

1 BEFORE THE FEDERAL ENERGY REGULATORY COMMISSION

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5 -----X Docket Number

6 IN THE MATTER OF: : CP13-499-000

7 CONSTITUTION PIPELINE COMPANY PROJECT : CP13-502-000

8 AND WRIGHT INTERCONNECT PROJECT :

9 -----X

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11 Afton High School

12 29 Academy Street

13 Afton, NY

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17 Wednesday, April 2, 2014

18 The public scoping meeting, pursuant to notice,

19 convened at 7:05 p.m., Kevin Bowman chair of the scoping

20 meeting.

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1 P R O C E E D I N G S

2 MR. BOWMAN: On behalf of the Federal Energy
3 Regulatory Commission and the U.S. Army Corp of Engineers, I
4 want to welcome all of you to the public meeting and draft
5 environmental impact statement. It's a Constitution
6 Pipeline & Wright Interconnect Project. Let the record show
7 that the comment meeting began at 7:05 p.m. on April 2nd in
8 Afton, New York.

9 My name is Kevin Bowman and I am the
10 Environmental Project Manager at the Federal Energy
11 Regulatory Commission. To my right is Doug Mooneyhan, also
12 representing FERC tonight and to his right is Amy Gitchell
13 of the U.S. Army Corp of Engineers. Also with us tonight
14 you may have met at the back table where you came in,
15 representing FERC tonight are Kim Sechrist, Charles Brown,
16 Lavinia DiSanto and Jen Ward.

17 So the U.S. Army Corp of Engineers, the
18 Environmental Protection Agency, the Federal Ohio
19 Administration, the New York State Department of Agriculture
20 and Markets are participating as cooperating agencies in the
21 environmental review of these projects.

22 I want to thank those cooperating agencies for
23 their continued assistance with their review of these
24 projects. I am going to briefly turn things over to Amy
25 with the U.S. Army Corp of Engineers for a brief overview of

1 their process, and how it interacts with our process in the
2 review of these projects.

3 MS. GITCHELL: Thank you, good evening. My name
4 is Amy Gitchell, I am the Chief of the upstate New York
5 section of the regulatory branch of the New York District
6 U.S. Army Corp of Engineers. I will be participating in
7 tonight's meeting on behalf of the Corp of Engineers.

8 The Corp of Engineers is here today to obtain
9 information as evidence and ensure covered of both the
10 public's and the corps concern to assist in the regulatory
11 review of the permit application submitted by Constitution
12 Pipeline Company for the construction of the pipeline that
13 was described by Mr. Bauman.

14 If constructed, the pipeline would require
15 crossing the wetlands and streams that are considered waters
16 of the United States and regulated under section 404 of the
17 Clean Water Act in both Pennsylvania and New York.

18 The Federal Energy Regulatory Commission as the
19 lead federal agency will make a decision whether to issue a
20 certificate of public convenience and necessity to allow the
21 construction of this project. The FERC is neither a
22 proponent for nor an opponent of the proposed work.

23 Our role is to determine whether the proposed
24 activity, in this case, the construction of the 124 mile
25 pipeline that will require numerous crossings of waters of

1 the United States is in the overall public interest. This
2 hearing will play an important part in that determination.

3 Please understand that we do not expect to answer
4 questions from the audience in this hearing related to the
5 proposal and we are here to obtain information and your
6 comments. Questions of the regulatory process in general
7 can be directed to my staff on another day.

8 The New York administration has issued a public
9 notice for this project with the comment period closing on
10 April 7th. The entire public notice, including all of the
11 attachments, is currently posted on the New York website.
12 The website address is www.man.usace.army.mil.

13 We do have some copies of the public notice
14 without the attachments on our registration table. If you
15 are not currently on our public notice e-mail distribution
16 list, and would like to receive the e-mail announcements for
17 future public notices from my office, please provide your
18 e-mail address to one of the staff members at the
19 registration table today.

20 I look forward to hearing your comments this
21 evening.

22 MR. BOWMAN: Thank you Amy. You will note that
23 we have arranged for a court reporter to transcribe this
24 meeting so that we will have an accurate record of the
25 meeting. If you would like to receive a copy of that

1 transcript, you can make arrangements with the Corp up here
2 or following this meeting.

3 So in June 2013, Constitution Pipeline and
4 Iroquois Gas Transmission filed applications under Section 7
5 of the Natural Gas Act. These projects consist of the
6 installation of approximately 124 miles, 30 inch diameter,
7 natural gas pipeline between Susquehanna County,
8 Pennsylvania and Schoharie, New York.

9 The primary purpose of this meeting is to give
10 you the opportunity to provide specific environmental
11 comments on the draft EIS prepared by FERC's staff in these
12 projects. It will help us the most if your comments are as
13 specific as possibly regarding the proposed projects and the
14 draft EIS.

15 I would like to clarify again this is a project
16 being proposed by Constitution and Iroquois and it is not
17 the project being proposed by the FERC. Rather FERC is the
18 lead federal agency responsible for evaluating these
19 applications and therefore, FERC is not an advocate for
20 these projects.

21 Instead, the FERC is an advocate for the
22 environmental relief process. So during our review of these
23 projects, we assembled information from a variety of
24 sources, including Constitution and Iroquois, you the
25 public, other state, local and federal agencies, and our own

1 independent analysis.

2 We analyze this information and prepare the draft
3 EIS that was distributed to the public for comment. A
4 notice of availability for this draft EIS was issued for his
5 project on February 12, 2014. So we are coming close to the
6 end of the forty-five day comment period on the draft EIS
7 and that ends this Monday, April 7, 2014.

8 All comments written, all the comments received,
9 either written or spoken, will be addressed in our final
10 environmental impact statement. I encourage you, if you
11 plan to submit comments and have not, please do so here
12 today, either verbally during our comment period, the
13 comment portion of the meeting tonight, or in writing using
14 one of the forms that are outside of the room by the tables.

15 You can also submit comments using the procedure
16 outline in the notice of availability of the draft EIS,
17 which includes instructions on how to submit your comments
18 electronically. Your comments will be considered with equal
19 weight, regardless of whether they are provided verbally
20 during the meeting tonight, the meeting earlier this week,
21 tomorrow, or submitted in writing.

22 If you received a copy of the draft EIS, in
23 either paper or CD, you will automatically receive a copy of
24 the final EIS. If you did not get a copy of the draft and
25 you want to get a copy of the final, please make sure you

1 sign the attendance list at the back of the room, provide
2 your name and address, and we will make sure that you get a
3 copy of the final EIS.

4 In addition, I want to state that neither the
5 draft nor the final are decision-making documents. In other
6 words, once they are issued, they do not determine whether
7 the project would be approved or denied. I also want to
8 differentiate between the roles of two distinct FERC
9 staffers.

10 First, is the Commission and the environmental
11 staff. Myself, and the other members of FERC here tonight
12 are part of the environmental review staff and we oversee
13 the preparation of the environmental impact statement for
14 the project. We do not determine whether or not to approve
15 the project. Instead, the FERC Commissioners decide that,
16 and they consist of five Presidentially-appointed
17 individuals who are responsible for making a determination.

18 So as I mentioned earlier, the EIS is not the
19 decision making document, but it does assist the Commission
20 in determine whether or not to approve or deny the project.
21 In addition, the Commission will consider environment
22 information from the EIS, public comments, as well as a list
23 of non-environmental issues. Those include things such as
24 engineering, and what has been raised, in its decision on
25 whether to approve or deny the project.

1 There is no purview of FERC decisions by the
2 President or Congress, maintaining FERC's role as its
3 independent regulatory agency. If the Commission votes to
4 approve the project, and a certificate of public convenience
5 and necessity were to be issued, Constitution and Iroquois
6 would be required to meet all certain conditions that would
7 be outlined in that certificate.

8 FERC environmental staff would then monitor the
9 project, through construction and restoration. They would
10 perform daily on-site inspections to document environmental
11 compliance with palpable laws and regulations. Constitution
12 and Iroquois proposed plans for mitigation and any
13 additional additions in that FERC certificate.

14 Okay, I'll get all that FERC stuff out the way
15 and now we will move on to the comment part. So if you
16 don't want to speak tonight or you don't get to say
17 everything you wanted, of course you can still hand in great
18 comments tonight, or if you have something prepared, you can
19 just hand that to us tonight at the back table.

20 So as I said before this meeting is being
21 recorded by a court reporter, so that all of your comments
22 are accurately and correct transcribed into the public
23 record. So when you come up to the podium, after you are
24 called, please make sure you state your full name and spell
25 your name, so that we can accurately record your comments.

1 My number one rule is that please show respect for whoever
2 is speaking. Because of the amount of people that we have
3 signed-up tonight, I would like to limit everyone to exactly
4 four minutes.

5 Doug will keep track of your time and with
6 approximately 20 seconds to go, he will mention that you
7 have 20 seconds left. Once you reach four minutes, he will
8 say that your time has expired. I am going to ask at that
9 time that you complete your sentence and return to your seat
10 and then we will call on the next speaker. Doug's got a
11 good watch so please respect the time again, don't call out
12 if someone is nearing their time limit. So with that I will
13 turn things over to Doug who will call our first speakers.

14 MR. MOONEYHAN: Doctor, Lisa Barr, and if we can
15 go ahead and get Kim Feltier-Canarelli and Peter Hudiburg on
16 deck please.

17 MS. BARR: Ready? My name is Lisa Barr, L-i-s-a
18 B-a-r-r. I am a journalist with Counterpunch of Lake. The
19 last four years I have been covering this industry in two
20 states. I am intervening against this pipeline and speaking
21 as a citizen tonight, because sometimes a journalist puts
22 down the reporters pad and throws a life-line to a person
23 who is drowning.

24 And I see a lot of people in this room who are
25 drowning. Christians, Muslims, Jews know the prodigal son

1 strays but change his ways and is welcomed back, forgiven.
2 In real life prodigal sons are either mistaken for heroes or
3 treated with great scorn.

4 FERC your behavior needlessly splits our region.
5 You gave a month's notice of holding this hearing during our
6 academic community's Spring Break, that's the nature of our
7 community. That's no break for the experts as you know it.
8 They have to publish, prepare and schedule their research
9 trips three to six months in advance, they cannot be here.
10 FERC repent. We need a redo.

11 There is anger here because prodigal sons like
12 Tony Soprano or Michael Corleone didn't really make the
13 streets safe for kids. In New Orleans the Teamsters bragged
14 about having blown up Channel 8's transmitting tower in
15 1982, so their affiliated IBEW videographers negotiated a
16 great contract that made the Reporter's Union smile, but
17 only the IBEW guys got a deal and only for a short time, our
18 union got busted. Bad behavior, ignorant behavior never
19 pays off for the entire flock. Someone always gets hurt,
20 usually the prodigal sons and daughters with the least
21 power.

22 Remember love canal? A rare, true clean-up of a
23 super-fun site, that was Hooker Chemical. Their
24 counter-part today on steroids is Cabot. Remember
25 Rockefeller busting the unions overtly, you can't get away

1 with that now so they buy everybody off with this good
2 deeds, newspaper ads. I just got interrupted, is this going
3 to be allowed?

4 MR. BOWMAN: Please continue.

5 MS. BARR: Newspaper ads, stories straight out of
6 the press release, that's the Mirabitos and the Williams,
7 the big shots, they will always land on their feet because
8 they can put everyone on a bus with a chicken dinner every
9 night. We tried regulating them, but after World War II,
10 the industry hi-jacked our transportation, energy, even our
11 national defense policy, so I want to be angry with the
12 teamsters disrupting what's supposed to be a discussion of
13 the DEIS with industry talking points that are false, but
14 instead I have to reason with them.

15 And with you, FERC, here's what's at stake and
16 why forgiveness matters. In Sidney Center right now access
17 roads without ditches, retention ponds, all absent on the
18 DEIS too, by the way, are being constructed. And we have
19 seen this before in Bradford County, PA, the prodigal sons
20 didn't repent so come fall of 2011, an 80-something year old
21 mother tells her 50-something year old son, the water is
22 never going to get that high here in Waverly, we won't
23 evacuate. They woke up in the middle of the night, no
24 power, frigid water splashing on their beds, son and mother
25 slogged to two chairs onto the kitchen table, the water was

1 neck high in the morning.

2 MR. BOWMAN: Let her speak.

3 MS. BARR: The son was still breathing on that
4 chair, holding his dead mother on the chair next to him in
5 the water. That's what happens when regulators don't do
6 their jobs.

7 In Washington state just this week they said
8 they'll never be able to dig the hundreds missing out of the
9 mid, two years after the timber industry regulators weren't
10 properly enforced. When a federal regulatory agency gets
11 funding from the industry, they police, people die.

12 We want all of you back in the fold. We want you
13 healthy and happy and working, but you have to acknowledge
14 the error of your ways. Give the people who study this the
15 most a chance to comment. Redo these hearings, teamsters,
16 you are our neighbors, we are our friends, we hire you to
17 fix our homes, don't get on the bus again next time, let
18 Democracy stand a fighting chance. Make your union do its
19 job.

20 My brother is a teamster and he can tell you in
21 Michigan they are sending kids out in the middle of the
22 night without breaks on those trucks. They are sending you
23 -- they are selling you a line of crap.

24 MR. MOONEYHAN: 20 second.

25 MS. BARR: I hope we all survive this.

1 (APPLAUSE AND BOOS)

2 MS. FELTER-CANARELLI: Kim Felter-Canarelli F as
3 in Frank, e-l-t as in Tom, E-R - C-a-n-a-r-e-l-l-i. Okay.
4 My name is Kim Felter-Canarelli. I am not here to engage in
5 a conversation about the old Bush/Cheney energy agenda and
6 regulate natural gas pipeline, yet am here to change the
7 conversation.

8 New York has the opportunity to be the leader for
9 the world on the issue of energy. I agree 100% with
10 Governor Cuomo when he said that New York can take care of
11 itself. A \$750,000.00 grant was made available to Anfinal
12 to invest in a natural gas pipeline to keep Anfinal in the
13 area, yet rather than take the lead and institute a plan for
14 solar energy, and really save on carbon emissions, we
15 squander the opportunity and invest in a plan to continue
16 the onslaught of natural gas production.

17 Anfinal can stay in the area with any energy
18 option. Natural gas is not their only option. NYSEG has
19 been providing natural gas and electricity to New York since
20 1852 and could easily incorporate, Mirabitos,
21 Leatherstocking and Corning Natural Gas to continue
22 providing these services.

23 The fact is there has never been a demand for
24 natural gas in New York state and as a result, NYSEG never
25 laid the infrastructure. We are being redundant in our

1 efforts to provide natural gas. We need a clean energy
2 conversation that it re-invests our tax dollars back into
3 New York's solar companies that are ready, willing and able
4 to install solar panels for Anfinal today.

5 Solar companies can employ just as many, if not
6 more people than any natural gas company or project can. I
7 would appreciate first consideration of the fact that New
8 York wants to get away from fossil fuels. We are an
9 agricultural state and stand to lose much with the approval
10 of a natural gas pipeline.

11 I am asking FERC to take citizen's concerns into
12 consideration for a clean energy state and deny the
13 Constitution Pipeline Project. New York is a sovereign
14 state, and can decide what we want in the way of energy.
15 Allow the constituents of Governor Cuomo and U.S. Senator
16 Charles Shumer to initiate a clean energy agenda.

17 Together with our legislators, we can come up
18 with a better plan for New York and utilize our New York
19 tax dollars for our New York businesses, thank you.

