

1 BEFORE THE FEDERAL ENERGY REGULATORY COMMISSION

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5 -----X Docket Number

6 IN THE MATTER OF: : CP13-499-000

7 CONSTITUTION PIPELINE COMPANY PROJECT : CP13-502-000

8 AND WRIGHT INTERCONNECT PROJECT :

9 -----X

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11 Cobleskill-Richmondville High School

12 1353 State Route 7

13 Richmondville, NY

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17 Monday, March 31, 2014

18 The public scoping meeting, pursuant to notice,

19 convened at 7:06 p.m., Kevin Bowman chair of the scoping

20 meeting.

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

2 MR. BOWMAN: Good evening, everyone. Okay,  
3 before we get started, if anyone does need a restroom,  
4 you can go head out the doors to the right hand, your  
5 right hand side of the auditorium, go to the right and  
6 the bathrooms will be on your left.

7 So on behalf the Federal Energy Regulatory  
8 Commission, I want to welcome all of you tonight to the  
9 Common Meeting on the draft Environmental Antistating for  
10 the Constitution Pipeline and the Right American Act  
11 projects.

12 Let the record show that the DEIS Common  
13 Meeting began at 7:06 pm on March 31 in Richmondville,  
14 New York.

15 My name is Kevin Bowman, and I'm an  
16 Environmental Project Manager in the Office of Energy  
17 Projects which is a division of FERC. Also with me  
18 tonight on my right is Douglas Mooneyhan. To his right  
19 is Kelly Menoz and to her right is Amy Gitchell with the  
20 U.S. Army Corp of Engineers. Also tonight outside in  
21 the hallway representing FERC tonight is Lavinia DiSanto,  
22 Kim Sechrist and Jenna Ward.

23 So the U.S. Army Corp of Engineers, the  
24 Environmental Protection Agency, the Federal Highway  
25 Administration and New York State Department of

1 Agriculture and markets are participating as  
2 cooperating agencies in the preparation of EIS.  
3 I do want to thank these cooperative agencies for  
4 all their continued assistance with the NEPR review of  
5 these projects.

6           So with that, I'm going to briefly turn  
7 things over the Amy with the Corp of Engineers who will  
8 go over the core process and how it relates to the review  
9 of these projects. Amy?

10           MS. GITCHELL: Good evening. My name is Amy  
11 Gitchell. I'm the Chief of the Upstate New York Section of  
12 the Regulatory Branch for the New York District, U.S. Army  
13 Corp of Engineers.

14           I will be participating in tonight's meeting  
15 on behalf of the Corp of Engineers. The Corp of Engineers  
16 is here today to obtain information and evidence and ensure  
17 coverage of both the public's and the Corp's concerns to  
18 assist in the regulatory review of a permanent application  
19 submitted by the Constitution Pipeline Company for the  
20 construction of the pipeline that was just described by  
21 Mr. Bowman.

22           If constructed, the pipeline review for our  
23 costings of weapons and stripes that are considered  
24 weapons of the United States and regulated under  
25 section 404 of the Clean Water Act in both Pennsylvania

1 and New York.

2           The Federal Regulatory Energy Commission  
3 as a lead Federal Agency will make a decision whether  
4 to issue a certificate of public convenience and  
5 necessity to allow construction of this project.

6           The Corp of Engineers is neither a  
7 proponent for nor an opponent of the proposed work.  
8 Our role is to determine whether the proposed activity,  
9 in this case the construction of a 124 mile pipeline  
10 that would require numerous crossings on waters of the  
11 United States is in the overall public interest.

12           This hearing will play an important part  
13 in that determination. Please understand that we do  
14 not expect to answer questions from the audience in this  
15 hearing related to the proposal, as we are here to obtain  
16 information and your comments. Questions on the regulatory  
17 process in general can be directed to my staff and my  
18 office on another day.

19           The New York District has issued a public  
20 notice for this project with the comment period closing on  
21 April 7. The entire public notice including all the  
22 attachments is currently posted on the New York District  
23 Website. The Website address is [www.NAN.USACE.ARMY.mil](http://www.NAN.USACE.ARMY.mil).  
24 We do have some copies of the public notice without the  
25 attachments on the registration table. I highly encourage

1 you to leave those for folks that don't have internet  
2 access however because everything is on the internet.  
3 If you are not currently on our public notice email  
4 distribution list and would like to receive an email  
5 announcement for future public notices from my office,  
6 please provide your email address to one of the staff  
7 members at the registration table today. I look forward  
8 to your comments this evening.

9 MR. BOWMAN: Thank you, Amy. You'll note  
10 that we have arranged for a court reporter to transcribe  
11 this meeting, so that we will have accurate record of the  
12 meeting. If you'd like to have a copy of that transcript,  
13 you may make arrangements to do so with the reporter  
14 following this meeting.

15 So the Constitution Pipeline Company and  
16 Iroquois Gas Transmission filed applications under Section  
17 7 of the Natural Gas Act with the Commission in June of  
18 2013. As mentioned by Amy, these projects would consist  
19 of installation of certain natural gas pipeline facilities  
20 between Susquehanna County, Pennsylvania and Schoharie, New  
21 York.

22 The primary purpose of this meeting is to  
23 give you the opportunity to provide specific environmental  
24 comments from the draft EIS prepared by FERC staff from the  
25 project. It will help us the most if your comments are as

1 specific as possible regarding the proposed project and the  
2 draft of EIS.

3 I want to clarify again that the project is  
4 not being proposed by FERC. It is being proposed by  
5 Constitution and the Air Corp. Rather, the FERC is the  
6 Federal Agency responsible for evaluating applications to  
7 construct and operate interstate natural gas pipeline  
8 facilities. Therefore, FERC is really an advocate for the  
9 process and not an advocate for the project.

10 So during our review of these project, we  
11 assembled information from a variety of sources, including  
12 the applicants, you, the public, and other State, Local and  
13 Federal Agencies and our analysis and field work. We  
14 analyze this information to prepare a draft EIS that was  
15 distributed to public for comment. A notice of  
16 availability of the draft EIS was issued for this project  
17 on February 12, 2014.

18 We are near the end of the 45 day comment  
19 period on the draft EIS. The comment period officially  
20 ends this Monday, April 7, 2014. All comments received  
21 written or spoken will be addressed in the final EIS.  
22 I encourage you to submit comments to us by that date.  
23 But if we do receive comments after that date, we'll do  
24 our best to incorporate those and address them into the  
25 final EIS. You may also submit comments using procedures

1 outlined in the notice of availability on the DEIS which  
2 includes instructions on how to submit more comments  
3 electronically. Your comments will be considered with  
4 equal weight regardless of how they were provided to us.  
5 10 If you receive a copy of the draft EIS in either paper or  
6 CD version, you automatically receive a copy of the final  
7 EIS. So if you did not get a copy of the draft and you  
8 want to get a copy of the final, please make sure that you  
9 sign the tenant's list at the outside table and provide  
10 your name and address. We'll make sure you get a copy  
11 of the final EIS.

12           So I want to reiterate that either the draft  
13 nor the final EIS are decision making documents. In other  
14 words, once they are issued, it is not determined whether  
15 the project would be approved or not. I mean I  
16 differentiate between the different roles between two  
17 distinct groups at FERC. Myself and the other FERC staff  
18 members here tonight are part of the environmental  
19 review team, and we oversee the preparation of the EIS  
20 for the projects. We, ourselves, do not determine whether  
21 or not the project would be approved or denied. Instead,  
22 the FERC Commission, which consists of five Presidentially  
23 appointed individuals are responsible for making that  
24 determination.

25           So, as I mentioned, EIS is not decision

1 making, but it does assist the Commission in determining  
2 whether or not to make " how they're going to make their  
3 decision on the project. The Commission will consider the  
4 environmental information in that document, public  
5 comments, as well as a host of other non-environmental  
6 information such as engineering, markets and rates in its  
7 decision.

8           There is no review of a FERC decision by the  
9 President or Congress, thus maintaining FERC's role as an  
10 independent regulatory agency. However, only after  
11 taking into consideration the environmental and non-  
12 environmental information factors to consideration  
13 will the Commission make its final decision. If the  
14 Commission votes to approve the project and a  
15 certificate of public convenience and necessity is  
16 issued, Constitution and Uravoys would be required  
17 to meet certain conditions outlined in the certificate.

18           Such a good thing, FERC Environmental staff  
19 would monitor the project throughout construction and  
20 restoration. They perform on a daily onsite inspections  
21 to document environmental compliance in accordance with  
22 applicable laws and regulations. Constitution Yervoy  
23 propose plans and litigation and the additional  
24 conditions in the FERC certificate.

25           Okay, so that's my overview of the FERC

1 role. Let's stop talking about that stuff and move into  
2 the comment parts.

3           Okay, so now we'll be going into hearing  
4 your comments. If you don't want to speak tonight, you  
5 can " or if you don't get a chance to speak everything  
6 that you had intended to tonight, you can still hand in  
7 written comments tonight using a comment form that we  
8 have outside the auditorium at the table. Additionally,  
9 you can mail that form into the secretary of the  
10 Commission by following the procedures outlined in the  
11 notice of availability of the EEIS. Either way, your  
12 comments will be considered with equal weight.

13           And as I said before, this meeting is  
14 being recorded by a court reporter. So all your comments  
15 will be transcribed and accurately placed into the  
16 public record. So, I ask that each speaker first  
17 identify themselves and if appropriate, any agency or  
18 group you are representing. Also, please spell your  
19 name for the record and speak clearly into the microphone  
20 at the podium up front. My number one rule is please  
21 show respect for anyone who is speaking. Due to the  
22 length of the speaker's list, we probably have almost 100  
23 people signed up, I'm going to please ask that you limit  
24 your comments to four minutes or less. This will ensure  
25 that we can accommodate everyone who is signed up to

1 speak tonight. If you anticipate you need to go longer  
2 than that, I would advise summarizing your comments and  
3 submitting them to us tonight in paper form. If we have  
4 additional time at the end, we will take additional  
5 speakers upon sign up of the speaker's list. Brian  
6 Sherman?

7 MR. BRIAN SHERMAN: Good evening. Brian,  
8 B-R-I-A-N S-H-E-R-M-A-N. I'm the superintendent of  
9 schools for the Schoharie Central School District. I'm  
10 here to specifically address the issue of the pipeline  
11 cutting across the Schoharie Career Technical Education  
12 Center and their property.

13 In September of last year, the Schoharie  
14 Central School District Board of Education passed a  
15 resolution in support of the Capital Region BOCES refusal  
16 of Constitution Pipeline's initial offer to buy right-  
17 of-way for \$25,400. And it did so again a little over  
18 a month ago. I'd like to reiterate that no amount of  
19 money is worth the possible risk of safety to our students,  
20 or any potentially negative impact on the excellent  
21 classes offered at the Schoharie CTE Campus. As a prime  
22 example, the heavy equipment program at the Schoharie Career  
23 and Technical Education Center is incredibly effective.  
24 Just over a year ago six students from that specific  
25 program went on to Alfred State College. This example is

1   unprecedented and speaks volumes about the success of the  
2   program. Other students at the Center routinely enter the  
3   workforce and other post secondary programs. If the  
4   Constitution Pipeline project is cited as proposed, it  
5   would in my opinion jeopardize not only the safety of the  
6   students attending the CTE center but the future of this  
7   highly successful program. Our route cutting across the  
8   area where our students practice with heavy construction  
9   equipment digging up the ground would be an accident  
10  waiting to happen. And if the students lose the valuable  
11  exterior classroom area, the program would have to be  
12  significantly changed from what it is today. Parents I  
13  have spoken with share the safety concern and may not  
14  permit their children to attend courses at the Schoharie  
15  CTE center. This will interfere with successful and  
16  gainful employment of our CTE graduates and endanger future  
17  success of our students who would have opted to  
18  participate in career and technical education programs or  
19  be job and career ready. This pipeline route flies in the  
20  face of Federal and State initiatives to make all our  
21  graduates college and career ready. Many in the community  
22  are not aware that once the route is approved by FERC this  
23  allows the Constitution Pipeline to take property, school  
24  property by eminent domain. Which is more important for  
25  safety and security of our county and region; gainful

1 employment of our children and a skill labor workforce  
2 for our state or changing the route of the pipeline off  
3 school property? Thank you for the opportunity to speak  
4 on behalf of the safety and security of our children.

5 MR. Mooneyhan: Lynn Wayman?

6 MR. LYNN WAYMAN SR: My name is Lynn Wayman,  
7 L-Y-N-N W-A-Y-M-A-N. I'm a member of Labor of Local 157  
8 and Assistant Chief of the Summit Fire Department. This  
9 pipeline represents work for union trade as well as a lot  
10 of revenue for our communities. I am here to support this  
11 pipeline as well as the environmental draft impact  
12 statement. I believe that the Constitution Pipeline will  
13 help put a lot of work that is needed for a lot of union  
14 trade. Thank you.

15 MR. BOWMAN: Pete Stearns?

16 MR. PETER STEARNS: Good evening. And before  
17 we start I was wondering if we could do the Pledge of  
18 Allegiance? I Pledge allegiance to the flag of the United  
19 States of America. And to the Republic for which it stands  
20 one Nation under God, indivisible with liberty and justice  
21 for all. Good evening. My name is Pete Stearns and I have  
22 the pleasures of speaking tonight on behalf of the hard  
23 working men and women of the Labors International Union of  
24 North America. You can easily spot our members and their  
25 families, as they probably wear the orange shirts here

1 this evening. I am here in support of the draft of  
2 environmental impact statement. I understand the emotion  
3 in this room, and I can assure you that our members share  
4 your passion about this project and share your passion and  
5 your commitment to this community. I wanted to briefly  
6 speak about an issue that I feel often gets lost at these  
7 hearings. And the issue is simply about the intentions  
8 of our Union and more important what our intentions of our  
9 union members call this area home. I think it is vitally  
10 important that everyone here this evening understands that  
11 our members lives here, pay taxes here and educate and  
12 raise their families here and deserve the right to earn a  
13 living here. Our members care about this community as  
14 much as all of you, and they also care about this project.  
15 That is why I can assure you that this project will be  
16 performed by a highly skilled and highly motivated  
17 workforce that also calls Schoharie County home. I promise  
18 you that not a single member present here this evening  
19 would ever compromise or sacrifice the wellbeing of this  
20 community for the sake of a job. I am confident that our  
21 members are dedicated to delivering this project in a safe  
22 and responsible manner and will protect the environment and  
23 protect their own backyards. I would ask FERC approval of  
24 this very important energy project and for no additional  
25 extension of the common period. I thank you for the

1 opportunity to speak, and I thank my union brothers and  
2 sisters for their time and their continued commitment to  
3 this community.

4 MR. BOWMAN: Darin Hagadorn?

5 MR. DARIN HAGADORN: Good evening. My name is  
6 Darin Hagadorn, D-A-R-I-N Hagadorn, H-A-G-A-D-O-R-N. I am  
7 here on behalf of Local 157 as one of their members. I  
8 believe that this pipeline needs to go. It will create  
9 great jobs. I've been on several myself, and I've seen  
10 firsthand how they go about their business with economic  
11 and the environmental and all the parts that take place in  
12 putting a line like this forward. And they take great care  
13 in " it's just amazing to watch them go through the way  
14 they do their jobs. So I'm here to support, and I hope  
15 that you guys will let it go. Thank you.

16 MR. BOWMAN: Ken Stanton?

17 MR. KENNETH STANTON: I'm Kenneth Stanton,  
18 K-E-N-N-E-T-H S-T-A-N-T-O-N. First I want to say I'm  
19 glad we discovered the flag, and I'm glad to see that this  
20 is still America. I'm the Founder of Stanton Family Farm,  
21 LLC. I'm Route 145 between Cobleskill and Middleburg.  
22 I started that farm after spending four years in the  
23 Marine Corp. My wife and I went down there in 1962.  
24 We bought the farm under contract and we had \$50 in our  
25 pocket. Since then in 2005, we formed Stanton Family

1 Farm, LLC. My wife, myself, a daughter and a son, and  
2 we've added a daughter in law to it. Now in the future  
3 there's two grandchildren that want to come in that  
4 farm, and one of them is here tonight, going to speak  
5 to you. I'm opposed to this pipeline because the way  
6 I've been treated by the land agents. First of all,  
7 the " let me go back and say I own 1,000 to 1200 acres  
8 In Schoharie Town, Middleburg and Cobleskill. I rent  
9 another 5,000 acres, and they say there's not going to  
10 be an impact. It's going to be an impact to that farm  
11 because that farm is going to die a slow death. I'm a  
12 capable farmer. I've been in A District Number 2 which  
13 I helped form many years ago, and to have eminent domain  
14 come across my land it's just seems like we're not in  
15 America anymore. Now that farm employs five full time  
16 people besides our work and labor force that I just  
17 mentioned, and it brings to this county " and I'm not  
18 telling you like the land agent tells you. I'm telling  
19 you the truth and I can prove everything I say. Cobleskill  
20 Schoharie County generates \$2 million every year. We milk  
21 400 cows, and they're still milking tonight, and they  
22 won't get done until midnight. And I need room for  
23 expansion on that farm. And that pipeline is designed  
24 to go right through the middle of my farm, and I can't  
25 do nothing about it. I got Nagen Markets involved. They

1 came, moved the line over to the edge. I said that's not  
2 good enough. I can't build over it. The agent says well  
3 you can work over it, and you're going to get six figures.  
4 I don't care what six figures is. No money can buy that.  
5 And I'm working with Agen Market at present for another  
6 line. Agen Markets agreed that the line that I said  
7 going North I originally wanted it moved North. And the  
8 land agent said no, we can't move it North. It will cost  
9 Constitution too much money. So I've been involved in  
10 four lines involving my property. They dickered back and  
11 forth. And finally I said to the land agent when they  
12 moved it South and now it goes right across my daughter's  
13 lawn besides, you got to talk to my lawyer. I'm not  
14 talking anymore. Don't come on my property. I want to  
15 thank Federal Energy Commission for this opportunity  
16 to speak to you. I have forwarded you much information.  
17 You have received or will receive in Washington. Thank  
18 you.

19 MR. BOWMAN: We would ask that you refrain  
20 audible shows of disagreement or agreement during the  
21 speaker's comments. I'd hate for you to take away from  
22 the time of the speaker while they are speaking. Lisa  
23 Stanton?

24 MS. LISA STANTON: Hello. My name is Lisa  
25 Stanton, L-I-S-A S-T-A-N-T-O-N. And I am a partner on

1 Stanton Family Farms, LLC. I am Ken's daughter-in-law.  
2 When I first started doing some research on the pipeline  
3 and expressing some of our opinions and views about the  
4 impact that the pipeline would have on our family farm,  
5 a lot of people were very concerned about whether or  
6 not we were telling the truth about the impact that it  
7 would have. People don't understand what a CAFO is. So  
8 I'm going to share very quickly that a CAFO is a  
9 concentrated animal feeding operation. That means that  
10 we take feed to the animals, and the animals are not  
11 allowed to roam over hundreds of thousands of acres  
12 like some ranches you might see out in the Western  
13 part of the United States. As part of the CAFO plan,  
14 we have many rules and regulations that we need to  
15 follow. It's a multifaceted plan. First of all, we  
16 have to follow a New York State pollutant discharge  
17 elimination system, and this is approved by the United  
18 States Environmental Protection Agency in accordance  
19 with the Clean Water Act of both 2003 and 2008. This  
20 controls any discharge to ground and surface water  
21 such as runoff of manure out in pastures or our manure  
22 storage system and our bunk silo fermentation lecher,  
23 the runoff from the silos. With this we have to have a  
24 Department of Environmental Conservation general permit,  
25 GP-0-14-001. This is issued in pursuant to Article 17,

1 Title 7 in Article 70 of the Environmental Conservation  
2 Law. Under these we have a comprehensive nutrient  
3 management plan. This is in accordance with the Natural  
4 Resources Conservation Service standard New York 312.  
5 As you can see, it's a multifaceted plan. We have a lot  
6 of Governmental input on what we can and cannot do on  
7 our farm. WE have a planner who comes and helps us and  
8 she works out of the Soil and Water Conservation right  
9 here in Schoharie County. In our office in the barn we  
10 have binders full of maps of every single field that  
11 we work. Our planner has to come and sample our soil  
12 at least every three years. Our planner helps us  
13 design a detailed plan for when, where and how much  
14 manure we can spread on each field that we have. We  
15 rent some land near the reservoir right here in  
16 Cobleskill and we are not allowed to spread any manure  
17 there at all as part of our plan because of the proximity  
18 to the water. Our planner also tells us how much  
19 additional fertilizer, if any, is needed on the field  
20 after we put the nutrients on the fields from the manure.  
21 Our planner also designs a crop rotation system for us.  
22 We are not allowed to have the same crop on the same  
23 field for an extended period of time because it will  
24 strip the nutrients in the soil. Our planner also works  
25 with engineers and helped us design our manure storage

1 system which is a lagoon out in the back of our farm.  
2 This lagoon had to be approved and is inspected regularly  
3 by an engineer. We also have bunk silos. And during the  
4 fermentation process in the silos there is some runoff.  
5 This silo system has also been approved and inspected  
6 regularly by engineers. We have several log books on  
7 the farm for our manure spreading, storage and handling,  
8 our crops. The weather, we have to keep track of the  
9 precipitation that falls on the farm to help with this.  
10 As my father-in-law said, we own about 1000 acres. We  
11 rent another 500. The pipeline will affect approximately  
12 130 acres of our farm. We're already good steward of  
13 the environment. Putting a pipeline in this proposed  
14 course flies in the face of common sense. We're not  
15 allowed to build within 50 feet of any water. We have  
16 several small streams surrounding the base unit of our  
17 farm. Where our proposed expansion is and where this  
18 pipeline goes through is directly in the center of our  
19 farm. We can't build within 50 feet of any water. So  
20 where we're looking for expansion, that my daughter is  
21 going to talk about in just a couple minutes, is right  
22 where the pipeline goes. We need to talk about the  
23 environmental impact statement. In Appendix H1, H2 and H3  
24 our parcels ALT O, New York, SC 015, 016 and 017 are listed  
25 in there with additional comments that says that land

1 owner resolution as yes. We have not resolved anything  
2 with Constitution at this point, and FERC has also  
3 included in there, "see other recommendations above .  
4 Please take all these into account as you start to look  
5 at this before final approval because it will have a  
6 tremendous impact on my family and on our farm. This is  
7 about environmental impact. I can't begin to tell you  
8 about the environment on our farm because this has  
9 taken a huge emotional toll on every member of our  
10 family. My father-in-law does not sleep because he  
11 is worried about the future of the farm and the impact  
12 that this pipeline will have that creates a tense  
13 environment for day-to-day decision making and then  
14 it trickles down to my husband and me and my children.  
15 Please consider changing the route. Thank you.

