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BEFORE THE

FEDERAL ENERGY REGULATORY COMMISSION

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IN THE MATTER OF: : Project No.

NORTHEAST ENERGY DIRECT PROJECT : PF14-22-000

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Tactonic High School
96 Valentine Road
Pittsfield, MA 01201

Tuesday, July 28, 2015

The above-entitled matter came on for Scoping Meeting, pursuant to notice, at 7:00 p.m., John Peconom , the moderator.

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

2 (7:04 p.m.)

3 MR. PECONOM: Good evening everybody. Good
4 evening. My name is John Peconom and on behalf of the
5 Federal Energy Regulatory Commission I would like to thank
6 all of you for coming tonight.

7 Can everybody in the back hear me? Okay. The
8 fans are blowing so I just wanted to make sure, thank you.
9 So the purpose of tonight's scoping meeting or public
10 comment meeting is to gather issues or offer analysis of the
11 Environmental Impact Statement, to identify new
12 environmental issues, to explain the review -- the FERC
13 review process, to provide opportunity for public input.

14 Tonight is a comment meeting. Myself, Jim Martin
15 who is my supervisor and also Eric Tomasi's supervisor who
16 is the Environmental Project Manager, are here from the
17 Federal Energy Regulatory Commission. We are joined by
18 other staff here at the table and in the back. The folks in
19 the back are happy to answer your questions to the best of
20 their abilities.

21 Our job here tonight is to gain information from
22 you, to tell you a little bit about the FERC review process,
23 all this associated with the proposed NED pipeline. Public
24 input is an important part of the FERC review process. I
25 like to tell folks, when we come out to these meetings from

1 Washington, D.C. is that -- in fact we are from Washington
2 -- I'm not going to sit up here and tell you that I know
3 everything about this area.

4 We depend on your input, your comments to help us
5 learn about this area, help us understand the issues unique
6 to this area. Our job is to conduct an environmental
7 review. I am a biologist, Jim is a biologist, Jenny is an
8 environmental protection specialist. They send us here to
9 understand your environmental issues, to better understand
10 them and to take that information back to Washington so we
11 can better do our review.

12 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: I'm having trouble hearing
13 you sir.

14 MR. PECONOM: Oh my apologies. Is this better?
15 Okay. So as I said the public input is an important part of
16 our review process. We are not from this area, we need your
17 help to make our review the best review it could be. I am
18 not going to sit up here and tell you that I know everything
19 about this area or that Jim knows or that any of us know
20 anything about this area.

21 Your input is crucial for our review. You live
22 here, you spent many years here, we need your help to make
23 sure our review is as complete as possible. This is just
24 but one of many ways to give us your comments about this
25 project. This scoping meeting, this public comment meeting

1 is a chance for you to tell us your comments in person.

2 You can also send us written comments. You can
3 go to the FERC internet website www.ferc.gov and send us
4 comments. I believe many of you have done that already. We
5 accept comments now through the close of the scoping period
6 and really throughout the entire review process.

7 Many folks have expressed concerns to me that
8 this is the only time they have to comment and that is not
9 the case. We encourage you to comment in the review period
10 so that we can get started on our review as quickly as
11 possible however, we accept comments all the way through
12 until the end.

13 We have a lot of people who have expressed an
14 interest in speaking tonight. By my count it is near 80
15 folks so that is going to be a few hours. If you want to
16 speak or you don't get a chance to speak because it is going
17 to take so long, you can submit us written comments.
18 Written comments are given the same weight as verbal
19 comments.

20 I can tell by talking to some folks earlier today
21 and looking at the crowd right now, this is a very
22 passionate crowd with strong feelings. And I understand
23 that the folks here in Pittsfield and in surrounding
24 communities are used to very lively discussions about the
25 issues facing the community.

1 I have to say I was very impressed when people
2 were signing up earlier in how they conducted themselves and
3 were very civil in doing that and I hope that that continues
4 throughout this meeting. I am not going to go through these
5 points that are above my head because I think everyone here
6 knows how to act at a meeting.

7 I will do my best to give everyone a little lead
8 way understanding how passionate folks are. If I feel like
9 it's a little much I will just ask you to tone it down a
10 little bit.

11 So a little bit about the NED Pipeline Project --
12 as you can see here Tennessee Gas proposes to construct and
13 operate 418 miles of new pipeline in Pennsylvania, New York,
14 Massachusetts, New Hampshire and Connecticut. 9 new
15 compressor stations, 13 new meter stations, 1 modified
16 existing compressor station, 8 pipeline segments, laterals,
17 loops, delivery lines et cetera.

18 All of this would be in order to deliver 1.3
19 billion cubic feet of natural gas per day. A lot of you
20 have been tracking this project from the beginning. A lot
21 of you expressed concern to me about the information filed
22 on Friday, the revised resource reports. It's a lot of
23 information to process. I haven't read it myself, it is
24 going to take everyone here and us as the Commission a long
25 time to process that information.

1 I know people want as much information as
2 possible to provide the most comprehensive and detailed
3 comments as possible. We understand your concerns.
4 Tonight's job is not for -- the purpose of tonight's meeting
5 is not to get those detailed comments at this time. It is
6 going to take a while to go through that information.

7 I think all of you have had a chance to review
8 the basic outline of the project. If you understand what
9 your concerns are we want to hear those tonight. There will
10 be plenty of time in the weeks and months coming ahead to
11 provide those detailed comments.

12 Again as I said earlier written comments are
13 considered same as verbal comments. Just a quick project
14 map of the eastern portion of the project and then the
15 western portion of the project -- we were here several
16 months back for the company's open houses.

17 At that meeting through the comments we have
18 received at the Commission to date we have already
19 identified public concerns. There is a list of them right
20 here, some of the main ones that we have heard quite a few
21 times. References to develop alternative energy, I see some
22 signs out there tonight expressing that concern.

23 Concerns regarding the export of this gas,
24 disruption of the character and the environment here,
25 development through high residential areas, cumulative

1 impacts and fracking, private well and aquifer damage,
2 compression station noise and air emissions -- those
3 comments expressed to us are on our radar. Our job is to
4 then make sure that we review these areas, conduct analysis,
5 ask questions, do research and prepare that information for
6 our public review.

7 I expect that we will learn some more tonight
8 about these issues and other issues. People ask me what
9 happens with these comments that you give us. You know what
10 is the point here? And these comments are very important
11 and I know when you write a letter you want to get a letter
12 back. You want to know that you are heard and how we
13 express that is when we turn that information around we ask
14 the company questions.

15 You may have seen the comments that we have
16 issued on their draft resource reports. We are going to
17 issue more comments and we are going to ask agencies that we
18 work with about these issues. I wish we had time to write
19 everybody a letter but these projects you know, get in the
20 hundreds of thousands of letters. It is just impossible to
21 do.

22 But the way we use that information is during our
23 review which is a nice lead in to the FERC process. Right
24 now we are in the FERC pre-filing process. There is no
25 application, there is no official project. The purpose of

1 the pre-filing process is what I like to call to shake the
2 bushes, to find out what people's concerns are, to identify
3 issues.

4 A lot of times these projects are designed on a
5 drawing board in some far-away place. We read about them in
6 Washington. We would like to come up here, see the area for
7 ourselves, talk to people who might be affected by these
8 projects. This is the pre-filing process. It is designed
9 to get you to give us information as quickly as possible so
10 that we can use that in our review of these projects.

11 The company expects to file its application in
12 October of 2015. That application should address all of the
13 concerns raised tonight as well as previously and should
14 provide all of the information or response to the
15 information that people have expressed concern with.

16 Once that application is filed the Commission
17 staff will review that information for accuracy and
18 completeness. If necessary we will issue requests for
19 additional information before we even begin preparing our
20 Environmental Impact Statement.

21 The Environmental Impact Statement is a summary
22 of our analysis of the potential impacts resulting from
23 construction operation of this projection. The Commission
24 is responsible to conduct an environmental review. We are
25 able to do that based on the information provided in the

1 application, the information that we gained from you, from
2 our consultations with state and federal agencies and local
3 governments.

4 Once we have done all of that work and prepared
5 an analysis we will put that into a Draft Environmental
6 Impact Statement. The Draft Environmental Impact Statement
7 will be issued for public review. You will get a chance to
8 read what we have done and decide whether we have done it
9 right or not. We will come back somewhere in this area,
10 perhaps here, and hold comment meetings to allow you the
11 opportunity to inform us whether we got it right or not.

12 Our job is to advise the Commission and tell them
13 what the impacts would likely be if this construction, if
14 this Project were approved and the construction and
15 operation occurred.

16 Any comments that we received on the Draft
17 Environmental Impact Statement would then be incorporated
18 into a Final Environmental Impact Statement. As I said
19 before the Commission would use that document as well as
20 other information regarding the cost of the pipeline, some
21 legal aspects, the purpose and need and decide whether or
22 not to approve the project.

23 The Commission's review is not the only review
24 that occurs. There are several other federal and state
25 statutes that the company must adhere to, one of them being

1 the Massachusetts Environmental Policy Act. The project is
2 subject to NEPA review. NEPA is administered by the
3 Secretary of the executive office of Energy and
4 Environmental Affairs and they expect documents to be filed
5 in that process this fall.

6 Other reviews that will need to be conducted by
7 the Army Corps of Engineers, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service,
8 and other state and local agencies. Before I continue I
9 neglected to point out that there is a stenographer in the
10 corner here who is recording tonight's meeting. It is
11 important to have this information on the public record so
12 that the public can hold us accountable for the things that
13 we say and to make sure that all of your comments given here
14 tonight are recorded accurately into our record.

15 I talked a little bit about the EIS and I am just
16 going to talk a little bit more about it here. The EIS is
17 our independent analysis of the likely impacts that result
18 from construction and operating the project. As it says
19 here the EIS will take a hard look at the environmental
20 impacts of the project and we will look at alternatives to
21 avoid, minimize or mitigate those impacts.

22 I'm a biologist, Jim's a biologist and I have
23 said this before. You know we will look at the information
24 provided we will assess what the impact could be. We will
25 also look at how that impact could be avoided or minimized.

1 If necessary, we will recommend measures to further avoid
2 and minimize those impacts. All of that information will be
3 included in the Environmental Impact Statement.

4 We are now coming to the important part of the
5 meeting where we get to hear from you. As I said earlier we
6 have close to 80 speakers tonight. I have elected to allow
7 the elected representatives to go first, seeing that they
8 attend a lot of meetings and represent a lot of folks here
9 in the area.

10 They will be given five minutes each to speak.
11 After that we will then start calling numbers. I believe we
12 have close to 70 numbers. Given that we have so many people
13 we are going to limit your comments to three minutes. By my
14 count we are close to 4 hours right there. We have a timer
15 set up here. At two and a half minutes the yellow light
16 will go on and at three minutes the red light will go on.

17 I will allow you to finish your sentence and if
18 you can hurry up and finish that would be great. I will
19 give you a little flexibility but not much just in order
20 that I want everyone to have the opportunity to speak
21 tonight. So just up above me is a quick reminder. It is
22 important that when you come up to please say your name and
23 spell it for the court reporter so we can attribute your
24 comments accordingly.

25 Speak clearly, the fans are blowing and the

1 microphone obviously I am having trouble with. We want
2 everyone here to be able to hear your comments. And I think
3 that's about it. It's a passionate crowd, give us your
4 comments, tell us what you think. So with that I will go
5 ahead and call the first speaker State Representative Paul
6 Mark.

7 MR. MARK: Thank you very much and thank you for
8 having these hearings in Pittsfield and in Greenfield. My
9 name is Paul Mark, P-a-u-l M-a-r-k. I am the State
10 Representative for the 2nd Berkshire District which includes
11 the towns of Dalton, Windsor, Hinsdale, Peru and Northfield.

12 Windsor and Northfield would be home to two of
13 the compressor stations and I am here to read a statement on
14 behalf of each of the state legislators that would be
15 impacted directly, that represent one of the towns that the
16 pipeline in this area of the state would be going through.

17 "We are all unable to attend this hearing tonight
18 due to legislative sessions in Boston, but we all wish to
19 comment on the matter before FERC due to the critical
20 importance of this regulatory process in evaluating the
21 environmental impact of this proposed project on the
22 communities that we represent.

23 First and foremost we believe that FERC should
24 suspend the current environmental scoping process and
25 withdraw the Notice of Intent that was issued on June 30,

1 2015. It was only days ago -- it was only days ago on
2 Friday, July 24, 2015 that the latest resource reports for
3 this Northeast Energy Direct Project were filed for public
4 comment and review as part of this process.

5 These documents are massive, with thousands of
6 pages of highly technical and important environmental
7 information about this project. Despite the lateness of the
8 filing of these reports, they are incomplete and omit
9 critical information that is necessary for a thorough and
10 accurate review of the impacts of this proposed project in
11 our communities.

12 In this short amount of time, it is simply
13 impossible for citizens, organizations and experts to
14 properly analyze and comment on the environmental and
15 economic impacts of this project. In order to have a
16 credible and respected regulatory process, we believe that
17 it is incumbent upon FERC to postpone this scoping process.

18 We believe that it should be restarted with the
19 issuance of a new Notice of Intent extending the public
20 comment period for at least 60 days in light of the July
21 24th resource reports. A new schedule of scoping hearings
22 should be issued to allow for meaningful public comment
23 during this period.

24 Without a restarting of this process, we believe
25 that our constituents who would be affected by this project

1 will be unable to offer full and meaningful testimony and
2 comments on a project which threatens both the environmental
3 health and quality of life in our region.

4 We respectfully ask that you approve this request
5 before proceeding further." Signed Senate President Stan
6 Rosenberg, Senator Benjamin Downing, Berkshire Franklin
7 Hampshire Hampden District, Representative Gailanne Cariddi,
8 1st Berkshire, Representative Paul Mark, 2nd Berkshire,
9 Representative Steven Kulik, 1st Franklin and Representative
10 Susannah Whipps Lee, 2nd Franklin District, thank you very
11 much.

12 MS. CARIDDI: Good evening. My name is Gail
13 Cariddi and I am the Representative from the 1st Berkshire
14 District as well as being a signer to the document that
15 Representative Mark wrote I have a few comments for you.

16 3 of the 9 communities I represent are along the
17 proposed northeast direct pipeline route as it enters the
18 Commonwealth from New York State Hancock, Lanesborough and
19 Cheshire. In reviewing your maps I find that my
20 constituents are among the route that is about half of the
21 segment G marked path in Berkshire County.

22 As the State Representative I have received over
23 1,000 contacts on the Northeast Energy Direct Pipeline
24 Project through personal meetings, letters, emails and phone
25 calls from my constituents. From these contacts, all but

1 one are opposed to the construction, operation and
2 maintenance of the proposed pipeline facilities along or
3 through near their communities.

4 I have also received information that communities
5 of Hancock, Lanesborough, Cheshire, North Adams and
6 Williamstown in the 1st Berkshire District have voted in
7 their town, or city council meetings to oppose the
8 construction of the proposed Northeast Direct Pipeline
9 Project.

10 The comments I have received cite health,
11 environmental and safety concerns in reasons for their
12 opposition. While the route is proposed to follow an
13 existing right-of-way this does not alter the fact that the
14 proposed pipeline construction and the building of temporary
15 and permanent access roads will cause considerable
16 destruction and permanently alter our nature habitat,
17 vegetation and wildlife.

18 Much of our local economy is dependent on the
19 beauty of our surroundings that feature hundreds of acres of
20 publically accessible conservation land, spectacular views
21 and home to many rare and endangered plants. The route is
22 proposed in an area that will affect local water resources
23 and wetlands.

24 Of particular concern in the community of
25 Waynesboro is that the proposed route will go through the

1 town's water aquifer. In Cheshire the proposed route also
2 shows the pipeline going through Cheshire Reservoir, another
3 important water and recreational resource in the region.

4 I believe a reasonable alternative would be to
5 have the proponent's pump the same amount of money and
6 investment into the investigation of enclosing of all gas
7 leaks. Such a project would employ more local workers over
8 many more years than a few years of the construction of the
9 proposed new larger line.

10 The impacts and the fact that it will eradicate
11 existing leaks and problems on our roads, streets and
12 connections to our existing users would be more beneficial.
13 I also believe that this will provide greater socio-economic
14 activity and will have a longer lasting positive effect on
15 our local economy in the 1st Berkshire District and in the
16 Commonwealth of Massachusetts.

17 In conclusion I ask that you take your highest
18 regard to the people's wishes of Massachusetts when we voted
19 on Article 97 the Commonwealth's Constitution. In part it
20 reads, "That people should have the right to clean air and
21 water, freedom from excessive and unnecessary noise and the
22 natural scenic, historic and aesthetic qualities of their
23 environment and the protection of the people to their right
24 to the conservation, development and utilization,
25 agricultural, mineral, forest, water, air and other natural

1 resources."

2 This is hereby declared to be a public purpose in
3 Massachusetts, thank you so much.

4 MR. PECONOM: Before I call the next speaker I
5 want to make sure that everyone can hear in the back. Do I
6 need to turn a fan off? Yes? Okay. Turn on the lights
7 too? Okay, it is going to make it hotter. Do we have -- so
8 give me one second please. I appreciate everyone's patience
9 for just adjusting the volume to make sure everyone can
10 hear, or trying to anyways. What's that? Oh a vote on the
11 fan. All right, give us a minute and we will see what we
12 can do here, I apologize.

13 And you may have to yell if you are going to give
14 comments so that may be the answer here. I'm trying to and
15 I'm working on the lights too. We have consulted about 25
16 people and the answer is you are going to have to speak
17 louder to the microphone. If you turn up the volume there's
18 going to be feedback issues and the house lights are the
19 only lights that are available to us at this time.

20 The side lights might be able to come on but I'm
21 not sure that's going to help anybody so I apologize and we
22 will just do the best we can tonight. The next speaker is
23 Miss Mary Cherry. I appreciate everyone's patience and
24 understanding.

25 MS. CHERRY: Good evening, my name is Mary

1 Cherry. M-a-r-y C-h-e-r-r-y and I am the Vice-Chair of the
2 Dalton Select Board. Thank you for the opportunity to speak
3 to you. I would like to highlight votes taken in Dalton
4 concerning Kinder Morgan's proposed pipeline.

5 At a special town meeting on June 30, 2014 the
6 voters in the town of Dalton voted overwhelmingly to endorse
7 a Resolution banning new high-capacity, high-pressure
8 pipelines and to champion sustainable energy. Subsequently
9 at its special Select Board meeting July 8, 2014 the Dalton
10 Select Board voted to rescind permission to survey town land
11 previously granted to Kinder Morgan.

12 Additionally the Select Board drafted a letter of
13 opposition to the pipeline sent to FERC highlighting four
14 major areas of concern: possible watershed contamination,
15 use of eminent domain for a private company, clear-cutting
16 of vegetation and forest areas through town and encroachment
17 upon state, federal and protected lands.

18 At the request of the Select Board the town
19 manager formed a group focusing on statement preparation to
20 FERC. This group is comprised of town departments and
21 boards, health department, highway, police, fire and
22 Conservation Commission to name a few. Their work will
23 result in our official written comments to be submitted to
24 you by the August 31st deadline.

25 Further, at its March 9th, 2015 meeting the

1 Select Board denied an additional request by Kinder Morgan
2 to survey different plots of town land once the route had
3 changed. I stand before you tonight on behalf of the town
4 of Dalton to reiterate and emphasize the overwhelming
5 opposition to the construction of this pipeline.

6 Our concerns which will be delineated in our
7 letter to you focus on eight major areas potentially
8 impacted by this pipeline: drinking water, ecological and
9 agricultural, air quality, public safety, road and traffic,
10 recreational and aesthetic, historical structure and
11 economic.

12 I will speak briefly on some of the ecological
13 concerns we have. Construction and operational impacts on
14 environmentally sensitive lands including the Housatonic
15 River, farms and forest is of substantial concern.
16 Virtually all of the project area is within Massachusetts
17 Bio Map 2 core habitat which is designed to guide strategic
18 bio diversity conservation in Massachusetts over the next
19 decade by focusing land protection and stewardship on the
20 areas that are most critical for insuring the long-term
21 persistence of rare and other native species and their
22 habitats, exemplary natural communities and a diversity of
23 eco systems.

24 Bio Map 2 is also designed to include the
25 habitats and species of conservation concern identified in

1 the State Wildlife Action Plan. It is land that is key to
2 conserving our state's bio diversity. Also a substantial
3 portion of the project area is located within Bio Map 2
4 critical natural landscape.

5 Further the project area runs through natural
6 heritage and endangered species program priority and
7 estimated habitats. Additionally a portion of the project
8 area also runs through the upper Housatonic Valley natural
9 heritage area, a federal designation which exists in
10 partnership with the National Park Service to illuminate the
11 diverse rich identity of the upper Housatonic River Valley
12 region and to preserve and promote its historical, cultural
13 and natural resources.

14 The proposed route crosses streams that flow into
15 the Housatonic River. Soil in these areas may contain
16 hazardous chemicals from no operation dating back as many as
17 200 years. A complete Environmental Impact Study must be
18 done by a third party in order to assess the existing
19 environmental species and habitats and document the impact
20 of the pipeline installment on those ecological areas,
21 including its long-term presence.

22 While time does not permit me to go into detail
23 here, the scope of our eight concerns and numerous questions
24 and requests outline in our letter to you, I implore you to
25 take these into consideration and to ask that Kinder Morgan

1 address and mitigate where necessary, each and every one of
2 them, thank you for your time.

3 MR. PECONOM: Thank you Miss Cherry. Mr. John
4 Bartels?

5 MR. BARTELS: Good evening. My name is John
6 Bartels, J-o-h-n B-a-r-t-e-l-s. I am the Chair of the
7 Dalton Select Board and I thank you for the opportunity to
8 speak with you tonight. As you have heard and will hear
9 from other speakers our town has a number of concerns and
10 issues with regard to the construction of the Northeast
11 Energy Direct Gas Pipeline Project.

12 I intend to direct my comments on the impacts of
13 the construction with our watershed and thus our drinking
14 water however this is not just our drinking water but that
15 of the City of Pittsfield, parts of Lanesborough, Lenox and
16 Richmond. This issue impacts nearly 50,000 people.

