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UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

FEDERAL ENERGY REGULATORY COMMISSION

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Rover Pipeline LLC Docket No. PF14-14-000

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NOTICE OF INTENT TO PREPARE AN
ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT FOR THE PLANNED
ROVER PIPELINE PROJECT
REQUEST FOR COMMENTS ON ENVIRONMENTAL ISSUES,
AND NOTICE OF PUBLIC SCOPING MEETINGS

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The above-entitled cause came on for a
public meeting at the Toronto High School
Cafeteria, 1305 Dennis Way, Toronto, Ohio 43964, on
Monday, November 17, 2014, at 6:00 p.m.

- - -

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1 P U B L I C M E E T I N G

2 KARA HARRIS: Good evening. On
3 behalf of the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission,
4 I would like to thank you for coming tonight.

5 The primary purpose of tonight's
6 meeting is to give you an opportunity to provide
7 comments on the Rover Pipeline Project planned by
8 Rover Pipeline, LLC.

9 My name is Kara Harris and I'm an
10 Environmental Project Manager in FERC's Office of
11 Energy Projects. Jennifer Ward, to my right, is
12 the Project Manager with Cardno Entrix. Cardno is
13 an environmental consulting firm assisting us in
14 the production of the Environmental Impact
15 Statement or E.I.S. that will be prepared for the
16 project.

17 As you can see, this meeting is
18 being recorded by a court reporter so that we can
19 give an accurate record of tonight's comments. A
20 transcript of this meeting will be placed in the
21 public record so that everyone has access to the
22 information discussed here tonight.

23 I'll quickly run through the agenda.
24 I'll start off by briefly explaining the role of
25 the FERC and our application process. Then I'll

1 have a Rover representative present overview of
2 their project. Following Rover's presentation, we
3 will then hear from those of you signed up to speak
4 at the table near the door you came in tonight and
5 make formal comments on the project. If we have
6 time end of the meeting, anyone who did not sign
7 up, but would like to have their comments heard,
8 will have a chance to speak then.

9 So I'll begin by describing FERC.
10 FERC is an independent agency that, among other
11 things, regulates the interstate transmission of
12 natural gas. We review proposals and authorize
13 construction of interstate natural gas pipelines,
14 storage facilities, and liquefied natural gas
15 terminals.

16 As a federal licensing agency, the
17 FERC has the responsibility under the National
18 Environmental Policy Act or NEPA to consider
19 potential environmental impacts associated with a
20 jurisdictional project. With regard to the Rover
21 Pipeline Project, the FERC is the lead federal
22 agency for the NEPA review and the preparation of
23 the Environmental Impact Statement.

24 The Commission is made up of five
25 members who are appointed by the President and

1 approved by the Senate. The Commission staff,
2 which includes myself, prepares technical
3 information to assist the Commissioners in making
4 their decisions. When a company wants to build
5 pipeline facilities to transport and sell natural
6 gas in interstate commerce, the company files an
7 application with the Commission. Rover plans to
8 file their application in the first quarter of 2015
9 and is requesting a Commission Certificate of
10 Public Convenience and Necessity by the end of the
11 next year.

12 It is important for everyone to
13 understand that the proposed project is not
14 conceived by and is not promoted by the FERC or our
15 cooperating agencies. The FERC staff reviews
16 applications for the authority to build and operate
17 interstate natural gas pipelines, and Rover is in
18 the process of routing their pipelines and
19 preparing an application to submit to FERC. Once
20 the application is submitted, our obligation is to
21 review that application and prepare analysis of the
22 environmental impacts.

23 Tonight's meeting is not a public
24 hearing. We're not here to debate their proposal
25 or to make any determinations on its fate. We're

1 here to listen to your concerns that we can
2 consider them in our analysis of the potential
3 environmental impacts of the project and how those
4 impacts might be reduced or avoided. If there are
5 any general objections to the project, or other
6 "non-environmental" issues concerning the proposal,
7 those issues would be considered by the Commission
8 in its determination of the project's public
9 convenience and necessity, but are generally
10 considered outside the scope of our environmental
11 analysis. In other words, the Commission wants to
12 hear your concerns in that regard, however, those
13 issues will not be addressed in detail in our
14 Environmental Impact Statement.

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

20 Now I'll briefly explain our
21 environmental review process. We are near the
22 beginning of that process. Rover entered into
23 FERC's "Pre-Filing Process" on June 27th, 2014,
24 which began our review of their project. The
25 purpose of the pre-filing process is to encourage

1 involvement by all interested stakeholders in a
2 manner that allows for the early identification and
3 resolution of environmental issues. The FERC
4 docket number for the project is PF14-14. The "PF"
5 in pre-filing is where it's coming from, and
6 there's no application filed at FERC as of yet.
7 Once Rover files a formal application, a new docket
8 number will be assigned with a "CP" docket number
9 designation. The goal of pre-filing is to get
10 information from the public, as well as agencies
11 and other groups, so that we can incorporate all
12 substantive issues of concern into our review.

13 On November 4th, 2014, FERC issued a
14 Notice of Intent to Prepare an Environmental Impact
15 Statement or N.O.I. for the Rover Pipeline Project
16 and initiated a scoping or comment period. The NOI
17 was mailed to over 16,000 stakeholders and it
18 describes our environmental review process. It
19 also describes some already identified
20 environmental issues, and the steps the FERC and
21 the cooperating agencies will take to prepare the
22 EIS.

23 So, so far as cooperating agencies
24 we have the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency,
25 the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, the U.S. Fish and

1 Wildlife Service, and the State of Ohio
2 Environmental Protection Agency. They will assist
3 us in preparing our EIS. Additional federal,
4 state, and local government agencies with
5 jurisdiction by law or special expertise are also
6 welcome to cooperate, as well.

