

1 WILSON - MARCH 10, 2015 -- 7:02 p.m.

2 MR. KEVIN BOWMAN: Can you guys all
3 hear me okay there in the back?

4 Okay. Great. Thank you.

5 Good evening everyone. On behalf of
6 the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission or FERC,
7 I'd like to welcome you all here tonight for our
8 public scoping meeting for the Atlantic Coast
9 pipeline and Supply Header Projects.

10 Let the record show that the public
11 meeting in Wilson, North Carolina began at 7:02 P.M.

12 My name is Kevin Bowman and I am an
13 environmental scientist with the FERC's Office of
14 Energy Projects. Here representing FERC tonight at
15 the table with me tonight is Jeff Mackenthun, and
16 outside at the sign in table is Gertrude Johnson and
17 Zeke Rice.

18 So we're here tonight to provide some
19 information on the federal process as it relates to
20 these projects. And we're here to hear your
21 comments and concerns regarding these two proposals.
22 So fundamentally, the purpose of tonight's meeting
23 is to provide each of you with an opportunity to
24 give us your comments and tell us what additional
25 environmental issues you think we should address in

1 our analysis of the proposed projects.

2 We've already received numerous
3 comments concerning the projects, including
4 alternatives. And this is one of the areas that we
5 hope to hear from you all tonight. So we've
6 included affected landowners for each of these
7 alternatives on our mailing list for the Notice of
8 Intent, which we mailed out a few weeks ago
9 requesting comments and announced tonight's
10 meeting.

11 All of your comments will help us to
12 determine what to study as we prepare the
13 environmental impact statement or EIS. The FERC is
14 the lead federal agency responsible for the National
15 Environmental Policy Act review of the Atlantic
16 Coast Pipeline and Supply Header Projects and the
17 lead agency for the preparation of the EIS.

18 The National Environmental Policy Act
19 requires FERC to analyze the environmental impacts,
20 consider alternatives, and identify appropriate
21 mitigation measures where necessary on any proposal
22 before it decides whether to approve or deny that
23 project. Currently the United States Forest
24 Service, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service's Great
25 Dismal Swamp National Wildlife Refuge, the Army Corp

1 of Engineers, and the Bureau of Land Management are
2 currently cooperating with agencies in our review of
3 this project. Additional federal, state, and local
4 agencies are welcome to participate as full
5 cooperators with FERC in our review of this
6 project.

7 I do want to clarify that the projects
8 in front of us are not conceived by the FERC and
9 they're not promoted by the FERC or the cooperating
10 agencies. FERC reviews applications for the
11 authority to build and operate interstate natural
12 gas pipelines. And Atlantic Coast Pipeline, LLC,
13 and Dominion Transmission are in the process of
14 preparing applications to submit to FERC. Once
15 those applications are submitted our obligation is
16 to review those applications and prepare an analysis
17 of those environmental impacts.

18 Tonight's meeting is not going to be a
19 public hearing and we're not here to debate the
20 proposal or to make any determinations on its fate
21 tonight. We are here simply to listen to your
22 concerns so that we can consider them in our
23 analysis.

24 The pipeline proposals often encounter
25 objections. Some are general in nature and some

1 objections are based on potential environmental
2 impacts. Both categories are extremely important to
3 FERC, but they are addressed in different ways. The
4 general objections are considered during the
5 Commission's public convenience and necessity
6 review, whereas environmental concerns and safety
7 impacts are addressed by the FERC environmental
8 staff, which includes myself, in the environmental
9 impact statement.

10 So on February 26th, 2015, the FERC
11 issued a Notice of Intent to prepare an
12 environmental impact statement. It also announced
13 the locations of these meetings, identified how to
14 file comments and the deadlines for getting those
15 comments to us. So in the Notice we asked that you
16 submit comments to FERC by April 28th, 2015.

17 However, that -- the end of that
18 scoping period is not the end of public involvement
19 with FERC in these projects. Nor will it be the
20 only opportunity to give public input to FERC. We
21 will continue to accept comments after the deadline
22 and throughout the pre-filing process. But for us
23 to adequately address those comments, analyze them,
24 and research the issues, we do ask that you try to
25 get those comments to us during the deadline.

1 So the Atlantic Coast and Supply Header
2 Projects are currently in what I just mentioned as
3 our pre-filing process. That is, an application has
4 not yet been submitted to the FERC. We consider the
5 pre-filing process, amongst other things, to be an
6 extension of our scoping process. The scoping
7 process for FERC is a learning process. It is where
8 we educate ourselves about the project and the
9 potential issues and environmental impacts.

10 So during this scoping process we are
11 gathering information. The four general sources
12 that we use to gather information about the projects
13 are one, information provided by the applicant,
14 input from other federal, state, and local agencies,
15 our own field work and research of different issues,
16 and four, information submitted to us from the
17 public.

18 Now, once we gather information
19 developed during the scoping process and the
20 application is formally filed by the applicant we
21 will analyze it and prepare a Draft Environmental
22 Impact Statement, and we will distribute that Draft
23 Environmental Impact Statement for public comment.
24 So this Draft EIS, Draft Environmental Statement,
25 will include an examination of the proposed facility

1 locations, as well as alternative sites. We will
2 assess the projects' effects on the waterbodies, the
3 wetlands, vegetation and wildlife, endangered
4 species, cultural resources, land use, air quality,
5 and safety. We will mail the EIS to our mailing
6 list, so if you didn't receive our notice in the
7 mail make sure you do give us your name and address
8 and we'll make sure that we get the Draft
9 Environmental Impact Statement to you. Also do note
10 that the size of the Environmental Impact Statement
11 can be lengthy so we tend to send out CDs. So if
12 you would like a hard copy please indicate that to
13 us so we can mail you one.

14 Now, after the Draft Environmental
15 Impact Statement is mailed out there will be another
16 public comment period for you to send us comments on
17 the Draft EIS. During that period we will probably
18 hold another scoping, or another comment meeting
19 similar in format to this one, maybe at this same
20 location if it's available, and ask you to provide
21 feedback to us on the information that's provided in
22 the Draft EIS.

23 At the end of that public comment
24 period for the Draft EIS we will begin organizing
25 all the information gathered to date on the projects

1 and prepare a final Environmental Impact Statement
2 addressing all the comments that we've received.
3 Once we have issued a Final Environmental Impact
4 Statement it is forwarded to the Commissioners at
5 the FERC for their consideration.

6 Now, the EIS is not the decision making
7 document. It's merely our analysis of the potential
8 impacts of the project and the project alternatives.
9 The five commissioners at the FERC, the Federal
10 Energy Regulatory Commission, i.e., the
11 Commissioners will use that document, as well as
12 other information to make a determination on whether
13 or not to approve the projects.

14 Now, these Commissioners are appointed
15 by the president and they're confirmed by Congress.
16 Additional information about the Commissioners can
17 be found on our website at ferc.gov.

18 On December 12th, 2014, Atlantic Coast
19 Pipeline and Dominion filed preliminary information
20 with the FERC about their projects. According to
21 those preliminary filings, Atlantic Coast Pipeline
22 and Dominion are proposing two jointly related
23 projects to deliver 1 point 5 billion cubic feet of
24 natural gas per day to markets in West Virginia,
25 Virginia, and North Carolina. The Atlantic Coast

1 Pipeline facilities would consist of about 554 miles
2 of pipeline ranging between 16 and 42 inches in
3 diameter from Harrison County, West Virginia, to
4 Robeson County, North Carolina. The project would
5 also have smaller diameter pipeline laterals
6 extending from the main line, which would terminate
7 in Chesapeake and Brunswick Counties, Virginia. It
8 would also include three new compressor stations in
9 Lewis County, West Virginia; Buckingham County,
10 Virginia; and Northampton County, North Carolina.

11 The Supply Header Project would involve
12 the construction of 39 miles of 30 and 36 inch
13 diameter pipeline in Pennsylvania and West Virginia.
14 In addition to those facilities Dominion would seek
15 to modify four existing compressor stations in
16 Pennsylvania and Virginia. So with that, just a few
17 things before we start taking speakers. Please note
18 that this meeting is going to be recorded by a
19 transcription service. All of your comments will be
20 transcribed and placed into the public record.

21 For the benefit of all attendants and
22 the accuracy of the transcript, when your name is
23 called please come up and step up to the podium,
24 clearly state your name and any affiliation that you
25 have, and speak directly into the microphone so you

1 can be accurately recorded. In addition to the
2 verbal comments provided tonight, we will also
3 accept your written comments. If you didn't wish to
4 speak tonight you can grab a comment form from us
5 outside at the table. You can drop those off with
6 us tonight or you can mail them into FERC at a later
7 date.

8 So I currently have 16 people signed up
9 to speak, so we have some time to hear from everyone
10 here tonight. I will suggest trying to keep your
11 comments under ten minutes and I think with that
12 we'll be able to accommodate everyone that signed up
13 tonight.

14 Because we're here to hear your
15 comments please do respect the speaker who's at the
16 podium whether you agree with them or not. So with
17 that the first speaker tonight is Betsy Hester.

18 MS. BETSY HESTER: Thank you. My name
19 is Betsy Hester. I'm a 40-year resident of Nash
20 County. I teach in public schools. My children
21 were born and raised here. My oldest child's ashes
22 are scattered on the land that runs adjacent to
23 the proposed pipeline pathway. My husband's law
24 practice is in Nash County. He was raised in
25 Wilson County. Our lives are literally tied to this

1 land.

2 The representatives who spoke to us
3 several weeks ago assured us that this was a safe,
4 responsible industry that would bring prosperity to
5 our community. I must yield to the coal ash spills.
6 The spokesperson from Duke assured us they are good
7 stewards of the environment. When faced with
8 questions about liability and safety and
9 environmental concerns their responses were
10 consistently, we can't answer that. We'll have to
11 turn that over to our team of lawyers.

12 Well, I have some statistics that will
13 address some of those concerns. And these are just
14 from 2012.

15 In 2012 alone there were 85 pipeline
16 explosions and leaks; 38 of those were considered
17 significant. In order to be considered significant
18 they must exceed \$50,000 damage and involve injury
19 or loss of life. I have to wonder how many of those
20 fell just under the radar so that we never find out
21 about them. The total estimated damage from 2012
22 from the explosions and leaks, 44 million dollars.

23 There are currently 321,000 miles of
24 pipeline, both on shore and offshore, for the sole
25 purpose of transmitting natural gas. There are only

1 137 inspectors total. How can this be a safe
2 industry? Since January 12 -- in January there were
3 five significant explosions and leaks. One was the
4 very night of the meeting that we had at Nash
5 Community College, where we were assured of the
6 safety of this industry. After all they self-
7 regulate, and we know how that goes.

8 Environmentally this pipeline is for
9 the sole purpose of transmitting shale gas from the
10 practice of fracking. Significant concerns have
11 surfaced all over the United States, and, in fact,
12 all over the world about the safety or lack thereof
13 of this mining practice. This industry is short-
14 lived and unsustainable. It leaves tremendous
15 environment footprints, and we are only beginning to
16 understand just how truly dangerous this practice
17 is.

18 North Carolina has some of the most
19 beautiful landscape and waterways on the East Coast.
20 We do not need or want this industry. It
21 compromises our safety, our ability to attract real
22 sustainable industry, our wetlands, our coastline,
23 our health, and our tourism. It's driven by one
24 thing and one thing only, and that is profit for the
25 shareholders in Duke Power, Dominion, and the other

1 entities attempting to dupe us into believing that
2 this is a good thing for us, for our community, and
3 for our state.

4 Please, we ask you tonight to deny the
5 permits for this pipeline, and I thank you.

6 MR. BOWMAN: Thank you. The second
7 speaker is John Hinnant.

8 MR. JOHN HINNANT: My name is John
9 Hinnant. I have lived in North Carolina for 66
10 years. I was born in Durham, grew up in Tarboro,
11 taught school in Rocky Mount and Wilson for 31
12 years, eighth grade earth science. I attended East
13 Carolina University, got my master's in science
14 education. My specialization area was geology. I'm
15 also a shareholder of Duke Power and Dominion, which
16 used to be VEPCO, and Carolina Power and Light. But
17 I am totally opposed to this pipeline for the
18 following reasons.

19 The danger of the pipeline, it crosses
20 the watershed on many of the major rivers, which are
21 not huge by Mississippi standards, of North
22 Carolina. And that's the water supply for many of
23 our cities and towns through Eastern North Carolina.
24 That's where Wilson gets its water from. It's going
25 to cross right there. I don't quite understand why

1 they're putting the pipeline exactly where they are
2 because it's in the Piedmont rather than in the
3 Coastal Plains. In the Piedmont we have a whole lot
4 of granite. The folks from Sims know that. And in
5 the Coastal Plains we have unconsolidated sediment,
6 which is a lot easier to put a pipeline in. And why
7 not the 95 corridor or just off of the 95 corridor?
8 You've got easy access right there. You'd have less
9 of an eminent domain; tearing up farms; right in the
10 middle of farms, homes, businesses. So what I don't
11 quite understand is why they decided to put it where
12 it is.

13 An economic boom for Eastern North
14 Carolina? Yeah, there will be jobs for a year and
15 -- or less. And then where are the jobs? They're
16 going to import the jobs and they're going to export
17 the jobs and they're going to go back to where the
18 folks came from. The use of the farms, the homes,
19 the towns, the woodlands, that stuff, that's a real
20 concern to me, and to think about for the future.
21 Of course, the gas itself -- the fracked gas, most
22 of it will be exported to other countries apparently
23 or used for power. Duke Power will be buying a lot
24 of it for the generation of electricity. You've got
25 other ways to generate power now.

1 North Carolina is the third largest
2 generator of solar energy in this country. Why
3 don't we have some wind power? We have one of the
4 best areas off the coast to generate electricity
5 through wind power, but we have none being generated
6 in North Carolina. In the fracking industry they're
7 finding that the wells are -- there's a rapid drop
8 off, much faster than it was originally expected, in
9 the production of the natural gas. So 30 years,
10 that's pretty positive I guess. It may be a lot
11 less than that to sell it overseas. Again, it's not
12 for us to use exactly. It's going to be sold to
13 whoever's going to pay the money.

14 And I guess that's the main thing. I'm
15 just -- as a stockholder, I'm opposed to it. And as
16 a resident of Eastern Carolina -- lifelong resident,
17 I'm opposed to it. I think about the future. I've
18 got grand-kids, so I think about them as well.
19 Thank you.

20 MR. BOWMAN: Thank you. Speaker number
21 three is Vann Rogerson.

22 MR. VANN ROGERSON: I'm Vann Rogerson
23 with North Carolina's Northeast Alliance. I am a
24 professional industrial recruiter, have been for
25 over 20 years. I'm also a guy who grew up on a

1 farm. I still have a family farm. I would not have
2 a concern if this pipeline came through my personal
3 farm. It's five feet down, I can drive farm
4 machinery over it, I can graze over it, put posts,
5 do all the things for farming, so personally I would
6 not have an issue with it going over my farm. But
7 it is not going through my farm, so I will focus
8 more on the industrial recruiting aspect.

9 I have -- and for those -- for 12 years
10 I worked with the North Carolina Department of
11 Commerce in a regional office in Eastern North
12 Carolina. And I've also been working with the
13 regional economic development group. NC East
14 Alliance is -- recruits 26 counties east of 95 from
15 the Virginia line down to Onslow County. We do
16 everything from agribusiness to all the other
17 sectors that flourish in our area, food and food
18 processing and all those, small projects, even to
19 the largest of projects. I've personally worked on
20 Nucor Steel when it was located in the area, a very
21 large gas supplier. But as we try to recruit in a
22 very difficult rural Eastern North Carolina, we need
23 all the tools we can get in the toolbox. Natural
24 gas is one of those tools that we need -- we need to
25 supply that we can go after companies and try to

1 create jobs in our area.

2 So I support the pipeline and urge you
3 to support the pipeline. Thank you.

4 MR. BOWMAN: Speaker number four is Vic
5 Medlin.

6 MR. VIC MEDLIN: Hello. My name is Vic
7 Medlin. I'm here tonight as a elected official for
8 the last 15 years in Johnston County, and also as a
9 volunteer fire fighter. And I kind of wanted to let
10 everybody know, as far as the fire fighters go,
11 every pipeline that goes through any fire fighter's
12 district, those guys, they all have special
13 training. They have all classes to deal with any
14 problems that may arise. I know the lady spoke
15 earlier that there were a bunch of issues.
16 Personally, I think that if there's a gas line issue
17 I would think it would make national news. And I
18 don't ever recall hearing of one. So I'm sure
19 there's issues, but it's just not -- they're not big
20 enough to where they're making national news.

21 I'd also like to say that the pipelines
22 themselves are being made to specs that are
23 federally guided from our steel mill. So those
24 -- those jobs are also being created and maintained.
25 Federal and state inspectors regularly will be

1 inspecting this pipeline from the beginning to the
2 end. They will also continue to inspect it through
3 the life of the pipeline.

4 Most people don't realize how many
5 pipelines are already out there underneath the
6 ground. In the Virginia alone there's two and a
7 half times pipelines as there are interstates. I
8 brought a picture tonight of the different pipelines
9 -- I'm sure most of you can't see it -- that are
10 currently already out there, so there's quite a few
11 pipelines that are -- that are already out there.

12 I've read that the pipeline will
13 provide 52 permanent jobs. I personally think that
14 is greatly underestimated. You cannot go out and
15 recruit industry without natural gas. The
16 manufacturing industry, when they -- when they start
17 to look for a location one of the very first things
18 they look for is natural gas. If you don't have it
19 they just cross you off the list and they move to
20 the next one who does. All the way up and down 95
21 there's great possibility for growth and industry
22 and jobs for our people. And with this natural gas
23 line I -- I truly believe that the growth will come.

24 Also going back to your fire
25 departments, there are -- the rural fire departments

1 are great. They need their tax revenue. This will
2 provide more tax revenue for these guys as well.
3 And so I'm here in support of the pipeline and I
4 appreciate your time.

5 MR. BOWMAN: Thank you. Speaker number
6 five is Harold Keen.

7 MR. HAROLD KEEN: Good evening. I'm
8 Harold Keen. I'm a North Carolina native and I live
9 in Johnston County. My passion is economic growth
10 and quality of life. And I believe an additional
11 source of energy will aid economic development, jobs
12 in an area that needs quality growth. I realize
13 that urbanization is happening all around the world,
14 and certainly here in North Carolina.

15 But where we can we need to create an
16 opportunity for quality jobs in Eastern North
17 Carolina. We know that it's been estimated that
18 during the construction period 2,600 will directly
19 support the construction activities, and a total of
20 4,400 overall will be created. And after
21 construction those temporary jobs go away, but
22 projections are for 925 permanent jobs that will
23 come from the placement of this project in North
24 Carolina.

25 Controlling the cost of energy is one

1 way to encourage job growth, especially along the
2 I-95 corridor. Bringing additional lower cost energy
3 compared with other sources to Eastern North
4 Carolina will help our quest to develop quality jobs
5 for the future.

6 Additionally, I know you've heard that,
7 not in my backyard is prevalent with some people,
8 and rightfully so. But even though this line will
9 not cross my farm, I believe I can speak to those
10 concerns. Many of you drove into tonight's hearing
11 on Interstate 95, just as I did. Sixty years my
12 family had to contribute to that construction by
13 having it go through the middle of our farm, a farm
14 that had been in our family since the late 1700s.
15 So I ask the question, would I like to have those
16 acres back today. Absolutely. But I fully
17 appreciate my ability to have travelled that road
18 for the last 50 years. I can remember travelling
19 both north and south when many parts of the highway
20 were not completed. And that memory certainly helps
21 me today, the ease of travel that we have today.

22 I won't go on, on that but you
23 understand my message. Sometimes it takes giving on
24 our part for the greater good of everyone. I hope
25 it is a fair trade for all of you directly impacted.

1 And I want to thank everyone involved tonight and
2 through this decision making process for your
3 efforts on behalf of the people all along the
4 proposed pipeline. Supporting our quality of life
5 and improving our quality of life is a difficult
6 challenge and one that requires prudent and
7 thoughtful efforts by us all. I believe the
8 pipeline would be in our best interest and I thank
9 you.

10 MR. BOWMAN: Speaker number six is
11 Therese Vick.

12 MS. THERESE VICK: Good evening. I'm
13 Therese Vick and I'm a community organizer with Blue
14 Ridge Environmental Defense League, and I work out
15 of the Raleigh area. But I'm originally from
16 Northampton County and just moved to the Triangle in
17 2009. And our organization is working with
18 communities along the pipeline route in Virginia,
19 West Virginia, and North Carolina.

20 I want to speak to FERC, but I also
21 want to speak to some of you. I work very closely
22 in the communities in North Carolina that are
23 potentially faced with fracking. And this pipeline
24 has the potential to -- to facilitate fracking in
25 North Carolina with all. I work in Stokes County,

1 in Surry County, in Lee County, in Chatham County,
2 in Montgomery County, in Chatham -- I mean Chatham
3 County, and some in Rockingham. And I have been in
4 most of North Carolina several times. I see -- I
5 see some old friends that were in Western North
6 Carolina at the fracking hearing. Nice to see some
7 of you again. So I work with those communities.

8 This is not -- this is -- I wanted to
9 talk to talk to you also, Dominion just recently
10 purchased this -- I believe it was this year or late
11 last year over 1,000 miles of pipeline in South
12 Carolina and Georgia. Among other things, there are
13 liquid natural gas export terminals all over this
14 country that are either proposed new ones or former
15 import terminals they have petitioned to become
16 export terminals, including one in Savannah,
17 Georgia.

18 Our North Carolina Legislature is very
19 interested in creating a -- an export terminal in
20 North Carolina. I know this because I've attended
21 many, many meetings and heard them talking about
22 this. So this is -- the company can wrap themselves
23 in the business if they -- if they so choose that's
24 fine. But the low price of natural gas right now is
25 hardly profitable. All over the country if you just

1 look up folks and lay them off. They make a lot
2 more money if it goes overseas. So it's not a home
3 grown energy source.

4 I also know and have friends in
5 Pennsylvania in the fracked areas there who are
6 dealing with the -- with the problems there - air
7 quality, quality of life, social disruption,
8 groundwater contamination, surface water
9 contamination. My son is a fire chief and
10 -- he's a volunteer fire chief and I agree with what
11 the gentleman said about how good our fire fighters
12 are. But he's very concerned about the pipeline.
13 Just this year alone there have been several
14 incidents of pipeline explosions, including one over
15 Christmas that evacuated people for days while the
16 pipeline was burning. They couldn't -- the gas was
17 flaming. They couldn't put it out. So that -- they
18 are not safe.

19 The National Transportation Safety
20 Board released a report in January of 2015 that says
21 that there are system -- system and safety flaws in
22 the gas pipelines of the United States.

23 They don't even have enough inspectors
24 to inspect the pipelines we already have. So this
25 -- this a systemic problem. I don't speak to Duke

1 Energy, but that's another piece of it.

2 As many of you probably know, Duke
3 Energy had a bad spill in 2014. This was -- this
4 was a bad spill, but it took -- that spill --
5 scandals, criminal charges, a federal grand jury
6 investigation, and public outrage to make it toxic
7 enough for our state agencies to act. Duke Energy
8 was charged with criminal charges and has agreed --
9 well, the if settlement's approved it will be over
10 100 million dollars. Today the North Carolina
11 Department of Environment and Natural Resources is
12 fining them 25 million dollars. I am also working
13 with communities in Chatham County that are being
14 targeted by Duke Energy for coal ash dumps. They
15 came in like thieves in the night.

16 So this is the kind of corporations
17 that you're dealing with. And I can provide anybody
18 with any kind of documentation you want, probably
19 more than you want.

20 Now, I'm going to speak to the actual
21 -- the pipeline issues, as far as the environment.
22 The contribution to global warming and climate
23 change -- I know that makes some giggle, of
24 continuing to use fossil fuel can be devas -- will
25 be devastating. This will just keep fossil fuels

1 being used and transported all over this country,
2 possibly overseas. Another thing is that the
3 possibility exists that -- I know FERC looks at the
4 possibility of whether it serves the public or what,
5 but regardless of how they start out, they could end
6 up contracting every bit of that gas in that
7 pipeline to anybody they want to. It could go -- it
8 could over time go straight through North Carolina
9 and never go to anywhere in North Carolina if it --
10 if the gas -- if it's more profitable for them to
11 send it somewhere else.

12 Another thing that is of concern is
13 that we also work with communities that are living
14 with compressor -- compressor stations and ones
15 living with gas turbines in North Carolina and their
16 associated air pollution problems. So this is not a
17 benign fuel. It's -- it's been called natural gas,
18 but it is not a benign fuel. And these communities
19 are suffering and having problems there too.

20 So that's one thing to consider -- I
21 think that FERC needs to consider, cumulative
22 impacts of the fracked gas itself and the associated
23 infrastructure that would be required, such as
24 compressor stations and so on that must be
25 considered.

1 There is an al -- there is an
2 alternative. There is a no action alternative. And
3 I hope that you all will consider this because we're
4 having a time with Duke here in North Carolina. We
5 don't need -- we don't need another potential safety
6 hazard here.

7 And we will be submitting detailed
8 written comments before the end of the comment
9 period. Thank you.

10 MR. BOWMAN: Thank you. The seventh
11 speaker is Matt Keen.

12 MR. MATT KEEN: Thank you for having
13 me. Thank you for allowing me to share some
14 thoughts tonight, a little different perspective I'm
15 sure than what you all have heard so far.

16 First I will begin by saying that I'm
17 not directly affected by the Atlantic Coast
18 Pipeline. I'm simply a local resident, concerned
19 citizen; I'm a taxpayer, and I'm an observer of
20 everything that's going on here.

21 So I want to start out by saying as an
22 observer, I am the proud owner of conservation
23 reserve program for long leaf pine trees. And if
24 any of you know that story it's very powerful and
25 for some reason it just hasn't been shared. So a

1 long time ago there were 90 million acres of long
2 leaf pines in the southeast. And we've logged them,
3 cut them back to about three million acres,
4 completely changed the natural habitat and natural
5 eco system that's unique to us, especially here in
6 North Carolina. I do believe somewhere north of
7 maybe 250 miles of the pipeline would be the
8 original long leaf area. And you may ask, how does
9 that impact this conversation and this pipeline. In
10 a lot of ways, and I'll speak to those specifically
11 from the ground up and the right of way that would
12 created through the land here in North Carolina.

13 So obviously the timber that is
14 standing -- existing today would be cut and would be
15 manipulated. But my thoughts are that the native
16 eco system has already been manipulated a lot. We
17 completely changed the natural eco system here, and
18 so what we see as forests and what we see as woods
19 are not necessarily natural. They're very thick.
20 We may have a hard time walking through the woods.
21 There's a lot of briars, there's a lot of
22 undergrowth, a lot of things that quite honestly are
23 not native to our land. And what that has done is
24 it has taken away some of the forage, some of the
25 grasses, and some of the foods for wildlife, which

1 I'm also a supporter of. And a 100 foot or so right
2 of way could actually benefit that wildlife. It
3 could open up some space to allow those natural
4 grasses to grow, allow some forage and allow some
5 cover.

6 I'm sure a lot of you may know what the
7 Northern Bob White quail -- this is a bird that I'm
8 passionate about, and unfortunately I haven't had a
9 chance to hunt them because they're not here
10 anymore. So habitat would be the big part of that
11 because it's no longer here. And anything that can
12 create that kind of habitat I'm going to have to
13 stand for it. So the grass and foraging cover that
14 protects what would be involved with that right of
15 way would be very helpful for the passions that I
16 have.

17 A few other points I'll share with you,
18 thoughts that I've had. That size of a right of way
19 could contribute something north of maybe 4,000
20 acres of conserved land that's not going to be
21 developed. It's going to be protected obviously by
22 the people that monitor the pipeline. It still
23 would be able to be used. I believe the pipeline is
24 proposed to be five or six feet underground so
25 agriculture is still able to be used on this land.

1 Food products and things that I use that are still
2 going to be able to be used. And we would still be
3 able to enjoy that very right of way.

4 To compare the same amount of energy
5 production, solar and wind energy, you're going to
6 have to set aside a tremendous amount more acreage.
7 And we -- we don't really know what kind of impact
8 that would have on wildlife. So keeping things
9 simple in some ways, or as simple as possible is a
10 good idea in my mind. And it's -- it's not
11 necessarily best proposal that I've ever heard. I'm
12 all for completely clean energy and I wish I had a
13 solution to propose today. However, I do see this
14 as a progressive move towards clean energy. We've
15 got to be less dependant on oil. It's a -- I may be
16 the youngest person in this room and the oil is
17 something that my generation is going to deal with a
18 lot. So any time I see a progressive move towards a
19 better solution in the future I'm going to support
20 it.

21 I'm not necessarily the happiest with
22 our current energy and solution and infrastructure,
23 but I do -- I do see some positive movement. I
24 think we're headed in the right direction. It's
25 going to take a long time. With that being said, I

1 am in support of the Atlantic Coast Pipeline and I
2 thank you for having me speak.

3 MR. BOWMAN: The next speaker is Tony
4 Braswell.

5 MR. TONY BRASWELL: Good evening. I'm
6 Tony Braswell, Chairman of Johnston County Board of
7 Commissioners. And I would like to introduce some
8 other members of Johnston County who are traveling
9 with us tonight. Commissioner Jeff Carver; members
10 of the Economic Development Advisory Board, Randy
11 Jones and Mike Fleming, also came out tonight.

12 Johnston County is a county that the
13 population has increased by 100,000 since 1989.
14 We're the second largest school -- growing school
15 system in the state. We are the thirteenth
16 populated county in the state. And pipelines are
17 not new to Johnston County. We have in Selma, North
18 Carolina, a pipeline that runs from Texas to Selma
19 to a fuel farm. We call it the oil terminals.
20 We're north of a million gallons a day are processed
21 through that pipeline, not counting the amount of
22 fuel going to Seymour Johnston Air Base. So
23 pipelines are not new to us in Johnston County.

24 We have two major interstates in
25 Johnston County. We're very fortunate and very

1 lucky to be one of the few that has two interstates,
2 I-40 and I-95. And the proposed route down I-95
3 would be a great benefit for our eastern side. So
4 at this time I would like to read a letter of
5 support that came from the Johnston County Board of
6 Commissioners -- and I do have a copy for the
7 record, sir -- that were submitted by then chairman,
8 Jeff Carver.

9 And the letter was addressed to Mr.
10 Kent Hill, Senior Manager of Economic Development,
11 Dominion Resource Economic Development: Mr. Ronald
12 O. Mays, Jr., Managing Director, and Mr. Marty
13 Clayton, Regional Representative, Duke Energy. And
14 it reads -- and the letter states as follows:

15 "Gentleman, on behalf of Johnston
16 County Board of Commissions please accept this
17 letter of support for the Atlantic Coast Pipeline
18 Project. As we all know, natural gas is an
19 important component for economic development and
20 certainly job creation and retention, which is a the
21 top priority in Johnston County.

22 "The Johnston County Board of
23 Commissioners is hopeful that the construction of
24 Atlantic Coast Pipeline will open up more
25 opportunities for economic development growth in our

1 county.

2 "With that said, the Johnston County
3 Board of Commissioners encourage you to work with
4 property owners that will be impacted by the
5 pipeline construction. We would appreciate your
6 assurance that those affected property owners and
7 their families will be treated with respect and
8 fairness throughout this process.

9 "We look forward to the completion of
10 Atlantic Coast Pipeline and respectfully request
11 periodic updates on the project."

12 And it's signed by then chairman,
13 Jeffrey Carver of the Johnston County Board of
14 Commissioners.

15 So at this time I would like to make
16 that record as part into the record, if I may.
17 Thank you.

18 MR. BOWMAN: Speaker number nine is
19 Frank Deans.

20 MR. FRANK DEANS: I'd like to waive my
21 right to comment at this time because I think I
22 misunderstood what the comments were for. I had a
23 property comment. Maybe this is not the meeting to
24 discuss mine.

25 MR. BOWMAN: I mean if you would like

1 to -- if you want to put environmental comments into
2 the record about your property you're more than
3 welcome to. But if you'd like to waive your right
4 and talk later that's perfectly fine.

5 MR. DEANS: I think I'll wait.

6 MR. BOWMAN: So let the record show --

7 MR. DEANS: Yes, sir.

8 MR. BOWMAN: It's kind of -- we'll talk
9 later about it then. That's fine.

10 Let the record show that Mr. Deans
11 passed.

12 Speaker number ten is Mike Gordon.

13 MR. MIKE GORDON: Good evening. My
14 name is Mike Gordon. I'm the mayor of a small town
15 in Johnston County, the newest small town in
16 Johnston County.

17 This pipeline doesn't directly affect
18 us, but we weren't formed not long ago on a railroad
19 or a river or an interstate like most town are.
20 It's a much -- a bedroom community to a lot of
21 people, 4,500. And hopefully this pipeline's coming
22 close enough by -- the people that live there
23 already drive 25 to 50 miles, and sometimes more to
24 work. So hopefully in the future, maybe even
25 indirectly, it may mean some jobs for the folks that

1 live there and the rest of the county. It hopefully
2 in the future will hopefully bring natural gas to
3 our area, whereas we don't have at all now. It
4 would be the second line in Johnston County and
5 hopefully somewhere down the road it would be a
6 possibility of that happening.

7 There's a lot of dollar figures that
8 are thrown out there and that means a lot to us as a
9 state and a county and a small town in the State of
10 North Carolina. Direct, indirect would induce jobs
11 from all that in the future that we hope comes
12 about. And the much needed revenue on property
13 taxes that this line will bring in the future to the
14 county, which affects all of those towns in Johnston
15 County.

16 The net energy savings over the next 20
17 years of billions of dollars. Our town board
18 unanimously passed a resolution last night in
19 support of this Atlantic Coast Pipeline.

20 And I also thank you for your time.

21 MR. BOWMAN: Speaker 11 is Tav Gauss.

22 MR. TAV GAUSS: Ladies and gentlemen
23 and members of the Commission staff and any members
24 of the commission in here, welcome to Wilson. My
25 name is Tav Gauss and I have been employing people

1 in a nine county area for over 33 years. It
2 includes much of the area where the pipeline's going
3 to go.

4 I will also tell you that it will
5 create temporary jobs and I will tell you my
6 Workers' Compensation carrier will not allow me to
7 work on the job. So this is not about me and jobs,
8 but about what's going on with the pipeline.

9 I apologize, Ms. Hester. I grew up
10 with all the Hester boys and --

11 MS. HESTER: I know you did.

12 MR. GAUSS: -- I just -- I'm sorry.

13 This pipeline is a great idea, and
14 specifically for the county of Wilson. And I'll
15 tell you the things that I do know, that in a short
16 time after it's built we will have more than
17 \$300,000 in new property taxes that will be paid by
18 independent resources.

19 By the way, I do know I like nothing
20 about anything with the word Duke in it for a
21 multitude of reasons. And I agree with you
22 wholeheartedly there. It will create a lot of jobs.
23 It really will. And many, many of them will be
24 temporary, as are all construction projects. Once
25 you build something and finish it then it's done.

1 And the people working on that project will then go
2 on to another project. They're not asking any of
3 the counties for any money at all, not like many of
4 those things you read about in the newspaper with
5 the -- the bribes -- excuse me, the incentive
6 package for people to come to the area. I'm not for
7 those necessarily, but it's one of those nasty
8 things you got to deal with. But that's not
9 happening with Dominion Resources or Duke. It does
10 not put any more strain on our existing
11 infrastructure. All it does is add to the
12 infrastructure.

13 I also know for a fact from my deep
14 investigations on Wall Street that if we ever see
15 fracking in Central North Carolina where they're
16 signing all the leases I personally will be dead.
17 There's not enough gas there to build the
18 infrastructure to -- to pull it up and get rid of
19 it. That's right now a fact. And I can cite some
20 of those things for folks later on.

21 Very probably potential one day that we
22 can all have a tap into that line. Right now I
23 don't think it's expected, but it certainly will not
24 -- we certainly will not be able to tap into a line
25 that's not there.

1 That said, I would expect a lot out of
2 Dominion Resources and hope that they are more
3 environmentally favorable than the Duke Company.

4 I'm going to assume -- first of all,
5 let me say I know there's some property owners in
6 here who are not exactly excited about the line
7 coming through their land. Well, they weren't
8 excited in Johnston County when they brought 95
9 through. They weren't excited when they
10 -- when we built the most different looking
11 subdivision -- I mean the retail issue down here in
12 the area of Raleigh Road. Nobody was excited about
13 that, but the benefits that have been brought to the
14 territory far outweigh -- and I hope you guys get a
15 very fair price for your property, not that the
16 other farmers in the other cities got the fair price
17 for anything, and I understand that. Jack them up
18 as high as you can.

19 I'm going to also assume and hope --
20 and this can go in the record -- that Dominion
21 Resources hire people from Eastern North Carolina to
22 actually work on this pipeline. Do not bring any
23 outside contractors from outside the state or even
24 the western part of the state. If you use the --
25 use the people in Eastern North Carolina. We have

1 some great folks, a lot of under employed people.
2 Now, definitely if they decide not to do that then I
3 would definitely come out against what they're
4 doing.

5 I'd also implore them not to destroy
6 the wetlands. If they've got to affect some
7 wetlands I hope that we will triple the mediation
8 costs for them in some sort of mitigation bank --
9 bank. Because we don't -- the last thing we need is
10 somebody going through all of our wetlands.

11 The pipe itself is only 36 inches in
12 diameter coming through North Carolina. And I think
13 100 percent of it is underground maybe.

14 And if anybody wants to know the
15 definition of a wetland I'd be glad to show them
16 what is and what isn't as they're going along.

17 Thank you guys for having this hearing.
18 I think we all have some mixed emotions. But I
19 think we inherently know it's going to be good
20 infrastructure, and we inherently know there may be
21 some dangers, but no more dangers than already exist
22 with existing sources of energy. Thank you very
23 much for your time.

24 MR. BOWMAN: Speaker number 12 is
25 Algenon Cash.

1 MR. ALGENON CASH: Yes, ladies and
2 gentlemen, members of the commission, and elected
3 officials, I do have some prepared remarks that I'd
4 like to share with you tonight.

5 My name is Algenon Cash, as they just
6 mentioned. And I do serve as the national director
7 of the Americas Energy Forum. And we are a 23 state
8 community of people dedicated to advocating for
9 sound energy policy and educating the wide range of
10 the American people on the energy growths underway
11 in the oil and natural gas industry.

12 You know, ladies and gentlemen, I drove
13 out tonight to Wilson. I came all the way from the
14 Piedmont Triad area. And I came out here tonight
15 because I wanted to just simply share a message with
16 you. You know, we have reached a once in a
17 generation moment here in our country, a moment that
18 no one would have predicted just a decade ago, a
19 moment where opportunities are now abundant than
20 challenges, a moment that is long overdue for the
21 American people that are sitting in this room
22 tonight. We now have the right catalyst promoting a
23 special opportunity to restore the American dream,
24 unleash the entrepreneurial spirit of the private
25 sector, and spread prosperity across this country.

1 America has not only left behind decades of
2 scarcity, but we now have emerged as a global leader
3 in energy production. We have reduced the reliance
4 on countries that don't like us too much like the
5 Middle East and Russia.

6 Right here in our country at this very
7 moment foreign reliance on energy is down from 60
8 percent to 30 percent, thanks to the shale energy
9 revolution underway in this country. The United
10 States is now the number one natural gas producer in
11 the world and we will soon be the number one oil
12 producer in the world, overtaking Saudi Arabia, a
13 moment that we could not have dreamed about just a
14 few years ago.

15 Jobs in the oil and natural gas
16 industry paid seven times the minimum wage, which is
17 a massive force to upper -- low to middle income
18 families. And the shale energy revolution is having
19 a positive effect on the environment in ways that
20 was unimaginable just a decade ago when a paragon of
21 energy scarcity had gripped the American people, law
22 makers, and out business leaders.

23 Thanks largely to the increased use of
24 natural gas and electricity generation manufacturing
25 heating and cooling our homes and our businesses

1 made possible by the revolution in the shale -- the
2 shale energy production, we've seen carbon dioxide
3 emissions drop substantially in part because natural
4 gas is displacing coal.

5 According to data from the energy
6 information agency, carbon dioxide emissions from
7 energy consumption are now at the lowest level since
8 1990. Energy information agencies forecast the US
9 carbon dioxide emissions will be seven percent less
10 in 2014 than when they peaked in 2005, thanks in
11 large part to a continued shift to less carbon
12 sensitive fuels like natural gas. America's oil and
13 natural gas companies have invested more to reduce
14 green house gas emissions than the federal
15 government and almost as much as other industries
16 combined. Oil and natural gas companies have
17 invested over 165 billion dollars on green house gas
18 mitigation, more than double previous years. And
19 from 2000 to 2012 the oil and natural gas industry
20 was responsible for approximately 17 percent or 11
21 point 4 billion dollars of all investments in non-
22 hydrocarbon resources, including wind, solar,
23 geothermal, and biomass technologies.

24 From 2011 to 2012 the oil and natural
25 gas industry directly reduced emissions by the

1 equivalent of 53 point 6 million metric tons of Co2.
2 And before one of you grab your calculators, that's
3 the equivalent to taking 11 million cars off the
4 road.

5 The capital investment from the
6 industry clearly demonstrates their support for a
7 future in America where more diverse energy sources
8 are available to serve consumers, businesses,
9 farmers, and our communities. But in today's
10 America -- not in the future of America, but in
11 today's America over 60 percent of current baseline
12 energy demand is met through fossil fuel technology,
13 not to mention estimates show that demand is growing
14 rapidly and fossil fuels will account for 80 percent
15 of demand in 25 years, while alternative energy
16 sources will meet around 12 percent of demand over
17 the same period.

18 The energy boom has to lead to billions
19 of dollars in public revenue to economically
20 depressed governments. A million new jobs at a time
21 when American families have struggled the most, and
22 over a trillion dollars contributed to the nation's
23 GDP every single year. Not to mention the American
24 Energy Renaissance has jump started a manufacturing
25 renaissance where millions of jobs are returning to

1 cities and towns across this country. So there is
2 almost an unquantifiable indirect impact that is
3 occurring as a result of the energy renaissance in
4 America.

5 Companies are not realizing that it is
6 far better to have cheap and reliable American
7 energy than cheap and unreliable foreign workers.

8 And now it's time for North Carolina to
9 join the revolution through a 5 billion dollar
10 private investment that will create thousands of new
11 jobs and expand the state's critical energy
12 infrastructure in ways that will benefit the state
13 for generations to come.

14 The economic recovery in North Carolina
15 has been uneven and our urban centers have prospered
16 while areas such as Eastern North Carolina have been
17 ignored far too long. As state chairman of the
18 North Carolina Energy Forum, I've visited business
19 owners in Greenville. I sat down at the kitchen
20 table with families in Kinston and they wonder how
21 they will provide their children with the quality of
22 life they once enjoyed. Eastern North Carolina once
23 was a manufacturing mecca, but now the region has
24 been left peppered with shuttered factories and
25 vacant plants.

1 The Atlantic Coast pipeline will
2 provide the necessary infrastructure to attract
3 companies back to Eastern North Carolina so our
4 neighbors in this region can join the manufacturing
5 renaissance underway across the country and take
6 advantage of jobs that enable them to feed their
7 families, send their children to college, and fund
8 retirement.

9 And undoubtedly, the additional two
10 million dollars in public revenue generated through
11 annual property taxes from the pipeline will help
12 struggling counties such as Nash, Wilson, and
13 Johnston. They will put these dollars to wise use
14 on transportation projects, public safety, and
15 education.

16 The Americas Energy Forum supports this
17 important project that will not only expand the
18 energy infrastructure of our state, but enhance the
19 transport of a critical resource that will provide
20 abundant, reliable, and affordable energy to our
21 homes, industries, and government. Thank you.

22 MR. BOWMAN: Speaker 13 is Rick Hester.

23 MR. RICK HESTER: Good evening. My
24 name is Rick Hester and I'm the county manager of
25 Johnston County since 1999. Thank you for the

1 opportunity to speak tonight.

2 As the chairman of the Johnston County
3 Board of Commissioners, Tony Braswell, who just
4 spoke earlier, the Board of County Commissioners
5 support this project, have done so formally, with
6 the understanding that the property owners are
7 treated with respect and fairly.

8 The top three priorities for Johnston
9 County Board of Commissioners is job growth, support
10 of public safety, and education. As I stated -- as
11 it was stated earlier, natural gas is the key to
12 economic development growth in Eastern North
13 Carolina. We're told that the economic impact to
14 Johnston County will be obviously the opportunity
15 for more jobs and approximately one million dollars
16 in annual property taxes. This one million dollars
17 will be primarily used to continue to aggressively
18 recruit industry and bring jobs to Johnston County,
19 to support our public safety partners; law
20 enforcement, EMS, fire, and 911 communications. And
21 further, to be used to continue to renovate and
22 build new schools for our children in Johnston
23 County. Thank you.

24 MR. BOWMAN: Speaker 14 is Richard
25 Worsinger.

1 MR. RICHARD WORSINGER: Good evening,
2 ladies and gentlemen and members of the commission.
3 And I thank you all for this opportunity speak. And
4 thank you all for coming out to learn about this.

5 My name is Richard Worsinger. I'm the
6 Director of the Energy Resources Department of the
7 City of Rocky Mount. A little bit about me, I have
8 a bachelor of science in electrical engineering.
9 I'm a licensed professional engineer and I have over
10 30 years experience in the natural gas and electric
11 utility industry, 14 of which have been with the
12 City of Rocky Mount.

13 I also serve as the vice chairman of
14 the American Public Gas Association. The American
15 Public Gas Association is the volunteer organization
16 that represents the approximate 1,000 publicly owned
17 natural gas systems throughout the country and
18 provides support on regulatory and legislative
19 issues. And when I say publicly owned that means
20 they're owned by the citizens of the communities
21 that they serve.

22 I am here to speak tonight in favor of
23 the Atlantic Coast Pipeline for a number of reasons,
24 which I will outline.

25 First is need. This pipeline is being

1 built to replace the coal fired generation with
2 natural gas fired generation. This will reduce
3 power costs, which means cost savings will be passed
4 along to the customers of Duke, as well as the
5 wholesale supplier -- wholesale customers of Duke.
6 This will result in reduced emissions. And it will
7 also increase reliability due to the abundant supply
8 of domestic reproduced natural gas.

9 I'd also like to speak on another need
10 for this pipeline, and that's economic development.
11 Eastern North Carolina, to put it simply, is gas
12 starved. What do I mean by that? There have been
13 various industries that were looking for a site to
14 locate their industry, even around the Rocky Mount
15 area. They were large users. Their industries were
16 large users of natural gas. Unfortunately, natural
17 gas was not available -- readily available at the
18 volumes that the industries -- these companies
19 needed. They were told that a significant
20 reinforcement of the natural gas transmission and
21 distribution system was necessary in order to supply
22 the volumes that they needed to operate their --
23 their business. They were told that the cost
24 started at 50 million dollars for just reinforcement
25 of the system, and that it would take two to three

1 years to complete these reinforcements. Of course,
2 these industries, along with the jobs that they
3 would bring with them, moved on to another area that
4 already had a sufficient supply of natural gas.

5 The construction of the Atlantic Coast
6 Pipeline brings with it, along with the gas for Duke
7 and Dominion and Piedmont and Atlantic -- Atlantic
8 Gas, unsubscribed pipeline capacity. And that means
9 there's capacity on that pipeline that has not been
10 spoken for yet. This pipeline also has the ability
11 to have additional capacity, and that's through the
12 installation of additional compression. You can
13 actually add compressors to put more gas through
14 that pipeline, providing gas for more future
15 economic development. These prospects could include
16 possible automotive assembly plant and the
17 additional businesses and industries that would
18 develop to supply and support that automotive
19 industry. Wouldn't this be a shot in the arm for
20 all of Eastern North Carolina?

21 Next I'd like to touch on safety. The
22 distribution of natural gas pipe -- by pipelines is
23 extremely safe. The few accidents that have
24 occurred have occurred on older pipelines. The
25 Atlantic Coast Pipeline will be built to modern

1 specifications, with modern materials and modern
2 safety mechanisms, including a requirement --
3 combined with a requirement -- federal requirement
4 to have the ability to inspect these pipelines
5 internally. It's difficult to inspect a pipeline
6 above ground that's three, four, five feet below the
7 ground. But now there's technology available to run
8 a device through the pipeline to inspect it
9 internally. I know this because the natural gas
10 industry is regulated by the Federal Department of
11 Transportation's Pipeline Hazardous Safety Materials
12 Administration. This is -- they have with that a
13 15-person advisory committee. This committee
14 provides input on feasibility of the various
15 Department of Transportation pipeline regulations.

16 This committee has 15 representatives
17 on it, five from government, five from the public,
18 and five from industry leaders. Why do I mention
19 this? I have the honor of being one of those
20 industry representative on that advisory committee.
21 So I'm closely involved in the various discussions
22 on regulations, as well as incidents that have
23 happened.

24 One other benefit is the reduced
25 reliance on foreign oil. The use of compressed

1 natural gas as a vehicle fuel is something we are
2 only beginning to scratch the surface here in the
3 United States. When this is expanded, when more
4 vehicles come from the factory that can run on
5 compressed natural gas we will reduce our nation's
6 use of gasoline, reduce our nation's use of diesel
7 fuel, which will reduce our dependance of foreign
8 oil.

9 In case you haven't figured out by now,
10 Rocky Mount is very interested in a tap off of this
11 pipeline. I've been in negotiations and discussions
12 with the people from Dominion. This pipeline will
13 supplement Rocky Mount's current natural gas supply,
14 which will increase our reliability on the two
15 supply sources, along with reducing the cost of our
16 gas supply.

17 It was mentioned about the generation
18 of electricity by renewable methods as something
19 that our nation should be using instead of
20 generating electricity by natural gas. Generation
21 of electricity by renewable methods such as solar
22 and wind are wonderful, welcome ways to generate
23 electricity. Unfortunately, the wind doesn't blow
24 and the sun doesn't shine 24 hours a day, and there
25 is not yet a viable way to store electricity.

1 Natural gas fired generation provides an outstanding
2 way to generate electricity when electricity is not
3 available through those renewable sources.

4 It was also mentioned about the
5 exportation of natural gas -- the shale gas. That
6 would be exported through liquified natural gas,
7 LNG.

8 I'd like to state that the American
9 Public Gas Association is one of the few
10 organizations that has come out with a resolution
11 against the exportation of natural gas -- against
12 the exportation of LNG. We need to keep our natural
13 gas supply here in our country for our use. The
14 only countries that export their natural resources
15 are third world countries.

16 Fracking is something else that has
17 been mentioned. It was mentioned about fracking
18 might facilitate -- fracking from this line might
19 facilitate fracking in North Carolina. This line is
20 located in East -- to be located in Eastern North
21 Carolina. The proposed fracking, if it were ever to
22 take place however many decades from now, it's
23 nowhere near this line.

24 A couple of other comments about
25 fracking, fracking is not something that just

1 started a year or even a decade ago. It began in the
2 forties. There have been over 2 point 5 million
3 frack jobs in the world. Over one million of them
4 have been in the United States. And also there is
5 no documented and proven case where fracking has
6 contaminated groundwater.

7 Thank you for your patience, thank you
8 for joining with us today. Have a good night.

9 MR. BOWMAN: Speaker number 15 is
10 Linwood Parker.

11 MR. LINWOOD PARKER: Has everybody had
12 enough? I'm Linwood Parker and I travelled from my
13 home in Four Oaks, North Carolina, where I am the
14 mayor. I attended the meeting in Cumberland County
15 last night as well because this is important to me
16 and the people in my community. And as I look
17 around tonight, I find that I am amongst people from
18 our home county, as well as amongst people that are
19 my neighbors from Eastern North Carolina. I can
20 look on your faces and know that you work hard for
21 your property, you're involved in your community.
22 Your children and you have probably served in the
23 military to protect our nation. You've done all the
24 things right. And you're here tonight to find out
25 what's going on, how it affects you, and what's the

1 best thing for Eastern North Carolina. You're not
2 here about yourself.

3 There's a wise lady in the Four Oaks
4 area that one time told me -- she was going through
5 a divorce and got involved in a little dispute and I
6 couldn't lay it down. She says, Linwood, everybody
7 knows that a hoe cake -- and for you all that may
8 not know, that's a pancake -- has two sides, every
9 one of them. One might be just a little browner
10 than the other. I hope that I'm on the right side,
11 on the brown side.

12 We all know when we begin a process
13 such as we're beginning here that we have to
14 question -- we have to question the people at
15 Dominion and hope that they will do the right
16 things. We have to make sure that we're made whole
17 where property is endangered. With life there's a
18 question. All that we do is a question. On Sunday
19 we go to the church of our choosing for our faith
20 and we question and we learn and we grow. That's
21 what these hearings are about.

22 Now, I didn't come tonight to put
23 laurels on Dominion, even though and proud that
24 somebody's willing to spend money to bring something
25 to Eastern North Carolina that will help us. I

1 didn't come to -- to debate with the
2 environmentalists, mostly because I too am an
3 environmentalist because I like to fish. I like to
4 hunt. Most of the people you find here are
5 environmentalists. They're farmers. They're the
6 best environmentalists ever in the world. I
7 understand the importance of the farms and their
8 pastures and what it does. They don't need a lesson
9 from anyone.

10 So I'm here tonight to talk about the
11 forgotten person. I read a book a while back
12 called, The Forgotten Man. And this is part of what
13 we're doing here in this process with these hearings
14 -- holding these hearings. There's the corporate
15 interest, the environmental interest, and then we
16 have our property owners who are standing in the
17 middle. And then we've got our children and
18 grandchildren, families, family farms who need the
19 this energy. They're the forgotten person in this
20 debate. And we've got to have someone, and I hope
21 I'm speaking for them, that speaks of the forgotten
22 man, woman, child, family, so that we can make a
23 good decision to create good jobs.

24 In my home town we have a Four Oaks
25 Business Park that I'm extremely proud of. We began

1 the process some six years ago. Five family farms,
2 all owned by different people -- a group come and
3 said, you got a perfect site that's along 95, never
4 seen better land for building. But you got five
5 families and we don't know that we can get the
6 property. We met with those individuals, people
7 within our community and they all agreed what they'd
8 take for their land and agreed they wouldn't take
9 anything up front, some 10 million dollars worth of
10 land. We put together a business park, and thanks
11 to the county commissioners and other supporters at
12 the state and federal level, we put a road in there.
13 We put utilities in there, but not before we already
14 had Becton Dickinson -- and I know some of you
15 people here work with Becton Dickinson in Wilson
16 County. The first industry in Research Triangle
17 Park, an industry that was created by people from
18 New Bern in Beaufort County. It's 750 square foot,
19 200 workers, five acres of land on top, gold leaf
20 certified plant. All that was done because of the
21 common good.

22 As soon as we got done and we had
23 people from the senator's office and others to come,
24 dedicated the property an economic developer told
25 me, you know, we just lost a job that would employ

1 500 people at \$65,000 a year. And I said, why. He
2 said, you don't have natural gas. Without natural
3 gas nobody's going to come with the manufacturing
4 jobs that we want. They simply can't.

5 This past week I had a chance to talk
6 with our county commissioners. At that meeting an
7 economic developer in our county made me aware we
8 just got marked off again, tenth time, simply
9 because we don't have natural gas.

10 Now, I'm planning to get natural gas.
11 Anybody -- if you'll go ask about me 100 people
12 would say, well, he's a little bit strange. But if
13 he tells you he's going to do something he's going
14 to try to do it. And we've got to work together
15 because my story -- my community's story is not
16 unique to Eastern North Carolina. It's true
17 everywhere. Ride through the towns and see what's
18 happened to our rural economy. See what's happened
19 to our farmers who are paying five and six times for
20 propane to cure their tobacco, what they could get
21 with natural gas. Let's get in gas. Let's do this
22 -- several of the speakers have said, let's bring
23 the things and welcome the people to come in, to
24 come in and do the right thing and help us grow the
25 economy in Eastern North Carolina and in my

1 community. Thank you.

2 MR. BOWMAN: Speaker 16 is Rick
3 Childry.

4 MR. RICK CHILDRY: Good evening. My
5 name is Rick Childry and I'm the president of the
6 Greater Smithfield-Selma Area Chamber of Commerce.
7 And I do want to stand and speak on behalf of our
8 board of directors.

9 We do support the Atlantic Coast
10 Natural Gas Pipeline. I've been at the Chamber now
11 for 28 years. While I was born in Virginia, I've
12 lived most of my life in Johnston County. And over
13 that 20 plus year period I've seen a lot of change
14 going on in not only Johnston County, Smithfield,
15 and Selma, but throughout Eastern North Carolina.
16 And we've lost many, many jobs -- tens of thousands
17 of jobs over these 20 years to some of our
18 traditional industries - tobacco, textiles,
19 furniture, and electronics.

20 The natural gas pipeline is being built
21 because there's a demand for it. It will help bring
22 a clean energy source to Eastern North Carolina. It
23 will help us to become less dependant on coal and
24 even oil. It will generate -- I think you've heard
25 already a large amount of tax base for all the

1 counties involved. I believe in Johnston County
2 it could create about a million dollars in tax
3 revenue. And that's a tax base that will not
4 require a school to be built or trash collection or
5 law enforcement.

6 We -- I do have a resolution that I'd
7 like to just read into the record from our board of
8 directors. It says:

9 "A resolution in support of the
10 Atlantic Coast Natural Gas Pipeline. Whereas,
11 natural gas is an abundant, clean burning fuel in
12 the United States; and Whereas, the Utica and
13 Marcellus Shale Basin in Ohio, West Virginia, and
14 Pennsylvania offer a great supply of natural gas,
15 distributing use by existing and new companies in
16 North Carolina; Whereas, the Atlantic Coast Pipeline
17 will help reduce air emissions in the coming decades
18 by allowing utility companies to efficiently meet
19 growing power demands and replace coal power plants
20 with cleaner burning natural gas. Whereas, the
21 pipeline will improve the reliability and geographic
22 diversity of natural gas supplies to North Carolina
23 businesses by bringing natural gas to consumers and
24 natural gas distributions that are currently not in
25 the state. Whereas, the 550 mile project can serve

1 as a powerful engine to drive economic development
2 and job growth by helping Eastern North Carolina, as
3 well as the entire state, attract industries --
4 businesses and industries, many of which are not
5 able to locate in parts of North Carolina due to
6 insufficient supplies of natural gas. Whereas, the
7 new pipeline will give us a new tax revenues to
8 local government.

9 "Therefore, be it resolved by the
10 Greater Smithfield-Selma Area Chamber of Commerce
11 Board of Directors endorses the natural -- the
12 Atlantic Coast Natural Gas Pipeline proposed by
13 Dominion, Duke Energy, and Piedmont Natural Gas. "

14 And it's signed by our 2014 board
15 chair, Keith Dimsdale. Thank you.

16 MR. BOWMAN: Speaker 17 is Michael
17 Marlowe.

18 MR. MICHAEL MARLOWE: Well, I didn't
19 come quite as prepared as everybody else. I do know
20 that most of these meetings have been notified on
21 very short notice. That's because I know that if
22 not a lot of people know about it they can do what
23 they want. But with that being said, I'm definitely
24 against the pipeline.

25 This pipeline's supposed to come

1 through Sims where I live. It goes right past my
2 daughter's elementary school, and a couple of other
3 schools as well in Nash County. As far as the
4 disasters and the explosions and the explosions and
5 stuff like that, somebody claimed it was from older
6 pipelines. Well, I just signed a 30-year mortgage.
7 I'm going to be living 300 yards from an older
8 pipeline. The county commissioners, the mayors, the
9 politicians talking about revenue, I'm sorry, it
10 doesn't get my vote. Okay?

11 We were real quick to turn down
12 Sanderson Farms because of chickens, but we're going
13 to go ahead and allow the pipeline? It doesn't make
14 a whole sense.

15 So I see a lot of greed. I see a lot
16 of greasing. And from the people that I've talked
17 to that are citizens, they're not happy with it.
18 Politicians seem to be very happy with it. I've got
19 no more response from this crowd than anybody else
20 has.

21 Now, I see heads nodding because I'm
22 saying what other people are thinking. So, as I
23 said, again, I'm against the pipeline and I'd like
24 to know what we can do to stop it from coming
25 through Wilson, Nash, and surrounding counties.

1 MS. HESTER: Vote the commissioners out
2 of office.

3 MR. MARLOWE: Will do. End of story.
4 Thank you.

5 MR. BOWMAN: Speaker 18 is John
6 Huffman.

7 DR. JOHN HUFFMAN: I'm Dr. John
8 Huffman. I'm a medical oncologist in Rocky Mount.
9 And I just wanted to speak to the same thing that
10 I've spoken to at all these meetings. Every time
11 there is one I manage to find out about them even on
12 zero notice thankfully.

13 And my big concern is the location that
14 Dominion has chosen, especially the northern part of
15 Nash County. And I sense that there are issues with
16 that as well. But in the northern part of the
17 county there's a lot of open land out there. And
18 they've chosen instead to bring it right through the
19 highest volume residential area, which not only
20 endangers more houses than need to be endangered,
21 but also I think it works against the economics of
22 this.

23 Sure, if Dominion's going to pay
24 whatever tax they're going to pay every year, but
25 that's going to be the same regardless of where it's

1 located in the county and where it isn't. And to
2 bring it right through the most desirable school
3 districts, right through the area of residential
4 growth that actually is still happening in Nash
5 County, when a lot of parts are not growing hurts
6 the current tax base -- nobody's going to build a
7 house on top of a pipeline. We've got county water
8 coming through that area now. Nobody's going to
9 build a business sitting on top of a giant pipeline
10 with a two-mile radius. So I think not only does it
11 put more people at risk than necessary -- they've
12 got another route four miles east that they've
13 chosen not to use. But I think not only does it put
14 more people at risk, but it puts the county's tax
15 base at risk. The money they make is going to be
16 the same anywhere. Why cut the possibility of
17 growth in the one place that's growing?

18 The western part of the county also in
19 the future is where we have a chance for expansion.
20 Raleigh keeps expanding. They're going to keep
21 expanding. They've got money, they've got industry,
22 they're going to keep growing. They're coming east,
23 but if you cut off the western part of Nash County
24 by putting a pipeline where people don't want to
25 build homes and don't want to build businesses

1 that's a permanent block. And when Raleigh comes
2 east in the future it's not going to be there.
3 They're not going to put homes and businesses on top
4 of a pipeline. They're going to put them somewhere
5 else. So the benefits will be the same if they put
6 this thing two miles east like they could. But
7 they've chosen instead to harm the county just
8 because it's more convenient for them to put it
9 where they've already got landowner approval.

10 And I think that's pretty much it.
11 I've actually got a very lengthy e-mail that I've
12 already sent to the US House of Representatives, the
13 FERC subcommittee. But thankfully enough tonight I
14 found out how to send it directly to you guys now
15 that there's a project number. Thank you. That's
16 it. Thank you.

17 MR. BOWMAN: Speaker 19 is M. Gerald
18 Lee.

19 MR. M. GERALD LEE: I'm a landowner,
20 have been for over 69 years in Johnston County. And
21 this thing's going right through the middle of my
22 farm, and I'm not opposed to it. But what I am
23 opposed to is the thing goes through your land,
24 through everybody else's land, and you have no
25 access to gas. If it goes through my land I want

1 access to gas. And that's just me. And you have
2 these -- you say the industry might come to North
3 Carolina, but there won't no incentive package. And
4 the governor and the legislature, they ain't saying
5 they ought to put that incentive package out there
6 or not. If you'll go ahead and get some tax on this
7 pipeline then you'll have a million dollars worth of
8 the incentive packages already there.

9 And Dominion controls the pipeline.
10 And Piedmont controls the distribution. And Duke is
11 the primary customer. And they're all in bed
12 together on this. If you ask Dominion for a tap
13 they don't do that. That's transmissions. If you
14 ask Piedmont -- if it don't take one single item of
15 material they'll do it. They'll be glad to do it,
16 but it cost a million dollars. And it don't matter
17 what it is. I'm not saying anything that goes over
18 a million, but I'm not saying anything that goes
19 under a million. Everything cost a million dollars
20 period.

21 If it's -- I remember back in the
22 sixties it cost 25,000. Same story still. And I
23 think that every municipality and everything that
24 goes in between should have access -- in Johnston
25 County now -- I'm just speaking for Johnston County

1 -- should have access to the pipeline and natural
2 gas.

3 And if you put it in wetlands it's fine
4 with me. I think that's a real good place for it
5 because if you put it in wetlands when you get
6 through the wetlands will still be wet. Dominion
7 don't want it in wetlands because it would cost them
8 more to maintain it.

9 And last, on the paper that I got from
10 FERC I see there is an alternative route for
11 southern Johnston County. This is the first time
12 I've ever heard of it. And I didn't get my package
13 until yesterday. And I'd like to know where the
14 alternative route is.

15 And that's all I've got to say.

16 MR. BOWMAN: Okay. So I don't have
17 anyone else signed up to speak at this point so I'd
18 like to open up, if there's anyone else that would
19 like to speak. I do see a couple of hands so I
20 believe the lady in the center raised her hand
21 first. So please come ahead to the podium. And
22 would you please and state and spell your name since
23 I don't already have it.

24 And I believe the gentleman in the very
25 back will be next.

1 MS. JANE FLOWERS FINCH: My name is
2 Jane Flowers Finch. That's J-A-N-E F-L-O-W-E-R-S F-
3 I-N-C-H. I reside in Raleigh, North Carolina, but
4 I'm originally from Bailey in Nash County. And my
5 mother is Pearl Finch back here and she's a
6 landowner who's property is going to be affected by
7 this pipeline.

8 My first concern is this process
9 tonight. I am very disappointed. Well, first of
10 all, I didn't get notice about this until just a
11 couple of days ago. My mother got it. And first of
12 all -- and for senior citizens and other landowners
13 that are affected by this, it took time -- a lot of
14 material, very difficult for them to comprehend and
15 understand and know what's going on, as far as these
16 meetings. I've been to a meeting at Parker's
17 Barbecue and heard a lobbyist for Old Dominion
18 speak, to know all this.

19 But I am an attorney and have done some
20 eminent domain work and I understand a little bit of
21 this, even though I haven't done it in recent time.
22 So I have had to scramble to get familiar with it.
23 So I am concerned about all the landowners out here
24 that may not be prepared for this meeting.

25 My most -- greatest concern is tonight

1 I've sat here through 19 speakers and have only
2 heard from three or four landowners. We've heard
3 politicians and all these wonderful folks from
4 Johnston County. And I'm married to a man from
5 Johnston and we own land in Johnston County, but I
6 am concerned that this is not been a good
7 representation of those who are going to be affected
8 by this. I am greatly concerned about the process
9 here tonight.

10 I did not prepare my remarks until I
11 got here tonight and I've had to pull them together,
12 so if I'm not a smooth speaker I'm -- I'm sorry.

13 My mother is the owner of a fourth --
14 we've got a fourth generation farm, which she got
15 from her mother. I think her mother got it from her
16 daddy, who was a Flowers in -- in Wilson and Nash --
17 in Wilson County. That farm was in Wilson County
18 and my mother is originally from Wilson County. My
19 daddy was from Nash County. And so my mother has
20 that farm and she had been selling portions of it to
21 my brother, and he died. And then -- but his
22 children and my mother own a portion of that farm.
23 And my mother's planning to leave a little bit of
24 that farm. And we have treasured that farm for a
25 long time. It's very beautiful.

1 When my brother, who's now deceased,
2 was in high school he canoed the Contentnea Creek
3 many, many times and wrote an article that was
4 published in Wildlife in North Carolina in 1967 on
5 the beauty of that farm.

6 And so now we're faced with this
7 pipeline that is going right smack dab through this
8 farm, which is becoming a residentially growth area.
9 And so we could have this brought back and think how
10 we're going to make money off this farm because this
11 will be the fourth eminent domain case my mother has
12 had against her since the seventies. The first dam
13 -- Buckhorn was built on it. The City of Wilson
14 came back again, got some more. And in 2001 they
15 took another 28 acres. So our farm is getting eaten
16 up. And now we got a pipeline going right smack dab
17 through it. So these -- we need to be heard.

18 And I want to talk about this economic
19 development. I don't believe it. All this talk of
20 economic development sounds like the medicine man.
21 We have the Country Doctor Museum in Bailey, and as
22 a little girl we had the -- a fake medicine man come
23 trying to sell you some tonic.

24 Well, I don't believe it because as an
25 attorney I represented my uncle in 2001, who was

1 talked into selling his 1,000 -- beautiful 1,000
2 acre farm -- he was originally from Wilson County
3 too -- in Nash County for -- to build Universal Leaf
4 Tobacco Company. And the county -- Nash County
5 wanted that project and the economic development
6 people pushed it, and they put over five million
7 dollars -- put water and sewer out to that farm.
8 They put another million dollars into some other
9 things. They spent some money. And Universal Leaf
10 promised 1,300 employees. There have never been
11 more than 4 or 500 seasonal workers. There have
12 been other failed economic developments where the
13 government has put money into it.

14 Now, everybody talks about this
15 economic development and yet the farmers -- you ask
16 the farmers and I know this and all these farmers
17 out here would love to have that natural gas, but
18 when that Old Dominion lobbyist talked to us at
19 Parker's Barbecue, that ain't happening. They're
20 not going to let people tap into that gas line all
21 the way down. It's going from wherever it starts in
22 West Virginia to wherever it's ending. And that's
23 where it's going to go. And Duke Energy's going to
24 get that gas and they're going to use it for their
25 -- generating their electricity. And they will sell

1 you some electricity.

2 We've heard from at least 15 speakers
3 who are not personally and directly affected. These
4 speakers know about it because it's their job. Mr.
5 -- from Four Oaks here -- my husband's actually from
6 Smithfield and I've been to Four Oaks a lot, got a
7 lot of friends out there. But you know it's part of
8 your job as mayor and county commissioners -- you
9 all know that. And my mama's one of the most
10 educated ladies that ever went there. And she's
11 looking at this and she's saying, I don't know about
12 this, Jane. And there are other people that are not
13 as on top of it as she is, a lot of landowners. And
14 to understand what's going to happen, and then
15 there's just a lot of misinformation. And I know
16 you all have a lot of meetings, that Old Dominion's
17 had all these meetings trying to explain it to them.
18 But it's not -- the information is not adequate.

19 And not only that, not everybody can
20 afford a lawyer at this point to go look into it and
21 try to understand it so they can object to it or
22 object to how it's being routed. And definitely we
23 would like the opportunity to talk to them, if it
24 comes through, about how it is routed across the
25 farm. It's unjustifiable how they have chosen -- I

1 think in some situations I think you go across --
2 maybe some people want their trees taken out because
3 they need the cleared land, because they're going to
4 build houses and you can't put a road across it.
5 And it's just going to be a lot of issues.

6 That's pretty much it, and I do wish
7 that we had some more landowner speakers.

8 MR. LONNIE DAIL TURNER: Thank you very
9 much. My name is Lonnie -- L-O-N-N-I-E -- Dail --
10 D-A-I-L -- strange spelling, last name Turner -- T-
11 U-R-N-E-R, regular spelling.

12 I am a landowner, both in Wilson County
13 and also in Nash County, however, this pipeline does
14 not intrude on any of my property. When I came here
15 I came here to learn. I did not come here with a
16 position either pro or con. I came because we need
17 energy. However, some of the things that have been
18 said here, quite frankly, insult my intelligence.

19 MR. BOWMAN: Can you make sure to speak
20 into the mic --

21 MR. TURNER: Okay.

22 MR. BOWMAN: -- just to make sure that
23 the --

24 MR. TURNER: Quite frankly, some of
25 what's been said insults my intelligence. I'm a

1 retired Air Force colonel and spent most of those
2 years in the Pentagon and have a number of friends
3 that are working at FERC.

4 First of all, let's talk about the
5 process. The way FERC has set up this process,
6 quite frankly, is an abomination, in terms of
7 notification of process, and also where you're
8 physically holding it. This should be held in the
9 areas which are being impacted, whether that's going
10 to be Rock Ridge, whether it's going to be Sims,
11 whether it's going to be Bailey. You know, I know
12 it sounds like Wilson, Wilson County, and it falls
13 -- and Forest Hills Middle School is the place to do
14 it. This is not the place to do it. And I would
15 hope in your future hearings and things that you
16 would consider that and put it in the locations
17 where the people that are impacted are actually
18 going to be.