17 Miles of the proposed pipeline were run directly
18 through watershed property in the towns of Dalton, Hinsdale,
19 Peru and Windsor which serve the drinking water supply for
20 the aforementioned towns. It also runs extremely close to
21 the Cleveland, Windsor and Egypt reservoirs as well as a
22 public water supply well. The construction along the route
23 will be through areas of dramatic elevation change, varying
24 soils, streams and swamps.

25 This being the case questions arise -- how will

1 Kinder Morgan Tennessee Gas, during and after the
2 construction of the pipeline, control the soil erosion
3 running into our watershed properties and eventually into
4 our reservoirs? How will Kinder Morgan Tennessee Gas
5 monitor and insure that water flow into the reservoir
6 remains consistent prior to and after construction?

7 How will Kinder Morgan Tennessee Gas insure that
8 water tables will not be affected by the pipeline
9 construction through these areas? How will Kinder Morgan
10 Tennessee Gas prevent or mitigate the potential of
11 construction vehicle fluids, blasting chemical residues or
12 other miscellaneous compounds from infiltrating into our
13 watershed and thus contaminating our water supplies?

14 Does Kinder Morgan Tennessee Gas have a plan in
15 place in the event of water contamination and thus the
16 shutting down of current water supplies? The town of
17 Dalton's formal written letter to the FERC of concerns and
18 issues details this matter of watershed and water
19 contamination to a much greater extent.

20 The Dalton Fire and Water District drafted a
21 route change to deal with the aforementioned issue, the town
22 of Dalton agrees with the following recommendation as well,
23 and I state.

24 "As previously stated due to the substantial
25 concerns we have for the safety of our drinking water and

1 surrounding watershed, as well as issues related to the
2 pipeline, we recommend an alternative route through Dalton
3 which will negate a majority of these concerns." It is as
4 follows:

5 At coordinates 42-30, 45.94 north by 73.09, 14.61
6 west the pipeline will turn northeast for 3.1 miles to
7 coordinates 42-32, 19.48 north by 73.06, 17.93 west. At
8 this point again the pipeline will turn east for 3.1 miles
9 to coordinates 42-32, 16.00 north by 73.02, 36.36 west and
10 turn again heading southeast for 3.32 miles to coordinates
11 42-29, 52.17 north by 73.00, 24.04 west. This will bring
12 the alternate route back to a proposed route without the
13 need to cross any watershed or Route 9.

14 Again this alternative route avoids our
15 watershed, reservoirs, public water supply well, it also
16 avoids populated areas of town and a major road crossing,
17 not to mention Massachusetts Bio Map 2, critical natural
18 landscape, natural heritage and endangered species program
19 priority and estimated habitats, the Housatonic River,
20 farmland and privately owned timber lots.

21 I hope you will consider the concerns I have
22 expressed and the alternate route which our town and fire
23 district endorsed. You will not only ensure the safety of
24 our watershed and drinking water for the town of Dalton, but
25 as I said also for the City of Pittsfield, towns of

1 Richmond, Lenox, Lanesborough and Richmond.

2 The town of Dalton's complete and formal written
3 statement of issues and concerns with the proposed Northeast
4 Energy Direct Gas Pipeline Project will be submitted to the
5 FERC prior to the August 31st, 2015 deadline. Thank you for
6 your time.

7 MR. PECONOM: Thank you Mr. Bartels. Miss
8 Deborah Brunelle?

9 MS. BRUNELLE: Good evening my name is Deborah
10 Brunelle. D-e-b-o-r-a-h Brunelle B-r-u-n-e-l-l-e. I am
11 here on behalf of the Dalton Fire District Board of Water
12 Commissioners. The Dalton Fire District owns land in
13 Dalton, Hinsdale, Peru and Windsor that is being affected by
14 the Tennessee Gas Pipeline.

15 To this date the Dalton Fire District is not
16 aware of any surveys for environmental, biological sensitive
17 habitat, or cultural resources completed or even begun. We
18 would request that the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission
19 require a full Environmental Impact Study be performed for
20 Dalton Fire District land quality, our wildlife, the flow of
21 water to our rivers and reservoirs in the entire Dalton
22 watershed and finally our water quality.

23 We are the only Zone A surface watershed impacted
24 in the State of Massachusetts. Last year Kinder Morgan was
25 given an alternate route to avoid our watershed, our

1 populated areas of town, two major road crossings and
2 interim well head protection area. Massachusetts Bio Map 2,
3 Critical Natural Landscape, Natural Heritage and Endangered
4 Species Program priority and estimated habitats the Wahconah
5 Falls Brook, farmland and privately owned timber lots.

6 Furthermore, out of the 7.2 miles proposed for
7 Dalton's pipeline layout at least 4.2 miles will have a
8 direct impact on our watershed, all of which could be
9 avoided with the alternate route proposed. The current
10 pipeline runs through our watershed and next to a public
11 water supply well. There are three watersheds, Egypt and
12 Anthony and Dalton, and the Windsor Cleveland which extends
13 from Dalton into Hinsdale, Peru and Windsor.

14 The Cleveland, Windsor and Egypt reservoirs along
15 with the Anthony Brook and Cady Brook head walls are the
16 primary and emergency backup drinking water supplies
17 respectively for Dalton.

18 The Cleveland reservoir and Cady Brook head wall
19 also serve the City of Pittsfield and three other towns,
20 Waynesboro, Lenox and Richmond. If these drinking water
21 sources were contaminated in any way this could affect tens
22 of thousands of residents and industries.

23 We have compiled a detailed list of questions and
24 we have stated our concerns in a letter to the FERC
25 regarding the potential for unreasonable risk posed to human

1 and environmental health. We respectfully ask FERC to have
2 the Tennessee Gas Pipeline provide us with specific answers
3 to our questions and concerns. We need to feel comfortable
4 with the unknown to protect the water supply for our town,
5 the towns of Waynesboro, Lenox, Richmond and the City of
6 Pittsfield and our watershed, wildlife and vegetation and I
7 thank you for your time.

8 MR. PECONOM: Thank you Miss Brunelle. Mr.
9 Nathaniel Karns?

10 MR. KARNS: Good evening. I am Nathaniel Karns,
11 N-a-t-h-a-n-i-e-l K-a-r-n-s and I am the Executive Director
12 of the Berkshire Regional Planning Commission. On behalf of
13 the Berkshire Regional Planning Commission I want to thank
14 FERC for holding a scoping meeting for the EIS for Tennessee
15 Gas as proposed Northeast Direct Project in Berkshire
16 County.

17 This is the largest proposed project in the
18 county since either the Massachusetts Turnpike or the
19 original 200 line were built in the early 1950's. The
20 Berkshire Regional Planning Commission is the regional
21 planning agency for the 32 cities and towns in Berkshire
22 County, Massachusetts.

23 Shortly after NED was proposed, BRPC began
24 working with our directly affected municipalities, two fire
25 and water districts, Rensselaer County, New York and the

1 three affected towns there. Those include the towns of
2 Waynesboro, Cheshire, Dalton, Hinsdale, Windsor,
3 Stephentown, Nassau, Schodack, City of Pittsfield and the
4 Dalton and Lanesborough village fire and water districts,
5 Rensselaer County and three of the towns that were on the
6 originally preferred route from Tennessee Gas.

7 And that working group has stayed together for
8 over a year discussing and trying to develop comments.
9 Collectively and individually we will be submitting
10 extensive written comments to FERC regarding issues of
11 importance to our communities and counties which we believe
12 the Environmental Impact Statement must address.

13 The level of impacts that such a project will
14 create on our communities is profound. We will provide
15 specific detailed information and requests in the following
16 issue areas: protection of drinking water, infrastructure,
17 highways, roads and recreational trails, public safety,
18 private property owner impacts, compressor station impacts
19 and Windsor and Nassau pipe yards and contractor yards,
20 water resources, wetlands and water crossings in particular,
21 areas of special interest and social, economic and physical
22 issues.

23 We are confident that FERC will find the detailed
24 information we provide beneficial and will presume that you
25 will understand why these issue areas are of such concern to

1 us. We can also confidentially state -- confidently state
2 that the alternative's analysis which calls for in depth
3 consideration of a pipeline in the existing 200 line
4 corridor, along the Massachusetts Turnpike, will also
5 receive considerable attention in the Berkshire's as you get
6 into those issues.

7 And again we thank you for being here and we look
8 forward to submitting comments by August 31st, thank you.

9 MR. PECONOM: Thank you Mr. Karns. Mr. Channing
10 Gibson?

11 MR. GIBSON: My name is Channing Gibson,
12 C-h-a-n-n-i-n-g G-i-b-s-o-n. Good evening and thank you for
13 the opportunity to address you tonight on behalf of the town
14 of Lenox as one of its Select Men. I am here tonight
15 because Lenox is directly impacted by the Massachusetts
16 alternative route described in Resource Report 10 in the
17 Tennessee Gas Pipeline company's filings with FERC.

18 I am also here because our concerns for our town
19 extended the other towns and conservation lands in both the
20 alternative and preferred routes. The Massachusetts
21 alternative would result in grave impacts to the town of
22 Lenox, most critically to the town's watershed lands on
23 Lenox Mountain, which along with its main feeder stream lie
24 directly in the pipeline's path.

25 The Lenox watershed is small by watershed

1 standards yet it delivers to the town safe, high-quality
2 drinking water. The cost of treating even relatively pure
3 water is enormous and Lenox has invested and must continue
4 to invest millions of dollars to maintain this vital utility
5 which is our town's sole source of drinking water.

6 The large-scale deforestation, excavation and
7 likely blasting required for the NED pipeline to reverse
8 this small watershed and its main feeder stream pose serious
9 risks to the Lenox water supply. Any contamination by a
10 toxic substance, either during construction from even minute
11 amounts of spilled fuel oil or hydraulic fluid for instance,
12 due to the pipeline's leaking or failure would be
13 catastrophic.

14 I want to highlight here that last November in
15 special town meeting the people of Lenox voted to place
16 Article 97 protection on the town's watershed lands
17 precisely because the NED pipeline's profound threat to
18 their water supply and while our watershed is our primary
19 concern it isn't the only one.

20 The federally mandated rest of river clean up
21 proposed by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency is a
22 massive undertaking that calls for the excavation of miles
23 of the Housatonic River in order to mitigate the river's PCB
24 contamination caused by General Electric.

25 This multi-dedicated operation intersects in

1 Lenox with the alternative route of the NED pipeline.
2 Though we have raised the issue repeatedly we have heard
3 nothing, absolutely nothing about how this intersection of
4 two large scale excavation and construction projects in
5 areas of environmental and critical environmental concern
6 would be addressed.

7 Additionally the Massachusetts alternative route
8 would drive right through the heart of a Lenox town jewel,
9 Kennedy Park, utilizing the town's main access trail and
10 destroying that trail's natural forested surroundings and
11 canopy, thereby destroying a large part of Kennedy Park's
12 appeal which is presently enjoyed by residents and tourists
13 alike.

14 And those tourists I just mentioned are another
15 vitally important resource imperiled by the environmental
16 impacts of the NED pipeline. Since the demise of the mills
17 and factories and GE, the economy of the Berkshires has
18 become based almost entirely on tourism.

19 Towns here are in many cases hanging on by their
20 fingertips financially. We depend for our existence on the
21 tourists and second homeowners who are drawn here by the
22 spectacular natural beauty of the Berkshires. Any threat,
23 even a remote threat to the scenic and serene escape into
24 the country that we offer, is a threat to the financial
25 security of our towns in our county.

1 One might say, "yeah the pipeline is a temporary
2 inconvenience," but then the 100 foot swath of deforestation
3 is allowed to grow back to a 50 foot swath of grass and no
4 one will even think about what's underground unless there's
5 a problem or unless you live near a compressor.

6 In a very, very competitive regional market for
7 tourist revenue not only can we not afford even a small drop
8 of visitors or a reduction in second homeowner interest in
9 the area, if a problem were to occur the Berkshires would be
10 economically destroyed. And for what? It is true that in
11 dire circumstances with no alternatives we all have to share
12 risks, but the present circumstances aren't dire.

13 Assuming there is actually a need for additional
14 natural gas capacity, the good news is there are less risky,
15 more effect, more sensible alternatives to the NED Project.
16 Alternatives such as Access Northeast and the PNGTS and
17 trans-Canada Project, both of which unlike NED are scalable,
18 and would minimize impacts to the environment by utilizing
19 existing gas pipeline footprints, both of which would also
20 better target the need we hear so much about from our
21 utilities, primarily the need to help contain the cost for
22 the production of electricity about which the power
23 companies warned us, we and our children should be having
24 unrelenting nightmares.

25 In closing I want to address something that has

1 greatly troubled the Lenox Board of Selectmen. In voting to
2 do everything possible to prevent the NED Pipeline from
3 coming through our town, we knew that if we prevailed and
4 the route was changed it would mean that other towns and
5 other conservation lands would then be in the line of fire.
6 We didn't like how that felt, however, so great was the
7 threat to our watershed that we had to put that discomfort
8 aside and act as we did.

9 And in fact the preferred route did change and
10 now the Lenox BOS wants to express publically its empathy
11 for those towns presently in the pipeline's path -- towns
12 whose great concerns mirror ours. We stand with our
13 neighbors in condemning NED as a natural gas transmission
14 alternative that is bad for everyone, we ask you to
15 recognize the wholly unacceptable environmental and economic
16 threats to Berkshire County posed by the NED Project and
17 therefore to reject it entirely, thank you.

18 MR. PECONOM: Thank you Mr. Gibson. Mr. Bob
19 Bishop?

20 MR. BISHOP: Thank you my name is Bob Bishop.
21 B-o-b B-i-s-h-o-p.

22 UNIDENTIFIED VOICE: Can't here you.

23 MR. BISHOP: Okay is that better? Okay. I am a
24 member of the Dalton Select Board and Chairman of the Dalton
25 Conservation Commission. I am here to speak on our

1 conservation issues -- I'm here to speak on our conservation
2 issues as we see it from the Conservation Commission. First
3 of all the route is going through a lot of our wetlands and
4 we are concerned about the impacts of short term and long
5 term.

6 MR. PECONOM: I think he's doing the best he can.

7 MR. BISHOP: Okay.

8 MR. PECONOM: The feedback would be a problem,
9 that's what we were told.

10 MR. BISHOP: Okay I will try to speak up louder.
11 We are very concerned about the drinking water supplies. We
12 are concerned about using explosives near these water
13 resources how they can change the underground channels and
14 possibly cut off water supplies to our wetlands and our
15 drinking water supplies.

16 We are concerned about the vernal pools along
17 this route. We are concerned about the proposed stream
18 crossings and the impacts they have on our streams. This
19 route will also disturb a lot of our habitats for rare
20 species that are on this route and this route will also be
21 built in flood plains and the Commission is going to require
22 compensatory storage for anything that is taken up on these
23 areas.

24 The town of Dalton also adopted a Scenic Mountain
25 Act in 2006 which will require a separate Notice of Intent

1 filed by Kinder Morgan and this Act was put in to keep our
2 mountains pristine for our area. Let's see -- because of
3 our concerns the Commission is going to require a full
4 impact study including field data sheets, rare species and
5 wildlife habitat, et cetera.

6 We also require -- we are going to ask Kinder
7 Morgan to hire a consultant at their expense so we can
8 review these under Mass. Law 53G and the Commission would
9 like to remind FERC and Kinder Morgan that the pipeline will
10 have to file a Notice of Intent with the Storm Waters
11 Commission in town also, okay, thank you very much for your
12 time.

13 MR. PECONOM: Thank you Mr. Bishop. Mr. John
14 Garcia?

15 MR. GARCIA: My name is John Garcia, J-o-h-n
16 G-a-r-c-i-a, the town of Windsor and I would like to say
17 that the town of Windsor is a beautiful, clean, quiet town
18 and it has been for the last 44 years since I have lived
19 there. Now with this compressor station they want to build
20 -- first it was 80,000 horsepower and now it's 40,000
21 horsepower, but anyhow no matter how many horsepower I would
22 just like to address -- first of all the 6 families that
23 live right in the vicinity of this proposed station, their
24 land will be worthless.

25 They won't be able to live, the noise will be

1 horrendous, the light, the pollution so I have a few things
2 that I would like FERC to do and Kinder Morgan. First of
3 all I would like them to study the potential risk for health
4 problems to people and wildlife.

5 When a compressor station is totally engulfed in
6 thick heavy fog and blizzards so the blow-off of chemicals
7 which has 15 carcinogens in it can't draw up their stacks
8 into the sky so they stay low to the ground for days on end,
9 because we have fog for days on end -- thick fog.

10 And this is typical weather for Windsor, Mass.
11 The second thing I would like researched is I would like you
12 to please research the effect on drinking water from all the
13 surrounding reservoirs, Cleveland which supplies Pittsfield
14 with their water and Pittsfield really thinks they are
15 getting out of this but when they find out that their water
16 is effected, Wahconah, Ashmere and all the private wells in
17 Windsor from the 15 or more harmful chemicals that will be
18 emitted from the compressor station exhaust stacks
19 especially associated with thick fog, blizzards and rain and
20 I would like you to please research and measure how much
21 chemical pollution from a compressor station accumulates in
22 all the different layers of snow because we -- you think
23 Boston got snow, Windsor tops Boston every year.

24 And all the different layers of the snow of the
25 high volumes, before the melt off which would all go into

1 the Dalton watershed when it does melt and to everybody
2 else's wells.

3 And I would like you to study the effect that
4 chemicals from a compressor station will have on farm
5 produce, livestock, individual gardens and will they be safe
6 to eat anymore? Thank you very much.

7 MR. PECONOM: Thank you Mr. Garcia. Miss Anne
8 O'Connor?

9 MS. O'CONNOR: Hello my name is Anne O'Connor,
10 A-n-n-e O'C-o-n-n-o-r. So I am a member of the Williamstown
11 Board of Select Men. Williamstown is not directly affected
12 by the pipeline nonetheless a Resolution opposing the
13 proposed Kinder Morgan Tennessee Gas Pipeline was passed
14 unanimously at our town meeting on May 19th, 2015 and also
15 endorsed unanimously by the Select Board.

16 I ask FERC to consider a number of general
17 concerns that we addressed in that resolution. I would like
18 you to study the environmental impacts of the installation
19 and the operation of the pipeline with respect to the health
20 of residents in the directly affected communities as well as
21 nearby communities such as Williamstown.

22 Please examine whether fumes from blow-down
23 valves or the compressor station could be carried by the
24 wind as far as Williamstown or in certain weather patterns,
25 settled in large quantities in the Hancock and Williamstown

1 valley floor. Please also consider whether health risks and
2 property value losses associated with the pipeline will
3 impact our regional tourism economy which is reliant on
4 attractions such as Jiminy Peak, Ramblewild, Ashuwillticook
5 Rail Trail, Mount Greylock and Notchview, all of these are
6 in directly affected communities.

7 And we rely on these to bring tourists and second
8 home dwellers to our area. Please thoroughly study how the
9 pipeline will impact the quality of the water, air and soil
10 for local farms including the organic CSA's such as
11 Caretaker Farm in Williamstown, Mighty Food Farms in
12 Lanesborough and Lakeview Orchards, all of which are
13 significant suppliers to our local food economy and food
14 resiliency.

15 Please examine how the Williamstown economy would
16 be impacted by a decline in health quality as well as
17 property values in our neighboring communities whose
18 residents work and own business in our town. Please
19 consider the impact on our regional school district if
20 children from Hancock and Lanesborough move away, are
21 sickened or die due to the effects of the pipeline.

22 Please consider the cost to the town of
23 Williamstown if our emergency responders are called upon for
24 disaster response and mitigation due to a pipeline incident.
25 Please also clarify whether we as rate payers will be

1 required to pay for the construction of the pipeline via a
2 utility tariff

3 The need for the pipeline is still not clear and
4 FERC should suspend the scoping process until the state
5 attorney general has finished participating in Mass. DPU
6 dockets 1537 and 1548 regarding gas capacity needs and
7 Berkshire Gas's proposed contract with Tennessee Gas.

8 Please also examine whether the increase gas
9 dependency resulting from the pipeline would damage the
10 state's solar power industry and prevent Massachusetts from
11 meeting its statutory obligations under the Global Warming
12 Solutions Act.

13 Finally with respect to all of the comments made
14 this evening we ask you to consider the potential benefit of
15 not building the pipeline. Particularly, in the fact of the
16 extreme challenges presented by the climate crisis, thank
17 you.

18 MR. PECONOM: Thank you Miss O'Connor. Miss Joan
19 Wattman?

20 MS. WATTMAN: Good evening, Joan Wattman, J-o-a-n
21 W-a-t-t-m-a-n the town of Plainfield. I serve on the Zoning
22 Board of Appeals. I am an abutter. The half mile stretch
23 of my property is part of the right-of-way of the power
24 lines and the pipeline would be constructed along that.

25 The town of Plainfield has voted overwhelmingly

1 to oppose the construction of the pipeline. Many of the
2 speakers have addressed points that I would like to address.
3 I am going to be writing individually and also the zoning
4 board is going to be writing before the August 31st
5 deadline.

6 We have several questions that we have been
7 drafting. My main concern is the need and I feel like that
8 has not been addressed adequately by the proposal. I would
9 ask that the need be considered in light of the leaks that
10 have not been corrected and also the overall improvements
11 that could be made to our infrastructure by efficiency and
12 conservation measures.

13 I believe that a gas pipeline that serves a
14 fossil fuel industry that has got a finite resource and will
15 not have a long life should not be allowed to destroy our
16 environment. I would like to see more attention paid to
17 alternative energy as well as the huge savings in
18 efficiency, insulation and weatherization, thank you very
19 much.

20 MR. PECONOM: Thank you Miss Wattman. Mr. David
21 Wasielewski? Mr. David Wasielewski?

22 MR. WASIELEWSKI: My name is David Wasielewski
23 D-a-v-i-d W-a-s-i-e-l-e-w-s-k-I and I represent the town of
24 Dalton and the green town green committee. The Green Dalton
25 Committee's mission is to identify, investigate and

1 recommend to the Select Board various initiatives which
2 protect a community's natural resources and enhance
3 environmental health and the sustainability in Dalton.

