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FEDERAL ENERGY REGULATORY COMMISSION

FERC SCOPING MEETING

WASHINGTON EXPANSION : Docket No. PF12-20-000  
PROJECT

Wednesday, October 17, 2012

6:05 p.m.

V.R. Lee Community Building  
221 Southwest 13th Street  
Chehalis, Washington 98532

The above-entitled meeting was held,  
pursuant to notice, at 6:05 p.m.

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

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3 MS. KOCHHAR: Good evening. I'm going to  
4 go ahead and start. It's already over 6:00.

5 So good evening. On behalf of the Federal  
6 Energy Regulatory Commission, I would like to welcome  
7 you all here tonight. This is an environmental scoping  
8 meeting for Washington Expansion Project by Northwest  
9 Pipeline GP. Let the record show that the public  
10 scoping meeting in Chehalis - I don't know if I'm  
11 pronouncing it correctly - Chehalis, Washington, began  
12 at 6:03 tonight, October 17th, 2012.

13 The primary purpose of tonight's meeting is to  
14 provide you an opportunity to comment on the project or  
15 on the scope of the environmental analysis being  
16 prepared by the Washington Expansion Project. This  
17 project is intended to supply the Oregon LNG Export  
18 Project with natural gas, although my discussion will  
19 mostly focus on Washington Expansion Project because  
20 these two projects are very closely related and they  
21 will have -- most of the facts will be related,  
22 therefore, with comments on both the projects.

23 My name is Medha Kochhar, and I'm the  
24 environmental project manager. I also have help from  
25 Robert Kopka. He is going to do quite a bit of work on  
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1 Washington Expansion Project, so he'll be assisting in  
2 some other meetings at other times also, the Office of  
3 Energy Projects.

4 With me at the table tonight is Pat Terhaar.  
5 She is with HDR. That's our third-party contractor, and  
6 they're going to assist us in the development of the  
7 Environmental Impact Statement.

8 Next to Pat is David Lykken. He is with  
9 Washington Utility Transportation Commission, an  
10 assistant agency to USDOT.

11 We are going to prepare a single document  
12 called Environmental Impact Statement. It's also a NEPA  
13 document under the National Environmental Policy Act.  
14 That document will address both the projects, the Oregon  
15 Energy and Pipeline Project, as well as Washington  
16 Expansion Project.

17 And I will give opportunity to David Lykken to  
18 give a little short description of how they are related  
19 to this project, and we will also have Al Michini of  
20 Northwest to give us a short presentation of the  
21 proposed project.

22 The FERC is an independent agency that  
23 regulates interstate transmission of electricity,  
24 hydropower, natural gas, and oil. FERC reviews  
25 proposals and authorizes construction of interstate  
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1 natural gas pipelines, storage facilities, liquefied  
2 natural gas, or LNG, LNG terminals, as well as the  
3 licensing and inspection of hydroelectric projects.

4 As a federal licensing agency, the FERC has a  
5 responsibility under the National Environmental Policy  
6 Act to consider the potential environmental impact  
7 associated with a project which is under its  
8 consideration.

9 With regard to the Northwest project, the FERC  
10 is the lead federal agency for the National  
11 Environmental Policy Act, review and preparation of the  
12 EIS. EIS is short form for the Environmental Impact  
13 Statement.

14 The U.S. Coast Guard, the U.S. Army Corps of  
15 Engineers, as well as the Fish and Wildlife Service and  
16 U.S. Environmental ... anyway, EPA, Environmental  
17 Protection Agency, they are all cooperating agencies on  
18 the pending projects, and we assume they will continue  
19 to be cooperative with this project as well.

20 Original project that was filed by Oregon LNG  
21 and Pipeline Project, that was given a docket number:  
22 CP09-6 and CP09-7. That project is pending with us.  
23 Oregon LNG has now modified the project, or is going to  
24 modify this project, and submit a prefiling docket  
25 information for Export Project, which will also be  
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1 constructed within the same site location or terminal at  
2 Oregon. Both import and export facilities will be in  
3 the same site, and Northwest is going to supply gas to  
4 Oregon LNG to export.

5 We anticipate that these agencies, all the  
6 agencies I mentioned, the cooperating agencies, we  
7 anticipate that these agencies will continue to  
8 participate as cooperating agencies in the preparation  
9 of the EIS and for the current LNG export project and  
10 Northwest Washington Expansion Project. These agencies  
11 plan to use the EIS to meet their respective NEPA  
12 responsibilities associated with issuing their permits.  
13 The Washington Department of Ecology may also cooperate  
14 to meet the State of Washington SEPA requirements.

15 As I said earlier, the primary purpose of this  
16 meeting here tonight is to give you an opportunity to  
17 provide your comments on the project or on the  
18 environmental issues that you would like to see covered  
19 in our Environmental Impact Statement.

20 It will help us the most if your comments are  
21 more specific or as specific as possible regarding the  
22 potential environmental impacts and reasonable  
23 alternatives of the proposed Washington Expansion  
24 Project. These issues generally focus on the potential  
25 for environmental effects, but may also address  
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1 construction issues, mitigation issues, environmental  
2 review issues. And also, in addition to this, the  
3 meeting is designed to provide you with an opportunity  
4 to meet with the Northwest representatives here tonight  
5 to ask them questions and obtain more detailed  
6 information about their proposed facility locations and  
7 construction plans.

8 Please keep in mind that the project is still  
9 early in the development, with the intent that Northwest  
10 will use the comments made here tonight to better  
11 accommodate affected landowners in designing the project  
12 and protecting the environment. We have representatives  
13 from Northwest sitting at the back, and they have  
14 brought their map and information. If you have  
15 questions after the meeting, you can talk to them and  
16 clarify any questions that you have or ask them any new  
17 questions that you want to.

