

Ottawa Light Rail Commission

Rupert Holloway
on Wednesday, April 6, 2022



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OTTAWA LIGHT RAIL COMMISSION
MEETING NO. 6: OLRTC - RUPERT HOLLOWAY
APRIL 6, 2022

--- Held via Zoom Videoconferencing, with all
participants attending remotely, on the 6th day of
April, 2022, 3:30 a.m. to 6:30 p.m.

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COMMISSION COUNSEL:

Christine Mainville, Co-Lead Counsel Member
Anthony Imbesi, Litigation Counsel Member

PARTICIPANTS:

Rupert Holloway
Jean-Claude Killey, Paliare Roland Rosenberg
Rothstein LLP

ALSO PRESENT:

Joanne Lawrence, Stenographer/Transcriptionist
Benjamin Bilgen, Virtual Technician

1 -- Upon commencing at 3:30 p.m.

2 MS. MAINVILLE: Thank you,
3 Mr. Holloway, for joining us, especially early this
4 morning, for you. The purpose of today is to
5 obtain your evidence under oath or solemn
6 declaration for use at the Commission's public
7 hearings. This will be a collaborative interview
8 such that my cocounsel, Mr. Imbesi, may intervene
9 to ask certain questions. If time permits, your
10 counsel may also ask follow-up questions at the end
11 of the interview.

12 This interview is being transcribed,
13 and the Commission intends to enter this transcript
14 into evidence at the Commission's public hearings,
15 either at the hearings or by way of procedural
16 order before the hearing commences. The transcript
17 will be posted to the Commission's public website,
18 along with any corrections made to it, after it's
19 entered into evidence. And the transcript, along
20 with any corrections later made, will be shared
21 with the Commission's participants and their
22 counsel on a confidential basis before being
23 entered into evidence.

24 You'll be given an opportunity to
25 review your transcript and correct any typos or

1 other errors before the transcript is shared with
2 other participants -- with participants or entered
3 into evidence. Any non-typographical corrections
4 made will be appended to the transcript.

5 And pursuant to Section 33(6) of the
6 Public Inquiries Act 2009:

7 "A witness at an inquiry shall
8 be deemed to have objected to answer
9 any question asked of him or her
10 upon the ground that his or her
11 answer may tend to incriminate the
12 witness or may tend to establish his
13 or her liability to civil
14 proceedings at the instance of the
15 Crown or of any person, and no
16 answer given by a witness at an
17 inquiry shall be used or be received
18 in evidence against him or her at
19 any trial or other proceedings
20 against him or her thereafter taking
21 place, other than a prosecution for
22 perjury in giving such evidence."

23 And as required by Section 33(7) of the Act, you
24 are hereby advised that you have the right to
25 object to answer any question under Section 5 of

1 the Canada Evidence Act.

2 So if that's all right, I'll commence,
3 first of all, with your résumé -- and thank you for
4 providing your résumé. We can pull it up. Do you
5 recognize this as the CV you provided?

6 MR. HOLLOWAY: Yeah.

7 MS. MAINVILLE: And the contents, I
8 take it, are accurate?

9 MR. HOLLOWAY: Yeah.

10 MS. MAINVILLE: You were with SNC
11 Lavalin, then, from February 2016 to June 2019?

12 MR. HOLLOWAY: Correct.

13 MS. MAINVILLE: And I see that you
14 worked on more than one rail project in Canada
15 during that time. Were those worked on
16 simultaneously, or sequentially?

17 MR. HOLLOWAY: Yeah, so the -- the --
18 my role in the business was SVP for the
19 construction portfolio, so there were a number of
20 projects inside that portfolio -- portfolio. My
21 responsibilities encompassed management of the
22 portfolio, so that didn't include me having a
23 day-to-day role on all of those projects, it
24 included me basically having an oversight, you
25 know, direct oversight relationship to those

1 projects and SNC's involvement in them.

2 MS. MAINVILLE: And so when were you
3 involved in Phase 1 of Ottawa's LRT project?

4 MR. HOLLOWAY: Yeah, so my involvement
5 took two -- two -- two types, I suppose, or two --
6 it was two sort of elements to my involvement. The
7 first was from -- during the course of 2017, I went
8 onto the OLRTC joint venture board. So this is
9 the -- the joint venture team that was exercising
10 or the management team that was exercising joint
11 oversight over the progress of the project from an
12 OLRTC prospective, so that's the three consortium
13 members. They each had a senior executive from
14 their, you know -- you know, their kind of head
15 office, I suppose, to visit the project on a --
16 typically a monthly basis, review progress, discuss
17 safety, look at strategies for improvement, check
18 adequate resourcing, those sorts of activities. So
19 that was -- pretty much a monthly involvement.

20 And then when the project entered the
21 phase just after the sinkhole, the oversight group,
22 the joint venture steering -- steering committee,
23 if you like, thought that we should strengthen the
24 team with some additional resources, and at that
25 point, I joined in about May of 2018 as the project

1 director for OLRTC. So then I stopped sitting on
2 the board of the joint venture steering committee,
3 and a different SNC executive came in and actually
4 went day-to-day onto the project, and that was from
5 May 2018 through to about May 2019. And then in
6 June 2019, I left -- you know, I left the project
7 because I was leaving SNC and moved back to
8 Australia.

9 MS. MAINVILLE: Okay. Got it. So
10 we'll break that down a bit more after, but
11 ultimately you only became involved in the project
12 in 2017.

13 MR. HOLLOWAY: Yeah, about that. Might
14 have been at the back end of 2016, but I can't
15 recall, to be honest with you. For sure I was
16 there through 2017.

17 MS. MAINVILLE: Through -- okay. Okay.
18 And you -- I see you have experience in rail
19 construction?

20 MR. HOLLOWAY: Yeah. So pretty much --
21 I'm a civil engineer by training from the UK
22 originally, and whilst I've worked in oil and gas
23 and telecommunications, the bulk of my career has
24 been involved in civil projects related to
25 railways. So that's both in the UK, Europe,

1 Australia, and in Canada.

2 MS. MAINVILLE: Okay. And you -- aside
3 from engineering, you have a construction
4 management background. Or experience.

5 MR. HOLLOWAY: Yeah, yeah. So it --
6 typically in construction, you know, people will
7 select between either the design stream, so working
8 on the design side, or move into the actual
9 construction management side. I went the route
10 towards construction management and after entering
11 industry I then proceeded to get, you know, some
12 postgraduate qualifications in construction
13 management.

14 MS. MAINVILLE: Okay. Great. So we
15 can bring this down, and we'll file that as an
16 exhibit, madam court reporter. We can provide it
17 to you afterwards.

18 EXHIBIT 1: CV of Mr. Holloway

19 MS. MAINVILLE: So in terms of your
20 work through 2017, up until May 2018, I take it
21 your involvement, then, was limited to a monthly
22 sort of check-in on the project. Would you receive
23 updates in the interim?

24 MR. HOLLOWAY: Not really. They tend
25 to take the form of a monthly report, which would

1 then be presented by the management team on the
2 project to the steering committee, you know,
3 through a sort of -- typically a half-day long
4 meeting or review session. So we'd get the pack,
5 you know, three or four days before the meeting,
6 review it, and come prepared for the meeting, like
7 you would a normal board pack, I suppose, but there
8 wasn't usually a lot of day-to-day or weekly
9 interim updates at a cadence in between those
10 meetings.

11 MS. MAINVILLE: And who was submitting
12 these monthly reports at the time? Who was on the
13 project management team?

14 MR. HOLLOWAY: Yeah, it would have
15 been -- so we had -- prior to my involvement as
16 project director, there were two other project
17 directors. One was a guy called David Whyte, with
18 a 'Y,' and following David's departure from the
19 project, there was another guy called Eugene
20 Kramer.

21 MS. MAINVILLE: And would they appear
22 personally before the board or the steering
23 committee?

24 MR. HOLLOWAY: Oh, yeah. Yeah, yeah,
25 for sure. So typically the format was, you know,

1 the day -- it's very much, you know, analogous, I
2 suppose, to, you know, the -- a board of directors
3 with a company, right? So you'd have the project
4 directors, our proxy CEO, I suppose, and he would
5 bring his management team along to talk to the
6 relevant section - so the safety director would
7 talk to the safety section, the commercial director
8 would talk to the commercial section. The overall
9 process would be managed by the project director,
10 who orchestrated the meetings and the presentation
11 of the material, but we would see and have access
12 to the management team as well.

13 MS. MAINVILLE: Got it. And so when
14 Eugene Kramer, for instance, was project director,
15 he really was the person on the ground overseeing
16 everything.

17 MR. HOLLOWAY: Correct.

18 MS. MAINVILLE: Okay. And I take it
19 that included both the civils -- the civils work,
20 infrastructure, and rolling stock as well?

21 MR. HOLLOWAY: That's right. So all
22 that fell within the aegis of the OLRTC contract.
23 Naturally, no one person can span the full breadth
24 of a job as large as that, so he obviously is
25 relying on his management team and the specialists

1 to look at, you know, the areas in which they've
2 got their subject matter expertise: So you've got
3 a rolling stock lead, you've got a signalling lead
4 or a systems lead, you've got a building lead,
5 you've got a civils lead. So there are different
6 people inside the team that provide that more
7 detailed expert oversight of those specialist
8 areas, if you like, but ultimately it all stitches
9 back to the project director, who retains
10 accountability.

11 MS. MAINVILLE: And you said -- did you
12 say the oversight was strengthened or the team was
13 strengthened after the sinkhole?

14 MR. HOLLOWAY: The team was
15 strengthened, so we felt that -- you know, again
16 it's not unusual for projects of this size to go
17 through several refreshes of team. This is quite
18 typical in the construction industry, and it's
19 useful to understand probably that the construction
20 process follows several different cycles inside,
21 you know, the life cycle of a project. So you go
22 through a design phase, you go through a
23 construction phase, you go through a testing and
24 commissioning phase, and the skill sets that
25 dominate or should be leading, you know, taking

1 primacy in overseeing activities need to shift with
2 those change in priorities.

3 So as the sinkhole occurred, it was
4 occurring at a time where we were generally
5 shifting from a heavy civils phase into more of a
6 building, building fitout and systems phase, so it
7 forces an opportunity for us to reflect on that and
8 perhaps take a view that, you know, what -- what
9 other resources should we bring to bear at this new
10 phase that we're in, and also the fact that the
11 sinkhole caused quite a lot of, you know,
12 disruption to the schedule for, you know, our
13 construction schedule. You know, we felt that it
14 was important to try and bring forward some
15 additional resources at that point in time.

16 MS. MAINVILLE: And at that point in
17 time, is that May 2018, when you become project
18 director?

19 MR. HOLLOWAY: That's right. There was
20 a bit of -- you know, obviously there's a, you
21 know -- obviously you got to make people available
22 and supply them into the job and, you know -- you
23 know, there's a few logistics things, so there's
24 obviously a time separation from when the sinkhole
25 happened to, you know, when I physically started on

1 the job, but, you know the two things are kind
2 of -- were coupled, let's say.

3 MS. MAINVILLE: Were there -- was that
4 around the point in time when the ripple effect,
5 let's say, of the sinkhole were nearing -- were
6 being resolved or were nearing an end, or is that
7 not --

8 MR. HOLLOWAY: No. The sinkhole was an
9 incredibly disruptive impact on the overall program
10 for the project, so the -- I just say a few things
11 about the construction process. It maybe is -- by
12 way of context is helpful.

13 MS. MAINVILLE: Sure.

14 MR. HOLLOWAY: So the way these
15 projects are generally planned to be executed is
16 that there's, you know, kind of a sequence of
17 activities which is all logically, you know,
18 cascade from one set of activities, set of trades,
19 set of specialists with another, the coordination
20 of the access, you know, you need lay-down areas,
21 you need access for materials and workers to get to
22 the workplace, all that kind of good stuff. So
23 there was a prescribed way in which that was all
24 going to occur.

25 The sinkhole disrupted that massively

1 because the sinkhole occurred at the -- at one edge
2 of the Rideau Station cabin. The Rideau Station
3 was the critical path of the overall project. So
4 essentially, you know, the longest set of
5 activities that were going to happen on the whole
6 project for us all went through the Rideau Station
7 cabin, partly because that was the deepest station
8 that we were dealing with, and therefore had the
9 most infrastructure in it, and partly because it
10 was going to be the last station constructed. That
11 was just based on how the tunnelling plan was
12 developed.

13 So we had -- when you get a disruption
14 on your critical path, it has -- it's like throwing
15 a pebble in the pond. The ripple effect is felt
16 everywhere throughout the rest of the schedule. So
17 even though you can physically repair the sinkhole,
18 but the aftereffects of that in your construction
19 schedule are incredibly deleterious, right? So
20 because you're now working out of sequence, there's
21 a whole bunch of unintended consequential effects
22 in terms of the disruptive impact on the schedule,
23 which -- which lasted with us for, you know,
24 months, years, you know. The impact of this -- the
25 sinkhole was far more than repairing the hole,

1 right? Once you've done that, you're working out
2 of sequence, your trades are out of sequence,
3 you're having to do redesign, your temporary works
4 is different, your access patterns are different,
5 so the knock-on effect of the sinkhole was with us,
6 pretty much, I would say, in some shape or form all
7 the way to the end of the job, or certainly to the
8 end of my involvement, anyway.

9 MS. MAINVILLE: Am I right to say that
10 the -- and maybe there's a distinction between the
11 Rideau Station and the sinkhole, but am I right
12 that the sinkhole was not on the critical path? Or
13 you were saying it was.

14 MR. HOLLOWAY: Well, the sinkhole
15 wasn't planned, so it never formed part of the
16 critical path. What I'm saying is the impact or
17 the downstream consequence of the sinkhole had
18 impact on our critical path, yes.

19 MS. MAINVILLE: It did.

20 MR. HOLLOWAY: Yeah.

21 MS. MAINVILLE: Because it impacted the
22 Rideau Station.

23 MR. HOLLOWAY: Correct, yeah.

24 MS. MAINVILLE: And could you speak to
25 the delays in the stations and how that compared?

1 Because there seemed to have been significant delay
2 in respect of the stations, even more significant
3 delays, potentially.

4 MR. HOLLOWAY: Which stations? The
5 above ground? Underground? Which ones are you
6 referring to?

7 MS. MAINVILLE: Just generally, but
8 there were -- just give me a moment. There were
9 several stations - here we go: Pimisi, Lyon,
10 Parliament, Rideau, and Hurdman - which were
11 delayed, including early on in the schedule, so
12 this is of course before your time in 2014, but I
13 wonder if you know about the implications of that
14 and -- and the -- the move in --

15 MR. HOLLOWAY: Yeah, I can't -- to be
16 honest with you, my understanding was most of those
17 delays mostly occurred within float, so we had
18 available schedule. Maybe there were -- and it's
19 not unusual on large projects that things will move
20 around, which is why you have project float, right,
21 to accommodate delays in certain elements. Most of
22 the challenges, from my recollection, came in the
23 underground stations. Lyon -- and again, this is
24 maybe my incomplete memory -- but Lyon was pretty
25 well advanced, and, you know, I think in fact we

1 actually suspended works on that to allow the City
2 to gain early access for some public events and
3 things like that, so that was actually quite well
4 advanced.

5 MS. MAINVILLE: And what were --

6 MR. HOLLOWAY: In terms of Rideau and
7 Parliament, they were both -- sorry.

8 MS. MAINVILLE: No, go ahead. I think
9 you just froze, but --

10 MR. HOLLOWAY: I can go ahead? Oh,
11 sorry. In terms of -- in terms of Rideau and
12 Parliament, they were both impacted by -- actually,
13 I'm getting a message that my internet connection
14 is unstable. Do you mind if I just take the video
15 off? Because I think it might improve that
16 bandwidth.

17 MS. MAINVILLE: I think it's okay,
18 given the platform we're using.

19 MR. HOLLOWAY: Okay. How's that? Any
20 better?

21 MS. MAINVILLE: Yeah.

22 MR. HOLLOWAY: Yeah. So Rideau and
23 Parliament were both impacted by the Rideau because
24 the -- all of the underground stations were
25 interlinked through the concept that we were going

1 to cascade our various trades from one station to
2 another station to another station, so it had a
3 disruptive impact. There's a consequential
4 downstream effect of all your cascade of trades not
5 working effectively, so there was certainly that
6 impact. My recollection is that the other
7 stations -- there was movement in the schedule, but
8 we weren't particularly concerned by any of those,
9 and none of it -- you know, some of the delays were
10 kind of, you know, off the critical path of these
11 particular stations, if you like, so they were
12 activities that were getting delayed, but they
13 weren't essential for subsequent activities to be
14 completed, if that makes sense.

15 So the problem with Rideau was -- so
16 just to fully -- more completely attempt to
17 explain, the last phase of activity of these
18 projects is testing and commissioning phase, and
19 really, to be able to complete the testing and
20 commissioning phase, it works in a series of
21 building blocks. So you have each subsystem has to
22 be complete and tested, then you have to test how
23 that subsystem relates to other systems it may talk
24 or interact with, and then you have to check that
25 that's complete, and then you have to put them all

1 together to see if they deliver the functionality
2 in a joined-up sense across a whole battery of
3 subsystems.

4 The problem with the delay in the
5 Rideau was that that had impact on our overall
6 testing schedule, so we couldn't complete the
7 testing of all of the systems and the subsystems
8 until Rideau was complete. That's why it was such
9 a significant impact on schedule.

10 MS. MAINVILLE: Right.

11 MR. HOLLOWAY: So sorry, just to try
12 and amplify, if you think about it, you could
13 finish everything else everywhere else in the
14 tunnel, but if you hadn't finished Rideau, then you
15 hadn't finished. You know what I mean?

