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BEFORE THE

FEDERAL ENERGY REGULATORY COMMISSION

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IN THE MATTER OF: : Project No.

ROVER PIPELINE PROJECT : PF14-14-000

- - - - - x

Adrian High School
785 Riverside Avenue
Adrian, MI 49221

Monday, December 1, 2014

The above-entitled matter came on for technical
conference, pursuant to notice, at 6:00 p.m., Kara Harris,
the moderator.

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

2 MS. HARRIS: Good evening. On behalf of the
3 Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, I'd like to welcome
4 you here tonight. The purpose of tonight's meeting is to
5 hear your comments on the Rover Pipeline Project planned by
6 Rover Pipeline, LLC.

7 My name is Kara Harris, and I'm the environmental
8 project manager in FERC's Office of Energy projects. Kevin
9 Bowman, the FERC Deputy Project Manager is located in the
10 hallway at our sign-in table with handouts and with the
11 speaker's list, mailing list. And I know some of you didn't
12 get a chance to stop at the table, but after the meeting it
13 will be out there.

14 If you did not receive our Notice of Intent,
15 which I'll get into the details, feel free to stop and put
16 your name on our mailing list so that you can receive our
17 environmental document. You can pick up the handouts. We
18 have some for electronic filing at FERC and for just typical
19 information as a landowner that you may be interested in,
20 and a project handout that gives you a little bit more
21 details about how to access the project information.

22 Jennifer Ward, to my right, is the project
23 manager with Carno Interest. Carno is an environmental
24 consulting firm assisting us in the production of our
25 Environmental Impact Statement, or EIS, that will be

1 prepared for project.

2 As you can see, this meeting is being recorded by
3 a court reporter so that we can have an accurate record of
4 tonight's comments. A transcript of this meeting will be
5 placed in the public record so that everyone has access to
6 the information discussed here tonight.

7 I'll quickly run through the agenda for tonight's
8 meeting. I'll start out by briefly explaining the role of
9 FERC in our application process, then I'll have a Rover
10 representative present an overview of their project.
11 Following Rover's presentation, we'll then hear from those
12 of you who signed up to speak at the table in the hallway
13 and make formal comments on the project.

14 And once we go through that speaker's list, if we
15 have time, which we should, we will get those of you who did
16 not sign up on the list; but you should have an opportunity
17 even if you did not put your name on the list ahead of time.

18 So, I would like to begin by describing FERC.
19 FERC is an independent agency that, among other things,
20 regulates the interstate transmission of natural gas,
21 storage facilities, and liquefied natural gas terminals. As
22 a federal licensing agency, the FERC has the responsibility
23 under the National Environmental Policy Act, or NEPA, to
24 consider the potential environmental impacts associated with
25 the jurisdictional project.

1 With regard to the Rover Pipeline Project, the
2 FERC is the lead federal agency for the NEPA review in the
3 preparation of the Environmental Impact Statement. The
4 Commission is made up of five members who are appointed by
5 the President and approved by the Senate. The Commission
6 staff, which includes myself and Kevin, prepares technical
7 information to assist the Commissioners in making their
8 decisions.

9 When a company wants to build pipeline facilities
10 to transport and sell of natural gas in interstate commerce,
11 the company files an application with the Commission. Rover
12 plans to file their application in the first quarter of
13 2015, and is requesting a Commission certificate of public
14 convenience and necessity by the end of next year.

15 It is important for everyone to understand that
16 the project was not conceived by and is not promoted by the
17 FERC or the other agencies assisting us with our
18 environmental impact statement. FERC staff reviews
19 applications for the authority to build and operate
20 interstate natural gas pipelines, and Rover's in the process
21 of routing their pipelines and preparing an application to
22 submit to FERC. Once the application is submitted, our
23 obligation is to review that application and prepare an
24 analysis of the environmental impacts.

25 Tonight's meeting is not a public hearing. We're

1 not here to debate the Rover Pipeline Project or to make a
2 determination on its fate. We're here to listen to your
3 concerns so that we can consider them in our analysis of the
4 potential natural and human environmental impacts of the
5 project and how those impacts might be reduced or avoided.

6 If there are any general objections or support of
7 the project or other non-environmental issues concerning the
8 proposal, those issues will be considered by the Commission
9 in its determination of the project's public convenience and
10 necessity, but are generally considered outside the scope of
11 our environmental analysis. In other words, the Commission
12 wants to hear your concerns, we just would not detail them
13 in our environmental impact statement.

14 During our review of the project, we will
15 assemble information from a variety of sources, including
16 the applicant, the public, other state, local, and federal
17 agencies, and our own independent analysis and fieldwork.

18 So, I'll briefly explain our environmental review
19 process. We're currently near the beginning of our process.
20 Rover entered into the FERC pre-filing process on June 27 of
21 this year, which began our review. The purpose of the
22 pre-filing process is to encourage involvement by interested
23 stakeholders in a manner that allows for the early
24 identification and resolution of environmental issues.

25 The FERC docket number for the project PF14-14.

1 The "PF" means pre-filing, and no formal application has
2 been filed at FERC for the project. Once Rover files an
3 application, a new docket number will be assigned with a
4 "CP" docket number designation. The goal of pre-filing is
5 to get information from the public as well as agencies and
6 other groups so that we can incorporate all substantive
7 issues of concern into our review.

8 On November 4, 2014, FERC issued a Notice of
9 Intent to prepare an environmental impact statement, or NOI,
10 for the Rover Pipeline Project, and initiated a scoping or
11 comment period. The NOI was mailed to over 16,000
12 stakeholders and describes the environmental review process,
13 some already identified environmental issues, and the steps
14 the FERC and the cooperating agencies will take to prepare
15 the EIS.

16 So far, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency,
17 U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife
18 Service, and the State of Ohio Environmental Protection
19 Agency have agreed to be cooperating agencies with FERC in
20 the preparation of our EIS. Additional federal, state, and
21 local government agencies with the jurisdiction, by law or
22 special expertise, are welcomed to cooperate as well.

23 We've set an ending date of December 18, 2014,
24 for the scoping period; however, the end of the scoping
25 period is not the end of public involvement. We will always

1 take your comments. The earlier we get them the better so
2 that we can have time to review and analyze your concerns
3 and get them incorporated into our EIS. So, there is a
4 cutoff period, meaning when we're writing the document, but
5 as of right now we're taking comments throughout without any
6 deadlines.

7 Extra copies of the Notice of Intent and other
8 project handouts, again, are located at the table in the
9 hallway. The speakers' list is still out there, and you can
10 feel free to go out there and sign up or just wait for me to
11 open it other for any other speakers.

12 In addition to the verbal comments provided
13 tonight, we will also accept your written comments. If you
14 have comments, but do not wish to speak tonight, you may
15 provide written comments on the comment form that we have on
16 the table in the hallway. You can give those to us tonight
17 and we'll scan them in and put them into E-Library, or you
18 can mail them in at a later date, following the directions
19 on the comment form or our Notice of Intent that we also
20 have copies of out there.

21 Your comments tonight, together with any written
22 comments you've already filed or intend to file, will be
23 added to the official record of the proceeding. We then
24 take all of the comments that address natural and human
25 environmental issues, and utilizing all available

1 information and expertise, factor them into our independent
2 analysis of the project's potential impacts.

3 We will publish those findings in a Draft EIS,
4 which will then be distributed for a minimum 45-day public
5 comment period. Additional public comment meetings will be
6 announced that are similar to tonight's meeting, and we'll
7 come back out so we can get your comments on our Draft
8 Environmental Impact Statement.

9 At the end of the Draft EIS comment period, FERC
10 staff will prepare a Final EIS that specifically addresses
11 each comment received on the Draft EIS, and includes all
12 necessary changes, additions, and modifications to
13 conclusions reached in the Draft EIS.

14 The Final EIS will be considered by the
15 Commission in its determination of whether to authorize the
16 project, and if so, under what conditions. If you received
17 a copy of the NOI, again, you will receive a copy of our
18 draft and final Environmental Impact Statement. If you did
19 not, feel free to sign up in the hallway to get your name on
20 the filing list.

21 Please note because of the size of our mailing
22 list the copy that you'll receive in the mail of our
23 Environmental Impact Statements will be on a CD rom.

24 So, we'll move on to the Rover presentation.
25 We've asked Buffy Thomanson to prepare a summary, and she is

1 --

2 MS. THOMANSON: Good evening. My name is Buffy
3 Thomanson, and I'm the Environmental Manager for the Rover
4 Pipeline Project. I'd like to thank the Federal Energy
5 Regulatory Commission for allowing me to speak to you
6 briefly this evening.

7 I'd also like to thank the landowners and other
8 members of the community here with us tonight, many of whom
9 have worked with our team on land surveys, invited us to
10 give presentation about the project, and called our project
11 toll-free number with information about the proposed route
12 or questions.

13 It is our intent to live up to our promises of
14 openness, respect, and integrity during every step of this
15 process from permitting and construction through long-term
16 operations.

17 I have four objectives that I'd like to achieve
18 here in the next few minutes, first, to provide an overview
19 of the Rover Project; second, to explain its purpose and
20 need; third, to explain what you can expect from the Rover
21 project team and our commitment to the community; and
22 fourth, to give you a sense of the project timeline.

23 First, about the project, in a filing with the
24 FERC in May requesting FERC to approve our development of
25 the project utilizing the pre-filing process, we proposed

1 the Rover Pipeline, a new interstate pipeline system to
2 transport domestically-produced natural gas from the
3 Marcellus and Utica shale formations in Pennsylvania, West
4 Virginia, and Ohio to markets in the U.S. and Canada.

5 The Rover Pipeline is being designed to transport
6 3.25 billion cubic feet of natural gas per day through
7 approximately 830 miles of 24, 30, 36, and 42-inch pipeline.
8 Rover is also proposing to build compressor and metering
9 stations along its route in Ohio, West Virginia, and
10 Pennsylvania.

11 The Rover Pipeline includes four main compressor stations
12 and six lateral compressor stations.

13 In our filing, we proposed that nearly all, 80
14 percent, of the pipeline will run under agricultural land
15 and parallel existing pipelines, power lines, or roads.

16 In this \$4.3 billion investment, Rover Pipeline
17 has committed to utilize union labor resources exclusively
18 to construct the pipeline based upon the large presence of
19 available resources in the region and the union's high
20 quality craftsmanship and past performance for safety,
21 reliability, and quality performance.

22 I'd like to make three points about the project's
23 purpose and need. First, the Rover Pipeline will provide a
24 reliable, long-term supply of clean, natural gas from
25 abundant fields in the Marcellus and Utica shale formations,

1 the first major, new interstate of its kind originating from
2 the Marcellus/Utica area and then transporting gas to the
3 West and Canada.