7 We have an ending date of December
8 18, 2014, for our scoping period. That doesn't
9 mean that we will not accept comments after that
10 period, we just have a set date. So the earlier
11 you get your information of your environmental
12 concerns the better. The earlier it is we can
13 adequately address your concerns to analyze them
14 and research the issues. We just ask that you get
15 those to us as soon as possible. We'll also have
16 another comment period once the draft EIS is
17 published.

18 Extra copies of the NOI and other
19 project handouts are located by the door that you
20 came in at our sign-in table. We'll use that list
21 to call speakers on the speaker's list up to the
22 podium tonight. If you like to speak and have not
23 signed up, please add your name to the list.

24 In addition to verbal comments
25 tonight, we will also accept your written comments.

1 If you have comments, but do not wish to speak, you
2 may provide written comments on the comment form or
3 if you already have your hard-copy comments you can
4 give those to us tonight, as well, or you can mail
5 them in at a later date. Be sure to include the
6 docket number, PF14-14 and add your personal
7 information if you want us to be able to contact
8 you and mail you additional information later
9 on.

10 Your comments tonight, together with
11 any written comments you have already filed or
12 intend to file will be added to the official Record
13 of the Proceeding. We then take all the comments
14 that address environmental issues and utilizing all
15 available information and expertise, factor them
16 into our independent analysis of the project's
17 potential impacts.

18 We will publish those findings in
19 the draft EIS, which will then be distributed for a
20 minimum 45-day public comment period. Again, we'll
21 have additional comment meetings where you'll be
22 able to attend, as well, and we'll announce those
23 when the document is issued.

24 At the end of the draft EIS comment
25 period, FERC staff will prepare a final EIS that

1 specifically addresses each comment received on the
2 draft EIS and includes all necessary changes,
3 additions, and modifications to our conclusions
4 reached in the draft EIS. The final EIS will be
5 considered by the Commission in its determination
6 of whether to authorize the project, and if so,
7 under what conditions.

8 Currently, then our mailing list is
9 over 16,000 stakeholders. If you received a copy
10 of the NOI in the mail, you are already on our
11 mailing list to receive the Environmental Impact
12 Statement. There is a return mailer attached to
13 the back of the NOI by which you could indicate if
14 you want to correct your mailing address or remove
15 your mailing address from the mailing list. Also,
16 please note because of the size of the mailing
17 list, the mailed version of the EIS will be on a
18 CD-ROM.

19 I've asked Mark Pedro with Rover to
20 provide a few comments on their project and their
21 expectations. Mark.

22 MARK PEDRO

23 MARK PEDRO: All right. Can
24 everybody hear me okay? Well, first off, good
25 evening. My name is Mark Pedro, I'm a senior

1 manager with Rover Pipeline and I'd like to thank
2 everybody for attending tonight. I also like to
3 thank FERC for their presence in the conducting of
4 the scoping meeting.

5 My intent here tonight is to cover
6 three main points. Those main points are to give a
7 brief overview of the project. Number 2, to give
8 you some expectations of what you can expect from
9 Rover and our commitment to you, and thirdly just
10 to give you a project timeline.

11 So the Rover Pipeline project
12 consist of three areas that we refer to as supply,
13 mainline and market areas of the project.

14 The supply side is located in
15 Western Pennsylvania, Northern West Virginia and
16 Southeastern, Ohio. Those are the areas that a lot
17 of folks are very familiar, both Marcellus and
18 Utica Shales, where there's been a prolific amount
19 of gas and products being produced. So our intent
20 is to work in that area, to gather the gas through
21 several lateral projects.

22 We are looking to build
23 approximately 10 or 11 compressor stations that
24 will provide 210 horsepower to move the gas to the
25 west. As we move across Ohio we had our first

1 delivery point which is located near Defiance,
2 Ohio, and then we'll continue north through
3 Michigan and provide two more additional delivery
4 points, and then thirdly the last we'll, we'll
5 cross over into Canada. That total distance is 830
6 miles of pipeline.

7 The pipeline is designed to be able
8 to transport 3.25 billion cubic feet of natural gas
9 per day. At the present time the pipeline is fully
10 subscribed or sold out. And some of the things
11 that we'd continue to work on is notifying all the
12 stakeholders, a lot of folks that are here tonight.
13 We're trying to conduct additional surveys to
14 gather all of the necessary data that we need from
15 and environmental and archeological and civil
16 perspective to try to design the best route that we
17 can to have the less impact to the property and to
18 all the landowners.

19 So, as I mentioned previously some
20 things that you can expect from us is our
21 commitment to you to work with a honest manner and
22 maintain the highest level of integrity, and too
23 also focus on the safety of the pipeline as it
24 pertains to construction of the pipeline and then
25 to operate and maintain of that pipeline.

1 One of the things that we do and in
2 the process of constructing the pipeline is we will
3 monitor each and every well. We will visually
4 inspect those wells, and then also have an X-ray
5 done. Produce perspective weld to make sure that
6 its been done with the proper integrity.

7 Another thing that we will do is
8 once the welding is completed, we will hydro test
9 the pipe at a level higher than what the maximum
10 allowable operating pressure is and for a pipeline
11 of this size. The maximum allowable operating
12 pressure is a 1440-PSI.

13 We will also have minimum depth to
14 covered standards. In ash fields we'll do a
15 minimum of 4 foot of cover, from the top of the
16 pipe to the surface of the ground. In area, non-ag
17 areas we'll do a minimum of 3 foot of cover from
18 the top of the pipe to the surface of the ground at
19 any, you know, creek or stream crossings, road
20 crossings, we'll do a minimum of 5 foot of cover
21 from the bottom of the ditch.

22 Some other facts associated with the
23 project, it's a 4.3 billion dollar project. Within
24 those dollars there's a hundred or 1 billion
25 dollars has been spent on pipe, compression, and

1 all of the fittings that go along with that. All
2 of the compression and the fittings have been
3 purchased domestically, 100%.

4 76% of the pipe was purchased
5 domestically. Obviously all of those fittings and
6 pipe products will have to be shipped and then
7 brought into Ohio, Pennsylvania, West Virginia,
8 Michigan and the states that we're working.