16 MS. MAINVILLE: Yes.

17 MR. HOLLOWAY: You couldn't advance all
18 of your testing until you finished that one
19 station.

20 MS. MAINVILLE: And do you recall when
21 it was finished?

22 MR. HOLLOWAY: No, sorry, I'm not
23 carrying out (indiscernible) --

24 MS. MAINVILLE: Fair enough.

25 MR. HOLLOWAY: -- anymore.

1 MS. MAINVILLE: While you were still
2 there, though.

3 MR. HOLLOWAY: Yeah, yeah, yeah, yeah,
4 yeah.

5 MS. MAINVILLE: And I think that's
6 clear from your -- what your evidence is, but
7 Rideau was an underground station?

8 MR. HOLLOWAY: Correct, yeah.

9 MS. MAINVILLE: And were there other
10 complexities in terms of completing the stations,
11 perhaps the other underground stations?

12 MR. HOLLOWAY: Look, all large projects
13 have their challenges, but nothing -- you know,
14 my -- my -- certainly my memory of it was that we
15 weren't confronted with the same problems at any of
16 the others that we were at Rideau, so Rideau stands
17 out in my memory as being, you know, the pinch
18 point, if you like, in terms of the one that had an
19 impact on the overall outcome of the project.

20 MS. MAINVILLE: Okay. And that was --
21 that was the one that held up the testing and
22 commissioning in terms of at least integration
23 testing?

24 MR. HOLLOWAY: Yeah. Certainly it had
25 an impact because there's only so much you can do

1 until you have that element of work completed, and
2 that was the last station completed. It was, you
3 know, in some ways the most complex station because
4 it was the deepest and therefore had more
5 infrastructure, systems infrastructure, inside of
6 it, and it was obviously one of the three, you
7 know, cabin underground stations, so it had the
8 tunnel vent system, which was obviously a complex
9 piece of testing as well. So yeah, Rideau was
10 certainly, you know, the -- the -- you know, like I
11 said, the pinch point in terms of the schedule.

12 MS. MAINVILLE: And then how was that
13 mitigated, the impact on the schedule?

14 MR. HOLLOWAY: Well, a whole bunch of
15 different ways. So you try to advance other work
16 fronts that you can as far as possible, you know,
17 that are unrelated to that. You try to bring in
18 additional resources. You work additional shifts.
19 You, you know, bring in additional plant. You
20 bring in additional supervision. All of the above,
21 you know, we -- we deployed all of the strategies
22 available to us as -- as countermeasures.

23 MS. MAINVILLE: And specifically
24 relating to testing and commissioning, can you
25 speak, first of all, to what the original plan was

1 for that and then we'll talk about how that
2 changed.

3 MR. HOLLOWAY: I -- honestly, I'm
4 struggling to remember what the original plan was.
5 I mean, I -- I vaguely recall that we had, like, a
6 zone-based plan, right, which was -- so all the
7 different subsystems interrelate to each other in a
8 different way. So you've got the signalling
9 subsystem, you've got the power subsystem, you've
10 got the SCADA subsystem, you've got the, you know,
11 the telecommunications, you've got all of these
12 different subsystems, and they break down into
13 modules geographically and functionally, okay,
14 which are different. Okay. That's normal. Just
15 trying to break down, what might make sense for a
16 reducible unit that you could test for signalling
17 would not necessarily overlap with a reducible unit
18 for testing for power.

19 So what we -- part of the strategy was
20 to try and align as far as possible chunks or
21 geographical chunks where those alignments could be
22 achieved and achieve those testing it in --
23 progressively in units, but really, each subsystem
24 is tested in its own right, so that you would test,
25 like, the signalling system in a zone, which is

1 a -- a partial part of real estate of the -- the
2 whole extent. You test that zone, then you try and
3 add another zone to it or two zones to can we
4 communicate across those two zones effectively?
5 Yes, we can. Right, now let's have a look at --
6 see how the power systems relate to those two
7 zones. So it was built up in a series of modules,
8 but exactly how and what the sequence was, I can't
9 recall.

10 MS. MAINVILLE: Was it -- was the plan
11 a firm one? Like, was there something in place, at
12 least, that you recall in terms of something that
13 had been devised that was comprehensive?

14 MR. HOLLOWAY: Yes, yeah.

15 MS. MAINVILLE: And ultimately how
16 would you say that changed with the schedule
17 delays, just in terms of the general picture?

18 MR. HOLLOWAY: Yeah, well, it obviously
19 disrupted the -- the delays in the Rideau obviously
20 disrupted the implementation of that plan to a
21 certain degree. So, you know, there was a
22 downstream consequential impact of not being able
23 to enact that strategy, as more the, you know, an
24 overarching strategy of how you're going to do it,
25 and I think, you know, there would have been an

1 impact there. As to what exactly what that impact
2 was or what subsystem, I can't recall.

3 MS. MAINVILLE: Who would have devised
4 the testing and commissioning plans, or how -- what
5 would that process entail?

6 MR. HOLLOWAY: So we had a systems
7 lead, and the systems lead who -- I can't recall
8 who it was at the time. The systems lead would
9 then relate to the various different subvendors
10 that we had - so for example, Thales in signalling;
11 and there would have been different subvendors for
12 the overhead line system, which I can't remember
13 who they were; and different vendors for the SCADA
14 system. You know, they would be the person who
15 would coordinate between all of those different
16 subvendors and subcontractors to try and coordinate
17 an overall testing plan because typically the --
18 you know, the specialist subcontract that is the
19 one that will explain how their system needs to be
20 tested and proved, and it's really about then
21 coordinating those different activities together.

22 MS. MAINVILLE: So can those be found
23 in one place, to your knowledge?

24 MR. HOLLOWAY: Can -- sorry, can
25 those --

1 MS. MAINVILLE: These testing and
2 commissioning plans, or at least as it relates to
3 integration testing.

4 MR. HOLLOWAY: Yeah, I think what you'd
5 find is there's probably a testing and
6 commissioning strategy that shows how they're all
7 proposed to be interrelated, and then each plan
8 would be a standalone thing because they would be
9 managed by their own subvendor, but at some point
10 they do get brought together at a high level in
11 terms of showing how that all coordinates, and then
12 when the testing and commissioning -- the
13 integration -- because these systems, right -- so
14 this railway's a very, very complex railway in
15 terms of the specifications, so it was a very
16 sophisticated, systems-heavy railway, you know, by
17 comparison to, you know, other railways in
18 existence around the place, so there was a lot of
19 systems componentry in there with a lot of
20 interfaces.

21 So once you have all your subsystems
22 together and you've tested each one of those, you
23 then test how those integrate together, and in
24 terms of developing the systems integration and
25 testing plan, we had a person whose sole job was to

1 oversee that integration of that -- you know, like
2 a tester in charge, the integration of all those
3 subsystems working together, so this is where you
4 would stop looking at the subsystem and start
5 looking at the end-to-end functionality of how all
6 the systems are interrelating and working together.
7 So we had, you know, quite a comprehensive set of
8 test procedures that had to be undertaken,
9 followed, passed, you know, which are reasonably
10 sophisticated documents being quite specific about
11 when a task -- when a task could or couldn't be
12 shown as being complete and therefore when a
13 task -- you know, a test was actually passed or not
14 passed.

15 So there would be -- I would imagine --
16 I can't remember now, but there would have been
17 well over a hundred test procedures that had to be
18 analyzed as part of that process, the integration
19 testing, and each one of those test procedures
20 would have encompassed, you know, a large number of
21 individual tests inside of it. So they were all
22 tracked. They were all overseen. So this is where
23 the -- the subvendors are involved because each of
24 their subsystems are, you know, part of the
25 process, but this is about where the consortium is

1 now taking that oversight of how those tests are
2 all coordinated together in an integrated fashion.
3 I don't know, did that make sense?

4 MS. MAINVILLE: Yes. Who was that
5 person who was overseeing that?

6 MR. HOLLOWAY: So at the latter stages,
7 certainly it was a gentleman called Steve Nadon.

8 MS. MAINVILLE: M-hm. And in terms of
9 the trial running phase, do you recall any plan and
10 criteria devised for that early on?

11 MR. HOLLOWAY: Sorry, can you just say
12 a bit more?

13 MS. MAINVILLE: Yes. Well, I take it
14 you were not there for the trial running, which was
15 ultimately in the lead-up to RSA.

16 MR. HOLLOWAY: Oh, yeah, yeah.

17 MS. MAINVILLE: But do you know if
18 there was a plan and what that was, in terms of
19 criteria devised for it?

20 MR. HOLLOWAY: So when -- I'm just
21 trying to get our terms -- clarity on terms. So
22 trial running is -- do you mean trial running
23 undertaken by the construction consortium, or do
24 you mean trial running that is undertaken by the
25 City when it's handed over to them?

1 MS. MAINVILLE: Well, perhaps explain
2 both and the distinction you see.

3 MR. HOLLOWAY: Yeah, okay. So
4 generally -- and again, this is my recollection --
5 the -- my understanding of the arrangement was that
6 the consortium was there to provide the
7 confirmation that the asset would work as intended.
8 So to demonstrate that the asset would work as
9 intended, we do the -- follow the process I talked
10 about: You do all your subsystems tests, you test
11 how all those relate or link together, and then you
12 test the end-to-end functionality that you're
13 trying to achieve. So this could be something
14 like, you know, when I activate the tunnel vent
15 fans, do I get -- do the louver doors blow open?
16 Do all the CCTV cameras pan or zoom on the station
17 where the evacuation's occurring? Do I have a
18 SCADA indication going through the control panel to
19 trigger the fire detection alarm system? I can't
20 remember what all the subsystems are, but there
21 would be a number of them all interrelated.

22 So we've checked that that all works,
23 and then we'd want to then just to a certain
24 degree, you know, kind of repeat those tests a few
25 times, maybe not with a formal test procedure, but

1 just go through a cycle of activity, just to check
2 that we're not getting any -- you know, to make
3 sure everything works more than once effectively,
4 you know, so you're doing some -- you're doing some
5 repeat testing, just to, you know, satisfy yourself
6 that the system is stable.

7 Once we've validated that everything
8 works as it should and we're happy and we hand it
9 over to the City, then my -- typically what an
10 operator will do is that they will then undertake a
11 period of their own reliability growth testing. So
12 they will simulate operation without passengers
13 over a protracted period of time to, 'A,' not only
14 satisfy themselves that the system is working as
15 they thought it would, but also to go through
16 the -- you know, the man-machine interface of
17 making sure that the operators understand how to
18 operate the network completely, that they can
19 understand what -- this is a fairly sophisticated
20 asset, so you're getting a lot of different alarms
21 coming from the SCADA system that you have to take
22 the right intervention for, being able to raise
23 tickets when there's a maintenance concern, all
24 that kind of stuff.

25 So you'd go through a period where the

1 City or the operator would test through this
2 reliability growth period with a number of, you
3 know, a protracted period of simulated operation,
4 perhaps trying some degraded modes. So you might
5 say, Well, let's pretend we've had a failure at,
6 you know, this set of fittings, or let's pretend
7 that we've lost vertical transportation at this
8 station: How would we respond? How do we call the
9 maintainer out? Let's practice the maintainer
10 coming out and responding to that fault.

11 And that typically is kind of a, you
12 know, fairly long period because you've got to get
13 everyone working together in a coordinated way, so
14 you need the -- not only the operators to be
15 trained, but they also then have to find a way that
16 can work effectively not only with the asset but
17 also with their maintainers. So for -- to allow
18 time for that cadence and rhythm to develop, you
19 usually have a -- another piece of -- which could
20 be called trial running after the asset's been
21 handed over to the operator. So I'm not talking
22 about that bit because I wasn't involved in that
23 bit, but we obviously had a plan to do analytical
24 trial running on the contractor side, which is more
25 about -- not so much about following strict test

1 procedures, but more to just get in a few reps for
2 using all of the assets and making sure that we
3 were happy that the assets were stable in their
4 reliability.

5 MS. MAINVILLE: Was that to be done in
6 conjunction with the City, though?

7 MR. HOLLOWAY: Well, the City were
8 always involved because they were driving the
9 trains, and to a certain degree, some of -- they
10 had some involvement, as I remember, in the control
11 room, although primarily that was under our
12 control, but that wasn't -- that shouldn't be
13 conflated with the trial running or the reliability
14 growth-type trial running that should be done by
15 the City after hand-over because we were doing that
16 work for our purposes and not theirs, right? So we
17 were doing that for our own construction reasons
18 and not for reasons of practicing operation and
19 maintenance. So for example, the maintainer didn't
20 have any involvement in that process other than a
21 passive observation one, right? So there wasn't
22 any true simulation of how the network would be
23 operating in practice.

24 MS. MAINVILLE: Would Alstom have been
25 involved?

1 MR. HOLLOWAY: Yeah, Alstom was
2 involved, they were our subcontractors, so they
3 were involved from the construction and the
4 maintenance side.

5 MR. IMBESI: Just a follow-up question
6 for you, sir. You have talked quite a bit about
7 the testing. What was OLRTC's role in managing the
8 testing between the systems, both all systems
9 generally and specifically the integration of fail
10 system with the -- sorry, the Thales system with
11 the Alstom rolling stock?

12 MR. HOLLOWAY: Yeah, OLRTC is
13 responsible for all the systems. It's responsible
14 for the whole project. So yeah, the oversight and
15 the coordination and the testing was overseen by
16 OLRTC, but as I mentioned -- you know, for example,
17 Thales are the specialists in communication-based
18 train control systems, and they lead that testing
19 for their asset or their product. Our job, from an
20 OLRTC point of view, was to integrate that with the
21 other subvendors and make sure that was coordinated
22 in a way that made the schedule work together.

23 MS. MAINVILLE: And the project
24 experienced some issues with the integration of
25 Alstom and Thales's systems, is that fair to say?

1 MR. HOLLOWAY: Yeah, but I don't think
2 that was too unusual. I mean, it's quite normal
3 for the -- the signalling system and the rolling
4 stock -- you know, these are complicated
5 interfaces, and you're effectively -- you're trying
6 to get -- you know, again, this is -- I'm a civil
7 engineer, so this is not my area of specialism, but
8 again you've got essentially a computer-based
9 control system onboard the train supplied by one
10 company, Alstom, that has to communicate live
11 critical information to another computer installed
12 on the train, from Thales. Those two interfaces
13 have to work effectively, they have to be
14 coordinated, the handshake has to happen with the
15 right fidelity, the right data quality and all that
16 kind of stuff, in a very highly reliable way, and
17 the amount of infrastructure and cabling, you know,
18 just like you -- the server-type units that you
19 have to install and all of the associated
20 infrastructure is not insignificant. So, you know,
21 it's quite normal for there to be a bit of a
22 shakedown process where you get these two
23 contractors to coordinate effectively.

24 My recollection was, yeah, we did have
25 some issues, but we kind of got on top of those

1 reasonably well, and once we -- we would -- for
2 example, you know, there was a -- there was a
3 little bit of a -- an issue at one point where
4 Thales, for example, would be dependent upon Alstom
5 doing certain amounts of work for them in terms of
6 prepping the vehicles so that they could -- Thales
7 could fit their equipment. Thales would fit their
8 equipment and then give it back to Alstom so Alstom
9 could do some testings -- testing on their system
10 so that they could certify the vehicle fit for, you
11 know, taking out and testing on the network, for
12 example.

13 So there's -- and I'm probably
14 understating the complexity of those interfaces, to
15 be honest with you. So there was a couple of baton
16 hand-overs between each other, and we did have some
17 complaints from one contractor complaining about
18 the other one, that the quality of work wasn't done
19 in the way it should be done or, you know, that
20 sort of stuff, but those are normal sorts of things
21 that occur on projects of this nature, and they
22 were resolved reasonably expeditiously.

23 MS. MAINVILLE: Did you understand that
24 there was someone in the systems integrator role
25 during your time there?

1 MR. HOLLOWAY: Yeah. So we -- sorry,
2 in the -- we had a systems director who was Matthew
3 Slade. So when I joined the team in May, at around
4 about the same time, Matthew joined the team as
5 well to lead the systems effort, which, again, is
6 back to that kind of shift in focus that we were
7 coming from the heavy civils more into a systems
8 focus. So like I mentioned earlier, it's quite
9 normal that you'll bring, you know, kind of more
10 expertise to focus on the phase of activity that's
11 going to be the dominant one as you transition from
12 one phase of the life cycle to another.

13 MS. MAINVILLE: Are you aware of how
14 that role was filled prior to your time there?

15 MR. HOLLOWAY: Yeah, there was another
16 guy there called -- well, I think they went through
17 few different people, but I seem to recall there
18 was another guy there called Frank Fitzgerald there
19 prior to Matthew. And I think Frank may have
20 stayed there for a while when Matthew came in.
21 Frank was more working more of a lower level in
22 terms of some of the detailed interfaces,
23 particularly some of the subsystems coordination,
24 and before Frank, there was someone else, but I
25 honestly -- I -- no, sorry, I just can't dig up

1 what the name of the person was, to be honest with
2 you.

3 MR. IMBESI: Would there have been any
4 management plans to deal with the integration? How
5 did that work at OLRTC?

6 MR. HOLLOWAY: I'm sure there's some
7 documentation in terms of the strategy, how that
8 was all going to work. In terms of whether you'd
9 class them as a management plan or not, I couldn't
10 tell you.

11 MS. MAINVILLE: In terms of your time
12 in 2017 on the joint venture board, do you recall
13 concerns being brought to your attention or to the
14 board's attention, at least from Thales's
15 perspective, about that -- filling that systems
16 integrator role or needing more in terms of that
17 interface between Thales and Alstom's systems?

18 MR. HOLLOWAY: Yeah, there was some
19 issues with Thales. I mean, Thales also had some
20 commercial and contractual disputes with us as
21 well, so they all got kind of, you know, conflated
22 together. We certainly had Thales come and present
23 to the joint venture board at some point and
24 discuss some of their concerns. We responded,
25 obviously, to those concerns by undertaking a

1 process of negotiation and closing off the
2 commission on contractual concerns with Thales and
3 bolstering the team. You know, one of the things
4 that we did was bring Matthew Slade in there and
5 put some additional focus in terms of how we handle
6 some of those issues. And plus I think there was a
7 revision to -- we took onboard Thales's feedback
8 and revised our testing strategy to try and
9 accommodate their concerns.

