

Preliminary Public Hearing on Scope Statement for Board Order DG-01-26

Revisions to NR 140 related to establishing groundwater standards for pesticides

Hearing Officer: Natalia Hernandez, Outreach Specialist
Presenter: Dr. Carla Romano, Groundwater Section Manager

October 1, 2026, 2:00 PM

Hearing will start at 2:03 PM

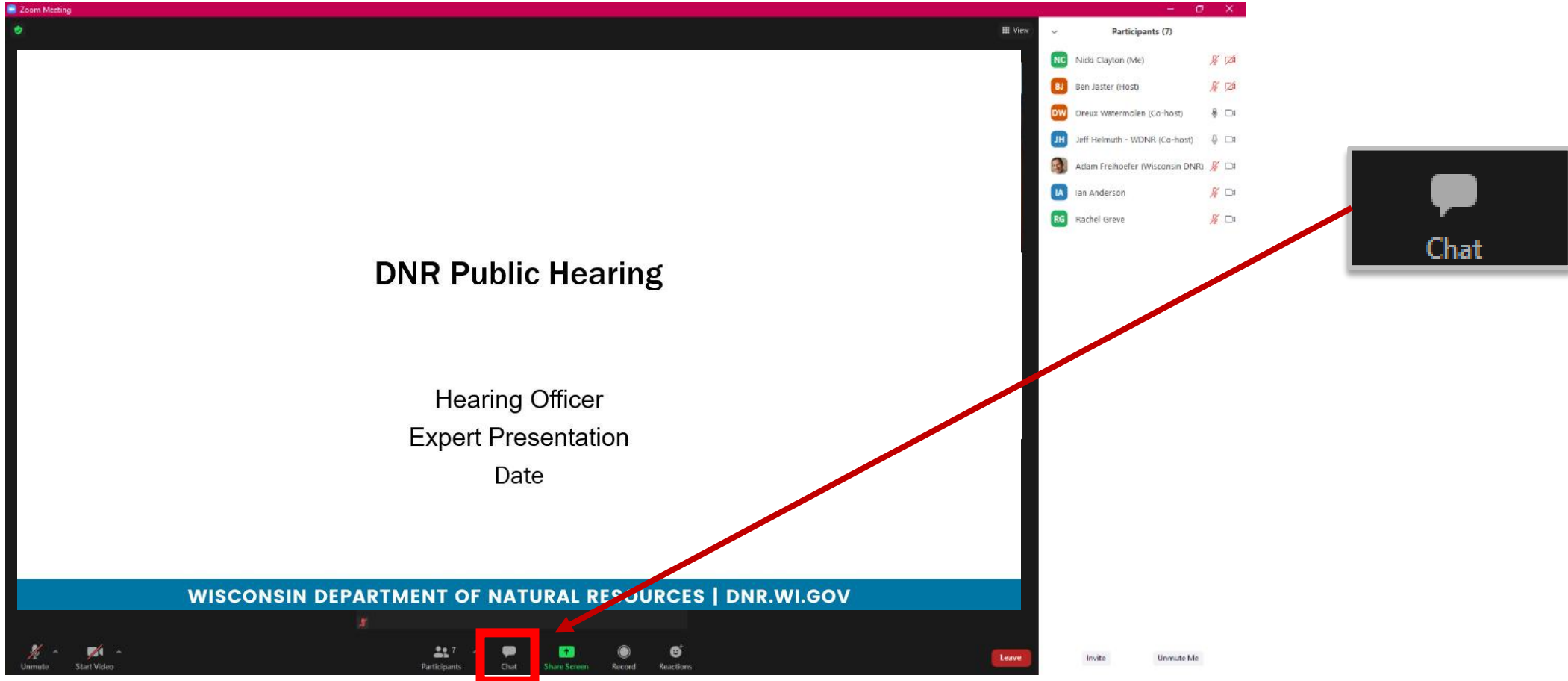
Attendees Using Zoom

- You are currently muted
- You cannot share video



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Submitting Comments

- Comments due: Today, October 1, 2026, by 11:59 PM
 - Email: DNRAdministrativeRulesComments@wisconsin.gov
 - Mail: Department of Natural Resources
Attn: Carla Romano DG/5
P.O. Box 7921
Madison, WI 53707
- Materials available at:
<https://dnr.wisconsin.gov/news/input/ProposedPermanent>

