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BEFORE THE
FEDERAL ENERGY REGULATORY COMMISSION

- - - - - x
IN THE MATTER OF: : Project Number
SANTÉE COOPER HYDROELECTRIC PROJECT : P-199-205
- - - - - x

Holiday Inn Express
Moncks Corner, SC 29461

Tuesday, May 17, 2005

The above-entitled matter came on for scoping
meeting, pursuant to notice at 7:35 p.m.

MODERATOR: RON McKITRICK

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

2 (7:35 p.m.)

3 MR. MCKITRICK: We welcome you to this first
4 scoping meeting for the Santee Cooper Project. My name is
5 Ron McKitrick. I am project coordinator with the Federal
6 Energy Regulatory Commission for the relicensing of Santee
7 Cooper. I happen to be located in Atlanta, Georgia.

8 After the meeting, if you have any kind of
9 process questions or what's going on, all this was so
10 confusing, I've got a card and feel free to call me or e-
11 mail me and I'll try to get you up to date on what we're
12 doing.

13 With that -- if I can figure this out real quick
14 -- I'd like to go very briefly through our agenda. We're
15 going to give you a little bit of information, but actually
16 the purpose of this meeting is for you to give us
17 information.

18 I will ask you when a time -- if you have
19 comments that you'd like to present, this is being recorded.
20 And we need you to come up front so you'll be close to a
21 mike so we get everything you say and get it down correctly.
22 So we would appreciate that.

23 After this we'll give you a little bit of an idea
24 about the purpose of the scoping meeting, why we're doing
25 this. We'll be preparing an environmental assessment and

1 give you some idea of the schedule.

2 We'll tell you some of the things -- part of
3 scoping is the information that we're looking for that you
4 can help us prepare a better environmental document. We'll
5 go through a brief description of the project, as well as
6 then give you a little bit of information about our review
7 of the project and some of the issues we've seen. And we
8 then have you come and help us identify if some of those
9 issues should not be covered or if there should be
10 additional issues.

11 At the end of the meeting there will be a slide.
12 And I think you have the slide presentations. Where if you
13 have written comments, we do ask you to identify the project
14 in a certain way and to send it to a certain person so that
15 information will get there.

16 I introduced myself, Ron McKitrick. What I would
17 like to do is just kind of briefly go around the room. And
18 there is other individuals from the Federal Energy
19 Regulatory Commission and people that will be helping us,
20 our environmental services contractor, helping us prepare
21 the environmental documents.

22 So maybe if we just start over here. David, if
23 you'd just give your name.

24 MR. ANDERSON: I'm David Anderson. I am
25 contracting to FERC on recreation issues.

1 MR. FOOTE: I'm Peter Foote with Louis Berger,
2 also a FERC contractor. And I'm the deputy project manager
3 for the project, answering to Ron.

4 MR. KULIK: (Speaking without the benefit of a
5 mike.) I'm Brandon Kulik. And I'm a marine biologist --

6 MR. CREAMER: I'm Alan Creamer. I'm a FERC
7 marine fishery biologist.

8 MR. MCKITRICK: Why are we doing this?

9 Scoping is part of the National Environmental
10 Policy Act, an act that was passed by Congress back in 1970,
11 telling a federal action agency, which is in this case us,
12 that we need to prepare an environmental document to inform
13 the decision-maker, which is our commission, and the public
14 of the action that we're going to be taking and what are the
15 potential environmental impacts.

16 So one way we go about doing that is gathering
17 information from resource agencies, the public,
18 nongovernmental organizations, and tribes that will help us
19 then set the stage for the type of document that we should
20 be preparing, as well as letting you -- well, again, letting
21 you tell us about the types of issues that you'd like to see
22 covered.

23 We issued a scoping document that many of you may
24 have gotten -- if you didn't, we have extra copies in the
25 back -- on April 20th that basically lays what we see as far

1 as the stage today. What we'll be doing as far as any
2 environmental document we'll then look at the types of
3 information that you give us and see if we need to revise
4 and update that.

5 Our present schedule is the scoping that we're
6 doing right now identifying issues, identifying what types
7 of information that we may need. We are sending out a
8 notice. That notice is scheduled right now for September.
9 It's called the ready for environmental analysis notice.

10 From us that's the last kind of public notice
11 that we'll be telling the public that we got all the
12 information that we need and we're getting ready to move
13 forward in preparing this NEPA document, environmental
14 assessment.

15 Our hopes are then to prepare that document and
16 have the final environmental assessment done April of 2006.
17 Hopefully shortly after that we can proceed and go to the
18 commission and they can make a recommendation as far as any
19 licensing issues or any license that may be issued and the
20 service conditions on that license.

21 Why we're here is that we're asking for some
22 help. Some of the areas that you can help us with is,
23 first, you can see the issues that we've identified. Are
24 there any that we've missed?

25 Is there something else that we should be looking

1 at in our environmental assessment? Or are there actually
2 issues in there that we've identified that we don't need to
3 look at?

4 So you can help us prepare the scope of this
5 environmental assessment that we'll be preparing.

6 Are there any studies that you may know of that
7 would help us for any of these issues that we're looking at
8 that aren't completed that may be needed?

9 Probably as important as that, we're looking for
10 information that may already be completed. Some of you may
11 know of studies that are out there that have been done
12 identifying -- giving information about either the past or
13 the future development of this area.

14 And we would like to have all of that
15 information. We've collected a lot. Sometimes sitting in
16 somebody's filing cabinet. They know of things that perhaps
17 we haven't seen and we'd like you to bring that forward to
18 us.

19 Resource plans, particularly if there's county
20 resource plans that may have been laid out and would say
21 what is the county planning to do. The city or the state.
22 We have resource plans that have been filed with us.

23 But we're also always looking for additional
24 plans that may help us see what the people in the area are
25 planning for this area and how this should fit in with those

1 plans.

2 Finally, with that any comments will be recorded,
3 become part of the record, will be information that we use.
4 There will be a 30-day period where you can file written
5 comments with us and they will also be included and assessed
6 as far as information that we'll look at to see what the
7 scope of this environmental assessment should be.

8 You can file those either in writing or go to our
9 Web site and they can be filed electronically. And there's
10 a process that laid out how to do that.

11 What I'd like to do is turn this over for a few
12 minutes. John Delude of South Carolina Public Services
13 Authority has agreed to kind of give us an overview of this
14 project and bring us all up to date and give us some general
15 information for us to move forward.

16 John.

17 MR. DELUDE: Thank you, Ron. As Ron said, my
18 name is John Delude. I'm manager of FERC's relicensing at
19 Santee Cooper.

