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BEFORE THE  
FEDERAL ENERGY REGULATORY COMMISSION

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IN THE MATTER OF:                   :     Docket Number  
SOUTHEAST SUPPLY                   :     FP06-28-000  
HEADER, LLC                         :

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Lucedale Rocky Creek Inn  
120 Woods Ridge Road  
Lucedale, Mississippi 39452

Thursday, August 24, 2006

The above-entitled matter came on  
for public meeting, pursuant to notice at  
7:05 p.m.

MODERATOR:                         JOHN V. PECONOM, FERC

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APPEARANCES:

John V. Peconom, Environmental Biologist  
Office of Energy Projects  
Federal Energy Regulatory Commission  
888 First Street, N.E.  
Washington, D.C. 20426

Scott Flickinger  
Tetra Tech NUS  
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I N D E X

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1 P R O C E E D I N G

2 MR. PECONOM: Good evening. My  
3 name is John Peconom and I'm a biologist  
4 with the Federal Energy Regulatory  
5 Commission. On behalf of the Commission  
6 I'd like to thank all of you for coming to  
7 tonight's public comment meeting. The  
8 purpose of tonight's meeting is to listen  
9 -- to take comments on the proposed  
10 Southeast Supply Header Project.

11 The Federal Energy Regulatory  
12 Commission, for whom I work for, is the  
13 primary government agency responsible for  
14 the review of natural gas pipeline  
15 projects. Approximately two and a half  
16 months ago the Southeast Supply Header  
17 Project approached the Federal Energy  
18 Regulatory Commission with a proposal to  
19 build a natural gas pipeline starting in  
20 Louisiana and finishing in Coden, Alabama.  
21 Can everybody hear me okay?

22 (Positive response.)

23 Okay. I just wanted to make sure.  
24 Thank you.

25 As the primary federal agency

1 responsible for the construction of natural  
2 gas pipeline projects, we are here tonight  
3 to take comments from the public about  
4 their concerns regarding the proposed  
5 project. What I'd like to do tonight is  
6 spend a few minutes talking about how we  
7 review a natural gas pipeline project.

8           We've invited the company here  
9 tonight as well to explain the proposal  
10 that they are -- that they have out there  
11 for this project. However, the primary  
12 purpose of tonight's meeting is to take all  
13 of your comments on the proposed project,  
14 your concerns, the issues that you feel  
15 need to be addressed in our review of the  
16 project. And tell me if I'm talking too  
17 fast, I seem to do that a little bit when I  
18 get in front of the public. A little too  
19 fast? All right, thank you, I appreciate  
20 it.

21           Again, I'm with the Federal Energy  
22 Regulatory Commission. Tonight's meeting  
23 is designed to listen to your comments  
24 about the proposed project. In the back of  
25 the room when you walked in there was a

1 sign up list for those interested in being  
2 on the mailing list. All of you should  
3 have received a Notice of Intent which  
4 would look something like this  
5 (indicating). If you received this you're  
6 on our mailing list. If you haven't  
7 received one you're not on our mailing  
8 list, and if you'd like to be on our  
9 mailing list, please sign in in the back.

10 You should have also seen in the  
11 back a handout entitled "What Do I Need to  
12 Know? A Natural Gas Facility on My Land."  
13 This is a very good handout that details a  
14 lot of the information that I'll provide  
15 here tonight, and also a few other things  
16 that I think you might find useful.

17 What I'll do is kind of walk  
18 through this handout to just point out a  
19 couple of things of interest. Again, we  
20 are the lead federal agency responsible for  
21 this project. We work with other federal  
22 agencies; the Army Corps of Engineers, the  
23 Environmental Protection Agency, the U.S.  
24 Fish and Wildlife Service, and we also work  
25 with state agencies to review this project

1 and to make sure that the impacts of it are  
2 minimized.

3           Again, two and a half months ago  
4 Southeast Supply Header Project approached  
5 us with this proposal. They requested the  
6 use of our pre-filing process, which is a  
7 process we have in place that's kind of an  
8 informal process to develop a pipeline  
9 project. They requested the use of this  
10 process, we approved it. And this process  
11 includes an open house, which many of you  
12 may have attended about a month and a half  
13 ago. The primary purpose of the open house  
14 is to introduce the project to you, to  
15 explain their proposal to you. We follow  
16 up that open house with this scoping  
17 meeting now that you've had some time to  
18 think about it.

19           Many of you may have seen survey  
20 crews out on your properties. You know,  
21 there's probably two or three crews that  
22 have been through at this time. The  
23 purpose of those surveys were to assess the  
24 environmental resources that are out there,  
25 the archaeological resources to see what

1       else -- what's going on out there. They're  
2       currently putting all that information  
3       together into resource reports, which we  
4       utilize to prepare our review of the  
5       project.

6                 In addition to this public comment  
7       meeting, we'll also have opportunities to  
8       take comments on the project via U.S. Mail,  
9       through the internet, which are all  
10      highlighted in this handout here.

11                Through the pre-filing process, the  
12      company comes to us, the FERC, with a  
13      proposal. We take comments from the  
14      public, we meet with agencies, federal and  
15      state, and we talk about the proposal, see  
16      what we can do to maybe minimize the  
17      impacts. During the pre-filing process we  
18      review the project, we go out on the site.  
19      We flew over a good portion of the project  
20      earlier this week. We met with several  
21      state agencies, both in Alabama and  
22      Mississippi, on Tuesday and Wednesday of  
23      this week -- excuse me, Wednesday and  
24      Thursday.

25                The Federal Energy Regulatory

1 Commission has a responsibility to  
2 landowners, to the environmental resources,  
3 endangered species, to just about  
4 everybody. We try to work with everybody  
5 to develop -- to work with the applicant to  
6 prepare a proposal that minimizes  
7 environmental impacts and minimizes affects  
8 to landowners and other resources out  
9 there.

10 This pre-filing process generally  
11 lasts about six months. At the completion  
12 of the pre-filing process, the company  
13 files a formal application with us, which  
14 we then take, along with all the comments  
15 we've received and the resource reports  
16 they've prepared, and begin to prepare our  
17 review of the project. As the project  
18 biologist I'm responsible for reviewing the  
19 environmental resources of the project. We  
20 will prepare several public documents for  
21 that -- for this review.

22 The first document we will prepare  
23 is what we call a Draft Environmental  
24 Impact Statement which will outline the  
25 environmental resources. And when I say

1 "environmental" it's a very broad term.  
2 Some of the things that we look at in the  
3 Environmental Impact Statement were  
4 outlined in the Notice of Intent, again,  
5 which you -- most of you should have  
6 received. We look at water resources. We  
7 look at ground water. We look at soils,  
8 geology, recreation, economic impacts to  
9 the area. We look at alternatives to the  
10 project. We look at air quality, noise,  
11 fish and wildlife, threatened and  
12 endangered species, land uses, agricultural  
13 uses, safety, reliability, location,  
14 construction methods. We look at just  
15 about everything we could think of.

16 We have these meetings to get your  
17 comments to make sure that we cover  
18 everything. A lot of times there are local  
19 things that should be covered and sometimes  
20 get missed and that's why these meetings  
21 are here to make sure we cover all the  
22 resources.

23 The Draft Environmental Impact  
24 Statement will be issued to the general  
25 public for review. We'll have another set

1 of meetings like this, scoping meeting much  
2 like this one. We'll also have another  
3 written comment period. We'll take all  
4 those comments into consideration and  
5 prepare a Final Environmental Impact  
6 Statement. The Federal Energy Regulatory  
7 Commission, which is a five-member board  
8 appointed by the President and approved by  
9 the Senate, will take the Environmental  
10 Impact Statement along with several other  
11 pieces of information and ultimately make a  
12 decision on whether or not to approve the  
13 project. However, that's quite some time  
14 out there. That's not -- about 10 months  
15 away, I believe, before we get to that  
16 point. So, it's still fairly new in the  
17 process. We started this process about two  
18 and a half months ago, and we're looking  
19 for your comments.

20 And I forgot to introduce Scott  
21 Flickinger who sits here on my right. He's  
22 a consultant that works with the Federal  
23 Energy Regulatory Commission to help us  
24 prepare these documents and to help run  
25 these meetings.

1                   I think before I invite the company  
2                   up to give a presentation on their  
3                   proposal, I just wanted to open it up for a  
4                   couple of questions about the process,  
5                   about how we review -- how we review these  
6                   projects and some of my responsibilities  
7                   and some of the things that we'll be  
8                   looking at, just to make sure everybody's  
9                   clear. A lot of that information is  
10                  detailed here in "What Do I Need to Know?"  
11                  And I realize this might not be loud  
12                  enough, I might have spoken too quickly.  
13                  And I want everybody here to leave tonight  
14                  with their questions answered as best as I  
15                  can do that.

16                  So, if anyone has questions on the  
17                  process I want to go ahead and take those  
18                  now. And then if people have comments on  
19                  the project; you know, I'm concerned about  
20                  this; I want to make sure that you look at  
21                  that, those kind of comments and statements  
22                  we'll look for a little bit later in the  
23                  meeting. After the company gives their  
24                  proposal, we'll ask interested individuals  
25                  to come up to the microphone and state

1 their name for the record. We want to get  
2 all the comments on the record.

3 And I should point out that we also  
4 have a court reporter with us. We want to  
5 get your comments on the record, and we  
6 want to make sure that everybody's comments  
7 are heard. And that way they go into the  
8 public record that we maintain in  
9 Washington and that anybody can look at.  
10 Comments made by the person over here  
11 (indicating) can be viewed by a person over  
12 there (indicating.) Any documents that are  
13 filed with us from elected officials,  
14 government resource agencies, the company  
15 itself, anything that we send out;  
16 questions, comments, all that stuff's  
17 available to the public for review.

18 And all that is detailed in this  
19 handout here. We have a website and a  
20 phone number that people can call and  
21 request information.

22 I covered that pretty quickly  
23 because I wanted to get to people's  
24 comments and concerns. So, if you have any  
25 questions right now I'd be happy to take

1       them on the process.  And if you have  
2       statements we'll go ahead and take those  
3       just a little bit later.  Does anybody have  
4       any questions on how we review these  
5       projects?  I really did go through it  
6       pretty quickly.  But, I want to assure you  
7       that we look at, as is stated in the NOI,  
8       geology and soil, water resources, wetlands  
9       and wildlife, fisheries, air quality, we  
10      look at a lot of things -- construction  
11      methods.  It's detailed there, but I wanted  
12      just to take any questions at this time.