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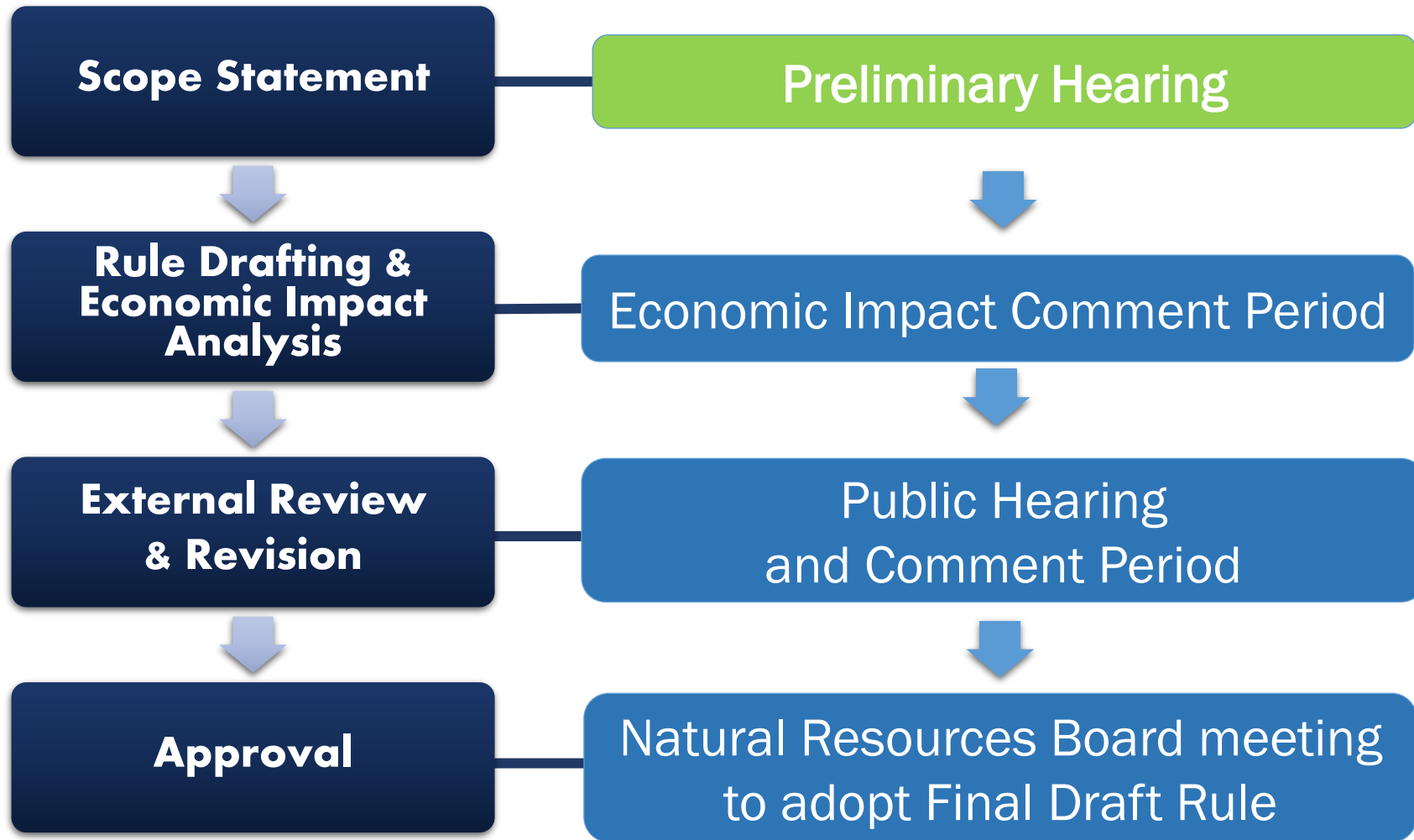
**Revisions to NR 140 related to
establishing groundwater standards for pesticides**