20 First of all, on behalf of Santee Cooper I want
21 to thank each and every one of you for coming out and
22 participating in this real important process, this public
23 process involving what we think is a very important project.

24 Ron and Peter have asked me to practice my three
25 B's. That's be articulate, be succinct, and be seated. To

1 speak shortly about this project is not easy, but I'll do my
2 very best.

3 I'm been asked to do three things -- describe the
4 project operation, the project features, and possible
5 proposed enhancement for our project. So let me begin first
6 of all by describing the project features.

7 First of all, those of you who are unfamiliar
8 with our watershed, it's pretty significant. It's large.
9 It covers about 15,000 square miles. It runs basically from
10 the coast all the way up to Sharley all the way over to
11 Ashville down to the Cooper River into Charleston.

12 There are three subbasins. Those primary
13 subbasins are the Kitauba Water Rebasin, the Broad, and the
14 Saluda. The Broad and Saluda join together to form the
15 Congarie. And the Kitauba -- excuse me, the Kitauba and the
16 Watery join together at the confluence of our -- at the head
17 borders of our project.

18 Those waters flow into our project in the upper
19 lake. The concept for this project is fairly simple. And
20 that is this: Defer the water of the Santee River into the
21 Cooper River for the purpose of the numerous project
22 established initiatives. And those include, among others,
23 the power generation.

24 The water flows into this upper impoundment,
25 which is created by the Santee Dam. That water then flows

1 through a division canal into a lower impoundment, which is
2 formed by the Pinopolis Dam.

3 At the Pinopolis Dam those flows are then passed
4 through a generating station known as Jeffries Hydro. And
5 they flow through the Cooper River to Charleston. They are
6 capable of passing about 28,000 CFS of flow through that
7 hydro plant at Jeffries, which will generate about 130
8 megawatts of hydroelectric generation.

9 In addition to that project you have integrally
10 as a part of that a significant navigational lock. That
11 navigational lock serves a dual purpose. It provides
12 navigation for recreational boats and traffic. But it also
13 has served in a very significant role for fish passage since
14 its project inception.

15 That fish passage at this particular project is
16 measured in biomass. We count it basically in terms of the
17 total amount of fish material that passes through the
18 project each spring. And on average over the last five
19 years we've passed over three million herring units per
20 year. A herring unit is a measure of -- basically an
21 equivalent herring of fish moving through the project (sic).

22 That is the hydraulic control for the entire
23 project. However, when the inflows coming into the system -
24 - and they average -- the daily average annual flow is
25 approximately 15,500 CFS.

1 When they exceed the 28,000 that this project can
2 pass, those flows -- the hydraulic control is transferred
3 over to the spillway. And those flows then pass through
4 that spillway back into the Santee River.

5 There's a continuous flow requirement on the
6 Santee River. We are required to pass 500 CFS continuous
7 flow down this river to sustain the conditions of that
8 river. We do so. We actually pass a little more than that
9 -- about 600 CFS through a 2 megawatt hydrogenerating unit.
10 And we take advantage of that water and utilize the power.

11 But those flows pass through that spillway. And
12 when they exceed the total flow of the project and the total
13 storage -- typically that occurs twice a year at
14 approximately on average 22,00 CFS. And those flow events
15 last approximately 16 days each.

16 That's the way the project operated for about
17 approximately 50 years. And then it was determined by the
18 federal government that those significant amounts of fresh
19 water that were travelling into the Cooper River, which used
20 to be a tidal estuary, were now creating a problem for
21 sedimentation, which required dredging in that harbor.

22 And so over a period of time the federal
23 government investigated and came up with a plan for how to
24 remediate that problem. And that was to redivert the water
25 back into the Santee River.

1 And that project is known as the Cooper River
2 Rediversion Project. It consists of a power station located
3 just north of St. Stephen. And that project can pass
4 approximately 24,00 CFS. And the reason for that was so
5 that those flows, but for the amount that's left at
6 Jeffries, could be utilized.

7 This project was then limited to 4,500 CFS weekly
8 average. So basically now this project now has a weekly
9 average -- a maximum amount of flow that we can provide
10 through it of 4,500 CFS. And all remaining flows must exit
11 through St. Stephen. And when both of these are exceeded,
12 then those flows then go down through the spillway back into
13 the Santee River.

14 This project -- when it was constructed, there
15 was a concern for fish passage obviously because of the
16 reduced flows here. And so built into this project is also
17 a fish passage facility.

18 Let me remind you, first of all, this is a Corps
19 project. And therefore it is not part of the relicensing
20 effort.

21 However, that fish passage facility is integrally
22 tied to our system. And typically over the last 10 years
23 we've passed about 350,000 American chad, which is an
24 important species that we're looking at, annually through
25 that project. And we had passed about 600,000 blueback

1 herring through that project, numerous striped bass, and
2 other species.

3 But again, that project is not part of the
4 relicensing effort. It is a part of the total project
5 concept.

6 Our project is operated based on a guideline.
7 And that guideline consists of a rule curve. And that rule
8 curve is measured at the spillway. And what it essentially
9 says is that typically during the year starting in January
10 and throughout the year beginning in January our elevation
11 should be approximately 72.5 feet above mean sea level. And
12 that goes up to 75.5 in the middle of the year around June
13 30th.

14 So essentially you have a three-foot differential
15 on the lakes if you had perfect conditions and could follow
16 that guideline.

17 This just happens to be a depiction of a five-
18 year actual measure of lake elevations and flows. And
19 compared to the rule curve, as you can see, this is 1996,
20 '97, '98, '99, 2000, and part of 2001.

21 You can see that typically the guideline would
22 obviously run throughout here nice and smooth, but the
23 elevations maintained cannot be because you have these
24 significant inflows coming in -- as much as -- in 1998 --
25 '97 you had over 100,000 CFS coming into that lake system.

1 So you have significant flows coming in. And the
2 purpose is to try to stay on this. And so you see we
3 actually will manage the lake back to the rule curve. And
4 then we get another spike and we manage it down.

5 These first two years you can see are normal
6 water years. The third year here is a pretty wet year. And
7 you can see the lake stayed very high. When we get to a
8 certain elevation which is specified by that FERC license,
9 we must release water at the spillway. That water now
10 combines with the water at St. Stephen to go into the Santee
11 River.

12 Then beginning in '99, 2000, and 2001 obviously
13 you can see what happened. All of who were here remember
14 what happened. We had a drought and then we could not
15 sustain lake levels. And therefore in the middle of that
16 year, actually in June or July, we were down around an
17 elevation of 72. For those of you who work and live around
18 a lake you know what I'm talking about.

