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BEFORE THE

FEDERAL ENERGY REGULATORY COMMISSION

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IN THE MATTER OF: : Project No.
Nexus Gas Transmission Texas : PF15-11-000
Eastern Application Lease :
Project :

- - - - - x

Louisville High School
1201 S. Nickelplate
Louisville, Ohio 44641

Thursday, April 30, 2015

The above-entitled matter came on for technical
conference, pursuant to notice, at 6:10 p.m., Joanne
Wachholder, the moderator.

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

2 (6:10 p.m.)

3 MS. WACHHOLDER: We'd like to get started soon,
4 so if you'd make your way down so you can hear and see
5 everybody that would be great. Alright, we're going to get
6 started now.

7 Good evening everyone. On behalf of the Federal
8 Energy Regulatory Commission, or "FERC," or the
9 "Commission," I'd like to welcome you here tonight.

10 The primary purpose of this meeting is to give
11 you an opportunity to provide comments on the Nexus Gas
12 Transmission project and the Texas Eastern Application Lease
13 or TL Project.

14 Let the record show that the public scoping
15 meeting began at 6:10 p.m. on April 30, 2015.

16 My name is Joanne Wachholder. I'm an
17 Environmental Project Manager at FERC's Office of Energy
18 Projects. With me here tonight is Alisa Lykens, also from
19 FERC and John Muehlhausen, Abby Korte, and April Holdren
20 with Merjent, and their environmental consulting firm that
21 are assisting us in the production of the Environmental
22 Impact Statement or EIS that will be prepared for the
23 projects.

24 As you can see, this meeting is being recorded by
25 a court reporter so that we can have an accurate record of

1 tonight's comments.

2 A transcript of this meeting will be placed in
3 the public record so that everyone has access to the
4 information discussed here tonight. I'll quickly run
5 through the agenda for tonight's meeting. I'll start off by
6 briefly explaining the role of the FERC and our application
7 process. I'll also describe the projects before us.

8 Then we'll hear from those of you who signed up
9 to speak at the table at the back and make formal comments
10 on the projects.

11 If we have time at the end of the meeting, anyone
12 who did not sign up but would like to have their comments
13 heard will have a chance to speak.

14 The meeting will end once all speakers have
15 provided their comments, or by 10:00 p.m., whichever comes
16 first.

17 I would like to begin by describing the FERC.
18 FERC is an independent agency that, among other things,
19 regulates the interstate transmission of natural gas.

20 We review proposals and authorize construction of
21 interstate natural gas pipelines, storage facilities, and
22 liquefied natural gas terminals.

23 As the federal licensing agency, the FERC has the
24 responsibility under the National Environmental Policy Act,
25 or "NEPA," to consider the potential environmental impacts

1 associated with the jurisdictional project.

2 With regard to the Nexus and TL projects the FERC
3 is the lead federal agency for the NEPA review and the
4 preparation of the Environmental Impact Statement.

5 The Commission is made up of five members who are
6 appointed by the President and approved by the Senate. The
7 Commission staff, which includes me and Alisa, prepares
8 technical information to assist the Commissioners in making
9 their decisions.

10 When a company wants to build pipeline facilities
11 to transport and sell natural gas in interstate commerce,
12 the company files an application with the Commission. Nexus
13 and Texas Eastern plan to file their applications in
14 November 2015 and are requesting Commission certificates of
15 public convenience and necessity by November of 2016.

16 As an introduction to the planned projects, Nexus
17 plans to construct about 250 miles of new 36-inch diameter
18 pipeline in Northern Ohio and Southeastern Michigan, up to
19 130 horsepower of compression at four new natural gas-fired
20 compressor stations in Northern Ohio and four new metering
21 stations in Northern Ohio and Southeastern Michigan.

22 The Nexus project will provide up to 1,500,000
23 dekatherms per day of natural gas to various markets in the
24 U.S., Midwest, and Canada.

25 Texas Eastern plans to construct 4.5 miles of

1 pipeline looping adjacent to its existing line 30 in Monroe
2 County, Ohio, install an additional 9,400 horsepower of
3 compression, at its currently approved Colerain Compressor
4 station in Belmont County, Ohio. Construct one new
5 compressor station with 18,800 horsepower in Columbiana
6 County, Ohio, and make additional piping modifications.

7 The TL project will provide up to 950,000
8 dekatherms per day of natural gas from the Appalachian Basis
9 to various markets in the U.S., Midwest, and Canada via a
10 lease of the capacity to Nexus.

11 It is important for everyone to understand that
12 the planned projects are not conceived by, and are not
13 promoted by the FERC or our cooperating agencies. The FERC
14 staff reviews applications for the authority to build and
15 operate interstate natural gas pipelines and Nexus and Texas
16 Eastern are in the process of routing their pipelines and
17 preparing applications to submit to FERC.

18 Once the applications are submitted, our
19 obligation is to review the applications and prepare an
20 analysis of the environmental impacts.

21 Tonight's meeting is not a public hearing. We
22 are not hear to debate the proposal or to make any
23 determinations on its fate. We are here to listen to your
24 concerns so that we can consider them in our analysis of the
25 potential natural and human environmental impacts of the

1 project and how those impacts might be reduced or avoided.

2 If there are any general objections or support to
3 the project or other non-environmental issues concerning the
4 proposal, those issues will be considered by the Commission
5 in its determination of the project's public convenience and
6 necessity, whereas environmental and safety impacts are
7 addressed by the FERC's environmental staff in our EIS.

8 In other words, the Commission wants to hear your
9 concerns on the non-environmental issues. However, those
10 issues will be addressed in different ways.

11 Now I want to briefly describe our environmental
12 review process. We are currently near the beginning of our
13 environmental review process. Nexus and Texas Eastern
14 entered into FERC's pre-filing process on January 9 and 26
15 of this year respectively, which began our review of the
16 projects.

17 The purpose of the pre-filing process is to
18 encourage involvement by all interested stakeholders, in a
19 manner that allows for the early identification and
20 resolution of environmental issues.

21 The FERC docket numbers for the project are
22 PF-15-10-000 and PF-15-11-000. The PF means pre-filing and
23 no formal application has been filed at FERC for the
24 projects. Once Nexus and Texas Eastern file formal
25 applications, new docket numbers will be assigned with a CP

1 docket number designation.

2 The goal of pre-filing is to get information from
3 the public as well as agencies and other groups so that we
4 can incorporate our substantive issues of concern into our
5 review.

6 On April 8, 2015, FERC issued a Notice of Intent
7 to prepare an environmental impact statement, also known as
8 an NOI, for the Nexus and TL projects and initiated a
9 scoping and comment period.

10 The NOI was mailed to over 4,000 stakeholders and
11 describes the environmental review process, some already
12 identified environmental issues, and the steps the FERC and
13 the cooperating agencies will take to prepare the EIS.

14 Federal, state, local, and other government
15 agencies with jurisdiction by law or special expertise are
16 welcome to cooperate in preparation of the EIS.

17 We have set an ending date of May 22, 2015 for
18 the scoping period. However, the end of the scoping period
19 is not the end of public involvement. I'm going to repeat
20 that -- the end of the scoping period is not the end of
21 public involvement or your only opportunity to comment.

22 We will address comments throughout the review of
23 the project. But for us to adequately address your
24 comments, analyze them and research the issues, we ask that
25 you try to get those to us as soon as possible. There will

1 be another comment period once the draft EIS is published.