Presenter: Dr. Carla Romano, Groundwater Section Manager

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Rule Process

Opportunities for public input



Background

- In 2023, the Wisconsin Department of Agriculture, Trade and Consumer Protection (DATCP) conducted a groundwater statewide survey and estimated that 43.1% of wells in Wisconsin contained at least one detectable pesticide substance.
- In February 2026, DATCP submitted a letter to DNR identifying 21 pesticide substances detected in or that have a reasonable probability of entering groundwater.
- In February 2026, DNR requested the Wisconsin Department of Health Services (DHS) to provide state groundwater standards recommendations for these 21 pesticide substances. DHS responded that will provide recommendations in November 2026.
- In June 2026, DNR submitted an amended letter to DHS to add an additional pesticide substance, Metalaxyl-M, following discussion with DHS and DATCP.
- There are currently NR 140 groundwater standards established for over 40 individual pesticides.
- Recently, DNR has pursued groundwater standards for pesticides. Cycle 10 (not approved by the Natural Resources Board) and Cycle 11 (expired scope statement before drafting rule) included several contaminants, such as pesticides and PFAS.

Scope statement SS 070-26

- **Related to:** Amend Ch. NR 140 to establish numeric groundwater quality standards for pesticides.
- These pesticides were selected based on their detection rate in groundwater, and their estimated use and resulting potential for occurrence in groundwater.

* Metabolite: A substance formed when the parent material is transformed in the environment.

** To be changed in Fungicide

Substance	Pesticide class
Boscalid	Fungicide
Chlorantraniliprole	Insecticide
Chlorothalonil	Fungicide
4-hydroxy-2,5,6- trichloroisophthalonitrile*	Fungicide
Clothianidin*	Insecticide (Neonicotinoid)
Cyantraniliprole	Insecticide
Dimethenamid ethane sulfonic acid (ESA)*	Herbicide
Dimethenamid oxanilic acid (OA or OXA)*	Herbicide
Dinotefuran	Insecticide (Neonicotinoid)
Fomesafen	Herbicide
Glyphosate	Herbicide
Hydroxyatrazine	Herbicide
Imidacloprid	Insecticide (Neonicotinoid)
Isoxaflutole	Herbicide
Isoxaflutole diketonitrile (DKN)*	Herbicide
Metalaxyl Metalaxyl-M3	Herbicide**
Metribuzin desamino (DA)*	Herbicide
Metribuzin desaminodiketo (DADK)*	Herbicide
Sulfentrazone	Herbicide
Sulfentrazone 3-Carboxylic Acid*	Herbicide
Thiamethoxam	Insecticide (Neonicotinoid)

Scope statement SS 070-26

- The recommended standards will be based on DHS recommendations.
- DHS may recommend standards for fewer substances than those listed in the scope statement if sufficient scientific data is not available to support the development of groundwater standards.

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Metalaxyl Metalaxyl-M3	Herbicide**
Metribuzin desamino (DA)*	Herbicide
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Thiamethoxam	Insecticide (Neonicotinoid)

Additional notes

This rulemaking will not restrict pesticide use.

The use of a pesticide could be subjected to future limitations if its enforcement standard is exceeded and if DATCP initiates subsequent rulemaking.