13                   UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER 1:  The stakes  
14      they got out now, is that where the  
15      pipeline is going?

16                   MR. PECONOM:  Part of the process  
17      of developing one of these pipeline  
18      projects is doing the surveys.

19                   UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER 1:  In other  
20      words, that might change?

21                   MR. PECONOM:  Yes.  This is very  
22      early in the process so, stakes may change  
23      and -- I'm pretty sure they will change.  
24      Things get moved around a little bit  
25      depending on what they find in the surveys.

1       When they initially start surveys they look  
2       at a very big area and then they slowly  
3       work down that area in terms of what they  
4       finally propose to do.  And I think Mr.  
5       Monty Collins of Southeast Supply Header  
6       Project will kind of go over that a little  
7       bit to explain that to people because we've  
8       had actually several comments on surveys  
9       and widths and what they're proposing to  
10      do.

11                   MR. MIDDLETON:  Do y'all rule on  
12      how important this gas line would be --

13                   MR. PECONOM:  Yes, sir.

14                   MR. MIDDLETON:  -- immediately or  
15      in the future or, do y'all take into  
16      consideration -- how do y'all --

17                   MR. PECONOM:  Yes, sir.  The  
18      purpose and need of a project is probably  
19      the first section in our review.  The first  
20      thing we look at is is this project needed?  
21      What is the purpose of the project?  Who  
22      does the project serve?  That's actually in  
23      the very first section of our review.  So,  
24      yes, we do do that.

25                   Any other questions on the process

1 and how we review these proposed pipelines?

2 (No response.)

3 Okay. And if you come up with  
4 questions later, just feel free to go ahead  
5 and ask them at any time. I'll also stay  
6 after the meeting time to answer any  
7 questions you might have.

8 In fact, at this time I'd like to  
9 invite Mr. Monty Collins of the Southeast  
10 Supply Header Project to explain their  
11 proposal.

12 MR. COLLINS: Let me introduce  
13 myself, I'm Monty Collins. I am the  
14 Project Manager for the Southeast Supply  
15 Header Project. A little bit about  
16 Southeast Supply and who Southeast Supply  
17 Header is. It is a joint venture between  
18 Duke Energy Gas Transmission Company and  
19 CenterPoint Energy.

20 MR. PECONOM: Can everybody hear  
21 Monty?

22 (Positive response.)

23 MR. COLLINS: And if I speak too  
24 fast, slow me down as well, please.

25 But, it is a joint venture between

1 Duke Energy Gas Transmission Company and  
2 CenterPoint Energy, both of which own  
3 facilities within the state of Mississippi.  
4 The facilities that Duke Energy owns is  
5 Texas Eastern System, which is a pretty  
6 significant gas system within the state of  
7 Mississippi, as well as facilities in  
8 Alabama, which is the Gulf Stream  
9 facilities and Fuel Services Facilities.  
10 CenterPoint Energy actually owns a good bit  
11 of local distribution systems within the  
12 state of Mississippi. So, both companies  
13 do have experience working within the state  
14 of Mississippi and Alabama.

15 What this project is is  
16 approximately 270 miles of 36-inch pipeline  
17 originating in Delhi, Louisiana crossing  
18 into the state of Mississippi just south of  
19 Vicksburg, and then propagating in a  
20 southeasterly fashion down toward the  
21 Coden, Alabama area is where it terminates.  
22 In the routing of the pipeline it will  
23 cross approximately five major interstate  
24 pipeline companies. At each of those major  
25 pipeline crossings there will be

1 interconnects with those interstate  
2 systems.

3           And what that's to do is to  
4 stabilize all of the natural gas systems  
5 within the state of Mississippi and Alabama  
6 and provide reserves of the new Texas  
7 market, north Louisiana and south Arkansas  
8 where those reserves are being gathered,  
9 allow those reserves to inflow into the  
10 state of Mississippi and Alabama and  
11 support the infrastructure that already  
12 exists with those major transport systems.  
13 Many of those transport systems are very  
14 dependent on offshore reserves, and so what  
15 is needed throughout the United States to  
16 support the market is a stable market  
17 onshore so that we don't have problems  
18 during any storm events and during issues  
19 associated with the flow.

20           Let me talk a little bit about the  
21 process that John talked about, where we  
22 are in the overall process. We're in a  
23 very preliminary stage in the project. And  
24 FERC has started the pre-filing process in  
25 the last couple of years which is a great

1 process for the gas pipeline systems to  
2 work through. It allows us to engage with  
3 the landowners, with all the agencies very  
4 early and better define our overall routing  
5 of the pipeline.

6 As John indicated we start with a  
7 relatively wide corridor. We start working  
8 with all the different federal and state  
9 agencies to understand what the issues and  
10 concerns are within that corridor. And  
11 then we start working with the landowners  
12 to see if we can actually come on their  
13 property, understanding what issues are on  
14 that property, to see if actually your land  
15 is something that can be used to build a  
16 pipeline on.

17 Now, if we've done surveys on your  
18 properties at this time or not, that  
19 doesn't mean that that's the final route.  
20 If we've been on your property and we  
21 staked, that primarily means that we've  
22 looked at it for consideration as part of  
23 our evaluation. As John had indicated,  
24 pipelines always move. Now, a lot of times  
25 they are able to stay where we initially

1 lay them out, but there are a lot of things  
2 that factor into the overall routing of  
3 pipeline. So, there's -- there is an  
4 interrative process, or an interative  
5 process they'll go through here for the  
6 next year before the pipeline actually gets  
7 defined as to where it will be routed. So,  
8 I just wanted to kind of to let you know  
9 how that goes.

10 If we've been on your property and  
11 we've done surveys what you may have seen,  
12 or may not if you've been at work, is you  
13 would have seen first is a civil crew  
14 coming through, which is basically looking  
15 at the land use, is identifying a route in  
16 an area that we feel like is conducive to  
17 potentially building a pipeline.

18 Behind that crew then would come is  
19 environmental crews where they're looking  
20 for specific issues like wetlands, um,  
21 waterway crossings, they're also looking  
22 for threatened and endangered species that  
23 the state and federal agencies would have  
24 identified as a concern or a potential  
25 concern in the area. We're looking to see

1 if any of those things are there so that we  
2 can identify those.

3 Then behind the environmental crews  
4 will be the archaeological crews. And what  
5 these guys are looking for is any findings  
6 of an archaeological nature, any arrow  
7 heads, anything that would appear to  
8 identify that there was some land use in  
9 some prior centuries or millenniums that  
10 would indicate that we need to pay special  
11 close attention to that. So, those would  
12 have been the primary crews that we pass  
13 through first.

14 Now, local -- what will happen now  
15 is is we'll also come back now and start  
16 looking for other specific areas of concern  
17 that we may have found. Habitat, let's say  
18 for instance, during the biological  
19 evaluation if we found habitat that could  
20 be conducive to some of these threatened  
21 and endangered species, then what we will  
22 do is contact specialists in those  
23 particularly species and ask them to come  
24 out and see if in fact that species is  
25 there. So, you may be seeing in the next

1 couple of weeks or so, we may be contacting  
2 you again to see if we can come out and do  
3 specific species searches such as, um, I  
4 think gopher tortoises would be something  
5 that is pretty common in this area to look  
6 for. Also, we have red-cockaded  
7 woodpeckers within the state of Mississippi  
8 is something that's pretty common. But,  
9 there are a lot of different species that  
10 those biologists may have found that your  
11 parcel may or may not have on it, so that  
12 we will be contacting you to see if we  
13 actually can come out and take a look at  
14 those.

15           Once all those surveys are kind of  
16 completed and put together, we present all  
17 that information to all the state agencies  
18 and the lead federal agency which is the  
19 Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, what  
20 we refer to as FERC, F-E-R-C. They will  
21 then go through a great exhausting process  
22 of reviewing all of that information. And  
23 at that time, depending out what was found  
24 out there, the route will move to minimize  
25 those impacts to the extent that we can.

1       And during that process we will be working  
2       with you, the landowners, to see if in  
3       fact, you know -- if in fact there are any  
4       major issues and the routing can be there  
5       what can we work with you as far as  
6       finalizing a route on your property.

7                We look to file the project in  
8       November of this year. We are hoping to  
9       get a FERC authorization on the project  
10      given there's no major issues, no major  
11      reroutes associated with it, and you know,  
12      working with the landowners. We hope to be  
13      able to get authorization from the Federal  
14      Energy Regulatory Commission in the August  
15      time frame of next year, and work through  
16      the final processes of approving the  
17      project. And then we would like to begin  
18      the construction in November of next year.  
19      Our desired end service date on the project  
20      is early to mid-summer of '08. So, that's  
21      pretty much our time line and what the  
22      scope of the project is and where we are in  
23      the process.

24               What I would like to do before I  
25      turn it back over to John is kind of take

1       that -- we have quite a few of our -- a  
2       couple of our SESH representatives here  
3       tonight. We're going to stay here  
4       afterwards. So, if you have any specific  
5       questions or concerns or anything that, you  
6       know, maybe you're uncomfortable, you know,  
7       discussing in open forum and you want to  
8       get with us later, please get us -- get  
9       with us later and we'll be glad to -- if we  
10      can't answer your meeting (sic), we'll get  
11      one of our representatives and our local  
12      construction manager to come out to your  
13      property and visit you personally.

14                 So, having said that, I guess,  
15      John, I'll turn it back over to you.

16                 MR. PECONOM: Thank you, Monty.

17                 I think as Monty pointed out,  
18      several representatives of the Southeast  
19      Supply Header Project will be available  
20      after the meeting. We've asked them to  
21      give that presentation and to be available  
22      afterwards. I realize many of you may not  
23      be familiar with the Federal Energy  
24      Regulatory Commission, you may not be  
25      familiar with how natural gas pipelines are

1       routed and what's involved with them. And,  
2       you know, that's why we're here tonight is  
3       to answer those questions and to have the  
4       company available to explain what they're  
5       proposing to do.

6                 What I'd like to do now is open up  
7       the meeting and if there's anybody  
8       interested in expressing concerns or  
9       comments about the project, if you'd please  
10      come forward to the microphone here and go  
11      ahead and state your name for the record,  
12      we'd like to take your comments on the  
13      project; you know, you're concerned about  
14      this, you are concerned about that, that's  
15      what we'd like to know. I'll take these  
16      concerns with me to Washington, I'll share  
17      them with the other state and federal  
18      agencies. They will go on the public  
19      record for everyone to see. And we'll make  
20      sure that we address them in our review of  
21      the project. So, if anybody would like to  
22      speak now or has any questions about the  
23      process, I'll be happy to take those.