18 So tonight's agenda is going to be very  
19 simple. I'm going to give you a description of our FERC  
20 process for prefiling, and then I'll have Al Michini,  
21 who is sitting up in the front seat here, from  
22 Northwest. He's going to give a short description of  
23 what the project entails; that is, Washington Expansion  
24 Project. And then I'll have David Lykken to say a few  
25 words about how his agency -- what role his agency plays  
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1 in this project.

2 So let me go ahead and give you our FERC  
3 process here. I have a small chart.

4 Can you hear me from here? Okay.

5 We developed a poster here, and I'm sorry, I  
6 know a lot of you can't read from that far, but there's  
7 a copy of this attached to the Notice of Intent that we  
8 sent to everybody. This essentially describes a pre-  
9 filing environmental review process. At FERC, we have  
10 mandatory requirements for LNG facilities to have a  
11 prefiling process involved, whereas for pipeline  
12 facilities, it's not mandatory but it is encouraged.  
13 The two projects are together, and we have prefiling  
14 here.

15 Before the prefiling process begins, the  
16 applicant assesses market need and project feasibility.  
17 Then it makes a request with FERC if they would like to  
18 enter into prefiling process, so the request for our  
19 approval. When we receive the formal request for  
20 prefiling approval, we issue that approval by a formal  
21 letter, and that approval was given to them in July,  
22 July 16th, 2012.

23 During the prefiling request, they also  
24 prepared Resource Report 1 and Resource Report 10.  
25 No. 1 gives the project information, gives the contact  
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1 information, maps, and construction and projected  
2 schedule and so forth, something similar to a skeleton  
3 information as to what they plan to do, along with  
4 Resource Report 10, which is for alternatives, as to  
5 what other alternatives they looked into or considered  
6 before they planned that specific pipeline route.

7 That information is provided to us, and we  
8 look into the stakeholders list. They provided that,  
9 the landowner list, stakeholder list, interested  
10 parties, agencies: federal, state, local, and all. We  
11 review all of that stuff and we develop our contact list  
12 with that. Once the formal letter is issued to them,  
13 that begins the pre-filing process, environmental review.

14 You see three bands here, gray, kind of  
15 purplish-gray. These three bands designate during the  
16 entire process that these three band areas are very  
17 officially a request for public input opportunities.  
18 That does not restrict you not to give us comments here,  
19 here, or anywhere else. These are simply requirements  
20 from NEPA, National Environmental Policy Act. If we  
21 issue a Notice of Intent, we have to give a comment  
22 period. We have to identify it. So during that time,  
23 we have to give them a count as to how many comments we  
24 receive.

25 Anyway, after reviewing the Resource Reports 1  
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1 and 10, we develop a mailing list, and that mailing list  
2 we use to send any issuances that we have. We also  
3 participate in open houses. Some of you may know, they  
4 had open houses during the month of August, and several  
5 open houses were conducted here for participatory by  
6 attending those, just to gauge as to what kind of  
7 questions, what kind of issues, what are the issues at  
8 that time.

9 After that, we developed a document called  
10 Notice of Intent, which was mailed out to everybody on  
11 the mailing list, and I'm sure most of you received that  
12 too, and that's how you got to know what the venues are  
13 for meeting, and this document gave the meeting. Those  
14 of you who do not have it, we have extra copies at the  
15 sign-in table. You are welcome to pick up one and look  
16 at it. And at the end, this also gives the same very  
17 chart that I'm using here, so you can go back and look  
18 at it also.

19 Okay. So official comment period began with  
20 the issuance of the Notice of Intent. That was issued  
21 September 24th. We are giving 45 days for the comment  
22 period. That will end on November 8th, so anybody who  
23 wants to give us comments on the Notice of Intent, they  
24 should give it to us by November 8th. We accept your  
25 comments otherwise during the analysis process.

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1           This Notice of Intent, like I said, gives the  
2 venues where we are having the scoping meetings, and  
3 these scoping meetings are held at different locations.  
4 At this time, we have two teams. One team is conducting  
5 in Washington State and one in Oregon. I'm part of the  
6 Oregon team, but I had two meetings in Oregon, so I took  
7 two in Washington. And Bob Kopka is doing the others in  
8 Washington here, so I'm essentially helping him out with  
9 that.

10           Now, after we finish these meetings, we will  
11 have comments from you, input from you, concerns, any  
12 issues or any suggestions you may have. We will look  
13 into that and work towards that and see what information  
14 Northwest has provided to us. We will put it together.  
15 Northwest -- you know, it depends how long they will  
16 take to give us all the pertinent information.

17           Once we have all the information, which goes  
18 through Resource Reports 1 through 13, each resource  
19 report deals with different resource, like soils,  
20 geology, water resources, threatened and endangered  
21 species, humans, land use, you name it. I'll go through  
22 that. So all that information they provide us during  
23 this time of pre-filing.

24           Once we feel they're about ready to make their  
25 formal application, then they submit a formal  
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1 application. At that time, this document will get a new  
2 docket number. Right now, this has PF12-20. PF stands  
3 for prefiling. Once an official filing is made, it gets  
4 a CP docket number, and all the rest of the information,  
5 rest of the comments will roll into the same docket.

6 FERC then issues a Notice of Application; that  
7 is the date the application was filed. Then we send a  
8 notice within ten days of that, and that opens up  
9 intervenor status. During the prefiling, we have no  
10 intervenor status, because we don't have an official  
11 filing, but once intervenor status opens, you can file  
12 your request for that.

13 And then we begin to analyze the project.  
14 Once we have complete information, we move on for and  
15 develop a Draft EIS. We issue Draft EIS. That also  
16 opens up public comment period again, and that will be  
17 for a minimum of 45 days. You can look at our document,  
18 see how we addressed your comments, your concerns,  
19 issues, are you satisfied, you have suggestions, or you  
20 have anything else to comment on.