10 So I'm a little bit hazy on the
11 details, to be honest with you, but I do remember
12 Thales presenting to the joint venture board at
13 least once, maybe more than once, and then we, you
14 know, acted on that with a series of activities
15 afterwards to try and respond to their concerns.

16 MS. MAINVILLE: Do you recall this
17 interface ultimately leading to quite a bit of
18 delay in respect of the rolling stock?

19 MR. HOLLOWAY: I don't think -- well,
20 that's not my recollection, to be honest with you,
21 no.

22 MS. MAINVILLE: What is --

23 MR. HOLLOWAY: I don't think the
24 interface between Thales and Alstom caused delay to
25 the rolling stock.

1 MS. MAINVILLE: Do you understand that
2 there was delay to the rolling stock?

3 MR. HOLLOWAY: Yeah.

4 MS. MAINVILLE: What is your
5 understanding of what caused that delay?

6 MR. HOLLOWAY: Well, that seemed to be
7 more -- to my mind, anyway, seems to be more of an
8 Alstom issue in terms of managing their own process
9 and their own supply chain.

10 MS. MAINVILLE: Do you recall where
11 they were having issues on their supply chain in
12 particular?

13 MR. HOLLOWAY: They -- they had
14 multiple issues. I couldn't tell you what the --
15 from memory now which specific areas, but, you
16 know, these vehicles are an assemblage of, you
17 know, 70,000 different subcomponents, right? So
18 the challenge for Alstom was that as they were --
19 they had to change their supply chain to meet the
20 parameters set for them in terms of local content,
21 and I think, you know, that forced them to, you
22 know, work with either new suppliers or to
23 configure some of their -- well, maybe the company
24 was the same, but the -- you know, the factory or
25 the unit providing the material was perhaps

1 different, and I think they did have some issues in
2 that -- you know, getting the alignment between
3 their new supply chain or their revised supply
4 chain and achieving, you know, either the
5 timeliness or the level of quality or functionality
6 that came from their different subsuppliers -
7 which, again, is not unusual - but that was a
8 problem. That was a challenge for sure.

9 MS. MAINVILLE: And maybe you can speak
10 to that a bit more. You spoke about how this was a
11 very complex rail system because of the
12 specifications and requirements. Can you explain a
13 bit more your perspective on that?

14 MR. HOLLOWAY: Sure. So I think one of
15 the big challenges for all of these rail projects
16 is this web of subsystems that need to coordinate
17 and communicate with each other in a way to provide
18 some kind of functional outcome, and the more
19 sophisticated the functionality that you require,
20 the more complex that web of interrelated vendors
21 and subvendors. So if we -- if I just give you an
22 example, if you think about the train or the
23 vehicle supplied by Alstom has to communicate --
24 say -- say it detects a fire onboard the train,
25 right? So there will be a sensor system inside the

1 train, and I can't remember whether they're smoke
2 or heat based or both, but anyway, there will be
3 some kind of sensor inside the train, and it will
4 send a notice through to the onboard control
5 system, which is the -- you know, kind of the brain
6 of the vehicle, and say, Hey, I've got a fire being
7 registered in car number wherever it is, you know,
8 we need to notify someone.

9 That message will then have to go
10 across an interface into the Thales system. The
11 Thales system then needs to communicate to wayside
12 equipment and say, Transmit back that information
13 that there's a train, it's at position wherever it
14 is, it's headed in this direction, and it needs to
15 tell the -- you know, the control room that the
16 train's on fire; it's headed towards Rideau
17 Station; it's going to be there in 80 seconds,
18 right?

19 That communication happens over a
20 mixture of different equipment. So some of it will
21 be happening across Thales equipment, but some of
22 it will be happening across equipment that would be
23 supplied by other vendors and subvendors - you
24 know, telecommunications equipment, fibre backbone.
25 You know, there will be a whole range of -- how

1 that message arrives back at the control room will
2 be across a whole range of different pieces of
3 infrastructure supplied by different people.

4 When it gets into the control room, it
5 will come into a SCADA interface and integration
6 room, and it will send an alarm to another
7 subsystem inside the control room and say, Hey,
8 there's a train; it's heading towards Rideau; it's
9 going to be there in 80 seconds; it's on fire.

10 And in the control room, the SCADA
11 system will trigger a, Well, we better sound the
12 fire alarm and evacuate Rideau Station; we better
13 turn off all the vertical transportation so we stop
14 funneling people towards the potential fire; we
15 better notify the fire service so that they can
16 respond; we'd better push over the public
17 announcements; we'd better instruct all the other
18 trains in the area to undertake some sort of
19 behaviour - you know, so that will be either depart
20 from Rideau Station and get away from the fire or
21 hold them at their current location - and we'd
22 better turn on the tunnel vent fans. And dependent
23 upon what information is known about the fire,
24 there will be a different mode selected for those
25 fans.

1 All of these systems and subsystems are
2 provided and delivered by other people, and they've
3 all got to work together and with the right
4 fidelity, the right latency across all those
5 different bits of infrastructure and firewalls, and
6 it needs to all happen so we can spin up the fans
7 fast enough to provide a tenable environment for
8 the people trying to get off the train that's on
9 fire at Rideau Station.

10 So that's just one simple example.
11 It's not that simple, but there's many permutations
12 and combinations of those sorts of failures that
13 have to be developed, have to be designed, have to
14 be tested, both at system, subsystem level, and
15 laid on top of each other. So there's literally
16 thousands of -- many thousands of end devices, you
17 know, from CCT cameras to, you know, tunnel vent
18 PLCs to, you know, a whole range of other
19 componentry on these jobs, and they've all got to
20 be coordinated in an effective way, and that's the
21 real challenge of these modern rail projects. The
22 more emphasis you put on systems, the more
23 complexity you're incorporating into that process.

24 I suppose for people who are not
25 familiar with this as an area, I would refer you to

1 have a look at the experience of Crossrail in
2 London, which is really -- is a large project, much
3 larger than the Ottawa job, but very similar levels
4 of complexity in a number of ways that has really
5 struggled with achieving this integration.

6 So that project was due to open in
7 December 2018. In May 2018, they reported to the
8 UK government that they were on schedule to open in
9 December of that year. As we sit here in 2022,
10 they're still not open because they're still going
11 through that system integration process. So the
12 project was largely complete in 2018 in terms of
13 the built asset, but in terms of the system
14 integration process, it's really quite -- I mean,
15 their railway is really complex because it's larger
16 as well, but it's illustrative of how challenging
17 those integration activities can be.

18 MS. MAINVILLE: And what were the
19 particular challenges that OLRTC faced with
20 interface management on this project?

21 MR. HOLLOWAY: Well, I think they're
22 the ones I've just described, really. It's just
23 the large and multifarious nature of the different
24 subsystems and how they interrelate with each
25 other. So you've got to get each system working at

1 the right level of quality and then make sure that
2 the handshakes between each of those subsystems
3 work in an effective way so that you get the end
4 result. So, you know, I think any -- in each of
5 the subsystem areas, we had challenges, which is
6 normal on large projects, but the -- the ones that
7 stood out for me in terms of being particularly
8 challenging, I suppose, would have been the tunnel
9 vent.

10 MS. MAINVILLE: Did that cause
11 significant delay, or is that what stands out?

12 MR. HOLLOWAY: Well, it -- I mean, it's
13 hard to judge, right, because the tunnel vent was
14 always the last thing in the critical path, so it's
15 always going to be -- your last activity is always
16 the one that gets delayed, right? So if preceding
17 activities have been delayed, then you get delay in
18 subsequent activity.

19 But I do remember that being a
20 particularly challenging piece of testing, you
21 know, that involved not only multiple tests with,
22 you know, the suppliers -- and because you are
23 coordinating across a bunch of different suppliers
24 there, but also we then had the involvement of the
25 local fire service as well, and, you know, they had

1 views about how that should be tested, how they
2 wanted to see it demonstrated to them which were
3 perhaps different than what we had anticipated, not
4 necessarily that that's a problem, but it did, you
5 know, drive some additional activities and some
6 additional tests.

7 But again, that's not unusual for these
8 railways, right? Usually the local fire service is
9 the arbiter of -- you know, they're the one that
10 has to own the outcome of that, you know, the
11 system being used, so it's quite normal for them --
12 you know, the blue light services, whether they're
13 the fire, the ambulance, or the police, to have a
14 say about some of the fire or life safety
15 infrastructure on these projects.

16 MS. MAINVILLE: Would you say there
17 were perhaps too many interfaces on this subject --
18 on this project? Would it have been possible to
19 have fewer?

20 MR. HOLLOWAY: For sure. You
21 definitely could have had fewer interfaces, but
22 then you would have had to accept a lower level of
23 functionality. So effectively this is largely a
24 tradeoff between how much staffing you want to
25 apply to the railway versus how staff-free you want

1 the railway to be. So the more you automate, the
2 less staff you need.

3 So the -- the specification that we
4 were provided with obviously required us to provide
5 these systems because the client's objective was to
6 have a lower level of staffing. I presume that was
7 their motivation. I don't know what their
8 motivation was. But obviously that's why we ended
9 up with a pretty sophisticated railway, which was
10 essentially, you know, unmanned stations and, you
11 know, whilst the drive -- you know, the train is
12 manned, essentially it is an ATO signalling system,
13 right? So the train drives itself. The computer
14 drives the train. The driver is there really in
15 attendance in case of, you know, something
16 occurring. But really, the system is the same
17 system that's designed -- it's the same base system
18 that Thales supplied to Vancouver, where there are
19 no drivers, right? So it's -- it's the CellTrak
20 system, so essentially it can operate without a
21 driver being there.

22 MS. MAINVILLE: Do you understand the
23 Vancouver system -- and I take it you mean the
24 Canada Line?

25 MR. HOLLOWAY: Yeah.

1 MS. MAINVILLE: Do you understand it to
2 be a much simpler system, though?

3 MR. HOLLOWAY: I couldn't -- I -- I
4 couldn't authoritatively talk to that, to be honest
5 with you. I think there are -- there are some --
6 there probably are some differences between the
7 two, but I couldn't speak authoritatively between
8 them because I -- I haven't reviewed the
9 specifications of Canada Line.

10 MS. MAINVILLE: Sure. What other
11 specifications in this project would you say made
12 it more complex or leading edge, perhaps?

13 MR. HOLLOWAY: Well, I think the fact
14 that the stations were going to be largely unmanned
15 and that the large amount of intrusion and access
16 control devices, the large amount of CCTV coverage,
17 you know, all of those elements of functionality
18 inside the station cabins definitely added a degree
19 of complexity.

20 You know, and obviously you can, to a
21 certain degree, circumvent some of those provisions
22 if you choose to with -- by staffing, right? So
23 that's -- that's the offset, I suppose, is that you
24 need, you know, less SCADA control, for example.
25 The stations, from memory, were designed to be

1 opened remotely from the control room. They could
2 open the station each day without actually a human
3 going there to open the station. So, you know,
4 those sorts of things are all examples of a
5 tradeoff that someone's decided, well, we'd rather
6 have the complexity and have the automation versus
7 have the staffing level and reduce the complexity.

8 MS. MAINVILLE: What about the rolling
9 stock in particular, though?

10 MR. HOLLOWAY: I'm not sure that the
11 rolling stock really make a big difference in this
12 context. I think there are some other issues
13 around the specification of the rolling stock which
14 I'm not really too well-versed on because all of
15 that occurred before I arrived, but, you know,
16 whether you want a low floor vehicle, or a high
17 floor vehicle, you know, what sorts of levels of
18 performance you want from the vehicle in terms of
19 speed, you know, there's a bunch of stuff in there
20 in relation to the vehicle that would drive
21 complexity for the vehicle construction. It
22 wouldn't necessarily drive a lot of additional
23 complexity for the interface with the other
24 subsystems, though.

25 MS. MAINVILLE: Right. Do you know

1 whether -- or do you have a perspective on whether
2 the vehicles that were being provided here by
3 Alstom were a proven vehicle?

4 MR. HOLLOWAY: Yeah, well, I think, you
5 know, this is -- this is an interesting topic
6 because the -- the vehicle and the -- you know, a
7 rolling stock specialist would obviously give a
8 more authoritative point of view, but the stock is
9 off a platform that's a widely-used vehicle, but
10 there's a point at which, where you make that many
11 changes to a platform, it's no longer
12 representative of a platform. And I couldn't
13 really tell you if the number of changes that were
14 implemented on that vehicle made it such that it
15 kind of dislocated from what would be considered to
16 be the tried-and-tested design from Alstom.

17 So, you know, for example, if you
18 change the braking system and you change the power
19 system and you change the -- you know, the -- you
20 change the propulsion and braking system, you
21 change the layout of the car, you change the
22 structural frame, like at what point does it stop
23 being the last vehicle? I don't know, right? So,
24 you know -- or the vehicle that's been sold into
25 other -- into other jurisdictions.

1 Certainly my understanding was that
2 the -- you know, the fact that they had to rebuild
3 the supply chain was a challenge. What I don't
4 understand personally is whether that was a
5 challenge because of the local content or because
6 of changes in design, you know, from their base
7 platform. Does that make sense?

8 MS. MAINVILLE: Yes.

9 MR. HOLLOWAY: Yes.

10 MS. MAINVILLE: And what about Thales's
11 signalling system? Do you know whether it was a
12 standard system for Thales?

13 MR. HOLLOWAY: Yeah, I think it was
14 pretty standard. There was some configuration
15 done - which is, again, all within the normal
16 practice, as I understand it, for these sorts of
17 things. So different operators want different ways
18 of operating their signalling system, and they want
19 different, you know, kind of -- they have their
20 certain elements which preference can be expressed
21 in terms of how the signalling system should
22 respond in different fault conditions, for example,
23 and that sort of stuff. But I think it was a
24 pretty -- it was a pretty straightforward
25 signalling design for Thales in terms of being

1 representative of what they've done elsewhere.

2 MS. MAINVILLE: Did you --

3 MR. IMBESI: When you're talking about
4 the Thales system, previously you'd mentioned that
5 they had -- they had revised testing strategy to
6 address some concerns that were brought by Thales,
7 some of the presentations. Do you recall what
8 those concerns were or what test -- what was
9 changed in the testing strategy?

10 MR. HOLLOWAY: Yeah, I mean, again,
11 this may be an incomplete recollection, but my
12 understanding was, you know, that Thales had some
13 commercial concerns and that they were conflating
14 together the commercial concerns with some
15 technical concerns to try and, you know, help their
16 commercial contractual position in the discussion.
17 I think once we resolved the commercial concerns,
18 many of the technical problems were resolved.

19 MS. MAINVILLE: Did you understand that
20 there had been no early validation testing done on
21 any of the -- like, on the prototype vehicle?

22 MR. HOLLOWAY: I can't recall, to be
23 honest with you.

24 MS. MAINVILLE: Do you understand that
25 the validation testing ended up happening quite

1 late in the day, which would have been during your
2 time there?

3 MR. HOLLOWAY: Well, there was testing
4 ongoing, but I -- I'm not sure that I recall it
5 being classified as validation testing. I mean,
6 what we typically will do -- I mean, there was a
7 vehicle that was prepared -- there was a vehicle
8 that was largely prepared offsite in Hornell, I
9 think, by Alstom, which was meant to be sort of the
10 prototype vehicle. That vehicle was I think
11 brought to Ottawa and used for some testing, but
12 whether that corresponds with your question, I'm
13 not -- no, I'm not certain, to be honest with you.
14 There -- I mean, testing was ongoing -- as the
15 vehicles became available, you know, there was
16 consistent ongoing testing of the whole fleet as
17 they became available of different types, so I
18 can't discriminate between one type of testing and
19 another, from memory.

20 MS. MAINVILLE: Did you understand that
21 a significant amount of retrofits were required on
22 this project, perhaps more so than is typical?

23 MR. HOLLOWAY: Yeah, I can't talk to
24 what's typical, to be honest with you, not from a
25 rolling stock point of view, but I mean, the reason

1 they do this in a series of prototypes is because
2 they expect an amount of retrofit.

3 MS. MAINVILLE: Could you speak to the
4 delays in the test tracks becoming available?

5 MR. HOLLOWAY: Yeah, I can't recall
6 what the test track -- that's just not in my head,
7 to be honest with you. Sorry.

8 MS. MAINVILLE: Okay. Were there any
9 issues from your perspective in terms of
10 interfacing with Alstom?

11 MR. HOLLOWAY: I mean, Alstom were a
12 major supplier on the project. We had a number of
13 issues in terms of progress, as you would on any
14 large project. We had a number of interactions
15 with them at different levels of their management
16 seniority. We had a number of changes through
17 Alstom in terms of their team composition and
18 leadership through the course of the time that I
19 was there, and generally, you know, Alstom were
20 pretty responsive and they'd get on top -- you
21 know, we had the usual, you know, kind of arm
22 wrestle that you get with all subcontractors at
23 various points, but that was all pretty typical. I
24 mean, we did find that Alstom were quite responsive
25 in trying to get on and deal with their problems.

1 You know, there were a number of issues.

2 Like I say, they were -- I suppose, you
3 know, my memory there was that the interface with
4 Alstom and Thales is a good -- is emblematic
5 insofar as there was some issues, but they got
6 resolved and then they stayed resolved, so that was
7 quite successful. I think the challenge for Alstom
8 was they kept finding new issues. So they were
9 fixing issues, but new issues were emerging.

10 MS. MAINVILLE: Did you understand what
11 the root cause of that was, the sort of issues -- a
12 significant amount of apparent issues arising
13 fairly late in the project?