24                 I'll also try to answer questions  
25      as best I can. Because it's so early in

1 the process we don't have a lot of  
2 information and it comes a little bit later  
3 and it will definitely come in the  
4 application when they file in November.

5 Is there anyone interested in  
6 speaking about the project in terms of any  
7 comments they may have or concerns they'd  
8 like to see addressed in our review?

9 MR. MIDDLETON: Well, we got our  
10 chance here.

11 MR. PECONOM: Go ahead and state  
12 your name for the court reporter.

13 MR. MIDDLETON: My name is James  
14 Middleton, M-I-D-D-L-E-T-O-N. I have --  
15 already I have two pipelines across my  
16 property already so this, you know, is  
17 immaterial to me. I mean, I know -- and  
18 now this pipeline is going across another  
19 piece of my property. In other words, I'm  
20 being ENRON all the way around. I already  
21 got two pipelines on there, three-quarters  
22 of a mile and this is another piece that's  
23 already set up to go a half a mile across  
24 me. It's a different piece of parcel land  
25 that I own. And I feel like I've kind of

1        contributed my part of this country by  
2        letting them come across two, I mean. You  
3        know, I took the damage to me by letting  
4        them come across the other two. Now they  
5        come across me over here on this other  
6        piece of parcel right down the dead center,  
7        300 -- 160 acres. They made a 90 degree  
8        turn to come across the field that's farmed  
9        all its life. The land was -- it was, um,  
10       patented back in 1892 and it's changed  
11       hands a quarter section every year up 'til  
12       now. I've owned it for 40 years.

13                    And on these other pipelines, you  
14       know, they say well, you can farm across  
15       it. I mean, I farmed all my life. I was  
16       born into farming, my dad, my granddaddy on  
17       down, I come from a farming generation. In  
18       fact, my great grandfolks came here to this  
19       country out of South Carolinas in the 1830s  
20       and so forth. So, I been here on this land  
21       all my life trying to, you know, grow stuff  
22       and feed the people and all that.

23                    The farmers now are getting to be a  
24       very few of us left. And right -- I'm 70  
25       years old. I'm trying to retire and all

1       that. But, then I still have to do because  
2       you can't live on Social Security with  
3       medical bills and all that.

4                But, anyway, it seem like, you  
5       know, they like to find farmland and cross  
6       it. It's wide open. There's no swamps, no  
7       trees or anything, just -- we can really go  
8       on across there digging that ditch and  
9       putting that pipeline. But, then they say  
10      it's all right. But, look, I've farmed  
11      that land. I bogged tractors down. I had  
12      to call wreckers in there to get that  
13      pulled out. The wrecker gets stuck, I had  
14      to call another wrecker. It cost my two or  
15      three thousand dollars. The pipeline,  
16      we're through with it, that's your problem.

17               But, the land where they do it,  
18      they put it back. It looks like it's there  
19      forever. But, I've had to go in there and  
20      subsoil that land, loosen it up 'cause when  
21      they run them big dozers in there, them big  
22      dozers where they work, they got a hundred  
23      foot wide strip. So, they packed it down  
24      and everything, but the land is it's, you  
25      know, it's restricted to what you can

1       produce off of it. And if there comes a  
2       dry spell you can take that hundred foot  
3       and it'll be that high (indicating) when  
4       your corn is this high (indicating), you  
5       see.

6                   Then there's a swamp there by me,  
7       they hadn't took and tried to keep it  
8       cleaned up. It's a mosquito catching place  
9       there where the mosquitoes, you know, they  
10      puddled up in that swamp area. They let it  
11      grow up and the mosquitoes is hatching in  
12      there. And we've got a bad problem here  
13      with mosquitoes, these West Nile mosquitoes  
14      and all that. They don't come back in and  
15      try to spray it and do anything with it.  
16      But, they created the problem to start with  
17      by, uh, putting that through that swamp and  
18      never coming back and maintaining it or  
19      anything. They might come back there in 20  
20      years and recut it, you know, and all the  
21      trees will be down. But, they -- it's just  
22      a mosquito-infested place.

23                   Also, when I was telling you about  
24      the pipeline when it bogged down, you leave  
25      ruts that deep (indicating), water staying

1       there, mosquitoes. If that ain't an  
2       environmental problem I don't know what is.  
3       But, I have to live with it. The pipeline  
4       to these people getting gas, that ain't  
5       bothering them, but it's bothering me.  
6       I've sacrificed my land to give this  
7       pipeline -- to put that pipeline in the  
8       ground. They can't suspend it in the air.  
9       They got to come in and put it in the  
10      ground. I own the land, but the don't want  
11      to -- they don't want to pay me in  
12      proportion to what I've done, you know, or  
13      sacrificed.

14                 My grandkids, I was hoping when I  
15      got this land that they would have  
16      something I could hand to them that  
17      wouldn't be no restriction on it. Once  
18      this pipeline goes through there it's  
19      restricted to infinity. I don't know if a  
20      lot of people know what the word "infinity"  
21      means, but it's forever. And they there  
22      forever. So, I feel like I've done got two  
23      pipelines. Now they come in an  
24      intentionally made a 90 degree turn to come  
25      across me with another one. And I'm really

1       upset about it. That's all I have to say.

2       Thank you.

3                   MR. PECONOM: Thank you, sir. As I  
4       understood, you're concerned about your  
5       use, agriculture, land value, mosquitoes,  
6       wetlands areas, compassion, erosion, you  
7       just want to make sure that you can use it  
8       in the future. So, those are all good  
9       comments and issues that we'll be sure to  
10      address in our Environmental Impact  
11      Statement.

12                   I'd just like to add that we look  
13      at those and we'll be -- I appreciate your  
14      comments because those are things that  
15      we'll look at even more strictly. Thank  
16      you.

17                   Is there anybody else who would  
18      like to make a statement or comments about  
19      the project for the record?

20                   MR. EUBANKS: I don't think I need  
21      to come up front. My name is Mitch  
22      Eubanks. I have a question for the manager  
23      here, if you don't mind. What's the right-  
24      of-way width?

25                   MR. PECONOM: Well, I could answer

1       that for you in terms of process.  It's  
2       been my experience that right-of-way widths  
3       are generally about a hundred feet (100')  
4       during construction and fifty feet (50')  
5       permanent width for operation.  It can vary  
6       a little bit depending on topography and  
7       resource, but generally run a hundred feet  
8       (100') for construction and fifty feet  
9       (50') for the permanent right-of-way has  
10      been my experience with projects.

11               MR. EUBANKS:  Okay, is the right-  
12      of-way that they seek from these people  
13      that they're going to cross, is it going to  
14      state -- emphatically is it going to state  
15      one 36-inch pipe, or are they going to be  
16      able to come back in there 20 years from  
17      now and put another pipe in the same right-  
18      of-way without compensating the landowner?

19               MR. PECONOM:  The agreements will  
20      be for one 36-inch pipe.  If they want to  
21      come back with another project they're  
22      going to have to come back to us, the  
23      Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, again  
24      and to yourselves again.  You know, if  
25      someone, whatever company it may be, wants

1 to come to you in the future. This project  
2 is for one 36-inch pipe.

3 MR. EUBANKS: As long as that  
4 right-of-way purchase states that I have no  
5 problem. But, that was put to me and I  
6 couldn't answer that question. I thought  
7 that was only one pipe, but you get lawyers  
8 over here arguing one thing, you get  
9 another lawyer over there arguing one  
10 thing, you come up with two different  
11 answers. So, I want that on the record.

12 MR. PECONOM: And I understand,  
13 sir. Your concerns are for construction  
14 methods and land requirements and how much  
15 land will be needed, and that's a question  
16 we get a lot is how much land do these  
17 companies need for these projects. And,  
18 again, the standard, as I said, is  
19 generally around one hundred (100) and  
20 fifty feet (50') for operation. The  
21 proposals and the information I've received  
22 from the company so far indicates that  
23 that's what they're proposing to do.

24 MR. EUBANKS: Thank you, sir.

25 MR. PECONOM: Thank you.

1                   Does anybody else have any comments  
2 they'd like to express about the project or  
3 concerns? Yes, sir?

4                   MR. CHAPMAN: What if you only own  
5 about 10 or 15 acres and they're going to  
6 come through with a one hundred foot (100')  
7 easement? I mean, that's a lot of my  
8 property. You know, I worked hard to get  
9 that property. I sold everything I had to  
10 get that property. You know, I know it's  
11 only 17 acres, you know, it may not seem  
12 like a lot, but they're coming straight  
13 through the middle of it. I mean, straight  
14 through the middle of it. And, uh, what do  
15 I have left? Half of what I paid for. How  
16 are they going to pay me for it, you know?  
17 I don't want their money. I don't care  
18 about their money. It's not right.

19                   MR. PECONOM: Well, your concern  
20 is, and I understand it -- and correct me  
21 if I'm wrong -- is land requirements and  
22 crossing your property.

23                   MR. CHAPMAN: Right.

24                   MR. PECONOM: A similar concern  
25 this gentleman expressed about, you know,

1       how much is enough.  And you're a small  
2       property --

3               MR. CHAPMAN:  Right.

4               MR. PECONOM:  -- and he has two  
5       already on his property and these things  
6       start to add up, you know --

7               MR. CHAPMAN:  That man's got a lot  
8       of patience, I'll tell you that.

9               MR. PECONOM:  You look at -- It  
10       doesn't sound like much, but then it adds  
11       up.

12              MR. CHAPMAN:  Yes, it does.

13              MR. PECONOM:  And I think this  
14       process is designed to kind of express that  
15       interest here tonight.  But, also I'd  
16       recommend to speak with the company and  
17       talk with them and express your concerns to  
18       them and talk about moving -- you know, if  
19       there's a potential to move that pipeline.

20              MR. CHAPMAN:  I only own 17 acres,  
21       but on my property is an ancient river bed.  
22       We find fossils all over the place.  I've  
23       got gopher tortoises on my property.  I can  
24       show you where they live, their holes.  And  
25       I have a natural spring on that little

1       teeny 17 acres. And they want to come  
2       through the middle of it and ruin  
3       everything.

4                You know, they -- my neighbor next  
5       door -- I was hoping he'd showed up -- has  
6       a pond. They want to come through the  
7       middle of his pond. What are they going to  
8       do? Fill his pond up to build that  
9       pipeline through it? I don't understand.

10               MR. FLICKINGER: I mean, there are  
11       obstacles like that that I think they're  
12       going to work around.