21 We will conduct similar type of meetings, but  
22 they will be called DEIS comment meetings. We will take  
23 that input again, reevaluate, reanalyze, see what else  
24 do we need to do, is that good enough. Once we are  
25 satisfied, we issue a Final EIS, Final Environmental  
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1 Impact Statement. By that time, we reach this level.  
2 Issuance of Final EIS opens up a 30-day review process.

3 EIS is only an environmental document, which  
4 the Commission looks at it and reviews it to see whether  
5 this project should be certificated or denied. In the  
6 EIS, we make recommendations to the company: If you do  
7 this, this, this, it's okay; if you do this, this, this  
8 or include this, this, this or provide us this, this,  
9 this information. Those are recommendations throughout  
10 the document.

11 When the Commission issues its authorization,  
12 in that authorization those recommendations become  
13 conditions. Some of those recommendations are revised,  
14 modified, dropped, added new ones, so different things  
15 happen. And then the final authorization is issued to  
16 the company, and the company has to formally accept or  
17 deny.

18 Once they accept it, from that day on, for  
19 60 -- within 60 days, they have to file another  
20 document, which is called Implementation Plan: How  
21 would the company implement our recommendations or  
22 conditions that are given to them in their  
23 authorization? We review that. That is a real, real  
24 important document because now we are down to the -- at  
25 the table and chair. We want to make sure everything we  
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1 say here would be implemented when they do construction.

2 So once we are satisfied with their  
3 Implementation Plan, we give them construction go-ahead,  
4 and they will have to have an initial written approval  
5 from us for construction. FERC staff and FERC's  
6 third-party monitors go and inspect the project during  
7 the construction, during restoration, and after. Most  
8 of the times, we inspect the project for at least two to  
9 three years, until we are satisfied. If there are any  
10 remediations, we need to ask them to do that.

11 So that's essentially our process, so you will  
12 see these kinds of things coming in the future. And at  
13 this time, I will say Northwest has only given us  
14 Resource Report 1 and 10, and we are looking for more  
15 information from them.

16 Now, since I said both of these projects are  
17 collective, the Oregon LNG Project, as well as Northwest  
18 Washington Expansion Project, we would like for them to  
19 make their formal application at the same time so that  
20 we can begin our review, or until both of the  
21 applications are filed and we are -- to our  
22 satisfaction, we will not begin the analysis process.

23 So with that, I would say let's have Al  
24 Michini come and give you what the proposal is here, and  
25 then I will go further and explain to you the rest of  
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1 the stuff.

2 Al?

3 MR. MICHINI: Thank you, Medha.

4 On behalf of Williams, we appreciate the  
5 opportunity to present this brief overview of the  
6 Washington Expansion Project to you tonight. My name is  
7 Al Michini, A-l, M-i-c-h-i-n-i. Sorry, I'm not used to  
8 spelling "Al." I'm the project manager for the  
9 Washington Expansion Project.

10 Northwest Pipeline, which is a subsidiary of  
11 Williams, is a major transporter of energy, delivering  
12 about 80 percent of the Pacific Northwest's natural gas  
13 and about 88 percent of the natural gas consumed in  
14 Washington. Northwest Pipeline is an open-access  
15 transportation company, meaning we consider all  
16 potential customer requests for natural gas  
17 transportation service without discriminating by the  
18 type of business or industry they represent. We do not  
19 own the gas, we simply transport it for customers who  
20 contract with us. We own and safely operate all the  
21 facilities required to transport the natural gas,  
22 including the pipeline.

23 Northwest Pipeline is developing the proposed  
24 Washington Expansion Project to provide transportation  
25 of natural gas to Oregon LNG's proposed terminal in  
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1       Warrenton, Oregon. The project consists of increasing  
2       the capacity of our pipeline system by 750,000  
3       dekatherms per day between Sumas and Woodland,  
4       Washington, where Northwest will connect to Oregon LNG's  
5       pipeline, which will then, in turn, transport gas to the  
6       proposed terminal.

7                 This increase in capacity requires the  
8       installation of pipeline and compression on our existing  
9       system in Washington State. Our existing system in  
10      Washington is partially looped, meaning we have one  
11      continuous 30-inch diameter pipeline starting at the  
12      Canadian border at Sumas and extending south to Woodland  
13      and beyond, and at several locations we have a second  
14      parallel 36-inch diameter line.

15                Each section of this second 36-inch diameter  
16      line connects as its endpoints to our continuous 30-inch  
17      line. Though these sections of existing 36-inch line  
18      are not continuous, they function together with the  
19      30-inch line and operate as a single system, offering  
20      flexibility and redundancy at every point where they run  
21      parallel.

22                As the map on the stand illustrates, we're  
23      proposing to create the additional capacity for this  
24      project by constructing approximately 140 miles of new  
25      30-inch diameter pipeline in ten sections. These

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1 sections would fill the gaps between our existing  
2 sections of 36-inch pipeline loop and result in a nearly  
3 continuous 30-inch diameter pipe that connects and runs  
4 parallel to our continuous 30-inch pipeline.

5 The new 36-inch pipe would be placed  
6 predominantly in our existing right-of-way. In other  
7 words, for nearly all properties we cross, we expect we  
8 will not have to expand our existing permanent right-of-  
9 way. The project would also add compression at our  
10 existing compressor stations at Sumas, Mt. Vernon,  
11 Snohomish, Sumner, and Chehalis.

12 Installing the new 36-inch parallel pipeline  
13 system in Washington offers valuable benefits of system  
14 redundancy and flexibility to our existing utility  
15 customers, which include local distribution companies  
16 and many industrial and commercial customers throughout  
17 western Washington. Having a continuous parallel  
18 pipeline allows us to perform maintenance or repairs at  
19 any point without interrupting gas transportation  
20 service.

21 The eight counties along the proposed route  
22 would benefit from the increase of more than \$10 million  
23 annually in property tax revenue from this project.  
24 This is in addition to the \$7 million in property tax  
25 Williams pays annually to Washington.