16 MR. BOWMAN: Kayla Stanton?

17 MS. KAYLA STANTON: Hello. My name is  
18 Kayla Stanton, K-A-Y-L-A S-T-A-N-T-O-N. And like my  
19 mother just said, I am the third generation on Stanton  
20 Family Farms, LLC. I have been in the barn since before  
21 I could even walk, and I've watched my grandfather build  
22 and expand on the farm. And the farm has actually built  
23 me as an individual. I remember scooping feed through  
24 feed carts in our tie stall barn to all the cows and  
25 milking in the tie stall barn. And now when I get up at

1 2:30 am to milk my cows, I don't know how that will be  
2 if this pipeline goes through. I have been in multiple  
3 clubs and organizations that I have been able to tour  
4 farms across the country. I have seen many ideas and  
5 learned about efficiency of many facets of the farm  
6 to bring back in order for me to expand the farm as  
7 I come back. And I have been instrumental in deciding  
8 our new \$300,000 parlor because of what I have seen  
9 and researched throughout these organizations. And I  
10 have also been planning our new calf and heifer facility  
11 that where we want to put it is right where the pipeline  
12 wants to go. And this is the future of our farm. We  
13 need to expand to keep farming. This next fall I am  
14 going to go to Morrisville State College and have a  
15 dual major in Agriculture Business and Dairy Management.  
16 And then I plan to return to the farm. The New York State  
17 Senate just released the Young Farmers of New York plan,  
18 and the goal of that plan is to smooth the transfer of  
19 farms to the next generation and preserve existing  
20 15 farmland and help overcome obstacles to give a greater  
21 opportunity to be successful for the future generations  
22 of agriculture. If the pipeline goes through where it  
23 wants to go through, our calf and heifer facility  
24 expansion will not happen. And then, like my mother said  
25 and my grandfather, we will be in violation of our CAPO

1 permits and have to face many, many, many fine. And my  
2 grandfather will be forced to make tough decisions about  
3 the current operation and the future of the farm. If we  
4 have to downsize or possibly not do this expansion, where  
5 is the future for me in the farm? Thank you.

6 MR. BOWMAN: Bob Firmstone? Not sure if I'm  
7 saying the last name correct. Firmstone?

8 MR. BOB FIRMSTONE: Good evening. My name  
9 is Bob Firmstone spelled F-I-R-M-S-T-O-N-E. I'm the  
10 Secretary Treasurer, business agent, of Teamsters Local  
11 693. Teamsters represent about 150 local pipelines  
12 across the Southern tier of New York State. These members  
13 are highly trained, experienced and qualified to do the  
14 job safely. My members about the local environment, they  
15 enjoy hunting, fishing and other outdoor activities and are  
16 trained to protect the environment. This project will  
17 bring much needed jobs to the area with good wages and good  
18 benefits for local residents. T his project will be good  
19 for the economy, helping local merchants such as Ross Ry  
20 Holders, local suppliers and hotels. They will also lower  
21 utility costs and taxes for local residents. This project  
22 is a win/win for New York State. This is why Teamsters  
23 Local 693 supports this project 100 percent. Thank you.

24 MR. MOONEYHAN: Mike Snow?

25 MR. CHAIR: Let the record show that Mike

1 show that Mike Snow said he would pass.

2 MR. MOONEYHAN: David Stacey? Chris Duda?

3 MR. TOM TOOMEY: Yeah, good evening. I'm  
4 taking David's time. My name is Tom Toomey, T-O-O-M-E-Y.  
5 I was born and raised in Upstate New York and I believe  
6 in American energy for America. I've worked on pipelines  
7 since 2008. I worked on the Millennium Line. I worked on  
8 directional drills. I've worked on a lot of environmental  
9 crews. And environmental is one of my favorite crews  
10 to work on. I know that everybody I've worked with takes  
11 great pride in what they do, and we worked " we did  
12 whatever had to be done, whether it was handling a  
13 situation or preparing for the worst before something  
14 happened, before heavy rains, just whatever it took. I'm  
15 also a landowner. I've got beef cows, and I've worked  
16 around all kinds of farmers in Pennsylvania, I've never  
17 talked to a single one of them that has had a problem with  
18 gas drilling or with pipelines. So I have a power line  
19 that runs along my property. It doesn't make me really  
20 happy, but if I don't have that power line there, people  
21 are not going to have electricity. If you take away  
22 these people's electricity, you take away their gas, their  
23 oil, pipelines supply everything in this country. These  
24 people are just ignorant to that fact. I've met people  
25 that don't even know that they have natural gas in their

1 homes. And they're shocked to find out. They're just  
2 plain ignorant to the fact of what energy does for  
3 them in this country. Thank you.

4 MR. BOWMAN: Dave Parker?

5 MR. DAVE PARKER: Good evening. My name is  
6 Dave Parker, D-A-V-E P-A-R-K-E-R for Worcester, New York.  
7 Thanks for your copy of the draft EIS. I got the whole  
8 thing. It's incredible. It's an incredible document.  
9 The completeness is amazing. And since, I had the  
10 opportunity to work on the document, or I'll call it  
11 participate. When we, in the town of Worcester, a parcel  
12 that was along Alternate M of the pipeline that  
13 unfortunately didn't happen, from our standpoint. But  
14 geology soils and wetlands team, I was invited to go  
15 along with them during their assessment. And it was four  
16 young, very competent and extremely thorough professionals  
17 who let me come along and trail behind because they were  
18 a lot better shape than I. But I can't speak more highly  
19 of the thoroughness and the competence they did or they  
20 showed in the job they did. So I want to thank you for  
21 letting me go along with that, go along on the assessment.  
22 And I'm sure their work is representative of what went into  
23 the rest of the draft EIS. I was particularly interested  
24 in and informed by the socioeconomic analysis, as you  
25 presented in Chapter 4, pages 133 through 147, you

1 summarized in Chapter 5, page 11. I believe the common  
2 sense approach that you used was extremely valuable  
3 in understanding the broad nature, broad scope and impact  
4 of this project. Finally I wanted to share a number, a  
5 few quotes from some prominent individuals whose names  
6 you'll recognize who commented on infrastructure  
7 development and domestic natural gas development in  
8 general. First Former New York State Assembly Minority  
9 Leader, John Faso, states we need New York, we need new  
10 energy sources and safe, modern infrastructure to deliver  
11 energy to our homes and factories. This will help our  
12 national academy make a slight less dependent on foreign  
13 sources of energy and help create and save jobs. White  
14 Climate Advisor, John Pedesta, states, "If you oppose all  
15 fossil fuels and you want to turn the switch off tomorrow,  
16 that is completely impractical way of moving towards a  
17 clean energy future. We remain committed to developing  
18 the natural gas resource and using it in this current  
19 administration. Next, Secretary of State, John Kerry,  
20 stated, "If we harness the power of the wind in Mexico  
21 and the biomass in Brazil, the sunshine in Chile and Peru,  
22 the natural gas in the United States and Argentina, then  
23 the enormous benefits for local economies, public health  
24 and of course climate change mitigation could reach every  
25 corner of the Americas and beyond. Next, EPA

1 Administrator, Gina McCarthy adds, "Responsible development  
2 of natural gas is an important part of our work to improve  
3 climate change and support a robust, clean energy market  
4 at home. Only a few more. The President's former Energy  
5 Czar, Harold Browner states, "There's a lot of reasons to  
6 support natural gas as a path to a clean energy future.  
7 Secretary of the Interior, Sally Jewel says, "Working hard,  
8 working hand in hand with industry we have an opportunity  
9 to use innovative technologies to capture natural gas to  
10 power more homes with cleaner American made energy while  
11 reducing methane emissions and cutting down carbon  
12 pollution. Finally, California Berkley Physics Professor,  
13 a climate scientist, Dr. Richard Muller concludes,  
14 "Environmentalists who oppose the development of shale  
15 gas in fracking are making a tragic mistake. I totally  
16 agree. Thank you for your time and attention.

17 MR. BOWMAN: Jeff Stark?

18 MR. JEFF STARK: Jeff Stark, J-E-F-F  
19 S-T-A-R-K. I'm President of the Greater Capital Region  
20 building and construction trades, an organization with  
21 more than 14 unionized construction trades and more than  
22 22,000 union members in this area. I'm proud to be here  
23 tonight to represent them. Construction industry has been  
24 hit hard the last few years. And these are jobs that we  
25 desperately need. The Draft Environmental Impact Study

1 states that this makes economic sense. And this project  
2 is for the public good. And yes, it has limited adverse  
3 environmental impact. It doesn't mean it has none for  
4 no one. Some people will be upset. But there will be  
5 1300 construction workers who are going to have trouble  
6 to feed their families without these jobs. A more than  
7 \$80 million to the local economy and construction wages,  
8 more than \$4 million to this county, Harry County alone  
9 for school districts. We need this job. It is a very  
10 emotional rollercoaster. But this project needs to go  
11 through. It needs to be supported for the public good.  
12 Three million homes will heat and cool their homes with  
13 this pipeline alone. That's the public good. That makes  
14 economic sense for the public. And that is limited adverse  
15 conditions. So I urge you to support this project. Thank  
16 you very much.

17 MR. BOWMAN: Dianne Sefcik?

18 MS. DIANNE SEFCIK: Dianne Sefcik,  
19 D-I-A-N-N-E S-E-F-C-I-K. I live in Western Albany County,  
20 New York. The Iroquois pipeline party to the Constitution  
21 application runs through my town. The Tennessee pipeline  
22 is only a few miles away in Berm. Expansion of these and  
23 other transmission lines would be a direct result of  
24 approval of the Constitution application. But these and  
25 many other impacts of shale gas development are not

1 addressed in the FERCD DEIS. And it's not in my comments  
2 but I just want to know in 1996 Iroquois officers pleaded  
3 guilty to felony charges for environmental problems when  
4 they built this pipeline. They were fined \$22 million at  
5 that time for these infractions and that time was the  
6 second largest fine for any company except for the Exxon  
7 Valdez spill several years before. This DEIS  
8 overwhelmingly serves the oil and gas industry. You can  
9 throw a dart at almost any point on any page and find  
10 12 ample justification for criticism. In my opinion, it is  
11 so flawed, so incomplete and so biased in favor of the oil  
12 and gas industry that FERC should recues itself from  
13 creating this or any other EIS and stick to regulating  
14 standards and processes identified by truly independent  
15 environmental and energy consultants. The basis for this  
16 proposed project was stated in the executive summary was  
17 19 this: It was developed in response to natural gas market  
18 demands in the New York and New England areas. And  
19 interest from natural gas shippers that require  
20 transportation capacity from Susquehanna County,  
21 Pennsylvania, to the existing Tennessee gas pipeline  
22 company and the Iroquois' systems in Schoharie County, New  
23 York. This misrepresents the end mark of scope. Domestic  
24 markets are not the only, and perhaps not only the primary  
25 markets for shale gas development. Projects are already

1 underway to export natural gas to Canada and liquid  
2 natural gas to more distant markets. For instance,  
3 Iroquois and its reverse flow to Canada, Spectra Energy,  
4 Liberty LNG in its proposal at the Port Ambrose Deep Water  
5 terminal and the U.S. Department of Energy has granted the  
6 first ever LNG export permit to Dominion Resources.  
7 Justification for enduring the impacts of shale gas  
8 development in the U.S. has included energy independence,  
9 energy security, domestic energy supply and bridge to  
10 renewables. The oil and gas industry, however, has clearly  
11 signaled its intention to export natural gas products,  
12 including highly volatile liquid natural gas. This is  
13 motivated by higher prices paid by international versus  
14 domestic markets. It does nothing to protect U.S. energy  
15 independence or non-renewable domestic reserves. It does  
16 not improve energy security, and it undermines incentives  
17 to develop renewable technologies. Domestic and global  
18 endowments of air, water, land and energy are not being  
19 preserved and managed for the common good. They are being  
20 sacrificed and exploited for private gain and geopolitical  
21 agendas.

22 MR. BOWMAN: Please finish.

23 MS. DIANNE SEFCIK: There's so much to say.  
24 I'll just say this, that the rural communities, rural  
25 people are disproportionately impacted by shale gas

1 development. Thank you for listening to me.

2 MR. BOWMAN: Andrew Santillo?

3 MR. ANDREW SANTILLO: Hello, everyone. I just  
4 first want to thank you all for having this and allowing  
5 people to voice their opinion for and against. My name is  
6 Andrew Santillo. It's S-A-N-T-I-L-L-O. I work in the  
7 Montgomery County Executive Office. I'm here on behalf of  
8 County Executive, Matt Osenfor and their legislative  
9 Chairman, Tom Quackenbush. WE believe that the Draft  
10 Environmental Impact Statement appropriately balances both  
11 economic and environmental issues affecting the pipeline  
12 region. As Schoharie's County's neighbor to the North, there  
13 are two main reasons why we're supporting this project.  
14 Since January, we've worked and we've made it a priority  
15 to explore economic development opportunities and working  
16 regionally. Our county is looking at numerous ways to put  
17 people back to work and to increase the labor force and  
18 if that's something that this project does, then I would  
19 have to say we are in full support of it. Also, if this  
20 project strengthens the region, which is another thing  
21 we've been working on since coming into office in January,  
22 it's something that we support as well. If Schoharie County  
23 benefit from this, if those people go back to work or get  
24 more work and that's somehow makes their lives better,  
25 Montgomery County " and we've already been working on

1 intermunicipal agreements with Schoharie County, with  
2 Otsego County, with Fulton County to make this region a  
3 better place and a better place to live. We have a  
4 pipeline, the Iroquois pipeline. It runs through Montgomery  
5 County. It was put in 1992. And this pipeline, if it  
6 does what it's supposed to do, which is put people to work,  
7 strengthen the economy and strengthen this area, we are  
8 fully behind it. I thank you very much.

9 MR. BOWMAN: Brandon Jones?

10 MR. BRANDON JONES: My name is Brandon  
11 Jones, B-R-A-N-D-O-N J-O-N-E-S. I am a member of the  
12 International Union of Operating Engineers, Local 158 of  
13 Glenmont, New York. I am here to support the Constitution  
14 pipeline. If approved, the Constitution, during the  
15 construction phase, there will be a positive economic  
16 impact. Local businesses such as hotels, motels,  
17 restaurants will greatly benefit from the construction  
18 crews, especially the various small businesses in the  
19 small towns along the proposed road. Also as an avid  
20 outdoorsman, I have seen how well wildlife react after  
21 or even during the construction and restoration of a  
22 pipeline. I have worked with environmental inspectors  
23 on other pipelines. They are very strict and observant,  
24 especially around streams and wetlands and other places.  
25 They have no problem at all shutting the job down until

1 they find a better way to do things. New York is far  
2 behind other states. This pipeline is what we need. It  
3 will give us the boost we have been needing for a long  
4 time. The Constitution pipeline is going to be a big help  
5 to local communities. Please approve the Constitution  
6 pipeline. Thank you.

7 MR. BOWMAN: Robert Nied?

8 MR. ROBERT NIED: My name is Robert Nied,  
9 R-O-B-E-R-T N-I-E-D. I'm a member of the Board of  
10 Directors of the Center for Sustainable Rural Communities,  
11 a 501C3 non-profit New York corporation serving Schoharie,  
12 Otsego, Delaware, Schenectady and Albany counties. As a  
13 nod to my union brothers and sisters, I'm a proud 25 year  
14 retired member of IBEW Local 827. Our organization by its  
15 charter is committed to building vibrant, livable,  
16 sustainable rural communities with access to the arts and  
17 technology and encouraging environmentally compatible  
18 economic development. However, for the last 18 months  
19 we've had very little time to do any of those important  
20 initiatives. Instead, we have been responding to an  
21 endless scream of visitors, phone calls and emails from  
22 residents across the region who are deeply concerned,  
23 upset and angry about the proposed pipeline. One after  
24 another they have related to us stories of bullying,  
25 intimidation, outright lies by representatives of the

1 pipeline company. They have told us about landmen  
2 swinging the threat of eminent domain like a hammer and  
3 pitting neighbor against neighbor and family against  
4 family member. They have told us about survey stakes and  
5 tapes that appear on their land while they were away  
6 visiting relatives. They have described their dream of  
7 retiring to a peaceful setting in which they have invested  
8 their life savings only to hear that it would be cut down  
9 the middle by a proposed pipeline, access road, mainline  
10 valve, metering station, communication tower or all of the  
11 above. They have told us about their children who ride  
12 the school bus on a route that will intersect heavy truck  
13 and equipment traffic coming from ill sited contractor  
14 yards. They have told us about drinking water that is  
15 drawn from a fragile course aquifer that could be as  
16 close as 100 feet from pipeline blasting operations.  
17 They have told us about streams, wetlands, maples, sugar  
18 bushes, hedge rows, stands of oak and hemlock forest  
19 and hayfields, all of which they cherish, have cultivated  
20 for years and that they need for fuel, need for food,  
21 need for peace of mind and want to preserve for their  
22 own legacy and as a gift to their children all threatened  
23 by this pipeline. They have told us about birds and  
24 nests year after year, eagles, blue herons, turtles,  
25 frogs, deer, fox, coyotes, bears, all threatened by this

1 pipeline. They have told us how they have intimate  
2 knowledge of extensive ecosystems that surround their  
3 homes that the DEIS does not even acknowledge. They have  
4 told us about their grandchildren who have forts and  
5 tree houses in the path of a pipeline. They tell us about  
6 the fear they feel living next to a pipeline operated by  
7 companies whose names return Google searches filled with  
8 long lists of leaks, explosions and fires including one  
9 less than 12 hours ago in the State of Washington. They  
10 tell us about the fear and anger of being forced to expose  
11 their children to the emissions from compressor stations  
12 and the fear of the ultimate industrialization of their  
13 rural communities they know damn well will follow this  
14 pipeline. They tell us about the generations that have  
15 farmed their land and their hopes that their children  
16 will continue that tradition, while reporting at the  
17 reluctance of their loan officers to fund seeds for  
18 next year's planting or to fund repairs for necessary  
19 machinery all because of the pipeline. They tell us  
20 about agricultural permits and certification in  
21 jeopardy because of this pipeline. I have grown  
22 emotionally weary of old men, aged women, middle aged  
23 women and young couples with babies all sitting at my  
24 table with tears in their eyes telling me and asking me  
25 the same questions; how could they do this to me, my

1 family and my community? On behalf of all of those  
2 people, I am here tonight not to ask the commission to  
3 reconsider this unnecessary and destructive pipeline  
4 but to beg the commission to deny approval for this  
5 pipeline. I stand in front of two Federal Agencies "  
6 thank you. I stand in front of two Federal Agencies  
7 this evening and I suspend my pride and my ego and I beg  
8 you, place the safety of those people, their property,  
9 their cherished environments and their dreams above  
10 the profits of an industry that cares nothing about  
11 them, defend them, protect them, stand up for them  
12 because they have far too much to lose and you are the  
13 only thing that stands between them and that loss. Thank  
14 you.

