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United States of America
FEDERAL ENERGY REGULATORY COMMISSION

1,024th Commission Meeting

Thursday, February 18th, 2016

Commission Hearing Room
888 First Street, Northeast
Washington, D.C. 20426

The Commission met in open session at 10:02 a.m.
when were present:

- NORMAN C. BAY, Chairman
- TONY CLARK, Commissioner
- CHERYL LaFLEUR, Commissioner
- COLETTE HONORABLE, Commissioner

REPORTED BY: Alexandria Kaan

1 FERC STAFF:
2 NATHANIEL DAVIS, Secretary
3 JOE McCLELLAND, OEIS
4 MIKE BARDEE, OER
5 JAMIE SIMLER, OEMR
6 ANN MILES, OEP
7 ARNOLD QUINN, OEPI
8 LEE ANN WATSON

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11 PRESENTERS:

12 E-2 - Jomo Richardson, OER

13 Accompanied by Brian Bak, OEPI, and Mark
14 Bennett, OGC

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16 E-13 & G-3 - Robert Kennedy, OGC

17 Accompanied by Robert Solomon, OGC

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P R O C E E D I N G S

(10:02 a.m.)

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3 SECRETARY DAVIS: Good morning. The purpose of
4 the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission's open meeting is
5 for the Commission to consider the matters that have been
6 duly posted in accordance with the Government and the
7 Sunshine Act. Members of the public are invited to
8 observe, which includes attending, listening, and taking
9 notes, but does not include participating in the meeting or
10 addressing the Commission. Actions that purposely
11 interfere or attempt to interfere with the commencement or
12 conducting of the meeting or inhibit the audience's ability
13 to observe or listen to the meeting, including attempts by
14 the audience members to address the Commission while the
15 meeting is in progress, are not permitted. Any persons
16 engaging in such behavior will be asked to leave the
17 building. Anyone refusing to leave voluntarily will be
18 escorted from the building.

19 Additionally, documents presented to the
20 Chairman, Commissioners, or staff during the meeting will
21 not become part of the official record of any Commission
22 proceeding, nor will they require further action by the
23 Commission. If you wish to comment on an ongoing
24 proceeding before the Commission, please visit our website
25 for more information. Thank you for your cooperation.

1 CHAIRMAN BAY: Good morning everybody. This is
2 the time and place that has been noticed for the open
3 meeting of the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission to
4 consider the matters that have been duly posted in
5 accordance with the Government and the Sunshine Act.
6 Please join us in the pledge of allegiance.

7 (Whereupon, pledge of allegiance commences.)

8 Since the January 21st meeting the Commission
9 has had a busy month and we've issued 59 notational orders
10 since the January open meeting. I have one announcement to
11 make, and that is: I'm pleased to announce that Niles
12 Nichols will become the director of the Office of
13 Administrative Litigation effective February 22nd. Niles
14 is currently the director of pipeline regulations at OMR.
15 He's been at FERC since 1991 and has served with great
16 distinction in OGC, OAL, and OEMR, and was previously a
17 legal advisor to Chairman James Hecker and Chairman Joe
18 Kellager.

19 Niles, I know you're here, where are you?
20 Please stand. So please join me in congratulating Niles
21 Nichols.

22 (Applause)

23 Colleagues, do you have any statements? Cheryl?

24 COMMISSIONER LaFLEUR: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.
25 I would also like to congratulate Niles on his

1 well-deserved promotion. When I first came here I was
2 trying to get my arms around pipeline regulation I think I
3 went to the college of Niles, and I think a lot of us have
4 because of the expertise he brings to the topics.

5 I have one personal announcement and one order I
6 want to mention. I would like to welcome back new dad
7 Steven Weldner. We're happy to have him back. And he's
8 earned all sorts of extra credit for bringing his adorable
9 daughter who brings a lot of love to the office.