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1           Other economic benefits would include the  
2           creation of approximately 1,400 jobs during the  
3           project's peak construction period, and will result in  
4           additional state and local revenues and induced jobs.  
5           It is estimated that approximately \$800 million in  
6           direct construction expenditures will be made in the  
7           region during the duration of the project. Landowners  
8           will also receive compensation based on current land  
9           values and additional impacts related to the  
10          construction of the new 36-inch diameter pipeline.

11           If the project is approved, the Washington  
12          Expansion Project would begin construction starting in  
13          2016, with natural gas transportation service beginning  
14          in 2018. A complete and thorough environmental analysis  
15          will be conducted as part of our FERC application  
16          process. As part of that process, we've sought input  
17          from the community and local agencies to identify and  
18          address issues and concerns. In August, as Medha has  
19          mentioned, we hosted open houses across the proposed  
20          project route.

21           We invite you to contact us and meet with us  
22          to discuss any questions you may have about the project  
23          or its potential impact to you or your property. Our  
24          land agents, who are in the back of the room, are  
25          available to talk with you at your convenience. We have  
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1 a toll-free number, e-mail address, location of local  
2 land offices, and other important information available  
3 on our Web site at [www.washingtonexpansion.com](http://www.washingtonexpansion.com).

4 Pipeline safety is the single most important  
5 component of our operations. We are regulated by the  
6 Department of Transportation's Pipeline and Hazardous  
7 Materials Safety Administration. The steel pipe we use  
8 in our construction is manufactured to strict safety  
9 specifications, and a protective coating is factory-  
10 applied to repel moisture and other corrosive elements.

11 In addition to other safety measures, and  
12 prior to placing the pipeline into service, we will  
13 examine the pipeline inside and out using highly  
14 sensitive inspection tools. We will also test it by  
15 filling the pipeline with water and raising the pressure  
16 of the water well above our maximum operating pressure,  
17 holding that pressure test for several hours to ensure  
18 there are no leaks, then releasing the water at  
19 permitted locations.

20 Thank you for the opportunity to provide this  
21 brief overview. As a project team, we are committed to  
22 continuing to meet and work together with members of  
23 your community to understand your concerns and address  
24 them in the most reasonable and appropriate way. Thank  
25 you.

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1 MS. KOCHHAR: Thank you, Al.

2 Now I would like for David Lykken to say a few  
3 words.

4 MR. LYKKEN: And it will be just a few  
5 words.

6 I appreciate the fact that I only had to go a  
7 couple of miles for this meeting. I've lived in  
8 Chehalis for 19 years. I got three Bearcat alumnus and  
9 my wife works for Chehalis School District, so I'm quite  
10 familiar with the area.

11 I just wanted to give a face to myself and my  
12 staff. I work for the Utilities and Transportation  
13 Commission. I'm the director of pipeline safety. It  
14 was mentioned by Al that, you know, pipeline safety is  
15 of paramount concern to us.

16 But with regards to this project, should it go  
17 forward? Our staff will be responsible for the design,  
18 the construction, testing, and operation, oversight to  
19 make sure that it complies with federal pipeline safety  
20 regulations. So we act as interstate agents for the  
21 Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration  
22 in this case, so we're actually their eyes on the ground  
23 and conduct those inspections.

24 So I just want to let you know I'm here to  
25 field any questions after the meeting, any concerns you  
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1 have about pipeline safety, and the fact that you have  
2 some local reference people here. We work out of  
3 Olympia here and are happy to answer any of your  
4 questions that come up regarding this project or any  
5 questions about pipeline safety. So thank you.

6 MS. KOCHHAR: Thank you, David.

7 Just a few more things, but this will bring  
8 into focus exactly what we are looking for here. Like I  
9 said before, the purpose of today's meeting, prefiling  
10 it, is to explain to you what prefiling is and where we  
11 are and to encourage you all to get involved with this  
12 project very early in the process, identify issues,  
13 resolutions, environmental issues or any other issues  
14 that you may have.

15 As of today -- I will emphasize this point.  
16 As of today, no formal application has been filed with  
17 FERC. However, FERC has began its environmental review  
18 to assist the company so that they can refine their  
19 project and try to identify issues and try to resolve  
20 those before they file their complete application.

21 On September 24th, FERC issued a Notice of  
22 Intent to prepare the Environmental Impact Statement for  
23 the project, along with Oregon LNG Project, and  
24 initiated a scoping period. The scoping or comment  
25 period will end on November 8. It's very important for  
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1 you to provide us your comments by November 8th on the  
2 NOI.

3           Even though the formal scoping period will  
4 close, additional project information will continue to  
5 be filed by Northwest. You may continue to file  
6 comments, and the directions to do so are in the NOI.  
7 This document provides you how to file your comments.  
8 It also gives you address of the secretary on page 8  
9 that you can file your comments. It also gives you  
10 information as to how to E-file your comments, and you  
11 can also E-subscribe. It is free. And once you  
12 E-subscribe, you will also get notice on your computer  
13 saying that it is filing for "so and so." Whatever  
14 information is filed, you'll know instantly, so that's a  
15 very helpful tool to have.

16           During our review of the project, we will  
17 assemble information from a variety of sources,  
18 including Northwest, the public, other state, local, and  
19 federal agencies, and our own independent analysis and  
20 fieldwork. We will analyze this information and prepare  
21 a Draft Environmental Impact Statement that will be  
22 distributed to the public for comment.

23           Once scoping is finished, our next step will  
24 be to begin analyzing the company proposals and the  
25 issues that have been identified during the scoping  
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1 period. That will be done in a single document for both  
2 Oregon LNG, as well as Northwest. This will include an  
3 examination of the proposed facility locations, as well  
4 as the alternatives considered. We will assess the  
5 project's effects on water bodies, wetlands, vegetation,  
6 wildlife, endangered species, cultural resources, soil,  
7 geology, land use, air quality and safety, and of course  
8 humans.