15 MR. BOWMAN: Don Perry? Angelina Martinez?

16 MS. ANGELINA MARTINEZ: Hi. I'm  
17 Angelina Martinez, A-N-G-E-L-I-N-A M-A-R-T-I-N-E-Z. I  
18 am a student at Schoharie Career and Technical School.  
19 When I first heard that someone was proposing to run a  
20 gas pipeline through our school, I thought it was a joke.  
21 You wouldn't run a pipeline through the middle of a high  
22 school social studies class. So why would you think it's  
23 okay to run it through our campus? I think there is a  
24 misconception on how Schoharie Tech is an ABO school, that  
25 the education that goes on there is an aftermath of

1 someone's plans to run a gas pipeline. You see the math,  
2 a piece of land and an opportunity to run a pipeline. But  
3 it's more than that. It is a school, a classroom and an  
4 opportunity for students like me to learn hands on in a  
5 free and supportive environment. I came here tonight  
6 with a list of 294 ruptures that have happened since the  
7 year 2000. I want to repeat that. There have been 294  
8 pipeline ruptures in the past 14 years. Please don't let  
9 our school be number 295. Go around the school. I don't  
10 have an opinion of the pipeline either way but, please, for  
11 the sake of our education, keep it off our school.

12 MR. MOONEYHAN: Taylor Brown? Devan Smida?

13 MR. DEVAN SMIDA: Hello. My name is Devan  
14 Smida, D-E-V-A-N S-M-I-D-A. I am a student currently  
15 enrolled in Schoharie Career and Technical Centers Heavy  
16 Equipment and Commercial and Residential construction  
17 program. I'm also a volunteer firefighter with the  
18 Schoharie Fire Department. Last year I took a course  
19 for the Schoharie Fire Department explaining gas  
20 pipeline safety and the dangers involved if one should  
21 rupture, if there should be an explosion, and that  
22 concern me. But what I'm more worried about is impact  
23 of the right of way on the future of students and the  
24 heavy equipment program. Out in the field we learn  
25 grading, diversion, digging ponds, clearing and growth

1 of all the surrounding environment. That would be taken  
2 away if they took the land for the pipeline. I really  
3 think this program set me up for success. I'm planning  
4 on attending Sumi Skill or Del High for diesel tech  
5 program and everything I've learned in the heavy  
6 equipment program really prepared me for that. If the  
7 land is taken for the pipeline, it's going to limit the  
8 experience for the students coming through in the following  
9 years. You can't just move everyone closer together and  
10 think they're going to have the same kind of experience.  
11 It's not going to happen. Eventually you're going to  
12 run out of room to train and the training will be do "  
13 you will be doing us little quality. The training that  
14 I've taken here is leading me for a job in the future  
15 that's going to be needed. But if the class changes  
16 because there's less room, those students won't have  
17 the same type of experience that I got for the job.  
18 I want other students to be able to get as good of  
19 an education as I have got at Schoharie Tech and Career  
20 School. I thank you for your time and respectfully  
21 ask that you move the proposed Constitution pipeline.  
22 Thank you.

23 MR. BOWMAN: John Privhera?

24 MR. JOHN PRIVITERA: Good evening. My name  
25 is John Privitera, P-R-I-V-I-T-E-R-A. I am a lawyer at

1 the Matamy Law Firm in Albany, New York. And I am here  
2 tonight to speak specifically to the DEIS on behalf of  
3 the Capital Region Board of Cooperative Educational  
4 Services. The first speaker tonight was Superintendent  
5 Sherman. You've heard from several students about the  
6 pipeline crossing the Career and Technical School. I want  
7 to put that in context here. The school owns 63 acres and  
8 only about 30 of those acres are available to teach because  
9 there's a gorging creek that runs through the property.  
10 About seven of the remaining acres are taken up by  
11 buildings and grounds. And this is a very specific  
12 school that was designed exactly to teach heavy equipment  
13 operation, maintenance and safety. So it has big bays,  
14 big garages, outbuildings and an entire teaching course  
15 on the remaining 23 acres that are available. Of those 23  
16 acres, the pipeline proposes to take by force, by eminent  
17 domain 5.6 acres of the school. And just as a student  
18 just said recently, that's like taking 25 percent of any  
19 other campus because the classrooms are outdoors. It's  
20 like taking 25 percent out of the structure of the building  
21 that we're standing in, sitting in tonight and expecting  
22 the school to still be able to perform. And not-  
23 withstanding that taking, the Environmental Impact  
24 Statement itself says on page 4, 129, that the impact of  
25 this taking on the school is not known to FERC, that you

1 ask the pipeline to describe the impact on the school and  
2 the pipeline company said they could not and you publish  
3 the DESI nonetheless. Well that's a fundamental short-  
4 coming under NIPA because the Environmental Impact  
5 Statement is supposed to explore the impact, lay it all  
6 out and mitigate it or avoid it to the extent of  
7 20 practicable. Here, 55 percent of this pipeline has been  
8 rerouted over the course of the analysis of this project,  
9 yet it's still determined to go through this campus and  
10 take about 25 percent of the classroom away.  
11 Fundamentally the EIS does not support that taking.  
12 It's weak and it cannot document consistent with law  
13 this taking. It's also a high consequence area with  
14 over 200 students in the building and as many as 60  
15 students outdoors teaching, learning at any one time  
16 with teachers, I should say. And yet that " the impact  
17 of this taking is not avoided or mitigated in any  
18 respect. Moreover, when the surveyors came to the  
19 school and said they were going to take 25 percent of  
20 the campus away, they also said they were going to put  
21 an access road right through the school. So the  
22 temporary access road as designed, as drawn in the EIS  
23 goes right through the bus loop, right through the  
24 collection area where the students take the heavy  
25 equipment out of the buildings, right through the main

1 road to the back classrooms and is simply incompatible  
2 with teaching students how to use heavy equipment. We  
3 will be submitting written comments on this matter, and  
4 we will be intervening in this proceeding before FERC.  
5 But it's very important for you folks to know tonight  
6 that the EIS is insufficient because it does not mitigate  
7 the impact on this school. It has to go someplace else.  
8 Thank you.

9 MR. BOWMAN: Bill Morton?

10 MR. BILL MORTON: Hi. My name is Bill  
11 Morton, B-I-L-L M-O-R-T-O-N. I'm representing the Village  
12 Of Middleburg as the Trustee. In a motion to intervene,  
13 Patricia J. Denores, Attorney for the New York State  
14 Department of Environmental Conservation stated on August  
15 17, 2013 on behalf of the Department, she said that, I  
16 quote, "Since the location of proposed project route has  
17 a high potential for development of natural gas extraction  
18 from Marsalis and Utica shale formations, the draft EIS  
19 must evaluate the cumulative impacts associated with these  
20 potential activities. The Village of Middleburg has two  
21 principle concerns relating to the cumulative impacts of  
22 gas drilling and fracking. First, a potential  
23 contamination of Middleburg's water supply and secondly,  
24 the probable adverse impacts of drilling and fracking on  
25 tourism. First, according to Lane Christensen Company, a

1 company involved in the hydrogeology of water wells,  
2 Schoharie Creek is a principle source of water for the  
3 Village's water supply. Thus, it is critically important  
4 to prevent Schoharie Creek from becoming contaminated with  
5 the highly toxic chemicals associated with drilling and  
6 fracking. According to the literature, about 7 percent  
7 of the wells which are drilled for gas and fracking fail.  
8 This failure is associated with failed well casings. Where  
9 is this likely to occur in Schoharie County? This  
10 uncertainty is too great a risk for Middleburg. The  
11 Village does not want gas drilling and fracking to occur  
12 anywhere in the Schoharie watershed upstream from the  
13 Village's water supply. Should the water supply be  
14 contaminated, where will the water come from and who will  
15 pay for it? The same principle has been applied to the  
16 New York City watershed where drilling and fracking have  
17 been banned. Middleburg is opposed to the Constitution  
18 pipeline in that it will facilitate gas drilling and  
19 fracking in the watershed upstream from Middleburg.  
20 Secondly, Schoharie County is among the most scenic and  
21 historically rich counties in New York State. Tourism,  
22 subsequently, has become a critical component of  
23 Middleburg's main street economy. New York State Route  
24 30, which cuts through the heart of Schoharie County, has  
25 been designated by the New York State Legislature as the

1 Timothy Murphy Trail. The Village established Timothy  
2 Murphy Park along the trail. The Village also working  
3 with other communities to reestablish New York State Route  
4 30 as the Timothy Murphy Trail and Scenic Byway. The  
5 Village has been investing in additional infrastructure  
6 intended to attract tourists, namely murals and quilt  
7 blocks on building facades, large wildflower patches at  
8 each entrance to the Village and flowering baskets  
9 adorning antique lamp posts to mention a few. These  
10 investments may be for naught. Tourists simply will  
11 not tolerate the sights and sounds of the gas industry  
12 such as the heavy volume of industrial sized trucks  
13 traveling through the Village of Middleburg by Routes  
14 30 and 145. Compressor stations located every two to  
15 four miles along majoring gathering lines which leave  
16 gashes and scars on forested mountain slopes and as many  
17 as 32 well pads each equal to 3.5 acres in size per square  
18 mile. The Village of Middleburg opposed installation of  
19 the Constitution pipeline as it will facilitate gas well  
20 drilling and fracking which in turn will disrupt and  
21 degrade tourism. I wish to submit into evidence a video  
22 entitled "Drilling for Natural Gas in Schoharie County, New  
23 York, lessons learned from Bradford and Susquehanna counties  
24 in Pennsylvania for the express purpose of demonstrating  
25 what a community can expect from gas drilling and fracking.

1 The truth be known, the impacts to tourism, especially the  
2 massive deployment of trucks cannot be mitigated. The  
3 Village has no intention to endure cumulative impacts on  
4 water quality and tourism in order for the gas industry  
5 to profit. The Village of Middleburg encourages, urges  
6 FERC and the Corp of Engineers not to deliver a project  
7 such as Constitution pipeline which will denigrate the  
8 Village and more broadly surrounded areas. Also included  
9 is a map of natural gas leased properties in Schoharie  
10 County outside of the pipeline right of way which verifies  
11 the intent of the gas industry to drill and frack in  
12 Schoharie County. I'd like to turn these two packets with  
13 the video over to the Corp of Engineers and FERC. Where  
14 shall I put them?

15 MR. BOWMAN: You can leave that with staff  
16 outside on the table.

17 MR. BILL MORTON: Okay, great. Thank you  
18 very much.

19 MR. MOONEYHAN: Matt Johnson?

20 MR. MATT JOHNSON: My name is Matt Johnson,  
21 M-A-T-T J-O-H-N-S-O-N. I'm a student in the Bosie's  
22 Career and Technical Schools heavy equipment, commercial  
23 and residential construction program. I'm here tonight to  
24 respectfully ask that the Constitutional pipeline not run  
25 through our Schoharie Campus. In addition to the safety

1 risk of placing a pipeline on the school's ground, there  
2 is also the fact that it will affect the class itself.  
3 In fact, I can't see how Bosie would be able to offer  
4 the equipment and commercial and residential construction  
5 program in the way that I'm taking now if the land was  
6 taken for a gas pipeline. I know it may seem like there's  
7 a lot of land out at our school and on paper it may seem  
8 like the pipeline wouldn't take up much space, but that's  
9 our classroom. We need every inch of that classroom  
10 space to learn to properly operate heavy machinery. When  
11 first started out in this program, I needed space to learn  
12 and to make mistakes. Taking any amount of that space is  
13 going to change the way future students in the class learn.  
14 Out of anybody I figured the people responsible for  
15 building and citing high pressure gas pipelines would  
16 want the best training possible for the heavy equipment  
17 operators that are doing it. That is this program. The  
18 way it exists right now with all the classroom space that  
19 is available to it, I can say personally that this program  
20 is an excellent one. Now I know that career and tech and  
21 the instructors will do their best to provide a great  
22 education no matter, but taking part of our classroom  
23 away for the Constitutional pipeline would no doubt  
24 change our heavy equipment and commercial and residential  
25 construction program. Thank you.

1 MR. BOWMAN: Terry Swett?

2 MR. TERRY SWETT: Hi. My name is Terry  
3 Swett, T-E-R-R-Y S-W-E-T-T. I am the Director of the  
4 Capital Region Career and Technical School, which has a  
5 campus here in Schoharie. Thank you for the opportunity  
6 to speak this evening about the proposal by Constitution  
7 pipeline to run a high pressure gas pipeline through  
8 Capital Region Career and Technical School's Schoharie  
9 Campus. Career and Tech is a middle state's accredited  
10 and New York State Education Department approved school  
11 operated by Capital Region BOCES. We offer more than  
12 40 technical programs of study for high school and adult  
13 students at our campuses in Albany and Scholarly. Hands  
14 on learning is the hallmark of the career and technical  
15 school experience. While traditional lecture, reading,  
16 writing projects are all part of our programs, the majority  
17 of our students time is spent gaining practical experience  
18 in their chosen trade or profession. Currently we have  
19 208 students enrolled in programs on the Schoharie Campus.  
20 At Schoharie CT we offer eight areas of study, the very  
21 most popular of which is our residential construction  
22 and commercial construction heavy equipment program.  
23 We currently have 59 students attending these programs  
24 daily. Our construction heavy equipment experience our  
25 highest enrollment due to the increased demand for

1 trained professional in these area. The 63 acre Schoharie  
2 Campus constructed in 1972 was specifically designed to  
3 provide students with ample and diverse terrain where they  
4 can hone their skills with a range of heavy equipment,  
5 including backhoes, bulldozers, excavators, farm tractors,  
6 skid steer loaders, dump trucks and rollers. During their  
7 coursework, students learn under the supervision of  
8 teachers to safely operate each piece of equipment.  
9 Digging, trenching, operating, among other skills are  
10 practiced on a daily basis. While Capital Region BOCES  
11 does not endorse or condemn the Constitution pipeline  
12 project as a whole, we do believe a gas pipeline running  
13 through the Schoharie Campus would threaten the safety of  
14 our students and the future of the campus and its  
15 programs. Having to navigate around a potentially volatile  
16 pipeline would add an additional layer of stress to an  
17 already exacting practice and create justified concerns  
18 about the safety of all of the students learning on our  
19 campus. According to a study commissioned by Capital  
20 Region BOCES, an accidental rupture or failure of the  
21 pipeline at our campus location would be fatal to any  
22 student receiving instruction outdoors. And there is no  
23 guarantee that students and staff inside classrooms would  
24 survive a blast or a thermal radiation either. I am the  
25 director of the Career and Technical School. I do not want

1 22 to have those kinds of conversations with parents. The  
2 safety and welfare of our students is our number one  
3 concern. Every school day parents and guardians entrust  
4 their children to us with the expectation that we will  
5 treat them as our own and that we are invested not only  
6 in their academic success but their personal safety.  
7 For these reasons, we believe it would be irresponsible  
8 for us to endorse the location of a gas pipeline on a  
9 BOCES Educational facility. Thank you.

10 MR. BOWMAN: Kevin Kutzscher?

11 MR. KEVIN KUTZSCHER: Good evening, ladies  
12 and gentlemen. Thank you for the opportunity to speak. My  
13 name is Kevin Kutzscher, K-U-T-Z-S-C-H-E-R, and I am a  
14 current sitting Schoharie County Representative on the  
15 Capital Region Board of Cooperative Education Services.  
16 I am very surprised tonight. I didn't really have any  
17 prepared remarks but in my thought process of what I  
18 might say tonight there's two dates that anybody that has  
19 lived in Schoharie County can remember. That is March of  
20 1990 when an eight inch pipeline devastated an entire  
21 village and August of 2010 when 40 families, 110 people had  
22 to be evacuated from the hamlet of Broom Center and Mackey  
23 when the pipeline ruptured again. Luckily this time there  
24 was no fire. It was a small leak. I put those together  
25 with the thought of safety of our students and the

1 children and our staff and faculty and I remember my  
2 mother calling me and saying, "What should I do? My  
3 mom lives in Mackey. "They've told me I have to leave.  
4 She was over a mile away from the leak. I told her that  
5 she was more than welcome to come to my house. She  
6 decided not to and luckily nothing happened. I just think  
7 that putting the pipeline through our school in the  
8 vicinity of students that are training and using equipment  
9 that they're not familiar with at the time is a really,  
10 really bad idea. I would appeal to everyone to use their  
11 common sense and reposition this away from the school.  
12 Thank you.

13 MR. BOWMAN: Megan Powell? Jack Phelan?

14 MR. JACK PHELAN: Good evening. My name  
15 is Jack Phelan. It's P-H-E-L-A-N. And I am the current  
16 President of the Capital Region BOCES. I'd first like  
17 to read the letter from our superintendent, Charles  
18 Dietrich who could not attend tonight due to other  
19 commitments. "I am writing to express my opposition to  
20 the Constitution Pipeline Company's request for a right  
21 of way through the Capital Region BOCES Career and  
22 Technical Ed Schools, Schoharie Campus for the purpose  
23 of citing a 30 inch natural gas pipeline. Prehistorical  
24 perspective, I would note that Constitution first offered  
25 Capital Region BOCES \$25,475 for a right of way for the

1 pipeline to run through Schoharie Campus. This offer was  
2 declined by our Board of Education on September 13, 2013.  
3 Constitution made a follow up offer of \$172,830 on November  
4 18, 2013 that was also declined. While Capital Region  
5 BOCES does not endorse or condemn the Constitution  
6 Pipeline project as a whole, it is our position that a 30  
7 inch gas pipeline running through the Schoharie Campus  
8 would threaten the safety of our students and future of  
9 the campus and its programs in that no amount of money  
10 would be enough for us to accept a pipeline in that  
11 location. It is the mission of Capital Region BOCES to  
12 provide educational opportunities in a safe and welcoming  
13 learning environment. The safety and welfare of our  
14 students in my main concern and it would be irresponsible  
15 of me to endorse the location of a gas pipeline on any  
16 Capital Region BOCES Educational facility, let alone  
17 where we are teaching students how to operate heavy  
18 equipment. There are now more than 208 students enrolled  
19 at Capital Region BOCES Career and Technical Education  
20 School, Schoharie Campus and for their education we use  
21 the campus as much as possible. Unlike a traditional  
22 school where instruction takes place primarily in a  
23 classroom, at Career and Tech the entire campus is the  
24 classroom. WE have requested information from  
25 Constitution regarding the crossing of the property but

1 it is still not clear where or how the school would be  
2 impacted. To date, the applicant has offered no  
3 information as to how our school would be impacted. In  
4 conclusion, for the safety and hiring of our students  
5 entrusted to our care and for the safety and wellbeing  
6 of our children entrusted to our care and for the future  
7 of the education program that prepares students for  
8 success, we ask that the Constitution Pipeline Company  
9 remove its proposed pipeline from the Schoharie Career and  
10 Technical Education School campus. To follow up on that,  
11 as President of the Board, when we " we represent 24  
12 School Districts across four counties and our board is  
13 uniformly is opposed to this. When we first looked at  
14 this proposal and looked into the ramifications, we were  
15 frankly astounded at the idea that this would be placed  
16 in this kind of an educational situation where this kind  
17 of activities with students operating heavy equipment and  
18 which would endanger the pipeline in ways we don't know.  
19 There's also been this area also has, as anybody knows,  
20 who has experienced the recent heavy storms and hurricanes  
21 22 and the topography of this area which is slopes and has  
22 a lot of slopes and it is along I88. That there have  
23 been a lot of washouts in this area in Schoharie County.  
24 And this pipe would be subject, we fear also, among all  
25 our other concerns would be subject to wash and being

1 exposed to the elements in ways that cannot be predicted  
2 now. So in closing, please consider our concerns for our  
3 students and have this pipeline moved to another place.  
4 Thank you.

5 MR. BOWMAN: Howard Hannum?

6 MR. HOWARD HANNUM: Howard, H-O-W-A-R-D,  
7 Hannum, H-A-N-N-U-M. I am cofounder of the Concerned  
8 Citizens of Trial Creek. First I'd like to say that the  
9 presence of the children be highly are very encouraging  
10 and very inspiring. And I can only hope that their  
11 enthusiasm would rub off on the children located throughout  
12 the Lower county. I direct your attention to 4.9.5 of the  
13 document dealing with property values and mortgages.  
14 4.9.5. How many people here tonight tried to sell property  
15 in the State of New York? What's the biggest problem?  
16 I'll tell you what the biggest problem is. The biggest  
17 problem is that the people on the other end can't find  
18 a mortgage. How many times have we been on the phone with  
19 a broker and we're saying are they coming up this weekend?  
20 They're supposed to come up on Sunday. Are they going to be  
21 here on Sunday? Well I'm sorry, Mr. Jones, but the buyers  
22 can't find a mortgage. If you talk to any broker in any  
23 state in the Country they'll tell you New York State  
24 real estate is the toughest state to sell a house in  
25 the country. When you add in pipeline agreements and

1 land lease agreements and easements, you open yourself  
2 up to a whole other set of documentation making a very  
3 difficult situation next to impossible. Now 4.9.5, I'm  
4 not going to read that to you because it will take up  
5 the rest of my four minutes, but I will paraphrase and  
6 say we received comments regarding the potential effect  
7 of the property and pipeline on property values, specific  
8 issues mentioning including the evaluation of property  
9 encumbered by a pipeline easement being the responsible  
10 party for the property taxes, insurance issues and they  
11 three or four paragraphs with timber laws, etc. Land  
12 values are determined by appraisals which take into  
13 account objective characteristics of the property,  
14 such as size, location and adding any improvements.  
15 However, subjective valuation is generally not considered  
16 in the appraisals. Well let me state right here, right  
17 now that if and when I sell my property I will be using  
18 subjective valuation and I can't think of one self  
19 respecting New Yorker that would ever sell his or her  
20 property to a pipeline company from Oklahoma for a value  
21 that you deem worthy. Now, listen up. This is the good  
22 stuff here. Williams Partners submitted three studies  
23 to prove their point and once again they failed  
24 miserably. They submitted these three studies. The  
25 first is a study in 2011 which looked

1 at the effects of natural gas transmission in the state  
2 of Arizona. That has nothing to do with New York State  
3 real estate. This next one, study number two, is really  
4 going to blow your mind. Studies conducted by PGP  
5 Valuation Incorporated in polymer gas transmission and  
6 EcoWest in the State of Oregon on the LNG project. Now  
7 what makes this unique is the gas company owns all three  
8 entities. The gas company basically owns this study. It's  
9 like Motor Trend Car of the Year is always a Chevy because  
10 Chevy owns the magazine. You'll never find a Dodge as the  
11 Motor Trend Car of the Year. While this particular study in  
12 Oregon reflects the views of the gas company. They did  
13 three bullet points to prove their point in this study.  
14 There was no prolonged impact and this one is really one  
15 I had to take issue with. Interviews with buyers and  
16 brokers indicated no measurable impact on value or price.  
17 While I would have to state right here that right now  
18 that I know you didn't interview buyers and brokers  
19 along the 124 mile Constitution pipeline route because  
20 you're not even allowed on 62 percent of the properties.  
21 Study number three is the Hansen AL 2006 from the  
22 State of Washington which studied effects of the  
23 pipeline accident the further you got away. And I will  
24 end with this. To the comment on the Hansen AL in  
25 particular, I feel that it is overstating the obvious

1 the further away from an accident you are the more  
2 return on your investment. But make no bones about it,  
3 my property located 10 miles from your accident will  
4 devalue every bit as much as the properties located on  
5 200 feet away from the one that you obliterated during  
6 the explosion.

