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UNITED STATES OF AMERICA  
FEDERAL ENERGY REGULATORY COMMISSION

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NATIONAL FUEL GAS SUPPLY CORPORATION Docket No. CP11-128-000  
TENNESSEE GAS PIPELINE COMPANY Docket No. CP11-133-000  
- - - - - x

NORTHERN ACCESS PROJECT  
STATION 230C PROJECT

Parkdale Elementary School  
Auditorium  
141 Girard Avenue  
East Aurora, New York  
Monday, June 6, 2011

The public hearing, pursuant to notice, convened at 7:10  
p.m, before a Staff Panel:

- JESSICA HARRIS, Environmental Project Manager
- GERTRUDE JOHNSON, FERC Staff
- KAREEM MONIH, FERC Staff

With:

- MICHAEL CRAMER, National Fuel
- BRIAN HELLEBUYEK
- MICHAEL P. KASPRZAK

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

1  
2 MS. HARRIS: Good evening and welcome to the  
3 public scoping meeting for the Northern Access Project under  
4 Docket CP11-128. Let the record show that the Northern  
5 Access Project scoping meeting began at 7:09 p.m. on June 6,  
6 2011.

7 My name is Jessica Harris and I am here  
8 representing the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission. I am  
9 in Environmental Projects for that agency, and I'm here  
10 along with Kareem Monih who is at the sign-in table, and  
11 with Gertrude Johnson who is here with me.

12 The purpose of this meeting is to give you the  
13 opportunity to provide environmental comments on National  
14 Fuel's proposed project. This meeting is being held at the  
15 request of affected landowners and interested parties.

16 National Fuel filed its application with the  
17 Federal Energy Regulatory Commission on March 7th, 2011,  
18 which began our review of the facilities that we refer to as  
19 the Northern Access projects. A Notice of Intent or NOI,  
20 was mailed to landowners within a half mile radius of the  
21 proposed project. The Notice of Intent states that the  
22 Commission is preparing an environmental assessment or EA  
23 for the proposed Northern Access project. If you did not  
24 receive a copy of the NOI, we may still have some in the  
25 back at the sign-in table.

1                   So now I would like to go over tonight's agenda,  
2                   and most of you should have one in front of you. So after  
3                   the  
4                   introduction, I'm going to discuss the FERC environmental  
5                   review process. After that point, we'll have a project  
6                   description from National Fuel representatives. And beyond  
7                   that, we'll start the formal portion of the meeting where we  
8                   will have you add formal comments to the docket. And then  
9                   after that, we will close the meeting.

10                   Now I'll start by briefly explaining the FERC  
11                   application process. And I would like to add that if you  
12                   don't want to formally make a comment tonight, we also have  
13                   comment sheets at the sign-in table that you can either fill  
14                   out and leave with us tonight or you can also mail in to the  
15                   Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, and all the  
16                   instructions are outlined on that comment sheet.

17                   I would like to note that this meeting is being  
18                   recorded by a court reporter so that we will have an  
19                   accurate record of all comments spoken tonight.

20                   Getting back to the Notice of Intent, it explains  
21                   how you can mail in comments; so if you did get that form in  
22                   the back of the room or if it was mailed to you, you can  
23                   also use that as a method of sending in comments to our  
24                   agency.

25                   I'll now provide an overview of the FERC scoping

1 process. And if you'll flip over your agenda, you should  
2 have a flow chart. So if you look at the column to the  
3 left, you'll see National Fuel's process; and on the right  
4 you'll see the FERC, or Federal Energy Regulatory Commission  
5 process.

6 AUDIENCE: Can we get that microphone closer?

7 MS. HARRIS: Sure. Is that better?

8 AUDIENCE: Yes.

9 MS. HARRIS: So looking at the third tier on  
10 National Fuel's section; so it shows that they filed their  
11 application on March 7, 2011, and at that time we issued a  
12 Notice of Application.

13 So if you look at the sort of gray block on your  
14 sheet, the first gray block, these represent sections where  
15 the public has the opportunity for input. So we issue our  
16 Notice of Intent on March 29th, 2011; and we had a site  
17 visit on April 11th, 2011; and tonight we're having our  
18 public scoping meeting. So at that point, that's where we  
19 are in the process.

20 Once we issue our Environmental Assessment,  
21 you'll have another opportunity to comment. And so we will  
22 issue our Environmental Assessment for a 30-day comment  
23 period, and at that time you'll have another opportunity to  
24 file your comments with the Federal Energy Regulatory  
25 Commission.

1                   Now for some information about the Federal Energy  
2 Regulatory Commission. We are an independent regulatory  
3 agency, and the mission is to regulate and oversee energy  
4 industries in the economic and environmental interest of the  
5 American public.

6                   Among other responsibilities, the Commission  
7 regulates interstate transmission of natural gas. The  
8 Commission is made up of five members who are appointed by  
9 the President and approved by Congress. The Commission  
10 staff, which includes myself, prepares technical information  
11 to assist these commissioners in making their decision.

12                   The proposed project again was filed under Docket  
13 CP11-128, and the CP means that it's a certificate  
14 proceeding before the Commission.

15                   The proposed Northern Access project consists of  
16 installing a new 4,470 horsepower compressor station in East  
17 Aurora County, New York. Additional compression at an  
18 existing compressor station in Potter County, Pennsylvania,  
19 and modifications to existing facilities and its Concord  
20 Compressor Station are also a part of this proposal.

21                   The National Environmental Policy Act or NEPA  
22 requires that the Commission take into consideration the  
23 environmental impacts associated with new natural gas  
24 facilities. Scoping is a general term for soliciting input  
25 from the public before the environmental analysis is

1 conducted. The idea is to get information from the public  
2 as well as agencies or other groups so that we can  
3 incorporate issues of concern into our review.

4 The scoping period started in March when we  
5 issued our Notice of Intent. In that Notice of Intent we  
6 described the environmental review process and the steps  
7 that FERC will take to prepare an Environmental Assessment.

8 The EA is used to advise the Commission and  
9 describes the project facilities and associated  
10 environmental impacts. And we review the impacts on land  
11 use, water quality, visual resources, wildlife, air quality,  
12 noise, safety, geology and soils. The EA also addresses  
13 cumulative impacts and alternatives to the projects,  
14 mitigation to avoid or reduce impacts, and staff conclusions  
15 and recommendations.

16 The Commission will consider environmental  
17 information from the Environmental Assessment and public  
18 comments as well as a host of not environmental issues such  
19 as rates, cost of service, market, accounting and various  
20 economic issues, and making its informed decision on whether  
21 or not to approve the project.

22 The Environmental Assessment will not be a  
23 decision document. When the Environmental Assessment is  
24 complete, we will provide the assessment and Staff material  
25 on the non-environmental issues to the Commission so that

1 they can make a decision regarding the project. If the  
2 Commission does vote to issue a certificate to National  
3 Fuel, Commission Staff will monitor the project in  
4 construction and restoration and ensure environmental  
5 compliance. However, no decision has been made regarding  
6 the project at this time.

7 If you have additional questions about FERC, I  
8 encourage you to visit the Commission's home page at  
9 [www.FERC.gov](http://www.FERC.gov); but at this point does anybody have any  
10 questions on the FERC process?

11 Any questions on how we analyze the project or  
12 how we operate?

13 AUDIENCE: Well, just on this process, how many  
14 of these ever get disapproved?

15 MS. HARRIS: The question, how many projects that  
16 come to FERC get disapproved?

17 AUDIENCE: Of these compressor stations; they  
18 can't come up every day, but when they do, how many get  
19 disapproved?

20 MS. HARRIS: I do not have an exact number, but  
21 not all projects that come to FERC get approved. But that  
22 comes from the Commissioners. So based on the information  
23 that we provide them, that the Commission Staff provides  
24 them, they vote and they make their decision.

25 AUDIENCE: Have you ever had any that you

1 submitted that have gotten disapproved?

2 MS. HARRIS: I do not submit projects. I help to  
3 analyze the environmental impacts of the project. I work  
4 for the federal agency. So I think you may be thinking of  
5 National Fuel, and in that case, I'm not sure.

6 AUDIENCE: No, I was actually thinking the FERC  
7 is the one that does the environmental impact, correct? And  
8 the process like that, it says that the environmental impact  
9 is going to be so great that the project should be moved  
10 somewhere else or not completed at all. What I'm saying is,  
11 when you do these environmental impacts, do you ever find  
12 that when you do the study, "Well, this place shouldn't go  
13 here," or? How many times has that happened? You know, how  
14 long have you worked for them? If you've worked for them  
15 for a while, you should at least have some sort of knowledge  
16 on how many have been disapproved?

17 MS. HARRIS: I have been with FERC for two and a  
18 half years. But it sounds like -- and correct me if I'm  
19 wrong, but it sounds like what you're asking is,  
20 essentially, how many projects get approved as they come to  
21 the Commission?

22 We do -- again, we review alternatives to the  
23 projects; and I have personally worked in situations where  
24 the environmental impact was lessened by moving a compressor  
25 station location. And I had that project last year, I

1 believe.

2 And so the project as proposed, because of issues  
3 with the Bureau of Land Management and its impacts on sage  
4 grouse, we did suggest that they move the compressor  
5 station, and that did happen.

6 Does that answer your question?

7 AUDIENCE: We want to know what was disapproved,  
8 yes or no.

9 MS. HARRIS: And I said that in my experience,  
10 I've been here two and a half years, my personal project I  
11 have not had any disapproved.

12 MS. JOHNSON: There have been instances at the  
13 Commission where there have been projects where we issued an  
14 Environmental Assessment or Environmental Impact Statement,  
15 Staff has issued it and the Commissioners have decided to  
16 vote against the project.

17 So yes, there have been projects that have been  
18 denied and have not been built because the Commission did  
19 not approve the project. Based on either environmental  
20 issues, economic, marketing, the issues that the Commission  
21 regulates.

22 AUDIENCE: But specifically the compressor  
23 stations, since this is what it is. I'm not worried about  
24 other projects, because they're not being done here. The  
25 compressor station itself, how many times -- if you've

1 worked for more than a couple of years with FERC --

2 MS. JOHNSON: right.

3 AUDIENCE: -- how many times has actually a  
4 compressor station been either moved or is just totally  
5 disapproved. Do you know any of that?

6 AUDIENCE: There have been a couple instances;  
7 I'll say at least two instances where the project hasn't  
8 been approved. Whether it's a pipeline that's being  
9 proposed, a compressor station, a liquefied natural gas  
10 facility that has been denied by the Commission, and it  
11 hasn't been built because of environmental issues or what  
12 have you.

13 MS. HARRIS: Okay.

14 AUDIENCE: In New York State? And how many in  
15 New York State?

16 MS. JOHNSON: I don't have any knowledge of any  
17 projects --

18 AUDIENCE: You don't know. That's the answer.

19 MS. JOHNSON: Right.

20 AUDIENCE: Who knows?

21 AUDIENCE: Could you find that out?

22 MS. JOHNSON: Sure.

23 AUDIENCE: I would assume that there's going to  
24 be a fair amount to scientific data that you're going to  
25 need in order to make recommendations with regard to water

1 quality, air quality. Who provides that data, and are we  
2 going to have an opportunity to review it and challenge it  
3 if we don't think it's accurate?

4 MS. HARRIS: The company's application, National  
5 Fuel's application, is available for public consumption. So  
6 at this point you can go to their application and what  
7 they're proposing, and again, comment. So if there's  
8 something that you don't agree with or you want to add to  
9 the docket, you can do that.

10 Again, our Environmental Assessment will be made  
11 publicly available as well, and there will be a 30-day  
12 comment period, so you will be able to comment on what you  
13 read in our Environmental Assessment.

14 AUDIENCE: But you didn't answer my question. My  
15 question is, who provides the data? From what you just  
16 said, you're telling me that the gas company is providing  
17 the data.

18 MS. JOHNSON: The gas company does provide the  
19 data, but we do an individual assessment on whether the data  
20 is complete. We issue data request questions that are  
21 issued to the public; anyone can see the question and the  
22 applicant's response, and we make our own individual  
23 assessment of whether the information is accurate and  
24 whether the Commission can make an informed decision on  
25 whether to approve or deny the project.

1 MS. HARRIS: And the company also has to go  
2 through permitting processes at the various agencies. We do  
3 receive all of those permits and we do have access to those  
4 agencies if we have questions.

5 AUDIENCE: So let's assume, for example, that  
6 FERC approves it, and I'm looking at, one of the lines  
7 toward the bottom where it says Commission determines  
8 whether to approve National Fuel's project.

9 If we as a group feel that some of the data that  
10 was used by the Agency to approve that application was  
11 flawed, is there a place within the context of this process  
12 that we'll be able to offer to you, our own scientific data  
13 that we think is accurate?

14 MS. HARRIS: Well, again, the EA will be released  
15 for a 30-day comment period; so at that time if you have any  
16 issues with our assessment or anything that National Fuel  
17 provided to us, you do have that opportunity to comment.

18 AUDIENCE: So in other words, you don't do any  
19 individual, separate assessment programs --

20 MS. HARRIS: We do. That's what our  
21 Environmental Assessment is, it's our assessment of the  
22 environmental impact.

23 AUDIENCE: Well, just reading what National Fuel  
24 comes out with isn't really an assessment.

25 MS. JOHNSON: Well, I have to add that each

1 applicant has to submit all of their information under oath,  
2 that --

3 (Laughter)

4 (Simultaneous discussion)

5 MS. JOHNSON: I didn't hear the question.

6 MS. HARRIS: Could you repeat the question.

7 AUDIENCE: The question is, do you do any  
8 independent assessments? Do you do air quality, water  
9 quality testing? Do you do anything like that, separate and  
10 apart from this group that wants to put this in.