9 When complete, our analysis of the potential  
10 impacts will be published as Draft EIS and presented to  
11 the public for a 45-day comment period. This Draft EIS  
12 will be mailed to all interested parties and posted on  
13 FERC's E-Library, where it can be publicly accessed as  
14 well. During the 45-day comment period on the Draft  
15 EIS, we will hold more public meetings to gather  
16 feedback on our analysis and findings. After making any  
17 necessary changes or additions to the Draft EIS, the  
18 Final EIS will be mailed to all interested parties, as  
19 well as being posted on E-Library.

20 Please note that because of the size of the  
21 mailing list, the mailed version of the EIS is often on  
22 a CD. That means, unless you tell us otherwise, the EIS  
23 you will find in your mailbox will be in the form of a  
24 CD. If you prefer to have a hard copy mailed to you,  
25 you must indicate that choice on the return mailer, and  
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1 that is included in the Notice of Intent here.

2 You should also give us a correct address.  
3 When you give your return address, please give us --  
4 very clearly write your name, your address, and make  
5 sure you give us your zip code. Oftentimes I have found  
6 addresses without that, and sometimes we get these  
7 Notice of Intents back. At this time, I have about this  
8 stack of Notices of Intent that has come back, for one  
9 reason or the other. So we don't want to miss anybody.  
10 We want to make sure everybody receives all the  
11 documents if they are on our mailing list.

12 If you have received an NOI in the mail, you  
13 are on our mailing list and will remain on our mailing  
14 list to receive the EIS and any other supplemental  
15 notices we may issue about the project unless you return  
16 the mailer attached to the back of the NOI and indicate  
17 you wish to be removed from the mailing list. In fact,  
18 there are copies of the NOI available at the sign-in  
19 table.

20 If you did not receive the NOI and you should  
21 have, I apologize for it. We do have some extra copies  
22 with us today which you can take, if you like. The  
23 mailing list for this project is large and undergoing  
24 constant revision. You can be added to our mailing list  
25 by signing up at the sign-in table at the back or by  
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1 submitting your comments on the project.

2 I would like to add that FERC encourages  
3 electronic filing of all comments and other documents.  
4 There is a small brochure that explains FERC's E-filing  
5 system at the sign-in table. You can talk to Matt, and  
6 he will show you what it is. Also, instructions for  
7 this can be located on our web site, [www.ferc.gov](http://www.ferc.gov), under  
8 the E-filing link.

9 If you want to submit written comments, please  
10 follow the directions provided in the Notice of Intent.  
11 It is very important that any comments you send, either  
12 electronically or by traditional mail, include our  
13 internal docket number for this project, which is  
14 PF12-20. The docket number is on the cover of the  
15 Notice of Intent and is also available at the sign-in  
16 table. If you decide to send us a comment letter,  
17 please put that number on it. That will ensure the  
18 members of the staff evaluating the project will get  
19 your comments as soon as possible. Again, the docket  
20 number for Washington Expansion Project is PF12-20. The  
21 docket number for Oregon LNG Export Project is PF12-18.

22 Now I want to explain the role of FERC  
23 Commission and the FERC environmental staff. The five-  
24 member Commission is responsible for making a  
25 determination on whether to issue a Certificate of  
26

1 Public Convenience and Necessity to the applicant. In  
2 this case, that is Northwest. The EIS prepared by FERC  
3 and describes the project facilities and associated  
4 environmental impacts, alternatives to the project,  
5 mitigation to avoid or reduce impacts, and our  
6 conclusions and recommendations.

7 The EIS is not a decision-making document. I  
8 repeat this: The EIS is not a decision-making document.  
9 That means that doesn't decide that the project is  
10 approved or denied. It is being prepared to disclose to  
11 the public and to the Commission the environmental  
12 impact of constructing and operating the project.

13 When it is completed, the Commission will  
14 consider the environmental information from the EIS,  
15 along with the nonenvironmental issues, in making its  
16 decision to approve or deny Northwest's request for the  
17 certificate. There is no review of FERC decisions by  
18 the President or Congress, maintaining FERC's  
19 independence as a regulatory agency and providing for  
20 fair and unbiased decisions.

21 Most of the things I've already covered, so I  
22 don't want to go over that again with you.

23 Now I think it's the most important part of  
24 the meeting, is to call the speakers one by one, and you  
25 can present your comments. There are a couple of ground  
26

1 rules. When you come up to the microphone, please say  
2 your name and your affiliation. It would be good if you  
3 can spell your name so the court reporter can record it  
4 correctly for you. And if you are using any acronyms,  
5 define those also for her. I'll have Pat call the  
6 names, so one by one you can come and make a  
7 presentation. Thank you.

8 Pat?

9 MS. TERHAAR: We've had several speakers  
10 sign up to speak tonight as they came in. However, when  
11 we're done with those speakers, we will invite anyone  
12 else who would like to come up and make a statement.

13 Our first speaker tonight is Dody Needham.

14 MS. NEEDHAM: I'll pass.

15 MS. TERHAAR: Okay. Linda Vance?

16 MS. VANCE: I basically have a couple of  
17 questions in regards to the comments that you've made  
18 already.

19 Can you give us an idea of what the actual  
20 time line is on this review process until you would be  
21 through to where you would actually issue the permit for  
22 them to go ahead?

23 MS. KOCHHAR: I wish I could answer that  
24 question for you. Like I said, it all depends what  
25 Northwest finds and whether we need to look for

26

1 alternatives, whether we need to ask them for some more  
2 analysis, and there will be surveys and things like  
3 that. So it's difficult.

4 Normally, assuming everything came complete at  
5 the time of application down here, it usually takes  
6 anywhere from four to six months to develop the Draft  
7 EIS. But in my experience over 20 years with FERC, that  
8 doesn't work.