9 We have also agreed to exclusively
10 utilize union labor for construction of the project
11 which is gonna create approximately 10,000
12 temporary construction jobs during the construction
13 of the process. And that essentially leads us into
14 the project timeline.

15 We filed our pre-filing application
16 with the FERC in July of this year. Since then
17 we've been working very diligently to gather as
18 much data as we can pertaining to the project,
19 looking at routing and visiting with different
20 agencies, local agencies, state, federal, and we're
21 continuing to do that on a day-to-day basis. And
22 from there we'll continue forward.

23 And we will file our formal
24 application with FERC in January of 2015, so in a
25 couple months, then from there as Kara mentioned

1 they'll start their review process. And in the
2 timeline associated with that, so it approximately
3 could take a year. Our hope is to be able to
4 commence construction in the first quarter of 2016
5 and have the pipeline on line and in service at the
6 end of 2016 from the supply portion over to the
7 first delivery point in Western, Ohio, and then
8 potentially the middle of June, around June 2017
9 for remainder of the project.

10 So, again, I just want to thank
11 everybody for their attending here tonight. We
12 appreciate your time, we appreciate your questions.
13 We hope moving forward that we continue to have an
14 open channel of communication with all the folks
15 that are attending here tonight and just thank you
16 for your time. Thank you.

17 KARA HARRIS: Thank you, Mark.
18 After the formal meeting is adjourned,
19 representatives from Rover will be available in the
20 back of the room to answer any questions that you
21 have after the meeting.

22 So we're gonna move on into the part
23 of the meeting that we will hear comments from you.
24 As I mentioned before, if you'd rather not speak,
25 you may hand in your written comments tonight or

1 mail them in at a later date. Feel free to pick up
2 a copy of our comment form to take with you, and
3 just keep in mind you can do it electronically or
4 mail in. Whether you verbally provide your
5 comments or mail them in, they will be equally
6 considered by FERC.

7 Again, this meeting is being
8 recorded by a transcription service. All of your
9 comments will be transcribed and placed into the
10 public record. For the benefit of all in
11 attendance and for accuracy of the transcript, I'll
12 just go a head and set ground rules. When your
13 name is called, you should step up to the podium
14 and clearly state your name and affiliation if any.
15 You might spell your if it -- there is spelling
16 likely. Also speak directly into the microphone to
17 us so that you can be clearly heard by the
18 reporter, panel, and the audience.

19 Lastly before we get started, as a
20 courtesy to the speakers, if you would turn off or
21 silence your cell phones, we would appreciate it.

22 Jennifer is going to call our first
23 speaker.

24 JENNIFER WARD: Terry Bell.

25 TERRY BELL

1 TERRY BELL: Good evening. My name
2 is Terry Bell, I'm the President of the Jefferson
3 County Township Association.

4 We have before us an opportunity to
5 expand the development of the oil and gas reserves
6 that has represented a significant portion of
7 Jefferson County's recent development.

8 The fracking operations in the
9 Marcellus and Utica Shale formations have lead to
10 increasingly positive impacts for our county that
11 allow for growth across all sections of our
12 economy. As an example, the past 32 months, over
13 11 million dollars has been spent by the oil-gas
14 industry in our county rebuilding county and
15 township highways. That's a huge impact for
16 townships particularly who are short on funds.

17 However, to continue the trend of
18 development, we have been experiencing -- we must
19 invest heavily in the infrastructure development
20 through safe to transport our natural gas resources
21 from the place of production to the consumers are
22 needed. The Rover Pipeline presents an opportunity
23 for us to do just that.

24 Investments in pipeline
25 infrastructure like Rover are critical to

1 continuing natural gas development in Southeastern,
2 Ohio and bringing needed energy resources to the
3 rest of the midwest.

4 Natural gas has become part of our
5 country's goals for energy independents, and the
6 extraction of natural gas provides Americans with a
7 reliable, safe, energy source.

8 Ohioans recognize that we are
9 subject to high heating costs in the winter months,
10 but utilizing our local natural gas resources we
11 are able to help control the cost through the
12 investment of its infrastructure and natural gas
13 extraction.

14 Pipelines such as the Rover Pipeline
15 represent the best option for providing these
16 resources to our area for the benefit of the
17 greatest number of people in our state.

18 The Rover Pipeline will be safe and
19 reliable option that will be costly, closely
20 monitored and constructed to the highest of
21 standards utilizing labor local and materials from
22 along the route. In fact, 76% of the materials
23 will be locally sourced benefitting many local
24 businesses and local tax base.

25 The jobs that the pipeline will also

1 bring, even though they are temporary, there will
2 be some permanent, will be greatly beneficial to
3 the communities along the pipeline route.

4 The proposed pipeline will create
5 over 10,000 new jobs during the construction and
6 generate 4.3 billion in new investment.

7 Jefferson County is fortunate to
8 benefit from laying on top of the rich natural gas
9 reserves, but it should not be the only county to
10 benefit from this extraction.

11 I urge FERC to approve the Rover
12 Pipeline for the benefit of all Ohioans and the
13 communities and families that will find economic
14 prosperity from the energy resources that lie
15 beneath us. Thank you.

16 KARA HARRIS: Thank you.

17 JENNIFER WARD: Eric Wright.

18 ERIC WRIGHT

19 ERIC WRIGHT: Hello. Thank you for
20 the opportunity to comment today. My name is Eric
21 Wright, I'm with the Operating Engineers Union.

22 The construction industry needs this
23 massive private investment right now. The Rover
24 project will help thousands of construction workers
25 who have been hard hit during the recession.

1 The construction sector has faced
2 depression air levels of unemployment.

3 The unemployment rate reached over
4 27% in February of 2010. About 1.5 million
5 construction workers left the construction
6 industry.