7 MR. MOONEYHAN: Mary? Not sure of that  
8 last name.

9 MS. MARY FINNERAN: Finneran.

10 MR. MOONEYHAN: Mary Finneran.

11 MS. MARY FINNERAN: Hi. I have some  
12 comments I'm going to be leaving out front too because  
13 I've got way too much here. But I would like to finish  
14 what Diane Sefcik was going to be talking about and then  
15 I'll continue with some more of my own stuff. Because of  
16 projects with generally traverse sparsely populated areas,  
17 this is from the --. There are a number of persons  
18 who would be at risk of injury due to a pipeline failure  
19 would be low, I'd say none. There should be none. And  
20 there is no evidence that such risk would be dis-  
21 proportionately born by any racial, ethnic or socio-  
22 economic group. Safety impact models, however, do  
23 discriminate against rural people. This is clear in  
24 the Federal Standard regulations, as well as the New York  
25 DEC

1 proposed LNG regulations. These standards provide  
2 great protection for urban populations. All people,  
3 however, regardless of where we live seem to be  
4 regarded as collateral damage in the scramble for profit  
5 and political advantage, especially when you consider that  
6 they are going through a school. What kind of  
7 consideration is there that these people care at all about  
8 the people over profit? None. I want to say that one  
9 thing, my first general comment about the dice is that it's  
10 so obfuscating. You cannot read it. There are no page  
11 numbers when you go for a search online. They have  
12 sections. When you put in a certain phrase in the search,  
13 the sections come up. And they'll say a page. But you  
14 can't find a page looking at the document. And you can't  
15 find it online. It is so difficult to find anything  
16 to comment on. I am a welder. I was a welder, trained  
17 welder. I'm extremely concerned about unverified but  
18 firsthand reports to me that welders on the pipeline in  
19 Pennsylvania are being trained on the job. Not all but  
20 some. That's like training a pilot on the job flying.  
21 As a train welder who studied for more than 1000 hours  
22 in ARC, MEG, TEG and flex core welding and who worked  
23 as a girth welder in the round on compressors for air  
24 conditioning units, so between eight and probably 20  
25 inch in diameter, some of them were automatic welders,

1 some STK and some MEG, I am very concerned about that  
2 welders be ASME certified as a dice indicates they  
3 should be. If welders are being trained on the job,  
4 you are just asking for some of these explosions that  
5 people are talking about. I am also very concerned about  
6 welds done on site, due to the difficulty in keeping  
7 inclusions out of the welds. I question the testing that  
8 will be done and if it will be on every bead, on every  
9 pipe. Ideally actually you could probably just throw  
10 this all out because this is just another case of where  
11 the people are being just bulldozed into this and I really  
12 do feel sorry for these people here who have the signs on  
13 that their jobs are on the line or their lives are on the  
14 line. And these pipelines are just a case of that. I  
15 wonder, there's certain things in there that just mention  
16 very briefly, Iroquois anticipates using a combination of  
17 nitrogen and water from municipal sources for hydrostatic  
18 testing. This is on page 66, Section 216. I'm concerned  
19 about the lack of detail concerning why that Iroquois  
20 Pipeline Group should change for their hydrostatic  
21 testing. There's nothing in there about that. I also  
22 wonder how much the Iroquois is involved in the  
23 construction, whether it's environmental impact  
24 statement will be written regarding the connection between  
25 the Iroquois. I am very concerned about environmental

1 harms to soil. According to a Penn State professor in this  
2 study, topographical soil constraints of shale gas  
3 development in North Central Appalachians published in  
4 the September to October 2012 issue of the Soil Science  
5 Society for American Journal, we now think that pair  
6 development is a lesser landscape disruption than the  
7 pipelines. People have talked about that. I see pipelines  
8 and these.

9 MR. MOONEYHAN: Please finish.

10 MS. MARY FINNERAN: Eight inch pipelines are  
11 what we used to. These are 30 inch pipelines. How much  
12 disruption? How much explosion can happen with a 30 inch  
13 pipeline? This has just got to be stopped. No. Thank  
14 you.

15 MR. BOWMAN: Debbie Getz?

16 MS. DEBORA GETZ: Good evening. My  
17 name is Debora Getz, D-E-B-O-R-A G-E-T-Z. I'm very much  
18 an environmentalist. I don't question that at all.  
19 However, I also learned that anything in life is  
20 debatable. You can have the best professional scientists  
21 and they can all have a different opinion on the same  
22 thing. We can debate solar. It's natural. It's wonderful.  
23 However, the panels are made of very toxic materials.  
24 Wind is very natural. It's wonderful. But the turbines  
25 have very highly toxic lubricants and chemicals in them.

1 I've been very blessed and fortunate to have traveled in  
2 all 50 states, in Europe and Northern African. Alaska is  
3 beautiful. I blogged on the pipeline area and see very  
4 robust trees and moose and elk all over and eating  
5 around the pipeline areas. There are no problems. I  
6 also know there are accidents every day in life, in  
7 automobiles, boats, planes. An acquaintance of mine, a  
8 very good pilot for 30 years accidentally clipped a tree  
9 and went down and went up in flames. I served in the  
10 Marine Corp during the Vietnam War. I know people die  
11 and I also know people who didn't care about us. They  
12 didn't care about our safety. They ridiculed us. I'm  
13 very aware of where I live now in a rural area. There's  
14 no natural gas drilling, no pipeline, but yet my water  
15 is not potable. I have three water filters and an ultra-  
16 violet light to have potable water. As far as natural  
17 gas, the seats we're sitting in now are because of natural  
18 gas, natural gas byproducts are made in so many things.  
19 The belts and hoses in cars, our farm equipment are  
20 all byproducts of natural gas. Computer, cell phones,  
21 I can't imagine anybody giving up a computer and a  
22 cell phone now. But yet we don't want natural gas.  
23 So I'm not quite understanding that. I see " I know  
24 people who are environmentalists but have rusted  
25 equipment on their properties which goes into our

1 drinking water. But they don't seem to care about  
2 that. As far as items made from natural gas, 90  
3 percent of what we touch is made of natural gas. Our  
4 eyeglasses we wear, kids toys, buckets and hoses,  
5 farm equipment, belts and hoses in automobiles, all  
6 byproducts of natural gas. I don't know how we could  
7 live without it. Schools don't have computers and cell  
8 phones and pens and water bottles, toothbrushes, toys,  
9 everything that you can think of is just about made  
10 from byproducts of natural gas. Wood burning stoves,  
11 it seems natural but yet we're cutting down trees for  
12 wood burning stoves and they leave highly carcinogens  
13 in the atmosphere. I don't know why we're not banning  
14 tobacco, cigarette smoke. If you're an environmentalist,  
15 why on earth would you smoke? You're cutting down trees  
16 plus all the carcinogens you're putting in the air.  
17 Natural gas pipelines, God, they've been under towns  
18 and cities for over 100 years. Are there accidents?  
19 Of course. Any time there is a human being involved  
20 there is an accident. It just always will happen.  
21 An accident won't ever stop. As far as the percentage  
22 of them, a natural gas pipeline, I can't see a high  
23 percentage of an accident. I've seen enough people  
24 being blown up in my time. Natural gas is low on the  
25 radar for me.

1 MR. MOONEYHAN: Please finish.

2 MS. DEBORA GETZ: If you don't want to  
3 have a pipeline in Schoharie County, I'll take it on my  
4 property. Thank you.

5 MR. MOONEYHAN: Andrew Mason?

6 MR. ANDREW MASON: My name is Andrew  
7 Mason. That's M-A-S-O-N. And I'm co-president of the  
8 Delaware Seagull Water bond Society. Our organization  
9 had earlier provided comments on the environmental  
10 report for the Constitution pipeline. IN our submission  
11 we raised concerns over large blocks of relatively  
12 unbroken forest habitat that will be fragmented by the  
13 pipeline right of way and the negative impacts this will  
14 have on interior forest birds. The DEIS states that  
15 the right of way will fragment 36 miles of interior forest  
16 and over 300 interior wooded tracks. These lands to be  
17 bisected by the right of way are the last large forested  
18 parcels in the area in many cases. This will be the  
19 greatest single act of forest fragmentation in the region.  
20 We documented in our submission that this will have major  
21 negative impacts on nesting forest birds, many of which  
22 are already in decline and at risk. Numerous studies  
23 show that creating corridors and forest edges in larger  
24 tracks increases the rates of nest predation and  
25 parasitism. Birds affected include many neotropical

1 migrants such as wood thrush and scarlet tanager as well  
2 as resident woodland birds. The fragmented forest  
3 areas represent much of the nesting habitat for these  
4 species. In turn, Central New York is an important  
5 stronghold for breeding habitat for these species. The  
6 importance of the remaining undisturbed forest lands  
7 cannot be overstated. The DEIS proposes largely und-  
8 defined mitigation for impacts on forest birds and states  
9 the developer plans to reduce the right of way from 110  
10 feet to 100 feet. This demonstrates an appalling ignorance  
11 or a convenient avoidance of the science we presented in  
12 our comments. A 100 foot corridor is several times the  
13 the width that will introduce the negative impacts that  
14 are found in avian studies.

15 A 10 foot reduction for mitigation is no mitigation  
16 at all. In fact, there is no possible mitigation for  
17 these impacts and to suggest that there is serves only  
18 to provide the developer with a screen to avoid  
19 addressing the true negative impacts of the pipeline  
20 regarding birds. Despite the clear scientific  
21 consensus and evidence the fragmenting forest produces  
22 significant impacts over bird species and despite FERC's  
23 own statistics showing that major forested areas will  
24 be affected by the pipeline. The DEIS somehow reaches  
25 the conclusion, "that the proposed project would not

1 have a significant adverse effect on wildlife. When  
2 projects pose such a clear and present threat to bird  
3 habitat as this, one wonders what FERC and its staff  
4 could possibly consider a significant adverse impact.  
5 The bias n favor of approving this project is blatant  
6 and obvious. We urge that this document be withdrawn and  
7 and evenhanded and scientifically valid environmental  
8 review of this major project be carried out and submitted  
9 for public consideration as required by law. Thank you.

10 MR. MOONEYHAN: Mark Galasso?

11 MR. MARK GALASSO: Hello. My name is Mark  
12 Galasso, M-A-R-K G-A-L-A-S-S-O. I'd like to thank you  
13 for giving me the opportunity to comment on the DEIS  
14 for the Constitution pipeline. I'd like to take a little  
15 different track. I Googled the U.S. Department of  
16 Energy, total U.S. energy consumption, the latest data  
17 available, 2012. 26,000 terawatt hours. That's a 27 with 15  
18 zeros after it, annual energy consumption, all sources,  
19 all purposes. That's residential, commercial, industrial,  
20 transportation and electricity generation. That works out  
21 to 83 megawatt hours per capita in the United States. Our  
22 society, as any modern society, depends on energy. To put  
23 into perspective the need for fossil fuels, I went through  
24 the math of calculating sole source energy. Starting with  
25 Schoharie County as the example, 32,700 residents. For our

1 per capital share of U.S. energy consumption our county  
2 alone would need 310,000 windmills, one megawatt a piece.  
3 If we were to sole source nuclear power plants at 1,500  
4 megawatts, our county alone would need 200 nuclear power  
5 plants. Solar, for our county we would need 5,100 square  
6 miles of solar panels. Our entire county is only 626  
7 square miles. We would cover eight counties with solar  
8 panels killing every fish, every bird, every tree because  
9 the sun would be blocked. The U.S. energy consumption to  
10 do it 100 percent in solar would cover 96 percent of the  
11 Earth's land surface. Straight math right out of Google.  
12 Take average energy production of a solar panel and do  
13 math. This very room that we are in, natural gas  
14 heated. Half of the cost of number two oil. That's  
15 savings to this school district which is in hard  
16 financial times. Natural gas is 85 percent cleaner  
17 than number two oil. The tax revenue that this project  
18 calculates out to on the per foot tax generation for  
19 the Cobleskill Richmondville School District alone is in  
20 excess of \$1.2 million of revenue per year. The  
21 advantage of a natural gas energy source as opposed to,  
22 and I'll use number two oil as the example, there's no  
23 trucks on the road. We're talking thousands of truck  
24 trips to equate what a 30 inch gas pipeline can  
25 transport. I don't know how many tankers on a train it

1 would take to transport that much energy but it's a lot.  
2 The trains go right through our villages. The trucks go  
3 right through over our highways through our roads. The  
4 question is not whether or not there are impacts. Any  
5 proponent who says there are no impacts are being dis-  
6 ingenuous. I am a proponent there are impacts. Any  
7 opponent who says there are no benefits is equally dis-  
8 ingenuous. The question is can society survive with what  
9 our demands are for energy without fossil fuels? I don't  
10 think any honest person can say yes. We can go back to  
11 pre-industrial revolution, mid-1800's. there were no  
12 fossil fuels. There were no windmills. There were no  
13 nuclear power plants. We didn't have any of the  
14 concerns that have been raised here tonight and our  
15 average life expectancy was 34 years old. I'm not a  
16 proponent of that. I'm a huge proponent of this pipe-  
17 line. I think it's FERC's obligation to manage every  
18 possible route, minimize the very legitimate concerns  
19 that are out there. They are legitimate. Find the one  
20 that has the least impact and approve it. Thank you.

21 MR. BOWMAN: Vera Scroggins?

22 MS. VERA SCROGGINS: My name is Vera  
23 Scroggins, V-E-R-A S-C-R-O-G-G-I-N-S. I want to say that  
24 I'm from Susquehanna County. And we have pipelines there,  
25 hundreds of miles. Since 2008 for the gas drilling

1 industry. And in our pipelines they're using a lot of  
2 people who are from out of the area. So I hear a lot of  
3 union people here talking about if, a lot of if's. If  
4 they use our labor. Are you guaranteed by Williams to  
5 be employed? What unions are being guaranteed by  
6 Williams to be employed? Because if you look in our  
7 county where Williams operates, they use a lot of out of  
8 area people. And they also use non-union besides union.  
9 So unless you're guaranteed, I wouldn't count on it.  
10 You'll see the percentage that they will use. And with  
11 that, when they use the pipelines and they go through all  
12 the wetlands, the streams, the creeks, the areas of water,  
13 just like in our county, we've had all kinds of impacts.  
14 We've had drill mud releases a number of times in all the  
15 waterways. And that impacts the area. They've been  
16 fined by the fish and boat commission for the impacts.  
17 Are you willing to experience that as they go through your  
18 wetlands and your environment? This is not a risk free  
19 operation. You're talking right now it's a 30 inch  
20 pipeline. Some of the pipelines that have of course  
21 are smaller even and now we have the 30 inch and some  
22 are bigger. I would like to say also that with that  
23 comes the infrastructure, the additional compressor  
24 14 stations that may be added to this pipeline. When they  
25 did a 16 inch of my county and where I live, they told

1 16 us " the company told us and reassured us that there  
2 would  
3 be no compressor stations along that line. WE asked them  
4 a number of times. I was an intervener for that line.  
5 I'm an intervener for this line. And then when the pipe-  
6 line was built, we now have eight compressor stations on  
7 that -- along that line where they promised us and said  
8 there would be none. So it might be very difficult to  
9 believe this company as well as other companies will  
10 they sign it? Will they write it in writing for you?  
11 Will they promise that they will have no compressor  
12 stations like they're stating besides the ones that  
13 are here now? Get everything in writing because  
14 what they tell you one thing is not always what  
15 happens later. And with those compressor stations  
16 come all kinds of toxic emissions by the tons. But  
17 each station besides constant noise for those who are  
18 nearby. And then they tell you also what kind of  
19 classification is for this pipeline. We are in a  
20 rural area just like yourselves. Anything that's  
21 10 homes or less in like a linear mile is considered  
22 by FERC a class one classification. Class 1 means the  
23 least amount of regulations. The more people in an  
24 area, the more regulations, the more enforcement and  
25 the more inspections. So what are you classified as?

1 From what I'm seeing it looks like it's going to be  
2 like where I am, Class 1. So you're talking about a  
3 30 inch line. Do you know what kind of impact area if  
4 there is a leak and there is an explosion? When you're  
5 talking pressures of up to 1500 pounds per square inch,  
6 you're talking about massive pressures here. This is not  
7 like suburbia where they have small lines and small  
8 pressure. If that should leak and that should blow,  
9 you're talking about miles of an impact area. Now  
10 these lines are going through farms like I'm hearing,  
11 near homes, just like near me there is no setback, no  
12 minimum setback. I'm not sure what it is here. You  
13 may probably have the same thing. No minimum setback.  
14 We have lines within hundred feet of homes. We have  
15 compressor stations within 400 feet of homes. There's  
16 no minimum setback for that either.

17 MR. MOONEYHAN: Please conclude.

18 MS. VERA SCROGGINS: So if anything  
19 happens, you are talking about miles of impacts. Are you  
20 ready to endure something like that besides the devaluing  
21 of your properties, the value of your property because  
22 who is going to buy something with a 30 inch line going  
23 through your area and your towns? Thank you very much.

24 MR. MOONEYHAN: Craig Stevens?

25 MR. CRAIG STEVENS: Good evening, and thanks

1 for the opportunity for me to speak. My name is Craig,  
2 C-R-A-I-G Steven, S-T-E-V-E-N-S. I'm a six generation  
3 landowner in Pennsylvania, Silver Lake Township. My mom is  
4 from  
5 Oswego. I'm a fifth generation New Yorker. Here tonight  
6 I think you need to rename this project the un-  
7 Constitutional pipeline. Thank you very much. There is  
8 the Constitution itself. I carry it in my back pocket  
9 every day. My dad called it the rule book. Let me read  
10 for you Amendment 5 which says, "nor be deprived,  
11 liberty or property without due process of law, nor  
12 shall private property be taken for public use  
13 without just compensation. Ask the people that live  
14 near the pipeline that blew up in Kentucky that leveled  
15 multiple homes what just compensation would be, especially  
16 if a family member's life was taken in that. America's  
17 fuel, no, folks, we're America's fools. There is 37  
18 import/export terminals in place right now. They're  
19 trying to reverse flow because we have to do what? Save  
20 Ukraine and Western Europe? How about we start saving  
21 ourselves first? Any time you're competing with a  
22 foreign country for the same commodity that we need in  
23 our own homes, guess what? The price goes up, folks, and  
24 that's the law of supply and demand. Of course we could  
25 look at what's happening to my land owning partners.