10 And I'd also like to recognize and thank Eric
11 Vandenberg who's been in my office on detail for the past
12 three agenda cycles and will be returning to the Office of
13 Energy Regulations. Eric has done a great job jumping in
14 on everything from cyber security to oil resistances to
15 capacity markets, and I very much appreciate his
16 contributions. I know he will have a great future at the
17 Commission, maybe back on the 11th floor or wherever he is
18 in the Commission. And I want to thank Jamie and Penny
19 Morel for allowing that detail; I know how much they're
20 handling.

21 I also want to call out one item on today's
22 agenda, which is -- or two items, E5 and E12, which relate
23 to the approval of a joint dispatch agreement for public
24 service of Colorado with Black Fields and River Authority.
25 This order marks the culmination of a couple years of

1 collective work to help to these organizations to combine
2 their resources additionally to better serve customers.
3 And the Commission has rejected previous proposals, sent
4 out a deficiency letter, held a tech conference, everything
5 in our arsenal. And the parties re-filed. And I really
6 think the agreement has the potential to bring significant
7 benefits to a bilateral market region of the country who
8 are working together. So I congratulate everyone involved.

9 Thank you.

10 CHAIRMAN BAY: Thank you, Cheryl.

11 Tony?

12 CHAIRMAN CLARK: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. First
13 of all, Niles, congratulations on the new position, Niles.
14 I think all of us found on the first day that we got in
15 office as one of those go-to people on the Commission that
16 we really depend on as staff. So congratulations to him
17 and that's a well-deserved appointment.

18 I have one staffing announcement to make:
19 Rebecca Blitzbeen (phonetic), who's been in my office for a
20 year or two I guess on and off at various times depending
21 on maternity leave, has decided to accept a different
22 position in the Commission. She'll be moving to a new
23 office that allows her a little bit more flexibility and a
24 bit more time with that beautiful, growing family of hers.
25 It's a loss for our office; Rebecca has been a wonderful

1 attorney advisor and a real great presence on the 11th
2 floor. And as good an advisor as she is, she's an even
3 better human being. So I congratulations to Rebecca. And
4 someone will be coming up on detail, but that announcement
5 is to be made later.

6 CHAIRMAN BAY: Thank you, Tony.

7 Colette?

8 COMMISSIONER HONORABLE: Thank you,
9 Mr. Chairman. It's good to be back, particularly after our
10 long marathon weekend at the mayor's meetings. And I was
11 pleased to see every member of our Commission participating
12 in the meeting, and I thought that there were a number of
13 robust discussions and I look forward to the continued
14 dialogue. I, too, would like to echo everyone's congrats
15 to Niles. And we've had been a student of his; thank you
16 for mentioning that, Cheryl. And it certainly has been a
17 pleasure for me and my team to work with Niles, and I look
18 forward to continuing to work with him as he takes over at
19 OAL.

20 And I also would like to congratulate and
21 welcome back Susan. Yes, she a beautiful baby girl. It's
22 always great to have new life on our floor. So thank you
23 Eric for your willingness to serve. It's hard work; it
24 seems it never ends. My team told me that they think I
25 work all the time -- maybe I do.

1 (Laughter)

2 But thank you. And a number of folks have had
3 their eye on you, so I'm glad that Cheryl asked you to come
4 up and participate. And I would also like to congratulate
5 Rebecca, we wish you will. Thank you.

6 CHAIRMAN BAY: Thank you, Colette.

7 Mr. Secretary, I believe we're ready to proceed
8 to the consent agenda.

9 SECRETARY DAVIS: Good morning, Mr Chairman,
10 Good morning, Commissioners. Since the Sunshine Act Notice
11 on February 11th, 2016, no items have been struck from this
12 morning's agenda. Your consent item for this morning is as
13 follows: Electric item, E1, E3, E4, E5, E6, E7, E8, E9,
14 E10, E11, and E12; gas item, G1 and G2; hydro item, H1;
15 certificate item C1 C2 C3 C4 and C5. As required by law,
16 Commissioner Honorable is not participating in consent
17 items E4 and E7. We'll now take a vote on this morning's
18 consent agenda, beginning with Commissioner Honorable.