20 MR. MOONEYHAN: Peter Hudiburg. Sandra Davis.

21 MR. HUDIBURG: Peter Hudiburg, last name
22 H-u-d-i-b-u-r-g. FERC's mission is apparently to supply
23 reliable, efficient and sustainable energy to its customers.
24 I contend that this Constitution Pipeline plan, will not
25 produce or delivery reliable, efficient and sustainable

1 energy.

2 I submit that the Marcellus shale field is very
3 close to going into a decline in production. In fact Moshe
4 Ben-Reuven just published an article, Marcellus Shale:
5 Through a Glass, Darkly in which he states -- which he
6 predicts that Marcellus shale will, production, will be
7 plateauing in 2017 and you probably know shale gas wells
8 deplete very, very quickly and he is saying that the whole
9 field will pretty much, production will be down to zero by
10 2019 or 2020.

11 In your DEIS you refer to the global warming
12 potential of methane as being 25. I think many authorities
13 disagree with you, it should actually be 86. Methane has a
14 global warming equivalent, it's 86 times more warming than
15 CO2 in the 20 year period and 20 years is what is far more
16 relevant for us today.

17 We have plenty of evidence that is accumulating
18 that global warming is accelerating and is taking place much
19 faster than scientists in the past had predicted. So you
20 say that under the socio-economic section you say that
21 property values and insurance policies are hard to predict
22 whether they will go up or down but there has been lots of
23 proof indicating that property values do go down after the
24 initial boom phase.

25 And this is certainly not going to constitute a

1 long-term boom, the building of a pipeline. It's very
2 temporary and so -- and I'm sure these workers realize that.
3 This is a very temporary employment. The DEIS says we
4 conclude that too much of impacts associated with
5 Constitution Iroquois projects, when combined with other
6 known or reasonably foreseeable projects, would be
7 effectively limited.

8 Well I suggest that they won't be really
9 effective or limited. You can't separate construction of
10 pipeline from the eventual build-out of perhaps as many as
11 forty-two compressor stations if the compressor stations are
12 put in with the same spacing as is taking place in
13 Pennsylvania, every two to four miles, there could be
14 forty-two compressor stations.

15 So these compressor stations, processing plants
16 put out large quantities of global warming gases. LNG
17 Technology might also be put up and again, the very nature
18 of that technology involves releasing, a deliberate
19 releasing of methane, so the alternatives are zero net
20 energy, acid houses, and deep energy retrofits. That is the
21 way -- may I finish?

22 (CROWD YELLING AND BOOING)

23 MR. MOONEYHAN: Your time is expired and there
24 are fifty more people who have signed up to speak, you had
25 your four minutes.

1 MR. BOWMAN: Quiet.

2 MR. HUDIBURG: So that sustainable energy is
3 passing down zero net energy and -

4 (CROWD YELLING AND APPLAUDING)

5 MR. BOWMAN: Thank you for your service.

6 MR. MOONEYHAN: Sandra Davis, Kris Stafford.

7 MR. BOWMAN: You will note that a uniformed
8 police officer just came down here after Mr. Hudiburg
9 extended his four minutes of time. We have only gone
10 through four speakers and I'm already having to warn you
11 that I can shut this meeting down and will not hesitate to
12 do so if it comes to that. I ask that when your time is up,
13 please take your seat. We have a lot of people to get
14 through tonight and I want to make sure that the people who
15 are signed up towards the end, get done at a reasonable
16 hour. In addition, if things do not get transcribed into
17 the record, they will not be transcribed at all. Okay.

18 MS. DAVIS: Good evening, thank you. Good
19 evening, my name is Sandra Davis, D-a-v-i-s. I am here
20 representing my family this evening. We are from Delaware
21 County, the town of Deposit. I am a very proud landowner of
22 55 acres and an exceptional mother of three beautiful boys.

23 I am here tonight because I grew up in New York
24 State, I grew up in Delaware County, town of Deposit, lived
25 there all my life, on a dairy farm. I am very proud of this

1 region. I am very proud of the area that I live in and I
2 want my children to get to grow up here and have the respect
3 for the land and the respect for nature, and the beauty of
4 this area as I did.

5 I want them to learn that working hard for what
6 you get is very important in life and you have to work for
7 everything that you get, so just starting with that.

8 It is just very sad to me to see all of our young
9 people leaving. We are a rarity, my husband and I being in
10 our 30's and 40's owning land. It is very sad for me also
11 to send my husband two hours away to work because there are
12 no jobs here. There is no way to pay our taxes.

13 As far as I see it the Constitution Pipeline can
14 bring that in. They can bring jobs, regardless of whether
15 they are temporary or not, it is a job, it is local and he
16 doesn't have to leave me and my children when we just just
17 adopted our two boys.

18 So it's very, very, very, important to me that my
19 husband stay here and I get to raise my children here. I
20 don't want to leave but the way it is looking, we may get
21 pushed out. Six years with no natural gas, six years with
22 no pipeline and it is very frustrating for me to have to
23 wait for my income tax return to pay my land taxes and then
24 be charged penalties on top of it by the government, it is
25 ridiculous.

1 Anyways, I am here to comment on the draft EIS.
2 I support the Constitution pipeline for a dozen, for many
3 dozens of reasons. New York state has stripped me of my
4 rights for long enough. Our area needs all the help it can
5 get and our tax base obviously needs a boost.

6 We see so many of our neighbors struggling to pay
7 taxes, including ourselves. It would be appalling not to
8 approve the Constitution Pipeline, a project that would add
9 some strength to our tax base that desperately needs a
10 boost. Broome County alone could see 1.2 million annually
11 in property tax benefits alone.

12 The spending in Broome County would boost all of
13 our local economies. This isn't just me commenting to
14 express my support for the project, this is a plea for you
15 to approve it. I think you are doing a fine job and I think
16 you need to continue and get this done so that people like
17 us don't have to suffer any more.

18 This can help our schools, our municipalities and
19 our county while putting locals back to work before it is
20 too late, thank you for moving the process forward and thank
21 you for listening to me tonight, I won't bore you anymore.

22 (APPLAUSE AND WHISTLES)

23 MR. STAFFORD: Good evening. My perspective I
24 will talk about is that of a recent --

25 MR. BOWMAN: Spell your name.

1 MR. STAFFORD: My name is Kris Stafford. K-r-i-s
2 S-t-a-f-f-o-r-d. My perspective I will talk about is that
3 of a recent college graduate. Last spring I received a
4 Bachelor of Science Degree in Environmental Science from
5 Suny Oneonta. After high school I had plans of studying
6 human biology in hopes of becoming a physical therapist,
7 however, during my first semester at Oneonta, my mind was
8 changed when local community members started leasing their
9 land to natural gas companies.

10 Although I did not have a chunk of land to lease,
11 I knew that natural gas could be New York's ticket out of
12 the economic slump we were in, shortly after I changed my
13 major to environmental science. What we need to understand
14 is that no matter the project, big or small, there will
15 always be an environmental impact.

16 Our next goal after realizing that there will be
17 an environmental impact should be to mitigate these risks as
18 much as possible and that is the goal of the draft EIS. My
19 goal after graduation was to secure an environmental
20 inspector position on a pipeline construction crew or gas
21 extraction company.

22 However, my efforts have led to dead-ends.
23 Intention is not to throw a pity-party for myself, but
24 rather emphasize the sympathy I have for recent college
25 graduates. Sadly, my student loans are starting to kick in

1 along with reality and the harsh reality is my wife and I
2 are considering leaving New York, our friends, our family,
3 our community, to find better employment opportunities.

4 When the Constitution Pipeline comes through this
5 area, I hope locals realize what it can do for a community.
6 Yes, the jobs are temporary, however, they are still jobs.
7 Jobs that would not exist otherwise. In addition, anybody
8 who has made it through college knows that every employer
9 requires experience in the field they studied. Then they
10 ask themselves, how am I supposed to gain experience without
11 a job.

12 The Constitution Pipeline could be that year of
13 experience that myself and others have been looking for.
14 Many small businesses in this area are struggling day in and
15 day out to make ends meet. This temporary boost could be
16 just the boost they need.
17 Maybe they will only make it for one more year, but that's
18 still one more year of business.

19 But, what is the economic boost saves a business
20 from closing their doors, and they make it through the hard
21 times and last another twenty years. With that said, people
22 in these small towns do not live their lives in ten or
23 twenty year increments. They live day by day and if they
24 can be successful for just one more year, let us call that a
25 good year.

1 The Constitution Pipeline is the beginning of a
2 much needed striving economy. Thank you, have a good night.

3 MR. LAWRENCE: John Lawrence. L-a-w-r-e-n-c-e.
4 I am the supervisor of the Town of Afton. Upstate towns and
5 villages seem to be passed by the downstate agenda when it
6 comes to economic growth. There is little support for many
7 of our state representatives and those that do fight for our
8 causes are overrun by the what's good for the city seems
9 good for the state agenda, mindset.

10 So when a clean, low-impact community-friendly,
11 job-creating, tax-paying and growth-supporting industry
12 presents itself, it is not only prudent, but fiscally
13 responsible to local government to take a good, hard look.

14 It may seem self-promoting on my part, but I
15 value the possibility to provide cheap, clean, energy
16 sources for our users rather than the Constitution's
17 intended market of New York City and New England. Local
18 benefits, such as cutting our school heating bills by 50%,
19 that's a savings of about \$150,000.00, providing the energy
20 that could lead to growth in local businesses such as Wagner
21 Loggins ability to put in a kiln-drying facility, Venison's
22 Restaurant saving thousands of dollars on heating bills, the
23 Anfinal Corporation that provides over 1,000 jobs in this
24 area, and the advantage needed to attract new businesses
25 therefore providing more jobs, jobs that could encourage our

1 young to look here as a place to stay and grow and raise a
2 family.

3 The pipeline will provide an estimated annual
4 share of school tax payments to Afton of \$460,000.00, that's
5 an annual payment and another \$312,000.00 to Bainbridge,
6 that's over \$770,000.00 annually for Afton and Bainbridge
7 schools. You can't tell me that that won't affect all of
8 our tax dollar payments and that's in addition to the town
9 and county tax benefits.

10 Public safety, something that we are all
11 interested in, Williams Partners, LP operates over 16,000
12 miles of interstate natural gas pipeline. The Constitution
13 Pipeline will be built with more safety features than would
14 be otherwise required by federal law and regulations.

15 Careful monitoring of construction is undertaken
16 by Constitution pipeline as well as an independent third
17 party firm to ensure the construction and safety meets or
18 exceeds federal and industry standards. Local staff re:
19 jobs, will monitor the pipeline 24/7 to insure that safety
20 is maintained.

21 In short, natural gas pipelines are the safest
22 way to deliver the energy needs to our homes and businesses.
23 The Constitution Pipeline, is exactly the kind of good
24 neighbor, new business and growth opportunity, we should be
25 looking for. Thank you.

1 MR. MOONEYHAN: Earl Colley, John Wood.

2 MR. COLLEY: Good evening, thank you. My name is
3 Earl Colley. E-a-r-l C-o-l-l-e-y. I am Earl W. Colley and
4 I would like to welcome you to the town of Afton. I am a
5 retired licensed engineer, vice-president of the Central New
6 York Landowner's Coalition. I am a thirty-four year
7 resident of the town of Afton.

8 I believe as do a majority of the town residents,
9 but until we ask, can we accomplish safely, however, with
10 Governor Cuomo's ban, putting development on hold, we would
11 like to be able to -- we would like the ability that the
12 Constitution Pipeline affords the residents, schools and
13 businesses for access for the affordable clean energy
14 sources to our area.

15 After reviewing the FERC issued draft
16 environmental impact statement and the oversight of FERC,
17 the United States Environmental Protection Agency, the
18 United States Army Corp of Engineers, the Federal Highway
19 Commission and the New York State Department of Agriculture
20 and Markets, I am confident with the professionals of these
21 agencies that it will be done in a safe and unlimited
22 potentials to the area.

23 The residents of Afton, New York have rejected
24 the attempts of the anti-development and economic growth
25 people in this town as reflected by overwhelming majorities.

1 In 2011, 2012 and 2013 local town board of elections, the
2 majority of the votes were about 65 to 70% against the
3 obstructionist. I pray for us it will be here, but the
4 pipeline will create new jobs, people coming into the area.

5 We have IADA, 17 and a railway access within the
6 town. We hope to attract new businesses here and allow our
7 town to grow, thank you very much.

8 MR. WOOD: My name is John Wood. W-o-o-d. I am
9 the President of the Operating Engineers of Local 825. At
10 first I would like to clarify that I am not a gangster or a
11 thug and neither are any of my brother or sister tradesmen
12 in here.

13 MR. WOOD: I attended high school in Hancock, New
14 York, so I know what it is like to drive up and down the
15 highway to get a good-paying job. It would be nice for
16 these folks to have one right in their backyard.

17 I support the draft environmental impact
18 statement as it fairly addresses all the issues present for
19 the building of a Greenfield pipeline project. The short
20 term benefits, our local tradesmen get good-paying jobs.
21 Our organization has thousands of certified operators, many
22 who live in Delaware County. Last year alone, we had three
23 major pipelines going at the same time.

24 The safety aspects of these transmission lines
25 are incredible. From the very beginning of making the pipe

1 and coating it, if it is nicked, they throw it away, to the
2 transport of, to the unloading of it, to the actual
3 construction and the x-ray of the joints, each workman is
4 held accountable for each and every weld that he makes.
5 Every operator, every laborer, every teamster, everything
6 they do they are held accountable on a the safety aspects of
7 this, and at the end there are excess pressure tests that
8 are also done on these pipes.

9 There will be a tremendous spin-off of impact
10 benefitting the local merchants, hotels, restaurants and
11 suppliers. The long-term benefits will be a tremendous
12 amount of tax revenue for the counties, towns, school
13 districts that have been financially stressed over the
14 years. This is also a public access pipeline, which gives
15 all towns across the gas line, the ability to further
16 develop and have the opportunity for natural gas, which they
17 do not have now.

18 They may have no considered businesses but now
19 they may consider with natural gas. We all need balance,
20 good-jobs, low-cost gas in the New York market. It will
21 benefit home owners, commercial customers throughout the
22 state. We support this project, thank you for your time.

23 MR. ZUILL: Yes, my name is Jeffrey Zuill from
24 Bainbridge, New York. Z-u-i-l-l. I am a proud member of
25 Local 825 Operating Engineers. We are supporting this

1 project because it would mean good local jobs instead of
2 having to drive one hundred miles down the road, it would be
3 good local jobs and I don't think there's a tradesman in
4 here tonight that does not want to work close to home.

5 The environmental reviews, the pipelines we have
6 been on before, there is very little margin for error. I
7 mean everything is double-checked, triple-checked. It's
8 about as environmentally-friendly as you can find as far as
9 construction and the long-term maintenance.

10 The long-term effects of this will affect
11 everyone economically. If there is a local business along
12 the route of this pipeline, that can honestly say they don't
13 need extra revenue, or would like to thrive during the
14 construction and after, when they have suffered for so many
15 years and worked hard to scrape through.

16 The economic benefits are tremendous to
17 municipalities, to schools, to townships, fire departments,
18 all along the way and it just keeps going. They pay a
19 tremendous amount of tax every year and I think it would be
20 a great project for the area. If it brings new business in,
21 that's what we need, okay. This area is stagnant. We need
22 to do something, give new businesses one more thing that
23 makes it attractive to come to this area.

