 42 on the terrorist watch list have been

caught in the last year coming into the country out of the 2 million plus who they apprehended. What about the 700,000 in the first 15 months that they didn't apprehend? How many of those have terrorist ties? We have no idea. The country will find out, sadly, in the days, the weeks, and the months ahead.

Mr. PERRY. Mr. Speaker, I thank the good gentleman. I yield to the gentleman from Georgia (Mr. HICE).

Mr. HICE of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I, likewise, am deeply grateful for your leadership in putting this together.

Mr. Speaker, this is a call for our entire country to come together. This should not be something that is wrapped up in partisan politics. We are talking about securing our border. Securing our border. Right now, we have a discharge petition to save title 42, unfortunately Democrats are refusing to support that discharge.

I am calling on them tonight to come on, to sign on to the discharge and let's save title 42. This is in defense of our country and in defense of our national security.

Mr. PERRY. Mr. HICE, could you tell us how many have signed? How many Democrats have signed the discharge? The discharge brings the bill to the floor. How many have signed?

Mr. HICE of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, there are zero, to my knowledge.

Mr. PERRY. Mr. Speaker, there are Democrats out there talking about the border crisis and saying we have to fix it, yet they won't sign it.

Mr. HICE of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I am calling on them tonight—we are calling on them tonight to sign it. This is a national security issue. What is the problem here? It makes no sense to me. We have no Democrats that have signed on to this discharge petition.

As you mentioned, we are now watching—and Mr. GOOD from Virginia as well—we are watching now the numbers soar to the point of more than doubling the maximum that we have had in the years past. In year 2000 we had 220,000 apprehensions, and now it is going to soar over 500,000. We are sitting back here in the people's House doing nothing about it. We are responsible as the governing body of this country to defend our borders.

Right now, because of the surge that is taking place, Mr. Speaker, we are having Customs and Border Protection agents who are now being moved to process these illegal individuals. There are ICE agents who are being moved to process these individuals coming across our border.

The U.S. Marshals are leaving the various places around this country where they are serving to go to our southern border to try to help with this crisis that has no business even being a crisis. Now, we have all these agents who are not even doing their job because they are processing illegal individuals coming across into this country.

Now, we hear that DHS is calling on other Federal Government agencies to

provide doctors. I don't know about you, but I don't know of many agencies in the Federal Government who have doctors. Where are they going to come from? Perhaps the Department of Defense. Certainly, there are some doctors in the VA.

Let's say those doctors go to the southern border, then what happens to our veterans who now are lacking doctors to serve them? None of this makes any sense, and it leaves our entire country in a very vulnerable position.

Mr. Speaker, I would just say that border security is an enormous component to national security, and if we do not have secure borders, we do not have a secure Nation. I am calling on our Democrats today to sign on to the discharge petition. Let's save title 42. For crying out loud, let's defend our borders and get over the partisan politics and do the right thing and defend our borders.

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Mr. PERRY. Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentlewoman from Colorado (Mrs. BOEBERT).

Mrs. BOEBERT. Mr. Speaker, I thank the chairman for leading us on this topic, once again, because this is such an important topic to get out to the American people. Just listening to the gentleman from Georgia speak about this being a national security crisis, that is exactly what this is. We are not a secure nation without secure borders.

I live in Colorado, and my State is a border State right now with all of the illegal aliens. We are up to 2.5 million who have been apprehended at the southern border, not including the 700,000 gotaways that went past CBP and were not apprehended, probably because they did not want to come into contact with CBP.

Who knows what kind of history they have?

Just like Congressman GOOD spoke on, we don't know who is coming across our southern border. It is estimated that if this pace keeps up under Biden's tenure, we will have 8 to 10 million illegal aliens in our country by the time he leaves office.

This is absolutely absurd.

And now what?

I serve on the Budget Committee; and everyone is wanting more money right now, more money from the American taxpayer. We can't say where the money went in Afghanistan. We can't talk about the \$86 billion in weaponry and equipment that was left behind. The southern border has millions of dollars being spent each and every day on a border wall that is not being built.

Secretary Mayorkas was here today testifying in front of this body, and he says that there are millions of dollars being spent on this wall that is not being built, and they want more money—not to secure the southern border though, but to process and release more quickly.

This is not what we need to be spending the American taxpayer dollars on.

Customs and Border Patrol agents are not travel agents. Secretary Mayorkas needs to be held accountable for what is going on.

I just want to say one thing, he did mention that it is Congress' responsibility to fix what is happening at the southern border. Well, we want to do that. We want to be a part of the solution. We want to secure our border, stop the human trafficking, and stop the flow of fentanyl that is coming into our country killing record amounts of Americans. We want this to end. We want our Nation secure.

That is why we have the title 42 discharge petition, to force a vote on the House floor under Speaker PELOSI's House of Representatives where she won't voluntarily bring that up. We want to be a part of the solution.