Where you can find more information

DNR website *NR 140 Groundwater Quality Standards Update*

<https://dnr.wisconsin.gov/topic/Groundwater/NR140.html>

Zoom: Raising Your Hand

If you'd like to comment:

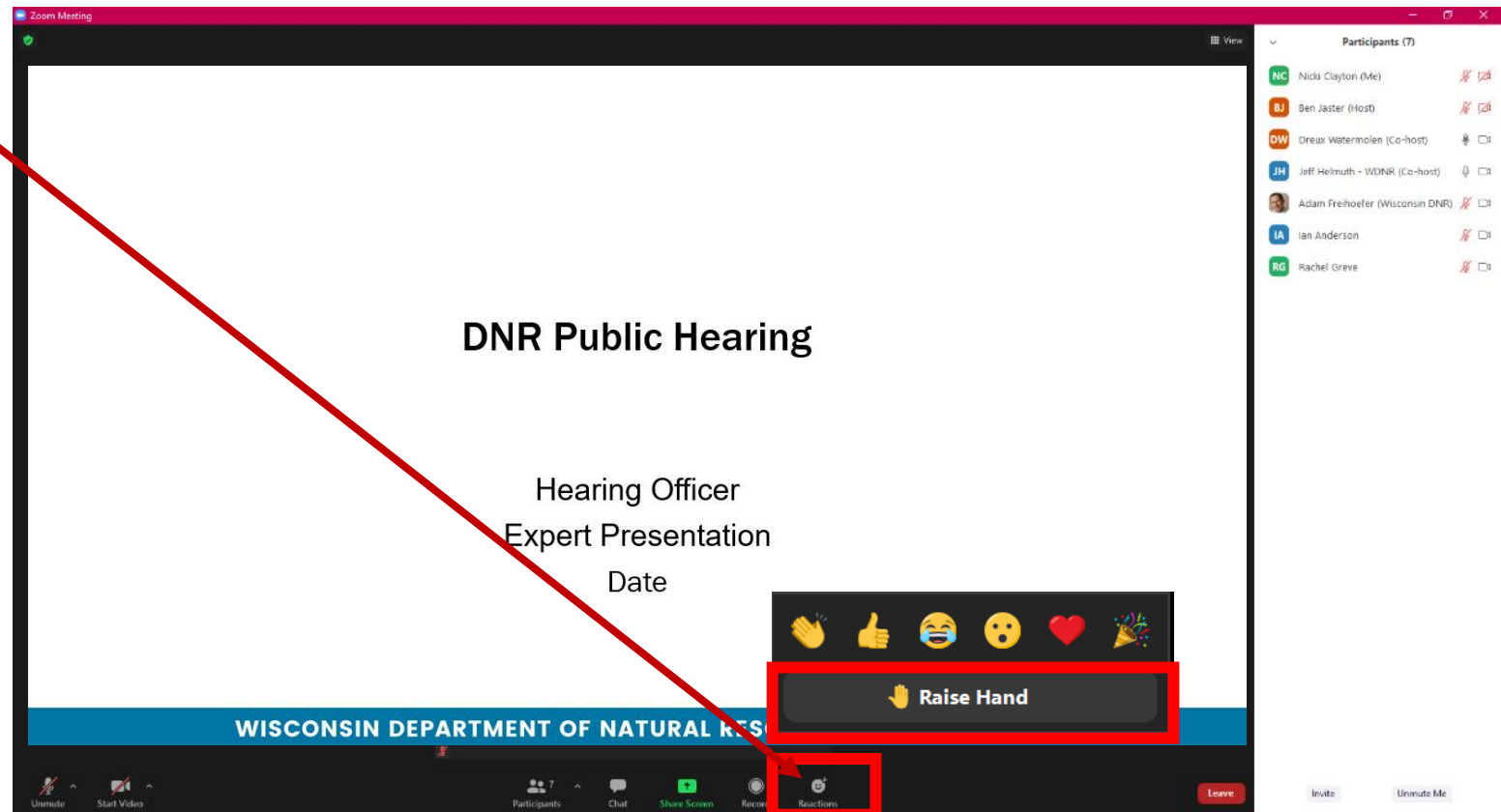
- 1) *Click React*
- 2) *Click Raise Hand*

A “Raised Hand” icon will appear next to your name in the “Participants” window.