24 I mean we have got the infrastructure, we have
25 natural gas, that's great. If it brings one or two more big

1 businesses in, it's done its job, you know. That's what
2 this is all about. I think it's a win-win situation for
3 everyone, especially the people here in New York, for their
4 property taxes, their school taxes are going out of sight.
5 You have to have something to offset those costs and that's
6 what this pipeline will do every year, you know. The
7 spin-off businesses, everybody is going to benefit from
8 this, that's a working person or is self-employed and I
9 don't think there's a tradesperson in here that would not
10 like to be on that job, because they are good jobs, they are
11 safe jobs and I think it's a win-win situation for everybody
12 involved, okay, thank you very much.

13 MS. ROWE: Hi, my name is Judy Rowe. J-u-d-y
14 R-o-w-e and I'm from Harpersville, New York and I grew up in
15 this town.

16 MR. BOWMAN: Excuse me, the gentlemen in the
17 first row, can you put your phone on silent, for the
18 speaker, please, you can just hold it in your lap, you're
19 very close. Thank you very much, please continue.

20 MS. ROWE: Me and my husband have lived in this
21 area most of our lives. Any time we have moved away, we are
22 drawn back to upstate New York with its rolling hills and
23 all the water streams, the waterways we have here and it is
24 just a beautiful place to live.

25 My point tonight is that this proposed pipeline

1 has nothing to do with fracking or drilling deep into the
2 earth to release stored gases and the safety of this
3 proposed pipeline. My husband has been an operating
4 engineer since 1986. In his very first job he went out on a
5 pipeline, it was not a gas line, it was an electric line,
6 and there weren't any protests from landowners about that
7 line and that electric pipeline had to follow all the same
8 guidelines and rules from the federal and state government.

9 They had to clear the land and restore it by
10 these guidelines. The Millennium line, and connecting lines
11 to the Millennium line have been done through these same
12 guidelines. A close friend of mine lives on Blassley Road
13 in West Windsor where a pipeline connector to the Millennium
14 pipeline was just done like a year and a half ago. She was
15 telling me this week about all the deer she has seen on her
16 road and she went on and on about Bill's farm on the corner
17 and how his never looked this good in the thirty years that
18 they have lived there and other places on their road.

19 They have done a really beautiful job of
20 restoring, when they do these pipelines. These companies
21 put down a wildlife grass-seed mix that draw in the deer and
22 turkey, giving them better nutrition. The birds also
23 benefit by all the new growth that is created where the
24 pipeline goes through.

25 What I have observed with my husband's jobs is

1 how nice the land looks once the restoration has been
2 completed and regrowth has begun. The terrain is smooth and
3 it is just, a lot of times it looks much nicer than it did
4 with the overgrowth before.

5 I would like to address the safety of these pipes
6 after they are underground. The pipes have to pass tests
7 prior to even being used. The welds are sealed and when the
8 entire spread has been completed and all the pipes are
9 buried, and then a smart device, called a smart pig travels
10 through the pipe and it records any anomalies, any
11 weaknesses.

12 So if a rock falls and it dings a pipe as it is
13 being covered up, this could create a weakness and that's
14 what these smart devices find. So then these pipes have to
15 be dug up before it's ever been used and the smart pig
16 process has to be done all over again and then once deemed
17 safe by all of the safety officials and a pressurized test
18 is done with water, all of this is done before any gas flows
19 through the pipe.

20 All these lines are doing is transporting gas
21 from one line to another, from wells drilled elsewhere.
22 There is no fracking into our precious Marcellus shale that
23 is right underneath our very feet. The beauty of the land
24 is maintained or made better. The wildlife thrive, the
25 safety is there under the ground, more consumers are getting

1 a precious commodity delivered, our local tradesmen are
2 making a living in their very own hometown area and the only
3 issue would be if a homeowner needed that section of land
4 deemed for pipeline use, to be right where they had plans to
5 build something.

6 And then the last point, local tax benefits in
7 the form of sales and use tax, annually it's projected 1.3
8 million to Chenango County, 2.1 million to Broome County,
9 these are our counties, our communities that would benefit
10 and I sure could use a tax break from the 6,500 dollars a
11 year that we pay for school and property taxes-

12 MR. MOONEYHAN: 20 seconds.

13 MS. ROWE: School and property taxes, especially
14 where the safety of the federal government overseeing these
15 lines, thank you.

16 MR. ANDERSON: Stuart Anderson. S-t-u-a-r-t
17 A-n-d-e-r-s-o-n. I sat through the entire hearing last
18 evening in Oneonta and I wanted to speak briefly about the
19 environment that I grew up in. I'm old enough to remember
20 tattoos on old people's arms in the subway, indelible
21 evidence of the final solution.

22 I'm old enough to remember fire hoses and police
23 dogs, lunch counters, the wind chain, muddy graves. I'm old
24 enough to remember hard hats, demonstrators, kids who did
25 not want to fight in rich man's waters. I'm old enough to

1 remember when 1984 was only a prophecy and big brother is
2 watching seemed like a paranoid delusion. I'm old enough to
3 know a bully when I hear one, especially when it whines how
4 unfair the world has been to him, to justify screwing his
5 neighbor.

6 I'm old enough to know a bully when I see one.
7 His conscience muffled under a uniform, his bravado inflated
8 with false camaraderie, his hunger fueled by carrots he will
9 never reach. I'm old enough to see the new fascism, we're
10 hopeful enough to think they can beat it.

11 I know I can't do it alone and I'm counting on
12 you brave public servants at the front of the room. Please,
13 don't let orange become the new brown, thank you.

14 (APPLAUSE AND BOOS)

15 MR. MOONEYHAN: Antonio Skeedley, Jason Baran,
16 Wayne Drake.

17 MR. DRAKE: Hi, how are you doing? I'm here to
18 support for the Constitution Pipeline.

19 MR. BOWMAN: Your name?

20 MR. DRAKE: Wayne Drake. Just because I'm a
21 fellow operator here and money made here is money spent here
22 and you know, it produces more jobs for everybody, more
23 family time for everybody and it does go to improve the
24 environment, you know.

25 We're just putting the pipe into the ground, you

1 know, we're not, you know, drilling in the shale, it's just
2 the pipe, you know and they work with us farmers. I'm a
3 farmer as well, you know, it's these -- these companies come
4 and say, hey, we are going to come across your field here,
5 you know, what kind of till did you put in the area you are
6 on. I said we're on deep-tilled tillage so they are burying
7 it deeper.

8 So they are here for us, they are not here
9 against us and that's all I got to say, thank you.

10 MR. LATOURETTE: Bryant Latourette, Sr. It's
11 B-r-y-a-n-t L-a-t-o-u-r-e-t-t-e and that's Sr. I have
12 been at the forefront of both sides of this issue for over
13 eight years. I have started one of the first landowner
14 coalitions in New York. I am one of the founders of the
15 Joint Landowners Coalition. I am a local, second generation
16 businessman that has witnessed the loss of many businesses
17 and youth leaving to find work.

18 I'm for the pipeline transporting domestic energy
19 to rebuild and secure this great state and country. That
20 said, I have a suggestion, there are two stakeholders that
21 will be affected by the pipeline, the landowners whose
22 property will be appropriated. They should get just
23 compensation for the land. Unfortunately they can't get
24 compensation from a company that has the power of eminent
25 domain.

1 Eminent domain tips the power to the company.
2 The use of comparable values in finding a just price doesn't
3 cut it. Comparables can never factor the people who walk
4 away from property sales because of a pipeline encumbrance.
5 This is a basic sampling of biased error and it can never be
6 accounted for.

7 Since you don't have two comparables, I suggest
8 maybe it's time to change. Instead of having FERC hearings
9 that have more of the community dividing sessions, how about
10 confining it to those who have the most to gain or lose, the
11 true stakeholders, the deed holders of the land for where
12 the pipeline is proposed.

13 How about true and honorable just compensation?
14 How about changing the way easements are obtained? Instead
15 of companies compensating based on traditional payment of
16 acreage required, how about paying the deed holders a small
17 fractional fee of the gas that is put through the pipeline?

18 Eliminate the traditional acre fee and usage of
19 the pressure of eminent domain as a negative. The
20 fractional fee can start on a sliding scale of capacity.
21 This allows lower costs for the entity in the start-up
22 position. Pay it by a linear foot times circumference and
23 capacity paid bi-annually or annually. The incentive fee
24 stays with the deed, bringing more than one time payment and
25 instead of lessening the future value, it could bring higher

1 value for that land.

2 This will instill pride of knowing that the
3 landowners, apart of supporting infrastructure with true and
4 just compensation. Maybe it's time to think outside the
5 standard procedure and lead with ideas then inspire people
6 and true stakeholders to want to step up to build
7 infrastructure that in the end is a benefit, a positive and
8 benefits all, thank you.

9 MR. BARAN: My name is Joshua Baran. I'm from
10 Labor and Local 785, I wanted to ask my brothers and sisters
11 of the local union to join me in the pledge of allegiance
12 and that's it, thank you very much.

13 MR. CONNORS: Good evening, my name is Edward
14 Connors, C-o-n-n-o-r-s and I'm a member of Labors Local 785
15 and I've been a citizen of Broome County my whole life. In
16 New York there are nearly four million customers who heat
17 with natural gas. Approximately half of the households in
18 the state use natural gas for heating purposes and
19 residential customers constitute the majority of natural gas
20 users.

21 We need natural gas to heat our homes, to create
22 electricity and to drive manufacturing in New York State. I
23 am here tonight to express my support of the application for
24 the Constitution Pipeline. The proposal will allow
25 Constitution Pipeline to move more natural gas, to meet

1 growing demand, while meeting the strict regulatory
2 requirements of the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission.

3 The Constitution Pipeline will result in
4 approximately 1,300 jobs during an approximately one year
5 period of construction. In addition, the project would
6 generate construction payroll of over 190 million dollars,
7 with nearly 80 million dollars of that amount paid to
8 in-state workers. The balance of the payroll will go to
9 specialty pipeline workers with expertise in interstate
10 pipeline construction.

11 The southern tier of New York is suffering from
12 long-term job loss and decline. The local workforce,
13 including my brothers and the Laborers International Union
14 of North America deserve the opportunity to benefit from
15 development of natural gas pipelines and related
16 infrastructure, thank you.

17 MR. DUNDON: Hello my name is Michael Dundon.
18 D-u-n-d-o-n. First off I want to say I support the DEIS
19 impact statement. Now I want to talk about some economic
20 benefits from the Constitution Pipeline.

21 Construction payrolls will be over 190 million
22 with nearly 80 million of that amount paid to in-state
23 workers. The balance of the payroll will go to specialty
24 pipeline workers with expertise in interstate pipeline
25 construction. In addition, the Wright compressor station

1 construction will generate payroll of nearly 1.4 million
2 dollars.

3 The Constitution Pipeline will result in
4 approximately 1,300 jobs during the approximate one year
5 period of construction. The pipeline will expend over 120
6 million dollars for purchases of materials and supplies,
7 equipment, purchases and rentals, fuels, lodging and other
8 purchases. These figures do not account for economic
9 activity associated with workers shopping locally and
10 purchasing items, such as restaurant meals, fuel and
11 groceries.

12 The Constitution Pipeline will generate
13 significant revenue for the state of New York and county
14 government in the form of sales and use of tax receipts.
15 Sales tax revenues generated in New York state is estimated
16 to be approximately four million dollars. Most significant
17 are the property tax revenues that will be paid by the
18 Constitution Pipeline which will total approximately 13
19 million annually, to counties, towns and school districts,
20 which have been financially stressed in recent years.

21 The balance will be paid to county and town
22 governments to provide further local relief. There is no
23 doubt the school districts in upstate New York have been
24 particularly hit hard by state aid reduction since 2009.
25 Annual estimated shares of school tax payments are Schoharie

1 County, 4 million. Delaware County 2.93 million. Broome
2 County 2.1 million and Chenango County 1.3 million. With
3 this being said by supporting this project and putting
4 multiple people to work, this area will get some real
5 economic stimulus, thank you very much.

6 MR. BUSHNELL: Good evening everybody. My name
7 is Chris Bushnell B-u-s-h-n-e-l-l. I am a member of Labors
8 International Union of North America and President of Labors
9 Local 785. First of all I would like to thank all of my
10 union brothers and sisters for coming out tonight to support
11 this vital piece of infrastructure for New York state.

12 I am writing tonight to express my support of the
13 draft environmental impact statement, DEIS. I believe it
14 fairly addresses all the issues presented on the 124 mile
15 long Constitution Pipeline project. Constitution Pipeline,
16 LLC is a consortium of companies led by Williams Partners,
17 LP a developer and operator of 16,000 miles of interstate
18 natural gas pipeline in the United States.

19 The DEIS states the Constitution Pipeline will
20 allow Williams and its partners to effectively move more
21 natural gas to meet growing demand in the northeast, New
22 York City and New England markets, while still meeting the
23 strict regulatory requirements of New York state.

24 FERC acknowledges in the DEIS that there is no
25 substitution of any fossil fuel energy source, solar or

1 wind, due to the unreliability and insufficient quantities.
2 This pipeline is the best way to move the energy that we
3 need.

4 I have been a resident of New York state my
5 entire life. I am a proponent of natural gas development.
6 There is tremendous value in producing domestic, clean,
7 affordable energy. The economy in New York state is in
8 serious decline and it has been for some time.

9 The economic benefits to the counties and New
10 York state as a whole are significant and measureable.
11 Approximately 13 million dollars annually to the four
12 counties involved in the Constitution Pipeline. New York
13 state needs to maximize the pipeline services offered by
14 Williams and its partners.

15 We can't afford to discourage investment that
16 leads to job creation, benefits our communities, tax base,
17 it increases natural gas supply to companies, power
18 generators and manufacturers. We cannot allow projects like
19 the Constitution Pipeline to be disrupted by a handful of
20 those fossil fuel -- who oppose fossil fuel development.
21 These same people have used fossil fuel products, and fossil
22 fuels on a daily basis.

23 I would like to thank my apprentice Josh who did
24 a wonderful job on the pledge of allegiance, thank you very
25 much.

1 MR. MARSH: Good evening, thank you for holding
2 this important public meeting. I am David Marsh, business
3 manager for Laborers Local 785 and there were some serious
4 accusations made by an earlier speaker so I want to ask my
5 union brothers and sisters a couple simple yes or no
6 answers.

7 Was anyone coerced into being here tonight?

8 AUDIENCE: No.

9 MR. MARSH: Are you here for any reason other
10 than you need a good-paying job with pensions and health
11 care?

12 AUDIENCE: No.

13 MR. MARSH: Thank you. I want to express my
14 support for the draft environmental impact statement. I
15 believe it adequately addresses all issues presented by the
16 124-mile long Constitution Pipeline project.

17 As business manager of Laborers Local 785, I
18 represent 829 hard-working men and women of Local 785. The
19 majority of our members live and work right here in the
20 southern tier in central New York region. Due to the aging
21 pipeline infrastructure itself, forty or more years ago and
22 the increasing demand for natural gas in New York and New
23 England, pipeline construction has become a significant
24 portion of work our local union laborers perform.

25 In fact, over the last three years, 30% of the

1 work hours reported for laborers in Local 785 had been the
2 direct result of pipeline construction in maintenance. The
3 Constitution Pipeline will be built by union labor and our
4 national pipeline agreement requires that a minimum of 50%
5 of local labor will be used on this project.

6 This pipeline will be built by our neighbors and members of
7 our local communities with the experience and knowledge to
8 construct this pipeline safely, with as little impact as
9 possible to the surrounding environment.

10 As many labors, I'm not just a laborer, I'm a
11 father and a land owner. In fact I am a land owner with an
12 active pipeline running through my property. This eight
13 inch propane line was installed in the 1960's. The owners
14 of this line have safely operated for over 50 years. This
15 safe operation is due to regular maintenance and inspection
16 which happens on this line.