14 MR. HOLLOWAY: I think it goes back to
15 the supply chain issue. That's certainly my
16 recollection, anyway, is that you're combining a
17 bunch of componentry whilst may be similar to other
18 vehicles that you've used elsewhere, you're using
19 from different suppliers. You know, so what --
20 how -- again, I -- this is my recollection, so I
21 might be inaccurate because I'm, again, not a
22 rolling stock engineer, but essentially Alstom
23 is -- it literally is something like 70,000
24 subcomponents in a vehicle, and what Alstom will do
25 is they will cascade some of the design

1 responsibility to some of their larger
2 sub-suppliers, so Alstom don't have, you know, every
3 element of every vehicle fully designed, and they
4 just give it to someone to make. Certain elements
5 of what's being supplied them are actually designed
6 by their sub-suppliers, so when they change
7 sub-supplier, there's obviously the requirement then
8 for some redesign effort from the new sub-supplier
9 that's saying I've got to coordinate with everyone
10 else's componentry. I think, you know, the issues
11 from my -- as an outside observer seem to be more
12 tied up with that than anything else.

13 MS. MAINVILLE: Do you recall when
14 OLRTC would have been aware that either Thales or
15 Alstom could not meet the RSA date?

16 MR. HOLLOWAY: No, sorry.

17 MS. MAINVILLE: Do you recall what
18 first impacted the RSA date from OLRTC's
19 perspective?

20 MR. HOLLOWAY: No, I can't. I'm sorry.

21 MS. MAINVILLE: Would -- well, perhaps
22 you can speak to the -- how the schedule was
23 managed, the overall schedule was managed on
24 OLRTC's end. Was the -- was there a -- an
25 integrated working schedule?

1 MR. HOLLOWAY: Yes. Yeah. So there
2 was a team of P6 schedulers who would work to
3 coordinate the various subschedules, whether, you
4 know, from different subsuppliers that would stitch
5 it together into an integrated schedule, and we
6 had, you know, like a project management function
7 there that was a dedicated team looking solely to
8 manage the P6 schedule for the -- for the contract.

9 MS. MAINVILLE: So who would have been
10 in charge of that?

11 MR. HOLLOWAY: I couldn't tell you, to
12 be honest with you. We did have a few changes
13 through the course of the -- the project, and I
14 can't remember their names.

15 MS. MAINVILLE: Are you aware of some
16 issues with coordinating the different -- some of
17 the different schedules?

18 MR. HOLLOWAY: Not especially, other
19 than, like, I think that's the case on all large
20 mega projects, that there's always a challenge in
21 terms of coordinating schedules, but nothing that
22 sticks out for me at this distance.

23 MS. MAINVILLE: Do you recall OLRTC
24 granting Thales an extension of time in December
25 2017 that modified the RSA date to November 2018?

1 MR. HOLLOWAY: Well, I don't recall,
2 but I would imagine that's probably tied up with
3 the commercial contractual negotiations that were
4 ongoing with Thales at the time.

5 MS. MAINVILLE: And so do you recall
6 whether that -- or how that was coordinated with
7 Alstom's schedule?

8 MR. HOLLOWAY: Well, it would have been
9 coordinated insofar as we would have known. I
10 think there would be -- you know, there was --
11 there's obviously a degree of subcontractor
12 management where you don't necessarily want to
13 communicate everything that one subsupplier is
14 dealing with in relation to another subsupplier
15 because want to keep the competitive tension from
16 your subsupply chain, right? So, you know, I'm
17 sure that it was known -- well, it was definitely
18 known by OLRTC and then there would have been a
19 decision about how that was or wasn't communicated
20 on to Alstom. And -- and the reasons for not
21 communicating it on would be more about trying to
22 motivate Alstom to hold their schedule.

23 MS. MAINVILLE: That's what you --

24 MR. HOLLOWAY: But I can't definitively
25 say whether we did or we didn't because I can't

1 remember.

2 MS. MAINVILLE: Okay. But that's what
3 you would call competitive tension?

4 MR. HOLLOWAY: Well, you know what I
5 mean. Not competitive tension, that's probably not
6 the right phrase, but you want to maintain some
7 tension in the schedule. So if you're a supplier,
8 and you know that your delivery is dependent on
9 another supplier and that supplier's gone late, you
10 might -- and you've been notified of that, you can
11 take -- you can take the foot off the gas and slow
12 up your delivery, knowing that you're no longer the
13 critical path.

14 You know, the adage for these projects
15 is when there's work phase available, we should
16 move as quickly as we can to try to progress work
17 on that work phase, so we obviously don't want to
18 set up that potential negative consequence with a
19 subsupplier, possibly. If the interface is more
20 complex and more intimate, then obviously you would
21 need to declare it, so I just don't know whether
22 this was or wasn't part of a discussion with
23 Alstom.

24 MS. MAINVILLE: Do you recall, though,
25 Alstom making many schedule changes that were

1 rejected by OLRTC?

2 MR. HOLLOWAY: Yeah, yeah. I -- I
3 mean, again, that's sort of normal -- normal
4 construction experiences, that, you know, you'll
5 get -- when a contractor is struggling with their
6 own issues, they will quite often try and look to
7 the principal for extensions of time. If the
8 principal doesn't want to provide those extensions
9 of time, then they may try to initiate a claims
10 process, you know, and then it's up to the
11 person -- you know, the contract administration to
12 decide whether that claim's got validity or not. I
13 remember there were a number of instances where
14 Alstom approached us claiming a delay that we felt
15 was not valid.

16 MS. MAINVILLE: Do you recall whether
17 there was a decision made not to grant Alstom any
18 extensions given all of the delays they were
19 encountering and perhaps the delays to their supply
20 chain, as you've described?

21 MR. HOLLOWAY: Yeah, but it depends on
22 whether that was their contractual responsibility
23 or the consortium's. So we wouldn't necessarily
24 give someone -- grant them, you know, access to an
25 extension of time if the delay was caused by

1 their -- on their -- you know, on their own
2 retained risks, right? Which was -- you know,
3 again from memory, my recollection was we felt
4 Alstom had had delays, but they'd caused them --
5 well, not caused them, but they'd been on their
6 side of their allocated risk profile, and therefore
7 it was not something that we should be allocating
8 an extension of time for.

9 MS. MAINVILLE: And what happens when
10 that timeline becomes unachievable or unreasonable?

11 MR. HOLLOWAY: Unreasonable in --

12 MS. MAINVILLE: Well, to the extent
13 that it cannot -- it simply cannot be met, so if
14 they're being held to an unrealistic timeline.

15 MR. HOLLOWAY: Well, I think we felt
16 certainly that Alstom is one of the largest train
17 manufacturers in the world, and if they brought the
18 weight of Alstom to bear in terms of solving their
19 problems, they could have resolved them.

20 MS. MAINVILLE: Do you recall some
21 factoring in of the extension granted to Thales in
22 that respect and how that would have impacted
23 Alstom's ability to meet its RSA deadline?

24 MR. HOLLOWAY: No. I mean, I can't
25 recall, but I can't, as we sit here today,

1 understand how Thales's timeline would have
2 impacted Alstom in a material way.

3 MS. MAINVILLE: Wouldn't Alstom require
4 Thales's final product before being -- before
5 making the trains available?

6 MR. HOLLOWAY: Yeah, but Thales were
7 always ahead of Alstom's supply.

8 MS. MAINVILLE: That was your
9 understanding of --

10 MR. HOLLOWAY: Yeah, that's my
11 recollection, anyway.

12 MS. MAINVILLE: Did you -- or did OLRTC
13 have any issues interfacing with Thales?

14 MR. HOLLOWAY: Look, you know, it's --
15 it -- I think Thales had some commercial concerns,
16 as we talked about, but those got resolved, and the
17 actual working experience with Thales was really
18 productive, from memory. Certainly Matthew Slade,
19 who was the systems director, had more to do with
20 them on a day-to-day basis than I did, but we found
21 them cooperative and, you know, good in terms of
22 tackling the usual emerging issues that you get on
23 those projects.

24 MS. MAINVILLE: And sorry, going back
25 to Alstom, do you believe that Alstom resourced the

1 project as required, then?

2 MR. HOLLOWAY: Well, you know, we
3 obviously didn't get the outcome that we wanted, so
4 I suppose that you could have looked back at this
5 stage and said we would have liked to see different
6 or more or a change in resource profile because
7 that's the -- the consumption experience wasn't,
8 you know, what we were aiming for, but at the time,
9 we obviously felt that he had adequate competency
10 because otherwise we would have escalated the
11 issue. In fact, I think we probably did along the
12 way, and they did change some staff at different
13 points through the process.

14 MS. MAINVILLE: Do you have a view as
15 to the suitability of the MSF for the manufacturing
16 of the trains?

17 MR. HOLLOWAY: Not really because it's
18 outside of my area of expertise. I mean, I think
19 it -- you know, the -- I don't know that
20 necessarily the MSF was a problem. I think that
21 the fact -- again, back to the -- back to the other
22 issue, I think it's the fact that you had, like,
23 this different supply chain process, and then how
24 we were choosing to do some of that assembly at the
25 MSF required us to have sort of local expertise or

1 local staff to do some of that work, and I know
2 that Alstom arranged a process by which those staff
3 were trained, and they brought experienced
4 personnel in, but I think there's -- there's
5 inevitably a learning curve that you've got to go
6 through in making that choice, which you wouldn't
7 do if you were trying to assemble things locally,
8 you'd build them in a factory where people do that
9 all day every day for years. What we've done is
10 we've stood up a one-off assembly or a
11 manufacturing station with people that are not
12 necessarily expert in doing that, and we're doing
13 it for the first time, and any time you do things
14 like that on very complex assets, you can expect to
15 go through a learning curve. Now, that's not to
16 say that that learning curve wasn't anticipated,
17 because I think it well -- it was understood by all
18 parties. As to whether the reality matched the
19 expectation, I couldn't talk to that.

20 MS. MAINVILLE: Could you talk about
21 how the interface between OLRTC and RTG worked?

22 MR. HOLLOWAY: Yeah. So obviously we
23 were a -- OLRTC was a supplier to RTG, and we
24 deferred to RTG in terms of their interface with
25 the client. You know, we tried to stay in our lane

1 in terms of making sure that we were providing RTG
2 with the information that they needed to be able to
3 manage that communication back to the client
4 effectively.

5 MS. MAINVILLE: So in terms of
6 significant delays to the project, how would that
7 be managed with RTG?

8 MR. HOLLOWAY: We would formally notify
9 them, you know, of status of projects. I mean, RTG
10 also were interacting with the lender's technical
11 advisor as well, so there was frequently an
12 interaction back with the LTA in terms of, you
13 know, their assessing our schedule or our progress,
14 that sort of thing. So yeah, it was -- there would
15 have been a formal process for notification.

16 MS. MAINVILLE: And sorry, what does
17 LTA stand for?

18 MR. HOLLOWAY: Lender's technical
19 advisor.

20 MS. MAINVILLE: Right.

21 MR. HOLLOWAY: Which I think was Atkins
22 on this project.

23 MS. MAINVILLE: And how would a change
24 to the RSA date be -- come to be agreed upon, or
25 who would ultimately be able to make that change?

1 MR. HOLLOWAY: I -- I honestly couldn't
2 tell you. I mean, my expectation would be that we
3 would declare where we're at with the construction
4 process, and we would inform the RTG colleagues.
5 They would be the ones that would formally advise
6 the City. The decision really about delay or not
7 delay is not one for RTG because it's a -- it's a
8 downstream consequence of what the contractor to
9 RTG can provide.

10 MS. MAINVILLE: Right. So it's an
11 OLRTC decision.

12 MR. HOLLOWAY: Right. I mean, I don't
13 think RTG would be taking a decision to delay the
14 project if we told them that we could deliver it on
15 time.

16 MS. MAINVILLE: But in terms of the
17 reversed scenario, if OLRTC was late, RTG would
18 necessarily have to delay the RSA date. Is that
19 fair?

20 MR. HOLLOWAY: Well, again, you know,
21 it would depend on what we've communicated to RTG,
22 right? So you're -- on these large projects,
23 you're constantly dealing with delays,
24 countermeasures to deal with those delays, the
25 treatment of float, the resequencing of activity,

1 you know, how you can affect acceleration. So you
2 don't necessarily report every delay that you're
3 experiencing on the project through to the client,
4 right? That's -- that's not normal. You will be
5 trying to understand what -- what level of
6 probability of certainty that you have associated
7 with the schedule, and when that level of certainty
8 drops below a certain threshold, then you'd be
9 discussing, right, okay, we're no longer confident
10 we can get to this date.

11 And it doesn't come like a -- kind of a
12 bolt out of the blue. It will become -- it will
13 become progressively as either your countermeasures
14 are failing to achieve the success that you wanted
15 in terms of recovery or the acceleration's not as
16 effective as you thought it was going to be, or
17 some unintended connection between one supplier and
18 another supplier's emerged or a new problem's
19 happened -- you know, there's a shifting -- a
20 constant shifting of the -- the -- you know, the
21 schedule in that sense, and you're not reporting
22 every single delay up the way. What you're
23 obviously doing is trying to take a balance of
24 probabilities perspective of where the schedule as
25 an overall position is heading.

1 MS. MAINVILLE: And would that relate
2 both to the RSA date and any milestones?

3 MR. HOLLOWAY: Yeah, probably. Yeah,
4 it would probably relate to milestones as well.

5 MS. MAINVILLE: But not something that
6 would not impact the critical path to those -- to
7 those milestones.

8 MR. HOLLOWAY: I'm not sure I
9 understand that question.

10 MS. MAINVILLE: It wouldn't -- you
11 would not raise with RTG delays that did not
12 ultimately touch on -- or that would impact either
13 a milestone or an RSA date.

14 MR. HOLLOWAY: Oh, yeah. Well, you
15 might do. You might let them know, hey, look,
16 we're dealing with this particular problem, here's
17 what we're doing about it, but we're not predicting
18 an impact on the schedule at this point, so we may
19 have flagged to them, you know, that we were
20 dealing with issues, but we had control measures to
21 try to recover the schedule. We may have done
22 that -- you know, we probably wouldn't have done
23 that formally. We would be formally communicating
24 any changes to the schedule for sure, but there was
25 a fairly open dialogue in terms of trying to keep

1 people apprised in terms of, you know, what we were
2 doing to try and recover or mitigate or, you know,
3 implement as countermeasures were issues were
4 emerging, and that's normal practice in
5 construction.

6 MS. MAINVILLE: Right. And were you
7 ever at the table with the City in terms of
8 conveying some of the project delays?

9 MR. HOLLOWAY: I certainly met with the
10 City a number of times, always with RTG, and we
11 had -- we would talk through the challenges that we
12 were facing on the project and communicate to them
13 what we were doing about those challenges.

14 MS. MAINVILLE: Was it your view that
15 the City understood -- had a realistic
16 understanding of the project delays?

17 MR. HOLLOWAY: I can't really talk to
18 that, to be honest with you. I mean, I don't know
19 what the City's -- you know, it was difficult to
20 get an understanding of what the City's position
21 was.

22 MS. MAINVILLE: And why is that?

23 MR. HOLLOWAY: The -- you know, they
24 didn't communicate or share with us in terms of,
25 you know, providing that understanding. Well,

1 that's certainly how I'm recalling it now. So I
2 mean, it was very much -- I mean, we were
3 presenting to them. This was not necessarily a
4 dialogue, so this was a presentation, here's the
5 issue, here's what we're doing about it, take a few
6 questions. You know, I -- how they then reflected
7 on that information and decided how they felt, I
8 wasn't party to those discussions.

9 MS. MAINVILLE: Would you say that
10 OLRTC -- without conveying every project delay to
11 RTG or the City, would you say it was transparent
12 about when there was a belief that RSA could not be
13 met?

14 MR. HOLLOWAY: I think we were
15 transparent -- I mean, again, you -- I know you
16 keep going back to RSA, and I just don't carry that
17 in my head as a significant event, you know? We
18 were -- it's more of an ongoing dialogue about
19 where are we at with the schedule and what we were
20 doing with issues with the schedule, so that's how
21 it occurs to me in my memory now. I think we were
22 transparent, and we were, you know, clear about,
23 you know, what we were doing to try and mitigate
24 and recover.

25 MS. MAINVILLE: Do you recall how the

1 City responded to the delay to the RSA date?

2 MR. HOLLOWAY: No, I don't. I'm sorry.

3 MS. MAINVILLE: And I know -- I think
4 you said you don't recall when OLRTC believed it
5 would not meet the RSA date, but in terms of point
6 in time as it relates to any particular event, do
7 you have a sense of when -- you know, how long
8 post-sinkhole, for instance, or further down the
9 line did OLRTC come to believe that it would not
10 meet the May 2018 RSA date?

11 MR. HOLLOWAY: Yeah, I can't remember.
12 I think my -- my sort of memory of it was that, you
13 know, it was an unfolding realization as opposed to
14 kind of a -- you know, kind of a point in time
15 where it was crystal clear that that was an issue.
16 So I think as the consequences of the sinkhole
17 became more completely understood, you know, we
18 obviously deployed countermeasures and acceleration
19 tactics to try to deal with that, but then more
20 issues kept unfolding, so it was kind of a
21 progressive -- it was a progressive appreciation of
22 the consequential impact.

23 MR. IMBESI: And in terms of the
24 delay - and you're speaking about the sinkhole -
25 did the delay to those civil works affect the

1 testing of the complex systems? I know you gave us
2 a description of an example of some of the
3 complexity of the systems, but did the delays to
4 the civil works affect the testing of those systems
5 and their interoperability --

6 MR. HOLLOWAY: Yes.

7 MR. IMBESI: It did, yeah? And
8 specifically did you feel or did OLRTC feel that
9 sufficient time and attention was given to those
10 testing aspects in light of the delays that were
11 experienced?