19 Now, Mr. Medlin, you talked about
20 several things about you never saw on national news
21 any major natural gas pipeline story. Well, you see
22 here we have some very brave and courageous
23 politicians who made a decision in 2008 to give us a
24 one gigabyte broadband. We can provide that service
25 to you now, based on the FCC's recommendation.

1 Because if you're -- if you don't remember seeing
2 Bruno, California, in 2010 where at least eight
3 people were killed, 38 houses were destroyed, and
4 something like 150 houses that were damaged beyond
5 repair, that was a natural gas fire. And you're a
6 fireman.

7 We talked about -- my dad was one of
8 the founders of the Silver Lake Fire Department and
9 was the first assistant fire chief. Silver Lake
10 will be one of the districts which will cover this
11 pipeline. We've heard the number 2 million dollars
12 in tax revenues. Now, I'm not a fireman. I don't
13 know what it would take, whether you can put it
14 there. Gas pipeline explosion or not, or whether
15 you have to have a foam truck. How much would a
16 foam truck cost you, 250, \$300,000? Probably, maybe
17 more than that.

18 Here in Wilson County you're going to
19 have at least five and maybe six volunteer fire
20 departments alone that are going to be responsible
21 for covering the area that pipeline's going to be
22 on. And if you take all the counties in North
23 Carolina, if you want it, I got no objections with
24 it, but somebody should pay for it -- pay for the
25 training of the firemen, make sure they're safe,

1 they get the training. Give them the proper
2 equipment to do it as well.

3 Economic development, that's been a big
4 key here, economic development. Mr. Medlin told us
5 we're going to create 52 permanent jobs. Mr. Cash,
6 where are you? He's gone? Okay.

7 Thousands of jobs. Don't insult my
8 intelligence, please, because if he was here what I
9 would ask him, show me where those jobs are. Don't
10 give me a number. You got a basis for it. I want
11 to see where they are. And the tapping in -- about
12 the tap in, what we've all been told is something
13 like 94 percent of it is going to go down to
14 electric generation plants. We need that, however,
15 I would make the recommendation that at least 25
16 percent of the gas that's going to come through
17 North Carolina should go to North Carolina
18 communities. Let it go to of us. Let it go to
19 Rocky Mount for an automotive plant. Let it come to
20 Wilson, lower our costs.

21 Now, I've heard so many things in
22 Johnston County, for example. You can't compete
23 because you don't have natural gas. Well, put a tap
24 line in. And if that's part of this I think I would
25 be inclined to support it more. Liability -- Ms.

1 Hester talked about liability here. Define the
2 liability for it. If there's an accident let us
3 clearly know what that liability is. Specify.
4 Don't make it retroactive so we know what we're all
5 dealing with.

6 Fracking. I don't know anything about
7 fracking. Okay? But one thing I do know, I found
8 very odd, when the North Carolina Legislature passed
9 it they put a revision in there that the chemical
10 composition of the fracking materials could not be
11 disclosed because it's proprietary information.
12 Does that make any sense? Why did you do that?
13 That's a criminal offense if you do. Why do you do
14 that? I don't think it makes sense. Once somebody
15 gets sick or the water gets contaminated you have no
16 way to determine where it comes from. And like I
17 said, I don't know anything about fracking, but
18 when you put that in there that's a total another
19 insult to my intelligence. With that, thank you
20 very much.

21 MR. BOWMAN: Is there anyone else that
22 would like to speak? You'll be next.

23 MR. DWIGHT HARPER: My name is Dwight
24 Harper and I live in Nash County.

25 MR. BOWMAN: Could you spell that, sir?

1 MR. HARPER: I want to know how they
2 can step on --

3 MR. BOWMAN: Sir, can you spell your
4 name, please, for the record?

5 MR. HARPER: Dwight -- D-W-I-G-H-T H-A-
6 R-P-E-R, Sr.

7 I just want to know how they can just
8 cram something down my throat that I don't want,
9 just step on me like I'm a roach bug just to get to
10 somebody else. Thank you.

11 MR. BOWMAN: Yes, sir, in the gray
12 shirt.

13 MR. BYRUM WATSON: Good evening, ladies
14 and gentleman. My name is Byrum -- that's spelled
15 B-Y-R-U-M -- Watson -- W-A-T-S-O-N. I'm from the
16 Buckhorn Community. The pipeline will be going
17 right smack through the middle of my farm. It will
18 take up half of my timber and half of my farm land.
19 Mr. Gauss is gone now. And he asked that if it was
20 going through wetlands not to bring it through
21 wetlands.

22 Well, I wish he was here because it's
23 going through wetlands. It's going through farm
24 land. Okay? Our farmers provide food for the
25 people in this community and around the world. And

1 all they're doing is taking the land from us. I'm
2 sorry I did not come prepared with any remarks. I
3 wish the Johnston County folks hadn't have gotten up
4 and left. It just -- to me it seems a little ironic
5 that they all got up and left, considering they're
6 all politicians and they're elected officials.

7 But I did get my notice today in the
8 mail, so I was just lucky that I made the meeting
9 tonight.

10 I am a local business owner. I have
11 lived 36 years on the farm that I live in now. I
12 live in the house that I was born and raised in, and
13 had plans to build a house adjacent to the house
14 that I live in now, which will be within the 300
15 yard mark of the pipeline.

16 Now, I've got two daughters. What is
17 the effects that this pipeline will cause to my
18 daughters' life long-term, short-term, liability?
19 Like the gentleman just said, what's the liability?
20 What will happen if there's a leak? What will
21 happen if there's a fire? What kind of long-term
22 effects are we going to have to the soil, to the
23 water? It's coming right through Buckhorn, right by
24 the reservoir.

25 For those of you that live in the City

1 of Wilson, it's coming to your water. You all ran
2 the chicken plant out because you were worried a
3 little chicken litter was going to get in your
4 water. Well, now you're going to have natural gas
5 right above where your water is coming from.

6 I am also concerned with our property
7 tax and property value. What does this mean? No
8 one has told us. As far as the benefits of jobs,
9 everyone keeps talking about jobs, it's going to
10 help our community. Well, I'm in the trash
11 business. I produce a large amount of trash, I haul
12 it every day. This would be great for my wallet,
13 okay, the industries that would come here. But I am
14 willing to waive that now for my long-term goal of
15 having a family, having a property that I can hand
16 down to my children as they grow older.

17 I've lived on the farm that has been
18 passed down from generation to generation. And I am
19 concerned about the lasting effects on our
20 environment. I'm sorry, that's all I have for
21 tonight. Thank you.

22 MR. BOWMAN: The gentleman in the blue
23 shirt.

24 MR. GREG WILLIAMS: Good evening. My
25 name is Greg Williams -- G-R-E-G W-I-L-L-I-A-M-S. I

1 am an affected landowner. It runs right through the
2 middle -- middle of our family farm over in Nash
3 County.

4 And my biggest concern right now, I --
5 I can't give you a definitive pro or con either way
6 on it because, hell, I have to accidentally find out
7 about these meetings. I missed two of them.
8 Nobody's notifying these landowners. I am a
9 landowner and this -- I don't have the largest farm
10 in the world, but the design -- the way my farm's
11 laid out, it covers a great deal of the area because
12 how narrow and long my farm is. It cuts it right
13 down the middle. I do have concerns on how it's
14 going to affect my property values, as well as the
15 economic impact, as well as the impact on the, you
16 know, natural resources as well.

17 But I can't develop any informed
18 decisions myself if I'm not given time to attend
19 these meetings. I stumbled across this today going
20 around on the internet on my -- on my cell phone. I
21 stumbled on the fact that there was a meeting here
22 today, and that's why I'm here. I missed a couple
23 -- I've heard people talking about other meetings in
24 other areas.

25 I did not get a packet. I did not get

1 anything from you guys, and I am a damn landowner.
2 And I expect to be notified when anything concerning
3 my property -- a meeting that's concerning my
4 property is taking place. I expect somebody to make
5 damn sure I'm notified. That's all I got to say.

6 MR. BOWMAN: Is there anyone else that
7 would like to speak? Yes, sir.

8 MR. GERALD LEE: (From audience) I'd
9 like to say at this time there's not a single tap
10 planned in Johnston County. I meant to say that
11 before, but --

12 MR. BOWMAN: Sir, what was your name
13 again? I know you came up before, but I can't
14 remember your face.

15 MR. LEE: Gerald Lee.

16 MR. BOWMAN: Thank you.

17 Any last speakers?

18 Okay. Okay. I do apologize for anyone
19 that got their notice today, but I appreciate you
20 guys coming out here on the short notice, or if you
21 didn't get it. The comment period for this project
22 will be open until the 28th of April. We will
23 continue to take comments after that if you miss the
24 deadline. For those of you that came tonight or if
25 you have -- if you have neighbors or friends that

1 didn't make the meeting, written comments carry the
2 same weight as any comment that's given to us at
3 these meetings today. So in our review if someone
4 gives us something at the meeting or later on it
5 will be treated equally by the Commission.

6 So the public record for this project
7 is available on our website. Transcripts of
8 tonight's meeting will be placed on the record on
9 our website. If you use the project docket number
10 for Atlantic Coast Pipeline, which PF15 dash 6, and
11 for the Supply Header Project the docket number is
12 PF15 dash 5. You can find all the materials related
13 to these projects, whether it is comments from
14 landowners and stakeholders, filings by the
15 applicant or issuances by the Commission.

16 MS. HESTER: Is that like P as in Paul?

17 MR. BOWMAN: Yes. PF, which stands for
18 pre-filing.

19 MS. HESTER: Okay. 15 dash --

20 MR. BOWMAN: 15 dash 6.

21 MS. HESTER: 15 dash 6. And that's it?

22 To be able to make your comments you have to go to
23 the FERC website, FERC dot gov. All right?

24 MR. BOWMAN: That's correct. And then
25 you would --

1 MS. HESTER: And then when you get to
2 that website there's a place for you to go to submit
3 comments. There's a second link and you have to --
4 you have to go to that comment link. And you want
5 to make e-comments. You don't want to do anything
6 about filing one. Select e-comments and then you
7 can make comments. There are 6,000 characters I
8 believe, so --

9 MR. BOWMAN: Yeah, there are several
10 different ways to file comments with FERC. And we
11 do have some informational handouts at the table
12 outside with more explicit instructions on how to
13 file comments with FERC.

14 MR. GREG WILLIAMS: (From audience)
15 Someone will be out front to pass that out?

16 MR. BOWMAN: Yeah, we'll be out there.
17 We have -- we have pamphlets on how to do it.

18 So with that, I thank you all for
19 coming tonight. On behalf of FERC, this meeting is
20 adjourned.

21 -----

22 The time is 8:55 p.m.

23

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25