11 AUDIENCE: You just take the word of National  
12 Fuel Gas?

13 AUDIENCE: You just take their word for it,  
14 correct?

15 MS. HARRIS: They also have to go through a  
16 permitting process --

17 (Simultaneous discussion)

18 MS. HARRIS: -- so in the example of air quality,  
19 they have to go through the New York State Department of  
20 Environmental Conservation. And so we would have their  
21 permit application, so what they're filing with that agency  
22 they have to give to us as well.

23 MS. JOHNSON: And the New York State Department  
24 needs to approve the project. If the project isn't approved  
25 by the State, they cannot build the project.

1                   AUDIENCE: What we're asking, though, is that  
2 you're taking that at their word that this is what it is.  
3 There's nobody checking up on them, what they have come up  
4 with, their findings are accurate.

5                   AUDIENCE: (Inaudible).

6                   AUDIENCE: There's no independent study.

7                   MS. JOHNSON: There is an independent study by  
8 our experts at FERC, on whether the information is accurate  
9 and correct.

10                  AUDIENCE: So we'll be able to submit our  
11 information within the context of that 30-day --

12                  MS. JOHNSON: Yes.

13                  AUDIENCE: -- reply period, correct?

14                  MS. JOHNSON: Right. And even though the comment  
15 period from the Notice of Intent has closed, the public  
16 scoping period has closed, you can still submit comments now  
17 before the Environmental Assessment is issued, or you could  
18 submit comments after the Environmental Assessment. We  
19 respond to all comments that are submitted to the Commission  
20 in our Environmental Assessment; if they are comments to the  
21 Environmental Assessment, we address those comments in any  
22 decision document that the Commission may issue.

23                  AUDIENCE: What's the format where we're notified  
24 when this process gets to the point where our 30 days starts  
25 to tick?

1 MS. HARRIS: In our Environmental Assessment,  
2 that's when the 30-day comment period starts; and if you  
3 received the Notice of Intent or if you signed up tonight,  
4 we have your address, so it will be mailed to you.

5 AUDIENCE: Great. Thank you.

6 MS. HARRIS: Yes?

7 AUDIENCE: I'd like to know why this is being  
8 referred to as the East Aurora compressor station? I think  
9 that's very misleading; it's actually in the town of Wales,  
10 and the people in the town of Wales aren't aware of it  
11 because they think it's East Aurora. It's very misleading.  
12 It's not in East Aurora.

13 MS. JOHNSON: Right. Okay. We'll leave those  
14 questions to the company to answer.

15 AUDIENCE: No, that's not acceptable. You're  
16 holding a hearing on an East Aurora compressor station that  
17 doesn't exist; it's a Wales compressor station. If you're  
18 going to do damage to our town or approve damage to our  
19 town, then you need to tell us; it needs to be labeled a  
20 Wales compressor station because it's our town, and we don't  
21 sit back and let it be damaged.

22 MS. HARRIS: The way that our environmental  
23 mailing list works is that anybody that's within a half mile  
24 radius would be notified of the project; so it doesn't  
25 matter what county they're in, if they're near the project,

1 then they will be notified.

2 AUDIENCE: The project's not in East Aurora. I  
3 live in East Aurora, the town of East Aurora, and I am  
4 within a half mile of that compressor station.

5 AUDIENCE: That's fine, but it's in Wales.

6 MS. HARRIS: Okay, well -- again, the way that  
7 our mailing list works is not based on the county that you  
8 live in; it's based on your proximity to the proposed site.

9 AUDIENCE: But my point is, it's not in East  
10 Aurora; it's not going to be built in East Aurora, it's not  
11 proposed to be built in East Aurora, it's proposed to be  
12 built in Wales.

13 (Simultaneous discussion)

14 MS. HARRIS: Well, again, we will allow the  
15 company to address that comment.

16 AUDIENCE: But he's not doing it in Aurora, we're  
17 a right to farm community, and we will not stand by and have  
18 our rights to farm destroyed by a gas company.

19 MS. HARRIS: I appreciate your comment. And  
20 again, I'll have the company direct that when they --

21 AUDIENCE: Think they need a map?

22 AUDIENCE: Are there any advantages to the  
23 community with this project?

24 MS. JOHNSON: Well, right now we're answering  
25 questions about the process. If you have specific comments

1 about the project --

2 AUDIENCE: I mean, what's the advantage to the  
3 community?

4 MS. JOHNSON: Well, we are going to get to all  
5 those comments after, once the public comment period has  
6 started. So in order for everyone who has signed in to be  
7 able to speak because we don't have this meeting room all  
8 night, and we'd like to give everyone a chance to speak who  
9 has signed in. Anyone who wants to speak about the project  
10 or the process can speak when Ms. Harris opens up the public  
11 comment time.

12 So we'll move on, but any of the questions that  
13 you have you can come up to the podium when Ms. Harris has  
14 opened up the public comment time.

15 AUDIENCE: I have a question. Did you say that  
16 National Fuel has to get a permit from the DEC in order to  
17 go forth? If the DEC deems that it is unfit  
18 environmentally, that --

19 MS. JOHNSON: Well, there are certain permits --

20 AUDIENCE: -- the project?

21 MS. JOHNSON: There are certain permits that they  
22 have to receive from New York State such as -- I'm not sure  
23 whether they need to receive any permits for water quality,  
24 because it is a compressor station, it's not crossing any  
25 water bodies or wetlands that I'm aware of, but air quality,

1 they need an air quality permit to operate.

2 AUDIENCE: And if they don't issue a permit, the  
3 project does not go forward, then? The DEC.

4 MS. JOHNSON: Yes, because the air quality permit  
5 that the state issues is a federally-mandated, federally  
6 delegated permit.

7 AUDIENCE: I have a procedural question, too.

8 MS. HARRIS: Okay, and we'll take this last  
9 question, then we'll move on.

10 AUDIENCE: The Commission is required to reject  
11 the application if it's not in the public convenience or  
12 necessity, right?

13 MS. HARRIS: We don't have to reject an  
14 application; anything that's brought before us we would have  
15 to review.

16 AUDIENCE: Doesn't that --

17 MS. HARRIS: It doesn't mean it's going to get  
18 approved, but we have to review it.

19 AUDIENCE: I mean, isn't it the FERC regulations  
20 that the Commission shall reject an application that it  
21 deems it is not in public necessity or convenience?

22 MS. JOHNSON: No; we can accept, choose to accept  
23 the application. It does not mean that the proposed project  
24 is approved. It only means that we can issue a Notice of  
25 Application -- that's the first block you see here in your

1 flow diagram under the FERC process. When we accept an  
2 application and say "Well, it's adequate enough for us, FERC  
3 staff, to start our environmental analysis." Then we accept  
4 the application and start out environmental review; and  
5 that's when we issue a Notice of Application. Does not mean  
6 that we have approved the project; it's just that it's  
7 adequate enough to --

8 AUDIENCE: I'm aware of that, but further down  
9 the line when you're considering whether to approve the  
10 project, if it's not in the public convenience or necessity,  
11 then the Commission is required to reject the application --  
12 right?

13 MS. JOHNSON: That is the Commissions, the five  
14 Commissioners, that's their decision on whether to vote to  
15 approve or deny the project.

16 AUDIENCE: What standard do they use to decide if  
17 something is in the public convenience or necessity?

18 MS. JOHNSON: There are several different aspects  
19 to a project, whether they've met -- they have a capacity  
20 that they need to meet, such as -- you can see in national  
21 field application that they held an open season, meaning  
22 that there are firm contracts that suppliers have, they've  
23 signed up to transport the amount of gas that National Fuel  
24 said --

25 AUDIENCE: It doesn't sound like the public's

1 convenience or necessity; it sounds like it's in the  
2 interests of the company because they want to sell a bunch  
3 of gas.

4 MS. HARRIS: Well, the things that I talked about  
5 before, when I mentioned the environmental -- the potential  
6 environmental impact, accounts, marketing -- so there's more  
7 that goes into it than just the environmental aspects. But  
8 Commissioners take all of that information and then they  
9 make their decision.

10 So based on our environmentally analysis as well  
11 as a host of non-environment issues, they'll decide whether  
12 or not it's in the interest of the public.

13 AUDIENCE: One more on process?

14 MS. HARRIS: I'm sorry, we have to continue, but  
15 there will be an opportunity to make comments later, but we  
16 have to continue.

17 At this time, I would like to introduce Ron  
18 Cramer with National Fuel, and he'll discuss the project, so  
19 it will give you a little more insight. And if you have any  
20 questions, you'll have an opportunity to do that as well.

21 AUDIENCE: Would you repeat his name, please?

22 MS. HARRIS: Ron Cramer.

23 Presentation by National Fuel

24 MR. CRAMER: Good evening.

25 I would like to thank you. I appreciate your

1 coming tonight. It's a shame, finally we get a nice night  
2 and we're tying you up here, but we hope to give you some  
3 good information. We're going to make our portion of this  
4 relatively brief as far as the presentation is concerned so  
5 that we can leave as much time for you folks to ask  
6 questions; and hopefully we can answer those, or FERC staff  
7 can do that for you.

8           Again, my name is Ron Cramer, I'm a Vice  
9 President for National Fuel Gas Supply Corporation.  
10 National Fuel Gas Supply Corporation is the company that's  
11 sponsoring this project. So when we talk about the company  
12 or the applicant or the sponsor, that's National Fuel Gas  
13 Supply Corporation.

14           National Fuel Gas Supply Corporation is a  
15 subsidiary of National Fuel Gas Company; that's the publicly  
16 traded company. We are what's called the pipeline and  
17 storage entity within National Fuel Gas Company in  
18 developing this project. We are regulated by the Federal  
19 Energy Regulatory Commission, and that's what this process  
20 is really about, is to introduce the project. I did that;  
21 actually, some of you may have met back in January, we  
22 introduced that project during an open house to residents  
23 within a half mile of the project. And then as Jessica  
24 mentioned, we filed our application in March.

25           So we're early in the process, lots of time to

1 ask your questions and hopefully get you some answers.

2 This is a slide from my last presentation, and  
3 just briefly to describe what this project is all about.  
4 And the project is called the Northern Access Project, and  
5 it's designed to move new source of natural gas supply out  
6 of Pennsylvania through our pipeline system -- and I'll show  
7 you that in a minute -- to eventually a delivery point with  
8 TransCanada Pipeline at a place called Niagara, and two  
9 points along the path as well; and that's the point of the  
10 second bullet.

11 Our pipeline system is an integrated system,  
12 connects to various delivery points, gas utilities, power  
13 plants and other sources of gas use; and all of those  
14 sources along the path will be available for the delivery of  
15 this gas.

16 [Slide.]

17 It's kind of a busy slide. The very bottom of  
18 it, for those that can't see -- on the bottom here is the  
19 New York-Pennsylvania state line, and the gas supply is  
20 coming out of Pennsylvania, out of the Marcellus production;  
21 it's going to come into our pipeline system at a place  
22 called Ellisburg, and that's that bent arrow at the bottom.  
23 The gas supply will then flow north on our pipeline system  
24 we call our Line X pipeline system.

25 At that point, though, gas is available for

1 delivery into Western Pennsylvania, the markets in that  
2 area. It can flow up our pipeline system up into the  
3 Buffalo, New York area where the gas supply can go into  
4 Western New York, the utility in this area being National  
5 Fuel Gas Distribution. That is a customer of ours.

6 It can also head east on that pipeline towards  
7 New England; there's a series of pipelines that head towards  
8 New England -- the Tennessee 200 line is, some of you may be  
9 aware, that runs through the East Aurora station there is  
10 headed towards New England. It can continue on north  
11 through some jointly owned facilities, up to Canada to our  
12 eventual interconnect with TransCanada pipeline. That  
13 happens to be the end of the system; that's why this shipper  
14 chose that point as a delivery point, so that he had full  
15 access to all points along that path; not just to that  
16 point, but to all points along that path.

17 And I think what's even interesting beyond that  
18 point is the gas infrastructure in North America is an  
19 integrated system; we don't stop at the border. There are  
20 pipeline systems that cross the border into Canada and come  
21 back again into the U.S. So that gas supply headed to  
22 Canada doesn't just stop in Canada; it flows through  
23 pipelines that head east and then can flow back into the  
24 U.S. Northeast, in Upstate New York and further east in  
25 through Vermont.

1           An analogy I'd like to give you, just to give you  
2 a flavor for what our business is, is that: think of us as  
3 a trucking company, we own the truck. We don't own the  
4 packages in the back of the truck, that's the natural gas in  
5 our pipeline system; it's not our gas. We have to transport  
6 gas on a nondiscriminatory basis for whoever wants to ship  
7 gas on our pipeline system. So we bring our truck down to  
8 Ellisburg, we pick up those packets of gas, and we move them  
9 to whatever point that shipper -- we call our customers  
10 shippers -- to whatever point they ask us to deliver that  
11 gas to.

12           There have been some questions raised about "What  
13 does this do for me? What does it do for Western New York?"  
14 Certainly this new source of gas supply -- I think if you  
15 look at the interstate pipeline system prior to the  
16 development of the Marcellus shale, we were really the end  
17 of the pipeline system. All of the gas supply either came  
18 from the Gulf Coast, came from the Rocky Mountains or came  
19 from the very far Western end of Canada.

20           Those gas supplies actually came through, from  
21 Canada into the U.S., starting back in the early 1990s and  
22 continues today. So Niagara has been an import point, where  
23 we brought Canadian gas into the U.S. With the advent of  
24 the Marcellus supply, it's going to be so prolific that the  
25 gas supply will back out those Canadian supplies, it will

1 back out those Rocky Mountain supplies, and it will even  
2 back out the Gulf Coast supplies; and we will actually  
3 become, this area will actually become a gas supply hub.

4 AUDIENCE: Not if we can help that.

5 (Applause)

6 MR. CRAMER: This is a quick overview of the  
7 entire project. Just to mention, it's a pipeline system --  
8 we're proposing a number of facilities. This meeting, from  
9 this point forward, we'll talk only about East Aurora or  
10 Wales. Frankly, we have no concern about what the name of  
11 the station is. I'll address that issue here right now.