1 You know these wells, these hydro frack, high volume  
2 wells are lasting about three to five years of output.  
3 The first year alone is up to 70 percent reduction in  
4 its output. Is that what we're selling out for is a  
5 couple years of fuel out of each well? Because if you  
6 think my neighbors are getting rich in Pennsylvania,  
7 the biggest, the fastest moving legislation right now  
8 in Pennsylvania is the Royalty Protection Act. Hey,  
9 these fools that are coming here telling us they're  
10 going to make us all kind of money don't even know  
11 how to pay people on a legal contract, and they're  
12 getting their rearends sued off where we're at.  
13 Environmental impact statement, let's look at the  
14 Constitutional impact statement for a moment.  
15 Suspending operations for import. There is no such  
16 thing as import of natural gas. But, they're setting  
17 up export. Now I asked the Constitution Pipeline people  
18 in Williams last year when you were doing the scoping  
19 hearings directly on camera if they know where this gas  
20 is going and if they can assure me it's not going  
21 overseas. Guess what? They said, "WE don't know where it  
22 goes after Albany. Well if you just go on their Website  
23 you can see under "key points one of the highlighted  
24 items is the L&G Exports on their own Website, guys. Is  
25 this thing on, FERC? Are you listening to me? They don't

1 even " they can't even trip over their own lies. That's  
2 what they're doing. Please, they abuse us as landowners.  
3 The pipeline that went across my property, we were assured  
4 and I have the legal document here showing they were  
5 supposed to put in an erosion and sediment control, not  
6 harm the environment. Well guess what? They got found  
7 guilty by not one but two agencies in Pennsylvania.  
8 Fish and boat and DEP that they violated their own  
9 agreement with me and guess what? They fined them  
10 \$20,000 after filing five criminal complaints. Now  
11 that wasn't Williams. Williams now owns that pipeline.  
12 And by the way, if you guys are from Williams, come  
13 up to my property and tell me how you're going to clean  
14 up the mess left behind by your predecessors. Hey,  
15 they spent \$150 million to put that pipeline in. And  
16 you know what they sold it for to Williams? Lazer did.  
17 \$750 million. By the way, they only gave \$350 million in  
18 cash. \$450 million in stock. So the same guys that ran  
19 that pipeline across my property and destroyed my  
20 property doing it are major shareholders in the company  
21 that wants to do this. And don't even let me get started  
22 on Cabot. I got documents right here from our own State  
23 DEP saying they contaminated the water of 19 of my  
24 neighbors, and that's the documents from the DEP and  
25 hundreds more that were released last years, documents

1 showing massive water contamination. Be careful what you  
2 ask for New York. You might get it. Come down and see  
3 what's really going on or talk to real land owners that  
4 care about private property rights and civil rights and  
5 ask these people who are you kidding. They've been allowed  
6 for the last two years, Williams, to go around to these  
7 local communities and give out "grants . Millions of  
8 dollars of grants. Thanks very much but keep your  
9 grants. We've had enough of your buy off money in  
10 Northeastern Pennsylvania. We're not interested  
11 anymore in falling for the banana in the tailpipe, as  
12 Eddie Murphy said in Beverly Hills Cop. We don't need  
13 your gas. You know why? We " if it's going to come out  
14 of my backyard, let us use it here. Why do our propane  
15 prices go up three times higher than last year just in the  
16 last 90 days? They reversed the flow of that pipeline  
17 and you probably let them steal by eminent domain.  
18 Instead of coming up with propane, they're sending all  
19 of our's down. We are a third world attraction colony  
20 and, hey, all you guys in the orange shirts back there  
21 hoping for jobs, yeah be careful what you're asking for.  
22 Some of the jobs I've seen are not very fun. Secondly "  
23 or safe. Secondly, make them guarantee you jobs, and any  
24 job will be short term. And for the landowners, say not  
25 to this and say no fast. They'll offer a few bucks a

1 foot and they'll steal it lifetime.

2 MR. BOWMAN: Please conclude your comments.

3 MR. CRAIG STEVENS: I will in saying that,  
4 guess what? When they're making billions of dollar  
5 sending that gas through your property that they sold by  
6 eminent domain and paid you a few bucks and cut down  
7 all the trees in the pipeline route, you're going to  
8 get pennies. Wake up. And figure out a different way  
9 to do this because I need energy but I need clean water,  
10 and I need my civil rights a lot more than they need my  
11 land for a pipeline. Thank you.

12 MR. BOWMAN: William Huston?

13 MR. WILLIAM HUSTON: Hello there. Thank  
14 you. Thank you for holding these hearings. The last  
15 name is H-U-S-T-O-N. I just want to say that I've really  
16 been following this for quite some time and just as a  
17 point of reference, there were actually in the Spectra "  
18 I want to call it the resistance group because it's really  
19 a massive group based in New York City that was involved in  
20 the Spectra pipeline resistance. They were able to  
21 achieve, I think, 600 interveners prior to the Spectra  
22 docket. The largest number of interveners in any FERC  
23 docket was 35. They filed 5000 comments. Many of them  
24 were substantive, and the pipeline is in the ground.  
25 And it's in service. So I question exactly is this going

1 to have any effect? Maybe it's just like a big show.  
2 It's to channel our energies into a theatre where we  
3 don't have any agency. But regardless of that, we are  
4 still gathered here because we want to believe that this  
5 process might have an impact. So I'm just going to  
6 point out a couple of issues about the application and  
7 also the draft EIS, and I want to echo all the other  
8 people that said that this is like laughable and the  
9 clear bias is obvious for anybody that looks at the  
10 draft EIS. I'll give you an example. So I made a video  
11 about this and basically the question is what is the  
12 start of the Constitution pipeline? And it's really  
13 curious because when you ask Williams' employees, you  
14 actually get three different answers. You get half the  
15 time they'll say, "Yes it is the start. I'm sorry. The  
16 William Central Station is the start of the Constitution  
17 pipeline and Brooklyn Township, Pennsylvania, Susquehanna  
18 County. Let's say a third of the time they say that.  
19 Another third of the time they'll say, "No, William Central  
20 Station, that is a completely separate project. And then  
21 the other third of the time is really bizarre because  
22 they'll say yes and no. They'll say, "Yes, well it is the  
23 the start of the Constitution but it's not part of the  
24 Constitution. And I just do like a face palm at that  
25 point. I'm like what? It's the beginning but it's not

1 part? Okay. And I noticed that FERC has adopted this  
2 scheme because FERC calls it a related but non-  
3 jurisdictional facility. Hmm. Okay. It's related but  
4 non-jurisdictional. Curiously the draft environmental  
5 impact statement actually lists that there's three  
6 compressor stations that are going to be at the  
7 beginning of this pipeline. And one of them is in  
8 New Milford, PA where we're going to be all on Thursday  
9 and it's double. I mean I flown over William Central  
10 Station and it's massive, and it's just I think it's  
11 four engines. This one in New Milford, I haven't seen  
12 it yet but it's eight engines. It's big. Let's go  
13 back to William Central Station. Does William Central  
14 Station have any environmental impacts? Well it turns  
15 out it does. It has a lot. 98,801 tons per year. This  
16 is a train car loaded with coal 10 miles long. That's  
17 the environmental impact of just one of the three  
18 compressor stations at the beginning of this activity.  
19 Does the draft environmental impact statement recognize  
20 any of the impacts of the initial compressors? Well it  
21 does, and it says, "These impacts can be estimated but  
22 curiously it doesn't go about any calculations or any  
23 estimates of what those environmental impacts are.  
24 The other thing is that the environmental impacts of  
25 the draft EIS only take into account the environmental

1 impacts of the pipeline itself. So what's' really  
2 strange about this is it kind of like just omits or  
3 maybe forgets about what's being transported in the  
4 pipeline. Is there any environmental impact

5 MR. BOWMAN: Please conclude your  
6 comments.

7 MR. WILLIAM HUSTON: --of the gas in  
8 the pipeline? 650 dekatherms per day. So I did some  
9 initial calculations. I'm going to wrap up but I just  
10 want to say this last point. I just did some calculations  
11 to figure out what is, because somebody asked me this  
12 months ago and it really has taken me months to figure  
13 11 this out. So I'm going to tell you and all of you today  
14 the result of this calculation. The question is how many  
15 gas wells in Susquehanna County is required to keep the  
16 Constitution pipeline at 650,000 dekatherms per day?  
17 Does the draft document, look at that or ask that  
18 question? No. Hold on. This is really important. So

19 MR. BOWMAN: 30 seconds, Mr. Huston. Please,  
20 30 seconds used up.

21 MR. WILLIAM HUSTON: Tell them to give me  
22 time.

23 MR. BOWMAN: You're wasting your time. 30  
24 second.

25 MR. WILLIAM HUSTON: Listen. This is an

1 important question that is not in the draft EIS. You  
2 should be asking this question, not me. The answer is  
3 initially 110 new wells and 80 new wells per year. I  
4 want you to ask my friends, Craig and Vera, that's  
5 double Cabot's production in Pennsylvania. Cabot's  
6 activities in Susquehanna County is going to double  
7 for the Constitution pipeline and there has already  
8 been drastic impacts.

9 MR. BOWMAN: I'm going to ask everyone  
10 to please respect the speaker while he's speaking.

11 MR. WILLIAM HUSTON: Thank you. I'm done.

12 MR. BOWMAN: Raymond Gills?

13 MR. RAYMOND GILLS: Hello. R-A-Y L-E-W-I-S.  
14 First of all, I would like to disclose that I am also a  
15 proud union member and I can relate very well to their  
16 concerns about jobs. But what's interesting is almost  
17 all of the support tonight has revolved around job  
18 creation. Now I'll come back to that in a moment. WE  
19 all know that the wording "eminent domain is purely  
20 sugar coating for stealing. Alright? I'm going to repeat  
21 that. We all know that the wording for eminent domain is  
22 stealing. This is America. And not one job, not one  
23 single job should ever be created by stealing anyone's  
24 property. Thank you.

25 MR. BOWMAN: Michael Empey?

1                   MR. MICHAEL EMPEY: Michael Empey, common  
2 spelling Michael, E-M-P-E-Y. Boy, this is difficult.  
3 You know the three things that I'm hearing here I think I  
4 can just bring down to a few elements and that's economics,  
5 environment and then eminent domain has been spoken here  
6 so many times this evening. And I think that as I travel  
7 around the country and I've been in Colorado. I've been  
8 in Wyoming. I've been in North Dakota. I've been in  
9 Montana. I've seen this gas development follow me  
10 around the country. I can say that, oh it's like a  
11 Monty game. I think that the environment and the people  
12 are always the losers in this game. It always seems to  
13 be a stacked deck for the production companies. Now I  
14 think that you know when you're talking about the  
15 Constitution pipeline and the environmental aspects of it,  
16 also has to include looking at these other elements as  
17 well, particularly the economics. Now it's not a real  
18 energy policy behind the shale gas. And I would like to  
19 offer some quotations, not of my own, but they're from  
20 an industry expert. And if you give me just a moment,  
21 I'll just look at this. This is an Arthur Berman and  
22 this is found on oilprice.com, and this was interview  
23 with him. He is a geological consultant with 34 years  
24 of experience in petroleum exploration production. He  
25 is currently consulting for several EMP companies and

1 capital groups in the energy sector. He frequently  
2 gives keynote addresses for investment conferences and  
3 is interviewed about energy topics on television, radio  
4 and national print and Web publications, including  
5 CNBC, CNN, Platts Energy Week, BNN, Bloomberg, Platts  
6 Financial Times and the New York Times. Now some of  
7 the quotes in this extensive interview were just mind  
8 opening to me anyway, and I'd like to have an open mind  
9 but I don't have an open mind to the point that my brain  
10 is going to fall out. So I'm looking at this, I think,  
11 fairly. So quote, "Recently the CEO of a major oil  
12 company told the Houston Chronicle that the shale  
13 revolution is only the first inning of a nine inning  
14 game. I guess he must have lost track of the score  
15 while waiting in line for hot dogs because production  
16 production growth in the United States in U.S. shale  
17 gas plays excluding the Marsalis is approaching zero.  
18 Growth in the Balkan and Eagle Ford has fallen from  
19 43 percent in mid-2011 to 7 percent in late 2013. Oil  
20 companies have to make a big deal about shale plays  
21 because that is all that is left in the world. Let's  
22 face it. These are truly awful reservoir rocks, and  
23 that is why we waited until all the more attractive  
24 opportunities were exhausted before developing them.  
25 It is completely unreasonable to expect better

1 performance from bad reservoirs than from better  
2 reservoirs. Quote, "Production from shale gas is  
3 not a revolution. It is a retirement party  
4 Quote, "The shale gas boom is not a sustainable  
5 except at higher gas prices in the United States  
6 which we've all suspect and believed anyway.  
7 Quote, "Investors have tolerated a lot of cheerleading  
8 about shale gas over the years but I don't think this  
9 is going to last. Quote, " Taken together, the U.S.  
10 needs to replace 19 billion cubic feet per day each  
11 year to maintain production at flat levels. That's  
12 almost four Barnett shale plays at full production  
13 each year. So you can see how hard it is, well, it will  
14 be to sustain gas production. Then there are all the  
15 efforts to use it up faster; natural gas vehicles, exports  
16 to Mexico, L&G exports, closing coal in nuclear plants.  
17 So it only gets harder. This winter, things have begun  
18 to unravel. Comparative gas storage inventories are  
19 near their 2003 low. Sure, weather is the main factor  
20 but that's always the case. The simple truth is that  
21 supply has not been able to adequately meet winter  
22 demand this year, period. Say what you want about why,  
23 but it is a fact that is not inconsistent with the  
24 fairytales we continue to hear about cheap, abundant  
25 gas forever. Because of high decline rates, new wells

1 must constantly be drilled to maintain production.  
2 Shale plays will last for years, not decades. I  
3 expect by the time that all the construction is  
4 completed to allow gas exports, the domestic price  
5 will be high enough not to bother. It amazes me that  
6 the geniuses behind gas export assume that the business  
7 conditions that resulted in the price benefit overseas  
8 will remain static until they finish building export  
9 facilities and that the competition will simply stand by  
10 when the awesome Americans bring gas to their markets.  
11 The U.S. acts like we are some kind of natural gas super-  
12 star because of shale gas. Has anyone looked at how the  
13 U.S. stacks up next to Russia, Iran and Qatar for natural  
14 gas reserves? Everyone agrees that oil and gas will cost  
15 more if we allow exports.

16 MR. BOWMAN: Please conclude your comments.

17 MR. MICHAEL EMPEY: That's all I have.

18 Thank you.

19 MR. BOWMAN: Barbara Mauro?

20 MS. BARBARA MAURO: What I learned tonight  
21 is this microphone works better than that one. My name is  
22 Barbara Mauro. I'll spell it. B-A-R-B-A-R-A, Mauro,  
23 M-A-U-R-O. I'm speaking this evening in my capacity  
24 as a Board member of the Capital Region BOCES which  
25 as you already know owns and operates the Career and

1 Technical School located at 174 State Route 30A in  
2 Schoharie. I'm testifying to be on record in opposition  
3 to the construction of the gas pipeline on the property  
4 of the Career and Technical School, and I agree with  
5 everything everyone else has said with regard to the  
6 campus as not being suitable location for the pipeline  
7 because of the program and the effect it will have on  
8 the school and our education and the students. But I'm  
9 going to speak tonight from the point of view of the  
10 pipeline, not the point of view of the students. And  
11 my opposition to the location of the pipeline across the  
12 campus is based on environmental and safety factors. But  
13 with regard to the very unique terrain of the school and  
14 what has happened to the campus " the school campus because  
15 of all the activity which we've already heard about that  
16 the students undertake in their course of education. So  
17 we already know that the campus is an outdoor classroom  
18 for the schools' heavy equipment program. This is where  
19 our high school students learn to operate heavy machinery,  
20 backhoes, dozers, excavators. We all know that the  
21 students learn by doing. We've heard that. They learn  
22 by digging into and moving the soil. They build ponds.  
23 They fill them in. They build them again. They repeat  
24 these activities class after class, year after year all  
25 over the campus. So let me try to ask you to picture,

1 just get a mental picture in your mind of the very unique  
2 aspects of the school's terrain based on where it is but  
3 also based on what's been happening to this terrain over  
4 all these years. So let's picture this in our minds.  
5 Picture acres of land going uphill from the school  
6 building, uphill right toward interstate 88, the  
7 border, which is where they want to put the pipeline.  
8 So all these acres of land, this is routinely dug up  
9 and moved by the students. And in many spots on the  
10 land, there is very little or no vegetation. So in these  
11 areas don't look for any trees, bushes or grass. You see  
12 those in the wooded areas but plenty of the space is  
13 sort of muddy and it looks like dirty that's been moved  
14 around. So what I'm concerned about, and I think we  
15 should all be, is having a pipeline perched atop this  
16 downhill slope. So we have this big downhill slope of  
17 land and we're going to put this pipeline right across  
18 there, perched right across this slope of land. Now  
19 I question whether soil and earth and dirt that has been  
20 moved around so much would be suitable and even stable  
21 enough downhill from the pipeline to shore up the bed  
22 of pipeline. So that's the mental picture of the  
23 slope and the pipeline. Now let's add heavy rainfall  
24 to our mental picture of this terrain of our campus.  
25 okay, let's think about how this loosened up soil

1 could just turn into mud, just easily be washed away  
2 downhill from the pipeline, maybe even from underneath  
3 the pipeline itself. Now compare this type of heavy  
4 rain if it was falling on undisturbed ground covered  
5 with grass and vegetation. The difference is very  
6 stark. Heavy rainfall on our campus, not good.  
7 Heavy rainfall someplace else, maybe not so bad. So  
8 let's just add one more thing to this picture. Let's  
9 add historical events such as the record flooding along  
10 the Schoharie Creek that we all know is caused by Hurricane  
11 Irene's torrential rains in August 2011. We all know  
12 approximately a third of the homes and businesses in the  
13 Village of Schoharie were destroyed. Even the old Blenheim  
14 Bridge, a landmark that's withstood the forces of nature  
15 for 156 years was washed away. Let's also remember  
16 something else that happened a little while further  
17 back. Let's think about what happened on the New York  
18 State Freeway in 1987 just about 25 miles north of here  
19 on the same creek, the Schoharie Creek. That was the  
20 collapse of the throughways, Schoharie Creek Bridge.  
21 Now that was a bridge that was part of the New York State  
22 Throughway. It spanned Schoharie Creek near Fort Hunter for  
23 about 30 years until what happened? It collapsed. We all  
24 remember this. It collapsed

25 MR. BOWMAN: Conclude your comments, ma'am.

1 MS. BARBARA MAURO: --after a record  
2 rainfall. So I'm concluding with this. Rain and flood  
3 waters are powerful forces and if we combine that with the  
4 reality of the unique conditions on our campus, I think  
5 our conclusion should be that a pipeline should not be  
6 part of this picture. So I respectfully request that the  
7 Commission do not permit a pipeline to be built across  
8 the campus of Schoharie Career and Technical School. Thank  
9 you very much.

10 MR. BOWMAN: Colleen McKinney?

11 MS. COLLEEN MCKINNEY: Hi. Thanks for  
12 hearing us today. My name is Colleen McKinney,  
13 C-O-L-L-E-E-N M-C-K-I-N-N-E-Y. I didn't expect to speak  
14 tonight, so I'm reading from my phone. Many people say we  
15 need this pipeline because it will bring jobs to Upstate  
16 New York. According to 4.9.1 population and employment of  
17 the DEIS, during the eight month construction period of the  
18 Constitution pipeline, quote, "Approximately 75 percent  
19 of the total workforce would be non-local. It also says  
20 that most of those jobs would be the higher skilled,  
21 higher pay paying jobs. That's in the DEIS. Again,  
22 quoting the DEIS, "Assuming the construction workforce  
23 comprises a maximum of 1300 individuals, this project  
24 would generate at most 325 temporary local jobs during  
25 the eight month construction period. I did the math

1 here because it wasn't included. 325 jobs. Quoting  
2 further, "An estimated seven new full time local employees  
3 would be directly hired to operate the facilities on a  
4 permanent basis. And I'll repeat that. According to the  
5 DEIS, Constitution pipeline would create seven full time  
6 local jobs.

7 MALE: Seven?

8 MS. COLLEEN MCKINNEY: Yeah. The  
9 reality is that this pipeline will cause a net loss of  
10 jobs once it's in the ground. In the short term it would  
11 be good for 325 people here and those other 925 people  
12 from out of state would be a boom to bars, motels, fast  
13 food chains, walk in emergency clinics and I'm sad to say  
14 prostitution. It is well documented that these are the  
15 businesses that profit from the workers of pipelines and  
16 fracking infrastructure build out. In less than a year,  
17 however, these temporary out of state employees will be  
18 gone. Those 325 temporary local jobs will be gone and  
19 seven lucky people might have permanent jobs. The  
20 Catskills and Southern Tier are tourists destinations  
21 and farming communities. A high pressure gas pipeline  
22 and the fracking that would inevitably follow would condemn  
23 this region to an economic fate farmers have ever seen  
24 Here is only a partial list of current revenue building  
25 industries that would be threatened by this pipeline and

1 fracking. Trout fishing, hunting, bed and breakfasts,  
2 camp grounds, canoe rentals, restaurants, dairies, beef  
3 cattle operations, vegetable farms, apple orchards and  
4 berry growers, breweries, cider makers and distilleries,  
5 cheese makers, yogurt factories, garden centers and  
6 landscape businesses, equestrian centers and stables,  
7 retreat centers, caterers, farmers markets, colleges and  
8 universities, technical schools. These relatively small  
9 businesses may seem inconsequential when compared to a  
10 large out of state company such as Constitution Pipeline.  
11 Collectively, however, these businesses, many of them  
12 independent, are the foundation of our region's economy  
13 and are responsible for a significant amount of its  
14 revenue. These small businesses represent the work of  
15 many local people positively affecting our economy, our  
16 environment and the general public's impression of the  
17 Catskills and Southern Tier. They care about what  
18 happens, these businesses do, to our air, water and  
19 landscape. We who live far out in the country,  
20 me, will never be able to look into natural gas.  
21 We're too remote to make it financially feasible to  
22 run lines to us. People who live in villages along  
23 the pipeline may be able to access gas, but only after  
24 they pay a hefty fee to run a line from their house to  
25 the municipal line, a fee that often runs in the

1 thousands. Should a homeowner decide to take the  
2 gamble and pay to tap in, who is to say that gas  
3 prices will stay low? In fact, Constitution  
4 Pipeline Company has reported to its investors that it  
5 will be exporting its fracked gas to Canada and other  
6 places out of this country. There it will command a  
7 high price, and here we will have less and less gas.  
8 It will become more expensive. Homeowners will be stuck  
9 with a new form of heating, fuel that ends up being more  
10 20 costly than what they formerly had. Our region will be  
11 home to a high pressure, highly potentially explosive  
12 gas pipeline which is not great for attracting tourists  
13 or students. And Constitution and its shareholders will  
14 see great profits. Does this seem like a fair trade off?  
15 Thank you.