4 Today Michigan is the ninth largest consumer of
5 natural gas in the United States; yet, Michigan is the 17th
6 largest producer, leaving the state to be a net importer of
7 gas to meet supply needs for businesses, manufacturers, and
8 residential consumers.

9 Seventy-eight percent of the gas moved through
10 the Rover Pipeline will be used by customers on the U.S.
11 segments of the pipeline, including multiple
12 interconnections with third-party pipelines in Defiance,
13 Ohio to reach customers in the greater Midwest, Michigan,
14 and Gulf Coast, and multiple takeoff points in Michigan that
15 will interconnect with local distribution systems, serving
16 customers throughout the state.

17 What is not consumed in the U.S. will be
18 transported to the Union Gas up in Canada, where it will be
19 traded on the open market for consumption either back into
20 the United States in Michigan and to the Northeast, such as
21 New York or New Jersey, or to customers in Canada.

22 Second, right now there aren't enough pipelines
23 to move gas from the production region to market. Natural
24 gas production is forecasted to increase by 44 percent by
25 2040, but not from traditional supply areas. For example,

1 historic supplies from the Gulf of Mexico are down 46
2 percent over the past five years. This has left existing
3 pipes underutilized, and in some instances, empty.

4 The new gas that will replace the historic
5 supplies is mostly going to originate from the Marcellus and
6 Utica where pipelines such as Rover will carry this abundant
7 new supply to market. The Rover Pipeline will provide a
8 much needed supply source to the region, which is dependent
9 upon out-of-state production to meet its supply needs.

10 Third, recently we announced that the Rover
11 Pipeline is fully subscribed, demonstrating significant
12 demand. This means that we have received significant
13 interest in long-term use of the Rover line with multiple
14 15- to 20-year contracts to transport gas. The Rover
15 Pipeline will provide access to a much needed new source of
16 natural gas in the United States, continuing to reduce our
17 reliance on foreign energy sources.

18 Now, let's talk about what you can expect from
19 the Rover Project and our commitment to the community.
20 First, our construction and safety commitment, Rover
21 Pipeline will meet or exceed all required safety system and
22 be constructed and operated in accordance with all
23 applicable state and federal standards.

24 Construction will include a visual and
25 non-destructed x-ray inspection of every well that joins

1 sections of pipe together. The pipeline will tested with
2 water under higher than normal pressure and regulation
3 devices will be installed to prevent pressure from exceeding
4 safe limits.

5 Rover Pipeline will have automated valves
6 installed to shut off the flow of gas in case of an
7 emergency. The pipeline will receive regular integrity
8 testing and will be monitored 24/7, 365 days a year by
9 full-time gas control and operating maintenance staff.

10 Second, the project footprint and pipe coverage,
11 as a company, it is Rover Pipeline's expectations that our
12 efforts minimize disruptions and leave no long-term
13 footprint. As an operating principle, we work with
14 individual landowners to make accommodations and to achieve
15 full restoration of impacted land.

16 Pipe coverage for agricultural lands will be
17 4-feet or more. In non-agricultural lands, it'll be 3-feet
18 or more, and under roads, streams, ditches, and water bodies
19 it will be 5-feet or more.

20 Third, permanent and temporary easements, it is
21 Rover's preference to meet a mutual, contractual agreement
22 with impacted landowners to obtain easements. Easements
23 along single pipeline routes will require 50-feet of
24 permanent easement and temporary construction workspace of
25 25- to 100-feet of additional space, depending on

1 site-specific conditions.

2 We will work to develop easement agreements that
3 meet landowner's individual needs. We know your land is a
4 valuable natural resource, and the care with which we treat
5 land and topsoil is our utmost priority.

6 Now, the project timeline, following these FERC
7 public scoping meetings, we anticipate filing a FERC
8 certificate application in January 2015 that will undergo
9 public input and comment. We intend to work closely with
10 FERC to provide any additional data or information, and are
11 hopeful that FERC will issue its' certification and
12 construction authorization in the first quarter of 2016. We
13 expect that a portion of the pipeline will be operational in
14 December 2016 and the remainder by June 2017.

15 In conclusion, it is our intent to live up to our
16 promises of openness, respect, and integrity during every
17 step of this process from permitting and construction
18 through long-term operation. Please make note of the
19 project toll-free number for landowner questions,
20 888-844-3718, which is also printed on most of our project
21 materials and is on our website.

22 Thank you again for the opportunity to be here
23 and for your attendance.

24 MS. HARRIS: Thank you, Buffy.

25 After the formal meeting is adjourned,

1 representatives from Rover will be available in the hallway
2 with maps and other handouts that they have.
3 Again, our handouts, also the FERC handouts, will also be
4 available for you after the meeting for those of you who did
5 not get them before the meeting began.

6 So, we're now going to move into the part of the
7 meeting where we'll hear comments from other audience
8 members. As I mentioned before, if you'd rather not speak,
9 you may hand in your written comments tonight or send them
10 in to the Secretary of the Commission by following the
11 procedures outlined in the Notice of Intent for our comment
12 forms. Whether you verbally provide your comments or mail
13 them in, they will be equally considered by FERC.

14 Again, this meeting is being recorded by a
15 transcription service. All of your comments will be
16 transcribed and placed into the public record. For the
17 benefit of all in attendance and for accuracy of the
18 transcript, I will set the ground rules just so we're all
19 understood.

20 When your name is called, please step up to the
21 microphone. I know that it is located right there for the
22 easiest location for everyone to reach.

23 Sir, if you would not sit on the stage, I would
24 appreciate it. If you do want to take this time and change
25 seats if you feel like you're not in an ideal spot to see

1 the speakers, that's okay too.

2 So, when you get up to the microphone, state your
3 name, spell it if you feel like misspellings are likely.
4 Again, this is being recorded, so you want to make sure that
5 your name is spelled accurately. And also, if you have any
6 affiliation, let us know that as well. Please speak
7 directly into the microphone to the panel so that we can
8 ensure the court reporter is hearing your comments and that
9 we can hear them up here as well.

10 And lastly, as a courtesy to the speakers, if you
11 would turn off or silence your cell phones. Thank you.
12 We're now ready for Jennifer to call our first speaker.

13 MS. WARD: John Belknap.

14 MR. BELKNAP: Good evening ladies. Thanks for
15 the opportunity to address this proposed pipeline.

16 My name is John Belknap. Common spelling on
17 John, last name is B-e-l-k-n-a-p. I'm a landowner directly
18 impacted by this proposal.

19 Energy Transfer, through its Rover Pipeline is
20 seeking to lay claim to the rights of nearly 12,000 acres of
21 private property, about 4,000 acres of that here in Michigan
22 in order to build this gas transmission line.

23 They claim there's a need for this gas and that
24 this proposed pipeline is necessary to transport that gas to
25 fulfill these needs. Both tonight and at your November 20

1 scoping meeting in Chelsea, ET personnel stated that Rover
2 will leave no long-term footprint. Hundreds of miles of
3 project with permanent 50-foot cleared areas in 125-foot
4 wide work areas doesn't sound like no long-term footprint to
5 me.

6 In Rover's resource report Number 8, land use,
7 recreation, and esthetics, page 8-8, which is Section
8 8.1.3.1, Rover states, "Forested areas cleared for permanent
9 right-of-way will never be allowed to regrow."

10 Temporary construction rights-of-way will be
11 allowed to regenerate, revegetate, but they state that they
12 understand that it could take over a decade and a half to
13 reach pre-construction conditions. Further, they have told
14 us directly that they will not pay for replanting any of the
15 trees.

16 Certainly, in order to approve such destruction
17 of property for this project, there must be shown an
18 overriding need for it and a lack of alternatives. Speaking
19 to the need, referencing FERC's docket CP12-491-00, that's
20 Charlie, Pappy, 12-491-000, ET, in that docket was
21 petitioning permission to abandon its trunk line pipeline,
22 which transported natural gas to the Michigan/Indiana
23 border. They claimed the lack of need and excess capacity.

24 In their request they stated in Section II,
25 paragraph B, number 8 that after abandonment ET would

1 continue to serve its core market through its remaining
2 facilities, utilizing supplies through their Panhandle and
3 Rockies Express Pipeline. In Section II, number B (sic),
4 number 9, they stated, "There is an excess pipeline capacity
5 available to their market area in Midwest." That's
6 Illinois, Indiana, Michigan, and parts of Tennessee.

7 Now, just two years later, they're petitioning
8 for permission to seize our properties, claiming a necessity
9 for extra natural gas supply. In initial information from
10 ET we received in the mail and initial talks with their
11 personnel, we heard no mention of this gas being used in
12 Michigan. It was claimed to be going to Ontario.

13 Now, they have claimed, according to ET personnel
14 at a Lodi Township meeting in Michigan that 18 percent of
15 Rover's capacity will be sold to the Michigan market, and I
16 don't understand where this sudden need for gas came from
17 since they've already stated their existing pipelines can
18 supply that.

19 In this proposal, I do not see a company working
20 to meet a public need to supply a service for reasonable
21 profit. Rather I see a company seeing a chance to make a
22 substantial profit and creating a perceived need.

23 Now, maybe I'm missing something. Maybe there is
24 a need for this to be moved through Michigan. If there is,
25 there are alternatives. FERC has siting requirements that

1 include, among others, the fact that use of existing
2 rights-of-way must be considered.

3 There are two other current proposals to
4 accomplish the same gas transmissions. These are Enbridge's
5 Nexus Project and the Kinder Morgan Utopia Project. These
6 two pipelines are proposed to use existing pipeline routes
7 in Michigan requiring no further condemnation of private
8 owners' lands.

9 ET itself also owns the Panhandle Eastern
10 Pipeline, and its attendant right-of-way just a few miles
11 east of this proposed route. The Panhandle Eastern line
12 originates and terminates at essentially the same facilities
13 that will be served by Rover, and it should be used rather
14 than further destruction of natural properties to build this
15 new pipeline.

16 Siting requirements also say that you should take
17 into account landowner preferences. Despite our good faith
18 engagement with the ET personnel, they have been
19 unresponsive to our request for consideration of alternative
20 routes. We've asked them to modify the route to avoid
21 wetland areas and our mature wood lots.

22 We followed their directions on how to accomplish
23 the consideration of our variation of routes. We handed
24 them copies of aerial photographs with their route and with
25 our proposed routes on it.

1 We've handed those to them at least twice, the
2 first was August 1. We never heard back from them. In
3 fact, on their publication, which lists variations of
4 routes, our name does not even show up. We don't know how
5 to go about getting these considered.