17 Stretching across our entire rural neighborhood
18 this pipeline runs under my neighbor's agricultural fields.
19 For many years I have seen him work this land with large
20 farm equipment and with no incident or concern. New York
21 pipeline structure is aging and new lines need to be put in
22 place to handle the demand.

23 New lines such as Constitution incorporate the
24 latest state-of-the-art technology to ensure safe, reliable
25 energy transportation. With advances in coating systems and

1 cathodic protection, the Constitution Pipeline has a 100
2 plus year lifespan. Today's modern systems can detect the
3 most minute imperfection in a well or in a pipe.

4 Under EIS Section 2.1.12, reliable viability and
5 safety, the report notes that although regulators require
6 remote control shut-off valves that have not yet gone into
7 effect and would apply to pipelines, both in the future,
8 Constitution committed to the use of remote control shut-off
9 valves for the proposed pipeline.

10 It is estimated that 20% of the total
11 construction budget will be spent to make sure environmental
12 compliance, 20% of 700 million dollars.

13 MR. MOONEYHAN: 20 seconds.

14 MR. MARSH: Okay, I will conclude and I will
15 submit this for the record.

16 This environmental impact statement was compiled by the U.S.
17 Environmental Protection Agency, the U.S. Army Corp of
18 Engineers, the Federal Highway Administration, New York
19 State Department of Agricultural Markets

20 MR. MOONEYHAN: Please.

21 MR. MARSH: And I feel it adequately represents
22 an adequate study and we support it, thank you.

23 MR. MOONEYHAN: Marty O'Hara, Jenn Colon.

24 MR. O'HARA: My name is Marty O'Hara. Marty,
25 M-a-r-t-y O'H-a-r-a. I have been working in Pennsylvania

1 for over five years. Working pipelines, we have had to stop
2 working for eagles, bats, snakes, whatever. The
3 environmental is taking care of every day. Nothing more
4 powerful than the environmental out there, they watch you
5 every day of the week, every minute of the day. They take
6 care of it, they watch it. Thank you.

7 MS. COLON: How are you doing tonight? My name
8 is Jennifer Colon, C-o-l-o-n and I am a proud member of
9 Local 785. I am here to express my support for the
10 Constitution Pipeline project filed by Williams.

11 The proposed Constitution Pipeline will serve as
12 the additional delivery line for the increased regional
13 production of natural gas. Assuming the project is
14 approved, Williams will be able to help meet the growing
15 demand for natural gas in the northeast. The Constitution
16 Pipeline would deliver enough gas to heat and cool
17 approximately 3 million homes or serve the needs of two
18 large electric generating plants.

19 Additionally, the Constitution Pipeline provides
20 the ability to support and supply the New York City area and
21 New England markets with natural gas produced in
22 Pennsylvania which is more economical and abundant than
23 sources which now supply those areas.

24 For instance, during January, the spot market
25 price for natural gas in the New York City region exceeded

1 \$120.00 per thousand cubic feet. While the same supply of
2 gas in Pennsylvania, barely one hundred miles away was
3 approximately \$5.00. Constitution Pipeline provides a
4 reasonable way to bring domestic low-cost and clean burning
5 natural gas into the New York state market, benefiting
6 consumers and commercial customers.

7 I urge the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission
8 to rule in favor of the Constitution Pipeline project. The
9 project will bring much needed jobs to the southern tier of
10 New York. Additionally, residents of the counties in which
11 the Constitution Pipeline will exist, will benefit from
12 increased tax revenues, a true loophole, to Williams
13 facilities.

14 The Federal Energy Regulatory Commission needs to
15 rule in favor of the Constitution Pipeline simply because it
16 is good for the economy, for the taxpayers in the southern
17 tier, and the good for all of New York with houses heated by
18 natural gas. Thank you for your time and please rule in
19 favor of the Constitution Pipeline proposal.

20 MR. PAYNE: Hello my name is Steven Payne, that's
21 P-a-y-n-e. I am a federal OSHA safety instructor. Every
22 worker on this pipeline will have an OSHA card. I'm a
23 pipeline safety instructor and a proud member of Laborers
24 Local 785. Our jurisdiction is nine counties of south
25 central New York.

1 This pipeline goes through our side yard, our
2 backyards. This is where we raised our families, this is
3 where our kids play, we hunt here. We have a core of
4 highly-trained, experienced pipeline workers. We will
5 ensure that this pipeline is built to last and it is built
6 safe.

7 I will leave you with this parting thought. If
8 someone in this room had a sixty or seventy year old artery
9 going through their heart, old, corroded, deteriorated, they
10 would go get it fixed. Like Dave said, let's put some new
11 pipelines in and take the pressure off these old ones, I
12 thank you for your time.

13 MR. COONEY: Good evening. My name is Francis,
14 F-r-a-n-c-i-s J.Cooney, C-o-o-n-e-y. I am a proud 28 year
15 member of Plumber and Pipefitters Local 112. I am standing
16 here in front of you to express my support of the
17 Constitution Pipeline which is proposed to be constructed in
18 Broome, Chenango, Delaware and Schoharie Counties in New
19 York.

20 As you may know the jobless rate in the southern
21 tier is high comparable to New York state and the national
22 average. Williams pipeline projects have provided good
23 union jobs to members of my local, Plumber and Pipefitters
24 Local 112, Operating Engineers Local 158, IBEW 325 and the
25 Laborers International Union of North America to name a few.

1 Moreover, Williams has contracted with several New York
2 employers that employ union workers in the area, myself
3 included for work on other Williams facilities located in
4 Pennsylvania.

5 I would also like to note that much has been
6 brought about the temporary jobs the Constitution Pipeline
7 will bring to this area. For 28 years, every job I have had
8 has been a temporary job.

9 MR. COONEY: I have been fortunate enough with
10 those temporary jobs to put two children through Syracuse
11 University College.

12 MR. COONEY: The Constitution Pipeline will
13 generate a significant economic development opportunities
14 while also operating within the strict regulations of
15 interstate pipeline in Pennsylvania and New York State.
16 Additionally, construction of the Constitution Pipeline will
17 result in well over 1,000 jobs during approximately the one
18 year period of construction.

19 I would respectfully ask that you grant Williams
20 and their partners in the Constitution Pipeline proposal the
21 necessary permit to construct the pipeline, thank you.

22 MR. MOONEYHAN: Dean Sullivan, William Roche.
23 Dean Sullivan, William Roche.

24 MR. ROCHE: Thank you. My name is William Roche
25 and it's W-i-l-l-i-a-m R-o-c-h-e, middle initial J. My

1 wife, Christine and I are affected stakeholders in
2 Davenport, New York. There are far more educated
3 individuals here this evening that can speak to the issues
4 of clean water, a fragile eco-system, job creations, changes
5 in topography and so I choose tonight to talk about eminent
6 domain.

7 My wife and I have earned the privilege of being
8 stewards for 127 acres in Davenport, New York. I use the
9 word earn because I personally stand before you as a result
10 of a society that provided me with opportunities to pull
11 myself up by the boot straps and forge ahead and earn my
12 way.

13 I have been through orphanages, I've been through
14 foster homes, I've been through Ivy school colleges. I was
15 taught to take ownership for my mistakes, something we need
16 to teach children today is to take ownership, both for their
17 accomplishments and for their mistakes.

18 I took nothing and never expected to gain from
19 what I did not earn. Throughout my journey I have come to
20 learn the value of friends, neighbors, family and
21 brotherhood. My wife Chris and I planned our passive solar
22 home in Davenport, New York. Our joy was overwhelming for
23 all the good that we sacrificed to improve our quality of
24 life to live with nature.

25 Two weeks before the chubble was to go in the

1 ground, there standing in our driveway was a man who
2 instructed me -- introduced himself as a landsman for the
3 Constitution Pipeline. He had some papers for us to sign
4 and he went on about how this pipeline would transverse our
5 land and ask for us to sign the survey permit. I told him
6 we were not interested.

7 In time that morning, this stranger to us because
8 adamant, his tone changed, now stating that regardless in
9 the end they will take our land. No, no, he just smirked
10 and he said, "no we won't just take your land, we are going
11 to pay you just compensation". I said, "no, the land's not
12 for sale. There is no just compensation. We earned the
13 privilege to be here without you." He grinned. "We'll put
14 this pipe in he said, where it needs to go, with or without
15 your permission. We are going to offer you just
16 compensation. We are going to offer you just compensation".
17 Over and over again.

18 These last two weeks on television just
19 compensation scenarios rose their ugly head. CEO Mary Barra
20 of GM hired a compensation lawyer Ken Feinberg yesterday to
21 explore ways to provide just compensation to families for
22 thirteen young lives, thirteen young children who died,
23 because again corporate America and the governmental
24 agencies charged in overseeing GM ignored the obvious, the
25 pleas of families for ten years.

1 These children and young adults were the price of
2 doing business and, "after all we are sorry," stated Miss
3 Barra, but Mr. Feinberg will offer just compensation. The
4 thirteen young lives, your daughters, your sons. David
5 Fieldman, head of the National Highway Safety Administration
6 shook his finger at her and said, "you knew for ten years",
7 and yes we'll offer just compensation.

8 Jay N took his ten year old son fly fishing for
9 six years behind the home, two miles down from the Dan
10 River, not anymore, it's now a toxic waste dump but Duke
11 Energy is going to offer them just compensation.

12 MR. MOONEYHAN: 20 second.

13 MR. ROCHE: You go home tonight, ladies and
14 gentlemen and you go into your living rooms, your bedroom,
15 go on your buses and have it filled with other people and
16 let them say to you, I'm going to offer you just
17 compensation, I'm sleeping here tonight. I am going to use
18 your barbeque.

19 MR. MOONEYHAN: Please.

20 MR. ROCHE: Thank you and have a good night.

21 (APPLAUSE AND BOOS)

22 MS. BARLOW: Good evening, my name is Katherine
23 Barlow. I am here to support the Constitution Pipeline. I
24 also want to let people know that we are qualified
25 construction workers who can work this pipeline and many

1 other jobs. We are certified in OSHA as well as other, you
2 know, certifications and I am here to support the line,
3 thank you.

4 MR. HUNTER: Gary Hunter, G-a-r-y H-u-n-t-e-r.
5 I worked on a couple of pipelines and I can tell you about
6 the environmental, how painstakingly they do this, keep
7 things right, on the right and right. As a matter of fact,
8 like this gentleman said before, if you make a mistake you
9 are gone, they don't put up with it and on the pipeline they
10 call that, running you off and they ain't afraid to do it,
11 believe me.

12 I have been in the operating engineers for quite
13 a few years. I have been in construction my entire life and
14 any construction job I have had I have never seen such tight
15 regulations and I mean there is inspectors for everything
16 there. The pipeline has been good to me, as a matter of
17 fact, right now I'm putting a roof on my barn and the three
18 guys that are working on it are from Deposit and they are
19 getting paid with money from the Blue Stone pipeline that I
20 saved a year and a half ago to put that roof on and we need
21 this.

22 Like the gentleman said up there, hold me on the
23 other night, I don't know what people think we are supposed
24 to do upstate, you know, crawl in a cave and break out the
25 animal skins and put them on to stay warm I guess, but the

1 fact is there's a lot of people struggling, a lot of elderly
2 people are struggling, they can't even afford to heat their
3 home, we need something up here and we need it now, so I
4 urge you to approve this pipeline for the benefit of
5 everybody in upstate New York, thank you very much.

6 MR. SMITH: My name is Michael Smith and I am a
7 37 year member of the International Union, I'm a 29 year
8 member of Local 785 and I want to thank all my brother
9 members and not only the laborers, but operating engineers,
10 plumbers, whatsoever and I want to take a minute to address
11 my friend Jeff Sule, he had a family member die and I just
12 want to say Jeff, you are in our prayers.

13 And I'm for the Constitution Pipeline. I'm a
14 landowner, I have worked on the pipelines, they are the
15 safest jobs I have ever worked on in 37 years of
16 construction and I want to say that everybody has their own
17 opinion and the first lady that spoke and the gentleman who
18 just spoke a minute ago, when the Constitution Pipeline goes
19 through and they frack in New York State and they lower your
20 taxes and your energy bills, you all will accept that.

21 If you are that dead against it, don't accept
22 your taxes going down, see how you like that. Like Chris
23 Bushnell said, you are using the energy right now, but you
24 don't want something good to happen and believe me it is
25 going to happen. They said the casinos weren't going to

1 happen, it's coming, why waste time, energy, money, it's
2 coming, it's just a matter of time and I'm for it and I know
3 all my brother members are too, thank you.

4 MR. McCORMICK: Paul McCormick, P-a-u-l
5 M-c-C-o-r-m-i-c-k. Paul McCormick, I'm the business rep
6 with Local 158 of the International Union of Operating
7 Engineers, I'm also the Vice-President of the Local. I
8 would like to take a quick moment to thank FERC, the Army
9 Corp of Engineers and all of the other agencies that have
10 been doing their due diligence in the process of the DEIS.

11 MR. McCORMICK: I have 25 years in the
12 construction industry with extensive pipeline experience in
13 all aspects of pipeline construction, from actually putting
14 the pipelines in to meter stations, valve settings, there's
15 not a crew that I have not worked on. I have seen and know,
16 without a doubt, that this pipeline can be constructed
17 safely and at the same time protecting the environment we
18 all live in.

19 With the extremely stringent regulations that
20 FERC and all the agencies involved have in place and
21 Williams and their partners will follow. The economic
22 impact will benefit the area during construction and after
23 with annual tax payments to area agencies that all will
24 benefit from.

25 Also, if you look at Williams plan and what they

1 submitted, every cubic foot of gas that goes through this
2 pipeline daily, is sold, spoken for, so obviously there is a
3 public need for this gas and this pipeline.

4 In closing, I would like to ask FERC to continue
5 to help with the Commission with their excellent work they
6 have done and approve this pipeline for the local, our
7 brother and sister locals and let's construct this pipeline,
8 thank you.

9 MR. CRISPELL: Claude Crispell. C-r-i-s-p-e-l-l,
10 C-l-a-u-d-e C-r-i-s-p-e-l-l. I have been a New York
11 laborer for 32 years, worked on transportation lines for New
12 York State Gas Electric. We had inspectors with us all the
13 time, and inspectors wouldn't let us start until they got
14 there on our crew, or buffing the wells and lowering the
15 pipe in.

16 The line went from Watkins Glen to Ithaca,
17 Endicott to Binghamton, the line was for supply and demand,
18 it was in the mid '90s. Remember when schools would shut
19 down, factories would shut down when you had a hard winter.
20 That was to alleviate the problem, it wasn't enough.

21 Another transportation line was put in in the
22 year 2000, Millenium, that was held up for seven years,
23 until 2007. I hear concerns about hills being too steep,
24 pipes washing out, problems with crossing wetlands, streams,
25 rivers, those two lines were over a lot of mountains through

1 valleys, streams, rivers, went by towns without incident.

2 The pipe was flexible. They picked it up and
3 lowered it into the ditch, it was like a piece of rubber and
4 you straighten it out and lower it down in, inspect it all,
5 you inspect the pipe, probably three times different ways.
6 You bore under a lot of the streams, you don't even disrupt
7 them. Sometimes you bore under the wetlands and you bury
8 the pipe deeper under the wetlands and streams.

9 I never seen so many inspectors, never seen so
10 many people on a job in my whole life and I worked a lot of
11 different jobs in 32 years. I even went into Pennsylvania,
12 my brother and I, he has 109 acres, I have got 32, the chief
13 was gathering and LC offered us a pipeline agreement for a
14 24 inch line, we signed in. It was a 50 foot, right-of-way
15 50 foot work area and we got paid for the hundred foot and
16 they went through more of his land than I did, he ended up
17 with 147,000 dollars, that paid a lot of his taxes for a
18 good number of years.