4 On careful consideration of this project we stand
5 opposed to proposing the NED Pipeline. A comprehensive
6 evaluation of this pipeline project indicates that the cost
7 and that the risk and cost will far outweigh any benefits to
8 our community. Dalton is expected to assume substantial
9 risks of its water resources as the proposed pipeline runs
10 in close proximity to our public reservoirs and Housatonic
11 River.

12 Planned and unplanned gas releases will
13 inevitably foul the air we breathe. Construction and
14 clearing out the pipeline rights-of-way will disrupt the
15 ecology and damage a community infrastructure ill designed
16 to support the anticipated heavy construction.

17 Property values will decline and the mountain
18 this community values will be permanently scarred. These
19 real costs are easily externalized by Kinder Morgan but must
20 be borne by our community. The real potential ecological
21 damage associated with this pipeline are real, long-term and
22 virtually impossible to undo while the costs of the projects
23 are clear the benefits of the pipeline to this community
24 have remained vague and unsubstantiated.

25 Kinder Morgan remains unaccountable for its

1 claims to lower energy cost or to promise the gas will only
2 be used to benefit local community even as it seeks permits
3 and builds terminals to accommodate its export.

4 Are the irreplaceable, non-financial components
5 of our community should be disregarded as Kinder Morgan and
6 others go their profits. Incorporating the fact that Kinder
7 Morgan has externalized and creates a community balance
8 sheet for Dalton that does not support the construction of
9 this pipeline.

10 With this in mind we specifically call for a more
11 intensive Environmental Impact Statement as the pipeline and
12 its construction activity to our sensitive wetlands, rivers
13 and essential regional water supplies. The chemical
14 composition of the gas and other materials that the pipeline
15 will carry remains unclear and almost impossible to assess
16 at this time.

17 We request that an emergency plan be put in place
18 that would address the potential loss of water supply to our
19 town and the surrounding communities including creating
20 paper mills, our town's primary employer. We call for a
21 delay or extension of the scoping process as the current
22 proposal contains over 10,000 TBD's which at this time are
23 unacceptable or impossible to respond to.

24 For example we were only very recently made aware
25 even of the presence of a metering station to be located

1 within our town. Thank you for the opportunity to address
2 this community.

3 MR. PECONOM: Thank you Mr. Wasielewski. Mr.
4 Timothy Crane?

5 MR. CRANE: I am Tim Crane. T-i-m C-r-a-n-e.
6 Can you hear me? My intent is to express community
7 concerns, to assist FERC in the determination -- in
8 determining the scope of issues to be included in the EIS
9 despite the inadequacy of information available to date.

10 Our hope is that FERC will extend the comment
11 period and my remarks are a prologue to our comprehensive
12 written submission that will be filed as late as possible
13 within whatever extensions FERC provides. Why as late as
14 possible? Because NED is a moving target.

15 Initially filings depict the project entry into
16 our town of Windsor from the west with 4 and miles of pipe
17 co-located with electrical utility right-of-ways with no
18 above ground facilities. A major re-route brings the
19 project to our town from the north, placing a 60 megawatt
20 compressor station somewhere along the route in Windsor.

21 We learned that co-location means that the
22 project expands upon the altered landscape of a utility
23 corridor rather than lives within it. Then filings disclose
24 the location of Windsor's compressor station just hours
25 before FERC announces the beginning of the comment period.

1 Most recently the developer announces that the pipe is now
2 17% less in cross section and that the compressor station
3 will be 50% of its original proposed power output.

4 While confusing in its relative scale, it sounds
5 like relative good news until you read the full press
6 release I quote, "Kinder Morgan will scale compression
7 stations along the route to match firm subscription levels
8 and will seek authorization to install the compression on an
9 as-needed basis."

10 We don't know if that means the compressor
11 station's 20 acre site with 10 acre operational footprint
12 has been shrunk to 10 and 5 acres. We don't know if the
13 noise levels will be half, if the light pollution will be
14 half, if the structures will be half the size, if emissions
15 into the air will be half or if toxic condensate volumes
16 will be half.

17 Or Windsor's compressor station will be scaled
18 for contingent capacity, sized for additional turbine
19 engines and even greater output than 60 megawatts for future
20 subscription levels.

21 If a smaller pipe lets you have the flexibility
22 to scale through put to future subscription levels, there is
23 only one way for that to happen -- higher pressure, more
24 compression.

25 Should FERC accommodate the developer's

1 objectives for flexible capacity leaving a town uncertain as
2 to scope and impact? And should FERC choose to impose on
3 the town not just the compressor station but the prolonged
4 apprehension of its potential expansion? The town of
5 Windsor expects a flexible form of remediation.

6 Toward that end we have two explicit requests.
7 First, the pipeline will be within the cleared utility
8 right-of-way. Second, the compressor station will be
9 underground as with Bear Swamp and Northfield Mountain
10 generating facilities each about 50 miles from here, at an
11 order of magnitude more powerful than any compressor station
12 these facilities are invisible and silent.

13 MR. PECONOM: Thank you Mr. Crane. Mr. Douglas
14 McNally?

15 MR. MCNALLY: Good evening, thank you for
16 accommodating our comments. My name is Douglas McNally,
17 D-o-u-g-l-a-s M-c-N-a-l-l-y. I am a member of the Windsor
18 Select Board and I have been a resident of the town of
19 Windsor for 36 years.

20 The nature of our community and its residents
21 required diligent consideration before you permit the
22 placement of a compressor station and pipeline in our town.
23 We question the placement of a large industrial complex in a
24 community where the next largest business is a general store
25 with one gas pump.

1 Windsor is a small rural community and the
2 natural landscape of the town is its most defining
3 characteristic. This greatly contributes to its quality of
4 life and economy. In 2003 the Westfield River Watershed
5 Open Space and Recreation Plan recommended goals for
6 Windsor.

7 This template for our future focused on
8 developing our rural, agricultural and conservation-based
9 environment and economy. This included preserving the
10 landscape, promoting agriculture on Chapter 61 tax programs,
11 developing strategies for maintaining and promoting open
12 spaces and protecting our wetlands and watersheds.

13 Windsor is the home of the trustees of
14 reservations in Notchview through which the pipeline will
15 pass, Windsor State Forest, the Eugene Moran Wildlife
16 Management Area and Tamarack Hollow. We have an
17 Agricultural Commission and we are a right-to-farm
18 community. At our annual town meeting we approved a Green
19 Community Initiative and a 1.3 million dollar bond for
20 broadband internet access to include increased capacity for
21 residents to have access to the internet.

22 In the past 30 years Windsor's population has
23 increased by 50%. It is a population which shares immense
24 pride in the pristine beauty of our community. Our
25 sustainable community is a people friendly place and a safe

1 and health space that allows residents to reduce their
2 ecological footprint. We are a community with high social
3 capital, strong social ties and networks, citizen
4 proactivity and volunteerism.

5 These values and the bucolic open space bring
6 people here. Many residents are farmers, potters, poets,
7 musicians, artists, bee-keepers and nationalists. Residents
8 are willing to trade paved roads and commercial
9 infrastructure for fresh, high-quality air and low noise
10 levels. They endure rough winters in exchange for starry
11 summer skies, home-grown organic vegetables and clean water.

12 All this being said we want to submit a document
13 requesting further detail based on facts so that if this
14 thing happens we can assure people will not see any change
15 in our community nor experience any change in our values.
16 But we are unable to do this with a lack of timely
17 information that has been provided.

18 We are concerned that we just received a resource
19 report with so much information missing, thousands of "to be
20 determines" including how our wild scenic river will be
21 impacted, how our town will be impacted. We are asking for
22 more time and another scoping session.

23 Absent clarification on the actual scope of the
24 project and complete details, it is difficult if not
25 impossible for us to assess the total impact of the project

1 on the health, safety of our residents, on the environment,
2 on our economy and on the rural nature of our community.

3 What we are able to discern is that Windsor's
4 development to date and its future will be severely
5 compromised by the cumulative effect of this project.
6 Absent significant noise, light emission and toxic
7 containment mitigation Windsor simply won't be Windsor
8 anymore, thank you.

9 MR. PECONOM: Thank you Mr. McNally. Lee Hauge?

10 MR. HAUGE: Thank you my name is Lee Hauge, L-e-e
11 H-a-u-g-e. I am the Chair of the Board of Water Commissions
12 for the Lanesborough Water District. The Water District has
13 3 concerns about the impact of the pipeline on our
14 operations. It is a danger to our water source, a danger to
15 our infrastructure and impact on our finances.

16 As far as the water source is concerned, we
17 currently have 2 wells and they both draw water from the
18 town brook aquifer. And the current path of the pipeline
19 goes right through the middle of the zone 2 of those two
20 wells and right through that aquifer.

21 Contamination of this aquifer will leave us with
22 no alternatives for water for our customers. We have looked
23 for alternate sources to the north, south, east and west and
24 have found any suitable aquifer has been contaminated by the
25 abandoned town dump, the PCB site, superfund site, and a

1 sewage treatment plant so there really is no other place for
2 us to get water with exception of a deep underground aquifer
3 which runs underneath the town brook aquifer.

4 Now pumping tests of our 2 wells have indicated
5 that there is interchange during that pumping process
6 between this deep underground aquifer and our shallow
7 aquifer. So if you contaminate the shallow aquifer it is
8 likely that it would also contaminate this deep underground
9 aquifer and that is going to have implications far beyond
10 the Lanesborough Water District because who knows where that
11 goes and what other aquifers it feeds.

12 Our concern is both for construction phase,
13 installation of the pipeline and operation of the pipeline.
14 During operation there will be liquids in the pipe that
15 would be released in case of a break and who knows what the
16 constituents of those liquids are and of course during the
17 construction phase all the things that are being done during
18 the construction phase are things that are prohibited in the
19 overlay zoning district that we have established to protect
20 this precious water resource.

21 Our other concern -- one of our other concerns is
22 infrastructure. Again the two wells -- we need both wells
23 operational to supply our customers. If one of them is down
24 -- if the larger capacity one is down the other one doesn't
25 have capacity to serve the district. If the smaller one

1 were down then we can't shut the big one down for
2 maintenance so we need both wells.

3 If either one gets contaminated we are kind of
4 dead in the water. We have a new water tank. We just
5 invested 1.2 million dollars in a \$750,000 water tank that
6 is on Prospect Hill. It is very close to the path of the
7 pipeline. We are concerned about blasting during and heavy
8 equipment and so on during the installation of the pipeline
9 traversing very close to that brand new water tank.

10 We are concerned about impact on our finances.
11 Again, because -- okay I forgot, so we have water mains,
12 some of them over 60 years old that were installed back when
13 the District was first formed back in 1938. These things
14 were installed with technologies that are nothing like
15 today's and they are very fragile and heavy equipment
16 driving over the roads, over these water mains is likely to
17 cause chaos to them.

18 We are concerned about our finances. All this
19 endanger to our infrastructure is probably going to require
20 us if the pipeline goes where it is planned to plan ahead,
21 upgrade and do a lot of replacement when things break as I
22 am sure they will.

23 So in summary we would be very happy if this
24 pipeline went away or were put somewhere else as far as our
25 water is concerned and if it does go where it is planned, a

1 lot of work has to be done to take the precautions that we
2 need to protect our water resource and our infrastructure,
3 thank you.

4 MR. PECONOM: Thank you Mr. Hauge. Mr. Paul
5 Sieloff?

6 MR. SIELOFF: Yes hello my name is Paul Sieloff.
7 P-a-u-l S-i-e-l-o-f-f. I'm the Town Administrator of the
8 Town of Lanesborough which is the municipality just north
9 here of the city of Pittsfield. Lanesborough is a small
10 town of 3,000. It is semi-suburban semi-rural. We have
11 fairly limited financial resources which is kind of the
12 emphasis that I would like to put on my presentation.

13 The proposed pipeline would bisect the town from
14 east to west. The Board of Selectmen who are the elected
15 representatives of the town asked me to attend tonight and
16 bring to your attention the following practical concerns and
17 ask FERC to as much as possible during the deliberations
18 consider the concerns of the town of Lanesborough because
19 the town would have a very difficult time responding to
20 substantial negative effects of the pipeline project.

21 One of the concerns that the Selectmen wanted me
22 to mention was the concern about damage to our roads,
23 bridges and infrastructure. As we understand the project
24 heavy trucks and equipment very unlike vehicles and
25 equipment that we have nowadays using our roads will be used

1 during the construction activities.

2 We are very concerned about that. The town of
3 Lanesborough has a very limited infrastructure budget. Any
4 damage to our roads would be very problematic. As an
5 example it took over 2 years to finish one road, it was a
6 very long road and because of our financial limitations we
7 needed a 2 year cycle to do it.

8 This year we did 2 small roads and we should be
9 trying to do upwards of 5 of 10 roads a year but once again
10 because of our limited finances we are limited and once
11 again if there were substantial negatives from this project
12 on our infrastructure, I'm not really sure where we would
13 turn so as much -- so if FERC can do as much as possible to
14 protect towns such as Lanesborough and there are a number of
15 us out here in the Berkshires like that.

16 I won't repeat what Commissioner Lee Hauge said
17 but the water aquifer is in Lanesborough and although the
18 Water District is technically separated from the town
19 obviously we are very closely related and we work very
20 cooperatively. And I know from working with them they also
21 do not have financial wherewithal to deal with substantial
22 problems of the construction project if it were to affect
23 the aquifer and the water system.

24 The Selectmen also wanted me to talk to you
25 tonight about our fire safety and our police services. We

1 are a very small town, in fact we have a small volunteer
2 fire department, our budget is only \$76,000 a year, they are
3 very active volunteers, very highly trained, but clearly the
4 scope of this project is way beyond anything they would have
5 handled before and I hope FERC was able to take that into
6 consideration when considering either training or the types
7 of support for smaller towns and their public safety
8 offices.

9 Our police department as an example, we usually
10 only have 2 officers on at any time and sometimes we only
11 have one officer on. So in case there was a problem with
12 this pipeline, we would have somewhat limited resources to
13 deal with it.

14 And I want to note two other small recent events
15 that I think somewhat relate to the pipeline which is the
16 town working with the water department is putting in a water
17 line to deal with some pollution issues we have near our
18 landfill. And what surprised me as we have been working on
19 it for the last couple of months is the amount of blasting
20 that we have had to do because of the underground rock
21 formations, much more than expected.

22 So there is a concern that this whole project may
23 have a problem like that too because you know we assumed we
24 were going to shoot through this project and there were a
25 large amount of rock formations that we had to deal with

1 with heavy equipment.

2 And somewhat also related is I have seen concerns
3 mentioned about how deep the pipeline is going to be and I
4 will say that personally Lanesborough had a number of
5 problems this year with an extremely deep frost. The frost
6 went as deep as 8 feet which is way deeper than most people
7 expect and we had a number of problems with both water lines
8 and sewer lines and that is something that I think also
9 should be considered when looking at the scope of this
10 project and perhaps the engineering design of the project.

11 The town will submit more detailed information in
12 the next month or so and I wanted to thank you for the
13 opportunity to appear before you tonight.

14 MR. PECONOM: Thank you Mr. Sieloff. In a minute
15 we will move to the numbered speakers tonight but before we
16 do I would like to thank all of the various representatives
17 that spoke this evening. I think you did your constituents
18 a service and I can't think of a finer example of public
19 speaking tonight.

20 I say that partly because those of us or those
21 who are going to speak next are not elected officials or
22 representatives and perhaps may not be polished speakers and
23 so I ask for your patience and your understanding for those
24 that come up and speak if they don't share your opinion you
25 should them the respect that they deserve because it is

1 courageous, it is an act of courage to come up here and
2 speak in front of a public crowd, I think it's one of the
3 most feared things there is out there.

4 So that said we are going to start with the
5 numbered speakers here. As a reminder we are limiting them
6 to 3 minutes. Somebody asked about hand-written comments so
7 if you are called and you have some hand-written comments
8 please go ahead and provide them to Jennifer here on the
9 end. And remember to speak clearly into the microphone, it
10 is adjustable so you can push it up and down as you need to.
11 I think the acoustics in here again are a little bit better.
12 So we will go ahead and begin with number 1 and just for the
13 benefit of our court reporter we are going to take a break
14 at 9 o'clock.

15 Sure, we can do that so if number 2, 3 and 4 want
16 to get ready and be on deck and just as your number, a
17 couple of numbers in front of you be ready to come on up so
18 we can move it along, so number 1 please, and go ahead and
19 state your name for the court reporter.

20 MR. LUPINO: My name is Adam Lupino.
21 L-u-p-i-n-o. I want to thank FERC for being here tonight.
22 I'm Adam Lupino, the Director of Policy for the Laborer's
23 International Union of North America New England Region. I
24 am here tonight to support the project.

25 Our organization is in full support and the

1 65,000 members and 52 local unions that we represent is in
2 full support of the Northeast Energy Direct Pipeline Project
3 and the benefits of additional natural gas capacity into New
4 England. Our support for this project is centered on 5
5 themes: the tax income that would be generated for local
6 cities and towns in Massachusetts and other states along the
7 route.

8 The job creation -- the estimated creation of
9 3,000 local construction-related jobs; the economic stimulus
10 to the surrounding community for businesses during and after
11 construction; energy reliability -- providing a long-term
12 energy reliability that we sorely need to New England and a
13 business community that has been loud about the fact that
14 rising energy costs are a contributing factor to whether
15 they want to invest in the businesses long-term.

16 And we also support the future economic growth
17 that this project provides and the extra capacity that we
18 will need to meet future customer demand. As construction
19 laborers, this project represents the promise of good
20 family-supporting jobs to the region.

21 As consumers it ensures a cheaper, cleaner and
22 reliable energy source. This isn't a make work project for
23 our laborers, this is a signature project and a long
24 construction career. They work with their hands every day
25 and they deserve to be respected for the work that they do

1 building our roads, bridges, schools and essentially
2 building America.

3 Laborers build pipelines across America safety
4 and efficiently. We have access to top-notch training in our
5 site in Hopkins, Massachusetts to ensure these projects are
6 built on time and on budget and I invite all interested
7 parties to come take a tour of our site to see the training
8 that is going on right now to prepare our laborers for this
9 project.

10 And we are also recruiting members from the
11 community and working with local veterans' organizations to
12 make sure that this project is staffed by local members of
13 the community, through our Helmets to Hard Hats Program.

14 We also support the fact that we build the energy
15 efficiency and renewable energy aspects of our economy as
16 well. In fact our members right now are building the first
17 off-shore wind farm in the United States on Block Island
18 Sound.

19 Kinder Morgan and specifically Tennessee Gas has
20 always been a responsible neighbor as a pipeline owner in
21 this community for decades. Most importantly it is no
22 secret --

23 MR. PECONOM: Mr. Lupino your time is -- can you
24 wrap up?

25 MR. LUPINO: This project -- we are facing an

1 energy crisis, we need an expansion project now and we
2 support this project so we can bring much needed energy
3 source to market as soon as possible, I thank you for your
4 time.

5 MR. PECONOM: Thank you sir. Number 2?

6 MR. AMES: Good evening, my name is Tad Ames
7 T-a-d A-m-e-s. I am the President of the Berkshire Natural
8 Resources Council which is an effected landowner if this
9 pipeline goes through. I am also representing a coalition
10 of other land conservation organizations across the state
11 called Northeast Energy Solutions which are also affected
12 landowners.

13 As a conservation group we have worked with
14 landowners and donors and state agencies for nearly 50 years
15 to protect land and its natural beauty and its ecological
16 function and we share and totally endorse many of the
17 concerns that have been raised tonight about the
18 environmental impacts of the proposed pipeline.

19 But I would also like to address some of the
20 process that has been happening with this pipeline.
21 Tennessee Gas Pipeline continually fails to meet its
22 publically and formally stated deadlines. But
23 notwithstanding this the Berkshire Gas Company has formally
24 represented during this proceeding that its' September 1st
25 deadline is mandated and mandatory.

1 And nothing could be further from the truth. In
2 fact representatives of Tennessee have stated that the
3 deadlines they have put forth during this proceeding won't
4 be met, specifically in a marketwatch.com publication on
5 July 16th, 2015 it is reported that Kinder Morgan East
6 Region's Pipeline's President Kimberly Watson said that
7 "Tennessee intends to file the certificate application for
8 the project in October, 2015."

9 So apparently the September 1st application
10 deadline has been moved to October at the earliest and there
11 are no requirements that an applicant such as Tennessee file
12 its' application with the FERC within a certain time after
13 beginning the pre-filing process, so there is no rush.
14 Tennessee is free to delay the filing of the application and
15 the FERC is free to extend all deadlines.

16 Moreover, Tennessee has just issued its' updated
17 resource report with the FERC just last Friday, July 24th,
18 2015 and on or about July 22nd a Kinder Morgan spokesman,
19 Richard Wheatley said that he "does not have any idea what
20 is included in the new resource report" and just like the
21 Kinder Morgan spokesman, we have not had sufficient time to
22 investigate the most recent draft of the resources report.

23 We do know that the prior resource report was
24 flawed with factual inaccuracies, aged data and inherent
25 defects and we must presume the same of the latest round.

1 Finally, I would like the scoping hearing to also
2 address the availability of lateral lines and the relative
3 lack of gas that is being attributed to electrical
4 generation despite all representations to the contrary.
5 Thank you very much for coming to the Berkshires and for the
6 opportunity to speak.

7 MR. PECONOMOM: Thank you sir. Number 3?

8 MR. PHILBRICK: Steve Philbrick
9 P-h-i-l-b-r-i-c-k, Minister of the West Cummington
10 Congregational Church. Before my scoping request I would
11 like to say that these hearings have lost relevance and lost
12 our respect because you allow them to continue mere days
13 after Kinder Morgan has filed a 6,000 page resource report.

14 Studying the facts to make a wise decision takes
15 time. FERC doesn't appear interested in doing this yourself
16 and you are denying us the opportunity to do so. One of
17 your responsibilities is to oversee environmental matters
18 related to the natural gas project so before anyone is
19 allowed to put a shovel in the soil of Windsor would you
20 please analyze the geology all along the proposed route,
21 with particular focus on blasting in the future by quarries
22 or for future road construction?