19 There's some constraints and impacts on that
20 rediversion project that impact this overall concept. And
21 we need to talk about those. And that is this. We have --
22 this maximum average weekly flow for Jeffries Hydro is 4,500
23 CFS. Maximum.

24 What was also discovered by the Corps of
25 Engineers by Santee Cooper in implementing that project is

1 that it not only is the maximum. It is a target figure.
2 And the reason why that is is because there's numerous
3 significant industrial complexes immediately downstream in
4 the Bushy Park area. And many of you are familiar with that
5 area.

6 That area is susceptible to salt water intrusion
7 in the event that there is not sufficient fresh water
8 passing through that Jeffries Hydro. With the restriction
9 of flow, if we don't continue that 4,500 CFS on a weekly
10 average, we'll notice a problem with salt intrusion.

11 The Corps of Engineers is responsible for that.
12 They advise us based on their observations and monitoring as
13 to how we should manage the plant increase flows so that we
14 can subside any problems with the salt intrusion.

15 But what that has done is during that drought you
16 saw in 2000, we essentially were still passing 4,500 CFS out
17 of Jeffries even though the inflows into our lakes sometimes
18 dropped below 3,000 CFS. It's very difficult to sustain a
19 rule curve on a lake when you've got less water coming in
20 and going out.

21 So that reduced flow at Jeffries, combined with
22 downstream municipal industrial intakes, limits our
23 flexibility during drought conditions. We basically have
24 found that we cannot reduce those flows and sustain the lake
25 and still maintain the conditions downstream in the Cooper

1 River.

2 Those industrial customers downstream relied on
3 the condition prior to rediversion and therefore that's what
4 the Corps' responsibility is -- to try to sustain their
5 condition now.

6 Contractual requirements to maximize the
7 generation output of the two-plant system is required in our
8 contract. Whatever flows don't go out of Jeffries must go
9 out of St. Stephen first. Then any excess flows go out of
10 the spillway, which means that if the flows that used to go
11 down to Cooper River, when we were spilling, now go down to
12 Santee for the most part.

13 Approximately 80 percent of those flows return
14 back to the Santee River and are combined with the spill.

15 And finally, flood concerns by downstream
16 residence landowners along the Santee. For those of you who
17 live in the Santee area there's been numerous concerns
18 expressed about the combination of flows that occurred when
19 St. Stephen was constructed and combined with spills.

20 Normal spill events, as I mentioned, occurred
21 regularly. But when you combine those with rediversion,
22 that's produced concerns that have been expressed by those
23 residents downstream.

24 What I am also going to do is provide for you
25 some proposed measures that we're offering as part of the

1 next license agreement. All of these you see here actually
2 are voluntary enhancement that we already have incorporated
3 into our project as part of the coordinated effort with
4 resource agencies such as DNR and DHEC.

5 And you can see most of these involved flow
6 considerations. First of all, with regard to fish passage,
7 we're suggesting or recommending the locking operation for
8 fish passage be a minimum of six per day given allowing for
9 proper conditions -- wind and other issues and lock
10 availability.

11 But six per day. We already do that now -- the
12 coordination with DNR. And that seems to be working very
13 well.

14 Secondly, a continuous flow at St. Stephen of
15 5,600 CFS. From February 1st to April 15th contingent on
16 water availability, which means this. We would provide a
17 continuous flow at St. Stephen, which we do now, during fish
18 passage season to help attract the fish into the St. Stephen
19 project -- the Tayawas Canal -- so that the DNR, working
20 with the Corps, can get those fish up through the lake and
21 into their historic spawning grounds.

22 Third, implement a traction flow for the lock
23 interest channel at Jeffries lock. Essentially when we're
24 in the process of passing of fish at Jeffries, when we open
25 the downstream miter gates -- for those of you who have been

1 through the lock with your boat, when we open the downstream
2 gates, there needs to be some method by which we can attract
3 fish into that lock because typically they may be
4 overwhelmed by the flows coming out of the hydro.

5 We presently provide an attraction flow through
6 the use of a siphon into the lock. And that's created a
7 great deal of interest and questions. And so our people
8 have decided to put a sign up beside the wall now that says
9 "attraction flow for fish."

10 But what essentially it provides it that
11 attraction flow -- you get them queued up into the lock so
12 that we can pass them on into the lake. And that's been
13 relatively successful.

14 And finally we -- manatees are a part of our area
15 of the Southeast. And manatees are an endangered species.
16 They're a mammal. From time to time they have access to our
17 lock and have entered our lock and have gotten through into
18 our lake.

19 And that's unfortunate because if we can't
20 retrieve them in time and get them back down so they can
21 head south in the wintertime, they are susceptible to
22 hypothermia just like we are.

23 So it's important that we have a method in place,
24 a procedure in place, which we do, to protect them from
25 getting through the lock and more importantly to protect

1 them while they are in the lock.

2 And so when we release water out of the lock,
3 we've actually installed some exclusion devices on the ports
4 as that facility drains so that those manatees are not in
5 some way impinged in the system and can't get out.

6 Finally, there's several other proposed measures.
7 One of the more important species of fish that we're dealing
8 with on this project is the short-nosed sturgeon. The
9 reason why that is is because the short-nosed sturgeon is
10 endangered and it exists in our system.

11 We have worked closely with DNR in trying to
12 determine the best way to handle the restoration of that
13 particular species of fish. It has become apparent to
14 Santee Cooper that there is a lot more questions than there
15 are answers to how to deal with them.

16 And so what we're recommending -- and I didn't go
17 to the trouble to show you what all that consists of -- but
18 we have proposed conceptually a very comprehensive short-
19 nosed sturgeon enhancement program that would consist of a
20 series of studies, monitorings, and coordinations with the
21 resource agencies to determine a number of issues that can
22 help us determine the best way to handle that species to
23 restore that species back into its historic spawning areas.

24 However, we need to do it judiciously. And we
25 need to do it safely. And we need to do it with the best

1 interest of the resource at hand. And we believe that
2 particular program is the best way to handle that.

3 We want to develop river flow recommendations for
4 the Santee River that will balance these particular issues -
5 - navigability, habitat enhancement, project operation, and
6 contractual obligations, federal interests associated with
7 the Cooper River rediversion project.

8 As I mentioned, the flows are basically
9 established by the federal government -- as to how much we
10 can release -- where and when and how.

11 We think it's important to work with DNR and
12 other agencies within the constraints of those contractual
13 and statutory requirements to develop improved conditions
14 downstream of the Santee Dam in the Santee River, and
15 finally, without going to the trouble of listing them all,
16 implement those other proposed measures that are identified
17 in the scoping document that you can either have or can
18 obtain and relate it to other endangered and threatened
19 species, as well as recreational and cultural resources.

