

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

2 MR. GLAZE: Good evening. On behalf of the
3 Federal Regulatory Energy Commission, also known as FERC, I
4 would like to welcome all of you today for our public
5 scoping meeting for the Atlantic Coast Pipeline and Supply
6 Header Projects.

7 Let the record show that the public scoping
8 meeting in Bridgeport, West Virginia began at 7:06 p.m. on
9 March 24.

10 My name is Jim Glaze, and I'm a geologist with
11 the FERC's Office of Energy Projects. Here with me tonight
12 representing FERC is Kevin Bowman, Allison Getty, and Jeff
13 Makethun. Before we get started, please turn off or silence
14 your phones.

15 We are here tonight to provide some information
16 on the federal process in relation to the Atlantic Coast
17 Pipeline and Supply Header Projects, and to hear your
18 comments and concerns about these projects.

19 Fundamentally, the purpose of tonight's meeting
20 is provide each of you with an opportunity to give us your
21 comments and tell us what additional environmental issues
22 you think we should address in our analysis of the proposed
23 projects. We've already received numerous comments
24 concerning the projects, including alternatives, which is
25 one of the areas we're seeking input on from you tonight.

1 All of your comments will help us determine what we study as
2 we prepare an Environmental Impact Statement or EIS.

3 The FERC is the lead federal agency responsible
4 for the National Environmental Policy Act, also known as
5 NEPA, review of the Atlantic Coast Pipeline and Supply
6 Header Projects and the lead agency for the preparation of
7 the EIS.

8 NEPA requires FERC to analyze the environmental
9 impacts, consider alternatives, and identify appropriate
10 mitigation measures where necessary on proposals before it
11 makes any decision on whether to approve or deny the
12 project.

13 The U.S. Forest Service, the U.S. Fish and
14 Wildlife Service, Great Dismal Swamp National Wildlife
15 Refuge, and the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers are currently
16 cooperating agencies in our review. Additional federal,
17 state, and local agencies with special expertise are welcome
18 to cooperate as well.

19 I would like to clarify that the proposed project
20 is not conceived by and is not promoted by the FERC or the
21 cooperating agencies. The FERC reviews applications for the
22 authority to build and operate interstate natural gas
23 pipelines, and Atlantic Coast Pipeline, LLC and Dominion
24 Transmission, Inc. are in the process of preparing
25 applications to submit to FERC. Once the application is

1 submitted, our obligation to review that application and
2 prepare an analysis of the environmental impacts.

3 Tonight's meeting is not a public hearing. We're
4 not here to debate the proposal or make any determination on
5 its fate at this time, but we are here to listen to your
6 concerns so that we can consider them in our analysis.

7 Pipeline proposals sometimes encounter
8 objections. Some are general in nature and some objections
9 are based on potential environmental impacts. Both
10 categories are important to FERC, but they are addressed in
11 different ways. General objections to the project will
12 considered during the Commission's public convenience and
13 necessity review, whereas environmental safety impacts are
14 addressed by FERC environmental staff in our EIS.

15 On February 27, 2015, FERC issued a Notice of
16 Intent to prepare an EIS for the projects, which also
17 announced the location of these meetings, how to file
18 comments and the deadlines for getting them comments to us.
19 We included affected landowners on our mailing list for the
20 Notice of Intent as well as landowners affected by potential
21 alternatives.

22 In the Notice, we asked that you submit comments
23 to FERC by April 28, 2015. However, the end of the scoping
24 period is not the end of public involvement nor will it be
25 the only opportunity for public input opportunity for the

1 projects. We will continue to accept comments after the
2 deadline throughout our review of the project, but for us to
3 adequately address comments, analyze them, and research the
4 issues we ask that you try to get those to us as soon as
5 possible.

6 Now, the Atlantic Coast Pipeline and Supply
7 Header Projects are currently in our pre-filing process.
8 This means that the application has not yet been filed with
9 FERC. We consider this to be pre-filing process, amongst
10 other things an extension of our scoping process. The
11 scoping process is a learning process. It is where we
12 educate ourselves about the project and potential issues and
13 the environmental impacts.

14 During the scoping process we are gathering
15 information. The four sources that we using right now are
16 information provided by the applicant, input from other
17 federal, state, and local agencies, our own work and
18 research of different issues, and information from the
19 public.

20 Once we gather the information developed in the
21 scoping process and the application is formally filed by an
22 applicant, we will analyze it, and we will prepare a Draft
23 Environmental Impact Statement or a Draft EIS that will
24 distribute for public comment. This will include an
25 examination of proposed facility locations as well as

1 alternative sites. We will assess the project's effects on
2 water bodies and wetlands, geology, vegetation and wildlife,
3 endangered species, cultural resources, soils, land use, air
4 quality, safety and socioeconomic.

5 We will mail the EIS to recipients on our mailing
6 list. So, if you did not receive our Notice of Intent, make
7 sure you give us your name and address so we can include
8 you. The mail version of the DEIS will also be a CD, so if
9 you prefer to have a hard copy mailed to you, will you
10 please do indicate that choice the return mailing that was
11 sent out or let FERC staff at the back table know.

12 After the Draft EIS is mailed out, there will be
13 a public comment period for you to give us comments on the
14 DEIS. During that period we'll hold another comment meeting
15 similar in format to this one, we will probably come back
16 here to the same facility if it is available, and ask for
17 you to comment and provide us feedback on the information in
18 the Draft EIS.

19 At the end of that public comment period, we'll
20 begin organizing all of the information gathered to date and
21 prepare the final EIS addressing all the comments that we
22 received on the Draft EIS. Once we've issued the Final EIS,
23 it is forwarded to the Commissioners for their
24 consideration.

25 I'd like to remind everyone that the EIS is not a

1 decision-making document. It is merely our analysis of the
2 potential impacts for the project and alternatives. Our
3 five Commissioners at the Federal Energy Regulatory
4 Commission will use that document, as well as other
5 information, to make a determination on whether or not to
6 grant authorization for this project.

7 The five Commissioners at FERC are appointed by
8 the President and confirmed by Congress. Additional
9 information about the Commissioners can be found on our
10 website at www.ferc.gov.

11 On December 12, 2014, Atlantic Coast Pipeline and
12 Dominion filed preliminary information with FERC about their
13 projects. According to their filings, Atlantic Cost
14 Pipeline and Dominion are proposing two jointly related
15 projects to deliver 1.5 billion cubic feet of natural gas
16 per day to markets in West Virginia, Virginia, and North
17 Carolina.

18 The Atlantic Coast Pipeline facilities would
19 consist of about 554 miles of pipeline ranging between 6-
20 and 42-inches in diameter from Harrison County, West
21 Virginia to Robeson County, North Carolina. The project
22 would have smaller diameter laterals extending from the main
23 line, which would terminate at Chesapeake and Brunswick
24 County, Virginia. It would also include three new
25 compressor stations in Lewis County, Virginia, Buckingham

1 County, Virginia, and North Hampton County, North Carolina.

2 The Supply Header Project would involve the
3 construction of 39 miles of 30-inch and 36-inch diameter
4 pipeline in Pennsylvania and West Virginia. In addition to
5 these facilities, Dominion would seek to modify four
6 existing compressor stations in Pennsylvania and Virginia.

7 Just a few things before we start taking
8 speakers. This meeting is being recorded by a transcription
9 service, so all of your comments will be transcribed and
10 placed into the public record. For the benefit of the
11 audience and for accuracy in the transcript, when your name
12 is called please step up to the podium and clearly state
13 your name and affiliation, if any. Also, speak directly
14 into the microphone so that you can be clearly heard by the
15 reporter, the panel, and the audience.

16 In addition to verbal comments provided tonight,
17 we'll also accept written comments. If you have comments,
18 but do not wish to speak tonight, you may provide written
19 comments on the comment forms at the back table. You may
20 drop those off with us, or mail them at a later date. Be
21 sure to include the project docket numbers PF-15-5 and
22 PF-15-6.

23 Also, due to the number of speakers that we have
24 tonight signed up, we'll have to limit each speaker to five
25 minutes so that everyone has an opportunity to provide

1 comments. You will see a laptop on the table and it's
2 turning right there, which has a timer for the benefit of
3 the speaker, which will show the remaining time. When your
4 time has ended, please complete your comments and we will
5 call the next speaker.

6 We do want to limit anyone's comments, but to get
7 through all the speakers we have to set a timeframe. If you
8 have detailed comments, you could summarize the comments at
9 the podium tonight. You may give us the full, written
10 comments at the table where you came in. Also, if you're a
11 speaker and you feel your comments were previously
12 expressed, you could simply state your name and your
13 endorsement of those previous comments.

14 I also want to make sure we conduct this meeting
15 in a professional decorum. Our purpose here is to hear each
16 of your comments on the project. Please respect each
17 speaker and refrain from interruptions whether you agree
18 with them or not.

19 Thank you for your consideration. We have chairs
20 over on the left-hand side, and I'll call up two speakers at
21 a time and you can sit over there and the first one will
22 come to the podium. The first speaker is Jim Sconyers and
23 second is Tom Bond.

24 MR. SCONYERS: My name is Jim Sconyers. I live
25 in Preston County, and I'm co-chair of the West Virginia

1 Sierra Club's Marcellus Committee. I'd like to raise two
2 impacts today I don't see in those already identified by
3 FERC.

4 They occur at the start of the pipeline at the
5 upstream end and at the downstream end. At the upstream end
6 of this pipeline we would have devastating impacts to the
7 people and communities in what I call the breaker Frackastan
8 (phonetic), the West Virginia counties, such as Doddridge
9 and Wetzel that already suffer from the impact of drilling
10 and fracking there. These impacts are well known and
11 documented, unlivable homes and farms, illness from air
12 pollution, spoiled body routes and streams, clogged or
13 dangerous roads, degraded property values, and more.

14 The ACP would clearly precipitate a new waive of
15 drilling and fracking there with it in the above-named
16 impacts. That's at risk again. At the downstream end, the
17 purpose of this pipeline is obvious. It's not rocket
18 science. It is to carry new, massive volumes of gas to end
19 users, whether residential or industrial, who will burn the
20 gas. That's what gas is for, apparently.

21 The impact will be increased emissions of
22 greenhouse gases, in particular, CO2, the primary cause of
23 climate disruption and its (22:43:12) catastrophic
24 planet-wide consequences. The only safe place for this gas
25 is to leave it in the ground. These impacts must be

1 included in any analysis by FERC. They would will be clear
2 and direct impacts of the ACP. Thank you. Can I turn in a
3 copy?

4 MR. GLAZE: You can leave a written copy outside.

5 MR. SCONYERS: Thank you.

6 MR. GLAZE: Tom Bond and the next speaker is
7 Susan Cleaver.

8 MR. BOND: My name is Tom Bond. I live two miles
9 east of the interchange at that area. My concern is with
10 the safety of these pipelines. I've done a little reading
11 on it. And I understand that if have a hole about the size
12 of a pencil or a little larger that they explode like a
13 balloon because they have as much as 100 atmospheric of
14 pressure in the line. That's a 100 times normal atmospheric
15 pressure.

16 Now, if you've read about the Sissonville fire
17 and explosion and seen the pictures, you realized what
18 happens. The pipe comes into. It digs a dig along the
19 pipeline. The pipeline flops around and throw eastern steel
20 out. And of course various
21 -- thousand a second. There's a big burst of flame.

22 The Sissonville pipeline was 20 inches in
23 diameter. The one we're talking about here is 42-inches in
24 diameter. So, if you're up on your junior high math, you
25 understand that there will be more than four times as much

1 gas involved in a 42-inch pipeline.

2 The radius that will be affected by the blast is
3 1100 feet, that's about a quarter of a mile. And a few
4 thousand a second it takes to start the fire there will be a
5 huge amount of gas put out into the atmosphere and that's
6 like the singe radius. The area is going to receive some
7 impact from the flame immediately that is somewhere in the
8 neighborhood of a mile. And the worst circumstance, say a
9 drought, it's possible that you'd have a fire contained in a
10 15-mile radius -- I'm sorry -- a 15-mile circumference
11 around the explosion.

