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UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
FEDERAL ENERGY REGULATORY COMMISSION
Office of Energy Projects

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Mountain Valley Pipeline, LLC Docket No. PF15-3-000
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MOUNTAIN VALLEY PIPELINE PROJECT

West Virginia University -
Jackson's Mill
160 WVU Jackson Mill
Weston, West Virginia 26452
Tuesday, May 12, 2015

The evening scoping meeting, pursuant to notice,
convened at 7 p.m, before a Staff Panel:
PAUL FRIEDMAN, Environmental Project Manager, FERC
ALEX DANKANICH, Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety
Administration, U.S. Department of Transportation
With:
LAVINIA DiSANTO, Cardno

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

2 MR. FRIEDMAN: Good evening, ladies and gentlemen.

3 My name is Paul Friedman and I am the
4 Environmental Project Manager at the Federal Energy
5 Regulatory Commission, FERC or Commission, and the project
6 that I'm running is proposed by Mountain Valley Pipeline.
7 And the purpose of this particular meeting is to take public
8 comments on environmental issues important to you all that
9 we would address in our environmental impact statement.

10 As you can see, we have a court reporter recording
11 the proceedings tonight so that we'll have an accurate
12 record of this meeting. And let the record show that we are
13 starting at -- Lavinia?

14 MS. DiSANTO: 7:09.

15 MR. FRIEDMAN: 7:09 p.m. on Tuesday, May 12th,
16 2015, in Weston, West Virginia; we're at the Jackson Mill
17 facility, University of West Virginia.

18 The FERC has a transcription contract with
19 Ace-Federal Reporters, and if you wish to obtain a copy of
20 the transcript prior to its placement in our public files,
21 you must make arrangements directly with Ace, and they'll
22 tell you what the cost is for that copy.

23 The transcript will be placed into the FERC's
24 eLibrary system about 15 days after it is received from Ace.
25 And I'll talk about our eLibrary system later.

1 [Slide presentation]

2 The goal of my team at FERC is to write an
3 environmental impact statement or EIS for the project. The
4 FERC team will consist of interdisciplinary specialists in
5 fields such as, including engineers, biologists, geologists
6 and archaeologists. To expand our staff's capabilities, we
7 use a contractor, it's a company called Cardno, for this
8 project.

9 So let me tell you who is here tonight. From
10 Cardno, it is Lavinia DiSantos; she is Cardno's Project
11 Manager. Hiding in the corner over there, who probably
12 signed you in if you wanted to be a speaker, Doug Monneyhan
13 and Charles Brown. Just so you know, Charles recently
14 retired after 37 years at the FERC. So he's pretty much an
15 expert in what I do.

16 Also here tonight me is Alex Dankanich. He is
17 with the Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety
18 Administration of the U.S. Department of Transportation, or
19 DOT. DOT is a cooperating agency that will assist the FERC
20 in the production of the EIS. Other cooperating agencies
21 include the U.S. Forest Service, the U.S. Army Corps of
22 Engineers, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, the
23 West Virginia Department of Natural Resources and the West
24 Virginia Department of Environmental Protection.

25 Cooperating agencies have jurisdiction or special

1 expertise They can adopt our EIS for their own regulatory
2 purposes. So for example, the Forest Service will use our
3 EIS to analyze potential amendments to their forest plan to
4 allow the pipeline to cross federal lands.

5 The FERC is the lead federal agency for both the
6 authorization of this project under the Natural Gas Act, and
7 for compliance with the National Environmental Policy Act or
8 NEPA. To comply with the NEPA, the FERC will produce an
9 EIS, and I'll talk more about that later.

10 The FERC was originally known as the Federal Power
11 Commission when the Congress created it in 1920. We were
12 reorganized and renamed during the Carter Administration.
13 We are an independent regulatory agency. What that means
14 is, is that a Commission decision cannot be overturned by
15 either the Executive or Legislative Branches of the United
16 States Government. However, FERC decisions can be
17 challenged in court.

18 One of the industries we regulate is the
19 interstate transportation of natural gas. We also regulate
20 non-federal hydropower, electric rates and oil rates, but we
21 do not do the siting of either power lines or oil pipelines.
22 Therefore, FERC has nothing to do with Keystone XL.

23 Other things that we do not regulate are the
24 exploration, production or gathering of natural gas, or the
25 local distribution of natural gas. Those are all regulated

1 by the States. Therefore, comments about hydraulic
2 fracturing or 'fracking,' which is a method of exploration
3 and production, would be out of scope for our EIS. If you
4 have concerns about fracking, please write to the State of
5 West Virginia.

6 Our agency is directed by five Commissioners who
7 are appointed by the President of the United States and
8 approved by Congress. The FERC Staff, like me, are civil
9 servants. We, the FERC staff, do not make decisions; the
10 Commissioners do that. But Staff makes recommendations to
11 the Commissioners, and you will find our recommendations in
12 the back of the EIS under Section 5.

13 Tonight, I'd like to accomplish the following:
14 One, I'd want to summarize the project and explain the role
15 of the FERC in the review of the project. I'd want to
16 outline how the public may participate in the process, and
17 allow you, the public, an opportunity to voice your concerns
18 about the project at this forum.

19 I ask that you reserve any questions or comments
20 until after my presentation. There is a table in the back
21 of the room manned by Charlie and Doug where you can sign up
22 to speak if you haven't already done so. We had some
23 problems last week in other meetings, specifically in
24 Elliston, Virginia, we had a rude audience who booed people
25 they disagreed with.

1 I know that the citizens of Weston will be
2 courageous and courteous and considerate to all speakers
3 regardless of their points of view. We have some rules
4 posted, and I'll go over them at the end of my speech.

5 I'd like to clarify that FERC and the cooperating
6 agencies did not conceive of this project nor are we
7 promoting it. The project was designed by Mountain Valley
8 Pipeline, LLC, or Mountain Valley, which is a joint venture
9 between EQT Corporation and NextEra Energy, Inc. We call
10 them the 'Company' or the 'Applicant.' The Company came up
11 with the proposed location of their facilities, and it's up
12 to FERC staff to analyze the environmental impacts
13 associated with construction and operation of those
14 facilities.

15 The FERC is not an advocate for the project. FERC
16 staff are advocates for our environmental review process.

17 Let's review some project background. On October
18 27, 2014, Mountain Valley filed its request to initiate the
19 FERC's pre-filing environmental review process. We accepted
20 that request on October 31st, assigned the project Docket
21 No. PF15-3 -- you'll hear me repeat that number often,
22 because you need to have that docket number on your letters
23 to us; otherwise we won't know where those letters are.