20 And this has been our objective now. And it has
21 been our objective when we first started. And it will be
22 our objective into the future. And that is the main thing
23 is to balance all the multiple uses of our project.

24 And we think we're doing a good job of that now.
25 And with continued help from those of you here we hope to

1 continue to do that into the future.

2 MR. FOOTE: Okay, I'm just going to go through
3 some of the issues that we've already identified.

4 MR. MCKITRICK: You didn't identify yourself.

5 MR. FOOTE: Oh, Peter Foote, Louis Berger.
6 Sorry.

7 Now, like I said, a number of the issues have
8 been listed in the scoping document that we're proposing to
9 address in the EA. And I'll just briefly touch on it here
10 because, you know, we want to listen to you instead of you
11 listening to us.

12 We are proposing to do a human effects analysis
13 on the water quality and diadromous fish resources, which
14 diadromous fish include the anadromous species such as chad
15 and blueback herring and the catadromous species such as
16 American eel.

17 The geographic scope we're proposing is the
18 Santee River from the head of Lake Marion to Tidewater and
19 the Cooper River from Lake Moultrie downstream to head of --

20 After this was published in the scoping document,
21 we realized that the head of tides is actually is the Tail
22 Race of the Jeffries Hydro Station. So I guess we're
23 looking for suggestions at this point as to how far
24 downstream we should conduct that analysis.

25 As for as temporal scope, typically we try to

1 look 30 to 50 years into the future, which is the potential
2 length of any new license that might be issued for the
3 project.

4 Okay, let's just list the general resource issues
5 that usually are treated in basically every EA that we do --
6 the full gamut of environmental resources as well as a
7 developmental analysis, which is an economic analysis we do
8 on the project. I'll mention in just a couple minutes a bit
9 more about that.

10 Okay, some of the specific resources that we've
11 outlined that we're again proposing to address in the EA are
12 these:

13 effects of project operations on water quality,
14 particularly temperature and DO;

15 effects of the project flow releases on aquatic
16 resources in both the Santee and Cooper Rivers;

17 the passage of diadromous species at the project
18 facilities and the effects of that on fish restoration
19 activities in the basin;

20 effects of project operations on shoreline
21 erosion and riparian habitat and wetlands;

22 effects of project operations on federal listed
23 rare, threatened, and endangered species in their habitat.

24 We are looking at the effects of the project on
25 recreational access and navigability, as well as the

1 adequacy of existing and any proposed recreational
2 facilities to meet future recreational demand;

3 the effects of the proposed action on any
4 properties that are listed on or potentially eligible for
5 listing on the national register of historic places;

6 and then the effects of the proposed mitigation
7 and enhancement measures that are recommended by all parties
8 on the project economics.

9 Basically we estimate the cost of the proposed
10 measures. These costs may be provided by the applicant or
11 we sometimes make our own estimates. But we look at all the
12 measures proposed by all parties to see how that would
13 affect project costs.

14 It's another piece of information that the
15 Commission likes to have on hand before they make their
16 decision -- look at the environmental proposed measures and
17 what that might cost.

18 All right, okay. One thing I'd like to mention.
19 We are having a technical conference here on Thursday
20 afternoon right in this room to discuss one particular issue
21 and that's the subject of fish passage entrainment and
22 outmigration survival at the project.

23 This was requested by Santee Cooper. Since we
24 were going to be in the area, we thought it would be a good
25 idea to devote a full couple hours to this particular issue

1 to get all perspectives from all sides on this and to help
2 us in our EA analysis.

3 Okay, at this point I believe we are ready to get
4 your comments. As Ron said, if you are planning to speak,
5 you know, please come up to the center here and state your
6 name for the stenographer. And the spelling of your name.

7 One thing that -- any written comments are due to
8 the Commission by June 20th. That's the deadline for filing
9 scoping comments related to this proceeding. And anybody
10 that wants to send written comments, that's the address that
11 you send them to.

12 And I guess here is the list of -- yeah. Okay,
13 Jim Rozier.

14 MR. ROZIER: Okay, Jim Rozier. It's R-o-z-i-e-r.
15 Berkeley County supervisor and chairman of the county
16 council here in Berkeley County.

17 I could talk to you about all kind of positive
18 aspects of Santee Cooper, but I don't know being negative,
19 so I'll only be talking positive aspects. I could talk to
20 you about the environment. And I could talk to you about
21 the green tower, the recreation. It's endless opportunities
22 that Santee Cooper provides to this area and much of the
23 state of South Carolina.

24 A couple of things I want to dwell on though, in
25 Berkeley County in the low country, if we go back, in 1993

1 we lost the naval base. And we ended up losing some 30,000
2 jobs. Santee Cooper was a big part of recovery of the base
3 closure, replacing those jobs.

4 During that time, since 1993, we brought in about
5 \$7.5 billion of industrial investment, created a little over
6 35,000 jobs. So we had recovered very well from that base
7 closure.

8 Santee Cooper played a major part in that
9 recovery. We could not have done it without the electricity
10 that Santee Cooper provides -- and the cost of that
11 electricity for companies like Nucor Steel and Alcoa
12 Aluminum Smelter and numerous others.

13 You can imagine with \$7.5 billion we have a Who's
14 Who? list of industries coming during that time. And
15 electric power played a big part in that. But not just
16 Electric Power -- the resources of Santee Cooper with the
17 people that work there and the resources they provided to
18 the low country to help attract that industry in.

19 Tourism plays a major part in our economics in
20 the low country. It started to play more of a part in
21 Berkeley County than ever before. We're starting to find
22 that people are getting a little tired of coming to
23 Charleston to see the same thing over and over. But they
24 still like the restaurants and the hotels, so they want to
25 come up here and see something different. And we encourage

1 them to do that.

2 Santee Cooper is a big part of that with the
3 lakes, the river, the Cooper River, the water that's driving
4 the Cooper River and the Santee River. In fact we're just
5 finishing up this month mapping 18 canoe and kayak trails in
6 Berkeley that will be on our Web site. And 7 of those
7 trails are in the lake. This is going to provide us endless
8 opportunity for recreation.

9 Berkeley County and Santee Cooper work well
10 together on the boat landings and so forth around the lake
11 and around the river. They provide some. We provide some.
12 We work together on many of them and provide endless
13 opportunity for recreation in the waters there.

14 We have estimated that some 85 percent of the
15 folks on trailers in the state of South Carolina end up in
16 this lake and this river at some point. From all over the
17 state. And not just from our state, from neighboring states
18 as far away as Ohio. And further than that.