19 They did a very good job, put gates up where we
20 wanted them, they rebuilt the stone wall, planted it with
21 wildlife mix, we had deer, turkey all over the pipeline,
22 everybody wants to hunt the pipeline now.

23 Our steel industry is growing because of cheap
24 natural gas. Dupont and Dow Chemical are moving their
25 companies back to the United States for the cheap energy.

1 The town of Wyalusing, Pennsylvania made an agreement with a
2 pipeline company to supply gas to the residents of
3 Wyalusing. They took the pipeline through a commercial zone
4 there and put a cheese plant in.

5 MR. MOONEYHAN: 20 seconds.

6 MR. CRISPELL: Thank you. Natural gas heats
7 homes, schools, factories and generates electricity,
8 feedstock and plastics, chemicals, fertilizer, safe and
9 abundant according to the Department of Energy.

10 MR. MOONEYHAN: Please.

11 MR. CHRISPELL: Pennsylvania has lowered its
12 utility bills by \$1,200 to everybody, this is it.

13 MS. McNOLTE: Hi, I'm Kathy McNolte, I live in
14 Sidney, New York. I will address job creation a bit since
15 there's a lot of people who want jobs and I want to tell
16 them there's plenty of good jobs fixing the aging
17 infrastructure in cities, the pipelines in cities.

18 My daughter lives two blocks away from two
19 buildings that blew up and eight people died, there's plenty
20 of jobs for you, you don't need my farm, you don't need to
21 steal it. I do not accept the risk to my family to have my
22 land stolen and this pipeline forced upon me.

23 I have a second daughter who would like to be a
24 farmer. I don't want her driving over a high volume, thirty
25 inch pipeline and you should not be able to force me to do

1 so by taking my land by eminent domain, thank you.

2 MR. MOONEYHAN: Lynn Hartz, Mina Takahashi. Lynn
3 H-a-r-t-z, Mina Takahashi.

4 MS. HARTZ: Good evening, my name is Lynn Hartz,
5 H-a-r-t-z, first name Lynn, L-y-n-n. 100 feet, 100 feet to
6 me is where Constitution decided to put the pipeline, 100
7 feet from my back door. Anyone else in the room with the
8 same situation? Okay. 100 feet is the destruction of my
9 future, excuse me, as my beautiful home will be worth
10 nothing.

11 100 feet could be a whale, a boat, two to three
12 school buses, an extension cord or a hose. Imagine how
13 close that is. 100 feet means I can sit on my neck deck,
14 watch the construction without using field glasses. 100
15 feet, who made that decision, that this is the measurement
16 that is okay? Did they even consider the effects of the
17 landowner, homeowner when locating it so close to a home?

18 Constitution Pipeline is like a dictatorship,
19 taking over land with no considerations for anyone in the
20 way. We ask the overly friendly Constitution representative
21 to see if it could be moved and the answer was no.

22 Our house was an investment, many years of hard
23 work and improvements. Our dream for the future. My
24 husband passed away from cancer last September, so now it's
25 just me struggling with what I should do next. Maybe I

1 would like to sell and downsize some day, but my choices
2 will be limited because the house and adjacent land will be
3 worth nothing.

4 The banks won't finance buyers and insurance
5 companies won't insure. What is \$14,000 to sign? Will that
6 bring me happiness and a secure future? Haven't I been
7 through enough? Haven't we all been through enough? Please
8 consider my comments and rule that the Constitution Pipeline
9 does not go through.

10 I am all for the advancement but not at the
11 expense of my future and others like me, thank you.

12 MS. TAKAHASHI: Hi, good evening. My name is
13 mina Takahashi, that's M-i-n-a last name T-a-k-a-h-a-s-h-i.
14 I'm a landowner in Chenango County and I'm also an
15 inhabitant of this plant Earth as we all are and I am here
16 to say that I do not approve of this project, the
17 Constitution Pipeline because of the environmental impact of
18 the project as a whole.

19 My understanding is that this panel is here to
20 take comment and to evaluate whether this project is in the
21 public interest and also to evaluate the environmental
22 impacts of this project and I am sure you are aware and I
23 hope you will consider the recent report that the
24 inter-governmental panel on climate change released this
25 week with their irrefutable findings that was completely

1 agreed upon by over 100 governments, internationally that
2 "human interference with the climate system is occurring and
3 climate change poses risks for humans and natural systems."

4 They go on to -- in the summer they go on to warn
5 that without swift and decisive action to limit greenhouse
6 gas submissions from fossil fuels, this planet is pretty
7 much doomed.

8 The methane emissions from oil and gas production
9 and distribution via pipelines, is a major contributor to
10 methane emissions. Any build out of fossil fuel or
11 extraction will exacerbate the situation and I believe you
12 are encumbered to really take that into account when you
13 decide whether to permit this project and I hope you will
14 decline. Thank you very much.

15 MR. RODRIQUEZ: Hello, my name is Heriberto
16 Rodriguez, H-e-r-i-b-e-r-t-o Rodriguez R-o-d-r-i-q-u-e-z. I
17 do not support this project and for the reason being that
18 the environment is drafted, the draft environmental impact
19 statement doesn't address all -- this is a pipeline that
20 goes 124 plus miles and is 30 inches long and it doesn't
21 address all the compressor stations that are going to be
22 needed to push this gas, all the hydrators. So this is, to
23 me, an incomplete draft statement and that reason alone it
24 should be looked at and even maybe denied, because this has
25 to be considered as a full project. Because if it is

1 considered that way and I don't think it would pass. So
2 what I see now is they are trying to put the cart before the
3 horse and putting in the pipe and that is going to lead to,
4 it will lead to fracking, it will lead to other things that
5 we don't want.

6 I come from a town who passed a ban. We don't
7 know what gas drilling. There is a majority of towns up
8 here in our state who don't want it and know and have
9 educated themselves on the dangers and another thing is you
10 can't mitigate this. Once the pipeline goes in, the
11 companies for years they really don't maintain these
12 pipelines, so there is no mitigation on this. I mean how
13 can you mitigate something that an accident can happen and
14 you can't control, so I say please do not pass this
15 pipeline.

16 Investigate all those compression stations,
17 everything that deals with this pipeline before you approve
18 this pipeline, thank you.

19 (APPLAUSE AND BOOS)

20 MR. MOONEYHAN: Abbie Tamber, Mike Grossmann.

21 MS. TAMBER: My name is Abbie Tamber, A-b-b-i-e
22 Tamber T-a-m-b-e-r. I agree with my friend over here and I
23 think he was very well said but I'm concerned about the
24 wetlands and the water. There's a different between a
25 manicured environment and a natural habitat.

1 There's a difference between a 30 inch pipeline
2 and an 8 inch pipeline. We know about climate change, this
3 is a direct impact on the environment. We can prove the
4 directness. No industry sets out to create a disaster, as
5 Exxon about that the Valdez, ask BP about the oil rig in the
6 Gulf of Mexico. Ask Daiichi about the nuclear power plant
7 in Japan.

8 Nature can create its own disasters, Hurricane
9 Katrina, Hurricane Isabelle, Tropical Lee, affected all of
10 us locally. A mudslide in Washington is also an example of
11 a natural disaster. No matter how well-regulated an
12 industry is, no matter how well one plans for a disaster,
13 human errors happen. Accidents happen. We don't know what
14 Mother Nature has in store for us in the future.

15 Are we truly protected? Why are we opening our
16 doors? I hope you don't pass this.

17 MR. GROSSMANN: Good evening, Mike Grossman
18 G-r-o-s-s-m-a-n-n. I'm here to address FERC as a direct
19 stakeholder in this project. The Constitution Pipeline has
20 proposed to go through about a thousand feet of my property
21 in Susquehanna County, Pennsylvania.

22 I don't see the need for a certificate of
23 necessity. I don't see the need for eminent domain. All of
24 the pipelines that have been created to date have done so
25 without that. With that being said, we are here tonight to

1 address the application so therefore I would like to on
2 behalf of landowners who are directly affected by the
3 pipeline, bring up a couple of points which are not
4 addressed in any of the offers given by Williams Company in
5 a contract for the Constitution Pipeline.

6 Number one, all landowners should be required to
7 be named as additional insured on Williams environmental and
8 liability policy and any assigns that should follow Williams
9 in the future. I state this because I am a professional
10 insurance agent, licensed in Pennsylvania and New Jersey and
11 I can assure you that given the fact of the pipeline on your
12 property, no homeowner's insurance will cover any of the
13 aspects of any pipeline being built.

14 That being said, if you are named as an
15 additional insured, it gives you some form of protection,
16 through the other company should an incident happen.

17 Number two, any roll-back or future taxes should
18 be a requirement of this application. It is not part of any
19 contract offered to date by Williams.

20 Number three, addressing what should happen
21 should the pipe be abandoned any time in the foreseeable
22 future, and what kind of reclamation would be required by
23 that abandonment.

24 A fourth, which is only personal to my particular
25 property, but it affects many other property owners in about

1 my own number 2.0 to 0.2 to 23.0. There is an offer for
2 damages for any trees on the property. There is no offer
3 for any damages to Bluestone affected, which has produced
4 many jobs.

5 That being said, I am in favor of negotiating
6 personally with Constitution Pipeline, but it should be on a
7 regular basis and not have the eminent domain forcing
8 property owners to sign. Thank you.

9 MR. WORDEN: Hello, James Worden. J-a-m-e-s
10 W-o-r-d-e-n. First I would like to say I appreciate FERC
11 for holding these hearings and allowing me and everyone else
12 to speak, thank you. Again my name is James Worden, I am an
13 intervener in this project as manager of the Upstate
14 Landowners Group LLC.

15 I represent over a hundred landowners and thirty
16 miles of pipeline. I would first like to say that we are
17 not interested in stopping the pipeline. We fully support
18 the development of natural gas in the northeast and we know
19 pipelines are needed for transport of the gas.

20 The purpose of the ULG is to educate and
21 negotiate a fair price for landowners who have the proposed
22 pipeline going across their property. We have been involved
23 in the process since the beginning. We have been in contact
24 with Mr. Kevin Bowman, who has been excellent and we would
25 also like to thank FERC for giving us the opportunity to be

1 involved in this process.

2 Since FERC has been very receptive to our group,
3 we are sharing some thoughts. We have demonstrated a
4 commitment to cooperate in working out issues to get this
5 project done since the beginning. We have been working with
6 the Constitution Pipeline company on many issues including,
7 the right to survey agreement and the pipeline easement.

8 Nothing with the Constitution has been easy, we
9 have been able to work out most of this as needed to get the
10 necessary paperwork for the project to be completed. Now,
11 we are only looking for fair compensation for our
12 membership. There is a standard set for pipeline easement
13 value that is far off from the Constitution's current
14 offers.

15 It is interesting to note that a company that did
16 set a local price standard sold the pipeline to the parent
17 company of the Constitution, Williams LLC. For many times
18 the cost of installation, the easement percentage cost of
19 this line dropped by the same multiple and in essence the
20 landowner received a far lower payment as a percentage of
21 development costs.

22 In a way Williams has already accepted this
23 standard and is currently obligated to landowners involved
24 with that line. The difference is that development company
25 pipeline, that pipeline development company, did not have

1 the option of eminent domain, which Williams has with the
2 Constitution line.

3 Also, the capacity of Constitution Pipeline is
4 significantly larger, meaning the profit potential for
5 Williams is greater, while returned land easement costs
6 offer appears to be far less. Eminent domain does not
7 consider the overall value impact to a landowner's remaining
8 property. Constitution is also pushing for a permanent
9 easement and not limited number of years as in the previous
10 pipeline's agreement.

11 I know that the purpose of FERC is to mostly
12 protect the environment and to approve financially plausible
13 infrastructure projects. We believe FERC is far less
14 concerned about the compensation. When FERC issues a
15 certificate to the Constitution, you are giving them the
16 right to take the landowner's property by the right of
17 eminent domain and that is taking away our ability to
18 negotiate a fair price.

19 Constitution has not yet responded to a
20 reasonable offer from the ULG, which was sent per their
21 request. Again I would like to state that we are not
22 interested in stopping the pipeline, but my purpose here

23 MR. MOONEYHAN: 20 seconds.

24 MR. WORDEN: But my purpose here is instead to
25 formally ask FERC and the Commission to not issue the

1 certificate to the Constitution Pipeline until they reach an
2 agreement with the ULG. Thank you very much.

3 MS.NABINGER: My name is Dolores Nabinger,
4 D-o-l-o-r-e-s Nabinger, N-a-b-i-n-g-e-r. I'm here for two
5 reasons, first of all I'm the Supervisor for the Town of
6 Bainbridge and I came here to express to the people that way
7 back in May of 2011 Bainbridge was approached by
8 Leatherstocking for a franchise agreement and our town
9 board, I'm just a little bit nervous, anyway --
10 Leatherstocking gave us an application for a franchise
11 agreement granting permission to provide natural gas to the
12 village and parts of the town of Bainbridge.

13 Our town had a public hearing back in 2011 and we
14 had discussed and public hearings and our town board voted
15 unanimously to pass the resolution to grant this franchise
16 to Leatherstocking and we know that with this Constitution
17 Pipeline, that would help Leatherstocking help our little
18 town and village.

19 I come to you tonight on behalf of the entire
20 town board and want to express that we feel that there is a
21 great need for the distribution of natural gas in our area
22 and the Constitution Pipeline will make this happen.

23 Now I would just like to read a letter that the
24 Mayor of the Village of Bainbridge gave me because he was
25 unable to attend, is that okay? May I read his letter?

1 MR. BOWMAN: Yes you can, in your remaining time.

2 MS. NABINGER: Okay, Regretfully a previous
3 commitment prevents me from attending this very important
4 comment gathering meeting, however, I would like to inform
5 those who may not know that the Village of Bainbridge, Board
6 of Trustees, on July 17, 2012 adopted a resolution approving
7 a franchise agreement with Leatherstocking to provide
8 natural gas service in the Village of Bainbridge, should it
9 be made available.

10 After due diligence, including meetings with the
11 gas company review by our village attorney, board discussion
12 and public hearing which produced no opposition, the board
13 voted unanimously to adopt said franchise agreement, stating
14 that it was in the best interest of the village.

15 I am certain there will be many comments
16 regarding the benefit of bringing natural gas to our area at
17 this meeting, and I hope the discussion stays civil and
18 respectful and deals with the distribution of natural gas,
19 not the product of same, as the intent of this meeting,
20 respectfully Philip Darling, Mayor of Bainbridge, thank you.

21 MR. WOOD: My name is Everett Wood, E-v-e-r-e-t-t
22 W-o-o-d. I have lived in Delaware County all of my life and
23 I have lived in the town of Sidney for 60 years. I took it
24 upon myself and some others as a group in the town of Sidney
25 to form a coalition which has 17,000 acres out of 32,000

1 acres of the town. As landowners and citizens, we applaud
2 the construction of the Constitutional Pipeline. It will
3 supply cheap, abundant, domestic energy, gas, from
4 Pennsylvania to destinations in New York, New England and
5 possibly eventually to our friends and allies throughout the
6 world.

7 It will provide tax monies to our counties,
8 townships, school districts, safety squads and libraries
9 along its route. Through distribution lines it will lower
10 energy costs to schools, factories, government, buildings,
11 businesses and residents and provide even more taxes to our
12 communities.

13 This is a welcome relief to our two prime
14 employers, Alacran and Anfinal and to the communities of
15 Sidney, Bainbridge, Afton and Unadilla. In addition,
16 projections are for 1,300 jobs created plus the economic
17 benefits of hundreds of other jobs that are spin-offs from
18 economy activities.