16 MR. BOWMAN: Renee Robowski? Denise  
17 Capece?

18 MS. DENISE CAPECE: Hi. My name is  
19 Denise Capece. That's D-E-NI-S-E C-A-P-E-C-E. And I'm  
20 here with Capital Region BOCES, specifically the  
21 Schoharie Career and Technical School. I am the principal  
22 at the Schoharie Career and Technical School since 2005.  
23 Upon learning technology and integrated academics are  
24 essential to the successful student experiences with  
25 providing our CTE programs. Is there not professional

1 heavy equipment operators that we have on this campus?  
2 They're students practicing their skills. They need  
3 room to make mistakes and learn. The proposal to sign  
4 a gas pipeline in our campus would have a damaging effect  
5 on our programs, particularly those that include  
6 construction and heavy machinery such as excavators,  
7 backhoes, bulldozers and compaction equipment. All of  
8 these machines are operated regularly near the proposed  
9 pipeline location. In addition to the safety concerns,  
10 BOCES officials are also concerned that simply having a  
11 30 inch gas pipeline running through the Schoharie campus  
12 will threaten the future of the campus and its programs.  
13 Depending on the actual location of the pipeline, if  
14 approved, at the right of way given to the  
15 Constitutional Pipeline, a large portion of the  
16 campus would be rendered useless. WE used every square  
17 inch of our Schoharie Campus for education and we need  
18 to maintain and as is in order to maintain and provide  
19 the quality hands on programs our students and their  
20 families have grown to expect from us. That land is  
21 our student's classroom. Should this proposal become  
22 a reality, it would severely limit their education and  
23 their futures. Thank you.

24 MR. MOONEYHAN: Epifanio Bevilacqua?

25 MR. EPIFANIO BEVILACQUA: I'm Epifanio

1 Bevilacqua, B-E-V-I-L-A-C-Q-U-A. We need to condemn  
2 the pipeline. The DIS is incomplete. They didn't put in  
3 the compressor stations. They're not only telling you  
4 pieces of the puzzle. This should be condemned. It  
5 should be stopped. Plus they're under investigation.  
6 They think they come here they're going to own Upstate  
7 New York. Constitution Pipeline. Also the environmental  
8 that Dari Meglio is on this and hopefully the District  
9 Attorney will be on this. So everybody is going to get  
10 22 investigated, be subpoenaed. I dealt with the FBI, so  
11 I'm  
12 not afraid. Keep playing games, Constitution. Pack up.

13 MR. MOONEYHAN: Clark Rhoades?

14 SPEAKER: He's in the bathroom. Can you call  
15 him again?

16 MR. MOONEYHAN: Okay. Leo McAllister?

17 MR. LEO MCALLISTER: Leo McAllister,  
18 M-C-A-L-L-I-S-T-E-R. Thank you for letting me speak  
19 today. My wife and I moved here about 42 years ago. We  
20 moved here because of the terrain, the hills, the valleys.  
21 It was a beautiful area. We raised five children here.  
22 We have two of them have come back to this community, and  
23 we have three grandchildren here. So the last thing I  
24 want to see is a problem with our environment in this  
25 community. About that same time that we came here, there

1 was another transportation line that was proposed for this  
2 area. And for most of you know that was I88. And I  
3 certainly had my doubts whether I would want a four lane  
4 highway coming through Schoharie County. And I'm sure there  
5 were at the time meetings like this for people to express  
6 their views on it. I'm sure a lot of people were for it.  
7 And a lot of people were against it, just like the  
8 pipeline. And I certainly didn't even really know, I  
9 didn't want our environment messed up because it was a  
10 place I wanted to be for the rest of my life. It's  
11 interesting because there is noise here with the interstate,  
12 and it has taken up area that was beautiful valley.  
13 And unlike the pipeline which will take up very  
14 minimal property in this county, it has created a  
15 little bit of a problem for us. But I'll bet you  
16 most of the people in this room would not want to  
17 have 88 go away and go back to Route 7 and Route 20.  
18 It took me 2.5 hours to get to Binghamton when I had  
19 to go there prior to 88 coming through. Now I  
20 understand that with the Stanton's and with this  
21 BOCES, there obviously should be some things worked  
22 out through FERC to help them out. But one of the "  
23 in fact many of the people who talked tonight, talked  
24 about pipeline safety. And it's interesting because  
25 if you look at the " and we talked about different

1 accidents that happened throughout the country. There's  
2 a four times greater chance of you or I getting struck  
3 by lightening than a pipeline accident. Most of us who  
4 came here tonight came either by car or bus or by truck.  
5 And there's a 3000 times greater chance for us being  
6 killed in one of those than a pipeline accident, and  
7 that's a fact. We've had a pipeline in the Northern part  
8 Schoharie county for over 50 years. We've never had a  
9 problem. In fact, most of us wouldn't even know where  
10 it's going to go or where it does go because vegetation  
11 grows up afterwards. The same thing will be true of  
12 this pipeline. The other thing that was mentioned  
13 by some people that " someone's going to get paid  
14 some money to do this. This county is going to get  
15 paid over \$4 million a year from the real estate  
16 taxes on this pipeline. This school district,  
17 will get over million dollars.  
18 Put that in perspective. We'd have to build 300 to 400  
19 homes in this town and village to usurp that much tax  
20 levy. Think about how many " the gas, the water, the  
21 sewer, the infrastructure, all the costs for 300 to 400  
22 homes, and it just wouldn't happen obviously. So it  
23 isn't minimal, the impact of this pipeline here in this  
24 13 area. I hope that FERC takes everything into  
25 consideration.

1 I certainly am glad for the opportunity to speak, and I'm  
2 glad you came out here. Thank you very much.

3 MR. MOONEYHAN: Clark Rhoades?

4 MR. CLARK RHOADES: Clark Rhoades,  
5 R-H-O-A-D-E-S. What I'm going to talk about is the  
6 potential impact raise. The question that I have is, and  
7 I know the answer, which is that you don't have to  
8 inform the people running on either side of the pipeline  
9 whether they're involved in the potential impact raise.  
10 Only the town advisors and the fire department are  
11 supposed to be informed by the builder of the pipeline.  
12 Now I can see now that the people who are talking about  
13 the BOCES School have not been informed about it. They  
14 have no idea about it. So let me help you and you. The  
15 potential impact of radius for Constitution pipeline is  
16 986 C on either side. But is that a correct figure?  
17 So I did some analysis. I used the formula to derive  
18 the potential impact radius and I applied them to the  
19 El Paso pipeline. And I came out with some curious  
20 answers. The potential impact radius of the El Paso  
21 pipeline would be 537 feet. There were 12 campers that  
22 were 675 feet away. They were all cubed, even though  
23 there was a river 100 feet away from them. There were  
24 vegetation by the river that was 2,025 feet away on the  
25 other side of the river that was impacted by infrared

1 radiation which dried out green leaves, barks, and  
2 caused the trees to cause on fire. So I call this  
3 the minimum kill zone of the El Paso pipeline. Since  
4 the Constitution pipeline would operate at 219 percent  
5 higher than the El Paso pipeline, I come up with a  
6 figure of a minimum kill zone of 4,435 feet radius.  
7 Now this is not a political document. This is not a  
8 PR document as the formula for the potential impact  
9 radius was given to you by in 19, I think it was, 2000.  
10 It was 2000. So from that we also have a crater that  
11 was left by the El Paso pipeline. The crater that would  
12 be left by an explosion by the Constitution pipeline  
13 would be 110 feet wide by 248 feet long. Let me say that  
14 again. It would be 112 feet wide, 248 feet long. The  
15 what I want for FERC to do is to stop right now the EIS  
16 guys and I want you to go back and recalculate as I have  
17 the potential impact radius because it's incorrect. It's  
18 based on PR. It was given to you by a PR firm that was  
19 one of the contributors of it. They wrote it. It was in  
20 their September/October brochure or writings. So the  
21 let's see " I said mostly everything I want. Let's see.  
22 How much more time do I have?

23 MR. MOONEYHAN: Please conclude your comments.

24 MR. CLARK RHOADES: Okay. Let me go to the  
25 back and I'll " let's hear from Rex Tillison, Chairman

1 of the CEO Mobil Exxon Corporation. Quote, "The  
2 consequences of a misstep in a well placed well or  
3 pipeline while large to the immediate people that live  
4 around the well or pipeline in the great scheme of  
5 things is pretty small. But if your relatives are  
6 killed, your neighbors are killed, I don't think it's  
7 pretty small. Thank you.

8 MR. MOONEYHAN: Blyne Stenson? Allegra  
9 Schecter?

10 MS. ALLEGRA SCHECTER: Hello. My name is  
11 Allegra Schecter, A-L-L-E-G-R-A S-C-H-E-C-T-E-R. I'm  
12 speaking as an individual and an intervener. I have  
13 several major concerns with the placement of the  
14 contractor yards in the town of Maryland, Schenevus,  
15 Village of Schenevus and Otsego County. This contractor  
16 yard was situated three tenths of a mile from Schenevus  
17 Central School which is a kindergarten, K-12 building  
18 I believe the signing of this yard was done with no  
19 acknowledgement, let alone careful consideration or  
20 study of its close proximity to the school. A  
21 construction yard is a source of constant truck traffic.  
22 The noise from such a busy place is not conducive to a  
23 school's quiet study and learning environment. The  
24 daily transportation to the work sites of both heavy  
25 equipment and trucks carrying 40 foot sections of

1 pipe would create the inevitable traffic congestion.  
2 This could not only interfere with primary school bus  
3 routes but the airborne dirt, stone and dust and diesel  
4 fumes could affect the children's breathing as well.  
5 Many children have asthma and they would be very  
6 sensitive to diesel fumes. This could result in a  
7 loss of school attendance for these children because of  
8 illness from respiratory problems. FERC has stated  
9 in its recently released DEIS, environment section  
10 4.1.3.7 shallow bedrock to excavate the trench line  
11 in the areas identified with shallow bedrock,  
12 blasting may be necessary in order to install the  
13 pipeline to the proper depth. If shallow bedrock  
14 is encountered, other methods of bedrock removal  
15 such as ripping, chipping, grinding would be  
16 attempted first before blasting would be used. And  
17 then it goes on to say the New York portion which  
18 reversed 37.4 miles of shallow bedrock. A contractor  
19 yard is the likely place to store dangerous materials  
20 including chemicals, diesel fuel and the explosives that  
21 are needed to blast through the shallow bedrock in this  
22 part of the pipeline. Our area is all shallow  
23 bedrock. I do not think these are things we would want  
24 near our school or our bus route. In addition, the  
25 Richmondville contractor yard is situated .4 " 4 tenths

1 of a mile from the building that you're in right now.  
2 The track team regularly runs along Route 7. The  
3 traffic congestion would again interfere with the  
4 school bus routes and the constant noise of a contractor  
5 yard which is a stable site " it's not something that's  
6 going away " will be here for many years. I do not  
7 think that we want chemicals, explosives and this kind  
8 of thing near a school. Getting back to the  
9 Skaneva School yard, it's a two parcel adjoining site,  
10 and it covers over 12 acres. A water well was drilled  
11 on that property last year. Cabot Williams could very  
12 well decide to place a man camp there. This temporary  
13 housing is built for transient workers and unlike "  
14 I'm sorry to tell the people that are here in the  
15 orange shirts but they bring in mostly their own men  
16 to work on the pipeline, and they're not hiring local  
17 workers. These transient camps have been found to be  
18 a place that invites in drugs, alcohol, prostitution  
19 and other criminal activities. In Bradford County,  
20 Pennsylvania where they have had these man camps for  
21 years, drunken driving arrests were up 60 percent and  
22 criminal sentencing was up 35 percent in 2010 according  
23 to the Pittsburgh Post Gazette, Zach Needles, August  
24 17 15, 2011. I do not think this is something we want  
25 going on near our school either.

1           MR. MOONEYHAN: Please conclude your comments,  
2   ma'am.

3           MS. ALLEGRA SCHECTER: In a letter written  
4   by the senior project manager of the Cons " of a letter  
5   written to the senior project manager of the  
6   Constitution pipeline by Scott Finkbaum, the District  
7   Manager of Otsego County Soil and Water Conservation  
8   District, there is a federally designated wetland  
9   in the middle of this property and several within  
10  one quarter mile. In addition, the Schenevus Creek  
11  is located within one quarter mile of this contractor  
12  yard site. This is a DEC protected trout stream  
13  classification. A few days ago Governor Cuomo sent out  
14  a letter announcing that New York offers some of the  
15  best fishing in the country with trout and salmon  
16  fishing season starting April 1, just around the  
17  corner. We've made it easier than ever this year for  
18  New Yorkers to be ready to enjoy great outdoor fishing  
19  on opening day. Does New York want to lure in tourists  
20  or the gas industry?

21           MR. BOWMAN: Ma'am, you time has expired.  
22  You can submit the remainder of your comments.

23           MS. ALLEGRA SCHECTER: It seems we need to  
24  get our priorities in order. Thank you.

25           MR. MOONEYHAN: Michael Brady? Harold

1 Wright? Michael Brady?

2 MR. MIKE BRADY: Give me one second.

3 Hello. My name is Mike Brady. B-R-A-D-Y as in bunch.

4 I am the Pension Healthcare Administrator for Labors

5 Local 157. There is a lot of passion in this room.

6 Eminent domain, the school, the farmer. I assure you

7 that the skilled trade unions have sympathy for all.

8 I will apologize, as many of my fellow brothers and

9 sisters have already left this meeting. Most of them

10 have to rise early and drive between 75 and 100 miles

11 a day round trip to find work to feed their families.

12 25 percent of our members were born, raised and live

13 in Schoharie County. They are the backbone of our

14 Local. They don't deny that although a day in the

15 hole is a hard one, it's still easier than a day on

16 the farm. A pipeline would help many men and women

17 earn and maintain some of the best non-subsidized

18 healthcare and pension benefits in the State. A

19 pipeline will provide jobs for members of your

20 community. The positive social and economic impact

21 will be felt for generations to come. Thank you for

22 your time.

23 MR. BOWMAN: Harold Wright?

24 MR. HAROLD WRIGHT: My name is Harold

25 Wright. H-A-R-O-L-D W-R-I-G-H-T. I'm here representing

1 myself, my family, my friends, my neighbors. My house is  
2 within 200 feet of this pipeline. I have a problem with  
3 this pipeline. I have a problem with your EIS. I am a  
4 union member Local IFPTE 147. I understand the union's  
5 position. But my problems are exactly this; my family,  
6 my friends and my neighbors have been threatened by the  
7 land agents, specifically John Britts said to my face on  
8 the phone, "Unless you sign, we will go through eminent  
9 domain and you will lose your land. It was a direct  
10 threat to me. I don't like that. And you did not address  
11 my letter to that. I am an engineer. I'm a designer. I  
12 understand what's going on. I understand we need energy.  
13 My first problem and foremost problem is the current  
14 pipeline route goes through the aquifer of my valley  
15 which I get my water from and will be through my  
16 calculations of my well being 79 feet will be 35 feet  
17 from the pipeline left in the aquifer. That's 79 feet  
18 minus 20 feet to the low level, the boatman from my  
19 house. Mine is four feet from the bed of the road.  
20 Minus 10 feet to where DC calls the pipeline should be  
21 below the watershed or the wetlands that's huge in my  
22 valley that I'll get to in a minute. And in 10 feet from  
23 the bottom of my well. So that leaves 35 feet. The  
24 difference between the pipeline and where I get my drinking  
25 water from. I have a problem with that. So do my

1 neighbors; Ken Sanders and his family, the Bigsby's. We  
2 have a problem with this. Second, the pipeline goes  
3 through massive watershed, massive ecosystem, massive  
4 wetland. You're talking two to maybe three thousand  
5 geese a year go into the 20 acre ponds that are in my  
6 valley. The pipeline is inside. The kill zone will wipe  
7 out my valley rim to rim. You will destroy a giant  
8 wetland that you satellites and your airplanes fly  
9 over and have no idea. I'm 34 years old. I was born  
10 and raised in Schoharie. I'm a Middleburg Knight. I  
11 bought my family's home because I love Schoharie County.  
12 You people don't know this land. I've walked this  
13 valley. I know it like the back of my hand. I know  
14 animals are there, and you're going to destroy them.  
15 Anyway, currently will be within 200 feet of my well and  
16 my neighbor's well. So either way you cut it going  
17 through my dad's land is between us. You're going to be  
18 within 200 feet of my well. That's a water problem, if I  
19 am correct. Also, the current pipeline will run over the  
20 ridge above the Cobleskill reservoir and potentially  
21 polluting the town of Cobleskill source of water to cut  
22 the ridge and come into my valley. So again, that's a water  
23 problem.

24 Final comment, bringing the pipeline out of the mountains  
25 and hills and people's backyards and waters, put it back22

1 where it belongs, where they requested it, back on the  
2 88 corridor. Give us jobs utilizing old Gilford Mills  
3 Industrial Park. Build what you need there. Let the  
4 pipeline do what they need with an industrial park  
5 meant for industrial stuff like pipelines. It's six  
6 miles from there to where it connects in the right  
7 station. You don't have to worry about going through  
8 the kid's backyard where they're going to learn  
9 education. Help the community with the jobs, reutilize  
10 the industrial park with the pipeline through the 88  
11 corridor. That's what I'm asking. Please do your due  
12 diligence as we need you to. Protect our water as it  
13 is one of three things you need for life or to grow  
14 food. One of the three things. So two of the three  
15 things you need to live. Thank you for your time.

16 MR. BOWNMAN: Marc Wighemdrad?

17 MR. MARC WIGHEMDRAD: Hello. Thank you  
18 for having these hearings. In 2008 I came to Schoharie  
19 and purchased some land, beautiful watershed. I did some  
20 investigations on building and there's quite a lot of  
21 logistics in terms of having a certificate of occupancy  
22 and a house. You need to have a septic system, and there  
23 are a lot of rules. So the fact that they are actually  
24 putting a pipeline which has high chemicals to both build  
25 it and transport it through high pressure is laughable.

1 And so I'm here not only to speak for the damage to my  
2 land and to the areas surrounding it but my neighbors  
3 in New York City where I'm from. We have about 20  
4 million people who depend on the watershed to drink,  
5 and when we start to put high pressure gas which has  
6 chemicals, this land shifts. I notice when I open up  
7 the shed door that the door wouldn't open because the  
8 land shifted and the foundation wasn't enough footing.  
9 It was a small shed, so no big deal. But the pipe  
10 will move. On the way over here I spoke to a guy  
11 who's in the construction field and he said yes  
12 this pipe will shift. And there will be computerized  
13 ways to make sure that if there are any leaks, that it  
14 will be shut down and isolated and fixed. But in the  
15 meantime that takes oxygen out of the soil and has  
16 contaminated the ground water, which will eventually  
17 run off. In addition, runoff downstream to where we all  
18 drink our water down in New York City and many other  
19 watersheds surrounding Pennsylvania and in the Delaware  
20 and in New Jersey and all " I mean this is pristine  
21 land, beautiful land. And I've heard from a lot of  
22 people who say okay well it's going to effect the farm.  
23 it's going to effect my school. It's going to effect  
24 these children. But it's going to effect the  
25 Metropolitan New York area. This is a lot about politics

1 I believe. The gas is, as a lot of people say, is not  
2 of infinite supply and be able to " and the desire for  
3 energy independence is even more interesting now because  
4 of what has happened with Russia taking over the Ukraine  
5 and we're not wanting their natural gas. So politics  
6 say put down pipeline so we can have energy  
7 independence. Well, obviously we're hearing a lot about  
8 how this natural gas is going to be shipped overseas  
9 and not only that, we're also hearing that it's an  
10 unlimited supply. The fact that going back to the  
11 leaks, I'm just speaking off the cuff. I don't have  
12 exactly something that I wrote down but we're talking  
13 about the DEIS and it's talking about how it's going  
14 to minimize the environmental impact. Well there means  
15 there is going to be a major impact that they're just  
16 trying to minimize. And over time there's going to  
17 be corrosion to these pipes once it's buried. And  
18 as I say, the shifting and any kind of small leaks,  
19 it becomes cumulative. Not only that but they're  
20 talking about low flying airplanes to spray herbicides  
21 to kill the vegetation surrounding the pipeline to  
22 stop roots and stuff from destroying the pipeline.  
23 Well that's going to have a problem with air quality.  
24 I mean personally I have a desire to have an organic  
25 farm and permaculture farm which is basically " and

1 I really feel for all the workers here who " jobs  
2 are short lived, and there are many other ways for  
3 energy. Geothermal, which is also digging underground  
4 to put circulating for more energy. The other thing I  
5 will have to say is that the amount of electricity  
6 that we need and is extreme of course, but there are  
7 other ways. If we had high voltage and no ampere,  
8 as Tessa had once discussed, we could actually have  
9 huge energy from just the air, just from tacking on  
10 energy and things of that nature that should be  
11 researched. All the sciences say that there is no  
12 -- that we have to get our fossil fuels because what  
13 is happening is-

14 MR. MOONEYHAN: Please conclude your comments,  
15 sir. That this one pound methane is equal to 80 pounds  
16 of Co2 which goes to our air, which attributes to global  
17 warming. I'm sorry. My name is Mark  
18 M-A-R-C W-I-S-H-E-N-G-R-A-D. I didn't say that at the  
19 beginning. I'm saying it now, and I don't think this  
20 makes sense. The pipeline putting natural gas is nothing  
21 natural about it. It's pollutants and there's chemicals  
22 within that benzene and methane and it will have an ill  
23 effect on the ground water. And when you lose your water  
24 supply, we can't drink. It takes care of air and the  
25 water.