9 MS. VANCE: So you're going to be beyond  
10 four months, you would think?

11 MS. KOCHHAR: Yeah, I would think so.

12 And before we issue the DEIS, we also develop  
13 an another issuance that is called Notice of Schedule.  
14 That means that identifies what the schedule is; in  
15 other words, when you can look for the DEIS. Usually it  
16 is the FEIS that we --

17 MS. VANCE: Does that Notice of Schedule  
18 also get sent out like this --

19 MS. KOCHHAR: No. It will be posted on  
20 E-Library.

21 MS. VANCE: Okay.

22 MS. KOCHHAR: I think it's also mailed,  
23 right, Pat?

24 MS. TERHAAR: Yes.

25 MS. KOCHHAR: I think we do mail it, yeah.

26

1 It gets mailed to everybody.

2 MS. VANCE: Okay. So if you're on the  
3 mailing list, you'll get --

4 MS. KOCHHAR: You will get that. Right.

5 MS. VANCE: Then you mentioned that during  
6 this process there is -- you didn't call it a  
7 [inaudible] process, but obviously a negotiating  
8 process, where you go back and say, "Well, this is a  
9 problem," and they're going to say, "Well, this is how  
10 we'll fix it," type thing, or "We'll do some negotiating  
11 on the issues that come up"?

12 MS. KOCHHAR: Well, it's not exactly  
13 negotiating. That means we have some data gaps.  
14 Basically, that's what it means. We formally send out a  
15 data request and ask for the information that is  
16 necessary for us to complete our environmental analysis,  
17 and then they provide that information to us. We  
18 evaluate that and see where we stand and what next we  
19 need to do.

20 MS. VANCE: Okay. So that's all part of  
21 this preliminary process, though, so you would be going  
22 back and forth, so that's what can create more than the  
23 four to six months before they --

24 MS. KOCHHAR: Yes. The preliminary  
25 process was pre-filing, and that usually ends before the  
26

1 formal application is filed. We assume, by that time,  
2 we have -- there will be enough time to improve their,  
3 you know, project and provide us all the information.

4 And we discourage them from filing formal  
5 application until then, but sometimes new issues come up  
6 which we don't know of or anything, or we didn't think  
7 of, or their responses were just not enough for us, and  
8 if we happen to be in the field, we found something  
9 else. Then we ask for more. So, in other words, it is  
10 back and forth sometimes.

11 MS. VANCE: And the final question I have  
12 for you is that when you're looking at your  
13 environmental review process, are they -- are you  
14 currently looking at the current 75-foot easement or are  
15 you looking at the whole 200-foot that they sent out in  
16 that first information packet that came out?

17 MS. KOCHHAR: We are going to look at  
18 both, depending on where the project is, where the  
19 issues are. Like I said, we --

20 MS. VANCE: It could differ in one area  
21 than it does in another; is that what you're saying?

22 MS. KOCHHAR: Yeah. We have to evaluate  
23 it. We don't have the information from them at this  
24 point, so I really can't answer that question very well  
25 for you. Normally they give us 200 feet. That means  
26

1 that is the area they're surveying.

2 Is that correct, Al?

3 MR. MICHINI: (Nodding head.)

4 MS. KOCHHAR: And so we're trying to look  
5 within that area, but if that is still not satisfactory,  
6 we may have to look beyond that. But we don't know at  
7 this point, because we haven't really done much  
8 fieldwork. I know Bob did some of the stuff this week,  
9 but I have yet to get out and look at it.

10 MS. VANCE: And then I had a question for  
11 the gentleman with the pipeline safety. We know that  
12 one of the pipes that's currently in the ground is shut  
13 out, shut down because of issues with it, and apparently  
14 that pipe has now out-lived its life expectancy. The  
15 pipe that they are going to put in to replace that,  
16 what's the life expectancy on that; can you tell us?

17 MR. LYKKEN: Well, I can't give you an  
18 exact life expectancy. Obviously it depends on how well  
19 it's operated and maintained over the course.

20 The 26 you referred to the company continues  
21 to maintain. It hasn't been abandoned, but it's not in  
22 service at the moment, so -- but to tell you how long we  
23 can expect the other one to maintain a useful life,  
24 that's pretty hard to gauge, but you're looking at at  
25 least 60 years.

26

1 MS. VANCE: A minimum of 60 years, you  
2 think?

3 MR. LYKKEN: And, you know, we're talking  
4 about an epoxy-coated pipe here, so this is the latest  
5 generation of pipe. We're not talking about, you  
6 know --

7 MS. VANCE: It's not the same thing that  
8 they're replacing --

9 MR. LYKKEN: You know, they've advanced  
10 the materials --

11 MS. VANCE: But here, you're saying it  
12 would last longer --

13 MR. LYKKEN: That's correct. And, you  
14 know, of course it's subject to how well it's  
15 maintained.

16 MS. VANCE: All right. Thank you very  
17 much.

18 MS. KOCHHAR: Linda, excuse me. Could you  
19 give us your affiliation?

20 MS. VANCE: I'm a property owner, and  
21 you're going to impact me greatly.

22 MS. TERHAAR: Thank you.

23 Duane Bryant?

24 MR. BRYANT: Thank you. My name is Duane  
25 Bryant. That's D-u-a-n-e, B-r-y-a-n-t. I'm a property  
26

1 owner within a rock's throw of the Chehalis pump  
2 station.

3 I was made aware of this new project a couple  
4 weeks ago by some surveyors pounding stakes in my  
5 backyard off of the easement line. I don't know who  
6 gave them permission to come on my property, but  
7 nobody's called me, mailed me, or anything. I'm not  
8 happy about that, and I let them know it. I've lived  
9 there coming up on 30 years. This will be the third  
10 time they've dug up my backyard to lay pipeline in  
11 there.

12 I'm curious. I haven't heard the answer to  
13 this yet: Are they going to remove the 26-inch and  
14 replace it, thereby putting the new line where the 26  
15 was at? Is that correct, or am I hearing that wrong?