12 MR. HOLLOWAY: I don't know. It's hard
13 to recall. I mean, I know that we were very
14 focussed on it. The -- because we've changed
15 sequence of work in Rideau, and obviously we're
16 trying to reprioritize, so in the Rideau cabin
17 inside the station building, you've got a number of
18 different rooms inside that building which house
19 different bits of equipment which were essential to
20 the testing process. So when we had the delay at
21 Rideau, we obviously tried to reprogram that
22 construction process so that we would bring those
23 rooms earlier in the schedule so that we could
24 accelerate our -- well, not accelerate, but we
25 could try to mitigate any delay to the testing

1 process, so we started off with a plan to try and
2 accelerate the readiness of those rooms and
3 resequence the activity to allow those rooms to be
4 ready earlier in the schedule than they otherwise
5 would have been so that we would, you know,
6 therefore have less of a delay on the subsequent
7 testing activities. Because unless you have the
8 room, you can't put the equipment in. If you don't
9 have the equipment, you can't pull the cable, all
10 that kind of stuff.

11 And my -- my memory is that, you know,
12 whilst we had a plan to do that, it was really
13 super difficult to implement in practice because we
14 ended up with a whole lot of congestion in those
15 stations, with different trades working on top of
16 each other, the coordination of activities, you
17 know, just available work space access, logistical
18 access, not only for plant and personnel but also
19 materials. You know, everything became a lot more
20 complicated through the introduction of the
21 sinkhole and the consequential downstream impact
22 that had on all of those things.

23 So whilst we -- probably the early on
24 thought: No, we can recover this because what
25 we'll do is we'll accelerate these rooms or we'll

1 do this or we'll do that, some of those plans
2 proved not to be practical in terms of their
3 implementation through other unforeseen
4 complications coming through the logistical supply
5 chain and the coordination of activities, which
6 meant that we didn't render the benefit that we
7 thought we were going to get in terms of trying to
8 mitigate those delays. That was a lot of words.
9 Did that make sense?

10 MR. IMBESI: It does. Could you maybe
11 give us an example, then? You had mentioned that,
12 you know, they had proved not practical. Give us
13 an example of a benefit you didn't get and what was
14 the cause of that.

15 MR. HOLLOWAY: Well, we were trying to,
16 for example, bring forward some of the fit-out of
17 the comms rooms in Rideau. We were trying to bring
18 forward some of the low-voltage rooms where we were
19 housing switch gear equipment. We were trying to
20 bring forward some of the rooms that related to
21 equipment and control mechanisms for the tunnel
22 vents. So it was those sorts of things that we
23 were trying to bring forward in the schedule, but
24 in reality it turned out to be very difficult to
25 achieve that acceleration. And we were monitoring

1 progress on those elements on a day-by-day basis,
2 right? So it was being tracked on a fairly short
3 half-life.

4 MR. IMBESI: Right. And I think you
5 answered my first question, but you had -- did you
6 acknowledge yes when I asked whether the civil
7 delay impacted testing of these different
8 components?

9 MR. HOLLOWAY: Yeah, yeah, it did, yes.
10 Sorry. The second part of my question was trying
11 to explain the first part, sorry. So yes, it did
12 have an impact. We tried to mitigate that impact
13 through these acceleration tactics, but the
14 acceleration tactics weren't always successful in
15 achieving the result that we were aiming for. So,
16 you know, time moves on, so what you decide to do
17 in, I don't know, let's say January, you're
18 assuming that if we can achieve this thing in -- in
19 January, it's a decision, if we can achieve these
20 things in April, we're going to get these results
21 in May. And of course, in the -- by the time you
22 arrive in April, you might find out, well, we
23 didn't quite achieve all the things we were going
24 to achieve.

25 And it's not just one rescheduling, so

1 you're talking about layers of rescheduling here,
2 so it would be things -- you know, it gets down to
3 a much finer level of detail. So you might say,
4 you know, there's a massive amount of
5 infrastructure in those station cabins, right? So
6 if you think about a 4-inch pipe, 4-inch conduit,
7 we put 300 kilometres of 4-inch conduit in that one
8 station to pull all of the services, all of the
9 cables. So that's the low voltage, high voltage,
10 SCADA, CCTV, tunnel vent supply control cables. So
11 300 kilometres of cable, and you can imagine how
12 much cable you can get in a 4-inch conduit, so I
13 don't know the actual number of metres of cables
14 that we pulled, but it would be vast.

15 So you would be trying to say, well, I
16 need to terminate this device for tunnel vent in
17 this room by this date, and then we'd say, oh, hang
18 on, we've got a delay. The fireproofer can't get
19 in to do the fireproofing on the cable run, so we
20 can't pull that cable next Tuesday like we thought
21 we were going to do. Okay, no problem, what can we
22 do? Maybe we can pull this cable in this other
23 room, so we'll save that time that way. So it's a
24 constant iteration of schedule, reschedule, all the
25 time looking to see how we can accelerate, how we

1 can fight the delay, how we can get back on track,
2 recognizing of course that, you know, new and
3 different issues are emerging on a daily basis
4 because of the -- the fact that we were condensing
5 a large amount of trades inside that one station
6 building in an effort to try to accelerate the
7 works.

8 MR. IMBESI: Right. And in terms of
9 the impacts on testing that you had mentioned, did
10 you have any knowledge as to any effect that the
11 impact on the testing would have had on the
12 performance of the system and the rolling-in period
13 after the commencement of operation?

14 MR. HOLLOWAY: No, I don't think those
15 two things are that strongly correlated, in my
16 view, and I think it goes back to the discussions
17 we were having earlier about reliability growth
18 versus testing. So when the testing is done,
19 you're proving that the system is doing what it's
20 meant to be doing. The reliability growth process
21 of making sure that the system operates in a stable
22 and consistent way is as much as anything about
23 this sort of, you know, kind of combination of
24 effort between the asset, the maintainer and the
25 operator all working together in harness, and

1 that's not something that you -- you can't just
2 flick a switch and make that occur on Day 1. That
3 takes times to build that -- you know, that
4 rapport, that kind of intimacy.

5 So the way that, you know, if you look
6 at -- if you look at how the reality of these rail
7 services -- and, of course, I was gone from the
8 project by the time it was put in service, but I do
9 have some experience in other railways. If you
10 look at how railways operate, you know, typically
11 you've got two peaks a day: You've got a morning
12 peak and you've got an evening peak, which you're
13 trying to resource up to get people into the city
14 or back home again at the end of the day. And it's
15 absolutely all-consuming, right? It's absolutely
16 all-consuming about being able to service those
17 peaks and make sure you can ramp up all the train
18 services and deal with all of the emerging issues
19 about people being unwell on trains or there's a
20 security incident somewhere, all that sort of
21 stuff.

22 So it does not leave a lot of bandwidth
23 for you to shake down any rapport issues between
24 the operator and the maintainer or between the
25 operator becoming more familiar with the asset and

1 its functionality or between the maintainer
2 becoming more intimate in terms of how the asset
3 should be maintained or how they need to coordinate
4 their activity and access with the operator. And
5 that's the piece where the reliability growth is
6 important, because you're doing it outside of the
7 scrutiny of this peak cycle. Because once you get
8 into delivering train service on a daily basis,
9 there's not a lot of oxygen left for all of that
10 systemic learning to occur.

11 So if you've proven that the asset
12 works and all the things do the right thing and
13 when you press the button you get the light on over
14 there, that's -- you know, that's only one piece of
15 the puzzle. The actual, you know, making that
16 railway work reliably is a far larger amount of --
17 has many other dependencies rather than the asset
18 performing as it designed to -- as it was intended
19 to perform, because you've got this interplay
20 between maintainer, operator and the asset on a
21 daily basis. Does that make sense?

22 MR. IMBESI: Yes, it does. Thank you.
23 And I think you also indicated that you were no
24 longer involved in the train went into service?

25 MR. HOLLOWAY: Correct, yeah.

1 MS. MAINVILLE: I'll check in about a
2 break very shortly, but if I could just ask a few
3 more questions about the change to the RSA date.
4 Do you recall whether -- well, let me -- let me
5 rephrase. Alstom would have made clear to OLRTC
6 that it was not feasible to have all 34 LRVs ready
7 for RSA in late May 2017, and Thales had also
8 repeatedly communicated to OLRTC that a May 2018
9 RSA date was not feasible, at least by July 2017.
10 Is that something that you -- that would have been
11 brought to your attention or that you would expect
12 would be brought to your attention when you were on
13 the steering committee in 2017?

14 MR. HOLLOWAY: Yeah, I think we
15 probably had some discussions along those lines,
16 and again the analysis at that point in time was
17 that was posturing from the subcontractors, as
18 opposed to hard fact that these were not
19 achievable, because don't forget, we also had our
20 own expertise within the project team who were
21 providing analysis as to whether those -- the
22 legitimacy of those claims. You know, the normal
23 way of these things is that contractors,
24 subcontractors will make claims like that as a
25 means to trying to attract management's attention

1 and, you know, give the proverbial gun to the head
2 to try and achieve a commercial outcome. So, you
3 know, that is not an unusual thing is that you'll
4 get contractors writing to you saying, look, we're
5 not going to be able to hit your deadline,
6 Mr. Contractor; you better send us some money if
7 you want us to get back on track.

8 MS. MAINVILLE: So in terms of a
9 commercial outcome, you mean some level of
10 reprieve, money or additional time?

11 MR. HOLLOWAY: Well, yeah, I -- I mean,
12 from my memory, I think it was more about money,
13 but maybe I'm wrong.

14 MS. MAINVILLE: And do you recall -- so
15 the RSA date changed in November 2017, in the -- at
16 least in the November 2017 schedule. Do you recall
17 what led to that change at that point in time?

18 MR. HOLLOWAY: No. No, I don't -- I
19 mean, I don't recall, and I think I mentioned
20 earlier that I thought it was more an aggregation
21 of, you know, the realization that certain control
22 measures weren't going to be able to achieve the
23 desired result, but that's more an impression
24 rather than a hard recollection.

25 MS. MAINVILLE: And then do you recall

1 whether OLRTC only informed Alstom in May 2018 that
2 the new RSA target was November 2018?

3 MR. HOLLOWAY: No, I can't remember
4 that. I'm not saying it didn't happen. I just
5 can't remember.

6 MS. MAINVILLE: Would that make sense
7 to you, the original RSA date being May 2018?
8 Would it make sense to you that Alstom would not be
9 informed prior to just -- up until the RSA date
10 that it would not -- that that was no longer the
11 RSA date target?

12 MR. HOLLOWAY: I think Alstom were well
13 aware of the condition of the project, and they had
14 very senior executives involved in the project, so
15 I don't think they'd be waiting for a piece of
16 correspondence to understand where we're at in the
17 progress.

18 MS. MAINVILLE: But would there be a
19 concern that the RSA date might become meaningless
20 or artificial? To the subcontractor, to be clear.

21 MR. HOLLOWAY: So I think the way this
22 works, again, you know, is that the RSA date was
23 important to OLRTC for a whole bunch of reasons.
24 The RSA date, we tried to encourage a back-to-back
25 relationship with our subcontractors to have

1 concern for the RSA date as well, but ultimately
2 the contractors were very attuned to the fact that
3 we had -- we, the consortium, had a big stake
4 riding on that RSA date and that was a potential
5 point of leverage for them with us.

6 MS. MAINVILLE: And so it's possible
7 that, for instance, RTG or the City would be
8 informed of a need to push back the RSA date
9 without informing Alstom or one of the
10 subcontractors?

11 MR. HOLLOWAY: Yeah, that's possible.
12 And I mean, the other thing is that you -- you
13 know, getting back to that other point is, you
14 know, why -- why would you -- if the -- if you feel
15 that the delays are within the subcontractor
16 themselves, why would we -- what useful purpose
17 would it serve for us to essentially tell them that
18 we're slowing the job down or we're delaying the
19 finish date, you know? We don't want to do that.
20 We want to keep the pressure on with those
21 subcontractors to make sure they keep producing as
22 fast with they possibly can, because they're
23 suffering emerging delays anyway, right, so we want
24 them to try and get as far ahead as they possibly
25 can.

1 The other thing about communicating the
2 with RSA date -- and again, this may be -- you
3 know, obviously there's some sensitivity tied up
4 with that because it was -- you know, how it was
5 going to arrive in the public domain, et cetera, so
6 we -- we were obviously fairly circumspect about,
7 you know, who we were telling, how we were telling
8 them because we didn't want to, you know, kind of
9 cause any issues for the City in that
10 communication. I think it would have been -- I
11 think Alstom would have fully understood where the
12 project was at. You know, I mean, they were
13 literally based on the project. You know, they
14 have seasoned professionals involved in that
15 project. I mean, what we're not doing is we're
16 possibly up until that point not telling them that
17 there's a new date and they should reschedule
18 around that new date, we're just saying, look, keep
19 doing what you're doing and make sure you deliver
20 those vehicles as fast as you can, please.

21 MS. MAINVILLE: And what did you
22 understand -- well, two questions: What did you
23 expect Alstom to do in terms of countermeasures to
24 speed things up, and do you have an understanding
25 of what Alstom may have done to accelerate?

1 MR. HOLLOWAY: Yeah, hard to remember
2 exactly now. I mean, certainly additional shifts,
3 the connecting with their subsuppliers to try and
4 get them to accelerate supply, you know, we tackled
5 a number of -- some of the issues were tied up with
6 quality, so, you know, we tried to cut down the
7 amount of rework by improving the quality walk down
8 process. Those sorts of things, certainly. And
9 some of those were successful in terms of having a
10 beneficial impact, but as I said, you know, as we
11 got further into the process, new issues emerged.
12 So it was very much like, you know, issues were
13 getting resolved and then as we got further down
14 through the testing process with the vehicles or
15 they had more kilometres on them, new issues were
16 then coming to light.

17 MS. MAINVILLE: And you said OLRTC
18 would be circumspect about some of the delays so
19 that the information -- well, considering the fact
20 that the information might end up in the public
21 domain and that might cause issues for the City,
22 would there have been a concern that if these
23 delays were not conveyed that it would create a
24 public expectation of an earlier delivery than what
25 was realistically achievable?

1 MR. HOLLOWAY: No, I don't think that
2 was really part of our thinking. I think we were
3 just trying to be, you know, a good supplier to the
4 City and make sure that we kept these sort of, you
5 know, sensitive communications as confidential as
6 we could.

7 MS. MAINVILLE: So you -- are you
8 saying you were not circumspect in respect of the
9 City, only beyond that, or were you also
10 circumspect in terms of what was being conveyed to
11 the City?

12 MR. HOLLOWAY: Well, we didn't want to
13 give the City incorrect information, so we
14 obviously wanted to make sure that we had a level
15 of certainty about what we were saying to the City,
16 so we were -- we were measured in terms of that
17 communication. Sorry, I thought -- I misunderstood
18 your question. I thought you were relating to how
19 we were communicating to the subsuppliers about
20 what the end date was, right? I mean, obviously we
21 wanted to be circumspect about that because that
22 will end up in the local media and that sort of
23 thing.

24 MS. MAINVILLE: Okay. But you did
25 not -- did you believe it was important for the

1 City to have a realistic understanding of what the
2 RSA date was?

3 MR. HOLLOWAY: Yeah, for sure. And
4 you're always in a tension here, you know, as a
5 supplier that you're trying to give your client
6 what they want, so you're trying to deliver the job
7 as fast as possible, so, you know, we would be
8 explaining to -- and the City were kind of, you
9 know -- you know, quite closely involved in
10 reviewing schedules on a monthly cycle and asking
11 us questions about those schedules and asking us
12 questions about our mitigation and our control
13 measures to try to recover the schedule, so we're
14 sharing that information.

15 I mean, the other thing that we want to
16 do is obviously we want to make sure that when
17 we're sharing that information, it's as factual as
18 we can and we've got a degree of certainty in it,
19 and of course we were in a fast-paced, dynamic
20 environment where there was a lot of flux. So
21 we're not sharing perhaps every issue and concern
22 along the way where we felt we had them under
23 control. We're sharing, you know, the big
24 program-level or, you know, the big sort of -- you
25 know, the high-level program-type issues, not sort

1 of micro delays or we can pull a cable at station
2 XYZ this Thursday, not that sort of thing, but the
3 big things we were sharing with the City and
4 explaining to them what we were doing about
5 controlling the schedule. And we did that through
6 RTG. You know, RTG were there with us as well.

7 MS. MAINVILLE: In hindsight, do you
8 think there was an undue level of optimism about
9 the schedule?

10 MR. HOLLOWAY: Yeah, for sure. I mean,
11 you know, when you look back now, you look at the
12 end result, and you say, well, we didn't achieve
13 those -- we didn't achieve those things, but
14 that's -- that's -- hindsight's a wonderful thing,
15 right? I mean, at the time we felt we were doing
16 the right thing and we were going about it in an
17 appropriate way.

18 The fact that new issues emerged, our
19 forecast acceleration didn't have the desired
20 effect, you know, constraints coupled in a way that
21 we didn't anticipate, and all those sort of things
22 happened in a way that, you know, that did impact
23 us, which from this point of view, you know, is
24 obviously regrettable in the fact that we didn't
25 get it done faster.

1 MS. MAINVILLE: Could we just perhaps
2 go off the record briefly?

3 -- OFF THE RECORD DISCUSSION --

4 -- RECESS AT 5:16 --

5 -- UPON RESUMING AT 5:26 --

6 MS. MAINVILLE: Mr. Holloway, is it
7 fair to say that OLRTC's monthly work reports to
8 RTG don't include any metrics on the overall
9 progress completion?

10 MR. HOLLOWAY: I don't know. I can't
11 recall.

12 MS. MAINVILLE: Okay. Do you have a
13 recollection of how OLRTC did communicate such
14 metrics to RTG?

15 MR. HOLLOWAY: I mean, there was a
16 standard protocol for communicating with RTG when I
17 arrived on the project, and I think we just
18 continued with that approach, so I don't -- I can't
19 recall exactly what was provided to RTG on a
20 monthly basis.

21 MS. MAINVILLE: Okay. And was there
22 a -- any regular reporting to the City by OLRTC?

23 MR. HOLLOWAY: Yeah, I think we had --
24 again, I may be misremembering, but I think we had
25 to provide, like, a monthly schedule report.

1 MS. MAINVILLE: Would -- that would
2 have been different from the one sent to RTG, to
3 your recollection?

4 MR. HOLLOWAY: No, no, it would have
5 been the same. So what went to RTG would have then
6 been forward by RTG to the City.