7 Pipelines are clearly the safest way
8 to move natural gas. Yet obstacles to pipeline
9 development and the increased operational
10 flexibility that comes with rail has prompted the
11 nations largest railroad companies to explore
12 moving liquefied natural gas by rail.

13 Consequently, we encourage the Federal Energy
14 Regulatory Commission to fully analyze the
15 alternatives in moving this natural gas by
16 pipeline. In particular, it's necessary to examine
17 the risk of moving this natural gas by rail.
18 Please include a road-list analysis of moving
19 natural gas by rail in the scope of this
20 Environmental Impact Statement for the Rover
21 Pipeline.

22 Energy transport partners has
23 committed to build this pipeline with the best
24 trained, most productive workers in the industry.
25 This decision ensures the maximum, socioeconomic

1 benefit of the project.

2 The use of a project labor agreement
3 ensures high road construction contractors will pay
4 workers the best wages in the industry. Workers
5 will have health care, pensions, and make
6 investments in training the future work force of
7 the pipeline sector. Thank you.

8 KARA HARRIS: Thank you.

9 JENNIFER WARD: Steven Cohen.

10 STEVEN COHEN

11 STEVEN COHEN: Thank you, Ms. Harris
12 and Ms. Ward. I'm Steven Cohen, Steven with a V,
13 last name is C-o-h-e-n. I appreciate the
14 opportunity to make a brief statement.

15 The bad news is, this is a cold and
16 damp night for me to come from my home in Monroe
17 County, somewhat south of here, but the good news
18 is, gasoline was only \$3.00 a gallon to get here.
19 And that is relative to the Rover Pipeline project,
20 because it will broaden our national energy
21 portfolio.

22 My perspective, I worked in the coal
23 industry for seven years, and where I live, Monroe
24 County, we have a mining operation in neighboring
25 Belmont County, a mining operation. We have

1 hundreds of jobs, the best jobs in those counties.
2 Close to a 1000 direct miners, and we have a ripple
3 effect of up to a dozen job supporting direct
4 mining jobs. And in this struggling economy that's
5 really the one bright spot we have.

6 Also, cause affordable source of
7 energy for electricity. And the industry has
8 worked very hard to make cleaner. I know the two
9 mining operations where I live, companies has
10 lobbied to get tax credits for utilities, but will
11 invest in clean coal technology.

12 As you know though Washington does
13 not go kindly on coal and that's why we need to
14 diversify in even fossil fuels like that which
15 would travel through the Rover Pipeline are so
16 important.

17 As Mark said at the beginning this
18 is a -- more than 4 billion dollar investment, and
19 in just over a year we're gonna have over 10,000
20 construction jobs. I believe about half of them
21 are gonna be right here in Ohio. Southeast, Ohio
22 will share in those billion dollars in wages and in
23 the hundred million dollars in payments to
24 landowners.

25 And we respect the important role

1 that FERC and the pipeline and hazardous material
2 safety administration will play in getting the
3 project to proceed in a responsible manner just as
4 you have with the pipelines being built by EQT, and
5 eye source in dominion.

6 I've looked at the project map. The
7 pipeline comes right through my home community.
8 And it's a concern to us because just two weeks ago
9 in Monroe County we had a pipeline explosion,
10 that's a pretty scary thing. But I think if we
11 insist on the appropriate balance between economic
12 growth and energy security with community safety
13 and protecting our environment, we can continue to
14 appreciate \$3.00 a gallon gasoline prices. It can
15 be safe, it can be clean, it can be a win-win for
16 our community, our state, and the nation. Thank
17 you.

18 KARA HARRIS: Thank you.

19 JENNIFER WARD: Samatha Cotton.

20 SAMATHA COTTON

21 SAMATHA COTTON: Good evening and
22 thank you for the opportunity to speak on the
23 matter of the Rover Pipeline project.

24 My name is Samatha Cotton and I'm
25 the Director of External Relations at the Ohio

1 Chamber of Commerce. As a representative body of
2 over 8000 businesses across Ohio, I am eager to
3 express to you the benefits that the pipeline
4 construction will have on our state, both in the
5 immediate time period and for the long term
6 business growth.

7 At the Ohio Chamber of Commerce we
8 champion free enterprise and economic
9 competitiveness for the benefit of all Ohioans, and
10 we are excited about the Shale play in Ohio.

11 Access to the Marcellus and Utica
12 Shale formations in Ohio, Pennsylvania and West
13 Virginia have proven to be some of the most
14 valuable lands for energy extraction in America and
15 quickly have become part of our country's great
16 energy -- To fully realize this region's potential,
17 however, we need an effective means of
18 transportation. Pipelines such as the Rover
19 Pipeline will create opportunity and in the energy
20 sector for increased development, but will also
21 impact other businesses in Ohio.

22 The Rover Pipeline will create as
23 many as 10,000 immediate local construction jobs
24 and spur an estimated 4.3 billion of investment in
25 state and local economies. Indirectly the pipeline

1 will increase the need for goods and services all
2 along its length during the construction phase
3 benefitting small businesses from manufacturers to
4 restaurants, hotels and hardware stores.

5 Approximately 1 million dollars will
6 be paid to laborers and contractors working on the
7 project, all from along the project route.

8 Again, thank you for the opportunity
9 to speak today on this important project that will
10 positively impact Ohio's economic climate.

11 KARA HARRIS: Thank you.

12 JENNIFER WARD: Blair Hennessee.

13 BLAIR HENNESSEE

14 BLAIR HENNESSEE: Hi, my name is
15 Blair Hennessee, I'm a retired Air Force Colonel,
16 and my wife and I live on 221 acres that are right
17 on the pipeline.

18 I just wanted to make the point that
19 this is our home that they are going through. And
20 as you look at the broad picture, this is certainly
21 of a benefit to the community, we're all in favor
22 of it, but please stress in every way that you can
23 that lives are being disturbed. Methods of living
24 or standards of living are changing as a result of
25 this. Fields that we could get to easily, we're

1 not gonna be able to get to at all for a period of
2 time.

3 The people who farm our property are
4 not gonna be able to farm for a period of time, and
5 this -- the ground is being disturbed. And I know
6 that an effort will be made to return topsoil to
7 where it had been, but it never really gets back in
8 that particular place. So, my point is, we're all
9 for it. It's a great thing for the community, for
10 those of us who live in Jefferson County, but
11 please make sure that they're mindful of the fact
12 that this is a big project, but it involves
13 individuals whose lives are being greatly affected
14 by it. Thank you.

15 KARA HARRIS: Thank you.

16 JENNIFER WARD: Darrel Cossage.

17 DARREL COSSAGE: I'll pass at this
18 time.

19 JENNIFER WARD: Rick Desmond.

20 RICK DESMOND: Desmond.

21 JENNIFER WARD: Desmond. Sorry.

22 RICK DESMOND

23 RICK DESMOND: My name is Rick
24 Desmond, and I'm a certified financial planner and
25 investment adviser, and I just by definition I'm a

1 senior citizen, and I've been living kind of long
2 enough to know the good days when we had over
3 13,000 employees working at Werk Steel.

4 When I came to this county in 1971
5 there were 96,000 people living in Jefferson
6 County, now there's down to 64,000. There are
7 8,000 people work at William Pittsburgh Steel. So
8 we've gone through very good times to some tough
9 times, and this pipeline I believe is gonna be a
10 perfect solution to a problem that we need to have
11 fixed.

12 As an investment advisor, everybody
13 is talking about the merits of the pipeline, how it
14 provides jobs and brings revenues, but from an
15 investment advisor, a lot of people are not aware
16 of the fact there are good quality investments,
17 okay, that are tied into these pipelines that are
18 made available to the average investor, the little
19 investor, the large investor, and so it's like a
20 double benefit. People are gonna be able to make
21 money, they'll be able to enhance their riches and
22 enhance their families, but they also have a chance
23 to take money that they make from a wonderful
24 success of this pipeline and reinvest back in the
25 pipeline type of investments and benefit from it.

1 So from my point of view, as an
2 investment advisor, I'm looking forward to this
3 going forward. Thank you.

4 KARA HARRIS: Thank you.

5 JENNIFER WARD: Raymond Hipsher.

6 RAYMOND HIPSHER

7 RAYMOND HIPSHER: Good evening. My
8 name is Raymond Hipsher, H-i-p-s-h-e-r and I
9 represent the 20,000 working men of Liuna Laborers
10 International Union of North America.

11 The Rover Pipeline will be built
12 with local union labor creating 10,000 immediate
13 local construction jobs and providing 4.3 billion
14 of investment into state and local economies. Over
15 3 billion of that will be invested in Ohio along.

16 Using union contractors guarantees
17 that the local communities benefit from the local
18 projects. The majority of the workers who will
19 build the Rover Pipeline are from the local
20 community.

21 Liuna's partnership with youth built
22 USA and US Army are a few examples of how we build
23 and face some local qualified workers in the
24 pipeline industry.

25 Last year union members worked on

1 over 15 million hours building pipelines. This had
2 resulted in millions of state income tax revenue
3 that benefit schools, public resources, and the
4 local economy.

5 There are over 4000 workers in Ohio,
6 West Virginia, Pennsylvania and Michigan whose
7 livelihood depends upon the construction of this
8 pipeline.

9 The Rover Pipeline will meet or
10 exceed all required safety assistance and be
11 constructed in accordance with the state and
12 federal standards.

13 Construction will include a
14 state-of-the-art X-ray inspection of every well
15 that joins the section of every pipe together.

16 Most importantly our trade has been
17 selected to do this work because energy transfer of
18 partners knows that we will do the work the right
19 way.

20 The skill trade responsible for
21 pipeline construction pride ourself on having the
22 most advanced training.

23 We expect the work to ensure a safe
24 work place, and we are committed to operating with
25 minimal disruption or impact to landowners.

1 Liuna in its signatory contractors
2 understand the concern expressed by people about
3 the pipeline construction. That is why they strive
4 through excellent training and rigorous job-site
5 standards to ensure the installation of the
6 pipeline is done according to strict environmental
7 protocol.

8 While minimizing the disruption to
9 the people and living in that area, in addition
10 because majority the workers build the pipeline
11 will be from the local area.

12 We have a vested interest in not
13 just meeting all existing standards but surpassing
14 them where possible.

15 The Rover Pipeline marks the first
16 and largest direct connection to our state to the
17 massive Marcellus gas reserve in Pennsylvania and
18 Southeast, Ohio. Noting this critical new energy
19 highway is vital to our economy.

20 Construction of the pipeline will
21 benefit our economy. The 4 billion dollar project
22 will create 10,000 local construction jobs. The
23 pipeline itself is American made with 76% of the
24 pipe manufactured here, and all the compressor
25 built here.

1 Once operational the pipeline will
2 provide more than 150 million in tax revenue yearly
3 for states and counties along the route.

4 Pipelines like the Rover are
5 important and essential to our community as power
6 lines, sewers or roads, and I urge you to quickly
7 approve the Rover Pipeline. Thank you.

8 KARA HARRIS: Thank you.

9 JENNIFER WARD: Kyle Brown.

10 KYLE BROWN

11 KYLE BROWN: I'll Kyle Brown
12 representing 300 members of the IBW Local 246
13 Electrical Workers in the immediate county area and
14 the 7000 families of the upper Ohio valley building
15 trades.

16 We stand in support of this pipeline
17 first and foremost for safety to take care of
18 families, take care of the farmers and take care of
19 the land we go through. We also appreciate and
20 stand for ET Rover, stand with ET Rover with their
21 commitment to using local skilled trades. Thank
22 you.

23 KARA HARRIS: Thank you.

24 JENNIFER WARD: Donnie Elder.

25 DONNIE ELDER

1 DONNIE ELDER: Hi, thank you for
2 this time. My name is Donnie Elder, I'm in
3 Township trustee, and I personally am in favor of
4 the pipeline coming through our township as long as
5 our township roads are repaired if needed from any
6 equipment that may be coming across or and
7 disturbing of the roads.

8 Also, it's going to -- Rover is
9 going to be bringing in a lot of local jobs.
10 Several years, eight years ago I lost my job at
11 Wert Steel. When I first started there was over
12 16,000 employees, they are down to under 1000. And
13 as there -- Like I said, the other gentleman said
14 most of it's gonna be local labor and bringing
15 money to the area. It is so depressed.

16 A few months ago we had to, our
17 township has lost so much out of our general fund,
18 we had to have 76 street lights shut off because of
19 the loss of revenue from the county and everything
20 being cut from Columbus. Thank you for your time.

21 KARA HARRIS: Thank you.

22 JENNIFER WARD: Mike Erkie.

23 MIKE ERKIE

24 MIKE ERKIE: Good evening and thank
25 you for the opportunity provide my testimony on the

1 economic impact of Rover Pipeline in the State of
2 Ohio. My name is Mike Erkie. I'm here this
3 evening with Joe Fernandez representing Ariel
4 Corporation located in Mount Vernon, Ohio.

5 Since 1966 Ariel has been involved
6 with the gathering transporting and treatment of
7 natural gas. In recent years due to technological
8 advancements, large quantities of natural gas have
9 become available in our part of the country through
10 Marcellus and Utica Shale gas place.

11 Our compressors are currently being
12 used to gather and treat this gas. Rover Pipeline
13 will use our compressors to transport this gas to
14 where it can be sold on the open market, bring
15 revenue back into the state.

16 Ariel Corporation is a manufacturer
17 reciprocating compressors with locations in Mount
18 Vernon and Akron, Ohio. We employ over 1800
19 Ohioans between our 6th main facturing facilities
20 in Mount Vernon and our Akron campus. These are
21 modern air conditioned facilities featuring
22 state-of-art CNC machines, fully trained operators.
23 Ariel offers good paying full-time manufacturing
24 jobs with full benefits including health care,
25 retirement, and employee profit sharing. Ariel

1 ships over 3000 compressors per year to more than a
2 100 countries around the world with the majority
3 staying in North America. The company was started
4 by Jim Buchwald who's owned and managed today by
5 his daughter Karen.

6 Ariel Compressors are built in Ohio
7 by Ohioans using 95% plus parts major sourced in
8 the state. We use casting from foundries located
9 throughout the state and parts such as unloaders
10 and bearings sourced from companies in Cambridge
11 and Zanesville.

12 In addition we contract outside
13 machine shops throughout the state including one in
14 Coshocton. In total we use approximately 75
15 suppliers in Ohio employing over 5000 people.

16 Over 45,000 Ariel compressors have
17 been shipped based on the original designs with
18 continuing product improvement. Ariel units
19 feature a robust design with operator and facility
20 safety being a prime importance.

21 In addition our equipment is
22 designed to be environmentally friendly minimizing
23 the changes of having gas or oil leaks.

24 The Rover Pipeline will be using
25 more than 35 of our large units in a county with

1 thousands of labor hours and machine and assembly.
2 The expected life span of 50 plus years these units
3 will be supported with spare parts and made and
4 provided by our Ohio based facilities further
5 distributing the state's economy. The use will be
6 operated and maintained by local technicians, most
7 likely trained in our Mount Vernon headquarters.

8 The purchase price of the units will
9 go back into the community for employee wages,
10 taxes, purchases from local businesses and
11 community support.

12 Through the Rover Pipeline energy
13 transfer and Ariel corporation both committed to
14 the economic future of Ohio and all Ohioans.

15 If you have any questions, Joe and I
16 will be available following the meeting. Thank you
17 for your time.

18 KARA HARRIS: Thank you.

19 JENNIFER WARD: Mark Wilson.

20 MARK WILSON

21 MARK WILSON: Good evening. My name
22 is Mark Wilson and I'm the President of Land
23 Stewarts. Land Stewarts is a multi-disciplinary
24 consulting group that specializes in caring for the
25 land in a manner that minimizes a lot of the

1 long-term impacts, and specifically our role is to
2 look at the long-term productivity of the land.

3 Our team members have a variety of
4 skill sets and these include soil scientists,
5 agriculture engineers, pasture management
6 specialists, private foresters and most importantly
7 land improvement contractors who are experienced
8 with Ohio conditions.

9 We are familiar with spring
10 development. We are familiar with pastures and
11 fencing, and we are also familiar with woodland
12 management.

13 The Rover Pipeline has become Land
14 Stewards to minimize the impact that the pipeline
15 will have on the adjacent land.

16 We will function in much like an
17 ombudsman capacity in which we will often be in the
18 position of advocating for the landowner.

19 Our mission is simple and that is to
20 do what is right for the long-term productivity of
21 the land.

22 We have a few team members with us
23 tonight and we would certainly welcome the chance
24 to interact and discuss with any of the landowners
25 here what their most important land resources are.

1 And, again, the most important
2 factor that we bring to this project is that our
3 team is from Ohio. We are familiar with Ohio
4 soils, its vast natural resources, and we are
5 experienced with working with Ohio landowners, most
6 importantly farmers.

7 Most likely some of our team members
8 will be from the community that's present tonight.

9 With good open communication and
10 with landowners being forthright and with the
11 honesty and integrity that we've heard expressed
12 tonight, we can develop sound management plans
13 which will protect and minimize the impacts to the
14 adjacent land.

15 Ohio is our home, too, and long
16 after the pipeline is gone we will be here along
17 with all the other landowners, and it's our
18 objective to once again minimize the impacts to the
19 neighboring land resource. Thank you.