24 We also at that time selected Cardno as our
25 environmental contractor.

1 During pre-filing the company is supposed to
2 communicate with stakeholders to identify issues of concern,
3 attempt to resolve those issues, and perfect its formal
4 application to the FERC. Mountain Valley has stated that
5 they would like to file their application with the FERC
6 October of 2015.

7 At the time of application, Mountain Valley must
8 also file an environmental report that complies with FERC
9 regulations at Title 18, Code of Federal Regulations or CFR,
10 380.12, and address such resources and topics as Geology and
11 Soils, Water and Wetlands, Vegetation and Wildlife, Cultural
12 Resources, Socioeconomics, Land Use, Air Quality, Noise and
13 Safety. During pre-filing, Mountain Valley will file drafts
14 of those reports into the public record, at FERC eLibrary,
15 that anyone can read and comment on. I will explain later
16 how to submit comments later today.

17 In December of 2014 and January of 2015, Mountain
18 Valley conducted sixteen open houses along the route of the
19 pipeline in West Virginia and Virginia, with two additional
20 open houses held in April for alternate routes. FERC Staff
21 attended those open houses, and I some of you I met at that
22 time.

23 On December 1st, 2014, Mountain Valley filed its
24 first Draft Resource Report, which is the project
25 description, and a summary of alternatives. The FERC Staff

1 issued a data request on those resource reports on March 13,
2 2015.

3 On March 25, the FERC issued a project update to
4 inform the public where we were in the review process, and
5 that project update said that we would hold public scoping
6 meetings.

7 Mountain Valley filed revised Resource Report One
8 and First Draft Report Seven, which is Soils; and First
9 Draft Resource Report Eight, which is Land Use, on March 27.
10 It filed Resource Report Five on Economics; Resource Report
11 Eleven on Safety, on April 10. A Revised Resource Report
12 Ten on April 14 and drafted Resource Report Three, which is
13 Vegetation and Wildlife; and Resource Report Four, which is
14 Cultural Resources on April 24th.

15 On April 17th, the FERC issued its Notice of
16 Intent to prepare an Environmental Impact Statement, or NOI.
17 The NOI was sent to our Environmental mailing list; that
18 includes landowners, elected officials, government agencies,
19 Indian tribes; environmental groups, nongovernmental
20 organizations, local libraries and newspapers, and other
21 interested parties. The NOI announced six public scoping
22 meetings in the project area of which this is one, and
23 explained how the public could file comments. The NOI was
24 also published in the Federal Register on April 28th, 2015.

25 The scoping period will end on June 16th; however,

1 the the Commission will continue to consider comments up
2 until the time we produce a draft EIS. We will use comments
3 that we receive to shape the contents of the DEIS, which
4 will focus on the issues raised during scoping. We will
5 also consider the many comments we received after the
6 beginning of the prefiling period, in October of 2014, up
7 until the beginning of scoping in April of 2015.

8 The FERC will not send out any individual letters
9 to answer individual comments, but we will instead address
10 environmental issues raised during scoping under general
11 topics in our DEIS.

12 Mountain Valley proposes to construct and operate
13 a 294-mile long, 42-inch diameter pipeline in West Virginia
14 and Virginia. The pipeline would originate at the existing
15 Equitrans system in Wetzel County, West Virginia, and
16 terminates at the existing Transcontinental Pipeline Company
17 Zone 5 Compressor Station 165 in Pittsylvania County,
18 Virginia.

19 Additional facilities would include four new
20 compressor stations in Wetzel, Braxton and Fayette Counties,
21 West Virginia and Montgomery County, Virginia. The project
22 is designed to transport about two billion cubic feet per
23 day of natural gas from production sources in the
24 Appalachian Basin to markets in the Mid-Atlantic and
25 Southeastern United States.

1 There is a false rumor being circulated that
2 natural gas from this project would be exported. That will
3 not happen, and I'll explain why: Mountain Valley has not
4 applied to either the FERC or the U.S. Department of Energy
5 for permission to export natural gas. Without those
6 applications and our permission, they cannot export natural
7 gas.

8 The project is intended for domestic customers who
9 generate electricity or use gas for local distribution.

10 Pipeline construction activities can be summarized
11 as follows: Clearing and grading, trenching, pipe-stringing
12 and welding, lowering-in, back-filling, cleanup and
13 restoration.

14 The next slide shows our pre-filing environmental
15 review process. It's also on the poster over there. And I
16 would like to point out where we are in the process right
17 now; we are in the scoping period. Later during the pre-
18 filing process, the FERC will issue data requests to fill in
19 gaps, and Mountain Valley would respond with revised
20 resource reports.

21 During pre-filing, the public has the opportunity
22 to comment to the FERC about the project. The issuance of
23 the FERC's NOI is our way of notifying stakeholders and
24 requesting comments on environmental issues. We urge you to
25 place your comments into the FERC's official record before

1 the end of the scoping period. Later I will talk about how
2 to submit comments.

3 Other opportunities for the public to comment on
4 the project occur after Mountain Valley files its formal
5 application with the FERC, or after October. Post-
6 application opportunities for comments include: in response
7 to our Notice of Application or in response to our DEIS.

8 Parties may request intervenor status in response
9 to the Notice of Application. Being an intervenor is a
10 legal position. Intervenors can request rehearing on a
11 Commission decision. They also have the burden of serving
12 all parties with their filings. You do not have to be an
13 intervenor to have your environmental comments considered.
14 You cannot intervene during the FERC's pre-filing process.
15 You must wait until Mountain Valley Pipeline files its
16 formal application with the FERC.

17 If you want to file comments into the Commission's
18 official record, please follow the directions given in the
19 public participation portion of the NOI. Do not send emails
20 to FERC staff. The Commission urges the electronic filing
21 of comments through our Internet web page, which is
22 www.ferc.gov. Just click on documents and filings, click on
23 e-filing, and follow the directions.

24 If you have a problem with our website, you can
25 always call our IT Staff, and that number is listed in the

1 NOI. You may also send comments in writing the old
2 fashioned way, by sending a letter the old-fashioned way, to
3 the Secretary of the Commission at 888 First Street
4 Northeast, Washington, D.C. 20426. Again, all of the
5 information is in our NOI, which is why I'm just rushing
6 through it now.

7 You will also have the opportunity to comment
8 orally at this public scoping meeting. We will be taking
9 comments from attendees after my presentation. Again, just
10 a reminder that if you want to speak, please sign up on our
11 speakers list. And I want to reiterate that written
12 comments hold the same weight as verbal comments; we don't
13 treat them any differently.