2 Extra copies of the NOI and other project
3 handouts are located in the back of the room at the sign-in
4 table. A speakers' list is also located at the back table.
5 We will use that list to call speakers to the podium
6 tonight. If you wish to speak and have not signed up,
7 please add your name to the list.

8 In addition to verbal comments provided tonight,
9 we will also accept your written comments. If you have
10 comments but do not wish to speak tonight, you may provide
11 written comments on the comment forms provided on the back
12 table. You may drop those off with us or mail them at a
13 later date.

14 Be sure to include the project docket number
15 PF-15-10 or PF-15-11 and your personal information if you
16 want us to be able to contact you or to be placed on the
17 mailing list.

18 Your comments tonight, together with any written
19 comments you've already filed or intend to file, will be
20 added to the official record of the proceeding.

21 We consider the pre-filing process to be among
22 other things, an extension of our scoping process. The
23 scoping process is a learning process, it is where we
24 educate ourselves about the project and the potential issues
25 and environmental impacts.

1 During the scoping process, we are gathering
2 information. The four general sources that we are using
3 right now are information provided by the applicant, input
4 from other federal, state, and local agencies, our own field
5 work and research of different issues, and information from
6 the public.

7 We then take all of the comments that address
8 natural and human environmental issues and utilizing all
9 available information and expertise, factor them into our
10 independent analysis of the project's potential impacts.

11 This will include an examination of the proposed
12 facility locations, as well as alternative sites. We will
13 assess the project's effects on water bodies and wetlands,
14 vegetation and wildlife, endangered species, cultural
15 resources, soils and geology, land use, air quality, noise,
16 and safety.

17 We will publish those findings in a draft EIS,
18 which will then be distributed for a minimum 45-day public
19 comment period.

20 Additional public comment meeting will be
21 announced at that time where we will invite the public to
22 provide additional comments on our draft EIS analysis and
23 conclusions.

24 The public comment meetings may be similar in
25 format to this one and possibly the same facility if it is

1 available.

2 At the end of the draft EIS comment period, FERC
3 staff will prepare a final EIS that specifically addresses
4 each comment received on the draft EIS. It includes all
5 necessary changes, additions, and modifications to
6 conclusions reach in the draft EIS.

7 Once we have issued the final EIS, it is
8 forwarded to our Commissioners for their consideration.

9 I'd like to remind everyone that the EIS is not
10 the decision-making document. It is merely our analysis of
11 the potential impacts of the projects and the alternatives.

12 The Commission will consider the findings,
13 conclusions, and recommendations in the EIS, as well as
14 public comments on non-environmental issues, including
15 engineering, market need, rates, finances, tariffs, and
16 costs, and making an informed decision on whether or not to
17 authorize the projects, and if so, under what conditions.

18 Currently, our mailing list for this project is
19 over 4,000 stakeholders. If you received a copy of the NOI
20 in the mail, you are already on the mailing list to receive
21 the EIS.

22 There is a return mailer attached to the back of
23 the NOI by which you could indicate if you want to correct
24 your mailing address or remove your name from the mailing
25 list. Also, please note because the size of the mailing

1 list, the mailed version of the EIS will be on a CD ROM.

2 We are now going to move into the part of the
3 meeting where we will hear comments from the audience
4 members, particularly the affected landowners. As I
5 mentioned before, if you would rather not speak, you may
6 hand in written comments tonight or send them to the
7 Secretary of the Commission, by following the procedures
8 outlined in the NOI and comment forms.

9 Whether you verbally provide your comments or
10 mail them in, they will be equally considered by FERC. The
11 Commission encourages electronic filing of written comments.
12 The instructions are in the NOI and can be located at our
13 website, which is www.ferc.gov, under the e-filing link.

14 The forms at the sign-in desk also provide the
15 web addresses and instructions.

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

21 When your name is called, please step up to the
22 podium and clearly state your name and affiliation, if any.
23 Also speak directly into the microphone so that you can be
24 clearly heard by the reporter, the panel, and the audience.

25 Some other meetings we've restricted the time to

1 3 minutes, but due to the number -- we currently have 14
2 people signed up to speak, we're not going to restrict time.
3 So keep it to a reasonable amount so it's not an hour for
4 one person, but we'd appreciate that.

5 We don't want to limit anyone's comments so if
6 you -- I have to finish up -- you can summarize your
7 comments and submit them in the back, we can take them
8 there. And if you feel that somebody addressed your
9 comments and you don't want to expand on it, you can always
10 say you endorse somebody else's comments.

11 I also want to make sure that we conduct this
12 meeting in a professional decorum. We are here to hear each
13 of your comments on the projects. Please respect each
14 speaker and refrain from interruptions whether you agree or
15 not.

16 Lastly, before we start, as a courtesy to our
17 speakers and the rest of the audience, please turn off or
18 silence your cell phones. Thank you for your consideration.
19 We are now ready to call our first speaker. Speaker number
20 one is Woodrow Lahr.

21 MR. LAHR: I am Woodrow Lahr, 1777 Lake O Pines
22 St NE Hartville, Ohio. I would like to see the paper of
23 Nexus adopting the southern safety corridor.

24 I understood that FERC recommended they evaluate
25 this sometime back, I think it was March and to date I have

1 not heard anything about that and we're trying to be
2 understanding about what is a good route that's safe and I
3 think it adds 10 miles more so that adds more jobs and yet
4 less environmental impact.

5 When I purchased a farm many years ago, I
6 purchased it to hunt and fish and have a lot of fun with my
7 family. And then we developed an equestrian center and
8 that's presently part of the facility.

9 What we are looking at is change. We have two
10 streams and ponds there. We have blue herrings -- actually
11 this week I saw a white herring for the first time, I don't
12 know how it's not whiting, but all this would go through a
13 dysfunction and it's not very comforting to me.

14 I think that I mentioned that I thought that FERC
15 has said they're looking at the southern pipeline and
16 recently I received a letter with all these Ohio regulations
17 that allows them to move on my land and evaluate it and
18 thought these were stricken down by the court system some
19 time ago.

20 And if we're also considering using imminent
21 domain, the imminent domain of the existing pipeline was
22 formulated some 15 -- no what was it, 50 years ago and they
23 were using different compilation analysis and trying to
24 squeeze the pipeline through the same corridor area. It's
25 sort of a no -- you know, it shows lack of planning really.

1 And I think that the planning that the citizens
2 for the security, that a more southern route really shows a
3 great improvement in the impact of the environment and also
4 to the impact of residential areas.

5 I am 72 and retired and my son is finishing
6 college and we had a plan to develop some of the acreage for
7 the farm and he was going to have his house and family live
8 there but the area will be consumed by the pipeline that I
9 took the time to go to Nexus and they printed out where the
10 corridor would be and this is going to negate that because
11 it has a 50 foot right-of-way and I never thought I bought
12 the farm so that I could sell it for \$10 a linear acre and
13 this is very disheartening. Thank you.

14 MS. WACHHOLDER: Thank you very much. Speaker
15 number 2 is David Mucklow.

16 MR. MUCKLOW: My name is David Mucklow. I live
17 at 4882 Main Road. I'm a resident and attorney in Greene,
18 Ohio and a leader of the Coalition to Reroute Nexus.

19 Nexus is of the position that the right to make
20 money is superior to the rights of property owners or the
21 safety of any community in Ohio. Nexus is capitalizing the
22 profits while socializing the risks.

23 Supersized pipelines are a relatively new
24 technology and the pains of safety setbacks created many
25 years ago are no match for the destructive power of large

1 high pressure gas pipelines. These large pipelines are like
2 having a dynamite factory in your backyard.

3 As Dr. Charles Rhodes, PhD from Canada state in
4 his report on pipeline setbacks, a small leak in a well can
5 self-ignite due to static charge.

6 The blast zone is between 1,200 and 1,500 feet
7 radius, destroying all structures and killing all living
8 things. Other industry studies support his conclusions.

9 Beyond the kill zone is a secondary fire zone set
10 ablaze by radiant heat and starting fires. FERC's position
11 is that safety is not their domain, that safety is the
12 province of the Department of Transportation.

13 The DOT recently told us, as of this week that
14 the problem with setbacks is with FERC. There is a
15 disconnect between the governed and those buying off the
16 politicians in Washington, D.C.

17 The system is broken. During 2014 there were 19
18 deaths, 96 injuries, and nearly \$300 million of damages on
19 interstate pipelines.

20 With siting a pipeline and ignoring obvious
21 safety risks and not imposing safety setbacks, is not
22 acceptable and will not be tolerated. We as Americans, as
23 Ohioans, must and will demand that our lives and the lives
24 of our children are more important than Spectra's profits
25 and stock price for the revolving door at FERC -- and I'm

1 not referring to the profession staff, they've been
2 wonderful. I'm talking about the Commissioners.

3 This year is the 800 year anniversary of the
4 Magna Carter. It became the foundation to our Bill of
5 Rights adopted by every state. The Bill of Rights includes
6 the Second, Fifth, and Tenth Amendments.

7 The Fifth Amendment requires fair compensation
8 for takings are for public purpose. Sam Adams once wrote,
9 "the moment the idea is admitted into society, the property
10 is not as sacred as the law of God, and that there is not a
11 force of law and public justice to protect it, anarchy and
12 tyranny commence." Are you willing to fight to protect your
13 home, your family, and your investment?

14 It's important that property owners do not
15 negotiate with Nexus one-on-one, we fight as a group, all
16 the way through imminent domain, should it come to that.

17 In response to the poorly designed route of Nexus
18 and the disregard for safety setbacks, the City of Green,
19 working with experts designed an eastern reroute that
20 maintains a 1,500 foot setback from most structures and
21 avoids conflicts by ratio of more than 3 to 1.

22 Wetlands and other environmentally sensitive
23 areas were avoided. Nine miles of length will add an
24 increasing potential jobs. Similar efforts have been made
25 in western counties of Ohio, near Toledo. Citizens of local

1 governments rolled up their sleeves and attempted to solve a
2 complicated issue created by the bad planners at Nexus.

3 I'm here to ask for your support in our cause to
4 create safety corridors whether defect or otherwise and move
5 this pipelines to areas that are safer, put fewer lives at
6 risk, and do not destroy property values for the
7 environment. Please contact one of the CORN representatives
8 if you'd like to be informed and join our cause. Thank you.

9 (Applause.)

10 MS. WACHHOLDER: Thank you. Next speaker is
11 number 3, Melinda Christie.

12 MS. CHRISTIE: Hi, my name is Mindy Christie or
13 Melinda Christie. I live at 4927 Mayfair Road in Green,
14 Ohio. There is a county south of us called Carroll County,
15 most of you might be familiar with it. It's mostly farm
16 land and I have quite a few friends who live there, most of
17 them already have pipelines running through their property.

18 When this whole Nexus project came to light I had
19 a discussion with one of those friends and he did not
20 understand why I was so upset. He wanted to know what my
21 objections were.

22 I explained it in very simple terms. I said to
23 him, you have a hundred acres, the pipeline runs through
24 your pastures. My neighbors and I have anywhere from one to
25 six acre plots, it will run past our front doors. He had

1 not thought of it that way and understood the point I was
2 trying to make.

3 Running a pipeline through a rural area is
4 nothing like running a pipeline through an urban area.

5 We have been touted the benefits of running this
6 pipeline through existing utility corridors, trying to
7 convince us that this would be beneficial and solve most of
8 the problems.

9 There are homes on these utility corridors. This
10 utility corridor is my side yard, 5,200 feet from my home,
11 my neighbors' yards, a place many in my community call home.

12 Homes two schools, and one of our largest
13 Catholic churches with its community center. Aris Park,
14 home to much wildlife and also to a sports field that is
15 packed nightly with local and out of town teens also sits on
16 this utility corridor.

17 It will run near Lake Nimisila where I watch the
18 Ospreys and Bald Eagles as they nest every summer. This is
19 supposed to be the preferred route with the least impact.
20 It is not. We need a safety corridor not a utility
21 corridor.

22 Roughly 4,600 homes sit within 1,500 feet of the
23 pipeline on the currently proposed and ill-conceived route.
24 Homes, schools, wetlands, parks, a huge environmental and
25 socio-economic impact.

1 Should the decision be made based on the easiest,
2 shortest, and fastest way to build a pipeline with no
3 thought to the impact on the communities? Why the rush to
4 judgment? The impact to our communities, our parks and
5 homes, wetlands, and wildlife cannot be undone once a
6 decision is made.

7 Isn't Nexus afraid that if people are given the
8 time to carefully consider all the ramifications of the
9 project, that they will see that this current route was
10 ill-conceived from the start.

11 We could reduce this impact by considering a
12 route that will affect 50% fewer churches, 40% fewer
13 businesses, 70% fewer homes, and 100% fewer schools. Do the
14 math. It is simple addition and it doesn't add up to a good
15 decision for anyone but Nexus.

16 (Applause.)

17 MS. WACHHOLDER: Thank you. Next up is David.
18 I'm not even going to say your name I get the last name
19 wrong every time.

20 MR. LABORDE: Thank you. My name is David
21 Laborde and I'm the Teamsters National Pipeline Director,
22 and I am in support of the Nexus pipeline.

23 What I would like to say though is that for the
24 people that I met from CORN, I want to tell you guy show
25 much I appreciate and respect the courteousism and the

1 kindness that you have shown me over the last several days,
2 so thank you.

3 Tonight I'd like to talk about safety. I'd like
4 to talk about the Teamsters National Pipeline Training Fund.
5 Our training fund is money that our members have taken off
6 their paycheck that goes back into a training fund where we
7 train our members to do pipeline work.

8 In the State of Ohio, we currently have about
9 50,000 members. Not all of these members work on the
10 pipelines, but the ones that do have certain cents per our
11 come off every hour that they work.

12 We have over 14 training facilities throughout
13 the United States, and we have one right here in Ohio.
14 Every month of every year we are training our members to
15 work safely and professionally on the pipeline.

16 As I said the last two nights, our members depend
17 on these jobs. These jobs give our members good paying
18 wages, they give them health insurance, and they give them a
19 retirement for them and their families.

20 With our training centers we have to follow all
21 the guidelines, and I know my brothers here from the UA,
22 specifically pipeline Local 798, the operators do the same
23 thing.

24 We can't tell the folks enough how much we
25 respect their opinion, but we are the best trained, the most

1 professional pipeliners that this United States has to
2 offer. And with that, we will respectfully ask FERC to
3 approve this project. Thank you.

4 MS. WACHHOLDER: Thank you. Our next speaker is
5 number 5, Terry Langley.

6 MR. LANGLEY: Good evening. My name is Terry
7 Langley and I am here tonight to speak to you on behalf of
8 the Pipeliners Local 798 and Spectra Energy. Not only will
9 we propose -- will the proposed Nexus pipeline benefit our
10 country's growing need and expansion in the energy
11 infrastructure, it will benefit the 750 plus members we have
12 living in the area through the creation of much needed jobs.

13 It will benefit you the people who live locally,
14 through the generation of tax revenue and influx of moneys
15 into your local businesses during the installation of the
16 Nexus.

17 The construction of the Nexus pipeline will move
18 the natural gas from the Utica and Marcella Shale to areas
19 in great need of natural gas and its many uses.

20 Natural gas is the cleanest, most energy
21 efficient way we have in our country to provide our energy
22 needs but it's much more than a way to heat a home or
23 business, or even power a vehicle.

24 Through various processes, we can use natural
25 gas, like fertilizers for our farmers, process it into base

1 for herbicides and pesticides needed for crops production,
2 make paint, glue, vinegar, and insulation, just to name a
3 few.

4 Natural gas is a necessity as we as a country
5 continue to separate ourselves from dependence on the Middle
6 East. As I have previously stated, we need natural gas as a
7 nation.

8 Transporting it by means of pipeline have been
9 proven time and time again to be the safest and has the
10 least long term environmental impacts. Using today's
11 technology and the best trained professionals in the world
12 will ensure a pipeline that you as citizens of Ohio and as
13 Americans can not only feel safe about, but feel proud as
14 well. Thank you for your time.

15 MS. WACHHOLDER: Thank you. Number 6, Wayne
16 Wiethe.

17 MR. WIETHE: Good evening. My name is Wayne
18 Weithe, Director of Planning, City of Green. If you need an
19 address, 1755 Town Park Boulevard, Green, Ohio.

20 First, the City of Green has been very involved
21 in preparing the alternate route, the southern route, which
22 is a much more rural route. We do support the southern
23 alternative route and because of that, it's primarily
24 because of the negative impact of the proposed route to the
25 City of Green.

1 You heard tonight, I think previously about Aris
2 Park. Aris Park is a park that we've acquired a number of
3 years ago. It is 92 acres. We know 15 acres is on the west
4 side of I-77 is pretty much all wetland. We're not allow to
5 impact it, we can't sell it because nobody wants it because
6 they can't impact it without the proper mitigation, but yet
7 it appears they want a pipeline through it.

8 Other items in Aris Park that we've bought, we
9 were able to obtain at a very good price primarily because
10 Aris Park had some EPA issues. In the better years of the
11 rubber companies and the Akron region it was a dumping site
12 until the township at that time could stop it.

13 So when we constructed part of Aris Park, we had
14 to go through a lot of testing and we would only expect that
15 Nexus or anybody that would be approved to do this, meet the
16 very same criteria that the City of Green had to meet with
17 the EPA regulations at that time.

18 Those are 10-foot deep core sampling on a grid,
19 approved by both the City of Green and the EPA and that they
20 would also recognize anything that would happen there. They
21 may actually, if they want to be there, be required to
22 remove any of that contamination.

23 Secondly, we do have some other wetlands where we
24 are primarily developing the park. The park is not fully
25 developed to date. We are currently looking or relocating

1 three baseball fields and a football field and that site is
2 Aris Park.

3 We have -- today you see some agricultural land
4 there and we do allow our farmers to continue to farm any of
5 the land that we have under park control until such time
6 that we need it. They understand that.

7 However, my concern is not only with existing
8 development, which I think this has a huge impact, but
9 future development.

10 Just for the City of Green to develop those
11 parks, if there is a pipeline there, we are now meeting the
12 grades that they've established at the current levels. So
13 if the grade is there and they go three feet deep, we're
14 limited on what we can do to construct those ball fields in
15 the future.

16 To the west of I-77 is another farm field. This
17 area has also had mine subsidence as well. We encourage on
18 the record that the abandoned mine maps which have been put
19 on the docket be considered because we believe a 36-inch
20 pipe with abandoned mines is a safety issue, truly. It is
21 because we have had subsidence. Those subsidence issues is
22 a matter of record.

23 West of I-77 is a proposed economic development
24 project called Park Place. Again, it may not be Ray that
25 pull the trigger on the development of Park Place, we do

1 have a concept plans, those are on file on the docket.
2 Again, the problem with this is that it's not the fact that
3 it looks like agricultural land, but it's trying to meet
4 where we want to be in the future and the development of
5 infrastructure, working around a 36-inch pipeline that will
6 not be moved.

7 We can work with Dominion East Ohio in moving
8 pipelines which are 8 to 12 inches, okay. We know that a
9 36-inch pipe will never be moved most likely, or at our cost
10 we cannot afford to move it.

11 We also have neighborhoods and trees and a lot of
12 trees that will never be replaced in peoples' back yards, in
13 park land. We have issues now from a permitting standpoint.
14 We have additional issues with bat species that are now
15 being put onto the extinct species list or threatened
16 species list.

17 So with that, as we take down trees that are
18 permanently removed because pipelines do not allow the trees
19 to be replaced, we have a concern with the bat species. We
20 can work within the parameters that we're allowed when we do
21 development around the rules and regulations regarding
22 threatened species.

23 As this project continues to go through Green, it
24 goes approximately six miles through Green, which is our
25 biggest concern. We are impacting neighbors, we are

1 impacting potential septic systems.

2 We have some areas in Green that are less
3 populated, but still are functioning under septic systems
4 and onsite wells.

5 There is usually some type of impact. I've been
6 in the business going on 30 years, I know the impact of
7 drilling or to digging homes, and the impact to wells and
8 septics.

9 On the west side we have Nimisila Reservoir, part
10 of the Protage Lakes State Park. We have a series of
11 wetlands, a lot of repairing corridors on the west side
12 feeding Nimisila Reservoir. Also feeding camp Inola, also
13 feeding Cowan Lake, which is a private lake, and we have a
14 lot of concern to the impact those repairing corridor as you
15 come across Green.

16 We would expect that anybody who were given
17 approval, if they were given approval to construct in Green,
18 would also meet all our local ordinances, which is repairing
19 corridor protection, which is right-of-way permitting, and
20 which would adhere to any other ordinances that would apply
21 to construction -- storm water pollution prevention plans,
22 etcetera.

23 On other pipeline layers, Dominion and others, we
24 were not immune to these. We have two petroleum pipelines
25 that exist in Green, we understand that, but they adhere to

1 our local ordinance. We expect Nexus to be held to those
2 same rules.

3 So with that, we do not feel that Green, which is
4 part of the urban area of the Akron metropolitan statistical
5 area, is the right place for this. We do believe there is a
6 much more rural route that this could be placed. Thank you.

7 (Applause.)

8 MS. WACHHOLDER: Thank you. Number 7, Chrissy
9 Lingenfelter.

10 MS. LINGENFELTER: Good evening. Chrissy
11 Lingenfelter. I'm a Planner with the City of Green, 1755
12 Town Park Boulevard.

13 It's no secret here that we have submitted a
14 reroute -- a southern reroute through southern Stark County.
15 I just want to reiterate some of the statistics and the
16 analysis that I did in preparing that re-route.

17 The reduction to residential structures would be
18 69%, the reduction to commercial structures would be 41%. A
19 50% reduction in churches, 100% reduction in impacted
20 schools, and 83% reduction in parks.

21 And the number that stood out to me of most
22 interest is the 58% reduction in wetland impact. So those
23 are pretty significant numbers and we chose to follow
24 existing pipeline in southern Stark County and also an
25 existing proposed pipeline until it turns north in Wayne and

1 Medina counties.

2 And I just want to build on what Wayne was saying
3 about the septic systems also. We are an NPDS phase two
4 community so any septic system, any discharging system that
5 would be impacted, for it to be reconstructed would now have
6 to have an EPA permit, which has an annual fee to the EPA
7 for the proper owners and it would be an added burden to
8 those property owners. Thank you.

9 (Applause.)

10 MS. WACHHOLDER: Thank you. Next speaker is
11 number 8, Mary Gahres with the Girl Scouts of Northeastern
12 Ohio.

13 MS. GAHRES: Hello. My name is Mary Gahres. I'm
14 representing the Girl Scouts of Northeast Ohio, the
15 owner/operator of Camp Timberlane at 13408 Green Road,
16 Wakeman, Ohio.

17 The pipeline's path poses a threat to all those
18 who use Camp Timberlane, due to the inherent risks of leaks,
19 ruptures, that can result in explosions, fire, environmental
20 contamination, property damage, personal injury, and death.

21 It appears the proposed route is in close
22 proximity or directly through one of our main program areas.
23 It includes our dining hall, troop cabin, the new aquatic
24 center that is under construction right now and should be
25 completed by the end of the month, and other program sites.

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The safety and security of the girls and adults at Girl Scout properties is our number one priority. An alternative route, which would minimize the impact to Girl Scout programs on this property, is recommended.

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On behalf of the Girl Scouts of Northeast Ohio, we respectfully oppose the proposed path of construction through our Girl Scout camp. This is also signed by our Chairman of the Board, Brenda Heidinger and our CEO Mary Lane Christensen. Thank you.

11

(Applause.)

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MS. WACHHOLDER: Thank you. Number 9 is Mike Cramer.

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MR. CRAMER: My name is Mike Cramer. I'm with the International Union of Operating Engineers, the Akron office. I'm here to support the Nexus Gas Transmission Project. Nexus would be a critical economic development in the infrastructure project within Ohio that will bring thousands of jobs to the region.

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Our communities have the opportunity to play a crucial role in moving Ohio and the nation towards energy independence as we continue to safely develop and transport our abundant supplies of clean burning oil -- natural gas.

According to the U.S. Department of Transportation, interstate transmission pipelines are the

1 safest mode of transportation for natural gas.

2 The International Union of Operating Engineers
3 Local 18 are proud of the integrity and safety record that
4 we maintain in the construction of pipeline infrastructure.
5 Local 18 has one of the largest training programs in the
6 International Union of Operating Engineers with over 15,000
7 training hours last year alone, and our training program is
8 recognized by others as one of the most successful programs
9 in the country.

10 Local 18 has members who live in every county in
11 Ohio in which this project is proposed to be in and our
12 members welcome the economic growth and job benefits the
13 Nexus Project will bring to the region. I urge you to
14 approve the pending Nexus Project application and put our
15 members to work. Thank you.

16 MS. WACHHOLDER: Thank you. Number 10, Terry
17 Rastetter.

18 MR. RASTETTER: My name is Terry Rastetter. I'm
19 here on behalf of my mother who lives at 12177 Eastern
20 Street, Maxima. The proposed pipeline would go right by her
21 house with 100 feet and I believe this is just too close for
22 any pipeline to be close to houses.

23 There is a proposed southern route the City of
24 Green has proposed, I believe would be a lot more less
25 impact on houses, the environment, and I would request that

1 -- have Nexus consider the southern route. Thank you.

2 (Applause.)

3 MS. WACHHOLDER: Thank you. Number 11, Tom
4 Barbush.

5 MR. BARBUSH: Good evening. My name is Tom
6 Barbush. I live in a development called St. Ives. My
7 address is 9310 Bletchley Avenue. St. Ives will be bisected
8 by the proposed pipeline route. And I more have a couple of
9 kind of points of discussion rather than a prepared
10 statement.

11 I would endorse the statement made by the
12 gentlemen who lives on Mayfair regarding the Canadian
13 physicist blast radius of at least 1,000 yards with the
14 catastrophic failure of a 36-inch pipeline.

15 A similar route was proposed approximately 15
16 years ago, was not approved for reasons that weren't
17 necessarily made public, but I'm wondering what the
18 difference is with this route that makes it a good idea now,
19 not a good idea then.

20 I said that the route bisects my housing
21 development. The reason is, there is a 25-acre plot of land
22 centrally within the development that is not suitable for
23 residential development because of prior coal mining in that
24 area.

25 If subsidence is a major issue in terms of a high

1 pressure, large-diameter pipeline, I don't see how an area
2 with coal mines in it is a suitable site for a pipeline if
3 subsidence is a major concern.

4 I was told by representatives by Nexus that
5 property values are not diminished by a pipeline such as
6 this, I guess I would question then why Spectra Energy
7 doesn't purchase the property if it doesn't lose any value,
8 then they would not lose any value or lose any money in
9 reselling the property if that is actually true.

10 I was also told by the same gentlemen that I have
11 a greater chance of being struck by lightning in my front
12 yard than experiencing a catastrophic failure of a pipeline.
13 That's only true if I'm in my front yard during a lighting
14 storm, which I have a choice about. A pipeline I may or may
15 not have a choice about.

16 I'm trying to understand the whole concept of
17 eminent domain as it relates to this. My understanding of
18 eminent domain has always been that it's a right granted to
19 federal, state, and local government by the Constitution. I
20 don't understand exactly how eminent domain is something
21 that's assumed by a private company such a Spectra and then
22 utilize for the construction of the pipeline.

23 I would endorse the comments, I guess made by the
24 officials from Green regarding proximity to elementary
25 schools and other concerns raised by them, and also the

1 gentlemen who was on Lake O Pines, regarding the southern
2 route.

3 The concerns raised by the -- or the statements
4 made by the Teamsters and pipeliners, I think we as
5 homeowners are not trying to prevent someone from earning a
6 living or providing for their families, we're asking for a
7 re-routing of the pipeline to an area that is more rural as
8 other people have said, rather than through an urban area as
9 it is currently being proposed.

10 One thing I would question about the intent of
11 the gas is, any of this going to be used for export, that's
12 not something that's being addressed.

13 The other thing I wonder is, given the report and
14 decline in new well starts as a result of the decline in oil
15 prices and the actions of the Saudi government especially
16 with regard to oil pricing and oil production, is there
17 going to be sufficient gas production from the wells
18 currently in Carroll and surrounding counties several years
19 from now when this pipeline would actually be completed, to
20 make the pipeline a necessity at that point, especially
21 given the fact that the Rover Pipeline is also further along
22 right now in its approval process.

23 And if that is ultimately built, would there even
24 be a need for Nexus given the possibility of decline in
25 production over time. Those are the comments I have. Thank

1 you for your time.

2 (Applause.)

3 MS. WACHHOLDER: Next up, number 12, Sheri
4 Ebbott.

5 MS. EBBOTT: Hello, my name is Sheri Ebbott and I
6 live at 887 Killinger Road in Green Mile.

7 I'm here tonight to speak to you on behalf of our
8 property and on behalf of our wildlife. We own about over
9 six and a half acres of property and -- sorry I'm going to
10 read this because I'm so bad at public speaking.

11 Where the proposed pipeline would run through on
12 our land will directly cover a main deer path that we've
13 always regarded as our deer super highway -- it's what we've
14 always called it with the kids because we always have deer
15 coming and going through there.

16 In this area, we also have forested wetlands that
17 are home to a variety of vegetation, as well as our stream
18 peepers.

19 Our property is like a park. We purchased it
20 with the intent of preserving it for the wildlife, and we
21 have done just that, until now, and we will continue to do
22 that.

23 We currently have many deer, wild turkeys,
24 coyote, many species of birds, including birds of prey, who
25 hunt on our land, including hawks and eagles. We also have

1 flying squirrels, bats, and other things.

2 The bats are quite at home on our property since
3 it has everything they need, like a water source, a small
4 open area and mature trees to live in.

5 My son and I quickly measured some of our trees
6 yesterday. The small sampling of trees we measured in a
7 very limited time that we had, averaged between 160
8 centimeters and up to about 240 centimeters.

9 By calculating these numbers and using the growth
10 rate charts that we found online, our trees range from 75 to
11 140 years old. This is by no means the largest or oldest
12 trees on our property.

13 I also wonder what this is going to do to our
14 property values. Currently, we are taxed based on single
15 home on one acre with the rest listed as undeveloped. I
16 can't imagine paying extra money twice a year to have the
17 benefit -- joking, of course -- of having this pipeline on
18 our land.

19 If this pipeline comes through, mature trees will
20 be destroyed, wetlands, and our property and a huge amount
21 of wetlands across the street will be destroyed as well.
22 Bats will lose their homes, deer will lose their mail trail
23 and peepers and plants will be destroyed.

24 We'll also lose the beauty surrounding our home
25 and drive that we have preserved for the wild animals. I

1 cannot stress enough that we fully support the City of Green
2 re-route on this.

3 I wish someone could give me the reasons as to
4 why they are still even considering this route and not the
5 route proposed by the City of Green. Looking at the
6 numbers, 70% less residences affected, 100% less schools,
7 50% less churches, and less than 4%, only 4% of an increase
8 in life, and it follows another pipeline already, really?
9 To me this is a no-brainer.

10 My daughter could not be here tonight, as much as
11 she wanted to, but she ask that I speak on her behalf. Her
12 words are, "my dad goes to work every day and works hard so
13 that we can keep our house and the wooded parts of the land
14 it sits on. My brother and I want to continue to grow up
15 surrounded by God's beautiful creation. So tell me, who are
16 you to take that away from us, as well as the wildlife it
17 supports?

18 This is our land. I thought America was a free
19 country, but taking our land away from us, against our will,
20 that does not sound like a free country to me."

21 The thousands of jobs that will be created for
22 this project will be very temporary and only long enough for
23 the pipeline to be installed, since it's supposedly safe and
24 won't require much maintenance and won't have any issues.
25 It's just a thought I had when somebody mentioned that this

1 is creating jobs, like it's a long-term thing that, you
2 know, hundreds of thousands of jobs are going to be created
3 for us. And that's all I have to say.

4 (Applause.)

5 MS. WACHHOLDER: Number 13 is Michael Ferncez.

6 MR. FERNCEZ: Thank you and good evening staff of
7 FERC and ladies and gentlemen.

8 I'm here to speak opposed to the current proposed
9 route, the northern route, as I'll call it, for many
10 reasons. Although I received information in the mail, it
11 didn't tell me a whole lot about the safety systems that
12 are in place, about the kinds of activities that will be
13 taking place during the construction phase of this project,
14 nor did it speak to any proposed timelines in it.

15 Again, what about after it goes in service? What
16 kind of maintenance and testing programs do you have? What
17 does the Cathodic protection on that pipe do to the adjacent
18 homes in that area, and their electrical systems? That
19 needs to be disclosed.

20 Monitoring and safe systems should be a priority.
21 Just as recent as January of this year, an explosion in
22 Brook, West Virginia on a new pipeline left a huge crater in
23 the ground. Fortunately, it was in a rural area, where
24 nothing but the adjacent vegetation for a pretty wide swath
25 that was mentioned earlier by the attorney that spoke on

1 this program, was left in its wake.

2 Trees were burned, grass completely gone, nothing
3 but raw dirt left in its wake.

4 One of my neighbors -- and I'm Michael Ferncez, I
5 live at 9178 Bletchley Avenue, N.W., and that's North Canton
6 mailing address -- spoke to the mine subsidence in this
7 area. We were told homes couldn't be built there and how we
8 want to put a 36-inch pipeline in its way for future
9 shifting which a leak -- and somebody mentioned earlier just
10 a touch of static can set off a violent explosion that would
11 make the 311 homes in that allotment destroy, a neighborhood
12 destroyed.

13 And not only here, but I'm talking about Green
14 and the other populated areas that this pipeline is taking.

15 Property values were spoken to. How can you tell
16 me that that's not going to impact negatively my property
17 value, by having that pipeline there?

18 I support the Green southern route and I say the
19 added expense can be borne by the rate payers that are going
20 to be purchasing that gas and recovered that method and
21 Spectra Energy made whole in that manner. Thank you very
22 much.

23 (Appause.)

24 MS. WACHHOLDER: Number 14, Leroy Yoder.

25 MR. YODER: I'm Leroy Yoder from Lake township,

1 9388 Market and I think it only makes common sense that this
2 pipeline, with its immense pressure and size, be routed
3 through the rural areas rather than the heavily developed
4 areas of Green and Lake Township. There is places following
5 that Ohio Edison right-of-way and I can't see even -- houses
6 are built close by.

7 Now this has to be very disturbing and it would
8 also transverse my property and I'm well aware how this
9 devalues even open land. My occupation is real estate
10 development and anyone would be foolish to put a development
11 close to these gas lines, and we do live in a developing
12 area in Lake Township.

13 I think it makes all sense to take this through
14 the southern route, or as much more rural, and even at that
15 time, compensate those people realistically for the
16 permanent devaluation of their property. Not only the
17 50-foot fight-of-way, but 1,000 feet on each side.

18 I think that is only common sense that this line
19 with its immense pressure -- sure there is a lot of safety
20 factors, but we do read of these lines erupting, and there
21 is a tremendous consequence when that happens. So this line
22 needs to go through the rural areas.

23 We do need the transmission lines, I'm not
24 against them, but it does need to go through the rural areas
25 where the lease amount of people are adversely affected.

1 Thank you.

2 (Applause.)

3 MS. WACHHOLDER: Thank you. Number 15, Paul
4 Gierosky.

5 MR. GIEROSKY: Good evening Joanne and John. My
6 name is Paul Gierosky and my wife Elizabeth and I own
7 property in York Township in Diana County. It is directly
8 affected by the preferred Nexus route.

9 We are members of the Coalition to Reroute Nexus,
10 the grassroots organization that germinated out of a common
11 concern for public safety, preservation of property values,
12 and protection of property rights for all of the citizens in
13 the State of Ohio. I'm a co-founder of the Coalition and
14 serve on its Board of Directors.

15 On behalf of the Board and the members of the
16 Coalition, I hereby fully support the reroute proposal filed
17 by the City of Green on March 23.

18 Now the proliferation of a completed new breed of
19 large-diameter, high-pressure pipeline proposed for our
20 state, Nexus being just one of these, should have all
21 Ohioans concerned. Our Coalition's mission has focused on
22 informing, educating, and persuading Nexus and Spectra
23 Energy as sponsor, to choose a more southerly route, largely
24 avoiding the densely populated counties in the east, and to
25 avoid the ecologically unique and environmentally sensitive

1 Oak Openings region in Fulton County in the west.

2 Joanna ever since you suggested to us, when we
3 met on February 7 in Lazareth, Ohio, the coalition has
4 diligently pursued the development of alternate route
5 proposals. Along with the City of Green, we have delivered
6 the one in the east and Segment 1 of the Fulton County
7 proposal was delivered this week. Segment 2 is still in
8 production and will be delivering in a few weeks.

9 You know the astounding achievement of the
10 planners of the City of Green demonstrates that input at a
11 local level, combined with understanding and knowledge of
12 the conditions on the ground, are essential to proper
13 planning of the gas transmission pipeline.

14 You've heard from a number of people here, the
15 statistics, so I won't repeat them. But these facts are
16 proven by statistical analysis, in both the current Nexus
17 route and the alternate route proposed by the City of Green,
18 and it's all accomplished by adding a mere 9.9 miles to the
19 overall route.

20 In addition, the route ties back into the
21 original Nexus proposed route, to allow for service and
22 reasonable access to potential gas consumers on the western
23 side of the Cleveland metro area and points further west.

24 So I ask everyone, what's not to like about the
25 City of Green reroute proposal? You know, the issues

1 associated with the process of routing these projects are
2 numerous, but the issue our organization finds most
3 egregious is the blatant lack of respect for individual
4 property rights guaranteed by the Fifth Amendment of the
5 Constitution.

6 Tuesday evening, engrafted in a similar scoping
7 session, one speaker defended Spectra Energy/Nexus, saying,
8 they're just following the law. Well, that may be true,
9 they are following the law, but is the law always right?

10 Little history lesson -- I went through this last
11 night but few people weren't here so bear with me. You
12 remember the Dred Scott decision in 1857? It was the law
13 when the Supreme Court ruled that African Americans, whether
14 enslaved or free, could not be American citizens. That was
15 the law. Was it right?

16 How about Plessy vs. Ferguson in 1896? The
17 Supreme Court decision upheld the constitutionality of state
18 laws requiring racial segregation in public facilities. You
19 know, the old separate but equal, that was the law. Or how
20 about Korematsu vs. the United States in 1944. It was the
21 law that -- the Supreme Court ruled that it was
22 constitutional to put Japanese Americans in interment camps
23 during World War II, regardless of their citizenship. That
24 was a law too.

25 But the 1938 Natural Gas Act is also the law.

1 The law to which the Commission operates and it authorizes
2 imminent domain takings based upon a certificate of
3 convenience and necessity. I argue, our organization
4 argues, that the government has no and should have no power
5 to forcibly transfer our property to a private company for a
6 project whose stated purpose is a vague promise of new jobs,
7 increased tax revenue, a more reliable energy
8 infrastructure, maybe reduced energy bills, about stronger
9 regional economy, or some other nebulous outcome like energy
10 independence.

11 You know the use of this taking power in my own
12 terms is a reverse of Robin Hood gambit. Take from the
13 poor, give it to the rich. The beneficiaries are those who
14 disproportionately influence -- have disproportionate
15 influence in power in the political process, mostly large
16 corporations.

17 I believe allowing the government to take
18 property solely for public purposes is bad enough, but
19 extending the concept of a public purpose to encompass any
20 economically beneficial goal guarantees that these losses
21 will fall disproportionately on private citizens. We stable
22 to defend ourselves.

23 All we are asking as a Coalition is for the
24 freedom to choose whether a pipeline crosses our property
25 and not be coerced by the threat of, or use of imminent

1 domain.

2 However, as you've heard me, we're not simply
3 saying no. We're offering a better solution, the City of
4 Green alternate route. And we have support for this across
5 the state, 25 governmental bodies have passed resolutions
6 and provided letters that support it.

7 And I think I heard tonight, even our union
8 members may support the idea of the City of Green reroute.
9 I'm not trying to put words in your mouth, but we had
10 conversations.

11 Joanne, I really believe that Spectra Energy and
12 Nexus are going to see the light and realize that what we've
13 proposed make sense. It allows them to accomplish their
14 goals, but it also provides for the safety of the public.

15 But, if they're not voluntarily willing to adopt
16 the entire City of Green reroute, I have confidence that in
17 short order we will hear from the Commission and they will
18 say, Spectra Energy, the City of Green route is a better
19 way. Thank you very much.

20 (Appause.)

21 MS. WACHHOLDER: Our next speaker is Robert
22 Beasley.

23 MR. BEASLEY: Yes, my name is Robert Beasley. I
24 live in the St. Ives allotment in Lake Township, 2634 St.
25 Albans Circle.

1 I came here because I heard about, at the last
2 minute, there was this hearing, whatever we want to call it,
3 and I just want to, you know, raise my voice against the
4 northern route. And after looking and listening, and I
5 supported the southern route through the farmland, less
6 population, less chance of danger occurring -- explosions.

7 Jobs are short lived. Once the pipeline is
8 completed, the jobs, they're gone. The housing stays here
9 for a lot longer. Houses that have been here for one, two
10 hundred years, jobs are gone.

11 I understand safety training and that's
12 paramount, but every company has great training programs,
13 great safety programs. That's for the construction, it's
14 not for the people who are impacted by a 36-inch high
15 pressure pipeline, that really, no one knows in the
16 long-term how long will it last.

17 Look at all the cities with failing water
18 systems, they're old. In St. Ives area, there is a 25-acre
19 land that could not be built on because of mine shafts. If
20 you go to the Stark County engineers, they don't even know
21 where these mine shafts go to. Some of them probably go
22 under houses.

23 If that pipeline goes through, if there is a poor
24 weld and the gas starts going, it's going to go through the
25 least resistance, which is the mine shafts. If you got to

1 the City of North Canton, every time there is heavy rains,
2 the water finds a new mine shaft and there is drop in the
3 ground.

4 So here it is, mine shafts, taking the gas
5 wherever it wants to go, and no one will know until there is
6 an explosion.

7 The effects on the property values, if you're
8 trying to sell your house, you're going to have to disclose
9 there is a 36-inch high pressure pipeline. Soon as you tell
10 the potential buyer that, there goes your negotiating.
11 They're going to sit there and go, well, let's see, maybe
12 it's not really worth this. Oh, by the way, the pipeline
13 company has now gone away and they're not going to support
14 anything.

15 There has been an increase in the earthquake
16 activity worldwide. Look at Oklahoma, they've had increased
17 activity there, their open ground is unstable. Okay, we're
18 not sure about this pipeline. You go through once more
19 populated areas, you know, all of a sudden a slight crack,
20 explosion, we've got catastrophic failures.

21 Pipeline company say it is always safe. If that's
22 the case, would the City of Cleveland allow it to go right
23 through the middle of their City or go right through the
24 middle of Akron, or go right through the middle of Canton?
25 No, they immediately want it to go around because they're

1 scared too.

2 You know, basically I'm against the northern
3 route, listening I believe the City of Green's proposed
4 southern obviously make sense, you're going through farm
5 land, less population -- not to say that the farmers are not
6 important, but there is less chance of injury to people and
7 property, going that route. Thank you.

8 (Applause.)

9 MS. WACHHOLDER: Our next speaker is Kellie
10 Johnson.

11 MS. JOHNSON: I'm Kellie Johnson. I live at 9220
12 Bletchley Avenue in the St. Ives subdivision in Lake
13 Township.

14 That proposal that we received when we came in
15 today, page 4 under the land requirements for constructions
16 states that there is 100-foot construction right-of-way
17 needed. Nexus proposes to put their pipeline in my side
18 yard.

19 There are not 100 feet between my home and my
20 neighbors home, so I just want to know how exactly does
21 Nexus think it's going to get pipeline in there. Thank you.

22 (Applause.)

23 MS. WACHHOLDER: Right now that's the last name I
24 have on the list so if anybody would like to take another
25 turn speaking, you're welcome to do so. If you would like

1 to just raise your hand and I can call on you. Anyone? All
2 right, we have someone.

3 MS. REYNOLDS: My name is Stefanie Reynolds. I
4 also live in the St. Ives subdivision in North Canton.
5 We've had a total of about two weeks of notification that
6 this is going to be coming through our neighborhood, with
7 over 300 homes.

8 I know that we take a lot of value and pride in
9 our neighborhood, I've lived there not quite three years. I
10 live by myself at home and I take a lot of pride, I work
11 very hard for my home and this is going right through my --
12 right by my back yard. I'm very concerned about safety and
13 more importantly when I got the letter that my 401k crashed.
14 That's pretty much how it felt like to me because of the
15 risk of property values.

16 But first and foremost, safety is important. Our
17 neighborhood is an established neighborhood that's been
18 around 20 years, there is a lot of children, lot of trees
19 that's been around for a while, but these people have sunk
20 their whole life savings into their homes. A lot of these
21 people have kids in the college age and are getting ready
22 for -- a lot of them I think are getting fairly close to
23 retirement or maybe 10-15 years from retirement and I feel
24 like if they lose their property value they lose everything
25 they've worked very hard for their entire lives.

1 I grew up in Bolivar, which is in Tuscarawas
2 County. I know there is a proposed south route, however, I
3 don't know what that represents as far as home owners there.
4 I do know that living in Tuscarawas County is very rural. I
5 grew up on six acres.

6 If the Green proposal is not accepted, it looks
7 to me that you could also go through Tuscarawas County and
8 hit lots of rural areas. Assuming that the Green southern
9 route, as I have not had time to properly review it, and
10 understand what neighborhoods it goes through, as you get
11 further south, the population is much more rural.
12 Tuscarawasc Count is very rural compared to Stark County. I
13 would highly recommend a southern route and I support this
14 southern route that affect less neighborhood.

15 North Canton is fairly established, however Green
16 is a very new city -- just became a city, and I have plenty
17 of friends that I work with. I work with Gojo Industries in
18 Akron, Ohio, so all my co-workers just bought houses there.
19 I can't imagine the fear of staring families there being so
20 close to such a large pipeline.

21 In addition, there are areas of Green that are
22 going to be growing and I support this going through a
23 southern route to avoid the city not being able to grow and
24 build up as the plans for the City of Green have.

25 I'm sorry I didn't have time to prepare a speech.

1 I was told this was going to be booths, and so the
2 communication has been very poor. I thought I had a booth -
3 - people were going to have booths set up and have me had
4 the opportunity to just have a conversation so I didn't
5 prepare a speech, but that's my opinion so -- for what it's
6 worth. Thank you.

7 (Applause.)

8 MS. WACHHOLDER: Are there anybody else who would
9 like to speak? Yes, okay, come up.

10 SPEAKER: Just bear with me, I had one more thing
11 to say. I had talked about being on the utility corridor
12 and I thought about this a lot because I have lived in my
13 house for about 10 years and I have dealt with the energy
14 company repeatedly, and anybody who has lived on one of
15 these corridors knows how it can be.

16 They have to come on your property, take care of
17 the trees, and every time they come on they always make
18 guarantees of what they will clean up, what they will and
19 will not do, and what they will take care of. Most of the
20 time it never happens. And I would just like to know with
21 this, even though you have signed a contract, what
22 guarantees do we have that life goes back to normal. Who
23 polices Nexus once this is all done and guarantees that they
24 do what they say they're going to do with our properties?

25 I mean we can always take it to court if

1 something doesn't happen, if you have a contract, but that
2 cost us money. And I just think that's a concern nobody has
3 addressed. Do we have any guarantees what will be taken
4 care of and what they will handle, because I know from past
5 experience with the utility companies that what people say
6 they're going to do when they come on their property and
7 what actually ends up happening, are usually two very
8 different things. Thank you.

9 (Applause.)

10 MS. WACHHOLDER: Thank you. Is there -- okay
11 come on up.

12 SPEAKER: Is there anybody from --

13 MS. WACHHOLDER: I can't hear you if you speak
14 from there, I'm sorry.

15 SPEAKER: Is anybody from the Federal Energy
16 Regulatory Commission listening to these people speak?
17 You're from there? Okay, we just hope this gets to the
18 right source and that we're given a hearing because I know
19 for one thing, filing lawsuits against a gas company,
20 they'll drain you dry long before they run dry. So
21 hopefully FERC will take this into consideration.

22 MS. WACHHOLDER: Thank you. That's why we make
23 sure we have a good transcription because it will be in our
24 record so everybody -- even back at the office, we'll all
25 know what we said. So thank you for pointing that out.

1 Was there anybody else who would like to speak?

2 Sure? You moved -- no?

3 SPEAKER: I'm an old gas line fighter. About 15
4 years ago Independence wanted to put a pipeline through my
5 property. I already have a railroad crossing it and all oil
6 well, and now they want to put a pipeline through. And if I
7 had enough level ground, they probably put an airport on. I
8 only got 60 acres.

9 Now, when Independence started, I come home from
10 work and see all this pink flag going through my woods. And
11 I just went and pulled them out and burned them. So next
12 day I called yous and I said, hey what are you doing coming
13 unannounced and surveying my land. Oh we thought gave us
14 permission. I did not and now we're going through this same
15 circus again.

16 Because eventually Independence dropped the
17 project and now we start with another pipeline. How many
18 pipelines -- they got about three pipelines following the
19 same direction. It's an oil thing and a gas thing in the
20 United States or are we shipping it over seas? We don't
21 know. And I want to have an answer to that because we want
22 to be independent of other oil, other gas, from other
23 countries. We'll see what happens. Thank you.

24 MS. WACHHOLDER: Can you say your name for the
25 record for him please. No, okay. Thank you. Is there

1 anybody else who would like to speak?

2 (No response.)

3 MS. WACHHOLDER: Going once, going twice. I'm
4 seeing no additional speakers, I'd like to thank you all for
5 coming tonight and this meeting is adjourned.

6 (Whereupon the meeting adjourned at 7:31 P.M.)

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