

1
2
3
4
5
6
7
8
9
10
11
12
13
14
15
16
17
18
19
20
21
22
23
24
25

BEFORE THE

FEDERAL ENERGY REGULATORY COMMISSION

- - - - -X

In the Matter of : Docket Numbers

SABINE PASS LNG and PIPELINE PROJECT : CP04-47-000

: CP04-38-000

: CP04-39-000

: CP04-40-000

- - - - -X

Johnson Bayou Recreation

Center

5556 Gulf Beach Highway

Johnsons Bayou, LA 70631

Tuesday, September 21, 2004

The above entitled matter came on for hearing,
pursuant to notice, at 7:20 p.m.

BEFORE:

MEDHA KOCHHAR

Ecologist

Division of Gas - II Environmental

Federal Energy Regulatory Commission

1 APPEARANCES (CONTINUED):

2 Patricia Patterson - TRC Project Manager

3 Kandilarya Jacaman - Federal Energy Regulatory
4 Commission

5 Hugh Thomas - Federal Energy Regulatory
6 Commission

7 John Peconom - Federal Energy Regulatory
8 Commission

9

10

11

12

13

14

15

16

17

18

19

20

21

22

23

24

25

	E X H I B I T S	
1		
2	DESCRIPTION	PAGE NO.
3	EXHIBIT 1 DOCUMENT STATING POSITION OF	
4	SCHOOL BOARD	11
5	EXHIBIT 2 LIST OF INDIVIDUALS TO CONTACT FOR	
6	ADDITIONAL INFORMATION	11
7	EXHIBIT 3 PETITION	17
8	EXHIBIT 4 PHOTOGRAPH SUBMITTED BY HOWARD ROMERO	35
9	EXHIBIT 5 PHOTOGRAPH SUBMITTED BY HOWARD ROMERO	35
10	EXHIBIT 6 PHOTOGRAPH SUBMITTED BY HOWARD ROMERO	35
11		
12		
13		
14		
15		
16		
17		
18		
19		
20		
21		
22		
23		
24		
25		

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

2 (7:15 P.M.)

3 MS. KOCHHAR: Good evening, everybody. We're
4 going to start the meeting now, and I'll announce one more
5 time anybody who wants to make a presentation here tonight,
6 please sign up at the table which is at the end of the room
7 here. And there is Kandi and John Peconom over there. They
8 will be able to sign you up.

9 Good evening, and welcome to Federal Energy
10 Regulatory Commission's public comment meeting on the Draft
11 Environmental Impact Statement for the proposed Cheniere
12 Sabine LNG and Pipeline Project.

13 My name is Medhha, Kochhar and I'm the FERC staff
14 environmental project manager for this project. With me at
15 the table is Pat Patterson. She is with TRC Corporation.
16 She's the environmental project manager for TRC. They're
17 our third-party contractor helping us develop the EIS.

18 On my right side is Hugh Thomas. He is FERC
19 engineer assigned to this project.

20 And on my far left is Bruce Bennett. He is Corps
21 of Engineers, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers. He will have a
22 chance to say a few words today.

23 I also have two more staff members from FERC,
24 Kandilarya Jacaman and John Peconom. They are FERC staff.
25 They are helping us with this meeting and Kandi is also on

1 this project, and they will help you sign up for the
2 presentation tonight here.

3 Purpose of this meeting tonight is to give you an
4 opportunity for you to give us your comments on the DEIS we
5 issued in August. This meeting is being transcribed by a
6 court reporter, and the transcripts will be made part of the
7 Commission's formal record of the proceedings in this case.
8 Your comments will help ensure that we do a thorough
9 environmental analysis of the proposal. All of your
10 comments, written or oral, will be given equal consideration
11 as we prepare the final Environmental Impact Statement for
12 this project. The more specific your comments the more
13 helpful they will be to us.

14 You can give your comments in writing or present
15 here tonight. All comments will be given equal
16 consideration and will be placed in the Commission's formal
17 record of the proceeding.

18 After the end of the comment period, which is
19 October 5th, 2004. You may want to make a note of that,
20 October 5th, 2004. We will revise the DEIS as necessary or
21 undertake any additional studies if warranted. All of your
22 comments will be addressed in this final DEIS. We cannot
23 consider any comments off the record by anyone including the
24 gas/pipeline company.

25 If you wish to provide written comments instead

1 or in addition to speaking, you must file them with the
2 Secretary of the Commission no later than October 5th, 2004.
3 Be sure to include the docket numbers, CP04-47-000, CP04-38-
4 000, et al for this proceeding.

5 We are asking you to identify any environmental
6 concerns you may have. We will address these concerns in
7 the EIS that will be prepared. The EIS will be part of the
8 information that the Commission will use in examining
9 Cheniere's Sabine Pass LNG and Pipeline Project
10 applications.

11 Each speaker has five minutes to present his or
12 her comments. When it is your turn to speak, please step up
13 to the microphone and state your name and affiliation very
14 clearly so that the court reporter can take your name and
15 affiliation correctly. So, I stress this that please state
16 your name very clearly.

17 After everyone has had a chance to speak, an
18 additional five minutes of time may be given to speakers if
19 there is still time available.

20 The final EIS, along with other non-environmental
21 analyses prepared by the FERC staff, will be used by the
22 Commission in making its decision on whether to certificate
23 this project. I want you to know that no decision has been
24 made on the Sabine Pass LNG and Pipeline Project at this
25 time.