13               MR. CHAPMAN: They have to.

14               MR. FLICKINGER: I would encourage  
15       you to talk to some of the folks here this  
16       evening. Things are still preliminary --

17               MR. CHAPMAN: Right.

18               MR. FLICKINGER: -- so, you know,  
19       they're getting down to that level. Say,  
20       okay, we want to go from point A to point  
21       B, what's the best for some of the resource  
22       issues you have.

23               MR. CHAPMAN: Has anybody taken  
24       into consideration how much everybody's  
25       lost with Hurricane Katrina? Because I

1       lost my whole business in Pascagoula. My  
2       office is gone. I have no office. I  
3       haven't been able to work for almost one  
4       year now. The anniversary's coming up.  
5       And now they want to take half of  
6       everything I own if they run that pipeline  
7       through my property. Because everything on  
8       the other side of that property is not  
9       going to be worth anything to me. I wanted  
10      to build a house over there and do a bunch  
11      of stuff. I wanted to dam up the natural  
12      spring and build a pond and, you know, do a  
13      bunch of stuff and they're ruining it all.

14               MR. PECONOM: Well, and economics  
15      is one thing that -- and hopefully you  
16      received the NOI -- is one thing that we  
17      address in our Environmental Impact  
18      Statement. You've raised a lot of good  
19      comments and those are things that we hear  
20      quite often; threatened and endangered  
21      species. I mean, not only are we looking  
22      at the project, but also so is the U.S.  
23      Fish and Wildlife Service.

24               MR. CHAPMAN: One thing I -- See, I  
25      don't want people on my land digging to

1 find out there's fossils there. I know  
2 fossils are there, okay. I don't want them  
3 to come there and look. I know there's a  
4 natural spring there. You know what I want  
5 to be is left alone.

6 MR. PECONOM: And I appreciate  
7 that. And I think this process is -- what  
8 it was designed to do was to -- for  
9 landowners like yourself to address those  
10 concerns and let people know that -- let  
11 the company know that you have these  
12 resources there, you think it would be a  
13 good idea to move around it. And I would  
14 encourage you to -- you've told us, which  
15 is good -- to express those concerns to  
16 them and show them on the map where your  
17 property's at so that they can look around  
18 at moving the pipeline. Thank you.

19 MR. CHAPMAN: Oh, my name is  
20 Russell Chapman, for the record.

21 MR. PECONOM: Thank you.

22 Would anybody else like to express  
23 any comments or concerns with the proposed  
24 pipeline project?

25 MR. MIDDLETON: Is this pipeline

1       supposed to pump gas into the ground out in  
2       the Gulf as a reserve using those -- when  
3       they pump them dry out there in the Gulf is  
4       this gas going to flow back and go back  
5       into the ground like as a reserve there?

6               MR. PECONOM:  As I understand the  
7       purpose of the project as it's been  
8       explained to me is it's going to move gas  
9       from the east Texas area to Coden, Alabama  
10       which is onshore.  And the purpose of the  
11       project is not, as you say -- or as you  
12       asked, is to move gas into underground  
13       storage in the Gulf.  So, that's not the  
14       purpose of this project.

15              MR. MIDDLETON:  What's it going to  
16       do when it gets down there?

17              MR. FLICKINGER:  It's going to move  
18       off to several pipelines that serve the  
19       southeast.  It can move across the Gulf  
20       down in Florida, there's a pipeline there,  
21       or it can move across on land to places  
22       like Georgia.

23              MR. MIDDLETON:  What if -- Why  
24       didn't they bring this line in further up  
25       here and get in with the other two that's

1       already there?  Instead of interfering and  
2       taking in a bunch of other people and  
3       messing their lives up.  I mean, they could  
4       have took another little jut and went more  
5       due east and got over there and got in line  
6       with them other two.  Why didn't they do  
7       that?

8                   MR. PECONOM:  And your concern is  
9       what are the alternatives to the project.

10                  MR. MIDDLETON:  That's an  
11       alternative.

12                  MR. PECONOM:  Absolutely.  
13       Absolutely that's an alternative.

14                  MR. MIDDLETON:  I mean, it just  
15       looked like they said we're going -- we're  
16       going southeast and we're going to, you  
17       know -- get out of our way, here we come.  
18       Instead of trying to, you know, get over  
19       there where they done ruined people.  You  
20       know, like I say, I've got them two why not  
21       put another one on me.  I mean, I'll take  
22       another one, I guess.  I can tote a pretty  
23       good load, I mean.  But, then they come  
24       over there with the other ones and just --  
25       it ain't -- from where the other one is to

1       where this other piece of property is about  
2       a mile.

3                   But, they could have come in up  
4       here towards Hattiesburg and run it across  
5       and -- toward Section L, in that area and  
6       tie it in with them other two and got  
7       beside it. There's a bunch of woods up  
8       there. Plenty of woods. Acres and acres  
9       of woods. But, they're coming down here  
10      where we're trying to grow food and farm  
11      and all that and come right through the  
12      middle of our farmland. And that's what I  
13      don't understand. Why didn't they go over  
14      there and get -- and line it up if they're  
15      going down there to pump it?

16                   I thought it was something in the  
17      "Mobile Bay" that said it was -- they going  
18      to run twelve miles of underground pipe out  
19      into the Gulf. And my understanding it's  
20      going to pump it in to -- back into them  
21      holes out there when they pump them dry.  
22      But, y'all say they just going down to  
23      Codan and stop there. That wasn't what I  
24      understood in the Mobile paper. They had a  
25      big -- big thing in the paper about this.

1                   MR. PECONOM: And you addressed  
2                   several good comments, sir. I know one of  
3                   them is this project and the definition of  
4                   it. I can tell you there's probably, you  
5                   know, between Mississippi, Alabama, and  
6                   Louisiana four or five proposed projects  
7                   out there right now. Personally, I'm  
8                   working on three proposed projects, you  
9                   know, in this region. And I think I'm  
10                  aware of the project you're speaking of  
11                  which is a different project. There's two  
12                  -- there's one in Mobile Bay. I'm not  
13                  exactly sure what the name of it is, but  
14                  I'm familiar with that project.

15                 MR. MIDDLETON: It said twelve  
16                 miles they was going out.

17                 MR. PECONOM: I believe that's the  
18                 Mobile Bay Storage Project, which is the  
19                 gas storage you're speaking of. That's a  
20                 separate project and different company.  
21                 And we're looking at both those projects.  
22                 Actually, I sit across from the gentleman  
23                 that's working on that project.

24                 And you raise -- another good  
25                 question you asked, or concern you raised

1 is is alternatives. And I can assure you  
2 alternatives is actually something we look  
3 at. It's right after project description,  
4 purpose and need. Alternatives is very  
5 high on our list to review. Because we  
6 want this proposed project to minimize  
7 impacts. If it's needed we want to avoid  
8 impacts and if we can't avoid them we want  
9 to minimize them. And we want to use  
10 existing rights-of-way like you said, other  
11 pipelines or other power lines. That's a  
12 pretty common practice by the --

13 MR. MIDDLETON: Well, there's  
14 another one -- another one comes out of  
15 Pascagoula or it might come out of Coden.  
16 Do you know about that? It comes up in  
17 here below Hurley. It goes -- It comes in  
18 up on the river up here somewhere by  
19 Lucedale.

20 MR. PECONOM: And, I guess, one  
21 I'll say --

22 MR. MIDDLETON: I mean, there's two  
23 on each side now you're trying to put one  
24 down here, too.

25 MR. PECONOM: And that's an

1 alternative that we'll want to look at.

2 And I guess I will say that you can -- and  
3 you said it on the record, so we'll look at  
4 that, too. But, if people have  
5 alternatives, even as small as, you know a  
6 five acre or ten acre alternative or  
7 however many feet that it equals out to be,  
8 go ahead and let us know about those  
9 alternatives. You know about this pipeline  
10 corridor that's over here or you can --  
11 we'd like to look at it over there. Those  
12 are alternatives.

13 And we look at three types of  
14 alternatives. One, we look at a system  
15 alternative, which is can we use existing  
16 facilities? Is there another way to do  
17 this? Two, we look at major route  
18 alternatives. That is the route  
19 alternative you're talking about, you know,  
20 go in somewhere else and come in -- doing a  
21 different approach there that's, you know,  
22 a fifty mile kind of alternative. Then we  
23 look at route variations which is kind of  
24 what you're asking about.

25 MR. MIDDLETON: Well, like I say,

1       you know, woodlands is woodlands. I mean,  
2       300 years from now it might now be  
3       woodlands. But, right now all this  
4       farmland and all space going up in  
5       concrete. I meant to say a while ago the  
6       average farmer is up in his late 50s.  
7       Somebody's got to feed this world. And if  
8       we keep -- if we keep taking farmland and  
9       turn it into concrete we sure can't grow  
10      stuff in concrete, put something in your  
11      stomach to eat and grow clothes, cotton and  
12      peanuts and corn and soybeans and all those  
13      things. It's kind of a necessity of our  
14      livelihood. They might just take into  
15      consideration farmland.

16                    I mean, y'all say environmental and  
17      gophers and Indian arrow heads and all  
18      that. I think farmland is top of the list.  
19      The next world war -- I been telling this  
20      -- it's not going to be over religion or  
21      oil and gas, it'll be over food. I mean, I  
22      been around long enough to know -- you  
23      young you got, hopefully, a lot of years  
24      ahead of you, but I sure hope you and my  
25      grandchildren that day never comes for

1       them. And I think about it every day that  
2       if the food plays out, we have a major  
3       disaster in this country, oil and stuff,  
4       that's going to be in the background. Food  
5       when you don't have it to go in your  
6       stomach, somebody's going to go to war over  
7       it. And I think they need to take that  
8       into consideration on just something like  
9       this instead of saying, well, we're looking  
10      for environmental and all that. We need to  
11      take that into consideration also.

12                 MR. PECONOM: And land use, which  
13      is, you know, using land for agriculture,  
14      is something we do look at. I neglected to  
15      mention that earlier, and I apologize.  
16      But, you can also see in the NOI, we look  
17      at recreation and other uses of land.  
18      There's quite a few different ways people  
19      use their property and that's something we  
20      consider. Certainly in agricultural areas,  
21      you know, we'll scrutinize that as well  
22      especially fine farmland areas like it  
23      sounds like you have. I appreciate your  
24      comments. I do want to thank you, sir.

25                 Does anybody else have any other

1           comments or -- yes, sir?