23 Any miscalculation of the charge based on
24 ignorance of the local rock formations can result in ground
25 shaking pipe-warping damage. Study frost heaves and steel

1 quality, particularly for the lightest gauge, which is what
2 we will receive in Windsor since our lives and environment
3 are apparently worth less to you than those in larger
4 communities which is frankly an obscenity.

5 Please study rust. Ionization by the
6 high-tension line, vulnerability to vandalism, vulnerability
7 to terrorism, since we are so far from any watchful eye,
8 even the Kinder Morgan screens in Houston. In addition I
9 call upon you to fulfill your charge to study the siting of
10 the pipeline in regard to the health and well-being of New
11 Englanders of every species.

12 Another of your charges is to monitor and
13 investigate energy markets, so you should know by now that
14 this pipeline is not necessary for a single thing in this
15 world but Kinder Morgan's profits.

16 FERC, as a group you are not keeping faith with
17 us. You are breaking hearts, you are not a fair broker
18 between corporations and the people and you are not living
19 up to us, your job or yourselves. You are better than this,
20 thank you for listening.

21 MR. PECONOM: Thank you. Number 4?

22 MS. EISEMAN: Kathryn Eiseman, K-a-t-h-r-y-n
23 E-i-s-e-m-a-n and I'm President of the Pipeline Awareness
24 Network for the Northeast and speaking on behalf of the
25 organization. As a preliminary matter, we too ask that FERC

1 issue a new Notice of Intent in light of TGP's Friday
2 afternoon document dump. As noted, the new resource reports
3 still indicate over 10,000 missing data points or TBD's.

4 While Kinder Morgan tries to rush this project
5 through, they are also pressing for approval of their
6 Connecticut Expansion Project. It is critical that the
7 Commission prevent improper segmentation and evaluate NED
8 and the Connecticut Expansion as a single Northeast
9 expansion project, especially in light of the overlapping
10 customers.

11 Tonight though, I am commenting primarily on the
12 need for a full study of socio-economic costs. The EIS must
13 include a thorough analysis of the impacts from the project
14 that would continue after construction. The impacts of a
15 new industrial corridor here must be evaluated in terms of
16 the community-wide effects.

17 Cumulative impacts on communities must be
18 considered with respect to not only the immediate project
19 but the infrastructure and disruption that is proposed and
20 expected to follow as a result of the project, including
21 pipeline expansions and upgrades, additional compressor
22 stations and gas-fired power plants.

23 The employment impacts of non-pipeline
24 alternatives versus pipeline alternatives should be studied
25 in terms of not just the number of jobs created, but the

1 duration and percentage of jobs provided to local residents.

2 From a public benefit perspective an economic analysis is
3 meaningless without an equally thorough economic analysis of
4 the alternatives.

5 The EIS must include a comprehensive eco-system's
6 services analysis to evaluate from a socio-economic
7 perspective water quality, air quality, biological and other
8 costs and benefits of the project and of the alternatives
9 set forth in the EIS including the no-action alternative in
10 order to determine which alternative is in the public
11 interest.

12 Lastly, but importantly, before any of the
13 analyses I have mentioned are undertaken, the Commission
14 must squarely address the fundamental question of the
15 purpose of the project and whether it serves a public need
16 or merely the interest of Kinder Morgan and its affiliates
17 and customer stockholders, thank you.

18 MR. PECONOM: Thank you ma'am, number 6?

19 MR. NUFFER: My name is Fred Nuffer N-u-f-f-e-r.
20 I live at 171 Radley Road, Avril Park, New York which is in
21 the town of Nassau, your neighbors to the west. While I
22 appreciate the opportunity to make comments here to FERC
23 tonight I am quite upset that FERC seems to be wed to an
24 arbitrarily artificial comment deadline date of August 31st
25 when it seems to bend over backwards to allow Kinder Morgan

1 to willy-nilly submit information on its own schedules.

2 A request -- I pointedly request that FERC
3 re-start the scoping process to allow Pennsylvania, New
4 York, Massachusetts and New Hampshire citizens the
5 opportunity to review the most recent environmental
6 resources report that was submitted by Kinder Morgan just 3
7 days ago.

8 It is inexcusable that we are expected to make
9 intelligent and full comment on these critical things when
10 the 6,000 -- 6,500 page report comes out a few days ago.
11 I also wanted to come here to let FERC know and the audience
12 tonight, to better understand what their neighbors to the
13 west are doing with regard to the NED project.

14 Rensselaer County which is the county immediately
15 west of Berkshire County and all 3 towns within Rensselaer
16 County where the pipeline is crossing, have passed
17 resolutions unanimously in opposition to the NED Pipeline.
18 Both Albany and Schoharie County, the two counties further
19 west again have also passed resolutions in opposition to the
20 NED Pipeline.

21 Rensselaer County and Schoharie County have
22 passed resolution calling on the Governor to place a
23 moratorium on all permits related to this project until the
24 State Commissioner of Health has completed a health study of
25 the impact of compressor stations on immediately surrounding

1 populations. Both the AMA and the New York State Medical
2 Society came out with a report that was damning on what the
3 impacts are to human health around both pipelines and
4 compressor stations. I would like to see FERC look at that
5 in its EIS statement as well.

6 Also there have been other resolutions considered
7 and laws that are being considered in Rensselaer County that
8 will require an independent inspection of the pipeline.

9 MR. PECONOM: Thank you sir. Number 7? I lost
10 count, what number
11 -- 6 thank you.

12 MS. BRADLEY: Jan Bradley J-a-n B-r-a-d-l-e-y.
13 Welcome to the Berkshires, the lungs of Massachusetts. My
14 scoping request concerns compressor station emissions. I
15 live in Windsor and I would be 3 miles from the proposed
16 compressor. David Carpenter is the Director of the
17 Institute for Health and the Environment at the University
18 of Albany.

19 He has said that compressor stations are as
20 equally polluting and harmful to the environment as fracking
21 wells themselves. Last year the Madison County, New York
22 Board of Health conducted a study of compressor station
23 emissions in Pennsylvania and Texas. They consistently
24 measured high levels of benzene, tylenol and over 20 more
25 volatile organic compounds.

1 These toxic, cancer-causing chemicals are in the
2 gas because of fracking. They are released into the air
3 during plant emissions, fugitive emissions, blow-downs and
4 accidents. One study reported 2,126 fugitive emission
5 points from a set of compressors. Another confidently
6 estimated 37.9 tons of VOC's vented annually from a
7 compressor in Pennsylvania.

8 Radioactive elements such as radon 222 are also
9 found in the Marcellus gas and released into the air. Radon
10 precipitates out as radioactive polonium and lead. Anyone
11 living in the vicinity of 3 miles from a compressor is at
12 high risk of nosebleeds, rashes, headaches, dizziness,
13 nausea, irregular heartbeats. These symptoms have been
14 detected even further away if downwind.

15 The mere fact that this is common knowledge and
16 allowed in America is FERC's crime against humanity. These
17 studies were done on compressor stations of 12,000 to 18,800
18 horsepower. I can't even find data regarding a 41,000
19 horsepower compressor. It would be one of the largest in
20 the country.

21 Meanwhile we are a very humid climate -- 8 inches
22 of rain this last June and an average of over 50 inches per
23 year, air pollution comes down to the ground with
24 precipitation. So this is what we ask you to scope. An
25 assessment of our air quality before construction and a list

1 of the chemicals and toxins that will be carried to this
2 compressor, this must be made public information based on
3 the Freedom of Information Act.

4 Our observations say that any run-off would go
5 right into a nearby river designated wild and scenic where
6 trout spawn naturally. Of course the pollutants would be in
7 the air and all bodies of water, but trout are an indicator
8 species, like canaries in a coal mine. If not killed
9 immediately there would be obvious lesions on the body and
10 spawning issues that would lead to a rapid decline so we ask
11 your scope to involve trout assessment.

12 Finally we demand the enforcement of new
13 technology and zero emissions from these stations. Zero.
14 If Kinder Morgan thinks it can go up from 18,000 horsepower
15 to 41,000, the new technology must be required. We demand
16 that compressor stations be a completely closed system that
17 all gas released, planned or fugitive must be captured and
18 then re-entered into the pipeline, thank you.

19 MR. PECONOM: Thank you, number 7?

20 MR. EVANS: Good evening my name is Richard
21 Evans, E-v-a-n-s. I live in Great Barrington, not along the
22 path of the pipeline but close enough. I would like to
23 speak with you tonight about legacy mine and yours. When I
24 told several friends where I was going tonight they said to
25 me, "be realistic they are not going to be listening to you,

1 FERC will just pass the pipeline." And I said, "I don't
2 believe you. I believe the people of FERC are going to
3 honor their mandate and that our voices do matter and that
4 they will act in the public interest and take seriously the
5 many concerns and questions that we have about this
6 pipeline."

7 And foremost is the question do we need this huge
8 pipeline? Has the case been made to spend billions of
9 dollars to move billions of cubic feet of fracked gas from
10 the shale fields of Pennsylvania to Atlantic ports in
11 Canada? As we know Canada is already engaged in tactical
12 pullback on the size of the pipeline but the problem is the
13 same, 30 inches or 36 inches.

14 If the case had been made for this pipeline, why
15 would our State Attorney General, Secretary of Energy and
16 several well-informed citizen groups be calling for further
17 study? Why would there be such honest disagreement about
18 whether in fact we have experienced a real or a manipulated
19 winter shortage of natural gas?

20 And even if there were to be some energy
21 shortage, there are certainly alternatives and the pipeline
22 would carry much more than we need and would move fracked
23 gas to Atlantic ports for overseas sales. And who would
24 benefit from that? Not the people of our states, we will
25 simply bear the costs and the risks.

1 And given the un-enviable safety record of KM in
2 its other operations across this country, well documented
3 when you investigate, the risks are considerable. So the
4 cost benefit analysis becomes clear if the pipeline is
5 built, the corporation benefits and we bear the cost and
6 risk and by we I mean all of us. For all who have missed an
7 opportunity here to avoid yet another in a series of
8 mistakes we have made in regard to our future.

9 That future must not lie in new pipelines that
10 will simply perpetuate the use of planet-warming fossil
11 fuels. We simply cannot do that to our grandchildren and
12 that is why I said I want to speak tonight about legacy,
13 thank you.

14 MR. PECONOM: Thank you sir, number 8?

15 MR. PASCO: My name is Walter Pasco, I live in
16 Lanesborough, 900 feet south of the power right-of-way on a
17 dirt road that is impassable, barely passable in the spring
18 during the thaw, it is a one-way road.

19 My experience has been that I am a retired
20 engineer with a PhD in mechanical engineering. I worked on
21 electrical systems and high-pressure guns for the Army by
22 doing an advanced development project. My concerns are
23 basically related to stress failure of the pipeline from
24 thermal expansion and also from stress corrosion.

25 Where I live the terrain is very irregular with

1 hundreds of feet of changes in elevation over sharp ledges.
2 A mile of pipe under normal changes in weather, temperature,
3 over the season can stretch and shrink 3 feet. If not
4 allowed to stretch, the stresses that can develop within the
5 pipe at zero pressure can approach the safe level of
6 operation.

7 So because we have this irregular terrain, the
8 pipe is constrained to not move and the stresses internally
9 can be damaging and lead to premature failure.

10 My other concern is the external corrosion
11 failure. Normally cathodic protection is used to control
12 erosion. Unfortunately nobody talked about geo-magnetic
13 currents which are created by the solar winds interacting
14 with the rotation of the earth to produce thousands of amps
15 in power lines and I worked on power transformers so I have
16 direct access to that information.

17 So along a long cross-country conductor,
18 thousands of amps can flow at different times depending on
19 what the solar activity is. Those currents are coming in
20 from the ground to the pipe and can absolutely nullify any
21 cathodic protection that is produced by putting some metal
22 next to the pipe.

23 Another factor is that voltage is produced by
24 high-voltage transmission lines can induce voltages in the
25 soil below so someone has to look at what those levels are,

1 I don't know what they are but I do know you can have
2 thousands of amps flowing from the soil into your pipe,
3 totally nullifying any cathodic action that would be
4 produced by an ordinary passive process.

5 MR. PECONOM: Sir your time is up, can I get you
6 to finish up really quickly?

7 MR. PASCO: Well okay, then there's noise
8 problems. I understand we are having a metering station put
9 in the town and you have to be -- I dealt with transformer
10 sound for years, you have to treat it very carefully as the
11 street tones and random tones and they have to be properly
12 measured.

13 MR. PECONOM: Thank you sir. Number 9?

14 MS. JOSELL: My name is Selma Josell, S-e-l-m-a
15 J-o-s-e-l-l. I live in Lanesborough and I have to say that
16 at a previous meeting with KM representatives present they
17 are masterful at evading questions and not give answers. So
18 I would like to ask FERC to give specific answers to some of
19 my following questions.

20 We talked about the Lanesborough water aquifer.
21 Can Kinder Morgan guarantee that during construction and
22 after the pipeline is laid that our water will still be
23 clean and that there would be no leakage of gas into the
24 water and that our water will be clean and useable?

25 I have just heard yesterday that there is a meter

1 station proposed for Lanesborough. I am not sure what it
2 is, I read a little bit about it. It seems to me it is kind
3 of like a compressor station, so I would like to know how
4 much noise in decibels this station is going to generate?
5 How far away are we going to be able to hear this noise?

6 I assume there are going to have to be lights.
7 How visible will those lights be and again for what
8 distance?

9 Those meter stations also have blow-downs, what
10 toxins and gasses and items are going to be blown into the
11 air during these blow-downs? And what is the radius of the
12 impacted area around this meter station?

13 Kinder Morgan states that there is gas shortage
14 in the Northeast. What percentage of this pipeline gas is
15 going to go to New England and what percentage is going to
16 actually be exported?

17 Is the amount of gas going to New England going
18 to eliminate the shortage and what areas of New England are
19 going to receive the gas?

20 Perhaps the pipeline really is not necessary.
21 Kinder Morgan has already downsized it for lack of
22 customers. We need to look into renewable energy which is
23 clean, provides lots many more long-term jobs than a
24 short-term construction pipeline does and will not destroy
25 our planet.

1 FERC, please stand up for the property owners,
2 our future generations, our businesses, all who are being
3 placed in jeopardy by an unnecessary gas pipeline. This
4 proposed pipeline places communities in Berkshire County and
5 all across the state in danger of undermining our property
6 values, quality of life, health, natural habitats, air, soil
7 and water quality, thank you.

8 MR. PECONOM: Thank you ma'am. It is 9 o'clock
9 so I am going to stop -- it's 9 o'clock right now so I am
10 going to stop for a 10 minute break for our court reporter,
11 then we will pick up. Feel free to catch any of us here
12 down stage and we will reconvene in 10 minutes thank you.

13 (Whereupon the meeting recessed reconvene in 10
14 minutes.)

15 MR. PECONOM: Once again I would like to get the
16 meeting started again so if folks would please grab their
17 seats. Before I call number 10 I just wanted to remind
18 everybody because I have been approached several times
19 during the break you know you have a very high number, you
20 may submit written comments at any time and as I said
21 earlier on the side here written comments are considered the
22 same as verbal comments.

23 I understand that you may not be able to make it
24 another hour so please keep in mind you may submit comments.
25 You can also submit comments after you have had the chance

1 to read all the information filed on Friday, the various
2 thousands of pages of information there, so please keep that
3 in mind.

4 Tonight was never intended to be your only
5 opportunity to provide comments so please get those written
6 comments in. I would like to thank everybody for the manner
7 in which they are conducting themselves this evening and the
8 manner of keeping things going and being ready when your
9 number is next, it is making this meeting a pleasure.

10 One thing just to remind everyone of is that the
11 timer here is set for 3 minutes so just keep an eye out for
12 it, green, yellow and red. One quick announcement the
13 Massachusetts Energy Facility Siting Board will be
14 conducting meetings on August 3rd, 4th, 5th and 6th and
15 Dracut, Pittsfield, Greenfield and Lunenburg.

16 The announcement -- the gentlemen who is with the
17 Siting Board is number 40 or 50 so he is going to be a
18 little bit but he wanted me to go ahead and make the
19 announcements of the meetings. That information is
20 available on your website, yes, so just quick announcement
21 there for additional meetings about the project, with that
22 number 10 please, thank you.

23 MS. ROSE: Hello I'm Cheryl Rose from Dalton.
24 C-h-e-r-y-l R-o-s-e -- on the FERC website the Commission
25 describes as paramount in its guiding principles that all

1 proceedings be open and fair to all participants. Given new
2 resource reports from Kinder Morgan began available just a
3 few days ago and in them many variables are to be
4 determined.

5 It is not fair to ask us to respond to over 6500
6 pages of incomplete information in just a few days. I
7 request that FERC repeat the scoping hearings and comment
8 period when more complete information is available.

9 As a resident of Dalton I am concerned about the
10 effects of construction and operation of the proposed NED
11 Project on my drinking water quality, air quality and
12 safety. The proposed route is perilously close to the
13 drinking water supply which serves my town. I asked the
14 FERC to require Kinder Morgan to provide plans for baseline
15 tests and monitoring and mitigation of impacts to Cleveland
16 and Egypt reservoirs and the guarantee of safe drinking
17 water flowing through the faucets of our homes if
18 construction or operation of the pipeline or pipeline
19 accident contaminates or harms either of these reservoirs
20 irreparably in any way.

21 Kinder Morgan should also provide plans for
22 baseline testing and continued monitoring of air quality,
23 both near the compressor station in Windsor and the main
24 line valve planned for Dalton and plans for response to and
25 remediation of any contamination from the toxic chemicals

1 transported through the pipe.

2 Finally, the FERC's own mission statement is to
3 assist consumers in obtaining reliable, efficient and
4 sustainable energy services at a reasonable cost. I call on
5 you to be true to your mission. The financial health and
6 environmental costs of this project which will ultimately be
7 borne by the consumers to which you refer warrant a
8 comprehensive study of our energy needs and the ultimate
9 ways they may be met.

10 Our Attorney General Maura Healey has engaged
11 such a study and I ask the FERC to include the results of
12 this study in their determination of our need for this
13 project. The data on the negative effects of burning and
14 transporting fracked methane and the limited amount of
15 methane available from Marcellus shale continue to grow.

16 In contrast, abundant clean energy resources are
17 available and the projects to deliver them are ready to be
18 built at a faster rate than our government is supporting
19 under the pressure from the fossil fuel industry.

20 The FERC has the power to impact our state energy
21 policy for many years to come. Given what we know about
22 energy, the environment and human health, I believe asking
23 us to invest in this pipeline is wrong. The people of
24 Massachusetts want to protect our health and the health of
25 our environment and we need our dollars to invest in true

1 renewable and sustainable and ultimately cheaper energy that
2 will provide us long-term energy security.

3 I call on the FERC Commissioners to accept their
4 responsibility with respect to the impacts of the decision
5 on climate change. This is not just about the immediate
6 impacts of burying a pipe in the ground. Thank you.

7 MR. PECONOM: Thank you, number 11?

8 MR. ROSE: Henry Rose, I'm a resident of Dalton
9 and a local physician. H-e-n-r-y R-o-s-e. I have many
10 health and safety concerns that I would like FERC to
11 address. First I need to reiterate that this scoping
12 meeting is premature. These meetings should be held again
13 and located at least some of the time in communities slated
14 for compressor stations.

15 Some 20% of existing gas is estimated to be lost
16 from pipeline leaks. Improving efficiency of energy use in
17 homes and businesses has a long way to go and green
18 renewable projects like solar and wind are certainly safer
19 and more sustainable. The impact of these measures must be
20 studied before moving further with a 3 and billion dollar
21 project that will be paid for by rate payers, obligate the
22 use of even more fossil fuel for years to come and subvert
23 the work to be done in green energy.

24 I request that the Environmental Impact Statement
25 not just assess the impact of construction, the gas and the

1 TG pipeline is obtained by fracking which employs numerous
2 chemicals that are suspected or known carcinogens and
3 endocrine disrupters. Pipelines are known to leak over time
4 and the effects of these chemicals need to be looked at
5 thorough, including the potential long-term impact of
6 ingesting or inhaling small amounts over many years and
7 especially the impact on children and pregnant women.

8 The pipeline is planned to go near the Cleveland
9 reservoir which supplies Dalton's and Pittsfield's drinking
10 water, the potential impact on this reservoir and all other
11 affected reservoirs need to be studied. In addition when a
12 pipeline is constructed, water is used to test its integrity
13 -- I would like to know where this water comes from and
14 where it is discharged.

15 I also have concerns about compressor stations
16 and pigging operations that release methane and toxic
17 fracking chemicals into the air as part of normal
18 operations, the potential local and regional effects on air
19 quality should also be determined. Safety concerns about
20 the potential explosions and massive fires have not been
21 sufficiently addressed. Such catastrophes have occurred and
22 I request that FERC detail how a large fire or explosion
23 would be dealt with in the Berkshires.

24 FERC has a mission to look at costs, I request
25 that these costs include the health, safety and economic

1 costs of degrading the environment. Much of the gas
2 supplied by the pipeline is likely planned for export, the
3 price of gas will reflect global market price and gas prices
4 will rise in the U.S. FERC's obligation is to this country.

5 Finally I would like to say to my fellow citizens
6 whose work is to repair and construct pipelines, I want you
7 to have good paying union jobs with good benefits.
8 Repairing our leaking infrastructure, stopping the waste we
9 already pay for with our gas bills or reducing greenhouse
10 emissions. I work for a hospital that is constantly
11 upgrading new technology. They are not investing in
12 electric typewriters or x-ray equipment from the 1970's.

13 We have the ability to move forward with cleaner
14 and more sustainable technology and I hope you fellows will
15 join us.

16 MR. PECONOM: Thank you sir, number 12?

17 MS. GITLITZ: Good evening my name is Jenny
18 Gitlitz G-i-t-l-i-t-z and I'm from Dalton. I'll focus on 2
19 issues tonight -- drinking water and noise and light
20 pollution from the compressor station. The pipeline will
21 traverse watersheds that Dalton and Pittsfield and other
22 towns depend on for drinking water. Please ask Kinder
23 Morgan to disclose a full list of chemicals in pipeline gas
24 including common names by CAS number and alternate names,
25 concentrations in the gas at expected pressures, let us know

1 what plans exist to detect leaks that might enter drinking
2 water.