1 As you may have noticed, we have a court reporter
2 here to record the meeting and a transcript of the meeting
3 will be made a part of the record on this proceeding. If
4 you wish to purchase copies of the transcript, please speak
5 to the court reporter after the meeting concludes.

6 Also, if you have written material that you would
7 like to be included as part of the public record, please
8 give it to the court reporter. It will be attached as an
9 appendix to the exhibit of this transcript.

10 Again, our purpose here tonight is to receive
11 your comments and questions on the record. We understand
12 the company will be available to speak with you individually
13 after the close of the recorded part of the meeting.

14 Again, your input is important to us. Your site-
15 specific comments are appreciated. And I want to thank you
16 all for taking time to come here tonight.

17 Now, we will proceed with the comment meeting
18 here tonight. First, I will have Mr. Bruce Bennett of U.S.
19 Army Corps of Engineers to make a short presentation. Then
20 I will have any elected officials who would like to make a
21 presentation. After that, we will follow the sign-up sheet
22 for our presentations. At the end of that, Mr. Keith Miers
23 of Cheniere will make a short presentation.

24 Thank you, and let's begin the meeting. Bruce --

25

1 BRUCE BENNETT: Good evening. I am Bruce
2 Bennett, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Galveston District,
3 and with me tonight is Doug Boren who is out in the
4 audience. On behalf of Colonel Steven D. Haustein, District
5 Engineer of Galveston District, I join the Federal Energy
6 Regulatory Commission in welcoming you to this public
7 meeting in consideration of the construction of an onshore
8 port terminal and gas transmission line for the importation
9 of liquified natural gas.

10 The Corps of Engineers has authority under
11 Section 10 of the Rivers and Harbors Act of 1899 and Section
12 404 of the Clean Water Act of 1972 to regulate the proposed
13 port terminal and pipeline.

14 The Corps published our public notice August
15 30th, 2004. The public notice is still available online at
16 www.swg.usace.army.mil/reg/pn.asp, and that's under
17 application number 23426.

18 Comments on the proposed project pertaining to
19 the Corp permit application must be submitted to the
20 Galveston District, P.O. Box 1229, Galveston, Texas, 77553-
21 1229 on or before September 30th, 2004.

22 We will be evaluating the proposed work in
23 accordance with our regulatory rules. The Federal Energy
24 Regulatory Commission is the lead federal agency in the
25 preparation of the environmental impact statement required

1 by the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969. The Corps
2 is a cooperating agency in the preparation of the EIS.

3 The Corps is neither a proponent nor opponent of
4 the proposed action. A decision whether to issue a permit
5 will be based on the evaluation of the probable impacts on
6 the public interest. The EIS process will be used to
7 identify the impacts of the project, both beneficial as well
8 as detrimental.

9 We look forward to hearing from you. If the
10 Corps of Engineers can be of assistance to you during the
11 permit evaluation process, please do not hesitate to call.

12 MS. KOCHHAR: Thank you, Bruce.

13 MR. BRUCE BENNETT: Thank you.

14 MS. KOCHHAR: Now, Pat is going to make
15 announcement of the names according to the list she has and
16 in the order she has received, and we will welcome them to
17 come to the podium -- there's a microphone -- and make their
18 presentation. Before they start, they must make their
19 statement of name and affiliation. Thank you.

20 Pat --

21 MS. PATTERSON: We'll start with Sonny McGee.
22 And just to let you know, Doug Chance will be coming up
23 next.

24 MR. SONNY MCGEE: Good evening. My name is Sonny
25 McGee. I'm a member of this community and a police jury

1 representative of this area.

2 I'd like to welcome you all to our community.
3 It's a community that we're very proud of, and when we talk
4 about Cheniere coming into our community and the fact that
5 they're going to be going through this process in the
6 wetlands and what have you, we want to let you know that
7 we're a hundred percent behind them. Now, we don't take
8 that lightly. We all live in the wetlands. We're all
9 fishermen. We're all hunters. We love this community, and
10 we would do nothing to harm it in any way.

11 Cheniere has worked with us hand-in-hand on any
12 issue that we've had. We're very proud to have them as a
13 neighbor.

14 We would ask you to expedite this process so we
15 can get the permit going.

16 Thank you.

17 MS. KOCHHAR: Thank you, Sonny.

18 MS. PATTERSON: Doug Chance.

19 DOUG CHANCE: Thank you, and my name is Doug
20 Chance. I'm Superintendent of Schools for Cameron Parish
21 Schools. It's a pleasure to welcome our Regulatory
22 Commission members this evening along with Cheniere Energy.

23 Cameron Parish School Board has reviewed
24 exposures as well as benefits on this proposed project. And
25 our board believes that the benefits to Cameron Parish,

1 Southwest Louisiana, Louisiana in general, and then,
2 extending to the United States; that the benefits of this
3 project outweigh the exposures that are a normal part of an
4 industrial operation. Therefore, our board would urge the
5 Commissioners and the officers of the Commission to grant
6 and expedite the permitting process in order that this
7 project might move forward.

8 As school people, we're charged with leaving no
9 child behind under President George W. Bush. The Cameron
10 Parish School Board believes that this project addresses
11 that issue, that from product source to product consumption
12 of around the world, that this project is a Cameron Parish
13 project, but this project is also a global project because
14 we believe it will impact children favorably from the source
15 of our product to the consumption of our product. Based on
16 that, we would ask favorable consideration of this permit.

17 We will file a document written to the
18 representatives of the Commission so stating our position,
19 and then, we will file a second document that will list four
20 individuals, our board president, Mr. Clifton Morris; our
21 local principal, Mr. Gene Reynolds; Doug Chance as
22 Superintendent; and then, our land manager, Mr. Uland Guidry
23 as sources of additional information should the Commission
24 have need of that data.