19 We find them in all the time -- fishing gear.
20 And Santee Cooper provides that opportunity. It would be
21 unimaginable to think of this area without the lakes and
22 without the rivers and without the electricity.

23 And one other thing that I was going to point out
24 to you is that we're in a partnership with Santee Cooper
25 with Summerville and Monck's Corner, Goose Creek, Berkeley

1 County, and the Lake Moultrie Water Agency, where tens of
2 thousands of people are provided good water every day that
3 didn't have good water just recently.

4 We could take you out to Schuylerville and Honey
5 Hill 35-40 miles out that we've just finished water lines
6 out to -- people that hadn't been able to drink their water
7 for decades. They'd been hauling water in. And today they
8 can drink water.

9 By next school year, this upcoming school year,
10 we will have water to every public school in Berkeley
11 County. That will be the first time that Templeton High
12 School will be able to drink their water on a continuous
13 basis because the wells at Templeton High School become
14 contaminated after any reasonable size storm. And they go
15 for sometimes months and are not able to drink their water,
16 not able to use the ice in the cafeteria. They will be able
17 to do that now.

18 And a major reason is Santee Cooper's partnership
19 with Berkeley County and Summerville and Dorchester County
20 and Goose Creek and Monck's Corner.

21 I could go on and on with the upside that Santee
22 Cooper brings to us. But I would tell you that there's
23 major rural areas of this state that if it wasn't for Santee
24 Cooper, some of the electricity to the coops of this state
25 wouldn't have electricity today if we had waited for private

1 enterprise to bring it -- to bring electricity to those
2 areas.

3 So Santee Cooper plays an intricate part in the
4 economy in this area. It plays an intricate part in the
5 recreation of this area. And it plays an outstanding part
6 in the future of this area. We're looking at some 60,000
7 homes being built in Berkeley County over the next 25 years.

8 We're not real excited about that, but we'd be a
9 lot less excited if we had not got electricity. And they'd
10 probably be less excited too.

11 (Laughter.)

12 MR. ROZIER: So they won't have electricity
13 without Santee Cooper. So I would urge you to take it all
14 under consideration to relicense them just as quickly as you
15 can, but just as reasonably priced as you can. I think
16 we're doing a lot to get ready for your licensing. And
17 anyhow, so I wouldn't require them to do a whole lot more if
18 I was you.

19 (Laughter.)

20 MR. ROZIER: We're excited about -- a point I
21 want to make to you in the recreation. It's not just
22 recreation. It's education with Lion's Beach here in
23 Monck's. Hundreds and hundreds of kids each summer go
24 through a program, the YMCA program at Lion's Beach.

25 We leased the Lion's Beach from the lion's club.

1 We leased it to Santee Cooper. And we subleased it to the
2 YMCA. And hundreds of kids get recreation and training out
3 there each summer.

4 Spiers Landing and up part of our county at
5 Cross, a predominately minority community -- hundreds and
6 thousands of minority kids spent a lot of good times at
7 Spiers Landing learning to swim and playing baseball and
8 enjoying the summer that they wouldn't have the opportunity
9 to do if it were not for Santee Cooper.

10 I could go on and on, but I'll quit.

11 MR. MCKITRICK: Oh, thank you very much. Thanks
12 Jim.

13 Kevin Davis.

14 MR. DAVIS: Kevin Davis, Black's Camp. Black's
15 Camp is one of many fishing camps on the lakes here, one of
16 many of hundreds of businesses throughout five counties
17 which surround the lakes. These are very famous fishing
18 lakes. They always have been since the 50s I guess.

19 I know at Black's Camp we bring people from
20 California to Maine to these lakes to fish for catfish and
21 stripers. We haven't had anybody fishing for sturgeon or
22 eels yet.

23 (Laughter.)

24 MR. DAVIS: But I can you tell you, it's bringing
25 a lot of money to South Carolina. Santee Cooper has always

1 done a good job here in the spring of keeping the water
2 levels stable during the spawn of game fish.

3 Santee Cooper has many times stocked game fish --
4 crappie, bass, bluegill. As a matter fact, they've
5 probably done more stocking than our own wildlife park. And
6 we thank them for that.

7 They do a real good job of keeping the lakes
8 navigable. A lot of recreational boaters out there, they
9 operate the locks free of charge, you know, from people
10 passing from Lake Moultrie to Cooper River.

11 Not a good -- to speak of it. I love Santee
12 Cooper. As John said, the majority of the fish, bait fish
13 species and game fish, which come from the ocean into our
14 lakes are done at the locks at the Pinopolis Dam.

15 The Corps of Engineers fish list in St. Stephen -
16 - it just -- I don't know. It just doesn't pass the fish
17 that they do down at Pinopolis. I know at our camp we have
18 dredging projects going on from time to time and building
19 projects. And Santee Cooper always helps us speed up that
20 permitting process. And without them I don't know if we
21 could go through all that red tape.

22 But Santee Cooper always, you know, tells us what
23 we've got to do to get our permits to do work. And as far
24 as our property leases from Santee Cooper, they do a good
25 job of keeping those pretty low. And owning a business on

1 these lakes is made a lot easier by Santee Cooper.

2 MR. MCKITRICK: Okay, Barry Jurs is it?

3 MR. JURS: How are you gentlemen doing?

4 PARTICIPANTS: Doing good.

5 MR. JURS: My name is Barry Jurs. My last name
6 is J-u-r-s. I think when I signed up, I signed up two
7 things. One is the executive directive of the Lord Berkeley
8 Conservation Trust.

9 And it had also a little thing on there. It said
10 "or self." And I put the "self" down. And I want start
11 with that one because I have grown up in this country and
12 actually I'm the father of three children who are the fifth
13 generation to own a small farm just north of here about five
14 miles up the road, three or four miles up the road.

15 We've been neighbors for all this time with
16 Santee Cooper. The only thing that separates us from Santee
17 Cooper is a railroad track that has been there probably a
18 little bit longer. But I can tell you that Santee Cooper
19 from a neighborhood standpoint has been a wonderful
20 neighbor.

21 Quite honestly it would probably have been a
22 better neighbor to us than I've actually been to them
23 because growing up as a small boy, I was always over on
24 their side building forts, chasing rabbits, riding horses,
25 or something of that nature.

1 But right there next to the house at that little
2 farm you can see the dike. And I can tell you that as a
3 young child, I knew something good was there. And I didn't
4 understand what it meant. But for even a small child I
5 understood at night when I went home the lights were on.
6 And I liked that.

7 And the daytime there was a big pond on the other
8 side of that dike. And I thought that was a pretty good
9 thing too.