3 In the event of contamination what plans exist to
4 provide residents with alternate drinking water? Finally
5 how will soils and water sources be restored? How does
6 Kinder Morgan plan to maintain pipeline integrity when they
7 only plan to bury it 3 feet underground and how we have
8 heard this evening that frost can in our region can go from
9 5 to 8 feet deep?

10 On the issue of noise and light pollution, the
11 noise and light pollution from compressor stations are
12 likely to be highly disruptive to both people and wildlife.
13 Locally the Notchview Reservation and the Moran Wildlife
14 Management Area provide over 5,000 acres of wildlife habitat
15 and recreational areas to tens of thousands of visitors
16 annually.

17 In terms of noise pollution, please ask Kinder
18 Morgan to provide or identify exactly where the Windsor
19 compression station will be located, the exact levels of
20 sound generated there through the day, when maximum sound
21 levels will occur and for how long, a detailed map of sound
22 travel in meters and levels and decibels.

23 What types of wildlife will have to flee to less
24 desirable habitats due to noise and what other impact will
25 noise have on wildlife? What economic impacts will loud

1 noise have on the Notchview Reservation? How many of the 10
2 to 15,000 annual visitors will be dissuaded from coming to
3 ski or hike due to noise and the loss of peace and quiet
4 that they value.

5 Windsor and the surrounding areas are one of the
6 few truly dark skies left in Massachusetts. Dark skies are
7 valued not only by astronomers but by anyone who likes to
8 look up at the night sky. They are also important to
9 nocturnal animals. In terms of light pollution please ask
10 Kinder Morgan to identify what size area will be illuminated
11 by the compressor station, the light levels and lumens, a
12 map showing the light levels at various radii up to 20
13 miles, what types of wildlife will be forced to flee because
14 of intrusive light pollution and what other ecological and
15 economic impacts will light pollution have on western
16 Massachusetts?

17 In closing due to the large amount of missing
18 information in the research reports, over 10,000 TBD's at
19 last count, please do not close the scoping comment period
20 until 60 days after Kinder Morgan files new, complete
21 research reports. I would also ask the FERC to allow the
22 development of alternative sources of renewable energy such
23 as wind and solar built at residential, commercial and
24 industrial scales to be studied before making a decision
25 about the NED Pipeline, thank you.

1 MR. PECONOM: Thank you, number 13?

2 MS. RYAN: Hi my name is Polly Ryan, P-o-l-l-y
3 R-y-a-n. First I would like to say that I also feel these
4 scoping hearings are being conducted prematurely in light of
5 Kinder Morgan's having only just released their second
6 resource report. My experience today as an impacted
7 landowner, is that I have been continually misinformed and
8 under-informed by Kinder Morgan of the project's details
9 making it very hard to comment effectively on the scope of
10 this environmental impact study.

11 Please know that I have attended 5 of Kinder
12 Morgan's open houses, 2 of their presentations and I have
13 read their first resource report and I still don't have
14 answers to questions that concern me. In terms of the scope
15 of this EIS I would like you to please conduct an objective
16 study using established reproducible, scientific methods to
17 determine the cumulative methane emissions that the entire
18 U.S. gas industry will produce over the next 10 years and
19 determine the impact of these emissions on global warming.

20 To evaluate this you will need to determine the
21 amount of natural gas available for extraction in the shale
22 regions and then figure out how much of it will be drilled
23 out over this period. Clearly one can assume that the
24 extracted gas's inevitable destination will be in our
25 atmosphere regardless of whether these emissions occur in

1 Europe.

2 I am requesting this research because scientists
3 have determined that methane is 84 times more potent a
4 greenhouse gas than carbon dioxide over a 20 year span. And
5 according to the Union of Concerned Scientists who published
6 the Climate Deception Dossiers, there has been a coordinated
7 campaign underwritten by the world's major fossil fuel
8 companies to spread climate misinformation and block climate
9 action.

10 I expect this study to be peer reviewed and then
11 published so we can see the data. And until it is available
12 to us I suggest a moratorium on all new gas infrastructure
13 permits. I also suggest that the gas industry does repairs
14 to existing infrastructure while the moratorium is in
15 effect.

16 MR. PECONOM: Ma'am your time can you wrap up,
17 thank you.

18 MS. RYAN: According to the Environmental Defense
19 Fund, enough natural gas is lost each year to fuel 6 million
20 homes. I would say it is time for the facts and science to
21 be revealed on this subject before we are all FERC'n
22 fracked.

23 MR. PECONOM: Thank you, number 14?

24 MR. PECK: Nicholas Peck, N-i-c-h-o-l-a-s P-e-c-k
25 and I'm merely now wishing to make the point to instruct the

1 Commissioners, the members of the FERC Commission, to remind
2 them of their role as regulating the public good and I
3 believe that if they take that job seriously of regulating
4 the public good and consequently not spending too much time
5 trying to regulate Kinder Morgan, if they want to regulate
6 the public good they are going to take the position that we
7 have too much carbon in the atmosphere now and that based on
8 the efforts that governments around the world are doing that
9 FERC should come into an alliance with the good nations of
10 the world and say to the other nations yes, we are going to
11 start to cut carbon now in the United States.

12 The United States currently and for years has
13 been producing triple or quadruple the carbon of the people
14 of the world, triple the Chinese people. I mean it's time
15 for the United States to get its house in order. We created
16 this system of gluttony and carbon and it is time for us to
17 go back and therefore I say FERC can easily, for moral
18 reasons, for scientific reasons, with all the practical
19 solutions offered tonight, FERC can simply not approve this
20 project.

21 MR. PECONOM: Thank you, number 15.

22 MS. WINN: Hi my name is Jane Winn, J-a-n-e
23 W-i-n-n and thank you for the opportunity to speak. Kinder
24 Morgan just released the new resource reports, thousands of
25 pages long and these reports still are missing huge amounts

1 of information. Without this information we, the public are
2 at a major disadvantage trying to come up with comments on
3 the scope of what we would like to see in your Environmental
4 Impact Statement.

5 These scoping meetings are being conducted before
6 Kinder Morgan has provided enough information on exact
7 locations and sizes of facilities that would allow us to
8 provide comments that would truly benefit the NEPA process.
9 It is unfair that no scoping meetings are being conducted in
10 Windsor or Northfield, Mass., communities whose character
11 and environment will be heavily impacted by the compressor
12 stations.

13 That said tonight I would like to take my 3
14 minutes to focus on jobs. We strongly support the union
15 jobs. Unions in the past have helped to shrink income and
16 inequality and helped to counter corporate control of our
17 democracy. We would like to join with the unions in asking
18 local distribution companies, in our case, Berkshire Gas to
19 start using well-trained union labor for fixing their
20 most-likely-to-explode gas leaks.

21 Right now Berkshire Gas is required by law thanks
22 to many of us to fix their most dangerous gas leaks over the
23 next 5 years. We would like to know those jobs are going to
24 highly trained union labor. Right now they are not. We
25 will be pushing for all gas leaks and distribution lines to

1 be fixed. Consumers are paying for all that gas even
2 though, at least in the Boston area, 2.7% of that gas is
3 leaking into the atmosphere, wasting consumer's money and
4 contributing to climate change.

5 Fixing these leaks could provide years of local
6 well-paying jobs. We also feel this proposed pipeline
7 threatens jobs, clean energy jobs, one of our fastest
8 growing sectors in Massachusetts. At the end of 2014 clean
9 energy employed 88,372 people according to the 2014
10 Massachusetts Clean Energy Industry Report. This is as many
11 people who are working in the insurance industry here.

12 The clean energy industry employs 2.4 percent of
13 all Massachusetts workers. At the end of 2014 there were
14 5,985 clean energy businesses in our state. Clean energy
15 jobs account for 2.5% of the Massachusetts gross state
16 product and these numbers are growing fast. The number of
17 jobs in the industry grew by 10.5% from 2013 to 2014, the
18 third year in a row of double digit growth resulting in a
19 47% increase over the past 4 years and projections are for
20 that double digit growth to continue.

21 We need the no-action alternative for this
22 proposed pipeline and put our union friends to work
23 immediately fixing the gas leaks in our state, thank you.

24 MR. PECONOM: Thank you, number 16?

25 MS. WILLIAMS: Good evening, my name is Jean

1 Atwater-Williams and I live in Sandisfield, Massachusetts
2 and my comments tonight will focus on the illegal
3 segmentation between the NED and the Connecticut Expansion
4 Projects by Kinder Morgan.

5 In the Delaware River Keeper Network versus FERC
6 ruling in June, 2014 the D.C. Circuit Court explained that
7 an agency impermissibly segments NEPA review when it divides
8 connected, cumulative or similar federal actions into
9 separate projects and thereby fails to address the true
10 scope and impact of the activities that should be under
11 consideration.

12 The court further explains that connected actions
13 include actions that are interdependent parts of a larger
14 action. To determine whether actions are interdependent the
15 Court looked at the physical, functional and temporal
16 connection between segments. Although Tennessee Gas insists
17 that the Connecticut expansion and the NED Projects are not
18 physically connected, the evidence demonstrates otherwise.
19 Tennessee Gas's overbuild of Connecticut Expansion Project
20 will serve several of the same customers as the NED Project.

21 In addition, Tennessee Gas prematurely filed its
22 application for the Connecticut Expansion without the
23 customary pre-filing so that it can deny a temporal overlap
24 between the projects. Fast forward to the Northeast Energy
25 Direct Project -- there are 3 potential routes identified by

1 Kinder Morgan as alternatives.

2 One, the now preferred route affecting Hancock,
3 Lanesborough, Cheshire, Dalton, Hinsdale, Peru and Windsor.

4 Number two, further enlargement of the existing
5 200 line which would affect Richmond, Stockbridge, Lee,
6 Tyringham, Monterey, Opus, and Sandisfield and amass
7 turnpike alternative which seems really silly.

8 Option number two happens to be the exact same
9 corridor and right-of-way impacted by the proposed
10 Connecticut Expansion. This is clear evidence that these
11 two projects are indeed related and are being improperly and
12 illegally segmented. It is therefore FERC's duty under
13 federal law to immediately deny the Connecticut Expansion
14 application and then require Kinder Morgan to withdraw this
15 NED pre-filing until such time as they can prepare a
16 pre-filing that legally and appropriately address the
17 project in its entirety, thank you.

18 MR. PECONOM: Thank you ma'am, number 17?

19 MS. EDDY: Hi, my name is Judith Eddy,
20 J-u-d-i-t-h E-d-d-y. Thanks for coming out tonight. I am
21 outraged that FERC is allowing Kinder Morgan Tennessee Gas
22 Pipeline Company to continue with its application for the
23 Northeast Energy Direct Pipeline. I protest the fact that
24 we are even having this scoping hearing tonight given all
25 the conditions with the resource reports that have been

1 mentioned numerous times. I also agree with the previous
2 speakers in that I believe that these applications are being
3 segmented and I ask that you don't consider them as separate
4 but that they are obviously part of one large project aimed
5 at getting fracked gas from Pennsylvania and elsewhere to
6 the East Coast where it can be exported for higher prices,
7 also the fact that Kinder Morgan has fallen far short of
8 providing the necessary and required information.

9 I have called and written to my legislative
10 representatives in both the
11 Massachusetts State House and in Congress to demand that
12 FERC halt the scoping process and rewind this application to
13 require a new Notice of Intent and a new scoping meeting
14 schedule.

15 I am appalled and insulted actually that the
16 citizens of Massachusetts and of the United States are being
17 treated this way. How dare Tennessee Gas Pipeline Company
18 provide such incomplete and inaccurate resource reports to
19 the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, an agency that
20 should be respected and that is our only protection against
21 the sloppy way this company does business and the dangerous
22 way that they do business, putting our environment and our
23 cherished natural areas and the wildlife that depend upon
24 them at risk of permanent degradation and annihilation and
25 the citizens of Massachusetts at risk of bankruptcy,

1 diminished health and possibly death.

2 I know that sounds dramatic but it is true. I
3 will not honor those 6,500 pages of resource reports with
4 specific recommendations until I have more time and even
5 then I don't know that I could read and understand them, but
6 we have people in the room who can thank goodness.

7 And the fact that we were only given a few days
8 to do that, so I ask that you please do your job and work
9 for the citizens of the United States to protect us from
10 corporate arrogance and abuse. We have not and will not
11 stand by as Kinder Morgan uses Massachusetts as a conduit
12 for its corporate greed. We lead the nation in energy
13 efficiency and renewable energy has provided over 88,000
14 jobs in our Commonwealth.

15 I support the union workers in seeking
16 sustainable decent paying jobs, I just wish the jobs to be
17 in clean energy, jobs that will last far into the future. A
18 number of people I know who oppose this pipeline and in fact
19 all fracked gas operations and infrastructure are not here
20 tonight because they have lost faith in this process.

21 They believe this process is hopeless but we are
22 all here tonight because we obviously still believe in the
23 process and we really hope that our voices are heard. And
24 it sure is obvious tonight that the majority of people in
25 the room do not want this pipeline -- I know it's red, I

1 just want to say I want the EIS to consider which is
2 impossible, but I hope they can consider the billions of
3 invertebrates and reptiles and fish and flowers and plants
4 and trees and mammals that don't have any say here tonight
5 unless we speak for them and it breaks my heart to think of
6 the degradation that is going to happen and the destruction
7 if this pipeline is built, thank you.

8 MR. PECONOM: Thank you ma'am, number 18.

9 MR. MELVO: Good evening, my name is Eugene P.
10 Melvo, Jr. I grew up in the town of Cheshire and my family
11 still lives there. I have worked in the construction
12 industry for 40 years. The Northeast needs this pipeline to
13 act as an incubator for employment opportunities and to
14 expand our economy and to revitalize the region.

15 I worked on the Altresco Line that came into the
16 General Electric. I worked across the country on gas
17 production from Wyoming all the way back to Cheshire, Mass.
18 I lived less than 1,000 feet from a Tennessee Gas
19 transmission line growing up. I worked on my first pipeline
20 when I was 16 years old on West Mountain Road in Cheshire.

21 The right-of-ways become recreational areas for
22 biking, snowmobiling, hiking, horseback riding, et cetera.
23 The excavation of this line traveled 1 mile along the east
24 side of the lake, never contaminating the lake. It further
25 ran up passed the water supply for the town that was never

1 contaminated through this construction either.

2 Just the construction of this pipeline will
3 create a thousand jobs. This affordable alternative energy
4 will attract businesses to relocate in Massachusetts and the
5 Northeast which will create even more jobs for working
6 families. Providing affordable energy will give homeowners
7 and business more revenue to invest in the area for even
8 more employment opportunities.

9 The pipeline will produce an alternate source of
10 energy that is produced in the United States and it will
11 relieve the burden here in the Northeast by us residents
12 being victims of circumstances beyond our control. For our
13 families -- we can control their own financial destiny by
14 acquiring this affordable energy.

15 We all know natural gas is alternative energy, it
16 is viable and will prevent further pollutions by coals,
17 fuels and nuke plants. One important component is
18 transmission lines are safer than alternative energies that
19 are transported over the roads or by rail. More potential
20 danger will be reduced by reducing ground transport.

21 Right out through Dan Fox Drive, Tamarack Road,
22 over through Homes Road, upper William Street just in this
23 city, Crane Ave, out through Coalsville, the upkeep and
24 maintenance of the gas right-of-way are impeccable. There
25 is no environmental concern that are completely restored to

1 their original conditions.

2 One thing that is undisputed here tonight and I
3 am a neighbor, that Tennessee Gas is good neighbors. In 40
4 years in construction in putting in gas lines we haven't had
5 one catastrophic event on an area in this pipeline. We need
6 the Northeast Direct Pipeline, it will be installed by
7 trained, certified, skilled, licensed trades people, thank
8 you.

9 MR. PECONOM: Thank you sir, number 18? That was
10 18 -- 19 thank you.

11 MS. BLOMBERG: Hello, my name is Sandra Blomberg.
12 S-a-n-d-r-a

13 MR. PECONOM: Could you speak up just a little
14 bit thank you.

15 MS. BLOMBERG: S-a-n-d-r-a B-l-o-m-b-e-r-g. I
16 live in Pittsfield. The terrible situation that we are
17 having is much larger than this pipeline. Our government is
18 failing to protect us from many health and safety issues by
19 the continued support of the fossil fuel industry through
20 subsidies, deregulation and by the releasing of protected
21 federal land to detrimental corporate exploitation.

22 Our government must now move towards more
23 environmentally responsible energy sources that will provide
24 many more good and permanent jobs while at the same time
25 protecting the environment for us all and for future

1 generations, thank you very much.

2 MR. PECONOM: Thank you ma'am, number 19? 20?

3 MR. CLARK: Good evening my name is Will Clark,
4 W-i-l-l C-l-a-r-k. I'm from Hancock, the prettiest town
5 here in our area. Okay anyway here's the deal folks -- I
6 live in this great town, we don't have a big watershed that
7 has got water going you know from one place to everybody, no
8 we have 450 individual wells on 450 different pieces of
9 property.

10 So I don't want an EIS that tells me, "Oh in one
11 fell swoop Hancock is all covered under this EIS" I want 450
12 separate studies. I want a study for every single well. I
13 want it monitored before, during and after and every year
14 after forever. I want an EIS for every piece of property
15 that grows a different kind of crop and guess what, in
16 Hancock that's a hell of a lot of them. I want to know that
17 Kinder Morgan doesn't think so little of me and my neighbors
18 and our children that they could actually bother to use the
19 same thickness of steel in the walls of their pipeline that
20 they do in towns because we live in a rural place where they
21 won't.

22 I want us to think about it this way. We have on
23 one hand a greedy company that wants to make more money.
24 And on the other hand, you have got the vast majority of
25 your citizens in front of you telling you, "hell no, we do

1 not want this pipeline". So please do me a favor and try
2 listening to your citizens.

3 Lastly, we cannot absolutely cannot allow the
4 bodies of water, the streams, the beauty that is our rural
5 community here to be destroyed by this pipeline. I am going
6 to ask you and I don't expect you to answer, how many of you
7 have actually seen the destruction that occurs when one of
8 these pipelines goes up? I have. I lived 15 miles from San
9 Bruno, California when it blew up and killed a dozen people
10 and burned four houses -- I'm sorry, four blocks worth of
11 houses to the ground. It's horrific.

12 I appreciate that you are here and want to take a
13 look around at our pretty area. Do yourself a favor, also
14 go to where it has been destroyed because there are plenty
15 of places here in the U.S. that it has already occurred,
16 thank you.

17 MR. PECONOM: Thank you sir, number 21?

18 MR. WINN: Good evening, my name is Bruce Winn.
19 B-r-u-c-e W-i-n-n and I'm with Berkshire Environmental
20 Action Team. First of all thank you for coming out tonight
21 and giving so many of us a chance to speak.

22 Part of the scoping process is to consider
23 alternatives to the proposed pipeline project which includes
24 the no-action option, or not building the pipeline at all.
25 I would like to encourage you to consider this no-action

1 option and all of its benefits seriously in your
2 decision-making process. In determining whether or not to
3 allow this project to go forward, you will be deciding
4 according to your website whether the project is required by
5 the public convenience and necessity.

6 Well the public is here and we want to tell you
7 that we don't find this project to be a necessity. And we
8 certainly don't find it to be convenient. We are right here
9 and we are the public. In the 13 years that Berkshire
10 Environmental Action Team has been in existence we have
11 never seen a grassroots movement grow as quickly as this
12 one.

13 For the past year and a half we have been amazed
14 at the number of people turning out to voice their
15 opposition to this project. All across the state people
16 have been finding their own way of saying that they don't
17 believe this project is necessary and they don't find it
18 convenient. So far 54 towns and cities in Massachusetts
19 have passed resolutions against this pipeline.

20 Recently Kinder Morgan decided to move the
21 pipeline route north into New Hampshire for much of its
22 length, no doubt in an attempt to get it away from the
23 increasingly effective grassroots movement, the public.

24 Well already 14 towns in New Hampshire have
25 passed resolutions against the pipeline and New Hampshire

1 hasn't had much time to organize. This is the public in
2 Massachusetts and New Hampshire, in the same way that those
3 in nearby New York states have, speaking through their own
4 town and city governments to tell you that we don't find
5 this project necessary and we don't find it convenient.

6 Across the state we have been getting the strong
7 support of our state representatives and senators, you have
8 heard from some of them tonight. They joined us very early
9 by the way. They are voicing their own concerns about the
10 pipeline and those of their constituents as our both of our
11 U.S. senators and a U.S. congressman. Again, in weighing
12 whether this project is required by the public convenience
13 and necessity the public has been speaking loudly and
14 clearly, we are right here tonight and we want to tell the
15 FERC that the public finds this project neither necessary
16 nor convenient, thank you.

17 MR. PECONOM: Thank you sir, number 22?

18 MR. WRIGHT: My name is Tim Wright, W-r-i-g-h-t,
19 I'm from Pittsfield and I'm speaking in opposition to the
20 proposed pipeline. The amount of gas that this pipeline is
21 much higher than the state of Massachusetts can use and much
22 of it is going to be exported as it is said.

23 Kinder Morgan and Berkshire Gas also known as
24 Iberdrola, are large corporations and only have a mandate to
25 maximize profits for their shareholders and we'll end up by

1 paying for most of the bill with few benefits to show for
2 it. I do not believe that this pipeline is in our national
3 public interest.

4 We have fought wars over our access to energy
5 supplies. We have 6 fleet parked in Bahrain as well as many
6 military bases that secure it as well. Too many soldiers
7 have come back with post-traumatic stress disorder, missing
8 limbs, homelessness and flag-draped coffins in exchange for
9 lower energy prices. This new pipeline will enable this
10 policy to continue to treat our soldiers as cannon fodder
11 for energy consumption.

12 Just a little bit of history about our actions.
13 We overthrew Prime Minister Mossadegh, this is in 1950 in
14 Iran who was democratically elected and we did this on
15 behalf of the Anglo-Iranian oil company which is now BP.
16 This led to a set of dominoes in the Middle East that
17 allowed the Shah to come back, the Shah to be deposed and
18 the Ayatollah to be there and then we helped Iraq and it's
19 all connected, all the energy -- it's connected to all of
20 these wars and it is at its center.

21 I ask if you do say yes to this pipeline then do
22 not grant export licenses for this energy. It is
23 unpatriotic, un-American, un-ethical and a disservice to
24 those who fight for our country, thank you.

25 MR. PECONOM: Thank you sir, number 23?

1 MR. KIPEN: I'm from Ashfield, Massachusetts,
2 another community that has passed a unanimous resolution to
3 oppose the pipeline that would come through our town. I
4 have come here tonight specifically to protest FERC's all to
5 obvious advocacy of the Kinder Morgan Pipeline Project.

6 At the Natural Gas Roundtable luncheon in
7 Washington, D.C. on July 21st, just a week ago, FERC
8 Chairman Norman Bay announced his agency would soon issue a
9 "best practices manual" to help the gas industry win permits
10 for fracked gas infrastructure projects. It is all too
11 obvious that FERC is standing with the industry, that FERC
12 operates de facto as an arm of the fracked gas industry
13 comes as no surprise to many communities that have contended
14 with FERC approved projects.

15 For example, FERC holds free three-day
16 interactive seminars where it teaches the industry to
17 "successfully navigate the FERC process". It goes so far as
18 to invite the industry to sponsor snack times and evening
19 social gatherings, "pre-conferences" where FERC staff ask do
20 you have a conflict in your pipeline work -- maybe with a
21 property owner and offer to "strategize for dealing with
22 difficult behavior".

23 It is obvious FERC looks at communities, at
24 people who are adversely affected by these projects as
25 "problems". Little known to those who attended Tuesday's

1 luncheon, 3 organizers with a group called Beyond Extreme
2 Energy were not allowed to attend despite having registered
3 for the event.

4 Although the luncheon was held at the University
5 Club, it was monitored by FERC's internal security
6 personnel. One member of Beyond Extreme Energy was asked to
7 leave by FERC's security because the lunch was "over
8 capacity". The other two members were escorted out because
9 their clothes did not meet the club standards. Once
10 removed, the building doors were locked and 5 security
11 officers were stationed at the entrance.

12 Federal watchdogs looked closely at FERC pipeline
13 reviews to make sure the public has a sufficient say,
14 including around possible environmental impacts. Fracking
15 infrastructure exacerbates climate change, but it also leads
16 to air and water pollution and a slew of localized health
17 impacts that leave communities on the front line suffering
18 -- headaches, respiratory issues and even cancer are the
19 dangers of living near fracking infrastructure, not to
20 mention the dangers of explosion.

21 The latter emphasizes the importance of public
22 input, especially in light of the fact that FERC authorized
23 construction allows for private land to be taken through
24 eminent domain. On your list of identified public concerns,
25 the first list that was put up on the screen there is no

1 mention of pipeline leaks, a prime concern in all the towns
2 along the proposed route based upon Kinder Morgan's very
3 poor record in this regard.

4 MR. PECONOM: Thank you sir, number 24? Sir, he
5 didn't get your name for the record.

6 MR. KIPEN: My name is Ken Kipen, last name is
7 K-i-p-e-n.

8 MR. PECONOM: Thank you again.

9 MS. DEVOE: My name is Joan Devoe, J-o-a-n
10 D-e-v-o-e, Lanesborough, Massachusetts. Since I am a
11 homeowner in Lanesborough, Massachusetts, a retired school
12 teacher and a cancer survivor who wants to live in a safe
13 and healthy environment in a home that will maintain its
14 value, you can imagine how horrified I was to learn that my
15 house is located near the designated incineration zone, or
16 blast area of the proposed Kinder Morgan Natural Gas
17 Pipeline.

18 Also this pipeline is slated to pass through our
19 aquifer, conservation land, pass under the Cheshire
20 Reservoir, thus threatening our health. Therefore I request
21 that FERC assign an independent third party to conduct a
22 scientific no-action alternative assessment to determine the
23 impact of building the pipeline.

24 This study should also assess the following areas
25 of concern: The current infrastructure, property values,

1 public health, wildlife habitat, watersheds, vernal pools,
2 aquifers, private wells and the quality of the air, water
3 and soil, all along the pipeline from Hancock to Drake as
4 well as in the areas where the compressor and meter stations
5 are composed. This will establish a baseline so that
6 individual property owners, businesses and towns will be
7 able to receive adequate and fair compensation for any
8 accidents, pollution, health consequences or damages that
9 may occur if the pipeline is eventually built.

10 However, if the pipeline is build there needs to
11 be an ongoing scientific assessment by an independent third
12 party that can monitor any changes in the infrastructure and
13 all the areas of concern that I just mentioned. Also
14 detailed written emergency plan needs to be made available
15 to every community in Massachusetts that is situated near
16 this pipeline plus there needs to be a plan for the annual
17 training of all medical and emergency personnel the details
18 of how to respond to a pipeline explosion or any other
19 pipeline-related health hazards that could occur.

20 This includes an evacuation plan that provides
21 detailed information on how residents will be supplied with
22 water, food, shelter, medical care and other basic
23 necessities. There also needs to be a detailed legal
24 documentation that specifies how communities, businesses and
25 residences will receive fair and adequate compensation for

1 any negative impacts in all the areas of concern that I
2 mentioned during the building of the pipeline and after the
3 pipeline goes online.

4 It is important that there be shut-off valves
5 every 2 miles, not every 10 to 20 miles and that the pipe
6 have a thicker lining than the one being proposed. It is
7 also important that the pipeline be buried well below the
8 frost line. However, since this proposed pipeline places
9 communities in Berkshire County and all across the state in
10 danger of undermining our property values, quality of life,
11 health, safety, natural wildlife habitat, and the quality of
12 our air, soil and water, it is clear to me that no option is
13 the best option therefore I request that FERC not grant
14 Kinder Morgan permission to build this pipeline in
15 Massachusetts, but to instead look into the development of
16 projects that expand clean, renewable energy, thank you.

17 MR. PECONOM: Thank you ma'am. Number 25?

18 MR. MOORS: Thank you for the opportunity to
19 speak with you tonight. My name is Lyndon Moors, that's
20 L-y-n-d-o-n M-o-o-r-s. I live on South Main Street in
21 Lanesborough, just a half mile from where the proposed
22 pipeline will raise to cross Route 7. Incidentally I am
23 also a local union President. Lanesborough, Massachusetts
24 is celebrating our 250th anniversary this year. We
25 celebrate our small town, pre-colonial era heritage, our

1 clean air and water, our natural resources, our green spaces
2 and our forests.

3 The state champion elm sits outside my front
4 door. Our town flag depicts the constitution oak, named for
5 the legendary spot from which the signing of our
6 constitution was announced to Lanesborough residents in
7 1787. We value our recreational and agricultural lands, we
8 set down our own roots buying land, building homes and
9 educating our children.

10 I encourage you to fully consider the negative
11 impacts this proposed pipeline will have on what we hold to
12 be important.

13 Number one -- what is the risk to our aquifer you
14 have heard so much about tonight -- our town's source of
15 clean water under which this pipeline would be run?

16 Number two -- what destruction would be brought
17 upon Constitution Hill, perhaps our most historic location,
18 but awaiting Kinder Morgan's bulldozers?

19 Number three -- what impact will this project
20 have on our private property values in insurability and will
21 its completion make our homes more difficult to sell?

22 Number four -- is there a less-destructive path
23 for this pipeline? Even though many analysis now claim that
24 the project is excessive and unnecessary in its proposed
25 scope.

1 I would also ask you to schedule additional
2 opportunities such as this one tonight so that we may
3 provide relevant testimony as Kinder Morgan's plans continue
4 to evolve. We know precious little today about their plans
5 for metering stations and compression stations for instance
6 and their potential impacts should also be considered in our
7 deliberations, thank you very much.

8 MR. PECONOM: Thank you, number 26?

9 MR. SPATZ: I am Larry Spatz, L-a-r-r-y S-p-a-t-z
10 I live in Lanesborough. This is the wrong project at the
11 wrong time by the wrong company. It's the wrong project at
12 the wrong time because they have to realize that we have to
13 stop extracting carbon from the earth. There's no question
14 about it, if we don't we are going to fry the planet.

15 And if we are not extracting carbon anymore then
16 we don't need pipelines to transmit it either. I say that
17 Kinder Morgan is the wrong company because of its abysmal
18 record in safety and in the environment. This record is so
19 bad that in Deerfield, MASS they held a public hearing over
20 a year ago. They read into the record all of Kinder
21 Morgan's infractions these include pipeline leaks, bribery,
22 pollution, fraud, scams, theft, deaths, felonies,
23 environmental disasters, labor violations, unsafe working
24 conditions and influence buying.

25 At the public hearing Kinder Morgan was invited

1 to respond, they did not show up. They were given 15 days
2 after that to write -- to submit written rebuttal, they did
3 not do that. 2 days after the period was up they sent a
4 letter saying that they would not listen to anyone except
5 FERC, they didn't care what the Board of Health thought.

6 So at that point the Deerfield Board of Health
7 voted under its power to protect the life and safety and
8 health of its townspeople to disallow Kinder Morgan from any
9 further activities in the town with respect to the pipeline.

10 And the Lanesborough Board of Health recently
11 took the same action on June 8th of this year and the week
12 in May of 2015, the Selectmen voted not to allow Kinder
13 Morgan to conduct surveys on any of the town properties and
14 in addition to that at the town meeting in June there was
15 overwhelming support for people saying that they did not
16 want the pipeline to happen.

17 There's no question that this is a project that
18 should not happen, thank you.

19 MR. PECONUM: Thank you sir, number 27? 27? 28?
20 29?

21 MS. FEATHERS: No? Does that work? Well,
22 Marjorie Feathers, M-a-r-j-o-r-i-e F-e-a-t-h-e-r-s and can I
23 be heard. The narrow lengthy town of Hancock with a
24 population of 751 is by any definition rural, which in
25 pipeline lingo means that it is classified as an area of low

1 consequence. With this classification a pipeline through
2 town can be constructed of thinner gauge than would be
3 allowed in an urban area.

4 Although the proposed pipeline would be
5 maintaining the same volume and pressure throughout its
6 route, rural areas would, because of diminished safety
7 requirements, be less protected from explosions and the
8 amount of gas burned in a rupture.

9 A close look at concentration of settlement in
10 Hancock, using the U.S. Geological Survey Map, reveals that
11 within one-half mile of the current power lines along which
12 the proposed 1 and miles of pipeline would be buried, lies
13 the whole village of Hancock, 72 dwellings, the town library
14 and the town's only church.

15 Buildings within close proximity to one another
16 that could burn on moss. Some are just feet or yards from
17 the corridor. With no town water source, all of these
18 dwellings are served by their own individual wells or
19 springs. It is known that minor leaks in gas pipelines are
20 allowed to remain. Certainly those living nearby would be
21 concerned about their precious water supply.

22 Perhaps in Montana, Wyoming, Nevada and many
23 western states, there are lengthy regions where pipeline
24 eruption would be of low consequence to the surrounding
25 area. This is not true in Massachusetts. It appears that

1 the lives and homes of people who live in our rural areas
2 are considered as in consequential as is open land.

3 In America when we set up safety regulations and
4 empower businesses to construct for what some call the
5 greater good of the nation and population, do we categorize
6 the value of people's lives? Are 100 lives in rural areas
7 less valuable and of less consequence than 1,000 urban
8 lives?

9 Rural towns in the Northeast contain people, not
10 vast stretches of open land. These people need the same
11 safety protection as do people in cities. If this proposed
12 pipeline is as greatly needed as Kinder Morgan National Grid
13 and Berkshire Gas proclaim, and if it really would solve
14 economic problems, why are so many New York and
15 Massachusetts, state and federal senators and congressman
16 who have studied it, opposing its construction? They know
17 it is wrong for these states and this region.

18 And okay, out of 600 miles of current pipeline in
19 Massachusetts, Kinder Morgan brags that they employ 46
20 people in 2013.

21 MR. PECONOM: Thank you ma'am, 30 or is it 31, 30
22 okay.

23 MS. ZANTAY: Karen Zantay. K-a-r-e-n
24 Z-a-n-t-a-y. Here are comments from over-wrought residents
25 of Third Burden Lake, the largest lake in Rensselaer County

1 where inner city children and veterans come for a summer
2 experience. It has hundreds of residents and thousands of
3 visitors each summer.

4 It is the home of a 50 year old thriving
5 restaurant that claims customers from many different states
6 and many miles away and it will have the highest impact from
7 the compressor station. The comments ask you to include in
8 your EIS these negative socio-economic, health,
9 environmental and cultural impacts. Kinder Morgan's
10 atrocious safety record including deaths that have happened
11 in more than 36 significant accidents, they are skimping on
12 pipes which are proven to leak, not could leak, but will
13 leak.

14 Their failure to maintain, test, inspect and
15 monitor the pipe's corrosion levels. They want you to give
16 us a full blown meteorological air quality impact study to
17 research the leakage of methane nitrous oxide and other
18 toxins that they do not have to disclose to us, the same
19 toxins that come from fracking also come from compressor
20 stations.

21 They cause pre-natal problems, lower sperm count
22 and fertility problems in women. There are documented cases
23 of people living near compressor stations developing
24 respiratory illnesses and other health problems in their
25 kidney, liver and brain. The blow downs and constant hum

1 and vibrations and the health risks they incur, no emergency
2 services to handle an accident, mining in the same area as
3 the pipeline.

4 Benefits are little to non-existent for residents
5 and very large for foreign markets. Lights and constant
6 humming will harm wildlife including bald eagles, blue
7 herons, painted turtles, bears, many types of fish, alpacas,
8 Black Angus beef farm and many others. Explain why the
9 safety standards are different between cities and rural
10 places, why rural lives are expendable.

11 Study what happens when their mortgages and home
12 owners insurance are called in and nullified due to harmful
13 toxins on or near their property. Will Kinder Morgan be
14 able to replace these? Will Kinder Morgan make up the
15 difference of decreasing property values? Will they pay for
16 testing our water before and after the compressor station is
17 built, and continually monitor our water?

18 How will the fireworks and snowmobiling and
19 quading in the area be affected? Missing from my pile here
20 are all the comments from the people that don't even know
21 about this or don't understand the harmful and even fatal
22 impact it can have on our community and our world. Please
23 include ways to notify all the residents in the towns
24 affected.

25 Maybe the U.S. mail could be used, then it might

1 not appear like the gas companies and the federal
2 government, are trying to hide what you are doing to us.

3 Lastly, I am just asking you to think as you lay
4 down your heads on your pillows about what you are doing to
5 people's lives, their health, their financial position,
6 their children, their animals, their mental state, et
7 cetera. What will your decision do to your mental states
8 knowing that you helped harm people by not denying this
9 application?

10 Is money worth people's lives? Please just go
11 home and think about this as if it was in your back yard,
12 thank you.

13 MR. PECONOM: Thank you ma'am, 31?

14 MR. SMITH: My name is Sam Smith S-m-i-t-h from
15 Williamstown. The overwhelming evidence before all who have
16 eyes to see is that the struggle to protect the planet from
17 climate change is a failure. And the promotion of the KM
18 NED Project tragically witnesses to the perpetuation of
19 failure. Even though little time is left to amend through
20 our global human failures, two expert sources challenge us
21 to restore faith in a future with us in it.

22 Until very recently the goal of nation's was to
23 limit warming to below 2 degrees Centigrade but now
24 according to a study published in the journal Nature Climate
25 Action it is critical that warming be kept below 1.5

1 degrees. The 1.5 degree goals leaves no space to further
2 postpone global mitigation action and emissions reductions.

3 The second source is an interview with Dale
4 Jamison, author of Reason in a Dark Time Why the Struggle to
5 Stop Climate Change Failed and What It Means for Our Future.
6 In the interview published in the New York Times opinion
7 pages, Jamison says the way forward is a bottom up rather
8 than a top down process, that our primary hope lie -- to
9 address climate change, is grounded in actions and
10 organizing at the local and regional level.

11 In Jamison's words, international agreements
12 matter but their importance is exaggerated. At the Rio
13 Earth Summit in 1992, most of the representatives of the
14 global community thought the solution to climate change
15 would be an international agreement that would bind
16 countries and force them to behave, but we don't live in a
17 world in which such authority exists, either external to
18 nations or in their super egos.

19 Most action on climate change will take place
20 within regions, within countries, within communities and in
21 the hearts and minds of individuals. Once there has been
22 enough change at these levels, then effective agreements can
23 be made in a way the point is simple. When it comes to
24 fundamental change, law tends to follow politics and
25 morality rather than leading them.

1 These words underscore the importance of "We The
2 People" in rejecting the pipeline, participating in actions
3 on behalf of emissions reductions, building a clean power
4 economy and determining our future, thank you.

5 MR. PECONOM: Thank you sir, number 32?

6 MS. KAYE-MOSES: Sam is a hard act to follow.
7 Linda Kaye-Moses, L-i-n-d-a K-a-y-e hyphen M-o-s-e-s.
8 Kinder Morgan should be required to prove the need for the
9 proposed pipeline by providing studies verifying that need
10 and supplying information as to who conducted those studies
11 and how much was paid for them.

12 Kinder Morgan should be required to provide
13 specific and unambiguous answers to all questions without
14 resorting to the phrase "to be decided", since that phrase
15 appears over and over again in the report submitted just a
16 few days before the scoping period and allows for seemingly
17 deliberate omission of information that FERC and the public
18 need.

19 Kinder Morgan must assure FERC and the public
20 with specific facts and details that public health and
21 public safety will be the paramount priority and thoroughly
22 protected before, during and after construction of any
23 pipeline and compressor station.

24 Kinder Morgan should be required to supply all
25 environmental studies, the names of the entity or entities

1 who made the studies and the amounts paid for the studies.
2 In addition, Kinder Morgan should provide specific
3 information re: environmental protection within the scope of
4 all the elements of the pipeline construction and as
5 affected by that construction for all living things and
6 within our entire eco-system, the water, the soil, and the
7 bio-diversity in our forest, our mountains, our aquifers,
8 lakes, ponds and streams.

9 Kinder Morgan should be required to prevent
10 ecological and property damage that can result from the
11 construction of the pipeline and compressor stations and
12 should such damage occur, which it does, Kinder Morgan
13 should provide a plan and assume responsibility for that
14 prior to beginning construction and to effect complete and
15 sufficient remediation and mitigation of any such damage.

16 Kinder Morgan excuse me, should describe in
17 detail the temporary, part-time, full-time or permanent jobs
18 connected to the construction and/or the maintenance of the
19 pipeline. Can we, the citizens of Massachusetts and
20 Berkshire County in particular, depend on FERC to protect
21 our interests, including our health, and the health of our
22 environment from any degradation by Kinder Morgan's pipeline
23 and its contents?

24 The most effective way to protect our health, our
25 land, our environment, our watersheds, is to not construct

1 the Kinder Morgan Pipeline.

2 MR. PECONOM: Thank you ma'am, 33? 34? 35? 36?

3 MR. BURCROFF: My name is Eric Burcroff, E-r-i-k
4 B-u-r-c-r-o-f-f. I first met NED when a guy drove up to my
5 barn -- I said I first met NED when a guy drove up to my
6 barn in an unmarked truck, he had no business card, a blurry
7 map and a letter.

8 The letter said 2 Houston billionaires wanted to
9 gouge the pipeline through my backyard. I started to look
10 into these guys. They came from ENRON, remember ENRON?
11 Screw grandma, they were high in the echelon of that
12 corporation. Ken Lay taught them how to scavenge energy
13 companies, buy them on the cheap, create shell companies,
14 drill, blast, gouge, trench, misinform, lie, obscure, pay
15 workers the least amount possible, diminish maintenance
16 schedules that are industry standards, take companies on and
17 off the stock market repeatedly. These are bad guys.

18 Then I started to read about what fracking means
19 to human health, the environment, the stuff that is coming
20 from the Marcellus shales which is among the most
21 radioactive in the world, to be transported to the coast of
22 Massachusetts primarily for export.

23 So I began to weigh the costs and the benefits
24 beyond my backyard to what President Eisenhower warned us of
25 when he left office -- the triumvirate -- Washington, Wall

1 Street and Houston. This is what we are dealing with.
2 These are nasty people, they may want to take care of their
3 grandchildren. I take that back, they are not nasty people
4 I'm sorry, they are driven by their priorities, I am driven
5 by mine.

6 I care about the environment, I care about
7 community, I care about renewable energy, weatherization,
8 and community building. For that I am grateful. I have
9 woken up enough to join committees, walk the pipeline, meet
10 my neighbors and educate myself more about these kinds of
11 projects. This one is a very bad project, I urge you to
12 continue doing your jobs. I am grateful for you allowing us
13 to speak tonight, thank you.

14 MR. PECONOM: Thank you sir, 37? 38?

15 MR. DAUNAIS: Good evening my name is James
16 Daunais, J-a-m-e-s D (as in David) a (as in apple) u (as in
17 unicorn) n (as in Nancy) a (as in apple) i (as in icicle) s
18 (as in Sam). I cut my comments and questions down a little
19 bit, a lot of them have been addressed already.

20 One question I have -- I don't know why I am
21 going to lead off with this one, but here goes. Are any of
22 the FERC biologists actually going to do any on the ground
23 investigations of the proposed routes any time before you
24 start your EIS process? You don't have to answer that now,
25 I hope you are. I know perhaps your staffing and budgeting

1 levels have been reduced to the point where maybe you can't
2 even do too much of that.

3 Secondly last year we had an information meeting,
4 I believe it was at the Lee High School, the Kinder Morgan
5 Tennessee Gas Pipeline people, and others. I informed the
6 Kinder Morgan Tennessee Gas Pipeline officials at that
7 meeting of an unsafe and getting more unsafe every day
8 conditions of their existing gas pipeline near the Outlook
9 Avenue, Cheshire, Massachusetts property our family owns.
10 And this is the existing pipeline that I guess they are
11 going to propose running a new pipeline over part of it
12 through Cheshire and even into Adams where I do live.

13 I told them that there was a neighbor that bought
14 a 3 acre lot from my mother before she passed away, built a
15 house there and shortly after asked if she would mind if he
16 went over on their property a little bit and cut down some
17 very large trees that he felt might come down in a storm and
18 wreck his new house.

19 My mom said well go ahead, that's okay. Little
20 did they know that what he was doing was taking out hundreds
21 of trees, making himself a nice, great big dirt bike loop
22 track through not only his property, but over onto our
23 property as well and coming down the hill on the right-hand
24 side of the property, the track bounding over mound and then
25 coming down, slamming down onto the pipeline with their dirt

1 bikes, which he has removed at least a minimum of one foot
2 of soil covering that pipeline if not 2 feet or more and
3 then running down the pipeline, gunning it and digging their
4 rear tire in as they are gunning it down the straight
5 stretch and up the hill on the other side of the loop.

6 And he even took his little bulldozer and pushed
7 a stone wall at the bottom of the property over enough to
8 give himself a little more lead way room to go down that
9 hill, bottom down to the pipeline and up the other side of
10 the track. I am going to go up there tomorrow, I haven't
11 looked at it since I told these people about it. I wonder
12 if they would require him to replant the trees on the
13 section of the two uphill slopes above the pipeline, to cut
14 down and re-seed the grass in there, to cut down on the
15 erosion of that very minimal earth covering that was
16 existing over that pipeline, thank you.

17 MR. PECONOM: Thank you sir, number 39?

18 MR. YOUNG: Thank you, my name is Lawrence Young,
19 L-a-w-r-e-n-c-e Y-o-u-n-g and first of all I would like to
20 thank you for your time and your attention and your service
21 in this critically important function.

22 I am an abutter to a proposed pipeline route in
23 Plainfield, MASS. It's a little town of about 600. I would
24 ask among other things that you determine the impact of the
25 proposed pipeline on our wildlife. We have salamanders,

1 bats, monarch butterflies, prometheus and Lunar moths, we
2 have deer, bear and snakes and so forth and on an issue that
3 had been brought up -- it is my understanding that much, if
4 not most of the gas that would be transported is for export.

5 If this is true I would say this is primarily for
6 a private purpose and gain and not primarily for a public
7 purpose, for a public interest. And to add insult to injury
8 I suppose there is a proposed tariff to pay for it from the
9 taxpayers to further help the Kinder Morgan and so forth and
10 the whole concept of this project I would suggest runs
11 counter to the -- President Obama's stated commitment to
12 reducing greenhouse gases and counter to proposed treaties
13 with other nations and also by further encouraging
14 dependence on fossil fuels.

15 I would ask that the Commission look into how
16 much gas would be made available from these wells that are
17 being fracked. I would suggest that it may well be that by
18 the time this project is up and running, advances in
19 renewable energies may render the entire project
20 anachronistic.

21 Also my understanding, and I have heard this said
22 tonight as well that Tennessee Gas intends to use a thinner
23 gauge pipe in rural areas, including right near my house,
24 again border -- or abut the power line and I have also heard
25 that you have heard reported that they can expect to make

1 billions of dollars even in the first year of the project
2 operation, surely they can afford to use the safest pipeline
3 possible.

4 I would also again mention the likelihood and
5 inevitability of frosties and again it's a little town I ask
6 you to protect me and protect my loved ones, and protect my
7 town and protect us all thank you.

8 MR. PECONOM: Thank you sir, number 39? I'm
9 sorry, 40?

10 MR. BESMOFF: My name is Stuart Besmoff
11 S-t-u-a-r-t B-e-s-m-o-f-f. I live at a zero net energy home
12 in Windsor, Massachusetts where I operate a solar business
13 and buy organic food from farms in this town. The likely
14 contamination of our food supply is one of the reasons the
15 voters of Windsor passed a Resolution against this type of
16 project.

17 The Environmental Impact Statement should study
18 the impact on conventional and organic farms as well as
19 family gardens in all the towns with a proposed compressor
20 station and along the entire route of the proposed pipeline.
21 Exhaust from a compressor station is a major concern in a
22 town which now has very good air quality.

23 The EIS should identify a soil, air, and water
24 testing program to be conducted before any construction
25 begins to establish a quality baseline. The water testing

1 should include public and private wells, plus surface and
2 sub-surface water. Alternatives to providing the energy to
3 operate the compressor stations should be considered in the
4 EIS.

5 Burning gas containing fracking contaminants is
6 not good for the environment. The alternative for using
7 renewable energy to operate all of the compressors should be
8 studied. It is expected that a zero net energy facility,
9 using solar energy to operate all of the compressors will
10 have the least impact on the environment.

11 Employment is important for my western
12 Massachusetts neighbors, skilled in various trades. Since
13 there is now a shortage of people to install and maintain
14 solar hot-water equipment I will be glad to help anyone here
15 or if you know somebody who left and you can get the word to
16 them, get started in a career which will help not harm our
17 planet.

18 You can see me after this meeting or look up
19 Alpine Solar in Windsor. Resource reports provided by the
20 developer have been incomplete or late. These scoping
21 meetings should be repeated when more project information is
22 available, allowing at least 90 days to examine the
23 completed report. Also, a scoping meeting should be
24 conducted in each town designated for a proposed compressor
25 station with the objective to avoid or lessen environmental

1 impacts, it is clear that the alternatives which should be
2 studied most extensively are conservation, efficiency and
3 renewable energy instead of damaging the environment with
4 new fossil fuel infrastructure.

5 MR. PECONOM: Thank you sir, 41?

6 MS. JACOBS: Hello my name is Susan Jacobs and I
7 live in a portion of Windsor, Massachusetts known as East
8 Windsor which is also the location for the proposed
9 compressor station. We've lived there for 25 years and for
10 7 of those years we opened our home as a bed and breakfast,
11 welcoming guests from around the United States as well as
12 Europe citing the quiet peaceful surroundings, fresh air,
13 and ability to see the stars on clear nights.

14 Many came back repeatedly. This project with a
15 proposed compressor station barely 2 miles due west of our
16 home will change all of that. My concerns are many but
17 tonight I will focus briefly on air and water quality. The
18 Sierra Club sites many concerns with the national gas
19 industry including the numerous loopholes the industry
20 exploits in order to ignore basic, environmental and health
21 protection.

22 The Sierra Club goes on to list some of the many
23 problems associated with inadequate safeguards in natural
24 gas development, including harmful air emissions that
25 pollute communities surrounding drilling operations,

1 compressor stations and pipelines. And lack of
2 environmental assessments, monitoring and regulatory
3 enforcement to gauge damages to landscapes and wildlife.

4 I respectfully request that you determine the
5 realistic amount of pollution that would be released from
6 the compressor stations and take steps to reduce the
7 dangerous gases and chemicals in it to zero through the use
8 of scrubbers and any other technology that could be used to
9 protect our clean air.

10 Like everyone else in Windsor and many of the
11 surrounding rural communities, our home has a well. Much of
12 our area of town also has wet, boggy areas, and is adjacent
13 to brooks and streams feeding into the West Field River.
14 The VOC's and the other contaminants contained in the
15 emissions of the compressor station and other installations
16 along the pipeline will not only be present in the air we
17 breathe, but will fall to the ground to pollute our gardens,
18 streams and ultimately our drinking water unless Kinder
19 Morgan is forced to take all necessary steps to protect our
20 resources.

21 During the construction process where will Kinder
22 Morgan access the large quantities of water they will need
23 for hydrostatic testing? Will there be guarantees that
24 these sources of water will not compromise our local wells?
25 Please study how our pure water can be protected, not just

1 mitigated when later studies show our wells, streams and
2 rivers have become polluted.

3 Also I respectfully request that the resource
4 report submitted by Kinder Morgan be rejected until such
5 time as they can provide complete information. Do not
6 accept their submission if it contains even one "to be
7 determined". Your job is to protect and represent the
8 public. I ask that you do your job and make the best
9 decision for the public and deny Kinder Morgan a permit for
10 this project, thank you.

11 MR. PECONOM: Thank you ma'am, number 42? Good
12 evening my name is Lee Flournoy, L-e-e F (as in Frank) -
13 l-o-u-r-n-o-y. I'm a resident of West Windsor, thank you
14 very much for coming. If I realized what this would be like
15 I would have brought coffee. I want to just focus on a
16 couple of the ways in which this project seems to me to be
17 so massive because Windsor is getting a compressor station
18 that we have to travel as far as Pennsylvania to see
19 something three-quarters of the size of the one we will get
20 and because it is in such a precious area.

21 The nature conservancy actually designated the
22 Berkshire Tactonic landscape as one of America's last great
23 places, referring to it as more than 155,000 acres
24 containing one of the most spectacular, healthiest and most
25 diverse blocks of intact forest in southern New England.

1 We have an incredible variety of wildlife, a
2 great number of endangered and threatened state species. We
3 probably have the long eared bat in the area of the
4 compressor station. Both the challenge of the importance of
5 this natural span of land and the scope of the project
6 brings us to a dilemma -- Kinder Morgan has not been
7 responsive to the very good questions you all have asked
8 them, told to specify and delineate and justify the impact
9 that the compressor station, the access roads, the
10 contractor yards, have had on -- would have on water, ground
11 water and wetland resources, they have said "we'll tell you
12 about that later" or "we will use best practices and we will
13 attempt to the extent practicable to avoid wetlands". I
14 would suggest to you that's not good enough, given what the
15 size of what they are proposing and the delicate landscape
16 they are working in.

17 Windsor has bedrock which underlies the entire
18 landscape in a fashion like this and they note on their
19 tables that the average bedroom starts at 38 inches and they
20 intend to go down 6 feet for the pipeline. That means
21 blasting, that means blasting near people's wells because
22 unfortunately the bedrock isn't in one location, it is
23 scattered throughout the length of the pipeline.

24 If you had a way to say to them we are staying
25 this proceeding until you give us adequate answers to the

1 questions we asked you about safety patrols, about road
2 crossings, about emergency access if you are going to block
3 a road, about effects on water, I think people would have
4 confidence because we are tiny towns. We have 800 people,
5 you have heard from towns of 600 and 700, we can't hire
6 experts to do what Kinder Morgan hasn't done and if there is
7 a way to work around the problem of lack of landowner access
8 with objective experts, I think there would be much better
9 data available for you to make good decisions, thank you so
10 much.

11 MR. PECONOM: Thank you ma'am. Just a quick note
12 at 11 o'clock we will take a short break for the benefit of
13 our stenographer, he is working hard to record all of your
14 comments tonight, 15 minutes, so number 43?

15 MR. MARKHAM: Hi, I'm Jim Markham, that's
16 M-a-r-k-h-a-m, the town of Plainfield. I would like to
17 thank you for the opportunity to speak tonight. I would
18 also like to state my objection to the fact that these
19 hearings are continuing given that so many other people have
20 referred to Kinder Morgan's late and incomplete release of
21 almost 7,000 pages of technical documents on Friday.

22 Unconscionable right now gentlemen and ladies,
23 that we are even continuing with this right now,
24 unconscionable, please think about that and process that.
25 Now it took me all a day or two of research to realize the

1 staggering scale of this project. It took me a day or two
2 to come up with over 50 substantial points of concern that I
3 will certainly pass on to you.

4 I am only going to highlight three of these right
5 now, but the fact that it took Kinder Morgan 6,000 plus
6 pages to assure us that they have got everything under
7 control is a huge red flag right there. 6,000 plus pages to
8 assure us that they have got it taken care of, there's some
9 major, major problems here in running this pipeline through
10 this part of the country.

11 I should go a little bit further and say that I
12 don't think it should run through any part of the country,
13 largely because of its impact on global warming and the
14 carbon that it is going to create for the environment. But
15 let me focus on public health and safety impacts, just three
16 of them.

17 Please research response time of first
18 responders, firefighters in event of a problem, especially
19 in remote rural areas on difficult terrain. Please evaluate
20 the susceptibility of the region's forest and grasslands to
21 catastrophic fire in the event of a pipeline explosion or
22 fire, especially during dry times a year when the region has
23 high fire damage.

24 And third, please address issues related to aging
25 of the pipeline and infrastructure. Explore the means by

1 which safety will be maintained as the pipeline ages. Now
2 you folks apparently are from Washington, while you are here
3 I hope you get a chance to get out and see the area, it is
4 not like Washington and there are some things you should
5 know about, okay?

6 In the winter there's lots of snow. In the
7 winter there are times when the roads are impassable. What
8 happens if there is a major emergency then when the roads
9 are impassable? We have a season in the spring we call mud
10 season, many roads are impassable. I mean you cannot drive
11 a vehicle on them. What happens at that time if there is a
12 need for emergency response?

13 There's an explosion or some sort of fire, how
14 are they getting people in there? Please explore that,
15 okay? There's also two times of the year spring and fall
16 when things tend to really dry out and get windy. At those
17 times there is very high fire danger. If there happens to
18 be a fire with all the tinder, dry leaves, twigs on the
19 ground, we had an ice storm several years ago, there's tons
20 and tons of dry fuel.

21 We have got wind, we have a gas fire, you have a
22 major conflagration on your hands, how are we going to take
23 care of that problem if we can't even get there to respond
24 to it.

25 Lastly I would like to close because I know my

1 time is up and according to FERC you are saying public
2 benefits must exceed cost to society. If anybody is paying
3 attention tonight we know where that balance lies, please
4 think carefully, thank you.

5 MR. PECONOM: Thank you sir, 43? Sorry, 44?

6 MS. WERGLAND: My name, can you hear me? Can you
7 hear me now? My name is Glendyne Wergland, that's
8 G-l-e-n-d-y-n-e W-e-r-g-l-a-n-d. Two of my concerns about
9 the proposed pipeline involve safety. First, the herbicides
10 used to kill woody plants on right-of-ways are known to
11 cause birth defects. Increasing the width of the
12 right-of-way to co-locate a new pipeline will increase the
13 amount of herbicide applied.

14 That will also increase birth defects in exposed
15 human and wildlife populations. If Tennessee Gas would cut
16 brush instead of spraying that would reduce our exposure to
17 toxic chemicals and reduce birth defects which show up most
18 conspicuously in the amphibian populations that live along
19 the right-of-way who develop with missing limbs, incomplete
20 skulls and eyes that never separate, their eyelids don't
21 separate.

22 In addition to benefitting the amphibian
23 populations, cutting instead of spraying would also benefit
24 the workers and nearby landowners.

25 A second safety problem is that a 30 inch

1 diameter high pressure gas transmission pipeline has a blast
2 impact radius of more than 700 feet. How then can a new gas
3 transmission pipeline be built only 50 feet from existing
4 dwellings? DOT regulations allow this but they should be
5 changed. The pipeline setback needs to be increased to
6 reflect the huge impact radius of today's larger diameter,
7 high-pressure pipeline leaks and explosions.

8 And given Kinder Morgan's subsidiaries' poor
9 safety record, we had better be prepared for just such
10 occurrences. In closing, I would like to thank FERC for the
11 43 pages you compiled of discrepancies in emissions in the
12 Kinder Morgan Draft Environmental Impact Survey. But we
13 have to wonder if this pipeline company is so sloppy in
14 their work that they leave all these "to be determined"
15 blanks in their report, how are we going to ever feel good
16 or safe if they build a pipeline in our backyards? Thank
17 you.

18 MR. PECONOM: Thank you ma'am, 45? 46?

19 MR. BERTHIAUME: Good evening and thank you for
20 hanging in there and for this opportunity. My name is
21 Kenneth Berthiaume. K-e-n-n-e-t-h B-e-r-t-h-i-a-u-m-e. The
22 following comments are focused primarily on reasonable
23 alternatives that when in full consideration of impact now
24 and certainly in near term future years will render the need
25 for a Greenfield pipeline unnecessary.

1 The New England region is host to a wide variety
2 of viable alternative renewable energy resources including
3 but not limited to, on shore and off shore wind, solar,
4 domestic hydro and imported hydro, hydro-kinetic energy and
5 others. As stated in resource report 10, alternatives,
6 energy conservation the energy efficient technologies are
7 not expected to eliminate the steadily increasing demand for
8 energy or natural gas.

9 But yet ISO New England, our grid operator has
10 recently stated that the 2014 energy consumption numbers are
11 2% lower than 2013 and the winter peak for those years is
12 also lower by 4.2% by the way and further indicate that EE
13 and solar are having an impact and I quote, "when the EE
14 savings are factored into the region's load forecast, energy
15 usage is expected to remain flat with an average annual
16 growth rate of 0.0% rather than the 1.0% projected in the
17 baseline mode forecast."

18 Why then are these two entities on absolute
19 opposite sides of the spectrum? This warrants a
20 comprehensive analysis as Massachusetts has been ranked
21 number 1 in energy efficiency for the last 4 years in a row,
22 and according to the U.S. Environmental Energy Protection
23 Agency, improving the energy efficiency is one of the most
24 constructive and cost-effective ways to address the changes
25 of high energy prices, energy security and independence, air

1 pollution and global climate change.

2 As state in resource report 10, wind power is not
3 an option. And then they close by stating that should these
4 projects be developed, the 2800 megawatts proposed by GLIA
5 could reduce pressure from the New England gas supply and
6 reduce greenhouse gas emissions. Why has TGP upfront
7 dismissed this free, read that as zero fuel costs, source of
8 energy?

9 ISO New England references 4,000 megawatts of
10 wind power in the 2015 cube. The above discrepancies must
11 be accurately assessed and also combined with energy storage
12 viability as addressed within the next section.

13 The solar power -- as stated in resource report
14 10 and I quote, "these systems generally are not well suited
15 for use as large scale generation in the proposed project
16 area". Why is solar so promptly dismissed when in fact
17 worldwide, nationally and regionally solar is increasing
18 exponentially yet TGP has chosen to state that it is not a
19 viable energy source despite the fact that the cost of this
20 energy source, also known as fuel is zero.

21 From the Solar Energy Industries Association I
22 quote, "solar provided roughly one-third of all electric
23 generating capacity in the U.S. in 2014". I'm sorry -- one
24 other thing I would like to say is battery technology is not
25 addressed at all, yet is currently available by a number of

1 companies, one which offers its clients a 20 year insured
2 warranty for grid-scale batteries.

3 Both solar and energy storage capability require
4 accurate and full consideration. Thank you.

5 MR. PECONOM: Thank you sir, number 47?

6 MS. WHITE: Peggy White, P-e-g-g-y W-h-i-t-e.
7 I'm from Peru and just in terms of letting you know a little
8 bit about our area. Peru borders Windsor on the south. We
9 are a town also of 860 people. We voted unanimously at this
10 year's annual town meeting opposed to this project and just
11 in terms of many of the issues and I'm going to try to
12 summarize what I said. I also have concerns about the first
13 responders.

14 We have a volunteer fire department and many of
15 the roads as people have said that connect us from Peru to
16 Windsor are dirt roads and are very difficult to pass in the
17 winter so if we are to be called to respond to any kind of
18 incident in Windsor it would be difficult for our first
19 responders to get there and I do ask that you determine the
20 anticipated training, services and equipment that would be
21 necessary for the first responders to answer the call.

22 And then someone mentioned one of my other
23 issues, the northern long eared bat has been determined
24 under the endangered species act to be threatened and
25 Section 4D of the act provides measures necessary for the

1 conservation of the long eared bat and limits destruction of
2 its habitat.

3 Berkshire County is one of the many counties that
4 have infected bats with the white nose syndrome which is so
5 devastating and when forest habitat is destroyed this is
6 another threat or further threat to their existence so I
7 would ask that you please determine the environmental impact
8 of all the logging, the clearing that would be required in
9 construction of the access roads and the pipeline in terms
10 of the compromised habitat of the long eared bat and then on
11 another topic -- people have mentioned tourism and how this
12 is such an important part of Berkshire County.

13 I want to add a caveat to that as well, in terms
14 of recruiting and retaining professional people in this
15 county, the natural beauty is also very important. People
16 choose to work here because it is a place that is quiet,
17 that's beautiful and so it is very important for us as --
18 and I'm a healthcare professional, as health care
19 professionals that we continue to offer a place where people
20 want to come and provide their services, so I would ask that
21 you please determine the impact of the NED Pipeline on
22 tourism, on our home values and on the economy and
23 well-being of Berkshire County.

24 I also had issues as other people said about
25 frost lines. We all know that so well. And then also that

1 so many of our homes rely on wells in Berkshire County and
2 in my town Peru, we have no water source, we are all on
3 individual wells as well so thank you very much for your
4 time.

5 MR. PECONOM: Thank you ma'am. It's now 11
6 o'clock so I would like to take a quick 10 minute break. I
7 appreciate everyone hanging in there. I have been told
8 meetings in this part of the country can go all hours of the
9 night so we are still here. We will reconvene in 10
10 minutes, thank you.

11 (Whereupon the meeting was recessed, to reconvene
12 in 10 minutes.)

13 MR. PECONOM: All right. Thank you for your
14 patience, number 47? 48?

15 MR. KELSO: Hi my name is Mark Kelso, I'm from
16 Richmond, Massachusetts and our land abuts the existing 3
17 pipelines that enter from New York State into Massachusetts.
18 We are temporarily not on the currently slated route but we
19 have been one of the alternate routes that has been
20 suggested over time.

21 I would like to speak mainly today to the
22 integrity of Kinder Morgan since they took over Tennessee
23 Gas Pipeline. We have been actually lied to on a number of
24 occasions when confronted -- when I confronted the company
25 they claimed legal rights that they did not have to survey

1 our land. We specifically gave them a statement of
2 non-permission to survey our land and they trespassed upon
3 our land and staked and when they were confronted, they said
4 "we have the right to do this" and when we showed them the
5 deed they said, "oh I guess we don't, okay", but their
6 practice as a business, as the guy said about the Deerfield
7 Board of Health, they have very poor business practices.

8 And another point at a Richmond town meeting when
9 we were looking at the possible expansion of the TGP line
10 through Richmond they said "there is nothing but natural gas
11 going through these lines", but we had been told earlier in
12 a meeting a month before with another Kinder Morgan
13 representative that it is basically a petro-chemical
14 superhighway that they can use to transport anything that
15 has been licensed.