By phone:

Dial *9 to raise hand.



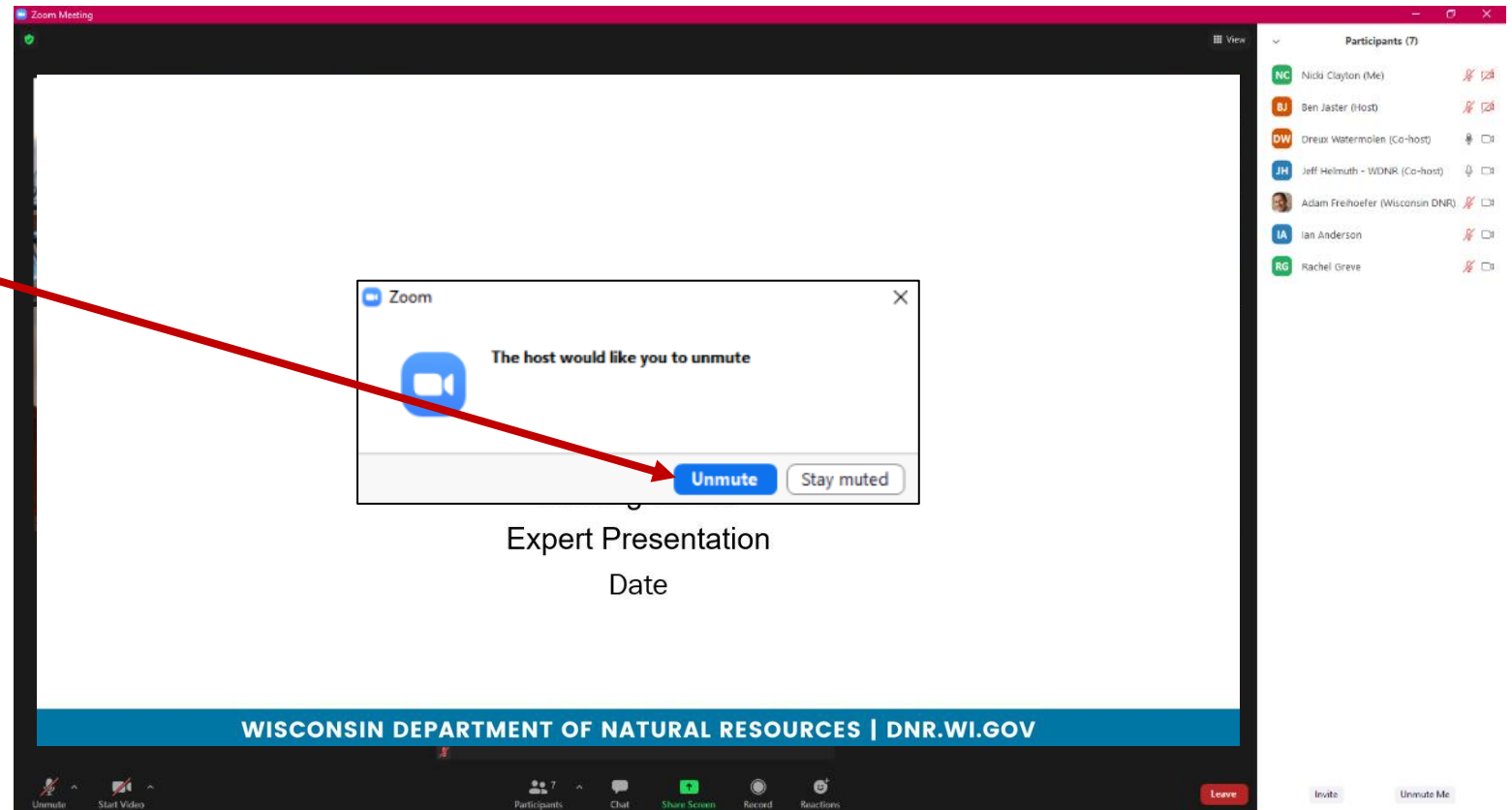
Zoom: Unmuting

You should receive a pop-up “*The host would like you to unmute*” then *click Unmute*.