25 Thank you, very much.

1 MS. KOCHHAR: Thank you.

2 MS. PATTERSON: Okay. Gene Reynolds, and Charles
3 Hebert, I guess, after Gene.

4 GENE REYNOLDS: Thank you. My name is Gene
5 Reynolds, principal at Johnsons Bayou High School, and I
6 think being the closest school to the proposed job site, we
7 do have a little bit insight as to how we feel about this
8 project.

9 Currently, we're in the vicinity of several gas
10 pipeline and other oil and gas industries. We enjoy a great
11 relationship with those industries. They're always trying
12 to help us out, and we do things that we can help them with.

13 We welcome Cheniere as a possibility of having
14 economic development in our part of the parish here as well
15 as the rest of the part of the parish, and we look forward
16 to working with them with their employees and looking
17 forward to having a partnership with them. Our graduates
18 need jobs in this area, and we look forward to keeping our
19 kids in our community, and that would be a big part of the
20 benefits of Cheniere. So, from the standpoint of the
21 school, we welcome them to our community and we look forward
22 to the completion of this project.

23 Thank you.

24 MS. KOCHHAR: Thank you.

25 MS. PATTERSON: Charles Herbert. Then I have

1 Bobby Conner, Bobby after Charles.

2 CARL BROUSSARD: Carl Broussard.

3 MS. PATTERSON: I was going to let Charles Herbert
4 go first, and then, I was --

5 CARL BROUSSARD: Who's that, now?

6 MS. PATTERSON: Charles Herbert.

7 CARL BROUSSARD: Oh, I'm sorry.

8 (Audience laughing).

9 CHARLES HEBERT: Charles Hebert.

10 MS. PATTERSON: Sorry.

11 CHARLES HEBERT: There are a number of other
12 Heberts here.

13 MS. PATTERSON: Let me try that. Charles Hebert.

14 CHARLES HEBERT: Charles T. Hebert. I represent
15 the West Cameron Port Commission. We have studied the
16 Cheniere facility's plans. We have no objection whatsoever.
17 We appreciate the economic development.

18 We ask that your Commission please give a fast
19 approval for their project. We need it and we want it. I
20 think everyone in this parish is one-hundred percent for
21 this project.

22 Thank you.

23 MS. KOCHHAR: Thank you.

24 MS. PATTERSON: Okay, Bobby.

25 BOBBY CONNER: My name is Bobby Conner. I'm the

1 local assessor here in Cameron. And I'd like to state that
2 I'm in support of this project. Cheniere Energy, to be
3 located in this parish, would be a great help to our tax
4 base which is dwindling due to the oil and gas in our
5 parish. It's starting to dwindle because, as you know,
6 everybody's going deeper and deeper offshore to drill for
7 oil and gas these days.

8 And the LNG facility, it would be real welcome.
9 Cheniere has already shown that they plan to be great
10 corporate neighbors to this area. And for this reason, I
11 ask you to help approve this permit for this company because
12 we definitely need them, and they should have been here
13 yesterday.

14 MS. KOCHHAR: Thank you.

15 MS. PATTERSON: Carl Broussard.

16 MR. BROUSSARD: You did well. You did well.

17 My name is Carl Broussard. I'm the Cameron
18 Parish Clerk of Court. I'm also the president of the
19 Cameron Parish Chamber of Commerce and a member of the board
20 for the Cameron Lyons Club.

21 The board members of the Cameron Parish Chamber
22 of Commerce are unanimously in favor of Cheniere Energy
23 moving to Cameron Parish. We are hopeful that FERC will
24 give them a permit to construct their LNG facility along the
25 Sabine River in Cameron Parish. The Cameron Parish Chamber

1 of Commerce recognizes that this LNG facility will not only
2 bring jobs, tax revenue but will also help this country by
3 supplementing our supply of natural gas and help to
4 stabilize its cost.

5 We, the board members of the Cameron Parish
6 Chamber of Commerce, myself, along with the Cameron Lyons
7 Club hope that FERC will expedite the approval of Cheniere
8 Energy, Inc.'s permit so that the construction of this
9 facility will begin early in 2005.

10 Thank you.

11 MS. PATTERSON: Jerry Norris.

12 MR. JERRY NORRIS: My name is Jerry Norris. I
13 live at 3262 Bell Street in Port Arthur, Texas. I represent
14 the Sabine Lake Fishing Guides Association and others.

15 When this matter of dredging spoil from the
16 Cheniere Project first came to my attention, I was, as many
17 of the guides and recreational fishermen that utilize the
18 area, at a loss as to why this area would be used.

19 As I now understand, the law that is on the books
20 in Louisiana for wetland restoration is in use in this
21 project. All of the signed petitioners and myself know this
22 case is not in the spirit of the law. This area is
23 currently generating many forms of wildlife in its present
24 state. Spoiling on this proposed area would destroy what is
25 currently an inner tidal wetland zone. Spoiling in this

1 area will also be a step in the wrong direction. This area
2 is currently, in its present state, an area which is
3 creating an inner title zone that is used by wildlife.

4 How much time do I have?

5 MS. KOCHHAR: Go ahead. You still have time.

6 MR. JERRY NORRIS: This area is an
7 environmentally sensitive area and needs to be protected.
8 The Piping Plover, Brown Pelican, White Pelican and other
9 species of shore birds use this area and its tidal sand bars
10 for resting and feeding. Mammals, crabs, fish, shrimp are
11 found in abundance in this area. Historically, hundreds of
12 commercial shrimpers and crabbers and fishing guides have
13 made their living in this area and do at this present time.