10 But as I've grown older and moved out in the
11 professional world and gotten very involved in Berkeley
12 County and we've also been involved in environmental affairs
13 and natural resource projects in Berkeley County for over
14 two decades now, what I've come to understand is that those
15 lights on and that big pond over there are not accidental at
16 all.

17 They are there because of the extraordinary
18 management that's been undertaken by Santee Cooper. And Mr.
19 Rozier just spoke about the benefits they bring from an
20 economic development standpoint, which is a major part of
21 the quality of life that happens in Berkeley County and the
22 surrounding area.

23 But what I've come to understand is that it's not
24 just all about jobs. That's a major part. But pure quality
25 of life involves good jobs and the income to be able to care

1 for your family. It involves the ability to have a good
2 environment that you could enjoy there that you are around.
3 You can have opportunities for recreation -- to get out and
4 enjoy those areas.

5 Those things coming together make quality of
6 life. And that's what Santee Cooper has meant to this area
7 as long as I have ever known myself. And I remember the
8 stories even from the families of my generations ahead of me
9 who have said the same thing.

10 Through the Lord Berkeley Conservation Trust
11 we've been involved with Berkeley County and a lot of the
12 different agencies. And looking at the quality of life in
13 Berkeley County and the livability of this county as it gets
14 pressured even ever more -- so as each day passes with the
15 type of development and people moving here and the changes
16 of the landscape and the things that are going on.

17 Santee Cooper has quite honestly been a leader in
18 the environmental management of this county. They've been
19 involved in everything we've ever taken to them and asked
20 them to take under advisement. The door has always been
21 open.

22 And for the most part I really don't know of
23 anything that we've gone to talk to them about that they
24 haven't actually tried to help us come to fruition.

25 But almost as important as making things actually

1 happen is the fact that the door is always open. They are
2 always willing to listen. They are always willing to hear
3 what you have to say. Take a look at the benefits and look
4 at the costs. And look at how we can get it done and see if
5 we can get it out there.

6 And I tell you there are just so many things to
7 mention. But the things I can tell you is that in the
8 county -- and I believe it was 1999 that Berkeley County and
9 the conservation district and our land trust came together.
10 And I looked at Berkeley County and I said we have got to do
11 something about planning land management issues in this
12 county.

13 We understood that there in the tri-county area
14 300,000 people by -- to come here by the year 2030. And
15 100,000 of those folks are going to land in Berkeley County.
16 We had an idea of where they were going, how we going to
17 manage it.

18 Santee Cooper sat down with us. Local business
19 sat down and other industries, other local governments,
20 citizens. And we planned how we wanted this county to look.
21 And out of that came -- is the understanding that around the
22 water bodies of the county is where major quality of life
23 issues revolve. And that's the Cooper River and the lake
24 systems and the Santee River.

25 And we looked at how we wanted to manage the land

1 issues around these areas. And when that comes through, the
2 land trust plays a large part -- trying to manage and work
3 with landowners to protect these areas that we know are rich
4 habitats for wildlife species, fisheries, boating, and other
5 recreation and how to keep these usable for us as another
6 100,000 descend on this county.

7 Well, conservation easement is a major way that
8 that is done. And that is to protect the integrity of large
9 properties by limiting the uses of that, limiting the
10 development if you will.

11 Well, that's one thing to plan it. And it's one
12 thing to talk about it and encourage the landowners to do
13 it. But somebody has to come forward and make sure that
14 that is done.

15 I am here to tell you that Santee Cooper not only
16 sat down and helped us plan and build the green space
17 initiative plan for Berkeley County. They also came to the
18 table as a major bearer of putting the building blocks
19 there. And at that time they have placed conservation
20 easements on about 3,000 acres of properties that are under
21 their domain.

22 And these properties? There's the Wadboo Swamp
23 coming down there to the Cooper River, uplands, forest --
24 wetlands, forest, and streams, the beautiful bluffs around
25 this forested area. It comes down into the old rice field

1 culture. There's the delta coming in where the canal and
2 the Cooper River form right there. It's a beautiful and
3 rich wildlife habitat area.

4 And Santee Cooper came to the table and protected
5 these areas. These are permanent conservation easements.
6 And this is a huge statement.

7 I believe probably the first easement that was
8 done was the 500-acre down in the Wadboo Delta that started
9 things on the Cooper River at that time in that area. Since
10 that they are coming to the table.

11 I think pretty much along that river we hold --
12 and in other part of Berkeley County -- it's around 13,000
13 acres under conservation easement. And that is in
14 fulfillment of that green space plan.

15 After their initiation of the conservation
16 easements on their part Nucor Steel came forward with
17 another 5,000 acres. And DuPont Cooper River Business Site
18 came together with another almost 1,200 acres and brought
19 other utilities and stockholder driven corporations to the
20 table to understand that environmental conservation,
21 recreation, and economic development go hand in hand.

22 And that's where Santee Cooper has played a huge
23 role for us in these areas. This is not a small undertaking
24 in any means whatsoever. As a matter of fact, a lot of the
25 area that I'm talking about -- actually it's about six miles

1 to nine miles of open stream coming down bordering on the
2 national forest, tying that protected area down to the
3 Cooper River.

4 Two more of the paddling trails that Mr. Rozier
5 mentioned actually are in those sections of the property
6 that Santee Cooper is protecting. So as we have been
7 working with the county trying to bring these paddling areas
8 on line for people coming from all over the United States to
9 enjoy kayaks and canoes -- so the Wadboo area, that's going
10 to be there.

11 That's not going to change. They are always
12 going to be able to come and enjoy something that's a
13 pristine area and a very beautiful wildlife habitat area to
14 enjoy. It supports environment protection as well as
15 recreation.

16 But Santee Cooper has been playing the
17 environmental steward in this county and many other counties
18 for a long time. It will probably be coming to the
19 executive directorship of the conservation trust.

20 And I've put in about 20 years with the
21 Department of Natural Resources in the conservation section.
22 And I remember when FERC started up and John did a great job
23 of bringing a host of DNR people into one room to talk about
24 the many issues and to start things in this process years
25 ago. And it was a true partnership.

1 John did a great job, because to bring biologists
2 and hydrologists, geologists, engineers, and a whole bunch
3 of folks and everybody to actually leave the room without
4 blood letting is a major feat.

5 But the point I wanted to make is this -- to
6 bring us together to talk about this says something about us
7 all -- that Santee Cooper provides that basis.

8 But, John, I think you said it when you said you
9 felt like you're doing a pretty good job of supporting
10 multiple use. I want to tell you they did an exceptional
11 with multiple use with their properties and waterways in
12 Berkeley County, as well as other parts of the state that
13 I've been around that work with other colleagues from DNR
14 and see what goes on.