1 MR. MOONEYHAN: Your time has expired.

2 MR. MARC WISHENGRAD: Thank you

3 MR. MOONEYHAN: Glenn Sanders?

4 MR. GLENN SANDERS: Hello. My name is  
5 Glenn Sanders, G-L-E-N-N S-A-N-D-E-R-S. I have a comment  
6 about the extent to which the DEIS does not meet its  
7 legal obligations and should be withdrawn because of  
8 massive numbers of sections that simply don't follow  
9 the court rulings as to what it should contain. And  
10 the courts have a long history of interpreting NEPA  
11 1969 as requiring that the EIS process must involve  
12 a hard work that impacts alternatives, must follow the  
13 rules of recent decision making, must provide sufficient  
14 detail for the public to understand how and why a decision  
15 and conclusions and must avoid mere decisions and  
16 undocumented conclusory statements. This DNS fails all  
17 these requirements in many sections. I counted two dozen  
18 and then stopped. I illustrate the depth of the failings  
19 of these requirements in reference to the section on the  
20 photovoltaic or solar alternative, Section 3, page 11.  
21 Solar power  
22 generation was eliminated from further consideration  
23 because it was claimed to have a higher cost, grader  
24 environmental impacts, potential reliability issues and  
25 adequate insulation and lower efficiencies. These are

1 all mere assertions in that they were not documented  
2 and the only one that had one citation was the claim of  
3 higher cost. The citation was a thoroughly obsolete  
4 2009 report since costs had come down by well over 50  
5 percent. And the fact that the DEIS chose to use that  
6 report to document the claim of higher cost reinforces  
7 the impression of a profound lack of accurately informed  
8 detailed investigation. All of the claims used to dismiss  
9 further consideration were debunked by decisions in  
10 Minnesota and Austin, Texas this year. These communities  
11 and municipalities and governments actually took the  
12 hard works at the cost and benefits in meeting new demand  
13 with solar versus gas and concluded that solar offered  
14 rate payers a better deal. Instead of taking this hard  
15 look, the DEIS arbitrarily and capriciously sets up a  
16 strong man of a single remotes cited giant industrial  
17 solar generation claim. In contrast, the administrative  
18 watch judge in Minnesota reviewed a proposal for a large  
19 number of widely distributed small scale solar panel rays  
20 cited next to existing electric substations. And they  
21 concluded that this design avoided every one of the  
22 negatives that was listed by the DEIS and attributed to  
23 to this strong man of the giant single solar generation  
24 plant. A serious detailed reason decision on solar must  
25 be based on actual proposals from experts in the field

1 and there is no reason to restrict the process to  
2 consideration of PV solutions alone without adding in, at  
3 the least, contributions from solar thermal technologies.  
4 It should also be expanded to consider the full range of  
5 environmental and human health events including avoided  
6 costs. And again, the Minnesota and Austin, Texas models  
7 of consideration of these issues should be the model for10  
8 the DEIS. This is but one of dozens of instances of  
9 grossly inadequate process in the DEIS. Second example is  
10 included in the attached pages that I'll turn in outside  
11 in the hallway which unlike the DEIS provide ample  
12 documentation and detail so that the public can understand  
13 the reasoning which leads to the conclusory statements in  
14 the document. Right now they are invite distrust and  
15 disrespect and the document is shameful, inept for that  
16 reasons and should be withdrawn and reworked to fully  
17 comply with court requirements of reason decision making,  
18 full, substantial and adequate detail to understand the  
19 decision. Thank you very much.

20 MR. BOWMAN: Deborah Krol?

21 MS. DEBORAH KROL: Thank you. D-E-B-O-R-A-H  
22 K-R-O-L. I am a landowner and full time resident of  
23 Schoharie County. This is tyranny, not democracy. If  
24 the FERC approves this pipeline, you are enabling large  
25 corporations to seize and take our property, not for

1 the benefit of Americans but for the benefit of this  
2 corporations' bottom-line. The fossil fuel industry has  
3 turned into a monstrous tyrant. You may not have  
4 noticed that over 210 municipalities in this state has  
5 adopted legislation which opposes fracking. New Yorkers  
6 are standings up to defend and protect our families and  
7 the beautiful, clean environment. I thank Governor's  
8 Patterson and Cuomo for stalling because reports of  
9 disasters surrounding this industry far outweigh the  
10 jobs that it promises. The latest being the birth defects  
11 in the children of mothers living near a frack well site.  
12 We know about the blowouts because we witnessed the  
13 destruction of the ecosystem in the Gulf of Mexico. And  
14 the nine square mile aquifer in DEMA, Pennsylvania that  
15 was forever contaminated because of spills, accidents and  
16 three faulty wells during shale gas development. Cabot  
17 paid those families off to silence them and make them go  
18 away so they can keep up the lie. This industry is  
19 willfully ignoring the evidence and warnings from experts  
20 like the engineer and fracturing mechanic scholar, Anthony  
21 Ingrafina who says 5 percent of well casings fail upon  
22 initial well drilling or that 50 percent of concrete  
23 casings will fail within 30 years. It won't be long  
24 before contaminants from flack fluid like benzene and  
25 toluene will be showing up in all the drinking water

1 wherever this industry exists and where the aquifers  
2 extend. Incidentally, Exxon Mobil is buying up water  
3 rights all over this planet. Imagine a future where  
4 this tyrant controls the world's drinking water.  
5 Ecologist and biochemist, Bob Haworth warns of the  
6 fugitive emissions of methane released into the  
7 atmosphere during production, storage, processing,  
8 along pipelines, venting and acupressure stations.  
9 Methane is a serious global warming contributor. Yes,  
10 it's been a cold winter, but it hasn't stopped the  
11 glaciers in Greenland from melting at alarming speed.  
12 The cases of asthma, lung cancer, headaches, brain tumors,  
13 nose bleeds, skin rashes, nerve disorders, the rate on  
14 exposure alone from the Marsalis shale gas will likely  
15 kill 80 people per year in New York City. Those that used  
16 the hunt for game in Pennsylvania say the deer from that  
17 state have cancerous tumors when you cut into them because  
18 they are attracted to and drink the frack waste in open  
19 holding ponds. New Yorkers will not be sacrificed for the  
20 benefit of this industry. We don't want your injection  
21 disposal wells causing earthquakes, your radioactive  
22 solid waste, your chemical laden hazardous liquid brine  
23 and this damn pipeline which is at the heart of this  
24 madness. This greed for profit above and beyond all  
25 human decency. These people shoals be behind bars, not

1 allowed to plunder and destroy our resources, deplete and  
2 contaminate our fresh water in the name of business. Cabot  
3 Williams, Piedmont, Exxon Mobil, Shell, Chevron, government  
4 officials on the tape and everyone dooped by the promises  
5 of this industry. Open your eyes. We don't want you  
6 business. Go away.

7 MR. BOWMAN: Greg Capobianco?

8 MR. GREG CAPOBIANCO: Yeah. G-R-E-G  
9 C-A-P-O-B-I-A-N-C-O. I think I'm going to just start  
10 by thanking you for acknowledging that you folks up  
11 there at the table are responsible for the production  
12 or the completion of the DEIS and making the distinction  
13 between the commission that makes the decisions. And I  
14 just have to say that you have really failed miserably.  
15 If you were working for a private company and you had an  
16 edict and a job to do to follow the NEPA rules, to follow  
17 the regulations that were so eloquently articulated  
18 earlier, you would be fired. This is an outrage. 36  
19 miles of forest, 270 plus bodies of water, 35 miles of  
20 steep and side slope terrain, 45 miles of shallow bedrock,  
21 10.7 miles of wetlands, countless people's properties and  
22 livelihoods ruins. Is this a good idea? I mean what is  
23 the premise? It's absurd. And all based on garbage  
24 because at the end of your conclusionary statements about  
25 co-location is such a crock. We have been telling you,

1 this community has worked hard to give you a lot of very  
2 high quality input on this. It has been ignored. It has  
3 been kicked around. I read DEIS's for a living, okay? I  
4 have never read such a piece of garbage. Really. Let  
5 me tell you something. I've read better EIS's for  
6 subdivisions and small apartment buildings. This is a  
7 freaking pipeline. Nine plus miles. What are you doing?  
8 Where do you get off on this? I know you got posy jobs.  
9 I know this is the check off on Cobleskill when you're out  
10 of here. This is so wrong. It is an absolute outrage.  
11 I'm going to go through a couple of points in your EIS  
12 to just highlight the absurdity with which you've  
13 dismissed things in these absolutely " like this gentleman  
14 said, these conclusory statements with nothing, no fact,  
15 no basis, just because we don't feel like it, because we  
16 don't want to. That's what it reads. It's nuts. So  
17 the first one, "Conclusions in the EIS are based on our  
18 analysis of the environmental impact and following  
19 assumptions and the assumptions are bulletized and  
20 they basically go on to say the applicants will comply  
21 with all applicable laws and regulations. The applicants  
22 would implement the mitigation measures included in their  
23 applications and supplement submittals to the FERC, blah,  
24 blah, blah. This is Cabot Williams, okay? We heard  
25 some really interesting discussion about Google math. I'll

1 give you something to Google. Google Cabot Williams plus  
2 a word environment or the words environmental violations.  
3 You'll get pages. These people do not perform. They lie.  
4 They cheat. They pay the fines. They don't care. And  
5 you're just sitting here saying, "Yeah well it's all good  
6 as long as they're going to do what they say I guess we're  
7 okay with that. I mean come on. I mean this is " you  
8 know, who do you think we are? I said this at the last  
9 set of hearings. We're not a bunch of stupid people in  
10 caves. We live in the country. We're smart. We care  
11 about our land and water. We're human beings. What are  
12 you doing to us? This does not make sense, okay. This  
13 is wrong. And I know because I read people and I get  
14 people. You guys know this. Don't kid yourselves. You  
15 know what's going on. You know the little game that's  
16 being played here. Let me give you another example. In  
17 you conclusions, I mean I'm not even going to the  
18 insurance stuff where you just say, "Yeah well we  
19 talked to a bunch of insurance brokers and it's  
20 inconclusive. So we're going to monitor that. I'm  
21 going to monitor that insurance thing. And then the  
22 mortgage issues is, "Well, we talked to some brokers and  
23 you know we just " it was just unclear to us whether or  
24 not you know loans could be made or not. But we should  
25 all be good with that. That's some really top quality

1 analysis, guys. Let me just go to my last piece which  
2 to me, you know, you have one paragraph on your evaluation  
3 of co-location. People have been bringing this to your  
4 attention and I will do it one more time. There are  
5 existing pipeline rights of way that can get the damn  
6 gas to the markets in New York and Boston. You don't  
7 need to plow over our properties and our lives to do it.  
8 This " and why? Because Constitution doesn't want to  
9 what? Suck it up and pay some extra money to their  
10 competitors because it's too much, I don't know, their  
11 kismo gets knocked down because they got to suck it up  
12 and pay off their competitors to use the co-locate? This  
13 is so wrong, guys. You have really not done your job.  
14 You have really failed this community. You have failed  
15 literally hundreds and hundreds of homeowners. I mean this  
16 is a drop in the bucket. Some of the beef farmers, the  
17 folks that are talking to you about what's going on on  
18 their property? You think they're the only ones? There's  
19 hundreds and hundreds. It's outrageous. I'm done. Thank  
20 you so much.

21 MR. MOONEYHAN: Julia Phillips?

22 MS. JULIA PHILLIPS: Alright. My first name  
23 is Julia, J-U-L-I-A, Phillips, P-H-I-L-L-I-P-S. I did  
24 write a little comment over the last few weeks. But I think  
25 I might just set that aside and one point while sitting,

1 hearing everyone else talk I'm kind of left with another  
2 new question is why is the relationship or why is the  
3 history of the pipeline not taken into serious  
4 consideration? Like any other relationship with like when  
5 we vote for a politician or buy a new car, whatever, we  
6 makes these decisions based on the history that person or  
7 that product has offered us. And the history that these  
8 pipelines have offered the residents that they've already  
9 affected has been so weak and so broken and sad that I  
10 don't know why we can't consider that as a serious  
11 aspect in making the decision about letting this  
12 pipeline come through. They're a super power and like  
13 everyone said they don't care about our rights and  
14 they've showed us that over and over again and why can't  
15 we look at that as important documentation and facts  
16 along with all the other things everyone else said?  
17 My point initially was going to be as a homeowner.  
18 I recently moved back to the area looking to start a  
19 family. You're going to wedge me in between two huge  
20 super powers, between a mortgage company, potentially  
21 wanting to sell or the change in my homeowner's insurance  
22 or any of those things and then between a pipeline and  
23 all of their wonderful legal loopholes and with no way  
24 out. And again, they've shown us that they will not  
25 protect us. So please reconsider your impact statement

1 and say no to pipeline.

2 MR. MOONEYHAN: Reuben Phillips?

3 MR. REUBEN PHILLIPS: Good evening. Thanks  
4 for letting us speak tonight. I grew up in Schoharie  
5 County and let Schoharie County after I graduated high  
6 school and I decided to move back six years later because  
7 of the beautiful landscape and access to endless natural  
8 resources such as streams, lakes, ponds and hiking trails.  
9 I now own a house in Richmondville. The risks associated  
10 with the pipeline are reason enough for me to wish I could  
11 have seen into the future when I bought this house.  
12 Unfortunately along with the pipeline come other unwanted  
13 risks. It is reasonable to envision the risks of water  
14 contamination, storm runoff and the loss of beautiful  
15 forest. To take away some of the attraction of this  
16 area will affect potential future families from wanting  
17 to settle here. These risks far outweigh any benefit  
18 that will come to my children, my land or my future.  
19 I'd also like to add that I'm also a union member, and I  
20 oppose the pipeline. Thank you.

21 MR. MOONEYHAN: Barbara Loeffler?

22 MS. BARBARA LOEFFLER: Hi. We meet again.  
23 I just would like to say, make one comment, first of all  
24 that whole document that they sent out and you sent out  
25 is so uneasy for most people to find any information on

1 maps. All the maps " you need to take pages and things  
2 from other documents and do your own overlay to find out  
3 where the route is going in relationship to a road.  
4 Where is there going to be a stream crossing in  
5 relationship to where your house is? There should be a  
6 simple way that you could plug into your address and see  
7 everything on their maps. But you don't see that. It's  
8 all up to you. I found the part that's' going through my  
9 valley just by guessing where it might be and I found the  
10 document I was looking for. The other thing I have to  
11 say is I'm a member of Trout Unlimited. I'm a member of  
12 the Audubon Society. I care very much for the  
13 environment. I'm very concerned about all this equipment  
14 coming with their tires from someplace else and their  
15 boots, their work boots. Do they wash their work boots  
16 off after they came from someplace else? We have a huge  
17 problem with invasive species in the state of New York.  
18 And my final comment is I consider the worst invasive  
19 species to be the gas industry. They are going to  
20 destroy us and we will not allow it.

21 MR. MOONEYAN: Ray Gillis?

22 MR. RAY GILLIS: Raymond Gillis,  
23 G-I-L-L-I-S. I'm an insurance broker here in Schoharie  
24 County, and I just wanted to address the situation of the  
25 insurance on the impact of the EIS on insurance, on your

1 homeowners and it's not an issue. There is no impact. We  
2 can write homeowners insurance with a pipeline easement  
3 without any difficulties. Thank you.

4 MR. MOONEYHAN: Robert Strother?

5 MR. ROBERT STROTHER: Good evening.

6 R-O-B-E-R-T S-T-R-O-T-H-E-R. You guys hire yet? No  
7 smiles. Just like an open mike, the later you are on the  
8 list the emptier the room is. I moved here 26 years ago.  
9 I bought a shack up on the hill, beautiful place, been  
10 working on it since then. It's almost done. The current  
11 pipeline survey line where the pipeline is going to be  
12 located is 75 feet from my house. It's not on my property.  
13 It's on my neighbor's property who asked them to push  
14 it all the way up to the property line. They'll be clear  
15 cutting to my property line. I sleep 75 feet from a 30  
16 inch industrial gas pipeline. I'm going to leave my  
17 house which I won't be able to sell for the money I put  
18 into it, my life's work gone away. The pipeline also  
19 crosses a protected trout stream and continues 70 feet  
20 from my well, across wetlands, through pristine state  
21 lands, all in violation of the recommendations of the  
22 Army Corp of Engineers. So the pipeline needs to go  
23 somewhere else, not in my backyard. I'm an Indi, thank  
24 you. It needs to go down by the known rights of way,  
25 if it's going to be here. And these companies need to

1 care about people a little bit. They don't care about  
2 people. They wouldn't put this thing 75 feet from my  
3 house if they cared about people. They wouldn't put it  
4 through a schoolyard if they cared about people. They  
5 wouldn't put it through a nice farm if they cared about  
6 people. They care about their money, running in on a  
7 straight line and doing it as economically as possible.  
8 Please don't let them do that. It's not right. They  
9 can pay to reroute it. They can do loopy loops through  
10 the county to keep everyone safe. They can afford to do  
11 that. They should do that. You know all the union  
12 brothers are gone, right? You got a few here? Earlier  
13 Darin Hagadarn spoke, one of the union brothers, good  
14 friend of mine. And I thought what a great community  
15 we have here because Darin didn't tell you this but  
16 approximately four or five weeks ago his house burnt to  
17 the ground. There have been numerous benefits put  
18 together by the people of this county for the Hagadarn  
19 family. I was out there on Saturday night. Hundreds  
20 of people, five or six bands all playing for free, raised  
21 them thousands of dollars. I was in awe. I said this  
22 place is just great. I've been here forever. The people  
23 here are great. I have friends here in the audience.  
24 This company is going to screw those guys too. And I'm  
25 starting to feel like Darin must have felt as his sat in

1 his driveway and watched his house burn to the ground. I  
2 helped him work on that house. He hasn't worked on his  
3 house quite as long as I have but huge loss for these  
4 people. What I wanted to say to the union brothers was  
5 I don't want to take work away from them but I would  
6 never take a job if I knew it was basically going to  
7 destroy a fellow citizen's house which is what is going  
8 to happen to me because I am not going to live 75 feet  
9 from a pipeline that has an 800 foot blast on it. Right?  
10 Oh, another thing, I'm sure you guys are aware of this.  
11 I'm not sure if everyone else is aware of this. They  
12 don't odorize this gas. So not only am I going to be  
13 worrying about blowing up, but if there is a gas leak,  
14 I won't notice. They do have some kind of sensors and  
15 I'm not clear since my property is not actually,  
16 theoretically impacted. Are these guys providing me  
17 a meter to sense a gas leak? Do I have to do that on  
18 my own?

19 MR. MOONEYHAN: Please conclude your  
20 comments, sir.

21 MR. ROBERT STROTHER: I'm concluding  
22 my comments with no answers. Thank you. You guys have  
23 a good night.

24 MR. MOONEYHAN: Louise Matter-Johnson?

25 MS. LOUISE MATTER-JOHNSON: Louise, Matter,

1 M-A-T-T-E-R Johnson, Sky Hill Farm. The New York State BECE  
2 has requested that FERC add a research course to it DEIS.  
3 The right compressor station with its current pipeline,  
4 the two additional proposed pipelines along this outbound  
5 add more compressors, etc, is surrounded by KARST. I would  
6 like to share the science of two hydro gals who are experts  
7 on KARST and ground and who has researched and written about  
8 KARST in Schoharie County. They are Reuben Lindquist  
9 and Pongo founder and emeritus of water resources as SUNY  
10 Oneonta.