16 MS. KOCHHAR: Al, he's asking you.

17 MR. MICHINI: We have not yet determined  
18 the alignment of the proposed 36-inch within the right-  
19 of-way.

20 MR. BRYANT: Okay. That's good.

21 I have a couple of issues, and I'd like to go  
22 down this categorically, if I could. First I'll address  
23 the issues about the environmental impacts from their  
24 projects in the past. As I said, I've gone through this  
25 a couple of times now.

26

1           Since the first line that went through that I  
2 was involved with in the early eighties, the size of the  
3 pump station in Chehalis has grown considerably, and a  
4 lot noisier. We used to -- we had a nice country  
5 setting out there. It was quiet, slept good at night,  
6 and now I listen to the constant drone of the pump  
7 station all night long. It's very disconcerting.

8           Along with the expansion that's gone on there  
9 in the last few years, considerably more high, bright  
10 lighting, and so my beautiful sky that I can sit out in  
11 the back yard and look at the stars at night now are  
12 dimmer because I've got bright lights shining from their  
13 pump station, and it does affect my quality of life.  
14 Some people might not think that's much, but anyone that  
15 lived in the city and moves to the country can  
16 understand what bright stars are worth, and I'm one of  
17 those people and I have a problem with that. And I've  
18 made that known, and nothing's happened.

19           Secondly, besides just the noise and light  
20 degradation that it affects on my property, the last  
21 time they passed through -- there's a classified stream  
22 that runs adjacent to my property, a fish-bearing  
23 stream. Salmon and steelhead both spawn in the gravels.  
24 I don't think Williams wanted to do an environmental  
25 impact at that time. They were going to bore under the  
26

1 Meier Road and come up on the other side. We entered  
2 into a legal agreement that spelled out some things they  
3 were going to do as part of that, and to this day they  
4 have not lived up to those, so I don't put a lot of  
5 credence in the negotiations, if you will, of what they  
6 say they're going to do.

7 They were to mark out -- and that's why I  
8 asked about the 26-inch line, is they were to mark out  
9 permanent boundaries as part of this negotiated contract  
10 on my property where the easement passed through at each  
11 fence line and -- because basically the first line that  
12 was laid in there was centerlined on the maps that were  
13 given to the landowners. The second line was adjacent,  
14 and consequently they moved the center. Now they'll  
15 want to do it again, I know, and they'll want to move it  
16 again, effectively tripling the size of the easement by  
17 changing the centerline.

18 And my intent with the legal team that I hired  
19 to represent me last time was to come up with a  
20 definitive centerline on where their easement truly  
21 falls. My back door is from here to that spot away from  
22 that line. My horse barn, I could kick a basketball,  
23 it's that close. We're talking 50 feet or less, you  
24 know.

25 And so given the last 10 or 15 years, the  
26

1 explosions down by Kalama and Toledo, the safety of that  
2 line is a concern to me. My kids, my grandkids are out  
3 on that line all the time. My mother-in-law, my  
4 brother-in-law live across the road even closer. My  
5 other sister-in-law and her husband live behind us, so  
6 it diagonally parts the middle of our farm.

7 So I am very interested on the safety issues  
8 of that, along with what it does to the value of my  
9 property. A couple of years ago when the one in Kalama  
10 blew up, I asked a real estate friend of mine: How does  
11 that affect my property? Somebody comes and looks, and  
12 here's my house 75 feet from this gas line and  
13 constantly encroaching closer towards my house. Given,  
14 by the stakes that were placed in my yard this time off  
15 of the suspected line, I'm assuming that Williams and  
16 Northwest is going to want to encroach further towards  
17 my home, and that's of grave concern to me.

18 When the last line went in, an issue was the  
19 creek that runs along there, and they did not want to do  
20 an environmental impact because they understood that was  
21 a fish-bearing stream. And it was going to have to be  
22 dug up to lay the pipe, and so they employed a boring  
23 machine that went underneath the road to lay this line.  
24 We negotiated for them to go off of the easement for 50  
25 feet so they had room for their machinery and stuff, and  
26

1 also granted them a right to disperse some water that  
2 come out of that trench, because we have an underground  
3 spring that runs through the farm.

4 My well, which is 24-foot, hand-dug, is fed by  
5 the same spring. I had concerns about going down 12 or  
6 15 feet, as they had 10 or 15 years previously, and  
7 digging up all that river rock that's that far down,  
8 depositing on top of my field, which we plow up and run  
9 through our mowers and our baling machines; but more  
10 importantly, the water coming through there and the  
11 water that come out when they ditched it.

12 A friend of mine out of the Montesano office  
13 of Fish and Wildlife, at the time when I was very  
14 involved in fisheries, came down and says, you know,  
15 "You can't pump that much water into that classified  
16 stream," and so they worked out an arrangement to pump  
17 it out on my field. But I think 500 gallons an hour is  
18 what it was, and it turned out to be ten times that  
19 amount. Consequently, the water peels off in my field  
20 into the creek anyway and just, you know, circumvented  
21 what was really supposed to be going on.

22 Those type of negotiations with these people  
23 are troubling for me, and this time I'm not going to get  
24 ran over like I did last time. You know, to this day,  
25 until tonight, I still have little plastic placards

26

1 clipped to my fencepost saying, "Approximate Boundary  
2 Line," and yet they signed a contract with me saying  
3 they would put definitive lines to this boundary.  
4 They're not crossing off that line until that is taken  
5 care of, in my book. We will be in court over it,  
6 because it's just double-dealing and it's not right.

7           And that goes hand and hand with the way they  
8 treat the fish in the stream by my place, the air  
9 quality, you know, the sound and light quality and  
10 stuff. I do not like the way we've been treated in this  
11 whole thing. I would like some definitive answers on  
12 where this line is going to go, you know, ahead of time,  
13 you know, because those guys are 50 yards out into my  
14 trees, putting stakes. You know, I didn't know what  
15 they were even doing in my yard, you know, but they were  
16 out in my trees, they were in my yard. So,  
17 consequently, I had an understanding they must be  
18 planning on putting this pipeline somewhere other than  
19 where the one they're decommissioning is at, and I would  
20 like some answers to that.