6 We've followed up with them tonight, and we, in
7 fact, have an appointment set. That appointment is set
8 because we followed up and we became a squeaking wheel, and
9 we stayed in their face until they accommodated us. They
10 have never responded to our calls.

11 In summation, I argue there's not an overriding
12 need for this project. They claim that Michigan needs the
13 supply of gas, but referencing the United States Energy
14 Information Administration's Michigan State Energy Profile
15 it claims or it states that Michigan does have substantial
16 reserves of natural gas and any deficit we have is supplied
17 by one eight or nine other pipelines that already cross our
18 state.

19 I don't believe there's a need for this project.
20 And if there is a need for this project, I believe there are
21 better alternatives that would use existing pipeline routes
22 that won't result in further destruction of our property.
23 Thank you very much for your time.

24 MS. HARRIS: Thank you.

25 (Appause.)

1 MS. HARRIS: The FERC would like to receive your
2 comments, if you have alternative routes, if you have any
3 other comments. I know we're doing an Environmental Impact
4 Statement, but any comments relevant to the project please
5 file them in that PF14-14 docket and that way we can track
6 what your comments are and make sure they're rolled into the
7 environmental review.

8 We don't want to miss anyone, and it helps if
9 FERC is aware of your concerns as well. So, the directions
10 for doing that are at the table in the hallway. Thank you.

11 MS. WARD: Patrick Campbell.

12 MR. CAMPBELL: Good evening, and thank you for
13 the opportunity to provide my testimony on the positive
14 impact of the Rover Pipeline in the Midwest.

15 MS. HARRIS: Would you speak directly -- and
16 maybe raise it up a little bit, the microphone.

17 MR. CAMPBELL: Is that better?

18 MS. HARRIS: Yes.

19 MR. CAMPBELL: So, for the spelling of my name
20 Patrick is spelled the way it normally is. Campbell is like
21 the soup with a P-B, Patrick Baker for the alphabet. So, my
22 name is Patrick Campbell, and I'm here representing Aerial
23 Corporation located in Mount Vernon, Ohio.

24 Since 1966, Aerial has been involved with the
25 gathering, transporting, and treatment of natural gas. In

1 recent years, due to technological advancements, large
2 quantities of natural gas have become available in the
3 Midwest through the Marcellus and Utica shale gas place.

4 Our compressors are currently being used to
5 gather and treat this gas. The Rover Pipeline will use
6 Aerial compressors to transport this gas to where it can be
7 sold on the open market bringing revenue through the states
8 it runs through, including Michigan.

9 Aerial is a manufacturer of reciprocating
10 compressors with locations in Mount Vernon and Akron, Ohio.
11 The company was started by Jim Buchwald and is
12 privately-owned today and managed by his daughter, Karen.
13 We employ over 1800 people between our six main
14 manufacturing facilities in Mount Vernon and our Akron
15 campus. These are modern, air-conditioned facilities,
16 featuring state-of-the-art CNC machines with fully trained
17 operators.

18 Aerial's committed to employee safety in
19 providing a clean, desirable working environment. Aerial
20 ships over 3,000 compressors per year to more than a hundred
21 countries, with the majority staying in North America.
22 Aerial compressors are built in Ohio with over 95 percent of
23 the parts made or sourced in the Midwest. We use castings
24 from foundries located throughout the area.

25 In addition, we contract outside machine shops

1 throughout the region, including Clark Manufacturing in
2 Traverse City, Michigan. Employing nearly a hundred people,
3 Clark is one of our top 10 suppliers, delivering many
4 different high quality parts. In total, we use about 75
5 Midwest suppliers, employing over 5,000 people.

6 Over 45,000 Aerial compressors have been shipped,
7 based on the original design and continuing product
8 improvements. Aerial minutes feature a robust design with
9 operator and facility safety being of prime importance. In
10 addition, our equipment is designed to be environmentally
11 friendly, minimizing the chance of oil or gas leaks.

12 The Rover Pipeline would be using more than 35 of
13 our large units, accounting for thousands of labor hours in
14 machining and assembly. With an expected lifespan of 50 or
15 more years, these units will be supported with spare parts
16 made and provided by our Midwest-based facilities and
17 distributors, further contributing to the national economy.
18 The units will be operated and maintained by local
19 technicians, providing local jobs and further stimulating
20 the local economy.

21 Through the Rover Pipeline, Energy Transfer and
22 the Aerial Corporation are both committed to the economic
23 future of the Midwest and our country. Thank you for your
24 time.

25 MS. WARD: Thank you.

1 (Applause.)

2 MS. WARD: Ken Simonson.

3 MR. SIMONSON: Good evening. I'm Kenneth
4 Simonson, S-i-m-o-n-s-o-n. I'm the chief economist for the
5 Associated General Contractors of America, the nation's
6 leading construction trade association. Our 25,000 members
7 include companies that do every type of construction, other
8 than single-family homebuilding, and we're represented here
9 in Michigan by AGC of Michigan.

10 This pipeline has been estimated to create 10,000
11 construction jobs. And a study done for AGC by Professor
12 Steven Fuller of George Mason University, one of the
13 nation's leading regional economist, found that for every
14 billion dollars spent on non-residential construction
15 typically 9700 construction jobs were created, but in equal
16 number ^^^^ I'm sorry -- two times as many jobs in other
17 industries were also supported by that work, about 4600 jobs
18 in quarries, mining, manufacturing, and service industries
19 to produce the equipment, materials, and services that go
20 into construction, and then 14,300 jobs throughout the
21 economy result when the workers and owners of the
22 construction and supplying businesses spend their additional
23 wages and profits.

24 The construction jobs are particularly good
25 paying. Here in Michigan construction jobs in 2013 paid an

1 average of \$53,600; that was 15 percent more than the
2 average for all jobs in Michigan. And the pipeline will
3 create jobs not just during construction, but will provide
4 an assured source of low-cost, long-term energy for
5 consumers, for utilities building gas-fired power plants and
6 for manufacturers that rely on natural gas, either as an
7 especially clean heat source or for feedstock for
8 petrochemicals.

9 Those businesses look very closely at what their
10 supply costs and reliability for those fuel or feedstock
11 inputs will be, and they'll base location decisions on where
12 they can get those supplies. So, Michigan definitely has a
13 lot at stake in whether this pipeline is allowed to go
14 forward or not.

15 The construction industry in Michigan has been
16 rebounding recently, but it's still 36 percent below its
17 peak employment. And Michigan had their earliest peak
18 employment of any state, dating back to the spring of 2000.
19 Unlike most states, Michigan did not have a significant
20 upturn in construction employment, never reached a peak in
21 the 2005, '06, '07 period as did almost every other state,
22 and since then it did suffer the same kind of downturn in
23 employment as other states.

24 The result has been that while construction
25 employment has been rising recently, the state is at risk of

1 losing out on projects because there isn't enough steady
2 work for construction workers here. Many have retired, left
3 the state, gone into other industries, or gone back to
4 school. And without the pipeline project, those trends will
5 continue and Michigan will continue to lose those
6 above-average wage construction jobs.

7 So, for all of those reasons, I support
8 construction of the Rover Pipeline. Thank you.

9 MS. HARRIS: Thank you.

10 (Applause.)

11 MS. WARD: Pam Taylor.

12 MS. TAYLOR: My name is Pam Taylor, T-a-y-l-o-r.
13 Can you hear me everybody?

14 Please include this letter of opposition to the
15 Enbridge, ET Rover Pipeline Project, Docket Number PF14-14
16 in the public comment. My opposition statement follows.

17 Michigan's constitution, Article 10, Section 2,
18 states that public use does not include the taking of
19 private property for transfer to a private entity for the
20 purpose of economic development or the enhancement of tax
21 revenues. The burden of proof is on the condemning
22 authority to demonstrate by clear and convincing evidence
23 that the taking of a private property is for a public use.

24 The proposed pipeline, as shown, will cross the
25 environmentally sensitive Irish Hills and the headwaters of

1 the River Raisin in southern Washtenaw and northern Lenawee
2 Counties. This is an ecologically fragile area of artesian
3 lakes, ponds, springs, and groundwater recharged areas. The
4 dangers of resource extraction and pipeline transport have
5 already been well documented. There's no public use gained
6 by endangering this area. And in fact, there is a
7 possibility of irreparable harm of the public commons.

8 The development of the Marcellus and Utica shale
9 to transport natural gas from Pennsylvania, West Virginia,
10 and Ohio to Canada does not benefit the Lenawee County
11 public at all. Sufficient and excess capacity, as you've
12 already heard, in this area for the present and foreseeable
13 future already exists. This pipeline is not necessary for
14 the public good. Shale development may be short-lived if
15 natural gas and oil prices continue to fall as they have,
16 possibly turning this project into a boondoggle at the
17 expense of local property owners and the environment.

18 Potential private industry jobs created are
19 temporary, probably lasting only a few days at the most.
20 Little work will be done in Lenawee County and few, if any,
21 jobs will go to Lenawee County residents. There is little
22 or no economic benefit to the local community as a whole,
23 only to a few individuals possibly with easements.

24 Many who will profit don't even live here, while
25 this may negatively impact local residents' property values

1 and possibly be a threat to our water, land, and air
2 quality. Any tax benefits to local government are small,
3 temporary, and are not guaranteed.

4 The current route appears to be selected based on
5 cost effectiveness to Enbridge, ET Rover instead of
6 following existing easements, which would be less disturbing
7 to farms and to natural resources.

8 The Enbridge, ET Rover Partnership track record
9 when it comes to pipeline safety must be considered, even
10 though this project, as proposed, would carry natural gas
11 and not oil. There apparently is no local emergency
12 response plan and no local money for remediation in the case
13 incidents. There is also an ongoing lack of transparency
14 with local landowners and the public regarding surveying
15 rights, easements, and eminent domain.

16 To summarize, this project is unnecessary. The
17 negative potential short- and long-term impacts of this
18 project on the local public and the environment far outweigh
19 any public benefit or use; therefore, I request that FERC
20 deny approval for this project.

21 (Applause.)

22 MS. HARRIS: Thank you.

23 MS. WARD: Rob Cousino.

24 MR. COUSINO: Good evening. My name is Rob
25 Cousino, C-o-u-s-i-n-o.

1 I'm a member of the IBEW Local 8. We cover
2 Monroe, Lenawee, and Hillsdale County. Construction of this
3 pipeline is crucial to this community. It will be a great
4 economic boost to this economy and employ your family and
5 friends from this area during the construction of it.

6 Over the long-term, access to the gas will
7 provide businesses with cheaper gas, in turn, providing
8 cheaper gas for all of us, also providing tax revenues for
9 our roads, schools, and public safety.

10 As an electrician, we take pride in what we do,
11 and we can assure we install the pipeline as safe and
12 efficiently as possible.

13 Thank you for your time.

14 (Applause.)

15 MS. HARRIS: Thank you.

16 MS. WARD: Bill Black.

17 MR. BLACK: Good evening. My name is Bill Black.
18 It's spelled B-l-a-c-k. I'm here with the Michigan
19 Teamsters. I'm legislative director for the Teamsters in
20 the State of Michigan.

21 I'm very honored to be here today in front of
22 this committee. I want to thank you for allowing me the
23 opportunity to speak here today.

24 The United States is currently in the midst of a
25 massive energy surge. As we all know, this is providing the

1 nation with domestic, affordable and clean natural gas. In
2 turn, this surge is delivering a manufacturing renaissance
3 for much of the country.

4 Michigan's economic recovery has an opportunity
5 to be part of this historic comeback, but in order to make
6 that happen we need to build out the infrastructure that
7 will deliver the energy to the residential, commercial, and
8 industrial companies that need it here.

9 The Rover Pipeline will deliver 3 billion cubic
10 feet of clean, new gas supply each day from Ohio, West
11 Virginia, and Pennsylvania, and the State of Michigan
12 because of the relatively high energy consumption is the
13 ninth largest consumer of natural gas in the nation. Rover
14 would provide an important and affordable new supply of
15 natural gas to energy-intensive industries, such as
16 automotive, glass, metal, casting, chemical industries,
17 pulp, paper, and many others.

18 If working families in Michigan are going to
19 fully benefit from the U.S. energy boom, we cannot ignore
20 this any more. We need to get that energy into our state,
21 and Rover is willing to bring it here to our doorsteps.

22 And in the short-term, building, Rover will
23 provide over 10,000 construction jobs, as we heard earlier
24 tonight, with over \$1 billion of wages paid in this state to
25 taxpayers.

1 Most important, the work will be done by skilled,
2 experienced contractors that employ local Michigan workers.
3 Energy Transfer is committed to doing this work according to
4 the highest safety and quality standards, ensuring natural
5 gas will be brought in by skillful and qualified
6 Michiganders, and there's no safer workers doing this in
7 this state than union workers.

8 You may not know it, but Michigan has more
9 underground natural gas capacity, 1.1 trillion cubic feet,
10 more than any other state in the nation. The reason you
11 don't hear much about this Michigan's existing natural gas
12 infrastructure is because it's so interwoven into our daily
13 lives and operates so safely and efficiently day in and day
14 out it causes very little problems.

15 I also would like to remind everybody here that
16 when there's construction going on in these local
17 communities, and we've been involved in other projects,
18 those companies, those contractors they come and they buy
19 from the local communities, spending monies in these towns
20 and these communities.

21 I want to thank the committee for your time
22 today. I'm very grateful to be here. And thank you very
23 much.

24 MS. HARRIS: Thank you.

25 (Applause.)

1 MS. WARD: Ray Kasmark.

2 MR. KASMARK: Good evening. My name is Ray
3 Kasmark, K-a-s-m-a-r-k.

4 I want to thank FERC for having this hearing and
5 allowing me to speak. I am also with the International
6 Brotherhood of Electrical Workers, and we're eager and
7 excited to be part of this Rover Project.

8 We are sensitive to landowners' concerns about
9 safety and that's why we're on the project. We want to
10 provide local, world class labor to make sure the
11 installations of the compressor stations and metering
12 stations are safe and reliable.

13 Our members will spend their money in the local
14 communities. They're residents of these communities.
15 They'll patronize businesses. They pay their taxes, and
16 that further boosts the economy. And our members are
17 trained -- men and women are trained for careers, not just
18 jobs, so this is just the beginning, compressor stations.

19 What will come next with an ample supply with a
20 reliable clean energy and water is development, economic
21 development for years to come. That's where our members
22 trained for careers would like to make their community and
23 their livelihood, be with their families in these
24 communities for the rest of their lives.

25 Finally, whether you believe in climate change or

1 not, we are heading away from coal. And I believe natural
2 gas is the bridge to renewable energy that we all need and
3 will have to enjoy some day. This is the vehicle to do
4 that.

5 So, the outlook is bright. And we are glad to be
6 a part of this project because we are the local people.

7 Thank you.

8 (Applause.)

9 MS. HARRIS: Thank you.

10 MS. WARD: Keith Bennett. Dan Minton.

11 MR. MINTON: Good evening. I'd like to start
12 with thanking you for allowing us to speak here tonight.
13 This is a great venue, and I appreciate that.

14 So, with that, I stand here tonight on behalf
15 Lenawee's Labor Local 499. I'm the secretary/treasurer of
16 the Local.

17 We're here today because fighting for America's
18 energy future is critical for our city, our country, and for
19 working men and women. We are advocates for the ET Rover
20 Projects for many reasons, many of the same reasons a broad
21 array of groups are, because our nation needs less reliance
22 on energy from nations and regions that want to destroy our
23 country.

24 We're advocates because energy extraction
25 technologies, particularly in natural gas, help produce

1 climate change and could be a bridge to no or low-carbon
2 fuels. We support this project because hundreds of
3 thousands of families, including thousands of Lenawee
4 families in our community and across the country depend on
5 energy work.

6 These are not just jobs, and this is not just a
7 pipeline. Construction energy infrastructure is a career
8 which can lead to steady, reliable work and opportunities
9 for advancement. It is a lifeline to the middle class. We
10 believe approval of this project will benefit thousands of
11 working men and women who rely on a steady, affordable
12 supply of fuel for transportation and for their homes.

13 Because we have the experience, skills, and
14 dedication to make sure energy work is done safely and
15 protects communities and workers we can help this industry
16 continue to grow. Lenawee members have safely built
17 pipelines since 1949. Our organizations invest more than
18 \$100 million a year on skills training, including 164 hours
19 of specific training for pipeline construction.

20 So, I encourage you to support this project with
21 the approval of it. So, thank you.

22 MS. HARRIS: Thank you.

23 (Appause.)

24 MS. WARD: Maurice -- and I won't get the last
25 name -- okay.

1 MR. VOLCKAERT: Hello. My name is Maurice
2 Volckaert, V-o-l-c-k-a-e-r-t.

3 I am a resident of Lenawee County. I've been a
4 laborer for 29 years. I lived in this area for 12 years.
5 Sometimes I'll travel 90 to 100 miles to work everyday, but
6 that's my job. What this means to me with this pipeline
7 being in here I don't have to get up at 2:00, 3:00 o'clock
8 in the morning. I could come to work in my area and do my
9 job, you know.

10 And it's every day you see, you know,
11 construction and all that. I've got in my wallet right here
12 -- I took pipeline safety. I've got OCHA 30. I think I'm
13 qualified to be in my area and do the work. You know, some
14 people get a bad wrap, be it the construction workers or
15 maybe this gas line's not the right thing to do, hey, it's
16 going to create tax money.

17 You know, just like me, I make a decent wage.
18 What'd I do this weekend? I went out and bought a four
19 wheeler from a local. All these people coming in they're
20 going to spend money around our town. It means a lot for a
21 big project to come through, and it's going to be a major
22 thing if it does go through.

23 So, that, and with the environment and stuff, I
24 think it'll be -- having us on the job as in union laborers
25 in construction terms I think we're very qualified to do

1 stuff. And with all the training that we go through we know
2 how to make it even better than what it was when we found
3 it, and that's what we're trained to do, and that's -- and
4 so, I don't talk about much.

5 I'm kind of nervous up here. I'm going to tell
6 you right now, but I have nothing on this paper. I shot
7 from the hip on this, and I appreciate your time, and thank
8 you.

9 (Applause.)

10 MS. HARRIS: Thank you.

11 MS. WARD: Frank Zaski.

12 MR. ZASKI: Thank you. Frank Zaski, Z-a-s-k-i.

13 You know, I sympathize with labor. I used to be
14 a laborer. I belonged to three different unions, and my
15 daughter's unemployed, so I can get a feel for that; but let
16 me point out a few things.

17 This would create 3,000 temporary jobs in
18 Michigan. Well, right now, Michigan has 4.4 million total
19 long-term permanent jobs. Three thousand temporary jobs is
20 not going move the needle a whole lot, plus these temporary
21 jobs would be created purely to support in degrading our
22 property and environment and enabling more fracking, one of
23 the most polluting in the United States.

24 One Michigan study concluded that by fixing our
25 roads we'd create 15,000 jobs by fixing our roads. That's

1 fairly long term. It's going to take a while. Another
2 study by a conservative energy forum concluded that if we
3 just extend our energy efficiency program a little bit and
4 do a little bit more with renewable energy this could create
5 100,000 jobs and \$10 billion in economic activity.

6 So, overall energy in pipelines is not a major
7 industry in Michigan. There are far better ways of doing
8 this.

9 Plus, you've mentioned about gas -- the demand
10 for natural gas. Yes, we all need natural gas. We depend
11 on it. We heat our homes and many other things, but the
12 natural gas usage in Michigan has actually declined over the
13 last 40 years, according to U.S. Energy Information Agency.
14 So, it's not as though we're going to expand because this
15 state has an energy efficiency program. The industry is
16 getting smarter. We have our own gas, and plus, plenty of
17 other reasons to come.

18 We have a tremendous amount of pipeline capacity
19 right now. We're at least five -- well, the in flow
20 capacity is almost 10,000 million cubic feet per day, and we
21 have a huge outflow. We have lots of pipes going back and
22 forth to Ontario, A&R, Blue Water, Great Lakes, Panhandle,
23 Beckford and others are supplying Canada with gas from the
24 U.S. and through the U.S. from Alberta.

25 DT and CMS told a Michigan legislature, and this

1 where the Chelsea meeting a few months ago, the legislator
2 talked two both of them, and these are big gas companies.
3 They said they did not request the Rover Pipeline. DT is
4 planning their own Nexus pipeline, which will serve Michigan
5 and Canada, so they don't -- they didn't ask for this.

6 And as previously mentioned, Energy Transfer and
7 FERC had a case two years ago, Trunk Line, a unit energy
8 transfer, which argued that their natural gas pipeline from
9 Texas to Illinois compressor station, which is near the
10 Michigan border, needed to be abandoned.

11 They stated there was excess pipeline capacity
12 serving the Midwest region and they had to greatly discount
13 their pipeline services. A year later FERC responded "Trunk
14 Line is not obligated to continue this pipeline for which
15 there is no demonstration of market value." That's
16 CP12-491.