14 The FERC process is fairly transparent. You can
15 basically see everything you want using a computer through
16 the Internet. Just go to www.ferc.gov; go to documents and
17 filing, and go to our eLibrary system. All documents filed
18 in the docket appear in eLibrary; you just need to go to the
19 general search, put in your date range and the Docket No.,
20 which is PF15-3.

21 You can use our eSubscription service, in which
22 case you'll be sent an e-mail every time there is a document
23 filed in the eLibrary. If you do that you will receive
24 hundreds of e-mails, as we've received hundreds of comments
25 on this project.

1 Based on Mountain Valley's application, which
2 would occur in October, and our own research, the FERC staff
3 and cooperating agencies will produce an EIS in accordance
4 with the regulations of the Council of Environmental Quality
5 or CEQ, at Title 40, CFR Parts 1500-1508 to satisfy the
6 requirements of NEPA. That document will offer our
7 independent analysis of the potential environmental impacts
8 of the proposals and alternatives. Generally, the EIS will
9 discuss the current environmental, identify potential
10 project-related impacts on specific resources, and present
11 proposed measures to avoid, reduce, or mitigate adverse
12 effects.

13 Once the FERC staff is convinced that the
14 application is complete so that we can fully understand the
15 potential impacts the project can have on the environment,
16 we will issue a Notice of Schedule for the Final EIS. In
17 accordance with the Energy Policy Act of 2005, other federal
18 agencies would have ninety days after the FERC releases a
19 Final EIS to issue their permits or approvals.

20 So that would apply to the Forest Service; they
21 would have to have a record of decision and their plan
22 amendments done 90 days after we issue our FEIS.

23 The FERC staff will first produce a Draft
24 Environmental Impact Statement that would be circulated for
25 public comment. Copies of the DEIS will be sent to our

1 Environmental mailing list. After mailing out the DEIS, the
2 FERC staff would hold public meetings back here in the
3 project area to take verbal comments on the DEIS. And the
4 comments that we receive would be addressed in the FEIS.

5 The Commissioners would only make its decision
6 after an FEIS has been issued.

7 There will be a section in our EIS that addresses
8 pipeline safety. It is the DOT, not the FERC that sets
9 standards for pipeline design, construction and operational
10 safety. To explain the DOT regulations and pipeline safety
11 is Alex.

12 MR. DANKANICH: Thank you.

13 Good evening. My name is Alex Dankanich, I'm an
14 engineer and inspector with PHMSA, with stands for the
15 Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration.
16 PHMSA is a branch of the U.S. DOT's Eastern Region Office.

17 PHMSA's jurisdiction begins once a project is
18 approved. Then PHMSA works to ensure that the pipeline
19 facilities are designed, constructed, operated and
20 maintained in compliance with the federal safety
21 regulations.

22 If the Mountain Valley Pipeline Project receives
23 permission from FERC for this natural gas pipeline project,
24 PHMSA's Office of Pipeline Safety will provide the
25 regulations for the construction and safe transportation of

1 natural gas through the pipeline facilities. PHMSA will
2 then maintain regulatory oversight over the safety of the
3 pipeline facilities throughout its operation.

4 PHMSA's Office of Pipeline Safety will perform
5 safety inspections on the natural gas facilities as well as
6 on the plans, procedures, and records to ensure that the
7 design and construction are in compliance with Title 49,
8 Code of Federal Regulations Part 192, which are the federal
9 safety standards for the transportation of natural gas by
10 pipeline.

11 This oversight includes inspections performed by
12 people like myself, to ensure such things as code compliance
13 with the materials that are used in the construction; the
14 pipeline materials, the valves -- to ensure that the welding
15 procedures are in compliance with our code and with the
16 other federal standards, to ensure that the welders are
17 qualified.

18 Our code also ensures that the pipeline is
19 installed to the required depth, that the pipeline is
20 protected from corrosion, that the pipeline contains
21 pressure-limiting devices, and that the pipeline is properly
22 tested before use.

23 Once the construction process has proceeded, PHMSA
24 then conducts periodic inspections of the operation and
25 maintenance requirements outlined in 49 Code of Federal

1 Regulations, Part 192. This code requires the operator to
2 establish comprehensive written procedures describing the
3 types and frequencies of monitoring to ensure the continued
4 safe operation of the pipeline.

5 If our safety inspections find inadequate
6 procedures, or that an operator has not followed their
7 procedures, PHMSA is authorized to require remedial action;
8 and we can assess civil penalties upon the operator. Safety
9 is PHMSA's primary mission, and we understand how important
10 this mission is to your community. If this project is
11 approved, then PHMSA will work to ensure that the pipeline
12 facilities are designed, constructed, operated and
13 maintained in compliance with federal pipeline safety
14 regulations.

15 Thank you for this opportunity for me to provide
16 an overview of PHMSA's Pipeline Safety Program.

17 MR. FRIEDMAN: Thank you, Alex.

18 Our EIS would not be a decision document. It
19 would be prepared to advise the Commissioners and to
20 disclose to the public the environmental impacts associated
21 with construction and operation of the project. The
22 Commissioners would consider our environmental analysis
23 together with other staff's materials pertaining to non-
24 environmental issues before making an informed decision
25 about the project.

1 The Commissioners will have the options of
2 accepting the proposal in whole or in part, approving the
3 proposal with or without conditions, or denying the
4 application altogether. The final decision by the
5 Commissioners are issued as an Order. It is the Order, not
6 the EIS, that would make a finding of public benefit.

7 If the Project is authorized, the Commission would
8 issue a Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity to
9 Mountain Valley. The Commissioners would base their
10 decision on their own Certificate Policy Statement that
11 established the criteria for determining whether or not
12 there is a need for a project.

13 If the Commission decides to authorize the
14 project, the FERC staff will make certain that the
15 environmental conditions appended to the order are
16 satisfied. Those conditions usually include a stipulation
17 that the Company must obtain all other necessary federal
18 permits and authorizations prior to construction. Such as a
19 water quality certification from the States and a permit
20 from the Corps of Engineers to cross rivers and wetlands.

21 The Company must implement all of those measures
22 they committed to in their application and their mitigation
23 programs. FERC Staff and our contractor will monitor the
24 project through construction and restoration and the
25 completion of mitigation programs. We will perform on-site

1 inspections for compliance with the environmental conditions
2 of the order.

3 Now is the time for public comments. Let me
4 emphasize that this is not a hearing on the merits of the
5 proposal. Other Commission staff, other than the
6 Environmental staff, will consider the economic need for
7 this projects and the rates to be charged for service.

8 As I said before, this meeting provides an
9 opportunity for you, the public, to comment on the type of
10 environmental issues you would like to see covered in the
11 EIS. The more specific your comment is about potential
12 environmental impacts, the more useful it will be to FERC
13 Staff. What are not particularly useful are comments either
14 for or against he project that do not relate to
15 environmental issues.