14 Dumping spoil on the sea floor would destroy the
15 balance of marine organisms that use this area. This area
16 is at the mouth of the Sabine River, and it's the spawning
17 grounds for federally protected fish, the Red Drum. Red
18 Drum use this area to spawn at the mouth of the river and
19 would be adversely affected by water quality issues due to
20 the sediment loads in the water column.

21 Recreational interests in this area is very
22 intense. Fishermen, by the thousands, descend on this area
23 year around. Trout, Red Fish, Flounder, Sand Trout,
24 Croaker, Drum and other species are found in abundance here.
25 The loss of this area in its present state will cause

1 economic hardship on many of the commercial and recreational
2 interests which are related to the fishing industry.

3 Fishing guides will lose a valuable area that is
4 used to support their businesses year around. Recreational
5 fishermen travel from many states to fish the Sabine east
6 jetties as do thousands of local fishermen.

7 Recreational and commercial dollars compute into
8 the millions annually are related to this proposed area.
9 The loss of this area will create economic hardship on the
10 citizens of Sabine Pass and the surrounding counties and
11 parishes that depend upon the strong fishing industry to
12 support sales of fishing related products and services.

13 In closing, we, as a group and individuals, are
14 firmly against any changes to this area. Dumping spoil in
15 this area is not beneficial to wildlife or the restoration
16 of the beach front and is not in the spirit of the law.
17 This area will continue to provide the environmental and
18 economic benefits when left in its present state.

19 We ask that this permit be modified to remove
20 this area from any consideration to dump dredging spoil or
21 any other use deemed environmentally or economically
22 destructive.

23 We ask that the proposed spoil site be moved
24 onshore in existing sites.

25 I have an attached petition that I'd like to

1 present to the court reporter.

2 MS. KOCHHAR: Thank you.

3 MS. PATTERSON: Ellen Warner.

4 MS. ELLEN WARNER: I'm Ellen Warner, and I'm
5 chairman of the Sabine Pilots. The Sabine Pilots service 65
6 miles of the Sabine-Natchez Waterway including the proposed
7 Cheniere terminal site. We have worked closely with
8 Cheniere in designing their facility regarding safety and
9 efficiency as well as seeing that the rest of the Sabine-
10 Natchez Waterway users be affected as little as possible.
11 Successful simulation has been conducted at Vicksburg,
12 Mississippi.

13 The Sabine Pilots support the proposed Cheniere
14 facility. Cheniere has been very receptive to our requests
15 and has worked with us in developing what we consider to be
16 a safe and one of the most modern facilities we will have as
17 an addition to our waterway.

18 And we urge you to grant their application for
19 the permit.

20 Thank you.

21 MS. KOCHHAR: Thank you.

22 MS. PATTERSON: William Daigle. Dale Wortham,
23 just to let you know, you'll be next.

24 WILLIAM DAIGLE: Good evening. My name is
25 William Daigle. I'm a resident of Cameron Parish. I'm here

1 on behalf of the Cameron Parish Economic Development Task
2 Force.

3 The Cameron Parish Economic Development Task
4 Force fully supports Cheniere Energy in their efforts to
5 locate an LNG facility on the Sabine River in Cameron
6 Parish. We feel that by locating this facility on the
7 Sabine River in Cameron Parish, it will have a positive
8 economic impact on the people of Southwest Louisiana,
9 Southeast Texas and our country as a whole.

10 The latest Environmental Impact Study has shown
11 that locating the LNG facility on the Sabine River in
12 Cameron Parish will not be detrimental to our people or
13 environment, and with this in mind, we fully support this
14 project.

15 Thank y'all.

16 MS. KOCHHAR: Thank you.

17 MS. PATTERSON: Dale Wortham and then James Dodo,
18 I guess. Well, he's next.

19 DALE WORTHAM: I'm Dale Wortham, and I'm here to
20 support moving forward with this project. We have a
21 wonderful opportunity here to go into partnership with
22 someone that I'm used to have a partnership with. I'm from
23 Houston, and Cheniere is a great corporate partner in
24 Houston, and they do a lot for our city. They do a lot for
25 our town, and I know that they're committed to helping the

1 economic base in this part of Louisiana. I also understand
2 that there's some concerns but knowing the Cheniere Group
3 like I've come to know them, I know that they will do the
4 very best to address everyone's concern for a good project,
5 one that helps the community and one that will be here for a
6 long, long period of time. Help your tax base, help your
7 citizens, and you couldn't ask for a better neighbor.

8 Thank you.

9 MS. KOCHHAR: Thank you.

10 MR. JAMES DUHON: Hello. My name is James Duhon,
11 and I'm from Westlake, Louisiana. And I'm here in support
12 of the project. We would love to see this thing pushed
13 forward as fast as possible. I'd like to say this, being
14 from the Lake Charles area, we've had a liquid gas plant
15 there for -- I think it's 26 years. I may be wrong. And
16 some of the fishing, spec and red fishing, is behind the
17 plant. (Audience laughing) I'm here to support the
18 project.

19 MS. KOCHHAR: Thank you. Thank you.

20 MS. PATTERSON: Loran Bosarge. Then I have James
21 Ducote coming up next.

22 MS. LORAN BOSARGE: My name is Loran Bosarge. I
23 live at 3576 South (unintelligible) Drive in Port Arthur.
24 And really, my reason for being here is to ask Cheniere a
25 question. If we could have more information about the ships

1 themselves. There's been a great deal of controversy as far
2 as the carriers, ownership of the carriers and the ships, as
3 far as the safety issue. That's all.