12 (Simultaneous discussion)

13 The existing point between --

14 MS. HARRIS: Excuse me.

15 I want to ask that everybody be respectful of the  
16 speaker, and that goes for whenever you guys are giving  
17 comments as well. Just to keep the meeting orderly and so  
18 that our transcriber can hear who's saying what and when  
19 it's being said. And I will make sure that you guys are  
20 extended that same courtesy. Thank you.

21 MR. CRAMER: The only reason for the name, East  
22 Aurora is that the delivery point, there's an existing set  
23 of facilities there, it's a gas measurement and control  
24 facility and an odorization facility; and since the 1950s,  
25 that's been called the East Aurora delivery point. And we

1 just naturally called the station that we built right behind  
2 it the East Aurora compressor station. There's really  
3 nothing mischievous about the name. Apologize if it's  
4 caused a burr under somebody's saddle, but that's really  
5 just -- that's all their is to the name of it; we're just as  
6 happy to call it Wales; it really doesn't matter to us.

7 The facilities again, there are three compressor  
8 stations, an expansion of an existing station at Ellisburg,  
9 some modifications at our Concord compressor station, and a  
10 new compressor station up here in East Aurora. And the  
11 total investment on this project is \$62 million.

12 AUDIENCE: Can we ask a question.

13 MR. CRAMER: Want me to address the question now,  
14 or wait until the question and answer session?

15 AUDIENCE: Well, it has to do with the map that's  
16 up there.

17 MS. HARRIS: Well, we'll get through the  
18 presentation first, and if you have a question regarding  
19 that, he can come back to it.

20 AUDIENCE: It's got something to do with the map.  
21 She's interested in the map.

22 MS. HARRIS: I understand that, sir, I do. But  
23 in the interest of time again, the purpose of this meeting  
24 is to make sure that you all have time to provide your  
25 comments. So at this point we want to get through this

1       portion of it so that you have information on the project;  
2       and it's not that difficult to come back to the slide if  
3       there is a particular question.

4               MR. CRAMER: We'd be happy to come back to the  
5       slide.

6               MS. HARRIS: That won't be an issue, but we want  
7       to make sure that this part is done.

8               MR. CRAMER: This is a blow-up of that compressor  
9       station site. The facilities up front that are in the light  
10      gray shade is the existing East Aurora delivery point from  
11      Tennessee Gas to National Fuel Gas. There's an existing  
12      access road right here, we're going to make use of that same  
13      access road, with access to the new compressor station, and  
14      the site in the back here is the proposed compressor station  
15      site.

16              I guess just so that you folks know, we've  
17      actually owned this property since the 1960s and have  
18      acquired -- most of the compressor station site sits on our  
19      property; the remainder sits on a property that is owned by  
20      Tennessee Gas that we've secured a lease to operate that  
21      station on.

22              Okay. After this slide, I'm going to pass the  
23      presentation over to Mike Kasprzak. Mike is Assistant Vice  
24      President of our Compression Services Group. He's going to  
25      tackle these technical issues. But really the purpose of

1 this presentation is to try and get -- there's been a lot of  
2 questions raised, good questions raised before FERC, both in  
3 interrogatories as well as just questions posed to FERC.  
4 And we wanted to make sure in this presentation, we were  
5 trying to give you as many facts as we could about that.

6 We're going to tackle each one of these issues;  
7 these are basically regrouped. The issues raised into these  
8 categories, we're going to try and attack each one of those  
9 categories for you.

10 At this point I'll pass it on to Mike Kasprzak to  
11 go run through a few of these issues.

12 MS. HARRIS: I just want to remind National Fuel  
13 that again, the purpose of the meeting is to get public  
14 input. So if you wouldn't mind keeping your portions a  
15 little more concise, that would be great. Thank you.

16 MR. KASPRZAK: I promise to keep it short.

17 I will say, before I start going through the  
18 slides, though, that the slides weren't meant to provide or  
19 to dupe you into thinking that this is all the information  
20 that you're going to get. For each one of those areas,  
21 those areas of concern I would call them, we have an expert  
22 here that has been dealing in that field for 25 years plus,  
23 each one of them. So whatever questions that you have,  
24 please bring them to the podium and we'll get through all  
25 the questions that you have.

1                   So with that, go to the first slide.

2                   Noise is a major concern for us when we're  
3                   designing and building these compressor stations; and very  
4                   much so here at East Aurora with the proximity to several  
5                   properties there. But we've spent a lot of time and a lot  
6                   of engineering effort in the last several projects that  
7                   we've done attempting to minimize the noise and to continue  
8                   to fine-tune that, that whole process of how we insulate,  
9                   how we identify each individual noise source, as I have up  
10                  there, we have engineered solutions for compressors, exhaust  
11                  systems, engine coolers, gas piping; and the compressor  
12                  station utilities would be plant error and plant standby  
13                  emergency power generation.

14                 So every one of those components receives  
15                 scrutiny from an engineering group, and noise engineers.  
16                 Most of us are mechanical or electrical engineers, so we  
17                 bring people in that handle this. And what we do at that  
18                 point is take the data that we have, the designs that we  
19                 have, and insert them into a noise model which includes  
20                 ambient monitoring that we have done out in the area, in the  
21                 public areas that usually the highway area are out on our  
22                 pipeline right-of-way to try to determine what the ambient  
23                 noise levels are.

24                 And we come up with a prediction on noise levels,  
25                 which is always very conservative, because we don't take --

1       there's a number of things we don't take into account; the  
2       biggest would be effects, dampening effects of the contour  
3       of the land or the lay of the land, or dampening effects  
4       from trees and vegetation. We don't take that into account,  
5       and we strive to reduce our noise profile without those  
6       natural buffers.

7                There's been a number of questions regarding air  
8       emissions; and I think specifically that we weren't treating  
9       a proposed station here at East Aurora the same as we would  
10      be treating a station over at Ellisburg, and there's various  
11      reasons for that, and we'll have our air expert get into  
12      that later. But we do beat both the federal and the state's  
13      air quality requirements for NOx. The state standard we  
14      beat by a factor of three, and the EPA standard we beat by a  
15      factor of two.

16               So our -- the catalyst systems that we use, that  
17      we would propose on a project like this, will far exceed the  
18      requirements of both the EPA and the DEC.

19               MS. HARRIS: Just a quick reminder. If you use  
20      acronyms, make sure you define them.

21               MR. KASPRZAK: Okay.

22               NOx is nitrous oxide emissions.

23               AUDIENCE: What's NSA? N S A.

24               MR. KASPRZAK: NSA is noise sensitive area.

25               AUDIENCE: NOx, nitrous oxide emissions, did you

1 find anything?

2 MR. KASPRZAK: Pardon me?

3 AUDIENCE: -- find any NOx emissions?

4 MR. KASPRZAK: I would like to have, when the Q&A  
5 comes up, I would like to have our emissions expert answer  
6 those types of questions, if you don't mind. He can speak  
7 with far more authority on it than I can.

8 There's been concerns regarding groundwater, the  
9 potential for pollution of groundwater. There was a  
10 recurring theme in the questions that we had from many of  
11 the responders who sent comments into FERC. And we do not  
12 have vast amounts of stored waste; this is not a gas  
13 processing plant, so we're not creating any type of product.  
14 What we have is new lubricating oil, new unused lubricating  
15 oil. We have new engine coolant, no different than the type  
16 of coolant that you have, that you run in your vehicles.

17 And then the two waste products that we have, one  
18 would be condensate out of the pipeline, which is basically  
19 fresh water that's the result of humidity and natural gas;  
20 and as gas goes down the pipeline, it cools, and fresh water  
21 falls out.

22 In this particular application, with the  
23 production gas that comes into the system, the producers are  
24 generally running their gas supplies through scrubbers and  
25 through certain types of equipment that reduce the humidity

1 in the natural gas, so we generally do not see much liquid  
2 in a transmission pipeline; it's something that you would  
3 normally see in a production system.

4 MS. HARRIS: Again, not to rush you through it,  
5 but we want to make sure we get through this and we can get  
6 to the comments.

7 MR. KASPRZAK: Okay. And used engine oil, when  
8 we change oil in a compressor frame or in an engine frame,  
9 we remove it from the site at the time that we change the  
10 oil.

11 All bulk storage tanks are equipped with  
12 secondary containment; it can be a big vat around it or what  
13 we generally do is get a double-walled tank, and the gap  
14 between the two walls is monitored for any leakage.

15 All equipment skids and I'll have a slide up here  
16 in a second showing a typical arrangement of one of our  
17 sites, and different equipment that we have on I-beam form  
18 skids. And every one of those skids has secondary  
19 containment built into the skid so if there was any leakage  
20 or spillage from the equipment, or as our maintenance crew  
21 would be working on, it would be caught directly on the  
22 skid.

23 And again, there are no gas processing facilities  
24 associated with facilities being installed at Ellisburg or  
25 at East Aurora.

1           AUDIENCE: Is there a future potential for that?

2           MS. HARRIS: Let him get through, and then we'll  
3 open it up for you guys to ask project-specific questions.

4           MR. KASPRZAK: We operate over 30 compressor  
5 stations in New York and Pennsylvania, and we have an  
6 excellent safety record; and we have at each location, each  
7 piece of equipment in every station is equipped with  
8 monitoring equipment; they're equipped with emergency  
9 shutdown equipment which will initiate a shutdown, either  
10 from an operator identifying the problem and shutting down a  
11 piece of equipment, or the entire compressor station, or it  
12 can be done automatically.

13                   We have a gas control operating center that's  
14 manned 24 hours a day, and they see all this data, the data  
15 that we monitor at the plant and the different alarms and  
16 shutdowns that we have; and we're also staffed 24 hours a  
17 day -- not at this particular compressor station location;  
18 many of them are unmanned, many of them serve as a place for  
19 mechanics and other technicians to report to. That wouldn't  
20 be the case here for the proposed East Aurora station, but  
21 we do have emergency responders that are trained to respond  
22 24 hours a day, 365 days a year. That's the nature of our  
23 business, being in the gas business.

24                   Daily operational checks are performed by  
25 qualified personnel. There's a stringent qualification

1 process that the Department of Transportation requires us to  
2 maintain and to document for each one of our employees. And  
3 all the facilities are designed according to the stringent  
4 federal standards, and annually we do outreach to emergency  
5 management agencies, to municipalities, and to contractors  
6 and excavators.

7           There's a concern regarding property values, and  
8 we really don't have a study to say that building a  
9 compressor station will degrade or will not degrade property  
10 value, but I do know that our Porterville Compressor  
11 Station, which is outside of Elma, New York, has been in  
12 operation since 1951, and the subdivision that's directly  
13 across the road from it is predominantly \$300,000-\$500,000  
14 homes, and the subdivision began being developed in the  
15 early 1990s, and someone built a home up there as recently  
16 as 2006. And we generally have the opposite problem, with  
17 trying to control people building within buffer areas,  
18 building within pipeline rights-of-way; trying to control  
19 that as opposed to people trying to move out after we build  
20 out facilities.

21           This is an existing compressor station, it's much  
22 different than the type of station we would have installed  
23 15 or 20 years ago, or even 10 years ago. All of our  
24 facilities are stand-alone facilities; that would be the  
25 compressor building, that would be an air compressor

1 building, an emergency standby generator; and that's our  
2 power distribution and control building. And that's just a  
3 side view of another very similar compressor building.

4 And we build them this way for both safety of our  
5 workers, ease of operation, and also it's much easier for us  
6 to mitigate noise with a modularized design and installation  
7 approach like this.

8 I've got -- we had a survey firm known as Fisher  
9 & Associates developed a, I'll just call it a drive-by.  
10 It's a visualization. If you were riding on Ryder Road from  
11 about where the trailer park is and heading west, this film  
12 will start out an hour at the access drive to the west side,  
13 where we had congregated for the FERC field mover, and take  
14 us past and show you the view of what the proposed  
15 compressor building would look like, as well as exhaust  
16 stacks.

17 So go ahead and that roll. And I'll stop it at  
18 different spots so I can point out what you're looking at.

19 [Video]

20 That was our access road, this is what we call  
21 East Aurora station, our tie with Tennessee Gas. If you  
22 stop right there, Sandy, please.

23 Can't see it right now; when it starts rolling  
24 you'll see the roof of the compressor building, and then  
25 there will be a couple of sticks sticking up -- and those

1 would be the exhaust stacks. And as you're watching this,  
2 it was something that became very evident to us as far as  
3 treatment of a visual from Ryder Road.

4 Note the position of the building and the stacks  
5 relative to the top of the fence; and that's an existing  
6 fence there.

7 You just start to see the top of the building.  
8 Stop there, please.

9 That's an exhaust stack, that's an exhaust stack  
10 there. And the buildings were -- it's a conservative  
11 estimate of what this would look like from the road, meaning  
12 this would be a worst case. The site likely will be 4 to 7  
13 feet. We're in preliminary engineering of this site, but  
14 the site would likely be 4 to 7 feet lower than what this  
15 is, plus the building eave height was about 4 feet taller  
16 than what we would anticipate for this proposed station.

17 You can see the exhaust stacks there. Now you'll  
18 start getting a little bit of a view of the buildings as we  
19 come around these pine trees here, and stop right there.

20 And there's the exhaust stacks, there's the ridge  
21 line of the building falling way below the fence line, which  
22 offers us some different options as far as screening active  
23 view from Ryder Road.

24 Continue on to the end. [Video]

25 Okay. And that's all I have. I urge you to --

1 the questions we've got, we've got experts and all veteran  
2 people that can answer your questions. Thank you.

3 AUDIENCE: Can I ask you a question?

4 MS. HARRIS: Well, just a moment, before you ask  
5 for questions.

6 In the interests of time, we do have several  
7 people that are signed up to provide comments, so we'll open  
8 the floor for questions about the project to the company.  
9 We'll take a few questions, and then we'll open up for the  
10 formal commenting portion of the meeting.