19 For those who have knowledge of pipeline
20 construction, and worries about environmental impact, we
21 expect the companies to address any concerns and fully
22 communicate with the people. Polite, respectable,
23 communication of fact will go a long way to dampen fears.

24 And the most important fact that I want to bring
25 up is until renewable, excuse me, until renewables are cost

1 effective, gas is our future. We want our oversight
2 agencies equipped with strong, appropriate regulations that
3 are strictly enforced. We will look forward to the
4 Constitution Pipeline as a beginning step in the renewal of
5 our communities, thank you

6 MR. GAWLEY: My name is John F. Gawley,
7 G-a-w-l-e-y. The young man who had us salute the flag,
8 thank you.

9 To the DEIS I think you were remiss, but we will
10 go on with that. I am in favor of the pipeline, I'm in
11 favor of fracking. I am a property owner up here and have
12 been for 45 years. I drove up from Queens today to talk to
13 you. The people who are opposed to the pipeline, or
14 anything else, should be entitled to your opinion, the rest
15 of us are entitled to our opinion.

16 Pipelines have crisscrossed this nation for
17 years, there are thousands of them. To the woman who spoke
18 about the pipeline near her house, I'm a retired New York
19 City cop, there are hundreds of pipelines in New York City,
20 running down the streets and the parkways, by the airports
21 and houses. They have been there for a long, long time.

22 Pipelines, gas does cause damage, but it is
23 usually through neglect and if there is no neglect, they are
24 safe. And I'm proud of the union guys here because I was a
25 Teamster before I was a cop. I support you guys, I support

1 the pipeline. I support the economy that it will bring to
2 this state and eventually when the entire northeast is
3 covered with pipelines, and we are not dependent on foreign
4 oil, we will be a lot securer in our lives and our homes and
5 our pocketbook, because we won't be sending billions of
6 dollars overseas to someone else that's taking it away from
7 us.

8 I hope that this thing is passed. And I hope
9 some people who are happy with what they get, thank you.

10 MS. WROBLEWSKI: Mary Wroblewski, M-a-r-y
11 Wroblewski, W-r-o-b-l-e-w-s-k-i. I'm from Liverpool New
12 York. I am against Constitutional Pipeline. When
13 Constitutional Pipeline surveyors, they did not ask my
14 permission to come and survey the property, they ran right
15 across. They had -- they were mapping out, they did not ask
16 not even one person from upstate New York during the job.

17 The job was done by employees from south Jersey,
18 New Jersey. Reading through the papers, I have just in
19 February, there was a well fire in Pennsylvania. They are
20 telling us there should be only 500 feet from a house.
21 Unfortunately, they could not get any closer than 900 feet
22 in the radius because of the intense heat.

23 Now yes, they are saying this will bring jobs.
24 As a surveyor that surveyed properties, surveyed jobs, all
25 made for each well, jobs are created. Well, I don't think

1 they are creating as many jobs as they are advertising.

2 Unfortunately, what it does, it brings more
3 crime, destruction to the road, erosions, contamination. At
4 the end in March, Albany had approved 28.6 million dollars
5 for solar projects. No way in any newspapers have anybody
6 ever mentioned that Albany had approved any money for a
7 pipeline, for fracking, for drilling.

8 I think either Albany is contradicting
9 themselves, or we are being forth led to believe what this
10 will do. This will not be a permanent jobs, this is
11 something that is temporary and when their pipelines are
12 done, the employees are gone, we are stuck with nothing but
13 contamination, thank you and have a good night.

14 MR. MOONEYHAN: Kim Michels, Thomas Collier.

15 MS. MICHELS: Hi, my name is Kim Michels. K-i-m
16 M-i-c-h-e-l-s and actually I just wanted to provide you with
17 some petitions of people who, some of the people who are
18 opposed to natural gas drilling, that is what some of the
19 petitions are on, some are on both pipeline and gas
20 drilling.

21 MS. MICHELS: One of the things that I wanted to
22 address was actually a friend of mine, her husband words for
23 Anfinal and I have heard a few comments on that issue. She
24 told me that when her husband came home from work the other
25 day, he was told that all the employees were being invited

1 to a dinner in Oneonta and also here and that they could
2 either attend the dinner or not. It was going to be at the
3 Brooks Barbeque up in Oneonta, I'm not sure what they were
4 serving here, but that they were expected to be here for one
5 of the two nights.

6 And if they value their jobs in the future

7 (BOOING AND NOISE FROM AUDIENCE)

8 MR. BOWMAN: Please allow her to speak.

9 MS. MICHELS: If they valued their jobs in the
10 future, especially the ability of this plan in Sidney, that
11 they helped to build, they would come back here and back up
12 the pipeline, and I'm just asking everybody to be honest.
13 Did Anfinal or your union leaders provide you with the signs
14 that you have here today and if that is the case would you
15 raise your hands?

16 (NOISE FROM THE AUDIENCE)

17 MS. MICHELS: I'm just asking you to be honest.

18 I am going - -

19 (BOOING AND YELLING FROM THE AUDIENCE)

20 MR. BOWMAN: Please

21 MS. MICHELS: I'm sorry, I was going to say can
22 I, I thought everybody was supposed to be cordial.

23 MR. BOWMAN: Yes.

24 MS. MICHELS: What I have to say is I am very
25 much opposed to the pipeline and I am also against this push

1 for renewables. I have done a lot of research in the last
2 five years since this whole gas issue has come about and it
3 is has been a real wake-up call. This pipeline is just part
4 of a much bigger plan and involves turning over New York
5 State and the United States, through economic processing
6 zones, or another term for it is export the processing
7 zones, this basically caters to the trades natural
8 corporations and allows for quite a bit of changing of laws
9 in order to accommodate that and the exportation of people
10 out of state and our country for the benefit of these
11 companies.

12 Just to give you an example, I'm actually, I
13 would also like to add the economy that coal is putting into
14 effect bears a very frightening resemblance, not just to
15 these economic processing zones.

16 MR. MOONEYHAN: 20 seconds.

17 MS. MICHELS: But also to the encounters of
18 fascism as practiced in Germany and if you don't believe
19 that, all of that is available if you go on-line, look up
20 the economics with fascism, look up export processing zones.

21 MR. MOONEYHAN: Please.

22 MS. MICHELS: And just one final thing I know
23 everybody is talking about the economics of this.

24 MR. MOONEYHAN: Your time has expired.

25 MS. MICHELS: One last thing. I would ask

1 everyone to take a look at the natural gas infrastructures.

2 MR. BOWMAN: We are going to take a five minute
3 break. We are going to come back in five minutes. There's
4 a lot of talk and cheering from everyone, so I would like
5 you to calm down after this and we are going to take a five
6 minute recess and with that at 9:10 p.m., thank you.

7 MR. BOWMAN: Let the record show we are trying to
8 reconvene the meeting at 9:17 p.m.

9 WOMAN FROM AUDIENCE: Could you please address
10 the hollerers in the back of the room and suppress that kind
11 of behavior?

12 MR. COLLIER: Hello again, my name is Thomas
13 Collier, C-o-l-l-i-e-r..

14 MR. BOWMAN: Let me -- if we have any more
15 interruptions of any kind, that will be the last speaker.
16 This is the last, final and only warning after our break. I
17 would like to remind you that after speaking please do not
18 engage people in the audience. The purpose of this meeting
19 is to get comments from you all to us so please direct your
20 comments to us.

21 Again, if there is any more interruptions, we
22 will close the meeting, please go ahead Mr. Collier.

23 MR. COLLIER: Hello again, I am Thomas Collier,
24 C-o-l-l-i-e-r. Last night inspired by a speaker from Monday
25 night, I spoke about common ground we share as citizens.

1 Right location, and honest work ethics. I would like
2 tonight to try and paint this picture as clearly as I can.

3 We have a multi-national profit oriented
4 corporation who presents our federal government and its
5 regulatory body with an undeniably misleading, confusing and
6 intentionally incomplete, 945 page DEIS. This is the person
7 whose presence in all of these meetings is this
8 lawyer-written plan for how it will take our community's
9 land for profit, legally, according to the law it wrote.

10 It sends this 945 page book to FERC to sell to
11 our community. We the people, three important words, the
12 landowners, come here with all we have. No lawyers, but the
13 desire for the pursuit of happiness, three more important
14 words. This is not about length, width, depth, weight or
15 what can or cannot be gotten away with to a vague,
16 misleading and incomplete legal ease, this is about
17 citizens, brave honorable people, up against the person who
18 would, from the Constitution Pipeline corporation, bribing
19 their way into our town with grants, arrogance, of material
20 delivery before any permits are issued, and of course
21 bullying.

22 This, we know if blatant, corporate crime. This
23 is not so much about the material claims, it is about a
24 higher claim. It's about the heart and soul of real people,
25 not about corporate criminals, we would not trust to take

1 your daughter to the prom. Do good work, FERC. Thank you
2 again.

3 MR. DUGGAN: My name is Steven --

4 MR. BOWMAN: Go ahead.

5 MR. DUGGAN: All right, my name is Steven Duggan.
6 That's D-u-g-g-a-n. My mother works for Laborers Local 785.
7 As Steve Payne said earlier, all laborers are required to
8 have an OSHA certificate. Part of OSHA is environmental
9 safety. And in order to work the pipeline, you had to take
10 courses such as hazardous waste.

11 All pipeline workers are certified in these
12 courses. The food and beverages and the t-shirts that you
13 see tonight, they were all paid for by union dues. That
14 would be all.

15 MS. CRAGNOLIN: Good evening, I'm Janice
16 Cragnolin. C-r-a-g-n-o-l-i-n. I live in Delaware County.
17 I presented last night in Oneonta for myself and my mother
18 asked me to present for her tonight so I am presenting her
19 statement.

20 MR. BOWMAN: Closer to the mic.

21 MS. CRAGNOLIN: Thank you. For Alicia Pagano,
22 Dr. Alicia Pagano, thank you very much, bear with me.

23 Hello chairperson, community elected officials,
24 neighbors and everyone to whom we present our statements. I
25 asked my daughter to read my statement tonight as I am 85

1 years old and I am unable to attend.

2 Our family has lived here in Otsego, in Delaware
3 County for over 300 years. We have always worked together
4 in our community. My father and my brother have held
5 volunteer jobs as firemen right here in these counties.
6 They often left their paid or their paid-jobs or their sleep
7 to answer emergencies.

8 I ask you now, what protections do we have in
9 place? What protections are you requiring for these firemen
10 and their volunteer jobs for pipeline-related accidents?
11 What protection are you requiring for those of us who live
12 here? For our homes and the future of the jobs we now hold?

13 The pipeline will destroy many of our current
14 family jobs, farming, professional fire fighter people,
15 doctors, nurses, teachers and tourism workers. All of our
16 jobs will be affected by the invasion and the construction
17 of the pipeline and the presence of a pipeline. What
18 protections are in the regulations for us?

19 We are not bussed in, we live here. Thank you.

20 I would like to add to my mother's statement that
21 I understand there are only eight months-worth of jobs for
22 constructing the pipeline, and there will be a lifetime of
23 repercussion, generations-worth of repercussion to what is
24 happening, and I would ask that you not permit it. Thank
25 you very much.

1 MR. MOONEYHAN: Eugene Marner, William Huston.

2 MR. MARNER: My name is Eugene Marner,
3 M-A-R-N-E-R. It is my understanding that it is against the
4 law for an applicant to fragment the project. When Williams
5 came to Delaware County, to Franklin back -- a couple of
6 years back when this all began, they said that their project
7 was not connected to the central compressor station in, down
8 in Pennsylvania and it was not connected to the Wright
9 compressor station.

10 It was just a pipeline. Now, it must be a
11 miraculous pipeline that can transport gas 124 miles without
12 any compression behind it. So we asked FERC, many of us, I
13 think I did, in one of my comments, but during the scoping
14 period, we asked FERC to take into account that the project
15 was being fragmented and that is apparently illegal.

16 There is something else that has come to my
17 attention, and that is the other docket number CP13-502, the
18 Iroquois gas transmission system. I have here a brochure
19 that they published, it is called So-No, south to north
20 project. It shows the Constitution Pipeline joining the
21 Iroquois at Wright, at the Wright station and the gas going
22 right up to Canada.

23 And it says here, this is so we can export the
24 gas to Canada. We can send this gas to Canada. Now
25 everybody from where it can be exported to any place,

1 liquefied and sent to European markets and Asian markets,
2 and everybody has been talking about the economic benefits
3 of gas here in New York state, imagine that if this goes
4 through that gas will remain cheap, the way it is now
5 because it is being overproduced and because these companies
6 have to be cranking it out to keep their investors happy, so
7 this is a surplus of gas, so it's cheap.

8 But gas doesn't sell for \$4.00 a million cubic
9 feet or whatever the number is, it sells for 8 or 9 in
10 Europe and 12 or 15 in Asia, and that is where it is going
11 to go and this is a world price. When gas goes to 8 or 9,
12 if this gas is being sold for 8 or 9 dollars in Europe or 10
13 or 12 in Asia, here in New York it is going to be the same
14 price, because these are global prices that are affected by
15 global markets, that's all, thank you.

16 MR. MOONEYHAN: William Huston, Vera Scroggins.

17 MR. HUSTON: William Huston, H-u-s-t-o-n. Okay,
18 so we have been hearing a lot about -- I just want, before I
19 get in to the subjects of my comments, I just want to talk
20 about what just happened and we have been putting up with
21 this for the last three days. They bus in these union
22 people from 80 to 100 miles away. Yesterday there was one
23 bus from Newfield, I'm sorry, Newburgh, New York and another
24 bus that came from Rome. Rome is 80 miles from Oneonta,
25 Newburgh is 125 miles, down by Poughkeepsie.

1 These guys are being bussed in here from a long
2 ways away to bully us and to take the time from legitimate
3 interveners to make legitimate comments on the DEIS that our
4 substantive in nature and these guys have one thing to say,
5 jobs, jobs, jobs and the economic benefits. I am going to
6 talk about some of the economic benefits here.

7 First of all, I made a mistake. I quoted
8 somebody from the Monday hearing that there were actually
9 only going to be seven permanent jobs as a result of this
10 pipeline, that was in error. I actually looked it up in the
11 DEIS this morning and it is five. So all of you guys in the
12 orange shirts, this thing is going to produce five permanent
13 jobs and you all are getting played.

14 You all are victims just like we are. And what I
15 want to tell you is that we have been bullied by these big
16 guys in orange shirts for the last three days and I was just
17 threatened, and I just made a police report, and I don't
18 know what's going to happen. This guy said, "you better
19 wish I don't follow you out of here," that's what he said.
20 "You better hope I don't follow you out of here".

21 We shouldn't have to put up with this. Let's
22 talk about the economic benefits. We have heard quoted
23 repeatedly tonight that there is going to be 13 million
24 dollars of property tax benefits due to this pipeline. Keep
25 in mind that there is not going to be any revenue from the

1 gas being transported through the pipeline, that's 100% the
2 profits of the mystery company which is Williams.

3 Let's talk about the 13 million dollars. 2.1 for
4 Broome County, 1.3 million Chenango County, 4.9 million
5 Delaware County, 4.4 million Schoharie County. Curiously,
6 Susquehanna County isn't listed. I wonder why that is, I
7 don't know, but any way it comes out to 12.7 million, let's
8 call it 13 million.

9 So what they are paying taxes are on the
10 right-of-way that they lease, right. So that has value,
11 well what's the value of that? Well, it's whatever, if they
12 lease one-tenths of that property, the value is one-tenth of
13 your property taxes, that's what they lease it for. That's
14 what they pay for, that's the assessed value.