2                       MR. BROWN: Randy Brown. Just a  
3           few comments. And I appreciate what Mr.  
4           Middleton said. Family farmers have a hard  
5           enough time as it is. I listened to one  
6           thing about alternative methods. My  
7           understanding about FERC, you're not with  
8           the company, you're with the government and  
9           you are to hear concerns to express them to  
10          the company, correct?

11                     MR. PECONOM: Well, I'm here to  
12          hear concerns so I make sure that I cover  
13          them in my review of the project. The  
14          company's here to also hear your concerns.  
15          We've invited them because we think they  
16          benefit from hearing your concerns.

17                     MR. BROWN: Okay. So, they can  
18          answer a question, like, how would -- would  
19          they go around a pond or go through the  
20          middle, right?

21                     MR. PECONOM: Well, the purpose of  
22          this meeting is to take comments. But,  
23          we've invited them here to meet afterwards  
24          to take your questions.

25                     MR. BROWN: Okay. Okay. They'll

1 answer my questions afterwards?

2 MR. PECONOM: Yes, sir.

3 MR. BROWN: So, I've got time to  
4 speak with them afterwards?

5 MR. PECONOM: Yeah, you'll have  
6 time to speak with them.

7 MR. BROWN: Okay.

8 MR. PECONOM: Yes, sir.

9 MR. BROWN: The alternative thing,  
10 I'm sure Mr. Middleton wouldn't mind  
11 because he's not able to grow what he  
12 should on that piece of property where  
13 there's already a pipeline, and it would  
14 make a lot better sense to go through the  
15 same exact place. Or another alternative  
16 is, you said, power lines. There's no  
17 income on power lines unless you have  
18 cattle, pretty much.

19 You said something about the  
20 compassion of the land lasting -- how long  
21 have those other pipelines been there, Mr.  
22 Middleton?

23 MR. MIDDLETON: One was put there  
24 in late '83 or 4 or 5 or something like  
25 that. And I think the other one they put

1           there about five or six years ago.

2                       MR. BROWN:   So, twenty years ago?

3           Do you still see --

4                       MR. MIDDLETON:  Oh, yeah.

5                       MR. BROWN:   -- the impact of that  
6           throughout time?

7                       MR. MIDDLETON:  Yes.  I believe --

8                       MR. BROWN:   A question I got --

9                       MR. MIDDLETON:  -- I didn't get  
10          paid what I've suffered since that  
11          pipeline, I guarantee you that.

12                      MR. BROWN:   Okay.

13                      MR. MIDDLETON:  I got very, very  
14          little of my expense -- I mean, my value  
15          out of it.

16                      MR. BROWN:   A concern.  They're  
17          going to make money, of course.  He's  
18          losing money on something that happened  
19          twenty years ago.  There should be some  
20          provision for him or whoever to be  
21          compensated for their losses in the future.  
22          Not a one-time deal.  I take it they don't  
23          do that; is that correct?

24                      MR. MIDDLETON:  No, sir, they do  
25          not.

1                   MR. PECONOM: A couple of -- I have  
2           just a couple thoughts on what you said  
3           there. Just let me go back to 20 years  
4           ago. Regulations have changed in 20 years.  
5           We certainly didn't have this process 20  
6           years ago. We certainly didn't have, I  
7           think, the level of review that we do  
8           today, 20 years ago, especially when it  
9           comes to compassion and erosion. So, just  
10          to kind of touch on those a little bit.  
11          Because I know I hear a lot of comments  
12          from the public about pipelines 40 years  
13          ago, 20 years ago, 30 years ago. Things  
14          have changed hopefully for the better.

15                   And, again, to touch on your  
16          comment about the easements and landowner  
17          agreements; that is something that I don't  
18          know a lot about because that's something  
19          our agency doesn't get involved with. So,  
20          generally the pipeline companies and the  
21          landowners tend to work that out. So, I  
22          couldn't tell you. It's not that I don't  
23          want to tell you.

24                   MR. BROWN: They can't comment on  
25          that here?

1                   MR. PECONOM: Well, they can  
2                   comment to you afterwards. They can talk  
3                   to you about agreements and --

4                   MR. CHAPMAN: It's not on record.

5                   MR. BROWN: Huh?

6                   MR. CHAPMAN: It's not on record.

7                   MR. BROWN: They can't comment on  
8                   the record on it.

9                   MR. CHAPMAN: That's right.

10                  MR. PECONOM: This isn't  
11                  necessarily, I mean, for them. This is our  
12                  meeting to take comments. And I understand  
13                  your comments, you're concerned about  
14                  landowner agreements. We can talk to them  
15                  afterwards.

16                  MR. BROWN: Okay. Another question  
17                  -- concern is for -- I know Michael  
18                  Pearson's here he owns timberland. He  
19                  would get compensated correctly for that?  
20                  The land and the timber?

21                  MR. PECONOM: Yes.

22                  MR. BROWN: Whether it's one tree  
23                  or 500, correct?

24                  MR. PECONOM: Compensation for it.  
25                  So, yes, it would be compensated for your

1 -- your right-of-way.

2 MR. BROWN: The concern would be to  
3 make them compensate for future  
4 generations. I know some of his timber is  
5 not very -- it's not very large. It's not  
6 even marketable at this time, probably.  
7 It's not of that age. But, he should be  
8 compensated for future generation -- future  
9 profit maybe, future income off of that  
10 land, what the potential of that timber  
11 would be, at least in his lifetime if not  
12 his children's lifetime. And that may be  
13 an annual substance or whatever.

14 I think it would be important to  
15 lessen -- I know you speak the  
16 environmental -- environmental impact, I  
17 know that's important, try and lessen the  
18 people impact, which I know that's why  
19 you're trying to do. But, express concerns  
20 about that.

21 A couple questions I have. I have  
22 a irrigation pump that is close to the  
23 pipeline, I don't know I haven't stepped it  
24 off, I'm gonna guess 20 to 50 feet. Would  
25 -- I guess they would consider going around

1 that, or would it have to be taken up, or  
2 how does that work?

3 MR. PECONOM: We will look at water  
4 wells, irrigation wells. I know anybody  
5 has a house well there or the city has a  
6 well there that's something to look at. In  
7 my experience, wells can be routed around  
8 or, you know, there can be tests done  
9 before and afterwards to a well to see if  
10 there's impacts to that well. It depends  
11 on the distance and the type and it's a  
12 very specific thing. But, there are extra  
13 protection and --

14 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER 1: They can  
15 go within 25 feet of the well.

16 MR. BROWN: They can go in 25 feet  
17 of the well, though. But, the well would  
18 have to be taken up, most likely, okay.  
19 Another question about the well. It says  
20 no permanent structures. Could a cover or  
21 pump house or whatever be put on a well?

22 MR. PECONOM: Well, the permanent  
23 structure's within the 50 feet right-of-  
24 way, so that's 25 on each side would be the  
25 permanent right-of-way. So, I guess if it

1       was outside that 25 feet. And then, like I  
2       said, that right-of-way changes a little  
3       bit.

4               MR. BROWN: Okay. But, they can  
5       try to go around obstacles like that?

6               MR. PECONOM: Yes, sir.

7               MR. BROWN: Next question I guess:  
8       If it comes across your property would you  
9       have access to hook up to your house or  
10      whatever?

11              MR. PECONOM: Yes, sir.

12              MR. BROWN: How would you go about  
13      doing that?

14              MR. FLICKINGER: He's talking about  
15      gas. Getting gas --

16              MR. PECONOM: Oh.

17              MR. BROWN: I'm talking about gas  
18      for your house. You can't get do that?

19              MR. PECONOM: Oh, no.

20              MR. BROWN: Okay. Thank you.

21              MR. PECONOM: Thank you.

22              MR. MIDDLETON: One other thing  
23      about this piece of parcel they going on,  
24      it's highly eroded. And I'd have to do  
25      strict conservation on that land to

1       participate in government programs. Just  
2       like, you know, I've got to have waterways  
3       and terraces or whatever and it's -- you  
4       know, if I didn't do it or whatever then I  
5       couldn't participate in the federal  
6       government programs. And they got it  
7       classified as highly eroded.

8                 MR. PECONOM: And soils is another  
9       issue to look at, and actually that was  
10      expressed to us by some of the state  
11      agencies yesterday.

12                MR. MIDDLETON: That parcel that  
13      they're going across is highly eroded. And  
14      I have, like I say, moved to their  
15      specifications. The Federal government came  
16      out and, you know, laid out terraces and  
17      waterways and all on that piece of  
18      property. In order to keep participating  
19      in government programs I have to maintain  
20      it. That's what they have instructed me to  
21      do.

22                MR. PECONOM: And I should point  
23      out, the NRCS is one of the agencies that  
24      also works with us in these projects.

25                Would anybody else like to make any

1       comments or statements for the record  
2       tonight, or express any concerns about the  
3       proposed project?

4               MR. FLICKINGER:  The other thing  
5       you can do is write in as well.  So, in the  
6       material that you have they have an address  
7       to write in --

8               MR. CHAPMAN:  By the 28th.

9               MR. FLICKINGER:  -- and it will go  
10       on the record.

11              MR. PECONOM:  Well --

12              MR. CHAPMAN:  Doesn't it say in  
13       there by the -- it's not -- if you don't  
14       send it in to the --

15              MR. PECONOM:  To us be the 28th?

16              MR. CHAPMAN:  Right.

17              MR. PECONOM:  It says -- It puts a  
18       deadline in there.  We'll take comments at  
19       any time.

20              MR. CHAPMAN:  Okay.

21              MR. PECONOM:  We're just trying  
22       to --

23              MR. FLICKINGER:  You'll have a  
24       comment period too when the Draft EIS  
25       comes.

1 MR. CHAPMAN: Oh, okay.

2 MR. FLICKINGER: So, between now  
3 and the end of the year when this EIS comes  
4 out, or the beginning of next year, then  
5 you get to take a look at that and make  
6 comments then. And things will come more  
7 in focus, too, probably on your property.  
8 Hopefully, they can work with you and work  
9 through some of the issues that you may  
10 have. Or maybe --

11 MR. CHAPMAN: What if the agency's  
12 so stubborn and they're not going to work  
13 with anybody and eminent domain comes  
14 around; what does that mean?

15 MR. PECONOM: I guess, why don't I  
16 just talk about your comments real quick  
17 because the sooner is always the better  
18 just to get these things in so we're aware  
19 of them. The sooner the better.

20 Scott, do you want to talk a little  
21 bit about his second question there?  
22 Eminent domain and how that comes in play,  
23 'cause he had asked.