11 So if you have a question, please come up to the  
12 mic so the court reporter can hear you.

13 AUDIENCE: I just would like to ask that  
14 gentleman, in the interest of full disclosure, we have a  
15 copy of those slides.

16 MS. HARRIS: The question was, can the public or  
17 can the individuals here get copies of those slides?

18 MR. KASPRZAK: We have a website developed for  
19 project information, and we're going to post that on that  
20 website.

21 AUDIENCE: Specifically those maps and all of the  
22 text?

23 MR. KASPRZAK: Yes.

24 AUDIENCE: Every bit of the text, please.

25 MR. KASPRZAK: Well, you mean the PowerPoint

1 slide? Is that what you're saying?

2 AUDIENCE: Yes.

3 MR. KASPRZAK: The whole PowerPoint slide will be  
4 posted on the website.

5 AUDIENCE: With all of those maps.

6 (Simultaneous discussion)

7 MS. HARRIS: Wait, one person at a time. That's  
8 why -- if you have a question, please come up to the mic so  
9 that we can all hear you, and so that we can ensure that  
10 there's one person at a time talking so that we can record  
11 all this information.

12 MR. KASPRZAK: We're actually also posting the  
13 responses to FERC, responses to the interrogatories that we  
14 had from FERC. They're probably on the FERC website, but  
15 they'll be on ours --

16 VOICE: Tomorrow. They'll be on tomorrow.

17 MR. KASPRZAK: -- and the PowerPoint presentation  
18 and the animation will be posted as well.

19 AUDIENCE: This is just a question of definition,  
20 too. How many cubic feet or thousands of cubic feet is  
21 320,000 decatherms per day? That is, how much gas is coming  
22 through the pipeline? Is 320,000 decatherms.

23 MR. KASPRZAK: 320,000 decatherms is 320 million  
24 cubic feet per day.

25 AUDIENCE: 320 million cubic feet per day.

1 MS. HARRIS: Okay, go ahead, ma'am.

2 AUDIENCE: I would like you to define NSA, which  
3 is noise sensitive area. Could you tell me what the  
4 definition of that is? What is the noise sensitive area?

5 MS. HARRIS: The FERC definition of a noise  
6 sensitive area would be homes, residences, schools,  
7 churches, libraries, things of that nature that, where high  
8 levels of noise would be disruptive.

9 AUDIENCE: Okay. I notice then that the East  
10 Aurora is supposed to be 45 decibels. Will that be the  
11 maximum noise from the compressor station? I notice you say  
12 that the FERC maximum is 55 decibels. Is 45 the absolute  
13 maximum of that?

14 MR. KASPRZAK: I'm going to ask the question of  
15 Brian Hellebuyek. He works for a firm called Hoover and  
16 Keith, and he's our noise expert.

17 AUDIENCE: Okay. I would just like to point out  
18 that the World Health Organization says that anything above  
19 55 decibels is a serious annoyance, but anything above 50,  
20 like it can still be below 55, constitutes a moderate  
21 annoyance. And I suspect that the people nearby would not  
22 like even a moderate annoyance.

23 MS. HARRIS: Well, I would like to address a part  
24 of that.

25 This is simply regarding the FERC regulations.

1 Our significant threshold is 55 decibels in a dba. And we  
2 get that from EPA guidance.

3 Now, if a state or a local county has their own  
4 set of regulations, the company must meet those. So if they  
5 have regulations that are more stringent than the federal  
6 regulations, then the company must meet those. But ours is  
7 the federal standards. But again, anything that's below  
8 that that the states enforce or that the local  
9 municipalities enforce, the company would have to meet  
10 those.

11 So in terms of our regulations, how we operate,  
12 we do have our federal guidelines that we get from the  
13 Environmental Protection Agency, but the states have --.

14 AUDIENCE: Those are rather old guidelines; they  
15 were 1975, I believe, the EPA, and I was just wondering if  
16 this is definitely going to stay below 55. And hopefully,  
17 below 50.

18 MR. HELLEBUYEK: Brian Hellebuyek, I'm a noise  
19 control engineer with Hoover and Keith, and we work on these  
20 facilities all over the country.

21 MS. HARRIS: Excuse me --

22 AUDIENCE: Could you spell that company?

23 MR. HELLEBUYEK: Hoover and Keith. Hoover like  
24 the vacuum, Keith like the name.

25 Okay. Basically, the FERC requires -- the FERC

1 guidelines are based on the 1971 EPA levels document. What  
2 they require is that any new gas facility cannot exceed an  
3 LDN, which stands for day-night noise level, at the nearest  
4 noise sensitive area, which consists of residences, church,  
5 hospitals, things like that.

6 The LDN is a rather confusing metric for a lot of  
7 people; but basically what it means is, if I get a sound  
8 level that was at 48.6 dba for 24 straight hours -- and this  
9 is me talking, you in the back of the room, you're hearing  
10 48.6.

11 Well, come around 10 p.m. when you're tired, you  
12 want to stop falling asleep, the 48.6 really -- you say, you  
13 know, that sounds more like 58.6. So what it is, it's an  
14 artificial penalty of 10 db is added between the hours of 10  
15 p.m. and 7 a.m. for nighttime sensitivity.

16 So when you see the 55 dba, what they're  
17 referring to is 55 dba, day-night noise level, or LDN. For  
18 a source that controls the sound level in an environment,  
19 that's really more like 49 dba.

20 The projection that the woman over there is  
21 referencing where it says 45 dba LDN, that really is more  
22 like 39, if you held a sound level meter in what you're  
23 seeing.

24 So apologize for the LDN confusion, but that's  
25 what the government has adopted.

1 AUDIENCE: LDN means day and night?

2 MR. HELLEBUYEK: Day night noise level.

3 AUDIENCE: Okay, including 10 o'clock to 7 a.m.?

4 MR. HELLEBUYEK: Yes.

5 AUDIENCE: And the LDN at this will be 45 dba?

6 MR. HELLEBUYEK: We're predicting 45, which is 10  
7 db less than what FERC requires.

8 AUDIENCE: Well, plus the 10 --

9 AUDIENCE: It could be that high, could be 55.

10 MR. HELLEBUYEK: I'm sorry, say that again?

11 AUDIENCE: It could be 55, then. I mean, you're  
12 predicting 45.

13 MR. HELLEBUYEK: What we're saying is that, when  
14 we say it's going to be 45 LDN, what we're saying basically  
15 is it's 39 dbs.

16 AUDIENCE: So you're saying 45 really isn't 45,  
17 it's 39.

18 MR. HELLEBUYEK: Yes.

19 AUDIENCE: Is that how you do our bills, too?

20 (Laughter)

21 MS. HARRIS: Okay. Does anybody else want to  
22 come to the mic? Does anyone else have a --

23 AUDIENCE: Anyway, I just would like to point out  
24 that the World Health Organization standards are a little  
25 stricter, and they talk about -- I'm sure that that won't be

1 seriously annoying, but it could possibly be moderately  
2 annoying, or even slightly annoying. And even slightly  
3 annoying would be -- excuse me, make me cross.

4 MR. HELLEBUYEK: I can answer that in this way:  
5 The FERC standard, when FERC first came out with this  
6 standard in the 1970s, there was a lot of push-back from the  
7 gas industry. And one of their biggest arguments was, "This  
8 is the toughest noise regulation on any industry in the  
9 United States. You'll let people build a freeway -- states  
10 will build freeways right next to people's homes or they'll  
11 build a new road, and they won't approve a barrier or any  
12 noise control until the sound level is almost 70 dba."

13 AUDIENCE: A really quick question.

14 MS. HARRIS: Well, I want to say, I think we're  
15 getting a little bit off topic.

16 AUDIENCE: I just have one real quick one.

17 MS. HARRIS: And then we'll have the next speaker  
18 come up.

19 AUDIENCE: What percentage of the gas that comes  
20 up through the pipeline goes to Canada, and what percentage  
21 goes to points in between?

22 MR. KASPRZAK: You're not going to like the  
23 answer; I don't know. Again, we're the trucking company,  
24 and the analogy is really exactly how the system works.  
25 That shipper that owns the capacity tells us where he wants

1 it delivered, and one could presume that markets in Western  
2 New York are as good as markets in Canada and the Eastern  
3 U.S., and gas will be dropped off wherever it makes the most  
4 sense economically.

5 So we really have no control over where the gas  
6 is dropped off on our system. All I can describe to you is  
7 the options that that shipper has on our system.

8 MS. HARRIS: Okay. We'll take two more  
9 questions, and then we want to get to the people that have  
10 signed up to speak tonight to make sure that they have time  
11 to be heard.

12 So if you have a question, two more questions,  
13 please come to the mic.

14 AUDIENCE: This question is addressed to the  
15 gentleman who is the noise engineer.

16 I think it's a matter of record, because if you  
17 look at the maps outside the room here, that Hunter's Creek  
18 County Park is shown as noise sensitive area No. 4. That's  
19 in Appendix A, Figure 1, page A1.

20 The part is about a half mile away from the  
21 compressor. I'm not really interested in what level of  
22 noise one would have to put up with, but as it stands now, I  
23 really enjoy going to Hunter's Creek Park and not hearing  
24 anything. And what impact will that station have on any  
25 noise level? Will it be heard anywhere from Hunter's Creek

1 Park any time of the day, and can you state under penalty of  
2 perjury that this is true?

3 (Applause)

4 MR. HELLEBUYEK: Okay. Here's how I can answer  
5 that. Sound propagation is kind of complex, and sound  
6 levels that you hear will vary all the time. If any of you  
7 live nearby say a busy highway, you may not hear the highway  
8 during the daytime. Towards the early evening you'll hear  
9 the highway pretty good. And that may stop during certain  
10 parts of the year when the insects come out, and then the  
11 insects are more dominant.

12 So basically the ambient sound level environment,  
13 whether it be around your house or in the county park, is  
14 going to vary upon the time of year, the weather conditions.  
15 When we did the survey, we identified this as a very quiet  
16 area. When we do our sound surveys, our purpose is to  
17 document the lowest sound levels we can. We pause when cars  
18 drive by, we pause when airplanes fly directly overhead.  
19 We're trying to eliminate extraneous sounds, because we're  
20 trying to look at what is the lower level that you're going  
21 to see?

22 We did our sound survey in December; there was  
23 snow on the ground, the snow is very absorptive, there  
24 wasn't much wind. It was a quiet, still area. So I  
25 measured nighttime levels 31 dba.

1                   Outside in the summertime, you start getting  
2 insects, you're going to get --

3                   MS. HARRIS: Just -- I'm sorry, who asked the  
4 question?

5                   Just to make sure that I have it correct, the  
6 question was: At the Park, will you ensure that -- you're  
7 meeting your noise levels or that remains quiet. I think  
8 that was -- I want to make sure we get to the comments, no.

9                   AUDIENCE: A simple yes or no.

10                  AUDIENCE: Yes.

11                  AUDIENCE: Simple!

12                  MR. HELLEBUYEK: I believe that most of the time,  
13 the majority of the time you'll not hear it. I think it  
14 would take a trained person to hear it, but I can't say that  
15 for sure; I really can't. We're designing this facility  
16 consistent, knowing that there's a future space like that.  
17 I've read the information on the Park; it looks like it's  
18 going to be pretty nice.

19                  AUDIENCE: It exists.

20                  MR. HELLEBUYEK: It exists, yes, but I mean the  
21 master plan.

22                  AUDIENCE: But you're planning on killing the  
23 serenity of it with this noise.

24                  MR. HELLEBUYEK: I don't agree with that.

25                  AUDIENCE: Well, of course. He works for the

1 company. You're not going to say --

2 MS. HARRIS: Okay, sir, again, I don't want to  
3 get into the back-and-forth. I want to make sure that we  
4 have -- again, one more question and then we want to get to  
5 the people that have actually signed up to speak. I want to  
6 make sure that the people who signed up are heard.

7 MR. HELLEBUYEK: Basically the Park, we're  
8 predicting 26 dba.

9 MS. HARRIS: Thank you.

10 AUDIENCE: I have a question. I noticed at the  
11 pumping station in Pennsylvania --

12 MS. HARRIS: Sir, can you please come up to the  
13 microphone.

14 AUDIENCE: Oh, they can hear me.

15 MS. JOHNSON: The court reporter needs to hear  
16 you.

17 AUDIENCE: The pumping station in Pennsylvania --  
18 all right -- the next pumping station is about four times  
19 further distance. Then the next pumping station, which is  
20 East Aurora, or compression station, is only a quarter of  
21 the distance.

22 Why is that?

23 MR. KASPRZAK: I'll take a shot at that.

24 There are different kinds of compressor stations,  
25 and the Ellisburg compressor station and the Concord

1 compressor station are what we would call main line  
2 compressor stations; and they pick up gas in a pipeline and  
3 push it through, and they allow more gas to move through the  
4 same pipeline as more gas than a pipeline without a  
5 compressor station will be able to move.

6 The East Aurora compressor station is a station  
7 designed to take gas from the end of our pipeline system,  
8 that's literally the end of our Line X system, and pump it  
9 through to a higher pressure pipeline called the Niagara  
10 spare loop line, which is operated by Tennessee Gas.

11 So it's a booster station; it is not a main line  
12 compressor station. So the spacing -- typical spacing on a  
13 main line compressor station is somewhere between 40 and 80  
14 miles between compressors, and you wouldn't put them any  
15 closer than that on a mainline transmission system. This is  
16 at the end of the line where it has to be to pump into --  
17 into the pipeline that we're delivering into.

18 MS. HARRIS: Thank you.

19 AUDIENCE: So what's the Portersville compressor  
20 station?

21 MR. KASPRZAK: It's actually totally unrelated.

22 AUDIENCE: It's on the same line.

23 MR. KASPRZAK: No, it's --.

24 MS. HARRIS: I'm going to ask that we stop there.

25 MR. KASPRZAK: Okay.

1 MS. HARRIS: Again, in the interest of time, we  
2 want to make sure that the people who did sign up have the  
3 opportunity to be heard.