I am proud to be serving with Members here speaking about this and informing the American citizens back home, and I thank the chairman for doing this tonight.

Mr. PERRY. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentlewoman from Colorado for her remarks.

Mrs. BOEBERT talked about the wall that is not being built; unfulfilled contracts, Mr. Speaker, costing, as Secretary Mayorkas told us today, \$72 million, \$72 million to not build the border wall, to not honor the contracts that the United States has made with the contractors, \$72 million. Yet they are asking for more money.

Mrs. BOEBERT also knows that even though we have contracted for more beds to deal with the influx, we actually leave them empty while we pay NGOs—nongovernmental organizations—to put these people up in hotels. And I will remind you, Mr. Speaker, that the folks whom I serve—my bosses—can barely afford their groceries or their gas, but they are forced to pay for this. We will talk about national security because border security is national security.

Mr. Speaker, I yield to the good gentleman from Texas (Mr. CLOUD).

Mr. CLOUD. Mr. Speaker, this issue is so important, and I thank the chairman for putting this together because this is the message that we need to continue to speak about.

Being from south Texas, our district sees every week the effects of this and has for years. I have met the young women who have been abused. I have been to the ranchers who have found rape trees on their properties. We have seen now throughout the Nation of the effects of the drugs that are pouring into our community. Under the Trump administration we had actually seen a decrease in drug overdoses in our country for the first time in a long time. Now we know that fentanyl is the number one killer of young people in our country.

All this is because this administration has chosen, instead of partnering with communities to protect our border, to be the last mile delivery system for the cartels. And so whatever dollars

we send them, they repurpose. Instead of using them for securing our border and to doing the things we sent them to do, they have retasked the individuals, as has been mentioned, but they turn them into the last mile delivery system for the cartels. So we are aiding and abetting cartels to profit hundreds of millions of dollars constantly and continually.

What this does is not only destabilizing for our country, we know of community members, of course, all of us, whose families have been affected by the drug epidemic in our country; we know of crime going up in cities; we know of communities burdened with hospitals and schools having to figure out how to deal with this administration who will not work with them or let them know when midnight drops are being made in their community and the like.

I talked to a farmer today—not only do farmers deal with the migrant traffic through their crops and such—about the cartel. Basically the cartel controls everything. They have the operational control on the southern side of the border, so everything illicit and not comes across. So in the ag industry, for example, a lot of cows will start in Mexico and come to a feedyard in the United States before they make it to market. Well, to cross into the United States they are having to pay cartels a couple thousand dollars to make it through their property, and that is what we would consider the legal trade, the proper trade; not to mention the illicit drugs and the human trafficking that is going on. We continue to allow this to happen because of the Biden administration.

Now, if you think of this, if we were to ask the cartels to design a border policy for the United States, it would look very much like the border policy we have now because, frankly, they don't want open borders. What they want is just a shred—an illusion—of security so that they can continue to profit off of getting people and getting drugs into the United States of America.

So we have got to stop this as a country. We cannot continue to aid and abet cartels to do their illegal and illicit activity. We cannot continue to allow a narco-state to develop on our southern border and is now working its way into our country. This is ridiculous.

When I am trying to explain this to people back home, people back home in Texas ask me: What does the Biden administration not get?

What do they not get?

How bad does it have to get before they understand it?

We saw it today with Secretary Mayorkas saying that we are effectively managing the border.

I have to explain to Texans that this administration simply has different goals than you do. We think border security; they think what can we do to aid and abet cartels.

This is tragic. It has to stop. We have a title 42 discharge resolution with 211 Republicans on it. We need seven Democrats. There has been a lot of lip service as we get close to election time about supporting title 42. Put your name on the line. We only need seven of you to stand up.

Mr. GOOD of Virginia. Mr. Speaker, I had a constituent say to me a couple weeks ago: Nothing this Democratic Party is doing makes sense unless they hate the country.

Carry these policies to its logical conclusion. As Congresswoman BOEBERT said, they are on track for 10 million illegal border crossings in this President's first and only term, I hope.

Ten million, apparently, is not a problem. We cannot get one Democrat. We cannot get one Democrat.

Where are the Democrats?

Mr. Speaker, do you want to know why they are going to lose the majority?

It is because of what Congressman CLOUD just said.

Carry these policies to its logical conclusion. Ten million is not scary to them.

What if it was 100 million?

What if it was 1 billion?

We have got 7 billion people in the world who don't live in the United States.

How many of them would come here if they could?

We have put out the sign, the Democratic majority and the administration, come. If you want to come in the country, come now. The border is open. We are welcoming as fast as we can, as much harm as we can do before the election in November, before 2 years from now in 2024 when the Presidential election changes. Carry it to its conclusion.

Is there any number that would concern the Democrat majority?

Is there any number where we could get Democrats to sign on to this?

Nothing they are doing makes sense unless they hate the country.