24 MR. FLICKINGER: Oh, okay. The  
25 eminent domain is a right that's given by

1 FERC to the companies. And there's a  
2 passage in this book about it. Let me find  
3 the page.

4 MR. CHAPMAN: I mean, basically  
5 that means if the government approves it  
6 that they can go and do eminent domain to  
7 your property?

8 MR. PECONOM: Yes.

9 MR. FLICKINGER: They won't take  
10 your property. It would just be --

11 MR. CHAPMAN: Well --

12 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER 2: Yeah, you  
13 are. You're taking the property.

14 MR. CHAPMAN: I mean, what if I  
15 don't want to sell my property? See, I  
16 don't care about your money. I don't want  
17 your money.

18 MR. PECONOM: Congress has  
19 authorized the Federal Energy Regulatory  
20 Commission with the power of eminent  
21 domain. When we authorize a project,  
22 approve it, we have that authority.

23 MR. CHAPMAN: Don't you think  
24 Mississippi's been through enough? Well,  
25 you're the government.

1                   MR. PECONOM:  And that's -- you  
2                   know, we talk about cumulative impacts and  
3                   impacts to the economy, that's something  
4                   we'll definitely look at.

5                   MR. CHAPMAN:  You have to.  I mean,  
6                   we've had enough and this state ain't gonna  
7                   take much more, you know.  I mean, doesn't  
8                   Mississippi supply so much food to the  
9                   world, you know.  And this man right here  
10                  is ready to -- you know what I'm saying.  
11                  It's not fair.

12                  MR. PECONOM:  And those are good  
13                  comments.  And certainly that's something  
14                  we'll look at is the impacts.

15                  MR. CHAPMAN:  But, I mean, so let's  
16                  get back to eminent domain.  I mean, if  
17                  somebody doesn't want to cooperate, this is  
18                  my property, this was my grandfather's  
19                  property, my great-grandfather's property,  
20                  you're not coming through it, period; what  
21                  happens?  I mean, seriously, what happens?  
22                  Eminent domain, what do you guys do?

23                  MR. PECONOM:  If we authorize the  
24                  project -- if the Commission, after  
25                  reviewing the environmental impacts and

1 looking at the purpose and need of the  
2 project and looking at the economics and  
3 engineering of the project and decides to  
4 approve the project, we -- we allow the  
5 company or the applicant to use our power  
6 of eminent domain.

7 MR. CHAPMAN: And that means taking  
8 the property?

9 MR. PECONOM: I'm not a lawyer so I  
10 don't exactly know the process for it.  
11 But, I mean, eminent domain is eminent  
12 domain.

13 MR. CHAPMAN: You're with the  
14 government, you know what it means.

15 MR. PECONOM: As I understand  
16 eminent domain they will go through the  
17 courts and the court, I think, sets a fair  
18 market value for the price of the property  
19 and then it goes through that process.

20 MR. FLICKINGER: In this case it  
21 would just be an easement. I mean, it's  
22 not your property.

23 MR. CHAPMAN: What if the easement  
24 goes -- see, where my property is my house  
25 is in the back of the property. So, that

1 means where you guys are running your  
2 pipeline it would go across my driveway.  
3 Does that cut me off? I mean, you guys --

4 MR. FLICKINGER: No. It's not the  
5 property -- you know, the use is still  
6 yours. The service use is still yours.  
7 The pipeline would be installed  
8 underground.

9 MR. CHAPMAN: What if I want to  
10 build a house behind that? Can I run a  
11 line across that? Can I run a --

12 MR. FLICKINGER: Oh, power or  
13 water? Yeah. You'd have room.

14 MR. CHAPMAN: I can do that?

15 MR. FLICKINGER: You'd just have to  
16 contact the company when you're doing  
17 digging and work through those elements,  
18 yeah.

19 MR. PECONOM: And let me just add  
20 another comment on eminent domain. It's  
21 been my experience that no one wants to get  
22 to that point --

23 MR. CHAPMAN: Right.

24 MR. PECONOM: -- because it's  
25 costly, it's stressful. The companies, in

1 my experience, don't want to get to that  
2 point with anybody. Working in this  
3 process now, providing comments, letting  
4 people know that you have these concerns  
5 and you'd like to be routed around, that's  
6 very helpful.

7 MR. FLICKINGER: And open a  
8 dialogue with these folks.

9 MR. CHAPMAN: But, when you send  
10 these letters to people it scares the crap  
11 out of us. It really does, you know. I  
12 mean, hear this eminent domain and I see  
13 this stuff running through my land and I'm  
14 like, you know, what am I supposed to do?  
15 I ain't got a whole bunch of money.

16 MR. PECONOM: Well, I understand.

17 MR. FLICKINGER: I understand. I  
18 understand.

19 MR. PECONOM: And that's --

20 MR. FLICKINGER: It's not in their  
21 interest to, you know, to take your land.

22 MR. MIDDLETON: On this, like I was  
23 talking about, alternate route; do y'all --  
24 do y'all express anything about alternate  
25 route or who -- who would be pushing that

1 to move this to another -- like I say, to  
2 come in through the woods and all, you  
3 know, further north here and tie-in. Who  
4 would be the one to -- to make that  
5 suggestion? Do y'all -- Do y'all do  
6 anything about that or are y'all just  
7 listening and then rule on whatever is  
8 done? Say that you, you know, y'all say  
9 this here pipeline, we don't like the way  
10 it's going here, y'all need to go up here  
11 further north or something and get out of  
12 all this, say, farmland or whatever; do  
13 y'all -- do y'all make that suggestion or  
14 who makes that suggestion?

15 MR. PECONOM: Alternatives come  
16 about in several different ways. One of  
17 them is as a requirement in our application  
18 process we ask the company to identify  
19 alternatives and to explain why they chose  
20 their preferred route. So, generally I've  
21 seen companies present, you know, two  
22 alternatives, five alternatives, and also  
23 route variations, little smaller things;  
24 why the proposed route is the way they've  
25 chosen. We also do an analysis of the

1 route. So, that's another way that we look  
2 at alternatives.

3 We'll sit down and get a map out  
4 and look at existing corridors and existing  
5 resources and archaeological sites and  
6 houses and, you know, all these things that  
7 we take into consideration and we'll look  
8 for alternatives. And we also have these  
9 public meetings for people to verbally  
10 express alternatives. You know, you knew  
11 about a pipeline over there and you thought  
12 maybe they could move over there.

13 We also have a written comment  
14 period where people can also write in their  
15 alternatives. I get lots of maps of  
16 properties showing lines and, this is my  
17 property and I'd like it to go over there  
18 and that's an alternative. I've probably  
19 gotten five or six of those in this  
20 specific project. That's something we look  
21 at. And when I get that I'll look at it  
22 and I present it to the company. And they  
23 get that same letter because it goes on the  
24 record and they look at that, too and they  
25 go, okay let's look at that.

1                   MR. MIDDLETON: How long are y'all  
2 accepting stuff like that? You say another  
3 how many months?

4                   MR. PECONOM: The pre-filing  
5 process --

6                   MR. MIDDLETON: See, my (inaudible)  
7 got him a lawyer situation yet. I mean,  
8 probably 90 percent of us in here are gonna  
9 have to have a lawyer. Because when they  
10 come to you and say we're gonna give you x  
11 amount of dollars, you know -- y'all ain't  
12 never been approached by one of them  
13 people.

14                  UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER 3: Well, they  
15 never have had no empathy.

16                  MR. MIDDLETON: That's what I'm  
17 saying. How much longer have we got to get  
18 a lawyer on board and for him to write  
19 these comments and so forth?

20                  MR. FLICKINGER: Well, the  
21 application will be filed in mid-November.  
22 So, things will start to really come into  
23 focus then. That's essentially their  
24 initial pitch to set it up; here's where we  
25 think we're going. There will still be

1 minor modifications. Maybe things like the  
2 gentleman who had the well and things like  
3 that. It'll get a little further off of  
4 that well or maybe go another direction  
5 around that property.

6 MR. MIDDLETON: I've been told by  
7 the pipeline layer that we got a corridor  
8 to work and we can't hardly -- just very  
9 little variation.

10 MR. FLICKINGER: Well --

11 MR. MIDDLETON: See, they done  
12 spent millions of dollars. This thing --  
13 we come up here a month ago. They didn't  
14 draw that thing up over night. They been  
15 working on this thing for over a year or  
16 two. Of course, they claim -- all here  
17 claiming they didn't route it about a month  
18 and a half ago. But, they been on this  
19 thing for probably several years because  
20 that thing's too sophisticated, that they  
21 had up here that night that we all came to  
22 see. That wasn't done over night. So, I  
23 say, you know -- what I'm saying is these  
24 are alternatives and I hop y'all will look  
25 at them.

1                   MR. FLICKINGER:  And I would  
2                   suggest you have -- talk with some of these  
3                   folks tonight and open a dialogue with them  
4                   about it, about the issues that you have on  
5                   your specific property.  And, um, you know,  
6                   you sound like a gentleman who's not going  
7                   to take no for an answer.  Just keep  
8                   working through with them and maybe it is  
9                   logical they can get on that other -- that  
10                  other right-of-way.  Maybe it's logical  
11                  they can at least get rid of that 90 degree  
12                  turn on your property.

13                  MR. MIDDLETON:  But, we so little.  
14                  I feel like a gnat in a whirlwind, you  
15                  know.  The last one that come through was  
16                  ENRON.  They wrote me a check.  They was  
17                  already -- they had blowed up over at ENRON  
18                  and I -- I like to got a speeding ticket  
19                  going to the bank to see if that thing was  
20                  going to get cashed.  It said ENRON wrote  
21                  all the way across the top of it.

22                  UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER 4:  I kept  
23                  mine a month in the drawer.

24                  MR. MIDDLETON:  The minute he  
25                  handed it to me I saw that word "ENRON"

1 wrote across the top of it.

2 MR. FLICKINGER: There is something  
3 to be said about that.

4 MR. MIDDLETON: The pipe was  
5 already in the ground.

6 MR. FLICKINGER: There is something  
7 to be said about the solvency of the  
8 company that's doing the work. I think,  
9 you know, this company's been around a  
10 while and I don't think you're going to  
11 have that issue, but I understand.

12 MR. PECONOM: I want to add to the  
13 alternatives real quick. Express it to the  
14 company and then express it to us as well  
15 and we'll look at it that way.