17

18

19

20 One for Canada, Canada doesn't need our gas.
21 They have plenty of natural gas. They have about twice as
22 much natural gas in the ground than we have. Plus, eastern
23 Canada, Utica shale field, which services Ohio and parts of
24 Pennsylvania, extends across Lake Erie and into Ontario.
25 They have that as well as Quebec and Nova Scotia.

1 On the eastern side of the U.S., there are at
2 least eight existing pipelines crossing between Canada and
3 the eastern United States. And even the U.S. are being
4 reversed Canada with Marcellus and Utica shale, plus there
5 are six new pipelines and pipeline expansions on the FERC
6 record, plants to supply the area from Canada. They don't
7 need the gas coming through Michigan, plus they did do away
8 with their coal plants, but hydro and nuclear accounts for
9 almost 90 percent of Ontario and Quebec electric generation,
10 plus the wind is a growing percentage.

11 The reason this pipeline is subscribed to is
12 because the drillers want the pipeline. It isn't the
13 public. DT and CMS didn't ask for it. The driller, the
14 frackers in Pennsylvania and Appalachia, such as Rainage,
15 Interior Resources, American Energy Utica has spent billions
16 to secure too many oil and gas leases in Marcellus and Utica
17 shale. They went crazy with 1.6 billion acres, signing them
18 up, three- to five-year leases. Some are expandable, but
19 they're going to lose their shirts, particularly, now with
20 gas under \$4 per billion cubit feet.

21 You mentioned public convenience and necessity.
22 The definition of public means these people, means us,
23 industry. It doesn't mean these shippers, these guys who
24 are over subscribers, who overbought property and want to
25 get rid of this stuff as soon as they can. They are not the

1 public. They are not the customer of this organization here
2 that you represent.

3 Public convenience and necessity should be
4 determined by the natural gas of the final customers who
5 will use the gas and not the profit objectors or shippers in
6 pipeline companies. Just because a pipeline is proposed it
7 doesn't have to be approved.

8 And finally, the U.S. Geological Survey says in
9 Marcellus and Utica shale basically at the rate that is
10 being fracked right now and shipped out we have a 14-year
11 supply. So, what's happening for all of the -- there's 57
12 new pipelines and expansions in front of FERC right now,
13 according to your site, 57. If all of them were built, that
14 would be 48 billion cubic feet per day capacity.

15 Using the U.S. Geographical (sic) number, you
16 divide that about the amount just from these additional
17 pipelines, Marcellus shale would be depleted in seven years.
18 Certainly, this is a national security issue, a long-term
19 for our grandchildren if they ever want natural gas. This
20 is an issue for all of us, depletion, plus the wrong
21 purposes of why this pipeline is being built. It's not for
22 us. It should be for us, but for the profit objectors or
23 shippers. Thank you.

24 (Applause.)

25 MS. HARRIS: Thank you.

1 MS. WARD: Tom Wassmer.

2 MR. WASSMER: Hello. Is that a good sound, loud
3 enough? Okay, so my name is Thomas Wassmer, W-a-s-s-m-e-r.
4 I'm a resident of the City of Adrian and assistant professor
5 of Biology at Siena Heights University.

6 My expertise lies in terrestrial and aquatic
7 ecology, as well as in environmental science. My arguments
8 are not depending on whether or not the pipeline runs on the
9 currently proposed track, but are rather general comments
10 focusing on the environmental impacts of the project on the
11 local, region, national, and global scale.

12 I will argue that the pipeline should not be
13 permitted because there are better energy provisioning
14 alternative to the proposed pipeline available and the
15 environmental impacts of the proposed pipeline outweigh its
16 potential benefits by far.

17 My comment has four parts. First, the natural
18 gas to be transmitted is produced by hydraulic fracking,
19 also known as fracking, which is a highly insecure,
20 inefficient, and polluting technology that should not be
21 further promoted, which it would if this transmission line
22 and distribution line is built.

23 Second, the transmission of natural gas in
24 pipelines leads to substantial leakage of the potent
25 greenhouse gas methane, which has a climate-altering

1 potential that is estimated to be 28 to 84 times higher than
2 that of carbon dioxide.

3 Third, serious incidents in the transmission of
4 natural gas in pipelines are less common as compared to
5 transport on road and rail, but if they occur they are often
6 much more serious explosions and often cause fatalities.

7 Fourth, fossil fuels cause and continues to cause
8 global climate change. Renewable energy sources are the
9 only means to cut greenhouse gases substantially, and the
10 technology is available right now to switch to 100 percent
11 renewable energy. Every new investment into fossil fuels is
12 unnecessary and unethical and should therefore be avoided.

13 My arguments are backed up by 36 scientific
14 publications, which I couldn't include with the 6,000 word
15 limit on E-Filing, but I will give a website, a blog site
16 after my comments, if you're interested in this.

17 Detailed comments on, one, the natural gas to be
18 transmitted is produced by hydraulic fracking, which is a
19 highly insecure, inefficient, and polluting technology.
20 Workers on fracking sites are at risk of silicosis caused by
21 the exposure to high levels of silica found in dust
22 particles from hydraulic fracking sand. In addition, many
23 oil field workers involved in fracking lost their lives or
24 endured serious injuries.

25 Hydraulic fracking is a high input technology,

1 and is therefore in many cases highly inefficient. A lot of
2 energy and water is needed to frack a well, and many wells
3 do not pay back the investment. The only reason why the
4 business stays profitable are tax incentives and subsidies.
5 The 2005 exemption of hydraulic fracking from the Safe
6 Drinking Water Act, known as the Halliburton loophole, the
7 exemption of smaller oil and gas production sites from the
8 national emission standards for hazardous air pollutants,
9 NEHAPS, within the Clean Air Act, the exemption from storm
10 water runoff permits within the Clean Water Act, the
11 exemption of oil and gas production sites from the Resource
12 Conservation and Recovery Act, RCRA, governing the disposal
13 of solid and hazardous waste, exemption from the
14 Comprehensive Environmental Response Compensation and
15 Liability Act, CERCLA, known as the Super Fund law,
16 Antitoxic Release Inventory, TRI, which requires most
17 industries to report toxic substances to the EPA, and the
18 occasional high output well. That is why the business stays
19 afloat.

20 The environmental impacts of the production end
21 of fracking include ground and surface water pollution,
22 methane emission, emission of volatile chemicals like Ethane,
23 formaldehyde, hydrogen sulfide, methylene chloride. Most
24 current analysis of the environmental and social cost
25 benefit ratio of fracking come to the conclusion that the

1 technology should be put on hold until its flaws are solved
2 or should not be continued because the production of cheap
3 shale oil and gas allows consumers to continue the wasteful
4 use of fossil fuels and dust, causing more severe global
5 climate changes.

6 Comments on two, the transmission of natural gas
7 in pipelines leads to substantial leakage of the potent
8 greenhouse gas methane. According to estimates of the EPA,
9 most methane leakage occurs during the transmission process
10 of natural gas, about .7 percent of all gas that is
11 transmitted in pipelines is leaking.

12 While most independent studies consider the EPA's
13 estimates of the total amount of methane leakage from
14 natural gas operations to be substantially below the real
15 values, the allocation of leakage to be highest in
16 transmission and distribution is less disputed.

17 Future methane emissions from natural gas systems
18 represent a significant source of global warming pollution
19 in the U.S. In fact, compared to carbon dioxide, methane is
20 considered to be 28 to 84 times more potent as a greenhouse
21 gas.

22 Comments to three, serious incidents in the
23 transmission of natural gas in pipelines are less common,
24 but if they occur they are more severe. Serious incidents
25 in the transmission of natural gas in pipelines -- okay,

1 don't want to repeat that.

2 From 1994 until 2013, the PHMSA, the Pipeline and
3 Hazardous Materials Safety Administration recorded in a
4 public database 1,238 significant incidents in gas
5 transmission nationwide, which caused 41 deaths, 197
6 injuries, and \$1,770,072,424 in property damages.

7 Comments on four --

8 MS. HARRIS: Mr. Wassman?

9 MR. WASSMAN: Yes.

10 MS. HARRIS: If you have all you comments already
11 written down, you can give them to us and we scan them in.

12 MR. WASSMAN: Okay.

13 MS. HARRIS: We do have other people on the list,
14 so I just want to make sure we're --

15 MR. WASSMAN: Okay, that's my last comment.

16 MS. HARRIS: Okay. Great. Thank you.

17 UNIDENTIFIED MALE SPEAKER: I want to hear it.

18 UNIDENTIFIED FEMALE SPEAKER: Me too. I want to
19 hear the rest of it.

20 MR. WASSMAN: Thank you.

21 (Applause.)

22 MR. WASSMAN: Fourth, fossil fuels cause and
23 continue to cause global climate change. Renewable energy
24 sources are the only means to cut greenhouse gases
25 substantial and the technology is available now to switch to

1 100 percent renewable energy.

2 I can't repeat it too often. Fossil fuels cause
3 and continue to cause global climate change, which already
4 leads to hundreds of human fatalities every year, not in the
5 U.S., but globally, and adds to the extinction of species at
6 an unprecedented rate, and will substantially threaten the
7 survival and well being of humans and non-human life forms
8 for many decades to come.

9 Renewable energy sources are the only energy
10 sources able to cut greenhouse gases substantially, and the
11 technology is available now to switch to 100 percent
12 renewable energy, which provided energy for all future
13 energy needs. Even if the horrible prognosis of 10 billion
14 people on this planet are soon reality, renewable energy can
15 still provide for even this increasing population.

16 The sooner we switch to this renewable energy
17 sources the sooner planet Earth will recover from the
18 inevitable consequences of fossil fuels. Every new
19 investment into fossil fuels is unnecessary and unethical,
20 and should therefore be avoided. For the 36 scientific
21 references and some figures to illustrate my comments,
22 please visit my blog at adrianoil.blogspot.com. Thank you
23 very much.

24 MS. HARRIS: Thank you.

25 (Applause.)

1 MS. HARRIS: We haven't set a timing limit for
2 anyone. We definitely want to get through everyone's
3 comments, so just keep in mind that written comments and
4 verbal comments weigh the same when it comes to the
5 Commission, and if you have your comments already written
6 down feel free to give us a hard copy and we'll scan it into
7 the record the same way the written comments will be put
8 into the transcript, and you can summarize them at the
9 microphones. We could make sure we get to all the speakers
10 who signed up, plus those of you who did not get an
11 opportunity to sign up before the meeting began. Thank you.

12 MS. HARRIS: Mark Bradley.

13 MR. BRADLEY: Mark Bradley, B-r-a-d-l-e-y. Mark
14 is with a "K."

15 I'm a longtime resident of Lenawee County. My
16 wife and I raised our sons here. We plan on living her 'til
17 we die, and I just want to speak out on a couple issues,
18 even though they've been touched on already.