Mr. PERRY. Mr. Speaker, national security is community security. We are here to talk about the border in general, but certainly title 42, 8,000 a day right now but soon to be double that, maybe more than double that, 8,000 a day. So national security is community security.

I was watching a report on the television of a lady in New York—I think it was New York—she got stabbed in the neck and the face over 50 times—over 50 times—murdered. And in the press conference the press asked for the person—the perpetrator—whom they had caught his immigration status. And law enforcement said: We are not going to get into that. We are not going to get into that.

There is a Texas guardsman, a young man who would be alive right now. There is a lady who was stabbed in the neck and the face 50 some times who would be alive right now because this administration, the left, the Demo-

cratic Party, unfortunately, apparently doesn't care about border security, community security, title 42, preserving the American Dream, and safeguarding the American people.

Mr. Speaker, we are going to lose a great Member of Congress here at the end of this session. I often affectionately refer to him as the closer because everybody is gone from Washington, D.C., but Louie is still standing there telling the country what is happening.

Mr. Speaker, I yield to the good gentleman from Texas (Mr. GOHMERT).

Mr. GOHMERT. Mr. Speaker, I thank my friend, the general from Pennsylvania, for yielding.

This is so serious. While Homeland Security was having a hearing with Secretary Mayorkas, we were having a hearing in our Crime, Terrorism and Homeland Security Subcommittee, and we were hearing from victims of human and sex trafficking and hearing about victims of human and sex trafficking.

Mr. Speaker, how callous does a person have to be to not be moved by young adults saying: My childhood was one of being constantly raped, constantly beaten, and constantly forced to do terrible things, that was my childhood because I had been sold into trafficking, human and sex trafficking.

Now, one said that she had used the same visa that others had used before—the very same visa. We are not checking visas very carefully. Homeland security, that is their job.

But another came across our southern border, and, of course, our Chairman NADLER really grilled in and focused on and had him say that the number one problem he had was homophobia of people in the U.S. But as I pointed out: You are being raped constantly over and over, it doesn't sound like homophobia is your big problem.

It is not having a Department of Homeland Security that is keeping the homeland secure.

This can't continue. For heaven's sake, we are losing this country, and as we are losing it, it is absolutely immoral to turn a blind eye to these children that are being sex trafficked because we won't secure our border, and we won't have an administration that will keep the oaths they made to defend, protect, serve this country, and serve the Constitution.

It is a sort of fiduciary duty they have to this country, to the people in this country; and by the relationship with our neighbors, to other countries around us like Mexico for heaven's sake. It is outrageous what is going on, and people's lives are being destroyed. As the country is being destroyed, lives are being destroyed.

Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman for claiming this time tonight. It is a huge problem. If we don't get this fixed, we have no moral right to exist; and if America doesn't exist, then there is no freedom in the world.

Mr. PERRY. Mr. Speaker, I thank my friend, Louie, for his comments.

We have 2 minutes remaining by my clock here; is that right, Mr. Speaker?

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentleman from Pennsylvania has 1 minute remaining.

Mr. PERRY. Mr. Speaker, I thank my colleagues from the House Freedom Caucus. They are always the toughest and most courageous people in Congress who are willing to do the uncomfortable things. They are fighting to take action, not just rhetoric, but to take action.

Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentlewoman from Colorado (Mrs. BOEBERT) to close us out.

Mrs. BOEBERT. Mr. Speaker, so many times we are accused of being callous and heartless toward the people who are coming across our border. But I attended a naturalization ceremony in my district, and it was one of the most beautiful things I have ever experienced. I saw 41 true new Americans. They held in their hand the American flag. Tears streamed down their faces. They invested their heart, their soul, their resources, and their minds because they know they have what it takes to do this the right way and make this a more perfect Union.

I saw the conviction that that flag right there, to them, is the one universal symbol for liberty and justice for all.

There is a right way to do this, and we have to keep America free and secure so people can come and live the American Dream.

Mr. Speaker, I thank the chairman for yielding to me tonight.

Mr. PERRY. Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Members are reminded again to refrain from engaging in personalities toward the President.

ADJOURNMENT

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to section 11(b) of House Resolution 188, the House stands adjourned until 10 a.m. tomorrow morning for morning-hour debate and noon for legislative business.

Thereupon (at 8 o'clock p.m.), under its previous order, the House adjourned until tomorrow, Thursday, April 28, 2022, at 10 a.m. for morning-hour debate.

EXECUTIVE COMMUNICATIONS, ETC.

Under clause 2 of rule XIV, executive communications were taken from the Speaker's table and referred as follows:

EC-3819. A letter from the Chairman, Federal Maritime Commission, transmitting the Commission's 60th Annual Report for fiscal year 2021, pursuant to 46 U.S.C. 46106(a); Public Law 109-304, Sec. 4; (120 Stat. 1489); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

EC-3820. A letter from the Associate Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting