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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 Matt Barker Building, 217
North 4th Avenue, Paden City, West Virginia 26159,
Tuesday, November 18, 2014, at 6:00 p.m.

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	SPEAKERS	PAGE
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2	Buffy Thomason (Rover)	9
3	David Beverage	17
4	Eric Wright	19
5	George Ferrell	20
6	Mark Wilson	22
7	Jerry Ryan	23
8	Corky Demarco	24
9	Ronnie Hills	26
10	Rob Richards	27
11	Duane Nichols	29
12	Ed Hill	32
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16	Doug (President)	42
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1 P R O C E E D I N G S

2 KARA HARRIS: Good evening. On behalf of the
3 Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, also known as the F-E-
4 R-C or FERC I would like to welcome you here tonight.

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

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

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

20 I'll quickly run through the agenda. I'll start
21 off by briefly explaining the role of FERC and our
22 application process. Then I'll have a Rover representative
23 present overview of their project. Following Rover's
24 presentation, we will then hear from those of you who signed
25 up to speak at the table out in the hallway and make formal

1 comments on the project. If we have time at the end of this
2 meeting, anyone who did not sign up, but would like to have
3 their comments heard, will have opportunity to speak.

4 I would like to begin by describing FERC. FERC
5 is an independent agency that, among other things, regulates
6 the interstate transmission of natural gas. We review
7 proposals and authorize construction of interstate natural
8 gas pipelines, storage facilities, and liquefied natural gas
9 facilities.

10 As a federal licensing agency, the FERC has the
11 responsibility under the National Environmental Policy Act
12 or NEPA to consider potential environmental impacts
13 associated with a jurisdictional project. With regard to
14 the Rover Pipeline Project, the FERC is the lead federal
15 agency for the NEPA review and the preparation of the
16 Environmental Impact Statement.

17 The Commission is made up of five members who are
18 appointed by the President and approved by the Senate. The
19 Commission staff, which includes myself, prepares technical
20 information to assist the Commissioners in making their
21 decisions. When a company wants to build pipeline
22 facilities to transport and sell natural gas in interstate
23 commerce, the company files an application with the
24 Commission. Rover plans to file their application in the
25 first quarter of 2015 and is requesting a Commission

1 Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity by the end
2 of the next year.

3 It is important for everyone to understand that
4 the proposed project was not conceived by and is not
5 promoted by the FERC or our cooperating agencies. The FERC
6 staff reviews applications for the authority to build and
7 operate interstate natural gas pipelines, and Rover is in
8 the process of routing their pipelines and preparing an
9 application to submit to FERC. Once the application is
10 submitted, our obligation is to review that application and
11 prepare analysis of the environmental impacts.

12 Tonight's meeting is not a public hearing. We're
13 not here to debate proposal or to make any determinations on
14 its fate. We're here to listen to your concerns that we can
15 consider them in our analysis of the potential environmental
16 impacts of the project and how those impacts might be
17 reduced or avoided. If there are any general objections or
18 support to the project, or other "non-environmental" issues
19 concerning the proposal, those issues would be considered by
20 the Commission in its determination of the public's
21 convenience and necessity, but are generally considered
22 outside the scope of our environmental analysis. In other
23 words, the Commission wants to hear your concerns in that
24 regard, however, those issues will not be addressed in
25 detail in the Environmental Impact Statement.

1 During our review of the project, we'll assemble
2 information from a variety of sources, including the
3 applicant; the public; other state, local, and federal
4 agencies; and our own independent analysis and field work.

5 So I'll briefly explain our environmental review
6 process. We are currently near the beginning. Rover
7 entered into FERC's "Pre-Filing Process" on June 27th, 2014,
8 which began our review. The purpose of the pre-filing
9 process is to encourage involvement by all interested
10 stakeholders in a manner that allows for the early
11 identification and resolution of environmental issues. The
12 FERC docket number for the project is PF14-14. The "PF"
13 meaning pre-filing and no formal application has been filed
14 at FERC. Once Rover files a formal application, a new
15 docket number will be assigned with a "CP" docket number
16 designation. The goal of pre-filing is to get information
17 from the public, as well as agencies and other groups, so
18 that we can incorporate all substantive issues of concern
19 into our review.

20 On November 4th, 2014, FERC issued a Notice of
21 Intent to Prepare an Environmental Impact Statement or
22 N.O.I. for the Rover Pipeline Project and initiated a
23 scoping or comment period. The NOI was mailed to over
24 16,000 stakeholders and describes our environmental review
25 process. Some already identified environmental issues, and

1 the steps the FERC and the cooperating agencies will take to
2 prepare the EIS.

3 So far the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency,
4 the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife
5 Service, and the State of Ohio Environmental Protection
6 Agency have agreed these cooperating agencies and assist
7 FERC in preparing of the EIS. Additional federal, state,
8 and local government agencies with jurisdiction by law or
9 special expertise are welcome to cooperate, as well.

10 We've set an ending date of December 18, 2014, to
11 end the comment period, but that doesn't mean that we will
12 not accept comments after the fact. The earlier you get
13 your comments and your concerns the better, but we do accept
14 comments throughout our entire process.

15 Extra copies of our NOI and other project
16 handouts are located at the table in the hallway outside.
17 We also have a speaker's list outside in the hallway. And
18 if you haven't had a chance to sign up to speak, I'll ask
19 for additional comments afterwards.

20 In addition to the verbal comments that will be
21 provided tonight, we will also accept the written comments,
22 as well. If you have comments, but do not wish to speak,
23 you can provide them to us, either if they're on paper or on
24 the comment form that you get from the table. You can drop
25 them off with us or mail them in at a later date. Just

1 please include Docket Number PF14-14 in your comments.

2 So together with the comments we receive verbally
3 tonight and also in writing they will all be on our eLibrary
4 system and become the official Record for the Proceeding.
5 We'll take all the comments that address environmental
6 issues and utilizing all available information and
7 expertise, factor them into our independent analysis of the
8 project's potential impacts.

9 We'll publish those findings in the draft EIS,
10 which will then be distributed for a minimum 45-day public
11 comment period. Additional comment meetings other than
12 tonight's meeting will be announced and we'll invite
13 everyone in the public to participate in those meetings, as
14 well.

15 At the end of the draft EIS comment period, FERC
16 staff will prepare a final EIS that specifically addresses
17 each comment received on the draft EIS and includes all
18 necessary changes, additions, and modifications to
19 conclusions reached in the draft EIS. The final EIS will be
20 considered by the Commission in its determination of whether
21 to authorize the project, and if so, under what conditions.

22 Again, our mailing list is over 16,000
23 stakeholders. If you received a copy of the NOI in the
24 mail, you're already on our mailing list to receive a copy
25 of our draft EIS. There is a return mailer on the back of

1 the NOI where you can change your address by correcting it
2 or remove your name from the mailing list altogether. You
3 can also do that at the table in the hallway. And just know
4 a copy of the EIS that you'll receive in the mail will be a
5 CD-ROM electronic copy.

6 We've asked a representative from Rover to come
7 and present a brief summary of their project and here --
8 spoken comments.

9 BUFFY THOMASON

10 BUFFY THOMASON: Good evening. Good evening. My
11 name is Buffy Thomason and I am the Environmental Manager
12 for the Rover project. I'd like to thank FERC for allowing
13 me to speak to you tonight, and I'd also like to thank all
14 the landowners and the other members of the community here
15 with us tonight, many of whom have worked with our team on
16 surveys and have asked us to give presentation on the
17 project and called the landowner toll free number that we
18 have asked questions and give us information.

19 Our intent is to live up to our promises of
20 openness, respect, and integrity during every step of the
21 process -- from permitting construction through long-term
22 operations.

23 I've three objectives that I'd like to achieve
24 here in the next few minutes. The first is to provide an
25 overview of the project -- what it is, its purpose, and the

1 economic impacts, and the economic impacts it is projected
2 to have regionally and nationally. Second, is to explain
3 what you can expect from the Rover project team and our
4 commitment to the community. And third, to give you a sense
5 of the project timeline.

6 First, let's talk about the project. In a filing
7 with FERC in July requesting FERC to approve our development
8 of the project utilizing the pre-filing process, we proposed
9 the Rover Pipeline -- It's a new interstate pipeline system
10 to transport domestically-produced natural gas from the
11 Marcellus and Utica Shale formations in Pennsylvania, West
12 Virginia and Ohio to markets in the U.S. and Canada.

13 The Rover Pipeline is being designed to transport
14 3.25 billion cubic feet of natural gas per day through
15 approximately 830 miles of 24, 30, 36 and 42 inch pipeline.
16 Rover is also proposing to build compressor and metering
17 stations along its route in Ohio, West Virginia and
18 Pennsylvania. The Rover Pipeline has plans for four
19 mainline compressor stations and six lateral compressor
20 stations.

21 In our filing, we proposed that nearly all -- 80%
22 of the pipeline run under agricultural land and parallel
23 existing pipelines, power lines or roads.

24 The project is an approximate \$4.3 billion dollar
25 investment directly impacting the local, regional and

1 national labor force by creating approximately 10,000
2 temporary construction jobs.

3 Rover Pipeline has committed to utilize union
4 labor resources exclusively to construct the pipeline based
5 on large presence of available resources in the region and
6 the union's high quality craftsmanship and past performance
7 for safety, reliability and quality performance.

8 Rover Pipeline will also contribute nearly one
9 billion in direct spending for materials of which the
10 majority will be purchased here in the United States. 76%
11 of the pipe will be manufactured in the United States, along
12 with all compression assembly and packaging, creating a boon
13 for regional manufacturing. There will also be increased
14 demand for those who manufacture the steel pipes, fittings,
15 valves, pumps and control devices necessary for a major
16 pipeline.

17 The Rover project expects to make direct payments
18 of up to a \$100 million dollars to landowners for property
19 in the next two years.

20 In addition, Rover Pipeline will make payments
21 annually to federal, state and local entities crossed by the
22 pipeline. Tax revenue paid by the project is estimated to
23 be 153 million annually.

24 For instance --

25 UNIDENTIFIED PERSON: Can you speak up, we can't

1 hear you.

2 UNIDENTIFIED PERSON: Get closer to the mic.

3 BUFFY THOMASON: Is that better? Okay. Sorry.

4 Okay. For instance, I was talking about the financial
5 benefit of the project. For instance, for Wetzel County, we
6 were proposing 2 miles of pipeline. We expect to pay
7 \$132,000.00 in ad valorem taxes every year. And for the 22
8 miles we're proposing in Tyler County, it'll be
9 \$1,575,000.00 a year.

10 I'd like to make three points on the project's
11 purpose and need. The Rover Pipeline will provide a
12 reliable long-term supply of clean natural gas from abundant
13 fields in the Marcellus and Utica shale formations. It'll
14 be the first major new interstate of its kind originating
15 from this area and then transporting gas to the west to
16 Canada.

17 Both Ohio and Michigan are net importers of gas
18 to meet their supply, their supply needs for businesses,
19 manufacturers, and residential consumers. Although Ohio is
20 rapidly increasing its production to supply itself as well
21 as the rest of the county.

22 78% of the gas moved through the Rover Pipeline
23 will be used by customers on the U.S. segments of the
24 pipeline, including multiple interconnects with third-party
25 pipelines in Defiance, Ohio and multiple take-off points in

1 Michigan that'll interconnect to local distribution systems
2 to serve customers throughout the state.

3 What's not consumed in the U.S. will then be
4 transported to the Union Gas Hub in Canada where it'll be
5 traded on the open market, and it'll either be sent back
6 into Michigan into, or into the Northeast markets such as
7 New York or New Jersey, or used by customers in Canada.

8 Right now there aren't enough pipelines to move
9 gas from production regions to market. Natural gas
10 production is forecast to increase by 44% by 2040, but not
11 from traditional supply areas. For example, historic
12 supplies from the Gulf of Mexico are down 46% in the last 4
13 years. This has left existing pipelines underutilized and
14 in some instances empty. The new gas that will replace the
15 historic supplies is mostly gonna originate from the
16 Marcellus and Utica, where pipelines such as Rover will
17 carry this abundant new supply to market.

18 Recently we announced that the Rover Pipeline is
19 fully subscribed demonstrates significant demand. This mean
20 we have received significant interest in long-term use of
21 the Rover line with multiple 15 to 20 year contracts to
22 transport gas. The Rover Pipeline will provide access to
23 much needed new source of natural gas in the United States
24 continuing to reduce our reliance upon foreign energy
25 sources.

1 Now let's talk about what you can expect from the
2 Rover project. First is our construction and safety
3 commitment.

4 Rover Pipeline will meet or exceed all required
5 safety systems and be constructed and operated in accordance
6 with all applicable state and federal standards.

7 Construction will include a visual and a non-
8 destructive X-ray inspection of every weld that joins
9 sections of pipe together.

10 The pipe will be tested with water under higher-
11 than-normal conditions and regulation devices will be
12 installed to prevent pressure and receive -- to prevent
13 pressure from exceeding safe limits.

14 Rover Pipeline will have automated valves
15 installed to shut off the flow of gas in case of emergency.

16 The pipeline will receive regular integrity
17 testing and will be monitored 24/7 365 days a year by full
18 time gas control and operating and maintenance staff.

19 As a company, it's Rover Pipeline's expectation
20 that our efforts to minimize disruptions and leave no long-
21 term footprint. As an operating principle, we will work
22 with individual landowners to make accommodations and to
23 achieve full restoration.

24 Civil, environmental and cultural resource
25 surveys are close to complete to determine final route

1 alignment. Plans are underway to assist in routing,
2 mitigation and reclamation planning for unique land forms.

3 Pipeline coverage or depth for agricultural lands
4 will be 4 feet or more, in non-agricultural lands it'll be 3
5 feet or more, and under roads, streams, ditches and
6 waterbodies, it'll be at least 5 feet.

7 To date, Rover Pipeline has attempted to notify
8 all landowners in writing on three different occasions and
9 in some circumstances even more verbally or by visiting the
10 landowner's home to solicit survey permission. Granting
11 survey permission does not give up any rights of the
12 landowner. It does not commit the landowner to anything,
13 and overall it facilitates the routing of the pipeline to
14 avoid landowner concerns.

15 It's Rover preference to reach a mutual,
16 contractual agreement with impacted landowners to obtain
17 easements. Easement along the dual pipeline route will
18 require 60 feet and along the single pipeline routes will
19 require 50 feet of permanent easement and Temporary
20 Construction Work space of 25 to 100 feet of additional
21 space depending on site-specific conditions.

22 We will work to develop easement agreements that
23 meet landowners' individual needs. We know that your land
24 is a valuable natural resource, and the care which we treat
25 land and topsoil is our utmost priority.

1 Now, lastly let's talk about the project
2 timeline. Following the FERC public scoping meetings, we
3 anticipate filing a FERC Certificate Application in January
4 2015 that'll undergo public input and comment.

5 We intend to work closely with FERC to provide
6 any additional data or information, and are hopeful that
7 FERC will issue its certificate and then construction
8 authorization in the first quarter of 2016.

9 We would expect that a portion of the pipeline
10 would be operational in December 2016 and remainder of
11 operation by June 2017.

12 In conclusion, again, it's our intent to live up
13 to our promises of openness, respect, and integrity during
14 every step of this process, from permitting, construction
15 through long-term operation.

16 Please make note of our project toll-free number
17 for landowner questions which 888-844-3718, and it's printed
18 on almost all of our items that are -- publications that we
19 have here.

20 Thank you again for letting me -- FERC and thank
21 you for your attendance.

22 KARA HARRIS: Thank you, Buffy. Rover
23 representatives will be available after the meeting to
24 answer any questions, and they'll still have their maps
25 available if you have any questions after the fact.

1 So we're now going to move to the part of the
2 meeting where we'll hear directly from you, the audience.

3 As I mentioned before, if you would rather not
4 speak, feel free to hand in written comments using our
5 comments forms that are at the table in the hallway or your
6 own paper. You can give those to us tonight or mail them in
7 at a later date. They will be equally considered by FERC
8 with verbal and written.

9 Again, this meeting is being recorded by a
10 transcription service, so please make sure you speak
11 directly into the microphone.

12 When you hear your name, if you would spell it,
13 if mis-spelled is likely, and for the courtesy of the
14 speakers, if you would silence or turn off your cell phones
15 so that there's no distractions.

16 We are ready for Jennifer to call our first
17 speaker.

18 JENNIFER WARD: David Beverage.

19 DAVID BEVERAGE

20 DAVID BEVERAGE: Well, I'm certainly not a public
21 speaker and had no idea I was gonna speak when I walked in
22 here. But I have some concerns and complaints about the way
23 it is myself as a landowner has been treated in this
24 process.

25 Just when it started, I'm got to thinking now

1 about the first meeting and I was told, okay, we're gonna
2 notify you, we're gonna work with you, we're gonna put the
3 pipeline where it least impacts you, none of that's
4 happened.

5 The pipeline is affecting a, the oldest tree in
6 the area, so it's probably 100, 150 years old -- within the
7 drip line of the tree. I was wanting it to come down a
8 certain area of the nice meadow and it's not there. I have
9 no reasons for that. But I was supposed to get 24 hour
10 notice before surveyors showed up and they said they'd walk
11 with me and we did discuss where to put it. Well, I caught
12 them on my neighbor's lands one day, asked who they are,
13 and, well, we're surveying for Rover. I said, well, when
14 you gonna do my land? Oh, it's already done. So I called
15 the phone and they said, well, we're take care of it, we're
16 sorry it happened.

17 The only response I get is the, well, it's too
18 late, the path is set, we can't affect it now, we'll see
19 what we can do, but it's too late.

20 Other issues I've been asking for months because
21 I didn't know what are we gonna get paid for this out of
22 this major, major destruction, taking of our land, whether
23 we want it to happen or not, 'cause we just get sued and
24 condemned if we don't agree. And, well, we don't know,
25 we'll let you know some time.

1 And that's the way, at least this landowner is
2 being treated. I don't know how the others experience these
3 things. Thank you.

4 KARA HARRIS: Thank you. So if you would just go
5 over talk with them after the meeting.

6 JENNIFER WARD: Eric Wright.

7 ERIC WRIGHT

8 ERIC WRIGHT: Hello. My name is Eric Wright and
9 I represent the Operating Engineers Union. I think the
10 scope of the meeting today is to support the Rover Pipeline
11 project and the benefit it will bring to the community.

12 For the community this pipeline is essential to
13 daily life as other basic infrastructure like power lines,
14 sewers and roads. The first and largest direct connection
15 for our states are the massive shale gas reserve in the
16 Marcellus and Utica region.

17 The pipeline was to provide clean natural gas a
18 priority a company to heat homes. That means lower
19 electricity and heating bills, greater opportunity for
20 manufacturing for energy intensive industry and a valuable
21 raw commodity used in the construction of plastics, cars and
22 other products.

23 The Rover Pipeline project is important to me
24 personally because of the benefits it will provide to the
25 construction industry. This project will be built with

1 local workers creating 10,000 immediate area construction
2 jobs and provide 4.3 billion of investment into the economy.

3 The decision to use local labor workers is also
4 an important safety consideration as for the pipeline.
5 Committed to steel trade construction to ensure the work is
6 done the right way. The steel trade is responsible for
7 pipeline construction prides ourselves on making the most
8 advanced training. We demand and deliver a safe work
9 place. We are committed to operating with minimal
10 disruption or impact to landowners. And most importantly we
11 want this project done right for all the people that live
12 here.

13 I urge you to complete a fair and timely review
14 of the Rover for us. Thank you.

15 KARA HARRIS: Thank you.

16 JENNIFER WARD: George Ferrell.

17 GEORGE FERRELL

18 GEORGE FERRELL: Evening. My name is George
19 Ferrell, I'm a business manager for the international
20 brotherhood of electrical workers Local Union 972 in Reno --
21 there.

22 I represent approximately 230 well-trained
23 electricians in seven counties and Southeastern, Ohio. I'm
24 here this afternoon as some of my other union brothers from
25 Local 141 in Wheeling, West Virginia and up here to talk

1 about the impact that this project has for us.

2 Well, our members work and live and raise their
3 family in this community and it's important to us that this
4 project be done right. We want to show our support and see
5 this thing done and done right with skill trades.

6 In and around the area. On my left is 230
7 members of IBEW Local 972 to support the Rover Pipeline
8 project for the following reasons: The economic impact was
9 mentioned, will inject not only a 100 million paid to the
10 landowners, 109 million in sales tax and revenue during the
11 construction as mentioned. Once the project revenue for the
12 state taxes to help improve the infrastructure of the local
13 community which is also important to the environmental
14 impact on this area.

15 The Ariel compressors will be manufactured in
16 Mount Vernon, Ohio, creating additional jobs for the State
17 of Ohio and a lot of pipeline will be manufactured in the
18 United States.

19 Job creation is also very important to us. As
20 mentioned, as brother here mentioned from operating
21 engineers and we want to see, we'd like to see new jobs come
22 to this area.

23 And as far as environmental, I know you're here
24 to talk more about environmental issues. I just like to
25 echo what the brother from the operating engineers said, we

1 live in this community and we're very proud of this
2 Southeastern Ohio. We want to see these jobs be done right
3 and with minimal impact to the environment -- I think this
4 company river pipeline there's a good plan to do so, so I
5 hope that you'll approve the project and everything taken
6 care of. Thank you.

7 KARA HARRIS: Thank you.

8 JENNIFER WARD: Mark Wilson.

9 MARK WILSON

10 MARK WILSON: Good evening. Good evening. My
11 name is Mark Wilson and I'm the President of Land Stewarts.
12 Land Stewarts is a multi-disciplinary consulting group that
13 works with landowners to help ensure the long-term
14 productivity of the land.

15 Our skill sets of our team members include a
16 variety of soil scientists, agricultural engineers, pasture
17 management specialists, private tourist foresters, and most
18 importantly local land improvement contractors who are
19 familiar with conservation practices and how best to ensure
20 that productivity of the land.

21 Our team is familiar with the natural resources
22 of this area, and we're experienced with working with
23 landowners and farmers in particular.

24 The Rover Pipeline has retained Land Stewarts in
25 an effort that will work towards minimizing the impact of

1 the pipeline construction to the adjacent land use sources.

2 Our function will be to serve much like and
3 ombudsman and in many ways you'll be functioning as an
4 advocate for the landowner.

5 Our mission is simple and that is we're to do
6 what's right for the land and care for the land during,
7 before, during and after this pipeline construction.

8 With the help of the landowners in this area and
9 with good open honest communication we will be able to help
10 ensure the long-term productivity of the land. Thank you.

11 KARA HARRIS: Thank you.

12 JENNIFER WARD: Jerry Ryan.

13 JERRY RYAN

14 JERRY RYAN: My name is Jerry Ryan, R-y-a-n. I
15 represent Pipeline Welders Union Local 798, Tulsa, Oklahoma.
16 2725 steel welders, 610 journeymen, 3350 welder helpers.

17 The Rover Pipeline project when completed will
18 help bring America closer to energy independence from
19 foreign countries, and it will put you on the surface scene
20 to be our allies, but often support and allow terrorist
21 groups to train in their countries.

22 The Rover Pipeline project will help provide
23 energy we can rely on. Whether the sun shines or the wind
24 blows natural gas generates electricity, runs our
25 manufacturing plants, provides raw materials for our grains

1 and products, heats and cools our homes, and fuels
2 transportation.

3 The Rover Pipeline project will not only boost
4 the local economies during construction, but for years to
5 come when using a best value or union contractors.

6 Pipeliners Local 798 paid \$168,879,528.00 in
7 pension and health care benefits back to its members 2013,
8 many who live in these northeast states helping to ensure a
9 work force in your community that is not a burden on local
10 health care providers.

11 With that I would like to close and thank
12 everyone for the opportunity to speak.

13 KARA HARRIS: Thank you.

14 JENNIFER WARD: Corky Demarco.

15 CORKY DEMARCO

16 CORKY DEMARCO: Good evening. My name is Corky
17 Demarco and I'm the Executive Director of West Virginia Oil
18 & Natural Gas Association, the oldest trade association in
19 West Virginia.

20 And I'd like to express my gratitude for you in
21 holding the hearing tonight. At West Virginia Oil & Natural
22 Gas Association we believe it's incredibly important that
23 voices be heard about the pros and cons of this pipeline.

24 As a committee you no doubt aware of West
25 Virginia's long history, it's title and American energy

1 industry. In fact, George Washington surveyed the first gas
2 property in now West Virginia in 1771.

3 So we have a long and rich history providing
4 energy for this country. We've been an exporter of natural
5 gas since we've been producing natural gas, in fact
6 commercially in 1803.

7 The pipeline offers a myriad of benefits both
8 direct and indirect to our state, our region, and our
9 countries. Over 4 billion is direct to private invested
10 over 8000 well paying construction jobs. The influx of
11 workers will pay sales tax and bring money to our West
12 Virginia economy through everyday purchases.

13 The real benefit, however, is the increased
14 capacity of our natural gas can be sold on the market and
15 other places. If we do not have an outlet for our natural
16 gas, what good is it gonna do us. What good is it gonna do
17 to sit under the Appalachia Mountains the oldest, second
18 oldest mountain range of the world if we can't have benefit
19 from these resources?

20 As you all well know we've been buying energy
21 from people who don't like us, and now is the opportunity to
22 work this region, this country to bring back jobs, to grow
23 our economy for a way of life what I think is important not
24 only to West Virginia but to the entire nation.

25 It's no secret that our traditional energy

1 landscape is changing and these are being felt all over West
2 Virginia as well as elsewhere.

3 The Rover Pipeline offers West Virginia a clear
4 pathway to the next generation in energy production.

5 Simply put, if we are to remain viable and
6 competitive, a facet of America's energy ego system we
7 cannot afford to miss out on this opportunity. As our
8 energy land state changes and continues to evolve liquefied
9 natural gas which we used to import until we were able to
10 develop the Marcellus and Utica, we were buying liquefied
11 natural gas from people who did not like us.

12 So we urge the Commission not to stand in the way
13 of progress, but instead to encourage this tremendous and
14 vital infrastructure on -- Thank you for your time. Thank
15 you for coming to West Virginia and we appreciate you.

16 KARA HARRIS: Thank you.

17 JENNIFER WARD: Ronnie Hills.

18 RONNIE HILLS

19 RONNIE HILLS: My name is Ronnie Hills. Like to
20 thank ya'll for this opportunity to speak tonight. I'm a
21 member of the Pipeliners Local Union 798, 065 and Pipeline
22 Workers and we come here in support of the Rover Pipeline
23 project. Not only will this project create thousands of
24 construction jobs, going to bring a huge -- to the economy
25 in along the route of this pipeline.

1 Rover has already shown their intent to use union
2 labor and by using the most highly trained and skilled
3 pipeline workers in the world. That's shown that they
4 intend to build the best and safest pipeline that can be
5 built today.

6 I ask that you will approve this pipeline and
7 thank you for your time.

8 KARA HARRIS: Thank you.

9 JENNIFER WARD: Rob Richards.

10 ROB RICHARDS

11 ROB RICHARDS: Thank you for the opportunity to
12 appear before this body on behalf of the environment. And I
13 thank Local 1149, thank Local 1085 and half a million
14 skilled dedicated workers.

15 We're here today because trades America is energy
16 is critical for our city, for our county. We are advocates
17 for -- Pipeline for many of the same reasons, we're all in
18 favor -- On behalf of the Operators 798 the electricians.
19 Because this energy is for our nation, region and for our
20 country. We are advocates that we because energy extraction
21 -- technology particularly natural gas help produce
22 fundamental change -- .

23 We support this project because hundreds of
24 thousands of candidates including thousands of families in
25 our communities and across the country depends on energy.

1 These are not just jobs and this is not just a
2 pipeline. Construction energy and construction is a career
3 and we -- a lot of work an opportunity for advancements is a
4 life line to the middle class.

5 We believe this project will provide the tens of
6 thousands of working men and women who already rely on a
7 steady affordable supply of fuel for transportation for
8 their home. We are advocates for a safe network of pipeline
9 to lower your risk of transfer, transporting fuels by other
10 means. Many of our members live approximately to realize
11 and believe that pipelines reduce the risk of unions moving
12 fuel by trains. Pipelines contributes to public safety. In
13 fact according to recent special reports, pipelines are
14 seven times safer than other means.

15 Because we have the experience, the skills, and
16 dedication to make sure energy work is done safely and
17 protect communities and workers we can help this energy
18 research. By members safely built pipeline since 1949. Our
19 organization is the best more than 100 million a year on
20 safety training skills training. We have 164 hours of
21 training -- . I think you guy would want to listen to us
22 and pass this process on. Thank you.

23 KARA HARRIS: Thank you. We do not have anyone
24 else signed up to speak. Would anyone like the opportunity
25 to speak? Please state your name for the record and spell it

1 if needed.

2 DUANE NICHOLS

3 DUANE NICHOLS: Thank you. My name is Duane
4 Nichols and that's spelled D-u-a-n-e. Nichols, N-i-c-h-o-l-
5 s. I'm a graduate of Paden City High School, West Virginia
6 University University of Delaware. I'm a retired chemical
7 engineer, and I'd like to speak just briefly.

8 Eminent Domain is a concept event that can be
9 essential if necessary, but at the same time it can be
10 extremely unfair to those who own land.

11 I'm a landowner in two different counties. I
12 have a farm in Alama which is Tyler County not far from the
13 line. But the important thing is that eminent domain as I
14 think the Commission can now recognize should only be used
15 when necessary, otherwise it's an insult to the landowner.

16 The vested interest that others have in the
17 pipeline might be justified if it's in fact is necessary,
18 but when you do an Environmental Impact Statement you have
19 to consider I believe the alternatives. How could the
20 objective be satisfied with a alternative approaches? And
21 one alternative approach is not to build because already our
22 atmosphere is above 400 parts per million carbon dioxide.
23 Everything that we do in terms of producing gas, pumping to
24 transmit it and using it at the other end will continue to
25 increase, contribute to the increased carbon dioxide.

1 But another alternative that I think is important
2 to think about, to consider in the statement, is if we were
3 to use the gas to make electricity here in this region where
4 we're producing the gas, then we could use the high
5 efficient turbans that General Electric is making. If high
6 efficiency production to electricity and transmit it by
7 transmission lines to wherever that energy is needed. The
8 advantage there is it avoids many of these environmental
9 impacts of digging up the land.

10 And just today it was announced that Dominion
11 Resources has reached a settlement with the State of West
12 Virginia for violations of the environment. They're paying
13 a \$55,000 fine primarily for slippage and other impacts for
14 a gas transmission.

15 Now, with regard to compressor stations. I have
16 visited a number of them and talked to the residents that
17 live near us, and every one of them tell me of the
18 disturbance it is to their life. The noise of the
19 compressor station is not squelched by the walls of the
20 building.

21 And in many cases with a transmission compressor
22 is constructed and then additional capacity is added. More
23 horsepower is put in and the noise is amplified.

24 The line here not only is going to Tyler but also
25 Doddridge County. Many of us know Doddridge County is one

1 of the most impacted counties in all United States because
2 of drilling and cracking, and so it's become an issue for
3 roads, for the school children and their school busses, it's
4 become an issue with using up the water out of the mill line
5 and creek water shed, it's become an issue with regards to
6 air pollution. This line is going to tying in at the
7 Sherwood Plant over in Doddridge County which has already
8 involved the destruction of the hills and the valley.
9 There's the problem over there with what we call the flood
10 plain that hasn't been considered.

11 And when we look at the stream crossings and the
12 steep slopes that are involved with pipeline construction we
13 see tremendous slippage sedimentation. It erode that
14 involves, it's nearly impossible to correct that.

15 I believe that's, ah -- The only further comment
16 I have is that, our country does not have a long range
17 energy policy. And in the absents of that policy the FERC
18 is afforded, they're not able to understand how a project
19 like this and not other's gas projects now underway can
20 throttle into our long-term future.

21 Should we utilize this gas now or should we be
22 saving some of it for future generations? Many of those
23 questions should be on the mind of regulatory agencies, and
24 in the absents of guidance from the other federal agencies.

25 Now I believe FERC should not just ignore the

1 question, but rather should take into account that if we had
2 a long range energy policy that it would have some influence
3 on the decision here. Thank you.

4 KARA HARRIS: Thank you. Would anyone else like
5 to speak? Please state your name?

6 ED HILL

7 ED HILL: Ed Hill and I'm a representative of the
8 International Brotherhood of Electric Workers IBEW. I'm
9 with the international office. I think -- and I'd like to
10 offer my support of this project, the Rover Pipeline
11 project.

12 A lot has been said with regard to the economic
13 impacts this project will have on the local communities in
14 and around it. I think most people are aware that it would
15 be highly beneficial if this project go through on those
16 merits alone. Energy security, national interests, jobs,
17 taxes, investment infrastructure, all these things are very,
18 very important. And as I understand your interest lies on
19 the safety of such a project worth seven -- means.

20 I think a lot has also been documented with
21 regard to Rover's intent to complete this project state-of-
22 the-art standards, the highest quality components as most of
23 them produce in and around the area and in the United States
24 and utilizes the most highly skilled and trained craftsmen
25 and crafts women to install the project.

1 They'll also utilize the highest and newest
2 technologies to maintain operate a pipeline once it's
3 installed. I think that that intent and the progress shown
4 by Rover thus far to make sure that the thing is done the
5 way it should be done. It should go all the way -- approval
6 on this permit. I'd like to again offer my support of the
7 project. Thank you.

8 KARA HARRIS: Thank you. Would anyone else like
9 to speak? Please state your name.

10 ALFRED TUTTLE

11 ALFRED TUTTLE: My name is Alfred Tuttle, T-u-t-
12 t-l-e I'm a resident of Tyler County. My comments don't
13 necessarily address the Rover project particularly, but I
14 think it's important as it relates to pipelines that are
15 coming into this area.

16 Many pipeline companies are buying to use the
17 same areas to push their pipes through, and in some cases
18 some landowners are facing two or even three pipeline
19 companies wanting across their lands, and I would ask that
20 FERC consider common right of ways for these pipelines so
21 that you don't end up with Sherman's march to the sea
22 through our forest lands. We end up having multiple
23 pipelines running down the same valley and over the same
24 hills. That it be very beneficial if the pipeline companies
25 could see it, the benefit of the people on the environment

1 to use common right of ways instead of trying to go every
2 which way and run over top of some of the people.

3 I would also like to share that the Rover
4 Pipeline discuss the nature way that they deal with the
5 landowners, and I don't know whether it's in particular with
6 Rover, but many of the other companies and the gas companies
7 included seem to be the 800 pound -- when it comes to the
8 community.

9 They do not seem to respect the community rights
10 and hold the idea of eminent domain over top of people; that
11 if you do not agree with us, then we will use eminent domain
12 to push this through and we'll get what we want at our price
13 regardless of any objections you might have with where you
14 might like it to go across your land. They have arrogance.
15 Irritates and angers a lot of people. Thank you.

16 KARA HARRIS: Thank you. I saw another hand.

17 MARSHA WELLS

18 MARCIA WELLS: Hello. My name is Marsha Wells,
19 M-a-r-s-h-a, W-e-l-l-s. It was my understanding that this
20 meeting was on the environmental impacts, and I understand
21 about the jobs and the patriotic aspect of using our own
22 gas. I understand that and that's all well and good, but as
23 a landowner I'm concerned about what the previous speaker
24 spoke about eminent domain, and the first speaker who spoke
25 this evening spoke about finding surveyors on the land

1 without anyone contacting landowner previously which was the
2 same experience that we had. I just would like to know what
3 will happen later on down the road if everything doesn't go
4 as rosy as, as the picture is being painted. What recourse
5 do the landowners have later on if things don't go well.

6 Thank you.

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

9 ARLEN WELLS

10 ARLEN WELLS: My name is Arlen Wells and I'm
11 Marsha's husband and my name is spelled A-r-l-e-n W-e-l-l-s.
12 And I come up here for one reason to address the
13 environmental issues, and I'm all concerned about people
14 going to work and everything, but I do not understand what
15 all these unions have to do with the people that are gonna
16 live here and be here when this is all over.

17 These people are here for jobs. I'm here for
18 life. My family has been here since the Revolutionary War.
19 We're going nowhere. And the things that they are proposing
20 I'm all for. I'm all for a great American society, but they
21 have to understand that this is our home, and we want it
22 protected at all costs.

23 They've been numerous accidents in Doddridge
24 County. We've had pipeline explosions in West Virginia, and
25 most of this work was done by union men.

1 And I don't know what these people to be out of
2 work anymore than anybody else, but this is my home and I
3 want my environment protected above everything else. I will
4 be here when they're gone, and I want my home protected.

5 I've had a run in with Rover from the beginning.
6 They came on my property without notification whatsoever and
7 put their survey stakes in the ground. They've disrespected
8 me, they've disrespected my family by disrespecting me, and
9 they got set me and my wife to no end. I want respected and
10 I want listening to about this pipeline, 'cause it's going
11 through my home, not somebody from Oklahoma's home, somebody
12 from West Virginia, it's going through my home, and I want
13 to be listened to in the future as this pipeline proceeds.

14 I'm not opposed to the pipeline, I just want it
15 done right for once. That's all I have to say.

16 KARA HARRIS: Thank you. So if you would all can
17 talk us after the meeting as well, I would appreciate it.
18 There's another hand.

19 DOUG

20 DOUG: I'm Doug 141 Wheeling West, Virginia. I'm
21 the president of Local 141. I've worked in my trade for
22 almost 21 years. During the past 21 years I've seen several
23 plants that I've earned a living and closed their gates and
24 doors. To me such as format their chemical will -- many
25 others.

1 I've watched my closest friends move away. I've
2 also watched my sister move to Kentucky for a better job and
3 a better way to support her family. I've stayed in the
4 valley because I believe there's a good place to raise a
5 family.

6 We at the IBW have supported local construction
7 in the area. Now it's -- to turn local gas into power right
8 here in the area. We at local golden trades have stood
9 together to hire local workers. Some of them deeply
10 entangled in society. Your local fireman, your local
11 baseball coaches and your local leaders in the community.

12 All we ask, we'd like to come do the work
13 involved in this area --

14 KARA HARRIS: Would you speak to us?

15 TOM GRAY: Yeah. We'd like to do the work in our
16 own area. We hire people from within our own area training.
17 A lot of steel people in the area and they do just about
18 everything they can -- products skill. That's why I'd like
19 to see this go through. I mean this is a highway for the
20 energy we have here and we just like to support it.

21 KARA HARRIS: Thank you. Would anyone else like
22 to speak? I'll briefly mention the FERC website. It's
23 www.FERC.gov. We have copies of that out in the hallway.
24 If you type in the docket number you can access it to e-
25 Library. That Docket Number PF14-14. You can gain access

1 to everything on the record that concerns this project, as
2 well as all the filings and information submitted by Rover.
3 A link called e-Subscription is also available for you to
4 sign up using an email address to receive emails each time a
5 document is filed in Docket Number PF14-14.

6 On behalf of the Federal Energy Regulatory
7 Commission, I want to thank you for coming tonight. This
8 meeting is adjourned.

9 (Whereupon at 7:00 p.m. the meeting adjourned)

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