Unmute

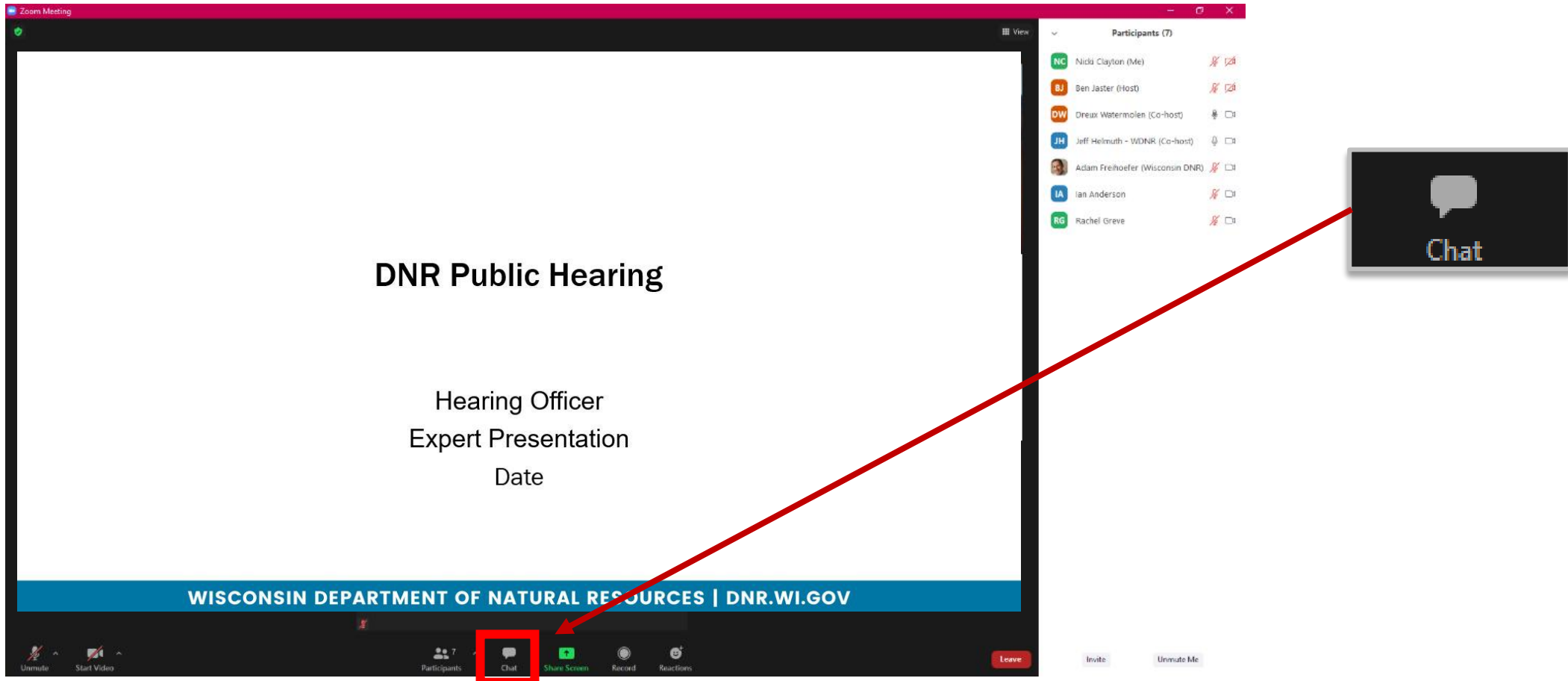
By phone:

You’ll be prompted to unmute by dialing *6.



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