16 MR. FLICKINGER: Cover all the  
17 basis.

18 MR. MIDDLETON: See, this gentleman  
19 over here he's right below me. We both got  
20 it. But, we didn't have it like y'all  
21 giving us a chance here tonight to express  
22 our feelings and concerns and all that. We  
23 just -- They come to us and said we coming  
24 over, get out of way, here's x amount of  
25 dollars, take it or we're going to court.

1       You going to have hire some kind of lawyer  
2       and he's going to get fifty percent (50%)  
3       of it and so on and so forth and all that,  
4       you see. So, uh, I'm glad that y'all are  
5       listening to us.

6               MR. FLICKINGER: Right. And, I  
7       mean, this is a process that grew out of  
8       situations like that. We realized that all  
9       of a sudden they were coming out with a  
10      draft document and, you know, the shock and  
11      awe was too much for everybody. I mean,  
12      the companies did what had to happen and  
13      the Federal government didn't want that.

14             MR. CHAPMAN: You know, I got to  
15      say, the surveyors, they got a lot of  
16      balls. Excuse my French, but -- Just to  
17      come -- I mean, this is Mississippi, you  
18      just don't come on people's property  
19      without -- and just start sticking stuff  
20      everywhere and putting tape up everywhere.  
21      I never gave them permission to come on my  
22      property and they surveyed it anyway.

23             UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER 5: I got a  
24      question: When the permanent right-of-way  
25      be decided?

1                   MR. PECONOM: The proposal -- the  
2 preferred route proposal will be submitted  
3 in mid-November with the application.  
4 We'll do our review of that approximately  
5 eight months later, then we'll recommend to  
6 our Commission the amount of right-of-way  
7 that they need for this project. And then  
8 the Commission will decide about a month or  
9 so later. So, mid-November, about nine  
10 months after that is --

11                   MR. FLICKINGER: They want --  
12 August. Yeah, August time frame, roughly.

13                   UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER 5: You didn't  
14 quite answer my question. The proposed  
15 right-of-way that's in process today, if  
16 y'all decided an alternative route and we  
17 get to the stage for the permanent right-  
18 of-way, how -- I mean, how do y'all change  
19 for the alternative route, is my question,  
20 I guess? If there was an alternative route  
21 along with the proposed route.

22                   MR. FLICKINGER: It would go on in  
23 that same time period. I mean, the idea is  
24 that we're looking at things and maybe  
25 there's an alternative that we come up with

1 or an alternative they come up with and it  
2 could deviate, you know, usually it's  
3 nothing more than, you know, just a few  
4 hundred feet. If it gets into a major  
5 reroute or something that --

6 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER 5: I'm  
7 talking about a major reroute. A few  
8 hundred feet don't touch us, that's two and  
9 a quarter miles, I mean.

10 MR. PECONOM: Major route  
11 alternatives, you'll see those in the Draft  
12 Environmental Impact Statement which would  
13 be issued four months after the filing, so  
14 March.

15 MR. FLICKINGER: The March time  
16 frame.

17 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER 5: So, in  
18 March you'll be able to see an alternative  
19 route for the pipeline?

20 MR. PECONOM: You'll be able to see  
21 alternatives. And there will be  
22 alternatives and reasons why that  
23 alternative was or was not accepted.

24 MR. FLICKINGER: And, you know, go  
25 ahead -- I mean, you have more of a chance

1 after this meeting, you can write in, you  
2 know, and put forth what you think would be  
3 a good alternative.

4 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER 6: How much  
5 time between where they do the eminent  
6 domain thing? You know, will the company  
7 approach you before all this happens, you  
8 know what I'm saying?

9 MR. FLICKINGER: Yeah. Normally,  
10 yeah, you'll have a land agent contact you  
11 and they'll open a dialogue and, you know,  
12 probably come to you with an offer.

13 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER 6: How much  
14 time between that point and then they say,  
15 well, we're not negotiating anymore, we're  
16 taking it?

17 MR. FLICKINGER: It could take --  
18 it could be weeks, it could be a couple of  
19 months. I mean, they're going to try to  
20 get you on board. It's not in their  
21 interest to go that route. So, I'd suggest  
22 talking to one of the folks here tonight  
23 and, uh -- you know, just to give you -- I  
24 mean, you know, everybody's time is  
25 precious, I know, between work and family

1 time and whatnot and you want to just, you  
2 know, know time frame you got to work with.  
3 So, I understand. So, hopefully they'll  
4 give you several weeks to, you know, a  
5 month, month and a half.

6 MR. PECONOM: Yes, ma'am?

7 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER 7: I have a  
8 question. As each stage of this goes  
9 about, each stage is completed and they  
10 move on to the next phase or whatever, will  
11 packets be sent out to the affected  
12 landowners showing those different stages  
13 and, like you said, the alternative routes  
14 that may be proposed or whatever? Will we  
15 just automatically receive those or are we  
16 going to have to go on-line or make phone  
17 calls?

18 MR. FLICKINGER: Yeah. If you got  
19 your name on the mailing list at a minimum  
20 you're going to get the Draft EIS and the  
21 Final EIS -- is there something else I'm  
22 missing?

23 MR. PECONOM: No, that's it.

24 MR. FLICKINGER: Those are the two  
25 major documents. And then, like you said,

1 I mean, the easiest way if you've got a  
2 computer -- and in this pamphlet you have  
3 the docket number for the project -- and  
4 you'll see every transmittal that's going  
5 on in there.

6 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER 7: So, in  
7 other words you could visit that site  
8 and --

9 MR. FLICKINGER: Right. And  
10 actually, you can go as far -- and I don't  
11 know if it's in this pamphlet, but there is  
12 a way to actually even subscribe so this --  
13 the computer at FERC will send you a  
14 message every time there's something going  
15 on letter-wise back and forth about the  
16 project. It may drive you crazy here early  
17 on because there are a lot of things going  
18 back and forth. But, you have the option  
19 of doing that or just checking it on a  
20 weekly basis, that kind of thing. So,  
21 that's the best way to keep -- keep your  
22 finger on the pulse of what's going on.

23 MR. PECONOM: Would anybody else  
24 like to express any comments or concerns,  
25 or have any other questions about the

1 process?

2 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER 8: If an  
3 alternative move is considered and  
4 accepted, how much time you got to fight  
5 that if it worsens the situation for you?

6 MR. PECONOM: Well, when we present  
7 alternatives it will be in the Draft  
8 Environmental Impact Statement. We have a  
9 45-day comment period and we'll have  
10 another set of meetings. So, you'll have  
11 this and there will be 45 days to look it  
12 over and review it and we'll go ahead and  
13 take comments there and begin to work on  
14 our Final Environmental Impact Statement.

15 MR. FLICKINGER: But, I mean, if  
16 it's not on your property now you -- you're  
17 concerned that it's not on your property  
18 now and it could come on your property  
19 because of the alternatives?

20 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER 8: I'm like  
21 Mr. Middleton, this is number three.

22 MR. FLICKINGER: Okay. All right.

23 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER 8: This is  
24 number three. And, um, you know, if  
25 somebody else has got a, say a bigger

1       problem than me, to help them out it could  
2       worsen my property.

3               MR. FLICKINGER:   Right.

4               UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER 8:   I mean,  
5       what am I supposed to do, war with my  
6       neighbor?

7               MR. FLICKINGER:   Right.   Right.   I  
8       hear you.

9               MR. PECONOM:   And that's a good  
10       example of just kind of to contact your  
11       local representatives.   I mean, they've all  
12       received copies; elective officials,  
13       government agencies, so everyone should be  
14       aware of it.   I know when the company  
15       sponsored their open house they also put,  
16       you know, advertisements in the newspaper  
17       to inform people that this project was out  
18       there.

19               And then if somebody else is --  
20       another affected landowner is potentially,  
21       you know, affected, they'll get mailings as  
22       well.   We'll put them on our mailing list.

23               UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER 8:   How safe  
24       is this gas line?

25               MR. PECONOM:   Safety is an issue we

1 look at. Um, I'm not an engineer -- well,  
2 safety -- there's thousands of pipelines  
3 running through this country every day. Do  
4 accidents happen occasionally --

5 MR. FLICKINGER: It's a relative  
6 risk thing. I mean, putting this gas on  
7 the road, those kind of things, I mean it's  
8 the best mode of transportation that they  
9 have. You know, location is an issue.  
10 They're not going to, you know, put this  
11 thing, you know, right along your house.  
12 That's not in their interest to do that.  
13 So, there is the USDOT site that you go to,  
14 they regulate the safety after these  
15 operate and they have information on their  
16 website you can look into about the safety  
17 related to these pipelines.

18 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER 9: I've never  
19 been through this before, uh, piece of  
20 property's never paid for, except for taxes  
21 that goes on forever. And this is the only  
22 thing I'll ever, Lord willing, have to pass  
23 on to my children. You know, the concern  
24 was brought up, future timberland. This is  
25 coming across one of the only flat pieces

1 of my property, pasture land. Can this  
2 thing be fenced in?

3 MR. FLICKINGER: Oh, the work area  
4 while they're -- or put a fence on it after  
5 it's installed?

6 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER 9: Later on.  
7 I'm barely able to pay for it right now,  
8 but I was intending on doing something with  
9 it.

10 MR. FLICKINGER: Right.

11 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER 9: I'm  
12 already restricted to my right-of-way  
13 easements that I pay for because of these  
14 turtles. I've got plenty of them. And,  
15 uh, I mean I just -- will I be able to  
16 fence and use this property?

17 MR. FLICKINGER: I wouldn't see why  
18 not. I mean, there shouldn't be an issue,  
19 you know, post installation that, you know  
20 -- other than erecting a permanent  
21 structure, and you can talk to some of the  
22 gentlemen in the back about that. But,  
23 short of planting trees on it, you know,  
24 they're going to not allow you to plant  
25 trees within the 50 -- the 50 foot

1 permanent right-of-way easement.

2 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER 9: So, I'm  
3 restricted to what I can do on it, but I  
4 got to pay taxes on it every year?

5 MR. PECONOM: Yes, farming -- I  
6 mean, agricultural operations are common on  
7 top of pipelines. Cows run all over them.  
8 So, you'll have those uses of the pipeline  
9 right-of-way.

10 Yes, sir?

11 MR. BROWN: Another comment about  
12 that. We have an invasive weed in our part  
13 of the country called codeine grass which  
14 is a big deal. I don't know if y'all --  
15 somebody's mentioned that already.