19 Most of the time when you get a brochure from a
20 company it's called advertisement. It usually involves the
21 best-case estimate of things. When I see here possibly
22 3,000 temporary jobs in Michigan, I'm guessing that number
23 would be substantially reduced and temporary might be for a
24 few days at a time. I see four states might get 30 to 40
25 jobs. Eight permanent jobs in Michigan is a good estimate.

1 Now, I realize we need an economy, and we need
2 energy, but I don't think this is the way to do it.
3 Pipeline accidents are real, just type in pipeline
4 explosions or pipeline accidents. I handed out a few
5 brochures prior to tonight to some of you, and the good
6 professor here quoted a few of them.

7 You heard Buffy's propaganda. You heard from the
8 Ohio people who are going to sell a few compressors. I'm
9 here to talk to you as a resident of Sand Creek and Lenawee
10 County, and I don't want this pipeline running just west of
11 me. I do not believe it's needed. I totally disagree with
12 the eminent domain strong arming that's been going on in
13 other areas, as ET has tried to ram this thing through. And
14 if you think I maybe making that up, please feel free to go
15 online and type in ET Rover Project.

16 Some of the residents there are very happy with
17 the way they've been treated, and I don't know if I'd like
18 armed security guards forcing me (12:34:40) onto my property
19 so they can do siting even before they've been approved by
20 FERC for a project that isn't needed. Some of us still own
21 firearms in this county and we don't like armed people
22 forcing their way on our property.

23 So, I'm not here to speak my rights as an
24 American citizen, and I don't believe this is a needed
25 project, and I don't want it in Lenawee County. That's all

1 I have to say. Thank you.

2 (Applause.)

3 MS. HARRIS: Thank you.

4 MS. WARD: Charles Marcinkiewicz.

5 MR. MARCINKIEWICZ: My name is Charles

6 Marcinkiewicz. It's M-a-r-c-i-n-k-i-e-w-i-c-z. I'm just

7 moving back to Lenawee County. I just bought 20 acres

8 that's in the middle of the pipeline.

9 My concern is that they're coming very close to

10 the Wisner Drain Field, which goes through my property.

11 They'll be crossing it three to four times just in my area

12 alone and no one seems to be interested if there is ever a

13 leak where it might go.

14 The rest of my thunder has been stolen by most of

15 the other people with some of the facts and figures, so I'll

16 just end right there.

17 MS. HARRIS: Thank you.

18 (Applause.)

19 MS. WARD: Robert Wilds.

20 MR. WILDS: Good evening. My name is Robert

21 Wilds, W-i-l-d-s. I would like to thank the Federal Energy

22 Regulatory Commission for this opportunity to speak.

23 I am a member and representative of the

24 International -- excuse me -- International Union of

25 Operating Engineers, and I would like to say that I am favor

1 of this pipeline project for several reasons.

2 First reason being a pipeline is the safest and
3 most environmentally-friendly way to transport product that
4 there is above railroad, above highway, trucks. It is the
5 most safe, okay. I want to just leave it at that.

6 Environmentally, natural gas burns much cleaner
7 than coal or oil, which it's maybe not as clean as some of
8 the alternative methods people are mentioning, but why can't
9 natural gas be that bridge to get us to the alternative
10 until the technology is developed in alternative energies?

11 I know for a fact -- I have solar on my house I
12 built a few years ago -- solar it doubled the cost of my
13 house to put that solar system on my house. What would that
14 do to the average person in here that wanted to build a
15 house? You probably wouldn't be able to afford it.

16 Secondly, natural gas would be a step for U.S.
17 independence away from Mid East oil, okay, in the long term.
18 Short-term, when they're constructing the pipeline
19 environmental regulations are followed. How do I know this?
20 I worked in the industry since 1986. I was out there
21 sitting in the seat of one of those tractors on that
22 pipeline project. I was separating the topsoil on the
23 projects, taking a minimum of 12 inches, sometimes up to
24 3-foot in the State of Iowa.

25 We separated the topsoil. It was set off to the

1 side. After the sub-flow was put back, then the topsoil was
2 put back last. It was segregated so the farmland could
3 still produce. I have pipelines that run through my
4 property at home. When the construction went on, yeah, it
5 created a little bit of havoc, but now it's put back. I
6 don't know it's there. I farm the ground. Everything is
7 just like it was. I have a small corridor down my property
8 where the pipeline was, but the gas company maintains it.
9 They mow it. They keep it neat. Okay.

10 As far as the economics, short-term, there's the
11 construction jobs. We're hearing 3,000 construction jobs,
12 several. Rover stated they wanted to use -- they're
13 committed to using union laborers. The reasons for that is,
14 a lot of is our training that we do. Our operating
15 engineers has the only nationally accredited pipeline
16 training program that there is.

17 Right now there's one going on in Howell,
18 Michigan. They will be there until the end of December.
19 I'm sure if anybody would like to go out and see what they
20 do at that training site, you just Google IEOE324.org. It
21 should come up. You can contact somebody at the Howell
22 training site. They will take there and show you to show
23 you what we do. As far as our training, we specify
24 environmental regulations, safety, not only safety for the
25 construction workers, safety for the general public, as far

1 as the regulations in the CFR 49, Code of Regulations, as
2 far as the coating on the pipe, protecting the pipe, the
3 integrity of the pipe, that is the life of the pipeline.
4 That commits safety to the general public.

5 And these people doing this -- every one of our
6 agreements state 50 percent of high projects are local hire,
7 so these are local people that take pride in their jobs.
8 It's just not a job to get them through. I've been in the
9 industry since 1986. Several other ones have 10, 15, 20,
10 30, 40 years in. It's their career. It's where they make
11 their living. It's how they put food on the table for their
12 family. It's how they put their kids through school, how
13 they pay for their houses. It's where they get their health
14 insurance. It's where they get their pensions. It is a
15 career. They take pride in their work.

16 As far as long-term economics, if you've got the
17 natural pipeline this will draw industry, maybe some natural
18 gas power plants. Maybe they can convert some of the coal
19 power plants to natural gas, any kind of industry. We know
20 Michigan, the industry has gone down; the automotive
21 industry has taken a big hit. We need industry. Industry
22 creates jobs. Industry creates economy. One hand washes
23 the other. Try it next time you go to the restroom. Try
24 just taking the hand that you use and wash. It don't work.
25 This hand has to wash this hand. All right.

1 And not to be disrespectful to the professor,
2 getting back to the environment, a pipeline is sealed. It's
3 tested. The methane he stated about leaking out the
4 pipeline is sealed. It's tested. It's sealed. A cow, a
5 herd of cattle eliminates methane. You, as a biology
6 professor, ought to know that. Okay.

7 But, like I say, I know as far as the pipeline.
8 I've been there. I've done it. I know it's going to be
9 safe. It's environmentally friendly. It's the safest way
10 to do it. This last 30 years we've done things, we worked
11 during the desert forest, we during rattle snakes. We went
12 through wetlands. We've went from drilling. We do what we
13 have to do to protect the environment. That's all I have to
14 say at this time. Thank you again for your time.

15 MS. HARRIS: Thank you.

16 (Applause.)

17 MS. WARD: Lee Graham.

18 MR. GRAHAM: Good evening. Thank you for this
19 opportunity. My name is Lee Graham, G-r-a-h-a-m.

20 I'm the training coordinator for the Operating
21 Engineers Local 324. Local 324 represents, traditionally,
22 heavy equipment operators working in the building
23 construction markets, as well as the growing membership
24 among the shops, the public entities, equipment maintenance,
25 and even public school and healthcare workers here in

1 Michigan.

2 Our training and education center are located in
3 Howell. We instruct our apprentices and our journeymen on
4 safety classes with respect to operating heavy equipment on
5 construction jobs. Our annual training budget is \$4.2
6 million per year for our training and education. Over the
7 past several years, we've averaged well over 250 safety
8 classes per year.

9 We, the skilled trades, responsible for the
10 pipeline construction pride ourselves in having the most
11 advanced training. We are sensitive the landowners' safety.
12 We diligently strive to ensure the safety measures that take
13 place in the workplace. Each year we have the privilege of
14 hosting multiple pipeline training classes within the
15 International Union of Operating Engineers National Training
16 Fund Pipeline Division. We hold instructional classes on
17 the very equipment used on these pipeline jobs. We know
18 firsthand that the instructors are the best of the best and
19 experts in their field.

20 On average, the National Training Fund Pipeline
21 Division holds multiple instructional classes each year, and
22 the annual training budget is at \$4 million per year.

23 I am speaking today to express the support for
24 the proposed Rover pipeline. This proposed project would
25 bring Michigan long-term economic benefits, low-cost natural

1 gas to heat our homes, and even help boost the businesses.
2 Natural gas is a necessary bridge fuel as in regions prepare
3 to transition to renewable energy in the future, as was
4 discussed today.

5 This energy boom has put thousands of Americans
6 back to work. We in Michigan know how important it is to
7 bring good, quality jobs to our state. And I say thank for
8 your time today.

9 MS. HARRIS: Thank you.

10 (Applause.)

11 MS. WARD: John Hartwell.

12 MR. HARTWELL: Good evening. Thank you for the
13 opportunity to speak. I'm John Hartwell, H-a-r-t-w-e-l-l.
14 I am one of the apprentice coordinators for Local 324
15 Operating Engineers here in Michigan, and I'm also a member
16 of the one communities. I live in one of the communities
17 that's going to be affected by the pipeline itself.

18 Going through apprenticeship myself and being
19 able to speak for our apprentices and our journeymen and
20 women across the state, which I believe the Rover Pipeline is
21 going to touch or be involved with nine counties in
22 Michigan, I know that our members in all of those counties
23 live locally and will work on the pipeline in those areas.

24 Coming through the apprenticeship program, the
25 community that I'm in, I actually moved in as an apprentice.

1 I've been able to raise my family there on my career as an
2 operating engineer. My kids go to the schools. We
3 participate in the community. We spend our money there, and
4 not part-time money, full-time money. We spend good money
5 there. We're your neighbors. We are your neighbors. We're
6 out there. And I'd like to bring that point across.

7 The other piece is as far as the training, the
8 education part of it, you guys have heard a lot on it this
9 evening. It can't be stressed enough, the safety, the
10 experience, the professionalism that our members are going
11 to bring to the job site.

12 And with that, I'll keep it brief this evening,
13 and I appreciate your time. Thank you very much.

14 (Applause.)

15 MS. HARRIS: Thank you.

16 MS. WARD: Terrianne Deyonker. Terrianne? Steve
17 W. Morris, III. Gary Wolfram.

18 MR. WOLFRAM: Well, thank you very much for
19 having this hearing. It's good to be able to get up here
20 and have various people speak on the matter.