19 COMMISSIONER HONORABLE: Noting my recusals in
20 item E4 and E7, I vote aye.

21 SECRETARY DAVIS: Commissioner Clark.

22 COMMISSIONER CLARK: Aye.

23 SECRETARY DAVIS: Commissioner LaFleur.

24 COMMISSIONER LaFLEUR: I vote aye.

25 SECRETARY DAVIS: Chairman Bay.

1 undergoing a transformation that includes the retirement of
2 base load, synchronous units with large rotation inertia.
3 Moreover, the changing resource mix also includes the
4 integration of more distributed generation, demand
5 response, natural gas resources, and the rapid expansion of
6 variable energy resources such as wind and solar. Several
7 factors have driven these developments, such as existing
8 and proposed federal and state environmental regulations,
9 renewable portfolio standards, tax incentives, and low
10 natural gas prices.

11 In 2014 the North American Reliability
12 Corporation initiated the essential reliability services
13 task force to analyze and better understand the impacts of
14 the changing resource mix and develop technical assessments
15 of essential reliabilities services. The task force
16 primarily focussed on three essential reliability services:
17 Frequency support, ramping capability, and voltage support,
18 and considered the seven ancillary services adopted by this
19 Commission in orders Nos. 888 and 890 as a subset of
20 essential reliability services that may need to be
21 augmented by additional services as the bulk power system
22 characteristics change. The task force concluded that it
23 is prudent and necessary to ensure that primary frequency
24 capabilities are present in the future generation resource
25 mix, and recommends that all new generators support the

1 capability to manage system frequency.

2 Contributing to the concerns associated with the
3 nature and operational characteristics of the evolving
4 resource mix is the uncertainty of whether a resource
5 configured to provide primary frequency response is willing
6 and able to offer such a service when called upon to do so.
7 While almost all existing synchronous resources and some
8 non-synchronous resources have governors or equivalent
9 control equipment capable of providing primary frequency
10 response, generator owners and operators can independently
11 decide whether generating units provide primary frequency
12 response.

13 In the draft notice of inquiry, the Commission
14 seeks comment on whether the pro forma large generator
15 interconnection agreement and small generator
16 interconnection agreement should be amended to require all
17 new generation resources to have frequency response
18 capabilities as a precondition of interconnection. The
19 Commission also seeks comment on the performance of
20 existing resources and whether primary frequency response
21 requirements for these resources are warranted. Finally,
22 the Commission seeks comment on the requirement to provide
23 and compensate for primary frequency response.

24 Thank you. This concludes our presentation.

25 CHAIRMAN BAY: Thank you, Jomo. And and thanks

1 to the entire team at work on this matter. I understand
2 that the effort involved a truly cross-disciplinary team
3 from the offices of OER, OP, OGC, and OEMR. The notice of
4 inquiry explains issues clearly on this technical but
5 important topic in a way that is accessible to both
6 industry and the public.

7 In my view, the questions posed are thoughtful
8 and provide a framework to explore the broad range of
9 possible solutions, whether through the development of
10 primary frequency response requirements in the Commission's
11 rules and regulations, or through compensation and
12 procurement structures that would help recognize the value
13 of the service. I think this NOI reflects the way in which
14 FERC monitors developments of markets in the evolving
15 resource mix, and looks for ways to allow resources to
16 interconnect to the grid while maintaining reliability.
17 And for all these reasons, I support this NOI and look
18 forward to the responses that we receive to it. Thank you.

19 Cheryl?

20 COMMISSIONER LaFLEUR: Thank you, Norman. I'd
21 also like to thank Jomo and the team. The nation's
22 obviously going through a significant change in resource
23 mix. According to FERC's monthly infrastructure report, in
24 2014 and 2015 nearly 20 gigawatts, 20,000 megawatts, of new
25 wind and solar resources came online. And because those

1 and other resources have different characteristics than the
2 old conventional synchronous generation, I think one of our
3 responsibilities is to make sure that market operations
4 evolve to sustain reliability. I think that the draft
5 notice of inquiry on frequency response does a very good
6 job of clearly defining a capability that's needed to
7 sustain reliability, and then allowing options to emerge,
8 including market options to meet that capability,
9 potentially augmented by new requirements and
10 interconnection agreements or reliability standards.
11 Obviously, this seems like it's going to be a more
12 important issue as we move into the future, and I look
13 forward to receiving a wide range of comments. Thank you.