16 MR. PECONOM: State agencies. That  
17 was one of the first things they pointed  
18 out.

19 MR. FLICKINGER: Yeah. We talked  
20 with folks yesterday about that in -- what  
21 was that -- over in Jackson. And that was  
22 actually probably one of their top concerns  
23 to make sure that, you know, this doesn't  
24 continue to spread or it's overtaking  
25 somebody's land. So, it'll be something

1 that's going to be looked at.

2 MR. BROWN: What happens -- they  
3 like sunlight. And if you clear out a  
4 piece of property and there's some nearby,  
5 it's going to go to that property. To me a  
6 power line would have to spray or do  
7 whatever necessary to prevent that and  
8 every three years. In three years it will  
9 be taking over, so they'll have to do it  
10 more often.

11 MR. FLICKINGER: Right.

12 MR. BROWN: And even if it just  
13 crosses somebody's fence in that little  
14 area there. It don't take much.

15 MR. FLICKINGER: Yeah. We  
16 understood that, uh -- was is it Fish and  
17 Wildlife or -- one of the -- I mean,  
18 they're very aggressively -- they're asking  
19 the DOT in the state to really take an  
20 aggressive stand on it and they've finally  
21 gotten them to do that. And it may be  
22 something that's going to need to be pushed  
23 forward in the operation is the maintenance  
24 of these pipelines as well.

25 MR. PECONOM: That's an issue

1 that's been expressed to us and that's  
2 something that we're going to look in to.

3 Yes, sir?

4 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER 10: I've got  
5 a question: Does the government, does  
6 FERC, or any other branch of the  
7 government, DOT, support or fund or  
8 subsidize the development of this pipeline?

9 MR. PECONOM: No.

10 MR. FLICKINGER: Is there any  
11 financial --

12 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER 10: Right.  
13 Is there any financial input from the  
14 government in supporting the development of  
15 the location?

16 MR. FLICKINGER: There's no subsidy  
17 that I know of for these, no. They're --  
18 This is -- I mean, this is just -- You  
19 know, they're in business.

20 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER 10: So, the  
21 cost of the pipeline, you know, locating it  
22 and laying it in is all taken on by  
23 whatever company is laying it?

24 MR. FLICKINGER: Right.

25 MR. CHAPMAN: You guys just do this

1 for free?

2 MR. PECONOM: We pay taxes.

3 MR. FLICKINGER: No, I mean, you're  
4 -- you're federally funded and, uh, so  
5 there is that expense. I mean, with the  
6 government being a regulatory agency, you  
7 know, if you looked at it that literally  
8 there is an expense being made by the  
9 Federal government to --

10 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER 10: To the  
11 environmental --

12 MR. FLICKINGER: No. Actually, I  
13 mean, if you look at the FERC website  
14 you've got, uh, individuals that are  
15 working on safety. You've got individuals  
16 that are working on the market. They're  
17 trying to -- I mean, the purpose of FERC is  
18 to -- to -- not to promote the industry,  
19 but to regulate it. To make sure that it  
20 is regulated for, you know, the consumer.

21 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER 5: I've got a  
22 question: This is an individual company  
23 working for individual profits?

24 MR. FLICKINGER: Right.

25 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER 5: So, if I'm

1 an individual and I need a right-of-way  
2 across somewhere and we went through the  
3 same regulatory commission for individual  
4 profits that's possible?

5 MR. PECONOM: If you're proposing  
6 to build a pipeline across state lines  
7 you'd come to us.

8 MR. FLICKINGER: Right, interstate,  
9 yeah.

10 MR. PECONOM: You'd have to go  
11 through the business license and all that  
12 other things.

13 Does anybody else like to express  
14 any comments or concerns or questions?

15 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER 4: What it  
16 boils down to is like the little gray  
17 magazine, it takes from the poor and gives  
18 to the rich. It's a Robin -- Robin Hood in  
19 reverse. It takes from the poor -- the  
20 farmers that's built all their life paying  
21 notes, buying this land and they come right  
22 smack through it. It's taking it from the  
23 poor and giving it to the rich and our land  
24 is no longer any good. My grandchildren  
25 wouldn't think of building close to that

1 pipeline. It's a -- It's a terrible thing.  
2 It's a dream that just won't go away.

3 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER 11: I've got  
4 a question.

5 MR. PECONOM: Yes, sir.

6 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER 11: Does this  
7 county get substituted money for them  
8 crossing my property? Does this county get  
9 money for this pipeline crossing my private  
10 property?

11 MR. FLICKINGER: Not knowing how  
12 the taxes work --

13 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER 11: Don't  
14 answer me wrong now. Be careful how you  
15 answer me.

16 MR. FLICKINGER: What's that?  
17 What's that?

18 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER 11: Be very  
19 careful how you answer me on that.

20 MR. FLICKINGER: Well, as I say,  
21 not knowing how the taxes work in this  
22 state --

23 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER 11: Do what?

24 MR. FLICKINGER: Not knowing -- I  
25 don't know how the tax system works in this

1 state.

2 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER 11: I bet if  
3 you go dig into it I'll bet you can find  
4 out each county you go through gets  
5 substituted from you crossing my property.  
6 They getting money. And 20 years from now  
7 I won't be getting a penny out of it, but  
8 40 years from now they'll still be getting  
9 money off of it. And that's what these  
10 folks have been talking about.

11 Y'all done got the line set up  
12 where you want it, why don't you tell these  
13 people in here that they know the alternate  
14 route, you've got half a mile either way  
15 you're going to move. You're going to move  
16 20 foot around a well. Why don't you tell  
17 the people the truth? I mean, that's what  
18 you're supposed to be down here doing is  
19 telling the truth. This pipeline is not  
20 going to move from where it is right now  
21 unless you move it within that distance  
22 you're talking about.

23 MR. CHAPMAN: A billion cubic feet  
24 of day a gas, that's a lot of money. They  
25 don't care about us.

1                   MR. PECONOM: I don't believe that  
2                   statement's accurate. As the Federal  
3                   government our responsibility is to  
4                   regulate the industry and we have as  
5                   alternative resource -- or alternatives to  
6                   exactly be that, to be alternatives, to  
7                   look at them. This pre-filing process was  
8                   designed to -- to get people's concerns and  
9                   issues addressed early and look at those,  
10                  make sure that we cover those. Again, this  
11                  project has not been approved by the  
12                  Commission and it's just a proposal right  
13                  now.

14                 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER 4: Why can't  
15                  the landowners draw big royalties from this  
16                  thing? Why couldn't the pipeline make the  
17                  landowners royalties, say, a big check  
18                  every month? Why couldn't they do that?

19                 MR. CHAPMAN: That's right. A  
20                  billion cubic feet a day.

21                 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER 4: We still  
22                  got to pay taxes on this land.

23                 MR. CHAPMAN: It's so much money.  
24                  A billion cubic feet every single day for  
25                  30 -- every month 30 billion cubic feet of

1 gas is being pumped. Somebody's making  
2 money off of that, how come we're not?

3 MR. PECONOM: And I don't have  
4 those answers for you. I -- and I wish  
5 could tell you. I'm the project biologist.

6 MR. CHAPMAN: I know, but you guys  
7 are here from the government.

8 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER 4: Taking it  
9 from the poor and giving it to the rich,  
10 that's what it boils down to.

11 MR. MIDDLETON: If it wasn't for  
12 our land they couldn't -- they couldn't run  
13 a pipeline. They can't put it in the air.  
14 They can't let it get up like, you know --  
15 they got to go through our land. And, you  
16 know, it makes us feels bad because we work  
17 so hard and so long. Some of this land  
18 goes back hundreds of years to people  
19 living on it and it just -- they put that  
20 -- it's a seal on it.

21 I mean, somebody want to come in  
22 and, say, that 160 acres I got -- say a  
23 Wal-Mart 20 years from now comes out there  
24 and my grandchildren own it, and they say,  
25 well, I'm hunting 160 acres of land. Is

1       there any restriction on it? Oh, yeah,  
2       there's a gas line right through the middle  
3       of it. Bye, bye. We're gone. We're going  
4       to find some other community. So, I mean,  
5       what they -- what they going to do for us?  
6       When they come to us now they going to  
7       offer you just what that land's worth  
8       today. If it's a thousand dollars (\$1,000)  
9       an acre right now -- a thousand dollars  
10       (\$1,000) an acre, that's all they want to  
11       give you. You sign it and let them dig a  
12       ditch and cover it up and get it out of  
13       sight and all that. That's what makes us  
14       feel bad is we being overrun, the little  
15       man. It's just -- we don't get rewarded or  
16       whatever for us owning that piece of  
17       property. They want it at market price.  
18       And I understand there's a law that they  
19       can't -- they're not supposed to really pay  
20       you what the potential of it is. All they  
21       got to do is pay you what it is today, and  
22       that's not right.

23                   MR. PECONOM: The frustrations all  
24       you all are expressing is something I hear  
25       every time I go to a meeting. You know, as

1 the Federal agency responsible for the  
2 review of this project, we have to do our  
3 best to balance these things out. We have  
4 to take every --

5 MR. MIDDLETON: We're going to  
6 depend y'all to give us a fair shot.  
7 That's all we can do. Y'all are our next  
8 hope.

9 MR. CHAPMAN: That's not very good  
10 hope.

11 MR. PECONOM: Anyone else like to  
12 express any of their comments or concerns  
13 about the project or project issues  
14 involving the project?

15 (No response.)

16 I'd like to thank all of y'all for  
17 coming tonight. On behalf of the  
18 Commission I'd like to thank y'all. I'll  
19 stay afterwards if people have questions or  
20 would like to talk individually.

21 Representatives of Southeast Supply Header  
22 Project will also be available afterwards  
23 to answer any questions you might have.

24 Thank you, again. Y'all have a good night.

25 (The meeting concluded at 8:20 p.m.)

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REPORTER'S PAGE

I, Lisa Bell, Certified Court Reporter in and for the State of Mississippi, the officer, as defined in the Mississippi Code of Civil Procedure, before whom this meeting was taken, do hereby state on the Record:

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That any words and/or names which could not be verified through reference material have been denoted with the phrase "(phonetic)."

Lisa Bell, CCR, CVR  
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C E R T I F I C A T E

This certification is valid only for a transcript accompanied by my original signature and original seal on this page.

I, Lisa Bell, Certified Court Reporter, in and for the State of Mississippi, as the officer before whom this meeting was taken, do hereby certify that the foregoing 88 pages were reported by me in Stenomask, were prepared and transcribed by me or under my personal direction and supervision, and is a true and correct transcript to the best of my ability and understanding;

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