21 My name is Gary Wolfram, and it's two animals, a
22 wolf and a ram. I've been an economic professor for about
23 -- I know I don't look like it, but 40 years, and I
24 represent Hillsdale Policy Group, which is a consulting
25 firm.

1 The Rover Pipeline is important for both Michigan
2 and the United States. Horizontal drilling has made the
3 U.S. the world's largest producer of natural gas. In fact,
4 there's no other country that produces within 25 percent of
5 what we produce, other than Russia. And the USCIA is
6 predicting that by 2040 we'll have increased our production
7 from today by another 44 percent.

8 Now, you need an infrastructure to transport this
9 natural gas, and the Michigan House of Representatives had a
10 subcommittee on natural gas in April of 2012 concluded the
11 following. That new gas pipeline will be needed in Michigan
12 to receive larger volumes of natural gas so as to not
13 bottleneck flow and to minimize pipeline transportation
14 costs.

15 Now, this will become even more important if this
16 agreement that the President made with China to reduce
17 greenhouse gas emissions to 27 percent below our 2005 level
18 within the next 10 years becomes a reality.

19 Now, natural gas produces about half of the
20 amount of CO2 emissions per million BTU of energy is called,
21 and there's going to be an increase in demand for natural
22 gas to replace coal. And as was pointed out, there's a
23 belief that some of global warming is being produced by
24 manmade emissions and the use of natural gas would reduce
25 this substantially.

1 You may also note that fallen oil prices that
2 we've seen recently will reduce the economic viability of
3 renewable energy such as wind and solar power, which are
4 already not currently economically viable.

5 Combining natural gas, power plants can yield
6 efficiencies of 60 percent or more, whereas that's compared
7 with nuclear at 35 percent and coal at 40 percent. Now,
8 this is particularly important in Michigan as currently
9 about 55 percent of our electricity generation is from
10 coal-fired power plants. There will be a movement away from
11 coal-fired power plants to natural gas combined cycle plants
12 and a substantial increase in the demand for natural gas in
13 the State of Michigan.

14 It's also possible that nationwide natural gas
15 vehicles may become economical viable, and this result in a
16 demand for refueling stations that may at some point reach
17 critical mass.

18 As this pipeline is going to last for several
19 decades, the development of this infrastructure will result
20 in and allow for innovations in the use of natural gas. As
21 we can transport this natural gas around and its' price
22 falls, then there's always an incentive to figure out
23 different and innovative ways to use it.

24 And as pointed out, pipelines are the safest way
25 to move natural gas. Currently, there's about 300,000 miles

1 of natural gas pipelines in the United States, and we don't
2 often hear of a problem with that.

3 Now, natural gas is used in a whole variety of
4 different ways. It's an essential fuel and raw material in
5 many manufactured products, and as a matter of fact, that
6 House Subcommittee report pointed out that about 98 percent
7 of all manufactured goods require some natural gas in the
8 manufacturing process. It's used for heating, cooling,
9 waste treatment processing, and it's a raw material for a
10 number of manufacturing elements. There's chemicals,
11 plastics, fertilizers, pharmaceuticals, and other products.
12 And then so, for example, a plastics plant would get a
13 double boost. They would get cheaper energy costs as well
14 as cheaper raw materials costs for its product.

15 Now, Rover Pipeline will allow for efficient
16 transportation of natural gas throughout the Midwest and
17 Canada, and in particular, Michigan. And as any product,
18 its efficient use in the economy depends on the ability to
19 transport it from areas where it's produced to areas where
20 it's going to be used. That's one of the reasons that we
21 have the interstate highway system, which has reduced
22 transportation costs. Imagine what the world would look
23 like if we had no interstate transportation today.

24 The Rover pipeline, as was pointed out, given an
25 investment of about \$4 billion. The companies wouldn't be

1 thinking that this was going to end up with excess natural
2 gas if they were going to spend \$4 million it. It would
3 produce, as been noted, approximately 10,000 temporary jobs
4 and about 3,000 temporary jobs would be in Michigan. And of
5 course, these workers, as again was pointed out, would buy
6 -- you know, rent hotel room; buy food at the local markets,
7 and at restaurants and other entertainment.

8 So, it's also going to provide right-of-way
9 payments to landholders, about \$100 million in total, and
10 generate, as was pointed out earlier, tax revenue for both
11 Michigan and for local governments.

12 So, in summary, the pipeline is going to be a
13 significant factor in improving Michigan's economy and
14 improving the environment as well. So, thank you very much.

15 MS. HARRIS: Thank you.

16 (Applause.)

17 MS. WARD: Mark Wilson.

18 MR. WILSON: Good evening. My name is Mark
19 Wilson, and the president of Lance Stewart. Lance Stewart
20 is a multi-disciplinary consulting group that specializes in
21 caring for the land in a manner that ensures its long-term
22 productivity.

23 Our team members have a variety of skill sets.
24 We have certified soil scientists, agricultural engineers,
25 professional agronomists, conservation planners, and

1 perhaps, most importantly, we have land improvement
2 contractors who are experienced at installing and repairing
3 agricultural drainage tile.

4 In many cases, these local land improvement
5 contractors are members of the local community. In fact,
6 some of the gentlemen who work in this profession may
7 actually live and have done work on local farms.

8 The Rover Pipeline has retained Lance Stewart to
9 work towards minimizing the impacts from this pipeline
10 project, and we'll function much like an advocate for the
11 landowner. In many cases, this is our home too, and we're
12 going to be here long after the pipeline has moved on; so we
13 want to ensure that the land is cared for properly.

14 We look forward to working with the landowners in
15 this area, and where necessary we will help the landowners
16 understand the soil types, the soil characteristics, and
17 many of the actual existing practices that are on their
18 farms. And by working together and by establishing an open
19 and honest, trusting relationship we can identify and
20 protect and restore what is existing and therefore ensure
21 that long-term productivity of the land. Thank you.

22 MS. HARRIS: Thank you.

23 (Appause.)

24 MS. WARD: Nancy Shiffler.

25 MS. SHIFFLER: That might be me. My name is

1 Nancy Shiffler. That's S-h-i-f-f-l-e-r. And a couple of
2 the speakers have already stolen some the points I wanted to
3 make, Mr. Zaski and Mr. Wassman, but I do want to emphasize
4 a few things.

5 One is that this pipeline really is part of an
6 attempt by the natural gas industry to find a market for its
7 overproduction in the Marcellus region. There are, as was
8 mentioned, at least eight existing pipeline crossing between
9 Canada and the eastern U.S., six new ones, at least, being
10 proposed. And one of the responsibilities I think the FERC
11 should take on is in -- in its environmental assessment is
12 actually look at the cumulative impact of all of those
13 proposed pipelines and really determine how much is really
14 needed.

15 The real intent of finding these new markets for
16 the overproduced natural gas is really to; in fact, get the
17 gas out onto the global market, which won't necessarily
18 guarantee cheap prices for the U.S. or energy independence.

19 As has been mentioned in the FERC's decision on
20 the abandonment of the Truck Line pipeline 2013, they
21 concurred with the points made by ET at that time that, in
22 fact, current pipeline infrastructure in the state could
23 already meet Michigan's needs. And they also pointed out
24 that those that argued that there was a future for
25 conversion from coal plants to natural gas plants was at

1 that point merely speculative and should not be part of
2 their consideration. And I would concur with that,
3 particularly, if you consider the potentials for energy
4 efficiency and renewables to take up some of that energy
5 produced by the coal plants.

6 Getting into some of the issues around
7 environmental impacts, FERC needs to take a close look at
8 the route through Michigan. It involves several watersheds,
9 including the River Raisin, the Heron River, the Flint
10 River, Clinton River, St. Claire River, crosses those at
11 various times. The route also runs through areas close to
12 the Irish Hills here in Lenawee County, the Pinckney State
13 Recreation area in Washtenaw and Livingston County,
14 Metamore-Hadley State recreation area, Ortonville State
15 recreation area, Sutherland Nature Center in Genesee County.

16 FERC should also take into account situations
17 where the pipeline may be running through areas that have
18 conservation easements, or agreements with agencies such as
19 Fish and Wildlife Service for contracts of resource
20 conservation, make sure that those are not affected.

21 Also, the issues around natural gas and
22 greenhouse gases I think we need to realize that, in fact,
23 natural gas may not be a bridge, but rather a gangplank for
24 our future. And as part of its environmental review, FERC
25 should estimate the greenhouse gas impacts of methane

1 leakage from pipeline and compressor stations, transmission
2 being the largest source of methane leakage from the natural
3 gas industry.

4 Finally, FERC should consider the potential
5 environmental impacts of increased used of hydrolytic
6 fracturing in the Marcellus region as a result of the new
7 markets that the industry is targeting, including increased
8 impacts on air and water quality and on public health. That
9 should be an important part of what you consider. Safety
10 issues are of paramount concern, particularly, when you look
11 at for a pipeline of this diameter. The area -- the radius
12 of impact if there is an accident runs about 1,100 feet and
13 in some cases the setbacks from homes and other structures
14 can be 2, 300 feet, and that is posing a potential risk for
15 local landowners. And I think landowners are rightly
16 concerned about the impact on their property values, access
17 to mortgages and insurance out of all that.

18 So I believe there's little in this proposal that
19 reflects the balancing of public benefits with the residual
20 impacts. There's no demonstrated need for the additional
21 natural gas in Michigan, or in the region in general, and
22 the impact on safety, economic value, environmental health
23 of local property owners and local communities would be
24 considerable. Thank you.

25 MS. HARRIS: Thank you.

1 (Applause.)

2 MS. WARD: Scott Robbins.

3 MR. ROBBINS: Good evening. I'd like to thank
4 the representatives from FERC for holding this meeting.
5 It's great to see the public be able to voice their opinions
6 on an important issue.

7 My name is Scott Robbins, S-c-o-t-t
8 R-o-b-b-j-n-s, and I'm the Director of Public Affairs with
9 the Michigan Forest Products Council. Our organization
10 works to promote, protect, and sustain a vibrant forest
11 industry in the State of Michigan, and many of our members
12 are property owners. Michigan's 19.3 million acres of
13 forestland supports 150,000 jobs and contributes \$14.6
14 billion of economic activity to the State of Michigan.

15 We're here to voice our support for the proposed
16 Rover natural gas pipeline. We do so because it's a
17 promising opportunity for Michigan landowners, an important
18 boost to our infrastructure, and an investment from a
19 company committed to working with landowners and at the same
20 protecting the environment and the natural resources.