4 (Cheniere representative presents card to
5 Mr. Bosarge at end of question).

6 MS. KOCHHAR: We can have him answer afterwards.

7 MS. PATTERSON: James Ducote.

8 JAMES DUCOTE: My name is James Ducote. I'm with
9 the Louisiana Department of Economic Development. My
10 address is 975 West Lane, Hackberry, Louisiana.

11 I have two messages, one from Senator Hines and
12 my personal message. I want to thank you, first, for
13 allowing us the opportunity to express our support for this
14 project. LNG has become a key component in the economy in
15 Louisiana and the nation. Since 1999, Louisiana has lost
16 4,000 jobs in the petrochemical industry and on the track of
17 losing another 18,000 in 2004-2005. Nowhere have they been
18 stinged more sharply than the ammonia fertilizer industry
19 where natural gas takes up 90 percent of the process.

20 Four years ago there were nine aluminum plants in
21 Louisiana. Today we have three.

22 This has made the LNG project a top priority in
23 our state and in our nation. In May, 2004, Louisiana
24 Governor, Kathleen Blanco, has written FERC urging its
25 Commissioners to shortly approve the approve the process so

1 that permits could be ready by year's end. She indicated
2 the desire to ensure that the process for the permit for the
3 LNG terminal gets done properly regardless of whether or not
4 the approval process was streamlined.

5 Since then, Louisiana agencies have been working
6 hard, together with inter-agency meetings, to address the
7 concerns of all LNG projects, and through this process we
8 have streamlined our process and done them in a timely
9 manner while at the same time assuring that the process was
10 completed properly.

11 We would like to see the permit for Cheniere be
12 expedited just as soon as possible to start this project
13 because of the need for the industry in Louisiana and the
14 nation.

15 I want to read a letter from Senator Don Hines,
16 the president of the Senate of Louisiana. It's addressed to
17 the Honorable Patrick Henry Wood. (As read) Dear Chairman
18 Wood, we are in support of the proposed project by the
19 Cheniere Energy Corporation in Cameron Parish, Louisiana to
20 receive much needed imports of liquified natural gas.

21 This project is planned to receive, process and
22 regasify LNG back into the natural gas state for pipeline
23 transport into our nation's energy system. The importance
24 of LNG will help alleviate the problem with the rising
25 natural gas demands.

1 This facility will provide 2.6 billion cubic feet
2 per day of natural gas to the state of Louisiana for
3 distribution throughout the nation. Without this additional
4 supply of natural gas, there will be a significant number of
5 industries closing due to the high energy costs.

6 The Cheniere Sabine Pass LNG import terminal and
7 pipeline is an important energy infrastructure expansion in
8 the state of Louisiana and the nation. I would respectfully
9 request that FERC expedite the processing for the Cheniere
10 authorization to process the LNG import terminal and the
11 necessary associated pipeline. And it's signed Don Hines,
12 President of the Senate.

13 Thank you.

14 MS. KOCHHAR: Thank you.

15 MS. PATTERSON: Robert Romero.

16 ROBERT ROMERO: Hi. My name is Robert Romero.
17 I'm a lifelong citizen here of Johnsons Bayou. And just to
18 address the fishing problem that they said has occurred, the
19 Corps of Engineers have been spoiling out in those areas for
20 the last 50 years so I don't think, you know, Cheniere's
21 spoiling in this is going to hurt anything.

22 I used to -- I lived here whenever this country
23 was nothing but cattle country. So, when you're talking
24 about LNG, natural gas pipelines, we've lived with that. We
25 know what LNG is. We know what natural gas pipelines are.

1 It's been the thrust of our community. If you walk outside,
2 you look across the street, there's a natural gas pipeline
3 facility. If you look to your left, there's another natural
4 gas pipeline facility. These are the things that generated
5 the community as it is today. If it wouldn't be for that,
6 this community wouldn't have grown.

7 So, if you're asking us about the experience
8 we've had with LNG and natural gas pipelines and those kind
9 of things in this community, it's all been positive.

10 We look forward to seeing the LNG facility built
11 in this community. It will give us a tax base, create new
12 jobs for our young kids who are presently having to move out
13 to find work who would love to live here. It's a beautiful
14 community to live in. I've lived here all my life.
15 Wouldn't want to live anywhere else.

16 So, I mean, we know what it is. We've had these
17 positive experiences with the LNG business. We know that we
18 need this project in our community and we solely support it,
19 and I would ask FERC to do everything in their power to
20 expedite any permitting that's necessary to see that this
21 facility is being built.

22 Thank you.

23 MS. KOCHHAR: Thank you.

24 MS. PATTERSON: Kent Carlson.

25 KENT CARLSON: My name is Kent Carlson. I own

1 K & J Hunting Fishing Lodge. I'm also a guide out on the
2 lake. And we welcome the LNG plant. I don't see no problem
3 in the fishing. If there is, I imagine somebody will figure
4 it out, and that's all I have to say.

5 MS. KOCHHAR: Thank you.

6 MS. PATTERSON: Dannie Goodeaux? Dannie Gadet?
7 Any Dannies here? (Audience laughing).

8 DANNIE GAUDET: Okay. I knew we'd get a laugh
9 anyway.

10 My name is Dannie Gaudet, and I'm a resident of
11 Pleasure Island. I live approximately half a mile beyond
12 the causeway bridge right down the street.