4 If you do have additional questions for the  
5 company, they will be at the end of the meeting if we have  
6 enough time and if the school will allow us to be here --

7 AUDIENCE: -- supposed to hear all our questions  
8 and our -- we're supposed to be informed here. We're being  
9 treated like kids, we've got to raise our hand -- only a  
10 couple questions per section?

11 MS. HARRIS: The purpose of this meeting is to  
12 get your project-related comments on the record. And that's  
13 the portion that we're moving into now.

14 Having the company here was just so that you  
15 would get an idea of the project so that you'll be informed  
16 of the project. But the official purpose of this meeting is  
17 so that you can have your comments added to the record, and  
18 we have a court reporter here that will ensure that that  
19 happens. But again, because we have several speakers signed  
20 up, we want to move forward so that everybody who signed up  
21 does have the opportunity to be heard. Thank you.

22 And as Gertrude said, after the meeting you will  
23 have an opportunity to talk to National Fuel representatives  
24 if you have additional questions for them about the project.

25 Now we'd like to hear from those who signed up to

1 present comments. For the court reporter's benefit, please  
2 state and spell out your first and last name. If  
3 appropriate, state the agency or group that you're  
4 representing.

5 As mentioned before, if you choose not to speak  
6 tonight, you may leave written comments with us. We have  
7 comment sheets at the sign-in table. If you did not get one  
8 of those, feel free to grab one before you leave and fill it  
9 out. You can leave it with us or you can mail it in to the  
10 Federal Energy Regulatory Commission.

11 Because we have so many speakers, we're going to  
12 ask that you limit your comments to two minutes, so that we  
13 can make sure that everybody gets heard today that has  
14 signed up to speak. So I'll call your names, and if you  
15 would just come up to the microphone and again, state and  
16 spell your name clearly, and if you are representing an  
17 agency or a group, please state that information as well.  
18 And again, we just want to make sure that we have an  
19 accurate record for our records.

20 AUDIENCE: What time do we need to be finished?  
21 What time are we being, is this being closed?

22 MS. HARRIS: We will try and get everybody that's  
23 actually signed up. If we have time for additional  
24 comments, then we will do that. We are trying to wrap the  
25 meeting up around 9. We have the room until 9:30, so again,

1 we'll be here after the meeting is over, if anybody has any  
2 additional questions for us about the FERC process or for  
3 the company about their project.

4 The first speaker we have is Donna Fierle.

5 MS. FIERLE: My name is Donna Fierle. I'm going  
6 to be presenting for the Genessee Valley Conservancy and  
7 also for myself. So if I have to, I'm going to take four  
8 minutes, because National Fuel just got a ton of time.

9 MS. HARRIS: Can you please spell your first and  
10 last name.

11 MS. FIERLE: My name is Donna Fierle, D o n n a  
12 F i e r l e. The first statement I'm going to read is from  
13 the Genessee Valley Conservancy, also known as GVC. And  
14 here we go, I'll submit it to you afterwards, and you'll  
15 probably be receiving a letter from them as well.

16 The Genessee Valley Conservancy is opposed to the  
17 creation of this facility in its proposed location. GVC  
18 currently holds a conservation easement on an adjacent  
19 property. This conservation easement protects significant  
20 natural resources; namely, important habitat, wetland  
21 resources, and scenic vistas. The location of the  
22 compressor station could have negative environmental  
23 consequences, including but not limited to harmful runoff  
24 onto the conservation easement area during construction and  
25 afterwards, displacement of wildlife during and after

1 construction, harmful noise production during and after  
2 construction negatively impacting the client enjoyment of  
3 the conservation easement area, a negative impact of the  
4 surrounding scenic vistas due to the location of the  
5 proposed compressor station close to the highest elevation  
6 in the town.

7           Additionally, the towns of Aurora and Wales have  
8 significant green spaces which have been permanently  
9 protected and together combine to make a significant benefit  
10 to the public. The siting of the compressor station in the  
11 midst of these protected lands runs contrary to both public  
12 and private successful open space land protection efforts by  
13 placing an industrial use facility in a rural, natural area.

14           Thank you, Eric Grace, Executive Director,  
15 Genessee Valley Conservancy, Genessee, New York.

16           (Applause)

17           MS. HARRIS: Thank you.

18           MS. FIERLE: Now on behalf of myself, I have some  
19 questions, and I'd like to get through my question before  
20 any answer is given, because the questions have a context.

21           The first is, why is National Fuel proposing to  
22 build a compressor station in the middle of over 1,000 acres  
23 of protected land? I'm referring to the 750 acres making up  
24 Hunter's Creek Park, the 130 acres making up Kenneglenn  
25 Scenic and Nature Preserve -- that's on one side.

1           On the other side, bordering the proposed site,  
2           close to 200 acres of conservation easement registered with  
3           the Genessee Valley Conservancy.

4           So in fact, this proposed compressor station is  
5           in the middle of 1000 acres of protected land. Why is  
6           National Fuel proposing to build a compressor station within  
7           a few miles of an existing compressor station in Elma? Why  
8           not upgrade that one? I was over there with a decibel  
9           meter, and it sure was up in the 60s and sometimes peaked  
10          into the 70s.

11          Why isn't National Fuel upgrading existing  
12          compressor stations instead of proposing a new build? And  
13          once again, in the middle of 1,000 acres of protected land.  
14          There are well-documented issues pertaining to compressor  
15          stations, air emissions, noise, decreased property values  
16          and accidents. People from all over the area, not just  
17          Aurora and Wales, all over Erie County and beyond, use and  
18          enjoy Hunter's Creek Park. Emissions from this proposed  
19          site will drift over the park, given the way the wind blows.

20          People in the towns of Wales and Aurora have  
21          worked hard to maintain quality of life and protect  
22          greenspace in their towns; they're particularly known for  
23          this. All these facts come together to make the Ryder Road  
24          site a spectacularly unsuitable location. This proposal  
25          shows complete indifference to what makes this particular

1 location unique and to the needs of these communities.

2 Again, why is National Fuel proposing to build a  
3 compressor station in the middle of over 1,000 acres of  
4 protected land?

5 (Applause)

6 MS. HARRIS: Thank you for your comment.

7 MS. FIERLE: Is there a response, or do we just  
8 get to make comments for the record?

9 MS. HARRIS: Well, at this point we're taking  
10 comments for the record. We will analyze the information  
11 that's given, and if it requires us to ask further questions  
12 from the company in response to what's being asked here  
13 tonight, then we can do that as well.

14 MS. FIERLE: Sure, as long as you ask the  
15 questions of the Genessee Valley Conservancy. You know,  
16 there is so many referencing the information that the  
17 company gives you here tonight, but it's a serious concern,  
18 after sitting here and listening to what's been going on at  
19 this hearing.

20 MS. HARRIS: Yes, we will definitely take your  
21 comment into consideration. And again, if anything  
22 resulting from this meeting requires us to ask further  
23 questions of the company, we will do that.

24 The next speaker is Sarah Buckley.

25 MS. BUCKLEY: Hi, I'm Sarah Buckley, S a r a h

1       B u c k l e y.  I'm a volunteer with the Concerned Neighbors  
2       Network.  I live on Route 78 in Wales.  I want to thank FERC  
3       for having this meeting; as I understand it was a result of  
4       what the public asked for, so I appreciate that.

5                       (Applause)

6               MS. HARRIS:  One last thing, we do appreciate  
7       your enthusiasm, but again, in the interests of time we  
8       don't want to have the speakers stopped for applause; we  
9       want to make sure that everybody gets heard.

10              MS. BUCKLEY:  So I just want to speak about  
11      problems with and alternatives to this compressor station.  
12      Obviously immediate neighbors, and those who enjoy Hunter's  
13      Creek Park are concerned about the increase in noise and air  
14      pollution of the station, and the complete lack of benefit  
15      to the neighbors.  Even if National Fuel follows every  
16      regulation to the T in regard to these issues, it does not  
17      make them disappear.  There will still be an increase in  
18      noise and air pollution.

19              The purpose of this compressor station, according  
20      to National Fuel's original application, is to take  
21      Marcellus shale gas from Pennsylvania through the  
22      TransCanada pipeline, and according to Industry Journal, it  
23      is one of the first projects bringing Marcellus shale gas to  
24      the important Canadian market.

25              So for National Fuel to say they didn't know

1 about that seems like -- "read your own journal."

2 (Laughter)

3 The larger community is concerned -- I need to be  
4 snarky, but first some background as a representative of  
5 Concerned Neighbors Network, people that are concerned  
6 neighbors that live right here in the community, raise their  
7 hand.

8 [Show of hands]

9 MS. BUCKLEY: Thanks. So we put a motion to  
10 intervene as the Concerned Neighbors Network, and National  
11 Fuel replied to us very snarkily, ignoring that we even  
12 exist and just saying that we were a front for a Buffalo  
13 organization.

14 So put a lot of energy into that motion -- I'm  
15 sorry to be snarky.

16 (Simultaneous discussion)

17 The larger community is concerned with the  
18 possibility that expanded infrastructure of natural gas in  
19 our area and what that could mean. If Pennsylvania shale  
20 gas continues to expand, I sure don't need to go through  
21 this paragraph -- the speaker for National Fuel already  
22 explained that the possibility of West New York being a hub  
23 for natural gas infrastructure. But what I can say is this;  
24 if you look up and the problems that they're having in Dish,  
25 Texas, Fort Worth, Texas, what the Southwest Regional

1 Director for the Pennsylvania DEP talks about in terms of --  
2 so they had worked so long, the Pennsylvania Department of  
3 Environmental Protection, to try to decrease the emissions,  
4 increase their air quality, so they were working on -- from  
5 what happened with coal and different kinds of power plants;  
6 and he's testified at this federal energy forum is that now  
7 they're backsliding because of all this infrastructure.

8 So this is not a good thing that we want in  
9 Western New York. So what's the alternative? Number one,  
10 National Fuel could not build a compressor station. They  
11 themselves have to explore this option as part of their  
12 application. And the results, according to them, are fairly  
13 innocuous. There might have to be infrastructure other  
14 places, or people might have to use different sources of  
15 energy.

16 Another option, number two: It could be in  
17 another place. This proposed site is unique, is that it's  
18 dedicated green space, but it's also near -- it's also  
19 populous states. So it's the worst of both worlds.

20 One option that I thought of was that "Well, they  
21 could buy land from someone, put the compressor station  
22 there, and that landowner would have consented and  
23 benefited." And the other option is that National Fuel  
24 could truly be a good neighbor, and rather than say "There's  
25 nothing you can do about this, concerned neighbors, we are

1 following the regulations." They could use the actual best  
2 available technology for this compressor station.

3 The Ellisburg compressor station they're adding  
4 as a part of this Northern Access project is double the  
5 horsepower of this compressor station that they're  
6 proposing, and it's half the emissions.

7 Let me repeat that: Double the size, double the  
8 horsepower, half the emissions. So National Fuel could  
9 start by using the same technology, they'd do it -- this  
10 Pennsylvania compressor station they're proposing, in order  
11 to lower the one that could be our neighbor. And they could  
12 look at the multitude of technologies available to decrease  
13 noise levels, prevent and monitor inevitable gas leaks that  
14 come along with all compressor stations, as well as capture  
15 and use wasted energy within the system. Just following the  
16 regulations. Thank you.

17 (Applause)

18 MS. HARRIS: The next speaker is Nate Buckley.

19 MR. BUCKLEY: Thank you. Nate Buckley, I come to  
20 speak for myself, and -- because I grew up swimming in  
21 there, in Hunter's Creek.

22 Basically this is a question --

23 MS. JOHNSON: Could you spell your first and last  
24 name.

25 MR. BUCKLEY: N a t e B u c k l e y.

1           So this question is short, but I would like you  
2           to answer it, and so you can take the rest of my two  
3           minutes. But I want a concise answer, because I didn't get  
4           any sort of answer like "so if everybody here and the  
5           majority of the concerned neighbors, all the people you sent  
6           things to, and you're a regulatory agency supposing to be  
7           protecting people's rights -- if everybody in that doesn't  
8           want it and like says that, states that, everybody here -- I  
9           don't think anybody here has said a pro thing besides people  
10          were going to make lots of money off it.

11           It's like, if people want to impeach a president,  
12          there's a process. I didn't get anything from the beginning  
13          as to how we can actually stop this from happening. Besides  
14          like five people who are up on top who are cowards who  
15          aren't here, who have sent you two to represent an agency --  
16          you know. Besides that, I don't want to put the power --  
17          what power do we have to actually stop this?

18           AUDIENCE: Thank you for your comment.

19           (Applause)

20           MS. JOHNSON: One thing I want to say is that I'm  
21          asking that --

22           MR. BUCKLEY: Just brief and concise. I mean, my  
23          question right now, what do we have to stop this?

24           MS. HARRIS: I'm going to answer your question.

25           One thing I do want to say again, I appreciate

1 your enthusiasm, but in the interests of time, please  
2 refrain from interrupting the speakers, whether you're for  
3 or against, please refrain from interrupting the speakers  
4 and speaking without being called. That's my one request.

5 In terms of what power you have, looking back at  
6 the chart that we discussed earlier, this is why we have  
7 public output -- or input --

8 MR. BUCKLEY: But do we have like a veto power?  
9 Besides going to the people that -- just to comment. We  
10 don't want to make a comment to people and then they decide.  
11 What veto power do we have, beyond us making comments and  
12 saying 'we don't want this here' because everyone said that,  
13 to beyond that, to actually have some power in stopping  
14 this? Beyond having other people decide, who are five  
15 people on the top who are probably really rich and wealthy,  
16 and don't care about our community?