21 Our economic stands to greatly benefit from the
22 immediate hiring of the Michigan workers to build the
23 pipeline. Further on, our economy will continue to benefit
24 from the State's first access to energy reserves produced
25 within the Marcellus and the Utica shale region. We're also

1 confident the pipeline will be built to the most stringent
2 environmental standards. They'll be following guidelines
3 set forth by this body and other federal regulatory
4 agencies, and furthermore, the training and expertise shown
5 by the workforce selected by Energy Transfer have shown
6 themselves more than capable of exceeding any environmental
7 and safety concerns.

8 Finally, and probably the most relevant to this
9 hearing, we're confident the Rover projects ability to do
10 right by Michigan property owners. Many people have voiced
11 concerns over the way they were treated by subsidiaries of
12 Energy Transfer. We understand that Energy Transfer has
13 acknowledged these instances and taken measures to avoid
14 them in the future.

15 In fact, labor's union has addressed this
16 already, and this was addressed at the last hearing. This
17 ensures only the most professional treatment of property
18 owners' land. We've been please d with Energy Transfer
19 partners commitment to responsible construction practices,
20 their decision to utilize experienced local labor in
21 construction, and their efforts with landowners to minimize
22 impacts and fully restore the impacted land.

23 The company's aim to limit these impacts and the
24 conservation of the land to less than 3 percent of the
25 pipeline route are just one example of the good faith

1 efforts to protect these Michigan lands.

2 Our organization is eager to see the project get
3 underway, and we encourage FERC to move the project forward
4 in a timely manner and from safety to employment,
5 manufacturing, consumer and natural gas prices, the Rover
6 Pipelinewill positively impact Michigan well into the
7 future. Thank you very much.

8 MS. HARRIS: Thank you.

9 (Applause.)

10 MS. WARD: Les Jones. John Ford.

11 MR. FORD: Thank you for the short walk to the
12 podium. I'd like to thank you for being here tonight. My
13 name's John Ford. I stand to benefit from this pipeline, if
14 it is approved, as it crosses my property.

15 I have done nothing -- or I've considerable
16 research, and I've found that this pipeline and its costs is
17 unnecessary. I have found that our country has only 14
18 years of gas production left, not the 100 years the gas
19 industry would have you believe. This 14 years could be
20 much less if we export our gas overseas as the industry
21 wants us to do, to spend billions of dollars on pipeline
22 infrastructure only to have them empty in 14 years or so is
23 a very short-sighted, expensive mistake.

24 We need a natural energy -- national energy
25 program to prevent overproduction issues, as we have just

1 started experiencing in the last few weeks. Many gas and
2 oil companies will be going bankrupt in the next few months
3 because of a lack of long-term planning. We don't have a
4 national environmental energy policy. If this pipeline gets
5 approved, I foresee a large-scale frack in play in northern
6 Michigan as this will provide a route to international
7 markets from northern Michigan. There's a gas processing
8 plant being proposed for Gaylord, Michigan, which will allow
9 this to happen.

10 Several of my other points have already been
11 covered, so I'm going down my list here.

12 This is a short-term plan. The fracking industry
13 has overproduced at the expense of our air, water resources
14 in Ohio and Pennsylvania. The oil and gas industry is
15 saying that it needs gas to replace old coal plants when, in
16 fact, renewable energy could do the entire operation.

17 I have solar on my house. I haven't had an
18 electric bill to pay in over a year. Solar energy is fully
19 capable of supplying the makeup energy that we need in doing
20 away with fossil fuels.

21 This pipeline does not meet the FERC criteria for
22 public convenience and necessity. Michigan already has
23 enough gas. This pipeline is going to cross many natural
24 areas that will be devastating to these areas. In many
25 cases, you're not going to get full replacement of what was

1 there before.

2 All pipeline leak. And I hope FERC is taking
3 into consideration that during the transmission of this gas
4 there's going to be a large leakage, 7 to 10 percent I've
5 been understanding. Property values will go down, including
6 mine. I'm expecting it. My township assessor has told me
7 this. We should be using these billions of dollars on
8 roads, electrical grids updates, and renewable energy
9 projects.

10 On a humorous note, we can always use these empty
11 pipelines to ship water to the southwestern United States
12 from Michigan. Thank you.

13 (Applause.)

14 MS. HARRIS: Thank you.

15 MS. WARD: Frank Munsell.

16 MS. MUNSELL: Hi. My name's Frank Munsell,
17 M-u-n-s-e-l-l, and I'm a farmer. So, I walk out my door and
18 go to work.

19 People that don't walk out there door and have to
20 drive an hour or two hours, that's their business. That's
21 what they decided to do. For 63 years I've decided to be a
22 farmer. We started out, my granddad did in 1905 with 160
23 acres and now we have over 1,100 acres, same location. We
24 already have a 42-inch Vector natural gas line that crosses
25 our property. We have a 30-inch Enbridge crude oil that

1 crosses our property. The Vector line right now is running
2 1,200 pounds of pressure designed to go to 2,200 pounds of
3 pressure, which would increase capacity by 125 percent.

4 Now, we're at the point where they want to run
5 the new Rover line on the east portion of our farming
6 operation. I don't want another pipeline. I didn't want
7 the three that we've got there now. I certainly don't want
8 any more. So, in my opinion, why don't they increase that
9 new Vector pipeline that was put in there in 2000 has been
10 installed with a capability of 2,200-pounds operating
11 pressure. So, we can definitely get the capacity off of it.

12 As far as land preparation, I just heard from the
13 fellow that says, well, we're going to take care of all your
14 land problems. Anybody is welcome to fly over Section 36
15 and Section 1 of Iosco Township, Section 36 of Handy
16 Township, and from the 1969 installation of that property or
17 pipeline to 2000 of the Vector line and to the 2012
18 installation of the replacement original 6B line that blew
19 up in Marshall is still noticeable from an aerial picture
20 and can be placed today without a doubt where it is. So,
21 don't tell me -- and yes, they dug the topsoil and set it
22 here and they set it there, and they did everything; but why
23 can we still see that? We farm. We've always farmed. I
24 think we know what farming is.

25 So, as far as the jobs go on these projects --

1 very, very few people are going to be from the area. And as
2 far as me, to work with a consultant on this land operation,
3 he wants me to meet with him, discuss all my needs and
4 everything else, where's the benefit to me? We have a busy
5 farming operation. He's getting \$200 an hour or \$125 an
6 hour, so why don't we, as a farmer, get the same \$125 an
7 hour to converse with them?

8 So, in land, we've been there now for over a
9 hundred years. This line that we're talking is perpetual.
10 That's more than anybody in this room. This is for more
11 lives than we know of. It's not for 50 years. It's not for
12 10 years. It's not for 150 years. It's forever. So, I
13 just can't understand why we need more lines if we've got a
14 line already installed, which I don't want in the first
15 place, but it is there. Let's increase the capacity of that
16 line to the 2,200 pounds of operating pressure. We can
17 increase the capacity by 125 percent. There's no -- in
18 Livingston County -- and granted, I've been to the operating
19 engineer site. I've been out there. They run a fabulous
20 operation.

21 The operating engineers can their digs. They can
22 do everything. I don't think anybody's here disputing these
23 operators can dig it in and put a safe line in, but we've
24 had four integrity digs on our farm because the pipe has
25 rotted out. So, what is considered today as great

1 technology 30 years from now what's going to take place? A
2 high pressure, natural gas line is a concussionary bomb.
3 It's not a bomb of a water hose blowing up. It's a
4 concussionary bomb where, as people have said, when it opens
5 up it's not just a little burst. It's a concussionary that
6 can open up 12 to 1,500 feet. So, I think that needs to be
7 thought about.

8 We've already got these lines in place that has
9 plenty of capacity for handling this. I've never talked to
10 anybody in industry, and Livingston County has a lot of
11 industry, the same as Lenawee County has industry. I've
12 never talked an industry owner that says, gee, we would've
13 come to our area, but we can't get natural gas. I've never
14 seen that. I've talked to a lot of industry. We do not
15 milk cows anymore, so I do have some time. We do some other
16 work for the Tier 2 auto suppliers and Tier 1. I've never
17 had anybody in these plants tell me, gee, we'd put on a new
18 line if we could get more natural gas.

19 I don't see that there's any shortage of gas; but
20 yet, by the same token we've got this line running through
21 our operation in which we could certainly use natural gas to
22 dry 500 acres of corn, but, oh, it's not a gas line for us.
23 It's for the company in the Pennsylvania to go to Canada.
24 So, we still end up buying propane to dry our corn. So,
25 what is the advantage to me? Thank you.

1 (Applause.)

2 MS. HARRIS: Thank you.

3 So, we do not have anyone else signed on the
4 speakers' list to speak, and I want to open it up, and first
5 make sure if there are any directly affected landowners that
6 wish to speak. Want to make sure we get you in first.

7 Would anyone else like the opportunity to speak
8 at this time?

9 MR. BENNETT: My name is Keith Bennett. I have a
10 farm in Bridgewater Township that the pipeline is proposed
11 to go through. And the one thing -- I've been to a few of
12 these meetings now, and the one word that I keep hearing is
13 "temporary." You know, there's temporary jobs. There's a
14 temporary amount of gas, you know, whichever, but it's going
15 to be a permanent impact on my woods, my farm, my neighbors,
16 all their wood lines, different ponds and stuff that these
17 guys are going to cross. And these guys that are getting
18 jobs out of it, that's great, but it's temporary.

19 You know, I got laid off in 2008 and I never
20 asked anybody to, you know, sell off a piece of their ground
21 so I could get a job. But you know, I think "temporary" is
22 the key word. And if we're going to start wrecking a bunch
23 of ground, and supposedly these guys are going to fix it
24 back up, but you're not going to plant any trees on this
25 stuff, and that's what I heat my house with. I don't have

1 natural gas or -- you know, a little propane to back it up,
2 but they're taking my heat source away too, so -- and my
3 livelihood because I cut and sell wood.

4 That's all I got. Thank you for being here, and
5 thanks for the time.

6 (Applause.)

7 MS. HARRIS: Thank you. Would anyone else like
8 to speak?

9 Well, I'll quickly mention the FERC website.
10 It's www.FERC.gov, and it's in the handouts in the hallway.
11 Within our website, there's a link called E-Library that you
12 type in the docket number, PF14-14 and you can use E-Library
13 to gain access to all of the information available for this
14 project.

15 A link called E-Subscription is also available
16 for you to sign up, using your email address, to receive
17 emails each time a document is filed under PF14-14 docket.

18 On behalf of the Federal Energy Regulatory
19 Commission, I want to thank you for coming tonight. This
20 meeting is adjourned.

21 (Whereupon, the meeting was adjourned at 8:06
22 p.m.)

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