13 If there's any doubt, currently, there's three
14 liquified natural gas plants proposed for our area: Sempra,
15 Exxon Mobil and Cheniere. We know our country needs the gas
16 and our area needs the jobs. Out of the three proposals
17 Cheniere is the only one of the three that picked a site
18 away from people. Exxon Mobil as well as Sempra will
19 actually bring their ships within 500 feet of some of the
20 homes on Pleasure Island. The residents there fear the
21 safety of their families from the ships and the proposed
22 plants on Exxon Mobil and Sempra.

23 Exxon Mobil and Sempra have chosen, we believe,
24 the wrong locations. The erosion of Highway 82 is already
25 at a critical point as parts of the highway are falling in

1 the canal as we meet here tonight. If you came that way,
2 you probably noticed the construction on the road. We're
3 losing it daily.

4 The additional ship traffic can also worsen that
5 situation. Also, Cheniere's site is the nearest location to
6 the Gulf of Mexico. This makes sense as the ships do not
7 have to go up the canal towards Port Arthur. Most
8 importantly, Cheniere is away from people.

9 Regarding the controversial disposal of the
10 dredge material, I have to rely on the expertise of the
11 biologists and the environmentalists working for the State
12 of Louisiana and the federal government to put this material
13 in the proper place for the best interest of everyone
14 concerned.

15 Out of the three proposals, Cheniere is the only
16 practical, sensible and safe proposal, and it's away from
17 everybody, and we support it.

18 Thank you.

19 MS. KOCHHAR: Thank you.

20 MS. PATTERSON: Steven Trahan? Trahan?

21 STEVEN TRAHAN: I'm Steve Trahan from Hackberry.
22 I represent the Cameron Parish Police Jury currently serving
23 as the president of the Police Jury, and I want to welcome
24 you guys tonight, you gals and you guys.

25 What I'd like to say about the community first is

1 it's good people here, real down home, nice people. I know
2 that for a fact because the majority of the people here are
3 Trahans like myself (audience laughing). So, that's a good
4 thing.

5 We'd like to welcome Cheniere to Johnsons Bayou,
6 and they're moving in on the west side, hopefully, and out
7 of the way of the residents. And you ask some people --
8 some people might ask if things are going to change when the
9 new company comes in. Yeah, they will change. When a new
10 neighbor comes into town, a good neighbor comes into town
11 things change. It makes it better. Cheniere's going to
12 make this place better. We're going to accept these people.
13 We want these people here.

14 One other thing I was going to say if I don't go
15 right off the top of my head here was we have a facility
16 coming into Hackberry. It's going to start construction
17 next year, Sempra project. Great bunch of people to work
18 with there also.

19 We want to be know here in Cameron Parish as the
20 Mecca for LNG here in the future. We welcome Sempra. We
21 welcome Cheniere. We welcome anybody else. These guys are
22 great to work with.

23 The people of Johnsons Bayou want this project.
24 The people of Cameron want this project. People of
25 Louisiana want this project. People of Johnsons Bayou need

1 this project. The people of Cameron Parish needs this
2 project. The people of Louisiana needs this project. And
3 quite frankly, the people of Johnsons Bayou, the people of
4 Cameron Parish and the people of Louisiana has got to have
5 this project, and I hope you see to it.

6 Thank you, very much.

7 MS. PATTERSON: Carolyn Thibodeaux.

8 CAROLYN THIBODEAUX: My name is Carolyn
9 Thibodeaux, and I'm representing the Cameron Preservation
10 Alliance and the Calcasieu Work Force Center in our area.

11 We're petitioning you to cooperate fully for the
12 permitting of this facility and to expedite the process
13 because it's important that Cheniere Energy receive their
14 permits of construction of the Sabine Pass LNG facility can
15 begin and this plant be in operation for the 2007and '08
16 winter heating season.

17 The location on southeast end of Sabine Pass
18 located in Cameron Parish, Louisiana is the perfect location
19 for this type of facility. The impact this would bring to a
20 struggling local economy would be great. Lots of jobs
21 during construction phase and the number of permanent jobs
22 after the construction is completed would impact this small
23 community. The facility would need a lot of supplies. This
24 would create opportunity for other businesses to service
25 this facility.

1 The location of the facility is two miles north
2 of the Sabine Pass Lighthouse. The lighthouse is in
3 desperate need of stabilization and restoration. As a
4 steward of this historic site, the Cameron Preservation
5 Alliance Sabine Pass Lighthouse, Incorporated is committed
6 to preserving this national treasure.

7 Cheniere Energy has teamed up with us as a major
8 corporate sponsor and are also interested in preserving the
9 national treasure. They have pledged to keep the road to
10 the Sabine Pass Lighthouse accessible for public use. They
11 have pledged to provide an all-weather road from their
12 facility interstate to Lighthouse Bayou. The large buffer
13 zone will help keep this area in its natural state and
14 remain remote. This will allow the (unintelligible) to
15 reinstate itself. They have also demonstrated that they
16 intend to be a good neighbor.

17 We are in favor of this project becoming a
18 reality in our community and asking you to permit the
19 facility today.

20 MS. KOCHHAR: Thank you.

21 MS. PATTERSON: Bill Watkins.

22 MR. BILL WATKINS: My name is Bill Watkins. I
23 operate Have Boat Will Travel Guide Service on Sabine Lake.
24 And I've long been a proponent of industry and environmental
25 concerns being able to work together. But I did have some

1 concerns when I heard of this project. I wanted to get
2 those concerns answered.