14 CHAIRMAN BAY: Thank you, Cheryl.

15 Tony?

16 COMMISSIONER CLARK: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I
17 greatly look forward to reading the comments in this
18 particular proceeding. This is the type of work that I
19 think highlights the best efforts of the Commission, really
20 where we issue, spot, and see changes that are happening in
21 the grid, major changes that are happening in the grid.
22 And this will allow us in a flexible way to take into
23 consideration ways that the Commission may address some of
24 these changes that are taking place. So I appreciate the
25 approach, I think it's the right one in this NOI. So it'll

1 hopefully provide us good guidance in terms of how we
2 proceed from here on out. Thank you to the team for all
3 your work.

4 CHAIRMAN BAY: Thank you, Tony.

5 Colette?

6 COMMISSIONER HONORABLE: Thank you, Mr.
7 Chairman, to Jomo and the team and your colleagues. First
8 of all, I'd like to thank you for a very well-written
9 document. This NOI I think very thoughtfully and
10 deliberately unpacks complex physics issues and really
11 allows us to step back and consider the evolution of the
12 bulk power system in the ways in which we need to support
13 the great influx of gas, along with renewable resources.
14 And I, too, I think along with Cheryl, called this item for
15 presentation today to really take a moment to reflect upon
16 this journey upon which we will embark as we contemplate
17 this intersection of economics, policy implementation,
18 whether it's state level, and aside from the Clean Power
19 Plan, the ways in which this industry is already moving
20 toward a cleaning and more efficient energy infrastructure.

21 And looking at how these trends will continue,
22 coupled with the proliferation of the energy resources that
23 Jomo mentioned, whether to demand response for energy
24 efficiency, energy storage, how they will play a role in
25 this mix going forward. And allowing us to hear from

1 stakeholders about our duty to oversee grid reliability in
2 such dynamic times.

3 I'm particularly looking forward to understanding
4 what, if anything, we should be doing or what should be
5 occurring in the industry to support our networks to manage
6 system frequency and I support efforts such as this one to
7 get out ahead and be proactive in evaluating these emerging
8 operational challenges. And like my colleagues, I look
9 forward to the robust comments I'm certain we will receive.
10 Thank you.

11 CHAIRMAN BAY: Thank you, Colette.

12 SECRETARY DAVIS: The vote begins with
13 Commissioner Honorable.

14 COMMISSIONER HONORABLE: Aye.

15 SECRETARY DAVIS: Commissioner Clark.

16 COMMISSIONER CLARK: Aye.

17 SECRETARY DAVIS: Commissioner LaFleur.

18 COMMISSIONER LaFLEUR: Aye.

19 SECRETARY DAVIS: Chairman bay.

20 CHAIRMAN BAY: Aye.

21 SECRETARY DAVIS: The last presentation for
22 discussion this morning is E13, General Energy Management,
23 LLC, Docket No. ER15-2571-001, et al. And G3, Alliance
24 Pipeline, LP, Docket No. ER215-222-003. There will be a
25 presentation by Robert Kennedy from the Office of the

1 General Counsel. He is accompanied by Robert Solomon, also
2 from the Office of the General Counsel.

3 MR. KENNEDY: Good morning, Mr. Chairman and
4 Commissioners. Item E13 and G3 are the first orders
5 drafted by the recently-formed rehearings group of the
6 Office of General Counsel. The group, which is housed in
7 the Solicitor's Office, is staffed with attorneys who have
8 experience in wide-ranging areas of work carried out by the
9 Commission, energy markets, oil and gas rates, gas and
10 hydroelectric projects. Attorneys in the group will be
11 working closely the teams who prepared the underlying
12 orders and the group's ability to leverage the
13 case-specific expertise of the initial teams and the
14 subject matter expertise of the senior staff and other
15 professionals throughout the Commission will be vital to
16 its success.