17 AUDIENCE: And don't live in New York.

18 MR. BUCKLEY: And don't live in New York.

19 MS. JOHNSON: You can comment, and as Sarah  
20 Buckley mentioned, you can request to be an intervening  
21 party. Now that the scoping period and Notice of  
22 Application time period has ended, literally -- if you  
23 request intervention status, you would be requesting it out  
24 of time because the time to intervene has passed; however,  
25 you can submit to the Commission a reason why you're

1        requesting it out of time and why the Commission should  
2        allow you to be an intervening party.

3                Once the staff issues its Environmental  
4        Assessment and the Commission makes a decision whether to  
5        deny or approve the project, if the Commission makes a  
6        decision to approve the project, as an intervening party you  
7        can request a rehearing of the decision and it will be  
8        decided in the court system.

9                AUDIENCE: Can the town of Wales just say no?

10              AUDIENCE: No.

11              MS. JOHNSON: You would have to be an intervening  
12        party to the Commission to be legally -- to legally  
13        represent yourself to request rehearing.

14              MS. HARRIS: Thank you.

15              The next speaker is John Buckley.

16              MR. BUCKLEY: Yes, my family grew up in East  
17        Aurora, and we're very concerned about the place.

18              One thing that concerns me --

19              MS. HARRIS: Can you --

20              MR. BUCKLEY: John Buckley, J o h n B u c k l e  
21        y.

22              I guess the biggest concern to me is this process  
23        of horizontal hydro-fracking that's going on around the  
24        country, 30 different states, in particular in Pennsylvania  
25        right now. And the gas that they're proposing to ship up

1 through this pipeline is coming mostly from this process,  
2 the hydro-fracking, which is taking gas from deep  
3 underground. And not only does it pollute our water and  
4 streams, and they're actually taking some of this frack  
5 water that contains all kinds of carcinogens and so on, and  
6 carting it up to the Buffalo area, dumping it into our  
7 rivers as well as dumping it into the Pennsylvania rivers.

8 But it has, a number of adverse health effects  
9 could be related to the gas that's going to be distributed  
10 here from this fracking process. Number one is the highly  
11 radioactive nature of the shale gas; there's a researcher at  
12 UB who just demonstrated that the Marcellus shale has a very  
13 high percentage of radioactive materials and that they are  
14 liberated in this fracking process.

15 So there's a danger, a health danger to people  
16 using this gas. And the decrease in distance from the  
17 source to the utilization, which is stated in an EPA study,  
18 increases radon exposure in the home, again from this shale  
19 gas.

20 And there are serious concerns being brought  
21 daily, and information coming out regarding the hazardous  
22 impact of this horizontal hydro-fracking thing, which I  
23 mentioned earlier, is taking hundreds of different,  
24 dangerous and harmful chemicals, pumping them into the  
25 ground under high pressure and then bringing some of this

1 hazardous waste material up and putting it in unsecured  
2 ponds and so on that are polluting our neighbors.

3           So I think building infrastructure for moving  
4 shale gas that's currently exploiting controversial  
5 techniques should also be addressed, because there's  
6 damaging effects, not just from the pipeline but this whole  
7 horizontal hydro-fracking process. And just saying that  
8 there's other gas also being pumped up does not adequately  
9 address this concern. It's also in direct conflict with  
10 previous national fuel statements and many documents, such  
11 as the abbreviated application for the Northern Access  
12 project which states National Fuel proposes to construct  
13 Northern Access project in response to a request for firms'  
14 transportation of 320,000 decatherms per day, or 320 million  
15 cubic feet of Marcellus shale production. And that is from  
16 the hydro-fracking process.

17           So the other concern is that this process, you  
18 know, a lot of people -- you hear the National Fuel  
19 advertisements on TV and this is the clean energy. It is  
20 actually not even as clean as coal. If you take it out,  
21 even in the immediate vicinity of a few years because of all  
22 the carbon emissions and different emissions from this  
23 horizontal hydro-fracking process, it actually turns out  
24 that the greenhouse emissions are greater for natural gas  
25 than the are for coal. And you can take that out 20 years,

1       it's still -- coal is still cleaner, which we know coal is  
2       not cleaner; but even go out 100 years, and it's still like  
3       an equivalent kind of thing. So it's not a cleaner energy,  
4       and we're not buying that.

5                We really need to invest in alternative energies;  
6       fossil fuels are not going to sustain us out into the  
7       future. And this is something that's polluting our  
8       waterways, polluting our water and polluting our air, and I  
9       have a particular, you know, maybe a smaller concern; but in  
10      terms of best practice because state standards, it was  
11      mentioned that the standards are being met, state standards  
12      and federal standards; but as Sarah mentioned, it's not the  
13      best practices. There are better practices out there that  
14      are not being used by National Fuel that are being used in  
15      other areas; for example, the compressor station, I think  
16      it's the Ellisburg compressor station; four times the size  
17      and half the proposed emissions that the East Aurora  
18      station, is only half as big but it's going to be giving off  
19      twice the amount of emissions, and I don't think that's fair  
20      to East Aurora residents.

21                    (Appause)

22                One more thing; it's been shown, you know with  
23      these processes, that there is a decrease in property  
24      values. I think people are concerned about that. Certainly  
25      it's been shown, with this hydro-fracking process, that home

1 values go down the tubes, and I think that needs to be  
2 concerned. Even though it might be more expensive to  
3 consider other sites, because maybe National Fuel doesn't  
4 own that property -- judging by National Fuel's immense  
5 profits over the past ten years, while alternative sites  
6 might be less convenient in terms of cost, they need to be  
7 considered and proposed because of the environmental impacts  
8 on the residents here. Thank you.

9 MS. HARRIS: Thank you.

10 The next commenter we have is Mike, is it Hart?

11 MR. HARTER: Well, I'll spell it in a second.

12 My name is Mike Harter. Michael is M i c h a e  
13 l, Harter H a r t e r. And I'm glad that John brought up  
14 fracking, because that's a really big part of what's going  
15 on here, is that we shouldn't be allowing this process; it's  
16 contaminating continuously and on purpose, trillions of  
17 gallons of fresh water across the country.

18 When that water goes down, it comes back up with  
19 chemicals and radiation all the time; it doesn't pass any  
20 sort of standards anywhere to be treated anywhere. And it's  
21 only because of loopholes in federal regulations that it's  
22 allowed to happen and be injected in the ground to begin  
23 with.

24 So I encourage you all to become informed about  
25 fracking, watch GasLands and become informed about that.

1 And I think that everyone here should have an opportunity  
2 for another one of these sessions, I really strongly  
3 encourage our residents to intervene and, you know, there's  
4 plenty of good reason. If you haven't seen GasLands, it's  
5 one really good one, if that's the case.

6 But it is a compressor station. I wanted to talk  
7 about the compressor station. There was a study in Dish,  
8 Texas that I have here. Oh, by the way, before I get to  
9 that part, 320 decatherms or 320 million cubic feet of  
10 natural gas is not a small amount of natural gas. And I  
11 just happened to be so lucky. This wasn't prepared for this  
12 meeting; it was just from another thing. And that's 10  
13 percent of the gas that they make in the whole Barnett  
14 shale, which is 5,000 wells. There's about 2000, I think,  
15 in Pennsylvania right now, so it's a serious, serious  
16 portion of the gas being produced in Pennsylvania right now,  
17 which is an enormous volume of gas; it's totally different  
18 than any sort of gas we've seen before, and it's for export  
19 to Canada and other countries. That is right on the table  
20 in what they're doing here.

21 I'd also like to say that we haven't talked about  
22 air emissions at all, and there was a study done in Dish,  
23 Texas, and I don't know what their processing capacity is by  
24 comparison; but they surveyed people living a half mile from  
25 the compressor station and two miles from the compressor

1 station; and what they found was that 71 percent of those  
2 people -- I think that's of the total; I'm not sure, it  
3 might be the half mile, had respiratory elements associated  
4 with the compressor station. This includes emissions of  
5 benzene, carbon disulfide, 1,2-4 trimethyl benzene, xylene,  
6 naphthalene, carbon sulfide, trimethyl benzene, methyl-  
7 methyl ethyl benzene, petramethyl benzene. Those actually  
8 go on for a little while.

9 But they're serious chemicals, even related to  
10 this compressor station. It's not about noise. Noise is a  
11 little bit of a distraction from the major issue, which is  
12 that respiratory illnesses do occur, and benzene is a  
13 carcinogen, and toluene and xylene are carcinogens; these  
14 are dangerous things to have in our environment.

15 I'm worried, too; I mean I go to Hunter's Creek  
16 and there are deer that may be scared off by compressor  
17 station levels, and all of those chemicals that I just  
18 listed were way beyond what the TECQ, the Texas  
19 Environmental Quality -- I don't know what that is. It's  
20 Texas Department of Environmental Quality or something like  
21 that, would allow. But they're there. They're there. It's  
22 too late. The environmental impact says oh, they will be  
23 lower; I'm sure, and that's why the permits got passed.  
24 Maybe there's loopholes I don't understand about, but these  
25 things keep going on; they don't stop because they fail to

1 meet their projected regulations.

2 I had questions, too, because you did promise  
3 that we could ask questions of the organization, of the  
4 group.

5 The questions are, what studies are you using,  
6 explicitly? That's the end of my comments for the two  
7 minutes.

8 MS. HARRIS: I do respect that you have  
9 questions. If you could wait until after we get through  
10 this portion; and again, you can talk to the company.

11 MR. HARTER: I'd like to address them in front of  
12 the audience here.

13 MS. JOHNSON: Okay, that's fine.

14 MR. HARTER: My questions are, what studies are  
15 you using? Are you using any studies which are paid for by  
16 the natural gas industry? Are you using others that are  
17 independent studies, university-based studies? Are you  
18 using those independent, non-biased studies with a more,  
19 high value, in your opinion?

20 Are you prepared to halt the process if it can be  
21 proven that the air emissions will affect human health? To  
22 what degree, after the first impact on human health will you  
23 accept further human health impacts?

24 The GVC mentioned earlier studies which  
25 demonstrated the property values are impacted; will you

1 accept those studies?

2 Are you taking all comments tonight, including  
3 those which go over the time limit?

4 (Laughter)

5 MS. HARRIS: Yes, we --

6 MR. HARTER: I can give you the sheet so you can  
7 respond to them, one by one.

8 MS. JOHNSON: To answer your question about  
9 whether we'll be responding to any of the questions beyond  
10 the time that we have here, we can't answer every question  
11 that's asked during each person's allotted time to speak,  
12 but I can assure you that all environmental questions that  
13 are asked today will be answered in the document, the  
14 Environmental Assessment that we will issue, that everyone  
15 will get a chance to read and be able to make further  
16 comments so that the Commission can make an informed  
17 decision about whether to deny or approve the project.

18 MR. HARTER: And the other ones -- you can just  
19 go through with a yes or no.

20 MS. JOHNSON: We're not going to answer questions  
21 of everyone today because we're going to answer them in the  
22 Environmental Assessment.

23 MS. HARRIS: I would just like to note that at  
24 this point the Environmental Assessment is still underway,  
25 so we're still analyzing the project at this point.

1 MS. JOHNSON: And if there are questions here  
2 that are asked --

3 MR. HARTER: Well, you would have gone through it  
4 if we hadn't intervened, right? If this meeting weren't  
5 existing -- I'm sorry, my time is up.

6 MS. JOHNSON: Well, we scheduled this public  
7 meeting because of the site visit that was held back in  
8 April. We don't schedule public meetings for every project,  
9 but if there is a concern in the public that you expressed  
10 during the site visit, then we do schedule meetings for the  
11 public to be able to speak and for it to be included in the  
12 record, in addition to any comments that are written and  
13 submitted to the Commission.

14 MS. HARRIS: The next commenter is Anne Dayer.

15 MS. DAYER: A n n e D a y e r .

16 I am also going to be making a statement for the  
17 Western New York Land Conservancy; their representative  
18 wasn't able to come. Her name is Patricia, P a t r i c i a  
19 Scarpa, S c a r p a. She's the Executive Director of the  
20 Western New York Land Conservancy.

21 The Western New York Land Conservancy is opposed  
22 to the creation of this facility in its proposed location.  
23 The Land Conservancy's Preserve, Kenneglenn scenic nature  
24 preserve, is nearby and on Hunter's Creek, very near the  
25 proposed project site. Kenneglenn is permanently protected

1 because of its important and diverse wildlife habitats,  
2 presence of a significant creek corridor, acres of important  
3 wetlands, and its pristine views of Hunter's Creek from its  
4 150 foot ridge wall.

5 The location of the compressor station could have  
6 negative environmental consequences to Hunter's Creek and to  
7 the Kenneglenn scenic nature preserve during its  
8 construction as well as after it's completed, displacing  
9 wildlife, disturbing water quality and permanently  
10 destroying pristine scenic vistas and the public benefit of  
11 open space that is extremely important in this entire  
12 region.

13 Okay, and now for me. I live at 2343 Latham  
14 Road, East Aurora, located on the next hill, a half mile  
15 west of the proposed site. Thirty years ago, my husband  
16 Paul and I purchased our home on four acres in the country  
17 in Western New York. We purposely moved here from the  
18 Washington, D.C. area to raise our children in a less  
19 congested area, free from noise, traffic and air pollution.  
20 It is our sanctuary.

21 I oppose National Fuel's proposed compressor  
22 station. I am desperately concerned with the environmental  
23 impact of this project. First of all, air contamination and  
24 noise, I believe that the compressor station will release  
25 toxic emissions and increased truck traffic that will be

1 harmful to my health as well as my neighbors'. I have a  
2 serious heart condition and I'm very sensitive to air  
3 quality.

4 In addition, I am stressed by any loud or  
5 background noise. I consider my home a noise sensitive  
6 area, whether it's defined that way or not. I don't want  
7 any additional noise.

8 Greenspace is my next issue. Our property is  
9 surrounded by hundreds of acres, some protected under a  
10 conservation easement. This area is an important green  
11 space, providing habitat for wildlife, songbirds and  
12 migratory tropical birds that will be affected.