16 They can take airline fuel through there, they
17 can take anything that they are allowed to in addition to
18 natural gas and there were a number of other points that
19 they just would say one thing and they would say another
20 thing and they weren't being consistent, so I would like you
21 to look as Commissioners, I'm asking the FERC to hold them
22 accountable for just sound business practices, okay.

23 It's just not good business, I run a business, I
24 try to tell the truth as best I can to my people. The other
25 thing is that we who live on the pipeline right now they

1 have not been out to maintain that pipeline in the last four
2 years. There are trees standing about 14 -15 feet tall
3 which have root zones that must be down into that 3 feet, 4
4 feet level by now and they haven't even come out to look at
5 them even though we have told them about them. Thank you
6 very much.

7 MR. PECONOM: Thank you sir, 49? 50?

8 MR. TREMBLAY: Good evening, John Tremblay
9 J-o-h-n T-r-e-m-b-l-a-y. I'm from Cheshire, Massachusetts
10 proudly. I've lived in the Berkshires my entire life,
11 welcome to the beautiful Berkshires. You know I didn't
12 really prepare much for my statements but what I did do was
13 I decided that I didn't know much about FERC so I went to
14 your website and I went to the page that says what is FERC
15 and I'm going to read to you what I found.

16 It says "the purpose of the Commission is to
17 protect the public and energy customers insuring that
18 regulated energy companies are acting within the law." I
19 kind of like the sounds of that. It's a lot of
20 responsibility but it is an important role and we appreciate
21 you being here and letting us make our comments.

22 So I thought about that and I said to myself, who
23 are the other entities in play here and I thought about ISO
24 New England and so I went to their website and I know they
25 are kind of a stepchild of yours but -- so it says, "what we

1 do, so operate the power system, administer wholesale
2 electricity markets, power system planning," huh -- I don't
3 hear anything about the public there.

4 So I said to myself okay who is the other entity
5 in play -- Kinder Morgan. I started to read some nice
6 things about Richard Kinder, 2005 CEO of the year, he
7 receives a salary of \$1.00 a year, no bonuses, no option
8 grants. Kinder Morgan claims that it does not spend money
9 on corporate jets, first class thoroughfares, sports tickets
10 or other expensive pre-requisites. Wow, that sounded really
11 good. However, Forbes Magazine estimates Richard Kinders'
12 net worth at more than 11.8 billion huh. So what does
13 Richard Kinder care about? Probably what the shareholders
14 think.

15 So when I look at the 3 entities that I see in
16 play, I see you guys as our only hope and again I feel like
17 that's a lot of responsibility but I am sure you can handle
18 it. So John in your opening comments you mentioned you have
19 somewhat limited knowledge of the Berkshires. I'm offering
20 to take you to 3 different locations, a community supported
21 agriculture farm, the Ashuwillticook Rail Trail and the
22 Cheshire Reservoir that are going to be affected by the
23 pipeline.

24 The pipeline is going to go right through all 3
25 of those in the way that it is presented today. I would be

1 glad if you want to stay in the Berkshires to take you to
2 each one of those, and I'm sure there are other people here
3 in green shirts that would love to show you the Berkshires
4 and what it means to us and why it is so special.

5 So what I am asking you to do is consider the
6 following: fully independent peer review, vetting of the
7 demand claims, reviewing leak repair alternatives,
8 considering the use of eminent domain considering about 60%
9 of this project of the gas could go out of the country, the
10 effects on the tourism economy and the environment of the
11 Berkshires, the new report that just came out that's over
12 6,000 pages, to issue a new Notice of Intent and comment
13 period and reschedule the scoping sessions, thank you very
14 much.

15 MR. PECONOM: Thank you, 51? 52?

16 MR. DERBY-KILFOYLE: My name is Christopher
17 Derby-Kilfoyle, C-h-r-i-s-t-o-p-h-e-r D-e-r-b-y hyphen
18 K-i-l-f-o-y-l-e. I'm a business man from Adams. I have one
19 of the oldest businesses offering solar electric systems in
20 the United States. It's our 32nd year in business. That's a
21 tribute to the people that came here tonight. It's not me,
22 it's the sentiment of the Berkshires to want to do the right
23 thing about energy and I'm very concerned about energy.

24 Many people have touched on important aspects
25 tonight. I want to ask FERC to look at a couple of details.

1 It is common knowledge that pipeline operators vent their
2 pipeline as part of maintenance and to relieve pressure.
3 This pipeline will have excess pressure in the summer time
4 when demand is low, that's when they will be venting it.

5 I want FERC in its Environmental Impact Statement
6 requirements to Kinder Morgan in Tennessee to specifically
7 address whether they are going to vent the pipeline and
8 flare that gas, whether they are going to vent the pipeline
9 and direct the gas directly into the atmosphere, or whether
10 they will contain it.

11 And then I want the FERC EIS to specifically call
12 forth the volumes of gas that they are allowed to vent like
13 that and I want FERC because it has regulatory ability to
14 offer punitive penalties to pipeline operators to then levy
15 serious, significant fines against Tennessee Gas Pipeline
16 and Kinder Morgan for venting their pipeline without
17 sufficient public notification. They know when they are
18 going to do these deliberate ventings, they should be
19 publically notifying our communities and when those fines
20 are collected give that money back to the community where
21 that gas was vented.

22 In our day and age of technical progress it is
23 quite possible for each town to have several real time data
24 monitoring stations, picking up emissions of these volatile
25 organic compounds, methane and the adulterants. We should

1 be able to go right on the web and see how the pipeline is
2 doing on any day of the year and of course we would be
3 relying on the operators to be on their honor to tell us
4 when they are venting, but with monitors that are in real
5 time data, third party verification, the public can see
6 them, we would have a way to know if they were venting and
7 not telling us. So those are simple detailed requirements
8 we will be looking for in your environmental impact
9 statement and the resulting efforts of your scoping through
10 the next two years we hope more, and we will be bringing
11 this up to the Energy Facility Siting Board, thank you.

12 MR. PECONOM: Thank you sir. 53? 54?

13 MS. BLANK: Hello, my name is Lorraine Blank,
14 L-o-r-r-a-i-n-e B-l-a-n-k and first of all I want to thank
15 the stenographer for doing such a hard, wonderful job and
16 being patient. And I also want to say given the incomplete
17 nature of Kinder Morgan's resource reports and changes to
18 the scope of the project, these scoping meetings are being
19 conducted prematurely and failing to provide information
20 that would benefit the NEPA process.

21 And in your new scoping meetings please conduct
22 them in the communities that will be most impacted and bear
23 the brunt of impacts from compressor stations, several of
24 which could be among the largest ever built in the U.S.

25 What I wanted to say was there are 4 different

1 points at which fracked gas is vented all the way along the
2 pipeline. It is vented at the metering stations, it is
3 vented at the valve stations, it is vented at the pigging
4 stations and it is vented at the compressor stations. I
5 would like to know how much methane gas and how much of the
6 carcinogenic chemicals are vented at each of the four
7 stations along the entire route of the pipeline.

8 I would like to know how far apart each of these
9 stations are from each other, along the whole route of the
10 pipeline. I would like to know how many metering stations
11 there are along the whole route of the pipeline, how many
12 valve stations there are along the whole route of the
13 pipeline and how many pigging stations there are along the
14 whole route of the pipeline and also how many compressor
15 stations there are along the whole route of the pipeline.

16 I would like to know how the combination of the
17 metering stations, the venting stations, the pigging
18 stations and the compressor stations and all of their
19 combined emissions affect the environment in terms of how
20 much methane gas and carcinogenic chemicals will be spewed
21 out into the air as a whole and fall upon all of our soils
22 and go into all of our waterways.

23 How will this affect our environment, our
24 wildlife, our ability to grow healthy food in health soil,
25 our ability to obtain clean drinking water and our ability

1 to breathe the clean air? How is it going to affect all of
2 our living conditions and our ability to attract tourism to
3 this area in the Berkshires which is so well known for the
4 beauty of its parks, its lakes, its forest, and for its
5 recreational facilities to enjoy nature?

6 How is it going to affect all of the farmers who
7 earn their livings from growing and selling fresh Berkshire
8 produce? Can we afford to have our quality of life
9 destroyed and have all of what we have along the whole route
10 of the pipeline turned into a fracked gas waste dump where
11 no one will want to live, where no one can actually live
12 because the environment will be so poisoned for centuries?

13 Please say no to unnatural gas, embrace green
14 energy, debase fossil fuels. And I just wanted to say as a
15 resident that lives on Cheshire Lake, it is getting
16 increasingly difficult in this world to find a place of safe
17 haven. To me the Berkshires is a place of safe haven where
18 I could look up at the stars at night and at the moon, where
19 I can sit on my dock and see the two little handsome turtles
20 popping out of the lake, where I can see the cranes and the
21 eagles flying overhead.

22 Please dear FERC help all of us in the Berkshires
23 to keep our safe haven safe.

24 MR. PECONOM: Thank you.

25 MS. BLANK: You're welcome. Thank you for your

1 services.

2 MR. PECONOM: 55? 56? 57? 58? Oh I'm sorry,
3 okay 58? 59? 60? Oh you're 59? Got it.

4 MR. AUGUST: Good evening my name is Steve August
5 and I am a lawyer with the Massachusetts Energy Facility
6 Siting Board. With me tonight is Enid Cuman, who is an
7 analyst with the Siting Board as well. I would just like to
8 take a moment to explain what the Siting Board in
9 Massachusetts does and its role in this proceeding.

10 The Siting Board is an administrative agency of
11 the Commonwealth of Massachusetts. One of our principal
12 functions is to review proposals for the construction of new
13 energy facilities in Massachusetts including large electric
14 power plants, electric transmission lines, natural gas
15 pipelines and natural gas pipelines that lie entirely within
16 the Commonwealth.

17 The Siting Board does not however, have the
18 authority to approve or reject interstate natural gas
19 pipeline facilities such as the one being proposed by
20 Tennessee in this case. Instead such authority rests with
21 FERC in Washington, D.C. The Siting Board is not a part of
22 FERC. FERC is an agency of the federal government and the
23 Siting Board is a state agency. The Siting Board will be
24 holding a public comment hearing here in this auditorium
25 next Tuesday, August 4th on the same subject as we are

1 meeting on tonight and the proposed NED Pipeline which will
2 begin at 7 o'clock and we will also be holding meetings next
3 week in Greenfield and in Lunenburg and in where else --
4 Greenfield, Lunenburg, Dracut, thank you very good.

5 After the conclusion of the Siting Board's public
6 hearings and an additional public comment period, the Siting
7 Board will be filing written comments with FERC regarding
8 the proposed NED Project. The Siting Board's comments are
9 intended to identify difficulties and problems with the
10 project associated with environmental issues and impacts.

11 In addition the Siting Board may be advocating
12 for the imposition of certain conditions on Tennessee in
13 order to mitigate the environmental impacts that the
14 pipeline would impose on abutters and the local communities.
15 The Siting Board's comments to FERC will be based in part
16 upon a review of the pre-filing documents that Tennessee
17 submitted to FERC and upon the public comments that local
18 residents make at the public comment hearings including this
19 one tonight. We hope that you will come out next week and
20 comment to us as well as we look forward to seeing you next
21 week, thank you.

22 MR. PECONOM: Thank you sir, number 60? 61?

23 MR. CRANE: Hi I'm Dicken Crane, it's D-i-c-k-e-n
24 C-r-a-n-e. I'm an organic farmer in Dalton, MASS and like
25 all farmers I pay attention to which way the wind blows and

1 I'm pretty sure everyone here senses which way the wind is
2 blowing in Berkshire County but the question is can a stiff
3 breeze in Berkshire County even blow out a candle in
4 Washington, D.C. and we know that Kinder Morgan is a lot
5 more than a candle.

6 Where this morning I found out from the report
7 that one of my best hay fields and my compost site which is
8 probably dollar wise the biggest part of the income from my
9 farm has been designated as a pipe yard and it is also an
10 APR farm that has an agricultural preservation restriction
11 development rights that belong to the Department of
12 Agricultural Resources so this is protected Article 97 land
13 but it shows up on the map in the recently released report
14 as a pipe yard, the whole thing.

15 So this is kind of distressing. The pipeline
16 will also cross our land which has a conservation
17 restriction on it where it comes off of MASS fish and
18 wildlife land which used to belong to us that was donated to
19 the Berkshire Natural Resources Council with a conservation
20 restriction on it and now belongs to Fish and Wildlife and
21 is part of a designated forest reserve.

22 So all these protections which as in our case we
23 were the donor of the land that was -- we donated the
24 protection it was the presumption that it would really be
25 protected and if the pipeline goes through it is going

1 through literally miles of land that had the belief that the
2 land was protected from development and so it is not just
3 one source of protection, there's layers of protection all
4 of which are at risk of being torn apart so that this
5 pipeline could go through.

6 And the booby prize on top of this is that some
7 of my best agricultural land becomes a pipe yard so I think
8 it is important to recognize that the levels of protection
9 that people have faith in need to be recognized because if
10 that faith is lost there's a lot more lost than just that
11 land. If there's the incentive for anyone to bother to
12 protect land when they know this can happen anyway, thank
13 you.

14 MR. PECONOM: Thank you, number 62?

15 MR. BRENNER: My name is Mory Brenner, M-o-r-y
16 B-r-e-n-n-e-r. I was a practicing attorney for many years
17 and I live directly on Cheshire Lake, probably the closest
18 person to where the pipeline is going to cross, almost a
19 quarter mile underwater.

20 My home rests in a position similar to many along
21 the route. My house lies close enough to the pipeline that
22 its mere existence will degrade our property values and the
23 worst case our lives will end in an inferno. From the end
24 of my driveway where I know see blue herrings and Cheshire
25 Lake I will someday have nothing but a memory that you used

1 to like it exactly where that hideous pipeline is.

2 Yet we live far enough away from the pipeline
3 that we will receive no compensation. I urge you to take
4 any and all action under your control to stop construction
5 of this pipeline before any damage to lives or the
6 environment can take place.

7 Let's begin by examining if this project goes
8 well, expansion of the existing Spectra pipeline would
9 render this Kinder Morgan pipeline as unnecessary. There's
10 a projected supply of gas serving as a source of the Kinder
11 Morgan pipeline, it has reached depletion levels in only 10
12 or 20 years with permanently scarring our area. No matter
13 what our personal usage of gas from this pipeline will
14 remain at zero, zero!

15 It's interesting that we live in a spot that will
16 never, ever, be offered natural gas or cable. And many of
17 the people who have spoken tonight, you may not realize are
18 in the same position yet people are trying to force an
19 unwanted pipeline down our throats. If the pipeline
20 experiences failures as it surely will, things go from bad
21 to worse.

22 Let's look at the history of these pipelines,
23 there will absolutely be problems. When and where and the
24 severity of a breakdown may remain the issue, but the
25 changes of a perfect record given the past experiences stand

1 near nil. Proponents of the pipeline tell me it's unlikely
2 I'll be incinerated as the most recent technology will open
3 valves and release gas to avoid a major explosion.

4 Even using the shortest distances envisioned
5 between the safety points and the smaller diameter recently
6 being discussed that still means the release into our air of
7 over a million cubic feet of gas, every time the system
8 senses a problem. I will be happy if I can avoid
9 incineration but I certainly do not want a million cubic
10 feet of chemically infused fracked gas released into the air
11 that I breathe on a regular basis.

12 Now let's explore a real disaster. The cleanup
13 faced by British Petroleum in the Gulf of Mexico may cost
14 over 50 billion dollars. Based on a quick look at the
15 Kinder Morgan balance sheet such an event would bankrupt
16 them and I have seen no evidence of any insurance or that
17 insurance could cover a claim of this magnitude. We would
18 be left with nothing.

19 One thing that stands out clearly when reviewing
20 the disaster history involves a very long list of Kinder
21 Morgan pipeline failures, deaths and criminal convictions.
22 In fact Kinder Morgan stands convicted of criminally
23 negligent homicide on multiple occasions.

24 This proposed pipeline rates as analogous to the
25 government issuing a machine gun to a serial killer and

1 forcing us to accept them as a permanent guest in our home
2 at our own expense. As I stand here facing an early death
3 at the instance of my government, let's consider that even
4 the military draft lies as a thing of the past. Yet in this
5 case not only did they propose to put my life at risk but to
6 do so for a cause that our community and our neighbors have
7 voted almost unanimously against. The 5th Amendment of the
8 United States Constitution guarantees me the right to life,
9 liberty and property yet the government proposed to
10 certainly take my property and potentially take my life.

11 Further constitutional language states property
12 cannot be taken for public use without just compensation and
13 yet that looks exactly what they plan to do. I find this
14 pipeline unnecessary, repugnant, unconscionable and
15 unconstitutional. I sincerely hope that you will do
16 everything in your power to end this project before it
17 destroys our property, way or life, natural resources and
18 human lives, thank you.

19 MR. PECONOM: Thank you sir. 63?

20 MR. PFEIFER: Joseph Pfeifer P-f-e-i-f-e-r. I'm
21 a resident of Windsor and my house is going to be 3 miles
22 directly north in a straight line of this either 80,000
23 horsepower, 55,000 horsepower, who knows how many horsepower
24 compressor.

25 The reason we are here is because the Clean Air

1 and Clean Water Acts have been gutted. Energy companies are
2 exempted from the regulations that we thought we had won
3 back in the '70's and '80's. This is not a gas pipeline.
4 This is a sewer of toxic waste mixed with natural gas.

5 The issue that affects FERC's domain is that the
6 rules that apply to simply natural gas cannot apply here.
7 The proportions have to be greater and Kinder Morgan's
8 behavior as a company of the large pipeline companies, they
9 spend the lowest per mile on safety and maintenance and it
10 shows in their record.

11 Really more severe precautions are going to be
12 needed to be taken with this proposed project and we see no
13 evidence that it will be. The venting of gas will not just
14 be the venting of gas, it will be the venting of carcinogens
15 and other petrol chemicals into the environment. This
16 project is scheduled to be drilled under the Westfield
17 River. There are 3 wild and scenic rivers in the state of
18 Massachusetts and the Westfield is the only one in western
19 Massachusetts, naturally reproducing populations of brook
20 and brown trout.

21 How will Kinder Morgan assess the safety of what
22 they are doing in regards to this river, a precious resource
23 for everyone in this community? How will they assess
24 sediments, spawning? How will they assess invertebrate
25 life? How will they assess the health of the fish after

1 this proposed pipeline is put in?

2 How will we know that toxins haven't got into the
3 adipose tissue of the trout? How will this project impact
4 the migration of moose which we have increasing numbers of
5 in western Massachusetts? They walk through my back yard on
6 a regular basis. How will they contain the cleaning of
7 these pipes? If you have ever seen videos of the cleaning
8 of these pipes there's a robotic hog that goes through them,
9 gets spewed out at one end along with a spray of toxic
10 chemicals, those chemicals go straight into the ground, how
11 will they protect the environment from that?

12 My 7 year old daughter asked me dad, are you
13 going out to vote against the pipeline? I said yeah and
14 then I realized I can't vote against anything. I have to
15 appeal to my government to do the right thing for us.
16 Nobody wants this, no one. No one who lives here wants this,
17 no one needs it and it doesn't belong here.

18 MR. PECONOM: Thank you, number 64? 65?

19 MR. OLIVIERI: Thank you very much for being here
20 to listen to the voice of the people and acting upon their
21 will. I really thing this should go to a referendum so that
22 people's written votes can be heard. My name is Luke
23 Olivieri L-u-k-e O-l-i-v-i-e-e-r-i. We are privileged to
24 speak one's mind and now even more so when the concern is a
25 huge public health, safety and well-being issue with

1 non-polluting technology such as solar, tidal, wind, wave
2 energy, bio-mass and geo-thermal power at our disposal it is
3 unconscionable that any corporation, state planning board or
4 federal agency would consider actually expanding fossil fuel
5 use now that the hard effects of global warming caused by
6 industrial release of carbon into the atmosphere are clearly
7 seen and has brought us all to the point of climate crisis.

8 The process of fracking for natural gas is
9 irretrievably destructible to animals, the environment and
10 to public health. In farms and residential areas bordering
11 fracked wells in Pennsylvania, methane has backed up into
12 people's water wells and plumbing systems to such an extent
13 that their sink faucets can literally be set on fire --
14 creme brulee anyone at the sink?

15 Toluene, benzene and other deadly chemicals are
16 leaking into drinking water, hmmm how many of these
17 substances can you feed your toddler? When corporations
18 crack massive layers of bedrock, blast water and astonishing
19 pressures, strip mine for coal by tearing off whole
20 mountaintops, clear cut massive acres for timber, they have
21 a word that the use to try to ignore the devastation to
22 people, animals and the environment that they leave in their
23 wake, that word is externalities.

24 They literally seek to block out any thought of
25 the destruction and pollution that their activities lead to

1 so that the focus can be on their bottom line profits.
2 Here's some more externalities that those blinded by profit
3 may not have considered. On Pennsylvania farms adjacent to
4 fracked wells, calves have been born with no pupils or
5 iris's in their eyes -- that's right just solid white
6 marbles for eyes.

7 Homes in Oklahoma near fracked wells have so much
8 methane backed up into their plumbing and basements that
9 people brace for an errant spark to set off a massive
10 explosion in their own house. People cannot move away
11 because their houses are now unsellable.

12 Pipelines as these can explode and anyone who
13 balks at that idea simply has to remember the massive
14 explosion in Edison, New Jersey a few years back when eye
15 witness accounts reported that people thought a nuclear bomb
16 had been detonated. The sky was lit up in orange and white
17 so greatly, fire crews became disoriented because the
18 explosion ripped through multiple weak points along a 2 mile
19 stretch of pipe, firemen had no idea where to respond first.

20 Please use common sense to protect our children,
21 our grandchildren and ourselves. Vote no action on this
22 issue, do not build any pipeline. We do not need it, thank
23 you very much.

24 MR. PECONOM: Thank you sir. 64? 65? 66? I
25 think -- do you know -- is there anybody left that hasn't

1 spoken? Okay. Would anybody else like to speak before we
2 wrap up the meeting? Thank you for having us, it was a
3 pleasure. We appreciate all of your comments, thank you
4 very much, I conclude the meeting.

5 (Whereupon the meeting was adjourned at 11:46
6 p.m.)

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