7 MS. MAINVILLE: Okay. And did you ever
8 have concerns about what RTG was conveying to the
9 City regarding the schedule, concerns about
10 accuracy?

11 MR. HOLLOWAY: No.

12 MS. MAINVILLE: Were there ever any
13 discussion that you're aware of about having a soft
14 opening or soft start?

15 MR. HOLLOWAY: Yeah. I mean, that was
16 something that was discussed. I can't recall
17 exactly who it was discussed with, but it was
18 certainly something -- well, I personally was a big
19 advocate for it because it links back to this
20 discussion we were having earlier about reliability
21 growth. A soft opening is a -- is a traditional
22 strategy employed by many rail operators in terms
23 of how they take their new mega projects into use
24 because it allows for a more benign environment for
25 that reliability growth process to shake itself out

1 in terms of the interplay between the asset, the
2 maintainer, and the operator.

3 I mean, if you look around the world at
4 the people who do this, you know, kind of more
5 extensively, people like -- organizations like MTR
6 out of Hong Kong, Deutsche Bahn that -- Rail, many
7 of them will adopt the soft opening strategy for
8 new assets for exactly that reason, and I think
9 it's a prudent approach when you've got a very
10 complicated asset like we did.

11 MS. MAINVILLE: And just so I'm clear
12 that we're referencing the same thing, what would
13 be your definition of a soft opening?

14 MR. HOLLOWAY: A soft opening, in my
15 sort of -- I suppose it's a term of art, really,
16 but it's really where you're running a less-than
17 full service or a reduced service, degraded service
18 in some shape or form that's -- if there are a few
19 slips, trips, and falls metaphorically in terms of
20 delivering that service, the consequential impact
21 is minor on the travelling public, but at the same
22 time, it allows sufficient -- you know, I think we
23 mentioned earlier, you know, there's just not a lot
24 of oxygen left for learning when you're running a
25 full peak, on full service, so this just allows

1 everyone to just, you know, get into that role, get
2 the rapport, get the intimacy, get the
3 understanding of the asset and the relative roles,
4 perhaps become a bit more expert in the way that
5 they're going through discharging their roles, and
6 obviously making sure that the interplay between
7 operator, maintainer, and asset is working more
8 effectively.

9 So typically, you know, soft openings
10 can take a number of different forms, and every
11 operator will make their own judgment based on
12 their asset and their own level of experience, so
13 if you're taking on an asset which you -- you know,
14 like, is a very business-as-usual-type asset, you
15 know, with very conventional technology that you've
16 got a lot of in your railway already, you might
17 choose to take still a soft opening, but, you know,
18 you'd probably be more aggressive in that because
19 it's a more known quantity, there's less for people
20 to learn, get familiar with. If you've got a
21 highly dissimilar asset to the one that you
22 currently operate, you know, people will be more
23 conservative in terms of the level of service that
24 they're going to provide so they have more capacity
25 for that learning to occur. And I think, you know,

1 we talked about Crossrail earlier and how, in
2 London, how they were delayed from 2018 to now. I
3 think their initial plan is to do some form of soft
4 opening on that railway as well, just by way of
5 reference.

6 MS. MAINVILLE: How long approximately
7 would you think would have been appropriate for
8 this particular project?

9 MR. HOLLOWAY: Well, I'm not an
10 operator. I'm a construction professional. But I
11 have -- we have undertaken some analysis of what
12 other people would do, and like I say, it is a bit
13 situational. Recognizing that we had a new
14 maintainer, an inexperienced and new operator and a
15 very sophisticated, complex asset yuan for me, I
16 would be -- if I was -- if you're asking me to
17 speculate about how I would do it, I would say 6
18 months.

19 MS. MAINVILLE: Do you recall that
20 being raised with the city at any point in time?

21 MR. HOLLOWAY: Yeah, I'm pretty sure it
22 was discussed with the City. I couldn't hand on
23 heart say who it was discussed with or in what
24 forum, but I know we saw that there was a potential
25 for some overlap between a soft opening and some

1 elements of testing still being undertaken on other
2 elements of the job, so you could have a partial
3 network opening and allow some of that reliability
4 growth to occur. Those -- those discussions didn't
5 bear fruit, and they weren't seen as seeing an
6 acceptable strategy by the City. That's certainly
7 my recollection.

8 MS. MAINVILLE: And so to be clear on
9 timing, this would have been when you are
10 project --

11 MR. HOLLOWAY: Yeah.

12 MS. MAINVILLE: -- director.

13 MR. HOLLOWAY: Correct, yeah. Although
14 I think we may have even approached some of those
15 discussions before that time. I think the SPV --
16 sorry, the RTG colleagues may have had some of
17 those discussions with the City before that time.
18 We certainly discussed that internally before I
19 arrived at project director. As to what that then
20 transferred to in terms of conversation with the
21 City, I can't say authoritatively.

22 MS. MAINVILLE: Would you have been
23 there for any of those discussions with -- no?

24 MR. HOLLOWAY: No, I don't think so.

25 MS. MAINVILLE: So you wouldn't know or

1 would it have been reported back to you what the
2 City's position was on that?

3 MR. HOLLOWAY: I mean, I think my -- my
4 impression of it was -- and again, this is just
5 a -- you know, kind of a recollection, is that the
6 City kind of saw that suggestion as being the
7 contractor, namely us, trying to escape an
8 obligation or trying to, you know, like, trying to
9 circumvent something that we were accountable for,
10 which wasn't really the intention, but that's the
11 way it was sort of received, and that's why it got
12 shut down fairly quickly.

13 MS. MAINVILLE: Would there have been
14 an expectation of full payment from the
15 contractor's side, or would -- would that
16 necessarily have involved a reduced --

17 MR. HOLLOWAY: No, I don't think you
18 can expect full payment unless you give full
19 service, so I think the concept was, you know,
20 perhaps there's a win-win in here somewhere where
21 we could do -- we could get into partial operation
22 or partial service, and that might provide some
23 relief to the contractor whilst still keeping us
24 incentivized to finish but allowing the beneficial
25 side effect of the reliability growth process to

1 shake itself out in parallel with some of the other
2 works ongoing.

3 MS. MAINVILLE: Right. And what about
4 a burn-in period? If that's --

5 MR. HOLLOWAY: Yeah, it's kind of the
6 same thing, I suppose, burn-in, reliability growth.
7 I think they're probably -- I mean, by my
8 understanding, a burn-in is the same thing as
9 reliability growth, right?

10 MS. MAINVILLE: And there were none --
11 there was none on this project, on Stage 1?

12 MR. HOLLOWAY: Well, that's really on
13 the other side of the substantial completion
14 boundary, right?

15 MS. MAINVILLE: Right.

16 MR. HOLLOWAY: So it wasn't for OLRTC
17 to do that work. We're obviously looking across
18 that boundary, going, hey, maybe you could bring
19 some of your activities forward on our side of the
20 fence here. We could then accelerate, you know,
21 the public benefit being realized, but we would
22 still then have the facility to carry on working.
23 So that -- that was certainly the thought process.
24 We were thinking about how can we -- you know,
25 more -- how do we -- rather than, you know, just

1 sort of a very stark, stay in your lane type
2 strategy of just concern yourself with the things
3 you've got contract for, we were trying to take a
4 more macro view and say, how could we service the
5 overall project, recognizing that you've got some
6 stuff to do once we hand the asset over to you, is
7 there any way that we can bring some of that
8 activity forward whilst we continue to do the
9 things that we're struggling with on delays, and
10 get a win-win out of that process? But like I say,
11 it didn't -- it didn't get legs with -- with the
12 principal.

13 MS. MAINVILLE: And I understand your
14 comments on, you know, there are new maintainers,
15 new operators on this project. In terms of just
16 the -- the train itself, is there a distinction in
17 your mind about putting a new system, a completely
18 brand-new system into operation, new track, new
19 rolling stock, as opposed to, you know, a new --
20 new rolling stock on preexisting track in terms of
21 the amount of burn-in or slow start that you might
22 need to -- to ensure the system is working
23 properly?

24 MR. HOLLOWAY: Let me attempt to answer
25 because I'm not sure I 100 percent understood the

1 question. So let -- I mean, I think it's not
2 wholly useful to view these things as the
3 independent subsystems. The railway needs to work
4 as an integrated whole, so, you know, the rolling
5 stock and its interaction with the overhead line,
6 catenary system, its interaction with the wayside
7 signaling installation, its interaction with the
8 rail wheel interface, all can't be seen as separate
9 from the way in which it's being operated and the
10 way it's being maintained.

11 So I -- I think you have to look at
12 these things as a coherent whole, which is why when
13 we're talking about burn-in or reliability growth
14 process, we're talking about there's a key
15 distinction here between running trains up and down
16 the network under the oversight of the contractor.
17 That's one thing, versus simulating some form of
18 operation that's wholly under the control of the
19 operator and the maintainer. They're very -- you
20 know, it's -- it may sound like, well, in both
21 instances trains run up and down a network. That's
22 certainly true, but the actual -- what's happening,
23 if you think of the iceberg, you know, what's
24 happening below the water is an entirely different
25 ecosystem from the one where we're just cycling

1 trains up and down for testing purposes. And, you
2 know, I'm not simulating any operation environment
3 as a contractor. I'm just interested in that train
4 running to satisfy some of my testing criteria.

5 So we're not really getting into the
6 full dynamic of what it's like to launch a peak,
7 what it's like to respond to a fault at a set of
8 points when you're launching a peak, what it's like
9 to -- how quickly does it take the maintainers to
10 respond to that, what we might then do in terms of
11 providing public announcements to traveling
12 passengers to deal with that. You know, I'm not
13 doing any of that stuff because it's not within my
14 gift. You know, it's not within my agreement.

15 So I think that's really where, you
16 know, you -- if we were going to supply parts of
17 the network, we would try to supply parts of the
18 network in its sort of vertically integrated sense,
19 not as in, well, you've got the track, and you've
20 got the overhead wiring, so you're all good, right?
21 No, I think the level of benefit you receive from
22 that is quite marginal from an operator-maintainer
23 point of view.

24 MS. MAINVILLE: And so perhaps you'll
25 have the same answer to this question in terms of

1 it not conceiving of this as a global system, but
2 is there a distinction between -- well, when you
3 have a new train, if I can make a comparison to
4 driving a brand-new car off a car lot, is that
5 comparable? Should it just run perfectly or not,
6 in terms of there being potential bugs and --
7 and -- and issues to -- to work out?

8 MR. HOLLOWAY: So I would liken it --
9 can I change your analogy?

10 MS. MAINVILLE: Yes.

11 THE WITNESS: Think about it like an
12 architecturally designed house. In an
13 architecturally designed house, there's an
14 interplay between the project owner or the consumer
15 of the house and the architect, and, you know, the
16 house owner might say, Well, I'd like a continuous
17 glass window here, and the architect will say,
18 Well, okay, I'll need to put a column in there if
19 you want to do that. Are you happy with that? Do
20 you want a slender column? Do you want a steel
21 column? Do you want a concrete column? Do you
22 want one out of masonry? And there's an interplay
23 in terms of how the form and function need to be
24 tailored to the taste or the requirements of the
25 homeowner.

1 With these vehicles, they're more
2 closer to -- they're less correlated to a Toyota
3 Corolla coming off the production line and more of
4 a, you know, bespoke product that's been specified
5 by the City because there's certain, again from
6 memory, certain specifications which were unique to
7 Ottawa, and that led for this -- you know, slightly
8 more complex interplay between, you know, how
9 you're going to consume that product. And I think
10 it's -- it's not -- I would say, again, you know,
11 not entirely reasonable to expect no amount of
12 shakedown, no amount of troubleshooting, no amount
13 of, you know, kind of issues to be dealt with in
14 either the vehicle or the fixed asset component,
15 which is why when you look at comparable rail
16 operators around the world they go for those soft
17 openings. They're doing that for a reason.
18 They're doing that because they understand that
19 there's a process to be played out in terms of
20 achieving the level of reliability.

21 MS. MAINVILLE: And I know you weren't
22 there leading up to RSA, but in terms of OC
23 Transpo, OC Transpo's preparedness as the operator,
24 are you able to speak to that at all from -- based
25 on the time you were there?

1 MR. HOLLOWAY: Yeah, I mean, I think,
2 you know, again, it's just -- it was a challenging
3 circumstance for anyone, not just OC Transpo to
4 take on a railway of that complexity without, you
5 know, a hinterland of, you know, of deep railway
6 experience, which although OC Transpo had been
7 running the Trillium Line, it's really not that
8 comparable to the product that was being provided
9 in the Confederation Line. So I think that was a
10 very kind of maybe -- it's not reasonable to
11 extrapolate Trillium Line to Confederation Line is
12 really what I'm saying. So there would have been a
13 challenge for anyone taking on that particular step
14 in competency, right, because you're going from
15 not some -- you know, almost a standing start to
16 one of the more sophisticated railways in operation
17 in North America.

18 MS. MAINVILLE: And are you able to
19 explain why -- what are -- what are the operating
20 challenges, considering that, you know, as we --
21 we've been told, the trains effectively drive
22 themselves, right? So what is the challenging part
23 of operating them?

24 MR. HOLLOWAY: Right. So you'll get
25 constant perturbations on the system, right? So

1 you're going to get -- you know, these are large
2 assets composed of, you know, many thousands of
3 subsystems and componentry, all of which are in a
4 constant state of degradation as you run trains
5 over them. So you're going to consistently getting
6 an alarm: Hey, we've got an alarm coming from a
7 traction substation; okay, we've got to divert
8 power from that traction substation to another
9 traction substation; or hang on a minute, we've
10 just been told that there's a security incident at
11 Lyon Station and we've got to pause all trains;
12 okay, now we've got to make an announcement
13 associated with the fact that we've had a guideway
14 intrusion by a trespasser at such a place. You
15 know, there's a whole lot of things going on which
16 are both related to the operation environment, you
17 know, sort of interacting with the travelling
18 public, the asset condition and its natural, you
19 know, operation and the fact that things go wrong
20 and have to be fixed and all that kind of stuff,
21 and what decisions you choose to take as an
22 operator in response to those criteria.

23 Now, the signalling system is automatic
24 and therefore is helpful because the signalling
25 system will automatically try to regulate the

1 activity of the trains on the system, so, you know,
2 if you start to get a bunch up in one area, it will
3 try and smooth out that through automatic route
4 setting, it will try to space the trains out, but
5 that doesn't mean there's nothing for the operator
6 to do in relation to that. The reason for the
7 delay may mean that they've got to raise a
8 maintenance ticket and get a maintenance crew to
9 look at something, they may have, you know, the
10 police service responding to an issue. They may
11 have, you know, any number of things they may have
12 to interact with, and all of that is part of that
13 daily cadence of, you know, managing the peaks.

14 So I think all of that -- all of those
15 sorts of things -- and it is an interplay between,
16 like I say, the asset, the maintainer and the
17 operational environment needs some practice. So,
18 you know, if you bought a brand-new Boeing 747, and
19 you had a fully trained flight crew but they've
20 never flown before, they've been fully trained on
21 the simulator and maybe driven up and down the
22 runway a couple of times, and we've got a brand-new
23 maintenance team and they've been trained on all
24 the manuals of how to maintain that aircraft, you
25 know, you're probably unlikely to go straight into

1 commercial service before you've done a bit of
2 rehearsal with that group of people. And, you
3 know, I'm not saying that the railway is as complex
4 as a Boeing 747, but it is a complex asset, and
5 there is some analogy there that's got some merit,
6 I think, in terms of how you shake down that team
7 working together in sympathy with the asset.

8 MS. MAINVILLE: Do you know what, if
9 any, planning there was around that preparation as
10 between the various interfaces with maintenance and
11 the operators and whatnot?

12 MR. HOLLOWAY: No, I don't. No.

13 MS. MAINVILLE: Would you have
14 expected, then, or have you seen elsewhere when
15 there's a new operator bringing in a shadow
16 operator with commercial experience?

17 MR. HOLLOWAY: Yeah, I mean, that's a
18 legitimate strategy that I've heard other people
19 have employed. Again, most of my work has been
20 with fairly seasoned rail operators, so that hasn't
21 been a concern, but for example, I know what you
22 will find on occasion is that the construction
23 consortium will bring in a shadow operator to
24 support the constructor in understanding the
25 operator's environment, you know, so that's a

1 typical thing because not all construction
2 contractors carry an operational experience. In
3 this context, we obviously had SNC involved, and
4 SNC did have the operator's experience and we
5 actually did bring in controllers from the Canada
6 Line project to support the OC Transpo guys in the
7 control room.

8 MS. MAINVILLE: How did OLRTC assess OC
9 Transpo's engagement during design and
10 construction?

11 MR. HOLLOWAY: Yeah, so I think the --
12 it was a -- it was a particularly fractious
13 relationship, from my point of view, with OC
14 Transpo, certainly towards the end of my tenure
15 there. I -- all projects have issues, and it's all
16 about how you deal with them, right? You know,
17 so -- and large projects have large issues, and,
18 you know, that of course requires a degree of
19 cooperation to resolve them, and I think it's a
20 well understood truism in construction that the
21 level of cooperation between participants is
22 directly correlated to the level of success of a
23 project, and the PPP, because of its sharp
24 allocation of risks, you know, and very kind of,
25 you know, intentional passing of risks, sort of

1 tends to drive more of a -- a zero-sum game type
2 mentality between participants, and, you know,
3 like, I can only win if you lose type thing, and
4 that's really not that conducive to a cooperative
5 environment.

6 So when you do get issues, you've got
7 essentially commercial and contractual incentives
8 against cooperation, so the one social process
9 that's most likely to give you a successful outcome
10 is actually actively disincentivized by the
11 commercial regime, so you've got to find a way of
12 transcending that. And, you know, other clients
13 that I've worked with through my career have found
14 strategies for being able to deal with that, you
15 know, that inconsistency between the commercial
16 contractual incentive and the human activity system
17 imperative. My experience was we -- and whether
18 it's because everyone was under pressure or
19 whatever, we just didn't enjoy a good level of --
20 from my point of view, a good level of cooperation
21 with the City participants.