13 The next thing I want to talk about is safety.  
14 Despite your assurances, compressor stations do have  
15 accidents, such as fires, explosions and spills. There are  
16 human and equipment failures. I don't want that risk in my  
17 back yard.

18 And finally, decreasing property values. In an  
19 already depressed real estate market, unlike the 1990s in  
20 Elma, I believe that the negative impact on air quality,  
21 noise and the visual landscape will result in declining  
22 property values for our neighborhood. My husband and I are  
23 counting on the equity in our property for our retirement.

24 MS. HARRIS: Thank you, Anne.

25 (Applause)

1                   The next speaker is Joan Herold.

2                   MS. HEROLD: That's Joan, J o a n Herold H e r o  
3 l d. Mine is very quick.

4                   There is considerable pressure, as I understand,  
5 in Pennsylvania for a moratorium on the use of hydro-  
6 fracking. We all know that hydro-fracking isn't really  
7 good. If there is a moratorium passed in Pennsylvania on  
8 hydro-fracking, it will considerably decrease the amount of  
9 gas produced, and there will be no need for a compressor  
10 station in Aurora or Wales.

11                   Thank you.

12                   AUDIENCE: Could you repeat the name again,  
13 please?

14                   MS. HEROLD: Joan J o a n, Herold H e r o l d.

15                   (Applause)

16                   MS. HARRIS: The next speaker is -- I am unable  
17 to read this, so if you recognize it, it looks like Frank --  
18 .

19                   MS. JOHNSON: I think the last name starts with a  
20 D, or a G. G a y e, or D a y e.

21                   AUDIENCE: What's the address?

22                   MS. JOHNSON: No, there's no address on the  
23 speaker sign-in sheet.

24                   AUDIENCE: Sounds like it might be my name. I  
25 don't know, I didn't sign in with any intention of -- I

1 thought I was signing something else.

2 MS. HARRIS: Oh, okay. Thank you.

3 The next speaker is Vienna --

4 AUDIENCE: I thought that was a sign-in sheet for  
5 just -- I didn't know.

6 MS. HARRIS: Okay, thank you.

7 The next speaker is David Lazenski.

8 MR. LAZENSKI: My name is David Lazenski, D a v i  
9 d L a z e n s k i. I did submit written comments to FERC on  
10 line on April 27th, so that's a matter of record. And since  
11 there's not a lot of time, I'm not going to read everything  
12 I said there. But I would just hope that, you know, the  
13 gentlemen from National Fuel Distribution would treat our  
14 community like you would treat your own.

15 You know, we're all in this together, and I know  
16 you probably have huge bonuses if this comes to fruition,  
17 but maybe -- you probably make enough money anyway, so you  
18 probably don't need that, but --

19 (Laughter)

20 -- you know, treat it like your own, if it was your own.  
21 Take the high road.

22 I would say that this project is going to be such  
23 a huge cash cow that an alternative site should be  
24 mandatory. It should not be an option. Suggest to Town of  
25 Wales or Erie County that maybe the noise ordinances need a

1 little bit of tweaking.

2 My concern in terms of that volume of gas,  
3 California is also a very highly regulated state, and as you  
4 know a whole village was blown off the map because of a gas  
5 leak; and within the last couple months some of the  
6 utilities there have admitted that they have no idea of the  
7 condition of their pipelines. And I'm not sure any of us  
8 would take any warranty from anybody, any multinational  
9 corporation that they're in good shape anyway. So you don't  
10 need to reply to that.

11 Well, that's about it. Thanks.

12 (Applause)

13 MS. HARRIS: Thank you. The next speaker is, it  
14 looks like R o s e -- is it Rose? Or R o l e?

15 MS. CZYRNY: Hello, everyone. Thank you for  
16 giving me the opportunity to speak. Three years ago I sold  
17 my home --

18 MS. JOHNSON: Can you -- sorry to interrupt.

19 MS. CZYRNY: Spell my name. C z y r n y.

20 MS. JOHNSON: And your first name?

21 MS. CZYRNY: Rose.

22 Three years ago I sold my home in the Village of  
23 East Aurora with the intent of buying a residence and a --  
24 well, it was a restaurant at the time. I took it, I poured  
25 every penny I had, every bit of my heart went into opening

1 up the Body Glyphic Studio. It's a holistic place.

2 I am a humble person, but first of all, I am  
3 appalled that we do not have a voice here. That this can  
4 happen! This can actually --

5 (Applause)

6 -- happen without us saying "we do not want it." We don't  
7 want it; it should not be allowed to happen. It should be  
8 our right -- it's our community. We pay taxes, we live  
9 here. It should be our choice to say no to this. I just  
10 cannot believe -- all right.

11 (Laughter)

12 I will find my humble heart again, and I will  
13 just say that I cannot believe that we don't look at other  
14 resources; it's been said over and over. This is wrong,  
15 this is not good for our health, for our community, for our  
16 children, for our grandchildren.

17 What's going to happen to our town when it's  
18 worth nothing because our land and our air is so toxic?  
19 What's going to happen then? When we can't sell our  
20 property because it's worth nothing. We're going to have  
21 this property, these homes, these businesses, and they're  
22 worth nothing because of what is going to happen to our  
23 town.

24 I live in Wales Center, I love it out there, and  
25 I, too, moved away -- I just moved out of the Village

1 because I thought that was too busy. I moved five minutes  
2 farther down, and I love it there and I hope that everybody  
3 realizes that we all need to stand up and fight for this.  
4 Thank you.

5 (Applause)

6 MS. HARRIS: The next speaker is David Dakas.

7 MR. DALLAS: Name's David Dallas, D a l l a s.

8 I just moved in, actually built a new home. I  
9 live on 185 Ryder Road. Two and a half years ago, I've run  
10 into numerous, numerous things online; I know a lot of  
11 people have already discussed them in the -- that the  
12 natural gas compressors give off carcinogens and  
13 neurotoxins. There's a lot of things in Dish, Texas right  
14 now that's going on, about lawsuits. It's very detrimental  
15 to the environment, and I know they say that they're going  
16 to have all kinds of containments. There's always a breach  
17 of those containments.

18 Everybody out there has well water, some of it's  
19 good, some of it's not, and this is going to make it even  
20 worse. Because like everybody said, Hunter's Creek -- I go  
21 there, as well as my three and a half year old son, and  
22 there are a lot of other people that have young kids there.

23 And as far as the noise level, I know they say  
24 it's going to be about 45 db, but 55 db at night -- I like  
25 to have my windows open at night, it's nice and quiet out

1       there, that's why I built my home there. But 55 db is  
2       roughly a low idle bulldozer, which I don't want to hear at  
3       night.

4               And really the only reason for this project is  
5       for National Fuel Gas to make money and to -- Marcellus  
6       shale gas to Canada. I don't understand why the people who  
7       are taking our money are not here, giving us the answers.

8               Also the building, the site on top of that hill  
9       is going to move noise further than you think. And why are  
10       there not alternative sites being proposed besides the  
11       current ones?

12              AUDIENCE: Can you repeat your last name, please.

13              MR. DALLAS: Dallas, D a l l a s.

14              MS. HARRIS: Thank you.

15              (Applause)

16              MS. HARRIS: The next speaker is Dole, Cooner?

17              MR. COONER: That's me. I don't need to comment;  
18       my comments are on line. I'd rather have more time for  
19       questions.

20              MS. HARRIS: Thank you.

21              The next speaker is Lynn Miller.

22              MS. MILLER: My name is Lynn Miller, L y n n M i  
23       l l e r. I live on Hunter's Creek Road, very close to this  
24       station, and I wasn't really prepared to say anything  
25       tonight, but I did jot a few things down.

1 I am not a Buckley.

2 (Laughter)

3 But I know Sarah, so. I can honestly say, I've never met so  
4 many of my neighbors before in my life before this, and I'm  
5 glad to have met many more of them as a result of this  
6 project.

7 One of the questions was this gas going to  
8 Canada, and everybody I'm sure wonders why; why is any of it  
9 going to Canada or coming back from Canada for that matter?  
10 It's patently obvious to me the profit motive is top  
11 priority for you guys.

12 I look at you, you did say something about being  
13 -- looking at yourselves as a trucking company? I don't  
14 look at you quite in that way; I look at you more as an  
15 enabler of gas companies, addicted to profit, and looking  
16 for more, like an angry drunk, running over anyone in the  
17 way.

18 I have a question about the half mile  
19 notification; that there was a half mile that people were  
20 notified in the area, around this area.

21 MS. HARRIS: Yes.

22 MS. MILLER: So do you figure that a gas leak  
23 won't go more than a half mile, or water -- transmission  
24 will go more than half a mile? Is that the --

25 MS. HARRIS: We will address that question in our

1 EA.

2 MS. MILLER: Uh-huh.

3 I'm a nurse. I'm quite concerned about the  
4 health of this community, and I'm very afraid for this  
5 community, because accidents will happen. It's not a question  
6 of whether or not.

7 You did mention that some of these compressor  
8 stations, and it showed up there on your example, that some  
9 of them have been in use since the Fifties. Well, that's 60  
10 years. Is that infrastructure that you trust anymore? As  
11 far as this pipeline goes? I see your smirk over there.

12 No one I've talked to, since finding out about  
13 this station, had any idea of what was going on. They go  
14 "What?" "What's that all about?" So Sarah, and I did put  
15 out some information for people, and everybody I talked to  
16 that, whether or not they've seen the information that we  
17 have, or have seen it on TV, or seen your slick ads on TV --  
18 not your ads, the gas company's ads -- they're all against  
19 it, they're totally against this.

20 So there's only one other thing I want to clean  
21 up. I am a landowner; I rent my land to an organic farmer.  
22 An anything thing happened to this fellow. He did sign a  
23 lease for fracking to take place on his property, and within  
24 a day of introducing some information about fracking, the  
25 gas company that did lease from him released him from his

1 lease.

2 Well, I had never heard of that before. I  
3 thought that the lease was, you know, you're locked in once  
4 you're in. I didn't know that that was a possibility that  
5 you could be let out of the lease. So now I'm so glad to  
6 know that you can be let out of a lease.

7 As far as noise goes, another thing that was  
8 mentioned was that noise, living next to a thruway. Well,  
9 we don't live next to a thruway and there's a reason for  
10 that; we don't want to live next to a thruway, we want to be  
11 quiet, we like our peace and quiet and we like our hill.

12 That's pretty much all I have to say. Thank you.

13 (Applause)

14 MS. HARRIS: Thank you.

15 The next speaker is Rick Venditti.

16 MR. VENDITTI: Hi, my name is Rick Venditti,  
17 that's V e n d i t t i, and I'm a supervisor for the Town of  
18 Wales. I'm here representing the Wales town board tonight.  
19 I have a fellow councilman, Mike Simons, also here with me  
20 tonight.

21 I will keep it short, because I know you're  
22 crunched for time. There has been a lot of good issues  
23 brought up tonight by everyone; environmental, health, all  
24 kinds of good issues, and I do agree with Rose, it's sad  
25 that our small community, our rights really are taken away

1 by county, state, federal governments and big business in  
2 projects like this. We really do not have much say as far  
3 as being a small town, and it's really sad because we're the  
4 ones that live there, we're the ones that built the  
5 community, and we're subject to all the effects of this  
6 project.

7 As far as being Supervisor, I was elected to  
8 protect our residents and protect the quality of life of our  
9 residents, and to protect them from any negative impacts of  
10 this project. This project itself seems like it's against  
11 our town's regional master plan, which is to keep our town a  
12 small, rural, quiet community. This seems to be a rather  
13 large industrial project; that there should be some other  
14 industrialized area that this could be built in which would  
15 be much more suited for it.

16 And I'm here tonight just to let the residents of  
17 our Town of Wales and also Aurora, the Town of Wales will do  
18 whatever is possible to protect our residents, myself and  
19 the Town Board --

20 (Applause)

21 MS. HARRIS: Thank you.

22 The next speaker is Robert, is it Galbraith?

23 MR. GALBRAITH: It is.

24 Hi, I'm Rob Galbraith, I grew up in East Aurora. I live in  
25 the City of Buffalo now, but this is really important to me

1           because I used Hunter's Creek all my life.

2                       Last name is G a l b r a i t h.   First name R o b  
3           e r t.

4                       This is ultimately a matter of public convenience  
5           and necessity.   I would have to submit that this project is  
6           neither convenient nor necessary.   I think the tenor of this  
7           meeting is ample evidence of that.   I'd like to thank  
8           everyone for coming out and sharing, and sharing your  
9           thoughts on this.

10                      It seems more like a project of making the green  
11           stuff, pumping 320 million cubic feet every day of fossil  
12           fuel up for the market in Canada; that's not convenient for  
13           people that live around here that use this park, that live  
14           around the proposed site.   That raises really awesome issues  
15           with environmental concerns, concern about land value, about  
16           noise, about -- yes, I think that covers it, really.

17                      I don't think that piping 320 million cubic feet  
18           a day of fossil fuel is necessary, nor is it convenient,  
19           especially considering New York State's new goals that  
20           they've come up with in 2008 to reduce natural gas usage by  
21           15 percent before the year 2015.   It seems like a new  
22           project to pump more gas up here is explicitly contrary to  
23           that goal.   I think that's good.

24                      (Applause)

25                      MS. HARRIS:   The next speaker is Nancy Smith.

1 MS. SMITH: Hi. Nancy Smith, N a n c y S m i t  
2 h.

3 Open space protection is an issue that many in  
4 our region care very deeply about. The residents in the  
5 Town of Aurora have spent years working to expand permanent  
6 protection of special open spaces in our community.

7 A Town of Aurora-appointed committee has been  
8 working exclusively on this issue since January of 2007. We  
9 have a 20-page document that's on the town website that's an  
10 open space plan that was unanimously endorsed by our Aurora  
11 Town Board in 2010. It describes the efforts that are under  
12 way to double the open space protection in our community.