3 And Mr. Granger agreed to meet with me this
4 afternoon and he answered my hard questions and my soft
5 questions. And at this point, I can't see any reason to go
6 against this project. Actually, I think it's probably going
7 to be really good for the community and everybody concerned.

8 I do have somewhat of a concern about the
9 location of the spoil, but I hope that the State of
10 Louisiana knows what they're doing and takes careful
11 consideration of where they're going to put this spoil. I
12 would prefer it to be on the land; however, if they are
13 convinced that it will do well as far as rebuilding
14 beachfront and so forth, then I'll go with them.

15 Thank you.

16 MS. KOCHHAR: Thank you.

17 MS. PATTERSON: J.P. -- I'm having trouble with
18 this last name from the West Cameron Port Commission.

19 J.P. CONSTANCE: My name is J.P. Constance. I'm
20 a member of the West Cameron Port Commission. We welcome to
21 have Cheniere in our area. We know it's going to --
22 company's real happy and satisfied that the people are
23 working and the revenue is going to be real satisfactory.

24 Thank y'all.

25 MS. KOCHHAR: Thank you. Sir, could you repeat

1 your name again? Could you repeat your name?

2 MS. PATTERSON: Could you repeat your name for
3 the court reporter?

4 MS. KOCHHAR: Could you repeat your name again
5 for the court reporter?

6 J.P. CONSTANCE: Constance, C-O-N-S-T-A-N-C-E.

7 MS. PATTERSON: Howard Romero.

8 MR. HOWARD ROMERO: My name is Howard Romero. I
9 represent the -- I am on the board of the West Cameron Port
10 Board. I'm also a resident of Johnsons Bayou, a citizen of
11 Cameron Parish, State of Louisiana and very proud of it.

12 Just want to let you know that Sonny only used
13 one minute. So, he said I could have his four minutes.
14 That makes me with nine minutes. Sometimes I've got more to
15 say.

16 MS. KOCHHAR: Sure. Sure.

17 (Audience laughing)

18 MR. HOMER ROMERO: Well, to tell you the truth,
19 you know, the last meeting we had, we had a hundred percent
20 positive in this area. And I thought when I got up here
21 tonight I was going to tell y'all a couple of jokes telling
22 you we got a hundred percent again and we were okay, but I
23 heard a couple of things about the fishing and little bit
24 about the negative about the spoil. So, I have to address
25 those because I also represent Cameron Parish on the Sabine-

1 Natchez River Authority where they're talking about
2 deepening and widening the ship channel and what they're
3 going to do with the spoil. So, I have to tell you some "do
4 you knows."

5 And the first one I wrote down is do you know
6 that they have been spoiling off of the ship channel in the
7 gulf since 1950? Do you know that they're planning an
8 expansion of the ship channel and this little bit of spoil
9 that Cheniere is planning on putting out there would be
10 minute compared to what you will have if that goes through.

11 Do you know that there have been many studies
12 made by many people smarter than me about the wildlife? In
13 fact, I rode down there about two weeks ago, and we have
14 more Brown Pelicans down there than we ever had, and I've
15 rode down there all of my life. And we have more birds and
16 more fish down there than we've ever had. And I fish the
17 ship channel, and I don't see that any of the little spoil
18 that has been put out there since 1950 has affected that.
19 If it has, they're all dead out there, and shouldn't be
20 fishing.

21 I said, did you know that the biggest argument
22 that we have in our meetings every time we have a meeting
23 over there, we have to separate it, the State of Louisiana
24 people and the State of Texas people, because they're all
25 wanting the spoil. They're not willing to give it away,

1 people. They're arguing about who's going to get it. So,
2 that's one of the things that you've got to know.

3 And you know, I'm going to tell you something
4 that my daddy told me a long time ago. And he made a
5 statement to me. He was uneducated, I want you to know, but
6 one of the smartest men I ever knew.

7 And he says, "Howard, when you're dealing with
8 anything, the proof is in the pudding." Of course, I looked
9 at him, you know. I was king of young. And I said, "the
10 proof is in the pudding."

11 "Yeah," he said, "if you've got a project,
12 somebody's looking at it. You just don't look at the
13 project and say whether it's good or bad." He said, "You go
14 taste it. You go feel it. You go research it. And when
15 you did all of that. Think the pudding must be all right."

16 Well, we've done that. We know about the studies
17 that have been made out there. We know about the wildlife.
18 And we know about the fishing that's going on out there.
19 This is not something that's new.

20 There are many people who have done the studies,
21 and they've produced them. We even know about the wave
22 action that's going to happen out there. There's been
23 studies made about that; what the salinity is all the way up
24 the ship channel. So, we've done a lot of research about
25 this. It's not something that just come up out of the way.

1 So, when people get up here and say, "Oh, it's
2 going to destroy our fishing," where is the proof? You
3 can't say something without having the proof. "Oh, I
4 remember" -- well, must not have remembered well because
5 there's been spoiling out there since 1950.

6 And by the way, I made the phone call to the
7 Corps of Engineers to find that out. So, what I'm saying is
8 this is not something new, folks. We know about it. And we
9 know it's not going to hurt us.

10 And I'll tell you something else. And I just
11 happen to have some pictures. You see, in the State of
12 Texas they lost Highway 87. By the way, the State of Texas
13 has been after us to get all of this spoil so they can put
14 it over on their side, and they can rebuild their beaches so
15 that they can put their road back from Sabine Pass to High
16 Island. I used to travel that road. You can't even travel
17 it on a dune buggy anymore.