15 Do you see what I'm getting at? People are
16 already paying taxes, instead of me the property owner
17 paying taxes on that little strip of land, now it's
18 Constitution that's paying taxes. There is zero net income.
19 This 13 million dollars is false, it is a lie. There is
20 going to be zero property tax benefit from this Constitution
21 Pipeline and there are enumerable environmental impacts from
22 this which we have been telling you about for the last three
23 days.

24 And I hope you have been taking good notes and
25 you take it back to the Commissioners. This application is

1 defective. The applicant does not deserve a certificate of
2 public convenience because of their atrocious compliance
3 record.

4 MR. MOONEYHAN: 20 second.

5 MR. HUSTON: Environmental and safety record.
6 You need to withdraw, FERC is not doing your job as lead
7 agency implementing the National Environmental Policy Act,
8 take this thing back and throw it in the shredder.

9 MR. MOONEYHAN: Vera Scroggins.

10 MS. SCROGGINS: I'd like to address, I'm an
11 intervener on this pipeline and I'm an intervener on other
12 pipelines as well. I'm from Susquehanna County, Vera
13 Scroggins, V-e-r-a S-c-r-o-g-g-i-n-s. I would like to also
14 talk about the record of Williams.

15 Williams and our county has had two gas leaks,
16 explosions and fires at two compressor stations over the
17 past two years and they also have had the same type of
18 incidents in New Jersey, New York and the southern part of
19 our country and that is in the past two years.

20 Also, the Cabot Oil and Gas that is supporting
21 this line has up to this point in our county, Susquehanna,
22 540 DEP violations so far and millions in fines. These are
23 the type of companies that are supporting this line and
24 producing this line and look at their record at this point.

25 We have hundreds of miles of pipelines in our

1 county. We have over 800 gas flows and property tax at the
2 most, has been one or two percent reduced the past two years
3 after five years of drilling and if you can compute that on
4 your taxes in New York, you will see what kind of a savings
5 you are thinking you might be getting, one or two percent,
6 that's after five years of working in our county.

7 And I would like to also add that a lot of the
8 workers in the pipelines in our county were out of the area,
9 out of the county, out of the state, coming from long
10 distance, and they didn't use many, at all, of the local
11 people. I also heard complaints from the unions in our
12 county, from the welders, and they showed that they didn't
13 do work for Williams because of the conditions of this
14 company and how they treated, and what they offered them.

15 So unless you have a guarantee from your unions
16 that you are going to be working, I wouldn't count on what
17 kinds of jobs you might get, and how many will get it. At
18 this point also, we are dealing with environmental impacts
19 of all kinds because when they do the pipelines, they are
20 cutting through 100 to 150 foot slots and we are getting a
21 lot of logging being cut down. We have the most lumber we
22 have ever seen in decades in our county and the price of
23 lumber has plummeted because of the increase in lumber that
24 we have.

25 So you are opening all of these areas and then

1 the run-off, the sediment run-off is the most that they are
2 seeing in our waterways. This is not something good for the
3 future of our eco-system. Eco-systems also that they are
4 opening up in the forest that they are breaking up and
5 cutting through all kinds of breeding and birds and
6 everything else that we have, it is throwing off our
7 eco-systems.

8 When you are talking about all these pipelines,
9 this is not going to be the last pipeline that will probably
10 be coming into New York. We also have compressor stations
11 every two to four miles of our pipelines and dozens of
12 emissions, we are talking about, that does emit toxic
13 emissions, by the tons from each compressor station and we
14 are having all kinds of complaints of health impacts,
15 besides the noise and then there's the health impacts, and I
16 know that these people who are working for the unions, they
17 care about their families, they also care to

18 MR. MOONEYHAN: 20 second.

19 MS. SCROGGINS: make sure that things are good
20 for everyone, please consider the Pennsylvania people, what
21 we are going through with the water contamination, the air
22 contamination because of this whole industry and think about
23 us too, that we have to be frank even more than ever as we
24 have to put all the gas that goes through this pipeline, and
25 it has a high radon content also, we have high radon in

1 Marcellus and radon in the gas that will be coming through
2 to the whole area.

3 MR. MOONEYHAN: Please.

4 MS. SCROGGINS: Thank you very much.

5 MR. MOONEYHAN: Craig Stevens, Ann Sauter.

6 MR. STEVENS: Good evening, thank you Craig
7 Stevens and Silver Lake Township, Pennsylvania. I was asked
8 earlier why I am here the third night in a row. Maybe the
9 FERC people want to know too. We are the extraction colony
10 that is going to provide the gas that is being sent to
11 wherever it is going, when it's through this 30 inch pipe,
12 so I am trying to come here and enlighten you guys and maybe
13 we can shut it down. We would like to figure out what all
14 the problems are with our water and air quality issues.

15 Where we live, before we sent the problem up to
16 New York state, my mom is from Oswego so I have a stake in
17 New York too, at least as a fifth generation New Yorker.
18 Six explosions and fires at compressor stations in eighteen
19 months by the company you are planning on giving this
20 license to, to steal actually.

21 FERC, we the people of the United States of
22 America, are demanding a federal investigation into these
23 incidents, along with hundreds of others occurring
24 nationwide, including Class 1 rural, which allows for no
25 over-sighting except by the company that operates the

1 systems. A lack of over-sight is a public health and safety
2 hazard.

3 If this were aircraft falling out of the sky, we
4 would be shutting down airlines and grounding the types of
5 planes involved until we were assured of their safety, but
6 instead we watch as these incidents occurred more
7 frequently.

8 The federal, state, county and local governments,
9 regardless of classification of their area, must retain
10 jurisdiction on this type of infrastructure, to actively
11 safeguard and prevent dangerous accidents like those from
12 happening when companies, themselves, are left in charge of
13 them.

14 The Constitutions of Pennsylvania and the United
15 States of America do not allow the citizens to be put in
16 danger from avoidable, potentially fatal incidents that are
17 occurring on a frighteningly-regular basis. And to allow
18 such would be a dereliction of duty for any official or
19 emergency responder anywhere.

20 My father spent 63 years in the civil air patrol
21 and specialized in emergency management. He would never
22 have tolerated this frequency of issues from the same type
23 of equipment, let alone the same company, without demanding
24 a full accounting and responsibility being taken for it.

25 The company Williams, is operating hundreds of

1 these stations and thousands of miles of pipelines across
2 America, and regulatory authorities should be treating each
3 incident as unacceptable and six in eighteen months is a
4 pattern of issues that should be considered systemic in
5 nature.

6 You are all put on notice that the citizens who
7 have empowered you, and the taxpayers who foot the bill,
8 demand immediate answers and actions. Any lack of action
9 will regard as a dereliction of duty and should result in
10 immediate resignation or removal from office by your bosses,
11 we the people.

12 (APPLAUSE)

13 I'm just reading the news, Google Williams and
14 you will find that there are very interesting things with
15 all of the problems that they have had. The workers were
16 welding a portion of a non-active type at the compressor
17 station at the time of the explosion, while 7:00 p.m.
18 emergency responders, including firefighters and ambulances
19 rushed to the scene. Mayor Jim Leonard said he will ask the
20 Federal Pipeline and Hazardous Material Safety
21 Administration, which regulates the pipeline safety to
22 investigate.

23 The fire started at the facility early on Monday
24 and was followed by an explosion, I'm sorry, explosion in
25 one storage tank, said Ed Dunbar, a captain with Benton

1 County fire district office, resident.

2 Guys if you are in the orange shirts, these are
3 all the people that they put into jeopardy, I mean, come on,
4 they don't care about you. When you get blown up and
5 burned, there is no care by Williams, but hopefully your
6 union will take care of you. The explosion destroyed two
7 homes and damages another, Dunbar said, leaving a crater in
8 the ground sixty feet around.

9 MR. MOONEYHAN: 20 seconds.

10 MR. STEVENS: At least one person was transported
11 to a local hospital with burns, the other was brought in to
12 the hospital for evaluation.

13 I'm going to end it again like I did last night.
14 The scariest thing I ever heard is we are from the federal
15 government to help. So I am going to call FERC, fires,
16 explosions, rights-trampling, constitution-abusers, thank
17 you.

18 MR. MOONEYHAN: Annie Sauter.

19 MS. SAUTER: My name is Annie Sauter S-a-u-t-e-r.
20 It's hard to know where to start with all there is just so
21 many things. I know you don't want us to ask questions or
22 have any audience participation, but I would just like to
23 say that to Mr. Payne, who was from OSHA who spoke before
24 saying how safe it was.

25 How can you say that in the fact of six

1 explosions in eighteen months, not to mention WHIP that just
2 exploded in Carlsbad and it took weeks and weeks for the
3 information to come out that the people had been fatally
4 poisoned with radiation.

5 And also about the pump. I'm an impacted
6 landowner, our land -- I'm not sure if it goes right through
7 our land, they might have moved it, like fifty feet from our
8 land up the hill where it floods down all the time, so I'm
9 not sure if it is directly on my land but it will affect my
10 husband and my business. We have a forge and ceramic
11 pottery there and we have a lot of fire there all the time
12 and if they were to be a gas leak, it would be really a bad
13 place to have a gas leak. We would be stuck between the
14 river and the explosion like those other people who got
15 burned to death.

16 Let me see, the other thing is talking about how
17 there is going to be economic benefit. I have lived
18 down-wind from a compressor before. I didn't live here my
19 whole life, I've lived all over the place. My husband is a
20 veteran, U.S. Air Force, medic veteran, and he has damaged
21 kidney from exploding a TCE from Superfund sites, it used to
22 be called an air base.

23 I forgot what I was going to say -- oh, and as
24 far as automatic cut-offs, Mr. Marsh was speaking about how
25 they were going to put in automatic cut-offs. Even if they

1 put in automatic cut-offs, I know Whip had automatic
2 cut-offs to which they originally said cut-off before any
3 pollution made it to the surface and then it turned out well
4 maybe there was a minute, well maybe there was five minutes,
5 well maybe it's still leaking out, plutonium and uranium all
6 over the southwest.

7 As far as the gas having radon in it, do you
8 really want gas with radon in it pumped in to heat your
9 schools? I mean we know we have radon around here, you got
10 down in your basement and you take a Geiger counter and it
11 just starts clicking away and when they take that gas up, if
12 it has radon in it and then the closer it is, I mean it
13 comes into your school, then they are going to burn it in
14 there? What's going to happen with that? Do you really
15 want pipes, hot pipes, literally hot pipes, in your kids
16 schools?

17 And talking about economic benefits, that's what
18 I was going to say before. The economic benefit, yeah, well
19 maybe it will make however many new jobs in your town, I
20 wonder if anybody knows how much it costs to treat one case
21 of childhood cancer from living down-wind from a compressor.

22 When we lived down-wind from a compressor, every
23 time they released it, or vented it, or whatever they call
24 it, people would sit around there in the desolation of what
25 was left of Pawney Rock, Kansas, after the oil and gas left,

1 and they would say, oh it smells like money. And then you
2 would drive into town with the stink of methane every twenty
3 feet and then you would go into the 7/11 or whatever the
4 Sonic and on every counter --

5 MR. MOONEYHAN: 20 seconds.

6 MS. SAUTER: There would be a canister with a
7 bald kid, begging for quarters to pay for their cancer.
8 Please don't do it

9 MR. MOONEYHAN: Loddie Marsh, Ray Lewis.

10 MS. MARSH: Hi, my name is Loddie Marsh,
11 M-a-r-s-h. I am eclectic homeowner and intervener.
12 Cabot-Williams is purposefully pitting the union members
13 against homeowners by having them bussed in, given a shirt,
14 given a hat, and given dinner.

15 Although the union members hold signs saying they
16 live here, they are from as far away as Rome, New York, 80
17 miles and Newburg, New York, 125 miles away. They have been
18 coached to disrupt the true land-owners comments. It's
19 amazing to me how little it takes to have people forego
20 their integrity, maybe when they are in a mob it's easier.

21 Jobs is a hot-button word and it's been used not
22 only by the union, but by companies as well to manipulate
23 people. Anfinal for instance. Anfinal has been in the
24 press with Cabot-Williams as its so-called job's "savior".
25 If Anfinal was so concerned about being competitive, why

1 didn't they get gas years ago. Surrounding towns, Walton,
2 Oneonta and Norwich have had natural gas for 40 years. A
3 pipeline connection to any of these towns would be
4 cost-effective and alleviate the need of Anfinal to keep
5 outsourcing jobs to Mexico and China, which they have done
6 even after receiving 750,000 dollars incentive from the IBA
7 to stay in the area and close to 50 million in state and
8 flood recovery funding.

9 For over 60 years, Mirabitos has had the monopoly
10 strangle-hold on oil and propane in Sidney. Now that
11 Mirabitos has become a partner to Corning-Leatherstocking
12 and stand to reap great financial gains, suddenly it's,
13 "yeah, natural gas" and Anfinal is using that for all it's
14 worth.

15 Anfinal may employ less than 800 people in the
16 tri-county area, but have their dark side, having
17 contributed greatly to the super-fun sites in Sidney and
18 cancer cluster areas. Anfinal does not need the pipeline to
19 get gas, there are other vendors. This pipeline is a
20 panacea, it can easily being our ruminantion. The burning of
21 natural gas is not truly cleaner and the extraction process
22 makes it much more environmentally disasterous than either
23 coal or oil.

24 An accident or spill knows no boundaries or
25 property lines and the people who don't want the

1 infrastructure and build-out which will industrialize our
2 rural communities will suffer devastation and loss. The
3 profit is not ours. The damage left behind is ours, thank
4 you.

5 MR. MOONEYHAN: Ray Lewis, Steven Stoddard.

6 MR. LEWIS: Ray Lewis, L-e-w-i-s. I would like
7 to talk about the impact of this pipeline on land values.
8 The highly esteemed certified property appraisal group,
9 called the Forensic Appraisal Group, based in Osh Kosh,
10 Wisconsin, completed 18 studies on the impact of natural gas
11 transmission lines on private property values.

12 From these 18 studies, they concluded that a
13 pipeline across private property will reduce your whole
14 property value by an average of thirty percent, therefore if
15 your property value is \$500,000.00, putting a pipeline
16 through there drops that value to \$350,000.00 immediately,
17 that's a \$150,000.00 decrease.

18 My question is this. Is the just compensation
19 coming from Cabot for that loss of \$150,000.00? There is no
20 just compensation coming from Cabot for that loss. This my
21 friends, is the epitome of robbery. So now not only are we
22 victims of theft, by having our land stolen through eminent
23 domain, but now we are also victims of robbery because we
24 are not being compensated for the loss of the value of our
25 land.

1 We have become victims of theft and robbery by
2 our own government, shame, shame, shame. Thank you.

3 MR. STODDARD: Good evening and thanks for being
4 here, I'm glad you are here. My name is Steven Stoddard,
5 S-t-o-d-d-a-r-d. I am a Teamster. I live ten miles down
6 the road where I own property. I would be glad to have a
7 pipeline come through it because I put pipes in the ground,
8 I know how safe it is. I am a 40 hour hazardous waste
9 operations, certified 8 hour hazmat refresher course, OSHA
10 10 construction, 8 hour forklift safety.

11 Each of my team, train the trainer, that means I
12 train people in hazardous waste and hazmat. That's my job,
13 part of it, also 8 hour transportation security, this is
14 just some of the training that I have to go through in order
15 to do my job, which right now, I have to travel sometimes
16 up to 1500 miles to go to work and when I do that, I am
17 incurring another \$3,000.00 a month in living expenses
18 because I have to leave a state where I am paying taxes,
19 property taxes, school taxes and income taxes because we
20 can't have our own work here.