17 One of the tasks of the rehearing group will be
18 to bring a fresh set of eyes to the issues raised on
19 rehearing of the Commission's initial orders. An attorney
20 who is not intimately involved in the underlying proceeding
21 will provide an additional check on the initial legal
22 decisions.

23 We anticipate that the primary role of the
24 rehearing group will be to make sure the Commission has --
25 in either the initial order or the rehearing order --

1 fulfilled its legal obligation to articulate the connection
2 between the facts found and the choice made, and respond
3 meaningfully to legitimate objections raised by the parties
4 before it.

5 In addition, this new group will focus
6 exclusively on handling requests for rehearing.
7 Previously, rehearings were assigned to lawyers in the
8 Office of General Counsel who handled other matters,
9 including those with statutory deadlines. This new group
10 will be able to dedicate itself to rehearing and it is
11 hoped that this will also enhance the efficiency of the
12 rehearing process.

13 We anticipate that the work of the rehearings
14 group will result in a change to look at the rehearing
15 orders that the Commission has issued in the past. In
16 general, Commission rehearing orders have set forth a
17 detailed history of the Commission proceeding and a lengthy
18 recitation of the arguments raised on rehearing. And where
19 a party's rehearing arguments are duplicative of those
20 raised earlier in the proceeding, rehearing orders have
21 generally reiterated the Commission's prior response to
22 those arguments. We will attempt to implement a more
23 streamlined process.

24 In the future, rehearing orders will not
25 reiterate the comprehensive factual background and

1 procedural history of the case found in the initial orders.
2 Instead the rehearing orders will focus strictly on those
3 issues that require further discussion, either because the
4 Commission wants to change or clarify its prior
5 determination or respond to arguments raised on rehearing
6 that were not addressed in its initial order. When the
7 initial order has adequately addressed arguments raised on
8 rehearing, we anticipate that the Commission will summarily
9 deny rehearing as to those issues.

10 Item G3 is one example of the new process. The
11 draft order summarily denies Alliance Pipeline's request
12 for rehearing for the Commission's November 19, 2015, order
13 in docket RP15-1022. Among other things, the November 2015
14 order rejected Alliance's proposal to remove Authorized
15 Overrun Service from its tariff and rate schedules because
16 it would have had the effect of depriving Alliance's
17 negotiated rate shippers of the right to obtain authorized
18 overrun service at their negotiated rates. Item G3 finds
19 that Alliance's request for rehearing raised no issue that
20 warrant modification of the November 2015 order or any
21 further comments from the Commission. That is to say that
22 the November 2015 order adequately explains the
23 Commission's reasoning and addresses the arguments raised
24 in Alliance's December 2015 request for rehearing.

25 Item E13 is a draft order that denies GenOn

1 Energy Management's request for rehearing and clarification
2 of the Commission's October 30, 2015, order, which set
3 GenOn's proposed reactive power tariffs for hearing and
4 settlement judge for examination and inquiry. And it's the
5 format, rather than the substance of the order, that is
6 notable. The draft order attempts to identify and respond
7 to GenOn's arguments on rehearing as concisely as possible,
8 without the lengthy background and procedural discussion
9 found in typical Commission rehearing orders. Were hopeful
10 that the creation of the rehearings group, coupled with a
11 more streamlined approach to rehearing orders, will allow
12 the Commission to more efficiently process request for
13 rehearing, which in turn will further the public interest.

14 Thank you and we will be happy to answer any
15 questions you may have.

16 CHAIRMAN BAY: Thank you, Bob. I would also
17 like to thank the attorneys who have agreed to join this
18 new group in the Solicitor's Office, as well as other
19 groups in the Office of General Counsel and other offices
20 in FERC who are supporting this initiative. A great deal
21 of thought went into the formation of the new rehearings
22 group. I believe that permitting a group of attorneys to
23 focus on rehearing orders, without the press of statutory
24 deadlines, and to implement the more streamlined process
25 for addressing these orders, will help to improve the

1 already-good work being done in these orders.