15 And it happens through partnership. Nothing
16 happens by one soul entity alone. In Berkeley County the
17 most wonderful environmental -- the local governments, the
18 counties, the industries, the private businesses, the
19 landowners, the private citizens, nonprofit groups -- all
20 coming together to sit down and talk about what the issues
21 are environmentally.

22 When there's recreation -- waterborn, forestborn,
23 landborn, what have you -- Santee Cooper is always at the
24 table. They are always one of the logos that sits in the
25 partnership seat and tries to get things done.

1 I tell you after Hugo -- I believe that 1989
2 some of the folks -- it's a pretty common site when in the
3 hurricane season the folks down in Charleston side -- and
4 they get the waters and they bring the big yachts up the
5 Cooper River because they want to park them up here because
6 it's a little safer.

7 Well, there are a few couple of folks that
8 started out in Charleston harbor didn't make it because they
9 got lost on the Cooper River. It's a pretty winding river.
10 And if you don't know that there's some of the old broken
11 rice field dikes, you can very quickly get your boat up on
12 one of the rice fields and get stranded.

13 They had to ride it out in there -- in the rice
14 fields. Elaine Morgan with the chamber came to us one time
15 and said, you know, we've got to help these folks because
16 not only do we want them to get here. We'd like for them to
17 be able to go home too.

18 But a partnership with the chamber, Jim, and the
19 county, Santee Cooper, and our conservation district and the
20 Department of Natural Resources -- we got together and said
21 we're going to put channel markers out there on that stretch
22 of the Cooper River. I've forgotten how many miles. It's
23 -- I don't know. It's this huge area.

24 We went out and scoped it and we put -- I believe
25 it was about 14 Coast-Guard-approved channel markers (with

1 the Coast Guard being part of the partnership) to guide the
2 navigation of that area, to provide safety. These boats
3 coming up this way and allow them to get back.

4 Since then I don't know of any other strandeds.
5 At the same time I can tell you, I was on one of the harbor
6 tour boats years ago when this hit this one sandbar down
7 there around Amoco. And I think it was the General
8 Beauregard.

9 And the gentleman at that time said, "We will not
10 come back on this river until we have markers." Well, that
11 means that there's eco-tourism not coming up the river.
12 That means there are people that go down to Charleston not
13 seeing these upper stretches. Recreation and tourism are
14 impeded.

15 Well, they're back travelling on the river
16 because of these markers around there. And I can tell you
17 without Santee Cooper those markers would not be there.
18 They are a partner. They brought the barge up. And with
19 just a little bit of money we were able to do huge, huge
20 things.

21 But that's just the tip of the iceberg. They're
22 involved in the planning efforts all around the Cooper River
23 and around the lakes that are involved in the focus areas,
24 of which there are about 10 in the state. And the Cooper
25 River focus area is a part of the American Water and Fowl

1 Management Plan, the North American initiative.

2 And they have those plans, the land management
3 issues, around this whole river system including the lakes.
4 A partnership again. It's U.S. Fish and Wildlife. It's our
5 Lord Berkeley Conservation Trust. And it involves the
6 Department of Natural Resources. And it involves the U.S.
7 Natural Resources Conservation Service, Ducks Unlimited, and
8 other nonprofit groups.

9 The list goes on. We're always at the table
10 together talking about resource issues and how we're going
11 to solve whatever the need is and how we're going to get
12 there.

13 The list goes on and on. To tell you the truth,
14 I'm not going to read them all. I sat down while I was
15 thinking of it and I started writing about all the different
16 projects that Santee Cooper has done and the type of support
17 that they brought out. And to tell you the truth the list
18 is too long. We could sit all night.

19 What I wish I had is a couple days and I could
20 put you in the car and put you in the boat to show you a few
21 things and talk about how things got done and then also talk
22 about there are a lot of other states and a lot of other
23 areas that would only be too happy to have a steward like
24 Santee Cooper right here among us because they don't get
25 things done because the door is closed and they can't even

1 get to the table to talk about possibilities because it's
2 not one.

3 That never happens here. The door is always
4 open. The possibility always exists. And to date I'm going
5 to tell you I've probably got about 10 or 12 right here.
6 Major projects they are always accomplishing.

7 But the future goes on. And, I mean, there are
8 many more things that we're planning on doing. I would tell
9 you this. It doesn't stop us from just putting technical
10 projects in through the conservation district, the county,
11 and our land trust.

12 About the last four or five years we have had an
13 educational workshop. It's called the Carolina Coastal
14 Adventure. We have about 100 high schools students that
15 come from all across South Carolina, not just locally. They
16 come from every county in the state.

17 Santee Cooper has allowed us and supported us in
18 our hosting of it out at Summerset and put the kids in the
19 rec center out there. And they bivouced on cots for the
20 weekend, a three-day weekend. And we teach them about
21 watershed issues and water quality issues. They get to
22 understand about the potable water -- plant.

23 They understand electricity production. And we
24 take them for tours of the Jeffries plant. They come down
25 from the Santee Canal Park and they look at the water

1 quality issues and understand the biology behind it. They
2 look at the -- organisms and understand what's there and
3 what does it mean.

4 And we go down. And we've taken them to sewage
5 treatment plants to understand how it's managed. They've
6 been to cyprus gardens and understand how that all tied in.
7 And it's a weekend just filled teaching high school students
8 about use and reuse.

9 And it's all about the Santee Cooper system and
10 how that water comes through and how man uses it to build
11 that quality of life out of it. And you make it right and
12 you put it back because the person down the street pulls it
13 again and uses it and puts it back.

14 Santee Cooper is a major sponsor of that. And
15 every year we take 100 high school 9th and 10th graders and
16 teach them about that system. That doesn't happen anywhere
17 else. It's just --

18 As you can tell, I'm a fan of Santee Cooper from
19 a personal standpoint and from a professional standpoint.
20 But it's about partnership. Santee Cooper is a partner in
21 the environmental realm here. They are respected by the
22 federal regulatory agencies. They are respected by the
23 state regulatory agencies.

24 They have certainly been a friend with the Lord
25 Berkeley Conservation Trust and all the efforts to protect

1 the environmental and to make sure that a lot of this is
2 here -- even 100 years from now after that 100,000 people
3 descend upon us. And even more.

4 Gentlemen, with that said, I would certainly ask
5 that you look kindly upon them as they come to you for their
6 relicensing effort because what I would like to see is maybe
7 some generations from now that somebody's going to come up
8 to you and say: "You know, I'm the eighth generation --
9 right down there the little farm short of here. And we like
10 that little pond that's right across there."