16 This is not a question and answer session; I am
17 here to listen to you. We will address questions raised
18 during scoping in the EIS after we have conducted the
19 appropriate research.

20 There are some ground rules about decorum during
21 this meeting. Please treat all speakers with respect,
22 whether you agree with them or not. No booing, cheering,
23 applauding or yelling out. If the audience becomes unruly
24 and I believe there would be a public safety issue, I
25 reserve the right to close the meeting. I will take

1 speakers up until everyone has had an opportunity to talk.
2 However, we will limit your time to three minutes; and even
3 though not that many people have signed up to be speakers
4 tonight, the reason we're doing that is to be consistent
5 with all the other public scopings we held. We don't want
6 to get comments that in one county we allowed people to talk
7 for five minutes, but in another county we only allowed
8 three. So we're being consistent at every venue.

9 I will call up speakers individually, in the order
10 in which they have signed up, by number.

11 When you get up to the podium here, speak into the
12 microphone and clearly state your name and spell it out for
13 the court reporter. If you represent an organization, tell
14 us what that is without using an acronym.

15 If you are a landowner along the pipeline route,
16 please indicate where your property is located, according to
17 milemarks or cross streets.

18 The first speaker tonight is number one.

19 MR. CHONG: My name is Charles Chong.

20 MR. FRIEDMAN: Mr. Chang, you might need to take
21 the microphone off and flip the on button, which is at the
22 back end.

23 MS. DiSANTO: It's on at the bottom.

24 AUDIENCE: What if we don't know the milemarker?

25 MR. FRIEDMAN: Just give us a general location, by

1 cross streets.

2 AUDIENCE: No cross streets.

3 MR. FRIEDMAN: By county, city, town.

4 AUDIENCE: How about just address?

5 MR. FRIEDMAN: Address is fine.

6 AUDIENCE: Okay, good.

7 MR. CHONG: My name is Charles Chong, C-h-o-n-g.

8 I'm a landowner, co-landowner with my wife. We live in
9 Harrison County. Our property is approximately three miles
10 south of Route 50. I'm here to recommend that you add to
11 your currently-identified environmental issues, possible
12 negative impact on the watershed of West Virginia.

13 We have an 160-acre property which makes up the
14 back of the hollow in which we live. The proposed Mountain
15 Valley Pipeline will run approximately three-quarters of the
16 ridge around this property, about one mile. We had a
17 hydrogeological study performed by Pamela Dodd on our
18 property. She found a likely negative impact on the
19 watershed.

20 This impact included increased water flow, which
21 would contribute to erosion and increased sedimentation of
22 our stream in our hollow, plus Hall's Run into which our
23 stream empties. We also found a reduced groundwater
24 recharge, which during dry periods would decrease the base
25 flow of water into the stream.

1 The overall effect would be degradation of water
2 quality downstream from us. Hall's Run, which is about four
3 miles long, is likely to be additionally impacted by the
4 proposed pipeline. According to the maps, the pipeline will
5 run approximately two and a half miles north from our
6 property, above Hall's Run. On the other end of our
7 property, the pipeline will run up and down slopes and on
8 bottoms near the headwater of Hall's Run.

9 These areas are also impacted by the pipeline that
10 will add to the erosion, sedimentation and decreased water
11 quality of the streams. I will note that Hall's Run empties
12 into Lake Floyd. Lake Floyd is approximately one mile long;
13 it is lined on both sides by houses, which make up the homes
14 of the community of Lake Floyd. If there is a negative
15 impact on the watershed which affects Lake Floyd, there will
16 be a lot of people who will be unhappy about that. Thank
17 you.

18 MR. FRIEDMAN: Thank you for your comment.

19 I'd like to point out our visual effects here. We
20 bought a child's toy stoplight. It's green for two and a
21 half minutes, it's yellow for 30 seconds, and it's red at
22 the end of three minutes, and that's when I'd like every
23 speaker to stop. I want to reemphasize it. If you have
24 detailed comments, you can always file them with the FERC,
25 and we do treat written comments with the same weight as

1 verbal comments.

2 Next is number two.

3 MS. INIXTRON: Good evening. My name is Rebecca
4 Inixtron (ph), I live at 1839 Hall's Run Road.

5 I would just like to say that my husband and I
6 have spent over 30 years trying to preserve a variety of
7 habitat on our farm. Directly impacted will be six native
8 orchids. Those are the Greater Twayblade, the Yellow and
9 Green Fringed Orchid, a Showy Orchid, a Putty Root and
10 Lesser Ladies' Tresses. There's native Ginseng, there's
11 native Ginger, Golden Seal, Lady Middlesfern, Twin Leaf,
12 Morrels, Round and Sharplo Tapatica, Trillum, and I could go
13 on and on about the plants on the farm.

14 Also in the older growth trees that will be gone,
15 roost Great Horned Owls, the Barbed Owl, a Screech Owl,
16 there's redtail hawks and kestrels on our farm, there are
17 songbirds, the occasional Cerulean Warbler, there's thrushes
18 and herons, native Eastern Bluebird roost there. We have
19 five varieties of woodpeckers that will all be affected, not
20 to mention a variety of mammals and amphibians and fish.

21 The late Dr. Bill Grafton from West Virginia
22 University took wild plant walks and wild flower walks on
23 our farm. Dr. Dave McGill has led three identification
24 walks on our farm for the public; Susan Alcott from the West
25 Virginia Department of Natural Resources used our farm to

1 collect dragonflies for her study and publication of West
2 Virginia's, of dragonflies in West Virginia.

3 The late Tom Metuchen was an entomologist, and he
4 used our farm to study insects and to teach individuals
5 about the insect populations in West Virginia. The West
6 Virginia Master Gardeners, which is a volunteer group in
7 West Virginia takes wildflower walks and wild plant walks on
8 our farm so that they can go and educate the public.

9 To me, our farm serves the people of West Virginia
10 and West Virginians through education and through service
11 better than a pipeline that will take gas out of state.

12 I would just like to quote an old Indian proverb
13 that goes: When the last tree dies, when the last river is
14 poisoned, and when the last fish is caught, we will finally
15 realize that we cannot eat money.

16 Thank you very much.

17 (Applause)

18 MR. FRIEDMAN: thank you for your comments.

19 Speaker number three.

20 MR. WEBER: My name is John Weber, W-e-b-e-r. And
21 I'm speaking as a concerned citizen of West Virginia. The
22 pipeline does not affect me directly in that it doesn't
23 cross any property that I own; but as a resident of this
24 state, it will impact me in many, many ways.

25 The environmental things that FERC has raised here

1 on page 5 of their publication; one that jumps out at me;
2 Water resources and wetlands. The proposed pipeline will
3 travel through the eastern part of West Virginia through
4 some of the most sensitive areas of our state. And the
5 mountains of West Virginia are the birthplace of rivers.
6 The rivers either flow to the west or to the east. They go
7 to the Ohio, the Mississippi, the Gulf of Mexico or toward
8 Chesapeake Bay area.

9 What happens here in West Virginia will impact
10 those other areas as well, and it's very important that we
11 preserve our water. Water is the most important resource we
12 have. It's a greater resource than anything else. And all
13 you have to do is look around and see that water is becoming
14 more and more in demand, good drinkable water in demand.

15 I heard a report on NPR just the other day that in
16 one of our counties in Southern West Virginia, the life
17 expectancy there is below the national average, and the
18 primary reason is because most of the people who live in
19 that county do not have good, clean drinking water; they
20 have well waters that are polluted with sewage and other
21 things; and so we need to protect our water.

22 Vegetation and wildlife. Some of the animals of
23 West Virginia are unique and different. Vegetation, unique
24 and different. And the pipeline will go through those
25 areas, and those, the flora and the fauna will be definitely

1 disturbed.

2 West Virginia is within 500 miles of over half the
3 population of the United States. And so tourism has long
4 been a part of West Virginia's economy. And once the land
5 here is destroyed by pipelines gouging through mountains,
6 across terrain, rivers, et cetera, how many people are going
7 to come to West Virginia? That will have a negative
8 economic impact, I think, on our state.

9 On page 7, again, FERC lists many things.
10 Forested areas, endangered species, infrastructure, and many
11 others. These are things that we need to be very, very
12 concerned about. This pipeline is supposed to represent the
13 needs of the majority of people, and it doesn't. It
14 represents the needs of a few. And we need to consider that
15 when we decide to either approve or disapprove of this
16 project. Thank you very much.

17 MR. FRIEDMAN: Thank you for your comment.

18 Speaker number four.

19 MR. HEAVER: Hello, my name is Tom Heaver. I'm
20 Vice President of the West Virginia Royalty Owners
21 Association. We're generally supportive of pipeline
22 infrastructure projects, as they market our gas, but we do
23 have one environmental concern, and that has to do with once
24 the pipeline's built, down the road as the pipeline ages,
25 what kind of plans are in place to deal with leaks and quick

1 responses to leaks when reported by landowners and residents
2 along the pipeline.

3 In this state we have a very bad problem with
4 companies acting very sluggish to those reports from
5 landowners and farmers and residents on current pipelines
6 that have aged and corroded. So we hope that you will give
7 extra scrutiny to those plans. Thank you very much.

8 MR. FRIEDMAN: Thanks for your comments.

9 Speaker number five.

10 MR. HEFNER: Good evening. My name is Greg
11 Hefner, and that's H-e-f-n-e-r. I'm here tonight to
12 represent First Energy and also the Board of Directors of
13 the Harrison County Economic Development Corporation. I'm a
14 lifelong resident of West Virginia, and I appreciate the
15 opportunity to speak here this evening.

16 The Mountain Valley Pipeline Project is a natural
17 gas pipeline that will provide a route for the abundant
18 supply of natural gas from right here in West Virginia to
19 the Midatlantic and the Southeastern regions of the United
20 States in a responsible and environmentally-safe manner.

21 The project will range 300 miles, from Northern
22 West Virginia to Southwestern Virginia, and will have a very
23 positive impact on the communities in both states.
24 Construction of this project will support thousands of jobs
25 and significant economic activity throughout the region; it

1 will generate significant amount of tax revenue for local
2 governments to support local schools, roads and other
3 important priorities.

4 The economic impact is expected to be in the
5 neighborhood of \$500 million in construction spending, 4,000
6 direct and indirect jobs, and \$40 million in additional tax
7 revenues for the State of West Virginia. In addition,
8 counties along the line route will enjoy increased property
9 taxes over the life of the pipeline, which is expected to be
10 about 50 years.

11 West Virginia has long played an important role in
12 providing the energy that powers our nation's economy. And
13 I believe this project will be done, again, in a responsible
14 and environmentally-safe manner. This State is absolutely
15 blessed to have significant gas and coal reserves here in
16 West Virginia. The continued development of these resources
17 is essential as we move forward into the future, and reduce
18 our country's dependence on foreign oil; and again in a
19 responsible and safe manner.

20 It is without hesitation that I support this
21 project. Thank you very much.

22 MR. FRIEDMAN: Thank you for your comments.

23 Speaker number six.

24 MS. PIERSON: Good evening. My name is Vicky
25 Pierson, P-i-e-r-s-o-n. I'm an affected landowner in

1 Northern Braxton County at milepost 69.

2 Although my comments tonight may not sound on
3 their face as though they are primarily concerned with
4 environmental issues, to the extent that they may influence
5 either the approval, the denial or the rerouting of this
6 pipeline, I believe that they do have an environmental
7 effect.

8 First I would like to say that I'm dismayed that
9 FERC would even consider granting eminent domain to a
10 private company for a project that will provide the company
11 with enormous profit at the landowners' expense. According
12 to the company's estimates, 2 billion cubic feet of gas is
13 expected to flow through pipeline every day. The pipeline
14 company will charge a proportionate fee to the producers for
15 this privilege. I don't know what that fee might be, but
16 even if it's only 1/10th of a cent per cubic foot, that
17 would gain them \$2 million every day. Even at a hundredth
18 of a cent per cubic foot, they're still making \$200,000 a
19 day.

20 Rather than granting eminent domain for a project
21 whose main aim is so clearly profit, I believe that Mountain
22 Valley Pipeline should be structured as a partnership
23 between the pipeline company and the landowners. For a 300-
24 mile pipeline making \$200,000 a day, even a 10 percent
25 royalty would represent \$20,000 a day, or over \$600 a mile.

1 This would mean that a thousand foot right-of-way would earn
2 over \$100 every day for the life of the pipeline.

3 A partnership of this sort is a well-established
4 practice in the coal industry, where it is called wheelit
5 (ph), and I believe it could go a long way towards
6 mitigating some of the feelings of disenfranchisement that a
7 lot of landowners feel. I would like to ask FERC to require
8 Mountain Valley to offer this option to affected landowners.

9 Secondly, I would like to express my concern for
10 the multitude of gas transmission pipeline projects that are
11 currently under consideration in Central West Virginia. As
12 I understand it, there are two applications in the prefiling
13 process before FERC, and there are others that are in
14 various stages of the planning process. All these pipelines
15 are large; 36 to 42-inches in diameter, and all are destined
16 to take gas out of Central West Virginia to be used in other
17 states.

18 There is also at least one 36-inch intrastate
19 gathering pipeline whose route is virtually superimposable
20 on Mountain Valley. These pipelines are estimated to take
21 1.8 to 2 billion cubic feet of gas per day, which could
22 total up to 3 trillion cubic feet in just one year. At
23 these rates, West Virginia's natural gas reserves could be
24 depleted in just a few years. Such a rapid depletion is
25 economically unwise, as such a large volume of additional

1 gas on the market all at once will depress prices and hurt
2 local mineral owners.

3 This entire scenario will contribute to the boom-
4 bust cycle so painfully common in West Virginia's history,
5 and further damage local communities and their economies.

6 I seriously --

7 MR. FRIEDMAN: Thank you so much for your
8 comments. And we know that you're going to submit detailed
9 comments to us in writing.

10 MS. PIERSON: I would like to submit that there
11 should be one pipeline along corridor H, which has already
12 been taken by eminent domain.

13 MR. FRIEDMAN: Speaker number seven.

14 MR. PIERSON: My name is Robert Pierson, and I'm a
15 landowner on milepost 69. I have several comments.

16 My first comment is routing the pipeline; I don't
17 understand why it seems to avoid federal land. It doesn't
18 pass through any of these wildlife management areas; it
19 seems like it should, because they were taken for the public
20 good; why not use them for the public good if this pipeline
21 is for the public good?

22 My second question is decommissioning. Funds set
23 aside to be sure that the pipeline is adequately
24 decommissioned at end of service. How do we know as a
25 landowner that there is going to be funds there, that the

1 company won't be bankrupt and we'll be stuck doing something
2 to fix it?

3 My third comment is the requirements to provide
4 some sort of safety. I presume that we have some sort of
5 isolation criteria for the pipeline, if there's a rupture or
6 something. But one of the things that concerns me is the
7 training of our emergency responders at the local level. Is
8 there some provision that FERC or somebody will have to make
9 sure those people are able to respond to some sort of an
10 accident along the pipeline? And if not, why not?

11 And the last thing is your number of meetings.
12 You're only having three meetings; it seems to me like you
13 should be having more meetings, because most of us are
14 driving 50, 60 miles just to attend this meeting. that
15 tends to diminish the attendance here. So I would submit
16 that you need to have more meetings and more local meetings
17 near the people that are affected. Thank you.

18 MR. FRIEDMAN: Thank you for your comment.

19 Speaker number eight.

20 MS. LONG: My name is Autumn Long, A-u-t-i-m-n L-o-
21 n-g. I'm a landowner in Western Harrison County near
22 Wallace. I would like to speak first on some local routing
23 issues that I want to bring to FERC's attention. The Wetzel
24 and Harrison County border delineates two major watersheds
25 in West Virginia. The Little Muskegon in Wetzel County

1 flowing west to the Ohio, and the West Fork in Harrison
2 County flowing northeast to the Monongahela.

3 Ridge Line construction of this pipeline along
4 these headwaters of these two major watersheds would impact
5 local hydrology including countless small streams, springs,
6 seeps and vernal pools that are essential breeding habitat
7 for local amphibians, water sources for wildlife, and not
8 least of all, the drinking water sources for hundreds of
9 thousands of people in this region.

10 Also in Wetzel and Harrison County and Lewis
11 Counties there are residential areas in homes that would be
12 very much affected by this pipeline, including as the
13 previous speaker mentioned, Lake Floyd as well as other
14 housing developments. There's also a cemetery, St.
15 Bernard's cemetery, southwest of Weston, which is in the
16 direct path of the proposed pipeline. And throughout its
17 entire route, there are very steep slopes being crossed
18 which will lead to severe erosion and sedimentation during
19 the construction phase, as well as a permanent increased
20 risk of slips, slope failures and flooding, and catastrophic
21 disasters due to explosions.

22 Also, I want to point out that since FERC's
23 Commissioners' decision will weigh the environmental impacts
24 of this project against purported economic benefits, I want
25 to bring to FERC's attention that misleading and faulty

1 statements continue to be made regarding the availability of
2 this gas supply for consumption in Central Appalachia.
3 Included in MVP's recent draft resource were quote, "direct
4 use benefits" including local use of natural gas for
5 residential and municipal heating and manufacturing.
6 They're implying that the pipeline could provide this
7 resource for local people, but MVP officials and FERC
8 officials have repeatedly said that the size and pressure of
9 this pipeline would preclude it from feeding into local
10 transmission lines.

11 So it's misleading to insinuate that this gas will
12 be available for local consumption. It's also misleading to
13 suggest that there will be thousands of jobs created by this
14 pipeline; these construction jobs will be very temporary, at
15 best, and there's no mention of local hiring, so there's no
16 guarantee that any of these jobs would go to local people.
17 I think these economic benefits are specious and should be
18 drawn into question.

19 That is all I have time for.

20 MR. FRIEDMAN: Thank you for your comments.

21 Speaker number nine.

22 MS. PRICE: My name is Lora, L-o-r-a Price, P-r-i-
23 c-e. I am a landowner in Doddridge County; I am not
24 directly affected by the Mountain Valley Pipeline. But over
25 the past three years I have been directly affected by the

1 Mark West plant and the pipelines that have been leading
2 into it, and the different stages of development of those
3 pipelines.

4 Almost daily I live with the smell of diesel and
5 the noise of heavy equipment passing back and forth on the
6 ridge that the separates my home from Mark West. There are
7 so many reasons to oppose more pipelines in our areas,
8 including the Mountain Valley Pipeline.

9 Here in West Virginia and across the United
10 States, three minutes will not allow me enough time to even
11 scratch the surface. So I will probably just be reiterating
12 what other people have said much more eloquently than I can;
13 but besides the noise pollution and the air pollution, some
14 of the most obvious negative effects of the pipeline
15 installations is the clear-cutting of our hardwood forest.
16 The wide swath of denuded land causes loss of topsoil, adds
17 to the greenhouse effect by taking away our oxygen-producing
18 trees; it divides the forest, causing disruption to
19 wildlife, causes destruction of headwater streams and
20 springs, triggers sedimentation and silting during
21 construction; the steep cuts cause erosion which increase
22 flooding. There will be a wider use of herbicides to help
23 keep the pipeline clear of undergrowth; the loss of forest
24 also damages West Virginia's logging industries, the
25 pipelines and related installations are destroying West

1 Virginia's tourism industry by turning our pristine
2 countryside into industrial zones.

3 This development decreases property values for
4 homeowners; it undermines our quality of rural living. Just
5 walking on my property, which used to be a joy, is now a
6 cause of anger and heartache. I believe that we should be
7 using our resources to develop renewable energy like solar
8 and wind, instead of continuing to pull the gas out of our
9 ground.

10 Thank you for your time.

11 MR. FRIEDMAN: Thank you for your comments; and of
12 course, you can write detailed comments and submit them to
13 FERC.

14 Speaker number ten.

15 MR. BOND: Hi, Anton Bond. My ancestors have
16 lived here since 1799, and they've been landowners all that
17 time.

18 I wonder where you get your information. I think
19 probably it's much like the situation with a python; I think
20 probably you get big chunks of information from the
21 companies and then you have to go back and kind of ruminate
22 on this and rest for a while, think about it.

23 I imagine that you're pretty busy. And I think
24 you may be missing the big picture. I'm going to leave you
25 a reading list of things that have come across my desk in

1 the last oh, three or four weeks.

2 [Document presented to Mr. Friedman]

3 Now then, I'm kind of amused by pictures of
4 pipelines being laid in level ground, because the problems
5 here are quite different; I'm sure you're aware of that.
6 More typical, problem-wise is a situation where a backhoe is
7 let down the hill with a bulldozer, a cable to a bulldozer,
8 because it's too steep for the backhoe to drive on. And
9 there are places around here where pipes have been put in
10 over 60 degrees. It's not like the plains. And the
11 problems are a lot worse in the plains.

12 And there are places over in Doddridge County
13 where the fill over the pipelines has slid out repeatedly,
14 and they've had to come back and replace that material time
15 after time, trying to get it to stay in place.

16 All right, let's go to the situation now in the
17 world. These pipelines are not going to be used until
18 they're exhausted. They're going to be used for a few years
19 and then they're going to be obsolete equipment. Last year,
20 when half of an electrical generating capacity that was put
21 in worldwide did not require hydrocarbons.

22 Next year -- that was a third. Next year it's
23 going to be half of the electrical generating capacity
24 that's put in. And so it's not going to be very long before
25 it's out.

1 MR. FRIEDMAN: Thank you for your comment.

2 Speaker number eleven.

3 MS. LAMB: My name is Ruth Lamb, R-u-t-h L-a-m-b.

4 I've been a lifelong resident of West Virginia. Therefore,

5 whatever my address is, if it affects West Virginia, it

6 affects me. I'm a member of the Mountain Valley

7 Preservation Alliance. Their plans for a pipeline to be

8 within seven miles of my home.

9 Pipelines are dangerous, period. They are large,

10 42-inch, and experienced pipeliners have said that this is

11 too large to do particularly on our terrain. Environmental

12 damage will be extreme; little regulation will be done, from

13 past experience.

14 We have already had fires escape on the 36-inch

15 row of stonewall gathering lines in Lewis County. Property

16 damage to people's farms affecting their ability to sell,

17 insure or get full value for their property, especially if

18 the water is destroyed to your home or your farm operation.

19 Incineration factor of 700 feet, at least, with maximum

20 pressure.

21 Last but not least, pipelines will require more

22 drilling. Why encourage an industry that, according to

23 various studies indicates increased adverse health risks,

24 increased concentration of air pollutants, increased water

25 contamination, and we know how precious our water is. There

1 have already been studies that there are two hazardous
2 chemicals; which hasn't happened before; ammonium and iodine
3 are making their way into our waterways from the operation
4 of Marcellus shale.

5 There are earthquakes associated with fluid
6 injection. Every stage of unconventional oil and gas
7 operation, from well construction to extraction operations,
8 transportation and distribution can lead to air and water
9 contamination.

10 So how valuable will your property be with a 42-
11 inch pipeline running through it? You cannot build this
12 pipeline without devastation to the natural environment, to
13 West Virginia. Please consider alternative methods of
14 distribution. Thank you.

15 MR. FRIEDMAN: Thank you for your comments.

16 Speaker number twelve.

17 MS. WOODS: My name is Christina Woods, W-o-o-d-s.
18 I am a landowner in Doddridge County, I will be living
19 approximately 10 to 11 miles from the proposed Mountain
20 Valley Pipeline. Also in our area, the proposed supply
21 header pipeline will be a mile from my home; so there will
22 be two within 12 miles from my home; and they run parallel,
23 those two, in the area that I live in. I am not sure why we
24 would allow two large pipelines so close to one another in
25 the same area. I question that.

1 What I want to talk about this evening is the
2 risk, more than anything. It's my understanding that the
3 pipeline's blasting radius will possibly be 1,100 to 1,200
4 feet around it if there's an explosion; that mean everything
5 within that, the radius of what, everything will be gone.

6 And that's really large, if you start thinking
7 about it, an area. So I did so me calculations. That's
8 3,801,330 or 4,523,890 square feet, which is 87.27 acres up
9 to 103.85 acres. And that's approximately 66 to 78.5
10 football fields. That's how big of an area that will be
11 destroyed if this pipeline explodes.

12 This is a bomb; that's what it is. Let's call it
13 a bomb. And I want to know, are the landowners that are
14 being approached to sell right-of-way, are they being told
15 this? Are they being told how much risk they will be
16 putting themselves and their property in, and oftentimes
17 putting their neighbors or their communities in as well?

18 Think about that; 103 acres. What if you're
19 hunting? What if your house is there? What if it's along a
20 roadway? That's a huge area. And once there is an
21 explosion, how far will the fire spread? Who is going to
22 control it? We're in rural areas, the first responders
23 would be volunteer fire departments.

24 I don't think they're prepared for this, I don't
25 think it's fair to put volunteer fire departments in harm's

1 way that way.

2 What effect is it going to have on our air and
3 water if there's an explosion? What effect will it have on
4 our health? How big is the evacuation zone? What plans do
5 they have along every single inch of every mile of the
6 entire proposed pipeline for an explosion, because they
7 cannot guarantee that at anyone spot that there's not a
8 possibility of this happening at some point in time.

9 So let's have them put these on their maps when
10 they're showing them to landowners and communities. Show
11 the blast zone radius, show the evacuation zones. Put signs
12 along the roadways that will be crossed by this pipeline
13 informing the driver, 'if you happen to be in this section
14 of road and this pipeline should explode, you'll be gone in
15 a few moments.'

16 Show the real risk to the public. We've been told
17 -- I have more and I will give it to you.

18 MR. FRIEDMAN: Thank you for your comments, and if
19 you have detailed comments that you did not have an
20 opportunity to say, you may submit them to the FERC either
21 electronically or in writing.

22 Speaker number thirteen.

23 MR. WOOS: My name is Wayne Woods, W-a-y-n-e W-o-o-
24 d-s. And I'll remind everybody that we're all owners on
25 this. I believe, if I'm not mistaken, the pipeline does

1 bisect two parts of the national forest that we all own.

2 I request that FERC rejects the pipeline entirely.
3 The installation of this pipeline will only encourage
4 additional drilling in Doddridge, Harrison, Lewis, Wetzel
5 and Tyler Counties of West Virginia. The use of heavy
6 equipment involved in drilling and its many facets, such as
7 connector roads, feeder pipelines, compressor stations and
8 staging areas have destroyed many of the roads in the
9 region. Larger roads and bridges on routes such as Route
10 50, Route 20, Route 19 and Route 23 have been destroyed, and
11 drillers do not have to pay a bond for those larger roads to
12 fix them.

13 I need not remind you that the pipeline companies
14 will not have to pay a bond on any of the roads that they
15 use to transport pipe and their equipment for the
16 construction of this pipeline. I can take you to the shale
17 fields and show you these destroyed roads that all the
18 taxpayers will have to fix.

19 I can take you to a compressor station just four
20 miles from my house that's discharging tons of benzene,
21 toluene, formaldehyde and other volatile organic chemicals.
22 And everyone including myself gets to breathe these toxins
23 24 hours a day.

24 I can also take you to pipeline slips where parts
25 of the right-of-way can continue to erode down the hill on

1 pipelines that were build just two years ago, and no one
2 comes around to fix them.

3 I can take you to where pipeline stream crossings
4 are actively violating state and federal laws, and concerned
5 citizens have to report the violations because companies are
6 not doing their due diligence, and there are no inspectors
7 to be found.

8 I do not want to see this for the folks in West
9 Virginia or Virginia, and I don't think people should live
10 like that, to have to police corporations.

11 What sort of things is FERC going to do to see
12 that these things don't happen at the Atlantic Coast
13 pipeline? I live in an area where a farmer has once used a
14 piece of wood to plug a hole in a pipeline so he didn't have
15 to hear the hiss.

16 The current pipeline system is old and outdated,
17 and very little is being done to fix the situation. This is
18 a new age; the threat of global warming is here, and we're
19 all sealing our children's fate if we continue to start
20 projects using fossil fuels, and when the new project should
21 involve renewable energy resources.

22 My last question is: Can an operator of the
23 Mountain Valley Pipeline apply to FERC after the pipeline is
24 put in to export overseas?

25 Thanks.

1 MR. FRIEDMAN: Thank you for your comment.

2 Speaker number fourteen.

3 MS. KEATING: I'm April Keating, a lifelong West
4 Virginia native. My mother, Iris Bell, wrote our State
5 Centennial Song, This Is My West Virginia. And I am proud
6 to be a West Virginia native. I feel protective of this
7 State and its people, and what we're going through with the
8 extraction industry, has been going on for over 152 years,
9 and we are headed for a new day. It is time for renewables.

10

11 This gas infrastructure, on top of old
12 infrastructure that needs to be corrected, doesn't make any
13 sense. We do not need this gas, and a lot of people here
14 have brought up a lot of good comments. I hope that you
15 will consider them all.

16 I would like to focus today on safety issues, and
17 mention to you the seismic activity that we have in West
18 Virginia -- surprisingly, we do. The WVEGES survey has
19 wonderful maps and tables that outline seismic activity in
20 the various counties; Braxton County is one with one of the
21 highest levels, and a cluster of them in the 2010 through
22 2012 timeline. And so these need to be considered and
23 looked at as we start digging, and placing a large pipeline
24 carrying flammables that will vibrate with the pressure of
25 1440 pounds per square inch.

1 These will also go under waterways that provide
2 water for whole communities, counties and townships; and
3 these also will be going over abandoned mine shafts in some
4 cases.

5 The seismic activity in Braxton is pretty great;
6 the MVP is going through Braxton as well as other counties,
7 and we need to consider this and other safety issues before
8 we approve such a thing, especially when the tides are
9 turning, the future is with renewables. Thank you.

10 MR. FRIEDMAN: Thank you for your comment.

11 I believe that was the last speaker on our
12 speaking list.

13 If you'd like to speak, come on up.

14 Just remember to state your name and spell it out
15 for the court reporter.

16 MR. VAN NOSTRAND: My name is Brian Van Nostrand,
17 B-r-i-a-n, last name is Van Nostrand, V-a-n N-o-s-t-r-a-n-
18 d. And I'm, I told you, sir, I'm going to put it in writing
19 because I'm not a speaker, but there are just a couple
20 things that I'd like to mention.

21 The native brown trout is on my property. I'm
22 look at, I'm guessing I looked at the Google map and I think
23 I'm looking at about three-quarters of a mile running
24 through my 150 acres. This 150 acres I purchased with my
25 wife 20 years ago for my grandchildren and my great-

1 grandchildren, which I have some of. They all want to come
2 back to West Virginia.

3 That being said, this pipeline voids that 100
4 percent for my family, period. My family would not want to
5 be near it. That brings me to the phrase of risk management,
6 which I read a lot about. I don't really understand it. I
7 heard seismic activity mentioned by the lady preceding me.
8 We have fault lines in Southern -- putting the cart before
9 the horse. I mean, we're fracking. What are we going to
10 do? Wait and see what happens to the Sutton Dam? Just a
11 question.

12 You know, this is all things that seem to me risk
13 management means 'let's try this and see what the side
14 effects are, over time.' And we don't know what the side
15 effects of this fracking is going to be yet; it's too new.

16 One big concern I have, where I live or -- this
17 pipeline is not on my property; it's not on my land where I
18 live. But this is really pristine, rugged country, and I'm
19 telling you, if there's a fire there, there's no way to get
20 to it. I know that the fire companies can come within, I've
21 read, 24 miles of one of these explosions. But a fire would
22 really be catastrophic. There's no way to get to this part
23 of Webster County. I stand to be corrected; I don't know if
24 we have aerial firefighting in this State; I haven't been
25 able to get anybody to tell me if we do. I don't think we

1 do, but I don't know that.

2 So fire, in my part of Webster County where the
3 pipeline is slated to go through, I just don't see any
4 solution to that at all.

5 MR. FRIEDMAN: Thank you for your comments.

6 MR. VAN NOSTRAND: Thank you.

7 MR. FRIEDMAN: That would be the last speaker.

8 On behalf of the FERC, I want to thank you all for
9 coming here tonight to help us focus the environmental
10 review process on those issues of concern to you.

11 Let the record show that this meeting concluded at
12 8:18. Thanks again for coming. Safe driving home.

13 (Whereupon, at 8:18 p.m., the Weston. West
14 Virginia public scoping meeting concluded.)

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