21 I don't like eminent domain, but where would we
22 be -- we wouldn't be anywhere without it. We wouldn't have
23 a railroad, we'd have nothing. On one hand, eminent domain
24 steals property, on another hand bans against things,
25 telling people what they can and cannot do with their

1 property are wrong, it is no different than eminent domain.

2 You erect a ban telling me what I can't do, you
3 might as well be stealing my property from me.

4 The last thing I would like to say, I have worked
5 out on a pipeline. I have worked on environmental crews, I
6 have also worked with FERC inspectors on site, and I know
7 how hard they work to keep us in line with what we are
8 supposed to do. I know how difficult sometimes it is to do
9 the work that we have to do to keep the environment as safe
10 as possible.

11 It's not perfect, nothing is. The gentlemen that
12 are recording this meeting do not have my permission to use
13 anything I have said or my images on the internet and that's
14 final, thank you very much. I appreciate you being here.

15 MS. MORIARTY: Eleanor E-l-e-a-n-o-r Moriarty
16 M-o-r-i-a-r-t-y. I'm against this whole DEIS. I have made
17 that known before. I don't believe there is any such thing
18 as mitigation, it's possible when it comes to our wetlands,
19 it helps the land and forest. I want to be very specific
20 about one area that the construction Constitution Pipeline
21 is planning to go through and it's called the Cannonsville
22 Mill Stream area and it was Constitution's state that route
23 changes were made to avoid recreational areas, as much as
24 possible, and this area is not only recreational area for
25 hikers and birders but it has been designated as an

1 important birding area.

2 In New York state the criteria for an important
3 birding areas sites 1 - for a specific species at risk. 2
4 -- sites identified with the most important habitats for
5 assemblages of bird species whose long-term conservation is
6 the responsibility of New York state.

7 The Constitution Pipeline would be crossing three
8 areas impacting 46 acres, 28.1 of those acres is upland
9 forest and operation of that pipeline would impact 22 acres,
10 13.1 of upland forest. The fragmentation of forest is well
11 document, a forest habitat will impact negatively upon the
12 neo-tropical migrants, the wood interior species, increasing
13 the risk of predation.

14 The population benefits from fragmenting forests
15 are small and in particular we should always hear about the
16 golden winged warriors. They have received numerous grants
17 and funding from the federal government to work hand-in-hand
18 with the farmers, to reconstruct the habitat that they breed
19 in, if indeed they can breed.

20 The area of Cannonsville Mill Stream is further
21 than breeding a nesting area for the bald eagle, the bird
22 that was brought back from near extinction many years ago.

23 The Delaware Upstate Audubon Society which covers
24 that area of Cannonsville Mill Stream has since 2009, been
25 collecting data on the spring migration of the golden eagle

1 and has found that this corridor is a major, migratory route
2 for the goldens and they have recently, through research
3 project, have begun to collect data, that the possibility
4 those goldens are over-wintering in that area.

5 The DEIS has noted that the bald eagles are there
6 but there has been no mention of the golden or other risk
7 species. DEIS further mentioned at four different points,
8 perhaps more, the need for Constitution to develop an upland
9 forest mitigation plan which to date has not been developed.
10 I do know that Constitution had met with Audubon in New York
11 and they did work out some sort of deal.

12 Delaware Oswego Audubon did not approve that, we
13 sent it in writing to them and strongly opposed that that
14 area in any form or shape gets disturbed. Audubon of New
15 York at that point did not have any data or information
16 about the golden eagles. I think that's something worth
17 looking into, thank you.

18 MS. LOEFFLER: Barbara Loeffler B-a-r-b-a-r-a
19 L-o-e-f-f-l-e-r. I have several things I would like to
20 comment on. Number one, are rescue units, it has not been
21 addressed in that document that you have where also part of
22 the environment, the human being, and the rescue units that
23 we have now are pretty pressed to the max. If there is
24 industrial accidents, they don't have any plans in there, to
25 their union people who all just went home, because they have

1 to go home and get up for work tomorrow, even though they
2 have no jobs.

3 We recently had a fire down in Stanford and every
4 fire department was called away so who is going to be
5 manning the ambulances and everything else to take care of
6 this, this is not mentioned at all in the environmental
7 impact statement.

8 Second of all, we have already had, because of
9 the stress of dealing with Constitution pipeline, my
10 neighbor passed away last year, 55 years old. I am sure the
11 stress of dealing with the land man coming in and wanting to
12 come through his field where we just raises beef cattle as a
13 sideline.

14 My other neighbor, who cannot be here tonight,
15 she is very upset. They are coming through a major field of
16 her place, her blood pressure went so high, she had to go in
17 the hospital and have a stent. So people are having these
18 physical things going wrong, my own self, my blood pressure
19 is so high I have to take extra medicine just to come here.
20 I'm sure those guys would be very happy if I had to get
21 carted out of here in an ambulance.

22 The other thing I have to say is also I got a
23 communication from them, from Constitution Pipeline, their
24 little newsletter they sent out, and they did address the
25 man camp issue, but they didn't address the problem of it,

1 they said it was going to make more jobs and hotels and food
2 industry, which is true, but we don't need more minimum wage
3 jobs, we need real jobs.

4 Today, in Oneonta, we got to have a rare example
5 of what it will be like to have a man camp. Friends of mine
6 were having dinner and had to leave because a group of these
7 men came in and they were loud and obnoxious and they
8 couldn't even have a conversation with each other, so they
9 had to leave. I don't think that's right and we have a big
10 eye-opening experience with that today.

11 I'm not mentioning what restaurant it was and
12 that's all I have to say, thank you.

13 MR. BEVILACQUA: Epifanio Bevilacqua
14 E-p-i-f-a-n-i-o Bevilacqua B-e-v-i-l-a-c-q-u-a. I'm an
15 intervener for FERC. It's a shame to see what's happened to
16 my near communities and neighbors. Some people don't even
17 know what's coming. They don't even know what's fracking,
18 they don't -- I even have cousins in Pennsylvania that
19 didn't know what fracking was until I told them a year ago.

20 People are not even aware of what's going on and
21 there's a lot of radon. And like Sandra Signgraver said,
22 any time you move anything and you disrupt anything,
23 eventually it goes up into the air and when it rains from
24 the cloud, it comes back down again and uranium will come
25 back down so you are going to get it, or your food, so I

1 don't know where we are going to get our food from.

2 I'm worried about my grandson that's only two
3 months now. What kind of environment is he going to be able
4 to live in. So we have to look for the next generation, and
5 the next six generations down. What are we going to give to
6 the next generation? That's what I'm worried about.

7 I have seen people in Deposit at forums with the
8 Constitution, all right, I won't be here, but what about
9 your family that you are going to leave behind? What are
10 you going to leave them? Is that a future with your
11 radiation? No food? And I saw something else on the
12 internet that the bees are dying out and you need them to
13 pollinate your food, you can't buy any food if food isn't
14 going to grow.

15 So where are we going to get our food from? Are
16 we going to start eating each other, cannibals? You could
17 see how it gets here, just over a Constitution pipeline,
18 imagine if they can't eat?

19 (LAUGHTER)

20 It's going to get crazy. These are true fact, I
21 don't understand. I talked to them, what planet do you live
22 in that we don't? That was my first speech in Afton. You
23 know they wanted to know I have a job, I work, - I drove 180
24 miles each way, each weekend. I left the family up here but
25 themselves, it wasn't easy for the wife to take care of the

1 animals, two beef cows and sheep and birds and chickens,
2 it's not easy, now I want to retire, I want to enjoy the
3 place, all right, here's a pipeline coming in here, we want
4 to frack.

5 I want to be left alone, I want my own freedom.
6 I don't want to be here wasting my time, I would rather be
7 home, relaxing, watching tv. I put in my time, I don't want
8 to be here, but to defend my family to come, and generations
9 and my kids living in Sidney, come on, I have two of them
10 that live in Sidney, my grandson lives in Sidney, so I hope
11 she moves out of there soon. Even Binghamton is no better.
12 We have all the 98 rolls up above, and he's done a great job
13 on you-tube showing it all, a great tree divided, showed it
14 too, it's running down, right down the Allegheny River,
15 right into the Gulf of Mexico, so okay they are just dumping
16 oil right in the Gulf of Mexico, let's get all the wells to
17 run in there too, let's pollute the Gulf and then we'll feed
18 fish and everything else.

19 And then we wonder where is cancer coming from,
20 let's do the research to where the cancer is coming from.
21 Very important, everybody says yes, we have cancer, we are
22 going to deal with it, let's see where it's coming from and
23 Carol French in Pennsylvania, she's got rashes, the cows got
24 rashes, this doesn't take a rocket scientist, it's there,
25 the evidence.

1 If she's got it, the cows got it, where did it
2 come from? Where else? They are drinking the same water,
3 they are bathing in it and they say whatever you bathe in,
4 it doesn't matter, you buy drinking water. My aunt she's 80
5 years old she said I'll buy drinking water. Are you going
6 to clean your clothes and bathe yourself with drinking water
7 from a bottle?

8 MR. MOONEYHAN: 20 seconds.

9 MR. BEVILACQUA: Thank you and I hope you dismiss
10 this because we need renewables.

11 MS. BEVILACQUA: Good evening, Linda Bevilacqua
12 B-e-v-i-l-a-c-q-u-a. I hadn't written anything before I
13 came tonight, but I was sitting here, very courteously
14 listening to everyone speaking and I'm listening to all of
15 the heckling and the booing that is going on, that I
16 couldn't even hear people talking and I was getting so riled
17 up that I just started writing so here it goes.

18 If these people are all, all these union people
19 are being bussed in from other areas. How many local jobs
20 are there, a handful? The Constitution promised you, did
21 they promise you union wages? Have you checked into it? We
22 have seen a video where a construction site person was
23 video-taped and they are not paying union wages. How many
24 of these people researched what the pipeline needs to push
25 it along, compressor stations, full of toxic emissions.

1 I'm really not into science, I'm just speaking
2 from my heart. Of course we would all like to heat our
3 homes more cheaply. Last year we went to a presentation
4 from Leatherstocking that was, I think in Marydale and May
5 German was there who spoke last night and he said that, and
6 he was laughing about it, but it was the truth, he said that
7 people think that you know, they are going to be able to tap
8 into this gas and get it for their homes.

9 If you don't have cell phone service, you're not
10 getting gas. I mean it costs us a fortune, I heat with
11 oil, we chop trees, we have two wood stoves going on, it's a
12 pain in the neck, it's a full-time job, it's physically very
13 demanding but what other choice do we have.

14 The story about Anfinal, I mean that's bribery, I
15 mean this gas is not for us, they are saying it, you know,
16 these Leatherstocking people just coming in at the end, oh
17 we will be able to tap into this and that, that hasn't been
18 from the beginning, it's been that it is going to go
19 straight to the other markets.

20 As I said yesterday, and I wish the union members
21 were here but they have all conveniently left. They all
22 managed to get in first, well okay I understand that but as
23 I said yesterday, my husband is a union member. Our bread
24 and butter comes from his union, he was a member for 26
25 years, he has all of his OSHA, he had to go to school for

1 everything. He worked in Hyde, places in Manhattan, I know
2 what it is like to be without a husband and a father, I
3 raised my kids by myself.

4 I didn't come here to do that. Four kids I
5 raised by myself and I ran a farm and I did this frickin'
6 wood stove, it was a lot of work, but would I do it again?

7 No.

8 (crying) People say it's just a pipeline, they're wrong.
9 Pipelines equal compressor stations and believe me that will
10 open everything up to fracking and that's a whole other
11 story.

12 To all the union members heckling about the
13 safety of the pipelines, have you researched anything, like
14 they said six explosions in 18 months, have you done any
15 research? Where are you living? Do you read the news? Do
16 you stay on top of things? Have you researched
17 deceitfulness and the secrecy of Williams?

18 How would any of you union members like it, or
19 landowners, like it if you worked your whole life to get
20 something, to get a home, to put all of your hard-earned
21 money --

22 MR. MOONEYHAN: 20 seconds.

23 MS. BEVILACQUA: And the pipeline comes along and
24 says that's it, they destroyed everything, what recourse do
25 you have? I'm hoping that tomorrow's meeting will be a

1 little bit more civil and that these people will stop with
2 these barbarian ways, it's really very wrong, this is a
3 government meeting, it's not right, thank you.

4 MR. MOONEYHAN: Robert Kerley.

5 MR. KERLEY: Robert Kerley K-e-r-l-e-y. I'm
6 president of Schoharie County, New York and I wanted to add
7 to comments I made last night. I have been talking quite a
8 bit about what really seems to be happening here with this
9 pipeline that is probably going to be one corridor, one
10 segment, I believe of, yes some type of a pipeline grid
11 that would go from you know, kind of a grand eastern,
12 northeastern pipeline grid that would extend from West
13 Virginia up into the maritime provinces. I think probably
14 this is the segment that is absolutely going to be part of
15 some type of future, probably, I called it in my notes here,
16 globalized level of corporate profitization cycle, where we
17 keep moving gas into LNG, then off-shoring it.

18 I think probably a lot of the gas will
19 ultimately, you know, after 2025 or so, end up in Western
20 Europe and in places that are largely reliant on gas from
21 Russia right now, entities like that. A lot of it would go
22 to east Asia, to China, to Japan.

23 You know, and a few speakers talked about that
24 tonight but I think that's the real issue here and this is
25 really getting into almost G8 level major western power

1 politics here and it's probably this issue is really
2 something way above the energy department, FERC or even one
3 branch of government probably. These are big, big issues
4 and I'm glad that a few people spoke about it.

5 Anyway I left off last night saying that the
6 pipeline is unnecessary and inconvenient and I guess I
7 really feel that way. This is probably just going to be
8 another part of some type of a real corporatization system
9 at a global level that really goes against the American
10 people ultimately. Labor unions, workers, people like that
11 and going to continue ultimately, in terms of long-term
12 gradation probably to suffer probably, down and down, so I
13 hope people kind of understand what I am talking about.

14 I think for this evening there was definitely a
15 tone of bullying in the room. I think there was a tone of
16 loss of order and I realize that a meeting like this or a
17 hearing can either go, the majority per se at any one time
18 can either be pro or anti-pro or anti-pipeline, depending on
19 the meeting, but this was a real low energy level tonight
20 and it was a real shame to see it.

21 And to make a comment, just about, somebody had
22 said that this pipeline project was potentially hurting or
23 killing people through stress. I tend to believe it. I
24 tend to believe that probably the people whose, where the
25 pipeline would ultimately be going 100 feet from the house,

1 right near the residence, the stress-level is probably so
2 high that probably, yeah, ultimately this pipeline is
3 probably medically hurting people, the stress from it. I'll
4 end my comments there, thank you.

5 MR. BOWMAN: Thank you to everyone who signed up
6 to speak tonight and with that the formal part of tonight's
7 meeting will close. I thank everyone who has come here and
8 stayed here for the length of the meeting tonight. So if
9 you would like additional information about any of these
10 projects, I encourage you to use our website, FERC.gov and
11 use the e-library link to input the docket numbers of these
12 projects, CP13-499 and CP13-502.

13 If you would like a copy of the transcript of
14 this meeting you can make this arrangement with the court
15 reporter, so on behalf of the Federal Energy Regulatory
16 Commission, the U.S. Army Corp of Engineers, thank you for
17 coming here tonight and let the record show that the meeting
18 closed at 10:15 p.m.

19 (Whereupon at 10:15 p.m., the scoping meeting
20 adjourned.

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