2 These advantages cannot be realized, however,
3 without the crucial expertise of the teams working on the
4 underlying orders and subject-matter experts throughout the
5 Commission. Thus, while today's presentation introduces a
6 separate group specializing rehearing orders, I view this
7 initiative as a collaborative effort, a truly collaborative
8 effort, the success of which is intrinsically tied to the
9 work other groups and offices at the Commission, and the
10 benefits of which will be realized by both the Commission
11 and the public more broadly. I believe that this group, by
12 enhancing the administrative efficiency of what we do, will
13 help promote greater transparency and regulatory certainty
14 in our work. So I'm pleased to support not only the new
15 formats adopted in these orders and reviews going forward,
16 I look forward to the rehearings' contributions to the work
17 at the Commission. So thank you.

18 Cheryl?

19 COMMISSIONER LaFLEUR: Thank you very much
20 Mr. Chairman. Thank you Bobs.

21 (Laughter)

22 I think to the best of my memory this is the
23 first time we've had Bob Solomon at the table since I've
24 been at the Commission. So I just want to take the
25 opportunity to recognize him for the work that he and the

1 appellate lawyers in his division do representing the
2 Commission on the host of appeals that follow our brilliant
3 decisions that people disagree with.

4 (Laughter)

5 And particularly the recent success in the Epsa
6 case of the Supreme Court. And congratulations to Bob
7 Kennedy heading up the new group. I think certainly you
8 have terrific lawyers under you and you'll benefit from all
9 the other teams across the Commission.

10 I think Norman did a good job explaining some of
11 the drivers of why this group was set up. I'm interested,
12 and I know that under his leadership staff has been making
13 a concerted effort over the past few months and worked
14 through the backlog of the rehearing orders, while
15 obviously we have new ones coming in all the time. Could
16 you comment at all about how you think you'll measure the
17 success of the new group, you know, the drivers setting it
18 up, and how you'll kind of track whether you're meeting
19 those objectives?

20 MR. KENNEDY: I think in terms of the drivers, I
21 think it's sort of a focus on the value of finality,
22 rehearing orders often bring to a close Commission
23 proceedings or specific issues, and as you know they're
24 also a hurdle that must be crossed before we get to the
25 Court of Appeals. So they wanted the drivers of the group

1 to figure out how we can shift somewhat OGC's resources to
2 focus on that in hopes of bringing rehearings to a close
3 more efficiently, and thus furthering the public interest.

4 In terms of metrics, we don't have any at the
5 moment; we're still getting our feet under us and getting a
6 sense of workload and proper staffing and what the review
7 process is going to be . Certainly, my marching orders I
8 think are the same as everyone throughout OGC, is to make
9 sure our lawyers are clear, they articulate the
10 Commission's position in a legally defensible way and they
11 follow the Commission's policies.

12 Ultimately, as you noted, our metric will be how
13 we do in the Court of Appeals; obviously, that's a few
14 years down the road. As we get the group up and running
15 certainly we'll be looking at how efficiently we can get
16 orders in, get signed out on everyone, and ultimately get
17 them out the door. But at this point we don't have any
18 specific metrics in mind.

19 COMMISSIONER LaFLEUR: Thank you very much. I
20 certainly think that we should always be working to improve
21 our processes and tweak them where we can do a better job.
22 I certainly expect that parties before the Commission will
23 appreciate the effort to get rehearing orders out more
24 quickly. I'm certainly going to be paying particular
25 attention to these orders, especially in the first few

1 months, to make sure that we properly balance clarity and
2 efficiency so that we -- in the urge, not "rush" -- but in
3 the desire for certainty that we make sure that we put it
4 up in the orders to address the arguments. And I look
5 forward to the work you'll be doing and to getting feedback
6 from the people who appear before us as it starts to unfold
7 as to the process. Thank you.