22 MS. MAINVILLE: And would that have
23 been the general manager of OC Transpo
24 specifically, or was it broader than that, or is
25 that --

1 MR. HOLLOWAY: No, I think it was
2 broader than that. I mean, I think -- it kind of
3 manifested itself in sort of a couple of -- in a
4 number of different ways. So in a -- in one sense,
5 there's a... Okay. So on a big project, there's a
6 hundred thousand things happening every day, you
7 know? There's someone wiring a train, there's
8 someone hooking up a PLC in Rideau cabin, there's
9 someone erecting scaffold at such a place. You
10 know, there's a hundred thousand things happening,
11 and we're turning over a peak in many millions of
12 dollars a day, so there's a lot of activity
13 occurring. You've got a limited number of
14 management calories that you can allocate to
15 overseeing that process, so critical amongst --
16 critical -- a critical thing to achieve is how do
17 you triage your effort effectively. So you need to
18 be able to galvanize your management attention as a
19 construction contractor on the critical few.

20 What I felt we suffered with with the
21 City was that they would consistently try to drag
22 our attention away from what we saw as being the
23 critical few towards more tertiary, less important
24 issues, and we consumed our management bandwidth in
25 the wrong -- well, you know, we ended up having our

1 management bandwidth consumed in the wrong places
2 rather than on the big issues that we really needed
3 to tackle.

4 Now, you know, I'm not saying that's
5 down to a lack of cooperation. That might be down
6 to a differing set of priorities, or, you know,
7 some other factors, which I'm not going to
8 speculate about, but what I have seen in other
9 contracts and my experience in working in other
10 contexts on other large mega projects is where the
11 world view between the client and the contractor
12 more closely overlaps, you tend to get more of an
13 alignment in terms of where everyone should be
14 spending their effort, and I don't think the world
15 view between what OLRTC saw as important in terms
16 of where we should spend our effort and where the
17 City thought we should spend our effort coalesced
18 with sufficient overlap to get the best outcome.

19 MS. MAINVILLE: And could you give me
20 one example of what the City was focussing on
21 versus what OLRTC thought should be the priority?

22 MR. HOLLOWAY: Yeah, it's hard at this
23 range, but I do remember that we got dragged into a
24 lot of really kind of quite minor building control
25 type stuff, which was treated as a, you know, super

1 urgent priority - so, you know, like is there a
2 heat trace on a drain at Tremblay Station or
3 something like that - which is not, you know,
4 critical path for me to concern myself with, how
5 are we going to get the tunnel vent tested.

6 So we did get quite a lot of -- you
7 know, there are sort of -- I suppose in
8 construction projects, you can think about
9 classifying problems in three sort of categories:
10 simple problems -- right? -- it's obvious what the
11 issue is, we know exactly what the fix is, we can
12 just do it; complicated problems - we know there's
13 a right answer in there but we're probably going to
14 have to synthesize two different sets of expertise
15 together to solve it, and I might need a
16 geotechnical engineer with a structural engineer or
17 I might need a telecommunications engineer with an
18 IT engineer, but there's a fix in there somewhere;
19 and the really complex problems, which were more
20 analogous to our systems challenges where we're
21 actually undertaking problem-solving through
22 experimentation. You're doing probe, analyze,
23 response type problem-solving.

24 So we've never combined all these
25 subsystems of these different vendors together in

1 this way, therefore there is no playbook to work
2 out, how do we solve these problems. What you've
3 got to do is: Try this; does it work? No, try
4 something else. Does that work? Yeah, that works.
5 Okay, keep doing that, move to the next problem.

6 What I felt was we should be putting
7 80 percent of our effort into the complex problems,
8 and my feeling was we were getting dragged by the
9 City towards the simple and the complicated
10 problems because they were more easily understood
11 than allowing us to focus on the -- what I saw as
12 being the big stuff. Now, you know, that's just
13 my -- my recollection of it.

14 MS. MAINVILLE: And was your perception
15 that there was a lack of experience on the City's
16 side in terms of a project like this or P3,
17 perhaps?

18 MR. HOLLOWAY: I think -- and I'm not
19 going to speculate about the City's personnel
20 because I just don't know, but I would just say in
21 my experience that the more seasoned people are in
22 dealing with more mega projects of this nature, the
23 better they are able to triage their effort
24 accordingly. So, you know, in the places where --
25 and this is -- this is correlation, maybe not

1 causation, right, but in the places where I've seen
2 this work effectively, it's where you've got more
3 seasoned clients who were able to see the
4 importance of the complex elements and be more
5 relaxed or, you know, kind of less focussed on the
6 more simple, smaller problems. So whether that's
7 a -- whether that was, you know, like a competence
8 issue, an experience issue, or a leadership issue,
9 I can't speculate. I don't know.

10 MS. MAINVILLE: Do you think OLRTC was
11 sufficiently resourced?

12 MR. HOLLOWAY: I do. I mean, I think
13 the -- the challenge with these projects is that,
14 you know, there's a certain number of resources
15 where -- which make sense for this size of the
16 challenge. So adding more resources doesn't
17 actually make you go faster. If you think about
18 the analogy of decorating a room, two decorators
19 can decorate a room faster than six can, because if
20 you put six in a room, they're all getting in each
21 other's way. And to a certain degree, that was
22 kind of the problem with some of the more complex
23 issues: What we didn't need to do was throw more
24 voices in there. What we needed to do was allow
25 the people who were dealing -- we needed to make

1 sure we had the right competency in dealing with
2 those probe, analyze, respond type challenges and
3 support them with whatever resources they needed.
4 Not necessarily having more of them would have
5 solved the problem any quicker, I think.

6 MS. MAINVILLE: And --

7 MR. HOLLOWAY: And sorry, just to add,
8 I came in from being an executive with one of the
9 consortium companies, and, you know, what I would
10 say is that we had nothing but full support from
11 the three companies. It's like, what do you need?
12 What in our world can we possibly supply to you
13 that's going to help you go faster, be more
14 effective or whatever? So there wasn't a
15 constraint on resources in -- like, you know, it
16 wasn't the sort of mindset of going, oh, look, you
17 know, you haven't got any more staff budget, so you
18 can't have any more people. None of that. We had
19 free rein to bring the resources that were
20 available in the three constituent companies to
21 bear, and at times, you know, different specialists
22 came in from those companies to help us. Like, for
23 example, we flew controllers in from Vancouver to
24 support us in the control room. EllisDon brought
25 some of their local staff in to help accelerate

1 some of the subcontractor management for the local
2 trades. You know, we had specialists coming in
3 from, you know, Dragados to support us with
4 elements of the tunnelling activity. So, you know,
5 we did get good support from the -- from the three
6 companies as well in terms of making sure that we
7 had what we needed.

8 MS. MAINVILLE: Okay. And are there --
9 in terms of management plans, are there -- you
10 know, were there project management plan -- or a
11 project management plan, a quality management plan,
12 and an engineering management plan, that type of
13 thing?

14 MR. HOLLOWAY: For sure there would
15 have been because there are on every project, but
16 in terms of remembering exactly what the contents
17 of those are, I couldn't tell you. I think what
18 generally happens is those documents are frequently
19 used at the beginning of a project to set out the
20 operating model for how the project's going to
21 work, right? So this is about talking about, you
22 know, how are we going to bring these three
23 companies together and align on how are we going to
24 do schedule management, or how are we going to deal
25 with requests for information in the design

1 process, or how are we going to effect document
2 control? So those documents are used typically as,
3 like, a foundational document to set the operating
4 model and establish how everyone's going to operate
5 in practice in terms of that consortium forming one
6 team. They're not always managed -- they're not
7 always updated in the currency of the project to
8 reflect, you know, the current prevailing reality
9 because, you know, they often are more utility.
10 Once everyone knows what they're doing, everyone
11 knows what they're doing. You don't have to write
12 it down in a management plan necessarily.

13 So whilst those documents would have
14 existed, I'm not certain how important they were in
15 terms of providing guidance to how the OLRTC was
16 operating in the phase when I was there. What we
17 were -- I mean, everyone was in an established
18 pattern of relationship in terms of -- I mean that
19 in a hard system sense and a soft system sense, so,
20 you know, we understand who's doing what, who hold
21 the decision rights for what sort of activity.
22 That was all tacitly understood by everyone because
23 they had been working together for several years.
24 We did change some elements of the operating model,
25 primarily in the systems area when Matthew Slade

1 joined, and those were really articulated through
2 the use of a visual management system that we used
3 in terms of tracking daily progress, but I don't
4 think you'd find that the -- you know, there wasn't
5 sort of formal updates to the -- you know, whatever
6 management plan was in place at the time to reflect
7 that.

8 MS. MAINVILLE: Okay. Is there more
9 you can say about how OLRTC performed its
10 governance and oversight?

11 MR. HOLLOWAY: Sure. So internally, we
12 would track progress on a daily -- on a daily
13 basis, and we'd split down by the different areas
14 of the job. So from a non-systems point of view,
15 the job was divided up into different geographical
16 chunks, and we had I think focusses around -- in
17 the latter stages, anyway, focussed by the station
18 in terms of, you know, the three underground cabin
19 stations and above ground stations were treated as
20 different chunks. Progress against plan was
21 tracked on a planned vs actual target daily against
22 the key metrics, where -- progress against planned
23 versus actual, where we got a variance, we'd be
24 installing a countermeasure on a daily basis to try
25 and recover, hey, we didn't get that cable pull

1 done last night; okay, how are we going to recover
2 it today, that sort of thing. So that happened on
3 the civil and the building side. So we'd be
4 tracking things like how many metres of tiles were
5 installed, how many metres of cable were pulled,
6 how many metres of concrete got poured, how many
7 tonnes of steel got tied, whatever it might be.

8 And then on a systems point of view, we
9 then had a similar equivalent type arrangement
10 where we'd be tracking how many vehicles Alstom
11 were releasing to us in terms of testing. We'd be
12 tracking how many tests were being conducted on a
13 daily basis, planned versus actual by Thales. We'd
14 be tracking, you know, whatever subsystems needed
15 to be prepared for other elements of testing,
16 whether that's in the power system or whatever. So
17 we had two visual management rooms, one in the --
18 one in the site offices -- and I'm trying to
19 remember the place where that is. Bayview, one in
20 the sites offices at Bayview and one in the meeting
21 offices in the MFS at Belfast Road. So the Belfast
22 Road one was the systems visual management room,
23 and the one at Bayview was the civil and building
24 one. So we tracked that daily, and those outputs
25 would then get rolled up into the weekly schedule,

1 the weekly schedule would get rolled up into the
2 monthly schedule, and that's how we tracked the --
3 the progress on the job.

4 MS. MAINVILLE: And would there be a
5 proactive approach in terms of identifying project
6 risks from all the key parties involved and
7 developing, you know, integrated mitigation
8 strategies?

9 MR. HOLLOWAY: Yeah. So we would
10 typically look at the project risks on a monthly
11 cycle, and that would align with the JV board
12 meeting as well, right? So we would -- typically,
13 we'd maintain risk registers, but we'd also operate
14 a more tactical risk register as well, so we'd be
15 looking at like what are the emerging issues in the
16 month, what are the countermeasures we're proposing
17 to deploy, and we'd present that to the JV steering
18 group on a monthly cycle so they could understand
19 how that was operating, but we'd actually operate
20 that in practice at a lower level within the
21 project as well, so it wasn't just a reporting
22 function. We're actually using it to guide
23 management activity as well.

24 MS. MAINVILLE: Were there changes to
25 the milestone payments while you were involved in

1 the project?

2 MR. HOLLOWAY: Not that I can really
3 remember, to be honest with you.

4 MS. MAINVILLE: Would you say overall
5 the City's budget for this project was a tight
6 budget?

7 MR. HOLLOWAY: I can't comment on it.

8 MS. MAINVILLE: No? Are you familiar
9 with the financial impacts on OLRTC of the delays?

10 MR. HOLLOWAY: Not -- not really. I
11 mean, I was at the time, but obviously I'm not
12 carrying that around in my head at this time.

13 MS. MAINVILLE: Okay. What kind of
14 pressure was there to get to substantial completion
15 and RSA as time elapsed?

16 MR. HOLLOWAY: Well, there was a lot of
17 pressure to get the job done for sure. I mean, we
18 want -- we were all highly committed to try to make
19 sure that occurred as expeditiously as possible.
20 You know, no one wants to be late on a project, and
21 we were late, and, you know, that generated its own
22 impetus to try to get some resolution on it. There
23 were obviously, you know, financial implications
24 for the companies as well, but that didn't -- like,
25 it's -- it's not that useful to spend too much

1 time -- you know, the -- you can't change the --
2 you can't change what's happened. You can only
3 change what's going to happen. So most of the
4 management effort and most of the dialogue,
5 certainly with the steering committee and
6 internally, was on the, you know, what are we going
7 to do to try to improve the situation? We didn't
8 spend a lot of time in terms of, you know, looking
9 in the rearview mirror because there's not much
10 utility in it when you've still got -- like I said,
11 you're still turning over millions of dollars a
12 day, and you've still got a lot of people in the
13 field, so you've got to stay grounded in the
14 reality of what you're trying to achieve on a daily
15 basis.

16 MS. MAINVILLE: Would you say that
17 OLRTC's focus was generally more on -- and perhaps
18 just based on its experience based -- more focussed
19 on the civils work than the rolling stock?

20 MR. HOLLOWAY: Oh, yeah, because, I
21 mean, you engage a company like Alstom because
22 they're one of the world's leading experts in
23 rolling stock design and manufacture, and therefore
24 what we did was we employed someone who was an
25 ex-Bombardier rolling stock engineer, very seasoned

1 executive -- in fact, we had two guys from
2 Bombardier who were both very senior within
3 Bombardier. We'd recruit them -- whether we got
4 them straight from Bombardier, I can't recall, but
5 they were both rolling stock experts, so they
6 provided the -- sort of appreciation and oversight
7 of the Alstom activities, so they would be the ones
8 that would be counselling us about, you know, the
9 legitimacy of claims or, you know, issues coming
10 from Alstom. But really in terms of leaving Alstom
11 to how they solved problems, we will -- we would
12 give them free rein there, obviously. What we did
13 do was we were very clear about what we needed from
14 them to be delivered, so, you know, obviously I was
15 talking about the daily -- you know, the daily
16 visualization meetings. We'd be very clear with
17 Alstom about, hey, for us to achieve this next
18 test, you need to give us two vehicles. We need
19 this vehicle number and that vehicle number
20 tomorrow, or, you know, in two days' time or
21 whatever it might be; can you commit that you're
22 going to deliver those things? So we're being
23 quite active in the prioritization of their work as
24 it related to other activities, but we're not
25 trying to tell them how to rewire a control panel

1 inside the train because that's not our expertise.

2 MS. MAINVILLE: And the two people from
3 Bombardier that you referenced, would that be
4 Jacques Valjean?

5 MR. HOLLOWAY: Jacques was one, and
6 also Paul Tétreault, who was there earlier on in
7 the project, yeah.

8 MS. MAINVILLE: Okay. Were you
9 there -- I believe when there was a first attempt
10 or a first -- well, attempt at substantial
11 completion by RTG, ultimately, but in terms of
12 meeting that milestone and trying to get
13 certification for that?

14 MR. HOLLOWAY: Yeah, I was there then,
15 yeah.

16 MS. MAINVILLE: And was that -- and
17 that one was rejected, correct?

18 MR. HOLLOWAY: Yeah, correct, yeah.

19 MS. MAINVILLE: Can you speak to that
20 and whether you believe that substantial completion
21 had actually been met at that point and what the
22 intent behind the request was?

23 MR. HOLLOWAY: Yeah, sure. So I think
24 that the thing with substantial completion is it
25 allows you to carry certain defects into the next

1 phase of activity which can be rectified while the
2 client progresses their, you know, burn-in,
3 reliability growth, whatever it might be. And we
4 were of the view that whilst we recognized there
5 were still things to be done, they were of a, you
6 know, comparatively minor nature and therefore not
7 material and shouldn't stop substantial completion,
8 and that's why we applied for it at the time.

9 Now, the City took a different view of
10 that -- and again, you know, we -- opinions vary in
11 terms of whether that -- their judgment was right
12 or not -- but, you know, from our point of view, we
13 thought that the bulk of the asset had been
14 commissioned, was capable of being put into some
15 use, and could have then started that reliability
16 shakedown process in an effective way. The City
17 were taking a more strict interpretation than we
18 were applying in terms of what constituted an
19 acceptable defect to carry over into that next
20 phase.

21 MS. MAINVILLE: Okay. Was there --
22 well, first of all, you were there when the City
23 underwrote RTG's debt?

24 MR. HOLLOWAY: Yeah.

25 MS. MAINVILLE: Did that have an impact

1 on the project, on the relationship?

2 MR. HOLLOWAY: I did detect -- and
3 again, you know, probably the RTG colleagues had --
4 would be more in -- more in the front line of this
5 experience, but we did detect a hardening of the
6 City's rhetoric in terms of how they were dealing
7 with us. So there was an amount of tacit threat,
8 I'll say, small 'T' threat, you know, from the City
9 up to a certain point in time, and it sort of
10 became more extant in terms of, you know, kind of
11 their adversarial approach after the debt. That's
12 just my recollection. Maybe it was just -- those
13 two things don't -- maybe they correlate, but
14 there's not a causal link between them, but we
15 certainly -- my experience was we saw a degradation
16 in terms of the relationship after that point.

17 MS. MAINVILLE: Would there have been
18 an impact on information sharing from either OLRTC
19 or RTG's perspective? In terms of the level of
20 information sharing that you'd have -- that was --

21 MR. HOLLOWAY: Not -- not -- not
22 really. Not in my recollection. I don't think
23 that made any impact because I still -- we still
24 had the same sort of obligations in either context,
25 right, so nothing changed from that point of view.