20 KARA HARRIS: Thank you.

21 JENNIFER WARD: Jerry Ryan.

22 JERRY RYAN

23 JERRY RYAN: My name is Jerry Ryan,
24 R-y-a-n. I represent Pipeliners Local Union 798
25 Tulsa, Oklahoma. 2725 steel welders, 610

1 journeymen, 3350 pipeline welder helpers.

2 The Rover Pipeline project when
3 complete will help bring America closer to energy
4 independence from foreign countries and it will put
5 you on the surface scene to be our allies, but
6 often support and allow terrorist groups to train
7 in their countries.

8 The Rover Pipeline project will help
9 provide energy we can rely on. Whether the sun
10 shines or the wind blows natural gas generates
11 electricity, runs our manufacturing plants,
12 provides raw material for our grains and products,
13 heats and cools our homes, and fuels
14 transportation.

15 The Rover Pipeline project will not
16 only boost the local economies during construction,
17 but for years to come when you're using best value
18 or union contractors.

19 Pipeliners Local 798 paid
20 \$168,879,528.00 in pension and health care benefits
21 back to its members in 2013, many of whom live in
22 the northeast states helping to ensure a work force
23 in your community that is not a burden on local
24 health care providers.

25 With that I will close and like to

1 thank everyone for the opportunity to speak.

2 KARA HARRIS: Thank you.

3 JENNIFER WARD: Phillip Wallace.

4 PHILLIP WALLACE

5 PHILLIP WALLACE: I'm Phillip
6 Wallace. I'm also a member of Pipeliners Local
7 Union 798. We're the welders, and that's what we
8 do, we train our young guys in the industry, you
9 know, with the latest technology, with that Rover
10 will be using on this job. I gonna assure
11 everybody here that these, these wells who the
12 X-rays will be state-of-the-art.

13 The environment needs to be
14 protected by everybody out there, and we've got
15 FEMSA FERC, DOT that assures these gas companies
16 that it's done right, you know, and it will be done
17 right.

18 And we have over \$250,000.00 a year
19 spent on training, and throughout the whole nation
20 with UA, and I want to assure the landowners -- I
21 know that's a very -- I'm a landowner myself, and
22 I'm gonna assure the landowners that if you have a
23 problem that Rover will take care of it for you.

24 We got a lot of pipelines in the
25 ground right now that's been in there 50, 60 years

1 that we're doing maintenance and upgrade on.
2 Fifty, 60 years ago they didn't have these
3 regulations that we go by now. They didn't have
4 FERC overlooking the Environmental Impact
5 Statements, but this pipeline will be built to the
6 -- with the best of craftsmanship in the world
7 right here.

8 And I was pretty proud of the guy
9 from Rover at the beginning here said that it would
10 be built with union labor, not just my craft, but
11 all the crafts, the laborers, the international,
12 the operators, the operating engineers, teamsters,
13 the laborers to the IBEW brothers.

14 You know, we take pride in our work
15 and we took a lot of money training as the other
16 crafts do, and I just want to thank FERC for
17 letting us come here and speak.

18 And we want, are in support of this.
19 I want to ask, you know, issue this permit. Thank
20 you.

21 KARA HARRIS: Thank you.

22 JENNIFER WARD: Ed Hashbarger.

23 ED HASHBARGER

24 ED HASHBARGER: How you doing. My
25 name is Ed Hashbarger, H-a-s-h-b-a-r-g-e-r. I'm

1 here representing the Jefferson County Citizens for
2 Environmental Constitution and Truth.

3 I'm here for several topics, one,
4 dealing with the health bender that exist in our
5 creeks and streams. We had issues the last time
6 when the ATEX Pipeline came through. I don't feel
7 that the environmental impact study for that and
8 the Indiana bat was done correctly as far as
9 netting processes for the bat, the health bender,
10 the searching of the creeks, 'cause we got a lot
11 more health benders in some of these creeks when
12 we, would be indicated.

13 We had issues with another pipeline
14 that came through that had drill mud that ended up
15 in the creek. Removed a person's house from
16 Harrison County from their foundation and flooded
17 their well, drinking well with drilling mud.

18 The other topic or the other subject
19 is the emergency response for evacuation from plant
20 for the pipeline. Haven't heard any plans coming
21 out of the county in reference to protecting its
22 citizens here. We had a well pad incident here in
23 Jefferson County and we had to evacuate people
24 starting off at a two-mile radius working its way
25 back to a one-mile radius.

1 There was a pipeline explosion down
2 in the southern part of West Virginia where they
3 evacuated people out of their homes for a couple
4 weeks, melted the highway. I want to know what the
5 contingency plans here are gonna be for that and
6 the environmental impact that that gas is gonna
7 have on the environment here local, if an accident
8 happens.

9 It does my heart good to know that
10 we got local guys gonna be doing this. Previously
11 our investigation into other pipelines we had
12 people come in from out of the area. So our group
13 is thankful that our local unions are gonna here
14 doing the work.

15 I do have a question about the
16 welding. Is the X-ray Z's wells gonna be kept
17 locally? We asked that same question in reference
18 to the ATEX pipeline that came through and the
19 Spectra Pipeline. I hope the X-rays are kept
20 locally and not out of the area so we have access
21 to, not I, but the unions have access to those.

22 The other issue is eminent domain.
23 I'm a Veteran of the United Marine Corps and I
24 don't like the use of eminent domain, and I don't
25 think any citizen here whether you served your

1 country in uniform or you're a born citizen of this
2 country, you should not tolerate the use of eminent
3 domain.

4 If a landowner does not want to give
5 up their rights to their land, especially a Veteran
6 who shed blood for this country and stood up for
7 this country, they come home and have something and
8 because they don't want to give it. They lobby the
9 Federal Government or they lobby the state
10 agencies, state government to take it from 'em,
11 it's wrong.

12 The other issue is road issues.
13 We've had some road issues here in Jefferson
14 County, especially in our township, Salem Township
15 where we you had roads damaged, those were repaired
16 several months later.