8 CHAIRMAN BAY: Thank you, Cheryl.

9 Tony?

10 CHAIRMAN CLARK: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Bob
11 and Bob, welcome as well. Bob Solomon always does an
12 excellent job when representing the Commission, sometimes
13 too good a job.

14 (Laughter)

15 I kid because I love.

16 (Laughter)

17 But thank you for being with us here today. I
18 am a member of no legal bar, but I've worked around lawyers
19 for a long time. And from what I understand, when the
20 Commission makes changes to orders outside the building it
21 can sometimes send heart palpitations amongst the energy
22 bar. So I think it's appropriate to thank Kevin for having
23 these particular two items called up, and highlight just to
24 sort of send the smoke signals for those who work outside
25 the agency to understand a little bit about what the

1 Commission is thinking in terms of moving forward and how
2 we handle rehearing requests.

3 To the degree this continues to protect the
4 Commission's legal positions in the Courts of Appeals and
5 to the degree that it allows for speedier turn-around for
6 the rehearing requests, it's a very good idea. So I
7 appreciate the work that you have put into it and look
8 forward to your ongoing work as this new division gets
9 going. Thanks.

10 CHAIRMAN BAY: Thank you, Tony.

11 Colette?

12 COMMISSIONER HONORABLE: Thank you, Mr. Chairman
13 and to Bob squared. I, too, thought that this is a unique
14 moment with Bob Kennedy and Bob Solomon here. I want to
15 take lots of time and ask you lots of questions.

16 (Laughter)

17 COMMISSIONER CLARK: And interrupt them.

18 (Laughter)

19 COMMISSIONER HONORABLE: That's exactly right.
20 And Bob Solomon is probably sitting on the edge of his seat
21 right now. I want to first thank Chairman Bay, I want to
22 thank you, Norman, for your focus on this. And I know
23 every few years we have maybe not this exact exercise, but
24 a focus on cleaning the stack.

25 But I want to acknowledge Chairman Bay, because

1 among the many, many challenges we've had this year you've
2 also been very focused on this and I think we have been
3 supportive in this effort.

4 Next I want to thank Max and the OGC team that
5 have been working hard, especially in my year here. I just
6 am blown away by the magnitude of the work, how much it is.
7 So I see this new effort as help, as assistance, to moving
8 toward getting out some of these orders that we all know
9 need to get out of the door. And I would say to the folks
10 that appear before us, I don't know who wants them out more
11 strongly, you guys or us, because this is important to us.

12 Bob Kennedy, I want to thank you for stepping up
13 to lead this effort. And I think that you've seen that you
14 have strong support in this cause. Let us know what you
15 need from us to be helpful to aid in the success of this
16 new initiative. And to Bob Solomon, thank you always for
17 your enthusiastic work and your spirit of excellence; you
18 really make us better, we're grateful for it. As the
19 Chairman mentioned, I see this is a renewed opportunity in
20 a simple formula, efficiency plus timeliness equals
21 regulatory certainty. So I'm very focused on our effort to
22 move more timely on some of these orders, and as Cheryl
23 mentioned, making sure we give any petition its due. So I
24 look forward to that. Thank you all.

25 CHAIRMAN BAY: Thank you, Colette.

1 Mr. Secretary?

2 SECRETARY DAVIS: The vote begins with
3 Commissioner Honorable.

4 COMMISSIONER HONORABLE: Aye.

5 SECRETARY DAVIS: Commissioner Clark.

6 COMMISSIONER CLARK: Aye.

7 SECRETARY DAVIS: Commissioner LaFleur.

8 COMMISSIONER LaFLEUR: Aye.

9 SECRETARY DAVIS: And Chairman Bay.

10 CHAIRMAN BAY: Aye.

11 Thank you. With that, this meeting is
12 adjourned.

13 (Whereupon, at 10:37 a.m. on Thursday, February 18th,
14 2016, the 1,024th FERC Commission Meeting is adjourned.)

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