13 The reasons for this are many. Open space  
14 protection offers significant quality of life benefits to  
15 residents because of scenic views and because of preserving  
16 the rural character in our community. Our efforts attract  
17 tourists to the community, and that's influenced by the  
18 beauty of our landscapes. This is the opposite of that.

19 There are ecosystem benefits that include  
20 enhancing water quality and air quality, and impacts on  
21 storm water management. This was described in a study by  
22 Thomas DiNapoli that came out last year called The Economic  
23 Benefits of Open Space Protection.

24 This is especially critical in a region with  
25 declining population, such as ours. There are also impacts

1 on preserving wildlife habitat and preserving agricultural  
2 lands that allow for local farming to be a reality in our  
3 changing world.

4 How would the placement of this compressor  
5 influence efforts that have already taken place in this very  
6 immediate area to preserve open space? It's been mentioned  
7 already, but I just wanted to add to the weight of the  
8 conversation tonight. Hunter's Creek Park is right next  
9 door, and it provides outdoor recreation opportunities for  
10 our community.

11 The Kenneglenn nature preserve is owned by the  
12 Western New York Land Conservancy; it's a land trust. The  
13 money to protect that came from contributions from many in  
14 our community including many who are here this evening. And  
15 it also included funds from New York State Parks, so New  
16 York State has been a contributor to that as well.

17 There's also protective wildlife habitat right  
18 across the street; it's protected by the Genesee Valley  
19 Conservancy, almost 250 acres. All of this is protected to  
20 provide wildlife habitat, to enhance air and water quality,  
21 and to provide outdoor recreation opportunities to the  
22 public in our region, right at County Glen.

23 So why is this compressor station being sited  
24 amongst these community jewels that we have worked so hard  
25 to protect? I, too, wanted to ask about property values.

1       There are a lot of studies about how parks and open spaces  
2       enhance the property values in a region. This again is  
3       going to do the exact opposite, not just impacting those  
4       individual properties but the property values in our  
5       communities as a whole.

6               I also wondered about the implications of siting  
7       this compressor so near the circle court, where there are a  
8       large number of families that live very nearby. And I also  
9       wondered, and maybe you can just answer this question: What  
10      is this property zoned? Can you respond to that? Do you  
11      know, is it zoned industrial or agricultural? Does anybody  
12      know what it's zoned?

13              I just wondered if that was one way that we could  
14      help make a difference. If it's zoned agriculture,  
15      shouldn't it be located somewhere that is zoned industrial,  
16      because this certainly seems like kind of an industrial --.

17              MR. VENDITTI: You would have to look at the  
18      zoning map for that.

19              MS. SMITH: I tried to look --

20              MR. VENDITTI: John Mills had asked me if it's an  
21      ag district or not. We will look into that tomorrow.

22              MS. SMITH: Very good, okay. And I missed the  
23      first part, my daughter was getting an award -- have you  
24      looked at other sites? Are there other locations that are  
25      not in the middle of open space that's protected, are not

1 where a bunch of people live really nearby?

2 So thank you for considering our input tonight.

3 MS. HARRIS: Thank you.

4 (Applause)

5 MS. HARRIS: Our final speaker is Yvonne  
6 Lefcourt.

7 MS. LEFCOURT: Let's get out of here. We just  
8 missed the nicest night of the year.

9 I'm the Treasurer of the Erie County Green Party.  
10 I encourage people who are involved, as you are, to get  
11 political and get off the two-party system, and try to do  
12 something better, like alternatives.

13 MS. HARRIS: Yvonne, I'm sorry, if you could just  
14 spell your name. And also repeat the group that you're  
15 representing.

16 MS. LEFCOURT: I'm not representing, but I am the  
17 Treasurer of the Green Party of Erie County. And it's L e f  
18 -- as in Frank -- c o u r t.

19 MS. HARRIS: And your first name.

20 MS. LEFCOURT: Yvonne, Y v o n n e.

21 I saw the movie GasLands in October, and I really  
22 haven't been the same. So I encourage you to watch as many  
23 movies about this from people who have suffered the effects  
24 of hydro-fracking. There's a couple who live in Chico Lake  
25 (ph) -- I can give you their contact information -- and they

1 made a movie called All Fracked Up on their own dime, and  
2 they're in debt, and I forget if it was Cabot Oil, but  
3 somebody was trying to dump the water into Chico Lake (ph).

4 So it's getting awfully close to us. And  
5 Pennsylvania has been dumping their water in the Buffalo  
6 Sewage Authority, which Jeff Kelly of Our Voice found out,  
7 and he's been busy trying to make payroll for Our Voice, so  
8 he hasn't really kept up with that story, and I begged him  
9 to please continue that story, because they're dumping it.

10 I went to the UB Geology series -- geologists  
11 want jobs in geology, and it's very disheartening, but  
12 that's what they do. And they're not going to tell you  
13 about the chemicals; that we have to figure out ourselves.

14 It's a very emotional topic when you've seen what  
15 has gone on in Western New York all these years. And I live  
16 in Buffalo and I'm afraid now. See, I'm jealous that you  
17 are so aware and so active, because now I'm afraid they're  
18 going to come up to the city and come up to Niagara Falls,  
19 which is already suffering so badly. I just wish we could  
20 finally turn to wind power and solar power, get those  
21 industries going, get people jobs, and catch up with some  
22 other industrialized countries that are moving away from  
23 this destruction.

24 I'm really sorry, (sobbing) I just can't believe  
25 how much we have to put up with as regular people. Like the

1 lady said.

2 The man who said that the pipes that spew, I  
3 think that's methane. And methane is a greenhouse gas. And  
4 if we believe in global warming, that's not good. We don't  
5 need any more methane coming up as another byproduct.

6 I wanted to ask if there have been explosions of  
7 the compressors. I'm not really even sure what a compressor  
8 is; it just moves the gas along, I assume. And I don't even  
9 know if natural gas is a liquid or a gas; I guess it's a  
10 liquid. I wish someone would tell me.

11 AUDIENCE: Gas.

12 MS. LEFCOURT: It's a liquid?

13 AUDIENCE: No, gas.

14 MS. LEFCOURT: It's a gas. So the compressor  
15 station I guess moves it along.

16 AUDIENCE: -- compressed into a liquid.

17 MS. LEFCOURT: Huh?

18 AUDIENCE: It can get compressed into a liquid as  
19 well.

20 MS. LEFCOURT: So, I mean, basically that's kind  
21 of all I had to say, and I just -- I hope that we can also  
22 think about, outside of our communities, what's happening in  
23 Finger Lakes, what's happening in Pennsylvania, what's  
24 happening in Buffalo and Niagara Falls.

25 My hat is off to you; I think you people are

1 really informed and wonderful, community-minded people. And  
2 I only wish that other communities had that kind of heart  
3 and mind that you have. Thank you.

4 (Applause)

5 MS. HARRIS: Just really quickly, to expound on  
6 what was said about the form of natural gas or its state.  
7 There is such a thing as liquefied natural gas. In this  
8 particular case it is in its gaseous state. So what  
9 compressors do is increases the pressure so that it gets  
10 pushed along the pipeline. So in this case it would not be  
11 in liquid form.

12 Are there any other comments at this time?

13 MR. DOMBROWSKI: Jim Dombrowski, 5169 Ryder Road.

14 MS. HARRIS: Jim, if you wouldn't mind spelling  
15 your name.

16 MR. DOMBROWSKI: Come on.

17 MS. HARRIS: Your last name.

18 MR. DOMBROWSKI: D as in David, O, M as in Mary,  
19 B R O W S K I. I live on Ryder Road, for folks that  
20 remember the --, that was my property right next to the  
21 site.

22 I share and agree with all the sentiments and the  
23 questions, the concerns. I have one more I'd like to have  
24 addressed.

25 Particularly from the comment from Ron that, how

1       prolific our thoughts will be in the future, particularly  
2       when thoughts come to mind where we're talking about New  
3       York State as a national gas hub; that's got me very, very  
4       concerned, particularly knowing where the site is going to  
5       be in relationship to my personal property and my neighbor's  
6       property.

7                   I want to have addressed, what is the future  
8       expansion potential at that compressor site if it's in its  
9       proposed state, what happens in five years, what happens in  
10      three, what happens in ten? Prolific means bigger, to me.  
11      Thank you.

12                   (Applause)

13                   MS. PORTER: My name is Donna Porter, D o n n a  
14      P o r t e r. I live on Ryder Road. And I've lived in this  
15      area all my life. I've been in the Village, in the town,  
16      Elma, you know, within the five mile radius. And growing up  
17      I can remember instances of earthquakes and running outside  
18      my home, you know, when my baby was born, and I want to know  
19      if we are on a fault line and how this would affect us.  
20      Because I can remember at least two earthquakes since I've  
21      been here, that I felt -- I'm sure there's others, tremors,  
22      pings.

23                   My other thing is, my brother did live on Cattle  
24      Run, he's since moved, but I remember trying to get to  
25      Cattle Run in time, and National Fuel trucks had it blocked

1 off. I also lived on Pinewood Trail for a short time, which  
2 is on top of the ridge, and we would get a waft of gas  
3 coming through, and I was wondering, do you release gas? Do  
4 you have something that, a time when you let gas out of your  
5 system and how does that work?

6 Can somebody answer that? Do you let gas out of  
7 the system at times? Because we would get gas wafting over  
8 the ridge, and I could smell it, you know, if you're going  
9 down there. And as I said, there's been times when I would  
10 be going to my brother's house and we couldn't get through  
11 the street because National Fuel Gas had their trucks there  
12 working things, so I'm just wondering. Are we expecting gas  
13 to be released, depressurized, or whatever you do?

14 MS. JOHNSON: If this is the end of the comment  
15 period, we can ask National Fuel to answer that last  
16 question, so that -- we were worried about speakers having  
17 enough time to comment and provide their comments. If this  
18 is the end of the comment period, National Fuel could answer  
19 that last question, and we can end the meeting.

20 MR. KASPRZAK: I'm not sure I know exactly what  
21 situation you're talking about. It sounds like you're  
22 talking about a gas leak on a gas distribution system; it's  
23 really exceedingly uncommon to have gas leaks on gas  
24 transmission systems.

25 MS. PORTER: That was your road at the bottom of

1 Cattle Run? That was where all this was taking place.

2 MR. KASPRZAK: I haven't got any idea. I mean,  
3 we can certainly try and find the specific answer to your  
4 question. I mean generically gas distribution systems can  
5 leak, there are leaks, they're low pressure leaks. The  
6 transmission system is operated to a much higher standard  
7 because it's operating at a much higher pressure, and the  
8 rules and regulations associated with that really don't  
9 allow significant gas leakage at all.

10 If you were referring to the compressor station  
11 operation, Mike might want to address what releases of gas -  
12 -. If you're talking about historically, it's existing  
13 pipeline infrastructure. I don't know if you want to  
14 address at all what emissions there might be as far as gas  
15 from a compressor station.

16 MR. CRAMER: Just for general maintenance, that  
17 would be the time that we might close some valving, if we  
18 have to take that section of pipe out of service, we have to  
19 blow the gas pressure off of that piping.

20 Our newer stations, and it's a direct response to  
21 the greenhouse gas regulations, our newer stations have gas  
22 recovery systems. So while there is still -- there's still  
23 a lesser blow-down of gas to atmosphere, we try to recover  
24 as much of that gas as we can and put it back into our fuel  
25 systems.

1 MS. PORTER: Well, we used to get it on quite a  
2 regular basis. It seemed almost like it was very regular.

3 My other question was, what about fault lines in  
4 the area? What about a fault line? Are we on a fault line,  
5 and have you looked into that?

6 MR. CRAMER: It becomes part of an engineering  
7 analysis, but we're not that far into it.

8 We do look at seismic surveys, but we're very  
9 early in the design process, but it would be taken into  
10 account for piping design below grade and foundation  
11 design, as well.

12 MS. PORTER: But if we asked how many people have  
13 experienced earthquakes in the area.

14 MS. JOHNSON: These are the sorts of questions  
15 that we are soliciting from the public, and since we're in  
16 the middle of our environmental analysis, if that  
17 information is not in National Fuel's application, then we  
18 will request for more information to answer the questions  
19 that have been raised in this meeting, to be able to answer  
20 the questions in our environmental analysis.

21 MS. PORTER: I don't have to ask it again or put  
22 it in writing?

23 MS. JOHNSON: No, no. It is in the record.

24 MS. PORTER: Isn't it, to make sure that you're  
25 going to address those things?

1 MS. JOHNSON: Right. The purpose of everyone  
2 spelling their name and speaking into the microphone is for  
3 the court reporter to be able to record your questions and  
4 for it to be able to be in the transcript, and then the  
5 transcript will be in the public record, in the docket so we  
6 can answer those questions.

7 MS. HARRIS: You have a comment?

8 AUDIENCE: A question.

9 MS. HARRIS: Well, at this point I'm going to go  
10 ahead and end the formal part of the meeting. The FERC  
11 website contains a link called eLibrary. By tapping the  
12 docket number, CP11-128 into eLibrary, you can get access to  
13 everything in the public record regarding the proposed  
14 Northern Access project, and also any additional information  
15 filed by National Fuel.

16 Detailed information for accessing the  
17 Commission's public record is in our Notice of Intent.  
18 There are also, again, comment cards for anybody that still  
19 has a comment that maybe they didn't want to speak publicly.  
20 If you want to fill those out and leave those with us  
21 tonight, or mail them in, we will address your comments.

22 On behalf of the Federal Energy Regulatory  
23 Commission, I want to thank you all for coming out and  
24 providing your input. And again, everything that was said  
25 here tonight, you have this information, it will be in the

1 public record, and we will address it in our Environmental  
2 Assessment.

3 So at this point I'll go ahead and end the formal  
4 portion of the meeting. And we'll take a few minutes for  
5 you guys to ask any additional questions that you may have  
6 at this point.

7 So we'll go ahead and let the record show that  
8 the public meeting ended at 9:32.

9 (Whereupon, at 9:32 p.m., the scoping meeting  
10 concluded.)

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