18 But I'll show you something, Ladies and
19 Gentlemen, that does work because see, we went down here on
20 the beach and we had the same problem that they have, and we
21 were about to lose our road. Most of you passed it over
22 here. So, we went out there and we put some sand on it. We
23 put some rocks out there. We're saving our beach, and I'll
24 show you how it works because I've got some pictures for you
25 guys I'd like to submit, and it shows our dykes out there

1 and how that's working to protect our beach and stop coastal
2 erosion.

3 We took several pictures that I just happen to
4 have, and I'd like to submit that to FERC so that you can
5 have that to show what we're talking about with coastal
6 erosion and how we want to improve it.

7 (Presents photographs to Commission members).

8 MS. KOCHHAR: Thank you.

9 HOWARD ROMERO: Now, I'm going to take Sonny's
10 three minutes.

11 You know, when I was thinking about all of this,
12 of course, I want to tell you that I think this is the
13 greatest thing in the world to have the democratic process
14 that we have going on here tonight because, you see, if this
15 community did not want this project, then we would have the
16 opportunity to address you and tell you why not.

17 So, democratic process is something, I think,
18 we've fought for, and we have young men and young women
19 fighting for that today so that they can have a democratic
20 society where we get to vote.

21 So, I know only one way to let you people know
22 how we feel. So, I think we should have a vote. So, I'm
23 going to say like the old survivor, Jeff Provost (ph.) would
24 say, the tribe has spoken and now it's time to vote. And we
25 will accept whatever the tribe votes. So, I 'd like to ask,

1 tonight, that all of you in this room tonight that's in
2 favor of Cheniere getting their permit, please stand
3 (audience complies), raise your right hand (audience
4 complies). And at the count of three, I would like to hear
5 you say Yay. One, two, three (audience complies). All
6 opposed, please stand, and at the count of three, you can
7 say nay. One, two, three (no response). Damn. We're a
8 hundred percent.

9 (Audience laughing) Thank you.

10 MS. KOCHHAR: Thank you.

11 MS. PATTERSON: That's the end of the people who
12 have signed up. Is there anyone else out there who would
13 like to speak?

14 TOM JACKSON: My name is Tom Jackson. I'm
15 General Manager of the Jefferson County Waterway and
16 Navigation District. That's 2348 Highway 69 North in
17 Nederland, Texas.

18 So that it is a matter of public record, we would
19 like to say that we view the construction, the operation,
20 the distribution of liquified natural gas -- this group's
21 facility by importing it as a positive move by the Cameron
22 Parish citizens in order to enhance their economic
23 development of this town or of this parish.

24 We are from the Texas side. We have been in
25 constant contact with Cheniere concerning the development of

1 this facility, and we have found no adverse impacts of their
2 proposed construction of the site.

3 Thank you.

4 MS. KOCHHAR: Thank you.

5 MS. PATTERSON: Anyone else? (No response)

6 Okay. Keith Miers.

7 KEITH MIERS: All right. Thank you. My
8 apologies to the FERC for having to turn my back on you, but
9 I'd like to address the crowd.

10 What I really want to do is say thank you, very
11 much for your continuous visible and vocal support of our
12 project. I'd also like to take the opportunity to thank the
13 staff of the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission and the
14 other agencies that have worked on this project. They've
15 moved this project in a very expeditious manner, believe it
16 or not. It seems like it takes a long time, but they've
17 produced a very thorough document. They've left no stone
18 unturned to ensure that this project will be safe and
19 environmentally friendly.

20 They told us early on in the process that the
21 best way to get them moving was to show local support and
22 have coordination among the state agencies. You folks have
23 provided that local support. Your state agencies, I want
24 you to know, without exception, have coordinated and have
25 pulled together to ensure that they were not the -- on the

1 critical path, but they were pulling FERC along.

2 I'd also like you to appreciate that these
3 proceedings are being watched across the world. You've got
4 governments and gas producers from Trinidad to Norway to
5 Australia looking to see where America is going to site its
6 LNG terminals. It's well known throughout the world that
7 the highest reaches of government in the United States and
8 the economic circles have issued a call for increased gas
9 supply and a construction of LNG terminals in order to keep
10 our economy and our manufacturing base healthy.

11 Well, Ladies and Gentlemen and members of the
12 Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, I think the record
13 should reflect tonight the State of Louisiana and the people
14 of Cameron Parish and Johnsons Bayou have risen to answer
15 this nation's call for increased gas supply.

16 And the approval of this project will see a very
17 significant gateway into North America, and North America's
18 gateway to the world gas supplies will be right here in
19 Cameron Parish.

20 So, folks, we are at the one-yard line and
21 tonight we ask the FERC once again to continue their
22 handling of this application in the most expeditious manner
23 while still in a very diligent manner.

24 I think Mr. Trahan said it best. The State of
25 Louisiana wants this project. The state needs this project.

1 I will add to that that the nation needs this project and
2 further, Cheniere Energy and the people of Cameron Parish
3 are ready to go to work to build this project.

4 Thank you, very much, again, and I look forward
5 to having Cheniere Energy as a long-time member of Cameron
6 Parish community.

7 Thank you.

8 MS. KOCHHAR: Thank you, very much. Is there
9 anybody else who would like to say something?

10 UNIDENTIFIED AUDIENCE PARTICIPANT: Were you
11 convinced to vote yes tonight? (Audience laughing).

12 MS. KOCHHAR: Thank you, once again, for coming,
13 and I appreciate your support for the project and coming
14 here. Meeting is adjourned. Bye bye.

15 (Meeting adjourned 8:10 p.m.)

16

17

18

19

20

21

22

23

24