21           Short of that, as this process goes along, I  
22 definitely would like to be involved and get some  
23 answers to these things, and perhaps they can live up to  
24 the agreements that they did the last time they dug up  
25 my yard.

26

1                   That's my comments. Thank you for having me.

2                   MS. KOCHHAR: Thank you very much.

3                   Since we have very few speakers, I'll go ahead  
4 and suggest something. The company people are there.  
5 There's an environmental person also. You can talk to  
6 them and work it out. Maybe you can take them, you  
7 know, in your property and show them what exactly your  
8 concerns are, exactly what you expressed here. And  
9 before they submit any information to us, I'll make sure  
10 those issues are addressed, because at this time I don't  
11 have any of that information. Thank you.

12                  MS. TERHAAR: That is all the speakers  
13 that signed up; however, please, if anybody else would  
14 like to come and speak, you're welcome to do that now.

15                  MS. TREAT: Hello. My name is Lynn Treat;  
16 no tricks, just a treat. I am a registered nurse in  
17 Chehalis, and I have some concerns about the health  
18 impacts of -- and of course I'm just a newbie, as far as  
19 this project goes, but I've been doing a lot of reading  
20 and research on-line to the adverse effects that happen  
21 when there's drilling and pipeline installed.

22                  Now, I need to know, first of all, is there  
23 going to be hydraulic fracturing happening?

24                  MS. KOCHHAR: Al, do you want to answer  
25 that? Because I don't have all the information.

26

1           Okay. You know what? After this meeting, you  
2 can get together with them and ask those questions.  
3 Like I said, we are still waiting for the information,  
4 so I would suggest you meet these company people and ask  
5 those questions.

6           MS. TREAT: I understand. But since I do  
7 have a chance to talk about that, I'm -- as a healthcare  
8 giver, as a mother, as a citizen of this area and  
9 America, I'm very concerned about how energy companies  
10 are taking over our pristine areas, including western  
11 Washington and western Oregon, so I am going to be  
12 following this very closely.

13           I just found out about this through 350.org,  
14 and they asked me to come, since I'm active with them,  
15 to find out what's going on here, so I'll be watching  
16 this really closely.

17           Thank you for providing this opportunity  
18 tonight. I'm going to have some things to study here  
19 now, and I appreciate your information.

20           MS. KOCHHAR: Thank you.

21           Anybody else?

22           MS. TREAT: I have one more question. I  
23 guess the question I have for the FERC is, at what point  
24 in time does the Williams group actually have to have  
25 established whether they're going to replace the current  
26

1 line, whether they're adding, and exactly what the  
2 impact is going to be to us? Because like -- I'm sure  
3 I'm like a lot of other property owners, because exactly  
4 what they decide to do can make a huge impact on what  
5 kind of a liability you're going to have to deal with  
6 and what the issues are going to be on your property.

7 Now, I've already heard this evening in less  
8 than a hour two different stories from the Williams  
9 people as to whether they were replacing the existing  
10 line or not replacing it. So my question is: When do  
11 they have to have that nailed down?

12 MS. KOCHHAR: Well, I wish I could answer  
13 your question, saying: Today, tomorrow, or ten  
14 months --

15 MS. TREAT: Does it have to be nailed down  
16 by the time they get their final permit?

17 MS. KOCHHAR: They have a general request  
18 already from us to identify those areas where they will  
19 replace the pipe or what. They have to identify that,  
20 and we are waiting for that response to come. They have  
21 already told us -- this is in prefiling. There's no  
22 formal application. They are going to --

23 MS. TREAT: [Inaudible] -- the formal  
24 application gets here, they'll have to have told you  
25 that, correct?

26

1 MS. KOCHHAR: When they file the resource  
2 reports, they will include the information in that, so I  
3 can't tell you when that will be.

4 MS. TREAT: Okay. Thank you.

5 MS. KOCHHAR: Anybody else?

6 MR. BRYANT: Real quick follow-up on that.

7 MS. KOCHHAR: Do you want to come up?

8 MR. BRYANT: I will.

9 They will -- we will have opportunity to  
10 comment, though, after they determine what they're going  
11 to do, whether they're removing the old line or putting  
12 it adjacent to; is that correct?

13 MS. KOCHHAR: I would think so, yes. You  
14 are allowed to comment during the whole analysis  
15 process. Like, this is just pre-filing, so we are  
16 working with them, helping them refine their line,  
17 identifying places where they have problems or where  
18 they will remove the pipe. That was our very first  
19 question when they came to us, so they are working on  
20 those things. Some of these things take time for them.

21 MR. BRYANT: Sure.

22 MS. KOCHHAR: And once we have the  
23 information, and if you E-subscribe, you will see what  
24 they have filed and what we have asked them to provide  
25 to us. Thank you.

26

1 MS. TERHAAR: I'd like to add that if you  
2 send in written comments, that counts the same as if you  
3 comment-speak. So, you know, feel free at any time to  
4 send us a comment.

5 MS. KOCHHAR: Yes. Your oral comments  
6 tonight, written comments mailed to us or provided on  
7 the form, they all carry equal weight. All carry equal  
8 weight.

9 If there are no more questions, no more --

10 MR. BRYANT: Would it be redundant if I  
11 mailed in my questions, even though they may be similar  
12 to my testimony tonight, just to make sure that in a  
13 sit-down situation I can be more clear?

14 MS. KOCHHAR: That's fine. It's no  
15 problem.

16 Anybody else? Any more questions or anything?

17 No. So we will adjourn. The meeting is  
18 officially adjourned, and it's 7:00 p.m. Thank you.

19

20 MEETING ADJOURNED: 7:00 p.m.

21

22

23

24

25