11 They agree that KARST aquifers are the most vulnerable  
12 aquifers anywhere in the world. Thus, the right compressor  
13 station is vulnerable since it sits amidst KARST or soluble  
14 limestone with its network of caves and sinkholes or  
15 holes covered with soil and sinking streams. So these  
16 holes which channels into the shallow ground water permits  
17 service pollutants from construction, explosions and playing  
18 to rapidly enter aquifers without being remediated by soil,  
19 microorganisms, clay, sand, stone. Contaminants then  
20 disperse rapidly and unpredictably in the fast moving flow.  
21 In KARST ground water, velocities can be hundreds or  
22 thousands of times faster than the norm. Also the build up  
23 of methane in KARST caves can be explosive. So the right  
24 compressor station is close to and uphill of the main  
25 Fox Creek aquifer but larger. That supplies the drinking

1 water to the towns of Schoharie and Central Bridge. The  
2 area near the right compressor station and other parts of  
3 Schoharie County were greatly affected by the officially  
4 designated 500 year flood from Irene which was worse  
5 than by the planned release of Gilboa Dam. So this  
6 is triple vulnerability for us, for this compressor  
7 station. That is KARST aquifers 500 year flood plains  
8 and the Gilboa Dam releases. A fourth vulnerability  
9 is our vast network of D vertical fractures as evidenced  
10 by the many abandoned water wells in right. Abandoned  
11 due to methane contamination which the DEC admits is  
12 a problem its own. Methane, as well as iron, sulfurs,  
13 all effect and travel through the surface through a single  
14 D vertical fracture like a tree trunk which then branches  
15 off when close to the earth's surface. Retired well  
16 digger, Oxbury, has shown me his chart of many, many  
17 abandoned water wells in right. These are again holes  
18 that go straight down into aquifers carry contaminants.  
19 A fifth vulnerability, according to earthquake fault mass  
20 by geologists, Decottie and the New York City DEP, five  
21 major earthquake fault lines intersect in the area around  
22 Cobleskill, Schoharie and Wright. Two of these major fault  
23 lines run from Wright through Oneonta to Binghamton and into  
24 Northeastern Pennsylvania. Its seeming to follow a route  
25 of close to 88 which appears to mirror the path of the

1 Constitution pipeline. We are vulnerable with two other  
2 earthquake fault lines that intersect or crisscross with  
3 the 88 fault lines, and they move south from near Wright,  
4 the town of Wright, the Wright compressor station down  
5 into the New York City watershed. These are major  
6 earthquake faults. Jacobi writes a slip for a quake  
7 along the fault line segment could cause a concurrent  
8 quake elsewhere on the same or intersecting fault line.  
9 If so, it's conceivable that a quake near the Wright  
10 compressor station could set off another one inside  
11 the New York City watershed.

12 MR. MOONEYHA: Please conclude your comments.

13 MS. LOUISE MATTER-JOHNSON: A sixth  
14 vulnerability is the burning of fossil fuel which has  
15 recently elevated Co2 level in our atmosphere to 400  
16 parts per million which is one of the many indicators  
17 of runaway climate disruption. No conventional reserves  
18 of oil, gas and coal will last but maybe 15 years and soon  
19 to climate catastrophe. We don't need to add fracked  
20 gas or oil to this big prognosis. We need FERC to  
21 oversee and regulate renewable energy and stop all  
22 fracking pipeline construction immediately. Tell Exxon  
23 and Halliburton to frack off.

24 MR. MOONEYHAN: Larry Mazza?

25 MR. LARRY MAZZA: Hi. I'm Larry Mazza.

1 That's L-A-R-R-Y M-A-Z-Z-A. I'm a local merchant and a  
2 resident of the Town of Cobleskill. I'm not directly  
3 effected by this pipeline that I know of but was invited  
4 to come here tonight not knowing all that much about it.  
5 So I gave it some thought. I don't know much about  
6 environmental science. I don't even really know what a  
7 DEIS is to be honest with you. But I do know a little  
8 bit about human nature and politics and on that basis  
9 I will make my comments. I guess I basically don't  
10 trust the process. When you have like a huge corporation  
11 with lots of money, then going through our politicians  
12 who they've been known to influence at times, and then it  
13 goes to " and then people get appointed by those  
14 politicians to be a seemingly unbiased review board. I  
15 don't have any faith in that process. There are too  
16 many opportunities for money and influence to get  
17 interjected in that. Or I guess I could say a smile if  
18 you ever seen politics get interjected into a bias  
19 committee. So the fees that people are getting for their  
20 land seem to be really unjust. For example, if somebody  
21 gets \$3000 now and their property is worth \$150,000,  
22 whatever the fee is, when they go to sell it or pass it  
23 on to their kids 20 years from now, their property  
24 could have increased in value and does that onetime fee  
25 really reflect what they've been deprived of in terms

1 of property value. I know I remember looking at a  
2 piece of property when I was looking to buy a house out  
3 here, and it had a high tension wires and a gas line  
4 crisscrossing it and I imagined all the " not only the  
5 danger but just people with dirt bikes and snowmobiles  
6 in my backyard constantly. It certainly deterred me  
7 from even wanting to buy a piece of property. So I  
8 don't think they're being compensated. These companies  
9 are very wealthy and they can certainly afford to buy  
10 people off more effectively. And the other thing that  
11 strikes me is that tonight we have different factions,  
12 different groups here. We have students, farmers. We  
13 have union workers that want jobs and so on. Seems to  
14 me that these people have much more in comment with  
15 each other than they do with the people that are funding  
16 the pipeline. And it seems to me there must be some  
17 common ground that can be found rather than opposing  
18 each other. It's almost like somebody else is holding  
19 the strings and we're fighting against each other and  
20 we're really in the same boat. I'm sure none of us "  
21 not very many of us here in Schoharie County live here  
22 because we have the intention of getting wealthy from  
23 what we do. Most of us are working hard and eeking out  
24 a living. And basically we're here tonight, in some  
25 cases, fighting with each other and the people that are

1 really putting all the economic and political pressure  
2 into this whole " into this room aren't even here and  
3 again, I think we should find some common ground. That's  
4 all I wanted to say tonight. Thank you.

5 MR. MOONEYHAN: Clements Macki? Luke Mazza?

6 MR. LUKE MAZZA: My name is Luke Mazza,  
7 L-U-K-E M-A-Z-Z-A. I'm a new resident, new homeowner.  
8 I've lived here my whole live. I went away to school and  
9 I came back mostly because of how beautiful the county is  
10 and you know I don't think if this was the epicenter of  
11 natural gas operations and fracking, which is a  
12 possibility, we would have ever considered coming back  
13 to the area and I know the same is true for a lot of  
14 people who have left and come back. I'm glad someone  
15 brought up the issue of Karst. That's something that  
16 seems to be overlooked a little bit in the environmental  
17 assessment. Myself, I know a little bit about Karst, being  
18 a caver. I'm a member of the Northeastern Cave  
19 Conservancy and a manager of a cave property in the area.  
20 The proposed pipeline will be traversing both Taris  
21 Mountain and Barton Hill which are both known Karst  
22 areas. They have many caves, many visitors, underground  
23 drainages. I notice in the Karst mitigation plan  
24 submitted by Constitution there's no mention of wildlife  
25 and Karst wildlife which seems to be a major emission

1 given that Karst landscapes are home to a lot of fragile  
2 ecosystems. Since there's endangered species like the  
3 Indiana bat. What I was wondering was if a Karst cavity is  
4 discovered, how will its biological significance be  
5 determined? There were no mentions of biological  
6 authorities being brought in, in the Karst mitigation  
7 plan. If sensitive or endangered species is encountered  
8 in those sort of environments, what will happen? If a  
9 cave of significance is uncovered, either biologically,  
10 geologically or culturally, what measures will be taken  
11 to preserve the cave and will it be possibly filled with  
12 cement, as is currently allowed according to their current  
13 plan? There are not limitations on size or significance  
14 when it comes to possibly filling it with cement grout  
15 to stabilize them, the pipeline. Caves in this area are  
16 pretty important. We have two commercial caves. They  
17 sustain a lot of economic activity in the area, and  
18 I don't think anyone in the area wants to see those sorts  
19 of these destroyed or affected negatively. I also noticed  
20 that John Milroy's PhD thesis from 1977 is used to  
21 determine the location of caves and Karst features on  
22 the route, but this is an old thesis written by one  
23 person, and it's hardly a thorough analysis of what sorts  
24 of caves and Karst features are in abundance on those  
25 two hills. Just a couple other points quickly, I know

1 someone brought up, you know the insurance issue has  
2 been brought up. I don't really think that was covered  
3 at all by the DEIS. There was mention that local agencies  
4 were talked to and five major companies but no real  
5 conclusions were come to and they weren't willing to  
6 speak, which could be an indication that they don't  
7 want to say they will be modifying people's insurance  
8 plans or chopping them which would be understandable  
9 that they wouldn't want to comment on that. As far as  
10 I'm concerned that wasn't addressed at all because there's  
11 no conclusion. My question is what benefits will home-  
12 owners have if Constitution fails to mitigate the impacts  
13 of insurance adjustments or cancellations? Is there  
14 anything would actually require Constitution to fix  
15 those issues? Currently they would just be " the  
16 recommendation is that they would just be required to  
17 submit to the secretary any related complaints that  
18 landowners have. Someone mentioned the risk of deaths  
19 and compared it to lightning strikes. That's actually  
20 brought up in the DEIS and a number of other natural  
21 death causes are compared to the risk of pipeline  
22 deaths. That's I think intentionally misleading. Those  
23 sorts of things, the risk of falling, auto accidents, they  
24 effect the entire country, 313 million people. Deaths by  
25 pipeline is only going to affect a small subset population

1 that lives right next to the pipeline. So someone else  
2 brought that up specifically, and I just want to clear  
3 that up. I think that should just be " the whole section  
4 should just not be in there because I think it's just  
5 meant to convince people that pipelines are a little  
6 safer than they are. It should be presented as a risk of  
7 death per hundred thousand people that live near the  
8 pipeline, something like that. Finally, one more thing,  
9 future plans and abandonment. There's a heading on this  
10 section, and it says abandonment but the issue is not  
11 actually addressed. It says Constitution has no "  
12 essentially to paraphrase, Constitution has no intention  
13 to abandon any of its facilities. Well of course they  
14 don't. That's not their business. Their business is to  
15 make money and not really worry about what happens after.  
16 So my question is, can we actually figure out how the  
17 pipeline being decommissioned or abandoned would happen  
18 or the long interim impact of infrastructure of that type  
19 being left behind and whose responsibility does it come  
20 as we move forward hundreds of thousands of years?  
21 What's going to happen with this thing? So that's it.  
22 That's all I have. Thank you.

23 MR. MOONEYHAN: Rand Lewis?

24 MR. RAND LEWIS: I already spoke.

25 MR. BOWMAN: Okay, that's everyone that we 24

1 have signed up to speak at this time. Is there anyone  
2 that didn't speak that wishes to come up and do so?

3 I see a hand. If you want to come up, come on up and  
4 make sure you state your name and spell it, please.

5 MR. JOHN GORSIN: My name is John Gorsin.  
6 I'm from the Town of Wright, Schoharie County. G-O-R-S-I-N6  
7 John. And the problem I have with a lot of this is we have  
8 no vote about any of this in the Town of Wright. We had  
9 a lot of grants coming in our way and fighting with that.  
10 I was a Vietnam Vet. I am a Vietnam Veteran. I've had  
11 kids with multiple seizures. I have a tumor. I'm just  
12 worried about what kind of chemicals if they do the  
13 fracking are we going to get. And that's my biggest  
14 concern. And that's why I had to say something. I  
15 hope we can all get it together. Maybe we can go to a  
16 different thing except for this fracking with the  
17 chemicals scaring me. And I appreciate your time.

18 MR. BOWMAN: Is there anyone else that  
19 would like to speak at this time? I saw a hand on the  
20 left side. If anyone wants to speak, why don't they  
21 just kind of come ahead and sit down in one of these  
22 front rows and first come, first serve.

23 MS. MARY ANN HOECKER: Hi. My name is Mary  
24 Ann, Hoecker, H-O-E-C-K-E-R. And I've been since the  
25 beginning, most of these gatherings. And I recognize

1 the lady from Pennsylvania. And I just want to address  
2 you guys because I don't intend to be no position. I  
3 just cannot imagine. I can only speak from the heart.  
4 I'm not good at speaking from here. I can't imagine  
5 living with the decision that you have to make. And I  
6 just want to say that God bless and hope that will be  
7 all with the right purpose because I've lived up here  
8 not that long but I've seen the power of our creator,  
9 the flood. I couldn't imagine what will happen to  
10 the millions of people in New York City and downstate.  
11 We're North.  
12 Your thing is going to be going south without anyone's  
13 being able to do much about it. And I think that's huge.  
14 I couldn't " I'm glad I'm as old as I am because I  
15 wouldn't want to live through that. I don't know if I  
16 could take it. I just wish and hope the best for all of  
17 you. This is not a small task or a small decision. It's  
18 huge. And I want to thank you for listening to everybody.  
19 That in itself has to be huge. And I want to thank  
20 everybody who stayed so late but it's important to know  
21 and to learn but what I've learned is that from the heart  
22 you people are a big part of what will happen and it will  
23 be the right decision. Good night and God bless.

24 MS. SUSAN JACQUES: My name is Susan Jacques,  
25 J-A-C-Q-U-E-S. and although this is going to sound

1 drastic to some, it's my opinion but I consider it a  
2 terrorist threat. IN the day and age where they're  
3 looking to create any havoc in any country. They've  
4 already spoken recently on the electrical grid and  
5 how we can be effected by that. Well how much easier  
6 is it for them to just find all the pipelines in one  
7 location and just hit one spot? And it's over with.  
8 I moved up here from downstate for the tranquility.  
9 The pipeline isn't going directly through my property  
10 but the caverns are only a few feet from my well. And  
11 those caverns, the pipeline coming in front of 88 "  
12 88 is not a good venue simply because we've had floods  
13 from waters go onto 88 and literally flip over cars  
14 with people in it. With pipelines going, it's coming  
15 down a hill. My caves extend all the way down. They are  
16 close to people's homes. They are close to septic.  
17 This is one point on the map, if I'm not mistaken, it's  
18 going through somebody's septic. If you're building "  
19 I just finished an addition. I had to make sure that  
20 my post and my footings were below frost line. Now I  
21 understand that there are many sections of this  
22 pipeline that's only going two feet down. And then  
23 they'll sprinkle some dirt on top of it. Why is it that  
24 they don't have to abide by the rules? Then we have  
25 all this massive rain that comes off this hill. It's

1 going from Route 30 up the hill, close to all the  
2 neighbor's house over there. And people put a lot of  
3 money over there to build these homes. But when that  
4 rain comes down, we've had " I can't say boulders.  
5 Boulders would be an exaggeration but we had very huge  
6 stones that were in the drain, gutters. Downstate it  
7 would be gutters but what happened was when the waters  
8 came down, not from any of the tropical storms " it was  
9 just a regular heavy rainstorm " those stones literally  
10 went down Route 30 all over the road. That's how  
11 powerful water is. They had built a water basin at the  
12 bottom of my hill. Now when that water comes down and  
13 that pipeline is sitting on it or partially under it,  
14 the power of water is able to get under, lift it up and  
15 that's going to cause a break in pipeline. I thought  
16 being that it wasn't going through my property I was  
17 better off. After listening to some of the numbers here  
18 tonight, I'm finding out that is definitely not true.  
19 And I do follow every explosion that has happened from  
20 pipelines. I follow everything. I go online just to  
21 read the Constitution's memos, the commercials. If  
22 fracking or gas is so safe, why are they spending so much  
23 money to convince the public that it's safe. If it was,  
24 you wouldn't have to do that much forecasting. And  
25 now it's almost every other commercial and I deliberately

1 skip through it. I don't want to see it. So yes your  
2 job is very hard, and I understand you're the middleman.  
3 And they just throw you out here but we are human  
4 beings. We do have homes. We do have families. School  
5 buses come past my house all the time. I's just a route.  
6 Anything goes on that line, what happens to all those  
7 children? What happened to the people who were driving on  
8 I88? I88 is right there. So I'm going to pray, as I have  
9 been, that you all take your time, extend it if you have  
10 to. What is the rush? I don't see that there is a rush  
11 to do this. I think that the timeline can be extended.  
12 I don't believe that most of the people in Schoharie even  
13 know about any of this. I've talked to at least 20 people  
14 in the past month, and they know nothing about the  
15 pipeline and the consequences, what it can lead to. And  
16 make no mistake, there's an articles where they actually  
17 did indicate fracking after this. So that's all I have  
18 to say. I will pray that you all make the right decision,  
19 and just remember, we're people. We're families, and we're  
20 part of this country. And I feel that it's a form of  
21 harassment that they choose the rural routes to go in  
22 and just destroy what we have. And I thank you for your  
23 time.

24 MR. BOWMAN: Yes, sir.

25 MR. CLADE CRISTELL: Hi. My name is

1 Clade Cristell, C-L-A-D-E C-R-I-S-T-E-L-L. Been with the  
2 union labor for 32 years. I worked on a pipeline, and  
3 every pipeline I was on we had inspector with each crew  
4 making sure everything is right. They won't let you  
5 start until the inspector got there. And the first  
6 pipeline I was on they were closing school down and  
7 factories, a year like this when you had a real coal  
8 year, shortage on the gas because of the pipelines.  
9 They put that line in, alleviated it and then there was  
10 promise of Millennium coming to pipeline. That got held  
11 off for eight years for stuff like this. That finally  
12 went through. Here we are talking about it again. All  
13 this stuff has been studied, and pipelines are pretty  
14 darn safe right now. I've been on a lot of them. I  
15 own land in Pennsylvania. They just put a 24 inch line  
16 there. And no problems at all. Read the papers down  
17 there you don't hear all this stuff about " very little.  
18 A lot of happy people down there with the money they  
19 gave. I did very well and there were very little problems.  
20 All I hear is -- been hearing that for since it  
21 happened. The town's people even got fed up with it.  
22 They started their own committee.  
23 Supervisor of that town was in on that committee. We got  
24 the moratorium lifted there. Cabot made a mistake there.  
25 They cracked through it. The DEP came in. that wasn't

1 enough. They had to bring the EPA in. They cited one  
2 County and Susquehanna County. And found out places where  
3 no drilling activity was ever done, same water they had  
4 there right in the county. There's a whole lot of  
5 hype over this water pollution. Very little  
6 that have been down there compared to all the wells  
7 they drilled around 120,000 water wells. You had  
8 problems with a handful down there. And out of 20  
9 households that were effected down there, 12 of them  
10 took the buyout, like that lady said. They still had  
11 their house, still own their house. The townspeople  
12 got together and said enough is enough, start their  
13 own committee, got the moratorium lifted. The town's  
14 supervisor was head of that too. So if there's all  
15 the problem -- why would the townspeople be  
16 for it? There's eight people holding out trying to get  
17 to become millionaires out of that lawsuit down there.  
18 And that's where I know about it. I go down there  
19 about twice a month, get every paper I could to read  
20 about what's' happened. Hear a lot of good stuff like  
21 in Wyalusing. They put natural gas to that town and  
22 they're bringing in a cheese plant, promise them cheap  
23 natural gas. And it's helping a lot of towns down  
24 there like that. They're switching from coal to natural  
25 gas. It's bringing an average utility bill down \$1200

1 on average throughout the state for people like me and  
2 you, not just for the companies. There's a lot of good  
3 sides to the pipelines. It's not as bad as all the  
4 people want to believe. Thank you.

5 MR. MOONEYHAN: Last?

6 MR. RON SEGARRA: Ron Segarra, S-E-G-A-R-R-A.  
7 I've heard a lot of pros and cons, and I feel everyone  
8 has the right to what they're saying, and they are right,  
9 whether it be for jobs or against jobs. I think the people  
10 with farms had the right. I think the people with BOCES  
11 have a right. I think the people that live 10 feet away  
12 from the pipeline have a right. I believe these questions  
13 that I'm saying about are the ones that have to be looked  
14 into. I live in a limestone area. There's caves all  
15 around me underneath my house. So I'm not saying I'm for  
16 it. I'm not saying I'm against it. I'm saying I'm for  
17 jobs. I'm saying a lot of these questions that have been  
18 brought up have to be answered. Whether there's enough  
19 people going to be on the payroll from these people,  
20 whether it's good for the environment, these questions  
21 have to be looked into. Thank you.

22 MR. BOWMAN: Is there anyone who would like to  
23 say something else? Okay. So with that, the formal part  
24 of this meeting will close. I'd like to quickly mention  
25 our Website has a link called "eLibrary . That's at

1 www.ferc.gov where you can access everything on this page  
2 about these projects. Please just enter the doc numbers  
3 for the projects in when you go to the Website. That will  
4 be CP13-499 and CT13-502 information is still outside  
5 the tables. And using this eLibrary matches everything on  
6 the record concerning the projects. You can get another  
7 copy of the DEIS and information submitted by applicants.  
8 On behalf of the Federal Energy and Regulatory Commission,  
9 I want to thank you all for a good night and giving us all  
10 your comments. So let the record show that the EIS comment  
11 meeting closed at 11:09 PM.

12 (Whereupon at 11:09 p.m., the scoping meeting  
13 adjourned.

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