12 Our local fire departments are not equipped,
13 either by equipment or by training to handle anything like
14 this. They have trucks that are made to run on hard road
15 and only under ideal conditions can they go out in places in
16 a field where it snows. They cannot go up the hills. They
17 cannot go through bricks, and they cannot do a lot of other
18 things that has to be done to fight this kind of fire.

19 Now, probably something like this wouldn't happen
20 immediately, assuming that the welds were proper and the
21 covering on the pipes were what they should be. But
22 somewhere down the road, 30 or 40 years, quite likely that
23 this would happen just as a result of the nature of this
24 type. Put together with this the fact that these pipes make
25 an ideal target for terrorists. There are three to six feet

1 underground at the top.

2 And I understand that there are some people in
3 this audience can't remember back to World War II, but I
4 remember very well that were weapons designed to fire
5 downward into the ground to blow up tunnels and they were
6 not big. A man could carry one of those on his shoulder.
7 And so, it would be ideal as far as terrorism is concerned
8 to use a weapon like that.

9 Also, the amount of explosive that would be
10 required to set one off could easily be carried on a drone.
11 It's not very big. And if you follow the world situation
12 right now, and you think we can go another 20 years without
13 a war power to you, but I don't think it's very likely we're
14 going to that long. So, these are serious things to be
15 considered for people living in rural areas, this handicap
16 and the nature of the firefighting capacity.

17 Now, I think this is something that FERC should
18 take into consideration.

19 MR. GLAZE: The next speaker is Susan Cleaver
20 followed by Charlie Burd and Tom Rowan.

21 MS. CLEAVER: My name is Susan Cleaver, and I owe
22 a residence in the Henderson Supply area of the Henderson
23 Supply Pipeline; namely, in Doddridge County. And I really
24 appreciate the first speaker, Mr. Sconyers, speaking about
25 what we are enduring in our communities already because of

1 the fracking in the communities. We have people leaving our
2 communities. I have several friends who have left the
3 community. We have people who do not have water that they
4 can drink because their water supply is becoming dried up or
5 more importantly poisoned.

6 We have people who are sick who cannot live in
7 their ancestral home any more or invite their grandchildren
8 to be there with to them, to come visit.

9 I found out just this evening through the maps
10 outsides that the Header Supply Pipeline is to come within a
11 half a mile of my house, and I'm very concerned about that.
12 I feel like with the Atlantic Coastal Pipeline the fracking
13 that is occurring in our counties will only greatly
14 intensify and turn our beautiful West Virginia into an ugly,
15 industrial landscape, which is what I'm seeing now.

16 We see compressor stations running 24/7 with
17 people living within a quarter mile from that and having to
18 put up with that 24/7 and the noise pollution and the air
19 pollution, and especially the water pollution.

20 Now, I think that water should be West Virginia's
21 prime, natural resource. It has been. It's getting
22 polluted. It's way more important than natural gas.
23 Natural gas and heating and electricity can be accomplished
24 through other means, clean means, and we're seeing that
25 across the world right now. Why put all this energy and

1 time and explosions and clearing the land into a technology
2 which is so shortsighted?

3 Water is what is going to be the main resource
4 necessary to the future, not just in 10 or 20 years, but a
5 thousand years. This is where West Virginia could be a
6 leader in providing clean water, that is, if we don't
7 pollute it in the meantime.

8 I'd like to tell you a little bit about flooding
9 in our communities. Already we have several many lesser
10 pipelines crossing through Doddridge County. So, these
11 hillsides have to be the trees. There are excavated for the
12 lesser pipelines and some mulch, grass covering is put over
13 it. Well, if it rains the water comes straight down these
14 steep hillsides causing erosion, causing fill to spill in
15 the streams. With the rains the waters are flooding the
16 streams, flooding our farms, flooding our houses, and these
17 are with lesser pipelines.

18 West Virginia is being so -- such a hilly place
19 we have to be real careful when we think about digging that
20 up. I think that's the place I'm going to stop. Thank you.

21 MR. GLAZE: Thank you. Next speaker is Charlie
22 Burd, followed by Tom Rowan and David Alavez.

23 MR. BURD: Good evening. My name is Charlie
24 Burd, and it is my privilege to here tonight to speak in
25 favor of this project.

1 It's been my privilege for the last 13 years to
2 be the executive director of the Independent Oil and Gas
3 Association of West Virginia. We're a 750-member trade
4 association of oil and gas operators and those companies
5 that serve them.

6 It was formed in 1959. Since that time we were
7 formed, we were formed to promote and protect the
8 independent natural gas producers in this state, as well as
9 the national environment. That's a responsibility that we
10 take very seriously.

11 IOGA and its members have a longstanding
12 tradition of working with federal and state agencies in
13 matters such as this, in matters of importance to West
14 Virginia, its citizens, and the oil and gas industry.

15 IOGA is pleased to support and endorse the
16 successful approval of completion of the Atlantic Coast
17 Pipeline project. This \$4.5 billion project is a joint
18 venture by four of the nation's most successful and
19 recognized energy leaders, Dominion, Duke Energy, Piedmont
20 Natural Gas, and Atlanta Gasoline.

21 Upon completion of this project, the natural gas
22 will be shipped via this pipeline to help the ever-growing
23 needs of energy in Virginia and North Carolina. Through
24 this 550-mile project an estimated 1.5 bcs of natural gas
25 will be shipped south every day out of West Virginia. In

1 addition, there'll be another -- a 42-inch line, the project
2 will also include those previously stated by the FERC
3 representatives here tonight.

4 This reliable supply of domestically-produced
5 natural gas will be used for electric power generation to
6 heat thousands of homes and for use in a wide variety in
7 commercial and industrial processes. Moreover, this project
8 will create thousands of construction jobs, thousands of
9 permanent jobs, and contribute a million dollars to the
10 state economy will enrich and enhance the lives of millions
11 of people.

12 The Atlantic Coast Pipeline Project is a positive
13 step forward in bringing low price, clean-burning natural
14 gas to homes, businesses, manufacturers, and power
15 generators. IOGA West Virginia, its 750 members, and
16 thousands of West Virginia employees are proud to give this
17 project its fullest and absolute support.

18 This kind of concludes my remarks for IOGA, but
19 as a resident of State of West Virginia and as a father let
20 me say I'm very blessed to have two sons, one born in 1976.
21 He's 37 years old, speaks six languages, worked for the
22 United Nations, now lives in New York City, and he consults,
23 constructs, and owns restaurants. That's what he does. He
24 can't really do that here. His business takes him
25 worldwide.

1 I have a 16-year-old son, phenomenally gifted in
2 math, wants to be an engineer, wants to be a WVU engineer,
3 wants to swim for WVU. He wants to be a West Virginia
4 resident after he graduates.

5 The natural gas industry has been a part of my
6 life for the last 42 years. I'm so pleased that I've been
7 able to be a part of it.

8 At West Virginia University just six years ago
9 there were 30 students in the natural gas and oil program at
10 WVU. It's over 300 today. This program competes with the
11 best schools in the nation for students. Colorado School of
12 Mines, Texas A&M, Texas, Penn State. How proud we are as
13 West Virginians to have such a fine institution coming out
14 the best program there is in the country. I hope one day my
15 son will be one of those. And this project and these
16 companies and they're going to be here. They will be
17 providing jobs in their best effort. Thank you.

18 (Applause.)

19 MR. GLAZE: The next speaker is Tom Rowan,
20 followed by David Alavez and Corky DeMarco.

21 MR. ROWAN: My name is Tom Rowan. I'm with Gas
22 Exploration and a board member of the Independent Gas and
23 Oil Association, a native of Upshur County and a resident of
24 Harrison County right now. I got my chemical engineering
25 degree from WVU and had to move out of state to find a job.

1 The gas and oil industry afforded me the
2 opportunity to move back to raise my family in my home area
3 and to make a life where I want to live. So, I think this
4 project is a blessing to the state and for the industry of
5 the state.

6 I know that there's a lot of environmental
7 concerns. And being in the industry I have an understanding
8 of how it works and how things are handles and how things
9 are done correctly. And I have full confidence this project
10 can be done by the Dominion without any issues and pray that
11 it does come to fruition and the project gets completed for
12 the benefit of our state. Thank you.

13 (Applause.)

14 MR. GLAZE: The next speaker is Dave Alavez,
15 followed by Corky DeMarco and Vivian Stockman.

16 MR. ALAVEZ: Thank you. I'm Dave Alavez. I'd
17 like to thank you guys for coming all the way from
18 Washington to you know hear our concerns and enthusiasm.
19 When you get a project like this, it's definitely concerns.
20 There's also enthusiasm 'cause you know America was built on
21 energy in my opinion.

22 I know we all have opinions in here, but my
23 opinion is the success of American was on cheap energy and
24 the ability to extract energy from our great land here. And
25 when I think my grandparents migrated from Italy and Spain,

1 Alvarez and DiNunzo, so they came here for opportunity and
2 they came to West Virginia. And what I think is really
3 exciting when I look back that nearly a hundred years ago
4 they came here and I'm in this community and when they came
5 here predecessor companies to Dominion were here. And today
6 those companies under the name of Dominion are still here
7 and they're providing jobs for our area and they're good
8 jobs.

9 There's labor involved, our labor unions.
10 There's business that creates jobs. There's restaurants.
11 There's hotels. There's opportunity for our children and I
12 think that's what really reflects on my mind. I have four
13 children. I've successful got one of them to stay in West
14 Virginia. I look for another one to graduate from West
15 Virginia University in May, and she's going to move to West
16 Virginia. I'm hoping to get one back from Furman University
17 to West Virginia next year.

18 I have a son that I want to go to college in West
19 Virginia State, but without any of that -- without jobs
20 they're not going to be here. Someone had spoke -- I
21 believe it was Charlie who mentioned you know his son has
22 opportunities, but they're not in West Virginia. When I
23 think about energy and what it does for our community, and
24 we can be selfish and not want to share our energy with
25 North Carolina or for that matter New York City, the gas

1 here that's kept the lights on in New York, not to mention
2 our own homes.

3 And I think about how it affects me, and I have a
4 few businesses in town. One is a car wash and we heat the
5 water with gas. I have a restaurant. We cook the food with
6 gas. I have a house. We heat it with gas. I have a
7 trucking company. In a roundabout way we use gas to power
8 it. Each and everyone that drove here used gas that comes
9 out of the ground here in West Virginia in a roundabout way.

10 We've recently as a country became independent of
11 the Middle East on energy. And when I think about all this
12 I go about the same thing, my grandparents came here for
13 opportunity and that opportunity was surrounded around the
14 production of energy at a low cost.

15 And I'm proud to support the Atlantic Coast
16 Pipeline and the efforts of Dominion and many of the other
17 companies in this area that they have the vision to bring
18 that product to market so we can be living a greater live in
19 America.

20 And I will close, as a contractor in a previous
21 business I owned, I built facilities that we make -- that
22 were in the mountains of West Virginia, bridges that you all
23 drive on. I built compressor stations, the Seneca Rocks
24 Compressor Station when Columbia Gas remodeled it, I would
25 say, and brought it up to today's standards. And when we

1 left there it was a better place.

2 When I went and built the bridges on U.S. 33
3 across trout streams, when we left there is was a better
4 place because there's good practices out there today. And
5 yeah, we can go and pick about a slip over here or
6 something, but at the end of the day there's very few
7 companies that do not make it a better place when they touch
8 the land that we're blessed to have here.

9 And I appreciate everybody's opinion and I listen
10 to them, but I'm excited with the opportunity, and I hope
11 this goes to fruition and we can all look back on our
12 grandchildren on their success in being able to live in West
13 Virginia. Thank you.

14 (Applause.)

15 MR. GLAZE: The next speaker is Corky DeMarco,
16 followed by Vivian Stockman and Janet Keating.

17 MR. DEMARCO: Thank you, gentlemen, for coming to
18 West Virginia for this meeting and other meetings you've had
19 here.

20 I want to start out with a statement, and I don't
21 want to sound like it's a smart-alecky statement, but God
22 didn't want us to be farmers or this place would look
23 Kansas. God put us in these mountains -- these mountains
24 that are 450 million years old with the best hole in the
25 world and the most natural gas in the world, but we have a

1 responsibility. And I think companies like Dominion and
2 others have seized on the opportunities that these mountains
3 have provided and they'll continue to do this.

4 And as others who spoke today about
5 responsibility, we have a tremendous responsibility, not
6 just to West Virginia, but to the United States, especially
7 to the point that someone made earlier we should never lose
8 another life of our men and women to energy. We've fought
9 wars over energy. We should never do that again.

10 I mean I don't know that George Washington had
11 the vision when he came to this part of Virginia in 1771 to
12 survey the first gas opportunity or the first gas -- what's
13 now the first gas deal, but every since then we've developed
14 and continued to build out our infrastructure, our ability
15 to bring resources to this state, to this region, and to the
16 rest of the country.

17 We have over 30,000 miles of pipeline in this
18 state right now. And if you look at all -- if you calculate
19 all the right-of-ways, which we just did for Fish and
20 Wildlife Service, if you calculate all the right-of-way we
21 deforested less than 5/10 of 1 percent of the land mass
22 that's forested in West Virginia.

23 So, we've been good stewards. And I just want
24 you all to understand we seize this opportunity. If you cut
25 that pipe in half it makes a great big "O" and that's what

1 we have in this state. And we want to continue to be good
2 stewards and provide good jobs for our citizens and provide
3 resources for the rest of the country. Thank you.

4 MR. GLAZE: The speaker is Vivian Stockman,
5 followed by Janet Keating and David Jones.

6 (Applause.)

7 MR. GLAZE: The next speaker is Vivian Stockman,
8 followed by Janet Keating and David Jones.

9 MS. STOCKMAN: My name is Vivian Stockman. I
10 represent 110 Ohio Valley Environmental Coalition, also
11 known as OVEC, but my comments tonight are my own.

12 West Virginia knows all too well what comes to us
13 from so-called cheap energy. We know all too well the
14 promises of the fossil fuel energy. Just look at the
15 so-called billion dollar coal fields what are now, in fact,
16 some of the poorest areas in the nation with some of the
17 worse water, the worst health, and the worst education
18 systems.

19 I hope FERC will take this status of West
20 Virginia into account when concerning the proposed massive
21 pipeline. Among the cost of this proposed pipeline I hope
22 FERC carefully consider the impacts of the health and well
23 being of communities where the proposed pipeline will go,
24 the impacts of air emissions from compression stations on
25 human health, impacts of all alternatives, including the

1 no-action alternative, climate change impacts, impacts of
2 the use of power plant waste or fly ash or coal ash as fill
3 material, impacts -- that is, impacts resulting from
4 promotion more Marcellus and other shale activity, impacts
5 that this will have on area landfills with increased shale
6 waste, especially radioactive waste.

7 Impacts of and full disclosure of the
8 constituents that will be transported via pipeline,
9 especially possible deadly radon gas as a constituent of
10 some of the gas in the pipes, impacts on public safety
11 because of the flammability of methane, impacts on local
12 governments as towns prepare to respond to potential
13 explosions, impacts on tourism and recreation in West
14 Virginia, impacts on human health and ecological health.

15 There's much more to consider and OVEC will be
16 submitting, extensive technical comments, but I hope FERC
17 will give this proposed project honest, intensive scrutiny
18 and will truly consider the well being of the people of West
19 Virginia and not just letting the fossil fuel industry have
20 its way with our health, our well being, our water, our
21 natural heritage, and our state's beauty. Thank you.

22 (Appause.)

23 MR. GLAZE: The next speaker is Janet Keating,
24 followed by David Jones, and Mirijana Beram.

25 MS. KEATING: Good evening. I appreciate this

1 opportunity to submit some comments tonight. I'm Janet
2 Keating. I'm the Executive Director of the Ohio Valley
3 Environmental Coalition. We're a grassroots environmental
4 organization based in Huntington since 1987, and we will be
5 submitting some more technical written comments in the
6 future.

7 OVEC's primary goals have always been to protect
8 the lives and health of people living in communities that
9 are exposed to pollution. I want to suggest that when you
10 do an EIS that you make sure all the contractors have no
11 conflicts of interest. That's really important as you go
12 through that process, be especially firm when it comes to
13 looking at the no-pipeline alternative. Definitely, in my
14 opinion, because I love so much the Forest. I think that
15 alternative should just totally be ditches.

16 I've been going to the forest since 1983, and my
17 daughter learned about nature there. But on the other hand,
18 I don't think that that pipeline should be thrust on many
19 community members elsewhere. We have for the last 15 years
20 faced off against the coal industry because of mountaintop
21 removal in southern West Virginia. And people there
22 literally we have found out now through health studies that
23 mountaintop removal does promote lung cancer in humans. And
24 we believe that West Virginia has done enough in terms of
25 sacrificing for this nations' energy and there are other

1 ways, as has been mentioned before.

2 I hope that we can look forward to the day when
3 West Virginia and FERC will actually be having discussions
4 about projects, the large projects or small or otherwise
5 dealing with renewable energy. I've learned that solar has
6 created more jobs than oil and gas combined in the past
7 three years and the solar stops are outperforming oil and
8 gas stops.

9 I think we have a big responsibility to future
10 generations to make sure that we have a planet. Climate
11 change seems to be pretty real. We can't ignore it any
12 longer. It's time to really get off our fossil fuel
13 addiction.

14 To me, the fracking is just a prelude to the
15 pipeline. And all the comments that were made previously by
16 Mr. Sconyers and by Tom Bond referring to the safety I would
17 just like to underscore those and thank you for your time
18 tonight. Appreciate it.

19 (Applause.)

20 MR. GLAZE: The next speaker is David Jones,
21 followed by Mirijana Beram and Linda Ireland.

22 MR. JONES: Good evening. My name is David
23 Jones, and I'm president of the Harrison County Economic
24 Development Corporation. And after much discussion of our
25 board, we approved a resolution to support the Atlantic

1 Coast Pipeline for a number of reasons.

2 First and foremost, Dominion has a long track
3 record and an extensive history of successful pipeline
4 projects and are concerned about our community because many
5 of them live and work here as well and they are concerned
6 about the environment.

7 I'm sure many of you -- all of us in here have
8 been impacted in this way by this economic boom of the oil
9 and gas industry that we've seen over the last four years.
10 If you look at the number of restaurants, the number of
11 hotels, and how it's impacted this community in some of the
12 things as well as the tax base of the communities being the
13 property taxes.

14 Much like Charlie Burd, I also -- my son is
15 living and working in West Virginia in the oil and gas
16 industry with my two grandchildren, and probably wouldn't
17 have that opportunity without that. But this pipeline there
18 was an economic study done that the pipeline alone will
19 create over \$400 million worth of economic impact to the
20 State of West Virginia and over 3,000 jobs through the year
21 2019.

22 That on top of what we're already seeing -- and
23 also will allow us to get this gas that we've been producing
24 in this area out of our community to other areas. So, from
25 that perspective, our group, being an economic development

1 group with the trust and faith of Dominion to do the right
2 thing getting this pipeline done correctly, fully support
3 this Atlantic Coast Pipeline Project. Thank you.

4 (Applause.)

5 MR. GLAZE: The next speaker is Mirijana Beram,
6 followed by Linda Ireland and Any Lang.

7 MS. BERAM: First off, I'd like to thank you for
8 this opportunity to speak. I am a resident of Doddridge
9 County. And the destruction that I have seen occurring in
10 my county over the last several years with the advent of
11 hydraulic fracking has been really distressing.

12 I have seen water buffalos appear in people's
13 lawns because of water pollution. I have seen the pipelines
14 that are being put in by other companies I've seen the
15 erosion. I've seen accidents. I've seen -- the safety
16 aspects just are not there. My concern with the pipelines
17 that are getting put in right now is if they go through my
18 community is just going to have more of the bad effects
19 because they'll go on and they will put it in.

20 We are a head water community that supplies
21 water. We're the source for water for other communities. I
22 have seen wetlands filled in. And even though what I can
23 determine, none of the remediation work is occurring in our
24 community. I've seen people in my community that are not
25 making a good living. They are you know people that are

1 still working minimum wage jobs. I've seen their vehicles
2 destroyed because our road infrastructure is getting
3 destroyed. And our roads are not set up to handle the
4 weights that are coming in on them. So, you're talking
5 about 36-inch pipelines, 42-inch pipelines. We don't have
6 the road infrastructure to support it.

7 We don't have the emergency personnel to support
8 it. And one thing that I found very frightening was the
9 last -- one of the last pipeline accidents that occurred up
10 -- I believe it was in Brook County -- that pipeline had
11 only been in service for one year, one year. So yes, you
12 know inspections are done, but there is oversight. And I
13 believe that pipeline, that accident and that explosion
14 occurred in Brook County. So, that was one year.

15 Somebody spoke earlier about 40 years, 50 years.
16 I worry about the quality and the grade of the pipe that's
17 being used. And to underscore, I want to say that I'm in
18 complete agreement with what Mr. Sconyers said, Mr. Bond,
19 Ms. Cleaver, Ms. Stockman, and Ms. Keating.

20 I listened to the other folks talk about their
21 children and being employed by oil and gas. I retired from
22 oil and gas after having worked for 30 years. I know what's
23 involved. I know how many pipelines are in the ground. I
24 know that accidents can happen. What's disturbing to me is
25 the fact that more and more accidents related to pipelines

1 are occurring.

2 And the other thing that I find if you have a
3 pipeline explosion, typically the gas is just allowed to
4 burn off because of how the valves are situated. So, what
5 area of destruction do you have there, plus the fact that
6 with the advent of the computer generation, et cetera, most
7 of the controls -- most pipeline companies use computerized
8 systems to regulate. Now, as technology advances, you hear
9 of more and more people getting you know hacked, et cetera.

10 That I also have concerns with is the terrorism
11 aspect. You go and look in any of the computerized mapping
12 system that are free, Goggle et cetera, you can see where
13 these pipelines are. You can see the compressor sites. You
14 can see the valves sites. And now with the scariness of the
15 drones that just makes us even more of a target. It
16 concerns me. I would like to leave something for our
17 children. I would like for my daughter to be able to come
18 to the home that she was born in and to be able to drink the
19 water out of the well, or just to even have the home still
20 be standing and not have been destroyed by an explosion.

21 And things happen. You know I -- things happen,
22 so I would hope that in your considerations in looking at
23 this you look at some of the social impacts, the social
24 environmental impacts that are occurring in our communities.
25 Thank you very much.

1 (Applause.)

2 MR. GLAZE: The next speaker is Linda Ireland,
3 followed by Andy Lang and Joe Fenstermacher.

4 MS. IRELAND: Thank you for this opportunity.
5 I'm going to endorse the comments of Ms. Sconyers, Mr. Bond,
6 Ms. Cleaver, Stockman, Ms. Keating and Ms. Beram, and also
7 make comments of my own.

8 I live in what was once a quiet, rural West
9 Virginia community where hydraulic fracking for natural gas
10 and the accompanying compressors, pipelines, and processing
11 drones and transforming our community. There are countless
12 studies showing the negative environmental impacts for this
13 kind of gas development, but experiencing these impacts are
14 real problem and that can't be understood by reading a
15 study.

16 This winter as bad weather and lower gas prices
17 slowed gas development many of us experienced let's call it
18 a reprieve. We hoped against hope that maybe the
19 development will stop and everything would be all right
20 after all. As the activity rescinds we realize we are
21 beyond reprieve and not delusion. But if pipeline like the
22 Dominion Atlantic Coast are approved, we will see only an
23 intensification of drilling activity and its impacts as the
24 pipeline opens a virtually unremitted market for the natural
25 gas line beneath our homes.

1 I'd like to give you an analogy. Imagine we put
2 you in a little shack with a window where you can watch as
3 your home and everything that's precious to you is bulldozed
4 and burned. All you can do is watch and listen and breathe
5 in the smoke. We live in West Virginia's rural areas for
6 the land is our house. To see it destroyed is destroying
7 us. We love the land, the hills and trees, creeks, and
8 wildlife, our gardens and farms -- yes, farm -- the fresh
9 air and the quiet.

10 I don't own a big, fancy house, but when I walk
11 out my door it's like Yellowstone National Park without the
12 crowd. It's just beautiful. We're surrounded by beauty and
13 we want to protect it. I have children too. I raised two
14 children in West Virginia. And yes, I would love it if they
15 could stay and make a decent living here, but not if they
16 must risk their life working on hazardous materials, not if
17 their work would contribute to destroying the quality of
18 life of our fellow community members, not if their work is
19 harmful to the water, air, and ecosystems that sustain us.
20 No job is worth what this pipeline and the accompanying gas
21 development will destroy.

22 So, when considering the impacts of the pipeline
23 please also consider the impacts from the intense gas
24 drilling and fracking that it will foster. We have drilling
25 areas only too well that natural gas is not a clean energy

1 alternative. We should not permit the development of a
2 pipeline that would support it. Thank you.

3 (Applause.)

4 MR. GLAZE: The next speaker is Andrew Lang,
5 followed by Fenstermacher and Michael barrack.

6 MR. LANG: Thank you very much. My name is
7 Andrew Lang, and I'm a lifelong resident of Bridgeport, West
8 Virginia. I've been privileged over the years to work in
9 the coal district, the head of construction industry, and
10 today and for the last 15 years the oil and gas industry.

11 I am the manager of a local oil and gas service
12 company, BRF Services. We employ about 400 people in the
13 Northeast, but the opinions I have are of my own and not
14 based on the company that I work for.

15 I think the two issues here are the environment
16 and the economy seems to be two issues here. Speaking of
17 the economy, you know I will say that natural gas has been a
18 big part of my life over the years. You know I recently had
19 a little conversation with a guy from the Tax Department for
20 the State of West Virginia. And his comments were that
21 what's been lost in personal property tax revenue in the
22 State of West Virginia in the last several years have been
23 offset by the development of natural gas in West Virginia.
24 I think that makes for a big boost in our economy.

25 When you bring together a strong economy it has

1 to do with a good workforce, raw materials, and then you
2 combine -- which is what natural gas brings to us, and then
3 I believe that makes for a strong America. Those are my
4 beliefs.

5 However, on the environmental side -- I'll bring
6 that up for a second. I had the privilege over the years of
7 working in the coal industry with my father when I was a
8 little kid back in the seventies, and I saw the damage when
9 oil was dumped on the ground and dirt was shoved over the
10 hill and there were no regulations by the DEP, OSHA, or
11 anything like that.

12 I've seen that all my life growing up my whole
13 life. Today, 45 years later, I believe that we do have good
14 regulations. I do believe that we have good oversight by
15 regulatory groups that make sure that we're doing things the
16 way they should be done. Every part of what I do control --
17 the companies I work with is controlled by HS&E, Health,
18 Safety and Environmental. And every meeting you go to, any
19 business you turn in, anything to do with that that is
20 always the number one priority that health, safety, and
21 environmentally safe.

22 You know I'm with Keystone to put a 24-inch
23 pipeline across my farm down at Mount Claire. You know do I
24 want my farm tore up, no, but do I believe in our industry?
25 I do. They're going to put about 7,000 feet across my farm.

1 It's something I really don't want, but I sure as heck can't
2 turn my back on it.

3 So, I think in conclusion, for me, someone else
4 made the comments their family's been here for a hundred
5 years. Mines been here for 200 years. I'm the seventh
6 generation to live in the same town. I hope my daughter
7 will be here some day, but I really don't think that I would
8 for something that would be bad for my friends, my family,
9 and my neighbors since I live here too and I'm not planning
10 on going anywhere. So, thank you very much.

11 (Applause.)

12 MR. GLAZE: The next speaker is Joe
13 Fenstermacher, followed by Michael Barreck and Elise
14 Keating.

15 MR. FENSTERMACHER: Hello. My name is Joe
16 Fenstermacher. I was born and raised here in the State of
17 West Virginia, originally from West Virginia. My wife also
18 is born and raised in this area as well. I graduated from
19 South Harrison High School, went to college here. I spent a
20 brief amount of time down south in Texas and Louisiana with
21 my former company and Energy Services and now I'm with BP, a
22 company called Proactive Services here in Salem, West
23 Virginia.

24 I've had the privilege of working in this
25 industry now for almost 10 years; through two different

1 companies we've been able to employ many people. We have
2 around 70 people employed by Proactive now and folks, I've
3 seen that side of it. Also, working in this industry has
4 given my family and my friends the ability to stay here in
5 the state, make a good living.

6 And I've also seen -- I understand the concerns
7 that've been raised this evening, but also seen, as Mr. Lang
8 just spoke about, the regulations that are placed on these
9 companies and I have full confidence from working with
10 Dominion in the past that this will be done correctly.

11 The industry, as a whole, is a huge support, not
12 only economically, but simple things like, for example, my
13 wife the school that she teaches at, West Norford Elementary
14 is greatly impacted by this industry. They support here.
15 They provide resources for the classroom that might not
16 readily be available for my kids and for her classroom
17 either.

18 With that being said, you know I do want to show
19 my support this evening for this project and that's pretty
20 much it. Thank you.

21 (Applause.)

22 MR. GLAZE: The next speaker is Michael Barreck,
23 followed by Elise Keating and Steve McDiffitt.

24 MR. BARRECK: Good evening. My name is Michael
25 Barreck. I'm resident of Harrison County and a Bridgeport,

1 and a tenth generation West Virginian. I want to speak to
2 you as the founder of the Appalachian Preservation Project.
3 Also, I want to talk to you about safety. I have a
4 background in it. I want to talk to you a little bit about
5 a faith perspective from West Virginia Interfaith Power of
6 Light.

7 The first thing I'd like to point out is that my
8 mom taught down here at Johnson Elementary School for a
9 number of years. And the one thing I learned growing up was
10 listening to women, and I have yet to hear a woman that
11 thinks this pipeline is a good idea because they're the
12 people that raise the children and they're the ones that
13 care the most about our children. So, I've heard a lot
14 about children. I'll take what the women have got to say
15 about things.

16 Now, the other thing that puzzles me is how can
17 we, as mountaineers, get all psyched up for the West
18 Virginia basketball team and the Sweet 16 and be in total
19 unity -- unless you're a Marshal guy -- about this
20 basketball program and yet, we come in here and we're
21 divided. We are divided because since the day of company
22 script the robber barrens have thrown crumbs at the workers
23 of this state. We're talking about millions and millions
24 and billions of dollars that come in and out of this state
25 and it's left in the hands of the average citizen. They're

1 conquering and dividing us and shame on us for allowing that
2 to happen.

3 Now, a point about the environmental impact goes
4 to social economic obviously. I was at the Randolph County
5 a couple of weeks ago where the pipeline is going to go
6 through Randolph County. They want to go up and over a 1300
7 foot ridge, through private property, and when 14 creeks,
8 Middle Creek, back up under -- over a 9000 foot bridge and
9 there is -- that was going to take two years for the
10 permitting process.

11 It sounds to me like the fix is in already.
12 Perhaps they already have the legislature in their pockets.
13 I do not know, but I do know this the environmental impact
14 was not even considered by Dominion. They didn't walk the
15 land. They had no idea of what features are on that
16 property. They did not know there were natural trout ponds.
17 They did not know Middle Creek was there. They did not know
18 they were going to cross the national cemetery because they
19 sat in front of computers and didn't even consider the human
20 impact.

21 Finally, I want to talk a little bit about
22 safety. I have a post-graduate degree in Community
23 Preparedness and Disaster Management. And you cannot
24 separate pipeline development from fracking. Others are
25 talking about the environmental impacts of the pipeline

1 development, the 300-foot wide survey corridors, the
2 150-foot to 75-foot construction corridors, those are
3 clearly problems, but the dangers I've heard about fracking
4 I've seen it coming through the emergency room where I used
5 to work. And when I would try to collect information, guess
6 what, no answers.

7 When I would try to get information from an
8 individual of what was going on, their boss would come in
9 and tell them to shut up. What've got to hide, folks?

10 Now, this is what I will close with. I heard a
11 comment that God wants us to extract this gas. Anytime
12 someone tells you they know God's will I'm tempted to run in
13 the other direction. I suspect they have an agenda that
14 they're wanting God to endorse. I don't know whether or not
15 God will endorse it, but this person of faith will not
16 endorse something that destroys the land which God gave us
17 to steward. Thank you.

18 (Appause.)

19 MR. GLAZE: The next speaker is Elise Keating,
20 followed by Steve McDiffitt and Nathan Rakerstraw.

21 MS. KEATING: Good evening. My name is Elise
22 Keating. I am the outreach and education coordinator for
23 the Greenbrier Watershed Association. I will direct my
24 comments to you gentlemen here tonight.

25 The Greenbrier Watershed is particularly unique

1 in West Virginia. It's one of the few last watersheds that
2 actually considered for state. There's very little, if any,
3 heavy industrial impact all the way from Upper Pocahontas
4 County all the way where at least the New River in Summers
5 County is where I grew up.

6 One of the things I understand FERC must consider
7 is the cumulative impact of all of these pipeline projects,
8 so I want to stress that the ACP crosses our headwaters in
9 Pocahontas County and then crosses the actual Greenbrier
10 River in Summers County, or the NPP crosses the pipeline
11 crosses the Greenbrier River in Summers County. So these
12 two pipelines would dig in a currently pristine watershed.

13 This is a serious concern to us. And it's not so
14 much the chemicals that may leak out of the pipeline once
15 it's put in place, but the sediment and erosion runoff that
16 will happen during the construction in these particularly
17 sensitive areas would be a concern for us.

18 I also looked at the maps, the parcel maps and
19 the satellite maps that were provided by Dominion, and I
20 noticed that in Randolph County about 80 or 90 acres of this
21 proposed route crosses an existing strip mine as it's
22 labeled on the map. Re-disturbing land or you know mixing
23 up land that has already been part of the strip mining
24 process is particularly concerning as well because of the
25 heavy metal particulates, barium, selenium, arsenic that are

1 part of the mining process will potentially be re-exposed to
2 oxidation and to hydrology that could help them reach out
3 into our ecosystem. So, this is a deeply concerning for us.

4 We also have issues with horizontal drilling
5 across streams. We know from experience in areas that
6 currently have fracking around these areas that a horizontal
7 bore could potentially hit a fracture zone which would run
8 it out into the streams, and we want you all to be
9 particularly alert to how these companies suggest that they
10 can protect our small streams from these impacts.

11 In recent weeks, we've heard in comments that fly
12 ash is one of the materials that would be considered as fill
13 for this pipeline trench. Again, this is deeply concerning.
14 And when we pull back and look at Duke Energy's frustration
15 and trouble with getting rid of fly ash, I think that these
16 pipelines offer opportunity to dispose of toxic materials in
17 underlining trenches that will further impact our watershed,
18 so we wish FERC would pay particular attention to that.

19 I was handed a few more notes here this evening.
20 One of the things I want to bring up is the fact that the
21 Commissioner for Agriculture, Walt Helmick, here in West
22 Virginia has pushed organic farming as a next consideration
23 of economic development for our state. Members of our
24 coalition have met with him and asked him how those policies
25 are compatible with increased fracking in pipelines. So, if

1 it is within FERC purview to look at and consider policies
2 that reflect incompatible practices, that would be something
3 we'd ask you take into consideration.

4 We also -- I'll just wrap up my comments with
5 these. Why all the different economic numbers we keep here?
6 We have reports commissioned by Dominion that have footnotes
7 that say West Virginia how should receive no cash revenue
8 from this project. Then we have charts that show \$7.9
9 million as cash revenue from this project. Well, nothing to
10 \$7.9 million is a pretty big discrepancy.

11 So, I would ask FERC to really do some
12 independent economic analysis as to what the true economic
13 impacts of this pipeline would be to our communities, taking
14 into account small business owners and small farmers along
15 this route as its been proposed as a result of this project.

16 And then, finally, since I have a minute left,
17 I'd like to bring out some of the historical aspects of
18 Civil War battles that have been fought along this proposed
19 pathway. And one of the books that we would recommend you
20 all use as a resource is called Rebels at the Gate. It's
21 written by Hunter Lester, who's from Elkins, and it
22 describes some of these battles. So, we would encourage you
23 to look at those historical aspects as well. Thank you.

24 (Applause.)

25 MR. GLAZE: Next speaker is Steve McDiffitt,

1 followed by Nathan Rakerstraw and Alyn Schopp.

2 MR. MCDIFFITT: My name is Steve McDiffitt. I'm
3 with the Operating Engineers Local 132 in West Virginia.
4 I'm a heavy equipment operator. I have been for about 18
5 years. I make a very good living running the heavy
6 equipment. I've got about 4,000 members that I represent
7 that are making good livings over the last five years under
8 this gas industry.

9 I've made a lot of friends, relatives, other
10 operators that've worked all over the United States. This
11 is an opportunity for several of the 4,000 members that I
12 represent to be here working at their home, sending their
13 family -- their children to school, taking care of their
14 wives and being able to be home.

15 The environmental impacts there are going to be
16 some. There's no doubt about that whatsoever, but the
17 processes that are in place right now, the new standards --
18 I'm on these pipelines daily and it's unbelievable the
19 amount of effort that is put out there to maintain and keep
20 runoff out, to take care of the creeks and streams, all the
21 roadways they're trying to take care of. We do have impact,
22 but it's just a blessing to be able to be home for 4,000
23 members that I know of just out of the operating engineers
24 to be able to be here and work in this -- in West Virginia.

25 I'm sure with FERC and with Dominion they're

1 going to make sure that this project is put in properly.
2 All the aspects will be taken to make sure that the
3 environment is taken care of and safely put back. So, I'm
4 here in support of it. That's basically in a nutshell what
5 I had said. Thank you.

6 (Applause.)

7 MR. GLAZE: The next speaker is Nathan
8 Rakerstraw, followed by Al Schopp and Wood Thrasher.

9 MR. RAKERSTRAW: Thank you. My name is Nathan
10 Rakerstraw and I'm a resident of Bridgeport, and currently
11 I'm an adjunct professor at Pierpont Community College, but
12 prior to that I worked in the oil and gas industry my entire
13 adult live, spanning a term of 35 years. I started working
14 in Texas and migrated and eventually ended up here in
15 Bridgeport, been here 28 years. So, I'm very thankful that
16 the oil and gas industry has given myself and my family a
17 great place to live, an opportunity to -- in this community.

18 I'm teaching at Pierpont. I start this past
19 semester. Never taught before in my life, but I had the
20 opportunity or had a calling that I wanted to be able to
21 give back the younger generation the opportunities that I've
22 experienced in my careers. When I first started out in the
23 oil and gas industry, I didn't have any mentor. I just had
24 to learn things by the school of hard knocks, but with the
25 skill sets that I've acquired I'm able to transfer that

1 knowledge to the younger generation and hopefully they'll be
2 able to successfully have families that are able to stay
3 here in West Virginia and earning a prosperous life.

4 The other thing, over that 35 years span, I
5 myself have been on over a thousand frack jobs. Either as
6 the guy driving the pump truck or mixing those chemicals on
7 back of a blender, or the guy that's an onsite engineer in
8 the truck that's making the decisions on that site. But
9 anyhow, over a thousand frack jobs that I've been on
10 personally I've never impacted a water well that I'm ever
11 aware of. I mean you can find anything you want on the
12 Internet to support your cause, but I'm telling you my
13 experience as I would be before a panel or a judge that I've
14 never occurred impacting any water source to make these
15 water wells, but I just want to bring that out from my
16 experience.

17 The other thing the industry has been great to us
18 here in West Virginia. West Virginians have always been
19 able to extract the minerals. You know whether it's
20 harvesting timber, mining coal, or drilling and completing
21 and producing oil and gas. It's always been a right for
22 West Virginians. So, I hope that we will be able to
23 preserve that right and be able to provide the economic
24 income for our families.

25 I just want to close a little bit about Dominion.

1 I'm very familiar in the last 28 years working closely. A
2 lot of my friends and neighbors work at Dominion, very
3 familiar with the management team. I'm here to tell you
4 that Dominion's top priority is safety and everything they
5 do is focused around safety. And their second goal would
6 their environmental compliance. If anybody's going to do
7 right, Dominion's going to do right. They're a good
8 company, but let me say this they're a great company and I
9 have the most respect for Dominion over any company out
10 there.

11 So, that being said, I will turn it over to you.
12 Thank you.

13 (Applause.)

14 MR. GLAZE: The next speaker is Alyn Schopp,
15 followed by Woody Thrasher and William Parker.

16 MR. SCHOPP: Thank you for time this evening. My
17 name is Alvin Schopp. I'm the Chief Administrative Officer
18 and Regional Vice President for Intero Resources. We are
19 here today to support the ACP Project.

20 Ironically, we will not ship a single MCF through
21 that pipeline. It is fully subscribed and that just shows
22 you that it's a demand driven project that is basically the
23 customers have been taken care of. They know who those
24 customers are and this is being built for real need.

25 Intero, as an oil and gas producer here in the

1 state it really is about some of the economics that have
2 been -- some people have been sharing with you tonight.
3 We've spend over \$7 billion here in northern West Virginia
4 since 2009, and that has created a significant number of
5 jobs. Last year we employed through Intero and our
6 subcontractors in West Virginia over 4,000 people, of which
7 70 percent were local that was providing local jobs. We're
8 proud of that record.

9 Those people, that 70 percent, and my people, the
10 employees of Intero Resources and the employees of Dominion
11 all live here as well. And health, safety, and environment
12 are our top priority. It's at every one of our board
13 meetings. It rises to the highest level in our companies.
14 It's the most independent department that any of these
15 companies have and they always have the final say. It's
16 about health, safety, and the environment.

17 At Intero, we're proud of the things that we've
18 done. We provide back to the communities. Last year we
19 provided over \$300 million in royalties to the landowners
20 directly here in West Virginia, and we provided \$90 million
21 in severance and production taxes to the entire State of
22 West Virginia, and those are nice numbers; however, what has
23 happened in 2015 we've cut all of those items by 40 percent
24 because of basic laws of supply and demand.

25 The supply's here, the rock's here, the jobs are

1 fantastic. What that has done is created a lack of supply
2 and that's what's happened with certain prices. This
3 pipeline project is basically taking gas so that gas can be
4 used. There's plenty for use here in West Virginia. Our
5 hope is that the heavy liquids, the propane, the ethane can
6 be used here to develop the manufacture and process bringing
7 West Virginia back to its glory days of manufacturing, and
8 we think that those things can be built here with the feed
9 stock. However, if there's not a good supply out of the
10 state, then the pricing in West Virginia will never be
11 economically developed.

12 So, I'm here to support the project. We, as
13 well, although we're not using the pipeline, will support
14 the pipeline project. We, as well, know Dominion very well.
15 We benchmark ourselves continually against all of our peer
16 groups. And if you want to challenge -- benchmark yourself
17 against Dominion with health, safety, and environment
18 they're an excellent company. They held themselves and all
19 their people to the highest standards and we continue to
20 benchmark against them as well, which will continue to make
21 us a better company. Thank you for your time.

22 (Applause.)

23 MR. GLAZE: The next speaker is Woody Thrasher,
24 followed by William Parker and Mark Spears.

25 MR. THRASHER: My name is Woody Thrasher and I'm

1 with the Thrasher Group. That's a company my father and I
2 started 32 years ago.

3 First, from maybe a national perspective, I
4 rejoice at the fact that our country is finally energy
5 independent. I have watched a number of wars that we have
6 fought that basically the core reason for them is energy. I
7 believe a lot of lives have been scarified that hopefully in
8 the future won't have to be because we are independent. I
9 totally believe that is great for our country.

10 I also know that everybody is uniformly blessed
11 with all our natural resources. They need the power in New
12 York City and Baltimore and Washington, and in the
13 Carolinas, and they are not blessed with energy there to
14 produce, so that energy needs to come from somewhere.

15 Fortunately, we in West Virginia have an
16 abundance of that resource and I feel like it's about the
17 national obligation to do our part for our country. So, I
18 fully support us providing those raw resources that are used
19 throughout our country.

20 On a local level, I can tell you at our company
21 this economic development is real. We have hired 200 people
22 in the last 500 years -- in the last five years that we
23 otherwise never would've hired. The vast majority of those
24 people are either new graduates from West Virginia
25 University Engineering School or Fairmont University

1 Engineering School, or they're people that worked
2 out-of-state and finally had an opportunity to come back
3 home.

4 As we all West Virginians know, the one thing we
5 can agree on is we love West Virginia and we all want to
6 live here.

7 And you know, finally, in my business I really
8 have an intimate look at the safety and the environmental
9 concerns that go into these projects. I've been doing water
10 and sewer projects my whole life. I've done highways and
11 airports, got a large, large environmental division and
12 nobody but nobody gets the scrutiny that the oil and gas
13 business does.

14 Nobody is looked over with a fine toothcomb to a
15 greater extent than this industry and everything you do has
16 an inherent risk. There was an inherent risk when you drove
17 here this evening, but the reward was worth the risk. And
18 so certainly there are risks associated with the extraction
19 and transportation of gas, but it's a risk that's a
20 reasonable risk and a reward is well worthwhile. So, in
21 summary, I'm supporting the project. Thank you.

22 (Applause.)

23 MR. GLAZE: The next speaker is William Parker,
24 followed by Mark Spears and Christina Woods.

25 MR. PARKER: My name is William Parker. I'm the

1 County Administrator for Harrison County. I'm here to lend
2 support to the project.

3 Many speakers have already stated the points I
4 wanted to bring forth about benefits of economics and jobs
5 and creating a stable economy for our future. But I'd like
6 to thank Dominion for being an excellent corporate citizen
7 to north central West Virginia. They do an excellent job,
8 so thank you Dominion for that.

9 But we support the project. It'll bring benefits
10 long-term to our communities and hopefully, that'll be
11 accomplished expeditiously as possible.

12 We do need to consider the environment. There
13 will be environmental issues that will need to be dealt
14 with, but it's my opinion that Dominion and the other
15 partners in this project will approach that in a responsible
16 way with the oversight of the regulatory agencies. So, on
17 behalf of the Harrison County Commission, we support the
18 project.

19 (Applause.)

20 MR. GLAZE: The next speaker is Mark Spears,
21 followed by Christina Woods and Hank Lawrence.

22 MR. SPEARS: My name is Mark Spears out of Stone
23 Energy in Morgantown. And first of all, I'd like to thank
24 you for allowing the citizens to come here and speak to you
25 with our different points of view. I think this process is

1 what makes -- one of the things that makes American great.

2 I'm here speaking in support of the Dominion
3 Atlantic Coast Pipeline Project. Much of the job growth in
4 West Virginia over the last several years has been highly
5 skilled, high paying jobs in the oil and gas industry. At
6 Stone Energy we have hired several of WVU students each year
7 from West Virginia students as summer interns to gain much
8 needed experience in the industry before they graduate.

9 Because of the drilling and producing activity in
10 this state as a result of these jobs a lot amount of wealth
11 has been generated for many individuals who have leased
12 their mineral rights and a lot of severance tax and income
13 tax revenue has been generated for the State of West
14 Virginia. However, because the industry has been so
15 successful drilling and producing Marcellus shale gas over
16 the past few years the supply of natural gas has overcome
17 the ability of the pipelines to take away the gas to where
18 the demand is in the larger population areas.

19 A bottleneck of excess supply has occurred within
20 West Virginia and the result has been a dramatic drop in
21 commodity prices. As consumers, we see the result of these
22 lower commodity prices and lower gasoline prices at the
23 pump, which we all enjoy; but the reality and downside of
24 sustained, lower natural gas prices will be that less gas
25 will be produced and lower royalty payments and severance

1 taxes will be paid out to the state.

2 We need this Atlantic Coast Pipeline Project
3 approved and built in order to increase the take-away
4 capacity for natural gas and to help alleviate the
5 bottleneck that exists today. Thank you.

6 (Applause.)

7 MR. GLAZE: The next speaker is Christina Woods,
8 followed by Hank Lawrence and Jeff Mills.

9 MS. WOODS: Hi. My name is Christina Woods. I'm
10 a Doddridge County resident. I'd like to preface this by
11 saying my wish for all of you is that you have clean air,
12 clean water, and a safe place to live. That's my goal, not
13 whether I had a job or not. I want everyone, everyone to
14 have that. That's not what we have in Doddridge County.

15 The Header Project because my home is
16 approximately one mile away from it and the proposed
17 Mountain Valley Pipeline in that area of the county also
18 runs parallel to it, not far from it actually, I question
19 why you have two pipelines so close together in the area
20 that I live.

21 I went to a Dominion meeting in Doddridge County
22 about the Supply Header Pipeline, and we ask about the blast
23 zone radius. If you're not sure what that is, the blast
24 zone radius is the distance fire from an explosion, should
25 it happen, consume. It's measured in feet from the

1 epicenter to outer edge of the burn area.

2 Well, it would be they told us 942 feet. And so
3 I started thinking how big is that from the center all the
4 way around is a circle. That circle, I found out, would be
5 2,787,740 square feet or 63.99 acres, which is approximately
6 48.5 football fields destroyed, gone. Everything in its
7 path would be gone. So, when you draw those maps, why don't
8 you show that edge of what would be gone if there'd be an
9 explosion anywhere along there?

10 And you guys think it's fine that it's not going
11 to happen. Well, when you live a mile away from that,
12 that's a big concern. How far is the evacuation zone?
13 That's just where everything is going to be gone. Are we
14 going to have to lose our homes because a private industry
15 made a mistake or had an accident? Are we going to lose our
16 house? It's a big question. And I'm glad everybody has a
17 job, but I want us to have clean air and a safe place to
18 live.

19 We were also told once the explosion happens
20 basically they just have to let it burn. Well, what toxins
21 are we going to be breathing? What will the wildlife be
22 breathing? Who's going to control the fire? What affect is
23 it going to have on our air? What affect is it going to
24 have on our water?

25 Also, according to a report done in 2000 by the

1 Pipeline Safety Trust, they did a report. They found often
2 that the blast zone in explosions that have happened in the
3 past have actually been larger than the calculated blast
4 zone radius. So, that's a concern. And just because we
5 chose to live in a rural area does not mean that we're
6 expendable. It does not mean we're collateral damage.

7 And it's plain and simple to me. This is for a
8 private corporation, their profit and their risks are
9 externalized to the public. The risks are being put
10 squarely on the shoulders of those who live around these
11 pipelines. We're being asked to risk and pay for their
12 risks with our air, our water, our homes, our health, our
13 property values, our safety, possibly even our lives along
14 with every other living thing in our ecosystem if there
15 would be an explosion.

16 How much more risks are we supposed to assume for
17 the oil and gas industry? We are asked to risk more and
18 more every day, and every governmental agency that looks at
19 the process and looks at these permits they look at them
20 like they're in a vacuum. They never look at the big
21 picture. They look at one little thing. They don't go,
22 wow, look how much risk is being put one community. You
23 just pretend it's this one little thing.

24 And where I live in Doddridge County we
25 surrounded with well sites, tanks, flow back tanks,

1 pipelines, compressor stations, fracking tanks, drilling
2 ponds and many of which contain toxic chemicals that are
3 carcinogens, and/or radioactive. It's like living in a mine
4 field. We've already had well fires, explosions, spills,
5 leaks, well water contamination, and it's real.

6 Somebody said that it's never happened on their
7 watch. There are water buffalos in Doddridge County, people
8 who cannot -- their well because it was contaminated by the
9 oil and gas drilling process. It's not something that we
10 looked up on the Internet because it's real. And our roads
11 are destroyed and it's full of traffic holes. If you get on
12 our roads, you're taking your life in your hands. We are at
13 risk 24 hours a day every single day for this industry. And
14 now, once again, we're being asked to take on more of their
15 risks.

16 We, as West Virginians, we deserve better. We
17 deserve better than to be sacrificial for the profit of the
18 extractive industries. So, I'm asking that you don't allow
19 this to happen. Thank you.

20 (Appause.)

21 MR. GLAZE: The next speaker is Hank Lawrence,
22 followed by Jeff Mills and Matt Comas.

23 MR. LAWRENCE: Mr. Glaze and your staff, thank
24 you for having this scoping meeting this evening. My name
25 is Hank Lawrence. I'm a resident of Bridgeport. I live a

1 block up the street. My children's pictures are out here in
2 the display case. Our children went to high school here.
3 Unlike some of the stories that you've heard tonight, I came
4 here from Virginia to make a living almost 35 years ago.

5 I'm a lawyer with Steptoe & Johnson. I'm here
6 tonight to speak in support of the pipeline. Our firm has
7 represented the energy industry for years. Our firm is
8 almost a hundred years old. We have been in this area, part
9 of the community. Our employees live in this area. They go
10 to school in the local schools. They pay taxes here.

11 We have benefited directly from the energy
12 industry and certainly Dominion has been one of our clients.
13 Dominion has displayed a superb record for safety over the
14 years. They have developed the resources that are available
15 in this area and with a stewardship mentality. They have
16 respected the landowners. They've respected the regulators,
17 and they have grown the industry in this area.

18 One of the things that, as a lawyer, one of the
19 things we look at are the property rights. You have surface
20 owners with property rights. You have mineral owners that
21 have property rights. They own the minerals. They have an
22 expectation. They have a right for development of those
23 minerals and the production.

24 This morning's paper many of you all here read
25 the Telegram. This morning's paper noted that over the last

1 five years there has been, on average, an annual 50 percent
2 increase in natural gas production in this area. With that
3 increase comes a recognition of a need to transport that
4 product to market. And FERC serves an important function in
5 looking at the environmental impact of the development of
6 the natural gas in this area and in this region and the
7 transportation of this gas from this region so it can be
8 used throughout areas in our country that do not have
9 natural gas supply.

10 And just as for years gasoline is brought in from
11 refineries into this area where we can use it, other
12 materials that are not produced here are brought in to be
13 used here. We have an abundance of natural gas. That
14 natural gas is being produced in a safe manner and this
15 purpose behind the scoping proceeding and application
16 process is to consider the alternative, to consider how this
17 resource can be developed.

18 We have the resource here. It is -- this forum
19 is important to hear both sides of the issue, the concerns
20 from citizens who look at the pipeline, look at the location
21 of the pipeline, look at the issues with respect to that
22 balanced against the needs of other American for the use of
23 this product and the jobs that are created and the revenue
24 that is created for the State of West Virginia to help pay
25 for our schools, to help pay for the infrastructure that has

1 allowed the state over the last 100 years to continue to
2 develop, as the natural resources have been developed, as
3 this area has continued to flourish.

4 And it's not a choice between one or the other.
5 It's a sensible management of development of the resource,
6 development -- this area is renowned for tourism. It's
7 renowned for outdoor beauty. That has continued to exist,
8 coexist with development of the minerals that are here in
9 this area.

10 As an energy lawyer, I know the regulation that
11 regulatory agencies have looked at the development of these
12 pipelines. They are integrated. Last week I attended a
13 meeting in Pittsburgh with the Corps of Engineers. The
14 Corps look at the wetlands impacts. The Fish and Wildlife
15 Service was there. Fish and Wildlife Service looks at the
16 endangered species and its sensitive areas. It looks at the
17 development of that. Environmental Protection Agency was
18 there. They looked at issues with respect to water and with
19 respect disposal. West Virginia's DDP was present at the
20 meeting. All of those agencies work together. They have
21 input into that.

22 So, I thank you for allowing all of these
23 individuals to voice their views. It's certainly an
24 important function that you serve. Again, I speak in
25 support of the pipeline. Thank you.

1 (Applause.)

2 MR. GLAZE: The next speaker is Jeff Mills,
3 followed by Matt Comas and Rich Judd.

4 MR. MILLS: My name is Jeff Mills and I'm a
5 Doddridge County landowner. I own land, the surface without
6 the minerals. I own some surface with the minerals and I
7 own some minerals without the surface. And no matter which
8 part I play, which landowner I feel like, I come to one
9 conclusion. We cannot destroy all of our resources just to
10 develop one of them, and that's basically is what's
11 happening in Doddridge County.

12 I received in September a letter from Dominion
13 saying that they were going to come and survey on my
14 property. They said that they were going to send as many as
15 20 some crew members, five different crews of surveyors and
16 that they might clear paths, which I suppose would be cut
17 branches or something off of trees. They will dig holes.
18 And if they find any historical stuff, they will take it and
19 I can donate it to the historical society or they would
20 bring it back to me.

21 In no place in the letter does it say do we have
22 your permission. This is unbelievable. And now with the
23 eminent domain thing I thought I lived in America, not
24 Russia or China. That our federal government could actually
25 give a private company, industry the right to take --

1 condemn my property for profit. That's unbelievable to me,
2 but it's true.

3 Since that time, I found out from that letter
4 that they were going to cross two parcels of my property,
5 but it doesn't say where. I found out later that the intent
6 was to put it by a 30-inch pipeline that's already there,
7 which is right on the edge of my property, buried on my
8 property and it was going to run with that 30-inch line.

9 In January, I got some other letters. And at
10 that point, I went to the open house at Douglas County Park
11 and they pulled out the maps and they have changed the
12 route. Now, the 36-inch pipeline on the map is going right
13 by my house between my two barns, my old house, and this is
14 their new route.

15 Now, anybody that lives in Bridgeport how would
16 you like to get a letter that says that somebody could come
17 on your property, cut branches off your blue spruce, maybe
18 cut down your dig around, take things off your property
19 without your permission, and then you might end up with a
20 36-inch diameter bomb buried across your property? That's
21 exactly what we're talking about.

22 Now, do I think that this isn't going to be done?
23 No, I think it's already a done deal. I think it's going to
24 happen, but for goodness sake, if it happens put some of
25 these things together to where you don't tear up so much

1 land.

2 The other thing, follow the other pipeline.
3 Don't come a different route. The new route is going to
4 cross intermittent streams that weren't crossed before. I
5 will say one thing about Dominion back in the sixties when
6 they put the 30-inch line in if I had to plan it that's
7 where I would've put it. It goes up a point, out a ridge,
8 down another point, and that would be the place to put it.

9 I worked with the State of West Virginia as a
10 forester for 41 years. My job, partially, was to layout
11 roads, supervise dozers. I am not a tree hugger at all.
12 But the thing is there's a right way of doing stuff. Right
13 now in Doddridge County we have Upshur red place soil, which
14 is highly erodible. If this thing does fly, put it on the
15 30-inch right-of-way. That would make more sense than
16 anything else. It will tear up less land and it won't
17 affect as much other property.

18 The oil and gas industry I have lived with them
19 for 41 years, and I know a lot of them are here right now,
20 and it sounds like everything's great. I don't know where
21 they're getting that information. I've put up with them
22 just like every other landowner has and it's the only
23 problem I have living in Doddridge County is oil and gas.
24 Everything else is fine. Thank you.

25 (Applause.)

1 MR. GLAZE: The next speaker is Matt Comas,
2 followed by Rich Judd and Greg Smith.

3 MR. COMAS: Thank you. Thank you FERC for being
4 here. My name is Matt Comas. I'm with the Affiliated
5 Construction Trades of West Virginia.

6 Our organization represents over 20,000
7 construction workers across the State of West Virginia.
8 We're here and we're proud to stand in support of Dominion
9 of the Atlantic Coast Pipeline Project. The ACP Project is
10 important for economic growth and prosperity throughout the
11 state. It will significantly contribute to employment
12 opportunities in West Virginia and provide safe, affordable,
13 clean natural gas to businesses and communities needed to
14 use more of this abundant resource.

15 It is critical that jobs are created to keep the
16 economy functioning. Hotels, car dealerships, and small
17 local retail businesses across the state as well as other
18 local industries are already benefitting from natural gas
19 development. The working community in West Virginia needs
20 to see benefits too. In fact, a recent study found that in
21 West Virginia over the construction period the project would
22 support about 3100 jobs, including 1800 directly supported
23 by spending on construction activities.

24 These are jobs our hardworking men and women need
25 and jobs they can complete efficiently and safely. After

1 construction is complete, the ACP will continue to provide
2 greatly into the local economy. We're proud to support this
3 project. Thank you for being here today.

4 (Applause.)

5 MR. GLAZE: The next speaker is Rich Judd,
6 followed by Greg Smith and Autumn Long.

7 MR. JUDD: Hi. My name is Rich Judd. I live
8 here in Clarksburg, and I have a piece of property down. I
9 don't have any prepared notes because unlike the gentleman
10 who spoke a few minutes ago who actually got letters back
11 in September and January the very first mailing I got was
12 one week ago tonight.

13 Apparently, when I changed my address down there
14 whoever's sending out these mailings on behalf of the
15 industry doesn't bother to check to make sure they're
16 actually contacting homeowners that might have moved, but
17 I'm speaking just from purely selfish point of view just
18 like the industry is.

19 Their motivation, as far as I can see, is nothing
20 but profit. The folks that represent the industry have
21 spoken here tonight many of them are business owners that
22 are getting profiting, great profiting from the boom going
23 on here, but I'm about as low on the totem pole as you can
24 get in this whole process. Like I said, I'm a landowner, so
25 on the backs of people like me who can try to negotiate a

1 fair price for a piece of land that they're going to take
2 from me they can just sit there and say, no, I don't like
3 your offer and as the gentleman said, with eminent domain
4 they can condemn my property.

5 And I don't own a farm where I have hundreds of
6 acres where they go across a corner of it or something that
7 is you know is far enough from farmhouse I don't have to
8 worry. I've got a seven-acre parcel where they're running
9 the 42-inch pipeline, which is a 125-foot right-of-way. And
10 even if they only took that, if there weren't any other
11 things that extended outside those boundaries, that leaves
12 about a little less than 350-feet long is one acre.

13 So, I'm not quite sure exactly where they plan to
14 put this through. Again, I haven't had time to prepare
15 much. I just found out about this meeting and -- but I need
16 to find out exactly where they plan on running this thing
17 through 'cause I don't know if it's going to be more than
18 350 feet across my property. So, out of seven acres they're
19 going to take I'm guessing at least one. And depending on
20 where it runs it could run right through the middle of it,
21 which means both sides of that right-of-way are pretty much
22 useless.

23 My concern is when I bought that piece of
24 property for a retirement home it was a nice little ^^^^
25 it's out in a rural area, but it's a small housing

1 development in the middle of the rural area. It's not like
2 where you've got a few houses here, a few there. You've got
3 a housing development. It's Landmark Estates, maybe a dozen
4 or 18 homes, something like that in there. And for some
5 reason they decided to run this thing right through the
6 middle of a housing development that's out in the middle of
7 the country.

8 But at any rate, I'm one of the -- I'm probably
9 the most unlucky one in that subdivision because, like I
10 said, it's going right across my piece. And again, from a
11 selfish point of view, we're just going to get nailed.
12 That's all I can say.

13 So, people talk about the opportunity that this
14 project is providing, again, that's the opportunity for the
15 people who you know are in the position where they have
16 businesses that they can profit from this. And we're going
17 to be spending, as the first gentleman said -- one of the
18 first gentlemen that spoke, one point something billion
19 cubic feet of gas per day through this pipeline to North
20 Carolina and Virginia again on the backs of people like me.

21 So, it just annoys me that this industry can get
22 away with this sort of thing, just taking people's land from
23 them, like the gentleman said, we live in the United States
24 of America and you can just come in and take your property
25 away from you for something like this.

1 I heard someone speak earlier about the --
2 wanting to make sure that they -- they concern themselves
3 about the conflict of interest of the contractors. I'm more
4 concerned about the conflict of interest of the people that
5 are actually in the approval pipeline for this thing. So,
6 West Virginia is not well known for its rigor in making sure
7 that there isn't something shady going on in these kinds of
8 dealings.

9 So, again, I -- my concern again is about you
10 know the little guy here trying to fight a big, very, very
11 wealthy industry and I see what's going on in Doddridge
12 County and up in Morgan County, driving down even the
13 highway, not even in the neighborhoods and you see the
14 eyesores of the wells and the damage to the roads and
15 everything.

16 I actually grew up in central New Jersey, not too
17 far from northeast New Jersey where all the oil refineries
18 are and that's a cesspool. Now, I'm not saying that
19 anything like that's going to happen here, but what's going
20 in the rural areas here it's visual blithe as far as I'm
21 concerned. So, that's my piece. Thank you.

22 (Applause.)

23 MR. GLAZE: The next speaker is Greg Smith,
24 followed by Autumn Smith and Roger Roe.

25 MR. SMITH: Good evening gentlemen -- ladies and

1 gentlemen. My name is Greg Smith from Glenville, West
2 Virginia. I operate a professional consulting business,
3 providing environmental survey and engineering work for the
4 oil and gas industry for over 37 years now. I started out
5 as a one-man operation. I have 70 some employees currently.

6 I start here this evening and I'm also a member
7 of the Independent Oil and Gas Association, IOGA. Our board
8 voted unanimously last week in support of Dominion's
9 project. And I come as a consultant. I have you know no
10 contracts, so I have no dog in this hunt or anything right
11 now, but I am very supportive of the project and the overall
12 outcome that provides for West Virginia, as well as the end
13 product.

14 You know we hear about West Virginia and we hear
15 everything going on here. We're also improving the
16 environment in Virginia and North Carolina. We are
17 providing a clean, efficient product for heating and cooling
18 the homes, businesses you know elsewhere also. Years ago --
19 for the last five years I've served on the board of
20 governors and also on the foundation board for Wilmer State
21 College. I've been strong supporter. They've developed a
22 natural resource management program as well as an
23 environmental program, which I was strongly supportive of in
24 having those instituted at the college over 10 years ago,
25 especially on the environmental end of it.

1 And all these students we have 100 percent
2 placement coming out and probably 70 percent of them or
3 better are coming out in the oil and gas industry or toll
4 industry when everything was booming at that timeframe. But
5 the economics of the project with direct and indirect jobs
6 that it's going to provide there's going to be a huge
7 savings.

8 One thing we need to realize too is the severance
9 tax, what it's going to do to our schools and continuing the
10 education for our children that's going to be in this state.
11 There's a huge shortfall in severance tax in coal. The oil
12 and gas industry has the opportunity to step up and pick
13 that up, but we have to get our gas out of state. We do
14 have a glut, as you've heard here.

15 I heard one gentleman comment earlier regarding
16 that they're not prepared to fight the pipeline fires and
17 safety and so forth. I would like to -- last week or week
18 before last the Gas Association in conjunction with Marietta
19 College is sponsoring a fire safety and training for natural
20 gas fires that they've started. I think this is the second
21 one in the last year and a half or so, so they are looking
22 ahead. Things are being planned for.

23 You've heard a lot about safety, environmental
24 issues. I can ensure you with what I do that's what we do
25 our business every day. I have 35, 40 direct clients that

1 deal in the natural gas industry. We provide full service
2 from the planning on the land, environmental permitting, all
3 the regulatory permits through the state. And I can assure
4 you that you know the ones that are involved with it these
5 companies like Dominion can solve -- you know they are
6 concerned. They are taking the extra step. There's
7 regulatory measures -- you know this is not 1960 anymore
8 when things were you know just haphazard and you got a
9 permit and did what you wanted. Things are very well
10 controlled and they are going the extra mile over and above
11 the regulation.

12 Just to add a comment, back in the late eighties,
13 early nineties, a parent company to Dominion, which was C&G
14 Transmission surveyed -- provided surveying, environmental
15 services for over 265 miles of pipelines in southern West
16 Virginia. We provided environmental and erosion control
17 measures at that timeframe, not necessarily all required,
18 but they were above board then and they stay that way right
19 now. Thank you. I am supporting this project.

20 (Appause.)

21 MR. GLAZE: The next speaker is Autumn Long,
22 followed by Roger Roe and David Layton.

23 MS. LONG: I have also received a letter
24 containing vaguely worded threats of legal action against me
25 for refusing pipeline surveyors access to my property.

1 We're here tonight because no eminent domain ruling has yet
2 been made on the subject of these proposed pipelines; yet,
3 the involved companies are proceeding as if the conclusion
4 were already forgone.

5 Given the recent public comments made by the top
6 official in the FERC agency, this is not such an
7 unreasonable conclusion to draw. So, I hope that you will
8 be sincerely and closely considering all the comments
9 submitted by citizens and organizations whose interest do
10 not align with those of the gas industry if for no other
11 reason than to defend your agency's supposed independency
12 and neutrality against the growing public perception that
13 the fox is, in fact, guarding the hen house.

14 The ACP and Supply Header are one of a suite of
15 proposed pipelines the impacts of which must be considered
16 as cumulative and lasting. These pipelines would lay the
17 groundwork for an expediential increase in fracking, which
18 has already run roughshod over this region of Appalachia.
19 Extraction and burning of that natural gas distributed
20 through these pipelines would lead to future carbon
21 emissions that will exacerbate the unfolding disaster of
22 global climate change.

23 FERC must consider impacts ranging from global to
24 local scales. Should these pipeline projects move forward
25 use of existing right-of-ways and corridors would help to

1 minimize the environmental destruction and disturbances as
2 well as negative human impacts, such as increased potential
3 for flooding, air and noise pollution and public health
4 consequences, as well as the forcible taking of private
5 property depriving landowners of its use and enjoyment and
6 decreasing their property values.

7 Questions of public safety remain regardless of
8 route choice. As has already been mentioned, explosions and
9 hazardous leaks of methane, which would require vigilant
10 monitoring, maintenance, and upkeep for the indefinite
11 future in order to minimize these risks and dangers.

12 I, for one, have little faith that these gas
13 companies, including their many iterations of subcontractors
14 they hire to perform these jobs will, in fact, maintain
15 these necessary levels of maintenance and repairs to prevent
16 the inevitable decay and decrepitude of these pipelines.

17 This state is already criss-crossed with aging
18 and neglected pipelines in various stages of disrepair. How
19 then should we trust these same companies to maintain
20 hundreds of additional miles of pipelines in unprecedented
21 scale and size with any more care than they've demonstrated
22 for their existing responsibilities?

23 Given the enormity of the risks and destructive
24 impacts, a compelling case indeed must be made in favor of
25 public interest and benefits to be derived from these

1 pipelines; yet, such an argument proves allusive,
2 especially, given that current gas production is far
3 outstripping domestic consumption in this country.

4 These pipelines are a textbook case of so-called
5 negative externalities where public costs show private
6 benefits. In this case, great environmental and social
7 burdens would be unfairly borne by a population of a region
8 that is poor, underserved, and underdeveloped in order to
9 open new markets for capital and encourage middle class
10 consumption habits in locales far removed from the scene of
11 the crime.

12 These pipelines encourage a continuation of
13 socioeconomic conditions in which America remains reliant on
14 artificially cheap fossil fuels. This goal is intrinsically
15 at odds with overarching public interest or the public good.
16 In order to withstand future climate disruptions we must
17 shift swiftly and unhesitatingly toward an energy system of
18 renewable and sustainable proportions. This entails
19 incentivizing a wholesale reduction in fossil fuel
20 consumption, including that of natural gas rather than
21 encouraging expansion of its use.

22 Public policy can and should be working to shape
23 energy regulations that protect the long-term survival of
24 human civilization on this planet rather than the short-term
25 profits of private corporations. Thank you.

1 (Applause.)

2 MR. GLAZE: The next speaker is Roger Roe,
3 followed by David Layton and Liz Wiles.

4 MR. ROE: Hello. My name is Roger Roe. I'm a
5 retired guy. I'm 67 years old. And I used to work pipeline
6 back in the sixties and seventies. I was reading the
7 newspaper here where they're going to lay a 42-inch line
8 across the mountains of West Virginia. That's too big of a
9 line to take across the mountains of West Virginia. I'd say
10 maybe two 20s or a 20 or a 30 is just entirely too large in
11 my opinion.

12 Being that my dad used to be in the pipeline
13 business and my brother was and I've worked it, it's too big
14 of a line. It should be like a two 20s, like I said, or two
15 30s because when you go up and down mountains you have to
16 bend this pipe. And when you bend the pipe when it's so big
17 in diameter you have to beat them and I think they're being
18 impractical to run that big a line across the mountains.

19 Now, flat ground, whether it was rolling ground I
20 think would be fine, but my opinion is like noses,
21 everybody's got one, but I don't think that it should be
22 42-inch line across the mountains.

23 And I've got some other things that I need to
24 talk with FERC about. I don't know all the new pipeline
25 regulations, but like I said, back in the sixties and

1 seventies, we always had 42-inches of cover the new pipe.
2 When the ground goes up and down like that you have what
3 they call sags and over bends. In normal weather, that's
4 42-inches, but when you go through a little hill you have to
5 be deeper and the same with in the south, so we've got to
6 keep that pipe that deep because it has pressure on it.

7 I've dug it out by hand before and you can feel
8 it vibrating, the pressure of the pipe to vibrate. Dirt on
9 top of it is what holds it down, so you want that pipe,
10 whatever they decide to do -- I hope to go to 30 or maybe
11 even 20 to keep that pipe deep and covered up with heavy
12 dirt.

13 And on some other things, back last year I put my
14 granddaughter to a volley ball game and I come back through
15 there and back through the country there and the steep
16 ground -- I don't know whether anybody's been down that
17 country, but it's steep. Hills go up and down. Well, I
18 noticed a lot of erosion with dirt washing off the hill
19 where the pipeline had been laid.

20 So, when you lay a pipeline like that you put
21 breakers in them. That's -- but I think foam like every 30
22 feet to hold the topsoil and this topsoil is going to be put
23 in the proper time of the year to get the grass started so
24 you won't have that erosion.

25 Basically, the steeper it gets the more that

1 stuff wants to come down off the hill because gravity works.
2 It really works. Think about yourself. And if they do lay
3 this line -- these lines there should shutoff valves I'm
4 going to say every five miles. If the line blows, the valve
5 closes the gas off instead of every 30 miles or whatever. I
6 don't know what the regulations are for that. That's an
7 important thing for you folks to know and in gas lines, the
8 valves that can be placed together and electrically
9 controlled so they'll shut off.

10 When you put this pipeline in -- when you put the
11 pipeline in the ground it should be covered ^^^^ of course
12 it's going be covered with dirt. They call it padding.
13 They pad the dirt with good soil so that it'll knock a hole
14 in the coating on the pipe. If you knock a hole in the
15 coating it cause electrolysis and when the gas is going
16 through static electricity forms and it burns a hole right
17 through that place where it's not covered properly. They've
18 got devices to check for that. That has to be inspected.
19 You've got inspect those. You need a lot of inspectors to
20 inspect these lines. You just can't let a contractor go
21 wild. And FERC here is our last resort to folks doing the
22 right thing.

23 I'm actually for the pipeline myself. I ain't
24 got nothing against it. I know a lot of you folks -- good
25 folks you have your problems, but I'm after a good pipeline

1 job. I don't want it to come out of the ground and hurt
2 anybody.

3 When you go buy a house -- let's say you bought a
4 house or a creek or a road that all that pipeline is
5 supposed be encasing. You know what that is. That's a pipe
6 within a pipe. And that pipe should be double wall. Do you
7 understand what double wall? Let's say the pipe's
8 three-eighths long and this double wall is twice that,
9 three-fourths of that. That's the way it used to be. Now,
10 I don't know what they do, but I'm concerned about that.

11 River crossing should be encasing in double wall
12 'cause a creek rises it'll wash away the coating on top. Is
13 that about it?

14 MR. GLAZE: Yes, that's about it.

15 MR. ROE: Thank you, folks.

16 (Applause.)

17 MR. GLAZE: The next speaker is David Layton, Liz
18 Wiles and followed by Tom Gorrell.

19 MR. LAYTON: Good evening. My name is David
20 Layton. I'm a resident of Lewis County. I'm a landowner.
21 I also work in the pipeline industry. I'm a 30-year member
22 of the Pipeliners Union 798 out of Tulsa, Oklahoma, so I
23 have an idea how these pipelines will be built and I'd like
24 to talk about the benefits of this pipeline.

25 From an energy policy standpoint, the U.S. has

1 been in the past basically held hostage buying energy
2 products from what has been proven to be hostile countries
3 to the United States. And we now have an opportunity to
4 produce and use our own products right here at home, and to
5 me this makes good sense.

6 The workers who build this and many other
7 pipelines will be done using human labor. And at least most
8 certainly on the larger projects these folks are the best we
9 have in the industry, and they will be using the latest
10 technology and equipment known to man.

11 Having said that, I'd like to talk about pipeline
12 safety. We have over two million miles of pipelines in the
13 U.S. and they have been proven to be the safety, most
14 effective way to transport our energy industry; but a lot of
15 our pipelines -- our pipelines are aging. Most of them
16 build during the fifties and sixties, and they need upgrade
17 and/or replaced.

18 Recently, there was a new pipeline that was going
19 to be built, but it was lobbied against and defeated. Now,
20 the owner of that product was forced to reverse the flow
21 onto an old existing line that had been built in 1947 and
22 use it to deliver their product. Wouldn't it be better to
23 have built a new pipeline? I think so. If these gas
24 companies want to build new and safer pipelines to carry
25 their products then we should support them.

1 As far as the local economy, for many miles in
2 all directions from this pipeline's route there will be
3 shops, gas stations, motels and rental property owners that
4 will prosper and supplying West Virginians with much needed
5 jobs, not to mention these pipelines and especially the
6 interstate pipeline project will contribute billions of
7 dollars to the U.S. GDP and millions of dollars in state and
8 local tax revenues after construction.

9 So, in closing, I would like to stay to the
10 administrators, FERC, please give permission for these new
11 pipelines. We need them. Thanks.

12 (Applause.)

13 MR. GLAZE: The next speaker is Liz Wiles,
14 followed by Tom Gorrell.

15 MS. WILES: Hello. I'm Liz Wiles. I'm an native
16 of Harman West Virginia, and I'm the chair of the West
17 Virginia Chapter of the Sierra Club.

18 On behalf of our more than 3,000 members and
19 thousand more allies and supporters, I'm here to say that we
20 do not want this pipeline going through the Monongahela
21 National Forest.

22 Our chapter started 30 years ago with a campaign
23 to protect thousands of acres with in the Mon as wilderness
24 areas and have continued to designate additional thousands
25 of acres as wilderness in the Mon since then. We've worked

1 with state and federal agencies on a forest plan that has
2 strong protections and guidelines for one of the most
3 pristine and bio-diverse areas left in the eastern United
4 States.

5 We're currently working with allies to have a
6 national monument designated in a portion of the Mon Forest
7 called the Birthplace of Rivers National Monument, which
8 includes the headwaters of six major eastern rivers. All of
9 these areas and the entire Mon Forest would be threatened by
10 development of the Atlantic Coast Pipeline.

11 After the recent explosion of the 24-inch
12 pipeline in Brooke County, an administrator with the
13 Pipeline and Hazardous Material Safety Administration said
14 the hilly land creates an increased risk of pipeline
15 failure. Something that area of the state has seen several
16 times in just the past five years.

17 The terrain in the Mon Forest is much higher,
18 deeper, and steeper than the northern panhandle and a
19 42-inch pipeline has never been built in that kind of
20 terrain. If you were to look at a map of impaired waterways
21 in West Virginia, the only area that does not show
22 impairment is through the Mon Forest. This pipeline has no
23 place anywhere near the Mon Forest.

24 On a personal note, I don't want this pipeline
25 nor any of the other three 40-inch pipelines proposed for

1 this state because of all the reasons that have already been
2 expressed in opposition to this pipeline, but also these
3 pipelines are built -- West Virginia and the country will be
4 locked into relying on fossil fuels for the next 40, 50, 60
5 years when we know that burning of these fuels is damaging
6 our planet.

7 If these pipelines are built, West Virginia will
8 remain a sacrifice zone with dirty air, dirty water, and
9 sick communities just so folks in North Carolina can have
10 gas. Thousands and thousands of West Virginians want
11 good-paying, long-term jobs that are not in the fossil fuel
12 industry. And our most important natural resources are
13 clean air, clean water, and our people.

14 When reviewing this pipeline proposal, I
15 sincerely hope FERC considers the massive environmental
16 impacts and environmental costs this pipeline will have on
17 all of West Virginians. Thank you.

18 (Applause.)

19 MR. GLAZE: The next speaker is Tom Gorrell.

20 MR. GORRELL: Good evening. Thank
21 you guys for coming down wherever you came from. I'm sure
22 but appreciate your time here. Yeah, my name is Tom
23 Gorrell. I'm from Clarksburg, Harrison County born and
24 raised. I'm the chairman of the Board of Directors of the
25 Harrison County Chambers of Commerce. I've been a member of

1 Trout Unlimited every since I was old enough to write a
2 check to be a member of that organization. I enjoy work and
3 I enjoy my family and I enjoy fly fishing probably as much
4 as the other two.

5 You know, again, I'm not sure where you guys are
6 from, but you've got a really good mix of people from our
7 community here in this building. Some of the smartest
8 people I know are in here. Some represent -- like Tom Bond,
9 smart fellow, Hank Lawrence. We've got some really sharp
10 people here with some different ideas, but I really think
11 that -- when I was in college I was a forestry major and I
12 like to trout fish.

13 My Trout Unlimited guys thought I was crazy
14 because I thought you could have forestry cutting timber.
15 The timber guys thought you're crazy you know Trout
16 Unlimited is a communist organization. You're a tree
17 hugger. I believe you can have both. I think you can have
18 good economics and you can have a good environment. I mean
19 you have to.

20 We have to have jobs. We've got to move this
21 natural gas that we have. We need to be energy independent.
22 And I think we can do that with the rules and regulations
23 that are in force now, but I am strongly in favor of the
24 pipeline and think you can have both. Thank you.

25 (Applause.)

1 MR. GORRELL: Can I say one thing. I should've
2 written something down. You know we are probably having
3 this conversation 50 years ago when they were putting I-79
4 down the middle of the State of West Virginia. I'm sure
5 there were people concerned about what the Interstate would
6 bring as we are with the pipeline, but I think if it's done
7 right you can see we need to have the continued growth in
8 the area. So, just add that.

9 (Applause.)

10 MR. GLAZE: I do not have anyone else signed up
11 to speak. As I mentioned before, this meeting has been
12 recorded and transcripts will be placed in the public
13 record, the published record. It's available on our
14 website, which is www.FERC.gov from that page you select
15 E-Library link and input the docket number PF-15-5 or
16 PF-15-6. You can use E-Library to access everything that
17 the Commission does on this project as well as all the
18 findings, filings and information submitted by the
19 applicant.

20 On behalf of the Federal Energy Regulatory
21 Commission, I would like to thank all of you for coming
22 tonight. This meeting is adjourned.

23 (Whereupon, the meeting was concluded at 9:20
24 p.m.)

25