11 And they'll talk to you about how Santee Cooper
12 has even done more to help with the recreation effort and
13 the environmental effort of this county and many other
14 places.

15 I appreciate the opportunity to be here.

16 MR. MCKITRICK: Thank you.

17 Elaine Morgan.

18 MS. MORGAN: Good evening, gentlemen. Thank you
19 for allowing me to come and speak with you.

20 I'm going to compete with Barry a little bit. I
21 am fifth generation and also from Brookway County. And my
22 daddy was retired from South Carolina Fishery Division. And
23 my grandfather was one of the first game wards in the state
24 of South Carolina. So the love of the land comes pretty
25 easy to me.

1 But I am here speaking for the Berkeley Chamber
2 of Commerce and -- when it comes to Santee Cooper, I think
3 you've already found out that Santee Cooper not only is an
4 environmental steward of this area and a friend to the
5 people of Berkeley County and to the state, but a leader for
6 our whole state.

7 The chamber has always had such a fantastic
8 stewardship -- because we have never been able to go any
9 place and get the support that we get from Santee Cooper.
10 We have the five counties around the Santee Cooper Lake.
11 And from those five counties we have received probably about
12 \$400 million in revenue. And for some of those businesses
13 that is the only economic revenue those businesses get. And
14 anything that we do that would jeopardize that income --

15 When we talk about tourism, we went from a
16 receiving county in 1996 to the 13th county of overnight
17 stays in the -- County. The other counties are coming up
18 also. And that is because we are not only nationally known,
19 but we are well received as a -- country. And we have a
20 great, aggressive marketing campaign going on.

21 In -- I cannot tell you the program that Santee
22 Cooper works on. And not only do they work on it, but their
23 employees are a model for the other companies -- the Green
24 Power Initiative, which is nationally known. They were the
25 first utility company in the state to bring back here for

1 us.

2 And they have other companies. I think our
3 company and this hotel you're in was a Green Power partner -
4 - and which was a little part at the chamber, but we are
5 very proud of it. But that is a great initiative. And they
6 led us to that. And I think that's wonderful.

7 But when we talk about Santee Cooper, you can see
8 how much we really appreciate them. I cannot stress how
9 much we rely on the lakes and on our rivers.

10 And when John got up and talked about it, we
11 cannot stress how important the balance of that water is for
12 those industries -- (and -- knows this) and how delicate.
13 And anything that we do negative to this, FERC, the
14 detriment that could cause to Brookway County and to the
15 state -- I cannot stress what that would do to this area and
16 to the state because Santee Cooper is not just a Brookway
17 County utility. It is an engine for the state of South
18 Carolina.

19 And I hope you all get to stay a little while and
20 get to come out and go fishing with us. And we'd love to
21 show you around Brook County because Brook County is the
22 jewel of South Carolina.

23 Thank you for allowing me to speak tonight.

24 MR. MCKITRICK: Thank you.

25 Laura Varn.

1 MS. VARN: Good evening. My name is Laura Varn.
2 I'm the vice president of corporate communications and media
3 relations for Santee Cooper. And I have prepared some oral
4 comments. And I'm prepared to give those tonight.

5 However, if you have no objections and in the
6 interest of time, I am very comfortable with submitting
7 those as written documents tonight.

8 MR. FOOTE: Is she the last speaker?

9 MR. MCKITRICK: That's the last on the list
10 unless somebody else wants to --

11 MR. FOOTE: Whatever you would like to do. We
12 have time.

13 MS. VARN: Okay, I'm happy to prepare those as
14 written comments.

15 MR. FOOTE: Okay, that would be good.

16 MS. VARN: Thank you.

17 MR. FOOTE: Was there anyone else that would like
18 to make any statements? That was the last person that had
19 signed up that said they indicated they wanted to speak.

20 MS. THOMAS: I'm Margaret Thompson from
21 Pinopolis. And I'm one of these new creatures that come
22 into your community because of the fine lakes.

23 The very first time I looked at Lake Moultrie I
24 stood on a sandy, clean bank and looked down into crystal
25 clear water. We've been on that lake now coming up four

1 years and I've found the wind can change that look. It does
2 get white.

3 But nonetheless it's been a joy to live on this
4 lake. We had just purchased the land, checked with Santee
5 Cooper about the level of the lake, got our instructions,
6 and the drought hit.

7 I think the house was still under construction
8 and I saw the water start going out. And I worried Santee
9 Cooper personnel to death saying, "Where is my water going?"
10 You said --

11 As one of the speakers before said, it's an open
12 door policy. They listened to me complain every week,
13 practically every day, very patiently.

14 But the one thing that I kept hearing over and
15 over again was this requirement of the lease of water. My
16 husband and I -- who's an electrical engineer -- both sat
17 down and read every word of all the contracts and amendments
18 that have transpired from the beginning of the time that dam
19 was built to find the truth of the situation -- because
20 there were a lot of rumors going around.

21 And my question to you is, is there any way to
22 make an amendment so that there is some latitude when an
23 act of God or an act of villain occurs so that I'm not left
24 -- an eye on this sandbank that I found myself on?

25 We're on the finger. Pinopolis is the finger

1 that comes down into lake. It was not only -- I guess it's
2 a football field now. But the water is -- far away from
3 wetland banks.

4 And all they could tell me was, "We are
5 required." And that's just pure frustration for a woman
6 like me that wants the water at the dock.

7 (Laughter.)

8 MS. THOMAS: So as you are renegotiating these
9 things, if there's a way to do some amendments to protect
10 the humble homeowner that came to live on these lakes, I
11 surely would appreciate it.

12 MR. FOOTE: Okay, thank you.

13 MS. VARN: Thank you.

14 MR. FOOTE: Was there anyone else that would like
15 to make a comment?

16 (No response.)

17 MR. MCKITRICK: If not, we certainly welcome you
18 -- we're going out tomorrow. I'm not sure where we're
19 going. Wilson Landing at 9:00?

20 MR. FOOTE: 9:00.

21 MR. MCKITRICK: To see a little bit more of the
22 area that you all live in. John's been very helpful in
23 describing a lot of this, the operation and the project.
24 We'll have another -- if you love this kind of a meeting,
25 you can come tomorrow night up at Manning and then we'll be

1 back here on Thursday during the day.

2 (Laughter.)

3 MR. MCKITRICK: But if not, we certainly
4 appreciate you all coming out tonight and sharing with us
5 insights. And with that I'd like to formally adjourn this
6 meeting.

7 (Whereupon, at 8:40 p.m., the scoping meeting
8 concluded.)

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