17 The truck drivers coming up and down
18 these roads have no regard. A lot of these truck
19 drivers are from out of the area, they don't know
20 our roads. I hope that local drivers will be used
21 on this project. But they've come in and they've
22 had total disregard for speed on the roadways.

23 And last is water protection. I
24 hope to God that we're going to have some things
25 implemented here to protect our waters, and it's

1 just not the well waters that people drink, but
2 it's the creeks and streams that feed these well
3 water or these springs that people use on their
4 farm lands. That's all I have. Thank you.

5 KARA HARRIS: Thank you.

6 JENNIFER WARD: Mike Chadsey.

7 MIKE CHADSEY

8 MIKE CHADSEY: Good evening. It's
9 my opportunity this evening to join my friends from
10 the Ohio Chamber and our brothers and labor to talk
11 about this project this evening. My name is Mike
12 Chadsey and I'm the Director of Public Relations at
13 the Ohio Oil & Gas Association.

14 Our Association represents over 3000
15 members involved in all aspects of the exploration
16 production development of crude oil and natural gas
17 resources within the State of Ohio.

18 The Rover Pipeline project, as
19 you've heard many times this evening, will
20 transport 3.25 billion cubic feet of natural gas
21 per day from the region along an 800 mile line
22 through Ohio, Pennsylvania, Michigan, and then on
23 into Canada.

24 This project is essential to
25 securing our energy future, not only for Ohio, but

1 for our region and our nation.

2 The reserves are the Marcellus and
3 Utica Shale formations in Southeastern Ohio have
4 proven to be good to Ohio's residents. Small
5 businesses, manufacturing and the energy
6 industries.

7 In oil and gas we had seen
8 production sore as a result of further exploration
9 of our natural resources, allowing us to better
10 serve our communities and provide them with
11 cheaper, cleaner, and more efficient fuels to power
12 their homes and businesses.

13 The Rover Pipeline is an important
14 step in continuing to develop these reserves by
15 putting in place the necessary infrastructure, and
16 that's the key word "infrastructure" to transport
17 natural gas resources safely and efficiently from
18 their source to the market.

19 The proposed pipeline will create
20 over 10,000 new jobs along the construction route
21 and generate 4.3 billion in new investment which is
22 very exciting.

23 Oil and gas development are shining
24 light on the economy. We're drilling and retaining
25 a labor force is an increasing difficult business.

1 It's common sense is a vast natural
2 resources in the shale in both Ohio and
3 Pennsylvania will be carefully cultivated to keep
4 our economy thriving and keep energy affordable for
5 consumers and for families.

6 The investment in this Rover
7 Pipeline will stimulate private-sector growth which
8 you heard about this evening and keep and increase
9 jobs in this state, increase tax revenues for our
10 local government services.

11 It is the opinion of the Ohio Oil &
12 Gas Association that the Rover Pipeline should be
13 approved. This pipeline project represents a small
14 portion of the energy infrastructure that remains
15 to be constructed in this country. It is
16 infrastructure that is a necessary element of this
17 21st Century economy. The future of our energy
18 self sufficiency depends upon it, and it is that
19 safe and regulated fish and pipelines are
20 constructed to continue to build that sufficiency.

21 Ohio Shale oil and gas resources
22 have only just begun to be tapped and will serve to
23 benefit the people of Ohio and the greater midwest.

24 Projects like the Rover Pipeline are
25 necessary to efficiently extract our region's

1 natural grass resources, as well as export them to
2 the greatest number of people.

3 Lastly, as production increases here
4 and the shale formations in Ohio, West Virginia and
5 Pennsylvania the natural gas extraction can benefit
6 consumers throughout Ohio because of this pipeline.
7 Thank you for your time.

8 KARA HARRIS: Thank you. We do not
9 have anyone else signed up to speak. Would anyone
10 like to speak? Please state your name and spell
11 it.

12 ED HILL

13 ED HILL: It's Ed Hill, H-i-l-l.
14 I'm with the International Brotherhood of
15 Electrical Workers and I represent our
16 International office and 725,000 active retired
17 members of the IBW.

18 So I wanted to say a couple words
19 and -- On the benefit of the Rover project, but in
20 support of it.

21 Based on some previous research that
22 I've done and some things that I've heard today I
23 think the project should be given the green light
24 for, to proceed and is permitted.

25 We heard from a couple people here

1 that will benefit directly, Ariel compressors as an
2 example for local businesses, they're gonna be
3 benefitting a great deal from this project.

4 Also what was important to me is the
5 comments made by the Township Supervisor where --
6 that is local to this area where they had to turn
7 off street lights because they don't have the funds
8 available to pay to have the streets lit at night.
9 I think if we're able to utilize infrastructure and
10 natural resources that we have beneath the ground
11 and help the citizens of the community in that way,
12 we should do everything we can to make it happen.

13 We've had a lot of comments from the
14 craftsmen here of all skill sets. You can rest
15 assured that these people will be particularly
16 concerned because they live in this area that they
17 do a proper safe, perform the proper safety, not
18 only installation but maintenance of the product in
19 this pipeline. So with that and the infrastructure
20 investment of 4.3 billion and a 153 million plus
21 dollars a year in tax revenues, I'd like to offer,
22 my, my support of the project. Thank you.

23 KARA HARRIS: Would anyone else like
24 to speak? I'll quickly mention the FERC website.

25 Within our website there's a link

1 called eLibrary. If you type in the docket number
2 PF14-14, you can use eLibrary to gain access to
3 everything on the record concerning this project,
4 as well as all filings and information submitted by
5 Rover. A link called eSubscription also available
6 for you to sign up using an email address to
7 receive emails each time a document is filed in the
8 PF14-14 docket.

9 We have some handouts at our table
10 in the back that could give you a little bit more
11 information about electronic filing at FERD.

12 On behalf of the Federal Energy
13 Regulatory Commission, I would like to thank you
14 for coming tonight. This meeting is adjourned.

15 - - -
16 (At 7:00 p.m. the meeting adjourned)
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