1 I think the -- you know, what we -- what we were --
2 what we tended -- my -- again, this is my
3 recollection -- is that, you know, what we saw more
4 after the -- the -- the change in debt ownership
5 was this sort of kind of slightly more focus on
6 following the black letter of the law type approach
7 as opposed to, you know, let's work through the
8 issues sort of approach.

9 MS. MAINVILLE: M-hm. And just in
10 terms of testing and commissioning, going back to
11 that, was there, to your knowledge, a consideration
12 of the seasonal conditions in terms of the -- in
13 particular, the winter testing?

14 MR. HOLLOWAY: There were some
15 considerations of it in relation to some of the
16 subsystems were designed to be reconfigured between
17 summer and winter modes. So for example -- and
18 I'll give you one that springs to mind was the
19 guideway intrusion system, which is basically like
20 a laser that scans the swept envelope of the
21 guideway and is meant to detect if someone jumps
22 into the guideway so that it can, you know,
23 communicate to the train to say, hey, someone's in
24 the way of the train; you might want to put the
25 brakes on. That system has to be configured

1 between the summer and winter settings because it
2 has to deal with the fact that you're going to get
3 snowfall, and it changes the swept envelope of the
4 laser profile, so there was some testing of that,
5 and there was some configuration of that.

6 Obviously the vehicles had some testing
7 in the -- you know, there was some lab-based
8 testing for the vehicles which was, you know, cold
9 climate testing that was undertaken there. Other
10 than that, you know, obviously you're undertaking
11 testing at the time that it falls in the seasonal
12 cycle, right? You're not kind of like, hey, we've
13 got to do all these tests in summer and, hey, we've
14 got to do all these tests again in winter. That
15 wasn't the way the contract was structured, so the
16 testing occurred when that became available -- you
17 know, when that work phase became available, and
18 that was just dependent upon when that happened to
19 fall seasonally.

20 MS. MAINVILLE: Is there -- do you have
21 a -- any view, you know, as to what may have
22 contributed to the ultimate breakdowns and
23 derailments? I know you were gone by then, but in
24 terms of the broader circumstances that -- and
25 environment that may have led to -- to some of

1 these -- the issues that the -- that the system
2 later suffered from, do you have any perspective on
3 that?

4 MR. HOLLOWAY: I mean, my only
5 observation is the same one that I had earlier,
6 which is I'd be interested in trying to explore how
7 well the interaction between operator and
8 maintainer was functioning in that space, because
9 generally what you'll find is that these things
10 don't happen in isolation. You know, usually when
11 there's an operational problem, it links to a
12 maintenance problem. That maintenance problem
13 might, in turn, link to another method of operation
14 problem. You know, there's a -- kind of like a
15 complex chain of events there, and, you know, what
16 is probably not a useful frame of reference is just
17 to say, let's just look entirely within
18 maintenance. You actually probably need to look at
19 the two things folded together -- well, the three,
20 really: the asset itself, the maintenance approach,
21 and the operations approach. So for me, I would
22 look there first, but other than that -- I mean, we
23 saw no signs of issues with the vehicles during the
24 testing processes, and we ran, you know, like, you
25 know, tens of thousands of kilometres with those

1 vehicles when we were doing the testing. I can't
2 even remember what the number was, but it would
3 have been a large number, probably over 100,000
4 kilometres I wouldn't be at all surprised that we
5 had run with the vehicles, and I didn't see any
6 issues with them in terms of performance that gave
7 us cause for concern. Neither did we see any
8 concerns in terms of the wheel-rail interface, you
9 know, in terms of the way that the vehicles were
10 performing in their interaction with the track.

11 We did have a couple of issues with
12 some dewiring events in the testing process, and
13 that led to us -- I think it was tied up with --
14 and maybe my memory might be a bit sketchy, but I
15 think where de-icing salts were being used on
16 overbridges in close proximity to -- to the
17 railway, we were finding that there was some
18 advanced corrosion of some of the componentry on
19 the overhead wiring structure, so -- and we had a
20 couple of failures of a component called a Parafil,
21 and we modified or we changed the product that we
22 were using, and that seemed to resolve the issue,
23 which is again, you know, just a situational
24 learning thing about, you know, how product -- you
25 know, that's probably an exemplar, really, of how

1 these sort of products need to be understood or
2 these assets need to be understood in their
3 operational context. It's a perfectly acceptable
4 component except for when you put it next to a
5 bridge that's getting de-icing chemicals placed on
6 it, in which case it causes it to corrode at a
7 faster rate than anyone anticipated, so we changed
8 the product, and it was okay.

9 MS. MAINVILLE: Do you have a view as
10 to the political pressure or did you experience
11 anything from the political side of the City that
12 may have impacted the project?

13 MR. HOLLOWAY: Well, there was clearly
14 a lot of pressure to get the job completed, and,
15 you know, that -- that was in part, obviously, a
16 political concern. You know, I think -- you know,
17 just from living in Ottawa at the time and seeing
18 what was being written in the press and what
19 communications were being put out, you know, there
20 was obviously some expectations being set by the
21 City with the -- with the public about what was
22 going to be delivered and when it was going to be
23 delivered, and I'm sure that imposed some pressure
24 on all involved on the City's side in terms of
25 trying to meet those expectations.

1 MS. MAINVILLE: I'll ask my colleague,
2 my cocounsel, if he has any questions, but is there
3 anything that you haven't conveyed already that you
4 think ought to be conveyed?

5 MR. HOLLOWAY: I'll have a think about
6 it while you ask any other questions you've got, if
7 you want.

8 MS. MAINVILLE: Nothing on your end,
9 Anthony?

10 MR. IMBESI: Sorry, I have one note
11 here. Going back to your previous reference about
12 data mapping and -- I believe it was actual testing
13 versus planned testing schedules? Does that --

14 MR. HOLLOWAY: Yeah.

15 MR. IMBESI: -- ring a bell with you?
16 So I guess my question is were there significant
17 differences in what you saw, and do you have any
18 knowledge as to where we could find these reports
19 or these documents, what we would be looking for?

20 MR. HOLLOWAY: Right, okay. So we did
21 see variances in certain places, as you would
22 normally see on any project, right, because, you
23 know, of course we're -- you know, that's the
24 nature of these jobs is that that's how they kind
25 of get progressed is that you have a plan, you try

1 to implement that plan, sometimes you are
2 successful in implementing the plan; sometimes
3 other events, you know, emerge; or you might fail a
4 test and have to repeat. You know, sometimes
5 you -- because again, don't forget we're talking
6 about a large assembly of subsystems, right? So
7 you might find, you know, it test -- it passed
8 these 15 tests but not these 5, and these 5 it
9 failed because the firewall handoff between this
10 packet of data and that packet of data wasn't
11 configured correctly, okay, we've got to go away
12 and put a patch in the firewall or whatever sort of
13 thing, okay, and we'd run the test again but just
14 for the 5 that failed. So that's quite normal.

15 Mostly because we were dealing with
16 this on a day-by-day proposition, these were
17 tracked through a series of -- you know, the visual
18 management process is similar to that used by
19 companies like Toyota or -- it's a kanban process,
20 so you're doing it with live data on whiteboards in
21 a room. So these are not -- you know, there are
22 some trend graphs collected, but the daily progress
23 on that stuff was not really collected in a formal
24 spreadsheet or anything like that, you know, on a
25 daily cycle because we're reviewing it live as a

1 collective and setting the new targets for the next
2 day based on the day's performance.

3 So there will be -- clearly there will
4 be records about how tests were progressed and how
5 they were completed because it all went back to the
6 assurance -- safety assurance argument that was
7 made for the project about why it was safe to
8 operate. But in terms of the day by day, you know,
9 kind of rhythm of what got passed -- what got
10 tested and what got passed or what got replanned,
11 I'm not sure how much of that would be recoverable,
12 but there will be certainly records of when things
13 got completed and signed off, because we had to
14 then declare that to the independent safety
15 advisor.

16 MR. IMBESI: Thank you.

17 MR. HOLLOWAY: I suppose the only other
18 comment from me, just to say, is that, you know --
19 and I think we did talk a little bit about it, but
20 I do think the -- the criticality of cooperation on
21 these projects is -- is not to be underestimated,
22 and, you know, it is something that the -- you
23 know, the sort of zero-sum game type model of
24 contracting, you know, does mitigate against
25 effective cooperation in a number of ways, which is

1 why you will see, in other applications around the
2 world, clients have adopted more of an alliance
3 procurement strategy for large complex assets such
4 as railways like this, and so this is -- I'm in
5 Australia at the moment, and that is a proven --
6 that is the preferred model for delivering, you
7 know, large, complex Bradfield rail assets is
8 through alliance because it promotes the social
9 process of cooperation between client and
10 contractor. So I think that's something to think
11 about.

12 And the other thing I think is where
13 PPPs have worked together, Canada Line being a case
14 in point, it's where all of the elements of the
15 delivery were encompassed under one roof. So you
16 have, you know, the financing, the design, the
17 construction, the testing, commissioning, and the
18 operation and maintenance all in one shop, right?
19 So there's one guiding mind over the top of that
20 forcing all of those interfaces to work
21 effectively. Because in this arrangement we had
22 the lamination between everything except the
23 operator, and the operator was, you know, across a
24 contractual boundary, and then added to the fact
25 that it was a very sophisticated railway, we had a

1 relatively inexperienced operator, and we had a
2 contractual boundary there, and there was a lot of
3 pressure on the job, I don't think those
4 circumstances necessarily were ideal for the best
5 outcome.

6 MS. MAINVILLE: And I think I'm
7 inferring this from your other answers, but you've
8 had other P3 experiences?

9 MR. HOLLOWAY: Correct, yeah. So I've
10 worked on P3s in Australia. Obviously we had some
11 P3s in Canada as well, and I'm working on a P3
12 right now in -- in Brisbane.

13 MS. MAINVILLE: In Brisbane. And did
14 you -- you were not as close to it, perhaps, as
15 RTG, but did you have a view as to the City's
16 consultants that were brought in on the project?

17 MR. HOLLOWAY: Yeah, we had some
18 exposure to some of the consultants, and that
19 was -- that was reasonably -- they were -- they
20 were -- they were pretty good guys. We did -- we
21 did sort of see that, you know, there was obviously
22 consultants tend to dance to the -- the beat of the
23 drum that their engaging client dictates, right?
24 So when we were talking -- we were talking earlier
25 about the prioritization of, you know, simple,

1 complicated, complex, what we did find with the
2 consultants was a kindred spirit in terms of them
3 trying to steer the discussions towards the
4 complex, but over time we did sort of see them
5 gravitating towards some of the -- you know, more
6 of the tertiary issues as well, and whether that
7 was -- I can't speculate as to why that occurred,
8 but certainly the consultant, the external
9 consultants were helpful in terms of getting
10 everyone focussed on the big issues in the times
11 that they were present.

12 MS. MAINVILLE: And you spoke about the
13 complexity of some of the requirements. Were they,
14 to your mind and having been involved in other P3
15 projects, more prescriptive than usual or less --
16 or not entirely performance-based?

17 MR. HOLLOWAY: I -- no, I think there
18 was -- there was a -- I mean, again, you know, just
19 an impression really because it's been a long time
20 since I looked at any of the documentation, but my
21 take on it is that they were reasonably well
22 specified in terms of being more performance-based,
23 so they were more, you know, what and less how,
24 which is what you want as a contractor. I suppose
25 if you -- one observation I do have is if you look

1 at the vehicle specification, I think that was
2 quite prescriptive, and certainly when you
3 benchmark against the vehicle specification we had
4 for Canada Line, which was a -- you know, very high
5 level, very kind of elemental performance-based
6 specification, it was in stark contrast to the one
7 that was provided in -- for the Confederation Line
8 in terms of the vehicle, so I think that was
9 potentially -- that would potentially be something
10 worth looking at. You know, I think over time, as
11 clients engage specialist subconsultants to compile
12 specifications for them, the tendency is for those
13 documents to get bigger and bigger and bigger, and
14 I think that Canada Line was earlier in that
15 process, so it's probably not emblematic of what it
16 looks like in practice now, but it was good
17 practice. If you looked at some of the
18 specifications that I've seen elsewhere in the
19 world, you know, they would be slightly more
20 performance-based and less prescriptive, but, you
21 know, it's -- I didn't think it was -- you know, it
22 wasn't -- doesn't strike me as an outlier anywhere
23 other than in the vehicle spec.

24 MS. MAINVILLE: Okay. Perhaps my last
25 question: Could you speak a bit more about what is

1 different in terms of the alliance-based model that
2 you've described?

3 MR. HOLLOWAY: Yeah. I mean,
4 essentially, with -- so these are -- these projects
5 are heavily intertwined, right? So you've got a
6 complex stakeholder environment; you've got, you
7 know, really complicated things that you're trying
8 to build; you've got political pressures; you've
9 got commercial pressures; you've got lenders;
10 you've got all of these things swirling around.
11 And when you're trying to administrate this through
12 a zero-sum -- you know, someone has to be wrong,
13 you must lose for me to win type model, you know,
14 there's limitations with how practical that is
15 because what you tend to find is, you know, there's
16 a consequential effect, you know, so you kind of
17 go, Well, you're late, and we go, Yeah, but we're
18 late because you didn't give me 'X,' and I'll say,
19 Well, I didn't give you 'X' because you didn't
20 achieve 'Y.' Well, I couldn't achieve 'Y' because
21 you never did 'Z,' so -- you know, and you'd get
22 this chain. And if you're trying to litigate that,
23 small 'L' litigate that, on a progressive basis
24 while you're trying to deliver the job, you're
25 distracting your management effort away from the

1 core, which is trying to manage the critical path
2 and deliver the project.

3 I think clients have come to realize --
4 and it started in the North Sea oil and gas
5 industry where they needed to take large amounts of
6 cost out of the construction process, they said,
7 Look, there's got to be a better way of doing this.
8 Why don't we just incentivize everyone to
9 cooperate? So this involves basically removing
10 some of the cost risk from the contractor. So the
11 contractor still has all their profit and their
12 corporate overhead at risk, but they don't have the
13 cost at risk. And when you remove the threat of
14 cost risk from a contractor, it makes the options
15 for cooperation far more ready, because if all the
16 time you've got the sword of Damocles hanging over
17 your head that, you know, you're going to get
18 absolutely nailed to the wall by your client if
19 you're late or the lender's going to effect these
20 massive damages against you, it's not a great --
21 there's not much oxygen in the room for cooperation
22 to occur. You're just in a -- you're in a very
23 challenging circumstance there, and what alliances
24 do is they remove that tendency by saying, look,
25 your best interests are the same as our best

1 interests, so instead of a win-lose dynamic, it's a
2 win-win or a lose-lose dynamic, we either all win
3 together or we all lose together, and I think the
4 power of those relationships have proven to be
5 extremely successful. The case study in all of
6 this was the CRINE initiative in the North Sea in
7 the late '90s, which took 30 percent out of the
8 cost base and brought, you know, oil and gas
9 platforms online many months ahead of schedule, you
10 know, so there's a well-worn sort of track record
11 for alliance working successfully, but obviously
12 what the client asks -- the bargain the client has
13 to make in all of that is they have to accept a
14 higher risk profile themselves, and that's not
15 acceptable to all clients.

16 MS. MAINVILLE: And on that point, in
17 terms of the geotech risk in this case, you know,
18 of course the risk materialized, but it -- but do
19 you have a view as to whether that risk should have
20 been taken on in the way it was by RTG?

21 MR. HOLLOWAY: I don't have a view on
22 that because it kind of predates my involvement
23 with the job. So you know, by the time I got there
24 and the issues had occurred, we were just dealing
25 with that as a fact, and it didn't really -- I

1 didn't really invest much energy in, you know,
2 trying to forensically analyze whether we should or
3 shouldn't have taken that risk because it didn't
4 matter. You know, the risk profile was the one
5 that we contracted for, and we just had to move on.

6 MS. MAINVILLE: But in terms of, like,
7 who's better placed to address a risk or take on a
8 risk like that, is that something that --

9 MR. HOLLOWAY: Oh, for sure. I mean, I
10 think low-probability, high-impact risks are
11 usually not best placed for the contractor. I
12 mean, that's the reality of it, right, is if you
13 have -- and you know, contractors are all in
14 competition against each other, so typically
15 they'll take on a risk profile which is more
16 aggressive than perhaps they should on the hope
17 that those risks won't materialize; but then on the
18 flip side of it, you should be thinking, well, as a
19 responsible client, should I be trying to transfer
20 that risk to someone who can't really handle it?
21 And clients have the commercial and contractual
22 power to do that, but that doesn't necessarily mean
23 it's the right thing to do.

24 MS. MAINVILLE: Thank you. Anthony, do
25 you have anything else?

1 MR. IMBESI: I don't. Thank you.

2 MS. MAINVILLE: That would be it,
3 Mr. Holloway -- well, actually, unless your counsel
4 has questions, there's a couple of minutes.

5 MR. KILLEY: I don't, no. Thanks.

6 MS. MAINVILLE: So that would be it,
7 then. And I thank you very much for your time.

8 MR. HOLLOWAY: No problem. Thanks for
9 staying late. All good.

10 MS. MAINVILLE: It's easier than early.
11 So thank you.

12 MR. HOLLOWAY: Thanks much. Bye-bye.

13 -- Concluded at 6:29 p.m.

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1 REPORTER'S CERTIFICATE

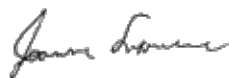
2
3 I, JOANNE A. LAWRENCE, Registered
4 Professional Reporter, certify;

5 That the foregoing proceedings were
6 taken before me at the time and place therein set
7 forth, at which time the witness was put under oath
8 by me;

9 That the testimony of the witness
10 and all objections made at the time of the
11 examination were recorded stenographically by me
12 and were thereafter transcribed;

13 That the foregoing is a true and
14 correct transcript of my shorthand notes so taken.

15
16 Dated this 6th day of April, 2022.

17
18 

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